



JUPITER HEATING SYSTEMS LTD
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, KENARDINGTON

In 2013 work began to refurbish and extend the parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Kenardington in Kent. The architects responsible for the project were Purcell, a practice well known for ecclesiastical projects.

Jupiter Heating Systems were approached to design, supply and install a dry installed heating system to work in conjunction with a perimeter trench heating system. A dry system was favoured to avoid the introduction of the seemingly permanent alternative, concrete.

The benefits of dry installed underfloor heating systems in churches are well documented now and the installation at Kenardington is no exception. The result here was obtained quickly and efficiently allowing the overall project to be completed within the allocated time frame.

Being that central aisle was subject to a preservation order, either side within the nave was allocated for the underfloor heating. Following excavation it was established that the void left could be made up with dry granulated levelling slate followed by insulation and then the JUPITER IDEAL system. The granular slate is a unique method of gaining a level floor with a dry, natural product. Unlike grains of sand which are round in structure, the slate is angular and binds mechanically. Laid to a minimum of 15mm and a maximum of 100mm this provides a flat, level and most importantly, a solid substrate on which to install primary insulation and ultimately the JUPITER system.

Rather than using a typical 75mm screed the JUPITER system employs a 20mm ceramic interlocking tile system which has been a hugely successful alternative. Surprisingly, the Screed Replacement Tile (S.R.T.) provides more strength than traditional 75mm screed yet being only 20mm thick has none of the heat up problems that screed has associated to it.

In addition, whereas screed officially requires 1mm per day to correctly dry out the JUPITER S.R.T. system only needs 36 hours. After which time the heating system can be turned on and the floor finish can be installed.

In the case of St Mary's Church additional trench heaters were installed to assist the heat up period of the church. These were installed at the perimeter of the nave and were served with a higher temperature water supply.

Plant for the project was contained in a new, beautifully designed and constructed purpose built oak structure some metres away from the church.

The new pentice, constructed beautifully from oak and whose end window focused the eye on the beautiful view beyond, was heated with a traditional pipe in screed system. ■

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