from **July 2024**

St. Bernard's Church

Catholic Parish of East Grinstead & Lingfield

until **May 2025**

Refurbishment, Improvements

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Repairs & Redecorations

Interior & Exterior Repair and Redecorations

Following on from the substantial structural works to the walls & columns the interior & exterior of the Church was redecorated, ensuring all repairs are discreet. Further renovations and redecorations were also carried out, including the entrance doors, parquet flooring and new light fixtures.

Interior view before renovation.

Interior view of the front of the church during redecorations.

Parquet flooring during renovation.

Entrance doors after sanding.

Our Lady Altar after redecorations.

St. Bernard Chapel after works.

Interior view of the front of the church after redecorations.

Clay statue mounted on new plinth.

Car Parking & Landscaping

This area of the project focused on the improvement of the parking area at the front of the church.

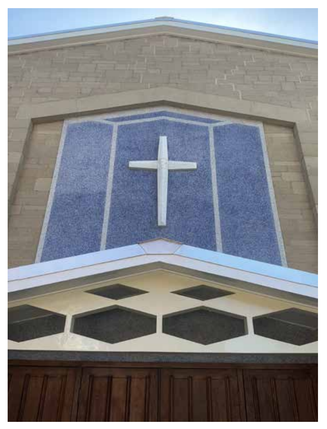
Hedge removed for additional space.

New tarmac surfacing being installed.

Street view of St. Bernard's following the completion of the car park line marking,

Interior views of the church after all repairs, upgrades & redecorations were completed in May 2025.

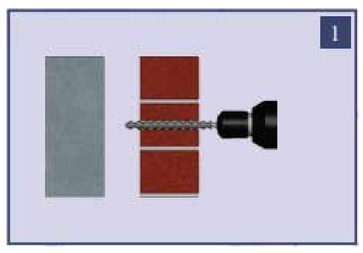
Finished entrance doors after repair, sanding, and staining.



Glass mural & cross after cleaning.

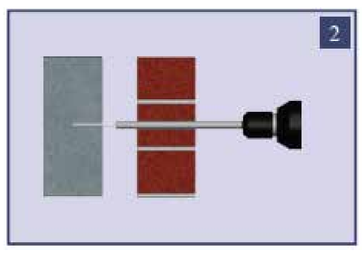
Retro-fitting cavity wall ties

The structural Engineer's report carried out during the initial surveying & consultation period identified a lack of any existing cavity wall ties within the exterior masonry walls. The current Building Regulations express the requirement for wall ties for all cavity walls, which ensure structural stability; prevention of damp ingress; and increased thermal performance. As part of the major structural repairs to the Church building, cavity wall ties were retrofitted to all external walls.



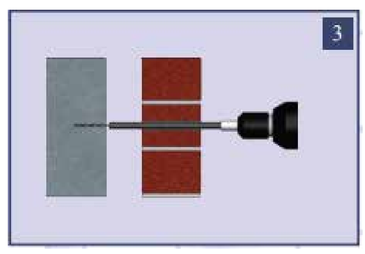
1. Drill a 10mm or 12mm hole through the near leaf using a SDS-plus hammer drill.

   The hole should be 25mm from the end of a brick on its horizontal centre line.



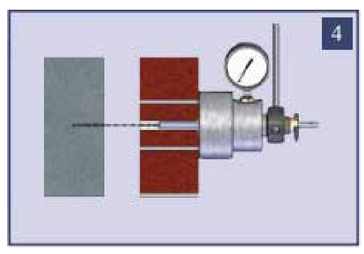
2. Push the Pilot Drill and Drill Extension through the previously drilled hole and drill a pilot hole into the far leaf.

   Note: If the far leaf is a soft material, this procedure may be omitted.



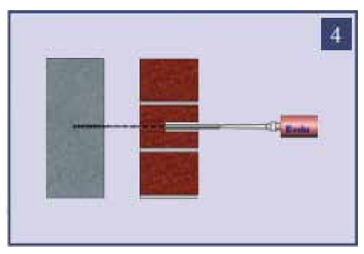
3. Insert the Retro Flex tie into the Power Support tool.

   Insert the combination through the hole in the near leaf and, using a SDS-plus hammer drill, drive the Retro Flex tie into the pilot hole in the far leaf.



4. Once the Retro Flex tie is installed into the far leaf pilot hole, the holding capability can be checked using a Target Load Test Unit.

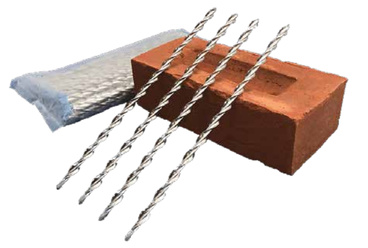
   As a general rule, about 1kN loading in tension is an adequate bond.



5. After an acceptable proof test is performed, the near leaf connection is made using Target Polyester Resin or Bond Flex XL Cementitious Grout.

   The drilled hole may then be colour matched for an excellent finish.

Retro Flex Wall Tie System



The Retro Flex system of wall tie replacement is available in three different diameters- 6mm, 8mm & 10mm.

It offers the advantages of a non-expanding mechanical fixing on the far leaf and a polyester resin or cementitious grout on the near leaf.

Proof testing of the far leaf using a Target Load Test Unit can be performed randomly as installation proceeds.

Because the fixing method employed does not induce additional stresses into the substrate, Retro Flex can be used in many and varied materials, from poured concrete columns to Aircrete blocks, with satisfactory results and there is no concern to achieve the vital edge distance spacing necessary with any expansion fixing.

The design of the Retro Flex remedial tie ensures that any potential for installer error can be minalised.

These wall ties are attached to this board.

Target Fixings Ltd
Retro Flex
Remedial Wall Tie

Resin Repair of Masonry Cracks

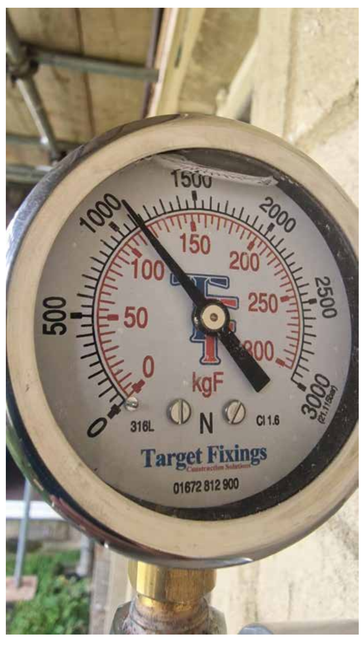
Succeeding the extensive retro-fitting of cavity wall ties, it was necessary to resin repair the various cracking present within both the internal and external leaves - restoring the structural integrity of the walls and preventing any future deterioration.

Extensive cracks to masonry evident.

Resin injection of cracks to column.

Condition of external walls after injection.

Holding capability of randomly selected retrofitted wall ties being tested using a Target Load Test Unit per **Step 4.**



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