

## Churchyard

In the churchyard there are several interesting features including two tombs, one to the Jackson family and another in memory of George Parnell and Mary Newton. Directly under the East Window there is a stone marking the grave of Alleyne FitzHerbert who died 15th April 1860 aged 44. He had just become Rector of Warsop in 1859. Near the base of the tower there are some examples of 17th century gravestones. There are also ashes of former campanologists (bell ringers) around the north wall of the tower.

Many of the other gravestones have either been lain flat or moved to the perimeter to allow for easier grass cutting.

The only part of the churchyard that is currently in use is the Garden of Remembrance.

Also of interest in the fabric of the tower reused gravemarkers are visible amongst the stonework. A good example can be seen above the window below the clock on the south side of the tower.



## Stonework

The church is constructed out of a very high quality weathered Permian-period magnesian limestone. To the west of Warsop there is a ridge of this stone and there is evidence of quarrying at Mansfield Woodhouse, Pleasley and Bolsover. In the restorations, however the Victorians had the benefit of the railways, and there is possibility that this stone had been quarried as far afield as North Yorkshire.

## War Memorial

There is a war memorial situated near the car park. The memorial is obelisk shaped and is possibly made out of the same stone as the church. As well as including all the names found on the war memorial inside church (i.e. those from WWI), there are also the names of those who fought in the Second World War and subsequent conflicts on this memorial.

# Welcome to St Peter & St Paul's Church, Warsop

There are two possible definitions for the name of Warsop. Evolved out of Wearscope, one interpretation has 'weare' meaning a weir or dam and 'sceop' meaning a storehouse. The other takes 'wear' meaning cautious or outlaw and 'sceope' meaning valley, hence 'cautious valley'.

A church at Warsop is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as being the property of three Saxon Lords. The tower is the oldest part of the present church, the bottom two sections being late 11th or early 12th century and the third stage

having been added in the 14th century. As Warsop grew in stature north and south aisles were added to the church. The south aisle arcade is 13th century and the north arcade is 14th century (as is the now blocked north doorway and window). The chancel is also 14th century.

The clerestory (literally 'clear storey' - i.e. the upward extension of the nave to bring in more light) is a 15th century addition.

The 19th century saw two restorations of the church, the first in 1872 and the second in 1877. These restorations certainly helped improve the



condition of the church building, at least until the 20th century when the Staveley Coal and Iron Company requested to mine under the church. Mining caused such alarming movement of the church structure that it was found necessary to prop the building up both externally and internally and support the foundations with girders. However the National Coal Board (with public support) funded a further restoration of the church in 1957 bringing it back into a stable condition.

Another building of historic interest nearby is the 13th century Old Hall Farm, which is now the Parish Centre. This can be found just through the Bishops' Walk gate.



The University of  
Nottingham

The information in this leaflet is taken from comprehensive historical research, which may be found in full at <http://southwellchurches.history.nottingham.ac.uk>

Many thanks to Glenn Parker for his extensive research and to the Revd Paul Lawlor for assistance.

Plan reproduced courtesy of Building Design Partnership  
[www.warsopparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.warsopparishchurch.org.uk)



## 5 Bells and Clock

There is a ring of eight bells in the church tower. One interesting inscription from 1737 reads "All you that hear my dolefull sound repent before your laid in ground". The clock was installed in 1844 and was given by Francis Martin the son of the then Rector.

## 4 Tower arch

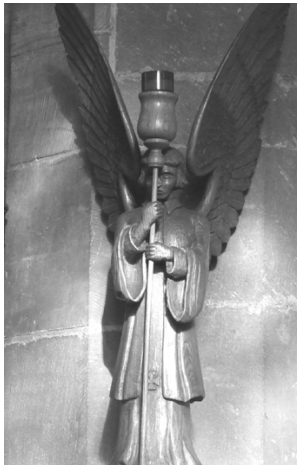
Notice the striking arch at the west end of the nave with its dogtooth moulding. Dating from the late 11th century or very early 12th, it is an import example of early, crude, Norman architecture.

## 3 Brasses

To the right and left of the Halifax window are a collection of brasses rescued from grave stones.

## 2 the Revd Halifax

The Reverend Samuel Halifax is remembered in the west end north aisle memorial tablet and also in the west window as you enter the church. His remarkable career included not only being rector of this church but also Bishop of Gloucester.



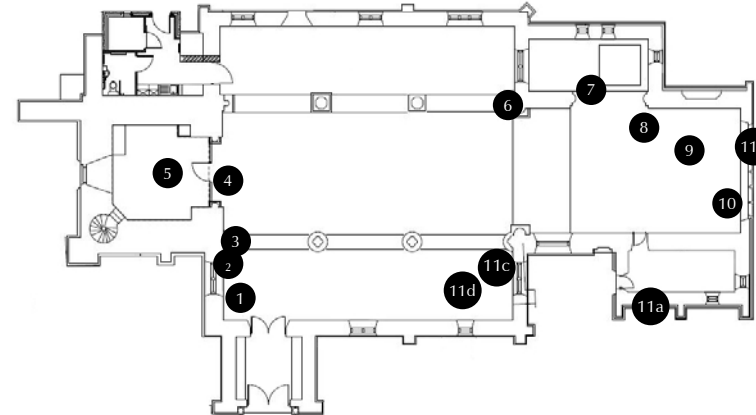
## 6 Angel Figures

At the entrance of the chancel are two carved angels; one a thank offering for the safe return of two sons from the second world war and the other in memory of C G Polkey who was killed in action in France 1944. Charles Geoffrey Polkey was the Son of Henry Herbert and Martha Elizabeth Polkey, of Warsop, Nottinghamshire. He was a Pilot Warrant Officer in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. These carvings are said to have been made by a prisoner of war.



## 7 Organ

The organ was constructed by Alfred Kirkland of London in 1892. It is maintained to an excellent standard by Anthony Herrod.



## 1 John Rolleston Memorial

As you enter the church to the left is an eloquently written and elaborately carved monument which was "erected as a monument of true love by his entirely beloved wife" 1686.



## 8 Carved Angels

In the chancel, positioned near to the roof, there are six angels that were reinstated during the incumbency of Reverend David Leaning.

## 9 Altar

Towards the end of the 20th century the old altar was considered to be a security risk (partly due to it being hollow). The new altar was commissioned in 1990 and was manufactured by William Wright a local craftsman and member of the congregation.

## 11 Stained Glass

The oldest example of stained glass in the church dates back to the 13th or 14th century and is in the vestry (11a). This glass includes the head of a female saint, with yellow hair and a portion of a halo from another figure. Other panels include two bearded heads, one wearing a brimmed hat. Unfortunately, due to a recent break-in, the beauty of these windows has been greatly reduced, as they have had to be patched up with plain glass.

**11b** The six light east window depicting the crucifixion and ascension, and the three light window on the south, depicting St Peter, Christ and St Paul, are both in memory of rectors of this parish. These two windows, along with the south window showing Mary and the angel Gabriel, were made by the company Shrigley and Hunt in the early 1900's.

**11c** The glass in the centre of the window at the east end of the south aisle contains an original work depicting St Joan of Arc given by the people of Spion Kop when the Mission there closed down.

**11d** The newest piece of stained glass in the church is the Millennium Window, which depicts the Madonna and Child. This was designed by Sallie Wood, a local designer and member of the congregation, and was made and installed by Michael Stokes.

## 10 Sedilia and Piscina

The recessed seating, known as a sedilia, has three different levels for a priest, deacon and sub-deacon respectively. This was built at the end of the reign of Edward I, in the early 14th Century, along with the piscina in the chancel (for ceremonial washing and where the spare water was poured after the Eucharist).

