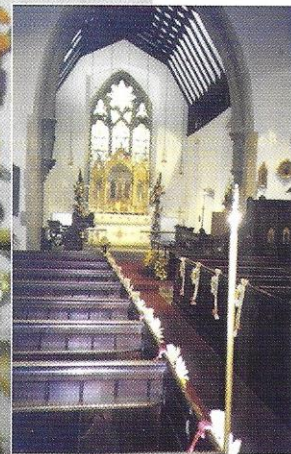


# naburn

# reborn



Money from the National Heritage Memorial Fund helped the parishioners of Naburn achieve a first when the redundant church of St Mathew was re-opened on 19 September by the Archbishop of York. Work totalling £225,000 had been carried out in a total renovation including redecoration and a better heating system.

A congregation of 250 gathered for the ceremony and there was standing room only. The Rector, the Revd Richard Kirkman, said "We were overjoyed and overwhelmed by the support and response to the re-opening. The congregation has approximately doubled compared with pre-opening numbers of those worshipping in the village hall." Mr. Kirkman reiterated that the success of the re-opening was down to a well motivated, dedicated and small team, supported by many voluntary hands and under-girded by prayer.