

GROWING THE RURAL CHURCH

Case Study - St Andrews, Yarnscombe, 2017

1. SITUATION

St Andrews, Yarnscombe is in the Two Rivers Mission Community, north Devon. Members of the local community wanted to preserve and improve the condition of the building, so that it could be more regularly and widely used for cultural and community events.



2. ACTION

Growing the Rural Church has supported the development of a charter for the newly formed Yarnscombe Church Rescue Group (YCRG). Rather than creating a separate organisation, YCRG has worked with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to become a Special Committee of the PCC with delegated responsibility for maintenance and adaptation of the building for cultural and community use.

As a Special Committee of the PCC, YCRG has the advantages of working from within the existing charity. However, YCRG members do not need to be part of the church's regular worshipping community, meaning all local people who care about St Andrew's, can be formally involved in ensuring its sustainable future.

“ I have a really good feeling that this is the start of a new chapter in the life of St Andrew's church and its place at the heart of the village of Yarnscombe. There is lots to do and it will be a long time until we have finished it all, but, we are on our way! ”

Tim Farr, Chair of the YCRG

3. OUTCOME

YCRG's initial efforts will be focused on some critical maintenance work, before attention is turned to planning and fundraising for bigger projects.

Does your local community want to support your church? Get in touch with Growing the Rural Church!



Growing the Rural Church



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Growing the Rural Church works with rural Mission Communities to develop their resources and, in particular their church buildings, to enable them to grow in prayer, make new disciples and serve the people of Devon with joy.

We do this by supporting rural Mission Communities to partner with their local communities and external agencies to find sustainable community, commercial or cultural uses for their church buildings, which benefit the whole community.