**St Andrew’s Church, Wickhampton**

**Fabric Officer Report: April 2025**

The damp behind the pulpit has resulted from a blocked downpipe during the wet weather. Now that the source of the problem has been identified, we will treat the area and repaint.

I have just had the gutters surveyed by my gutter cleaners, and they report that all are currently clear. They have agreed to camera survey the church gutters whenever we require, free of charge. Now that we are aware of this area, it will be monitored.

The mortar repairs between the walls and buttresses at the east end of the Chancel indicate no further significant movement, but the permanent repairs to this area remain a priority. This is in addition to the concerns identified in the 2018 Quinquennial report, namely the erosion of the Tower flint work joints and stonework, and the need to repair and repoint the cracks in the Tower upper walls.

The church has two new noticeboards in the porch, generously donated by Bob Ottaway.

The conservation area in the churchyard will be moved from the south side of the church - where the grass is far too lush and difficult to manage - to the front two sections in front of the west door. This area had a good covering of wildflowers last year, and will be cut in time for Teddy Bear Parachute Day in August 2025.

We still await the latest Quinquennial report, but this is promised sometime later this month.

David Brown

**Fabric Officer**

April 2025