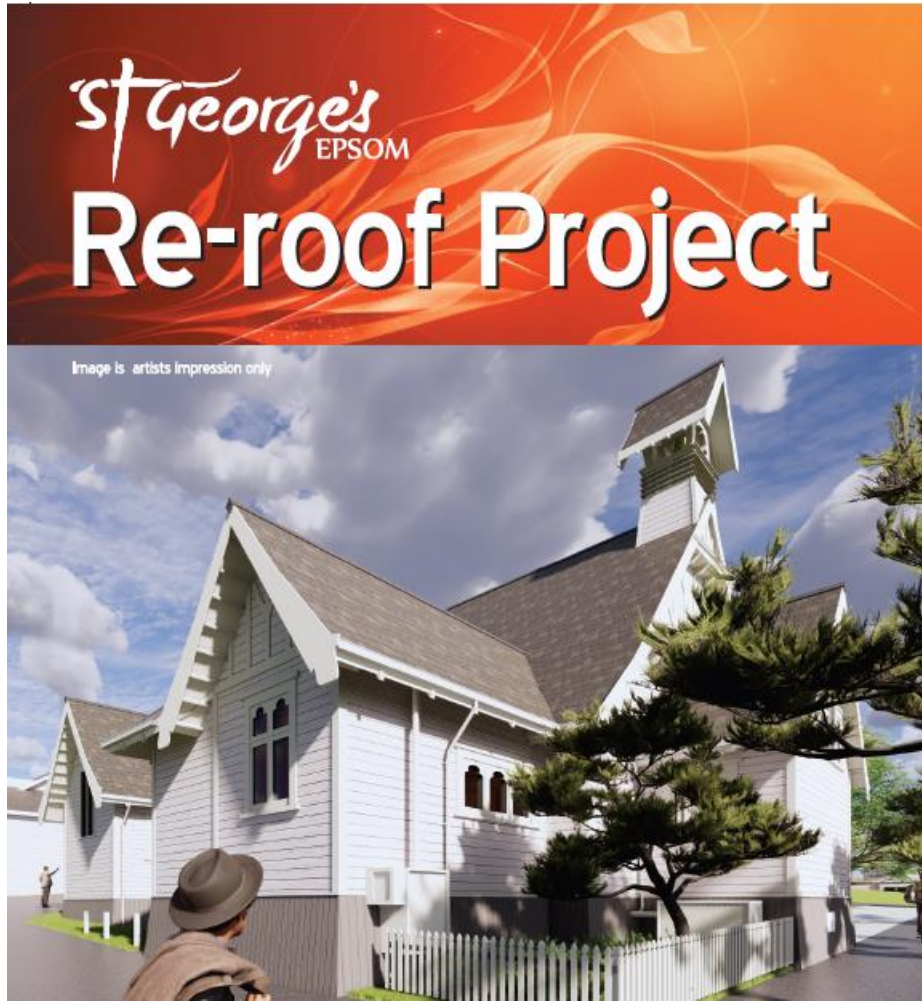


Re-Roof Project: Weekly Update

Tuesday 25 October



Now three weeks into the actual contract works, the scaffolding is falling behind schedule. Crucial truss beams have been lifted into place over the east transept but must eventually span the main roof ridge to complete the freestanding scaffold structure. You might guess the cause of the delay is Covid – the reason for most delays these days. In this case, our scaffolder is short of skilled riggers to erect the scaffolding.

Shortages of skilled labour are a global phenomenon. You could argue that it is a natural consequence of a finely tuned 'Just-in-Time' system. Sometimes, without warning, supply chains suffer unplanned and serious disruption, due to a sudden collapse in demand, followed months later by a sudden and equally unpredictable surge. In these situations demand has quickly recovered but the reduction in the labour force that has happened in the interim means suppliers simply can't respond as fast as customers would like. Manufacturing, transport, and service organisations fail to deliver... and some simply fail.

With foresight we secured our key materials early and have them stored ready to go. But unfortunately, we can't prepurchase labour and keep it in a warehouse too.

The pressure is on the scaffold contractor to deliver in time for the roof-tile removal contractor to start on-site in a week's time. Please pray for continued fair weather to support progress.

Steve Barnett
Roof Project Lead.