

St George's - Restore: Renew: Rejoice Project - Update 1 - 29th January 2026

Our contractors, B W May of Sittingbourne, have made a good start on the project. The church was 'theirs' from 26th January and in this first week they have removed all the pews for storage, taken out the oak cupboards and moved the millennium tapestry to the south wall, where it is now covered to protect it from dirt and dust. The organ has been 'wrapped up' in a cosy polythene cover, equally to prevent the ingress of dirt and dust. 8am services successfully took place in the Chancel last Sunday and a new electricity supply has been put in place to provide some heating on cold mornings.

There has been a slight hiccup as we wait for a test on suspected asbestos material found under the floor in the south aisle above the boiler room. The font has been removed and put into storage and our archaeology consultants are on stand by for a required viewing of the wooden floor plinths before they are removed for disposal, which we hope can commence this week. Once the Victorian red and black pattern floor tiles have been carefully removed then the excavation of the floor can commence!

The project has so far received a grant of £28,000 from the Benefact Trust.

Richard Stubbings

