

St Mary's Church, Stradsett

Address : St Mary's Church, Stradsett Estate, Norfolk

Further details : www.stradsett.com

General Information

This attractive church still retains many medieval features including its: square tower (where the lower section with its Early English windows dates from the 13th century) and the Perpendicular east window. Although much of the stained glass is Victorian of particular interest is the outstanding 16th century glass in the east window which originated in Augsburg, Germany. It was doubtless imported to England early in the 19th century by John Christopher Hampp and brought here by the Bagges of Stradsett Hall.

East Window

The stonework of the east window is 15th century Perpendicular period work, and provides the perfect setting for Stradsett's famous glass. This was made in Augsburg (S. Germany) in 1540. It was probably imported to the country by John Christopher Hampp and bought c1820 for the church by Thomas Philip Bagge (of the Stradsett estate).

The tracery lights contain a selection of musical angels together with red, six winged seraphim which are very different in appearance from slightly earlier 15th century angels from the Norwich school. The main lights depict the coming of the Magi again the style & colours are very different from English glass of a similar period. Included in the scene are all the requisite figures including: the richly dressed Kings with their gifts, the Madonna & Child and farmyard animals. Additionally kneeling in the foreground to the right is the Donor, who is unlikely to have realised that the beautiful window he commissioned containing his own image was destined to travel so far.

The South Chancel & Nave windows

All the south chancel & nave windows were installed c1891 to the memory of Philip Salisbury Bagge (1817 – 1890) Rector of Walpole St. Peter (1853-90). They contain scenes relating to Christ's life & resurrection. They are typical late Victorian work and although the maker is not recorded they are very reminiscent of the style adopted by the firm of Heaton Butler & Bayne.

Chancel North

Contains two coats of arms

West Window

The window contains two panels. The roundel depicts the Agnus Dei whilst the larger panel show the Crucifixion with angels collecting Christ's blood. The latter is of 16th century Continental style.

