

# Saint John the Baptist Church, Lowick & Kylvoe

## Proposal for a Heritage Centre



**Introduction:** The untidy south west corner of Saint John the Baptist's Church is currently used largely for storage with old chairs, boxes and a large folding bookcase. Almost hidden away in this area are the church records available for consultation by members of the public researching information on their families - we know many visit the church for this purpose.

**Proposal:** to set up a **heritage corner** in this part of the church based on the presence of the church records here. The intention would be to tidy out the area and to set up a **heritage study centre** with a small table and chair with a light. New shelving would be put in place so the church records could be stored in an attractive manner, together with any documents related to the church - history, architecture stained glass windows and also, information relating to the history of Lowick Village with the material produced by the very active Lowick Heritage Group.

**Funding:** We would look for funding from the Barmoor Wind Turbine Community Fund for this project.

**Medieval Artefacts:** It is also suggested that the wall above this area might prove a suitable location for the medieval artefacts which have been recently removed from the churchyard wall. These are significant local heritage features which provide a unique glimpse of how this

former chapel of Holy Island would have appeared before it was pulled down in 1794 to make way for the new building. This would involve more serious funding, particularly if the artefacts are going to be properly displayed in order to provide attractive church features.

St Brandon's Church in Brancepeth, County Durham provides an example of how special artefacts of the kind illustrated below, can be fixed and displayed on the wall of a church.



artefact 12<sup>th</sup> Century grave stone cross, Lowick.

**QR Code:** Visitors to Saint John the Baptist's can find information about the church with a booklet on its history and a document on the stained-glass windows (both of which will be updated). It is hoped in the future to use QR codes as an additional way to provide this information.

**Further Information** on this initiative and on the history and architecture of Saint John the Baptist's Church will be posted on this website to make it possible to follow the different stages of this exciting new development.

John Daniels,  
Church Warden and  
Chairman of Lowick  
Heritage Group

27.9.19