

St John the Baptist Church Snape



Our church is Grade 2* listed and sits in a prominent position beside the A.1094 road from the A12 to Aldeburgh. The walls are generally rubble flint with limestone dressings; there is a pan tiled roof to the nave and chancel with plain tiles on the porch. Like many other medieval churches in Suffolk, it is remote from the village and situated on the highest ground in Snape. Building commenced in the 13th century, with the tower, porch and font being added in the 15th

century. The font is described by knowledgeable people as being one of the most beautiful in Suffolk.

The interior has not changed a great deal over the years and was not spoilt by the Victorians as were many local churches. The pews were added in 1905. The stained-glass window at the east end was installed in 1920; and designed by Mary Lowndes, one of the first female stained-glass artists in the country. In 1999, a beautiful organ, designed and built by Ipswich organ builder Peter Bumstead, was provided following a most generous gift from a Snape resident. A kitchen with running water and drainage was added in the west end of the nave in 2020, the plan being to make more social use of the building. Displayed in two folders under the two war memorial plaques on the side walls of the church are the histories of all those from Snape who died serving their Country in two World Wars

St John the Baptist Church is part of the Alde River Benefice comprising six other churches, Benhall, Blaxhall, Farnham, Great Glemham, Little Glemham and Sternfield. The parish of Stratford St Andrew is also part of the Benefice but does not have a church.

Our Church is operated by a small hard-working group who carry out the administration, cleaning, flower arranging and general maintenance of the building and grounds. We are always looking for volunteers to join in helping to maintain this wonderful building which has seen marriages, baptisms, burials, and visitors for the past 800 years.

A guide providing more in-depth history of the building is always available in the Church.

Details of services, events and who to contact may be found in the monthly Benefice Magazine, Ebb & Flow.

We give a warm welcome to visitors and worshippers of any denomination.

Church Warden is Brian Boulton who lives at Old School House, Farnham Road, Snape, IP17 1QW, and is contactable on **01728 688999**