

## THE UPPER EDEN PARISHES



**Kirkby Stephen with Mallerstang, Crosby Garrett and Soulby and Brough  
with Stainmore**

# The Upper Eden Parishes Profile

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# 1. Welcome to Upper Eden

Welcome to one of the most beautiful parts of England! Upper Eden lies on the easternmost border of Cumbria, where the River Eden rises in the high Pennines. It is a landscape of rolling hills and fertile dales, of sweeps of bare limestone, of heather and of green pastures. It is a place where grey stone villages cluster about ancient churches. It is tranquil, yet our communities are lively and warm-hearted and your welcome is assured.

Yes, it does rain quite a lot (hence the lively green of our landscapes). Heat waves are infrequent. But we can assure you that it is a pleasant area to live in and this comes especially from our strong sense of community. People greet one another, know one another and care for one another. Our church communities are part of a greater whole, and our churches are valued as its focal points.

Eden may be the most sparsely populated District in England but a lot happens here and the opportunities for you, as our new incumbent, are real. Our churches are re-grouping, with a union between Kirkby Stephen with Mallerstang, Crosby Garrett and Soulby, and Brough with Stainmore. Building this new united benefice and at the same time contributing to a wider Mission Community shared with our Methodist, United Reformed and Salvation Army partners and extending over a wide sweep of territory will provide you with both challenge and opportunity. Already we have a strong ecumenical tradition, expressed in an active Churches Together group and in many shared activities.

You will find more about our communities, churches and people later in this Profile.



## 2. Where are we going together?

The vision of our Diocese of Carlisle, set out in its ‘God for All’ strategy, is that “by 2020 every person in Cumbria, of all ages and backgrounds, will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God’s purpose for their lives.”

We recognise that mission and outreach are the responsibility of all Christians. As individuals we share our faith through events, encounters and the opportunities of everyday life. As church communities we seek to strengthen what we are already doing, expressed in existing Mission Action Plans and drawing on established traditions. We seek to share the church with the community and build better relationships, aware that many feel the touch of God but have not been drawn into our churches. We seek to enrich people’s lives, renew their commitment to Christian values and build caring communities.

The new strategy is a partnership. It will link the Anglican parishes, Methodist Circuits, United Reformed Church congregations and Salvation Army units throughout Cumbria. The Roman Catholic, Baptist and Church of Scotland churches have signed a declaration of support. We are going forward together. We need to because we do not have the resources to staff the churches as in the past. But we also believe that by working together we gain positive opportunities to serve God.



### **With this in mind, our aims for the future are:**

- to follow our vision and use our energy in both outreach and care for our existing church members;
- to maintain and develop worship that supports the faith of people throughout the benefice, accommodating new styles alongside cherished traditional forms;
- to serve the needs of our communities, responding generously to hardship both near home and in the wider world;
- to sustain and strengthen our work among children of all ages, enabling young people to deepen their awareness of the Gospel and feel connected with the Church community;
- to develop and support all forms of lay ministry and encourage all church members to use their unique gifts;

- to work towards a truly ecumenical community by strengthening already close partnerships with fellow Christians.

## **Deanery Plans**

We are part of Appleby Deanery, which is broadly coterminous with the Appleby, Tebay and Kirkby Stephen Methodist circuit and has been working with ecumenical partners to implement the God for All strategy in what we are calling ‘The Westmorland Dales and Fells Area’. We will operate two mission communities, broadly North and South and the Upper Eden benefice will form part of the southern one. You will work closely with Deanery colleagues and ecumenical partners in developing the Mission Communities, including the recognition of a Leader for the prospective southern Mission Community.

The Deanery is currently recruiting an office manager who will operate the administrative hub of the two Mission Communities, working with clergy, laity and members of the public. You would be expected to collaborate closely with him or her on administrative matters and would have a role in helping the development and growth of that aspect. We believe the office manager can be a significant resource for the Mission Communities enabling you to spend more time focussing on your core ministry.

## **Who are we looking for?**

We are looking for a priest who shares our vision for our churches and our mission and will work with us to make it a reality. We face change, and so need someone experienced in its management. Given the challenges we face, we need someone robust and energetic, who at the same time is willing to seek and receive advice from within the congregations and the Diocese.

We need someone who will work easily with our partners in other churches and is comfortable with our diverse traditions. Our community includes people with different styles of churchmanship so someone who is ‘middle of the road’ and with a broad approach is likely to be most at ease here.

We want to join in a partnership with you and we seek an inspiring member and leader of our team, able to recognise, encourage and make full use of the gifts and ministries of others. We will share in your ministry, support you with our prayers and care for you and your family.

As one of the leaders in the Mission Community you will be working with the Revd Alun Hurd, recently appointed to the High Westmorland benefice and our Methodist colleagues, headed by the Revd Stephen Radford, Circuit Superintendent, who is based at Kirkby Stephen. At parish level you will find a team of committed clergy and lay members at both Kirkby Stephen

and Brough. The Revd Canon Carole Marsden (who has been acting as priest in Charge at Kirkby Stephen during the vacancy) will be a source of information, support and friendship. You will also find a strong ecumenical tradition in Kirkby Stephen, with an active Churches Together group and close working links with the Roman Catholic congregation, led by Fr Peter Houghton, who share our parish church.



**Bishop Michael and Bishop James meeting parishioners after the service to celebrate 25 years of sharing the Church.**

Further information on the Diocesan Vision and God for All strategy is on line at:  
[www.carlisediocese.org.uk/our-vision/vision-detail/ministry-strategy.htm](http://www.carlisediocese.org.uk/our-vision/vision-detail/ministry-strategy.htm) and  
[www.godforall.org.uk](http://www.godforall.org.uk)

## When and how do we worship?

Our services reflect the wishes of the different congregations and also the strength of the lay ministry there. Holy Communion, Morning and Evening Prayer are the norm, with special services at Festival times and other special occasions. Kirkby Stephen parish holds a benefice service on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, rotating round the churches.

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
<b><u>Kirkby Stephen</u></b>	8.15 Holy Comm. (BCP)	8.15 Holy Comm. (CW)	8.15 Holy Comm. (BCP)	8.15 Holy Comm.. (CW)
	9.00 RC Mass	9.00 RC Mass	9.00 RC Mass	9.00 RC Mass
	10.30 Holy Comm. (CW)	10.30 Matins (sung, BCP) 6.30 Evensong*	10.30 Holy Comm. (CW)	10.30 Holy Comm.. (CW)
<b><u>Mallerstang</u></b>	6.30 Evensong	10.30 Holy Communion		10.30 Matins
<b><u>Crosby Garrett</u></b>	10.30 Holy Communion. (CW)		6.30 Evensong	
<b><u>Brough</u></b>	10.00 Informal Worship with Communion (Church)	10.00 Holy Communion	10.00 Café Church (Church Hall)	10.00 Holy Communion
<b><u>Stainmore</u></b>	2.30 Evening Prayer		11.00 Holy Communion	

\*The evensong service at Kirkby Stephen on the second Sunday is joint with the Roman Catholic congregation.

In addition, Morning Prayer is said at Mallerstang, Crosby Garrett and Kirkby Stephen in rotation at 9.15 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and at Kirkby Stephen on Fridays and Saturdays and there is a service of Holy Communion at Kirkby Stephen at 9.15 on Thursdays followed by a Roman Catholic Mass at 10.00 am.

Regular services are held at Christian Head and Stobars Hall Care Homes and Mill Gardens sheltered accommodation in Kirkby Stephen. Holy Communion is celebrated once a month and Evening or Morning Service held also once a month.

‘Messy Church’ is held at Kirkby Stephen Primary School during term time once a month after school and in Brough Church Hall approximately four times a year on Friday afternoons.

We are discussing ways of drawing our parishes closer together, for example by sharing services on two 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, having space in each other’s magazines and working together in the Kirkby Stephen Churches Together group. More details of our local churches and their patterns of worship are given in later sections of this Profile.

### 3. Kirkby Stephen with Mallerstang and Crosby Garrett with Soulby

#### Our Town

**Kirkby Stephen** is an active town and the natural hub of the upper Eden Valley, standing beside the River Eden and on the A685 road which links the A66 Trunk Road to the M6 motorway. It has a station on the Settle-Carlisle line – England’s most scenic railway. The Westmorland Dales area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park flanks the town on the west and south while the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty extends to the east. The town is the half way point on the Coast to Coast walk and is surrounded by fine walking country, rich in wild life. Eden is the least densely populated District in England and our area remains rural and pastoral in character, with many attractive villages..



**View from the church tower looking south.**

**People.** Kirkby Stephen had 1,822 inhabitants in 2011 but under the new Eden District Local Plan it could grow substantially over the next twenty years. There are many retired and elderly residents, including well-qualified professional people who contribute a wide range of expertise. Providing for the needs of the town’s young people and strengthening and diversifying the local economy remain challenges. **Employment** in farming and associated services declined in recent years but tourism and outdoor recreation now make a significant contribution to the local economy and numerous small businesses also provide substantial employment.

**Facilities.** The town has a range of shops, a bank, Post Office, pharmacy and small supermarket and together these meet most everyday needs. More comprehensive facilities are available 25 miles away at Kendal, Penrith or Barnard Castle and the larger centres at Carlisle, Lancaster and Darlington are all about 45 miles away.



There is a well-equipped **health centre** in Kirkby Stephen and a smaller centre in Brough and round-the-clock medical cover is available. The main hospital is in Carlisle, though patients are also treated in Kendal, Lancaster and Penrith. There is a private **dental practice** in the centre of Kirkby Stephen and there are NHS dentists in nearby towns.

**Pre-school provision** exists in Kirkby Stephen, Brough and Ravenstonedale while there are excellent **Primary Schools** in both Kirkby Stephen and Brough. Most children then transfer to **Kirkby Stephen Grammar School** which is a small comprehensive secondary school with around 400 pupils. It provides sixth form education for around 80 pupils and is also a centre for adult education and for recreational facilities. The school's teaching has a good reputation, it is excellent in sport and undertakes a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

## The Parish Church of Kirkby Stephen



**Parish population**  
**2257 including villages**

**Electoral Roll**  
**77**

**Usual weekly church attendance**  
**60**

**Kirkby Stephen Parish Church** is a Grade II\* listed building standing in a quiet close amid trees and lawns, to the north of the town Market Place. A pre-Conquest church probably stood on this site but the only relics from that period are a remarkable series of carved stones, including part of a cross-shaft with a unique carving of a bound devil in Nordic style (commonly assumed to be Loki), dating from around 900-1000. The nave arcades and north transept of the present church date from around 1230 while other parts are fifteenth century and the tower was added around 1510. Much of the east end was rebuilt in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It has an imposing interior and is the second-largest church in the former county of Westmorland.

The oak pews of the nave seat around 130 people, with comparable space in the south aisle. There is a gas-fired warm-air heating system and the lighting was completely renewed in 1993. The organ, made by Isaac Abbott of Leeds in 1888, was restored in 2006 and the microphone

and loop systems were refurbished in 2016. The roof was extensively repaired in 2008 and the Hartley Chapel (used for smaller services) was redecorated in 2010. A quinquennial inspection was carried out in 2016 and more work on the roof is now needed.

The Parish also owns the building on the east side of the churchyard known as Church House. Once part of the old Grammar School, it has meeting rooms on two floors, each with its own toilet (disabled downstairs) and basic kitchen facilities. It is used by all church organizations and is available for booking by groups from the wider community. The churchyard was closed for burials in 1861 but interments continue in a large town cemetery nearby.

### **Church life and services.**

As already stated, our new incumbent will have the support of a clergy team including the Revd Canon Carole Marsden (who will resume her retirement) and the Revd Jean Wright and Revd Judy Polkinhorn who have Permission to Officiate. We also have a strong team of readers, intercessors and communion assistants. In recent years several church members have attended the diocesan 'Called to Serve' course. One member, Ms Helen Bousfield, serves as a local lay minister specialising in pastoral care, welcoming people in church, taking home communion and assisting with services in local residential homes. We attach great importance to work with people 'on the fringe' including bereaved families, families who have brought children to be baptised and couples who have been married in our churches. We have a dedicated and energetic team of Churchwardens, Secretaries and Treasurers. A single PCC covers the whole United Benefice of Kirkby Stephen with Mallerstang and Crosby Garrett with Soulby.

A new structure, maintaining the church's highly visible presence in the parishes and supporting baptisms, weddings, funerals and civic services, will be essential as the incumbent becomes increasingly involved in wider Mission Community activities. The entire ministry team, with our ecumenical partners, will need to work together to make the 'God for All' vision a reality.

As our new incumbent you will have a real opportunity for creative leadership and a great variety of existing initiatives to work with! So in preparing this Profile members of the Kirkby Stephen PCC were asked to suggest the attributes we should look for. Their chosen words included 'accessible', 'inclusive', 'outward looking', 'bold', 'experienced' 'inspiring', 'good communicator' 'team-player' and 'good listener'. There was a feeling that we needed someone with both parish experience and experience of a wider life; someone with a pastoral heart who could take on a challenge.

**Worship.** Kirkby Stephen Parish Church can be described as 'middle of the road Anglican' in its style of worship. A celebration of Holy Communion at 8.15 every Sunday is followed by a Parish Communion at 10.30 on three Sundays out of four, with Matins (sung, using the Book of Common Prayer) on the other Sunday. Sunday Evensong rotates round the churches as does the benefice service on fifth Sundays.

Under an Agreement drawn up in 1990 by the Bishop of Carlisle and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Lancaster and overseen by a joint committee, the Parish Church is shared with the

Roman Catholic congregation. The fellowship between the congregations is warm. Mass is celebrated at 09.00 every Sunday and a joint Evening Service, sometimes lay-led, is held once a month.

On Mondays to Wednesdays and on Saturdays the morning office is said in the churches in rotation. On Thursdays it is replaced by Holy Communion in the Parish Church, followed by a Roman Catholic mass. In 2016 average weekly attendance at services at Kirkby Stephen Parish Church totalled 60 and there were 11 baptisms, 6 marriages, and 7 funerals.. There is an active, robed, mixed-voice choir, augmented for weddings and special services, and several bell-ringers. Volunteers also contribute in many other ways.

Besides the Anglican and Roman Catholic congregations, four other Christian denominations are active in Kirkby Stephen. The Methodist community has a fine Centenary Chapel and a resident Minister who is currently also Superintendent of the Circuit and will play an active part in our Mission Community. The Upper Eden Baptist Church, the Society of Friends Meeting House and the Gospel Hall are all close to the town centre. The Methodist Church runs a Sunday School on Sunday mornings in school-time, and the Parish Church has done so in the past.

Holy Communion is celebrated monthly at Mill Gardens sheltered accommodation, Stobars Hall retirement home and Christian Head residential care home. Anglican clergy take turns with other denominations to conduct weekly services at Christian Head, Mill Gardens and Stobars Hall. Holy Communion is also taken to the sick and housebound and laity and clergy share visits to the sick at home and in hospital. Ministers of the various churches in the town conduct assemblies in Kirkby Stephen Primary School and, by invitation, in the Grammar School. Primary School children come to Kirkby Stephen Parish Church at Christmas, in Holy Week, at Pentecost and at harvest time for an introduction to the story behind these festivals. Messy Church has now been running for about four years, with an average of about 20 children attending on the first Wednesday of each month during term-time.

**Outreach.** Lay-led Bible study groups and courses operate through Churches Together, with six-week courses in Advent and Lent. There are several Prayer Groups, an inter-denominational Meditation Group, a Wednesday House Group and a lively monthly Reading and Discussion Group. A bereavement support group is being developed. A group for pre-school children meets in term time. The well-attended Thursday Club for ladies meets on the second Thursday evening of the month, often to hear an outside speaker. Members raise funds for charity and help at church social events parish-wide.

Youth activities throughout Appleby Deanery are currently being strengthened under the Revd Kristy Pattimore, based at Kirkby Thore. Upper Eden is supported through a Youth Group at Brough and a Lunch Club involving some 20-25 young people flourishes at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School. The annual Soul Survivor summer camp has been well supported from the Deanery. In Kirkby Stephen the Methodist-run Hub Club, open to all over-11s, meets fortnightly and Life in Stereo continues to be popular with young teen-agers. Several holiday

activities for young people have been run, based on both the Anglican Vicarage and the Methodist Church.



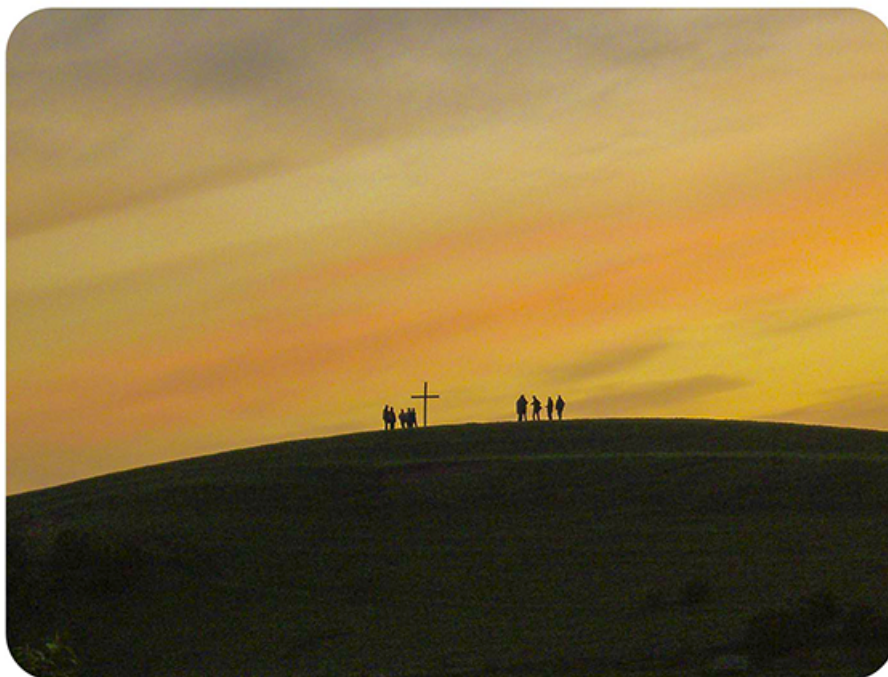
Every year the parish has a series of fund-raising activities, reaching out to the many people who value the church but do not normally attend services. At Kirkby Stephen we have recently held an annual Gift Day and an Easter Church Bazaar. Regular ‘soup and sweet’ lunches draw support from a wide range of community members. Individuals also raise money through sponsorships for events.

A monthly *Parish News* normally includes an opening letter from a member of the ministry team, articles, reports and contributions from all three church communities. It is widely read in the community. A *Pew News* distributed at the Sunday services reminds church members of forthcoming events. There are notice boards outside and inside the churches for general information.

**Building development plans.** Over the past decade there have been several improvements in our church. Our fine organ has been restored, thanks to the generous support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and other donors. Our War Memorial area in the north aisle has been rearranged. Our assemblage of pre-Conquest and Norman carved stones has been displayed. The audio system has been refurbished. But we have many ideas for the future. Our Parish Church is a focus for the whole town and we want it to be the active heart of a creative community.

**Connections.** Kirkby Stephen has a long-established ecumenical tradition, providing a strong foundation on which the new Mission Community can build. All the town’s churches are represented on the Churches Together Committee, which meets at least three times a year. The churches in Kirkby Stephen have strong links with the Town Council and community groups, all working together to tackle social problems. The churches are also actively involved with youth work, a Memory Club (on alternate Thursdays), Dementia Action, the co-ordination of Christian Aid week, food banks, the Upper Eden Credit Union, a coffee ‘drop in’ and a Christmas lunch for people and couples who would otherwise be on their own.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Week of Prayer for World Peace and Holy Week there are daily meetings in each church in turn. A very popular Christmas-time service of carols at the Livestock Mart provides outreach to the farming community. There is a joint walk of witness on Good Friday and a dawn hill-top gathering on Easter Day. Joint Lent and Advent courses are held, using the Methodist Meeting Room and Church House. A community service for Remembrance Day is held in Kirkby Stephen Parish Church and round the War Memorial in the Market Square. The ecumenical service for the Women's World Day of Prayer rotates between the Parish Church, the Baptist Church and the Methodist Church. It is organised by a committee of lay members from all the churches. The Kirkby Stephen Silver Band plays at many of these events and provides the music for *Songs of Praise* held occasionally in the Market Square. All in all, the volume of activity involving the churches as a group is substantial – though there is always more to do.



**Easter Day Sunrise Service on Kirkby Hill**



### **St Mary's Church, Mallerstang**

<b>Parish population (with Wharton and Nateby)</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>Electoral Roll</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Usual weekly church attendance</b>	<b>20-25</b>
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**Mallerstang** is the name given to the upper dale of the River Eden, flowing between the cliff-girt masses of Wild Boar Fell and High Seat. Now in a northward extension of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, this farming community (together with the nearby village of Nateby and hamlet of Wharton) is a walking area rather than a tourist spot. The ruins of Pendragon Castle, with their romantic Arthurian associations, do however attract a number of visitors. The celebrated Settle-Carlisle railway line runs high along the western flank of the dale.

**St Mary's Mallerstang** is a grade II listed, stone-built dales chapel set in its own churchyard which remains open for interments. A memorial stone commemorates 25 men, women and children who died during the construction of the Settle-Carlisle railway line and are buried in unmarked graves in the churchyard.

In 1663/64 the present chapel was repaired and endowed by the Lady Anne Clifford, Countess Dowager of Pembroke, Dorset and Montgomery, owner and restorer of the nearby Pendragon Castle. The church was subsequently altered to suit fashion and liturgical practice during the succeeding centuries but it retains its essential 17th century form and has a sturdy simplicity that fits wonderfully into its dramatic setting. The interior has fixed pews and the chancel has choir pews: in total these can seat around 80 people.

**Our regular services** include Holy Communion on the second Sunday of the month, with Matins on the fourth. We hold Evensong at 6.30pm on the first Sunday of each month. Special services are held on Christmas Eve, on the first Sunday in May to celebrate Lambing and

Farming, in Holy Week and at Harvest. There is an annual Railway Service to commemorate those whose deaths in the valley were linked to the building of the Settle-Carlisle line. Morning prayer is said on Mondays and a benefice service takes place on a fifth Sunday in rotation with the other churches. A highlight of our church year is the annual Cream Tea held in summer and attended by many local people and visitors. Successful fundraising and generous donations have led to a healthy reserve fund.

**Development plans.** We have a Steering Committee which is exploring building a modest extension to the west end of the church. There is general agreement that we need toilet and other facilities, and we have engaged our church architect to draw up plans.



**The Keenly Awaited Mallerstang Cream Tea Afternoon.**

## St Andrew's Church, Crosby Garrett



**Parish population  
(with villages) 358**

**Electoral roll  
15**

**Usual weekly church attendance  
10**

**Crosby Garrett**, like the nearby hamlets of Smardale and Waitby and the village of Soulby, is an ancient pastoral settlement. The village stands in a narrow limestone dale amid striking scenery and rich archaeology, as the spectacular Roman cavalry helmet found in 2010 testifies. The whole village lies within the Westmorland Dales area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park: Wainwright's Coast to Coast walk passes nearby, and the dramatic wooded ravine of Smardale Gill is both a National Nature Reserve and a centre of railway heritage in the form of two soaring stone viaducts.

The village has about 115 residents. It is the base for a family-run haulage business and has a combined Post Office and shop. The former primary school is now the Village Hall and the Methodist Chapel is now used by the United Church (Methodist and Baptist). There is a particularly close relationship between Church and Chapel congregations and an increasing ecumenical link through the monthly prayer meeting in the large nearby village of Soulby which lies just outside the National Park to the east.

**St Andrew's Church** stands atop a steep natural mound, commanding wide views over the surrounding countryside. It may well be an ancient sacred site and has a particularly spiritual 'feel'. The church is Grade I listed and has a pre-Conquest chancel arch and a twelfth century nave. Thanks to a substantial grant from English Heritage a major programme of restoration has just been undertaken and this has revealed some wall inscriptions which have yet to be examined by experts.

The church has seating for about 100, is lit and heated by electricity, but lacks kitchen and toilet facilities (though there was once a water supply, which could be re-connected). There is a small modern electric organ which is played on occasion by a visiting organist. A car park at the top of the hill provides disabled access along a level path through the burial ground (still in use) to the church, which is usually open to visitors during the hours of daylight.



**Worship.** Special services and social events are a feature of St Andrew's and the strongest element of mission outreach. These events bring church and village community close together and significantly boost attendance. Visits from the Kirkby Stephen Parish Church choir also help to build up cross-parish relationships. Some services are held jointly with the United Church: these include a Christmas Carol Service and Harvest Festival, held alternately in the church and the chapel. Community prayers are also held in the village hall at Soulby (where there is an active Methodist Chapel although St Luke's Church closed in 2005). .

**Special events** include two annual poultry shows which draw people from all over the north of England and a Sunday lunch held in the Village Hall.



## How are our Finances?

At **Kirkby Stephen** the PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as charity number 1132029. The PCC has a Treasurer overseeing the benefice as a whole while each of the three churches has its own Treasurer and bank accounts, presented annually at the relevant Congregational Meetings.

As the table below shows, in 2016 the parish church had an income of £56,356 and total expenses of £62,762. At Mallerstang expenditure also exceeded income but at Crosby Garrett we had a tiny surplus. Overall we ended the year £8,096 in the red, and although the

**THE PARISH OF KIRKBY STEPHEN WITH MALLERSTANG, CROSBY GARRETT AND SOULBY**  
Financial information for year ended 31 December 2016. Later and more complete accounts available on request.

	Kirkby Stephen PC	Crosby Garrett	Mallerstang	Total
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Planned giving (gift aided)	19,375	2,800	5,210	27,385
Tax recoverable	8,233	991	2,023	11,247
Other planned giving	3,161			3,161
Collections	4,197	792	555	5,544
Donations	1,775	360	540	2,675
Offertory box	1,734	13	57	1,804
Special fund raising events	5,270	1,671	1,581	8,522
Interest and dividends	12	40	238	290
Statutory fees	5,471	116	456	6,043
Magazine (advertising & Subscriptions)	3,078			3,078
Rental income	4,050			4,050
Other income		50		50
<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>56,356</u></b>	<b><u>6,833</u></b>	<b><u>10,660</u></b>	<b><u>73,849</u></b>
<b>RESOURCES USED</b>				
Diocesan Parish Offer	34,653	3,766	6,530	44,949
Cleaning	3,324			3,324
Electricity/Gas/Water	9,851	200	667	10,718
Repairs and maintenance	6,267	308	4,152	10,727
Insurance	4,980	1,250	794	7,024
Service expenses	887	18	165	1,070
Priests expenses	444	48	108	600
Printing & Stationery	596	7	26	629
Children's expenses	176			176
Depreciation	374			374
Sundry expenses	1,386	626	518	2,530
<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>62,762</u></b>	<b><u>6,223</u></b>	<b><u>12,960</u></b>	<b><u>81,945</u></b>
<b><u>Excess of income/expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>-6,406</u></b>	<b><u>610</u></b>	<b><u>-2,300</u></b>	<b><u>-8,096</u></b>

Trustees of a separate endowment were able to put things straight we felt obliged to seek economies for the future. Donations were however made to a variety of charitable appeals.

The PCC reimbursed the clergy for all expenses incurred on Parish business including travelling, telephone and postage.

A Stewardship Scheme is in operation. Donations by standing order are encouraged although offertory envelopes are also used by many people. Gift aid is encouraged and sixty individuals were listed on the most recent tax refund claim. Once-off gift aid donation envelopes are available in Church for use by visitors. Every year several fund-raising events are organized through the individual churches (noted in their respective sections).

Carlisle Diocese adopted a Parish Offer system in 2009. The united benefice of Kirkby Stephen with Mallerstang and Crosby Garrett with Soulby offered £44,000 in 2015, and £44,750 in 2016. In 2017, reflecting the need to balance the books, only £38,500 is being paid but the PCC has recently agreed to raise the total offer for 2018 to £45,750.

## 4. Brough with Stainmore.

### Our Parish and Community

Brough with Stainmore is in what was formerly the county of Westmorland.

Our Benefice consists of the villages and hamlets of Brough, Church Brough, Brough Sowerby, Helbeck and North and South Stainmore. The A66 strikes through the Benefice dividing the northern areas of mainly upland from the communities in the valley to the south.

This major trunk road provides links to the core of the Carlisle Diocese. The diocesan headquarters are in Penrith, about 30 minutes away and Carlisle cathedral is about an hour's drive from here. We are also about half an hour's drive to the A1(M) to the East and the M6 to the West.

Main line rail links are within striking distance as is the most scenic railway in the UK – the Settle-Carlisle line, the nearest stations being Kirkby Stephen and Appleby.

The parish extends over several miles, with a mix of agricultural land and extensive moorland.



Kirkby Stephen, 4 miles away, is the main shopping centre locally with shops, library, post office, pubs, petrol station, supermarket, soft play centre and garage.

The main A66 connects to Appleby 8 miles and Penrith 20 miles to the west and to Barnard Castle 17 miles to the east (in County Durham).

Brough has always been a major junction for road traffic. It originally had the main London to Glasgow traffic passing through it when such traffic used to use the A1 (Great North Road) and traversed the Pennines on the A66 to join with the A6 at Penrith.

### Brough

The main village, sometimes called Market Brough, provides a community post office, a well-stocked general store, a restaurant, fish and chip shop, café, farmers' market, hotel, a play area, multi-use games area and one public house and a Youth Centre. The village has a mix of traditional and modern homes, farms and conversions and it has three housing estates with future housing planned.

Brough is a mixture of families, couples, single people and elderly. Owing to the proximity of Brough to the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and North Pennines the village draws a number of second home owners and holiday let properties. There is mixed housing. The parish has a very active Parish Council and it falls within the area of Eden District. There is a Methodist Chapel and a small industrial estate in the village.

## Church Brough

St Michaels Church is in Church Brough. It is located below the late-Norman ruins of Brough Castle. The centre of the village is particularly attractive, having largely traditional houses surrounding a small green and is in short walking distance from the Castle and Ice Cream Parlour.

## Brough Sowerby

This is a small village with a Methodist Chapel, a pub and a lunch club. An ecumenical home group meets here.

## Stainmore

Rising above Brough to the east on the lower slopes of the Pennines lies Stainmore which has scattered settlements over a wide area. The church is located in South Stainmore and is seen as a centre for the community, hosting a monthly coffee morning. There are ongoing conversations about the building next door owned by Manchester Grammar School which is now unused. There may be potential to develop this. There is an annual Swaledale Sheep show held on North Stainmore. There is a transport Café located on the side of the A66.



## Our Schools



**Brough Primary School** - Our local primary school was established in 1875, and serves a large area from Stainmore to Musgrave. The school accommodates approximately 70 children and is fully equipped with modern technology such as electronic white boards, laptops and internet access. In its grounds there is an adventure trail and outdoor climbing

tower, a traversing wall, a quiet area with chalk boards, and an outdoor stage with seating for over a hundred presently used as outdoor area for the foundation stage.

The village primary school is not a church school but has good links with the churches and has a positive attitude to the Christian faith. A weekly assembly is taken by local members of the churches. Each year we hold Transition Group for Year 6. We host Prayer Space in the autumn and we aim to invite the whole school annually to 'Experience Easter/Harvest/Christmas' in the Church.



**Brough Pre-School** - This is behind the primary school with its own outside play facility. It is open to children aged 2-4 years. Children are able to receive the free nursery entitlement at this setting. The friendly staff make the children feel secure. They are registered for 18 children per day. The nursery has an Outstanding Ofsted certification.

## Brough Castle



Built on the site of a Roman Fort (Verteris, the outlines of which are still just visible), to the south of Brough, and approached through the village of Church Brough, the Castle has undergone some consolidation work under the care of English Heritage.

Church members have hosted 2 tent missions in the past 4 years and this year hosted the NYC Ablaze Eden Youth Event.



## Brough Show

Every year on the third Thursday in August Brough holds its annual agricultural show in Kaber. Spectators and Exhibitors from all over the North of England enjoy a day packed with fine displays of livestock (horses, sheep, dogs, poultry and rabbits), drystone walling, produce and crafts.



During Appleby Horse Fair the population of the Benefice is increased by travellers using public spaces in the villages and byways for short stays as they gather, before heading to the official camp sites around Appleby.

## Employment

The area's commerce was principally built around serving the transport industry and farming. Employment prospects are now very limited with a few small transport businesses remaining. Farming no longer employs many people and services to the farming industry do not provide the jobs that once existed. Public transport is almost non-existent however there is a small voluntary car scheme.

Many people have to find work elsewhere. There are limited opportunities in Appleby and Kirkby Stephen so some have to travel further afield to Penrith, Kendal, Barnard Castle and beyond.

## Our Church Buildings

### St. Michael's Church, Brough

Parts of the church date from the 12<sup>th</sup> century, but it has been rebuilt, ransacked, rebuilt again and added to over the centuries. The original Norman church was built on the mediaeval 'banking' principle. Rather than cutting into the rock to provide a level site, the church was built on the natural slope of the hillside resulting in the unusual feature of the sloping nave where the bride does literally walk up the aisle. The fine square buttressed tower was completed in 1525. The tower contains four bells and the pulpit dates from 1624. The church has a modern kitchen and toilet facilities and a new carpark. The church fabric is in good order.



### St. Stephen's Church, Stainmore

The church was originally built as a school under the will of Sir Cuthbert Buckle, a native of Brough. As a young man he walked all the way to London where he prospered as a Vintner. He became Lord Mayor in 1593/1594 but died in office. The school building was consecrated in 1608 by Bishop Robertson, allowing its use as a chapel, and in 1699 it was rebuilt by the Earl of Thanet who added a school house on the north side. Having once more fallen into disrepair it was restored in 1911 for the arrival of the Revd. Thomas Westgarth as Vicar and re-opened by the Bishop of Carlisle in 1913. Today the Church is in a reasonable state of repair with no major outstanding Quinquennial items



### Church Brough, Church Hall



This is located in Church Brough and is used for various activities which include Art Group, Informal Worship (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday), AAW (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday), Sunday at 7 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday) and Messy Church. The hall is in good order and has electric heating, toilets, fully fitted kitchen, a large cellar for storage and a print room for the magazine. The building is well used by the community.

## Our Church Life

### Our Vision

Brough with Stainmore is a mixture of Traditional, Evangelical and Charismatic members.

We want our church to be a place where we are all loved and valued and where our faith is nurtured, deepened and Spirit-filled so that our communities are places where people can encounter Jesus and develop faith.

We want our church to foster pastoral care amongst both the members and in the community.

We want our church to nurture and develop work among children and young people and build bridges inside and outside the Church amongst communities of all ages.



### Membership

At the AGM our Electoral Roll figure was 26. There are approximately 1100 parishioners in the parish.

### Staff

Our licensed readers in Brough are Judy Dobson and Patricia Higton. There are also 2 retired priests, the Revd David Leathes and Rev Tony Higton, who have Permission to Officiate. Rachel Milburn, a Deanery Pioneer Lay Minister, runs a Christian Holiday Club and Messy Church in the parish plus a secular youth club which has close links to the Network Youth Church in the Deanery.

## Worship

### ST MICHAEL'S, CHURCH BROUGH

#### Holy Communion

A twice-monthly service of Holy Communion is held at St. Michael's church.

- Worship is led from an electronic organ. The hymn book used is Mission Praise. Occasionally the pipe organ is played.
- Form of Service: Common Worship liturgy.
- Usual Sunday average attendance is 19 at Brough

**Informal Worship with Communion.** This is a more informal monthly service in St Michael's with communion. Attendance is approximately 10-12 adults.



## **Café Church in the Church Hall**

- Starting in January 2018, Originally an All Age Service, this is a service with an informal feel using Powerpoint-projected hymns, shared brunch, relaxed atmosphere, children's activities and discussion topics.

Refreshments are served after all services.

## **“Evening Service”**



This service isn't currently running but we would love to see it re-started next year.

## **ST. STEPHENS, STAINMORE**

There are two services a month at St Stephen's, an 11.00am Holy Communion and a 2.30pm Evening Prayer.

- The style is informal/traditional using Common Worship.
- Music is led by a musician on an electronic organ using Anglican Hymns Old & New.
- Usual Sunday Average Attendance is up to 12 people.

There has been regular joint united service between the two churches.

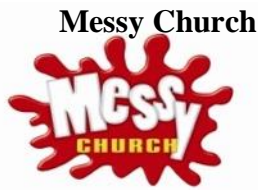
## **MID-WEEK ACTIVITIES**

### **A Lent Group /Bible Study**

Starts in February 2018 - This group will meet weekly.

### **Prayer Group**

A weekly prayer group on Wednesday nights.



Messy Church is held in the Church Hall approximately four times a year on Friday afternoons. Families meet together to sing, play games, eat together and take part in numerous sticky, messy and often edible craft activities, themed from a Bible Story. All of those attending are families who do not come to church regularly.



### **CHOFHS Youth Group**

This secular youth group is held in the Cornerstone Centre in Brough on Friday Evenings. Sessions are from 6.00 – 7.30pm. The children are aged between 11 -16. We offer a varied and action packed schedule of activities each term, some held in the centre and some on the village on the recreation field. We often go to the cinema, bowling or laser quest. The club is extremely popular with usual numbers between 25-30 with a waiting list. The leader Rachel Milburn takes some of the teens on Christian residential youth conferences, including Soul Survivor with Penrith Methodist Church and more local residential with the Appleby Deanery Network Youth Church. Each year the Messy Church team have hosted a Summer Holiday Club in Brough. This year this hasn't happened but it is hoped to run it again in the future.



### **Toddler Group**



Every Wednesday during term time in the Memorial Hall in Brough, Mums, Dads, Grandparents and Child Minders are welcomed with children under school age to the group. There is a large quantity of toys, a craft activity is organised and after snack time the larger ride-on, push along and walkers are brought out. This is an excellent facility for the clergy to meet new families.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **Welcome Packs**

We warmly welcome all newcomers to the village. This is a vital ministry, usually very powerful. Often people break down and most say they have never felt so welcome. We take a gift, a newsletter and parish magazine, a copy of the 'Herald' Newspaper. Rachel invites the parents of the kids to CHOFHS Youth Group, or to the Toddlers Group (and often goes with them and supports the parents) – This is an expression of our Pastoral Care. The newsletter gives full details of all the Church Services. It is now being rolled out across the Deanery.



**Home Communion**s are offered to the housebound both on request and by proactively seeking out those who need it.

### **The Way**

We have a monthly magazine which is church-based and features the service pattern of the Anglican and Methodist churches in the Benefice for the month. It brings together activities around the Benefice, social and spiritual, and provides an opportunity for local businesses to advertise. Articles have been written for each edition by the Associate Priest. The magazine is printed by a local team and is distributed free of charge to every house in the Benefice.

## **ECUMENICAL ACTIVITY**

### **Joint Services**

We link up with the local Methodist churches, having joint services four times per annum with Brough.

### **March of Witness**

On Good Friday we have a joint Anglican/Methodist procession of witness in Brough.

**Our Finances**  
**BROUGH WITH STAINMORE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED**

**31 DECEMBER 2016**

**General Fund Receipts & Payments Account**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>Receipts</u>	£	£
Gift Aid [ GA ] - regular giving	7523	7905
Planned giving - uncovenanted	1448	1202
Income tax recovered	2955	2566
Collections	1479	1346
Church churn	379	365
Funeral/Wedding collections-church	681	969
Funeral/Wedding collections-charities	531	1285
Collection for charities – Harvest	62	-
Fund raising - Book sale	195	130
Remembrance Sunday	89	104
Donations - upkeep of churchyard	125	235
Sundry donations	207	665
Messy Church donations	160	68
Youth Church - <u>Restricted</u>	-	-
Coffee donations	82	16
Fees paid to the PCC	3831	6840
Interest and dividends	68	81
Legacy, for upkeep of graveyard - <u>Restricted</u>	3739	-
Legacy, for religious purposes - <u>Restricted</u>	3739	-
Changing Rooms	1457	-
Sundry income ( Passover meal )	87	120
Church Hall ( hire fees ) – <u>Designated</u>	1590*	1492
	-----	-----
<u>Total Receipts</u>	30427	25389
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Notes -

The legacy for religious purposes has been used to fund the net cost of the Changing Rooms outreach.

\* includes Church Hall current account

General Fund Receipts and Payments Account [Contd]

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£
<u>Payments</u>		
Ministry working expenses	2367	205
Church heating	261	628
Church insurance [ St Michaels & St Stephens ]	3185	3833
Church electricity	363	220
Routine maintenance of church, security	378	255
Repairs	456	317
Upkeep of services	901	961
Maintenance/alteration of churchyard	-	-
Administration	82	60
Parish offer and Deanery levy	8940	10643
Poppy Appeal [ Remembrance Sunday ]	89	103
Children's Society ( carol service )	00	93
Charitable giving/appeals	1000	100
Funeral/Wedding collections-nominated charities	315	1034
Fees due to CDBF, organist, bells	1071	2146
Sundry expenditure	41	111
Capital purchase ( mike )	211	1790
Messy church	253	-
Mission	-	-
Training	-	60
Church Hall - <u>Designated</u>	990*	745
Youth Church - <u>Restricted</u>	1983	1065
Quinquennial fees ( St Stephens )	540	-
Prayer cards	100	-
Changing Rooms	1844	-
Growth Fund ( Higton installation)	-	162
	-----	-----
<u>Total Payments</u>	25370	24531
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Notes -

\* includes Church Hall current account

Hall – Payments £588.00 electricity, £188.00 insurance plus £215 repairs/sundry

## 6. Where would you live?



**The Vicarage**

**The Vicarage** in Kirkby Stephen, where our new incumbent will live, was rebuilt in 1962 on the original site immediately east of the churchyard. It is a substantial two-storey building facing south and standing within a garden of about a third of an acre whose high stone walls give privacy despite the proximity to the town centre. High double gates on Vicarage Lane give access to a large parking and turning area in front of the house. To the east, a lawn slopes gently to a fence beyond which the land drops steeply to the River Eden. There are magnificent views across fields and woods to the fells, culminating in Nine Standards Rigg (662 m).

The house has double cavity walls with an outer leaf of local stone, and is regularly inspected by the Diocesan Surveyor. On the ground floor a porch leads to a spacious entrance hall from which the study, sitting room, utility and cloakroom open. The study, measuring 16 ft x 10 ft, has a fireplace and built-in shelving and looks east to the hills. The sitting room (18ft x 13ft 6 in) is also well-lit and has a fireplace and sliding doors to the dining room (11ft 6 in x 11 ft), from which a door and hatch open to the fitted kitchen (14ft x 10ft 6 in, with larder). The utility room (11ft 6 in x 7 ft, but with several doors opening off it) adjoins the kitchen and gives access to a shower room, stores, a vestibule and the double garage (18 ft wide x 16 ft deep).

On the upper floor the stairhead opens to a well-lit landing giving access to five bedrooms, a bathroom and a w.c. Four of the bedrooms are double. Bedroom 1 (12 ft x 11 ft 6in) has a fitted wash basin, as does bedroom 2 (14ft x 13ft 9 in). Bedroom 3 (13ft x 11 ft) has a built-in wardrobe as does bedroom 4 (14ft x 10ft 8in) which also has a wash basin. The single bedroom, bedroom 5 (9ft 6in x 8 ft 6 in) has a built-in cupboard. A hatch over the landing with fitted loft ladder gives access to a floored roof space.

The house has gas-fired central heating, full double glazing and an intruder alarm system. It is a very pleasant house to live and work in, and it is most conveniently situated.

## The Vicarage Garden and View from the Study



## **7. What do we offer, and what are the challenges?**

**We, the people of these parishes, extend a warm welcome to whoever is called by God to serve among us. We have lots of ideas but need your help in turning them into action. With you, we look forward to making the Diocesan Vision and our Mission Action Plan a reality.**

**We can offer you, our new incumbent:**

- An attractive, friendly, rural environment, part within a National Park;
- A comfortable Vicarage next to a fine church and within a lively market town;
- Supportive congregations who will care for you and your family;
- A challenging role, leading a ministry team in an ecumenical diocese which is moving towards the establishment of mission communities;
- Connection into your communities through seasonal celebrations, baptisms, weddings and funerals and through work with local schools;
- Strong links with other local congregations including joint services and outreach activities throughout the year.

**We therefore pray that you, the Vicar of the Upper Eden Benefice, will have the ability to:**

- Help us to be Christ in the community and to draw people to him
- Encourage and inspire us together to evangelism in church services and in the community.
- Help us develop fresh expressions of worship alongside the more traditional services.
- Encourage us to personal and to corporate prayer.
- Develop and encourage the gifts within the congregation and have a heartfelt desire to build up and encourage the members in love and fellowship.
- At the same time, make sure we do not lose sight of the practicalities of meeting community needs, raising finances and maintaining historic and beautiful buildings.
- Make God's people joyful!

**We pledge ourselves to work with you in God's service, sharing his love and demonstrating the enriching power of faith. We hope and pray that what we have written will draw you to meet us, discover more, and find fulfilment among us.**

### **A prayer**

Father of all, we thank you for the past.  
We pray for your Holy Spirit to strengthen our present and guide us in the future.  
Open our hearts and keep us together in love, unity and peace.  
Let all that we do be for your glory.  
In the name of Christ. Amen .