

# Access for All

St Andrew's seeks to be a welcoming church community.

- We run the Monday coffee morning and the Thursday Church Mice Toddler group in the Hall
- We contribute to *Chesterton News* and organise its distribution around the parish
- We helped to pioneer the *Chesterton Festival* and play a key part in its organisation.
- We organise concerts and other social & community events.

We also care for this lovely parish church—not just for the use of regular worshippers, but for the many who mark significant moments here (christenings, weddings and funerals) and for the significant number of visitors who pop in to St Andrew's to enjoy a quiet and prayerful space. Here are just a handful of the comments in our visitors' book:

*'A place to catch a few moments from everyday madness... Allowed myself to find that moment of peace and togetherness.'*

*'Thank you for leaving the church open for children to play—it's serenity and stories without imposition.'*

*'Was christened here when I was 6—in 1935.'*

*'I like to come daily.'*

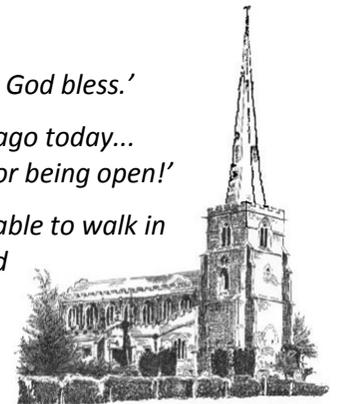
*'Nice to come and visit God.'*

*'Been released from prison. THANK YOU. God bless.'*

*'We were married in this church 60 years ago today... A happy memory in a happy life. Thank you for being open!'*

*'I have reached a big low in my life and to be able to walk in and talk to the Lord in a quiet and peaceful and beautiful church is fantastic.'*

*'A Haven in a sometimes absurd world.'*



One group of visitors who find visiting St Andrew's difficult are those in wheelchairs and we have spent a number of years working on a way that they can have access to our church without needing assistance or experiencing a bumpy ride. We have consulted widely—including with English Heritage (a requirement as we are a Grade 1 listed building) - and our architect has produced a scheme that incorporates a gentle ramp. To fit this in, we will be replacing the inner porch with one half its depth.

You will see from the plan that an added advantage of this scheme is that the new porch—unlike the old one—will not cut into the view of the recently restored west window as you look down the north aisle. To improve that view further—and to provide extra storage—we are reconfiguring and augmenting the cupboards beneath the window (see the plan below).

- Having a push button switch to open the door in the new porch (for disabled users).
- Removing the threshold step at the entrance to the outer porch and introducing a new drain to take away rainwater.
- Installing new cupboards on the west wall to incorporate the current electrical cupboard.
- Repainting the outer gates and light fitting.

The cost of the project will be

£50,000

*Can you help?*

Donations can be made:

- By cheque to St Andrew's Chesterton PCC (Development), c/o St Andrew's Vicarage, 10 Lynfield Lane, Cambridge CB4 1DR. If you are a taxpayer please sign the GiftAid declaration below:

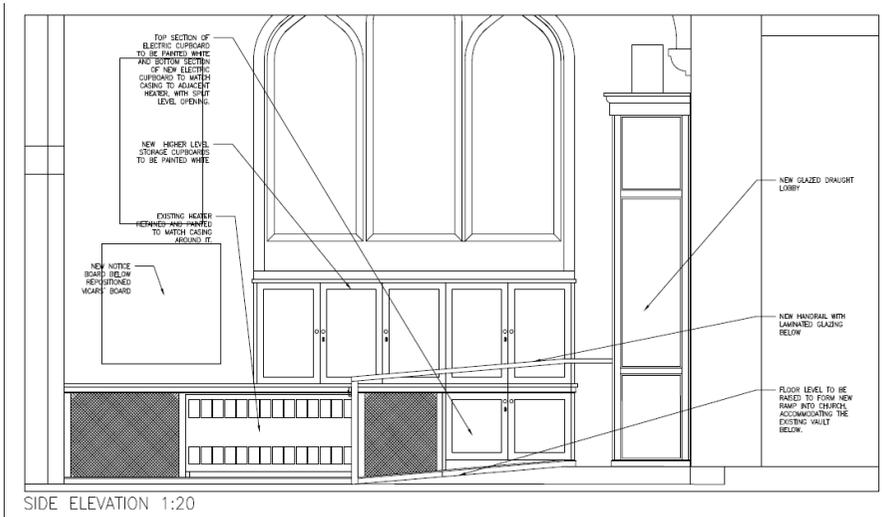
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Please treat the enclosed gift of £..... as a Gift Aid donation.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Signed..... Name .....

Address.....

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In summary, the project involves:

- Installing a new permanent ramp inside the church.
- Installing a new glazed, timber-framed porch that will be half the depth of the existing one.
- Swapping over the north and south entrance doors so that the door in the north porch divides and opens in the middle.