St John the Baptist, Garboldisham - www.norfolkstainedglass.co.uk



Address: St John the Baptist, Garboldisham, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2SE

Visiting: Normally open daily, however, always check before

making a special trip

For further visiting details see: www.norwich.anglican.org www.achurchnearyou.com



General Information

The Church of St John the Baptist is of medieval origin. Although it has been modified through the years it retains much of its heritage in particular; the chancel screen with its early 16th century painted north aisle panels, the 13th Century Piscina and the 17th century south aisle altar. The Victorians completed much restoration work which included the insertion of new stained glass windows - but not just any windows! All the glass was produced by the J Powell & Sons' workshop which enabled a series of windows to be designed which contribute considerably to the ambience of the church. The windows produced by J W Brown (a designer in the Powell workshop) are exquisite and are described by Birkin Haward as being "works of national consequence" - they are also beautiful.....

West Tower



This window potentially offers a mystery to be solved. Produced in 1880 Birkin Haward confirms that it comes from the J Powell & Sons' workshop and was probably designed by JW Brown. However, the style seems very different to the two other windows which can be definitely attributed to Brown namely the East window, and South chancel window 2.

The window depicts a crucifixion scene us-ing strong colours. In

particular note the red winged angels, a device often employed by the William Morris workshop

North Aisle West Window



This window has been produced by J Powell and Sons in their "Whitefriars house style". It dates from c1920 and depicts Christ's presentation in the Temple. It was made in memory of Muriel Catherine Temple Prere who died as an infant in 1899. The Lilies in the tracery are a symbol of rirginity and purity.

The East Window

This beautiful window of "national consequence" was produced by the J Powell & Sons' workshop and designed by JW Brown. Made c1886 in memory of Robert Temple Frere who died at Garboldisham Hall in 1886 it has a distinct Pre Raphaelite feel to it and adopts a very subdued colour palette - note how it contrasts with the west window.



The window depicts a 'He has risen" scene and the main lights include representations of both the Blessed Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene together with various saints. The Angels in the bottom lights all carry tems associated with Christ's passion including: nails, a crown of thorns and a spear

This "Suffer Little Children" (Luke 18:16) window is absolutely charming. From the J Powell & Sons' workshop Birkin Haward believes it was designed



y Henry Holiday (who worked for Powell). Dated c 1879 it is dedicated to the memory of Margaret Verena Kennaway. daughter of the Revd C L Kennaway (Rector 1876 - 1914)

In particular note the beautiful child angels in the top lights

South Chancel 2



This window of "national consequence" was produced by the J Powell & Sons' workshop and designed by JW Brown. It is dedicated to the memory of Sir George Wilmot Horton who was Rector of the Parish from 1850 – 1876 and was made c1887 the date of Sir George's death.

The main lights depict John the Baptist "preaching in the wilderness the tracery light holds the saint's distinctive Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) emblem

South Aisle East Window



This window has been produced by J Powell and Sons in their "Whitefriars house style". It dates from c1902 and depicts Christ preaching. It is dedicated to the memory of Thomas ?) Molineux - Montgomerie. The shields in the tracery lights relate to the arms of the Molineux Montgomerie family.

South Aisle Window 1



This window has been produced by J Powell and Sons in their "Whitefriars house style". It dates from c1906 and is dediated to Violet, the eldest child of George and Sybil Molineux - Montgomerie who died at the age of four in 1906. The Coats of Arms in the tracey relate to members of the Molineux - Montgomerie family.

The window depicts the

Blessed Virgin Mary holding the child Jesus. In the background are lilies, a symbol of virginity and purity, an emblem often associated with Mary. She is flanked by two angels playing stringed instruments

South Aisle Window 2



This window has again been produced by J owell and Sons in their Whitefriars house style" It is in memory of George F Molineux – Mont-gomerie a Major in the Grenadier Guards who died in France on October 22nd 1915.

The central light depicts a red winged St George car-rying a dragon banner. It is possible to distinguish a "Kings Head" in an oak tree (possibly CharlesII)

together with a portcullis (a device used repeatedly in the stained glass in the Chapel at Kings College Cambridge to represent Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII) lightly outlined in yellow in the clear quarry panes in the main lights. This pattern is repeated in the South Aisle West window which was made c1932 and dedicated to George's wife Sybil.

The Coats of Arms in the tracery relate to members of the Molineux - Montgomerie family. It is assumed that the flags/ insignia are those of the Grenadier Guards.

South Aisle West Window

This window has been produced by J Powell and



Sons in their "Whitefriars house style. It is in memry of Sybil Molineux Montgomerie wife of George F Molineux Montgomerie a Major in the Grenadier Guards who died in the First World War (See South Aisle window 2) and mother of Violet (South Aisle Window 1)

The window shows St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St rancis of Assisi and St Dorothea. The window

depicts birds and flowers in abundance. Interestingly in the same vain as her husband's window it is possible to distinguish a "Kings Head" in an oak tree (possibly Charles II) together with a portcullis (a device used repeatedly in the stained glass in the Chapel at Kings College Cambridge to represent Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII) lightly outlined in yellow in the clear quarry panes in the main lights. The two emblems are shown even clearer in the tracery lights together with a coat of arms relating to the Molineux - Montgomerie family.