

Churchyard Puzzles.

These days , maintaining the Churchyard and its walls is an expensive business , but our forebears found much simpler methods . Bill Hill 's tractor and Stuart Palmer 's mower in recent years were only the last vestiges of a time when local farmers and residents took responsibility for their own sections , with their initials [and their commitment] carved into the stones of the wall. Close scrutiny as you walk around Back Lane and Vicarage Lane still reveals some of these marks , though many have been lost , either through repair or the banking of soil. HOW MANY CAN YOU FIND ?

Three such inscriptions appear also on the wall of Vicarage Lane just up the hill from the ginnel to Prospect Bank. WHY ARE THEY TO BE SEEN HERE ?

When Bramham College was closed by an outbreak of cholera in 1869 , some of the pupils died and were buried in the churchyard. CAN YOU FIND THEIR GRAVES , AND THAT OF THEIR HEADMASTER ?

If you do , close by are what are thought to be the foundations of the earlier , wooden , Saxon church ; these were turned up when the present pathway was being renewed in 1998 .

One further puzzle . Have you read the Latin inscription by John Lloyd Wharton MP within the Lych Gates he donated in 1902 ? CAN YOU TRANSLATE ?

SE44SW

BRAMHAM CUM OGLETHORPE
LS23

VICARAGE LANE
(north side)

1/55
30.3.66

Church of All Saints

GV

II*

Parish church. C12 and C13, altered and restored in C19 and C20. Magnesian limestone, stone slate roof. West tower, nave with north and south aisles, chancel. Tower of 3 offset stages, has on the west side at the 1st stage a round-headed window with jamb shafts and roll-moulded head and at the 2nd stage a round-headed lancet and a clockface, on the south side a very small lancet to each stage and a similar clockface, on each side of the 3rd stage a round-headed belfry window of 2 recessed round-headed lights and a colonette with cushion capital (these renewed following fire in 1874), a corbel table to a deep embattled parapet with corner pinnacles and 2 gargoyles in each outer side, and a short recessed octagonal spire. Three-bay nave has embattled parapet on a corbel table of small carved gargoyles interrupted by short carved pinnacles which define the bays. 3-⁴trussed bay south aisle (4th bay making chapel) has a gabled porch to the 1st bay, with C19 2-centred outer doorway, protecting a 2-centred arched south doorway with 2 orders of colonettes carrying stiff-leaf capitals and with dog-tooth decoration in the head; west end of this aisle has a C13 window of 2 cusped lights with a trefoil in the head, the south side has C19 windows imitating this and the east end has a similar restored window. Chancel has 3 tall lancets rising from a sillband, a C19 east window of 4 lights with tracery in the head, and on the north side one lancet and a C19 vestry. Interior: C12 tower arch with piers which have 3 orders of moulding and cushion capitals; C12 north arcade of round-headed arches carried on unusually high columns with square caps, and C13 south arcade of double-chamfered 2-centred arches carried by tall octagonal piers with moulded caps, both with matching responds; 2-centred double-chamfered chancel arch with composite shafts and moulded tripartite caps, containing a C20 rood; chancel has 2-bay north arcade and 1-bay south arcade, and trefoiled rere-arches to the lancet windows; various wall monuments to Fox Lane family of Bramham Park (q.v.), notably George (d.1773).



Initials (this one is near the ginnel to Prosper Park)
and a ring for tethering your horse (near the Lydyte).

