



FRIENDS OF THE PAINTED CHURCH (aka All Saints' All Stars)

All Saints' Church, Jesus Lane,
Cambridge

www.thepaintedchurch.co.uk



Project launched in 2021. Three years later The Painted Church is now an established part of the Cambridge music scene attracting thousands of music lovers annually



Cambridge University Award Winners



Britten Sinfonia return with Opus 1



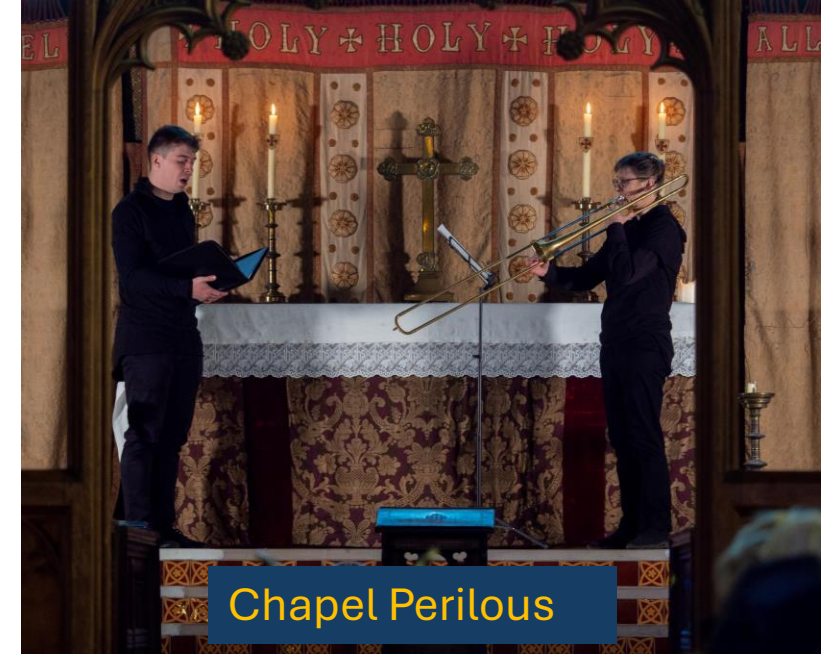
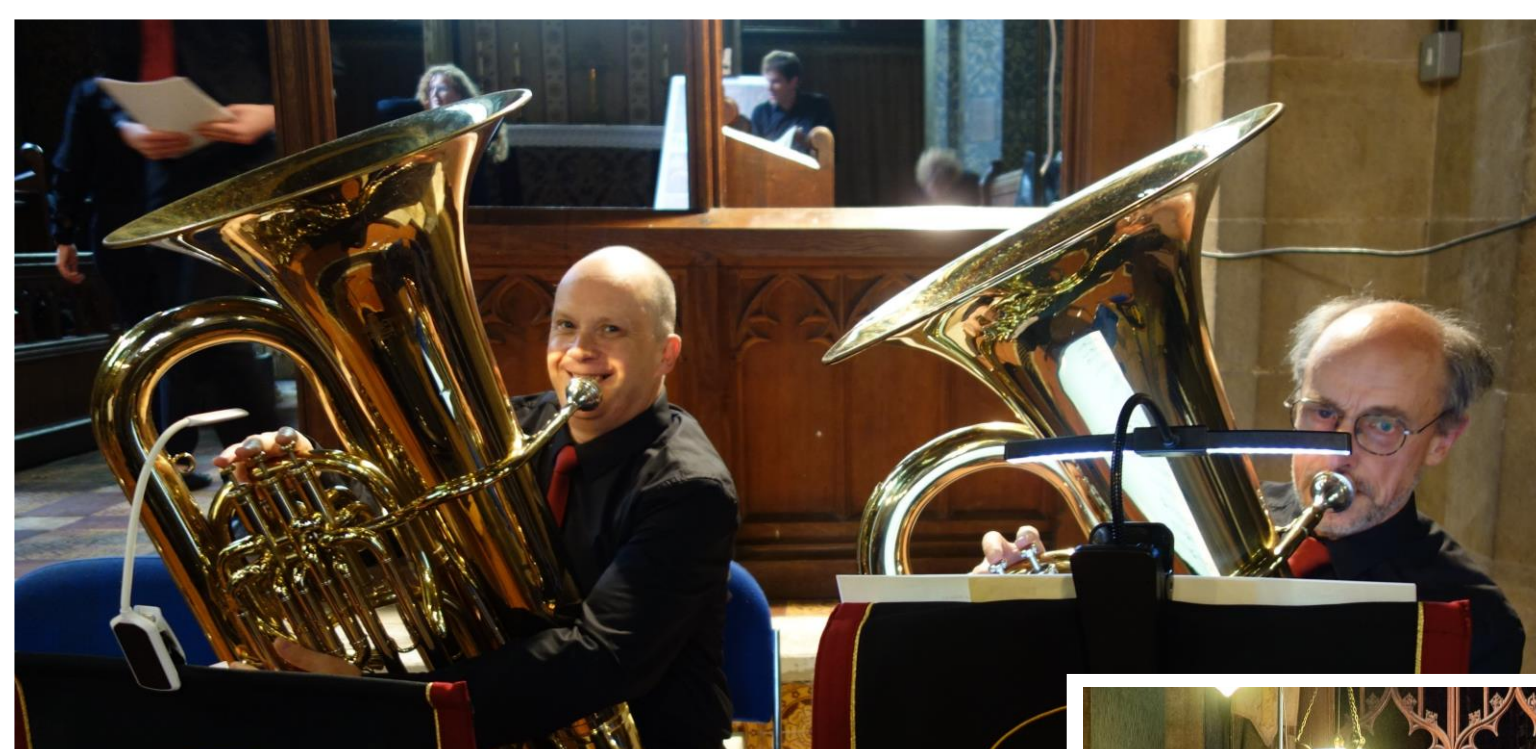
Young musicians are nurtured



Cambridge Early Music Ensemble

Cambridge University Brass Ensemble





Chapel Perilous

July 2023 Jubilation weekend commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the final parish service at All Saints'



Granta Chorale

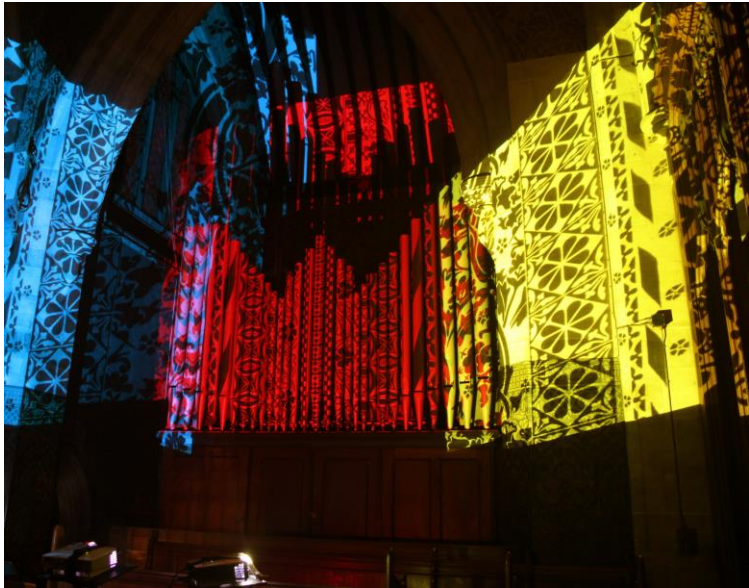
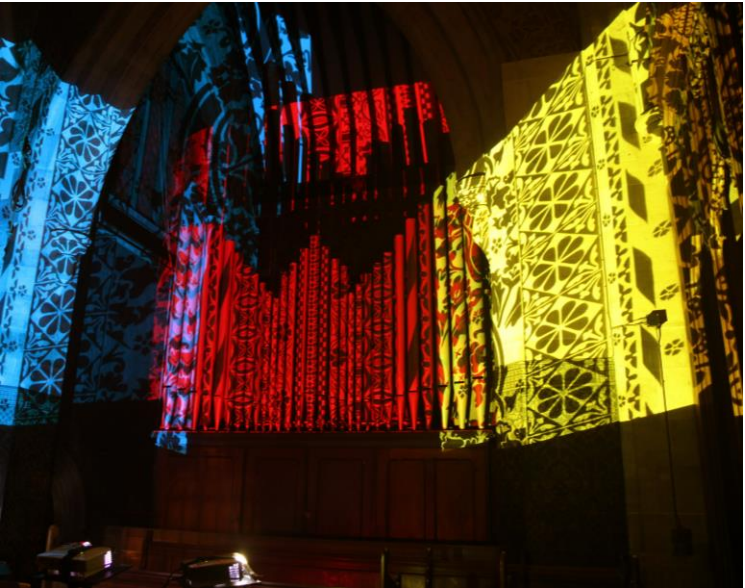
Anne-Marie Grant
Age: 10 y
The Wonder of Nature



Annual art exhibitions



Artist led workshops for local schools





Robert Lloyd Parry with ghostly tales from M R James



Magic with Dr Bondini



Watts & Co celebrate their 150th anniversary at The Painted Church with a dazzling display of liturgical vestments



FOPC engage in Heritage Open Days and have Open Days with informal talks and tours. Customised tours for university departments and group visits are also on offer.

The Friends have tamed the jungle of a border on Jesus Lane





Life has been transformed for the volunteers after raising funds to install inside running water and fencing to secure the grounds.



FOPC are working on phase 1 of textiles conservation by raising £25000



Friends are raising funds to restore this copy of a famous painting, *Christ Breaking Bread* by Carlo Dolci



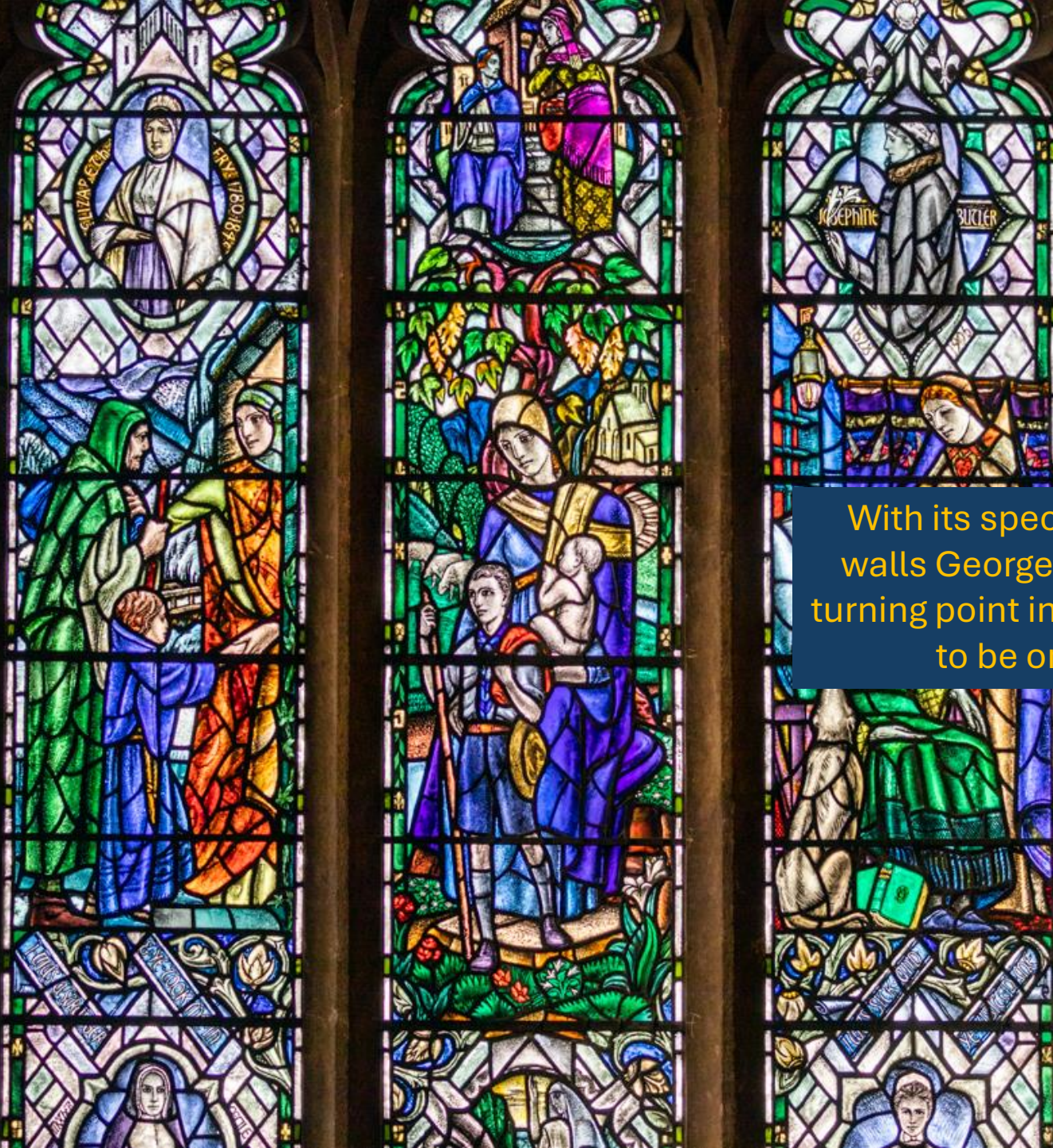
The original hangs in Burghley House. This copy is thought to be by Cambridge-based artist Richard Bankes Harraden, painted around 1820.



All Stars celebrate their Marsh Award for “Impact and Innovation” in 2022. We won a second Marsh Award for our website and digital endeavours in 2023.

**ALL SAINTS'
'ALL STARS'**

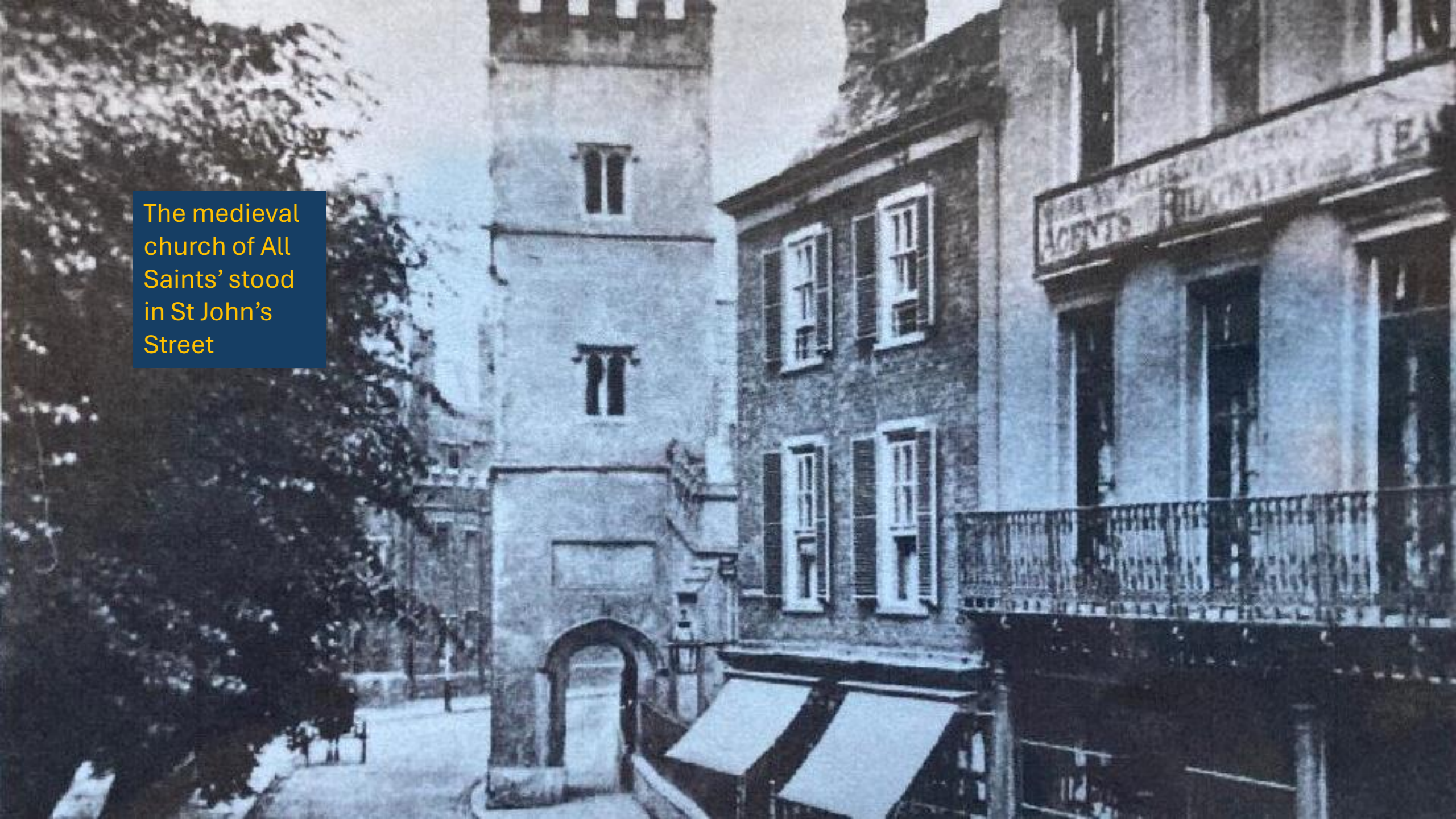
**IN 2023 FRIENDS OF THE PAINTED CHURCH FORMALISED AS A CHARITABLE
UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION**

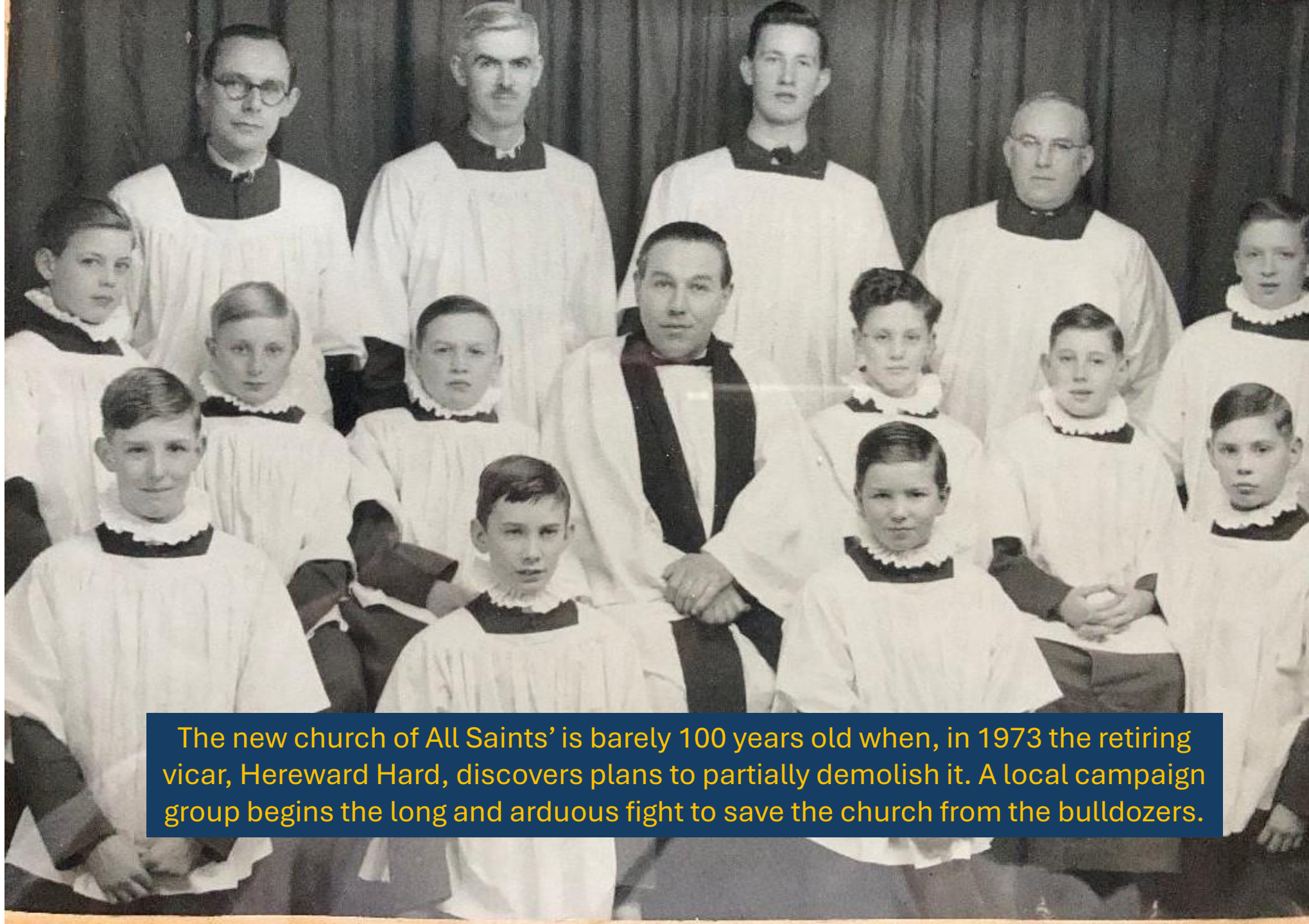


With its spectacular stained glass and highly decorated walls George Frederick Bodley's neo - Gothic church is a turning point in British architecture and considered by many to be one of the finest churches of its period.



The medieval church of All Saints' stood in St John's Street





The new church of All Saints' is barely 100 years old when, in 1973 the retiring vicar, Hereward Hard, discovers plans to partially demolish it. A local campaign group begins the long and arduous fight to save the church from the bulldozers.

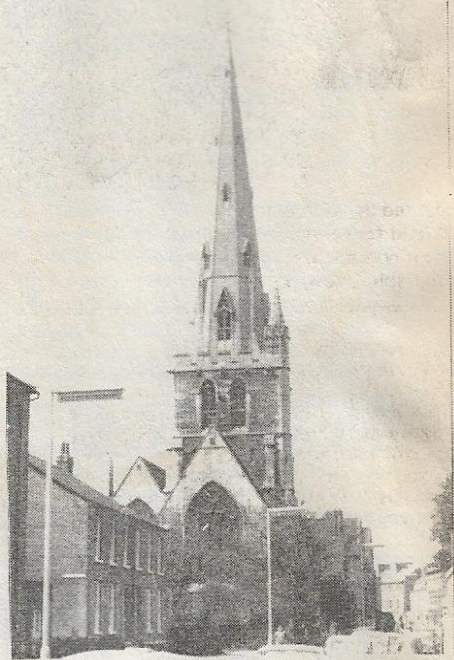
Nooks and Corners

All Saints', Jesus Lane, Cambridge

All Saints' Church in Jesus Lane, Cambridge, has been standing opposite the gates of Jesus College empty and derelict since 1973. When it was put forward for redundancy in 1971, the Council for the Care of Places of Worship put forward a case for its preservation in the strongest terms and emphasised the European importance of the building. Built in 1863-70, All Saints' is a particularly beautiful essay in Late English Gothic by G.F. Bodley. It is important as one of the first 'anti-Victorian' buildings of the 19th century and because of its interior, lavishly decorated with stencilled patterns designed by Bodley and which are often wrongly attributed to William Morris, who did, however, design stained glass in the church.

Owning a masterpiece is obviously an embarrassment to the Diocese of Ely, who have extended the usual 3-year 'waiting period' after redundancy and have now come up with a plan for the church's future. All Saints' has a nave and south aisle of equal size and height; the aisle is to be demolished along with two bays of the nave. The rest of the nave is to be cut up into seminar rooms for Westcott House, the adjacent theological college which, one might have thought, could have found a better use for the building. Even the perfectly serviceable vicarage house is to go; all that will remain unspoiled is the chancel which, with the tower and spire, is to be given to the Redundant Churches Fund – although they were never initially asked if they wanted part of a mutilated building and have yet to consider the matter.

It is very surprising to discover that the architect of this destructive scheme is Peter Foster, the distinguished Surveyor to Westminster Abbey; possibly its crass indifference to the quality of Gothic Revival architecture is due to his partner, Mr Linentani, the son of the Cambridge Professor of Italian. It is also very surprising to learn that the Advisory Board for Redundant Churches have approved of the scheme. Cambridge sources believe that the Diocese knows their scheme is terrible and that it will be thrown out by the planning authorities. Doubtless they can then claim that no alternative use can be found for the useless building and have it down. Certainly it is true that an offer of money by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society to keep All Saints' from further deterioration has been politely ignored.



“Owning a masterpiece is obviously an embarrassment to the Diocese of Ely”

Private Eye 29 February 1980

Private Eye joins the struggle to save the church. The campaigners succeed and All Saints' is vested in the care of the CCT.

All Saints' was in a sorry state when the CCT took it on in 1981





Forty years later the All Stars accept the challenge to attract more visitors to this overlooked treasure. Without these enthusiastic and hardworking individuals, the church would still be locked and inaccessible to the public. Cherish your volunteers!





Works outings are a good thing! We love them...





FOPC Committee aka the Super Stars





“If there is anything we can still learn from William Morris, it must be to recognise excellence, praise it when it is found, and do our best to preserve its finest fruits. All Saints’ is just such a lodestone. Its present state and uncertain future offer a sad reflection not on its creators but on ourselves”. (Professor Stephen Wildman) c.1980