

House for Duty in the Parishes (held in plurality) of Upper Ryedale and Helmsley in North Yorkshire

We are seeking a Priest to take up this House for Duty post to share in ministry and mission in these two rural parishes. His or her main work will be in the geographically large but numerically small parish of Upper Ryedale. The Parish is situated in the south-western corner of the North Yorkshire Moors National Parks and its beautiful moors and dales. This is a deeply rural parish of small villages and scattered farms. Agriculture and tourism feature prominently. Historically, the church has been here for centuries. The Cistercian monks at Rievaulx Abbey on the edge of the Parish had a huge impact on life in this area. We seek to continue to witness to Christ and to keep up their tradition of hospitality. We would like a priest who can lead us to strengthen the church and serve all the people in the parish. We would hope that he or she would really want to be part of our rural way of life. There is a developing ecumenical link with the Methodist Church in Rievaulx and Helmsley.

The Parish of Upper Ryedale is held in plurality with the Parish of Helmsley. The Vicar is Tim Robinson. He is also Rural Dean of Northern Ryedale. The appointment of a House for Duty is to the Plurality. We would hope and expect that the Parishes of Helmsley and Upper Ryedale will continue to work together for mission and there will be working together between incumbent and House for Duty priest. The administration of the Parish is the responsibility of the Vicar, not the House for Duty priest.

There is a parish Eucharist each Sunday rotating round the churches. Many of the congregation travel from week to week to attend worship within the parish. The church buildings are well maintained.

The house is Old Byland Rectory which has excellent accommodation with a study attached and toilet, and separate living accommodation.

Churchmanship is central and applications are welcome from both men and women. Alb and stole are worn. Currently a chasuble is worn for feast days.

The freewill offering to the Generous Churches scheme of the Diocese is always paid in full. In 2016 we gave £17,064. We have offered £18,276 for 2017.

Websites www.upperryedale.org.uk www.helmsleyparish.org.uk
www.northernryedaledeanery.org www.dioceseofyork.org.uk

Duties

Sundays plus two days during the week (nominal 18 hours). Full range of pastoral ministry and occasional offices.

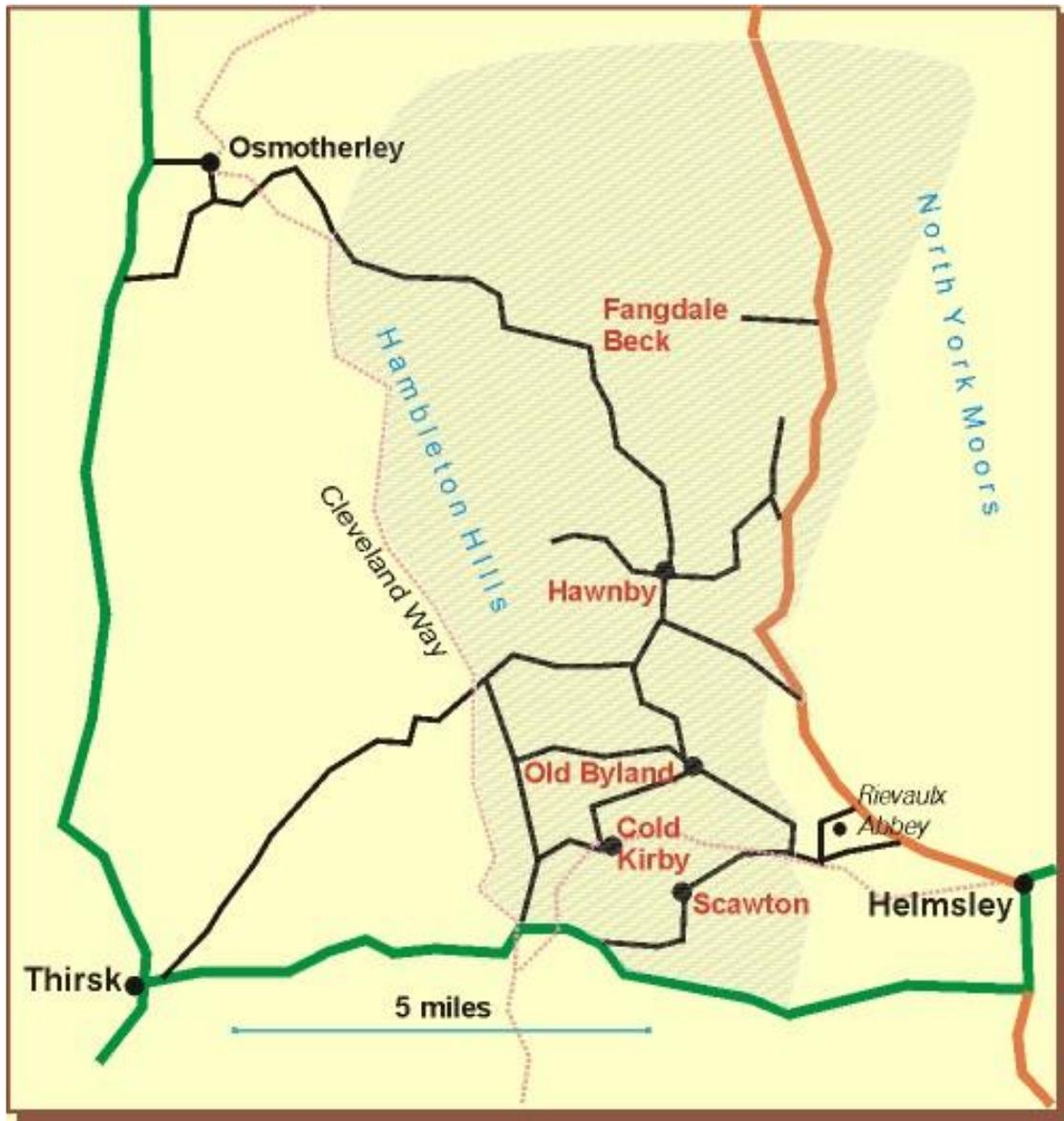
Person Specification

The post holder shall be a priest of the Church of England.
Ability to travel among the parishes and IT skills are essential.
Expenses are fully reimbursed.
The post is held under the provisions of Common Tenure.
A satisfactory enhanced DBS Disclosure is required.

For an informal conversation and further details please contact the Revd Tim Robinson on 01439 770983 or email tim.robinson123@btinternet.com. Enquirers are also welcome to contact the Bishop of Whitby (01642 593273) or the Archdeacon of Cleveland (01642 706095).

Applications should be made using the standard application form on the Church of England website and sent to the PA to the Bishop of Whitby (Mrs Mandy Robinson), 21 Thornton Road, Middlesbrough TS8 9DS / mandy.robinson@yorkdiocese.org.
Closing date: Thursday 28th September 2017
Interviews: To be confirmed

The House for Duty priest's report for 2016 on the year's activities follows on page 3.



The Parish of Upper Ryedale consists of Bilsdale Midcable (Fangdale Beck on the map), Cold Kirby, Hawnby, Old Byland and Scawton.



Old Byland Rectory

Parish of Upper Ryedale Report on year's activities: January – December 2016

The Parish continues to thrive, and it is pleasing that at a time when several churches are feeling the need to reduce their contribution to the diocese, we continue to give more than last year. The Sunday club at Hawnbly has not been able to continue – see below. Two adults are preparing for Confirmation, to be held in May 2017

1. **Worship.** () = 2015 numbers)

- **Communion services** have been held regularly each Sunday. Attendance has been well maintained. There were 65(66) at our two Christmas Communion services, with 53(43) communicants. At our two Easter Communion services, 64(81) attended with 52(40) taking Communion.
- **Special services** – some of which were Communion services – were held to celebrate Ash Wednesday; Mothering Sunday; Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; Harvest; All Souls'; Remembrance Sunday; a Carol service and a family Carol and Crib service with 79 (85) people attending. We had a third well-attended and enjoyed session of Carol Singing in the Inn at Hawnbly and Carol-singing at Low Mill Farm, Bilsdale again took place and was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Dave Young and the team at the Inn at Hawnbly, and Raymond and Hazel Harrison at Low Mill, and all who helped.
- **Occasional Offices** – Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals. There have been 6 (2) baptism services, with 6 (2) infants, 0 (0) older children, 0 (0) adults being baptised. 4(1) weddings took place and there were 6(6) funerals in total this year, 5(5) services held in church and 1(1) conducted entirely at the crematorium.
- **Liturgy** – (the services we use). We continue to use the service booklet on most Sundays, with special orders of service being produced for Festivals and other occasions. The shorter Communion used at Baptisms continues to be popular. The service has been amended to take account of the new Baptismal Liturgy approved by General Synod, and a new service sheet for use when sponsors are involved as well as godparents has been produced. Our reading rota, with very many people wishing to undertake this task continues. Our worship is blessed by you – many thanks! Three people continue to lead the Intercessions – two more have expressed an interest in learning more about this and this will be pursued.
- **Music** – we continue to be blessed by Simon Wright's contribution to our worship. Many thanks for all he does for us. The Christmas Carols recorded special for us are a great blessing at that season. In Simon's absence we continue to use the ipod with its hymns recorded by Lincoln Cathedral Choir. Many thanks to Chris Barnard and all who prepare the ipod and operate it.
- **Church heating** – Many thanks to our wardens for the efforts they have put into this, and to those who so kindly see that the heating is put on in good time for services. We need to continue to keep this under review – cold churches tend to be empty churches!
- **Coffee, flowers, linen, cleaning, and other unsung work** – to all the people who do these essential tasks week after week and season after season. THANK YOU!

2. **Giving**

The new system of 'Freewill Offering' in the setting of 'Generous Churches' to provide funds for the Diocese of York is now firmly established. I'm delighted that Upper Ryedale has managed to increase our offering this year and paid in full, with an increase also promised for 2017. The flexibility of the new system has been welcomed and I hope we will continue to be both generous and realistic as we come to consider our offering for 2018. Our charitable giving is also important and has continued from all the churches. We continue to collect for the Food Bank at certain times of year (Advent & Lent)

3. **Administrative matters**

- **Churchyard maintenance** - Many thanks to all who contribute to the regular mowing and tidying of our churchyards, especially George Shannon at Scawton, Liam Bainbridge and friends at Cold Kirby, Wayne Barr at Hawnbly (thanks to Wayne for all the other tidying and maintenance work he does),

Chris Barnard at Old Byland (assisted by sheep at suitable times), and the veritable host of people who turn up for the annual strim at Bilsdale.

- **Accounts** - we continue to make progress towards the accounts of the churches being produced in the same form. Many thanks to John Grove who puts together an amalgamated account for the 5 churches, and enters financial and other statistics on the Diocesan website for us. Thank you to our church treasurers for all you do, and especially to Joyce Garbutt, Upper Ryedale Parish treasurer, who has done a wonderful job.
- **Standing Committee** - no meetings have been needed
- **Photocopier** - the service agreement on the copier - owned by the Parish - expires in April 2017. Decisions will need to be made about where this is to be housed - if it is to be retained - and about such items as pew leaflets which I produce at the moment.

4. Information and communication

- **The Parish News** continues to flourish under Chris Barnard's able editorship. Many, many thanks to Chris for all the work he does on this, which is a source of information, not just about church, but all the events and organisations in the area. The magazine is greatly appreciated. Mal Gyte of Old Byland has supported and assisted with the Parish News - thanks to her also.
- **The Parish Website** is a source of information for many, especially visitors to the area. Many thanks to Don Tordoff for keeping it updated. We continue to see what new information should be provided.
- **The Parish Facebook Page** (still rather amateurish, I'm afraid) has been set up under Parish of Upper Ryedale. Lynn also has a Facebook page which gives similar information (and seems to be more read than the Parish page - a work in progress!) The younger members of the community use Facebook all the time, so it is important to keep working at this.
- **Word of mouth** is still a major way of getting information about special services and church events. Thank you to all who do such a good job of telling people what's happening.
- **Many thanks** to those who distribute invitations to events. If you don't know, you can't come!
- **Deanery Website** www.northernryedaledeanery.org is a good source of information for the Deanery as a whole. It has links to all our material.

5. **Pastoral Work** - this has continued throughout the year. Four people have Communion at home regularly, and others at times when they have been unable to come to church. This is a valuable ministry, and much appreciated. Please let a warden know if there is anyone else who would like this, especially at key times like Christmas and Easter. Training is in progress to equip three of our Eucharistic ministers to continue taking the sacrament to these and any other people in need after my departure in May 2017 Visiting the sick and housebound continues to be an essential part of ministry in this area. I would hope that this will be continued after I go. Hospital visiting continues to be part of this - I regret that time constraints mean I am limited in the number of visits I can make to those in hospital. The care that members of our churches give to each another, and to others in the community is impressive and a wonderful way of taking church to where people are. The prayer list on the pew leaflet is seen as a great support by those named and the cards to the sick and those in trouble are very much appreciated. Thank you, to all who do so much in this area, often unnoticed and always unsung, but very greatly appreciated.

6. **Children** - The Hawnby Kids Sunday Club has fallen by the wayside. I much regret this, but one of our helpers has moved and another has been unavailable - for good reason. It was also difficult for me to do the Kids Club as well as the service, and our irregular service pattern made planning difficult. The parents have asked for a children's area in Hawnby church and this has been provided - though I am disappointed it is not more used. Families do attend 'special' services and say that this is, at the moment, all they feel they can commit to, and indeed want. Of the other villages, Cold Kirby is the only one with children. We are trying to find ways to involve them in 'church'. A 'Baptism Party' is planned for January

as part of our contribution to the Archbishop's Mission initiative to our Deanery. Many thanks to Honor Wright for all her work in organising this.

- 7. Fund raising and Social Events** have taken place and these have been well supported. People still want 'their' church to be there for them in case they ever need it. Jane Holmes has masterminded a Luncheon Club at Cold Kirby for the old and/or lonely which the church has been happy to support. Fundraising for the whole Parish has also continued. The Walk in September was successful, enjoyable – and drier than last year! Thank you especially to the members of our fund raising committee and to all who have contributed in so many ways.
- 8. Training and House Groups** – a Lent course shared with our Methodist friends, was well attended. Training is being given for home communions, and training for baptism preparation is planned.
- 9. Church Wardens, Parish Secretary, Lay Chair of the PCC** – a big thank you to you all! The wardens all work tirelessly to keep our churches in good order, facilitate our worship and are always so welcoming. The work of our Parish secretary is often unnoticed, though not by me! Elizabeth Settle, supported as always by John is efficient and seemingly unflappable. Honor Wright is so helpful in many administrative tasks. Between them they have kept me on the straight and narrow – as far as anyone could!
- 10. Ecumenical matters** – we have continued to do some things jointly with our Methodist friends from Rievaulx Methodist Church. I would like to thank especially John and Sheila Foster for their warmth and friendship as well as the practical help with providing music for many funerals, jointly leading the Harvest Service at Scawton, and supporting us with their prayers. It was a joy for me to lead and preach at a Communion service at Rievaulx in December, and I look forward to doing so again in 2017.

Lynn Grove (retiring House for Duty priest)