

Ayton Heritage scio

Newsletter 013. January 2024



Welcome to newsletter 13.

Ivy Removal

After a break when he was busy with summer work, Alan Hogarth returned to complete the last of the ivy removal in December. Although the canopy of ivy has been removed, the embedded roots remain. Disturbing them would possibly have destabilised the stonework and their removal will be the work of the stonemason when work begins on the stonework.



before

after



Shed

The shed, which had been built sometime in the 20th century and was possibly used as a tool store by undertakers, was in a poor state. The roof tiles were removed, the rafters renewed and the tiles replaced along with some identical ones from a farm at Oldhamstocks. A new door and window were also made to match the originals. Some interesting features of the original church were seen more clearly with the roof removed. These include an alcove with original plaster. Possibly the whole interior of the church would have been similarly coated when it was in use.



Alcove

Before



After



Trustees

At our 2023 AGM in October, Peter Hemingway, Angus Scott and Aline Robertson stood down as trustees. The work they did is greatly appreciated. In their place, Sue Marrs, Gerry Cranfield and John Cranfield were elected. Chris Nitsche, Isabel Kellie, John Slater and Bill Black were re-elected.

Future work

The trustees are in the early stages of preparing for 2024. It is hoped to start work on the masonry of the church and there will be opportunities for volunteers to carry out other improvements.

Bill Black