



For people who love church buildings

Annual Review

2017 – 2018

St Wilfrid's church, Burnsall, Yorkshire, which received a £10,000 National Churches Trust Repair Grant in 2017



Welcome

Each year, our Annual Review looks at the work of the Trust over the last calendar year and highlights some of our key achievements. As always, our grants remain extremely important to many churches and chapels in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. We highlight a small selection of the grants we awarded in 2017 on pages 14-17 and a full list of all the 230 projects our grants helped to fund can be found on pages 36 - 37.

If you are responsible for looking after a church, do read about our new MaintenanceBooker website which helps churches carry out vital maintenance work, such as gutter clearances and lightning conductor inspections. MaintenanceBooker is being rolled out across England and Wales in 2018 and churches can register for free at www.maintenancebooker.org.uk.

If you enjoy visiting churches, whether as an inveterate church crawler or just occasionally as part of a day out, then our ExploreChurches website is for you. It provides comprehensive information on some of the UK's most beautiful and interesting churches. This summer, if you have family or visitors staying with you, or are going on a 'staycation', use the site at www.explorechurches.org to plan some visits to churches, both the known and the less familiar.

As well as reporting back to our Friends and supporters, the Annual Review also looks in more detail at a range of issues affecting church buildings. This year this includes a fascinating article by Richard Carr-Archer, one of our Trustees, who explains why even the best maintained church will eventually need repair or have some of its fabric replaced. Catherine Pepinster, who some of you may know from BBC Radio 4's 'Thought for the Day', has encouraging news about how the craft of the stonemason is being kept alive. Another name that some of you may recognise is that of John Goodall, Architectural Editor of Country Life, who has written a special article giving tips on how to improve the appearance of your church.

If you have any comments about this Annual Review, I'd be delighted to hear from you. Is there too much to read? Is the balance between information about the Trust and more general articles about churches about right, or would you like more detailed information about our work? Whatever your views, please do write to me at the Trust's office at 7 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QB or email eddie@nationalchurchestrust.org.

Eddie Tulasiewicz - Editor, Annual Review

Cover photo: Hugh Dennis, with Vice Presidents of the National Churches Trust Bettany Hughes, Bill Bryson, Michael Palin and Huw Edwards accompanied by Joe Stilgoe at the piano, special guests at the Trust's 2017 Christmas concert held at St-Giles-in-the-Fields, London. © Mike Swift

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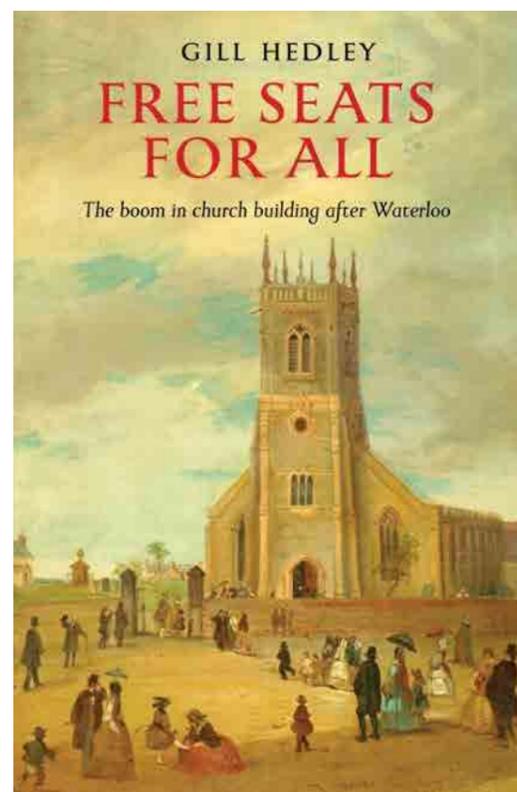
Making the case for church buildings



In 2018 we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Incorporated Church Building Society (ICBS). In the 19th Century, the ICBS was responsible for the building and enlargement of many hundreds of Anglican churches and chapels and for providing many thousands of new spaces in parish churches, the majority of them free for anyone to occupy, in contrast to the then customary provision of private pews.

The National Churches Trust, and our predecessor charity the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, have had a close association with the ICBS. In 2013 Parliament and the Charity Commission brought its affairs under the National Churches Trust.

In his preface to 'Free Seats for All', a new book about the ICBS written by Gill Hedley, HRH The Duke of Gloucester astutely notes: "Today, the place of religion in both public and private life has adapted to reflect our times. Yet, whether it is small and humble or large and magnificent, through their built form churches continue to inspire and to provide a space for reflection and transcendence."



Keeping churches alive

Keeping churches alive in order to secure our nation's heritage of church buildings is at the heart of our work. Over the past three years we have done this guided by our 2014 - 2017 Strategic Plan. This Annual Review reflects the performance of the Trust during 2017 in delivering this plan and in particular how we have helped keep churches in good repair and enabled them to be used by the wider community as well as for worship.

In 2017, the Trust, in partnership with the Church of England and other bodies such as the Historic Religious Buildings Alliance, was active in making the case for church buildings to Government and statutory heritage organisations.

Along with many other partners, we were deeply disappointed when in April 2017 the Heritage Lottery Fund ended the provision of ring fenced funding for church buildings. In the overwhelming majority of cases, churches are unable to fund repairs or the installation of community facilities from their own resources and so external financial support remains essential to ensuring their future.

In December we therefore welcomed the publication by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport of the Taylor Review on the sustainability of English churches and cathedrals. Concentrating on the Church of England, although just as relevant to other denominations and to the rest of the UK, the Taylor Review acknowledged that government investment in the maintenance of the architectural heritage of churches will be required for many years to come.

The National Churches Trust will work closely with our partners in the church heritage sector to help in the implementation of the Review's key recommendations and in particular in the testing of pilot programmes, before they can be rolled out nationally.

A new strategic plan

Last year we offered our own five point plan for securing the sustainability of church buildings. This included ensuring that the buildings are properly looked after, are open more often, are centres for their community, and are firmly on the visitor and tourist map.

We will continue this work in the context of our new Strategic Plan, published in June 2018, which will steer the work of the Trust through until 2023. This has at its heart three goals:

1. Preserving heritage

Our work will help ensure that congregations can look after their church buildings. This will include continuing to offer grants for urgent repairs and for new facilities. We will help churches address problems early and to conserve their historic fabric by also providing grants for preventative maintenance and proactive small scale repairs. Through our MaintenanceBooker website it will be easier for churches to get professional help to maintain their buildings.

2. Promoting sustainability

We will support the development of a culture of sustainability by fostering knowledge and skills in church management. Sustainability also means that churches are placed at the centre of their community. Our grants will allow them to develop improved facilities required for churches to be not only places of worship, but also venues for a wide range of social and cultural activities.

3. Inspiring visitors and support

The Trust will promote improved church tourism through training, grants to develop tourism resources, and the development of our ExploreChurches website. The vision for ExploreChurches is for it to become the central hub for church tourism across the UK and the source of information about churches, chapels and meeting houses for visitors and local people.

Through our growing Friends scheme we will provide more people with an opportunity to join with us in celebrating the architectural and human riches of churches and chapels and build a group of like-minded people who are able to help us champion the cause of church buildings.

Full details of our new strategy can be found on our website at: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/2018strategy

Experience and dedication

I am all too conscious that the work I have described, and which is more fully explained in the pages that follow, is the result of the time, experience and dedication of the Trust's small professional team and of the increasing number of volunteers, throughout the UK, who support our work in all sorts of ways. As Chairman of the Trust, I also rely on the knowledge and expertise of my fellow Trustees. I am most grateful for their support and encouragement.

Our work is not funded by government or church authorities, and as ever we are grateful for the generosity of our donors, including trusts and foundations, legators and our Friends. Over the coming year, I look forward to more people helping us continue our work supporting the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses.

Luke March
Chairman



For people who love church buildings

To find out how you can help keep the UK's churches alive, please call Claire Walker on 020 7222 0605, email legacy@nationalchurchestrust.org or visit nationalchurchestrust.org/legacy.

National Churches Trust, 7 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QB.



Registered charity number 1119845

Keeping church buildings in good repair

By **Janet Edmond**, Maintenance Manager



MaintenanceBooker, the National Churches Trust's new online maintenance management system designed to make it easier for places of worship to keep their building in good repair, was launched in February 2017 as a pilot in Yorkshire.

The project, developed in partnership with procurement experts 2buy2, benefitted from a grant of £90,100 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with additional funding from the National Churches Trust for website development. In the first 10 months of operation, nearly 150 churches registered on the system.

National roll-out

From June 2018 the service will be rolled out across the rest of England and Wales thanks to generous support from Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, The Church in Wales and The Pilgrim Trust.



Maintenance services available will be asbestos management, lightning conductor inspections, tree survey and surgery and rainwater goods maintenance, with additional services being added later in the year.

Tackling essential maintenance tasks sooner rather than later can significantly reduce longer term costs and is an investment for the future.

Gutter clearance at St Matthew's church, Sheffield.



Using the MaintenanceBooker website

Carefully vetted contractors

Many churches find it difficult to find a competent contractor to carry out maintenance tasks. MaintenanceBooker offers the reassurance that all its contractors have been carefully vetted; are suitably qualified to work with church buildings; possess adequate and appropriate insurances and any necessary accreditations so that your church will be in safe hands.

More help is at hand as churches may be eligible to receive a Preventative Maintenance Micro-Grant of either £250 or £500 towards the cost of their first gutter clearance service when booked through MaintenanceBooker. They are easy to apply for through the MaintenanceBooker website; applicants will also receive a quick decision on their application. Visit www.maintenancebooker.org.uk/grants for more details.

You can register online for MaintenanceBooker at www.maintenancebooker.org.uk and find out more by watching an introductory video at www.vimeo.com/269895676

For further information, please contact Janet Edmond on 07734 392445 or email Janet.Edmond@nationalchurchestrust.org

Sacred Wales

By **Michael Murray**, Director of Church Support



With over 4,500 churches and chapels, Wales has some of the most beautiful and historic religious buildings in the world.

In 2017, to celebrate and raise awareness of this tremendous religious heritage, the National Churches Trust ran 'Sacred Wales - Cymru Sanctaidd' an online

competition giving people a chance to choose Wales' favourite church or chapel.

Huw Edwards, broadcaster and journalist and Vice President of the National Churches Trust launched the competition in July at the Cornerstone in Cardiff, calling on the public to vote for the Welsh church or chapel they liked the most.

Tabernacle Chapel in Morriston, Swansea beat off competition from 49 other churches and chapels with 7,081 people voting for it as their favourite. Runners up were St Michael and All



Huw Edwards with Luke March, Claire Walker and The Most Reverend George Stack, the Archbishop of Cardiff at the launch of Sacred Wales

Angels, Efenechtyd with 4,498 votes and the Church of the Holy Cross, Mwnt with 1,884 votes.

A Grade I listed building, Tabernacle Chapel was designed by Welsh architect John Humphreys and opened in 1870. It was said to be perhaps the most ambitious chapel in Wales and cost what was then the huge sum of £18,000. It is known as the 'Cathedral of Welsh Nonconformity', and has a largely unaltered interior and fittings.



Tabernacle Chapel

Regional development

In addition to our work in Wales, the Trust is working with statutory and ecclesiastical partners in Northern Ireland and Scotland to support church fabric projects. The initial focus of this work is to ensure that our grants are awarded fairly in all parts of the United Kingdom. The Trust was instrumental in

developing the Wales Places of Worship Forum in 2017, and in 2018 launched the Northern Ireland Places of Worship Forum with funding from the Department of Communities.

We want to ensure that all areas of the UK have access to our ExploreChurches tourism website. We have started discussions with denominations and traditions in Scotland and Northern Irish to build links and develop content for the site. Our new MaintenanceBooker website has already launched in England and Wales and our goal is to make it available to congregations in Northern Ireland and Scotland by 2020.

More details: www.sacredwales.org.uk

More tea vicar?

Sometimes getting your message across needs subtlety, empathy and creativity.

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SO...

Proud to support the great work of the National Churches Trust

Loving the UK's churches



By **Hilaire Gomer**, Journalist and Communications Volunteer

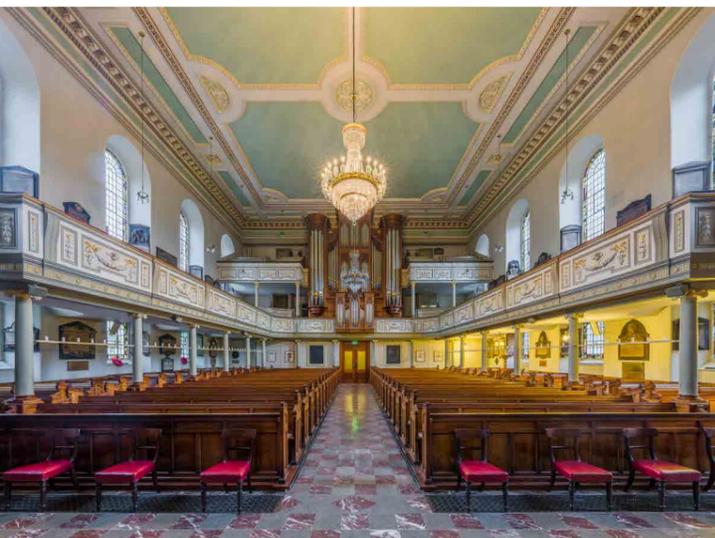


ExploreChurches, the National Churches Trust's new website, makes it easy to discover the UK's most beautiful and fascinating churches. By the end of 2017 the website had information about 2,000 churches and chapels.

They represent a broad spectrum of buildings and communities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, from all the major denominations, and range from the oldest church in the country to ones built within the last five years. The website now includes content and information from the Church of England's former Church Days website which went offline in December 2017.

Themed lists

Sarah Crossland is the mover and shaker of ExploreChurches. Says Sarah, "I started working with churches on tourism in 1998 and for the Trust in 2012. This led to developing ExploreChurches, www.explorechurches.org, which was launched in 2017."



St Marylebone church, London, featured in the ExploreChurches themed list about Charles Dickens. Dickens chose to have his first son baptised in the church and the event is immortalised in his 1848 novel 'Dombey and Son', where baby Paul is christened in the same place.

"The idea is that Friends of the Trust, and the public, can use the website to find out about the history and architecture of individual churches and can also be inspired to find new churches via our themed lists, everything from ones with gorgeous pre-Raphaelite stained glass to churches that hold beer festivals."



"We are encouraging new audiences to appreciate and enjoy our churches, not just church crawlers and history buffs. There is plenty for families, walkers, explorers and others to discover and enjoy."

"We aim to have 3,000 churches on the ExploreChurches website by the end of 2018. So far so good."

Discover and enjoy

The vision for ExploreChurches is for it to become the brand for church tourism in the UK. It will be the source of information about open and accessible churches, chapels and meeting houses for visitors and local people.

You can discover the ExploreChurches website at www.explorechurches.org. A new look and many new features for ExploreChurches, including event listings, will go live in September 2018.

If your church is not featured on the website, please let us know as we'd be delighted to add it. Contact Sarah Crossland on 07540 723287 or email sarah.crossland@nationalchurchestrust.org

Friends of the National Churches Trust

By **Sophie McKane**, Fundraising Manager



We are delighted that our Friends scheme, which allows people to support the work of the Trust, continues to attract increasing support.

Thank you to the 710 new Friends who joined the Trust in 2017, bringing the total number to 2,471. Our Friends continue to remain

extremely loyal; the scheme has an 88% membership renewal rate which is well above the average rate in the charity sector.



Friends and staff of the National Churches Trust at Lincoln Cathedral

Many of our Friends took part in specially organised events throughout 2017. These included tours of churches in Lincoln, Manchester, East London and Romney Marsh. In addition, over 200 Friends attended our annual carol service, held at St Giles-in-the-Fields in central London, hosted by Huw Edwards.

Friends are kept in touch with our work through the Trust's monthly e-newsletter, which includes news items about the Trust and the church heritage sector. In a survey in March 2017, 93% of respondents described the content as 'high quality' or 'very high quality'.



Friends also receive a copy of our bi-annual printed Friends newsletter. This was re-launched with a new design in November 2017, which allows for more news and information about the work of the Trust to be included.

Legacies

Legacies continue to be vital to the Trust's voluntary income, with £1,421,939 notified and accounted for in 2017. Without this support, our work would be significantly reduced.



All Saints church, Fomham, Suffolk © Ed Capes

A legacy will help us to save more beautiful churches for the future.

We received an encouraging number of new legacy pledges in 2017 and responded to a number of requests for information about legacy giving from our Friends. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact us on 020 7222 0605 or email legacy@nationalchurchestrust.org. Alternatively, information can be found on our website at www.nationalchurchestrust.org/legacies.

High standards

The National Churches Trust is committed to high standards in fundraising and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. In 2017 we continued to monitor and update our data protection policies to make sure that our fundraising activities and communications are fully compliant with the new GDPR regulations.

In addition to two newsletters a year, Friends receive a copy of our Annual Review, and occasional invitations to events.

Our fundraising materials and communications clearly highlight that:

- The National Churches Trust will never make public or sell supporter details to any third parties.
- The National Churches Trust keeps supporter details private and stores them securely.
- Friends and supporters can contact us at any time to update their contact preferences.

If you are not already a Friend, you can join for just £30 a year if you pay by Direct Debit.

Full details on how to become a Friend at: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/friends

Church Architecture Awards

By **Eddie Tulasiewicz**, Head of Communications



Each year, together with the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association, the National Churches Trust runs the Church Architecture Awards, which celebrate the best new church architecture and innovative conservation work.

In 2017, the quality and range of projects submitted showed that church architecture continues to make a major contribution to the visual landscape of our villages, towns and cities.

We were delighted that in October 2017 HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO ARIBA, Vice Patron of the Trust, attended the award ceremony at St Mellitus College, London.

He presented the award for the winner of the Presidents' Award for new church architecture to St John the Baptist, Burford, Oxfordshire and Acanthus Clews Architects for a new church hall.



© Mike Swift
Ben Turner (l) and David Finch (second from r) holding the Presidents' Award Chalice and Paten with HRH The Duke of Gloucester and Luke March (r), Chairman of the National Churches Trust

The Duke of Gloucester also presented the award to the winner of the Presidents' Award for reordering, extensions or alteration to church buildings category, which went to St Anne, Soho, London and Upchurch Associates for a new entrance and foyer.

The design by Shereif Al Rifa'i and Lina Viluma replaced iron gates with sleek glass doors, over which the name of the church is written in bold neon lighting.



© Spheron architects
The Belarusian Memorial Chapel, London

King of Prussia Gold Medal

Each year, as part of the Church Architecture Awards, the King of Prussia Gold Medal is presented for innovative church conservation or repair work. The medal was the gift of King Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia in 1857 to the Incorporated Church Building Society.

Prince Nicholas von Preussen presented the King of Prussia Gold Medal for church repair and conservation architecture to St Mark's church, Leeds, Yorkshire and Richard Crooks Partnership for interior restoration and fabric repairs.

St Mark's is the last to survive of the three Church Commissioners' churches built in Leeds. This previously redundant church was brought back into use for worship through a phased programme of conservation work.

The award for the Young Church Architect or Surveyor of the Year went to Tszwai So, project architect and director of the architects' practice Spheron, for his work on the Belarusian Memorial Chapel in north London. The judges commended the architect for his commitment to this unusual project and his leading role in the design and making of a delightful building.

In 2017, the judges really were spoilt for choice - congratulations to the churches and the architects concerned for their inspirational work. We look forward to another bumper crop of entries in 2018.

More details: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/church-architecture-awards-2017

To enter a project for the 2018 Church Architecture Awards please visit: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/architectureawards

And the Friends Grant goes to ...

By **Eleanor Grigson**, Communications Officer



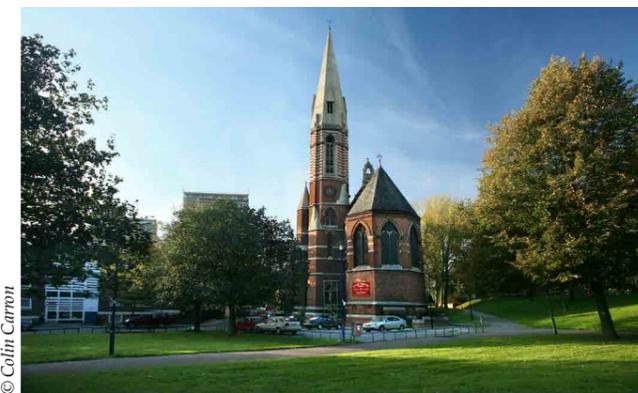
Friends Grant

The National Churches Trust hugely values the support of its Friends. Without you, we could not continue our vital work of supporting churches, chapels and meeting houses.

In 2017, we wanted to give Friends the chance to get more involved in our work, by choosing a church to which we would award a special Friends Grant of £10,000.

We invited churches to whom we had awarded a Repair or Community Grant in 2016 to let us know if they needed any additional funding prior to starting work on their project. Friends could choose which church they would like to support.

In July 2017, St Mary Magdalene, in Paddington, west London, was awarded the first National Churches Trust Friends Grant.



© Colin Carron

St Mary Magdalene church

The grant has helped to fund a major project to conserve the Grade I listed church's outstanding Gothic interior and create a new annex to transform the church into a centre for the local community.

The project was also awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £3.6 million in 2016.

Ground-breaking

On 23 November 2017, the Acting Bishop of London Rt Revd Pete Broadbent took part in a special ground-breaking celebration for the new annex, marking a major milestone in the redevelopment project.

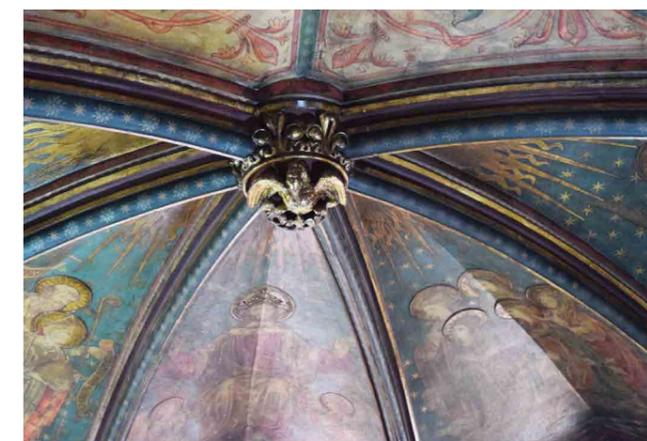
Designed by Dow Jones Architects, the new facilities will feature a learning space, a café opening onto the Grand Union canal, a cultural venue, and an affordable flexible space for use by local groups and residents.

Remarkable ceiling paintings

St Mary Magdalene is currently on Historic England's 'Heritage at Risk' Register. The project will also help restore its historic fabric, significantly extending the life of the building.

Built in the 1860s-70s by G.E. Street, the church is recognised as an outstanding example of neo-Gothic architecture and decoration. There is an almost completely intact internal decorative scheme of the highest quality.

There is more information available at: www.st-mary-magdalene.co.uk



© Gabby Ritchie

The beautiful ceiling which is being restored as part of the project

Have your say in 2018

In 2018, we will again be giving Friends a chance to choose which church receives a Friends Grant.

You can find out more about the four shortlisted projects on our website, and watch videos telling you why they need your support.

Four projects have been shortlisted: St Elvan, Aberdare, in Glamorgan; St Botolph, Boston, in Lincolnshire; St Andrew's, Donhead, in Wiltshire; and St James, Shardlow, in Derbyshire.

Vote online at: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/friendsvote

2017 Grants Programme

By **Catherine Townsend**, Grants Manager



The high level of demand for the National Churches Trust's grants continued in 2017 with a total of 480 applications received, an increase of 26% on 2016.

In 2017 we awarded or recommended grants totalling £1,719,820 to 230 projects

at places of worship in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Funding benefited Church of England, Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland, Church of Scotland, Church in Wales, Methodist, United Reformed, Baptist and Presbyterian places of worship.

The Trust continued to encourage applications from parts of the UK which have previously been under-represented in its grant funding with priority areas identified as the North East of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Grant funding was also prioritised for denominations which have historically made only a small number of applications to the Trust, including the Baptist and Presbyterian churches. Almost 21% of the 230 grants awarded in 2017 went to projects in priority areas, totalling £294,618.

Following a strategic decision to broaden the reach and impact of the Trust's grants, 2017 saw the first places of worship awarded Project Development grants. There was also good take up for the new Maintenance Grant Programme.

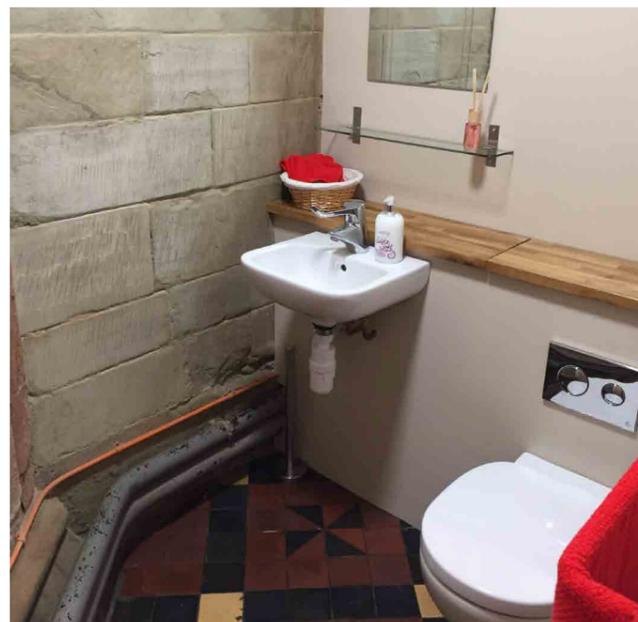
Micro-Maintenance Grants were made available for churches in Yorkshire to support gutter clearing jobs as part of the MaintenanceBooker pilot project, and in Northern Ireland to address small maintenance projects in association with the Ulster Historic Churches Trust.

Repair Grants

The National Churches Trust's Repair Grant programme awarded 50 grants of £5,000 and above towards the cost of urgent and essential structural repair projects. A total of £722,000 was awarded, including five Cornerstone awards of £30,000 to £40,000. Demand for the programme continues to outstrip the Trust's available funding, with the success rate for Repair Grants at 39% in 2017.

Community Grants

The National Churches Trust's Community Grant programme awarded 25 grants of £5,000 and above for projects which introduce facilities to enable increased community use of places of worship. A total of £298,000 was awarded. A range of community projects were considered, with the majority of funding allocated to install or improve toilets or catering facilities. Very high demand for these grants meant that the success rates for Community Grant applications was 17%.



A modern toilet for St Edith's church, Monks Kirby, Warwickshire

Partnership Grants

The National Churches Trust's Partnership Grants programme has for several years awarded grants on the recommendation of local churches trusts in England and Scotland. In 2017, for the first time, this programme included Wales and Northern Ireland. 63 grants of £2,000 to £10,000, totalling £225,560, were awarded with three grants awarded in Wales, each match-funded with £3,000 from the Church in Wales. The grants were primarily awarded to support urgent repair projects with estimated costs of between £10,000 and £100,000.

Project Development Grants

2017 saw the first grants awarded under the Trust's new Project Development programme. These grants are designed to help places of worship begin the early stages of planning for a repair or development project, with funding intended to assist churches up to RIBA Planning Stage 1 and the point at which bids to major funders can be submitted. Grants were awarded to fund a range of projects including options appraisals, feasibility studies and further investigative reports. The Trust awarded £63,610 to 14 projects, with a 33% success rate. This has been a popular new pot of funding supporting churches to get new projects started.

Maintenance Grants

2017 was also the first year of the Maintenance Grants programme for proactive repairs and maintenance works, made possible through the support of The Pilgrim Trust. The grants are designed to support listed places of worship fund small repair issues as they arise, in order to prevent the need for extensive and expensive repair works in the future. Grants can also support investigations into the causes of maintenance problems and to improve maintenance access at high levels. Works funded included small stone repairs, repointing, replacement gutters and drainage works. 51 grants were awarded totalling £104,006.

How our grants make a difference

The church building remains open for public use.

Specific areas of a church, such as a roof or stonework, are repaired with a beneficial impact on the rest of the building.

The church building becomes windproof and watertight.

The church becomes more resilient and sustainable.

Local areas become better places to live as repairs and new facilities enable the wider use of church buildings by local people.

Employment is provided for skilled crafts people.

Economic benefit is spread across the UK, with 79% of grants awarded outside of the South East of England.

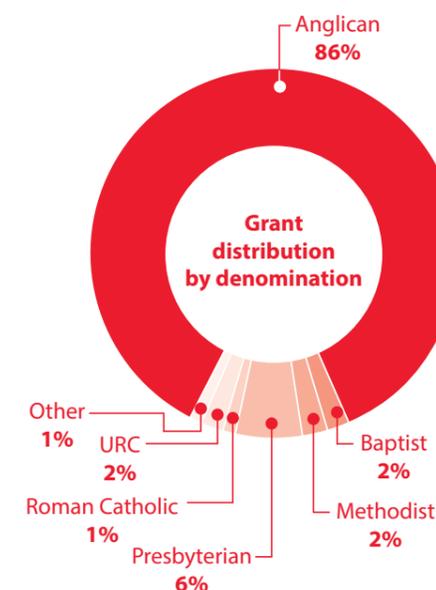
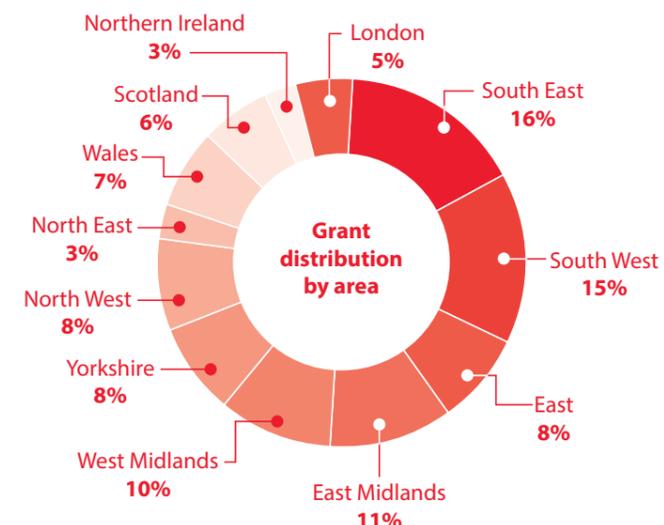
Churches are supported to develop appropriate projects based on a strong business case, survey or feasibility study.

Preventative Maintenance Micro Grants

This new grants programme was launched in Yorkshire in association with the Trust's MaintenanceBooker website, and in Northern Ireland in conjunction with the Ulster Historic Churches Trust. Six grants totalling £5,144 were approved in Yorkshire to support churches carrying out work via MaintenanceBooker and three grants of £1,650 were awarded to places of worship in Northern Ireland.

Micro-Grants in Partnership with the Cinnamon Network

Twelve grants were made to allow churches awarded a National Churches Trust Community or Repair Grant to set up a Cinnamon Network Recognised Project with the help of an additional £2,000 micro-grant. The micro-grants supported churches with the set-up costs for initiating social action projects such as CAP Money Courses, Make Lunch and Parish Nursing.



National Churches Trust grant distribution 2017

Please help us to help more churches

A full list of National Churches Trust Grants awarded in 2017 can be found on pages 36 - 37.

The National Churches Trust receives no funding from government or church authorities and relies on income from individual donations (including legacies), our Friends scheme, Trusts and Foundations and investments.

You can help us ensure a future for more churches and chapels by becoming a Friend of the National Churches Trust.

www.nationalchurchestrust.org.uk/friends

Our grants for urgent structural repair projects with estimated costs of at least £100,000, to help places of worship become windproof and watertight.

St Botolph (Boston Stump)
Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 6NP
Grade I (Church of England)



On the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk' Register

£40,000 Repair Grant



St Botolph's church in Boston is the largest and one of the most significant historic parish churches in the country. It is spectacular from the outside and is described by Pevsner as a "giant among English Parish churches". Over its 700 years the church has played its part in both national and international history. It will be forever linked with the Puritan emigrants who in 1630 followed in the wake of the Pilgrim Fathers and founded a new Boston in the United States of America.

A £40,000 National Churches Trust Repair Grant will help fund urgent repairs to the tower roof and clock and refurbish the kitchen. This will include replacement of the lead belfry roof and the wooden platform at the top of the lantern tower which are both

in extremely poor condition. The works are planned to be completed to coincide with the international celebrations commemorating the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower.

Rev Alyson Buxton, Team Rector, said:

"We are absolutely delighted to receive this significant grant which will help safeguard the tower of one of the most iconic buildings in the country for generations to come. Our thanks and gratitude go to the National Churches Trust for their generosity."

Fairhaven United Reformed Church,
Lytham St Annes, Lancashire FY8 1AX
Grade II* (United Reformed Church)



£12,000 Repair Grant

Although officially Fairhaven United Reformed Church, this church is known locally as The White Church. This amazing building designed by Briggs, Wolstenholme and Thornley opened in 1912 and was built in an early Christian Byzantine style with a square design, a domed roof and an octagonal 90 foot tower over the main entrance. There are two other towers with domes rising 50 feet. The building is faced in striking white faience. The sanctuary is in the shape of a Greek cross and can seat 500. There are beautiful stained glass windows by Luke Walmsley.



© Tom Richardson Lancashire - Alamy

A £12,000 National Churches Trust Repair Grant will help fund urgent repairs to dry rot damage. In January 2014 a major problem with water ingress was identified which caused significant damage to the fabric of the building. Dry rot occurred on the south elevation where water entered and badly damaged the first floor meeting room. Dry rot spores developed which attacked the timbers in this room, adjacent rooms and the cellar below.

The main entrance porch was also badly damaged by water ingress. Funding will pay for repairs to the areas damaged by dry rot so they can be returned to church and community use and also to restore the main entrance.

A representative of Fairhaven URC said:

"Fairhaven United Reformed Church is extremely grateful to the National Churches Trust for the £12,000 grant towards the problem of the dry rot. It will allow us to make major repairs to our Grade II church and preclude the need for temporary (sticking plaster) work."*

St David's Old Church,
Llanwrtyd, Wales LD5 4AD
Grade II* (Church in Wales)



£20,000 Repair Grant

The present church has a recorded history spanning more than 1,000 years. The site was reputed to have been chosen much earlier by St David himself for the promulgation of the Christian faith following the hugely significant synod at Llanddewibrefi in the year 519 A.D. The hymn writer, William Williams of Pantycelyn, was curate here from 1740-2 before leaving as a result of his non-conformist beliefs. He served under Rev Theophilus Evans (1693-1767) who discovered the healing properties of the waters at Llanwrtyd Wells.

A £20,000 National Churches Trust Repair Grant will help fund urgent repairs to stonework and gutters which are allowing water into the church and causing damage to the nave floor. The repair project will help preserve this lovely church for many years.



© David Ford - Alamy

Blaenau Irfon Benefice Parochial Church Council said:

"The work when completed at St David's Old Parish Church will ensure its continuance as a place of worship based on its rich and esteemed history. It is also important to note that on completion of the works the church is set to attract many more visitors nationally and internationally by opening its doors to the wider secular community. We must say that the local community support for the project has been immense and is ongoing."

Shrewsbury Abbey
Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 6BS
Grade I (Church of England)



On the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk' Register

£10,000 Repair Grant



The Abbey was founded as a Benedictine Monastery by Roger de Montgomery in 1083 on the site of an existing Saxon church. After the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of King Henry VIII the part of the Abbey building which survived continued as a parish church – as it is to this day. Shrewsbury Abbey serves an area including the second most deprived community in Shropshire.

The Abbey was awarded a £10,000 National Churches

Trust Repair Grant to help fund urgent stonework repairs and to upgrade kitchen facilities. Shrewsbury Abbey is of red sandstone construction and there are assorted defects associated with the variable quality of some of the building stones used. Parts of the chancel and transept parapets are in urgent need of repair and renewal. It also has a very poor sink area in full view which is a serious detriment to the internal beauty of the Abbey and the project includes the installation of a proper and 'hidden' small kitchen.

The Abbey already acts as a magnet to the town – it has been estimated that visitors bring in £3 million to the local economy and once the work has been completed it is hoped to increase the use of the church by 20% in five years.

Rev Paul Firmin said:

"The Abbey had come on to the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk' register. This meant remedial stonework had become an immediate priority. When such work needs to be done at (very) high level on a church the size of the Abbey it does add an extra nought to the costing. The National Churches Trust grant of £10,000 is a generous and welcome contribution to the work and will be part of the maintenance legacy of this iconic place of worship."

Our grants for installing essential facilities – such as kitchens and toilets – and improving access for everyone.

St George the Martyr with St Alphege & St Jude,
Southwark, London SE1 1JA
Grade II* (Church of England)



On the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk' Register

£10,000 Community Grant

This church is on a site which has been a place of Christian worship since at least the 12th century. The present building is brick built of classical design with Portland stone pediments, string courses and dressings, designed by John Price (1735) with the interior altered by Hedger (1808). The church is known for its part in 'Little Dorrit', acknowledged in the east window.



A £10,000 National Churches Trust Grant will help fund urgent repairs to stonework and gutters and improve the entrance area to create space for a community café. Repairs will allow for more people to experience its heritage and embed the church as a key community resource.

Fr Jonathan Sedgwick, Priest in Charge of St George the Martyr, said:

"Over the centuries St George the Martyr has undergone great change and development, just like the environment surrounding it. In response to this growth and change, St George the Martyr continues to work to support those in the community offering a central point to meet and grow together. We are excited that the National Churches Trust supports our vision for the part a renewed St George's can play in this community. We look forward to seeing this project develop and become a reality."



St Peter's Episcopal Church ,
Linlithgow EH49 7EJ
Grade B (Church of Scotland)



£20,000 Community Grant

St Peter's is located in the Linlithgow Palace and High Street Conservation Area, slightly west of the ruins of Linlithgow Palace. The Byzantine-style building, in the form of a Greek cross surmounted by a semi-glazed dome which illuminates the whole church, sits slightly back from the street immediately opposite Linlithgow loch. The foundation stone was laid in 1927 and the church was consecrated in May 1928. Initially called St Mildred's in honour of Bishop Walpole's wife, its name was changed to St Peter's in 1979.

A £20,000 National Churches Trust Community Grant will help build an extension to the church to house a kitchen, toilets and new meeting spaces. St Peter's wants to make its building more available to the community as a base for Christian worship and outreach work, a venue for community activities and part of Linlithgow's historic heritage. The kitchen is woefully inadequate and does not meet current food hygiene regulations. Users with disabilities cannot access the only toilet without significant physical effort.

Revd Christine Barclay said:

"We at St Peter's are delighted with the support we have received in raising the funds to enable us to realise our vision. We are so very grateful to the National Churches Trust for recognising the value of our project and awarding us such a generous grant"

The Project Development grant programme offers awards up to £10,000 to support churches to develop high quality, well researched, sustainable projects.

The Greek Orthodox Church of St Mary Magdalene,
St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 3QT
Grade II (Greek Orthodox)

£6,000 Project Development Grant



The Greek Orthodox church in St Leonards-on-Sea uses an Anglican church built in 1852 to the design of architect Frederic Marrable whose other work includes London's Garrick Club. The building became redundant in 1980 and was purchased by the Greek Orthodox community in 1982. The church has since been used by the Greek community and more recently by Eastern European Orthodox Christians.

The church received a £6,000 National Churches Trust Project Development grant to help in the preparation of a major funding bid for the repair and restoration of the main roof of the church.



Jim Breen, Church Administrator, said:

"The award from the National Churches Trust means that we can now prioritise and schedule the work and we anticipate that we should hope to get the project underway as soon as possible. On behalf of Father Lerotheos, our trustees and all of the St Mary Magdalene Community – thank you."

A new funding stream, supported by The Pilgrim Trust, Maintenance Grants fund projects costing between £2,000 and £10,000 to address small, proactive repairs and maintenance work which reduce the need for more expensive future repairs.

Church of the Assumption,
Dungannon, County Tyrone, N Ireland BT70 3AF
Grade B (Roman Catholic)

£2,500 Maintenance Grant



The Church of the Assumption is the third church built in the Tullyallen area. The first was formed from a building given by Mr Ramsay in 1786. The present church was built in 1952 and has attracted the interest of conservationists because of its interior decoration. It was listed in 1984 as a Grade B building. The church serves 550 families and has an average Sunday attendance of 500. The church is open seven days per week from 8.30am to 5.30pm.

A £2,500 National Churches Trust Maintenance Grant will fund drainage work, including removal of defective pipes and replacement of manholes.





Churches and Pilgrimage: How to Get Britain Going Again

Pilgrims in Sussex's smallest church, the Good Shepherd, Lullington



The British Pilgrimage Trust is dedicated to re-opening pilgrimage in Britain. One of its founders, William Parsons, sets out the BPT's vision for pilgrimage, and explains how it can help make churches accessible to new audiences.



By *William Parsons, Co-founder of the British Pilgrimage Trust*

My first pilgrimage, made in my earliest twenties, was an epic failure. An hour out of Winchester I got lost for three weeks. My guidebook, written for Edwardian bicyclists, was well-illustrated but largely false. There were no great Elms at which to turn left, every river lacked a ferryman, and the unmarked roads were six lanes wide. With nowhere to sleep, when it rained I got wet. I finally reached Canterbury, confused, damp and hungry, to find the Cathedral was locked.

The profound dissatisfaction of this experience galvanised me. How hard could it be to get a decent pilgrimage around here? To answer this question, I spent the next 10 years on foot in Britain (up to nine months per journey) seeking the whats, whys and wherefores of British pilgrimage.

Then four years ago I met Dr. Guy Hayward, and together we founded The British Pilgrimage Trust (BPT), a charity dedicated to renewing pilgrimage in modern Britain. We've tried many British classics – Walsingham and Whitby, St Andrews and Anglesey, Cornwall and Canterbury. We've licked sundry shrines, bathed in diverse holy wells, and followed rivers from source to sea. Within the British Isles, we even managed a pilgrimage to Jerusalem (the song – written on the Sussex coast).

What we have discovered is that pilgrimage today offers Britain a tremendous opportunity. Look to Spain, where the Camino de Santiago de Compostela is a booming global attraction with over 300,000 people per year walking at least 100 km. The Camino provides physical health, community cohesion, rural regeneration, and space for spiritual seeking.

Banned by Thomas Cromwell

Pilgrimage was once Britain's favourite leisure activity too, until it was banned by Thomas Cromwell. However, 500 years have passed and this ban has certainly expired. So why not pilgrimage in Britain today?

With our public footpaths, diverse natural beauty and deep cultural history, and with our ancient architecture of villages, pubs and churches, it looks like a matter of simply joining the dots. But it has not proven so easy. Over the last 100 years, many pilgrimage routes have been developed in Britain – and yet pilgrims, in significant numbers, simply have not come. The BPT has identified two main reasons why.

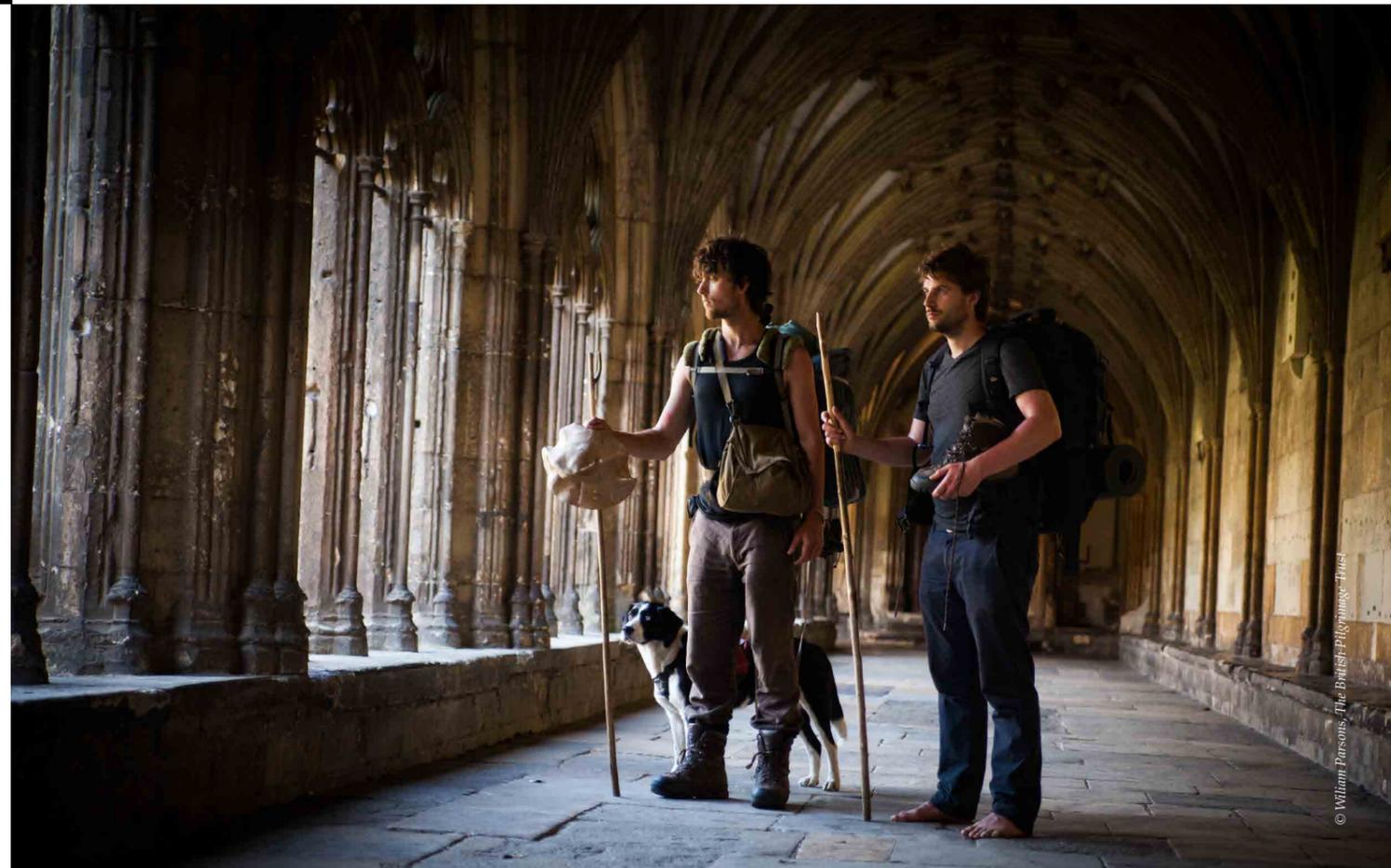
First is the religious identity issue. This is hardly news: five hundred years ago pilgrimage was banned for being part of 'the wrong religion', and the taboo has lingered. Also, according to recent census data, traditional religious identities have never been less popular.

These are issues we cannot fix, so instead we bypass them by promoting British pilgrimage as 'Open to All', an activity in Britain unowned by any faith or non-faith group. This entirely avoids the problem, and is common sense when you consider that humans have been making journeys on foot to holy places (aka pilgrimage) since history began.



Pilgrims rest in the High Victorian Interior of Bishingsbourne St Mary's, Kent

Pilgrimage no more belongs to a single faith/non-faith group than 'singing' or 'meeting' do. As a word, it comes from the Latin 'peregrinus' meaning 'stranger/outsider' - which in turn comes from 'perager', meaning 'through fields'. And 'Holy' derives from the Old English 'Halig', meaning 'Wholesome' or 'Healthy'. Neither term, at root, contains any particular religious identity.



The British Pilgrimage Trust's first arrivals at Canterbury Cathedral en route from Winchester



A pilgrim enters St Mary's church, Patricbourne, Kent

© William Parsons, The British Pilgrimage Trust

We describe the waypoints and destinations of British pilgrimage as 'holy places', which we present in two categories: built and natural.

'Built' includes standing stones and tin tabernacles, the churches, chapels and cathedrals (of all faiths and none). 'Natural' includes hilltops, trees, river sources and confluences. Nature provides universally accessible holiness, but within the setting of pilgrimage, we have found village churches also share this 'naturalness' of appeal, even among people who don't normally visit them.

We have seen time and again during our events that special moment when a pilgrim realises that they actually do like churches, after a lifetime of not realising. It's like the sudden receipt of a surprise inheritance.

Bring Your Own Beliefs

By telling pilgrims to 'Bring Your Own Beliefs' (BYOB), permission is granted for people to encounter British churches as holy places without prescription. Our recommended pilgrim 'use' for churches is as still quiet places to reflect on their journey's intention. This is one of the key ligaments of pilgrimage - setting an intention - which is as crucial to the practice as choosing a destination and walking there. This activity excludes no-one, and in practice, it even looks a lot like prayer.

We thus avoid the first hurdle. But there remains a second blockage to the British pilgrimage renaissance. When the Monasteries were dissolved, Britain lost her low-cost pilgrimage accommodation. This makes pilgrimage only available today for people who can afford B&Bs.

During my 14 years of pilgrimage I have slept in stately homes, public houses and hollow trees, in boats, barns and buses, castles, caravans and caves. But in my opinion, there exists no better venue for pilgrim sleep than churches. No Travelodge comes close. Churches offer the deepest sense of shelter, of resting in profound peace. Church sleeping also helps dissolve the cultural objections to these buildings some people think they have. Sleeping in church makes it feel like home.

These two solutions can seem contradictory, promoting British pilgrimage as unowned by any faith/non-faith group, while also encouraging pilgrim sleep in churches. But it is simple practicality. Thousands of British churches are starved of income, use and relevance, and almost all lie empty overnight. Meanwhile, pilgrims lack accommodation. Little investment is required to host pilgrims, who carry home on their back (see our 'snail' logo) with air-mats and sleeping bags. All pilgrims require is access, a tap and toilet.

Adding value

In practical terms, there is nothing to stop any parish from providing pilgrim church sleep right now, with an AirBNB account, a number-pad key-locker, a portaloos and some

supportive neighbours. Communities might add further value by providing laundry, showers, packed lunches, and morning coffee. It is an opportunity whose potential for growth is great.

Obviously, for churches housing priceless treasures this will not work. But for those with less to lose, pilgrim sleeping offers financial sustainability while providing a bold gesture of welcome that is surely aligned with core purposes. It is clear that Britain's churches should not be empty. **So why not fill them with pilgrims, by day to share the peace and beauty, and by night to shelter under ancient walls?**

We find this a beautiful prospect. And as any pilgrim knows, to reach such prospects you can only walk toward them. So to make our intentions real, we are embodying them in our flagship pilgrimage route, the 'Old Way' from Southampton to Canterbury, a recently rediscovered 250 mile path that follows the ancient ports of the South Coast through diverse unspoilt landscapes, via a wealth of holy places built and natural.

We launch in 2020, and hope to see you on the path.

More details: www.britishpilgrimage.org



A team of Hampshire tech professionals chose pilgrimage for their Christmas outing

© William Parsons, The British Pilgrimage Trust

Reviving the ancient craft of stonemasonry

By Catherine Pepinster



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



St Stephen, the patron saint of stonemasons. Stained glass by Edward Coley Burne-Jones in St Stephen's church, Rochester Row, London

In a churchyard in Norwich is a timeless scene of craftsmanship. Two men are at work, one chiseling at a carving in stone, the other putting the finishing touches to shaping a wooden mallet. Both are dressed in long white aprons and a white squarish hat, as is the man observing their labours.

A visitor from medieval Norwich would have recognised the work being done; that it is still being carried out and still taught in the same way in the 21st century is remarkable. But stonemasonry is a craft that has stood the test of time, and now this traditional way of training young people is undergoing a revival.

The churchyard in Norwich is St Clement's where the stonemason's Guild of St Stephen and St George is based. The Guild's origins lie in the 10th century and while it died out in England, it continued on the Continent. The man observing the others' handiwork is Stephen L'Normand, master of the Guild which was revived in this country three years ago. L'Normand himself, through the master who taught him, can trace back his links to skilled masons as far back as 1080.

The reason for the revival of the Guild was simple: if stonemasonry skills are to survive, then they must be handed on to the next generation, and that requires a proper training scheme. And the skills are certainly needed: as well as there being a demand for new stone buildings, there is a constant need for stonemasons to help restore historic ones, not least cathedrals and parish churches.

Restoration of ecclesiastical buildings is required for many reasons. The weather plays its part in deterioration of stone and pollution has had a deleterious impact on the material as well. Sometimes mistakes by the original builders cause problems, but so does bodging by more recent restorers, particularly in their enthusiasm for cement.

Seven year apprenticeship

Training as a stonemason to cope with all these problems takes great commitment. The Guild apprenticeship lasts seven years – and that square hat that L'Normand and his apprentices are wearing in St Clement's Churchyard is a sign of how comprehensive a training the Guild provides.

For the young masons learn not only how to carve and lay the stones but are taught geometry to help them be skilful in design, philosophy to understand the world in which they live,

and dance, so that they learn to balance well as they work. And that hat: it too is all about balance. If a mason does not stand straight, his hat will fall off. But he will also risk damaging his back. So keeping one's hat on also preserves one's spine.

Stephen L'Normand said: "We're standing up most of the time so balance of the body is crucial, just as using all the right tools is vital too."

"Proportion is also crucial to the work of a stonemason. If you understand that, you are able to create work that is uplifting."

Bankers and fixers

Stonemasonry traditionally consisted of two skills. Banker masons carved stone using drawings and templates into finished products for installation into buildings and fixer masons installed prepared stones in the buildings. These distinctions are today becoming more blurred. At the heart of the stonemason's craft is accuracy and artistry, using a square, a compass and a template to measure and mark the stone.

According to the Heritage Crafts Association, there are six stonemasonry colleges in England offering apprenticeships,

but not all trained masons focus on all the traditional skills, and some masons today use machinery for carving. The apprentices of the Guild of St Stephen and St George use the traditional chisel and mallet, and different types of wooden mallet depending on the stone being worked.

The Guild is linked to the stonemason company Gildencraft which provides the apprentices with not only practical experience but also paid work. Colin Howey, who runs Gildencraft, estimates that around 20 per cent of the company's work is church work. It has undertaken restoration work for Norwich Cathedral and also works for Norfolk Historic Churches Trust. The trust is the Guild's landlord at St Clement's and the masons pay the rent in kind, through repair work.

Mr Howey has seen how vital it is for young masons to be thoroughly trained.

"In the last 40 years there has been a decline in stonemasonry standards", he said. "We have seen the wrong mortars used, and the wrong thickness of joints. It is vital that we create an elite level of stonemasons who do not take short cuts."



The Guild of St Stephen



Stonemason's tools

Modern techniques

The apprentices learn modern conservation techniques as well as traditional methods of working, although modern techniques are often about undoing the recent past, such as removing cement once used to repair stone. The apprentices also learn about the many different kinds of stone used in Britain; there are 96 different kinds of limestone alone.

In the last two years the Guild has recruited a dozen apprentices. Toby Wright joined after a degree in agriculture. He was attracted to stonemasonry, he said, "Because I wanted to do something practical but there is an artistic side to it as well". Joshua Brown joined straight from school. "It was by chance that I discovered the training," he said. "And there is more to it than I ever thought. With your master, you have a link back to the past and all that knowledge from others too."

Being inducted into the Guild is a momentous occasion for the young apprentices. The offering they make is a traditional one: 33p, a pint of beer and a loaf of bread, and in return they receive their indentures inscribed in vellum. As well as their training, there are legal and welfare benefits attached to Guild membership.

Specialist skills

Another scheme which has been set up to train people to work in ecclesiastical buildings is the Cathedrals' Workshop Fellowship (CWF), a consortium of nine cathedrals. Since 2005, the CWF has taught specialist skills for the conservation, maintenance and repair of cathedrals. The cathedrals all have their own stone and carpentry workshops and have joined together to train their apprentices via a foundation degree, validated by Gloucester University. This combines study in the classroom, including architectural history, archaeology and conservation principles, and work on-site, incorporating current restoration work into the course, as well as setting out and fixing stonework.

Frances Cambrook who was instrumental in setting up the CWF course, said: "People who work preserving our cathedrals need specialist crafts and an understanding of the context of the buildings they are working on. This goes beyond what is covered in standard stonemasonry courses."

"When they take a specialism in carving in their second year it really opens their eyes to the possibilities of working with stone".

© Janelle Luggel/Shutterstock.com

The cathedrals' course, like the Guild of St Stephen and St George, attracts both school leavers and graduate entrants and around a third of the students are women. The work in both church and cathedrals includes sometimes undoing the restorations of the past, carried out by well-meaning Victorians who did not necessarily understand medieval craftsmanship.

One of the most contentious issues is iconoclasm, including the damage done to church buildings during the Reformation. But rather than restore them to how they were before they were damaged, most churches and cathedrals opt instead to keep them in their deliberately damaged state – evidence of the impact that history has had on the building.

Heather Newton, head of conservation at Canterbury Cathedral, said: "It is very doubtful whether Reformation restoration would be allowed or is even desirable. It is too important a part of history to tidy it up."

The size of a cathedral like Canterbury means that repair work is continual and Ms Newton has found that the original builders designed it in such a way that they have made today's task easier; there is lots of access to gutters, roofs and windows.



Tom Tillyard and Mark Kennett from Fraser Tillyard

Canterbury is using a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to support a major restoration project including repair of the roof and reinstating gargoyles in the top gutter in the form of lions' heads. Its apprentices are involved in creating stone lions' heads, each around 12 cubic feet.

Ms Newton is keen for the cathedrals' scheme to benefit smaller churches as well by training people with the skills to look after them.

"We can become centres of excellence for other churches," she said. "The needs of the parishes are becoming increasingly urgent. We can't disregard them. And if we can create a pool of skilled people, that is very important".

Ex-prisoners workforce

Another organisation which is teaching traditional skills for church refurbishment is Fraser Tillyard, a company based in south London which takes on ex-prisoners as part of its workforce.

Its founder, Tom Tillyard, took a plastering class after leaving his City banker job and found many of his fellow students were former prisoners. After the teacher suggested he employ some of them, Mr Tillyard began his business. His first project was restoring the portico of his own church, St Mary's, in Battersea, and the company has since gone on to complete 60 projects restoring churches and vicarages in five years. It operates in the Dioceses of Southwark and Canterbury, and is looking to expand further.

Mr Tillyard has now joined forces with Mark Kennett, a stonemason and architect, who set up a stonemasonry apprenticeship scheme at Rochester Prison. The prison is closing soon and some of the former inmates are now working with Fraser Tillyard on restoring church stonework.

Mr Tillyard finds churches are more understanding of the background of his ex-prisoner employees.

"There is a lack of forgiveness out there, but working with churches is different. They have a different culture but it's also a good source of work. There are plenty of historic buildings that need restoring."

"One of the problems for people in prisons is they get moved around a lot, so they might start learning a skill but then get switched to another prison where it is not taught," he said. "When they work for us there is continuity and stability. And the work also builds their self-esteem. They don't get drawn back into crime because they get a second chance".

More information is available at:
 Guild of St Stephen and St George
www.gildencraft.co.uk
 Cathedrals' Workshop Fellowship
www.cwfcathedrals.co.uk
 Fraser Tillyard
www.frasertillyard.com



200 years of the Incorporated Church Building Society

In 2018, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Incorporated Church Building Society (ICBS). Following the turmoil of the Napoleonic wars and faced with the rapid expansion of industrial towns and cities, the ICBS was set up in 1818 to help keep England holy.

Using extracts from 'Free Seats for All', a new book by Gill Hedley charting the history of the ICBS, we tell the story of our predecessor charity.

'Free Seats for All' is published by Umbria Press price £20. Copies are available from the National Churches Trust for only £15. Please visit www.nationalchurchestrust.org/freesats

Church building in England started in earnest with the arrival of the Normans. It slowed at the time of the Black Death, then, following England's political independence from the continent, flowered in the glorious native Perpendicular Style of vertical lines, delicate tracery and vast expanses of glass.

Building all but stopped in 1534 and relatively few Anglican churches were built in the following 280 years, a period in which Nonconformism took root and thrived. By 1815, only around half the population belonged to the established Anglican Church and belief within all churches was challenged by the new intellectual ideas imported from France.

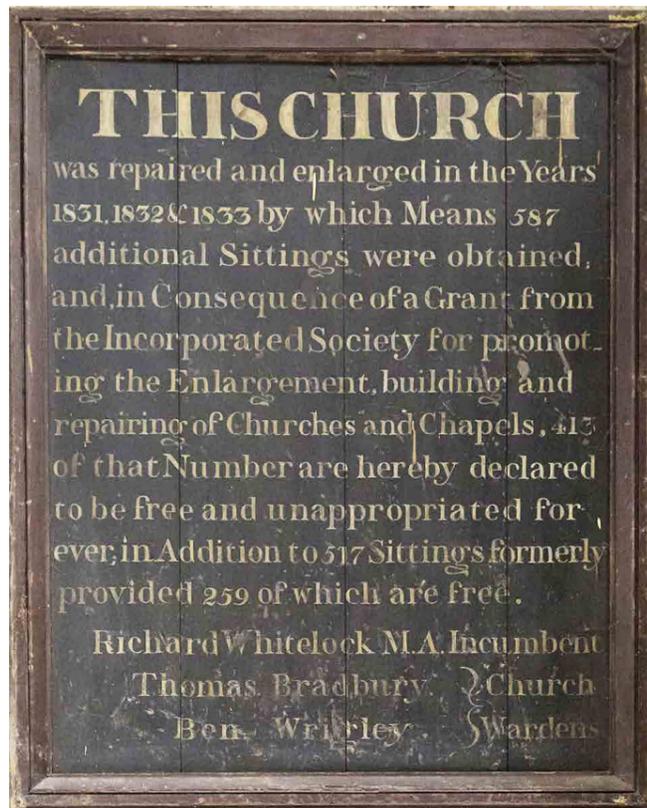
In 1818, in Manchester only 10,950 people out of a population of 79,459 could be accommodated in Anglican churches. Liverpool had a population of 94,376, for whom only 21,000 could be found seats in church, and in Marylebone, London, the figures were 8,700 out of 75,624. In Birmingham it was calculated that there were 40,000 people to be provided for, 'which cannot be done, but by building twenty churches'.

Nonconformism

If it were to maintain its place as the established church, the Church of England had to counteract Nonconformism, to adapt its churches to the fourfold increase in population since 1534 and the growth in new industrial towns, and to suppress 'pew rents', which reduced the availability of worship to the poor.

Against this background, in 1818 the Church Building Society (the future ICBS) and the Church Building Commission (CBC) were set up. Together they were to usher in an era of unprecedented Anglican church building. The CBC, funded by Government and with its 600 'million pound churches', is relatively well known, but the ICBS has remained largely in the shadows.

Nonetheless, thanks to the efforts of a small number of committed promoters, the ICBS raised some £1.6 million



ICBS plaque at St Chad's church, Saddleworth

(around £160 million in today's money) from rich individuals, through a well-orchestrated campaign and appeals in churches. At the head of the ICBS was a royal patron, first Prince Edward (father to Queen Victoria) until 1820, followed by George IV and then Victoria herself.

14,346 grants

The ICBS gave grants all over England and Wales: from north, as far as the border with Scotland, to south; from east to west, across Wales and to the tip of Cornwall; on the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Wight.

The first enquiries that came into the ICBS in 1818 were from Durham, Lancashire, Flintshire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Worcestershire, Monmouthshire, Dorset and Cheshire.

St Paul's, Peel, Lancashire received the first ever ICBS grant, which was for enlargement, followed by All Saints, Dewsbury, Yorkshire and St Gwynllyw, Newport (today Newport Cathedral) in 1819.

The work of the ICBS continued through the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth. Between 1818 and 1882, the period covered by the ICBS archive at Lambeth Palace, it gave 14,356 grants to churches.

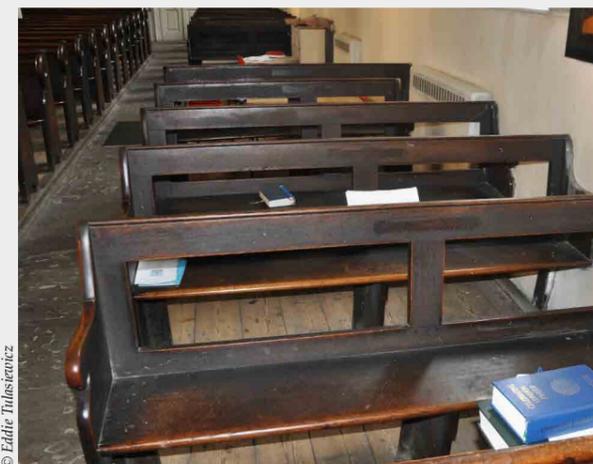
In 2013 Parliament and the Charity Commission agreed changes to the rules of the ICBS, which brought its affairs under the National Churches Trust for administrative and regulatory purposes. Today the National Churches Trust supports church and chapel buildings of all denominations throughout the UK.

The battle for free pews

Before the first Church Building Act in 1818 the renting of pews had only been legal where specific Acts of Parliament authorised it, but the Church Building Act permitted, even encouraged, rents without specific parliamentary authorisation. Many new churches took advantage of this, resulting in a substantial rise in income from pew rental but also a continuous source of controversy in the 1840s and 1850s.

A very significant contrary resolution made by the ICBS on 24 June 1818 referred to 'free sittings', stating that preference would be given to buildings with the largest number of free seats in proportion to grants given.

This was a fundamental aspect of all grant aid given by the Society, ensuring not only that churches should be built, but that they should have at least part of their interiors allocated wholly to the lower classes, who could not afford pew rents and did not possess the local influence to be given proprietorial rights over pews.



ICBS funded pews at St John on Bethnal Green, London



Portrait of Charles Hoare of Luscombe

C. Hoare & Co.
PRIVATE BANKERS SINCE 1672

C. Hoare & Co and the ICBS

C. Hoare and Co is the oldest bank in the United Kingdom and the world's fourth oldest bank, founded in 1672 by Sir Richard Hoare.

The Hoare family provided nine of the ICBS treasurers between 1818 and 2012, an astonishing continuity of service. Charles Hoare, the first treasurer of the ICBS, was one of the four ICBS trustees for thirty-three years until his death in 1851 and over the years gave one of the largest personal donations.

The Senior Vice-President of the National Churches Trust is Michael Hoare, the tenth generation of his family to be involved with the Incorporated Church Building Society, and who delivered its principles safely into the twenty-first century.



Maintenance, repair and replacement

Good maintenance can ensure a long life for a church roof, but replacement will eventually be required

© All Saints church, Murston, Kent

By **Richard Carr-Archer**, Trustee, National Churches Trust



Richard Carr-Archer is an architect based in York and has been a member of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England since 2006, of the York Diocesan

Advisory Committee since 1986 and of the Fabric Advisory Committee at Durham Cathedral since 1997.

We construct buildings to create spaces protected from the extremes of weather. Even as the building envelope performs this role, this function causes it to degrade. Some materials and building elements have a short lifespan while others survive longer, but all have to be maintained.

Sometimes there is confusion about why both maintenance and repair are required for a church building; it may be thought that conserving a material will obviate the need for replacement. In reality, even with the best-maintained building, elements will eventually degrade and need either replacement or protection. So looking after a church building properly means you have to think short, medium and long term, quite a tall order!

Maintaining a church building properly, and ensuring its detailing is functional and effective will prolong the life of

materials. If materials are critical to the way the building handles weather, poor maintenance will accelerate decay and lead to problems that otherwise might be avoided.

The materials of church roofs are a case in point. Roofs must cope with wind and rain, and if coverings begin to fail, the resulting decay of the supporting timberwork may cause serious problems through tile/slate slippage. Neglect of localised problems can lead to the loss of a part or an entire roof.

Clay roofing tiles – whether plain flats, pantiles or other profiled tiles – are generally accepted to last 30-60 years. Stone or ‘blue’ slates are even longer lived, but roofs made from slate and tile depend on the nails, nibs, and pegs which fix them onto battens (pegs were traditionally oak, but sheep’s teeth were sometimes used in North Yorkshire), and these can fail much more quickly.

Stone slates are heavy, making failure of their fixings more likely, and restrict the life of the roof to something like 80 -100 years. Endurance will depend on exposure and the quality of the original materials as well as the care given: although not a church, in North Lincolnshire about 20 years ago I came across a wing of a country house roofed in the late 18th Century with Westmoreland slates relatively small and very thick, fixed with lovely thick cut copper nails into oak battens, which the owner assured me had never been re-laid.

The life of the roof

Other major areas of failure are abutments and ridges, especially where the ridge capping has been weathered with cement rather than lime, or where the lead by the coping has been eaten through by lichen acid attack. Clever detailing which stops or slows the damaging lichen can lessen such failures.

Oak shingles are said to last longer than Western Red Cedars (having a life expectancy of about 30-50 years), although from experience there is good reason to believe they often last longer.

Metal roofs can be very long lived, depending on the type of metal and the detailing. Lead is proverbially robust, and with care and suitable conditions can survive over a hundred years, but copper is susceptible to wind damage, and can sometimes only last decades. Lead is also used for weathering slate and tile roofs, partly because the materials have similar lifespan.

So far as I know no roofing material can be effectively conserved. When a tiled or slated roof needs replacement, it may be possible to salvage some items so long as they are still in good enough condition to last another 80 years or so. However, old and new tiles must fit together properly so there is no risk of leakage.

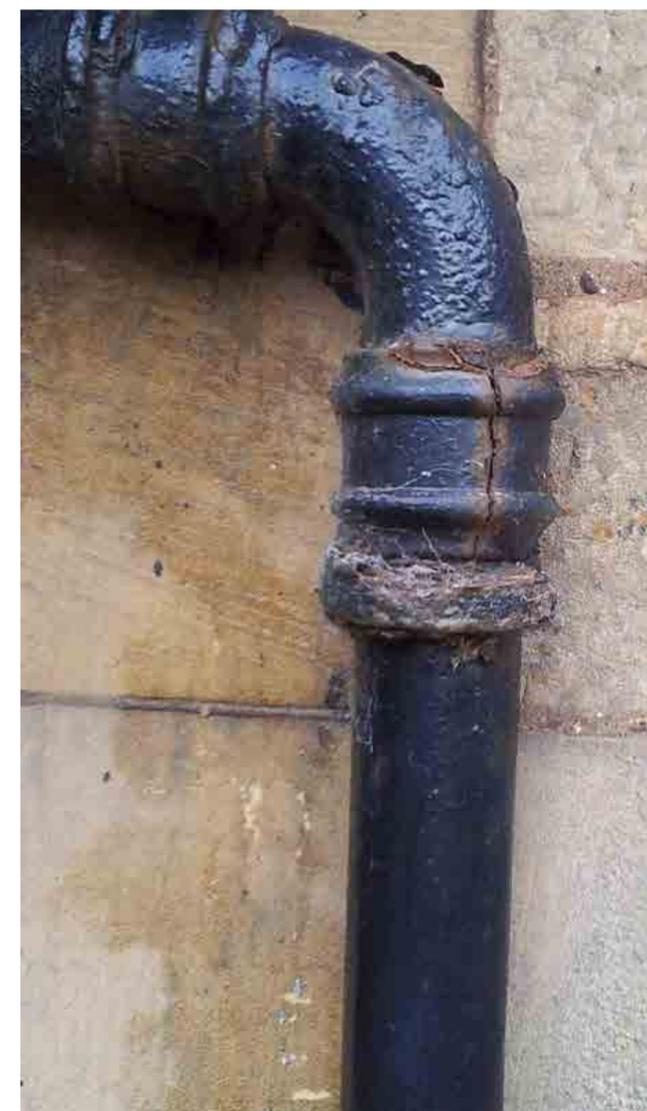
Gutters and downpipes

The next most important elements for church maintenance are the water-handling systems: the gutters, downpipes and ground drainage. They must effectively take water away from buildings but can be prone to blockage, damage and worse. Tree roots can penetrate drains leading to serious failure.

With climate change leading to more extreme rain events, it may be necessary to increase capacity; certainly this should be considered every time replacements are made. Overflows can be added to discharge water clear of the building; warning devices installed to indicate blockages in hoppers or downpipes; access can be improved to make maintenance easier; even pipes can be positioned away from walls to allow painting and to reduce damage to walls through leakage.

Wall materials used for church buildings also have “sell-by” dates. Depending on its geological type and the role it plays as a building element, stone is likely to have a life of more than 60 years (but usually over several hundred years). On top of this, some stone types can be conserved to increase their lifespan; but others must be replaced. This is especially true where the stone is used for important weathering elements such as parapets, string courses and hood moulds.

Similarly most brick is durable, though much depends on the firing and clay type used. Brick chimneys may deteriorate as a result of flue gases, and both brick and stone can be damaged by using the wrong mortar.



Look after your downpipes!

© St Mary, Newport on Towy, Eife

Glazed windows

After roofs and walls, perhaps the next most important structural element of a church is its windows. Glazed windows are not always as robust as many people believe, and this is especially true of leaded windows. Life expectancy of the glass depends on its chemical content and the survival of decoration on how well it is fired. The life of the lead depends not just on the type of lead 'came' but on the design and construction of the supporting ferramenta, and the exposure of the window to wind pressures.

If ferrous metals embedded in window stonework begin to rust, the stone may split apart. Internally, the survival of glass decoration will depend on the building's environment, and in particular on whether condensation is a frequent or a rare occurrence. It is usual for glass panels to last over one hundred years before repairs are contemplated. Decisions should be based on a good understanding not only of the glazing but of the environmental conditions, so specialist advice should always be sought.

Services and systems

Some of the most important elements of maintenance are often overlooked: the plumbing, electricity supply and heating services. Perhaps two-thirds of moisture problems can be traced to leaking pipes (the fresh water supply is continuous, and under high pressure).

Although electrical equipment is often considered to have a lifespan of 15 years or so, advances in technology, the updating of regulations and the demands to reduce energy use often render systems obsolete rather more quickly. All installations must comply with the requirements of statutory bodies and insurance.

The expectations of light, sound and visual systems are also increasing, and an ageing population may have greater demands.

Heating installations are also governed by fashion, but many Victorian systems are still giving good service. However, those giving advice on energy reduction are sometimes unfamiliar with traditionally constructed



If you maintain your church building properly, hopefully scaffolding will only be required every 100 years

buildings (which resist heat loss if well maintained) or with the challenges of occasional heating in a church. Good heating engineers will design based on a good understanding of the fabric, the way the building is to be used, and what is making the users feel uncomfortable. In parallel, replacement of roofs presents opportunities to improve the thermal resistance of the covering by including new insulation materials but this needs great care and knowledge to avoid damage to the structure.

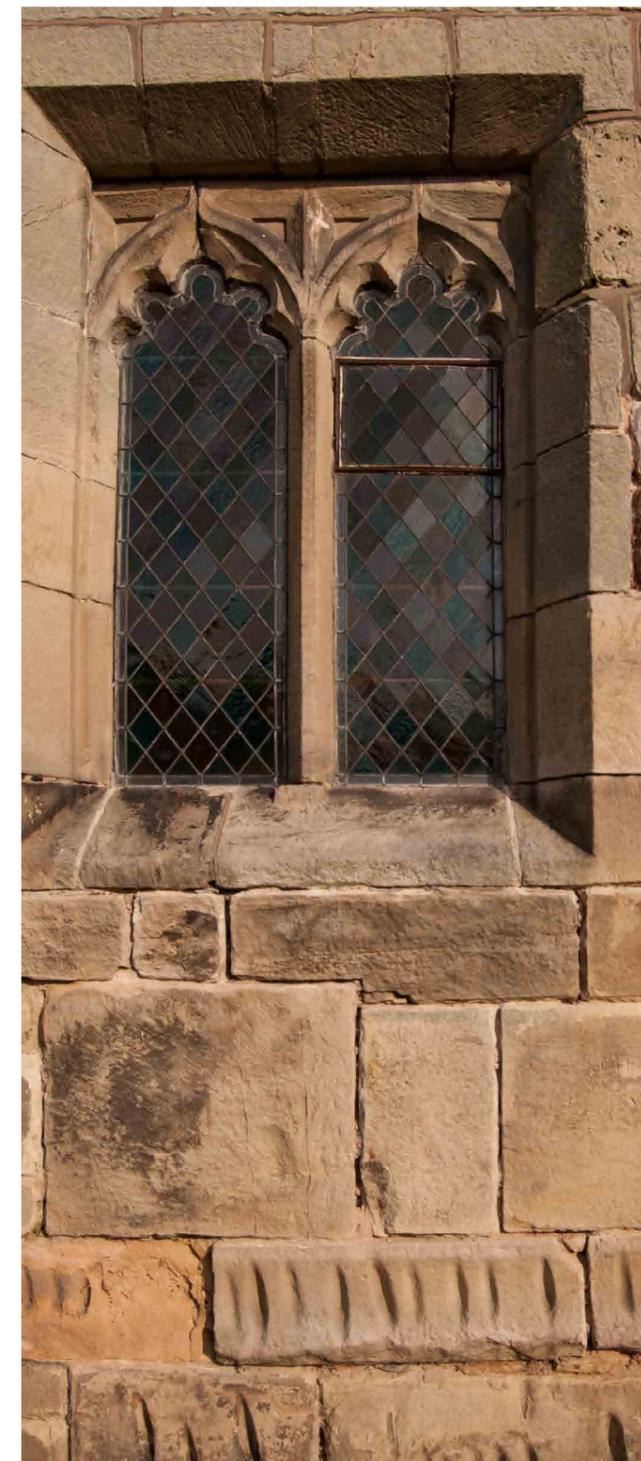


Work in progress at the church of St Nicholas, Piddington, Oxfordshire

Forward planning

It is generally possible to predict when any particular building material or element is likely to require replacement, and doing so allows forward planning of financial and material resources. Records of previous Faculty permissions mainly convey enough detail about the work done (and when) to predict future replacement schedules.

It would greatly benefit every church to carry out a maintenance plan and have a materials/elements replacement audit as part of the quinquennial report. This plan does not have to be elaborate or of great length and is likely to be similar from church to church. As well as the fabric of the building, the audit and plan should include services, insurance, fire measures, trees, churchyard items and the like. Every church architect/surveyor should be familiar with the materials, detail and life expectancy of the churches in their care, and be able and willing to help.



Glazing is beginning to belly

Like us, buildings can be mended; like us, each may have characteristics that make them more or less robust. Unlike our bodies, however, our churches cannot mend themselves so their carers must be observant and vigilant. Just as we must consult medical specialists, building custodians may need to seek expert advice to help them prolong the lives of the buildings. In return, we can hand on our unique church heritage for generations to come.

© St Mary the Virgin, Aslley, Shropshire

The visitor-friendly church

First impressions matter. John Goodall, Architectural Editor of *Country Life*, offers ten simple tips on how you can improve the appearance of your church

John is Architectural Editor of *Country Life*. He spent his childhood in Kenya, Germany, India and Yorkshire before joining *Country Life* in 2007, via the University of Durham. Known for his irrepressible love of castles and the Frozen soundtrack and a laugh that lights up the lives of those around him, John also moonlights as a walking encyclopedia and is the author of three books. His latest, *Parish Church Treasures*, was published in October 2015.



One of the greatest challenges for those who have responsibility for looking after a church building is to see what that building might look like to unfamiliar eyes. It's a surprisingly difficult thing to do and not just because it demands thought and time.

To state the obvious, the more familiar a building

becomes, the greater the leap of imagination required to see it afresh. Nor – any more than with maintenance or repair – is the work of appraisal ever finished; rather it's an ongoing necessity that must adapt to changing needs and circumstances.

In the case of churches where many individuals may contribute to the life of the building, moreover, it's easy for involvement to become compartmentalised and incoherent. So flowers, chairs and clutter get placed first by accident and thereafter by convention.

For all the difficulties involved, understanding what a first-time visitor might experience when they come into a church has real value. That's true partly because church buildings physically express the character and operation of the community they serve. So, in a strange way, the physical well-being of a church can be used as a barometer of that community. It can also in turn help to regulate it.

At a pastoral level, meanwhile, it can make the difference between attracting a new member of the congregation and sending them elsewhere. Similarly, it can help the church engage with the widest possible audiences. Parish churches are public buildings and physical expressions of local history and they attract huge numbers of visitors. Presenting a church well can encourage them to visit and feel engagement with the building.

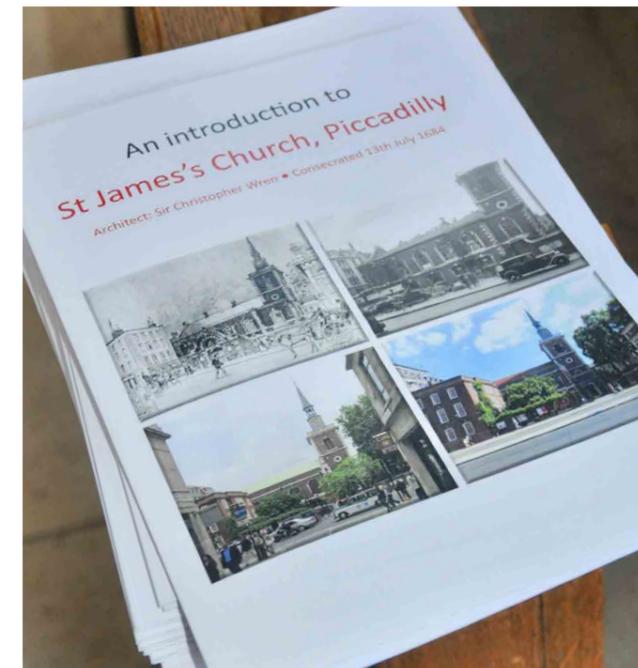


A welcoming sign at the Unitarian chapel in Billingshurst, Sussex

If managing first impressions is important (but complicated), there are many and varied ways of addressing the issue. As someone who travels a great deal and visits churches whenever I can – principally for their historic interest – it strikes me that there is one simple way of thinking about this problem.

Next time you have a moment, get hold of a digital camera and try and photograph your church and the objects of interest within it. You might perhaps do this following the route a visitor might take, say, taking a view from the entrance to the graveyard, a view of the porch interior, a view down the nave and then individual details of monuments or glass. If you have never tried it before I almost promise that it will be a revelation. No two churches are the same but 10 common things you may discover – and that you might want to rectify without great labour – are:

1. The entrance to the church is dominated by a sign that is unsightly either by virtue of having been clumsily updated or because it is absurdly large and garish.
2. The outer door to the porch is in poor condition and makes the church look shut, whether or not it actually is.
3. Posters and notices in the porch are faded and out of date. Out-dated ephemera makes the church look unused.



Make sure people can easily find information booklets

4. There is such a wealth of leaflets and notices on the table inside the door that it's impossible immediately to find a guide leaflet. So the visitor ignores them and walks on without any information. Incidentally, is the leaflet table actually a former communion table? If so, perhaps it deserves a better use.
5. Intrusive modern fixtures: projector screens may be useful for worship but there is no need to leave them unravelled all week so they obstruct the principal view down the nave.



An inviting welcome at St Nicholas' church, North Walsham, Norfolk

6. Chairs, dismantable tables, portable screens, flower stands, boxes, books and other bric a brac scattered through the back of the nave. Alternatively, they are stacked against monuments, making the monuments impossible to see.
7. The placement of flowers around a church obstructs objects of interest including tombs, stained glass and furnishings.
8. The principal monument in the church is placed behind the communion rail and is difficult to look at or appreciate. Sometimes it may do no harm to leave the rail gate open to allow access.
9. Church chests are abandoned in corners and full of clutter. If you had a piece of furniture in your house more than 400 years old you would probably look after it. Oddly, however, ancient church chests are often treated as useless junk. Raising them off the floor can often help.
10. Dog-eared labels made of cardboard reinforced with sellotape neither look authoritative nor attractive and should be replaced or removed.

And when you have gone round your church and photographed it inside and out, if you are pleased with the results, why not put them on your website for other people to see and enjoy? That way they become universally accessible and evidence both of your desire to look after this building and your belief in its interest and importance. Because, if we allow them to be, churches and their contents can be hugely important and inspiring for all of us in a multiplicity of ways.

Moreover, it's only by attracting people and engaging them that churches will live and survive for future generations to use and enjoy. So make sure you give your church the best possible chance to advocate itself.

Investing wisely for the future



2017 marked my sixth year as Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust. Guided by our Trustees and with the support and imagination of our staff, since 2011 the Trust has moved from being primarily a grant giver and has become a charity which is able to offer 'wrap-around' or holistic support to the UK's church buildings.

By Claire Walker, Chief Executive

It is important that church buildings can thrive as local community centres as well as places of worship. We enable this through a combination of grants, services and information to support the dedicated volunteers tasked with looking after churches.

As a charity, we cannot do our work without the generous financial support of others. Thank you to everyone who has helped us.

Our total income in 2017 of £2,380,729 was £829,479 above target thanks to an extremely generous bequest from a long-standing supporter. Friends subscriptions and appeals remained buoyant as 710 new Friends joined the Trust.

As a result, the Trust was able to award £1,689,820 in grants to churches from its own funds. This included £210,760 paid out of legacies to specific churches in line with the original legacy restriction. The Trust also handled another £30,000 of grants for other organisations.

A strong set of values

In 2017 considerable time and effort was put into ensuring the Trust's work is guided by a strong set of values. As a charity, our focus must always be on the people we help through our work. I hope that adopting these values as part of the Trust's new Strategic Plan in 2018 will allow us to work with even greater confidence.

Guided by these values we will continue to raise the public profile of churches, lobby decision makers when appropriate and take a proactive approach to supporting churches. We will use our high quality publications, social media and our dedicated ambassadors to keep our cause in the public eye and champion the need for support across the UK.

Ongoing development of our staff's skills and knowledge will continue to be a priority, as will continual improvement of the capability of our systems to make it easier for churches to apply for grants or to use our tourism and maintenance services.

Another key priority in 2018 is working together with colleagues in the UK and devolved authorities to improve policies affecting churches, and to encourage more joined up provision of support.

Together we can effect real change and make a lasting difference to the future of the UK's unrivalled heritage of church buildings.

About the National Churches Trust

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the National Churches Trust are:

- To help maintain the UK's heritage of church buildings and to enhance their ability to serve local communities
- To promote the benefit to communities of church buildings and to inspire everyone to value and enjoy them

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.

Financial resources

Excluding endowments, the funds of the National Churches Trust amounted to £3.5m at the end of 2017. Of this, £2.8m 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 £0.7m, 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 £2.2m at the end of 2017. These funds are held to generate investment returns.

Financial summary

Spending in 2017

The Trust awarded over £1.4m in grants from its own funds in 2017 in line with a planned budget increase. Additional grants of £211,000 were awarded to specific churches in line with original legacy restrictions. Other expenditure increased as the Trust invested in MaintenanceBooker and ExploreChurches.

		Spending £000s
National Churches Trust Grants to maintain and enhance church buildings*	Maintaining and enhancing church buildings	1,411
Grants to specific churches in line with legacy restrictions		211
Other spending to maintain and enhance church buildings		407
Promoting the benefit of church buildings and inspiring everyone to value and enjoy them		287
Fundraising		346
Total		2,662

*Grants awarded during 2017 less previous awards not claimed of £47,000. The Trust also awarded grants totalling £20,000 in relation to promoting church buildings and recommended grants of £30,000 awarded by other charities.

Where the money came from

Total income was higher than in 2016 due to a large legacy, but otherwise broadly consistent with performance in recent years. Income and investment gains exceeded spending by £22,000.

		Where the money came from £000s
Trusts and Foundations		424
Support from Friends and other donations		336
Legacies		1,422
Investment returns* & other income		497
Total		2,684

*Includes unrealised gains on investments.

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 2017 are available on request. Please email: info@nationalchurchestrust.org

In 2017 we awarded or recommended grants to 230 projects totalling £1,719,820

Cinnamon Grants

BOURNEMOUTH, Cornerstone Church	2,000
BURTON LAZARS, St James	2,000
CHESTER, Blacon, Holy Trinity without-the-walls	2,000
KINGSTON UPON HULL, Hull Minster	2,000
LLANWRTYD, St David's Old Church	2,000
LONDON, SOUTHWARK, St George the Martyr with St Alphege and St Jude	2,000
LYDNEY, St Mary	2,000
MILTON, St Blaise	2,000
NEWCASTLE, Christ church	2,000
RUGBY, St Peter and St John	2,000
ST NICHOLAS (Dyfed), St Nicholas	2,000
STAMFORDHAM, St Mary the Virgin	2,000

£24,000

Community Grants

APULDRAM, St Mary the Virgin	20,000
AUCKLAND, St Helen	10,000
AVONMOUTH, St Andrew	10,000
BIRMINGHAM, Edgbaston, St Germain	10,000
BLACKPOOL, Marton United Reformed Church	5,000
BOURNEMOUTH, Cornerstone Church	10,000
BURTON LAZARS, St James	10,000
CAERWYS, St Michael	10,000
CASTON, Holy Cross	15,000
CHESTER, Blacon, Holy Trinity without-the-walls	10,000
DONNINGTON, St George	10,000
LINLITHGOW, St Peter's Episcopal Church	20,000
LISKEARD, St Martin	15,000
LONDON, Stoke Newington, St Andrew	20,000
LYDNEY, St Mary	10,000
MILTON, St Blaise	5,000
NEWCASTLE, Christ Church	10,000
POOLE, Parkstone Christian Centre	13,000
RUGBY, St Peter and St John	10,000
SEAVIEW, St Peter	10,000
SOUTHWOLD, St Edmund, King and Martyr	20,000
STAMFORDHAM, St Mary the Virgin	10,000
STANLEY, St Andrew	5,000
THETFORD, St Cuthbert	20,000
WINCLE, St Michael's	10,000

£298,000

Maintenance Grants

ABERYSTWYTH, Seion Chapel	1,616
ASCOT HEATH, All Saints	2,500
ASHBY ST LEDGERS, Blessed Virgin Mary and St Leodegarius	2,500
ASTLEY, St Mary the Virgin	1,882
BELCHAMP OTTEN, St Ethelbert and All Saints	1,000
BICKERSTAFFE, Holy Trinity	570
BIRMINGHAM, Edgbaston, St Mary and St Ambrose	2,500
BISHOPTON, Bishopton Parish Church	1,600
BOLTON, St Paul Halliwell (West Bolton Team)	1,101
BUCKNELL, St Marys	950
CAPUTH, Caputh Parish Church	1,397
CARDIFF, Llanishen Methodist Church	2,500
CHIGWELL, St Mary	2,500
CROFT ON TEES, St Peter	2,500
DOYNTON, Holy Trinity	2,500
DUNDEE, St Andrew	2,000
DUNGANNON, Church of the Assumption	2,500
EAST WORLINGTON, St Mary	1,109
EASTLING, St Mary	1,900
EDINBURGH, Craiglockhart Parish Church	1,732
EDINBURGH, St Margarets	2,500
FOVANT, St George	1,500
HAGWORTHINGHAM, Holy Trinity	2,500
HARBERTON, St Andrew	2,500
KETTLEBURGH, St Andrew	2,000
LETCOMBE BASSETT, St Michael and All Angels	2,298
LITTLE WITLEY, St Michaels and All Angels	2,500
LONDON, DEPTFORD, St Paul	2,500

LONDON, St Ethelburga's Centre	2,500
LOSSIEMOUTH, St Gerardine's	2,000
MICHELDEVER, St Mary the Virgin	2,500
NEWBOLD-ON-STOUR, St David	1,000
NEWDIGATE, St Peters	2,500
NEWTOWNARDS, St Mark's	2,500
OVING, St Andrew	2,500
RINGMORE, All Hallows	2,500
SALTASH, St Dominic	2,500
SANQUHAR, St Bride	2,500
SHEFFIELD, CARVER STREET, St Matthew	2,500
SHEFFIELD, Cemetery Road Baptist Church	2,500
SOUTHBOROUGH, St Peter's	1,347
SOWERBY BRIDGE, Christ Church	1,816
THORPE MANDEVILLE, St John the Baptist	2,500
TORRINGTON, St Giles	2,500
TROON, Portland Parish Church	1,423
WEM, St Peter and St Paul	1,000
WEST BUTTERWICK, St Mary	2,500
WEST WORLINGTON, St Mary	1,125
WESTON PATRICK, St Lawrence	2,000
WHITFIELD, Holy Trinity	2,140
WINGRAVE, St Peter and St Paul	2,500

£104,006

Northern Ireland Maintenance Micro Grants

Drone surveys	5,090
BANGOR, Bangor Presbyterian Church	500
PORTADOWN, Thomas Street Methodist Church	650
SWATRAGH, Swatragh parish church	500

£6,740

Preventative Maintenance Micro Grants

CROFTON, All Saints	463
ENDCLIFFE, St Augustine	1,000
HOYLAND, St Peter	882
LEEDS, Roundhay, St Edmund	1,358
SHEFFIELD, Carver Street, St Matthew	1,000
YORK, St Olave's	441

£5,144

Project Development Grants

ALSTON, St Augustine	10,000
CARDIFF, Trinity Methodist Church	2,470
DERBY, St Thomas	4,000
EAST BRENT, St Mary The Blessed Virgin	7,000
FLAMSTEAD, St Leonard	7,000
GRINDLEFORD, Padley Chapel	6,000
LONDON, CITY OF LONDON, St Peter upon Cornhill	3,000
LONDON, CLAPTON COMMON, St Thomas'	7,500
LOUGHTON, Loughton Baptist Church	1,100
RHYMNEY, Penuel Baptist Church	2,400
ST LEONARDS-ON-SEA, The Greek Orthodox Church of St Mary Magdalene	6,000
SWYNCOMBE, St Botolph	1,848
THURSFORD, St Andrew	2,500
WOMERSLEY, St Martin	2,792

63,610

Partnership Grants

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	
BENGEO, St Leonard	5,000
CRANFIELD, St Peter and St Paul	5,000
EYEWORTH, All Saints	5,000
HEATH AND REACH, St Leonard	5,000

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

LITTLE PAXTON, St James	5,000
SOMERSHAM, St John the Baptist	5,000

Cornwall Historic Churches Trust

BOTUS FLEMING, St Mary	2,500
LANNER, Christ Church	5,000
TREMAINE, St Winwaloe	2,500
TRESLOTHAN, St John the Evangelist	10,000

Dorset Historic Churches Trust

BRIDPORT, St Mary	5,000
MILTON ABBEY, St Mary, St Blaise and St Branwalader	2,500
NETHER COMPTON, St Nicholas	5,000
PUNCKNOWLE, St Mary the Blessed Virgin	2,500

Friends of Kent Churches

MAIDSTONE, St Martin	5,000
MEREWORTH, St Lawrence	2,500
PRESTON-NEXT-FAVERSHAM, St Catherine	2,500
RAMSGATE, St Laurence	2,500

Greater Manchester Churches Preservation Society

OLDHAM, St Paul	2,500
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Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust

AMPFIELD, St Mark	4,000
HYTHE, St John the Baptist	4,060
LAVERSTOKE, St Mary the Virgin	4,000
THRUXTON, St Peter and St Paul	5,000

Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust

ABBEY DORE, Holy Trinity and St Mary	3,000
ALMELEY, St Mary	3,000
LEYSTERS, St Andrew	4,000

Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH, Holy Trinity	2,500
BUCKMINSTER, St John the Baptist	2,500
HUMBERSTONE, St Mary	2,500
PACKINGTON, The Holy Rood	2,500
THURNBY, St Luke	2,500
WITHERLEY, St Peter	2,500

Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd

COLTON, St Andrew	5,000
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Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

BLISWORTH, St John the Baptist	2,500
EVERDON, St Mary	5,000
STOWE, St Michael	5,000

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

HAILEY, St John the Evangelist	3,000
NORTH ASTON, St Mary	7,500

Scotland's Churches Trust

BRIDGETON, St Francis-in-the-East	5,000
GATEHOUSE OF FLEET, St Mary's Episcopal Church	2,000
KINGSBARN, Parish Church	3,000
MOTHERWELL, Dalziel St Andrew's	3,000

Somerset Churches Trust

ENMORE, St Michael	3,000
MARTOCK, All Saints	2,000
MERRIOT, All Saints	7,500
WILLITON, St Peter	2,500

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust

GREAT BEALINGS, St Mary	4,000
HINTLESHAM, St Nicholas	6,000
SOUTH ELMHAM, St James	5,000
TATTINGSTONE, St Mary the Virgin	5,000

Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

COMPTON, St Nicholas	2,500
GUILDFORD, St Mary	5,000
WALTON-ON-THAMES, Methodist Church	5,000
WESTON GREEN, All Saints	2,500

The Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust

HAWTON, All Saints	5,000
NORTH MUSKHAM, St Wilfrid	5,000
SUTTON ON TRENT, All Saints	5,000

Wales

BETTWS, Bettws Chapel	5,000
PENRHUWCEIBER, St Winifred	5,000
TREGYNON, St Cynon	5,000

Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust

BICKENHALL, St Peter	2,500
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Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust

SHAW, Christ Church	5,000
STOURTON, St Peter	5,000

£255,560

Repair Grants

ABERDARE, St Elvan	40,000
BARRY, All Saints	20,000
BELFAST, Mount Merrion Parish Church	10,000
BLACKPOOL, Holy Trinity	12,000
BOSTON, St Botolph	40,000
BRADFORD, Bowling St Stephen	34,000
BRISTOL, St Philip and St Jacob	20,000
BUCKLAND, St Mary the Virgin	10,000
BURNSALL, St Wilfrid	10,000
CONGLETON, St Peter	10,000
CWMYSTWYTH, St Michael and All Angels (Eglwys Newydd/Hafod church)	10,000
DARWEN, St Peter	15,000
DAVENTRY, Woodford Halse, St Mary the Virgin	5,000
DONHEAD ST ANDREW, St Andrew	20,000
DUNSCORE, Dunscore Parish Church	10,000
GRASSENDALE, St Mary	5,000
HANDSWORTH, St Mary	10,000
HERNE, St Martin in Herne	30,000
HOLLINWOOD, St Margaret of Antioch	7,000
HUDDERSFIELD, Holy Trinity	10,000
KINGSTON UPON HULL, Hull Minster	20,000
LAMPLUGH, St Michael	8,000
LEICESTER, St Mary de Castro	30,000
LLANWRTYD, St David's Old Church	20,000
LONDON, FRIERN BARNET, All Saints	10,000
LONDON, PADDINGTON, St Mary Magdalene	10,000
LONDON, SOUTHWARK, St George the Martyr with St Alphege and St Jude	10,000
LONDON, Stoke Newington, St Andrew	15,000
LONDON, STREATHAM, St Leonard	15,000
LUNDY, St Helen	20,000
LYTHAM St Annes, Fairhaven United Reformed Church	12,000
MALTON, Malton Methodist Church	10,000
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, St Thomas the Martyr	20,000
NEWTON ST LOE, Holy Trinity	10,000
OLD HILL, Holy Trinity	10,000
ORDSALL AND SALFORD QUAYS, St Clements	7,000
OVER, WINSFORD, United Reformed Church	5,000
PEVENSEY, St Nicolas	10,000
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SHREWSBURY, Holy Cross (Shrewsbury Abbey)	10,000
SOUTHPORT, St Luke	10,000
ST NICHOLAS (Dyfed), St Nicholas	10,000
STAUNTON-ON-WYE, St Mary	12,000
TOWERSEY, THAME, St Catherine	10,000
ULCEBY, St Nicholas	8,000
WESTON-UNDER-PENYARD, St Lawrence	10,000
WORCESTER, St Helen	10,000
WORKINGTON, St John the Evangelist	25,000

£722,000

An additional six other grants totalling £30,000 recommended on behalf of other funders. A further £210,760 of grants were paid out to specific churches in line with the original legacy restriction.

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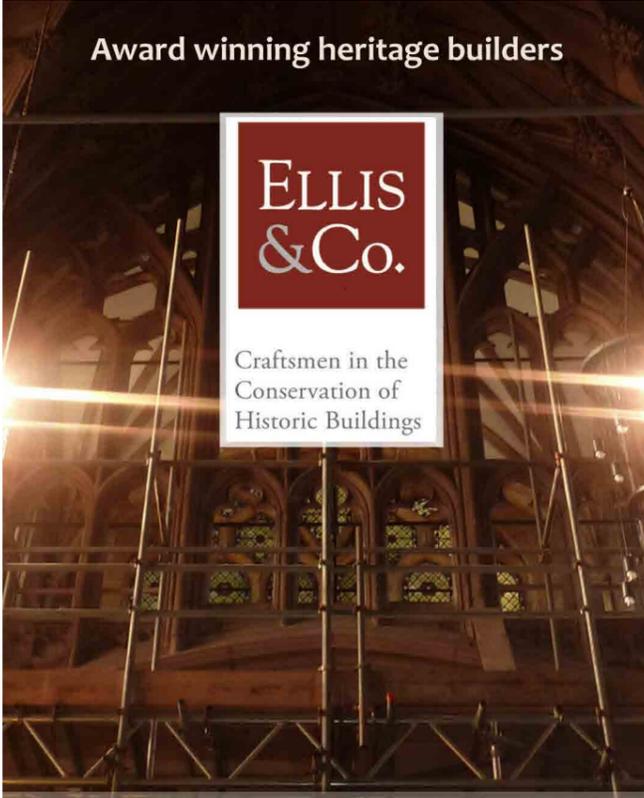
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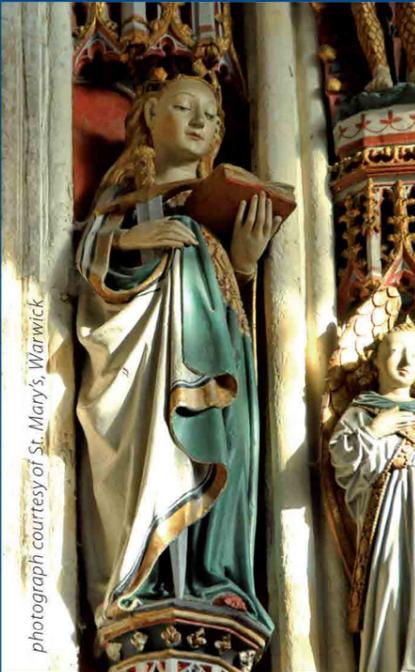
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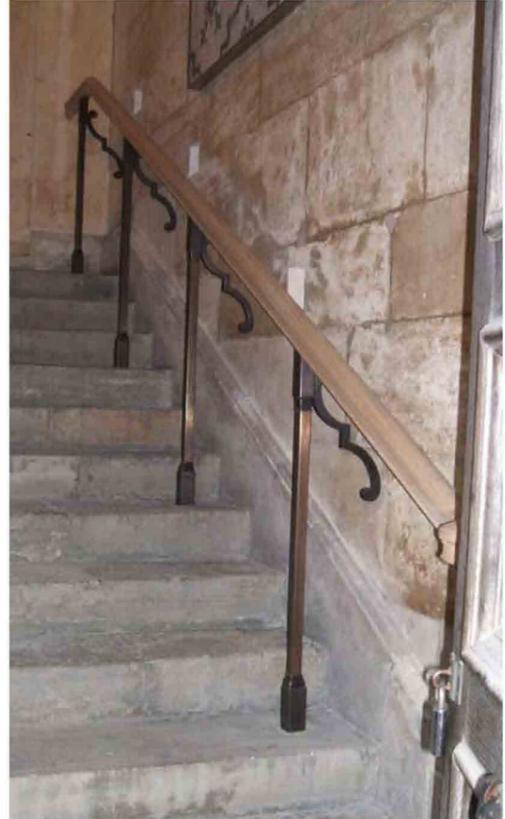
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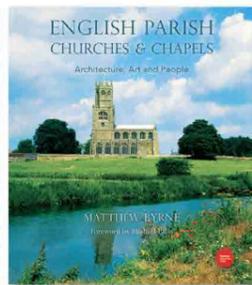
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