

### **THE EAST and WEST WINDOWS: 1873**

Before the Reformation, these windows almost certainly had coloured glass in them, but no traces of this remain. In the following three centuries, the East Window had glass similar to that in the east window of Quex Chapel. We have a photograph and an etching that both confirm this fact.

When the Victorians began their restoration in 1863, they set their sights on these large east and west windows fairly early on, but had to wait until enough funds had been raised. It was not until 1873 that the windows were altered. The West Window was paid for by Thomas Gray of Birchington Hall, in memory of his parents, Thomas and Mary Gray and their daughter Mary.

The East Window was paid for by public subscription, so can truly be said to be 'the people's window'. It cost £180 for the new stonework and the stained glass panels. The theme of this window is 'The Crucifixion', with Mary Magdalene at Christ's feet, his Mother standing on the left and St John on the right. There is some doubt about the identity of the four men standing at the outside of the crucifix group. Moses and Elijah are obvious candidates, but that only accounts for two of them.

The heavenly Host who ministered to our Lord are depicted in the upper half of the windows. In the little rose window at the top, Christ is shown in glory, holding the orb and sceptre of Kingship.