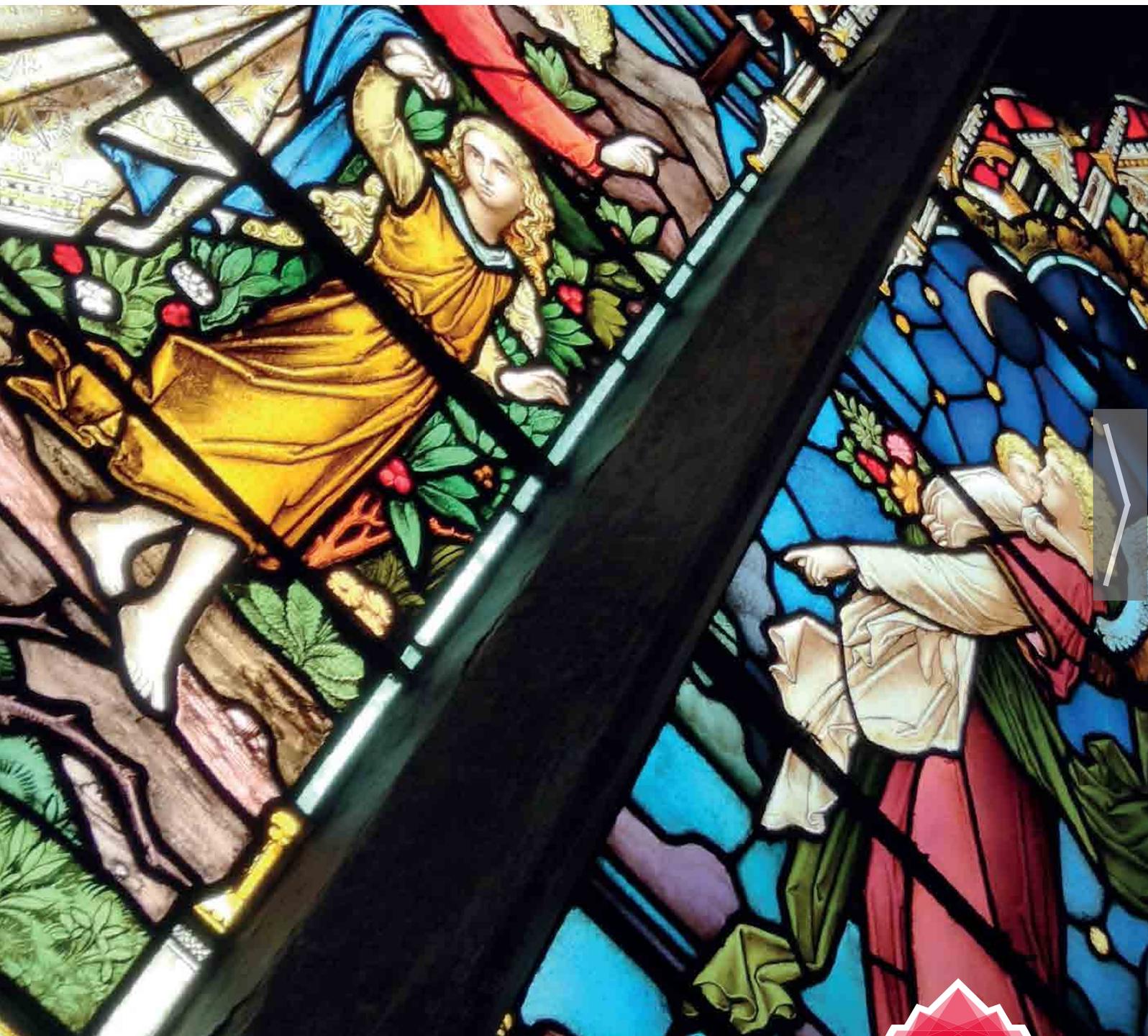


# The National Churches Trust

Join the Cornerstone Club



*For people who love church buildings*



Registered charity number 1119845

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# Cornerstone Grants and our work

**Thank you for your interest in the National Churches Trust. We support churches, chapels and meeting houses all across the UK, enabling them to remain at the heart of the communities for which they were built and to play an integral part in all of our lives.**

Places of worship are valued for many reasons. Where one finds spiritual solace, another finds inspirational architecture. Some churches provide poignant family memories, whilst others are commended for their presence in the community and the work they do in bringing local people together. An unparalleled mix of history, architecture, art and spirituality, churches form the centrepiece of cities, towns and villages across the United Kingdom. Once gone they will be lost forever.

Our Cornerstone Grants scheme enables us to award significant grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 to churches that are tackling major works and we rely on our Cornerstone Club members to help us raise sufficient funds.

The difference our donors can make for places of worship and their local communities is immeasurable and instrumental in ensuring our heritage is preserved for future generations. Together we can fund the urgent structural repairs which are needed to make church buildings wind and watertight, elements which are fundamental to building conservation and daily use.

Thank you for your support.

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## Impact of a Cornerstone Grant – St Mary Magdalene, Paddington, London



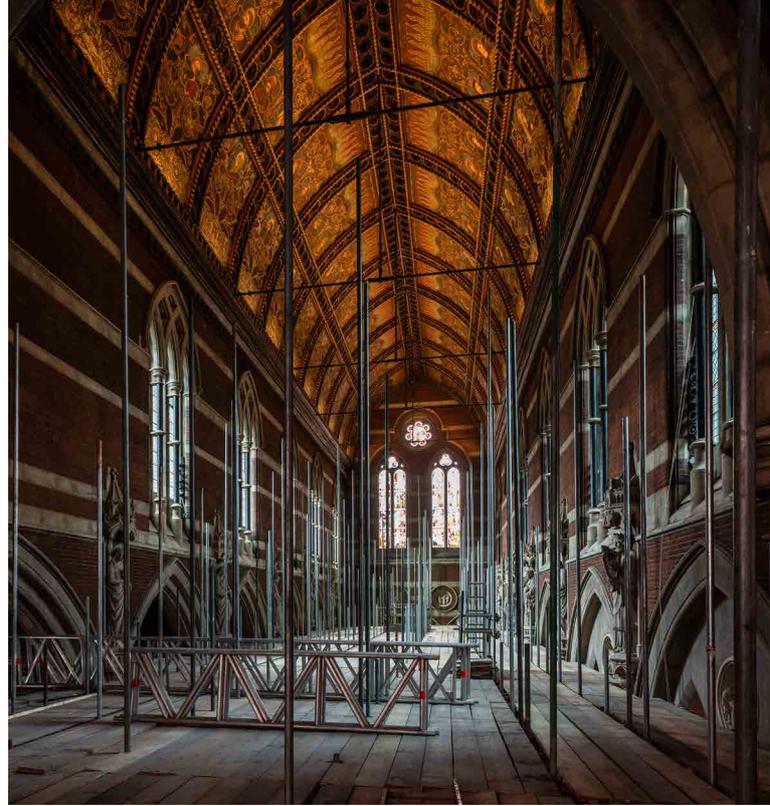
### The Church

**Built in the 1860s by G.E. Street, architect of the Royal Courts of Justice, St Mary Magdalene is recognised as an outstanding example of neo-Gothic architecture and decoration.**

It is one of only 13 Grade I listed Victorian churches in London and is on Historic England's At Risk Register following decades of water penetration and general decay.

# The Project

The church had reached a state of disrepair such that its beauty and history were inaccessible and at risk. We were delighted to award the Church a £40,000 National Churches Trust Cornerstone Grant to help fund its restoration, focusing on cleaning and restoring the stunning interior. The internal decorations of the church are extremely high quality and include a later addition of the Chapel of St Sepulchre by Sir Ninian Copernicus in the undercroft.



“The great joy of having a church completely full of scaffolding is that every time I go in I see something beautiful or extraordinary that I’ve never seen before. It is so exciting to reveal the true beauty of St Mary Magdalene, and to be able to do so much more in our service to the local community.”

Fr Henry Everett, Vicar of St Mary Magdalene



# The Outcome

A vital aspect of the project is to bring widespread community benefit to an area which remains deprived, and to transform a priceless building, harmed by an insuperable backlog of repair and decay, into a thriving community asset, thereby securing the future not just of the church fabric, but of its surroundings, the neighbourhood, and the community who live there.



The National Churches Trust is the independent national charity dedicated to preserving, promoting and supporting all churches, chapels and meeting houses of historic, architectural and community value across the UK.

To join online visit [www.nationalchurchestrust.org/cornerstoneclub](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/cornerstoneclub)



For more information about our work:

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or contact us on **020 7222 0605**

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