



## ST MARY'S IN THE MARKETPLACE

### Phase 6 [week 1]

### a dramatic transformation!



Does this have a familiar look about it?

It certainly does – the cabins arrived back in the church

yard at 6.30am in the morning (not too much traffic at that hour on Churchgate) ready for the return of Lambert Walker. Conservation & Restoration Ltd. Our contractors are coming back on-site to start work on Phase 6.

The new compound has been set-up stretching the whole of the north side of the building, allowing for works to be well contained.



This time restoration and conservation work will be on the older part of the Church, restoring two historic rooms, the Medieval 14th century Chapel, converted into a vestry for the

Rector long ago, and the Victorian vestry created for the choir in 1884.

There is little to see inside the vestries at the moment. Furniture etc. has been moved into storage. Electricians have been working on moving the electricity supply, setting up temporary switching of the lights for the chancel and providing a power supply that we can use whilst works are ongoing. The chancel is closed over this first weekend until electrical works are completed next week. Once this is done there should be no further works at “our” side of the church (at least for the time being) although there will be some disruption but this will be kept to a minimum.

The next stage will be the arrival of the scaffolding before new roofs are constructed over the vestries. However, before work begins a comprehensive above-ground expert archeological survey is to be undertaken. Work has already started on this very important project.

There are one or two items, still housed in the Rector’s Vestry that will need to live for awhile in the Chancel, until remedial work to the walls and floors are completed. It is anticipated that Phase 6 will be finish around Easter - although there are some additional works that we would like to add to the contract – restoration to the doors, some enhanced electrical facilities and improvements to the heating. We have permission to do the work but at the moment insufficient funding in place to pay for it, We will therefore need to make a further appeal for money over the Christmas period for a sum in the region of £10K.

