

# Peak Deanery Web Contact Information Analysis

## Introduction

In an age of on-line communications we can sometimes forget the older technologies of post and phone (fax has clearly disappeared). This is especially noticeable when looking for a parish address to post material or a phone number to make a direct call. I excluded the privilege access to the C of E portal for Contact Management but surveyed the publically accessible web information of all 57 churches of the Peak Deanery. I used Google search to find “?? Parish Church” and limiting the search to the first two pages of Google. Where I spotted it, I did include parishes as having a web site where it was as a page within a community/village web site or Facebook page, failing that ACNY. I took the approach of a member of the public wanting to anonymously report a safeguarding concern to either the vicar or Parish Safeguarding Link (PSL).

## Findings

1. Three out of five churches had a parish web site.
2. Only half had a phone number that was clearly that of the incumbent. Some ‘office’ numbers may have been the incumbent’s but an office inquiry might put off some callers.
3. Two out of five had a postal address for the incumbent.
4. A quarter of the parishes gave a name and contact phone no. for the Parish Safeguarding Link (PSL) officer. However this is a significant improvement from September 2018 when just 4% were on the web.

## Observations

- A. Anonymity/confidentiality
  - When a confidential call is required, for say a safeguarding issue, the practice of requiring an email address of the person making the contact (having to ‘sign or login’) before they can send a message is counter-productive to our safeguarding policy implementation.
  - In some cases one cannot get into the parish site until registered.
  - Also an office number could be answered by a person who was inappropriate to even have knowledge of a call being made.
- B. Clergy often complain about the amount of administration yet it seems that our on-line presence appears to channel communications through the incumbent. If say, the inquiry is for how to book the church hall or who does church flowers then a lay officer can deal with that.
- C. We have become averse to exposing personal information on the web but members accept public office in the roles of churchwarden, PCC secretary or treasurer but are then not public other than to local church members. GDPR is not to blame it is our choice to be anonymous. CAPTCHA will foil web trawler programs.

## Additional possible cause for concern

In 2017 I had an emergency need to make contact on a Sunday afternoon to a parish in a neighbouring diocese. I phoned every incumbent who I could find a number for on-line in the deanery but every one of them either did not pick up or it went to answerphone. Eventually I found a mobile number for the archdeacon, who did answer but was on holiday, however he understood the situation and rang me back with a churchwarden’s number. The warden did respond to my call and dealt with the emergency.

- How available are the clergy/parish officers when there is an emergency in our deanery/diocese?
- How good is our safeguarding contact system in practice?
- Can we get the laity to field more of the communications not requiring a member of the clergy?
- Speaking recently to Bishop Jan she has a concern for clergy safety when publishing phone numbers where there has been a history of stalking or similar abusive behaviour.

*Rev. Clive A. Thrower 25 Sept 2018 (updated and revised 2 July 2019)*

*Peak Deanery Safeguarding Lead*

Church Name	Web Site	Log	Notes
Ashford	<a href="http://www.ashfordparishchurch.co.uk/contact-us">http://www.ashfordparishchurch.co.uk/contact-us</a>		
Bakewell	<a href="https://www.bakewellchurch.co.uk/contact-us/">https://www.bakewellchurch.co.uk/contact-us/</a>	1	NB PSL under Who's Who not Contact
Over Haddon	<a href="https://www.bakewellchurch.co.uk/contact-us/">https://www.bakewellchurch.co.uk/contact-us/</a>		NB PSL under Who's Who not Contact
Rowsley	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13183/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13183/</a>		
Sheldon	<a href="http://www.ashfordparishchurch.co.uk/sheldon">http://www.ashfordparishchurch.co.uk/sheldon</a>		
Bradwell	<a href="http://bradwell-dby.place-advisor.co.uk/bradwell-castleton-hope-Ditto">http://bradwell-dby.place-advisor.co.uk/bradwell-castleton-hope-Ditto</a>		Via Yell business directory
Castleton	Ditto		Via Yell business directory
Hope	Ditto		Via Yell business directory
Edale	<a href="https://edaleparishchurch.wordpress.com/">https://edaleparishchurch.wordpress.com/</a>		No contact info but pointer to ACNY
Burbage	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	PSL no login, everyone else does
Harpur Hill	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	
King Sterndale	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	
Buxton St Anne	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	
Buxton St John	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	
Buxton St Mary	<a href="http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk">http://www.buxtonparish.org.uk</a>	1	
Buxton Trinity	<a href="https://trinitybuxton.org.uk/">https://trinitybuxton.org.uk/</a>	1	PSL names but no direct dial other than office
Beeley	<a href="http://www.stpetersedensor.org/page2.html">http://www.stpetersedensor.org/page2.html</a>		
Edensor	<a href="http://www.stpetersedensor.org/">http://www.stpetersedensor.org/</a>		
Baslow	<a href="https://www.stannesbaslow.org.uk/about-us/">https://www.stannesbaslow.org.uk/about-us/</a>		Names and tel via who's who under About Us
Eyam	<a href="http://www.eyam-church.org/Contact_Us.html">http://www.eyam-church.org/Contact_Us.html</a>		
Foolow	<a href="http://www.eyam-church.org/St_Hugh_Foolow.html">http://www.eyam-church.org/St_Hugh_Foolow.html</a>		
Dove Holes	<a href="https://en-gb.facebook.com/stpaulsdoveholes/">https://en-gb.facebook.com/stpaulsdoveholes/</a>	1	
Fairfield	<a href="https://en-gb.facebook.com/stpetersfairfield/">https://en-gb.facebook.com/stpetersfairfield/</a>	1	
Peak Forest	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13236/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13236/</a>		
New Mills	<a href="http://newmillschurch.co.uk/find-us-or-get-in-touch">http://newmillschurch.co.uk/find-us-or-get-in-touch</a>		
Charlesworth	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13284/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13284/</a>		
Dinting Vale	<a href="http://glossopparishchurch.btck.co.uk/ContactUs">http://glossopparishchurch.btck.co.uk/ContactUs</a>	1	
Gamesley	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13284/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13284/</a>		
Glossop All Saints	<a href="http://glossopparishchurch.btck.co.uk/ContactUs">http://glossopparishchurch.btck.co.uk/ContactUs</a>	1	
Hadfield	<a href="http://standrews-hadfield.org.uk/who-we-are">http://standrews-hadfield.org.uk/who-we-are</a>		PSL email but no tel. No contact page
Whitfield St James	<a href="https://www.whitfieldparish.org/contact-us/">https://www.whitfieldparish.org/contact-us/</a>		
Whitfield St Luke	<a href="https://www.whitfieldparish.org/contact-us/">https://www.whitfieldparish.org/contact-us/</a>		
Bamford	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13168/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13168/</a>		
Grindleford	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13177/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13177/</a>		
Hathersage	<a href="https://www.hathersageparishchurch.co.uk/contact-us">https://www.hathersageparishchurch.co.uk/contact-us</a>		
Curbar	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13173/find-us/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13173/find-us/</a>		
Longstone	<a href="http://www.greatlongstone.net/church/st-giles/?_ts=1">http://www.greatlongstone.net/church/st-giles/?_ts=1</a>		Village web site page
Wardlow	<a href="http://www.wardlow.org.uk/">http://www.wardlow.org.uk/</a>		Village web site page
Stoney Middleton	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13187/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13187/</a>		
Chapel-en-le-Frith	<a href="https://st-thomas-becket.church/who-we-are/">https://st-thomas-becket.church/who-we-are/</a>		
Chinley	<a href="http://www.chinleywithbuxworthparish.btck.co.uk/People">http://www.chinleywithbuxworthparish.btck.co.uk/People</a>		
Hayfield	<a href="http://www.hayfieldstmatts.btck.co.uk/People">http://www.hayfieldstmatts.btck.co.uk/People</a>		
Tideswell	<a href="https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/">https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/</a>		
Cressbrook	<a href="https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/">https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/</a>		Under Tideswell
Litton	<a href="https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/">https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/</a>		Under Tideswell
Millers Dale	<a href="https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/">https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/</a>		Under Tideswell
Wormhill	<a href="https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/">https://tideswellchurch.org/contact/</a>		Under Tideswell
Taddington	<a href="http://www.taddington.org.uk/church/">http://www.taddington.org.uk/church/</a>		Village web site page
Biggin	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13220/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13220/</a>		
Chelmorton	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13228/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13228/</a>		
Earl Sterndale	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13230/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13230/</a>		
Hartington	<a href="http://www.hartingtonchurch.org/about-us">http://www.hartingtonchurch.org/about-us</a>		
Monyash	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13234/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13234/</a>		
Birchover	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13186/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13186/</a>		
Middleton by Youl.	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13189/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13189/</a>		
Stanton-in-Peak	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13185/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13185/</a>		
Youlgreave	<a href="https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13188/">https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13188/</a>		