

THE LATEST ON THE FLOOR PROJECT

1 SITE PROGRESS

I last provided a report in the Parish Newsletter on the progress with the floor in the middle of March when Cliveden had just begun their onsite operations. At that point the carpets had been lifted and the screen around the porch removed.

Since then there has been a lot of progress. The tiles throughout the nave have all been lifted and the majority taken to Cliveden's workshops for cleaning, and the packed rubble under the tiles has been dug out and disposed of to a depth of about a foot in readiness for a new heat retaining substrate to be added prior to laying the restored and new tiles. The floor now looks like this.



Some interesting but unforeseen discoveries have arisen during the process!

You will know that in the North aisle there were two decorative iron grills which were part of the Victorian warm air heating system. What was found in digging up the floor was that there was a third grill at the front of the central aisle which had been filled in a long time ago, although we have no record of when. Needless to say this particular grill will not be re-instated.

In taking up the floor brick-domed tunnels were revealed through which the warm air was channelled to the grills. The tops of these domes have had to be shaved off to give the new floor sufficient stable depth.

The 1857 gas pipes which led to the gas lighting in the nave were still there, even though they had not been used since 1904 when electric lighting was installed. Nevertheless, Cliveden required re-assurance that they were not 'live' now.

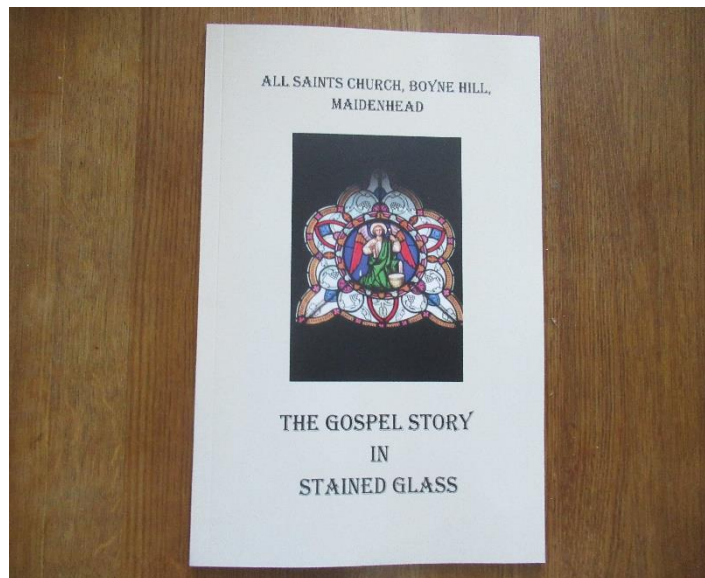
And asbestos was discovered running over the top of the heating duct which runs underground between the North and South sides of the church. Work had to be halted whilst this was safely removed by a specialist company.

It looks like all these unforeseen may have added about a month to the programme and we are now expecting Cliveden to return the church to us on 15 September.

2 THE GOSPEL STORY IN STAINED GLASS

As a further fund-raiser for the floor project I have created a pictorial record of ALL the stained glass windows in the church, including the angels in the cerestory windows and a record of the original windows that were installed by Street prior to their being replaced by the St Augustine window and the Annunciation window. The book consists of 48 A4 pages on semi-gloss stiff paper, most photos are page-size and all are accompanied by an appropriate biblical text. This is the only pictorial record of the windows that exists and only 100 copies have been printed.

The front cover is shown in the accompanying photo.



Each copy is £10 and as the cost of production has been met by Citygate Automotive every sale will go towards the floor fund.

Sue Stannett has kindly offered to manage the sales so if you would like to purchase a copy of "The Gospel Story in Stained Glass", then please send an email to sastannett@gmail.com with the following information:

1. How many copies you would like to order.
2. How you would prefer to make payment, i.e. Bank Transfer, Cash or Cheque.
3. Whether you would like to collect the book or have it delivered. The collection times will be Sunday after 9.30am service, after 11.00am service or on a Tuesday afternoon, by arrangement, from the Church Vestry Door.
4. If you are without email, perhaps you could ask a friend or neighbour to request one on your behalf?

3 FUNDING FOR THE FLOOR PROJECT

Since the last appeal, where the funds raised and pledged, came to approx. £30,000 less than the anticipated costs we have had a good response from our congregation to help reduce this deficit, for which many thanks are due,

As with all projects of this nature unforeseen costs often arise, we have been met with extra costs to re-lay pipework that was exposed under the floor along with dealing with asbestos, along with a few other items. It is difficult at the moment to fully quantify the expected costs, along with the built in contingency and other changes being made.

Overall the shortfall now appears to be in the Region of £20,000, or slightly above.

If anyone is able to make a donation towards this shortfall, or increase, or extend their pledged standing order, it will be greatly appreciated and of much assistance.

We are also continuing to seek funding from external sources and, as an example, have recently been awarded a grant of £3,000 from the Sabina Sutherland Trust.

Information on how to give and bank details are on the website (second page) at:-

https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/files/7516/1197/0099/Floor_Restoration_Update_with_Financial_Implications_28_01_2021.pdf

If you need any further information please do contact Sue or Rod.

Thank you.

Ken, Sue and Rod