

# RENEWAL NEWS

*Treasuring the Past • Celebrating the Present • Challenged by the Future*

Donations are always welcome to fund the vision for St Mary's. Cheques should be made payable to **ST MARY'S HADLEIGH VISION PROJECT**

*gift aid it*

*thank you*

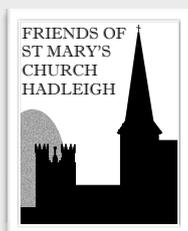
## SACRISTY ROOF

Work has commenced this week on making the sacristy roof and surrounding stonework leak free.

Work will continue over approximately the next six weeks.

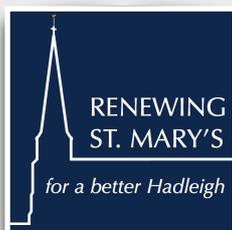
We thank The Friends of St Mary's who will be contributing the greater share of the cost of this repair work.

The renewal fund will cover the costs for administration, architects and structural engineers fees etc.



**Raising funds for repairs to the fabric of St Mary's church through beneficiaries, donors, and gifts.**

**Please support their work and fundraising events. New members welcome.**



[www.stmaryshadleigh.co.uk](http://www.stmaryshadleigh.co.uk)

Charity No. 1140776

## SOUTH WEST DOORS

In January 2019 after DAC permissions and advice from overseeing architect P. Orchard, the conservator David Bartram, attended site and using a method approved by the National Trust he re attached loose and detached elements of the external oak decoration on the doors using stainless steel pins and appropriate glue.

The doors which are constructed in oak with a half lapped frame and quarter sawn planks appeared to have twisted over the years making them very draughty and this was thought to be partly due to the Victorian oak boxed lock which had been let into the right hand door (viewed from outside) by cutting through two of the main upright frame members and reducing their strength. It was proposed that the lock (now not functioning) be removed, photographed and archived, and the two uprights to be plugged with lengths of brown oak inserts thus returning the door to a straight position which would enable draughtproofing to be successfully applied to the doors.

Having attempted this straightening process it was found to be unsuccessful in achieving the result required and at P Orchard's suggestion, in addition to the frame inserts, a 3mm x 65mm steel bar should be attached to the leading edge of the right hand door in an attempt to straighten it, but when it was attached it made no difference to the door hanging out of vertical.

It was ascertained at this point that there was a lot of play in especially the bottom hinge of the right hand door. To remedy this problem the door would need to be lifted off its hinges and permission was sought to proceed with this course of action. This was consequently carried out and the door was placed on trestles in the church aisle whilst investigations and proposals were made. The doorway was boarded up for about three weeks.

Ian Ridgway and Robert Owen of Felbrigg Forge who also have experience with work on N.T properties, were brought in to assess the hinge problem and to propose solutions. All of the hinges had varying amounts of wear and it was proposed that new brass spacer washers should be made and that the lower hinge which was out of line with the middle and upper hinges should have a new hinge pin welded to the wall bracket in line with the other hinges. This work was carried out and the door was re hung. This hinge re alignment naturally straightened the door meaning it now fitted well and opened and closed smoothly. The existing worn latch was also removed and replaced with a similar design but better fitting replacement fabricated by Felbrigg Forge, making access easier.

Finally work was carried out to the doors by David Bartram by applying an oak cover strip and a seal down the meeting edges of the doors, and rubber strips fixed to the hanging stiles and arched top of both doors. The bottom of the right hand door also had a rubber strip applied and a brush type excluder strip to close the large gap created by years of wear to the stone threshold. A number of holes and splits in the wood planks were filled in, and the inside of the doors were finished with a good quality coating of furniture wax.