



Update 8 June 2019

CHURCH RESTORATION



What do we want to do?

- Address the roof problems to take the church into the next 900 years ...
- To make the church more usable for the community:
 - Enhanced heating to replace the old gas heaters (inefficient and introduce moisture)
 - Another toilet accessible from church floor level
 - Dedicated server facilities at the South West
 - Open areas for flexible use with chairs to maintain capacity
 - Raised platform in front of the arch to the choir for nave altar and as a performance space
 - New flooring in certain areas, but retaining main tiled areas introduced in the Victorian era
 - A new screen at the North West to create storage for chairs etc.
 - Return the font to the South aisle.

More detail follows – note that this summary is intended to inform about current thinking and specific details will need to be agreed with the Diocese. All diagrams are illustrative and “not to scale”.

What has happened to the roof?

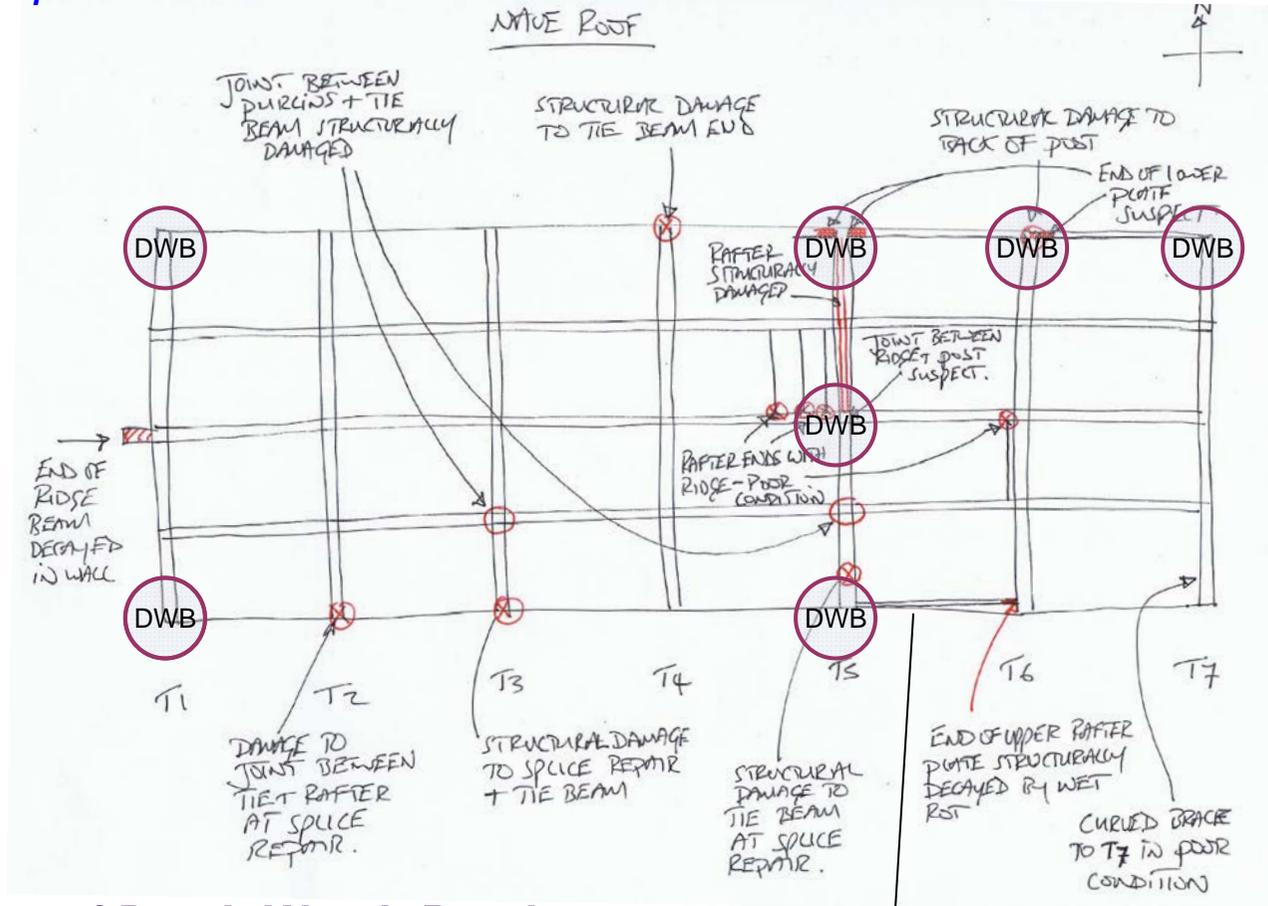
- Due to wet rot (now fixed), a roof timber has collapsed – this has prompted further investigations
- Some previous, splicing repairs have now failed
- Death Watch Beetle that will need to be treated
- A number of roof trusses and rafters need new timber splicing
- Some support brackets need to be replaced
- Horizontal metal braces in the nave need work



Main roof area problems

This is from the initial survey. Now the full scaffolding is in place we await a report to outline all the remedial work needed.

West End
&
Bell Tower

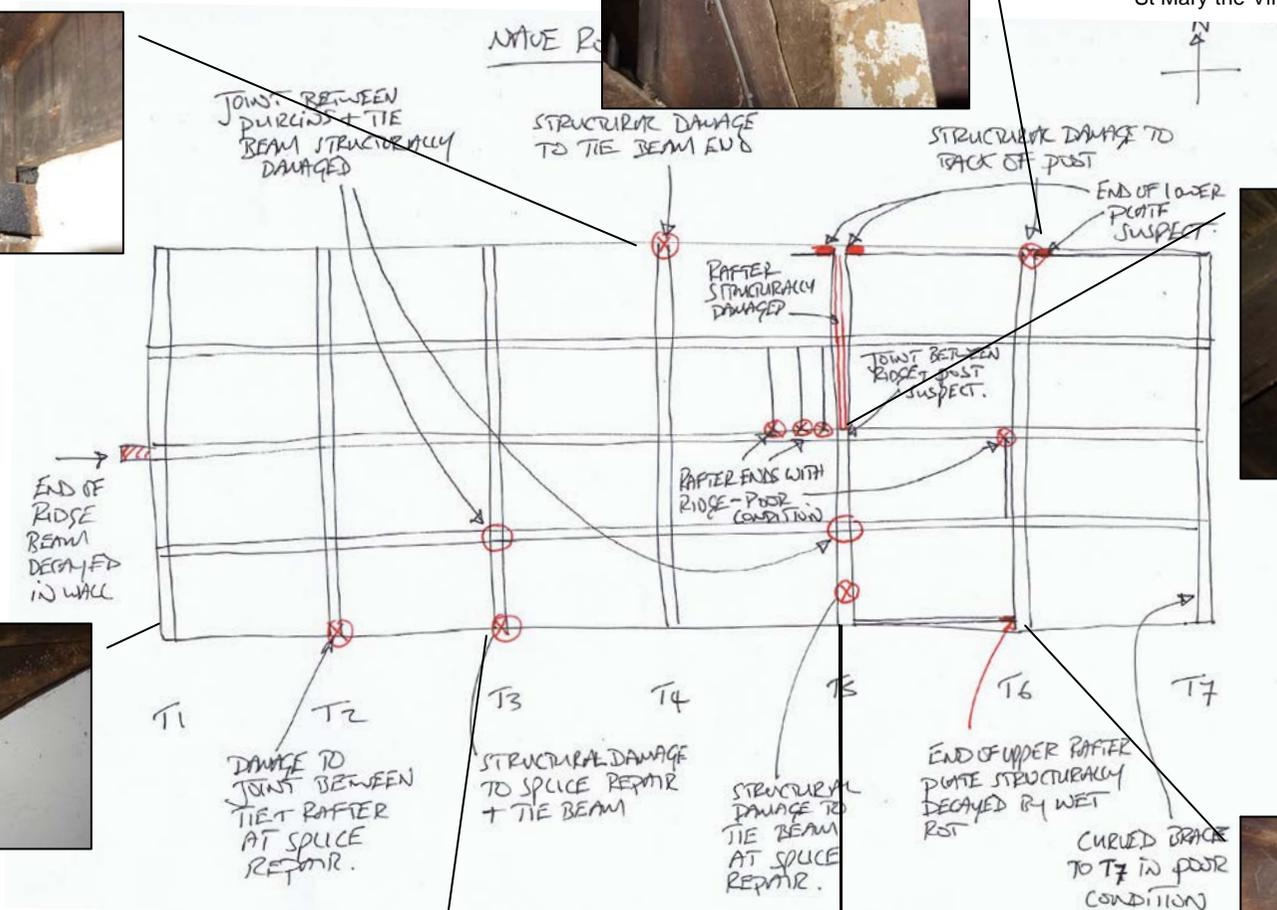


East
Window,
Choir &
Chancel

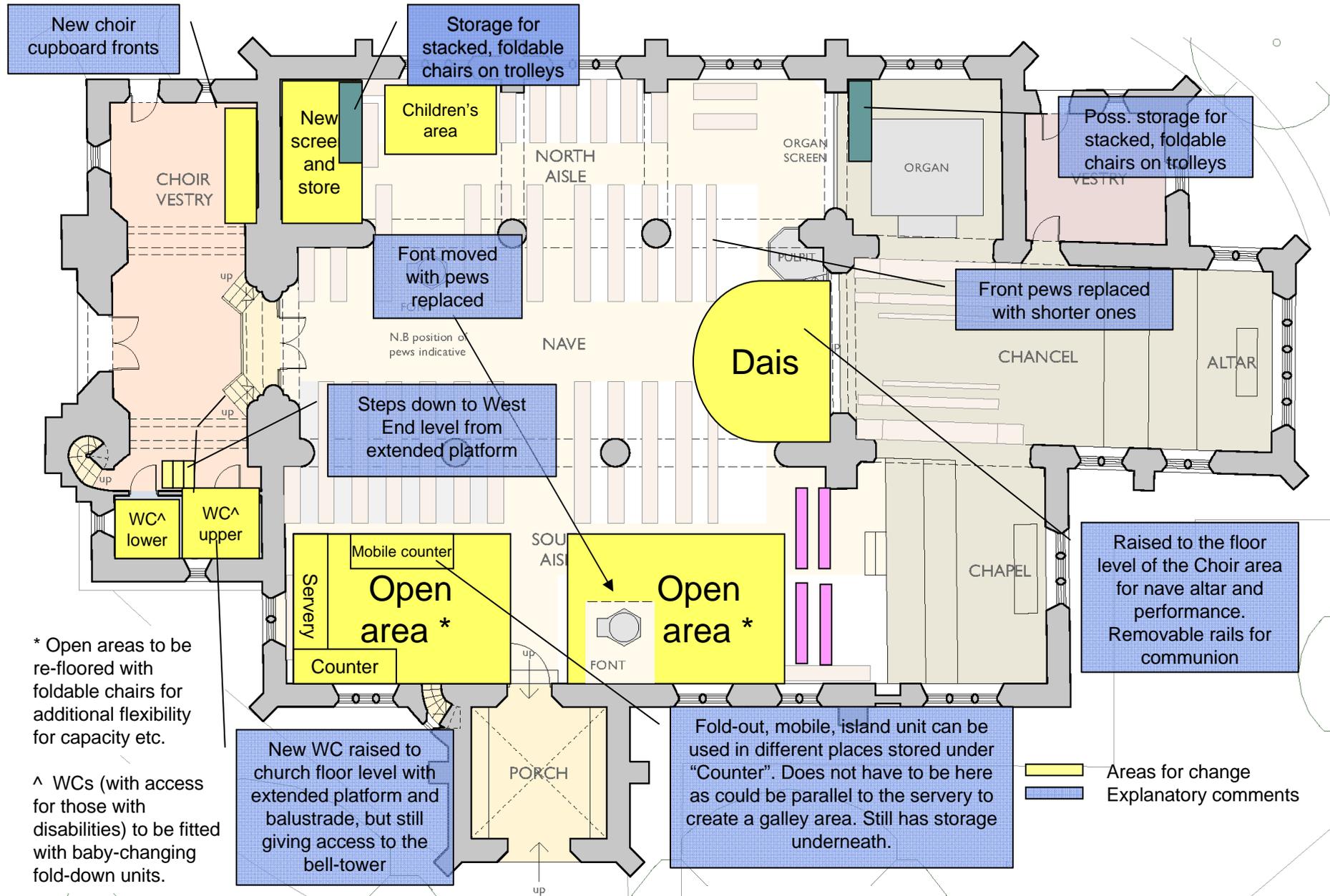
Some areas of Death Watch Beetle (DWB), as above, although some are not considered structural

Fallen
 timber

Some problems areas



Suggested Enhancements (excluding heating)



* Open areas to be re-floored with foldable chairs for additional flexibility for capacity etc.

^ WCs (with access for those with disabilities) to be fitted with baby-changing fold-down units.

New WC raised to church floor level with extended platform and balustrade, but still giving access to the bell-tower

Fold-out, mobile, island unit can be used in different places stored under "Counter". Does not have to be here as could be parallel to the servery to create a galley area. Still has storage underneath.

Raised to the floor level of the Choir area for nave altar and performance. Removable rails for communion

Steps down to West End level from extended platform

Font moved with pews replaced

Front pews replaced with shorter ones

Poss. storage for stacked, foldable chairs on trolleys

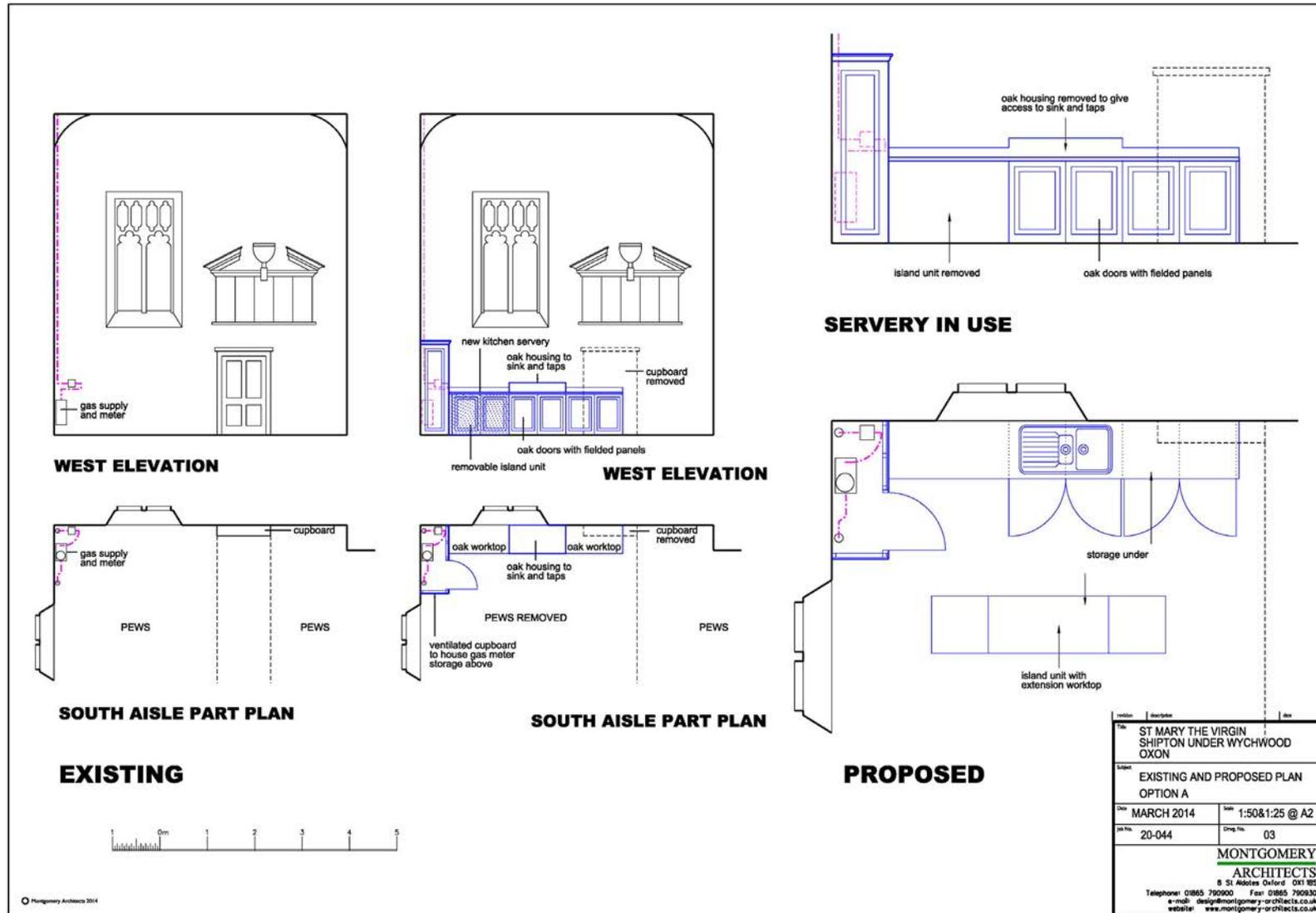
Storage for stacked, foldable chairs on trolleys

New choir cupboard fronts

New scree and store

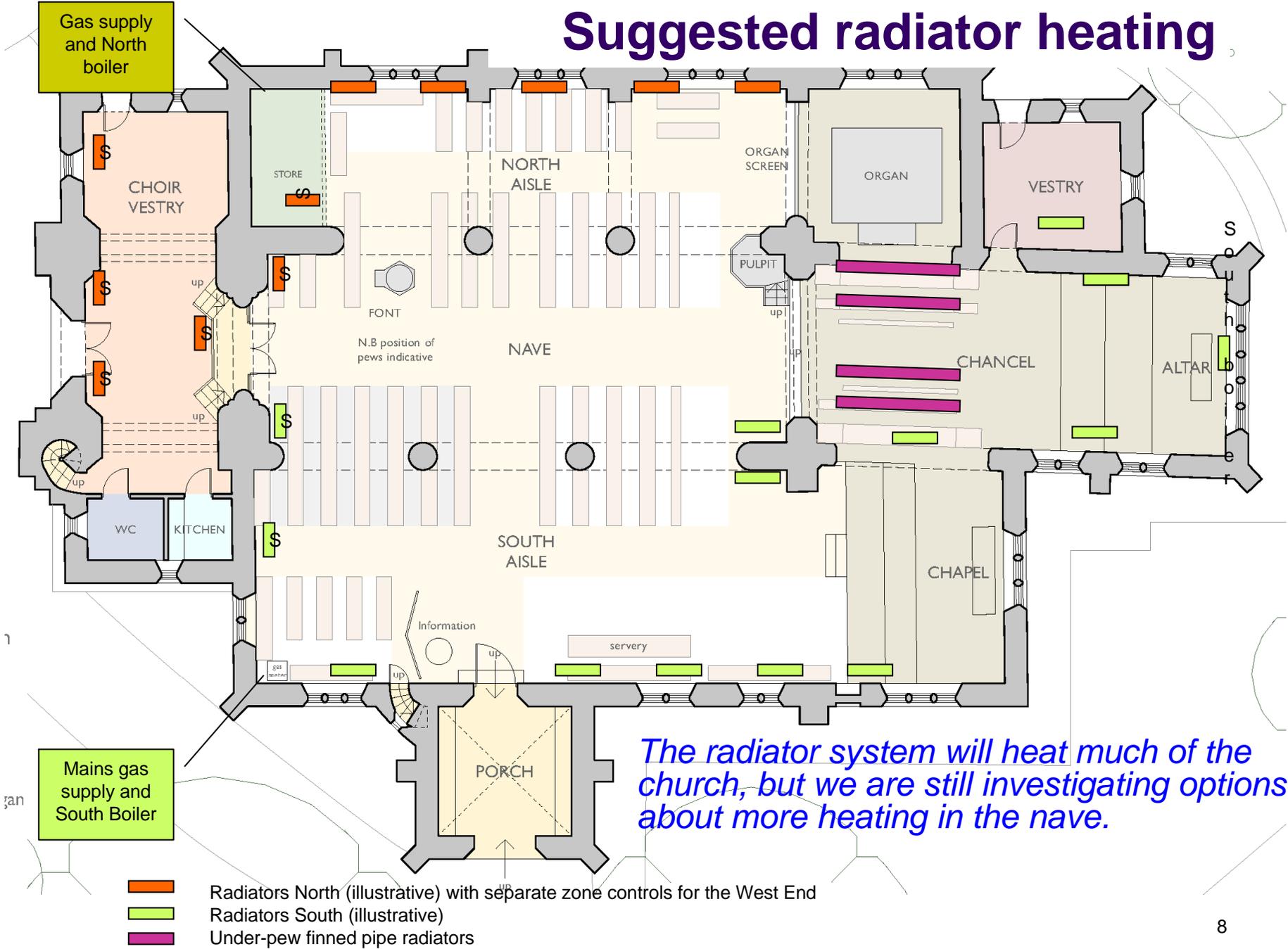
Children's area

An Illustration of the servery area from a few years ago



We are likely to extend on the South wall to create an 'L' shape to increase storage and to incorporate the "floating island" unit

Suggested radiator heating



What can you do to help?



- The Parish does not have sufficient funds to be able to pay for this restoration work
- We are now fund-raising and looking into grant applications
- Donations with *Gift Aid* declarations (for taxpayers) will boost funds (forms are available in church)
- We are in the process of setting up “*The Friends of St Mary’s*” as a Registered Charity. This will assist with grant applications and there will be a series of community events.

Further updates will be made when new information is available. If you have any comments or suggestions, or think you can offer any help with our campaign, then please drop a note into church or email m.ndavies1@tiscali.co.uk.