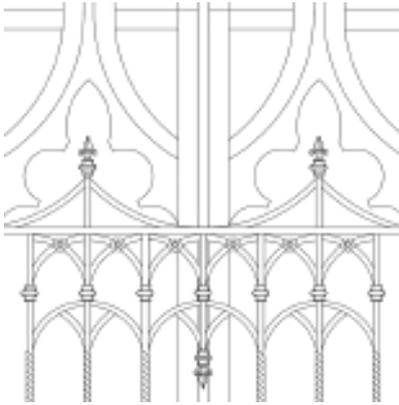


# RENEWAL NEWS

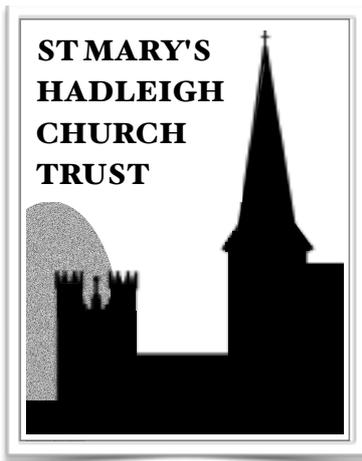
• TREASURING THE PAST • CELEBRATING THE PRESENT • CHALLENGED BY THE FUTURE •

## Security.



In our last Renewal News we illustrated proposed security bars to the sacristy windows. Wow! Thanks to the great response from the people of Hadleigh we now have funding for this set of four window grilles. With Diocesan Advisory Committee approval in place, Felbrigg Forge will be fabricating them for us over the next month or so and we hope to have them in-situ by Christmas.

To explain a bit more about each grille; downstairs in the vestry they have been designed to represent elements from elsewhere in the church and especially reflect the parclose screens at the ends of the chapels. Upstairs the stonework on the north window has graffiti scratched into it, especially initials of choir members from when it was used as a robing room, so these will be preserved. The design within the north grille reflects this period when the choir used the room and also it has a clock face from which the town has taken its time and a bell that all residents have been aware of down the centuries as the hours passed. The bellringers down the years have rung the eight bells that mark occasions and call the faithful to church. The final window, facing the town centre, reflects the industry and agricultural work and the various skills of the town's labourers, traders and artisans throughout the centuries as they went about their work and plied their trades. We look forward to when we shall be able to open the sacristy for you all to view them and other archived memories of past times in St Mary's.



Set up to raise funds for repairs to the fabric of St Mary's through beneficiaries, and donors are the Friends of St Mary's Church.  
<http://fosm-hadleigh.co.uk>  
 Please support their work and fundraising events.  
 New members welcome.

*St Mary's Hadleigh Church Trust.*  
 Registered Charity No. 289784

## 2020

Early in the year Andy Scott prepared a comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the upkeep of the fabric of St Mary's Church and throughout the year churchwarden James Wilding has been following the plan and they have both undertaken many of the smaller tasks that need to be addressed at regular intervals, like rodding out the drains. Some of these tasks in the future will have to be undertaken by contractors but others are well within the remit of practical volunteers and I'm sure the churchwardens would welcome any help in this regard.

The Bellringers stepped forward for one of these tasks; getting together to clean the tower at its various chamber levels right up to the base of the spire. The task was made more onerous as it was evident that it was one that had not been tackled for many

years so we thank them whole heartedly for their industrious work. They deserve to have their Gotch filled to its brim with 32 pints of beer!

## Looking forward.

The move of the office to the deanery tower is underway.

Some work will commence to make good wear and tear of the fabric of the sacristy with its beautiful vaulted ceiling so that it can be decorated and brought back into use as a vestry again. The upper chamber has already been redecorated.

Freeland Rees Roberts Architects

Plans, and specifications for tenders have been prepared for more extensive repairs next year throughout the building. With an estimated cost of around £150,000 we ask that you consider contributing by either contacting the church office or the Friends of St Mary's which was set up for the benefit and upkeep of the building to cover the substantial cost of restorations and repairs.

Leadwork repairs went out to tender in October with work taking place as soon as possible.

Masonry repairs will go out to tender in November with work taking place after frosts have become less of a risk in 2021.

In addition a survey of window glass and consequent repairs will take place once tenders are received.

As you can see our architects are moving ahead with tackling the immediate repairs to the fabric and are also guiding the committee as they make the important decisions regarding the possibility of an extension which would help us provide modern facilities worthy of the 21st century. This would also, with other reordering within the church building, free up spaces and refresh others to recreate a beautiful environment for worship which began here in Hadleigh at the end of the 13th century.

We hope to be able to announce more on this during 2021 and to bring before you all some drawings and illustrations of what is envisaged for the future.

**[www.stmaryshadleigh.co.uk](http://www.stmaryshadleigh.co.uk)**  
Registered Charity No.1140776

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Andy Scott,  
The Very Revd Jo Delfgou  
*Rector & Dean of Bocking.*

