

## The Friends of St. Mary's Church

### Stoke by Nayland

#### Trustees annual report for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

##### Chairman's Report

The year from end March 2021 to end March 2022 remained testing due to problems caused by the continuation of the Covid 19 pandemic and the effect this has had on fund raising. However, as we moved through 2021, restrictions were relaxed and we were able to hold a very enjoyable and successful Golf Day at Hintlesham Hall Golf Club. This raised a very welcome net sum of just under £3,000 for the Friends.

The Friends continue to manage and pay for the maintenance of the church yard, which cost £4,615 for the year. We also covered the cost of the preliminary architect's report for the damage to the South Wall. The Friends have pledged £40,000 towards the Restoration Fund which has been set up by St. Mary's PCC to cover the cost of repairs caused by the collapse of part of the South Wall of the Church. The latest estimate of costs for the repair work is now £263,000 so the fund remains open.

So far over £200,000 has been raised towards this target, which is amazing as the Fund was only launched in August 2021. I am very grateful to the hard work of the PCC's small committee set up to help raise these funds: Dr. Angela Colclough, Richard Channon and Dr. Martin Owen.

Looking ahead the PCC have agreed that the Suffolk Pipe Organ Company should carry out the one outstanding repair to the Organ, fitting a Harmonic Bass 32 foot Stop to the Pedal section, at a cost of just under £2000 and the Friends have agreed to meet that cost.

Many thanks as always to our Patrons and my co-Trustees for their continuing support which is greatly appreciated.

Andrew Norman-Butler

Chairman of the Trustees.