

St Anne's Church, Bagshot



A Church History

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A floral welcome: Do come inside

Introduction

This updated guide to St Anne's parish Church, Bagshot has been compiled using the 1992 guide, with the assistance of the 1970 Guide, and the Duke of Connaught's Bagshot, along with new material given to me by Miss Janet Lory, a relative of the first vicar and my own private research.

As a building, St Anne's is around 150 years old. We are stewards of the building and constantly striving to keep it in good condition to hand on to those who will come after us.

Over recent years we have had a constant battle with the elements to keep out the water from eroding stonework and the fairly recent repairs are weathering nicely to match the original building.

St Anne's is not a museum or a mere curiosity – it is a living, vibrant church. Ours is an interesting church, not so much from an architectural point of view but from the memorials contained within. But the Church is about people.

So many names, familiar in Bagshot, span more than a century in an age when much of the population is so mobile. They worked tirelessly to provide us with a parish church in which we may take pride

As you walk round the interior you should find much to interest you – a unique association with the Royal Family, plaques in memory of some distinguished former worshippers, along with memorial windows, all with their own story to tell.

Lynne Cowley, BA, Dip Storia dell'Arte
Bagshot, July 2015, updated June 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

It is our pleasure to welcome you to our church, we are glad you are here and are taking the time to explore this beautiful building and its history.

As a Christian community we enjoy being able to meet to worship in such a lovely space, but we are also very aware that the church is most importantly the people who gather here, not the building itself. This building is the hub where we can come together, and from which we go out to serve the community and share God's love through our words and actions. As Archbishop William Temple famously said: "The Church is the only organisation that does not exist for itself, but for those who live outside of it."

This attitude of rootedness in and service for the community lies at the heart of St Anne's and is summarized in our Parish Statement: In the Community, For the Community, Inspired by Christ.

We hope this guide will inspire you to look more closely at our beautiful church building and in turn draw you closer to the heart of this Christian Community – the living God in whose image and likeness we are all created.

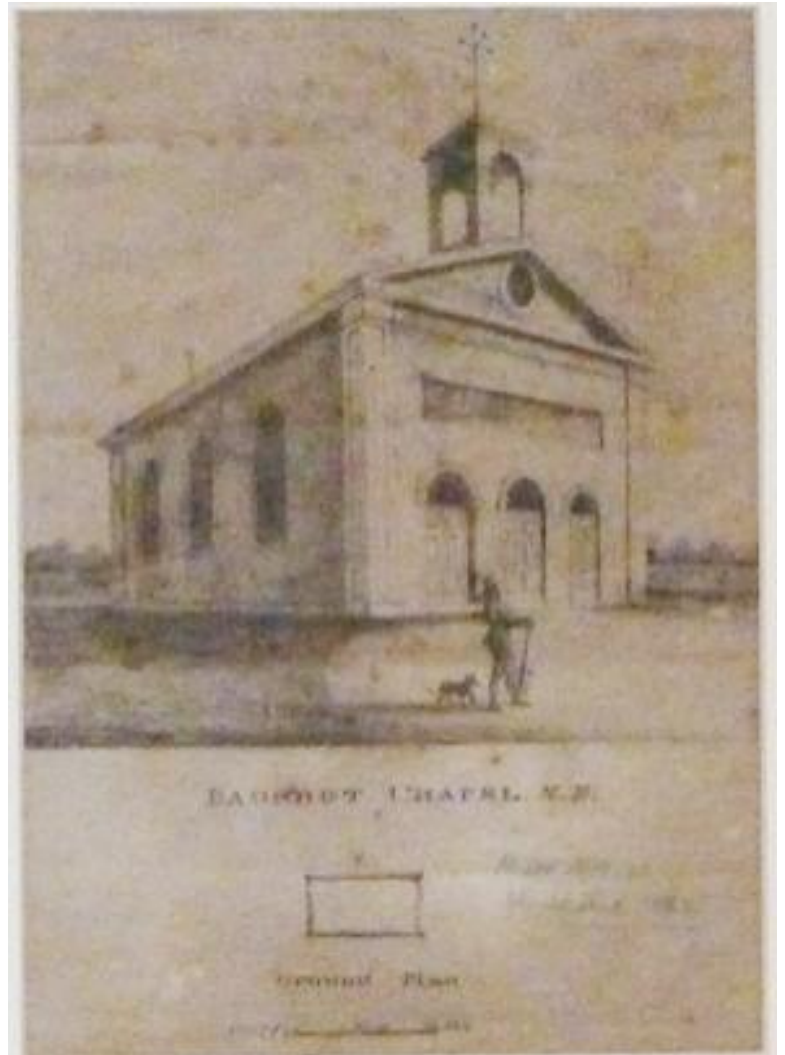
Our prayer for all our visitors is that they would have a sense of God's presence and peace as they spend time in this building soaked in generations of prayer. May God bless you as you spend time here.

Ellen Turtle, Associate Vicar

Chapel and Church

The earliest recollection of any place of worship in Bagshot (originally known as Holy Hull back in the mists of time) is of a chantry or chapel on the site of the King's Arms (also known as The Hungry Horse) in 1515. However, this burnt down in the 16th century and there is no record of a replacement until a chapel of ease was erected in 1819, with the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester laying the first and second stones.

It was consecrated on 3rd August 1821, with a curate-in-charge, and was situated in the grounds of Bagshot Cemetery, where the first burial took place in 1807. However, in the ecclesiastical register it does not appear to show it to have been dedicated to any particular saint.



A sketch of this building can be seen in St Anne's on the south wall of the south aisle, just inside the main door. There is no cemetery attached to the 'new' church because there was insufficient space. Bagshot Cemetery closed to further

coffin interments in 1966, except where provision had already been made for a second coffin in existing graves. In 1874 Bagshot became a separate parish; before then it had been part of the parish of Windlesham. In the late 1870s the chapel was in a bad state of repair and when the Duke of Connaught came to Bagshot in 1880 discussions were well underway on the necessity for major repairs to the building. The Duke quickly identified himself with the village and became involved in the discussions to repair the old chapel.

The Duke, however, favoured a new church and persuaded those at a vestry meeting in November 1880 that an architectural competition should be launched for the construction of a new church.

St Anne's Church was opened in 1884, built on land given by the Crown. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester on 25 April. The Diocese of Guildford was created in 1927.

The building cost was £5,133 and funds raised to repair the old chapel were re-directed to the work. A subscription list (to which Queen Victoria contributed £100) produced £539 and a bazaar in 1881 at Bagshot Park lasting two days raised a further £1,630. With loans from Lloyds Bank and Coutts work began and the architect, Henry A Cheers (known as Alec) from Liverpool came to live in Bagshot during the building process.

When we talk about "the church" we really mean the people who meet, week after week, to worship their Creator and Saviour, not the building in which Christians assemble, yet

the term "church" seems more often to be applied to the building these days.

Parish church name

Tradition gives the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary the name of Anne, which is another version of Hannah. In the Old Testament you may remember that Hannah was the name of the mother of Samuel.

Curiously, the Bible tells us nothing about St Anne, although there is a little, less authoritative information which tradition has bequeathed to us. Since 1584 her memory has been honoured regularly in the Christian Calendar on 26th July. We keep the Patronal Festival on the Sunday nearest to this date.

No record has been found so far which would indicate why those who built Bagshot Parish Church should have dedicated it in the name of St Anne.

Perhaps the naming of this church may just be a loving recognition of the important debt of gratitude we all owe to our grandmothers, who so often play a far more significant role in shaping our personalities than is generally acknowledged.

Our services

This is a thriving, living church with a wide range of services across each month. Our weekly Sunday services include an

8am spoken *Book of Common Prayer* Holy Communion, a 10am service with hymns (varying between All Age Worship, Communion, and Mattins), as well as monthly afternoon and evening services including Messy Church and a contemplative Taizé Prayer. We also have a midweek Communion service at 10am on a Wednesday morning. For details of upcoming services and times, please see the notice board or find us online at: www.saintannebagshot.org.uk or on Facebook.

In addition to its use for worship there are, from time to time, other events in the church. Actor Paul Alexander has given solo performances of books from the Bible – St John's Gospel and the Psalms - and we have hosted a dramatized performance of the Messiah.

Secular as well as sacred music has been performed here with concerts, recitals and visits from Welsh male voice choirs and, more recently, Sandhurst Military Wives Choir, Bagshot Band, and other local professional musicians. The church has also hosted an art exhibition and a festival of flowers to mark the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and a photographic and art display for the Platinum Jubilee. Other events are already in the planning stages.

The Church Centre is reached via the double doors at the opposite side of the building to the main door. The doors at one time concealed the church broom cupboard and revealed an immaculately tiled floor, which became apparent when the new Centre opened in 2006.



The money to build the Centre came from a bequest from a parishioner, Miss Marjorie Pike, a retired schoolteacher who died in 1997.

There are many church and community activities taking place regularly throughout the week. To inquire about hiring the church

centre or the parish hall (further down the road), please visit our website.

The bells

St Anne's has eight bells with a tenor weight of 17 hundred weight about the weight of a family car. The total weight of the bells is 63 cwt or three tons. This is a heavy set of bells for the size of the tower which has a small ringing room, accessed by a clockwise spiral staircase.

The bells are hung in a cast iron frame on two levels, installed in 1884. Originally there were six bells cast by Warner's with a 21 cwt tenor. They were dedicated to and paid for by the wife of Michael Waterer. The Waterer family was one the main employers in the village at that time.

1.	Treble note E♭	5 Cwt	0 gtr	25 lbs	} Cast by Gillett and Johnston 1914 Inscription on each " This bell was added to the existing panel of 6 by the parishes of Bagthor in July 1914. A.H. Ford Vicar. H.E.S. Abbot, w. Ruxton Churchwarden
2.	- - - D	- - -	- - -	2 lbs	

3	Note C	6 Cwt	0 gtr	13 lbs	} Cast by John Warner and Sons London 1883
4	Note B♭	5 Cwt	3 gtr	24 lbs	
5	Note A♭	8 Cwt	1 gtr	10 lbs	} In memory of Michael Waters died 1.12.81 and Eileen Waters died 15.11.82
6	Note G	9 Cwt	2 gtr	20 lbs	
7	Note F	12 Cwt	3 gtr	8 lbs	
8	Note E♭	17 Cwt	1 gtr	9 lbs	

Metal Bell Frame. Steel and Iron

16 hand bells - Brass kept in bell tower

Description of the bells, from the church Inventory

In 1912 the ring was augmented by addition of two new, lighter bells by Gillett & Johnston, who cast the new bells and built the new frame and fittings.

The canons and cast-in staples were removed from the Warner bells and were re-tuned employing the then

relatively new principles of harmonic tuning. This process reduced the weight of the bells by removing more than 3 cwt of bell metal from the tenor.

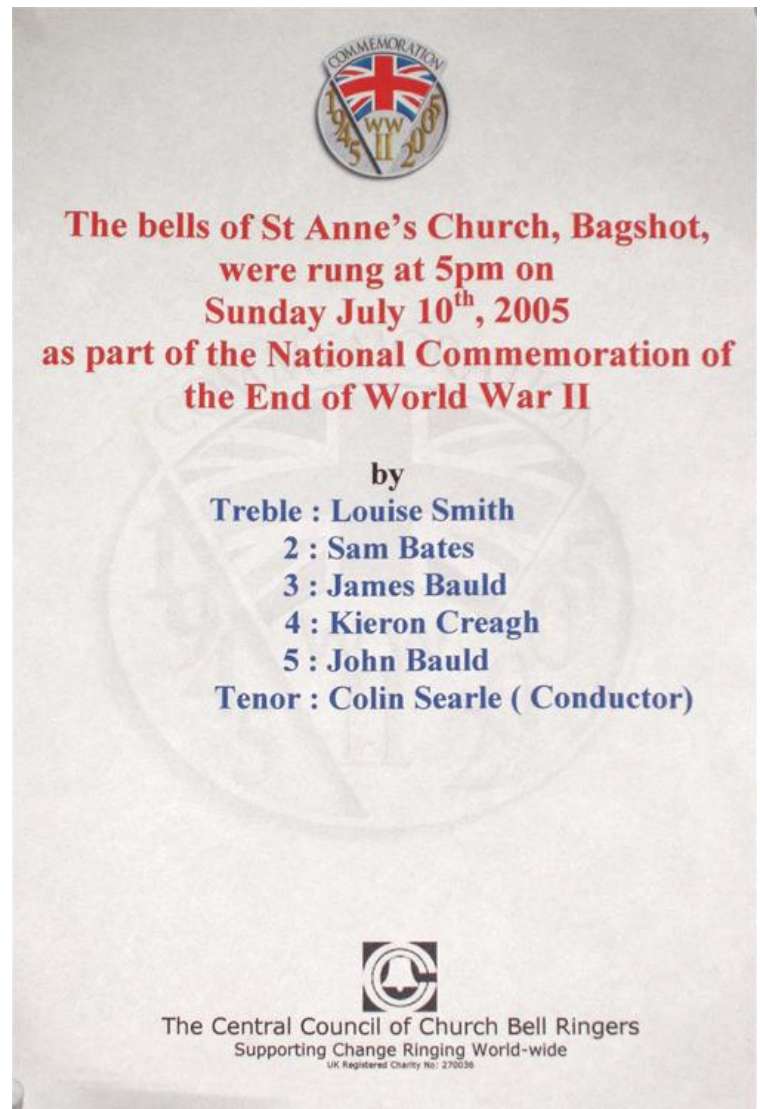
A compact bell frame was required to squeeze the eight bells into the narrow tower.

This is evident by the use of undersize wheels, novel G&J space saving slider/trolleys and the deep groove cut in to the brickwork to provide clearance for the number 4 bell wheel.

In St Anne's bells are rung for regular Sunday services, weddings and the occasional funeral.

There are also occasional celebratory events for which the bells are rung.

Ringers are mainly Bagshot people, whose ages range from 11 to 65 but there is a close tie with Old Windsor and help is offered and accepted when required.



A Tour of our Church

At the back of this guide is a comprehensive list of the inscriptions from memorial tablets, which may be seen on the walls of the church. Some are now quite difficult to read, or are seldom read nowadays. But they all give the present generation a flavour of village life here in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

As you enter the church you will see on your right an alms box which came from the chapel. Also from the old chapel is some of the communion plate used in our services dated 1820, more of which anon.

The font, in its traditional place by the front door, symbolising the start of the Christian pilgrimage through life, has a dedication to the memory of Hosea Waterer (a member of the renowned Waterer family of market gardeners, which was taken over by Notcutts, on the site of Waitrose).

The font is still in use for baptisms today, but it does not afford the congregation a good view of the proceedings.

In the 1980s and 1990s a portable font, brought from Bethlehem hillside by Peter Searle in 1969 and fashioned by the Revd Guy Armstrong, was used at the front of the church.

Its use fell out of favour so is not often used at present and the imposing font still fulfils its original function. People are

more relaxed these days and are encouraged to turn round or gather round the font to take part in the proceedings.

On display near the font is a Baptism book recording the names of those baptised here in recent years.

Also by the entrance on the wall is a terracotta plaque, which is a representation of St Anne, grandmother to Our Lord, the Virgin Mary and Jesus and John the Baptist as children.

This was made by Glenys Pine in 1995 and is based on the Leonardo da Vinci cartoon. This type of art is known as a 'sacra conversazione' (sacred conversation) much favoured in Europe.



The bookcases, which store service / hymn books, were made by David Cowley.

West Window



The West window (1902) by Charles Eamer Kempe, remembers Queen Victoria and bears the arms of the British Royal Family together with those of Coburg. There are also kings David & Solomon and 'heraldry' Kempe notes in his records. Some of these figures he has used in other churches. There is also his trademark wheatsheaf in the second light from the left. It was given by TRH the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the parishioners of Bagshot.

Originally there were more pews in this section of the church as you will see from the floorboards. This area was rather claustrophobic! The pews were removed to provide a more spacious area in which coffee could be served after the 10am service. Nowadays coffee is served in the Church Centre after both the 8am and 10am services – an opportunity for young and old to mingle.



From this distance there is still a marvellous view of the crucifixion scene depicted in the East window above the altar, of which more later.

Below this, in a frame, is the Garter Banner of the Duke of Connaught., which used to hang in the chancel, until it was

damaged by smoke caused by a small fire near the font on Christmas Day 2005.

The banner bearing the coat of arms of the Duke of Connaught is his Garter Banner, which hung over his stall as a Knight of the Garter, in St George's Chapel, Windsor. On his death in 1942 it was taken down and given to his family, as is the custom. At their request, it has an honoured place in the parish church he built and loved and in which he worshipped.

The pew at the back is the 'Duke's Pew', removed from the front of the church in 2024 to improve accessibility and flexibility in using the church.

On the south side of the west end are two windows (1907) depicting angels standing on stylised globes representing the earth. These are by Mayer & Co, a Munich-based firm which also had a London works.

They are matched on the north side of the west end by two further windows (1899) by Mayer & Co and are in memory of Major General A.R. Lemprière, his three wives, his father and other members of his family.

North Aisle

On moving to the North Aisle we pass memorials to A.W. Halkett and Captain Stuart Robertson.

A curious 'unofficial' memorial has been carved into one of the pews at the back by a Bagshot man. He was Leon

Chapman, sometime owner of the eponymous shoe shop, which stood roughly where The Colour House is now. He did this to give thanks for his safe return from bombing raids during the Second World War.

We then reach the stained glass windows depicting St Paul (1901) made by James Powell & Son, whose best work was produced when Henry Holiday was their chief designer in the 1880s, and St John (1887, designer unknown) in memory of John Osbaldeston and George Paxton More, a former organist. St John suffered in the Second World War as can be seen by the noticeable difference in glass colour. The post-war shortage of materials led to a less than sympathetic restoration in 1950. From the outside of the church it can be observed that the hair colour is messy and has a powdery appearance. A glass expert tells us that it was 'overcooked'.

The foundation stone is located at the front of the pillar nearest the lectern and was laid by the Duke of Connaught in 1883, during a ceremony conducted with Masonic honours. The two front pews on this side were the Connaught family pews, containing personal service books on a ledge, now removed.

Slightly further back on this side can still be found under-pew drawers, presumably for storing personal hymn books and psalters.

The North Transept contains a fine window with archangels, dated 1895. It was designed by HRH The Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, a daughter of Queen Victoria, and a

practising artist. Bearing the arms of the Elphinstone family, it portrays the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

The door beneath is the Duke's Door, which he used for nearly 60 years to enter the church when he came to worship, coming up from nearby Bagshot Park. His daughter, Lady Patricia Ramsay – The Princess Patricia before her marriage, continued in that tradition until her death in 1974.

On the wall near the Duke's Door is a seascape painted by Lady Patricia Ramsay and given to St Anne's "as a thank offering for a long life with many blessings". The carved oak doorway to the vestry was erected in memory of King Edward VII.

There is a carpeted area for children, who can play with toys, read or sit at the table and produce drawings.

There are also in this transept important memorials which are easy to miss as this is rather a dark area. They are to HRH Princess Louise Margaret, Duchess of Connaught, and her daughter, Princess Margaret of Connaught, who married the Crown Prince of Sweden.

Near the lectern stands the Mother's Union banner, which was worked by Mrs Bankes-Jones, wife of the incumbent from 1935-51.

Chancel and Sanctuary

Moving into the chancel, past the choir stalls, are the memorial tables in the sanctuary to the Duke, his son Prince Arthur and to his daughter, Lady Patricia Ramsay (formerly The Princess Patricia).

In the sanctuary are a (non-matching) pair of Savonarola chairs. These folding chairs were intended to be taken on campaigns or hunting trips. They are of an X-frame design, which originated in Italy in the 15th/16th centuries. Provenance of ours and date are unknown.

East Window

The fine East window offers a vivid view of the crucifixion of Jesus, and was given by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught in memory of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, youngest son of Queen Victoria, who died in 1884, aged 30. It was made in 1885 and signed by the Royal Windsor Glassworks and designed by G McDowell, of whom little is known. It was damaged by a flying bomb on 21st July 1944. Repairs were carried out by Lowndes & Drury.

The reredos is plaster, gessoed to take paint and gilding. The four figures are the patron saints of the United Kingdom as they were in Victorian times.

They are George, David, Andrew and Patrick. A gift of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, this was designed by their friend Captain H S Goodhart Rendel, Grenadier Guards, who was also a London architect.

The other stained glass window in the sanctuary is by Charles Eamer Kempe and portrays the Descent into Hades (1891). It is in memory of Edward Peach Miles, sometime of Earlwood in Bagshot. He moved here so his sons could be educated at Eton. He was a magistrate and landowner.

There are other examples of this theme in several churches, obviously a favourite commission for Kempe, but we have no idea why his famous trademark wheatsheaf is absent.



There has been much conjecture about the figures to the right of Christ, but the Kempe Trust has confirmed that while they are unsure of the identity of the first figure, the rest are, from the top left:

Unknown*, Cain, Abel, Noah, Eve, Adam, Solomon, King David, John the Baptist, Isaiah.

Maybe Unknown*, could be Kempe himself. It bears a marked resemblance to a 1905 photo the author has.

A slight clue is that Kempe wanted to be a priest but was prevented by a severe speech

impediment and always felt he was not good enough. Are the extended fingers those of Kempe measuring up for a

window? If it were a self-portrait he would be unlikely to list himself, feeling either modest or unworthy.

The tiles on the sanctuary floor deserve more than a cursory glance, bearing the symbols of the Passion of Our Lord, the Cross with a ladder and the sponge on a stick, *inter alia*.



One tile represents the tunic of Jesus with dice superimposed, symbolising the casting of lots for his garments and another shows the head of Judas encircled in a noose; and an Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) is placed centrally in the floor.

The first organ was a 2-manual instrument built by Henry Speechley of London. This was then transferred to St Anne's from the old chapel in School Lane. Edwin Hickox, organist from 1894-1937, drew up the specification for a new organ in consultation with Sir Walter Parratt, organist of St George's Chapel, Windsor, who gave the opening recital.

The three-manual organ was installed in 1899 and has been regularly renovated and fills the space below the tower. Built by J.W. Walker & Sons it has 24 speaking stops and more than 2,000 pipes. It was extensively restored in 1984 by Kenneth James & Son.

Near the pulpit is a memorial to the Revd H John Smith who died in 1985. Standing by the pulpit, the observer will notice that its position is unusual. In most churches the pulpit is in

the North Transept. The most likely explanation for this siting is that the Duke and his family arrived by the door near to where the pulpit would have been.

The Duke would have been under the gaze of the Vicar! Hence, the lectern is on the south side and not the pulpit.

Above the pulpit hangs a fine carving depicting the crucifixion. It was made in Oberammergau and was given to St Anne's in 1921 by HRH Prince Arthur of Connaught, son of the Duke.

Stuart Chapel

The Stuart Chapel was provided by the congregation in affectionate memory of Canon R.W.H. Stuart who was vicar for 14 years until his death in 1934. He and his wife are buried in Bagshot Cemetery, on the site of the old Chapel.

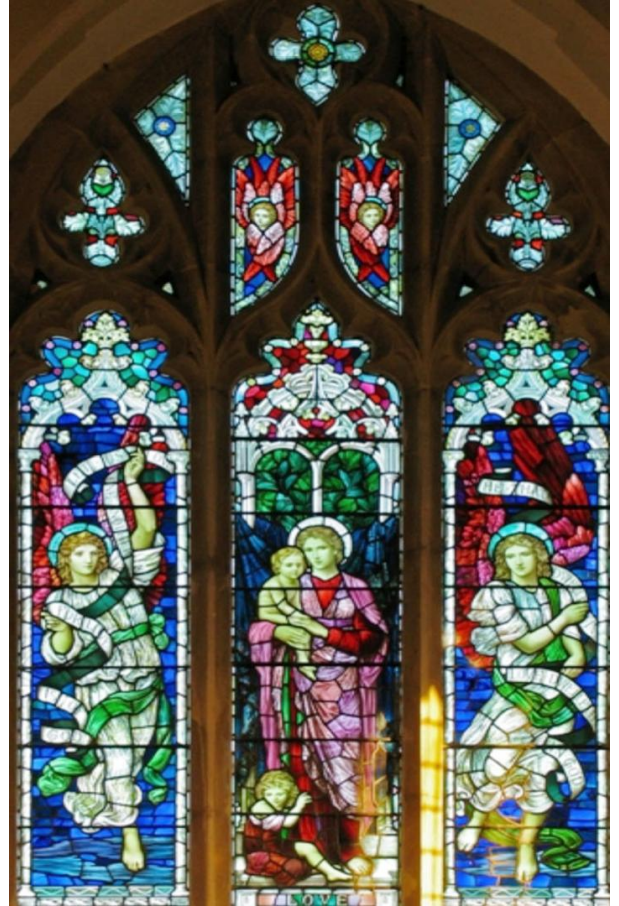
On the sides of the Stuart Chapel walls are three memorials to the Cockburn family, one of whom married a daughter of the Waterers. This transept commemorates also the Elphinstone family.

Major General Sir Howard Elphinstone V.C. had been appointed governor to Prince Arthur (later the Duke of Connaught) when, as a small child, the sudden death of the Prince Consort left him fatherless.

Elphinstone and the young prince became close friends as the years went by, but Elphinstone too was to die prematurely, lost at sea in the Bay of Biscay.

Died at Sea

The vivid stained glass window of Jesus walking on the water was given in his memory; below, with other family memorials, will be found a tablet in memory of his grandson Lieut. J.L.E. McClintock, RN, who also died at sea, commanding HMS Pintail in the Second World War.



This window was by Henry Holiday, mentioned earlier and is a beautiful example of his work. However, versions of this window

also appear in other churches in England and there are at least two other examples extant. One such featured as the design for the Christmas 2009 39p postage stamp. It was

from the Flegg Group (Ormesby) Benefice in Great Yarmouth, and differed slightly from our window. Compare the photographs – ours is on the left.



Sir Howard Elphinstone's daughter made and gave to the church, in memory of her father, mother and son, an altar frontal for the Stuart Chapel, which includes a pattern evoking the sweep of the sea, and incorporating replicas of her father's Victoria Cross, her

mother's St John of Jerusalem Cross and her son's naval crown and badge rank. This is now in a delicate state, even after repairs, and is in storage.

The aumbry was given in memory of four former incumbents; Caldwell, Yates Rooker, Ford and Bankes-Jones, and was installed in 1966.

On the wall are memorials, bearing the names of servicemen from Bagshot who died in two world wars. This list has recently been found to be incomplete and currently research is being undertaken to update the details.



In the chapel is also a credence table, with a carved mouse on one of the legs. This adze-finished table might possibly

be by 'Mousey' Thompson. Robert Thompson was known as the Mouseman of Kilburn, near Ampleforth (1876-1955) as his work can be identified by the presence of a carved mouse.

The cabinet housing the Book of Remembrance was given by Bill Rees in memory of his wife Betty, who died in 1999.

In the South Aisle are six more stained glass windows. St Peter (1899), St Luke (1906), St Andrew (1901) and St Thomas (1901). These first four are by Charles Eamer Kempe and bear his trademark wheatsheaf. St James the Major (1930 by Maile Studios) and St Francis (1939, by Horace Wilkinson, are in a similar, sympathetic style but are later in date. Kempe died in 1907.

There are memorials to the Lory family; Jane Evans; RMC, Stephen Evans, JP; Flora Annie Evans and Edwin John Hickox along this side.

Of particular interest is the wall memorial to Thornton Wrottesley Pendarves Lory, who died on duty in 1914.

At first glance one might think this was an early First World War casualty. Not so. A son of the first vicar and a District Scoutmaster in Lowestoft. He drowned on the Oulton Broads, returning from a Scout camp.

He was sailing with five Sea Scouts and an ex-seaman as skipper. The boat capsized and all but one Sea Scout drowned. The plaque was requested by his family.

The brass plaque to RMC is a mystery, although there is some evidence to uncover the identity which has proved elusive thus far. A letter in the author's possession dated 1948 suggests that the family were named Cole.

The 1900 date is 31st May and by looking into the death register index there is one possible entry – that of Russell Montague Cole, baptised on 1st October 1899 and whose death appears in the April to June 1900 deaths index.

On the wall to the left of the door is a picture of the old Chapel, situated in the cemetery, the entrance to which is in School Lane. Demolished because it was unsafe, it is now replaced by a mortuary chapel. This completes the tour of the church, bringing you back where you started.

History of a Royal Parish

You will see, as you read the inscriptions on the plaques, the connections with the Royal Family which Bagshot has long enjoyed.

During the centenary year, 1984, we were privileged to have a visit by Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, who planted a Dawyck beech tree at the eastern end of the grounds. On a return visit in March 1990, she unveiled a plaque in the church sanctuary to the memory of Lady Patricia Ramsay and her husband Sir Alexander Ramsay.

Our main connection is with Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, Queen Victoria's third son, who was born in

1850. He became a lieutenant in the Royal Engineers in 1868 and captain of the 7th Hussars in 1874.

In 1879 he married Princess Louise Margaret of Prussia and they raised three children. He became a general in 1893, was Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean from 1907 to 1910 and was Governor General of Canada from 1911 to 1916. He and his family were held in great esteem in Canada, with both a regiment and an airline named after his daughter Princess Patricia (Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and, in northern Quebec, Royal Patricia Airlines).

However, his home was in Bagshot and he always took an interest in village life. He was supported in his various committees on important local issues by his friend, and former guardian, Sir Howard Elphinstone, who lived in Pinewood.

Worship in Bagshot

It is said that a chapel on the site of the King's Arms Inn in Bagshot was burned down in the 16th century, leaving Windlesham parish church the nearest place of worship for the next 300 years.

A new chapel was built on the site of the present cemetery in School Lane. It took two years to build and was completed in 1821 with a curate-in-charge, under the Rector of Windlesham.

Contemporary pictures show it as a simple rectangular building. The Duke of Gloucester, nephew of George III,

then lived at Bagshot Park, and took a lively interest in the project for the new chapel.

In 1874 an independent parish of Bagshot was created, and the Chapel of St Anne (as it had been known since 1867) became the parish church. The curate-in-charge, the Revd Frederick Aylmer Pendarves Lory, became the first vicar and the Lord Chancellor was appointed Patron of the benefice.

Bagshot had, since pre-Norman days, been closely connected with the Royal Family, and village turned out in force in 1880 to welcome the Duke of Connaught and his bride Princess Louise Margaret to their newly-built home at Bagshot Park. The Duke and his family were soon established in the life and affection of the village.

In 1880 the decision was made to build a new church on land given by the Duke, and he presided over the public meeting at which this was decided. Restoration of the old chapel had been considered but judged too costly and unsatisfactory.

An architectural competition was held for the construction of the new church and the committee selected a design by Bromilow and Cheers, architects from Liverpool.

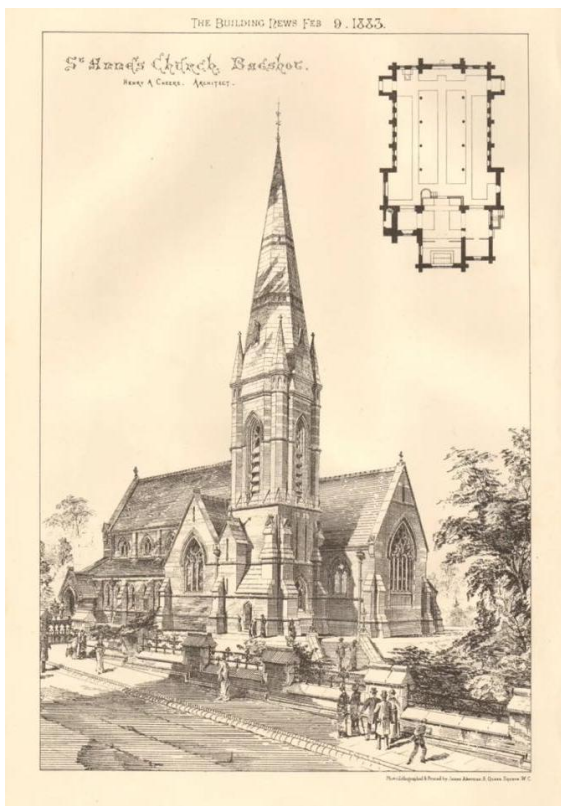
The subscription list opened with a gift of £100 from Queen Victoria and £300 from the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. A bazaar was held at Bagshot Park in 1881 which raised £1,630 and for which special trains were laid on to transport the good and the great to Bagshot for the two-day event. Another bazaar there in 1899 finally cleared the debt.

Queen Victoria, attended this event, seated in her pony and trap and accepted a cocktail from the lady in charge of the refreshment tent.

The foundation stone was laid in 1883 by the Duke of Connaught and it may be seen at the base of the pillar nearest to the brass lectern in the North Aisle.

The old church had been knocked down, with the intention of utilising some of the old materials in the construction of the new one, but the only outward sign of this now is the alms box, recently resited due to vandalism, which came from the old chapel.

Some building work at the new St Anne's disclosed masonry rubble which may well have been brought from the old chapel to build up the level of the East End.



The bankruptcy of the first builder delayed the completion of the church, but it was finally ready and consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester on Friday 25th April 1884.

The appearance of the church is substantially the same today both inside and outside. The tower and spire can be seen from many points in the surrounding area arising above the trees. It is unusual that it is not placed in the centre of the

building at the point where the nave and chancel meet. The spire is 140ft high.

When St Anne's was built it was provided in 1883 with six bells under the will of Eliza Waterer, formerly of Belle Vue House, Bagshot.

In September 1914, these bells were tuned and two new trebles added, the whole ring being hung in a steel and iron frame, with new fittings by Gillett and Johnstone, Croydon. The new bells were paid for by the parishioners.

During the Second World War, when invasion was feared, the bells rung at 10.35 pm on Saturday, 7th September 1940, to warn the village of a state of national emergency, with the "all clear" being rung at 4.40 am the next morning.

Notable peals which have rung are recorded on a special peal board inside the tower.

A Dip into the Records

Although not an ancient parish, the church records offer some interesting facts. The Burial Register covers the period 1837-1935 (since when the local authority has been responsible for burials in Bagshot).

The first recorded burial was that of Susanne Taylor, aged 55 on 9th November 1837 by the Revd H.T. Estridge. The last was on 30th September 1935, when May Lory was interred in Bagshot Cemetery. A note in the register records that infant mortality in 1855-59 was more than 40 per cent.

There was an average of 17.9 funerals per year over the period 1838-47 an identical figure occurs for the period 1848-57.



A modern wedding at St Anne's

The first entry in the marriage register is that of Richard Attfield Houlton and Caroline Copas on 29th September 1874, by the Revd F.A.P. Lory. Previously, all marriages had to take place at Windlesham.

In the old chapel the first recorded baptism was on 17th December 1837

when the Revd T. Snell, Rector of Windlesham, baptised William, son of Richard and Marianne Wicks.

In the present church the Revd F.A.P. Lory conducted the first baptism in the new St Anne's, that of John Thomas Pinnock, son of John and Rebecca Pinnock.

On 1st May 1886 Edward Harold, Bishop of Winchester, baptised Victoria Patricia Helena Elizabeth, daughter of Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Louise Margaret, Duchess of Connaught, who worshipped here throughout her lifetime.

Parish boundaries

By an agreement dated 23rd April 1872 between the Rector of Windlesham, the Bishop of Winchester and the Lord Chancellor [published in the London Gazette on 11th August 1874], Bagshot became a separate parish, responsible for a geographical area which formerly belonged to the parish of Windlesham.

The new parish had as its ecclesiastical neighbours the Diocese of Oxford, (Berkshire County Boundary) the parish of St Michael, Yorktown (in the Maultway), the parish of Chobham (a line running from Rectory Cottage Lightwater, through Lightwater Farm to the Maultway), and the parish of Windlesham (the Windle Brook, New Road, School Road and Ascot Road [B30201]).

The boundary has since changed by the creation of the parish of Lightwater and adjustments have been made, as necessary, to the boundaries of the parishes of Windlesham, Lightwater and Bagshot.

Recent statistics have shown that Bagshot has a population of around 7,500, which in local government terms means that it is no longer a village and has become an "urban settlement".

There have been significant additions to the housing and retail units and businesses in the village since the 1960s.

Items given to St Anne's Church

Tapestry of The Last Supper worked by Mrs Stilwell

Brass bookrest – Lucretia Burton

Altar service book in sanctuary – Mr & Mrs J. Martin Rial

Chalice (small) – Mary Ada Fuller

Ciborium – Martin Laws

Pulpit desk – Godmother of Gertrude Lory

Red frontal for Stuart Chapel – Mr & Mrs R. Stubbs

Litany desk – Sarah Lovell

Paten – Parents and sisters of Georgina Edwards

Vestments – Mrs F.O. Barnard, Mothers Union, Revd and Mrs R.A. Clayden, St George's School Ascot, Miss Edith Foster

Altar sets – Made by Miss Edith Foster

Sick communion set – Revd F.A. Pendarves Lory

Stole – in memory of the father of Brian Lowe

Pair of glass and silver-plated communion cruets – in memory of the father of the Revd Guy Armstrong

Communion cruets – English silver plate presented in memory of Ian Anthony Stone, by Pat, Rod & Gregory Stone

Portable wood and metal font, given by Dick Wain in memory of Christine Wain 1946-1981

Memorial Inscriptions

(Starting from the main door)

Back wall

To the Glory of God
and in memory of William Charles Lemprière
Captain Royal Horse Artillery, son of W.C. Lemprière,
Colonel of the North Regiment of the Royal Jersey Militia.
Born 20th May 1788, died January 1858.

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Edward Draper, born July 5th 1827, fell asleep
September 14th 1896.
He held the position of Clerk to the Parish Church for 20
years and was much respected.
Also to his wife Susannah, who passed away August 25th
1872, aged 40 years. Grant them thine eternal rest.
This tablet is placed here by their sorrowing children
Xmas 1897.

To the Glory of God
This font is erected to the memory of Hosea Waterer,
who died December 12th 1877.
Also to Matilda Waterer, wife of the above who died
June 24th 1903
Also to Barry their son who died January 1872.

Timor Dei Nobilitas

To the Glory of God and in memory of
William Charles Lemprière, Captain Royal Horse Artillery,
who served in the campaign in Spain under Sir John Moore,
including the actions of Sahagan, Benevento
and retreat to Corunna.
In 1814 he served in the South of France and was present at
the battle of Toulouse after which he served
in the American War with the
Army in Chesapeake and before New Orleans.
In 1815 he served in the Netherlands and was attached to
the Prussian Army in reducing the Fortresses on that
frontier. Received War Medal and 3 Clasps.
Born 20th May 1788, died 19th January 1858.
Also in memory of his sons
Wm Reid Lemprière born 26th June 1824
died 29th May 1857.
Percy Reid Lemprière Capt. R.I. Bombay Artillery.
Born 13th November 1839, died 24th March 1880.
Herbert Reid Lemprière Capt. 67th S. Hampshire Rgt.
Born 19th August 1842, died 1st September 1899
Served in the operations against the Tarping Rebels
in China in 1862 including the 2nd capture
of Kading. China Medal
George Reid Lemprière Capt. R.I. Engineers

Born 19th September 1829 died 7th March 1901.
Served with the Army in Turkey, Bulgaria
and the Crimea 1854-5
including the Battle of Inkerman and Siege of Sebastapol.
Served also in 1854 at Radat Kali, Charakan,
Soukam Kali etc.
Medal with 2 Clasps & Turkish Medal
Harry Lemprière
Born 23rd July 1834, died 2nd June 1911.
Arthur Reid Lemprière Maj. Gen. R.E, J.P.
Born 22nd August 1835, died 10th April 1927.

To the Glory of God and in memory of
Ellen Marion
wife of A.R. Lemprière, Maj. Gen. R.E.
Born 19th February 1845, died 9th February 1898.

To the Glory of God and in memory of
Agnes Henrietta
wife of Maj. Gen. A.R. Lemprière R.E.
Born 7th, February 1848, died 18th October 1916.

North Aisle

In memory of Captain Stuart Robertson
Formerly of the 14th Hussars
who died on active service at Kronstad, Orange Free State
1st June 1900, aged 35 years,
whilst attached to his old regiment
Erected by the officers of the 14th Hussars.

To the Glory of God and in memory of
John Osbaldeston
Died 14th April 1898.

To the Glory of God and in memory of
George Paxton More
organist of this parish, who died 23rd October 1886,
aged 28 years.
His friends dedicate this window.

North Transept

To the Glory of God and in Devoted Memory
Of Margaret, Crown Princess of Sweden,
Princess of Great Britain & Ireland
Born Bagshot Park January 15th 1882,
died at Stockholm May 1st 1920
This tablet is placed here by her devoted father.

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Louise Margaret, Duchess of Connaught, Princess of Prussia.
Born July 25th 1860 at Potsdam, died March 14th 1917
at Clarence House, St James's London.
This tablet is placed here by her sorrowing husband.

Mothers' Union banner stand:

In loving memory of
Lucy M Douglas
devoted chairman Women's Section
1953 - 1962

Lectern

Presented by Kate Waterer, in memory of her mother
Mary James and sister Emily Denton 1884.

Nave

Hymn boards – To the Glory of God
In loving memory of Frank Loveless
October 4th 1893.

Chancel

In loving memory of
Winifred Lluellyn Mandale Fryer of The Cedars, Bagshot.
Widow of Lieut. Col. John Fryer, 7th Hussars & daughter of
the late Capt. Thomas Fuller. Born 13th July 1879,
died 19th March 1954.
She served God in his church and among his people.

In loving memory of
Mary Ada Fuller widow of Capt. Thomas Fuller 18th Hussars
and daughter of F.W. Fryer Esq of West Moors, Dorset.
Born 25th May 1848, died 25th January 1945.
A constant worshipper in this church for 46 years.
The adjacent screen is given as a tribute
to her outstanding qualities
by three generations of her descendants.

Sanctuary

In loving memory of
Major General HRH Prince Arthur, K.G.
Born at Windsor Castle 13th January 1883,
died London 12th September 1938.
The tablet was placed here by his wife
Princess Arthur of Connaught,
Duchess of Fife.

In loving memory of
Field Marshal HRH Arthur Duke of Connaught and
Strathearn, K.G.
Born at Buckingham Palace 1st May 1850
died at Bagshot Park 16th January 1942.
This tablet was placed here by his daughter Lady Patricia
Ramsay
(Princess Patricia of Connaught)

In loving memory of
Lady Patricia Ramsay VA CI CD GC St. J.
(HRH Princess Patricia of Great Britain and Ireland)
17th March 1886 died 12th January 1974.
Colonel in Chief Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
and of
Admiral the honourable Sir Alexander Ramsay GCVO KCB
DSO
29th May 1881 died 8th October 1972.
This tablet was placed here by their son and daughter in law
Captain Alexander Ramsay of Mar and the Lady Saltoun,
Members of their family,
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and friends.

To the Glory of God and in memory of
The Rev. Frederick Aylmer Pendarves Lory BA.
who was curate in charge
and vicar of this parish from 1871 to 1900
and departed this life on May 13th 1900.

In memory of
Edward Peach William Miles
son of Philip John Miles of Leigh Court, Bristol
who died March 22nd 1889, aged 59,
his widow dedicates this window.
The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God:
there shall no torment touch them.

Candlesticks

To the memory of
Col. Sir Alfred Mordaunt Egerton KC VO CB,
born 1843 died 1908. He served in the Rifle Brigade and
Royal Horse Guards and for 18 years was Comptroller
to HRH the Duke of Connaught.
These lights were placed in this church
by his relatives and friends.

East Window

To the Glory of God and in loving remembrance
of their dear brother
Leopold George Duncan Albert, Duke of Albany, KG.
Born April 7th 1853, died March 28th 1884.
This window is dedicated by Arthur and Louise Margaret,
Duke and Duchess of Connaught and son Arthur
and by Louise and Beatrice Princesses
of Great Britain and Ireland 1885.

Reredos

Erected to the greater glory of / God and in loving memory
of our / brother King Edward VII by / Arthur and Louise
Margaret MCMXII

Wall plaque by choir stalls and pulpit:

In memory of
H. John Smith
Vicar of St Anne's 1974 – 1985
A Good Man and Friend

Oberammergau carving, above pulpit:

Presented by HRH Prince Arthur of Connaught,
September 1921.

Stuart Chapel

In affectionate remembrance of
Major Charles James Cockburn
2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment
who died June 28th 1900
This tablet is placed here by his brother officers
who deeply mourn his loss.

In loving memory of
John Cockburn
2nd Lieut. 1st Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regt.
Elder son of the late Major C.J. Cockburn Royal Warwickshire
Regt. and Kate Cockburn of this parish, aged 25.
Killed in action at St. Julien near Ypres April 25th 1915.

In loving memory of
Charles James Cockburn MC.
Captain 6th Jat Light Infantry IA
Younger son of the late Major C.J. Cockburn Royal
Warwickshire Regt.
and Kate Cockburn of this parish in his 25th year
Killed in action in Mesopotamia January 7th 1916.

To the Glory of God and In loving memory of
Maj Gen Sir Howard Crauford Elphinstone VC KCB CMG RA
who was drowned at sea off Ushant March 8th 1890,
aged 60
Sunk though he be below the watery floor
his spirit mounted high
Through the dear might of him that walked the waves.

In loving memory of
Annie Frances

Daughter W.H. Cole of West Woodhay, Newbury, Berks.
Wife of Maj Gen Sir Howard Crauford Elphinstone VC.

Lady of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem.

Born 3rd May 1856 died at Pinewood, Bagshot on 12th
November 1938.

Dearly loved by her children, grandchildren and
greatgrandchildren.

In proud and loving memory of
Lieut John Leopold Elphinstone McClintock RN.

Born at Pinewood, Bagshot 8th April 1911,

Killed in action on 10th June 1941
while in command of HMS Pintail.

This chapel is dedicated by the parishioners
to the memory of the

Rev. Canon Robert William Hall Stuart MA.

Vicar 1920 – 1934

and of Constance Theroulde Stuart his wife. Easter 1935.

South Aisle

A D G

In memory of Emily
the wife of

F.A. Pendarves Lory
who fell asleep June 24th 1897

[his second wife, the first being Esther Elizabeth Norris.]

To the memory of
Thornton Wrottesley Pendarves Lory
A district Scoutmaster who died on duty 1st June 1914
Aged 32 years.

A D G
and in memory of our father
Frederick Aylmer Pendarves Lory
1st Vicar of Bagshot
Born July 13th 1839, died May 13th 1900
"Remember ye not that when I was with you
I told you these things"

Giving thanks to God for the dear memory of
Jane Evans
who fell asleep 14th April 1900
Her children dedicate this window.

A M D G
In Memoriam
R M C
Obiit. Prid. Kal. Jun
MCM

Giving thanks to God
For the beloved memory of
Stephen William Evans, JP, who died October 1st 1928
and of Flora Annie, his wife, who died July 1928,
their children dedicate this window.

In grateful memory of
Edwin John Hickox
Organist of this church 1894 to 1937
Died 20th September 1937.

We are much indebted to the many parishioners who have been so generous over the years in their gift of prayer books, hymn books and Bibles, suitably inscribed, for use in our worship.

Principal sources

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Church Inventory 1984, 2001, 2007

The Duke of Connaught's Bagshot: 1880-1889, Surrey Heath Local History Club, Adult Education Centre, Camberley, October 1990.

Kempe Stained Glass, edited by Philip N H Collins, The Kempe Trust, 2000.

Reminiscences of Bagshot 1874-1949, F B P Lory CIE, published privately in June 1949.

St Anne's Bagshot NADFAS Church Record, 2011

A Topographical History of Surrey, Volume 1, Part 2, Edward Wedlake Brayley, Edward William Brayley, John Britton, Gideon Algernon Mantell, 1841.



Then and now: Above, photo by Ken Williams - Once the choir was men and boys only. The Revd John Melhuish, centre, was vicar in the 1950s and early 60s. Below: The choir in the 21st century.



Vicars of Bagshot

Since the creation of Bagshot Parish, the following have been the Vicars of Bagshot.

1874-1900 Frederick Aylmer Pendarves Lory, BA, (Oxon)
formerly curate-in-charge

1900-1908 William Henry McKennal Caldwell, BA

1908-1910 W.F. Yates Rooker

1910-1920 Alfred Henry Ford, MA

1920-1934 Robert William Hall Stuart, MA (Cantab)

1935-1951 Ralph Myddleton Bankes-Jones, MA (Oxon)

1952-1965 John Melhuish, MA

1965-1974 Guy Lionel Walter Armstrong (Lt. Col. R. Ret'd)

1974-1985 H. John Smith

1985-1997 David Holt, BSc, Dip Theol

1997-2006 Stephen Frederick Brian, CertEd, BEd,
DipTheol, MA, MPhil, PhD

2007-2014 David James Chillman, B.A.

2014-2025 Andreas Sistig BTh



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