

Church & Community Volunteer Awards



We have a long and really cherished relationship with the Marsh Charitable Trust, and have presented several awards in partnership over previous years.

These have always centred around the brilliant contribution which volunteers make to both caring for and making best use of churches, and especially using churches to reach out to local communities and using the building as a hub for activity.

Churches are so much more than places of worship. From foodbanks to credit unions, churches across the UK provide a growing list of essential services for people in urgent need. We've long seen the power of churches to bring communities together and help them thrive. We highlighted this in our recent House of Good report: <https://www.houseofgood.nationalchurchestrust.org/>

In previous years we have taken a longlist of churches primarily from our list of grantees, but now we are widening out the awards to teams of volunteers from any church, chapel or meeting house. We see these awards as an opportunity to increase engagement with churches and the sector.

Entry requirements

Volunteers from any church, chapel or meeting house may be nominated. This will enable us to celebrate the geographic spread of great work that is going on across the UK.

You just need to be able to tell us about the people involved, the fantastic things you do and the difference that it makes. Your application will be reviewed by an expert panel.

Submission and judging process for all awards

- You will need to start your submission with a title, brief description.
- You will need to upload at least 5 images on the submission page.
- Then, to apply you will need to complete the detailed submission form.
- You will be able to upload a video.
- You will be able to amend your submission up until the closing date.

Overleaf are the questions, so that you can prepare your answers offline. Some questions are mandatory (marked with an asterisk), others are not. Some have a word limit, which is listed here.



Church of the Year



We, together with our partners, want to see amazing churches that are open and available for use.

Vibrant and valued churches are open for worship and well supported, have effective maintenance and engage well with volunteers. They offer a warm welcome to visitors, offer great spaces for community activities, and tell their stories in brilliant ways. This is what makes churches sustainable. You might not be there yet, but we want to hear how you are doing. For the first time ever, we will announce a 'Church of the Year'. We are looking for brilliant churches which are open, well cared for, have the necessary facilities, and engage with visitors from far and wide.

If you would like your church to be considered for 'Church of the Year' please tell us what makes your church special.

You can find the form to submit your entry here:

<https://www.zealous.co/nationalchurchestrust/opportunity/Church-Community-Volunteer-Awards/>

Questions

- Name of church or chapel * (15 word limit)
- Address of church or chapel * (150 word limit)
- Postcode of church or chapel * (5 word limit)

- Name and phone number of a contact at the church * (75 word limit)

- Denomination * (5 word limit)

- Is the building listed * (yes/no)
- If the building is listed, please state the grade

Tell us about your church. What's your ethos and what's important to you?
* (150 word limit)

Tell us about the team of volunteers you'd like to nominate for this award?
* (250 word limit)

How do you encourage people to get involved and engage?
* (250 word limit)





What's the best thing about being involved?

* (250 word limit)

We understand that your team are probably involved in more than one thing with your church, but what is your star community activity? How did it come about and how has it grown over time?

* (500 word limit)

What other activities are you involved in, what difference are you making and what are you most proud of?

* (500 word limit)

What issues have the team faced and overcome along the way?

* (250 word limit)

What difference does the team and their work make to your community and to your church?

* (250 word limit)

What are you (and they) most proud of?

* (250 word limit)

Please tell us anything else about volunteer involvement at your church that you think has not been covered but you would like us to know.

* (500 word limit)

Brief description of your building's heritage / architecture

* (150 word limit)

Your building in numbers (include opening times, congregation size, number of services and community activities)

* (150 word limit)

Would you like to be considered for Church of the Year? * (yes/no)

If yes, please tell us what makes your church special.

* (150 word limit)

