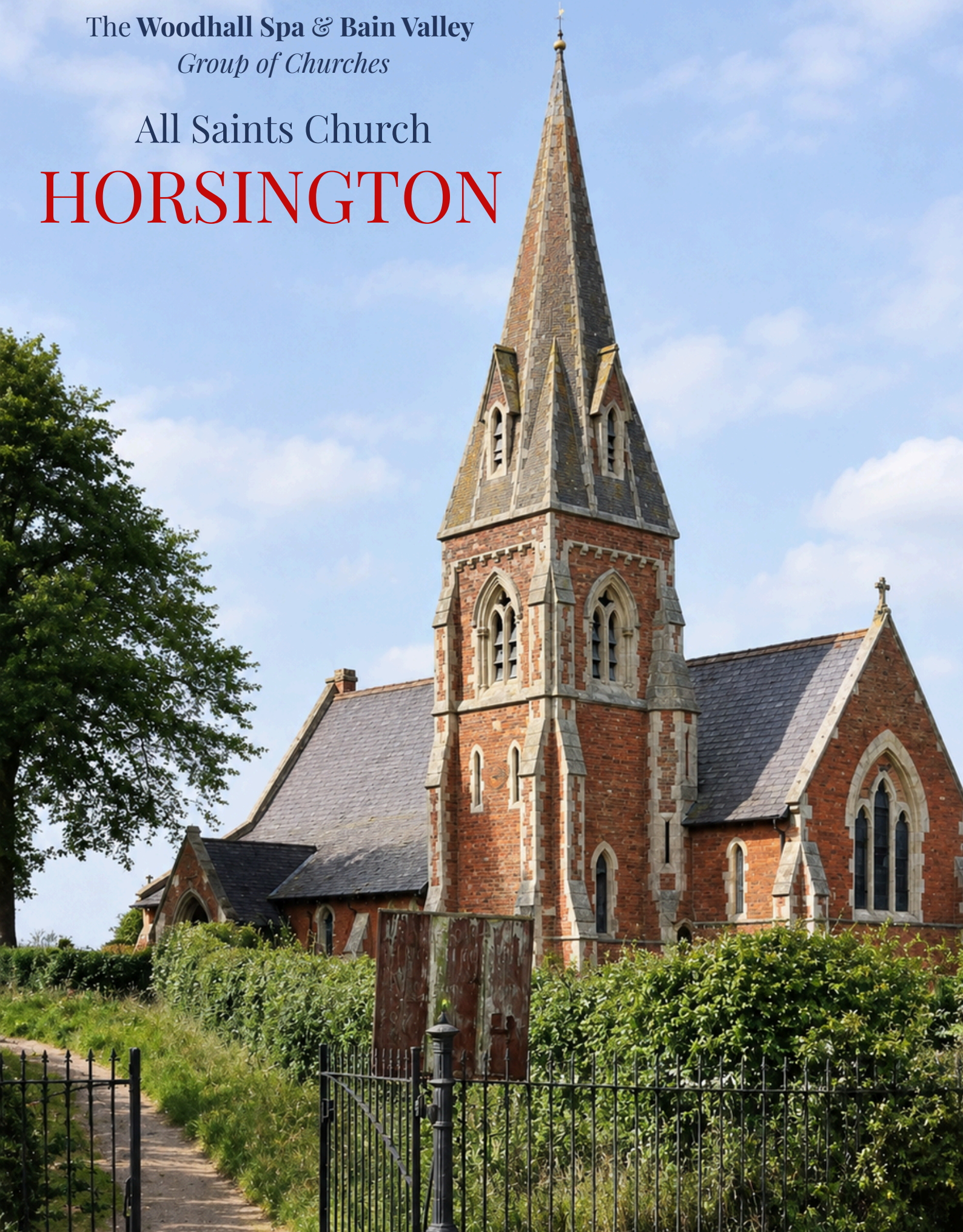


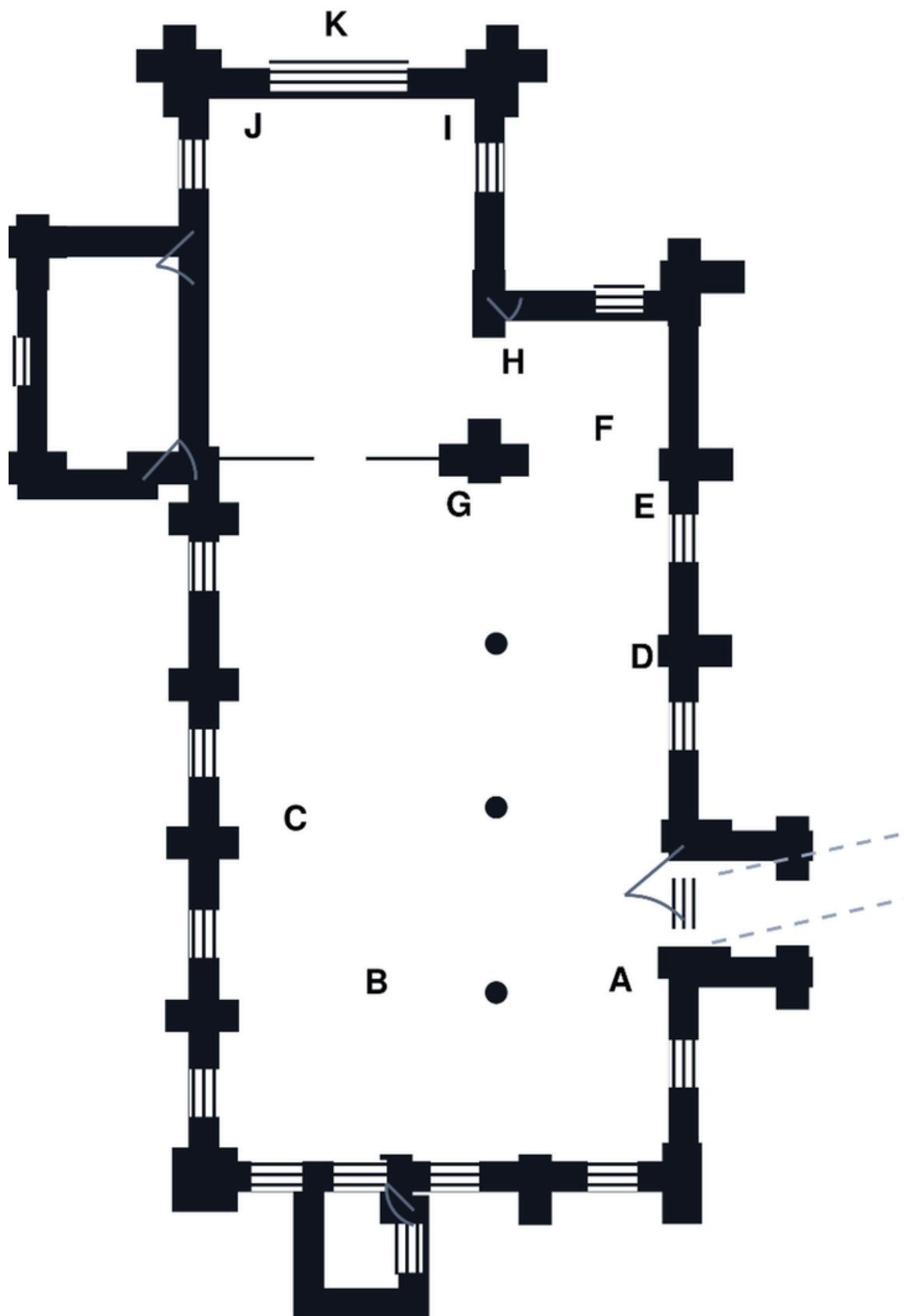
The Woodhall Spa & Bain Valley
Group of Churches

All Saints Church
HORSINGTON



CHURCH GUIDE

AROUND THE CHURCH



Welcome to All Saints' Church

All Saints Church Horsington is a Grade II listed building designed by the architect David Sandon.

The church was built in 1860, at about the same time as the rectory and the village school. These projects were sponsored at the time by Magdalen College, a major local landowner and the patron of the rector and living of Horsington.

The church is built in the Early English style favoured at the time. While some writers have disliked the church, the poet Sir John Betjeman was impressed enough to commission a drawing of it by John Piper. This was used to illustrate one of his poems, 'A Lincolnshire Church'.

This is despite the fact that the poem itself appears to be written about the church in Huttoft, Lincolnshire.

Around the church

A As you enter the church, the first items of interest are on the left, marked **A** on your map. These are the font and its beautifully carved wooden font cover.

The cover was commissioned by the widow of the Reverend Francis Hugh Deane (1819 – 1904), a former rector of Horsington. It was carved by a local wood carver and former stonemason, Frederick Grant. He was known to the rector at the time, Reverend R.C. Bates, as a lay preacher in Lincoln with an existing reputation as an excellent wood carver. The result was described by Reverend Bates as demonstrating 'great skill and judgement and he could not thank him enough for the skill and labour he had put into the eight panels'. There is more about Frederick Grant in Section C of this guide.

Attached to the font itself is a brass plaque in memory of the nephew of the rector, Harold Christopher Bates Lieutenant R.E who died during the First World War in 1915.

B Move to the top of the nave and turn right (east) to face the beautiful stained glass windows above the altar of the church. These windows are marked **K** on your map.

They were commissioned by the widow of Reverend Thomas Frederick Smith, rector from 1856 to 1871. They are in memory of him and also their only daughter Catherine Isabella who died in 1866 at a young age. There is more information about Reverend Smith in Section I. These windows are beautiful in any light but particularly when the sun is directly behind them.

C Proceed down the nave of the church and a little way down to your left, on the north wall of the church, is the Roll of Honour relating to the First World War, 1914 – 1918.

Frederick Grant was again responsible for the lovely hand carving of this wooden memorial. It is noted that he spent every spare hour for two months to complete it. The crown surmounting the memorial symbolises All Saints and Victory. The three panels symbolise the Trinity and the vine the Spirit of Life.

Many towns and villages across the country have such memorials and Lincolnshire is no exception. An idea of the total lives lost across the county can be estimated by the approximate figures for the single largest unit, the Lincolnshire Regiment that lost approximately 1,000 officers and over 9,000 other ranks killed across all the fields of conflict. The conflict was also supported by a number of local 'pals' units from across the region such as the Grimsby Pals, also known as the Grimsby Chums.



Horsington Parish WWI Roll of Honour

William Albans
Harold Bates
Tom Bell
Sidney Deeley
Harry Longthorn (buried in the churchyard)
Edward Mabbott
Frank Toyne
Arthur Warren

Lieutenant Harold C. Bates, Royal Engineers
Died 18th August 1915

D Moving down the nave towards the altar, on your right is the south wall of the church where there is a small line drawing of what looks like a cottage.

Written on the reverse of this small sketch is written, 'Horsington Church AD1786. Presented by Reverend A. C. H. Rice to the future Rectors of Horsington Rectory. Sepia drawing by Nina Rice 1912.'

Reverend Alwyne Compton Howard Rice was Rector of Horsington from 1907, later in 1909 also becoming Vicar of the neighbouring Parish of Stixwould. Nina Rice who produced the sketch is likely to have been the daughter-in-law of the Reverend Rice.

This sketch is dated 1912 and is believed to have been copied from an earlier engraving. It shows a 'mud-and-stud' building, a method of construction commonly used for many years across a number of local villages, which is believed to be the former church. The location of this earlier church is debatable. It was either situated close to the site of the current church or about 1.5 miles from Horsington at a site known locally as All Hallows. It was described in Bonney's Church Notes (November 1847) as follows: 'The Church in this parish stood in the burial ground some distance from the village, and this building is evidently the Rectoral Tythe Barn, fitted up for Divine Worship'. The note concludes that 'the thatch to be mended shortly.' Over time plans were suggested for its replacement and in 1859 a Select Vestry entry indicated that 'it was expedient to take down the existing Church and rebuild on a more convenient site'.

E Further along this wall are two new windows. These are dedicated in loving memory of David Briggs who, until his death in 2004, was a parishioner of this church.

F Following the south wall further you will find a number of recent memorials to parishioners. These include a pair of wooden turned candlesticks.

These were made by a well-known and respected local councillor, the late Charles Hill. One of the candlesticks he made has a silver label and is dedicated in loving memory of Doreen Williamson who was the secretary of the parish council for 35 years.

G Below the steps in front of the altar is a lectern in memory of Nora Dent (1907 – 1967).

Nora was a dedicated and much respected head teacher at Horsington Church of England School for 25 years (1941 – 1967). She is still fondly remembered by her few remaining pupils still living in the village as ‘the best teacher ever’. She died not long after her early retirement in 1967. The lectern, which was purchased by subscription, was then permanently transferred to the church when the school closed in late 1967.

H Mount the step towards the area of the sanctuary around the altar and on your left is the church organ. The organ was originally donated to the church through Magdalen College.

The organ was restored in 2013, the work being undertaken in memory of Raymond Myers, a lay preacher of the parish, and David Myers a former altar boy. This work was commissioned by Jean Myers, the wife of David. The organ is still regularly used in church services and events.

I The plaques around the altar relate to various rectors of this parish and some members of their family. This was the period of the British Empire as is reflected in the various plaques on display.

Carrying on along the south wall, walk towards the altar and nearing the top on the wall on your right hand side you will find the plaque dedicated to Colonel Bonar Millet Deane, second son of Reverend George Deane, a former rector of the parish of Horsington.

Colonel Bonar Millet Deane was a distinguished soldier. He married the daughter of the Reverend John Evelyn Boscawen, Earl of Falmouth. He was posted to the Cape of Good Hope where he became the Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster. During the Boer War, he was killed leading the Natal Field Force in the Battle of Laing’s Nek at the age of 46.

As you walk across the altar to the opposite north wall of the sanctuary area, take a second opportunity to have a closer view of the lovely stained glass windows **K**.

Did you know?

The former organ at All Saints’ Church was rumoured to have previously belonged to Mozart. It may have been just a rumour, but it’s still a great thought that it may have once been used by one of the best composers of all time!

J Once you reach the north wall there are plaques relating to the Reverend Thomas Frederick Smith, formerly Fellow of Magdalen College Oxford and Rector of Horsington from 1856 to 1871.

The plaque also notes that it was 'under his care' that the National School in the village was built. The plaque includes Reverend Smith's wife's fond remembrance of her husband and their only daughter.

Below this plaque are two further plaques dedicated to the eldest and the second sons of Reverend Smith -

Lieutenant Frederick Ewen Cowper Smith, Royal Artillery, the eldest son who died in Afghanistan at the age of 19 years in 1880 and

Captain Arthur Munro Cowper Smith, Royal Field Artillery and graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, who died aged 36 years in 1898.

Caring for our church

All Saints' Church is a historic, Grade II listed building, and its care is an ongoing and challenging responsibility.

While major restoration work is supported by organisations such as English Heritage, the day-to-day upkeep relies on local support.

If you have enjoyed your visit, any donation - however small - is greatly appreciated. You'll find a donation point near the entrance.

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www.AChurchNearYou.com/church/15049

THE HORSINGTON HISTORY GROUP

We are very grateful, and very fortunate to work with the Horsington History Group. They have supported the church - and the community - with countless hours of research, helping to research the past and ensure that future generations get to know the stories from this building. They have created this guide for you to enjoy. You can also visit their fascinating website at: www.horsington-history.com and learn more about the village and its history.

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