

Shrine of St Augustine and National Pugin Centre



Annual Report
2021/2022



Message from the Rector of the Shrine

As mentioned before, we are emerging from the Rip Van Winkle effect of the Plague year! Along with the rest of the world we struggle to recover! I am most grateful to Andrew Kelly our Director, Fr Simon Heans, our Chaplain and Anthony Jinks our Caretaker/Sacristan who keep the Shrine operating on a daily basis. Visitors and volunteers are needed and necessary for our continued survival. We are indebted to so many of you for your support and this winter we sadly lost Lady Edwina Steed a great supporter of the restoration of The Shrine from the beginning. Our hearts go out to her family and husband. They were married here 55 years ago. We give thanks for her and so many of you who have raised this magnificent Church from death's door to New Life!

Fr Christopher Basden
Rector of the Shrine



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Introduction

The past 18 months have been a period of intense activity at St Augustine's after the trials of lockdown. Our main focus has been on the Roof Renovation Project which has seen the renewal of five of our roofs and restoration work in St John's chapel. The North Cloister roof, in particular, was in a parlous state with tiles falling onto the pavement outside. Thankfully this is now all behind us thanks to a £272k grant from the Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales (ultimately a Covid Recovery Grant from Historic England) and £68k which we managed to raise in match funding (see the finance report for details). Thanks is due to all our generous donors and to the Archdiocese of Southwark which supported us throughout, not least by acting as our guarantor.

We have also been busy welcoming visitors. Group and organised pilgrimage numbers are back up to previous levels (see the "Year of Activity and Progress") and we had well attended St Augustine's and Pugin Week activities. Individual visitor numbers are running at 4.5k which is about half what they were before Covid. However, by improving the quality of our tours we have managed to keep donations at a healthy level.

One of the strengths of St Augustine's is the variety of groups that love and support it. This includes the Old Augustinian's (who have donated their school archive to us), the Latin Mass Society, the Ordinariate, Pugin Society, Choral Scholars and Pilgrims as well as the parishioners who form the backbone of our volunteers. Local schools and students are also frequent visitors.

2021 was the 10th Anniversary of St Augustine's as a Shrine. Archbishop John Wilson celebrated Mass with us on the 12th October. Old boy, Alastair Stewart delivered one of the readings and the Mayor, Raushan Ara and other dignitaries joined us for a very joyous occasion. Many people who attended said it was just like the old days!

None of this activity would be possible without our wonderful volunteers who keep the Shrine open on a daily basis. Special mention should go to Artur, for preparing the throne for the Archbishop and Jim, who generously gilded the tabernacle at no charge. Since Covid we are somewhat reduced in number so could always do with help; in particular, if anyone has the enthusiasm to take on a management role that would help enormously. We need help with the shop, book-keeping, event organising, pilgrimages, schools and the web.

So, what does the future hold? Well, the next step in our renovation program will be a quinquennial survey to determine priorities. As usual we will be holding busy St Augustine's and Pugin Weeks including the return of the Blessing of the Sea on Saturday 27th May at 2pm (keep an eye on the website for details). 2023 also promises to be a bumper year for pilgrimage. Why not join us?

Andrew Kelly—Visitor Centre Manager

A Year of Progress and Activity

2021

SEPTEMBER

- 1st Tour of St Augustine's for Augustine Camino pilgrims
- 8th Pugin lecture 2021 – Gerald Hyland on Edward Pugin
- 11-17th A Creative pilgrimage Art Exhibition at St Augustine's
- 11th Pilgrimage-walk from Canterbury
- 11th Friends of Kent Churches Ride and Stride
- 12th Guided walk through Pugin's town
- 14th Pugin Anniversary Mass
- 18th Kid's discovery trail and guided tours
- 17 20th Heritage Open Days
- 30th Tour for group from Churches Conservation Trust



OCTOBER

- 1st Contract signed for £168,627 grant from Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales for Roof Renovation Project
- 2nd Volunteers coffee morning and introduction to new Centre Manager
- 12th New tower scaffold purchased for working at height
- 14th First committee meeting for Roof Project – monthly reporting to Bishop's Conference starts
- 18th Visit to Ramsgate of Diocesan committee regarding support for Roof Project
- 20th Historic Churches Trust inspection to gain faculty (planning permission) for project
- 25th Tender documents sent to building contractors
- 28th Meeting with Diocesan fundraising team regarding how to raise £27k in match funding



NOVEMBER

- 1st Roof Project Committee meeting
- 1st Sung Latin Mass-All Souls
- 5th Visit of diocesan property team
- 6th Scaffolding erected in churchyard for urgent repairs to Chartham Terrace roof
- 13th Old Augustinians Remembrance Service
- 15th Roof Project Committee meeting – planning permission received – four building contractors bidding for work – grant application to National Lottery – donate button added to website
- 15th Orthodox pilgrims visit
- 18th Tour for Small Haven School



A Year of Progress and Activity

DECEMBER

- 6th Roof Project Committee meeting– Colman's appointed building contractor for project – all bids over budget so an additional £100k grant requested from the Bishop's Conference
- 7th Tour Guide training
- 8th Visit Kent networking day
- 8th Latin sung Mass -Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 9th Workshop with Marcel Perez on old Roman chant
- 15th Volunteers Christmas do
- 16th Scaffolding begins to be erected
- 17th Tour for Catholic Men's Walking Group
- 18th Carol Concert
- 24th Sung Latin Midnight Mass
- 25th Sung Latin Dawn Mass



2022

JANUARY

- 11th Project committee meeting - £15k raised in donations - £100k additional grant approved from Bishop's Conference (match funding target now £68k)
- 18th Tour for University of Kent Architectural students



FEBRUARY

- 1st Donation of Pugin chairs from V&A
- 2nd American film crew at St Augustine's
Sung Latin Mass-Candlemas
- 4th Project committee meeting - £10k grant from National Lottery Community Fund – work on schedule
- 7th Tour for Chatham and Clarendon chaplaincy group
- 23rd Work starts on renovating St John's



MARCH

- 3rd New Pugin design produce for shop – accused on Twitter of selling "Putin Biscuits"!
- 14th Walking pilgrims welcomed at St Augustine's
- 19th St Joseph's Day pilgrimage – all day
- 23rd Educational trip to William Morris Gallery
- 24th Tour for visit of Small Haven School
- 25th Sung Latin Mass—Feast of The Annunciation



A Year of Progress and Activity

APRIL

- 1st-3rd Sung Latin Mass—Easter Triduum
- 14th Kick off meeting for Heritage Open Days 2022
- 27th Architect site visit – project on track – 80% of project completed by end of March – awaiting specialist roof tiles for completion
- 29th Tour for visiting group

MAY

- 2nd Tour of St Augustine's for language students
- 6th- 8th Ensemble Organum choral workshop with Marcel Peres
- 13th Sung Latin Mass—Feast of the Ascension
- 14th Pilgrimage Day with Bostall Heath confirmation candidates
- 21st Tour for group from Radical Ramsgate
- 23rd Location, Location, Location drone filming at St Augustine's
- 28th Sung Latin Mass for Feast of St Augustine



JUNE

- 1st St Augustine's Choir concert and readings telling the story of St Augustine
- 2nd Talk by Dr Mike Bintley "Legacies of Rome in Anglo-Saxon England"
- 3rd-4th Extended opening and tours for Queen's Jubilee weekend
- 3rd Sung Latin Mass—Corpus Christi
- 4th £10k grant from Benefact Trust
- 4th Chartres pilgrims attend early Mass before setting off for Aylesford
- 8th Tour for pilgrim group
- 10th-13th Grange Open Days with extended opening and tours
- 11th Pilgrimage group from St Bede's Clapham Park
- 19th Corpus Christi procession followed by reception at the Divine Retreat Centre
- 23rd Survey of our bell
- 24th Committee meeting
- 30th Final reporting deadline for Roof Project – further £10k in individual donations



JULY

- 2nd Ecumenical prayer meeting
- 7th Tour for Christ the King 6th form
- 13th Pugin Society visit to St Augustine's with tour
- 15th Tour for pilgrims
- 26th £4k individual donation brings us close to our £68k match funding target
- 31st Pilgrimage by Marian Franciscans



AUGUST

- 15th Sung Latin Mass—Feast of the Assumption
- 21st Tour for Radical Ramsgate
- 22nd Tour for "All In One" coach group
- 25th Tour for the Friends of Hereford Cathedral
- 29th Final £4k individual donation - we have reached our match funding target of £68k



A Year of Progress and Activity

SEPTEMBER

- 1st Tour for walking pilgrims
- 9th Tour for walking pilgrims
- 10th Kent Churches Ride and Stride
- 12th Presentation by Paul Sharrock our architect on
Renovating St Augustine's
- 13th Guided walk from Minster to Ramsgate
- 14th Pugin Mass – Pugin Anniversary Concert – Faure Requiem
- 15th Annual Review open meeting
- 16th Extended opening for Grange Open Day
- 17th Tile making with Ceramic Art Dover for Heritage Open Days
"Astounding Inventions"
- 26th Tour for Year 6 St Ethelbert's



OCTOBER

- 3rd Tour for Year 5 St Ethelbert's
- 5th Tour for Hungarian language students
- 12th Tour for German language students
- 12th Sung Latin Mass and reception with Archbishop
John Wilson for 10th Anniversary of the Shrine
- 13th Tour for Foreland Fields school
- 19th Tour for walking pilgrims
- 22nd Nigerian pilgrimage group at St Augustine's
- 29th Tour for women's walking group



NOVEMBER

- 1st Sung Latin Mass—All Saints
- 3rd Shrine committee meeting
- 5th Visit of Confirmation group from St Bede's Clapham Park
- 7th Tour for visiting group from Bruderhof community
- 12th Old Augustinian's Remembrance Mass – hand over of school
archive
- 13th Blessing of the Graves
- 23rd British Pilgrimage Trust meeting London
- 25th Tour for Columbian language students



DECEMBER

- 8th Sung Latin Mass—Feast of Immaculate Conception
- 10th Carols by Candlelight
- 24th Latin Sung Midnight Mass
- 25th Latin Sung Dawn Mass



From a finance point of view 2022 was dominated by the Roof Renovation Project. We were set a match funding target of £68k to add to the £272k we had been granted by the Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales (ultimately from the Historic England, Culture Recovery Grant). We reached our target through a mixture of grants (£10k from the Lottery Community Fund, £10k from the Benefact Trust), individual donations (£33,869) and our own funds (£15k). Note £13,450 of this was raised in 2021. This was an incredibly encouraging result showing the breadth of support for St Augustine's. Thanks to all our generous benefactors.

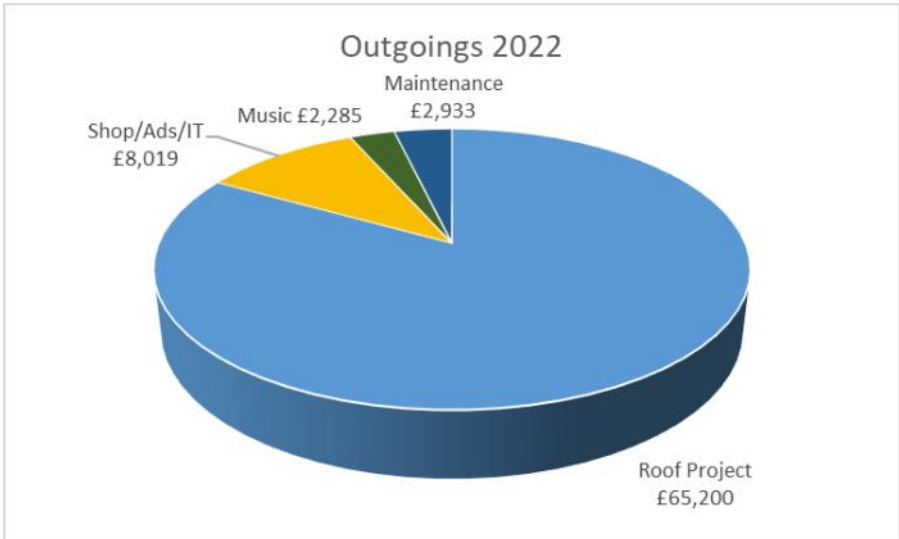
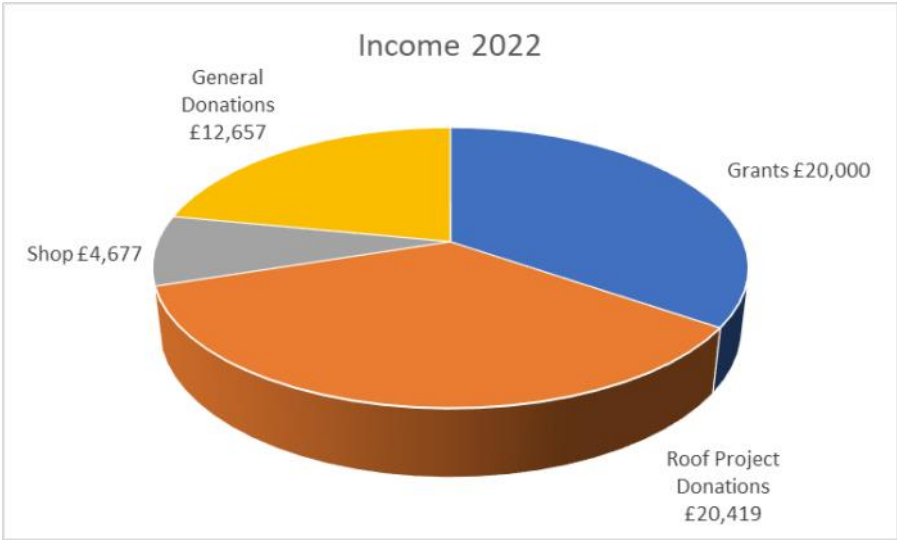
2022 also saw the development of our shop. Neal Smith, one of our volunteers, organised the production of biscuits and confectionary in Pugin design boxes. These have been a great success and are making a material difference to our finances. Neal is moving away and will be missed.

Also in 2022, we completed the purchase of music for the choir and a set of hymn books. Sadly Ben, our Director of Music, is also leaving. He has been a core part of the community at St Augustine's and will be hard to replace. We wish him luck in his new role in Canterbury.

Finally, there was the more bread and butter side of the operation. We replaced the two decrepit laptops in the office and bought a

scaffold tower which has allowed us to do basic maintenance tasks at height.

Overall the shrine finances are in good shape with a current balance of £25k compared to £30k before the project. We propose to conduct a quinquennial survey to determine priorities for next steps.



Pugin and St Augustine's Weeks

During our two special weeks commemorating St Augustine and Pugin we strive to have a variety of activities to appeal to a broad range of visitors. Here are some of the events we put on during 2021 and 2022:-



Pugin Week 2021 saw a talk by Dr Gerard Highland on Edward Pugin, a Pugin walk through Ramsgate led by Catriona Blaker, an art exhibition based on the Augustine Camino and a kid's discovery trail.



St Augustine's Week 2022 included a concert by our choir telling the story of St Augustine's mission "Non Angli Sed Angli", a talk by Dr Mike Bintley on "Legacies of Rome in Anglo Saxon England" and extended opening for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.



Pugin and St Augustine's Weeks

Pugin Week 2022 included a talk on the recent Roof Renovation Project by Paul Sharrock, a guided walk from Minster, a Pugin Anniversary concert of the Faure Requiem and the opportunity to make Pugin inspired tiles in the Garth.



Ramsgate St Augustine's: Repairs in 2023

As we all seek to recover from the trauma that was the COVID Pandemic, and indeed to remember those lost years, we can look back at some unexpected silver linings.

At St Augustine's one such lining appeared in the form of the COVID Recovery grant programme which made grants available, under tight and competitive conditions for projects where, in our case, historic buildings had been affected by COVID restrictions.

Grants are the lifeblood of securing our historic buildings where the cost of maintaining these venerable structures is beyond the means of the worshipping congregation and supporters. However, they are very competitive and often released at short notice with various strings attached. The Recovery grant stream was no exception.

The Catholic church centrally was quick to see the possibilities across the country and aided by Andrew Kelly at St Augustine's a successful application was made for the most urgent repairs at Ramsgate. However, the string to the grant, which on occasion felt more like a noose, was that having given the grant in November 2022, the bulk of the monies had to be spent by the end of March 2023. Contractors and specialists were in great demand. We were fortunate in having Colman Construction on board- they had built the Visitor Centre.

As ever, St Augustine's revealed more secrets as we addressed problems with the roofs over the St John's Chapel and the Bell Tower.

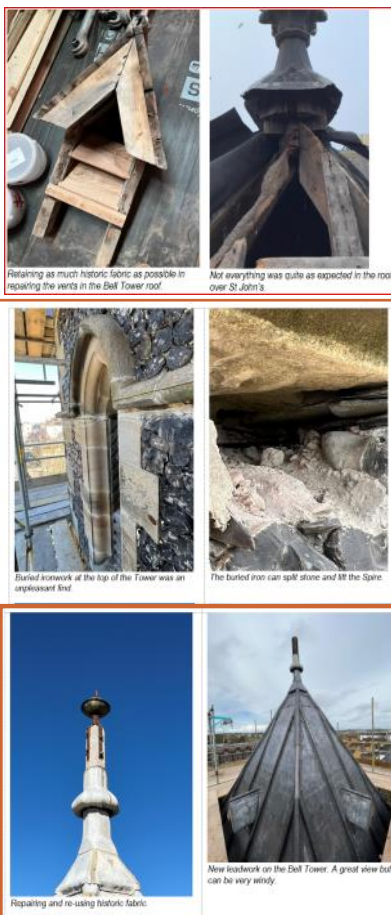
It was not only an opportunity to address vital repairs but also to carry out conservation cleaning to St John's Chapel and to find the earlier colour schemes which are now on

show. The work of Tom Organ and his team of conservators have made a real difference.

It is always interesting for conservation architects to see how construction was carried out in the past. Paul Sharrock and Karen Butti of Thomas Ford & Partners, despite some fifteen years of work at St Augustine's continue to learn!

Much was achieved in such a short time, but we need to be ready for the next funding opportunity to continue the good work.

By Paul Sharrock
Thomas Ford and Partners



The Society of Old Augustinians

Over 50 years has passed since St Augustine's College moved from Ramsgate to Westgate, but still many of us return to what was our original home in St Augustine's church.

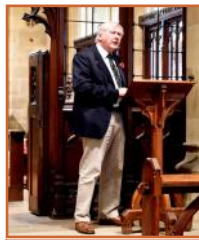
When the school opened in 1865, the first lessons took place inside what is now the visitor's centre of St Augustine's church. All school masses were held at the church until Peter Paul Pugin, a former Old Augustinian, designed and built a school chapel in the grounds of the Abbey. For those of us at the school in the 60's until it closed, St Augustine's church was used for special school masses. For the older generation of Old Augustinians, St Augustine's church is very much a spiritual home and probably the place where we have our strongest connection with our old school.

Old Augustinians have been delighted to play our small part in supporting St Augustine's church over the years, which now houses our new War Memorial and our Old Augustinians Archive. Our school may no longer exist, but every year, we hold our annual Remembrance Mass in St Augustine's church to remember not only those who gave their lives in the two world wars, but to remember the monks, our teachers and all those Old Augustinians who have passed on in the last year. Many Old Boys, former teachers and parents are buried in the graveyard too and their graves are blessed annually.

In recent years we have invited students from the Ursuline College, our successor school, as well as Civic Leaders, to be part

of this heritage. Many of us visit during the year in addition to our annual Remembrance Service. We look forward to giving our continued support and we are planning to hold an exhibition in the church and will let you know when.

Andrew Sharp
Chairman
The Society of Old Augustinians



Peter West



Blessing of the Graves



Fr Brian blesses graves



Ursuline students
Remembrance Mass



Old Augustinian's visit to
St Augustine's



The Last Post

Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage to St Augustine's is now almost back up to pre-Covid levels with 2023 promising to be a bumper year. Pilgrim stamps collected along the Augustine Camino are now recognised in Santiago towards a Compostela (certificate of completion). We have our own Compostela which is increasingly popular with walking pilgrims. To get one you need to have walked all the way from Rochester.



Pilgrimage

St Augustine's Way, St Sigfrid's Way and custom walking pilgrimages such as the Dominican 800th Anniversary Pilgrimage to Oxford also draw pilgrims.



Pilgrimage



Many parish groups choose St Augustine's for their pilgrimages. They are always warmly welcomed.



The Ramsgate Ordinariate Group

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham was created by the late Pope Emeritus Benedict in 2011 for groups of Anglicans wishing to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. The position of the Catholic Church is that Christians from the Protestant traditions are in partial communion with her by virtue of their baptism. In order to be in full communion, however, lay people must receive confirmation and priests must be ordained by a Catholic bishop after their confirmation.

Here at St Augustine's, there is an Ordinariate group of eight members plus me as the Ordinariate priest. We meet for Mass in the Shrine at 5pm every Sunday using the Ordinariate missal entitled Divine Worship which includes prayers from the Book of Common Prayer. Pope Benedict wanted the Ordinariate to bring this Anglican heritage into the Catholic Church. He also intended that the Ordinariate should enrich the Catholic musical tradition with Anglican chant and hymnody. This we do at St Augustine's through the dedication and skill of our organist and cantor, Mr. Edmund Hampton.

Although we are a small group, we are regularly joined for Mass by diocesan Catholics and members of the Divine Retreat community from the former abbey. Visitors seem to appreciate the reverent atmosphere produced by the traditional language and ceremonies of this way of celebrating the Mass.

It is very appropriate that the Ordinariate Mass is offered in Pugin's 'personal church'

because he was himself an Anglican until 1835 and had many Anglican friends throughout his life. One of his dearest wishes was to see Anglicans reunited with the Rome from which St Augustine brought the Christian faith. Indeed he saw Gothic ecclesiastical art and architecture, at least in part, as his contribution to securing that end. That aspiration has now been realised in the Ordinariate and I am sure he would rejoice.

Fr Simon Heans (Shrine Chaplain)



'Members of the Ramsgate and Deal group pictured after the reception into the Church of Kay Chisman (centre) who is holding a biography of St John Henry Newman, patron Saint of the Ordinariate of Our Lady



'Newman was opposed to Pugin's insistence that all churches should have screens separating the nave from the chancel. The screen at St Augustine's was reinstated in 2017 after being removed by the monks in the 1970s

Over the last sixteen months the music at the Shrine of St. Augustine has firmly recovered from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and we have re-established weekly rehearsals with a steady membership of all ages and abilities. Along with the regular Sunday Masses, we have provided music for all Holy Days of Obligation and additional services at both St. Augustine's and St. Ethelbert's utilising our choir and organists. The organs at both churches are in the care of Scott & Fern Pipe Organ Maintenance which has proved very useful during the recent roof and heating repairs. Through the newly established generous support of the Shrine, with thanks to Andrew Kelly, we have completed the Music Library, revised and expanded congregational and clergy resources, and established a routine of volunteered help to ensure their distribution. Our concerts in St. Augustine's week and Pugin week continue to be of immensely high quality with all participation being from home-grown local musicians. We have also been happy to provide help to St. Ethelbert's and to St. Thomas's Canterbury on a regular basis. In short, it has been a busy sixteen months!

We continue to provide the choir and organ music at the regular Sunday twelve-noon Mass comprising of Gregorian Chant, organ repertoire & improvisation and Latin choral works from the fourteenth century onwards. For Feasts and Holy Days of Obligation we deploy an expanded and extensively rehearsed choir delivering more solemn repertoire appropriate to the occasion, resources, and liturgy. Upon request we have delivered professional musicianship to services including First Holy Communions, Confirmations, Weddings, and Funerals. We have also been training choir members to ring the tower bell on a rotary basis.

We are lucky to have Edmund Hampton leading the provision of music for Mass celebrated according to the Ordinariate Use. Since February 2022 we have established and developed a fully sung Mass with cantor and organ. It is our intention to maintain support for this and expand it, with the support of Fr. Simon.

We are blessed to have two excellent acoustics and two of the best-kept and fully-functioning organs in Thanet within our Parish. The organ at St. Augustine's required protection from the effects of work carried out on the roof. Since then it has been further complicated by the issues of lack of heating and therefore damp conditions. As a result of this, further to the two full tunings per year, we have undertaken a myriad of repairs and modifications to the instrument. These include keyspring and depth adjustment, the swell pedal requiring a new component and bushing, the stop jamb being modified to accommodate adjustment to the keys, and malfunctioning stops being attended to due to the damp. Upstairs in the chamber there have been several split wooden pipes which required re-glueing, several reed pipes in need of cleaning and re-setting, and three pipes that have been sent away for further repairs. Further work is required to ensure the organ's longevity. This is in the nature of a new blower and the addition of concussion bellows as well as voicing the heavy lead facade pipes. The organ will require cleaning in fifteen years. The organ at St. Ethelbert's is, in my humble opinion, the finest parish church organ in the area. It is in the best condition it has ever been in and once heating was restored enabled an incredibly stable tuning just in time for Christmas. We have re-shaped the case

Music Report 2022/2023

pipes and waxed the case, keys, console, pedals, and stops. The action was fully reset with standard key-depths and we have cleaned and re-voiced the strings. We also replaced the tuning flaps on a once unstable flute. The west window in St. Ethelbert's is in urgent need of extensive repair as it is allowing rain and debris to enter the organ loft. The balustrade in the organ loft needs to be raised – a quote was drawn up and proposed for this. The bellows will need to be re-leathered within five years, else the organ will be rendered non-functional if not attended to. The top two octaves of the Mixture stop need to be revoiced as they are too shrill. The organ will require a clean once the window is done, in ten years.

St. Augustine's week contained a concert of music and readings "*Non Angli, Sed Angeli*," telling the story of St. Augustine's mission to the English people through the eyes of St. Bede the venerable. Each piece was chosen to reflect the text of the previous reading and meant that we could venture into other unaccompanied English and Slavonic choral repertoire that we don't normally get to do. It was unfortunate that the passing of Her Majesty the Queen coincided with the Pugin Week concert. However it graced us with another level of remembrance and thanksgiving for the lives of two titans of religion in England. Neil Wright provided sensitive, colourful, and dramatic accompaniment to the choir. The headline was Gabriel Faure's much-loved Requiem Mass which features a soprano and baritone soloist which were both chosen from within the choir. Marcel Perez is a giant in the world of ancient music, particularly performance and interpretation of Gregorian Chant manuscripts and early polyphony. We were fortunate enough to have him for two workshops. At a single-day

event in December 2021, we focused on old Roman chant (the earliest notated Gregorian Chant) and the Salve Regina as sung by the Knights Templar in the eleventh century. At a three-day event in May 2022, we focused on the earliest forms of polyphony and particularly the concept known as *Fauxbourdon*. To conclude this workshop we were invited to sing Vespers in the fauxbourdon style in St. Martin's Canterbury – the church built by St. Ethelbert as a result of St. Augustine's mission.

Our outreach is a great effort undertaken by all members to aid in Catholic music-making in Kent and provide education and training. We provide a cadre of organists from within our ranks to accompany Mass at St. Thomas's Canterbury. This has proved to be a success and of a consistent high standard. We were invited to provide choir and organ for the Mass of the Translation of St. Thomas in Canterbury Cathedral Quire. Furthermore we were invited back to provide a choir for Solemn Vespers of the Martyrdom of St. Thomas in the Cathedral Crypt. St Augustine's and St. Ethelbert's have been used as places to train students and other local musicians. The Canterbury Christ Church University choral scholars regularly venture to us to learn more about catholic liturgy and music. This has been extended to local organists and organ students. We have written to both the nuns at Minster and the area Dean offering our assistance for anything musical that they require.

Ben Scott Director of Music

Some thoughts on the Pugin Society

I am very pleased, as a long standing member of the Pugin Society (founded 1995) Committee, to have the opportunity of writing a few words in the Friends Newsletter, stressing the Society's ongoing support of the activities of the Friends, which are absolutely essential to the future of Pugin's outstanding church in Ramsgate.

The Pugin Society shares its contacts with the Friends, with whom it works closely, as for example by assisting in finding speakers for the Friends' annual Pugin Week in September. Various Pugin Society members are also volunteers and guides in St Augustine's. Perhaps also, by covering a wider range of Pugin activities and news, the Society helps to create links between St Augustine's and the Pugin world beyond Ramsgate, links which can become part of the background of knowledge needed by volunteer guides to show off St Augustine's church to our many visitors. Sharing information is so important. We also offer the Friends publicity on our Events sheets and on the Society Facebook and Twitter pages when appropriate.

The Society organised a very successful tour in Ramsgate last July, led by Jayne Evelyn, in which the church (naturally) played a very significant role, with excellent input, as guide, from Andrew Kelly, the Visitor Centre Manager. In all ways, we in the Pugin Society want to promote St Augustine's and its splendid Visitor Centre.

When planning took place in 2015 for the future organisation and running of what was to become the St Augustine's Education, Research and Visitor Centre, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and with their guidance and support, one

stipulation was that there should be an archive and library. The HLF rightly felt that any Visitor Centre embracing the words 'Education' and 'Research' in its title should be able to provide items to further these ends. Part of my role as a member of the St Augustine's Project Management Board, as it was named, was to assemble archival material. Largely because of the Pugin Society's contacts, this was made possible by generous donations from various leading Pugin scholars. Later on, further purchases were made and now the archive and books have been catalogued, and a description of their overall content, but not the catalogue itself, can be found on www.augustine-pugin.org.uk, under 'Collections'. Last year a Society member located a Pugin Travelling Scholarship medal of 1871, awarded to architect George Washington Brown, on

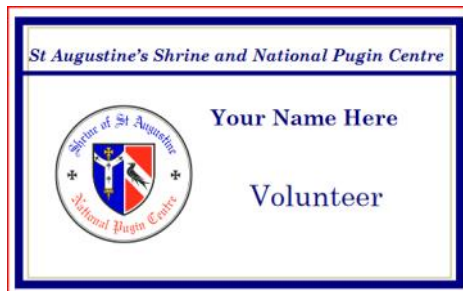


e-bay, and this became an exciting new acquisition for us. It is challenging to build an archive from scratch, but we hope that what has now

been assembled will be of interest. Currently a new display is being put together, supervised by a Pugin Society member and St Augustine's volunteer. As with all such projects, not only will the public benefit from them, but also those people engaged in setting them up. It is a learning curve for all, and we very much hope that soon interested parties will be able to look at and learn from our archives, books, and displays. Here's hoping for a very successful 2023 and let **En Avant - Forward!** - Pugin's motto, be our aim at all times.

Catriona Blaker

Volunteer at St Augustine's Pugin's Ideal Church needs you!



We want to
make St Augustine's an even more vibrant part of the
community but we can only do it with your help

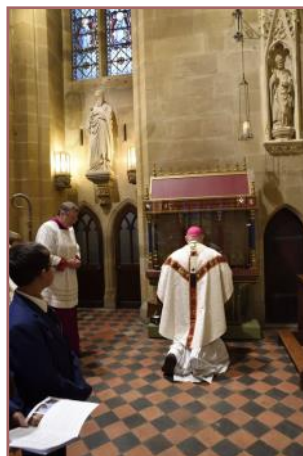
There are roles available for people of all interests

To find out more email us at
augustineshrine@rcaos.org.uk or speak to one of
our volunteers



The Archbishop's Visit

Archbishop John Wilson celebrated Mass with us on 12th October 2022 for our 10th Anniversary year as a Shrine. We were joined by Raushan Ara, the Mayor of Ramsgate, and by Alastair Stewart who read the second reading as well as monks from Chilworth and many old friends. The Archbishop preached on the need for evangelisation in the modern world in the mould of St Augustine. Afterwards we repaired to the Cartoon Room next door for a very jolly social occasion.



The Archbishop's Visit



