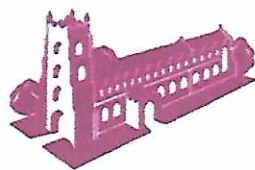


## THE FRIENDS REVIEW

The newsletter of The Friends of  
St Mary's Church, Stoke by  
Nayland, Suffolk.

Spring 2023 | Number 25

Registered Charity Number: 1070557



The Friends of  
**ST MARY'S CHURCH**  
Stoke by Nayland

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S!

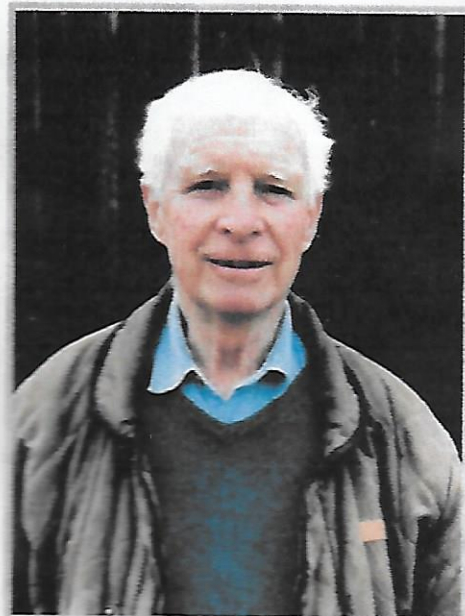
### Welcome to the 25<sup>th</sup> newsletter of The Friends of St. Mary's Church, Stoke by Nayland.

The year 2023/24 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the inauguration of the Friends in November 1998, under the Chairmanship of the late-lamented Geoffrey Mieville.

Plans are afoot to mark this occasion with various fund-raising events such as a golf day at Hintlesham Hall golf club, a quiz and a talk in the church later on in the year. Further details will be available in due course.

There were two items of expenditure during 2021/22:

1. The completion of the installation of a 32 foot pedals stop for the organ. The work was carried out by Tim Artiss of the Suffolk Pipe Organ Company assisted by Jeremy Prentice of St. John's Church, Felixstowe. The total cost came to £1468 against which we received a £300 grant which was greatly appreciated (photo overleaf);



2. The maintenance, repair, new bulbs and installation of two Monza Inox Stainless Steel bollards at the recreation ground end of the path from the north porch of the church. The work was carried out by RM Wilks Ltd at a cost of £3556. Within one week of installation the lights were vandalised! Thankfully, Robbie Wilks kindly restored them at no extra cost and has hopefully made them almost vandal proof. We shall see!

Our financial situation remains in good order. As at 31/03/23 our net asset value stood at £84, 231.13. This compares with a figure of £90,529 at 31/03/22 and £78,846 at 31/03/21. However, this includes the £60,000 pledged to the St. Mary's Church Restoration Fund for repairs to the south wall of the church and additional damage exposed to the chancel roof and parapets. The original estimate of the cost of repairs to the South Wall damage was £150,000. This has now increased to £568,000 (which includes £17,515 for the cost of repairing the cracks which have appeared in the two buttresses at the west end of the Church). Against this we have so far raised £466,000 which is a great effort by all those involved. The PCC have been in intensive talks with Historic England to see if they would bridge the gap. I am pleased to say that we have just heard they have agreed to provide the church with a substantial grant which should cover this gap, excluding the repairs to the buttresses.

*Continued overleaf*