

**HISTORIC ENGLAND
LEVEL 1 RECORDING_150622**

ST JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

26 - 28 Whalley Road

Shuttleworth

Ramsbottom

Lancashire

BL0 0EH

A simple, chapel-like building, Early English in style. A string course and plinth run around the building. Nave and chancel are undifferentiated beneath a pitched roof, contiguous with the shallower-pitched N aisle roof.

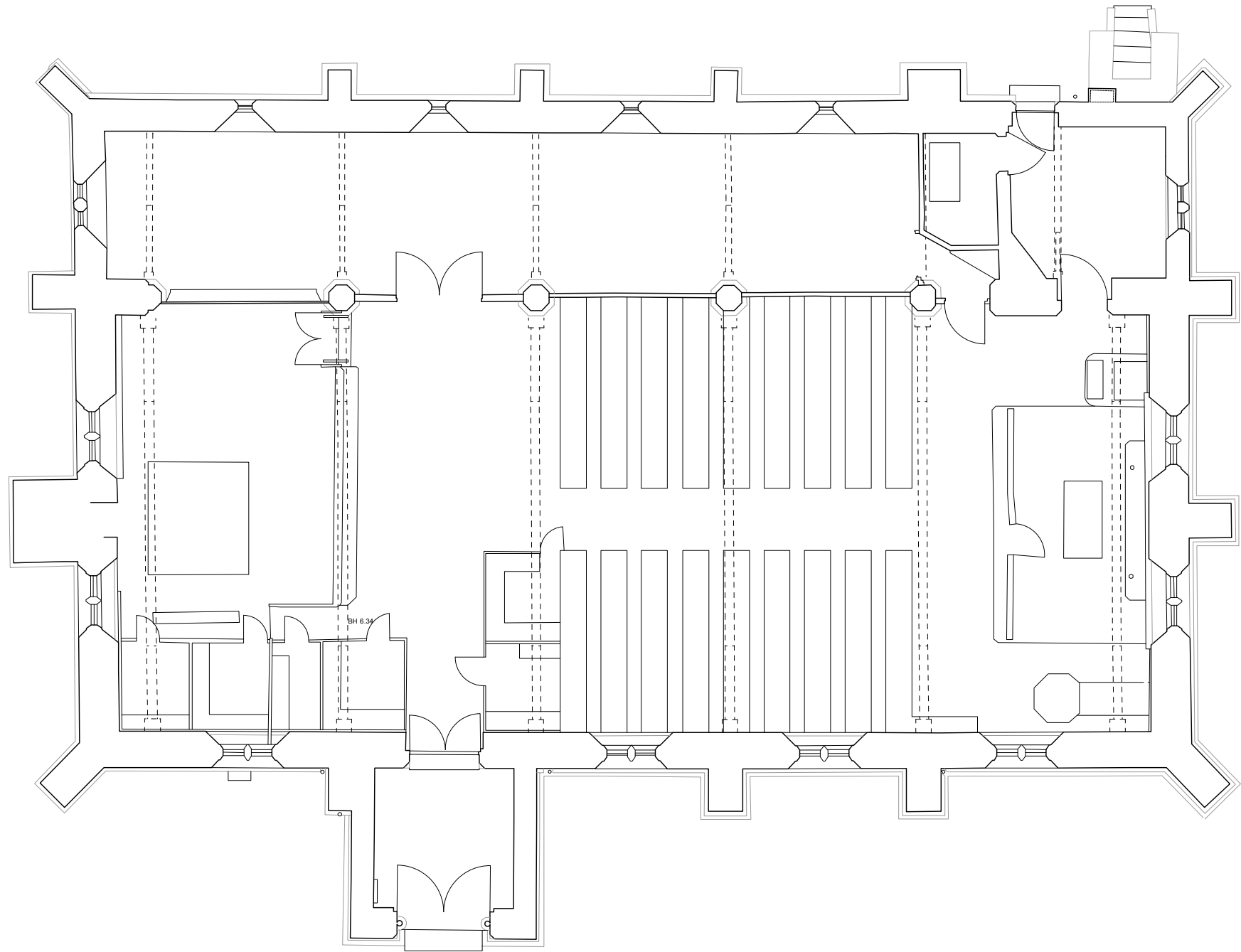
There are coped gables to E and W; the E end seems to have lost a cross finial, and there is a gabled bellcote at the W end, topped with a cross finial, its bell contained in a cusped lancet opening with a hood mould above and a string- course beneath.

The N slope of the main church roof features a stone chimney to the vestry, rectangular though chamfered between its two string courses. The church has two windows at the E and W ends, each pair joined by a hood mould, each window two-light with simple geometric tracery (cusped lancets with a trefoil above). Above each of the windows, E and W, is a carved stone symbol of one of the Evangelists, in a quatrefoil within a roundel.

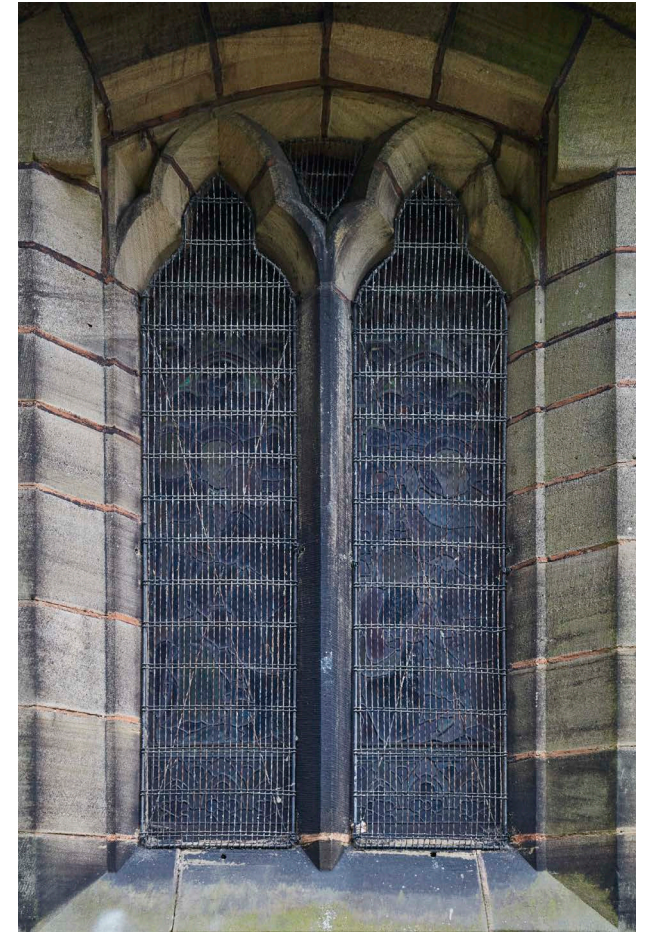
The E and W facades each have two weathered buttresses: in each case there is a central buttress; at the E end the second buttress is to the N, at the W end it is to the S. In addition there are weathered clasping buttresses at the four corners of the building, and weathered buttresses between the windows of the S (nave) façade and the N (N aisle) façade.

Each of the four nave windows is two-light (cusped lancets). There are four single cusped lancets to the N façade of the N aisle, and a pair of cusped lancets to the N aisle E and W. There are three steps up to the S porch, which has a pointed-arched doorway with colonettes and a hoodmould stopped with uncarved blocks, and a coped gable.

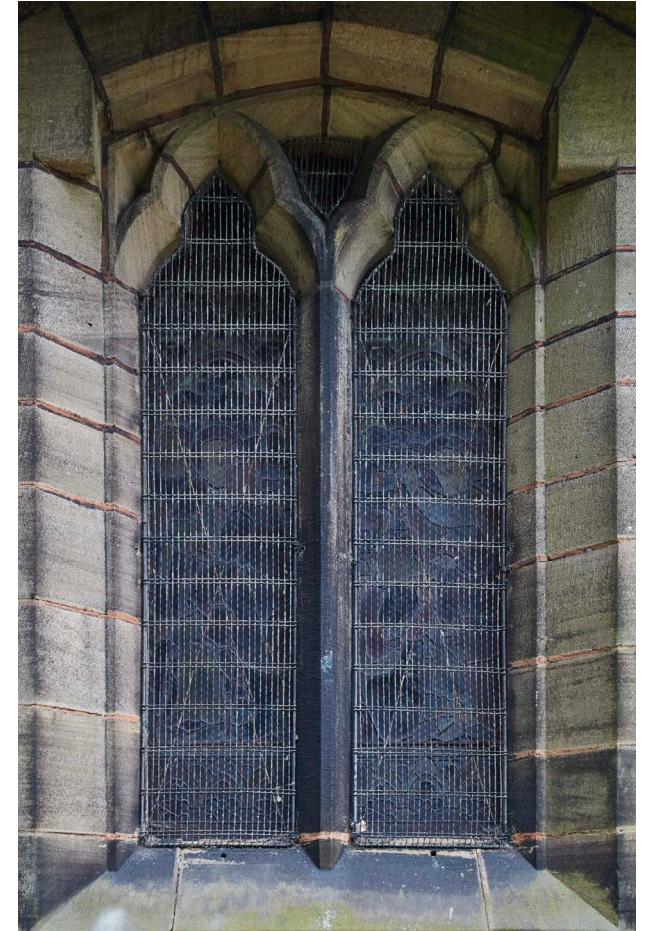
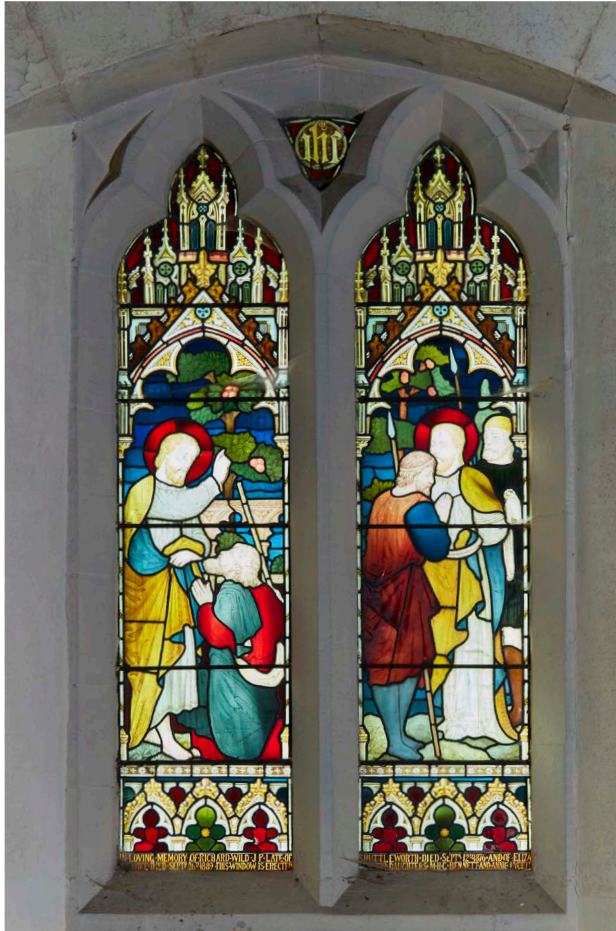
The W pitch of the S porch roof cuts across the adjacent buttress and it is conceivable that it was a later addition. To the NE of the N aisle is a small, pointed-arched doorway to the vestry, with two steps up to it; immediately beside it to the E, a narrow entrance leads down to the boiler house.







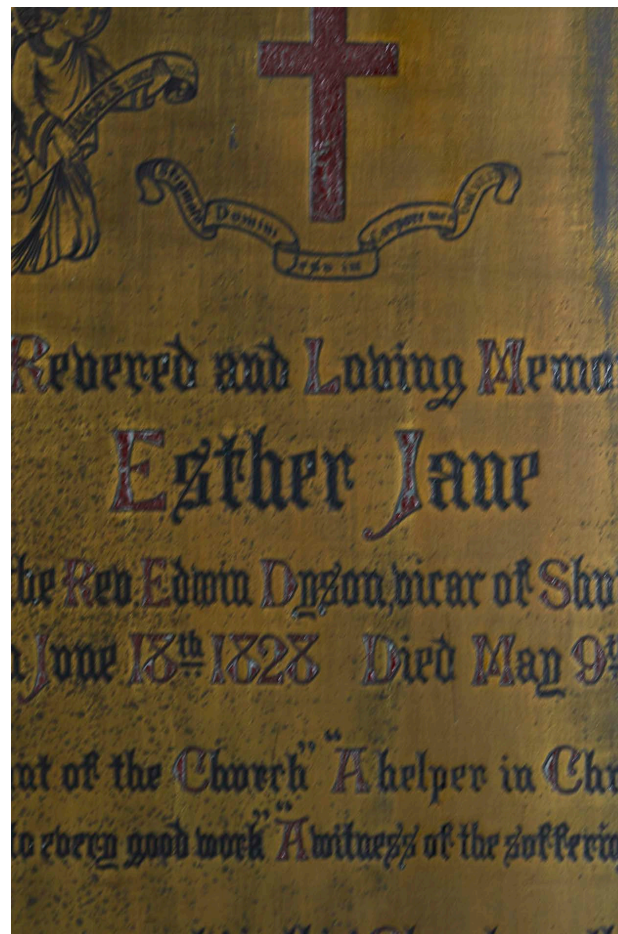
Nave, S: two-light. L: Christ with children; R: Christ the Good Shepherd. Inscribed in memory of Samuel Preston, vicar's warden, d.1892, by his widow.



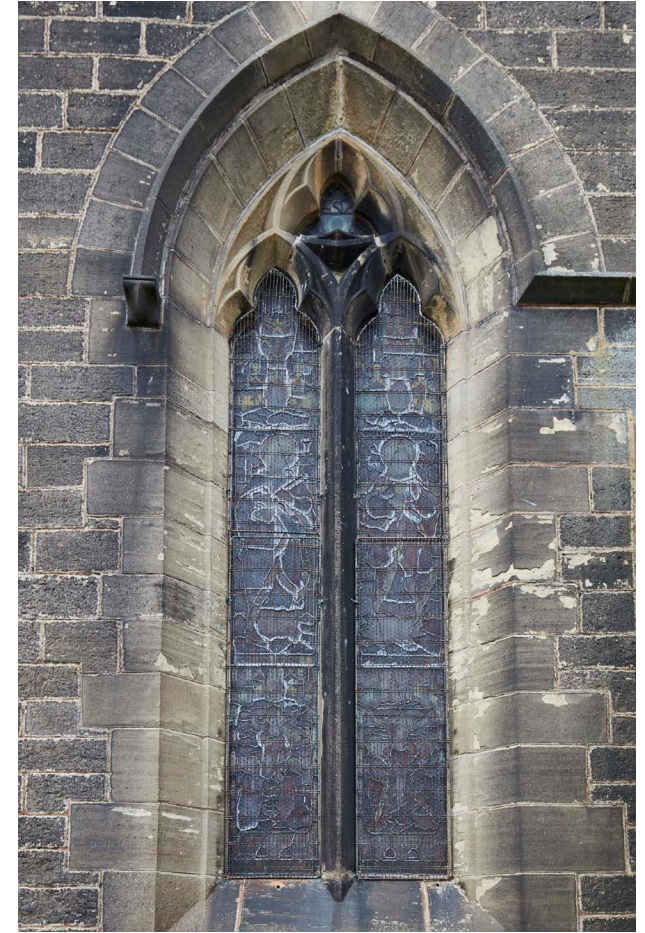
Nave, S: two-light. The Taking of Christ in Gethsemane. Inscribed in memory of Richard Wild JP, d.1876, and his wife Eliza, d.1889, by their daughters.



Chancel, S: two-light, cusped lancets. L: St Peter; R: St Paul. Inscribed in memory of Edwin Dyson, vicar for thirty-one years, d.1906.h

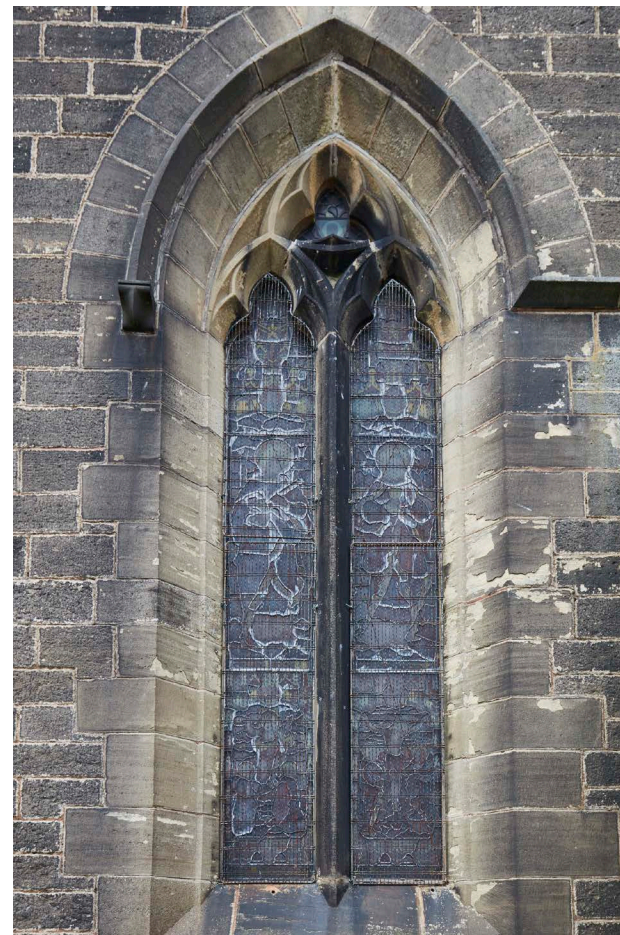
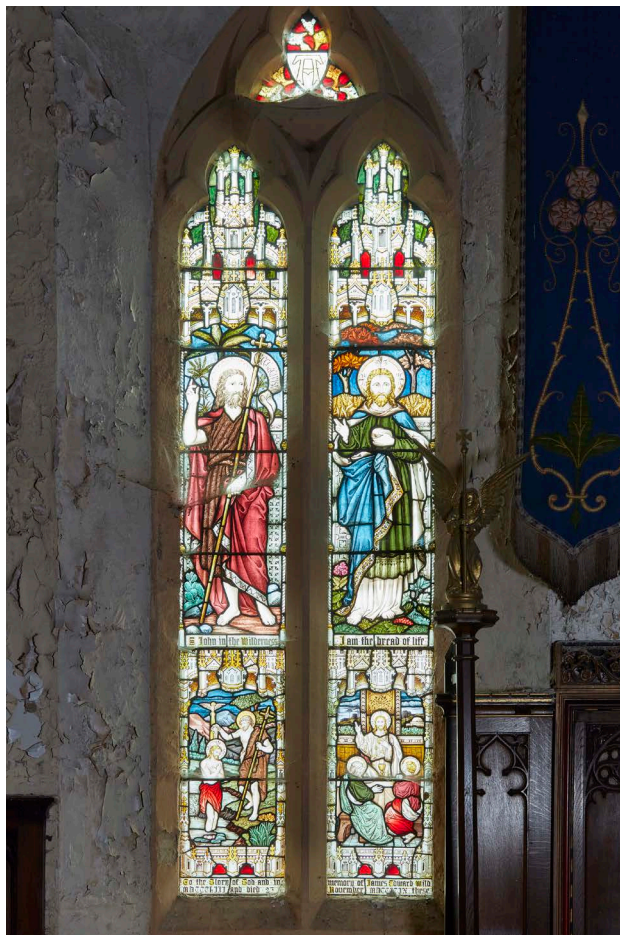


Chancel, S: brass plaque in memory of Esther Jane, wife of the Rev. Edwin Dyson, vicar of Shuttleworth, d.1895.



Chancel, E: a pair of two-light windows. Inscribed "To the Glory of God and in memory of James Edward Wild of Springfield in this Parish who was born 2 December [1853] and died 23 November [1909] these windows were erected by his window and children."

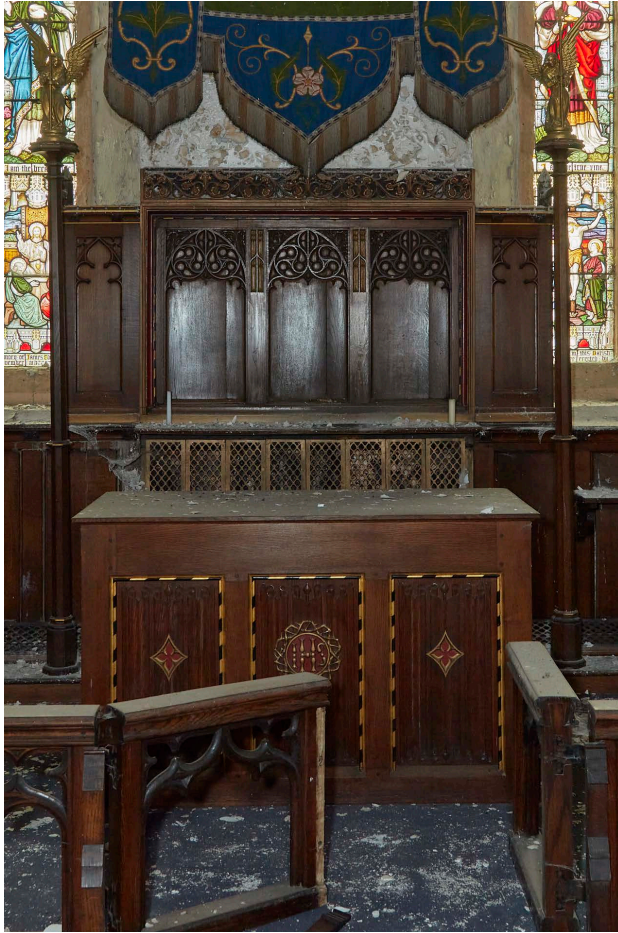
On the S side of the altar: L, top: "I am the true vine"; bottom: the crucifixion – R, top: St John the Evangelist; bottom: the ascension – trefoil: Omega. (Pictured.)



On the N side of the altar: L, top: St John in the Wilderness; bottom: the baptism of Christ – R, top: “I am the bread of life”; bottom: the last supper – trefoil: Alpha.



Wooden, decorated with blind tracery and gilded and painted decoration. Two riddel posts, crowned with angels, but no curtains.



Wood, with three linenfold panels with painted and gilded decoration.



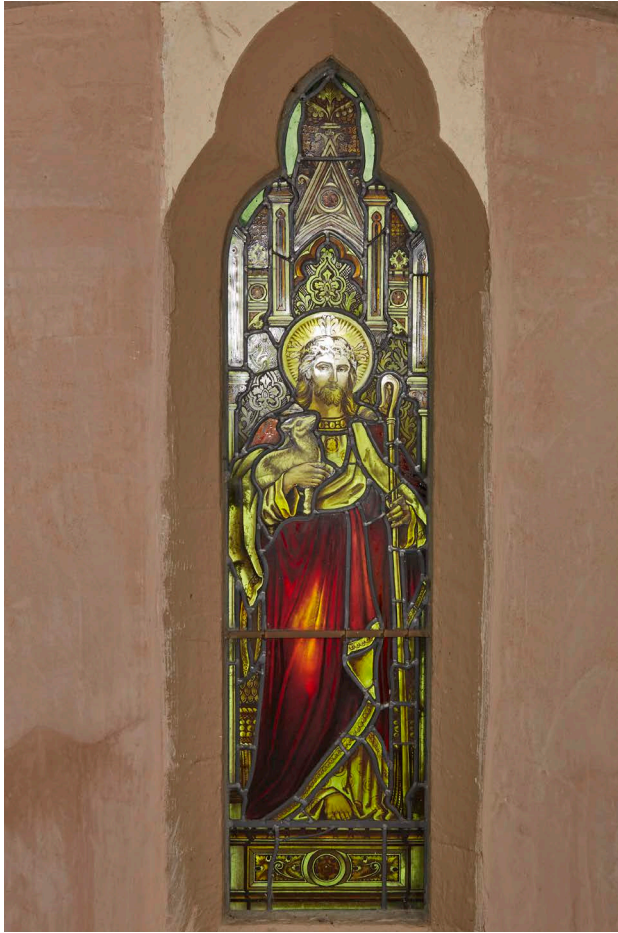
Oak eagle. Brass plaque records its donation in memory of Edwin Dyson, vicar 1875-1906.



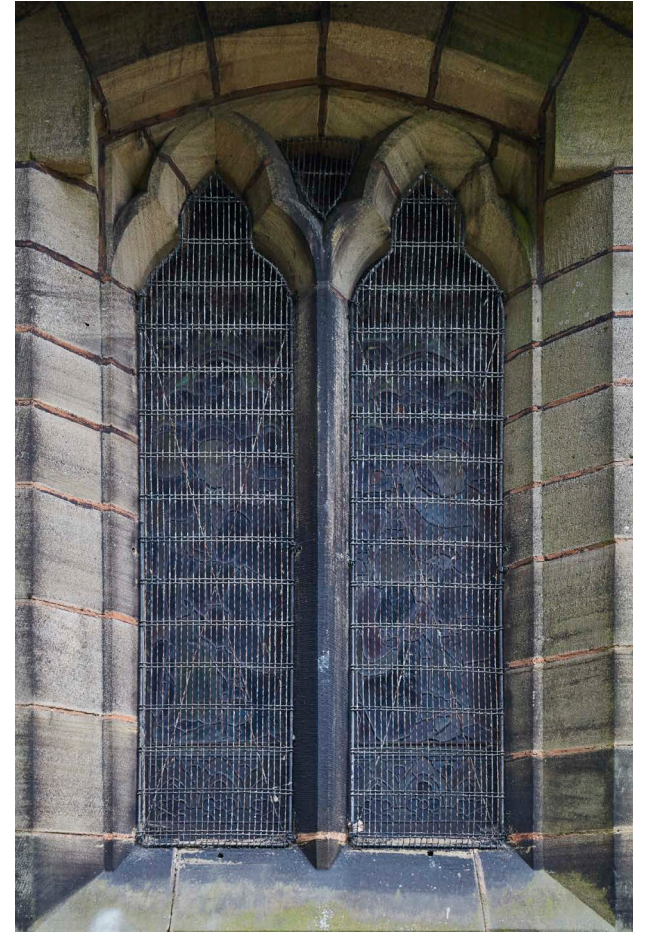
A later addition to replace existing. Origin and information unavailable



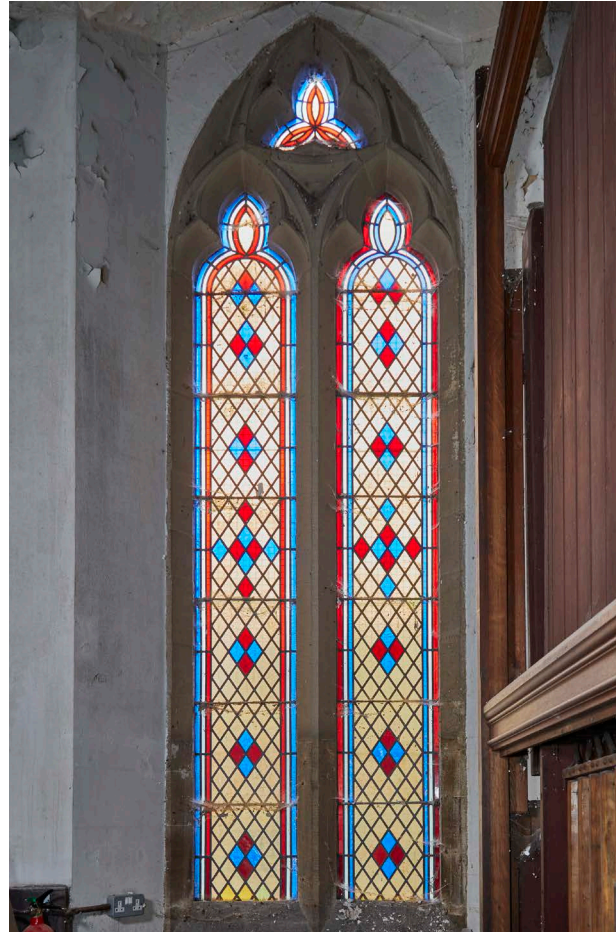
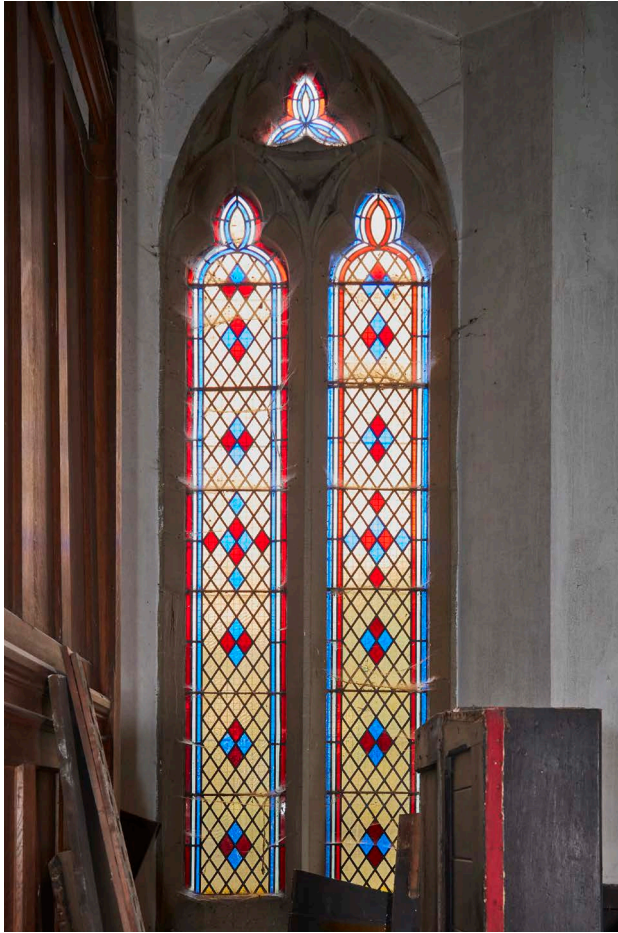
N aisle: Single lancet. St George. Inscribed in memory of Wilfrid Beswick J.P.



N aisle: Single lancet. Christ the Good Shepherd. Inscribed in memory of Richard Nuttall of Turn, Shuttleworth, by his workpeople and family, June 1896.



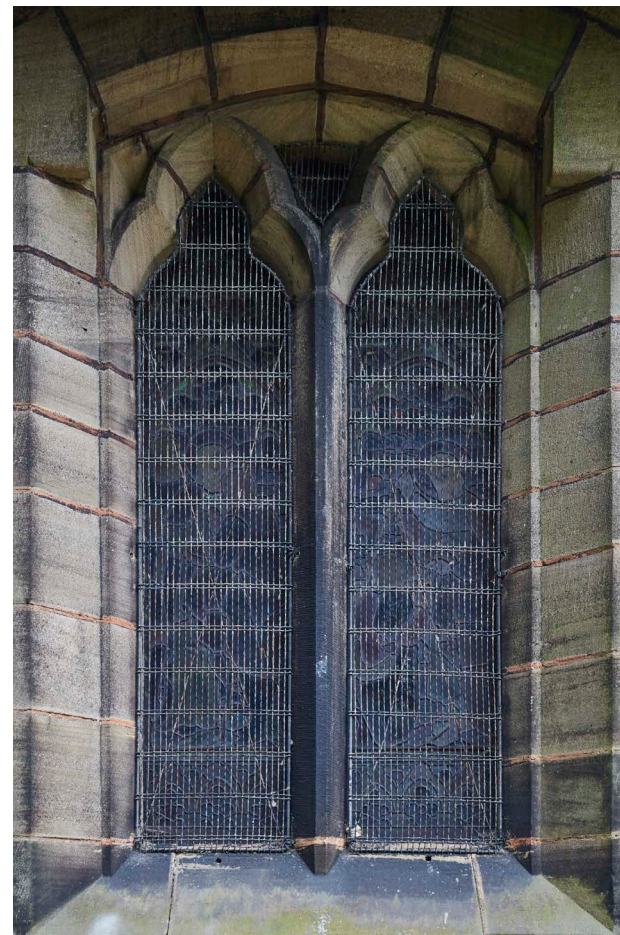
N aisle, W: Two lancets. Baptistery window: Christ, with children in 1940s dress, birds and animals. Inscribed in memory of Edward Nuttall, d.1907, and his wife, churchwarden 1928-1940. (Pictured.)



A later addition to replace existing. Origin and information unavailable



2-manual. A small maker's plaque of Wadsworth & Bro., Manchester, though the BIOS National Pipe Organ Register attributes it to Young. A brass plaque records the donation of the organ blower in memory of John and Sarah Alice Hutchings.



Nave, S: two-light. L: King David; R: Saint Cecilia. Inscribed in memory of Robert Whittaker of Scout Barns, churchwarden and organist d.1893, by his widow and children.





