**PARISH PROFILE – EMBLETON w. RENNINGTON & ROCK**

An opportunity to serve in an area of outstanding natural beauty along the breath-taking coast of Northumberland as new Mission and Ministry Team is created. This provides an exciting context in which a resilient, outward looking, enthusiastic and collaborative Curate would have plenty of opportunity to learn, grow and be prepared for the next stage.

*For more information please contact the Diocesan Director of Ordinands:*

**The Revd Claire Robson 07741 849651** [**DDO@newcastle.anglican.org**](mailto:DDO@newcastle.anglican.org)

**l. General information**

**Parish :** The Benefice of Embleton with Rennington and Rock

**Diocese :** Newcastle

**Incumbent's name, preferred style, address, and telephone number:**

Rev Alison Hardy (Alison) The Vicarage, Embleton, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3UW 01665 571314 / 07503942011

**E-mail address :** embleton.vicar@btinternet.com

**Date of ordination:** 1995

**Length of time in present parish:** Since March 2018

**Other responsibilities and duties currently undertaken by incumbent:** Area Dean of Alnwick

**Previous posts and experience of incumbent, including details of experience with previous curates:**

1995-1998: Assistant Curate St Michael Flixton, Suburban south Manchester

1998 -2000: Lecturer (assistant curate) St Peter, Bolton, Town centre civic church

2000-2004: PIC St John, Irlam, post industrial village with significant areas of social and economic deprivation and estate based community project. Oversaw training of an OLM and then served with two OLMS as assistant curates

2004-2018: Rector All Saints Stand, large suburban parish of 17000 in North Manchester, Area Dean from 2013, Hon Canon Mcr Cathedral 2015, MSE Curate from 2008-2015, mentored several other curates, supervised placements, very involved in Laity Development work, Staff team of Curate, Reader, 4 Authorised Lay Ministers.

**2. Nature of post**

Training post for deacon who expects to be ordained priest

**3. The context: the parish setting**

The Benefice of Embleton with Rennington and Rock is located on the coast in North Northumberland. It is predominantly rural with farming and tourism being the main employment. High incidence of second homes and holiday lets. Also large number of retired professionals. The Benefice is two parishes with 5 church buildings, one in each of the 5 distinct communities. Each community, has its own clear identity and demographic.

**Embleton** is the largest of the villages with an excellent small primary school (47 pupils and growing rated GOOD by OFSTED inspection in 2020), garage, post office and general store, a hotel and pub. New build housing – pop 1300

**Newton by the Sea** – permanent population less than 200 with high incidence of holiday lets.

**Craster** – former fishing village with residual boats, tourist trap, elderly resident population of approx. 500

**Rennington** – inland village, pop 400, retired incomers, very few families, pub, residential home

**Rock** – centred round the Rock estate owned by the Bosanquet family, agriculture diversifying into other enterprises, scattered resident population of 200, active cricket club, off the beaten track, holiday lets, no amenities and proud of it!

**size of resident population**: 2600 and growing, many more in summer

**geographical spread of area served and distances involved:** 5 church buildings in 4 miles (10sq miles)

**types of house**: Mixed. Second homes, holiday lets, grand houses, social housing,

**kinds of job people do:** retired, agriculture, tourism, hospitality, some commuting to Newcastle or Berwick, gradual increase in professional home working likely to grow with introduction of reliable broadband networks.

**availability of public transport:** Hourly bus service linking Craster, Embleton, Rennington en route from Berwick to Alnwick. East coast main line train station at Alnmouth with great parking.

**Institutions**: Three excellent and well used village halls, School in Embleton, active parish councils (small village politics is hotly contested around housing developments and general argument). 1 residential home, one shop with Post Office, 1 school, 1 hotel, 6 pubs, 3 cafes

Please also indicate from the following the main broad category (or categories), as you think most accurate:

**Rural**

**4. The Church(es)**

**NB – Service patterns are in flux and will change due to the development of the Mission and Ministry Team which will take in the Aln and Costal Parishes of Howick, Longhoughton, Lesbury and Alnmouth beginning from Autumn 2020**

**THE PARISH OF RENNINGTON AND ROCK**

2 parish churches within a mile of each other. Separate villages, Fairly hostile past history but signs of cooperation recently. Each has two services per month

RENNINGTON 1 x BCP Communion, 1 x Common Worship Communion with hymns

ROCK 1 x BCP Communion to be replaced with a new Family Service (lay led),

1 x Morning Prayer (Reader Led) – to be replaced with 1 x Common Worship Communion

**THE PARISH OF EMBLETON**

**Central tradition with outbreaks of informality – HUGE POTENTIAL FOR LAY INVOLVEMENT, NEW PEOPLE AND NEW PATTERNS**

EMBLETON: Weekly Commuion, First Sunday no organist and more informal with more modern hymns. Other Sundays Common Worship Communion with participation from Reader and other lay people, New English Hymnal! (good but immovable organist)

CRASTER: Service each week, 2 lay led (one BCP Mattins, and one “Family Service” – no families), 2 x Holy Communion BCP / CW

NEWTON: One family Service per month led by Reader, One CW Holy Communion, informal. A very flexible evening service April to October from EP to Taize, to informal hymns sandwich with bible study, to prayer walk.

**Occasional Offices**: approximate numbers p.a. of

baptisms: 3

weddings 6

funerals 15

**Pattern of daily offices:** I say the office daily morning and night,

morning prayer with NSM Asst Curate twice weekly (currently via Zoom)

Wed morning prayer by Zoom with congregation of approx. 15

**Staff or team members:** 1 NSM Asst Curate (priested 2019), 1 Reader (who lives 70 miles away and is available only on Sundays, 1 Reader aged 83 who is still active on Sundays twice per month).

In Aln and Coastal 1 x NSM Associate Priest, 2 clergy with PTO (largely inactive but available for cover)

**House, study and prayer groups:** Regular Bible Study group in Embleton, emerging prayer group

**Parochial organisations:** Trinity Tots – weekly toddler and mum group, Mandells Coffee shop – open 2 mornings per week for refreshments, Messy Church – bi monthly, Open the Book team – fortnightly in school,

**Areas of particular mission and ministry of parish(es) (e.g. schools, hospitals, industry, prison, youth, elderly people, single parents, homeless, healing):**

Very involved in school, regular visits and services in residential home, visible in communities, part of the Rural Churches for Everyone project working on sustainability of heritage buildings, making meaningful links up the coast to Bamburgh and south to Alnmouth

**Particular future plans already established:** The development of a Mission and Ministry Leadership Team across the nine churches from Embleton to Alnmouth is hugely exciting. Major focus on collaborative ministry, community engagement and church growth in all dimensions

**Congregation(s) mainly communal or mainly gathered:** Largely communal but lots of tourists, many of whom are longstanding regulars

**Areas and types of co-operation with other local churches (either Anglican or ecumenical):** NO ecumenical dimension in the communities but we are members of Farne Churches Together and benefit from input from the Farne Youth and Families Officer.

**Have any of the resolutions under the Priest (ordination of Women) Measure been passed?** NO

**5. Vision and Priorities**

**How does the church see itself?** In need of change.

**What is its vision of mission**? It needs one – this is a work in progress.

**What are the incumbent's and PCC's vision and priorities.**

To have more porous boundaries between church and community. To join in more with what is already going on.

To develop real collaboration including both clergy and lay people as leaders.

To be committed to working towards the Diocesan Vision GROWING CHURCH BRINGING HOPE

**6. How does the incumbent understand the role of training?**

A curate is not an extra pair of hands for the vicar but a person with a unique vocation to love and service which will grow and develop if planted in fertile soil. My role, shared with other Diocesan officers, is to provide nourishment and nurture for a distinct ministry to flourish.

The Curate and incumbent learn from each other.

To learn from mistakes

To develop sensitive and positive interpersonal skills

To develop the ability to reflect theologically about self and context.

To have time, space and freedom to watch, wonder and be creative

To be able to rely on positive supervision and support

**7. What is the likely role of the curate in future plans?**

I can guarantee a diversity of opportunities for development across the board.

This is a training post that requires someone committed to building relationships.

**8.** **Areas of particular responsibility for curate in training:**

This will depend largely on the Curate’s interests and gifts as well as on what areas they need to develop.

Community engagement

Supporting faith development and confidence in lay people for taking on ministry and mission roles.

**9. Accommodation: please give details indicating whether house/flat, number of bedrooms, garage, availability of study, garden, etc.**

To be arranged by the diocese.