

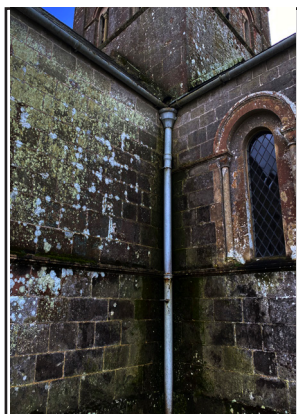
CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ENMORE GREEN

APPEAL



Not exactly falling down but climate change, with its increasingly frequent and heavy rainfall, has taken its toll on St. John's. The old Victorian guttering and hoppers can no longer keep up, allowing water to seep into the building and causing damage to the masonry and plaster. While opening the windows could help with ventilation – they don't! All require restoration work and cord replacement.



Damp resulting from the repeated overflow from the Victorian gutters and hoppers has penetrated the stone causing plaster on the walls inside the church to disintegrate and fall off, sometimes in large chunks.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?



Wall to the right of the altar



Ceiling and wall of the vestry

- **Roof and gutter repairs:** Scaffolding is needed to replace or repair approximately 60 roof tiles and fix the Victorian guttering.
- **Window restoration:** All windows need repair, including replacing cords and addressing exterior and interior issues.
- **Internal repairs:** Once the building is watertight, we'll focus on plastering and redecorating the interior.
- The total estimated cost is **£60,000 + VAT** (although like any estimates this could rise).

WHY DOES ST JOHN'S MATTER?

For over 180 years, St. John's has been and continues to be the focus of family events – Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. With its comfortable and flexible seating, kitchen, WC and wheelchair ramp St. John's has been used for sacred and secular events over the years, including plays, recitals and small wedding receptions. Visiting artists have always praised the acoustics within.

The church is open every day to the community and visitors alike, offering a peaceful space for anyone seeking a quiet moment. Residents of Enmore Green are entitled to be buried in the Churchyard, with or without a service – not actually a USP we agree. Unlike many churches today, there is an Act of Worship every Sunday at 11.15am.

The churchyard is a haven for small animals. To protect them, we have a policy of no artificial plants or flowers. Whether we have any resident wildlife inside the building will be discovered via a BAT survey which we must undertake before any maintenance work can be done.

ST JOHN'S IS VERY MUCH ALIVE TODAY!

But the church receives no financial support from the Church of England as a whole.

Can You Help? Yes, You Can!

Even if you've moved away, you can still play a part. Maybe you or your family have a connection to Enmore Green - perhaps you attended the village school, visited the Fountain Inn, or simply remember St. John's as part of your childhood

We're calling on:

Our church members

Friends of St. John's (website www.enmoregreencommunity.com)

The Enmore Green community

Local trusts and businesses

Major trusts supporting church restoration

Our great hope is that we can come together as a community to ensure that St. John's continues to be a beacon of hope, history, and togetherness for generations to come.

THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR STORY

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS

Whether it's sharing this appeal with family and friends or making a donation, your support can make a huge difference.

Ways to Donate

- **Scan the QR code** for St. John's Enmore Green.
- **Bank transfer:**
 - Account Name: Enmore Green Church Restricted Funds
 - Sort Code: 30-93-45
 - Account No: 01127439
- **Cheque or cash:** Deliver to our Treasurer, Sue Hardiman, Southlyn, Waverling Lane West, Gillingham SP8 4NR. Sue can provide you with a Gift Aid form which, if you are a UK tax payer, will increase your donation by 25%.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jo Churchill, Deputy Church Warden, at jo.churchill@enmoregreen.co.uk or call **01747 850432**.