



About the Church of All Saints

There is documentary evidence referring to the presence of a Priest at Harewood in the 10th century. There is also archaeological evidence to support the existence of a pre-Norman church here in the shape of an Anglo-Danish carved stone. The continued existence of a church in the 12th century is shown by the Norman tub-shaped font in the south aisle and by the gravestones built into the fabric. In the mid 14th century the church was granted to Bolton Priory who rebuilt a church in the Decorated style. The current church was built c 1410 in the Perpendicular style. In about 1366 Sir William Aldburgh built a new stone castle on the south side of the River Wharfe which became the home of the Redmans and the Rythers. Three of the six spectacular alabaster monuments that stand in the church come from these two families.

John Carr, the famous Georgian architect who built Harewood House and a significant number of houses in the village of Harewood, also became involved with All Saints church in 1772. He designed the Gothick battlements that can still be seen on the church today but, unfortunately, the plasterwork ceiling he also designed was replaced during the next phase of the church's development.

The years between 1862 and 1863 saw the last phase of building work; designed by one of the leading architects of the day, Sir George Gilbert Scott. During this time the interior was substantially changed to accord with the 'medieval' ideas of Victorian restoration. The ceiling was given a Gothick appearance in place of Carr's plasterwork; balconies and box pews were removed and benches and choir stalls inserted. A pipe organ was installed and the vestry added.

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Access

Due to their age, historic church floors can be uneven and worn and lighting can be low level. Please take care, especially in wet weather when floors can be slippery.

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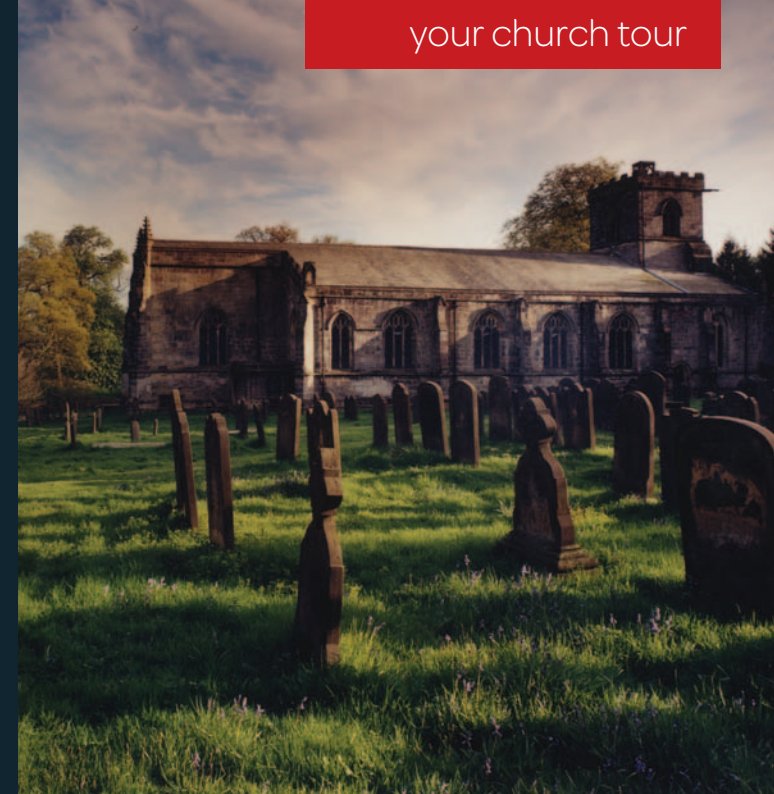
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Church of All Saints

Harewood, West Yorkshire



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The historic Church of All Saints

10 things to see before you leave...

- 1 **Framed Key Historical Information** including some of the owners of the Harewood and Gawthorpe estates, together with information about the original 12th-century church and the incumbents from Fr Laur de Wath in 1354 to Rev Canon H H Griffith who served from 1928 to 1974.
- 2 **The Alabaster Tombs** are six pairs of some of the greatest surviving examples of alabaster carving in England, which date from 1419 to 1510. Three are from the Gascoignes of Gawthorpe and three were Lords of Harewood – two Redman and one Ryther. Several of the coats of arms from these families can be found in the ruins of Harewood Castle.
- 3 **The Sanctuary Rail** was given by HRH The Princess Mary (Princess Royal) as a memorial to her father King George V (1865-1936) and beyond are lovely examples of Victorian tiles.
- 4 This beautifully designed and extremely well preserved stained glass **East Window** by O'Conner from 1854 depicts the life of Christ.
- 5 **The Piscina**, in what is known as the Gascoigne chapel, was used for washing the Communion vessels. Found behind one of the monuments during the late 1970s restoration after being hidden from view for centuries.
- 6 Several features of this **Anglo-Scandinavian Sculpture** indicate work of the Viking period and are similar to other 10th and 11th-century sculptures found in other parts of Yorkshire.
- 7 The bottom of this ancient baptismal **Font** is from the Norman period.
- 8 This rather dark and moody **West Window** from 1894 by Kemp shows the figures of John the Baptist, St Peter, St Michael, St John and King David.
- 9 Two **Sundials** can be found outside on the south wall. The first, dated 1775, is directly above the door of the south porch. The second is little more than a faint outline, and can be found on the second buttress to the east of the porch. It is thought to pre-date the current church.
- 10 This human shaped **Anglo-Saxon Casket** can be found along the north side of the church close to the vestry.

