

## St George's - Restore: Renew: Rejoice Project - Update 5 - 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

The church floor has now been fully removed down to the required level, and the rubble of this level has been consolidated. Ten old graves have been discovered in all and they have been recorded by our archaeologist. Four old pillar bases have now been unearthed, which relate back to the church before the fire caused by lightning in 1672.

The insulation material to go under the floor has been delivered and this will be laid on a geotextile membrane over the fully protected grave slabs and pillar bases. The old oil burner and heat exchanger have been removed through a hole created in the floor into the boiler room. The hole will now be covered with a new 'beam and block' structure to form a new piece of floor.

Elements of the old medieval church continue to be discovered. Furthermore, the old, probably 13th century, north and west door thresholds have been unearthed. The new underfloor electrical ducting is being installed and the project is running about two weeks ahead of schedule.

Richard Stubbings

New electrical ducting



Boiler room from above



13<sup>th</sup> Century threshold inner west door marked up



13<sup>th</sup> Century threshold inner north door



**A big thank you to those who have already donated. We still need to raise significant funds to complete Phase 1. Please use the following QR code/ link to donate. No amount is too small; every donation helps Benenden achieve the vision of a community hub and place of worship fit for the 21st Century. Please encourage family and friends to get involved too.**



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