

This is the Fifty-Ninth of an occasional series of articles by David Stone about incidents in the history of Swanton Morley and its church

A VISIT TO ALL SAINTS' CHURCH BY THE CHURCHWARDEN OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, QUICK, B.C., CANADA

Introduction

You may recall that in July and August 2015 I wrote a couple of articles about this little church. Its construction was funded by Mary Lombe, the widow of one of our rectors, the Rev. Edward Lombe, as a memorial to her husband and it reflects his evangelical work. It was consecrated on 9 August 1914. This is a little update.

I first became aware of the existence of the church at Quick when Mel Coulson, one of their churchwardens, sent a copy of their centenary booklet to the Diocese of Norwich, and in due course it found its way to me. Since then I have enjoyed a regular correspondence with Mel and together we have managed to unravel some relevant aspects of the history of the Lombe family.

Now, although Mel lives in Quick, he was born in Chesterfield, and he had kept in touch with a couple of friends from his schooldays. Earlier this year he made plans to visit them and he asked if he could combine this with a visit by all of them to All Saints' Church. Naturally, I was delighted to welcome them, and they spent a couple of hours here on 28 July, coming back for lunch with Judy and me. Mel is the tall chap, second from the right. They are gazing across the valley towards Bylaugh Church.

Not surprisingly they were very impressed by the size of the church, and by its architecture and history, but they were also impressed by the tidiness of the churchyard, especially when I explained that this had recently largely been the work of one man – our thanks yet again Chris.

