

## Incumbents of St Peter's Church

The first ministry appointment was William Wright in 1748 followed by:

1777 the Revd James Bingham  
1812 the Revd Jervase Brown  
1842 the Revd Samuel May Lund  
1866 the Revd Michael Terry  
1890 the Revd Vincent Joseph Higgins  
1905 the Revd John James Cross  
1910 the Revd Larret Pearson Sayles  
1947 the Revd Herbert Leslie Hobson  
1959 the Revd Richard Henry Smart  
1963 the Revd Wilfred L Archer  
1966 the Revd Miles  
1970 the Revd Walter Davies  
1974 the Revd Leslie Cowley  
1977 the Revd David Alan Roberts  
1982 the Revd David D C Bignall  
1986 the Revd John A Parfitt  
1992 the Revd Duncan McMann

Rectors: Awsworth Cossall & Trowell

2000 the Revd Graham R Booth  
2006 the Revd Dr Andrew Lord

Notes from the Church Magazine of 1894, records for July and August of that year showed:-

14 Baptisms  
3 Marriages  
5 Burials (4 of which were aged 2 and under)

An article written in the same Magazine of 1894, talks of the distress caused by children playing in the churchyard. The vicar writes, "If parents had only a proper control of their children..."!



### War Memorial

1920 saw the addition in the churchyard of the War Memorial which was unveiled by Lt Col Terry: the son of the Revd Michael Terry, vicar of Awsworth 1866-1905.

### Prayer

*"Make the doors of our churches wide enough to receive all who need love, fellowship and a Father's care – yet narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and lack of love. May all who enter be refreshed and renewed in your hope and joy. In Jesus name, Amen."*

# Welcome to St Peter's Church, Awsworth

The first known purpose-built church in Awsworth was part of the site of St Peter's built around 1746.

It was commissioned by the Earl of Stamford and was built by Richard Smedley who donated the sum of £5 per year for "teaching the poor", this continued until the late 1990's at the reduced rate of £2 per year.

The Richard Smedley donation enabled the now 'church vestry' to continue as a school room during the week days. The 'church part' known as the Chapel-of-Ease, was added in 1879 and became the chancel when a new nave was built in 1902. The schoolteacher's desk is still being used today and can be found at the back of church just behind the entrance door.

In 1902 a new nave was built at a cost of £2000 and it was the Rev. Higgins sister-in-law, Miss Frideswide Worthington who generously paid the remaining £800 to complete the work. She was also responsible for the wood carvings which can be found on the choir stalls and pulpit: these were initially made by Mr Henry Thornhill a local carpenter and undertaker. The foundation stone for the nave was laid by Sir Henry Bemrose the nave being consecrated by the Bishop of Derby on the 24th March 1904.

Awsworth parish, initially being part of Nuthall, was joined in 1953 to Cossall, St Catherine's: the patronage having been transferred in 1931 from Cecily Grey, wife of



Charles Harvey Grey Earl of Stamford, to the Bishop of Southwell.

At the beginning of the 21st Century, Awsworth and Cossall, together with St Helen's Trowell, became one benefice in the Diocese of Southwell now known as Southwell & Nottingham.

In 1995 the "old faithful" church hall or Mission Hall, built in 1894 at a cost of £774, was pulled down. This had been the venue for many stage productions, fund raising events and social gatherings for many years, but damp and running costs made it difficult to maintain.

1995 also saw, under the care of the Revd Duncan McMann, the re-ordering of the back of church and the side rooms. This was completed in 1995 and is now used for meetings and youth work.



Are you fascinated by church history? Could you help us bring church heritage to life? The Southwell & Nottingham Diocese Church History Project would like to hear from you.

For more information please see [www.nottsopenchurches.org.uk](http://www.nottsopenchurches.org.uk)

Many thanks to the Revd Brenda Brown for the material used in this leaflet.





### 3 Other Chancel fittings

The Sanctuary chair is thought to be one of the oldest fittings of the church.

The 'black' table found near the altar, is considered to be the original Communion Table.

The large chair - Bishops chair - is dated 1950 and was donated by Mrs Edith Taylor of Station Road Awworth, given in memory of her husband Frank Taylor.



### 1 Bell

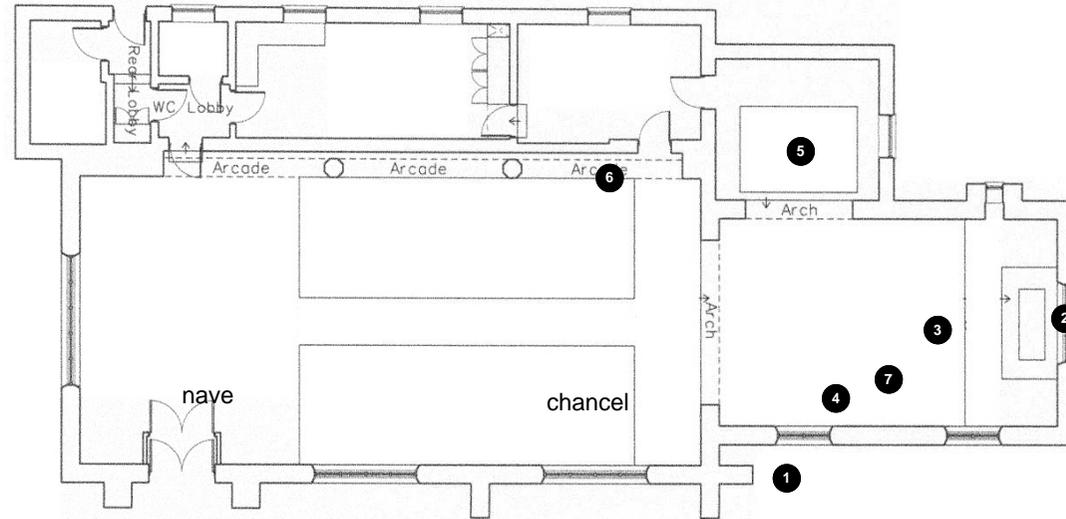
In 1910 the bell turret was added to commemorate King Edward VII. The bell, dated 1912, weighs 3.5 cwt and was donated in memory of the Towson family who were local land owners: the family graves can be found in the churchyard.



### 5 Organ

The organ was originally built by Lloyd for Gotham Methodist Church Nottinghamshire and was first relocated and rebuilt by Wrays for St Peter's Awworth and then by Henry Groves when it was moved to the new chancel.

In 2012 it was decided to remove the organ due to its poor condition and sadly the cost of maintenance. The area is in process of further



### 2 Stained Glass Window

In 1957 the reordering of the church included a new chancel and stained glass window depicting Jesus, St Peter and St Paul and was consecrated in 1958.



### 6 Later additions

The new "Prayer" section was created in 2011. The blue picture showing the rising of an eagle, was commissioned in 2011 and painted by Shuna George, using the text from Isaiah 41 v31 "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

### 7 "Find the bee"

(carved on a piece of furniture somewhere in the chancel)  
The 'bee' is also the symbol used in the badge of our local school and encourages us all to be industrious and of 'fine character and of good quality'. St John Chrysostom wrote: "The bee is more honoured than other animals, not because she labours, but because she labours for others".

### 4 Wood carvings on the choir stalls

Donated by Miss F Worthington

