



About St Peter's

Known as the 'Queen of the Marsh', St. Peter's church has presided over its lush environs since the Middle Ages when, according to local legend, it was built as a beacon for sailors.

South Somercotes is recorded in the Domesday Book. The name 'summercotes' means 'huts used in summer', suggesting the area was used to graze livestock during the summer. It is not known when the first church was built but this was probably after a permanent settlement was established later in the Middle Ages.

The exterior features of the church are Perpendicular in style and comprise late-medieval windows and a tall spire. The interior of the church is filled with light due to the lack of stained glass, lost when the church was bombed during World War II.

The belfry contains three bells. Each bears an inscription and a name. The oldest bell, dating to the 14th century, is called Mary. The other two bells date from 1423 and are named Peter and Gabriel. The church was extensively repaired in 1866 and can seat approximately 240 people.

The church was vested with The Churches Conservation Trust in 1988.

A thousand years of English history awaits you

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk.

We've saved over 340 beautiful buildings which attract more than a million visitors a year. With our help and with your support they are kept open and in use – living once again at the heart of their communities.



Access

Due to their age, historic church floors can be uneven and worn and lighting can be low level. Please take care, especially in wet weather when floors can be slippery.

Help us do more

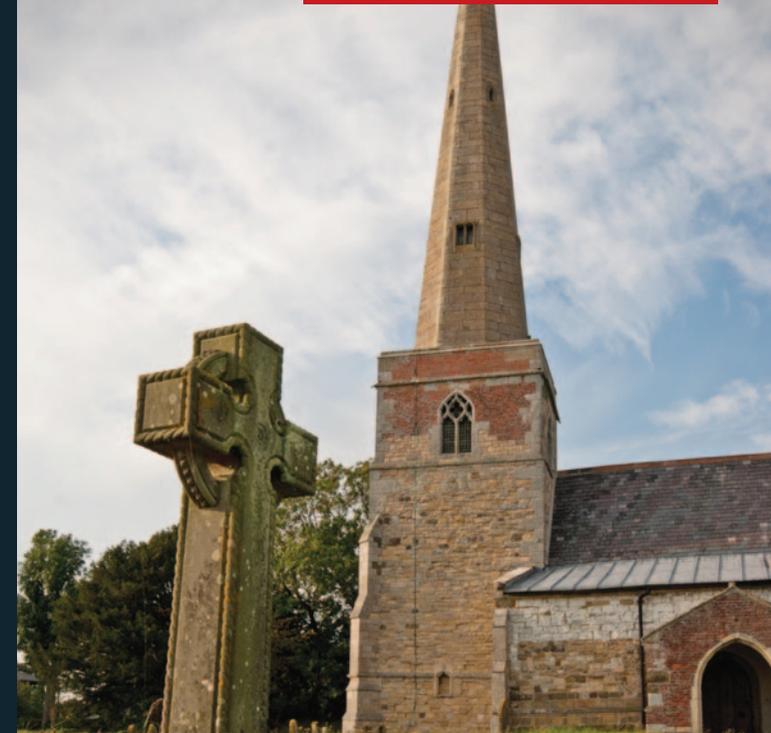
To protect these churches, and others like them, we need your help. If you enjoy your visit please give generously or if you would like to become a CCT supporter and join in our exclusive 'behind-the-scenes' visits please go to our website.



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

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Registered Charity No: 258612
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Church of St Peter

South Somercotes



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

The historic church of St Peter

10 things to see before you leave...

- 1 The magnificent 15th-century **font** is decorated with the Instruments of the Passion. The underside of the basin is decorated with carved faces.
- 2 The tower arch is decorated with **corbels** showing grimacing faces, adding a humorous and fantastical feel to the church.
- 3 The north and south aisles each contain a **Romesse stove**. This famous 19th-century stove manufacturer was favoured by Florence Nightingale for use in her hospital at Balaclava.
- 4 A **memorial** to Thomas Freshney hangs in the south aisle. It is made of alabaster and was designed by Tutnell of Lincoln.
- 5 Each aisle hosts a modest wooden **Georgian bench**, the panelling of which may have come from other furnishings in the church.
- 6 The **chancel screen** is a remarkable medieval survival. Full of intricate details, expressive little faces peer out at the viewer.
- 7 Comparable with the font, the Victorian **pulpit** depicts the Instruments of the Passion. The Frederick Freshney memorial above states that the pulpit was erected in his honour.
- 8 Hanging above the pulpit is a **memorial** to Frederick Freshney, a trooper in the Imperial Light Horse, who died at nearby Saltfleet in 1906.
- 9 The chancel roof is decorated on either side with carved **angels** playing musical instruments. These were installed with the chancel roof in the 18th century.
- 10 The north wall of the chancel bears a medieval feature which may be a **piscina**, used for washing sacred vessels, or the remains of a **stone sepulchre**.



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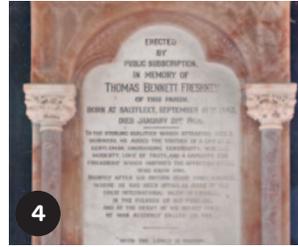
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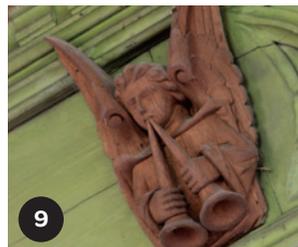
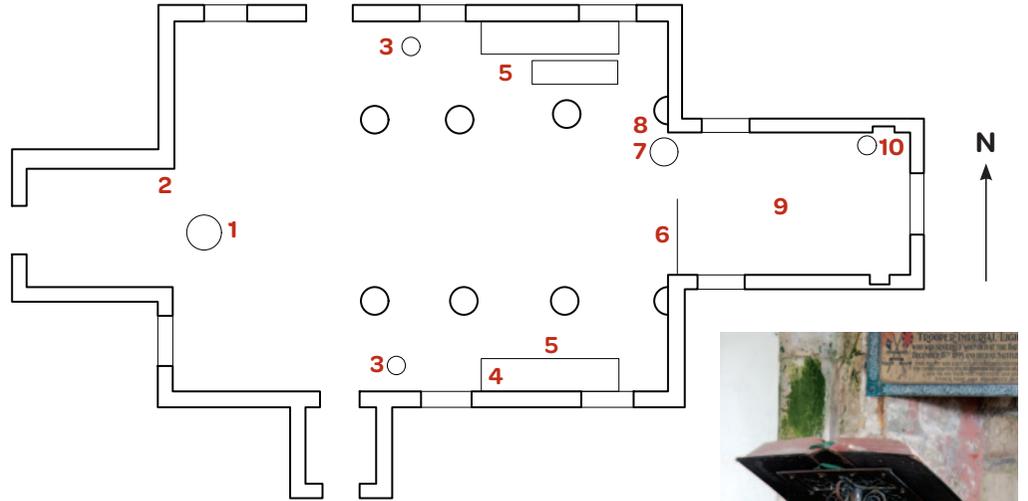
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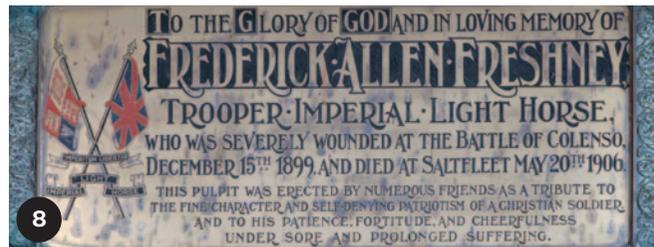
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