



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF
RIPON & LEEDS

The East Richmond Team Ministry

comprising the Parishes of Barton, Birkby, Cleasby with Stapleton, Croft, Danby Wiske with Hutton Bonville, Eryholme, Great Smeaton with Appleton Wiske, Manfield, Middleton Tyas with Moulton and the Cowtons (North and East)

seeks to appoint

a Team Rector

Established in 2004, the East Richmond Team lies in a beautiful agricultural area between Darlington, Richmond and Northallerton. There is excellent access to the Yorkshire Moors and Dales, nearby Teesside and via the A1 and A66 to London, Edinburgh and the trans-Pennine route. There are a number of farming families in the area and some small industries in Darlington, but many people commute to Newcastle, Middlesbrough, York and beyond to work. The population is c.5,500 scattered across small villages and isolated farms. There are 10 parishes with 13 churches, 7 schools (4 Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary and 3 County Primary, one of which has just become an Academy) and 1 nursing home. There is a Church of England/Roman Catholic secondary school in Richmond, and secondary schools and colleges in Richmond, Darlington and Northallerton; all of these lie outside the benefice.

Throughout the benefice, there is a strong sense of affection for and loyalty to the churches, and they are deeply embedded in their local communities. Mission and outreach tends to arise from each individual church. 3 of the churches buildings are Grade I Listed and 7 are Grade II. Most are mediaeval; 4 date from the period between 1840 and 1970. Worship ranges from BCP and CW to more experimental café-style services. The tradition, while varying a little across the Team, is central. Good, well-applied biblical preaching is appreciated. The average Sunday attendance across the Team is about 200 and the Electoral Roll stands at 379. The Ministry Team comprises a Team Vicar, a House-for-Duty Priest, an NSM Curate and 3 Readers. There are also 2 active retired clergy, one of whom supervises the curate. There is an active team of well-organised wardens and, in a few of the parishes, of youth leaders.

We are looking for a Team Rector who will provide strong leadership for the next phase of the Team's life and ministry, providing fresh inspiration and encouragement. The person appointed will need to review the strategic direction of the Team, encouraging the life and outreach of each church, but also taking the overview and helping us to see where churches can more effectively support and work with others. The Team Rector will coordinate Team-wide activities such as our full range of worship and study groups and the Team Council. He or she will work collaboratively with the ministry team and the PCCs, developing the skills of all, particularly in the areas of worship and pastoral care, and will be able to ensure the Team maintains excellent ministry to the schools. He or she will have experience of rural ministry and an enthusiasm for rural life, and the patience to work with different groups with varying agendas across the churches and communities. We are looking for a *team leader* rather than just a leader.

We believe this is an exciting post for someone with a real passion and vision for rural ministry, and a desire to lead a team who are concerned to show the love of God in their communities, serving through worship, prayer, outreach and pastoral care.

There is a well-appointed 4-bedroom vicarage at Barton, close to the A1. There is a shop and bus service in the village. Applicants will need to be drivers.

The Patrons are:

- The Bishop of Ripon and Leeds
- The incumbents of Forcett, Aldbrough and Melsonby and of Gilling and Kirkby Ravensworth
- The Dean and Chapter of Ripon Cathedral
- The Martyrs' Memorial and Church of England Trust
- The Ripon and Leeds Diocesan Board of Patronage.

For further information or an application pack, or if you would like an informal conversation, please contact the Venerable Janet Henderson, Archdeacon of Richmond, on 01765 601 316 or janet.henderson@riponleeds-diocese.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Thursday, 1st March 2012

Interviews: to be arranged