

Hello Heritage...

St Peter's Church, Hartshorne



St Peter's Church showing 15th century tower

There has been a church on this site since the beginning of the 14th century, although it is likely that it was a place of worship before that time. The tower was added during the 15th century. Only the tower and chancel remain of the original church, the main body being rebuilt in 1835. Inside near the entrance is an alabaster tomb of Humphrey Dethick and his wife, dating from 1611. The font is medieval. Outside on the east wall of the church is evidence of musket ball damage thought to date from the English Civil War.

Inside the tower a spiral staircase leads to the clock room. There has been a clock on the tower since 1635. The present one, with faces on the west and north walls, dates from 1911 was paid for by public subscription. Further up the tower is the bell chamber containing six bells, the oldest is dated 1580 and is listed.. Can you see the stone carvings on the outside of the tower? The first and last bear a dog or talbot passant. The arms of Hastings, between two talbots passant, may also be seen sculptured on the castle at Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

www.hartshornechurch.org.uk



Original stone steps leading up the tower



The original arcade responds date from the 15th century. The nave was rebuilt in 1835. The vestry (through the wooden door) and Lady Chapel were added in 1902.



The chancel east wall was rebuilt in 1902 and a stained glass window was installed to the memory of Revd William Buckley who was rector here for many years and died in 1892.



There are around 4,000 Burials in the churchyard recorded since 1594. Can you spot the War Commission graves? The yew tree next to the church is over 300 years old.



Bells have been rung at St Peter's for over 440 years. There has been change ringing in Hartshorne since 1629 and we are just following in this ancient English tradition.