

A HISTORY OF ST ANDREW'S IN 100 OBJECTS



19.

The Smedley window

Date: 1873

This window was commissioned by Edward Arthur Smedley who was vicar between 1836 and 1873. Partly in memory of his own father, James, the three sections of the window concern Adam (father of humankind), Abraham (father of faith) and Jacob (father of all Israel). The scenes convey both the dignity and beauty with which we are endowed by our Creator and also the flawed human nature that leads to estrangement from both God and our fellow humans. The touching scene of father-son reconciliation in the bottom right hand scene is preceded by the themes of sin and sacrifice that are to its left.

The window was designed by Gilbert Scott, son of the great Victorian architect and father of the 20th century architect who designed the red telephone box and Cambridge University Library.