

Report on the Fabric and Reordering of the Church (David Ricks)

The basic fabric of St. Peter's Church is sound. As might be expected with a building of this age, maintenance is ongoing.

- Presently, an assessment is being undertaken to correct wetness in the east wall of the south aisle. It is believed that a repair of the water drains from the roof and some repointing will be required.
- Security lighting has been greatly improved through the extension of our existing roof-level lighting, especially on the darker west and north sides of the building.
- Routine repairs and maintenance continue to be carried on by our faithful doughnut-eating DIY team each Tuesday.

Turning to the reordering process:

- The reordering project was slowed after the discovery of high burial vaults under the pews. This made it necessary to redesign the sub-floor structure. This has now been completed, and services are currently held quite satisfactorily in the west end of the church.
- The new toilet block is coming along well with an accessible WC at church floor level (with beautiful stonework), and the servery floor area now complete, ready for the new cabinets and food preparation equipment to be installed.
- The preparation of the baptistry floor by the screen to the Greenway Chapel has been completed, and the font has been moved to its new location.
- Four rows of pews have now been removed as the first step in creating a dais for a new nave altar. No issues were encountered below the floor. The dais is expected to accommodate a choir of up to 100 and an orchestra of 30. We have already booked a concert for November with the Devon Baroque Orchestra and have strong interest from the East Devon Choral Society.
- The final step in the reordering will be centred on the women's vestry / Newte Library, creating a mezzanine level for the Library and a small meeting room on the ground level that will continue to be women's choir vesting area.
- Completion of the reordering project is expected to be during the month of June for the body of the church, while the library project will extend a little longer.