

# Church Maintenance Awards

**The Nayler Awards for Excellence in Church Maintenance in partnership with the Pilgrim Trust**

---

Please read these guidelines carefully.

You can find the form to submit your entry here:

<https://zealous.co/nationalchurchestrust/opportunity/Nayler-Awards-for-Excellence-in-Church-Maintenance-2023/>

The closing date is 23 July 2023.

---

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

The Nayler Awards for Excellence in Church Maintenance bring a human story to maintenance, which has traditionally been approached as a dry subject and an activity that has not been actively celebrated or rewarded, despite a huge reliance on volunteers.

They also provide an excellent opportunity for partnership working. By building on the annual success of focusing on maintenance, a larger impact can be made.

We had some wonderful submissions, and brilliant winners in 2022. For inspiration, see them here:

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/impact/awards/winners-2022>

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/impact/awards/finalists-2022>

We will award one winner in each of the four home nations, plus an overall winner.

---

## Entry requirements

Maintenance volunteers / teams from any church, chapel or meeting house may be nominated. This will enable us to celebrate the geographic spread of great work that exists in caring for churches across the UK.

You just need to be able to tell us about the fantastic maintenance work you do, the difference that it makes and upload your maintenance plan. Your application will be reviewed by an expert panel who will look at the quality of your plan together with its practical application and sustainability.



## Submission and judging process for all awards

- Start your submission with a title, brief description.
- You will need to upload at least 5 images on the submission page, and can add a description to each if you wish.
- Then, to apply you will need to complete the detailed submission form.
- As part of the form you will need to upload your maintenance plan.
- You will also be able to upload a film.
- You will be able to amend your submission up until the closing date.

### **Below are the questions, so that you can prepare your answers offline.**

Some questions are mandatory (marked with an asterisk), others are not. Some have a word limit, which is listed here.

Most of the questions relate specifically to this award. But there are some general questions about your church at the end. These help us to get an impression of your ethos, we will also use them if you agree to be considered for the Church of the Year.

### **Church of the Year**

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

We realise it's sometimes hard to raise yourself up and say that what you do is wonderful. But, churches, chapels and meeting houses across the UK do brilliant things, and using the moniker 'Church of the Year' helps us to shed light on that.

Vibrant and valued churches are open for worship and well supported, have effective maintenance and engage well with volunteers. They offer a warm welcome to visitors, offer great spaces for community activities, and tell their stories in brilliant ways. This is what makes churches sustainable. You might not be there yet, but we want to hear how you are doing.

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

---



## Questions

- Name of church or chapel \* (15 word limit)
  - Address of church or chapel \* (50 word limit)
  - Postcode of church or chapel \* (5 word limit)
  
  - Name phone number and email address of a second contact at the church \* (75 word limit)
  - Email address of a contact at the church \* (5 word limit)
  
  - Denomination \* (10 word limit)
  
  - Is the building listed. If so, please state the grade \* (5 word limit)
- 

Please upload your maintenance plan

Brief description of your building's heritage / architecture  
\* (150 word limit)

Do you use the Maintenance Checklist for Places of Worship (NCT / SPAB / Historic England)? If not, is there another one you use?  
\* (100 word limit)

Who produced your maintenance plan?  
\* (50 word limit)

How often is your maintenance plan reviewed and who takes overall responsibility for it?  
\* (50 word limit)

Tell us about your approach to maintenance.  
How are tasks organised and monitored? Include who does this, when and how.  
\* (500 word limit)

What succession plans do you have in place to ensure that high quality maintenance continues into the future?  
\* (100 word limit)

What maintenance issues are most difficult to address and why?  
\* (150 word limit)

What actions are you taking to try and solve them  
\* (150 word limit)

What's the best thing about being involved in looking after your church?  
\* (150 word limit)



What is your average annual maintenance spend (let us know if this is an estimate)? Do not include any major repairs projects.

\* (50 word limit)

Do you have a regular maintenance contract in place?

\* (yes/no)

If you have a maintenance contract, please state who this is with and whether it is a local supplier or a larger company, and what services they provide?

\* (50 word limit)

How do your activities contribute to the need for environmental sustainability or seek to reduce the building's carbon footprint?

\* (150 word limit)

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

\* (150 word limit)

---

*This section is about your church more generally, as we would love to know more about you. It will help us to get a wider picture of your ethos and activities.*

Tell us about your church. What's your ethos and what's important to you?

\* (150 word limit)

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

\* (150 word limit)

How do you encourage people to get involved and engage in your activities?

\* (150 word limit)

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

\* (150 word limit)

Would you like to be considered for Church of the Year?

\* (yes/no)

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

\* (150 word limit)

