

Annual Review

2021-2022



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Yours for good.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org

Keeping churches open and in use

2021 was a year in which we significantly expanded the scale of our work supporting the UK's amazing churches.



Luke March DL, Chairman

At a time when the risk of closure of church buildings is increasing, following the financial challenges of Covid-19, the importance of our work cannot be underestimated.

We know that more ways must be found to fund church buildings. Our latest research shows that they provide over £55 billion of social and economic value to the UK each year. The return on investment in keeping places of worship open and in use is huge.

Government support for church buildings in England was generously provided in 2021 through the Heritage Stimulus Fund and this is to be applauded. Thanks to our expertise in helping churches, we were able to secure £3.5 million from the Fund in 2021. We have put this to excellent use to support urgent repair work at 32 Grade I and Grade II* Listed church buildings.

The UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses have the support of the vast majority of people, regardless of whether or not they use them for worship. This was manifested in the public support we had for our 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings' campaign. Our thanks go to our Vice President Sir Michael Palin for his backing of the campaign.

Keeping churches open

In 2021 we restructured our organisation and established a new Engagement Team who have created a striking new website that includes our highly popular Explore Churches digital church tourism offering.

Our Church Support Team continued its crucial work of helping to keep churches in good repair and open for use. It has unrivalled expertise in the church and heritage sector and delivered £5.2 million of grants in 2021, a record amount for us thanks to the special funding received from the Heritage Stimulus Fund.

The majority of our funding is distributed in England because of its very large number of listed church buildings. However, 2021 saw us increase our grant funding and our work in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Vital work

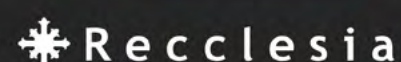
It has been an immense privilege to hold the post of Chairman since 2012. I am very proud of the huge amount that continues to be achieved by everyone connected with the National Churches Trust. I have been thrilled to see how recognition for the vital work undertaken by the charity has grown over the past ten years.

I applaud in particular the contribution of church communities, especially all the work carried out by their volunteers during the pandemic.

The success of the National Churches Trust is down to team effort, from the contribution given by my fellow trustees to the considerable dedication of the small executive team, ably led by Claire Walker. The relationships which we have developed with our various partners including charitable foundations, generous individual donors and statutory institutions are also vitally important.

In 2021 I am delighted that the trustees appointed Sir Philip Rutnam as Chairman designate in advance of the completion of my term of office. He will take up the role in September 2022. We welcome him, and know that he will ensure that the National Churches Trust continues as the leading charity supporting church buildings throughout the UK, helping to make sure they are well maintained, open to all, valued and used.

Luke March DL, Chairman



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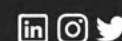
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The Future of the UK's Church Buildings



Sir Michael Palin

"The UK has over 39,000 church buildings. The restrictions of Covid-19, resulting in reduced funding and fewer worshippers, has clouded the future for many of them. Yet churches remain a vital and much-loved part of the UK's history and heritage and we can't let them fall into neglect and disuse."



The future of the UK's churches is in our hands. We want to make sure they are valued and saved, before it's too late. That's why in November 2021 we launched 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings', a national debate to help safeguard the future of local churches.

We highlighted the many community, economic, heritage and spiritual benefits of churches.

£55 billion
the annual economic and social value of churches



Backed by Sir Michael Palin, our Vice President, the campaign grabbed the headlines around the UK and also in the USA, Australia and Europe. A highlight was our church buildings manifesto in which leading public figures made the case for their future.

In England, 350 Church of England churches are reported to be at risk of being closed or demolished within the next five years. In Scotland, at least 275 churches have closed since January 2000, a decline of 15.6% in 21 years.

A shortage of funding is a key factor leading to closure. The Church of England will have to find £1 billion to fund repairs to its 16,000 parish churches in the next five years.

New figures we published in 2021, in an update to our pioneering 'The House of

Good' report, show that the repair bill is vastly outweighed by the economic and social benefit of church buildings, which is worth over £55 billion.

The incredible, life-changing impact that the UK's churches have on society is why we continue to invest in churches through our grant programmes. We are UK wide, support church buildings open for worship and can help churches of all denominations, both those that are listed and unlisted.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/futureofchurches

Help support the UK's churches

Right now, many church buildings are at risk. That's because there is not enough money available to fund urgent repairs.

You can support the UK's churches by making a donation.



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www.nationalchurchestrust.org/donate



© Diocese of Westminster

Leading writers, heritage experts and clergy all contributed insightful articles to our 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings' report.

Harry Mount, Editor of The Oldie magazine, was one of the contributors. Below we publish his contribution about the changing uses of church buildings.



The last chance saloon?

By Harry Mount



Harry Mount is an author and journalist who is Editor of The Oldie. His books include *Amo, Amas, Amat... And All That*, *How England Made the English* – from Hedgerows to Heathrow and *Harry Mount's Odyssey: Ancient Greece in the Footsteps of Odysseus*.



St Mary's church, Warren, Pembrokeshire

© Harry Mount

A friend of mine, who works in the Foreign Office, once told me how she was longing for her next post in France after a spell in America. She had missed what she called 'les vieilles pierres' – the old stones.

When lockdown ended, I was hungry for old stones and, in particular, for churches.

Stuck in London for the pandemic, I'd been deprived of them for an agonisingly long time.

The first I went to was St Mary's, Warren, Pembrokeshire (pictured above) – a 14th-century church with an enchanting, late-medieval spire you can see from miles in every direction.

I felt a Ready-Brek glow just gazing at the old stones of the church from the outside, with nothing beyond it except empty fields, the Castlemartin military range and the sea.

Inside, the glow intensified at that good old feeling you get on entering a church: of silence and a slightly musty hit of ancient dust and new furniture polish, mixed with reverence.

Larkin's 'Church Going'

It's impossible to talk about these things without thinking about Philip Larkin's 'Church Going'. The poem was published in

1955 but, even then, he was asking the question the Church of England is asking that much more desperately today:

'...wondering too
When churches fall completely out of use
What we shall turn them into, if we shall keep
A few cathedrals chronically on show,
Their parchment, plate, and pyx in locked cases,
And let the rest rent-free to rain and sheep.
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?'

Larkin ended that great poem on a semi-optimistic note:

'Someone will forever be surprising
A hunger in himself to be more serious,
And gravitating with it to this ground,
Which, he once heard, was proper to grow wise in,
If only that so many dead lie round.'

I'm sure he's right. We won't see the bulldozers move in on St Mary's, Warren, or any other ancient church – partly because of that respect for the dead and the feeling of seriousness Larkin refers to; partly because of planning rules.

What will happen to the buildings?

But what will happen to the buildings? Several other Pembrokeshire churches near St Mary's have already closed in recent years. Their structure is kept in good nick. They remain consecrated for the odd service.

But it's hard to see them opening up for regular services with big congregations ever again. What to do with the churches?

"How do you retain the ancientness and the reverence, and make the buildings useful at the same time?"

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the higher echelons of the Church of England did not cover themselves with glory during the pandemic.

They rushed to close the church doors just when calm, beautiful, ancient places were most required; just when huge, empty

buildings were the safest place for a few congregants – even more so for the lone church visitor like I was at St Mary's, Warren.

Please, God, we won't face such bleak days again. And, if and when the pandemic disappears, or remains at a low, manageable level, those two qualities of most of our churches – old stones and a quiet place of strong, religious feeling – will remain vanishingly rare, particularly in our city centres, ravaged by modern development.

Those qualities are even more powerful in the digital age, when so many of us – including me – spend so much of our days staring at an unlovely, modern, glass screen.



The café at St Mary Aldermary, London

Squaring the circle

But how do you square the circle? How do you retain the ancientness and the reverence, and make the buildings useful at the same time?

I'm afraid there has to be a compromise. The writer Simon Jenkins has put it well in the past. Empty churches – unless they are unusually well-endowed – will have to bite the bullet and lend part of their fabric to commercial purposes.

Plenty of them do this already, of course – renting out the church or the church hall for everything from business AGMs to pop concerts. That's easy enough in a city; more difficult in rural Britain. I'm afraid that the more remote a building, the greater the compromise will inevitably be.

"New uses needn't come at the sacrifice of the church's original, crucial, spiritual purpose."

In extremis – and only if necessary to pay for the upkeep of a church – the church nave could be converted to residential use, with the choir (if there is one) and chancel still fenced off for religious observance, with access guaranteed to worshippers. Any conversion work must be reversible in the unlikely event of a return to growing congregations.

If the rural migration from cities that happened during lockdown is maintained, church space will be even more valuable – as remote offices and cafés.

These new uses needn't come at the sacrifice of the church's original, crucial, spiritual purpose. I have often sat in the café at St Mary, Aldermary, Christopher Wren's marvellous Gothic church in the City of London – and have felt a deeply spiritual feeling.

The ability to sit and stare

Many times, I've found it easier to pray, staring at Wren's sublime fan vaults, double macchiato in hand, than I have when kneeling in prayer elsewhere. The ability to sit and stare while sitting at a café table, doing not very much, produces the right sort of mood for thoughtful contemplation.

Of course, lots of uses must be forbidden: betting shops and sex shops spring to mind as unacceptable. But I see no reason why bars shouldn't be allowed in the unconsecrated parts of churches – and I stress that this is only in those churches that are facing closure or bankruptcy if they don't embrace commercial alternatives.

So many churches are in the last chance saloon – better that they should become holy altars with saloons attached than disappear for ever.



You can read 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings' on our website at nationalchurchestrust.org/futureofchurches or if you'd like a printed version, please email us at info@nationalchurchestrust.org

The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York, has written specially for our Annual Review about the future of church buildings.



Brick by brick we care for our buildings

By The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York



Archbishop Stephen Cottrell is one of the Presidents of the Church of England's General Synod and of the Archbishop's Council. He is Joint President of the National Churches Trust.

A steeple rising from the skyline of a town, an iconic church building along one side of the village square, or the shadow of a cathedral – all are familiar landmarks within the British landscape. Gathering for weddings, funerals and baptisms, for Harvest Festival, Easter and Christmas – the church is a space of memories, of connection with the past and of hope for the future.

In the recent National Churches Trust's consultation on 'The Future of the UK's Church Buildings', there is perhaps one quote that eloquently sums up our relationship with church buildings: "Church buildings are the beating heart of the spiritual life of the country as they have been for centuries.

In a world of deepening divisions, rivalries and tensions, to lose a local church diminishes further our faith, our society and our cohesion as a nation."

Obviously for me, the heart of church buildings is the important part they play in our worshipping lives – we gather as God's people to worship daily in some places, weekly in others. But the impact of the church building extends far beyond the gathering of the faithful, as the Trust's '50 Things to do in a Church' initiative suggests – from art to theatre to comedy to history to nature. And of course, Jesus!

"Our church buildings allow us to offer sanctuary in the midst of the community."

An invitation to everyone

The church has a mission to show the heart of Jesus in a world of so much hurt and so much confusion and so much uncertainty. The Church's primary vocation is to be the place that serves and teaches; to



Strictly Come Dancing professional dancers teach dance moves to a group of Brownies and Girl Guides, at the Brentford Free Church in west London



Thanksgiving Service for new community facilities at Maresfield Church, Sussex, supported by the National Churches Trust in 2021

be the Church which is aligned with that which is basic and obvious to our Christian faith, which is to show the heart of Jesus to others through our teaching and preaching and evangelising, to the service that we offer to and with the community, and to the invitation we extend to everyone to come into the church building.

Our church buildings allow us to offer sanctuary in the midst of the community. The open doors of a church in the middle

of a busy city centre beckon the weary tourist to a place of peace and quiet, an oasis for the commuter at the beginning and ending of the work day to pray, or simply to sit in silence, or a place for a cup of tea, a biscuit and a natter.

Of course the church building is inseparable from the Church – the offer of hospitality is central to the Christian

faith and the value of the church building can be seen in how this hospitality is shown in the local community. In many places, the church hall hosts a community play group, exercise classes, Brownies – this makes it a bustling hub of activity. Even though these activities are not the primary activities of the Church, they remain ways in which the Church is connected to the broader community.

Vital to the community

They also show the many and varied ways in which the church building is central to the vitality of the community and why so many people who are not part of the worshipping community feel passionate about church buildings. Buildings tell at least a part of our story and our history – places to remember loved ones, to commemorate events, to gather together, to be together. The stones of the

building have a long memory, and so church buildings are far more than only bricks and mortar.

Perhaps one of the most pertinent stories in the Bible when thinking about church buildings, their upkeep and their preservation is that of Nehemiah. Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king, an important job. He was called by God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem – a huge and daunting undertaking, which will be well-understood by those called to care for and restore our church buildings. This was not an easy task – Nehemiah was mocked, yet he worked hard, he planned, he persevered and he trusted that God would give success (Neh. 2:20).

Church buildings need to be cared for

Throughout the story, Nehemiah refuses to lose hope. Again and again, leaders plot to derail the rebuilding of the wall. Again and again, Nehemiah rallies his people – to work and to pray – to rebuild the walls. The city walls were needed for protection, for the safety of the city and the temple. And so the walls of church buildings need to be preserved and cared for – for the sake of the people and for the Kingdom of God.

Just as the steeple rises from the city skyline, so the hope should rise from the message of the Church. A place of safety, a sanctuary, a gathering place, a community hub.

I am reminded of a story I once heard:

A person came upon a construction site where three people were working. They asked the first, "What are you doing?" and the builder replied: "I am laying bricks." They asked the second, "What are you doing?" and the builder replied: "I am building a wall." As he approached the third, they heard the builder humming a tune as they worked, and asked, "What are you doing?" The builder stood, looked up at the sky, and smiled, "I am building a cathedral!"

So what are we doing? What are we building? Brick by brick we care for our buildings, our people, our community – as we continue to build the Kingdom of God.



Repair work at St Mary's Church, Cogges, Oxfordshire, supported by the National Churches Trust in 2021

Our impact around the UK

Working together with churches across all four nations, we help to maintain these wonderful historic buildings and keep them thriving today, and tomorrow.



Wales

In 2021 we celebrated the completion of our major tourism project, Experiencing Sacred Wales, funded by the Welsh Government through VisitWales.

We worked with the Wales Coast Path on Sacred Heritage Spaces, a unique series of walking itineraries to showcase some of the finest sacred spaces and hidden spiritual gems of Wales.

Featuring the unmistakable coastlines of Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and the Llŷn Peninsula, the brand-new collection of itineraries makes it easy for people to discover nine historical treasures along the Wales Coast Path.

We also kept up our support for churches with 14 grants totalling £92,515.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore/wales

Northern Ireland

2021 was a very busy year for our work in Northern Ireland. Our Treasure Ireland grants programme supported 14 places of worship with a total of £76,000. Our Northern Ireland grants committee continued to ensure support across denominations and across the region.

We hosted a number of exciting workshops showcasing and promoting Northern Ireland's diverse faith heritage. Our European Heritage Open Day Event by Dr David Caron, shining a light on Northern Ireland's stained-glass heritage, was a particular success. Other highlights included our Maintenance Week event in collaboration with SPAB Ireland.

Work continued on our faith heritage trails, with talented landscape photographer Laura McIlveen appointed to capture Northern Ireland's treasure trove of faith buildings. The land of saints and scholars has a rich faith heritage to be proud of and it is a wonderful adventure discovering them.

We were delighted to receive a £200,000 funding boost for our work in 2021 from the Department for Communities Historic Environment Division. Huge thanks to them and to our other funders including the National Lottery Heritage Fund and The Pilgrim Trust.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/treasureireland



Christchurch, Derry-Londonderry



Rosemary Potter and George Proudfoot from the Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust

Scotland

In 2021 we awarded 18 grants with a total value of £148,000. Since 2018 we have helped 45 churches in Scotland with funding of £420,000.

The largest denomination in Scotland is the Church of Scotland which is looking to reduce the number of their churches significantly. New ways of managing churches will be needed in the future.

So in 2021 we supported a community trust, who have taken over the running of Kirkcaldy Old Kirk, with funding for repairs. The church remains a place of worship and is also now a community centre.

We became a member of the Scotland Places of Worship Forum and will work with other partner members on creating a sustainable future for Scotland's beautiful and historic churches and chapels.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/Scotland-2021

England

With such a large number of churches, chapels and meeting houses, the majority of our funding is distributed to places of worship in England. The Church of England alone is responsible for more than 16,000 churches, of which some 12,000 are listed.

We aim to distribute our grants so as to help churches in all parts of the country. For a number of years we have received few funding applications from churches in the North East of England, so this is one of our priority areas.

St Chad's, in Bensham, Gateshead, was one of six churches in the North East which we supported in 2021. This hidden treasure was built as a cathedral for working people. Amongst its highlights are wood carvings and stained glass windows by important designers in the Arts and Crafts movement.

We awarded the church a grant of £256,000 to pay for major repairs to the roof of the Grade II* Listed building, thanks to £3.5 million of funding we received from the Heritage Stimulus Fund in 2021.

Another way we help keep churches open in England is through our promotion of Ride+Stride for Churches. The sponsored event takes place every year on the second Saturday in September.

Supported by the National Churches Trust and run by county churches trusts nationwide, in 2021 Ride+Stride raised over £1.2 million for the restoration and preservation of historic churches, chapels and meeting houses.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/ridestride

Stained glass in St Chad's Church





Sir Michael Palin, Dame Penelope Wilton and Huw Edwards at our 2021 Christmas Carol Concert

Thanking our Friends and supporters

Our Friends help us in many ways and allow us to keep churches open.

We are delighted that 1,173 new Friends joined us in 2021. By the end of the year we had 4,954 Friends with whom we celebrate the architectural and human riches of churches.

2021 also saw an increase in membership of our Cornerstone Club by 22 to 64, and the number of Life Friends from 236 to 287.

The most popular event for Friends is our annual Christmas Carol Concert. In 2021 this was livestreamed from St James's Church, Piccadilly. Hosted by our Vice President Huw Edwards, with readings from Sir Michael Palin and Dame Penelope Wilton, our professional singers and musicians were led by John March. The event raised an impressive £7,000, money which will help us support more churches.

Now in its fifth year, our Friends' Vote continues to be a wonderful way in which our supporters can help us carry out our work. St Michael, Llanfihangel y Creuddyn, Cardiganshire, a highly significant historic building in Wales built in the thirteenth century, won the 2021 Friends' Vote. It received a £10,000 grant, helping to pay for urgent tower and roof repairs.

Supporting our work

Since 1954, over 765 supporters have left a bequest to the National Churches Trust and to the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, our predecessor charity.

In 2021 we received 15 bequests totalling £613,139. We are very grateful to our Friends and supporters who have helped our work in this way.

We are also incredibly grateful to the many Trusts and Foundations that supported our work in 2021.

These include The Pilgrim Trust which has been a partner for many years. An increase in their funding for our work in 2021 was a real endorsement and enabled us to help more churches in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The Dulverton Trust also offered exceptional support in 2021 as part of a three-year funding agreement. This enables us to plan our work with greater certainty.

As part of our partnership with The Wolfson Foundation we continued to award Wolfson Fabric Repair Grants to support listed churches in the UK by keeping them in good repair.

Our corporate supporters are key partners in our success story. These include CCLA Investment Management whose generosity enabled us to publish our new book 'The Treasures of English Churches' and who, together with Distributed Sound and Video Ltd, made our Christmas Carol Concert possible.

4,954
Friends supporting
our work

Our Gift Membership is perfect for birthdays, Mother's and Father's days and of course retirement when there is more time to get out and about and explore.



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www.nationalchurchestrust.org/support/gift-membership

We are grateful to the many Trusts, Foundations and donors who generously support us, including those listed here, and others who prefer to remain anonymous.

Trusts and Foundations

Alan and Sheila Diamond Charitable Trust
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There are many ways you can support our work.
Find out more at www.nationalchurchestrust.org/support-us

Our grants help keep churches thriving today, and tomorrow



Fixing the roof of Kendal Friends Meeting House

Our grants are key to securing the future of the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses. This was especially the case in 2021 as many other grant providers focused on Covid-19 related projects. As a result, churches found it hard to fund building and repair projects and turned to us for help.

In 2021 we provided £5.2 million to help support the long term future of over 300 church buildings in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Our grants help churches in many ways, but most importantly they help ensure they remain watertight and windproof, with much of our funding used to repair roofs. This is important as it safeguards precious heritage outside and inside the church. Our grants also help keep towers and spires safe and structurally sound, sometimes having the wonderful result of making it possible for long silenced bells to ring out again.

Long term future

Our grants also support providing new facilities, such as loos and kitchens. This allows more churches to be used to host vital community services such as foodbanks, parent and toddler groups and youth clubs and as venues for music and other events. This helps ensure their long term future and increases their benefit to local people.

In 2021 funding for our grants included £3.5 million for urgent repair works provided to us by Historic England as part of the Government's Heritage Stimulus Fund. This one-off funding was given to help 32 Grade I and Grade II* Listed Places of Worship in England we identified as being in need of urgent help, including Quaker Meeting Houses, URC and Church of England buildings. Thanks to this, we will be helping remove nine more historic churches from the Heritage at Risk Register.

Throughout 2021 Covid-19 continued to bring major challenges. The pandemic had a huge impact on the finances of churches with some reporting reductions of up to 80% in their income. This made it very hard for them even to fund simple maintenance. Here our Foundation Grants, supported by The Pilgrim Trust, provided much needed help.

Covid-19 also meant that many churches were unable to open as usual, creating unexpected problems. One of the challenges we were able to help with was at Grade II* Listed St Nicholas Church in Plumstead, London where the tower became infested with more than 70 pigeons during the lockdown. The toxic waste and dead pigeons meant that the tower and the church hall were unusable when the church re-opened. We stepped in with a £4,434 Foundation Grant to decontaminate the tower and fit window guards to prevent further access.



Main image: Newport Minster on the Isle of Wight, to which we awarded a £612,000 Heritage Stimulus Fund grant

Inset: Inspecting crumbling stonework at Newport Minster

2021 highlights

In 2021 demand for our grants remained extremely high. We were able to help around 40% of the churches that asked for our help with grants, making 304 grants to churches, chapels and meeting houses throughout the UK, 45 more than in 2021.

56 grants totalling **£760,000** awarded through our flagship Cornerstone Grants programme for repairs and community facilities.

96 grants totalling **£2,262,615** awarded to churches located within the most deprived areas of the UK (43% of the total value of grants awarded).

58 grants totalling **£853,217** awarded to non-Anglican places of worship.

37 grants totalling **£517,739** awarded to churches located in our priority areas of Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the North East of England.

65 grants totalling **£400,000** awarded as part of our partnership with The Wolfson Foundation for repair projects.

17 churches helped by our grants were removed from Historic England's Heritage At Risk Register.

£5.2 million
of grants awarded
funding 304 projects



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www.nationalchurchestrust.org/grants



Roof repairs at Newport Minster on the Isle of Wight, supported by the National Churches Trust in 2021

The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining

By Richard Carr Archer



Richard Carr Archer is an architect based in York. He is currently a member of the York Diocesan Committee and Wakefield Cathedral Fabric Committee; he has been a member of the Cathedral Fabric Committee of England, Durham Cathedral Fabric Committee, chairman of Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust and a Trustee of the National Churches Trust from 2011-2021.

The National Churches Trust has granted more money for roof repairs than for anything else.

That makes perfect sense as the roof is the most important element on any church building. It keeps out the weather; it copes with wind, rain and snow. It protects the structural support system, the internal services and finishes, the space beneath, the bell with its frame and clock beneath the tower, even the organ. And it allows us to worship.

If we treasure our local churches, unique because of our country's ecclesiastical history and with the great riches inside handed down through the generations, we must look after the roofs.

To help, I provide a guide to enable all lovers of church buildings understand what can go wrong with roofs and how the problems can be dealt with.

The worst enemy

Fire is surely the worst enemy – it can destroy a roof, its trusses and damage the contents unless the conflagration is spotted early.

Famously at York Minster the South Transept roof was lost in 1984, almost certainly caused by a lightning bolt hitting an electrical junction box which ignited the wood particles floating in the air causing the fire to spread. The roof spaces are now sub-divided into compartments to minimise fire spread, with a fire monitoring alarm system and an extensive lightning conductor installed.

More recently, in 2019, it is believed an electrical fault may have caused the catastrophe at Notre Dame in Paris where it seems safeguards and repairs might have fallen badly behind.

So, if you look after a church, make sure that a fire alarm is fitted, and that it works. That is particularly important if a church uses thatch for its roofing which is particularly vulnerable. Another essential is an up-to-date and regularly inspected lightning conductor.

Theft of roofing materials is by no means uncommon. Organised gangs can strip an entire roof of its lead in a couple of hours and are not put off by marker systems. If determined, they can disable an alarm – this begs the question whether much tougher legislation is overdue, especially to deal with rogue scrap metal dealers.

If lead is taken in quantity it is often sensible to recover in another material like terne-coated stainless steel, zinc or slate if the pitch will allow. This is a good insurance policy as it is not unheard of for newly replaced lead to be targeted by metal thieves.

Dealing with simple faults

Lack of vigilance and a failure to carry out regular maintenance can lead to serious problems which cost a lot to put right. Simple faults such as missing pointing or displaced flashings can let water in - it's not difficult to check a roof regularly and put these small issues right.

"Nail failure is often hard to spot, but to the trained eye slipped slates indicate something is amiss."

A pair of binoculars is handy to have to hand for regular inspections of a roof. Often, for a more thorough examination, a trained operator can fly a drone over a church to check on areas of a roof hard to see from the ground.

Nail failure is often hard to spot, but to the trained eye slipped slates indicate something is amiss. Missing slates should be replaced using 'tingles' - copper straps that are nailed onto timber battens onto which a new slate is secured.

In my experience it is better to have a highly skilled roofer investigate and rectify slipped slates, and whilst there to ask him to put a guess on the remaining life left in the roof covering and estimate repair costs.

When the time comes to recover a roof, this provides the ideal opportunity to modify the construction to increase the thermal resistance with insulation as this will reduce the heating bills.

One thing to look out for, which is sometimes ignored, is lichen. Although lichen on a roof can sometimes appear attractive, it produces formic acid which is capable of gouging channels right through lead.

If a slate roof has to be re-laid, a copper flashing can be inserted at the head of the slope as the copper wash will lessen the likelihood of lichen thriving.

Global warming and roofs

As all of us must be aware, global warming is changing our weather pattern and poses a challenge to church roofs built to deal with a previous meteorological era. We now experience greater quantities of rainfall within shorter time periods.

This extra amount of rain is a challenge to many existing roofs and rainwater goods. An increasing number of churches are therefore fitting larger down pipes, overflows, gutters, drains and soakaways.

Wind speeds are strengthening too, and capable of tearing off roof coverings, even damaging the support structures beneath. Counteraction to cope with the extra forces may have to be introduced in vulnerable areas.

Damp, insects and fungi

A poorly maintained roof, or one in need of repairs, often leads to dampness. This allows insect infestation and timber decaying fungi to thrive. If a church has to wait until the underlying problem is fixed, it is vitally important to monitor for furniture, death-watch beetle (and longhorn beetle in Southern areas) to avoid any infestation from structurally weakening the timbers.

It takes a well regarded professional to identify and deal with outbreaks – these might require chemical or heat treatments amongst other measures to remove and control the source.

For those who care to investigate themselves, furniture beetle produce holes 1-2mm diameter, death-watch 2-3mm diameter. Dry rot has white and yellow colour fruiting, wet rot is usually dark and soggy.



Death-watch beetle

© WILDLIFE GmbH / Alamy Stock Photo



Replacing tiles on the roof of Newport Minster on the Isle of Wight

Because insect attack can seriously reduce a timber's strength, whilst rot can eat the timbers at the important bearings on wall heads, it is important these are monitored, at a minimum during the quinquennial inspection, before specialists are brought in to advise as speedily as possible.

"If we treasure our local churches, we must look after the roofs."

How long do roofs last?

All materials gradually deteriorate, and so quite the most important step in looking after a church roof is to establish the date when a roof covering was put on as every material has a "sell-by" date.

A start would be to examine the Faculties as these should confirm when major repairs were carried out. If a material's life and the installation date are known, it will give the likely date for renewal and then future cost can be estimated allowing a PCC to plan and secure a church's future expenditure.

The table below sets out the likely life of roof materials:

Thatch:	
Long straw	10-15 years
Corn bed wheat reed	30 years
Water reed	50-60 years
But ridges are normally renewed every 10-15 years	
Metals:	
Zinc	40 years perhaps
Lead	80 or more – slate and lead having a similar life are usually used together
Stainless steel is a relatively new material and now terne-coated but thought to have a life of over 100 years	
Slates:	
Welsh, Westmoreland, Burlington and Stone slates	80-100 years but can last considerably longer
Concrete	30 years
Clay:	
Belgian tiles	50 years or thereabouts
Plain flats, and Pantiles	60-80 years and sometime more
Shingles:	
Cedar	30-50 years
Oak	60-80 years
Fibreglass	20-30 years – but a fibreglass spire exists on a church in York put on about 60 years ago



Hole in the roof of a church

"Fewer of us are looking after local churches because congregations are diminishing and getting older."

Looking after your roof

If you are responsible for looking after a church roof, these are the key tasks you should carry out.

- Frequently carry out a visual inspection.
- Carry out maintenance regularly, and deal with any problem without delay.
- Have the building inspected every five years by a professional and seek his or her advice on repairs and investigations.
- Use well-regarded building specialists, and keep using the same ones unless something untowards happens.
- Always establish costs by competitive tender.
- Carry out a Materials Audit, establish the likely replacement year and expenditure, then plan and raise the funds.

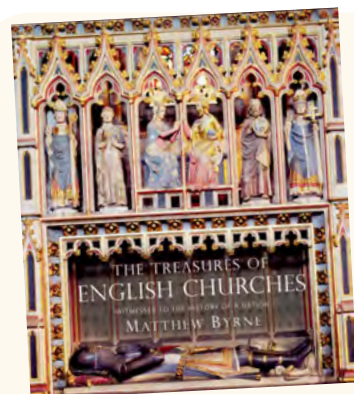
Even though as a nation we treasure our church buildings, in reality fewer of us are looking after local churches because congregations are diminishing and getting older.

However, if our precious church heritage is to survive, we must ensure the right level of care for buildings. The most important thing to do is look after the roof, which can often be out of sight and out of mind, until that is, the water starts dripping down.

We encourage churches to follow a maintenance checklist (or plan) in order to keep track of what needs doing and when, including for roofs.

In 2020 we worked with Historic England and The SPAB to create a maintenance plan checklist. This has been endorsed by the Church of England, Baptists Together, and the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and can be downloaded at www.methodist.org.uk/media/20863/maintenance-checklist-pdf.pdf





Churches are the jewels in the heritage crown. As well as visiting them, many of you also love reading about them.

In May 2021 we launched 'The Treasures of English Churches: Witnesses to the History of a Nation', a beautiful new book by leading photographer Matthew Byrne. It celebrates some of the greatest art, architecture and furnishings to be found in England's churches.

Treasures of English Churches

The luxuriously illustrated book reveals the stunning treasures of England's churches and showcases hundreds of Matthew's gorgeous colour photographs, bringing history alive.

The book had extensive press coverage and many positive reviews. So far, over 4,400 copies have been sold or made available to our Friends. On Amazon it became a best-seller in their heritage category.

We are very grateful for the generous sponsorship of CCLA Investment Management.

Matthew Byrne, who was elected a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society in 1988 for his work in architectural photography said:

"I want people to discover for themselves England's wonderful churches. Getting more people to visit churches is one way in which these magnificent buildings can be safeguarded for the future."

The fully illustrated hardback book is available from major bookshops and online retailers including Waterstones, Blackwells and Amazon.

4,444
copies sold or
provided to Friends



Maintenance matters

Regular maintenance is vital for keeping churches windproof and watertight.

It preserves heritage and saves money as it can prevent the need for repairs. Maintenance also contributes to environmental sustainability as by keeping valuable buildings in good condition energy and materials are saved.

We fund a range of maintenance work at churches through our grant programme with the support of The Pilgrim Trust and in Northern Ireland through our Treasure Ireland project.

In 2021 we awarded 84 grants for maintenance throughout the UK with total funding of £279,000.

One way that we promote maintenance is through The Naylor Awards for Excellence in Church Maintenance. We run the Awards together with our partner The Pilgrim Trust.



The maintenance team at St Matthew's Church, Surbiton

In 2021 St Matthew's Church, Surbiton won the Award, and a cash prize of £7,500.

Judges praised the team who look after the Grade II* Listed building for having in place a robust maintenance plan.

£279,000
awarded to support
maintenance



They also highlighted the involvement of volunteers in the church's regular 'Maintenance Mornings'. These include bacon butties to encourage involvement by the congregation in keeping the church windproof and watertight.

In 2022 The Naylor Awards will form part of our National Church Awards.



SCAN ME

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/foundation-grants



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been our Royal Patron since 1953 when we were founded as the Historic Churches Preservation Trust. In that time we have supported over 12,000 churches with grants and loans in excess of £100 million. The British monarchy has had a long relationship with churches and religion. In an exclusive article for our Annual Review, Catherine Pepinster charts the evolution of Queen Elizabeth's involvement with faith and religion.

The faithful monarch

By Catherine Pepinster



Catherine Pepinster is a writer and broadcaster. She was the editor of the Catholic weekly, The Tablet, for 13 years. She is a Trustee of the National Churches Trust.

It was just over a year after her accession to the throne that Elizabeth II was crowned in Westminster Abbey in June 1953. It was in coronation year that her involvement with the National Churches Trust began when she became Patron of its predecessor, the Historic Churches Preservation Trust.

She has been Patron ever since – a 69 year old connection which the Trust marked in June with a proclamation to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and thank her for her support.

We have all been used to seeing the Queen photographed and filmed with an ecclesiastical backdrop. From Westminster Abbey for her coronation, to cathedrals around the country for Maundy Thursday services over the years, at Sandringham at Christmas, Crathie Church during the summer months in Balmoral, and events such as the Garter Day services at St George's Chapel, Windsor.

Given that she holds the titles of Supreme Governor of the Church of England and Defender of the Faith, churches are familiar territory for the Queen. But the photos and the titles do not tell the entire story.

Both of her titles owe their existence to the Tudors. When Henry VIII broke away from the Roman Catholic Church and founded the Church of England, he called himself its Supreme Head. His daughter Elizabeth I considered this presumptuous – Jesus Christ should be its head, she believed – and so changed the title to Supreme Governor, which all monarchs have used since.



The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

Henry VIII, before his row with the Pope over his desire to divorce Catherine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn, and hopefully sire a son to confirm the Tudor dynasty, had been a papal favourite. His reward for publishing a rebuttal of the rebel teachings of Martin Luther was to be given in 1521 the title Defender of the Faith, which he clung on to despite his breakaway, and English, later British, monarchs have each inherited it.

The title was considered so important that it is mentioned on every coin of the realm, alongside the monarch's head as F.D. – the acronym for Fidei Defensor, the Latin for Defender of the Faith. But what was the monarch supposed to do about defending the faith?

Being Supreme Governor of the Church of England is clearer: it is a constitutional role that reflects how intertwined Anglicanism is with the state, given it is the Established Church. Elizabeth II has attended the Church of England's Synod, speaking at them, and is in regular consultation with her Archbishop of Canterbury, although she leaves the clerics to run the Church.



Henry VIII

Personal faith

But more than any other monarch since the title was first bestowed, Elizabeth II has found a way to be Defender of the Faith and in doing so, her personal faith as much as her official role has been highlighted – and that makes her quite different from her forebears.

Take the Maundy Thursday service. This includes an ancient ritual of the monarch offering gifts to the people, as a sign of service to them. It is a way of imitating Christ washing the feet of his disciples – a sign of his humility.

For hundreds of years the monarch was represented by a courtier but the Queen's grandfather George V revived the monarch's presence, albeit he attended only once. The Queen's father, George VI, attended too but the ceremonies stopped during the Second World War.

"The Queen's role of Defender of the Faith has found powerful expression in her Christmas Day messages."

But for almost every year of her reign Elizabeth II has been at the ceremony – this year ill health meant the Prince of Wales represented her – and began the initiative of taking the Maundy Service round the country.

But above all, the Queen's role of Defender of the Faith has found powerful expression in her Christmas Day messages,



Queen Elizabeth II hands out Maundy money at Blackburn Cathedral

which in the past 20 years have been increasingly frank about her personal faith and the impact her Christian beliefs have on her life. The first such message came on Christmas Day 2000 when she told viewers and listeners that "For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provides a framework in which I try to lead my life". They have continued in similar vein ever since.

The turning point for the Queen had been New Year's Eve 1999 when she and the Duke of Edinburgh joined then Prime Minister Tony Blair in the Millennium Dome to mark the new age dawning. Twelve months later she said in her Christmas Day message that while there had been great celebrations in the past year, it was the commemoration of the birth of Christ that really mattered.

Other faiths

The Queen had looked decidedly uncomfortable in the Dome, whereas she looks much more at home in not only Anglican churches but those of all Christian denominations (although she is careful, given her coronation oath to uphold the Protestant religion, not to attend a Eucharist service in a Catholic church). She has also throughout her reign visited places of worship of other faiths too.

"The Church has a duty to protect the free practice of all faiths in this country."

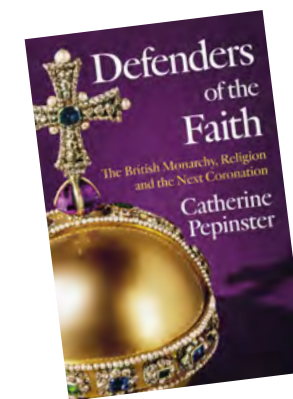
In 2012, to mark her Diamond Jubilee, she spoke at Lambeth Palace, home of the Archbishop of Canterbury, to other faith leaders about the importance of the Church of England.

"The concept of our Established Church is occasionally misunderstood and, I believe, commonly under-appreciated", she said.

"Its role is not to defend Anglicanism to the exclusion of other religions. Instead the Church has a duty to protect the free practice of all faiths in this country". And then, she continued: "Woven into the fabric of this country, the Church has helped to build a better society".

Seventy years on from her accession to the throne, the integral role that church buildings play in that better society is enhanced by the National Churches Trust – work that we hope will continue to delight our Patron.

Defenders of the Faith



Catherine Pepinster's new book, 'Defenders Of The Faith – The British Monarchy, Religion and the Next Coronation', explores the powerful connection between the British monarchy and religion.

But what part will religion play in the reign of Charles III and in the coronation of a Prince of Wales who once pledged to be defender of faith, not just defender of the Christian faith?

'Defenders of the Faith' is published by John Murray and is available at £25 from bookshops and online retailers. Supporters of the National Churches Trust can buy the book for £22.50 online by entering the code **NCT10** at www.tinyurl.com/5ycfdseb



SCAN ME

Changing of the guard

Since 2012, as Chairman Luke March has overseen tremendous growth in our work and in public recognition of the importance of the National Churches Trust. In September 2022, when his term of office ends, he will be succeeded by Sir Philip Rutnam KCB, who has been a leading figure in Whitehall.

We are delighted to feature profiles of both Luke and Sir Philip, which cover both some of the challenges that have faced us in the last ten years and the opportunities that lie ahead.



Luke March with Revd Grace Sentamu and the Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu at the Incorporated Church Building Society's 200th anniversary service of Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral in 2018

Luke March – Winning over hearts and minds

Luke March had a very early introduction to the importance of a local church to the community. The son of a vicar, he saw for himself how vital both the buildings and what goes on inside them are for local people.

From the inspiration of a religious service, to the aesthetic experience of their music, liturgy and art, and the good their welfare activities offer to the congregation and the wider world – all, he saw, made a significant impact.

That conviction of their importance was a key reason why he became our Chairman in 2012. He leaves behind a charity that has undergone remarkable change.

At the time of his appointment, the focus of the Trust was very much on heritage buildings, and Luke himself was an enthusiast for historic buildings, especially ecclesiastical ones.

But his early life as a vicar's son and his later involvement with his own parish churches in Hampshire and Wiltshire had convinced him that what matters more than heritage is the use to which the buildings are put today.

Churches and local people

"The building that is just a monument doesn't do it for me, it has to be doing something more", he says. "The most important thing about parish churches is the closeness of the church to its local people. In a sense the parish church in somewhere like Eastbourne is rather like a cathedral because of civic and other big events."

"But a rural church and town church are different. A town church has a lot of community to engage with, but in a rural church this opportunity can be less."



Luke March with the Duke of Gloucester, Vice Patron of the National Churches Trust, in conversation with Rev Mark Janes, Minister at Plaistow Memorial Church in 2013



Luke March with Sir Michael Palin at the National Churches Trust's Christmas Carol Concert at St James's Church Piccadilly in December 2018



Luke March (right) at the National Churches Trust's 60th anniversary service at Westminster Abbey in 2013 as the Duchess of Gloucester is presented with a posy by 7 year old Charlotte Crossland

"We have services in our village church but we also try and make sure it is open every day. I'm passionate about that. It can be open to tourists but also for events because there is nowhere else for people to meet".

"£20 million to help over 2,000 churches."

Under Luke's watch, the Trust focused on fundraising and in the last decade raised £20 million to help over 2,000 churches not only to carry out urgent repairs but also to install essential community facilities such as loos and kitchens. It has taken skill and effort to attract both individual donors and charitable trusts.

Winning over hearts and minds about the role of churches in the community has been a continuing objective of Luke, an ambition that led to our groundbreaking 'The House of Good' report. Published in 2020 and updated a year later, the report showed that the annual social and economic value of church buildings to the UK was around £55 billion.

The value of churches

This included the value of their benefit to society through welfare provision, from foodbanks to social evenings for the elderly and help for families, as well as to spiritual and mental health.

The report came out as Covid-19 was having a dire effect on not only health but also people's general well-being and community cohesion.



Luke March and Claire Walker in 2021

After the pandemic and the lockdowns, the Government was keen to find ways to help rebuild communities and one result was the Heritage Stimulus Fund. It proved an unexpected bonus for both churches and the Trust which was asked to distribute a total of £3.6 million in grants from the Fund in 2021 – 2022.

Luke suspects that the Trust's involvement was due to 'The House of Good'.

"The report was a real triumph. The discussions I had with government advisers showed that they could not argue with the figures. I suspect it did help persuade them to distribute Heritage Stimulus Fund money to us so that we could help churches in desperate need of funding for urgent repairs."

"The National Churches Trust will continue to be the leading charity supporting church buildings throughout the UK, to help ensure they are well maintained, open to all, valued and used."

Expanding work

As Luke prepares to hand over to his successor, Sir Philip Rutnam, he has a few items left in his pending tray. One is the need for the Trust to expand its work in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – a project he began but is keen to see develop even further. Another is deepening contacts with government, and convincing the public how much they need churches to survive and how much churches need their support.

"The age of these buildings and the cost of running them is enormous. You can see the trials and tribulations of congregations sometimes as small as five struggling to raise huge sums to look after these buildings", he says.

Given the huge progress, though, that the Trust has made in the past decade, he remains optimistic that it can achieve even more.

"As I hand over to Sir Philip, I know the National Churches Trust will continue to be the leading charity supporting church buildings throughout the UK, to help ensure they are well maintained, open to all, valued and used."

Meanwhile, with more time on his hands, he looks forward to spending more time with his family at home in Wiltshire, continuing to be involved at Salisbury Cathedral and in the NHS, and exploring yet more of the stunning churches and cathedrals across the British Isles.

Luke March was speaking with Catherine Pepinster



©Chris Cole / Alamy Stock Photo

Luke March's favourite churches:

Top of his list are:

St Andrew's, Great Durnford

– an unspoilt Norman village church near Salisbury (pictured above).

St Mary's, Eastbourne

– a thriving town church and the oldest in Eastbourne, where his father served as vicar.

St Peter's, Goodworth Clatford

– a Norman church with later additions in the Test Valley.



Sir Philip Rutnam

Sir Philip Rutnam – Churches are our greatest asset

He has been used to running an organisation with a £12 billion budget and 35,000 staff but Sir Philip Rutnam, who takes over this autumn as our new Chairman, thinks the charity's smaller size and budget are undoubted assets.

The former permanent secretary at the Home Office sees the National Churches Trust as nimble because of its size, but also an organisation that punches far above its weight.

"It's a small organisation in terms of staff but not small in terms of significance, impact, its influence, networks and ability to make the case for and to support churches. But the scale of the challenge that we face is far from small. It is enormous," says Sir Philip.

"I believe that Christian places of worship are our country's single greatest cultural asset."

"I believe that Christian places of worship are our country's single greatest cultural asset," he says. "I also believe that they have extraordinary potential to give meaning to the lives of people now and in generations to come."

Talking to the former civil servant – he left Whitehall in 2020 after a 30 year career – it is clear that he is up for that challenge, not least because of his own passion for churches and his conviction that they remain of huge historical importance and are so vital to the community.

"For many, that meaning continues to be defined through faith, but for others it can come through finding beauty or solace in places of worship, or gaining a richer sense of community or historical perspective because of them".

Cycling expeditions

Sir Philip's own interest in church buildings has embraced all these aspects. Now 57, he first became keen on church buildings while still at school, when he would go off on cycling expeditions with his friends, exploring parts of the Home Counties, including Kent and Buckinghamshire.

Before he was married, he describes himself as having been "an agnostic, nominal Anglican", but since he met his wife and her family 25 years ago, he was gradually drawn into church life and his own faith grew. Through worship at his local church in north London – a large Victorian building from the 1850s – and in Herefordshire, where they attend a late 13th century church, he has grown to appreciate the immense community contribution that churches make.

"They are two very different parishes but in both places the churches are the centres of communities. In Herefordshire it's an important presence. In London there's everything at the church from Alcoholics Anonymous to maths classes to daily nursery school and the whole range of religious services."

As he takes over as Chairman, Sir Philip is talking to his trustee colleagues about future priorities. He is convinced



A farmer's market at St Giles, Shipbourne

that the Trust could become much bigger through recruiting more members.

"We have grown in the last 10 years but there is more potential. There are many people in Britain who, if they knew about it, would support us by becoming Friends."

Among his major concerns is the involvement of the government and major public bodies in the future of churches, and the inconsistency of approach.

"There are 900 outstanding church buildings on the Heritage At Risk register in England."

"Governments have provided support but it's been very uneven. Last year we were entrusted by Historic England and the government to distribute £3.5 million of the Heritage Stimulus Fund."

"But there is no consistent, regular, strategic approach by

government and it's a big problem. We want these buildings to be kept in a state of good repair and even increase the benefits of those buildings to their communities. That's the conversation we need to have with central government."



St Mary the Virgin, Alton Barnes, Wiltshire

A failure to invest in churches

Sir Philip is frank about the risk to our heritage.

"There are 900 outstanding church buildings on the Heritage At Risk register in England, with many more in danger in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Even when the government offers help it usually only provides a small amount. There are churches closing and buildings falling apart as a result of a failure to invest in them. Funds are erratic – if they are turned on and off you can't plan or raise funds for projects."

He has pledged to have conversations in the coming months with government, Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Standards and value

If anyone is in an excellent position to deal with government, then it is Sir Philip. He spent the majority of his career to date in public service and has been the Permanent or acting Permanent Secretary of three major Departments of State.

Sir Philip brings with him the standards and values of public service: honesty, integrity, and objectivity. But there is something else too – a passion for churches and a belief in the difference these buildings make to people, believers or not. Over the years, while doing demanding work in Whitehall, they offered him solace, a way of de-stressing, he explains, but also a hinterland, something that he considers particularly important.

That hinterland today also includes music and sport, he says. But chief among his passions is the future of churches, and now thanks to the National Churches Trust, he can combine his personal interest with a cause for which he can put his considerable skills to use. His biggest ambition, he says, "is to do everything we can to increase our impact, not only through the funds we raise but also to help people recognise the importance of these remarkable buildings."

Sir Philip Rutnam was speaking with Catherine Pepinster



Sir Philip Rutnam's favourite churches:

Top of his list are:

St Andrew's, Thornhill Square, London

– a substantial Victorian church serving a diverse inner city community (pictured above).

St Mary's, Thornham Parva, Suffolk

– a Grade I Listed 12th century church which contains a masterpiece of medieval painting.

St Peter and Paul, Weobley, Herefordshire

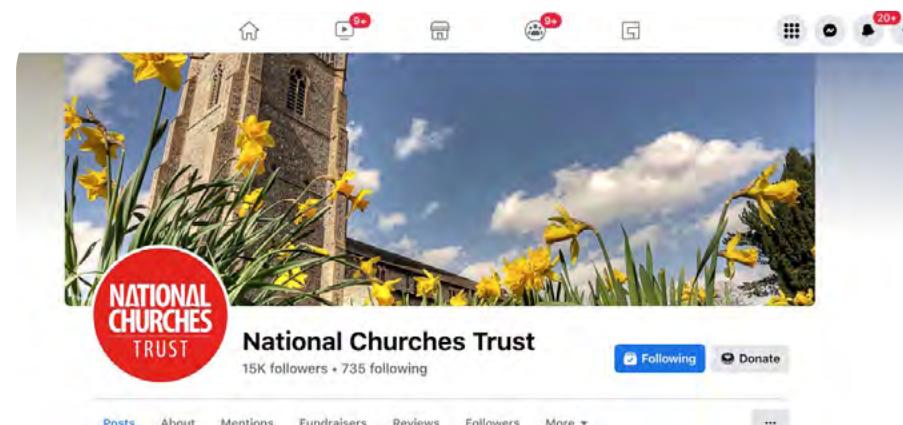
– a church that is a mix of the 13th and 14th centuries with a spire rebuilt in 1898.

It's good to be social

Our social media presence helps show people that churches are impressive, exciting and surprising places.

Our Facebook posts are very popular and in 2021 were seen by over one million people. Content is rich and varied: #churchoftheweek posts encourage people to visit fantastic churches across the UK; #churchspotter Tuesday challenge always gets a great response and regular spotlights on churches show how our support helps local communities and safeguards heritage.

In 2021 we made Instagram a real priority. That has had amazing results with an increase of 140% in followers to over 6,700 people. We love sharing beautiful photos that show the wonder of the nation's churches and chapels. Together with riveting commentary,



we take people on a journey of discovery to encourage them to visit churches.

Making more of social media and increasing digital marketing is reaping many benefits. We are seeing a significant increase in Friends joining

140%
increase in
Instagram followers



us from social media, including from outside the UK.

But most importantly we are spreading the word that the UK's wonderful collection of historic churches is available for all to visit, explore, celebrate and support.

Our training expertise supports churches

Sharing our expertise with churches through training courses is one of our key priorities as it makes it easier for people to look after buildings and also to promote heritage in new ways.

In 2021 we expanded our online training offer which stayed much in demand, even after the pandemic regulations began to be relaxed. We trained over 1,250 people from churches across the UK.

During 2021 our church tourism specialists presented a 90 minute online session every two weeks throughout the spring and summer. This provided practical advice on how churches can provide a better welcome for visitors. Some of this training was presented with partners including Ecclesiastical Insurance and the Caring for God's Acre charity.

For churches receiving funding from us, our 'Welcome' sessions provided invaluable help on the many ways



we can provide further support and specialist advice.

As part of our Treasure Ireland project in Northern Ireland, we delivered training workshops covering advice including securing grants for church projects and a popular session on how to engage with your community

through social media publicity. A total of 288 delegates attended our online training in Northern Ireland.

1,250
people trained

Our Church Support and Engagement teams are highly experienced and have much specialist knowledge. We will expand our online training in the coming years so that it is available to more churches. Training held online means that attendees can take part from home or work, and even listen in whilst doing other things, if necessary. In 2021 one attendee made a cake each session as she said it helped her concentrate. We love that!



SCAN ME

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/training

Making it easy to Explore Churches

If you want to find a hotel to stay in, or book a flight, you may well go online. But if you want to visit a historic church as part of a holiday or a day out, it has been hard to find an easy to use digital resource.

That's why in 2021 we continued to develop our Explore Churches website to make it the 'go to' online guide to the UK's churches. In 2022 it became part of our main National Churches Trust website.

We aim to inspire you with engaging stories, themes and trails. You can also enjoy pilgrimages, bookable experiences and tours to inspire and exhilarate, and an ever growing number of visitor guides and themed selections of churches.

You can use Explore Churches to find and explore over 4,000 churches and chapels. There are also curated lists featuring some of the must see churches in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Over 4,000
churches to explore



Walking is so important for our wellbeing and health. So in autumn 2021 we launched our Explore Churches Winter Walks selection to make it easy to discover the beautiful churches in National Parks. Over 200 churches were part of our online visitor guide which was featured as a must see in the Daily Mail's travel section.

You can use the Explore Churches section of our website to find hundreds of interesting days out visiting some of the best church heritage in the UK.

Whatever your passion, we can help you feed it.



SCAN ME

www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore



St Tydecho, Mallwyd, Powys

Spotters guide

Our Explore Churches pages highlight features to look for when visiting.



Lychgate at All Saints Church, Harthill, Cheshire

Lych gates are often one of the most intriguing things to look for in a churchyard. Lych is derived from the Old English 'lich', meaning corpse. They were meeting places and shelters for the party bringing a corpse for burial, and for the priest to receive the corpse.

Roof bosses are some of the most beautiful features inside churches.



Green man roof boss, All Saints Church, Evesham, Worcestershire

Many are elaborately carved, and popular subjects include grotesque and human faces, green men, symbols of Christ's passion, heraldic shields, foliage and animals.

From our Chief Executive



As an independent charity, we remain reliant on the generosity of our Friends and supporters to continue our vitally important work.

In 2021, despite the continuing impact of Covid-19, we were very encouraged that over 1,100 new Friends joined us. The year also saw an increase in membership of our Cornerstone Club and in the number of Life Friends.

Whether seeking quiet reflection, access to important community services, a place to worship, or a space to discover local history and amazing architecture, we believe that churches need to be loved and supported.

It is gratifying that so many people share our vision to keep churches open and in use, available to all.

Local churches are a vital part of our national heritage, but often a shortage of available funding means that many struggle to pay for urgent repairs, thereby putting the future of historic local buildings at risk.

Incredibly good news

That's why the decision of Historic England to award us a total of £3.6 million in 2021-2022 from the Government's Heritage Stimulus Fund was such incredibly good news.

About the National Churches Trust

Our mission and vision

Our mission is to help keep the UK's wonderful collection of church buildings well maintained, valued and used.

Our vision is that church buildings across the UK are well maintained, open to everyone, sustainable and valued.

We were able to fast-track the money to help pay for urgent repairs at 32 churches and meeting houses. The funding is a vote of confidence in the future of historic church buildings and a recognition of their importance to society.

Churches we have been able to help with the funding include St Mary the Virgin, Steeple Ashton in Wiltshire. Filling the visitor with awe and wonder, this Grade II* Listed church includes magnificent vaulting and was built in the late Middle Ages. A grant of £36,000 has helped fund urgent repairs to the tower to safeguard its historic fabric.

A very special award

As I write, we are nearing the closing date for entries to our new National Church Awards. With categories including architecture, maintenance, volunteering and church tourism, the Awards bring together all that is brilliant about the work happening in and around church buildings.

Judges will also choose the UK's Church of the Year, a very special award which will go to a church that makes an outstanding difference to both the congregation and also the wider local community.

The winners will be announced in October 2022 at a special event held at the historic Mercers' Hall in the City of London. We're really excited to be celebrating the UK's amazing churches and the people who care for them.

Our special thanks to our partners, The Ecclesiastical Architects & Surveyors Association, Ecclesiastical Insurance, The Marsh Charitable Trust, The Mercers' Company and The Pilgrim Trust for their support.

However you choose to support us, whether it is by being a Friend, making a donation, volunteering, spreading the word about our work, attending an event or simply enjoying visiting churches, thank you. Your help is appreciated by us all.

Claire Walker

Structure of the National Churches Trust

The National Churches Trust is a registered charity and is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. It is the successor to the Historic Churches Preservation Trust and the Incorporated Church Building Society. The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees who are appointed by the Trust's joint presidents, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Trustees are appointed for an initial term of five years which can be renewed once for a further five years.

You can find full details of the churches we have helped thanks to the Heritage Stimulus Fund on our website at www.nationalchurchestrust.org/heritage-stimulus-fund

Financial summary

Financial resources

Excluding endowments, the funds of the National Churches Trust amounted to £4.0m at the end of 2021 (compared to £3.5m at the end of 2020). Of this, £2.6m can be used without restriction on any of the Trust's activities and objectives. Unrestricted reserves are important as they provide flexibility to maintain activities in the event of fluctuations in income. The other restricted funds of the Trust, totalling £1.4m, are held to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donors to maintain and enhance churches in general or particular classes of churches. The Trust had endowment funds of £2.8m at the end of 2021.

Spending in 2021

The Trust awarded £5.2m in grants in 2021, of which £3.5m was provided by the Heritage Stimulus Fund, part of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund. Non-grant expenditure increased by £84,000 in 2021, reflecting additional staff needed to administer the increase in grants awarded and work on the charity's new website.

Spending £000s	
National Churches Trust Grants to maintain and enhance church buildings*	5,146
Other spending to maintain and enhance church buildings	459
Promoting the benefit of church buildings and inspiring everyone to value and enjoy them	349
Fundraising	405
Services to churches and other heritage buildings	35

*Grants awarded during 2021 less previous awards not claimed of £50,000. In addition the Trust recommended grants of £45,000 awarded by other charities.

Total 6,394

Where the money came from

Total income before unrealised gains on investments increased by £4,479,000 in 2021 compared to 2020, principally as a result of funding from the Heritage Stimulus Fund. Unrealised gains on investments amounted to £818,000 in 2021. However, this has reversed in the current year to date.

Where the money came from £000s	
Heritage Stimulus Fund and Northern Ireland Department for Communities	3,798
Trusts and Foundations	1,117
Support from Friends and other donations	616
Legacies	613
Investment returns and other income	1,120

Total 7,264

The Financial Summary above does not comprise the full statutory accounts of the National Churches Trust and is a summary of selected financial information. Our full Financial Statements for 2021 are available on request. Please email: info@nationalchurchestrust.org

In 2021 we awarded or recommended **304** awards, totalling **£5.2 million**

Aberdeenshire

Inverbervie, ABK Church of Scotland **£3,000** Foundation

Angus

Carnoustie, Carnoustie Church **£4,000** Gateway

Antrim

Ballintoy, Ballintoy Church **£5,000** Gateway

Ballymena, St Patrick **£5,800** Treasure Ireland

Belfast, Cathedral Church of St Anne **£14,960** Cornerstone (DfC)

Belfast, Knock, St Columba **£25,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Belfast, St Peter **£20,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Belfast, St Simon **£10,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Braniel, Braniel Methodist and Presbyterian Church

£15,000 Cornerstone (DfC)

Whiteabbey, Whiteabbey Presbyterian Church **£2,665** Gateway

Armagh

Armagh, St Patrick's Cathedral **£24,500** Cornerstone (DfC)

Creggan, Church of Ireland **£6,500** Treasure Ireland, **£2,000**

Gateway (Wolfson)

Poyntzpass, Acton Parish Church of Ireland **£4,000** Treasure Ireland

Bedfordshire

Gamlingay, St Mary the Virgin **£230,433** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Luton, St Margaret's Methodist Church **£284** Foundation

Northill, St Mary Virgin **£98,558** Heritage Stimulus Fund,

£7,500 Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Shillington, All Saints **£2,500** Nayler Awards

Stevington, St Mary the Virgin **£5,000** Gateway,

£5,000 Gateway (Wolfson)

Bristol

Soundwell, St Stephen **£3,700** Gateway

Buckinghamshire

Buckland, All Saints **£2,925** Foundation

Castlethorpe, SS Simon and Jude **£10,000** Cornerstone

Cheddington, St Giles **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)

Hughenden, St Michael and All Angels **£96,072** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Latimer, St Mary Magdalene **£825** Foundation

Stowe, St Michael **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)

Caithness

Wick, St John the Evangelist Episcopal Church **£10,000** Cornerstone

Cambridgeshire

Etton, St Stephen **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Kingston, All Saints and St Andrew **£5,000** Gateway,

£5,000 Gateway (Wolfson)

Leighton Bromswold, St Mary the Virgin **£79,128**

Heritage Stimulus Fund

Little Wilbraham, St John the Evangelist **£5,000**

(Other recommended grant)

Lode, St James **£4,317** Foundation

Soham, St Andrew **£3,625** Foundation

Carmarthenshire

Llanpumsaint, Llanpumsaint Church **£3,400** Foundation

Ceredigion

Llanfihangel Y Creuddyn, St Michael **£10,000** Friends

Cheshire

Macclesfield, St Alban **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Conwy

Llanfairtalhaiarn, St Mary **£10,000** Cornerstone

Cornwall

Launceston, St Stephen the Martyr **£301,098**

Heritage Stimulus Fund

Maker, St Mary & St Julian **£2,190** Foundation

Marazion, Friends' Meeting House **£63,410** Heritage Stimulus Fund

St Neot, St Anietus **£45,298** Heritage Stimulus Fund

South Hill, St Sampson's **£5,000** Gateway, **£5,000**

Gateway (Wolfson)

Stratton, St Andrew's **£3,000** Gateway, **£2,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Truro, St Stythians **£3,378** Foundation

Cumbria

Aikton, St Andrew **£1,300** Foundation

Kendal, Friends Meeting House **£284,546** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Levens, St John **£5,000** Gateway

Waberthwaite, St John **£5,000** Gateway, **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Whitehaven, St James' Church **£5,000** Gateway,

£5,000 Gateway (Wolfson)

Workington, St John the Evangelist **£177,966** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Denbighshire

Llangollen, St Collen **£7,500** Gateway (Wolfson)

Rhyl, Sussex Street Christian Centre **£20,000** Cornerstone

Ruthin, Our Lady Help of Christians **£2,920** Foundation

Derbyshire

Edale, Holy and Undivided Trinity **£10,000** Cornerstone

Holloway, Christ Church **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

New Mills, St George's **£4,967** Foundation

Derry

Derry, St Columba **£4,500** Gateway (Wolfson), **£6,000** Treasure

Ireland

Draperstown, St Columba **£4,000** Treasure Ireland

Londonderry Christ Church **£10,000** Treasure Ireland

Glenullin, St Joseph **£5,700** Gateway (DfC)

Devon

Bigbury, St Lawrence **£132,708** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Harberton, St Andrew **£4,000** Gateway, **£2,500** Nayler Awards

Pyworthy, St Swithun **£2,500** Foundation

Dorset

Blandford Forum, St Peter and St Paul **£20,000** Cornerstone,

£7,500 Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Bournemouth, St Thomas **£1,687** Foundation

Cheselbourne, St Martin **£16,771** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Kington Magna, All Saints Church **£3,500** Gateway (Wolfson)

Down

Bangor, St Andrew Presbyterian Church **£10,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Donaghadee, County Down Methodist Church **£7,500** Treasure Ireland

Dromore, Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer **£12,760**

Cornerstone (DfC)

Killinchy, Killinchy Presbyterian Church **£22,780** Cornerstone (DfC),

£5,000 Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Magherally, St John the Evangelist **£4,500** Treasure Ireland

Newry, First Presbyterian Church (Non-Subscribing) **£7,500**

Treasure Ireland, **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Dunbartonshire

Gartocharn, Kilmarnock Church **£10,000** Cornerstone,

£7,500 Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Durham

Brancepeth, St Brandon **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)

Wycliffe, St Mary **£18,000** Cornerstone

East Renfrew

Giffnock, Orchardhill Parish Church **£5,000** Foundation

East Sussex

Eastbourne, All Souls **£8,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Ewhurst Green, St James the Great **£4,575** Foundation

St Leonards On Sea, St Ethelburga **£3,595** Foundation

Essex

Aythorpe Roding, St Mary the Virgin **£1,500** Foundation

Greenstead, St Andrew **£5,000** Gateway

Newport, St Mary the Virgin **£10,000** Cornerstone

Fermanagh

Belleek, Slavin Parish Church **£1,000** Treasure Ireland

Enniskillen, St Macartin Cathedral **£25,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Scribbagh, St Joseph **£4,000** Treasure Ireland

Fife

Kirkcaldy, Kirkcaldy Old Kirk **£10,000** Cornerstone,

£10,000 Foundation, **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Flintshire

Yr Wyddgrug/Mold, Bethesda Presbyterian Church of Wales

£1,595 Foundation

Glamorgan

St Andrew Major, St Andrew **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson),

£3,500 Gateway

Gloucestershire

Amberley, Holy Trinity **£5,000** Cornerstone

Olveston, St Mary the Virgin **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)

Redbrook, St Saviour **£3,000** Foundation

Redmarley D'Abitot, St Bartholomew **£350** Preventative

Maintenance Micro Grant

Stanley Pontlarge, St Michael **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Stinchcombe, St Cyr **£5,000** Cornerstone

Wick, St Bartholomew **£2,177** Foundation

Gwynedd

Llandderfel, St Derfel **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Hampshire & the Isle of Wight

Farringdon, All Saints **£4,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Hawkley, St Peter and St Paul **£4,180** Foundation

Nether Wallop, St Andrew **£5,000** Gateway,

£4,800 Gateway (Wolfson)

Newport, Minster Church of Sts Thomas **£612,534** Heritage

Stimulus Fund, **£30,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Rockbourne, St Andrew **£74,667** Heritage Stimulus Fund,

£12,000 Cornerstone, **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Southsea, St Luke and St Peter **£10,000** Cornerstone

Herefordshire

Croft, St Michael and All Angels **£75,282** Heritage Stimulus Fund,

£10,000 Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Kingsland, St Michael and All Angels **£10,000** Cornerstone,

£7,500 Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Llangarron, St Deinst **£43,169** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£7,500**

Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Hertfordshire

Kelshall, St Faith **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Highland

Milton, Killearnan Parish Church **£2,100** Foundation

Kent

Chatham, St Paul with All Saints Church **£2,200** Foundation

Chevening, St Botolph **£41,671** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Frittenden, St Mary **£550** Foundation

Upper Hardres, St Peter and St Paul **£735** Foundation

Wickhambreaux, St Andrew **£118,228** Heritage Stimulus Fund,

£12,000 Cornerstone, **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Lanarkshire

Dalziel, St Andrew **£2,640** Foundation

Lancashire

Euxton, Parish Church **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Preston, St Walburge **£5,000** Foundation
Wigan Newtown, St Mark **£913** Foundation

Leicestershire

Cosby, Methodist Church **£2,900** Foundation
Peckleton, St Mary Magdalene **£25,000** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£5,000** Gateway, **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Ratby, St Philip and St James **£26,108** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Willoughby on the Wolds, St Mary and All Saints **£5,000** Gateway, **£3,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Lincolnshire

Burgh on Bain, St Helen **£5,000** Gateway, **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Glentham, St Peter **£5,000** Foundation
High Toynton, St John the Baptist **£2,500** Gateway
Linwood, St Cornelius **£4,000** Gateway
Marshchapel, St Mary **£36,168** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Skillington, St James **£42,107** Heritage Stimulus Fund

Liverpool and Merseyside

Whiston, St Nicholas **£4,906** Foundation

London

Bethnal Green, St Matthew **£18,000** Cornerstone
Croydon, Christ Church **£385** Preventative Maintenance Micro Grant
Finchley, St Mary-at-Finchley **£2,415** Gateway
Fulham, St Alban **£1,000** Foundation
Hanley Road, St Saviour **£20,000** Cornerstone
Hillingdon, St John the Baptist **£4,862** Foundation
Holborn, St George the Martyr **£1,700** Foundation
Hoxton, St John the Baptist with Christ Church **£3,750** Foundation
Isleworth, All Saints **£5,000** Gateway
Peckham, Rye Lane Baptist Chapel **£5,000** Gateway
Plumstead, St Nicholas Church **£4,434** Foundation
Somers Town, St Mary the Virgin **£3,500** Foundation
Stoke Newington, St Michael **£4,000** Gateway
Surbiton, St Matthew **£7,500** Naylor Awards

Manchester

Droylsden, St Martin **£4,410** Foundation
Victoria Park, St Chrysostom **£425** Preventative Maintenance Micro Grant

Merseyside

Birkenhead, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception **£5,805** Foundation
Birkdale, St Peter's Church **£5,000** Foundation
New Brighton, Ss Peter, Paul and St Philomena's **£4,868** Foundation

Midlothian

Edinburgh, St John The Evangelist **£30,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Monmouthshire

Usk, St Francis Xavier & St David Lewis **£5,000** Gateway

Moray

Findhorn, Findhorn Church **£15,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Newcastle upon Tyne and Tyne & Wear

Gateshead, Bensham, St Chad **£255,574** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Newcastle upon Tyne, All Saints **£2,000** Foundation

Norfolk

Billingford, St Leonard **£4,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Caister-on-Sea, Holy Trinity **£95,867** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Homersfield, St Mary **£68,389** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Hickling, St Mary **£7,500** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,700** Gateway
Sutton, St Michael **£10,000** Cornerstone
Wilby, All Saints **£20,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson), **£4,720** Foundation, **£3,367** Gateway

Northamptonshire

Badby, St Mary the Virgin **£7,500** Gateway (Wolfson)
Higham Ferrers, St Mary the Virgin **£47,383** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£5,000** Gateway
Northampton, All Saints **£65,527** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Stowe, St Michael **£5,000** Cecil King Memorial Foundation
Tiffield, St John the Baptist **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson), **£3,500** Gateway

Northumberland

Alnmouth, St John The Baptist **£2,450** Foundation
Alnwick, St Paul **£7,500** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,500** Gateway

Nottinghamshire

Bilborough, St John the Baptist **£10,000** Cornerstone
South Clifton, St George the Martyr **£4,844** Foundation

Oxfordshire

Cogges, St Mary **£119,680** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Spelsbury, All Saints **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)
West Hendred, Holy Trinity **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,700** Gateway
Wroxton, All Saints **£5,000** Gateway, **£3,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Powys

Carno, St John the Baptist **£4,000** Gateway
Newtown, All Saints **£10,000** Cornerstone

Renfrewshire

Paisley, Holy Trinity & St Barnabas Episcopal Church **£6,400** Foundation

Rutland

Oakham, All Saints **£1,195** Foundation

Shropshire

Llanyblodwel, St Michael **£5,000** Cornerstone
Sheinton, St Peter and St Paul **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Tong, St Bartholomew **£3,000** Gateway

Somerset

Bridgwater, Baptist Church **£3,240** Foundation
Bridgwater, St John **£10,000** Gateway (Wolfson)

Butleigh, St Leonard **£5,000** Foundation
Cloford, The Blessed Virgin Mary **£5,000** Foundation
Huntspill, St Peter and All Hallows **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Nynehead, All Saints **£375** Foundation
Sparkford, St Mary Magdalene **£4,500** Foundation
West Chinnock, Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary **£5,000** Foundation
Woolley, All Saints **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,800** Gateway

Staffordshire

Hednesford, Our Lady of Lourdes **£10,000** Cornerstone

Stirlingshire

Fintry, Fintry Kirk **£1,860** Foundation, **£3,700** (Wolfson)

Suffolk

Dallinghoo, St Mary **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)
Little Bealings, All Saints Church **£10,000** Cornerstone
Nettlestead, St Mary **£17,500** Cornerstone, **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Reydon, St Margaret **£7,500** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Rushmere St Andrew, St Andrew **£32,873** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£5,000** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,800** Gateway
Sibton, St Peter **£3,800** Gateway

Sussex

Alfriston, St Andrew **£5,000** Gateway, **£2,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Bolney, St Mary Magdalene **£5,000** Gateway
Eastbourne, All Souls **£5,000** Gateway
Hastings, St Clement **£30,000** Cornerstone, **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Maresfield, St Bartholomew **£5,000** Cornerstone

Tyrone

Castlederg, St Bestius **£5,500** Treasure Ireland
Cranagh, St Patrick **£4,000** Treasure Ireland
Fivemiletown, Kiltermon Church **£10,000** Cornerstone (DfC)
Newtownstewart, St Eugene **£5,700** Treasure Ireland, **£4,000** Gateway (Wolfson)
Omagh, Christ the King **£7,250** Gateway (DfC)
Termonamongan, Parish Church **£10,000** Cornerstone (DfC)

Warwickshire

Newbold on Stour, St David **£5,000** Cornerstone
Norton Juxta Twycross, Holy Trinity **£71,626** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Ratley, St Peter ad Vincula **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)

West Midlands

Birmingham, St Paul's in the Jewellery Quarter **£1,172** Foundation
Dudley, St Thomas and St Luke **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Northfield, St Laurence **£1,725** Foundation
Shirley, St James **£1,350** Foundation
Walsall, St Matthew **£5,000** Gateway

West Sussex

Clapham, St Mary the Virgin **£2,500** Gateway (Wolfson)

Wiltshire

Cricklade, St Sampson **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£5,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)

Heytesbury, St Peter and St Paul **£9,556** Foundation
Purton, St Mary **£3,000** Foundation
Steeple Ashton, St Mary **£35,763** Heritage Stimulus Fund
West Dean, St Mary the Virgin **£3,432** Foundation, **£2,700** Foundation

Worcestershire

Kyre Wyard, St Mary **£18,662** Heritage Stimulus Fund, **£3,500** Gateway, **£2,500** Gateway (Wolfson)
Little Witley, St Michael and All Angels **£5,000** Foundation
Suckley, St John the Baptist **£10,000** Cornerstone

Wrexham

Marchwiell, St Deiniol and St Marcella **£4,600** Foundation

Yorkshire

Drax, St Peter & St Pauls **£923** Foundation
Filey, St Oswald **£4,880** Foundation
Hebden Bridge, Hope Baptist Church **£675** Foundation
Hull, St Mary the Virgin **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£10,000** Cornerstone (Wolfson)
Kirkheaton, St John The Baptist **£3,000** Foundation
Leeds, St Margaret and All Hallows **£20,000** Cornerstone
Middleton Tyas, St Michael & All Angels **£7,500** Gateway (Wolfson), **£5,000** Gateway
Oxenhope, St Mary the Virgin **£10,000** Cornerstone, **£700** Foundation
Pocklington, All Saints **£4,826** Foundation
Ripley, All Saints **£4,000** Gateway (Wolfson), **£3,500** Gateway
Saltaire, United Reformed Church **£61,389** Heritage Stimulus Fund
Selby, Selby Abbey **£5,000** (Other recommended grant)
Sheffield, Cemetery Road Baptist Church **£17,500** Cornerstone
Thorpe Hesley, Holy Trinity **£3,285** Foundation
Wakefield, St John the Baptist **£5,000** Foundation
Woodhall, St James the Great **£3,640** Foundation
Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust **£1,927** Gateway

Total Grants recommended **£5,240,400**

Our Grants in 2022

Preventative Micro Maintenance Grants
– small grants of up to **£500** towards simple maintenance projects such as gutter clearance.

Foundation Grants – grants of up to **£5,000** towards maintenance and small repair works.

Gateway Grants – grants of up to **£10,000** towards either repair work or project development work.

Cornerstone Grants – grants of up to **£50,000** towards major capital repair work or the installation of kitchens and loos.

Specialist Skills Directory

Our Specialist Skills Directory showcases some of the expert and talented crafts people working to preserve the nation's churches and heritage buildings. With over 150 members around the UK, whether you need a blacksmith or an embroiderer, a steeplejack or a stained glass restorer, our Specialist Skills Directory is there to help you find the right person for the job.



A

3A Roofing Ltd
Adams Napier Partnership
Ablemarsh Safety Consultants
Airtex Structural Height Specialists
AKSWard Ltd
Aldridge Glass
Alpha Furniture
Alto Electrical Ltd
Anthony Short & Partners LLP
Anthony J Smith (Gloucester) Ltd
Apex Access Group
APi Communications Ltd
Apostle Charity Consulting
Archicraft
Ark Stained Glass & Leaded Lights Ltd
Arte Conservation Ltd
Artisan Plastercraft Ltd.
Asbestos Consultants Europe Ltd (ACE)
Ascribe Management Services Limited
Atherton Consultancy Services Limited
Austin (Heating & Air Conditioning) Ltd

B

Baart Harries Newall
Bailey International
Bakers of Danbury
Benjamin and Beauchamp Architects
Between Time Ltd
BJN Roofing (Contractors) Ltd
Black Dragon Forge
Blackett-Ord Conservation Ltd
Blyth and Co Ltd
Bonsers (Nottingham) Ltd
Brian The Brush Limited

C

Calibre Metalwork Ltd
Campbell Smith & Co Ltd
Capital Appeals
Carnduff Stone Restoration
Caroe and Partners
Carter Jonas
Carthy Conservation Ltd
Cater Roofing Contractors Ltd
CDL Steeplejacks
CEL Group
CES Lighting & Electrical Engineers
Chapel Studio Stained Glass Ltd
Chawton Hill Associates Ltd
Chedburn Codd
Chris McCollum Building Conservation
Chris Pike Associates

Cintec International Ltd
Clague Architects
Clarke Roofing Southern Ltd
CLS Electrical Services Ltd
Coe Stone Ltd
Compton Fundraising Consultants Ltd
Copperstone Projects Limited
Cornish Lime Co Ltd
CPL Chartered Architects
Creative Audio-Visual Solutions
Crosby Granger Architects
Cunningham Stone Contracts Limited

D

Des Cairns Architecture
Design Lights Ltd
Devlin Plummer Stained Glass Ltd
Distributed Sound & Video Ltd
DM Music Ltd
DNG Stained Glass

E

E-Bound AVX Ltd
Ellis & Co (Restoration and Building)
Ellis & Moore Consulting Engineers Ltd
Emcon Services
Envirograf
ESP Projects Ltd

F

Falconbridge Site Security Ltd
Fogarty Restoration & Building Services
Four Walls Building Company Ltd
Fullers Finer Furniture

G

G/S Plastering and Tiling
Gifted Philanthropy Limited
Gillett & Johnston Ltd
Greenbarnes Ltd

H

Happy House Interiors Ltd
Harrison Flagpoles
Harrison Thompson & Co Ltd (Yeoman Rainguard)
Heritage Roofing York Limited
Heritage Tiling & Restoration Co
Hetreed Ross Architects
High Level Maintenance
Highlife Rope Access
Hirst Conservation Ltd
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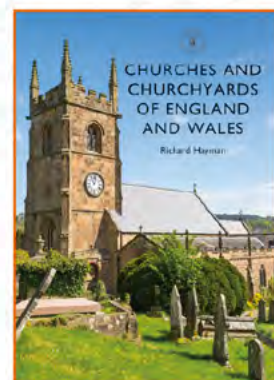
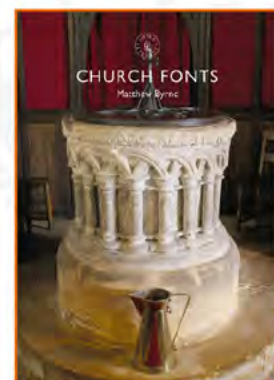
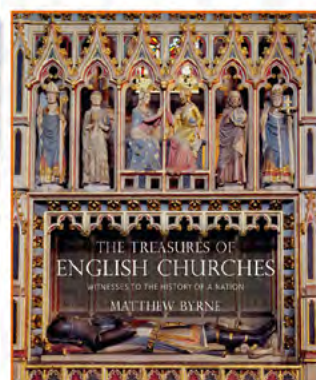
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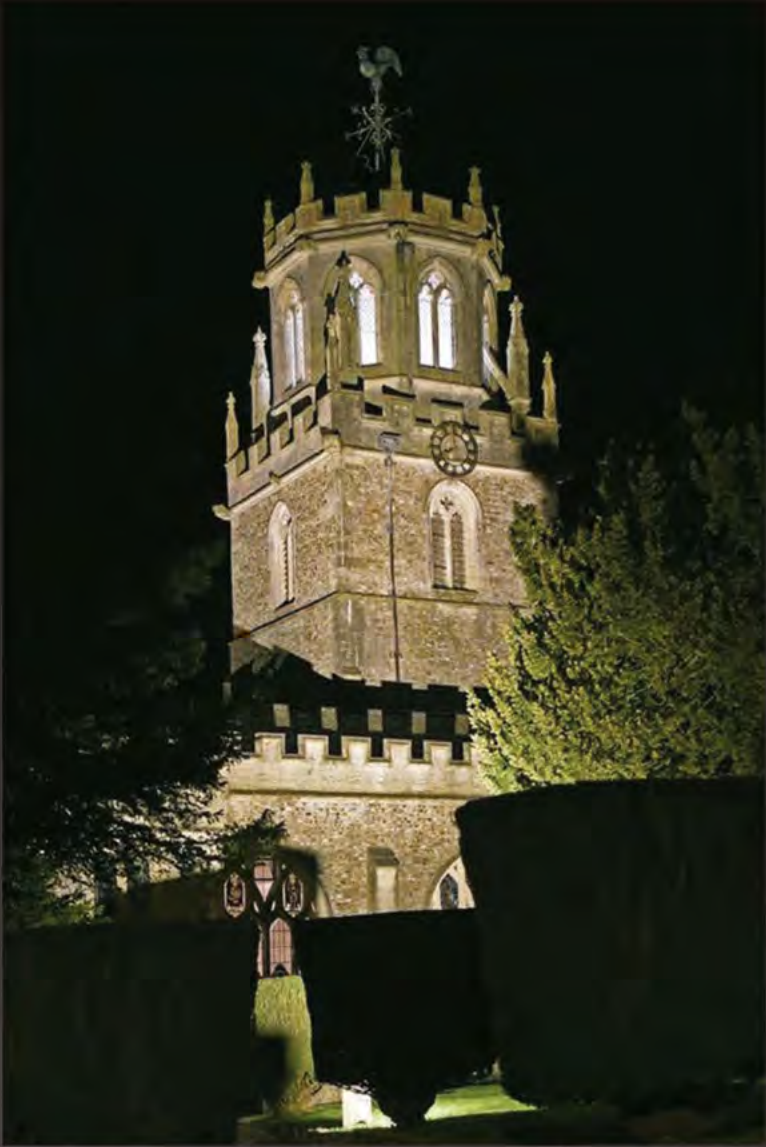
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