Cheshire church celebrates 150th anniversary with pictures past and present

Christ Church in Crowton has announced a series of special events next year

Christ Church in Crowton is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2021

Crowton's beautiful Victorian parish church will be 150 years old next year and parishioners are planning a major programme of events and fundraising to mark the special anniversary.

In preparation the church has just been totally re-decorated and there is a plan to install new pew cushions and improve the sound system.

Church organisers have also commissioned Chester textile artist Sandra Christie to work with the local community to produce a new decorative collage, inspired by the well-known hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful.

A year of celebrations starts on Sunday, November 22 with a special online commemorative service and will be followed by numerous Christmas festivities and a host of events during 2021, including a pub quiz night, exhibitions, summer fete, gardens open day, school fashion show, harvest supper, choral concert by the William Byrd Singers, a hilarious Allo Allo evening with Kingsley Players and performance of a new play Alice's Quest for Wonderland: Down the Rabbit Hole with Lewis Carroll by local award-winning playwright Lynn Pegler.

The new Bishop of Chester Mark Tanner will be guest of honour at a special harvest festival on Sunday, October 3, 2021.

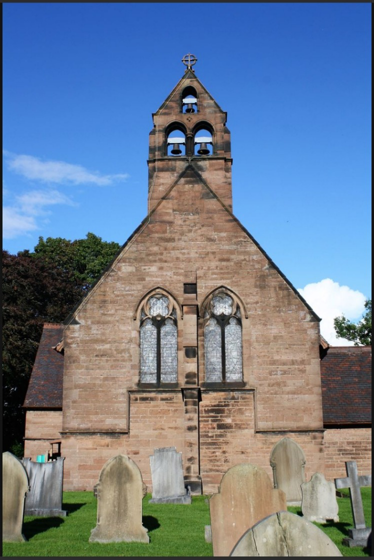
The opening of Christ Church, Crowton in 1871 must have been a huge relief for the local community. Before this the nearest church was in Weaverham and worship together every Sunday would have involved a round trip, on foot or on horseback, of nearly six miles.

Calling the faithful to prayer for 15 decades are three bells, named Faith, Hope and Charity, which were donated by the Lascelles family from Norley Bank. They were taken down in 1970 in the interests of safety and restored in 1989 with an automated chiming system.

For more information about the history of the church, news about anniversary events, to donate to the fundraising appeal, or to join in the celebrations in other ways, please go to the website: www.crowton150.org.

1 of 12

Comedian Jennifer Saunders, a former resident of Acton Bridge, sprinkled celebrity stardust on Crowton Church in May 1985 when it was the venue for her marriage to actor/comedian Adrian Edmondson. Dawn French, Robbie Coltrane and Jools Holland were among the guests. This photo is featured in her autobiography Bonkers



2 of 12

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3 of 12

The parishes of St Johns, Kingsley, Christ Church, Crowton and St Johns, Norley have appointed the Rev Canon Ron Iveson as their new vicar

4 of 12

Dr Anne Davidson Lund, Licensed Lay Reader and vice chair of Crowton Parochial Church Council

5 of 12

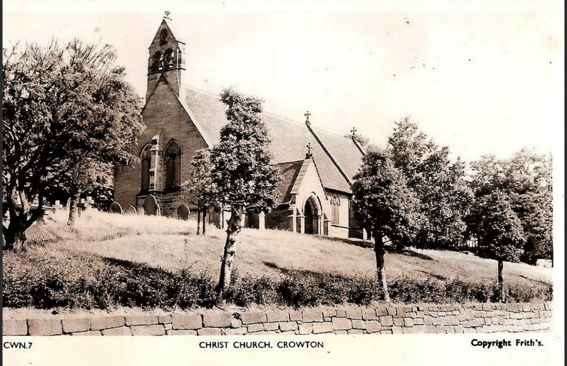
Leading members of the Parochial Church Council at Crowton (L to R): James Barber, Robert Kinsey, Anne Davidson Lund, Sue Williams, Beryl Thorne

6 of 12

Crowton Church pictured in 1965

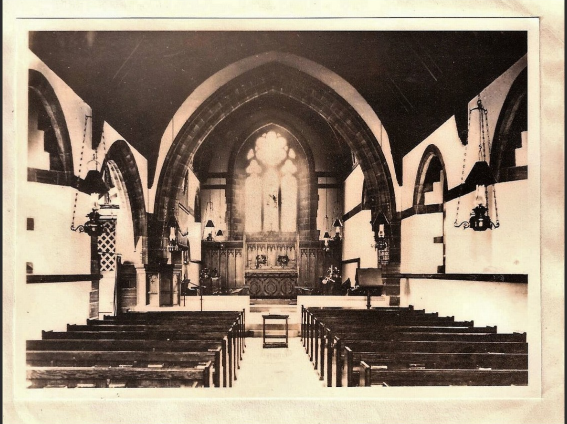
7 of 12

The choir at Crowton Church pictured around 1900



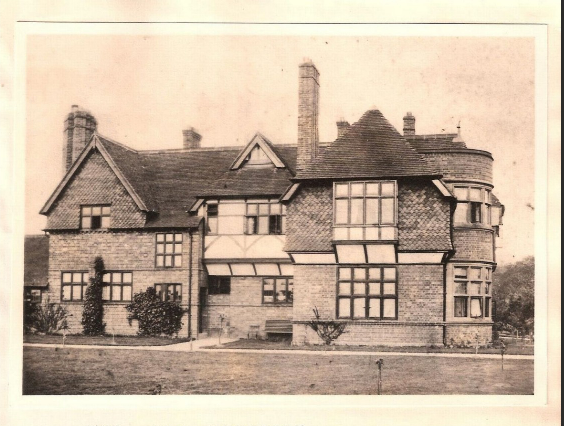
8 of 12

Crowton Church pictured during the early 20th century



9 of 12

The interior of Crowton Church pictured in 1922



The Old Vicarage at Crowton

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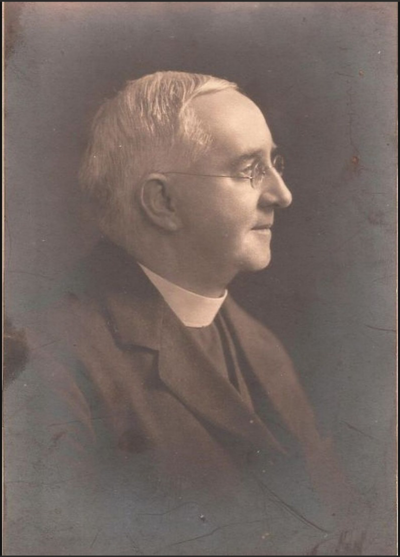

11 of 12

The Rev G H Downes, vicar at Crowton Church from 1924-1933

Confirmation
The Holy Bible
Holy Communion

12 of 12

Crowton Primary School 1971 centenary thanksgiving service at the village church