



MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

BENEFACT TRUST

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon 2035



BENEFACT TRUST

Diocese of Exeter - Meet the Funders
25th June 2026



BENEFACT TRUST

Transforming lives
and communities

Empowering Christian organisations to support communities and drive positive social change.

Since 1972, Benefact Trust has awarded over £330 million to Christian organisations in the UK & Ireland dedicated to supporting communities of all faiths and none. Our aim is to drive positive social change by empowering those who make a difference.

Christian communities are at the heart of our giving, although the impact of what we do reaches much further.



BENEFACT
TRUST



BENEFACT
GROUP

How we're funded

- The grants we give are generated from our ownership of the Benefact Group, an international family of award winning, specialist financial services businesses – from advisory and investment management to broking and insurance
- We're in a privileged position to help others – all available profits from the Group fund our charitable giving
- Built on the ethos of giving back, our funding model is distinctive and sustainable – **enabling us to think long term and grow**

Our grant programmes



Building Grants
(including roof alarm grants)



Community Impact Grants



Methodist Grants

Building Grants: programme guidance

Programme aim

Benefact Trust's Building Grants programme aims to help protect, enhance and sustain Christian buildings in the UK and Ireland. Grants are available for capital works that meet one or more of the following programme priorities:

- ✓ Essential building repair
- ✓ Accessibility
- ✓ Carbon reduction and net zero
- ✓ Congregational growth
- ✓ Community use and impact
- ✓ Heritage stewardship

Grants are also available for churches to install roof alarms to help prevent metal theft. Grants are for up to 50% of the cost of the alarm (up to a maximum of £3,000).



Building Grants: programme guidance

Eligible costs

- ✓ Essential building repairs to secure the fabric or structure of a building.
- ✓ New facilities and other building works to facilitate congregational and community use, church growth or address social challenges (e.g. extensions, reordering, new kitchens and toilets).
- ✓ Accessibility improvements (e.g. ramps, handrails, lifts, hearing loops, accessible toilets and basic AV equipment to aid accessibility – i.e. hearing loops, microphones, speakers and screens that will remain in situ in the building).
- ✓ Energy efficiency and carbon reduction measures (e.g. insulation, LED lighting, renewable heating, solar PV systems and battery storage) recommended by an eco-audit or other professional or denominational advice.
- ✓ Conservation, restoration or repair of historic building fabric or building features (e.g. stained glass, wall paintings, carvings, clocks, tower bells and historic organs).
- ✓ A reasonable amount of essential equipment to fit out new spaces and facilities, provided it will remain in situ at the building.
- ✓ Installation of roof alarms to help churches reduce the risk of metal theft (the proposed alarm system must be approved by the church's insurer, and the church must commit to maintaining the alarm for at least five years).
- ✓ Chapels in schools and hospices.



Building Grants: programme guidance

Exclusions

- Routine maintenance (e.g. inspections, gutter clearance and minor repairs), works that have already been undertaken and works normally eligible for cover under insurance.
- Purely aesthetic enhancements (e.g. interior decoration) that are not linked to a repair project or necessary for health & safety or accessibility.
- External works not part of the building (e.g. landscaping, gardens, play areas and car parks) that are not necessary for health & safety or accessibility.
- Installation of new non-renewable heating systems (e.g. oil and gas boilers) (unless there is a clear case for their suitability).
- The purchase of new organs, other musical instruments, portable PA systems and vehicles.



Community Impact Grants: programme guidance

What we fund

The Community Impact Grants programme supports activities, projects and programmes that deliver impact furthering one or both of Benefact Trust's Community Impact objectives as set out below. We can provide revenue (non-capital) funding for up to three years. Only activity taking place in the UK or Ireland is eligible for funding.

Objective 1: Addressing social challenges facing communities

Your project will result in positive changes in the lives of people and communities affected by social challenges.

This will be through the delivery of specific support or services to help and empower individuals, families and communities to address these issues, ultimately leading to a variety of improved life and community outcomes (e.g. quality of life, independence, safety, resilience, community cohesion and wellbeing).

Examples of key social issues to be addressed include (but are not limited to) the following:

Poverty and cost of living	Housing and homelessness	Employment and skills
Mental health and wellbeing	Isolation and loneliness	Addiction and substance misuse
Crime, violence and exploitation	Social exclusion	



Community Impact Grants: programme guidance

Objective 2: Growing and sustaining Christian congregations and communities

Christian congregations and communities will be expanded, strengthened or more resilient.

This will be as a result of one or more of the following outcomes delivered by your project:

- Congregations have grown and/or diversified.
- People have new opportunities to explore and develop their faith.
- New churches or worshipping communities are established and thriving.
- More people are volunteering time and have the skills to support the operation of their church or cathedral.
- More people from the wider community are using church or cathedral buildings, contributing to their sustainability.

These outcomes may be delivered through a range of activities, such as faith development, youth work, church planting, volunteer training or staff posts that promote sustainability – e.g. a volunteer coordinator or bookings administrator.



Community Impact Grants: programme guidance

Cost type	✓ Eligible	X Ineligible
Staff posts	Salary and employment costs for staff delivering your activity, project or programme.	Clergy posts, posts in schools and salaries relating to the general management and administration or your organisation (e.g. finance, HR, fundraising and communications).
Training	Training of staff and/or volunteers with a clear link to programme objectives.	
Volunteer costs	Reasonable volunteer expenses to enable volunteers to take part in or deliver your project.	
Venue hire, rent and utilities	Hire of specific venue to deliver your activity or project (e.g. in a new location or because you need more space).	Ongoing rent, utilities or insurances for your normal premises (e.g. church building or office).
Events	Reasonable costs to deliver events as part of a wider programme that meets programme objectives.	One-off or recurring events, conferences, retreats and pilgrimages.
Equipment, materials and IT	Essential equipment and materials to enable project activities to take place. Essential IT costs (e.g. laptops) for new project staff.	The purchase of musical instruments, portable AV equipment and vehicles. IT systems, software and websites forming part of core costs. purchase of musical instruments, portable AV equipment and vehicles.
Marketing and promotion costs	Marketing and promotion costs that represent a proportionate amount of the project budget and help to deliver your desired impact.	
Resources and publications	Reasonable costs for the production of resources that are integral to the impact of a wider project.	Resources with limited impact, including books, social media content, videos, online courses and the development or reprinting of resources as a stand-alone project.
Consumables	Modest refreshments needed for specific project activities involving participants or volunteers.	The purchase of food (e.g. for foodbanks or meals services), clothing and toiletries.



Top tips for applying for a grant:

- Take time to research the funder you're applying to and tailor your application to them. Try to not copy-paste stuff across different application forms.
- Get in touch if you have any questions.
- Make your application clear and state exactly what you need the funding for. We want to know what impact your project will have.
- Show evidence of how your community will be affected by your project by including feedback and survey results.
- Make your application stand out from the crowd, think about the person reading it and remember to come across as human.
- Remember to read through the application form thoroughly before applying so you can have all practical information to hand.

Your Application!

- The specific grant programme objectives your project will address
- A brief overview of your project (approx. 500 words)
- The intended outcomes of the project, including outcome indicators and timeframes – think about the impact you are wanting to make
- Details of other funding already in place/fundraising plans, and project sustainability
- Use the budget template and only include eligible costs

A few things to bear in mind ...

- We require at least 30% of the funding to be in place
- Only one successful application in a two-year period to each grants programme
- Impact Survey

Adding value

Our advice and resources hub features blogs, podcasts and useful tools focused on the following areas:

- Project planning and impact reporting
- How to get grant funding
- Publicising your project
- Top tips for applying
- Connecting with young people
- Advice from the experts
- End of year reporting toolkit

 <p>Podcast: Responding to social issues – a funder's perspective</p>	 <p>Warm hearts: how to support those in need this winter</p>	 <p>Podcast: How to measure the impact of your project</p>	 <p>Life on the water – a porthole into Waterways Chaplaincy</p>
 <p>Podcast: How to successfully apply to grant funders</p>	 <p>The funding landscape for churches and charities</p>	 <p>The effect of Covid-19 on children and young people post-pandemic</p>	 <p>Five ways to make your church accessible this Christmas</p>
 <p>Youthscape: supporting young people's mental health</p>	 <p>Sanctuary Mental Health: recovering together</p>	 <p>Renew Wellbeing: bringing communities together again</p>	 <p>Kintsugi Hope: mental health friendly spaces</p>

Get involved

Giving is at the heart of what we do. Visit our website, sign up for our quarterly newsletter and follow us on social media for new grant programmes and beneficiary success stories.

We achieve great things with our beneficiaries so please share our success!



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BENEFACT
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MEET THE
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2026

EDBF NET ZERO TEAM

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon 2035

Net zero grants for churches

Emma Kemp

Net Zero Carbon Officer



Net Zero Carbon Programme

- *Routemap to Net Zero Carbon* approved by General Synod in July 2022
- Routemap milestones for all churches, with additional milestones for high energy users
- National programme established to support all parts of the church to tackle climate change
- £190million allocated for net zero work from 2023 to 2034



Routemap: vision for churches

“... we see a future in 2030 where the **buildings of the Church will be warm, bright and welcoming**, powered by renewable energy and using low or zero carbon technologies for heat and light. Energy consumption for the Church as a whole will have fallen...”



Net zero grants 2026-28

All churches & halls

- You've identified small to medium scale works that will make a difference to your building's carbon output

All churches & halls – unexpected situations

- Your oil/gas boiler has failed or is failing, and you urgently need a low-carbon replacement
- Your electric heating has failed or is unaffordable

High energy users

(churches & halls with annual carbon footprint of 10+ tonnes)

- Just starting out - you're at the beginning of your decarbonisation journey and want to understand your building's energy use
- Planning a project - you've got an idea and need help get to the start point
- Ready to deliver - you have a ready-to-launch project to reduce emissions and need support to fundraise and deliver

Conditions of application

- Show a genuine commitment to progressing your building's decarbonisation journey
- Registered for Eco Church
- Completed the most recent Energy Footprint Tool
- Projects must show good value for money and reasonable carbon savings for the cost of the project
- Diocesan support for the project and application

Quick Wins Fund

Eligible works

- Insulation and draught proofing
- Lighting
- Heating controls, including zoning
- Efforts to reduce or eliminate use of oil or gas for heating
- Electrical upgrades
- Emergency temporary heating solutions
- Works that help address ingress of damp (beyond routine maintenance)

Eligibility	All churches and halls
Type of support	Cash grant for capital works
Maximum grant	£5,000
Application process	Application form to Diocese of Exeter
Deadline	Applications are assessed quarterly

Give To Go Green

Eligible works

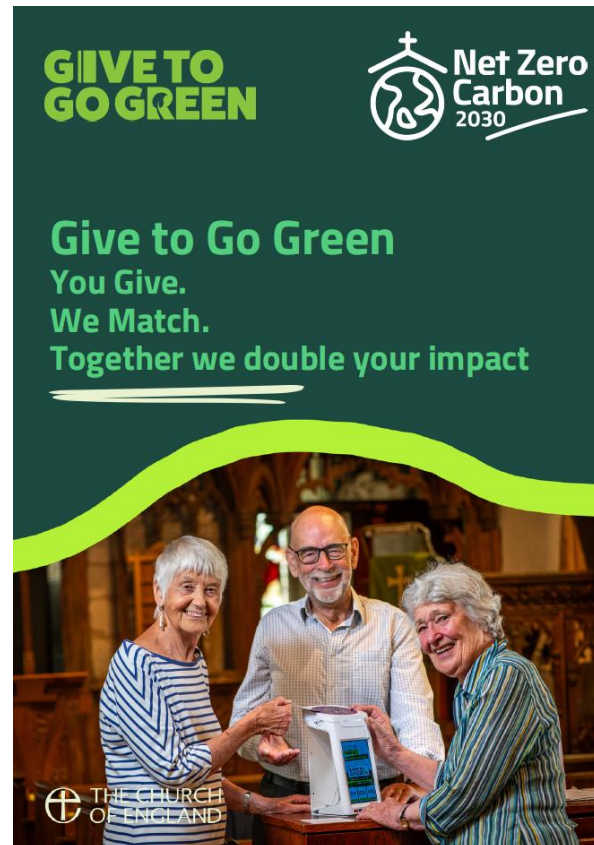
- Insulation and draught proofing
- Lighting
- Heating controls, including zoning
- Efforts to reduce or eliminate use of oil or gas for heating
- Electrical upgrades
- Works that help address ingress of damp (beyond routine maintenance)

Eligibility	All churches and halls
Type of support	Match funding for capital works
Maximum grant	£10,000
Application process	Via Church of England Grant Portal
Deadline	Panels in Aug 2026, Nov 2026, March 2027, June 2027...

Decarbonising Churches Grant Fund

Your situation (as a high emitter)	What you can apply for	Type of support
Just starting out	Enhanced energy audit and help developing an action plan	In-kind (one audit)
Planning a project	Grant for technical/design fees, plus advice from the Technical Advice Service	Up to £15,000 for project development
Ready to deliver	Access to professional fundraising support	In-kind (fundraising support)
	Capital grants – either for a Demonstrator Project (a project that can reach net zero in one step) or a Phased Project (a project that will have various steps to reach net zero)	Demonstrator Project capital grant: up to 50% of eligible costs up to £80,000 Phased Project capital grant: up to 25% of eligible costs up to £50,000

Application guidance



Give To Go Green webinars

- [2 July at 12pm](#)
- [9 July at 7pm](#)

Creation Care & Net Zero online drop-in sessions

Resources and support

- Practical Path to Net Zero
- Church Buildings Council's heating guidance
- Free/subsidised technical advice – DAC advice, energy audit, DAC referral
- Peer support
- Leader for Creation Care commissioned role
- Creation Care & Net Zero Team



Energy Footprint Tool



**FOOTPRINTS
FOR CREATION**

Only 5 days left to access the tool that...

- Is essential for accessing net zero grants
- Informs PCC discussions on ways to care for creation
- Provides context for DAC applications
- Supports stewardship of limited church resources
- Helps with Eco Church award
- Ensures your eligibility for national schemes is based on actual data

Be funding-ready!

- Register for **Eco Church** and be working towards the awards
- Complete the **Energy Footprint Tool** annually when submitting your parish return
- Have a basic **Net Zero Action Plan** in place
- Either already be on a **renewable energy tariff** or commit to changing at your next contract renewal



Useful links



<https://linktr.ee/exeternetzero>

- Net zero grants
- Energy Footprint Tool
- Eco Church & Faculty Jurisdiction
- Energy audits
- Net zero steps for churches
- Practical Path to Net Zero
- Routemap to Net Zero Carbon by 2030
- Switching to a green tariff

Contact details

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exeter.anglican.org/environment

facebook.com/exetercreationcareteam

Instagram - [@creationcaredevon](https://www.instagram.com/creationcaredevon)

Linktree - [@exeternetzero](https://www.linktree.com/@exeternetzero)

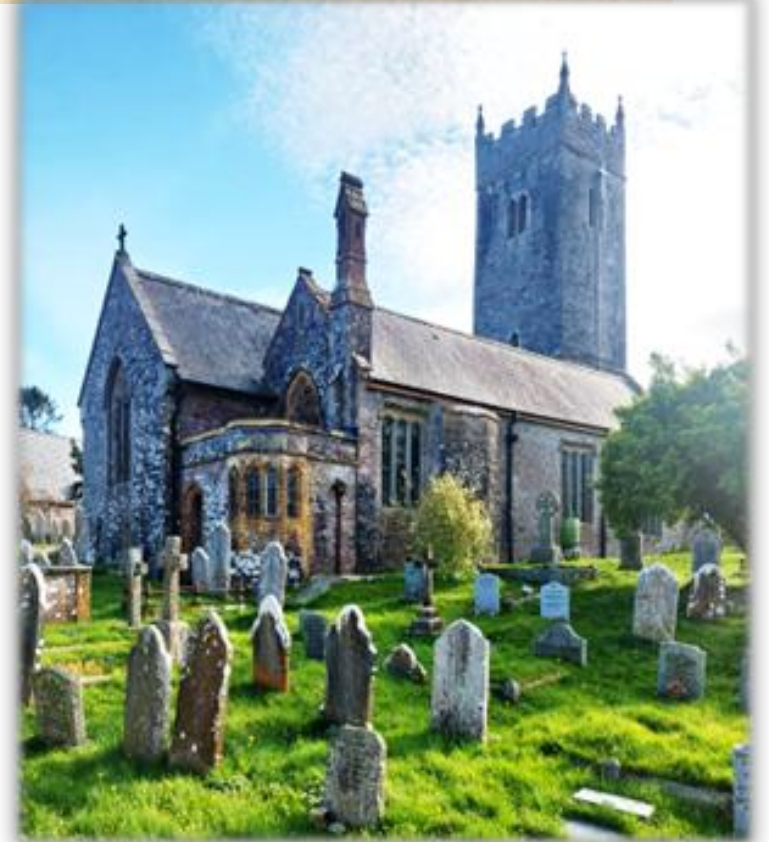
DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Dedicated to providing funding for our church buildings in their hour of need



A Charitable Incorporated Organisation
IN THE COUNTY OF DEVON AND DIOCESE OF EXETER

- The object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, the preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches in the area of benefit and of monuments, fixtures, fittings, stained glass, furniture, ornaments or chattels in such churches and of the churchyard belonging to such churches. “Church” means any church (including a Cathedral, Abbey, Minster or Priory) chapel or other building used for public worship, whether belonging to or used by the Church of England or any other religious body.



Devon Historic Churches Trust launched a new website in 2025, telling you all you need to know about the Trust, the Trustees, Deanery Representatives, guidance on how to download or complete an application form on line, case studies, how we can help you and how you can help us. You are able to access Devon Historic Churches Trust Newsletters for the past 10 years with a fascinating collection of articles and stories about Devon's historic churches and some of the personalities involved in volunteering for the charity founded over 50 years ago in 1972.

www.devonhistoricchurchestrust.co.uk and www.devonchurchland.co.uk

to see some of the stunningly beautiful photographs taken by Douglas Young and gifted to Devon Historic Churches Trust in 2024.

From the Medieval to the Victorian to the more recent our Devon churches display gloriously unique art and beauty.

Our ancient tradition of carved oak is extraordinary. The amount and quality of our Late Medieval interiors are like nothing else in the world. Our Neo-Gothic Victorian beauties are the best of the best.

And all enfolded in our stunning landscapes.

And yet our Devon rain and damp is relentless. Age cracks stone, collapses roofs, splinters glass, crumbles wood. Accidents take their toll.

They need constant care and repair, as well as adapting to the modern world.

And they matter so much.



Devon Historic Churches Trust offers grants at two levels:

MAIN GRANT application form asks you to describe the project, costs, sources of funding and your shortfall in funding. On receipt of your application form we will invite one of our Assessors to contact you, request an e-copy of your PCC's most recent accounts, a copy of a quotation or specification for the project and confirmation that you have the Archdeacon's approval e.g. List B Faculty approval. The Assessor will then arrange to visit the church and discuss the project in more detail to enable him or her to report to the Trustees in greater depth on the PCC's finances, evidence of need and sustainability, with a recommendation on the level of grant that the Trustees might consider. Trustees meet quarterly and we do ask that you submit your application form at least 3 weeks before each meeting to give our Assessor time to visit your church and complete a report to be sent to Trustees with the meeting agenda. The dates of quarterly meetings are on our website.

GRANTS AWARDED Oct 2025 to Jan 2026 = £80,930 to 24 church projects.

EMERGENCY/SMALL GRANTS:

Our website now offers a 1 x A4 page application form for applicants to download and complete for grant bids up to £2,000. Applicants may also complete the online form.

'Emergency Grant' suggests that time really is of the essence, work must be begun pretty much immediately to avoid further deterioration or for safety reasons. In such cases, the Trustees may devolve the decision to the General Purposes Trustees.

'Small Grant' is interpreted as being of a monetary amount with a specified ceiling below which again Trustees are happy for reasons of triviality in relation to our funds for the General Purposes Trustees to make a decision. £2000 is the ceiling for small grant applications and we have added this explanation to the website guidance notes.

Oct 2025 to Jan 2026 = £20,155 to 11 churches.



Examples of Emergency Grant

- St John the Baptist, Meshaw, Nr Tiverton.
- The Churchwarden told us that Meshaw church was reordered for wider community use in 2024. In 2023 DHCT had helped with a £4000 grant towards the reordering that proved to be a complete success with regular community use in addition to twice monthly church services. The reordering was completed within budgets set and to date there are just on or two outstanding items that are in the pipeline and likely to be finished in the next two months. The diocese helped with a grant to restore and repair our windows but could not assist with a repair to our west stained glass window opening, the stone mullions being weathered to such an extent that it will shortly leak and may damage the stained glass windows. The PCC could not find the funds to repair and renew the main mullion given their reordering costs etc. Fortunately, a semi-retired stonemason, approved by the DAC, was able to provide a quotation and the window mullion was repaired, completing the upgrade achieved by the reordering project. We awarded £732 towards the cost to repair the west window main mullion.



St John the Baptist, Broadclyst, in Ottery Deanery

Project description: “Window 'ballooning' inwards into church. Noticeable gap between glass and stone surround. Remove three panes, re-lead. Remove and reinstate the panels into stone after conservation/re-leading. Advice is window is not safe in current state.” Project cost £4,440 inc VAT.

Assessor's report: “Built predominantly in the 15th century, the church is renowned for its exquisite architectural details. Its western tower, considered one of Devon's finest, is adorned with intricate carvings and fine detailing, an awe-inspiring testament to the craftsmanship of a bygone era. The church is home to one of the largest peals of bells in the county, with the oldest dating back to 1450, symbolising the village's longstanding tradition of bell-ringing. Since being asked to assess this church, Andrew Johnson has removed the three panels as he deemed them a danger. The congregation and community has worked hard to keep this church on its feet. They have been busy fundraising (I abseiled the tower last year at their fete 😊) and the PCC is keen to get the accounts on an even keel. The Archdeacon has been very supportive and is going to approve List B for the works. I would recommend a grant of £3.000”

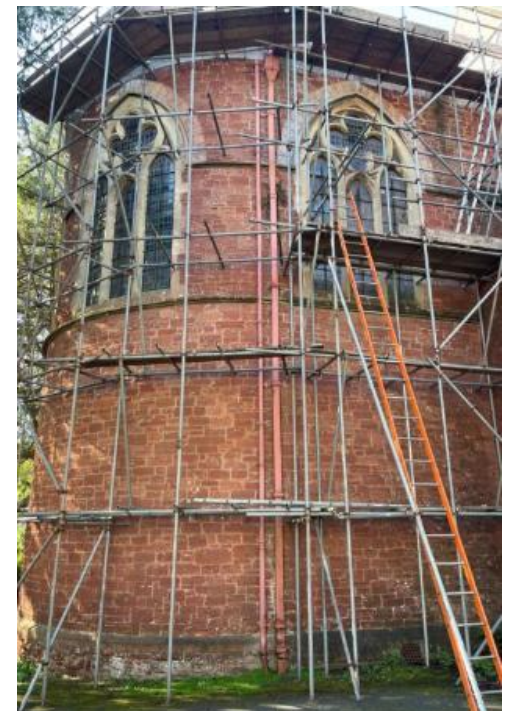


Christ Church, Paignton, Torbay Deanery



Small Grant: In September 2025 we received a grant bid towards the cost of urgent electrical works quoted by a certificated firm of electricians just under £4,000. The church community was seeking emergency funding to carry out essential safety improvements following a recent fire risk assessment that identified urgent works needed to protect the building and its users. Encouragingly, the church is seeing renewed community use. The applicant provided a schedule of works needed, including new twin socket fittings and replacing cabling. The small grant was approved by Trustees and a grant of £1,300 paid against a copy of the contractor's invoice in October.

Main Grant: The Grade II Listed building of 1887-88 was built with local red sandstone with a slate roof. It has a remarkably tall nave and high set traceried windows. Built to accommodate the late C19 increasing population. Sadly, now in a deteriorated condition. The PCC had committed to funding roof repairs from reserve funds and fund raising efforts but were in urgent need of funds towards Phase 2 roof repairs that included replacing roof slates and removing growth from around the chimney stack. These works had been identified in a QI 2025 and a roof survey. The PCC submitted a main grant application and one of the Trust's Assessors visited the church to prepare a report and recommendation for the Trustees to consider at their January meeting. It was agreed to offer a grant of £3,930.





St Stephen's Parish Church – established in 1281 – Ambridge's fine Parish Church

Water intrusion is one of the most destructive forces affecting church plaster, leading to crumbling walls, discoloration, and mould growth. Roof leaks, faulty gutters, or condensation issues can allow moisture to seep into plaster, weakening its structure and causing irreversible damage. Proper sacred space plaster patching is necessary to restore compromised areas while addressing the root cause of the water damage.

MINOR WORKS : A range of maintenance and minor repairs can be carried out without Faculty permission. These are known as List A and B matters. List A generally covers maintenance, carried out as part of the regular course of care of the building e.g. refixing slipped roof slates. These tasks do not require permission, but should be recorded in your log book. Neil will have discussed this with Alan, the Vicar, and then report to the PCC with a copy of the quotation and proposed schedule of work, that might affect temporary access to the church. [2025-Matters-which-may-be-undertaken-without-a-Faculty.pdf](#) Enquiries as to whether works fall under List A or B should be directed to the Diocesan Church Buildings Office in the first instance. **Exeter Diocese Church Buildings Advisers.**

Sandford parish church of St Swithen



At St Swithen's in Sandford, the Churchwarden discovered fallen plaster from the Nave ceiling. He invited a specialist contractor who advised that, "The panel on the north side of the nave ceiling; it appears the lime plaster has failed and has come away in one corner. In this situation it is difficult to assess the damage to the panel from the ground but from experience I would recommend the whole panel be taken off and replaced with new."



As the condition of the lathes would not be known until access by scaffolding, the PCC was advised that any failed or weak lathes would be replaced with new oak lathes and fixed with stainless steel fixings. Three different coats would be applied, with the base coat containing fibres to strengthen the contact with the lathes. The final coat would be a fine lime skim and once dry would be decorated with breathable mineral paint. The Churchwarden submitted an Emergency Grant bid to DHCT for the quoted sum of £3,797 plus VAT. The General Purpose Trustees were able to approve an Emergency Grant of £1,000 within 2 – 3 days of receipt of the grant bid.



Emergency Grant : St Michael and All Angels Church, Sowton. One of 9 historic churches in the East Clyst Mission Community. A Grade 1 Listed church building. The village of Sowton is now rather isolated between the M5 and A30 but has a keen group of local people looking after the historic church.



In February 2026 we received an Emergency Grant application through the website, reporting that the stone cross on the apex of the chancel roof was leaning dangerously. A section of the masonry at its base had broken off allowing water to penetrate and corrode the iron rod holding up the cross. The cross was at risk of falling in high winds, not only causing potential damage to the roof and shattering as it falls but also posing a risk to passers by. A stonemason had quoted to remove the apex stone that the cross was fixed to, remove the ironwork that was causing damage through rust expansion, make a new base for the cross shaft and pin it to the existing cross. He would then refix the cross using a stainless steel dowl and re-bed, repoint in lime mortar. Scaffolding included a platform for the stonemason to work from, £2,550 in total. One of our Trustee/Assessors visited the church and reported that the cross was indeed in a dangerous condition. The PCC was able to identify £1,000 and planned to raise a further £200. GP Trustees approved an Emergency Grant of £1,000 on 10 March.



Bells and bell tower projects. There seems to be a flurry of bell tower repair projects in Devon at the moment. Our objectives clearly state that we do not award grants for the repair of bells. However, we can help you with a grant towards repair of the bell frame or fabric structure of the bell tower. This might be a conditional grant towards repair of the failed timber or steel frame and associated damage to the tower fabric. We need to be able to identify the frame or fabric repair in the engineer's specification and in the invoice when submitted to claim the conditional grant.

If your church bells are an important asset to your community, the fabric of the bell tower is critical to preservation of the heritage skills of bell ringing. Is the fabric of the bell tower (roof, louvre windows, floors) sound, safe and weatherproof? We might be able to help with preliminary fabric repair works before you launch a campaign to repair the bells and bell frame.



**Save our
Bells**

**The bell frames need
urgent repairs.
Please donate.**

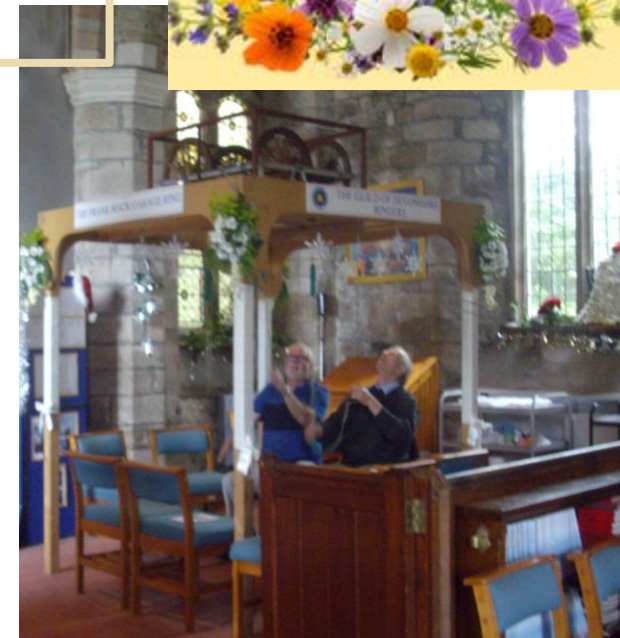
St Petroc's, South Brent. An example of main grant application form completed online, with all supporting documents, photographs and a 'story' about the NEED for the project to ensure the sustainability of the church building.



- Application form completed online
- Supporting documents: Photographs, Quote/specification from engineers.
- Copy PCC Annual Report and Financial Statements
- Copy Minutes of the Vestry meeting approving proposed work.
- Photographs, campaign poster, link to newsletters, video, media reports, Radio Devon!



We understand that preparing a bid of this quality requires volunteer resources that might not be available to you. It is a good idea to gather a group of people, including someone to manage the budget/finances, who might contribute the skills or equipment. You will need to prepare a grant bid including all the above elements. We received the online bid from St Petroc's in January this year following a two-year preparation by the PCC of the documents, approvals and campaign planning. Bell tower engineers will need to know that funds are available before they programme your project into their schedule, with a possible 12-month lead in time to start work. Please keep us in touch with fund raising events and timings so that we know when you are likely to draw on the grant or if there might be a delay.



How we raise funds.

Our Financial Review may be seen and downloaded on the Charity Commission portal. The Trust's investment fund was established by the Trustees in 1995 with the aim of raising a capital sum.

In the year ending 31 March 2025 that investment portfolio fell to £1,328,905 (2024 £1,396) by yr end.

Income resources = £84,825 (2024 £93,282).

Grants awarded = £87,500 (2024 £76,050).

These consisted of 30 main grants totalling £70,500 and 14 small or emergency grants totalling £17,500.

You will see that we distributed a higher level of grant funding in 2025 and 2024 than our income resources, drawing on investment portfolio that fell in value. We have awarded more in grants year on year with a predicted £101,985 to 36 churches in 2025/26. These are not huge levels of grants but we hope we make a difference in supporting you as volunteers in the parishes, volunteers who look after our national asset of historic church buildings.

How you can help us.

Almost 50% of the funds that we are able to distribute to churches comes from legacies, donations and fund-raising events in the parishes. In the year ending 31 March 2025:-

Legacies, friends and donations £7,728

Fund Day and Open Gardens £30,092

Investment portfolio £47,005

This illustrates the significance of Devon Historic Churches Day fund raising (incorporating Ride & Stride) in September each year, or at a date to suit you.

Please join our Friends with a subscription/donation either through your parish, as individuals or by way of a legacy. Our Newsletters on our website illustrate some of the amazing fund raising and sponsored activities that the Trust's Friends and supporters have undertaken. We are so grateful to all of you who organise fund raising events where 50% of funds raised are returned to the parish that you nominate as the beneficiary of your fund-raising event.

DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES FUN DAY



SAVING OUR CHURCHES



DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES Fun Day

Second Saturday of September
or a date to suit you

Help us to raise vital funds to save Devon's churches for future generations

😊 Have a fun day out visiting our glorious churches & countryside

😊 Send a donation or gain sponsorship for an activity

😊 Arrange a Flower Festival or Open Gardens day

😊 Musical entertainments are always a delight

😊 Cream Teas & Coffee Mornings are always popular

😊 Arrange something Fun for all the Family



HISTORIC CHURCHES Fun Day

Second Saturday in September or a date to suit you

The Devon Historic Churches Trust is dedicated to saving our churches

Please support them at this critical time by responding positively to this request

I am taking part in



Or undertaking another activity that requires sponsorship or a donation - will you support me please?

5 Good Reasons to Help

1. The DHCT needs your support to enable it to give grants
2. We are a volunteer charity, so your contribution delivers maximum benefit
3. Everything you give will be gratefully received and faithfully applied
4. Your contribution will help ensure the survival of an important part of Devon's heritage
5. Devon's churches need YOUR support
50% of funds raised by parish communities are immediately returned to them

Kindly email me in response with the amount of your choice and if possible indicate that you wish this amount Gift Aided.

Everybody will be a winner!

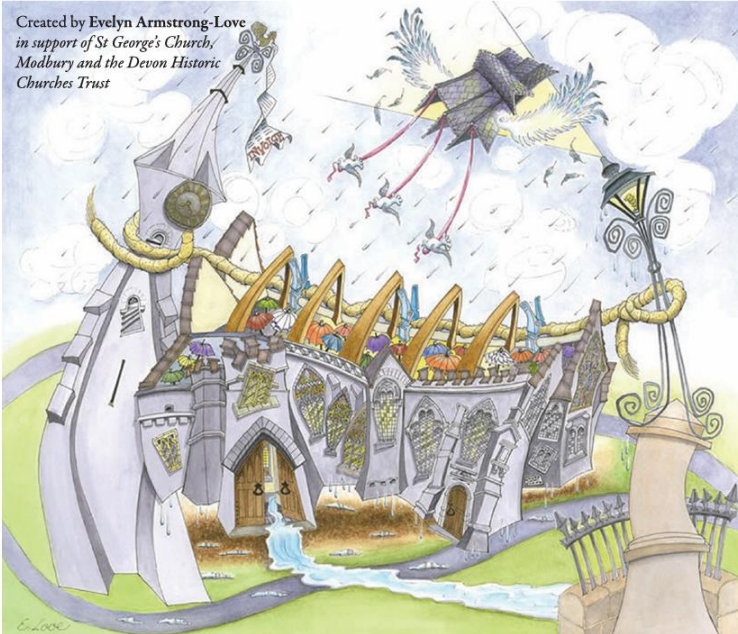


DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST
www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

Charity Registration Number 1189807

SAVING OUR CHURCHES

Help us to raise vital funds to save Devon's churches for future generations



Created by Evelyn Armstrong-Love
in support of St George's Church,
Modbury and the Devon Historic
Churches Trust

DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES Fun Day

To be part of it, check out our website www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

If you can't attend please donate



In aid of the

DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

Charity Registration Number 1189807

HAVE FUN RAISING FUNDS FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR DEVON CHURCHES

Our Parish Churches really need the support of DHCT - can you help us by:

Opening your Garden



Cream Teas and Cakes

Floral displays in your Church



Fun for all the Family,

Games Balloons, Songs



or a Treasure Hunt!



A Litter Picking Walk – get sponsorship and generate donations from appreciative residents.

An entertaining musical event



or Sponsored Hymn singing

Now is the moment to start planning and promoting your church repair project with a fund-raising event in September. A friend and supporter of Devon Historic Churches Trust is planning a series of walks between churches in the East Devon Mission Community during the summer holiday. Would you be able to organise a Pilgrim Walk in your Mission Community? Don't forget half the funds that you send to DHCT will be returned to your nominated parish church. Please send us posters and details of your planned event so that we can promote it on our website and through our 'Guide to Open Churches'.



MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

EDBF CHURCH BUILDINGS TEAM

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon 2035

Church Buildings Team

How we can help
Grants for buildings

Meet the Funders, June 2026

The Team

Nigel Pratt	Senior Church Buildings Adviser & DAC Secretary	01392 294944	nigel.pratt@exeter.anglican.org
Alice Risdon	Church Buildings Officer (west)	01392 294945	alice.risdon@exeter.anglican.org
Louise Brown	Church Buildings Officer (east)	01392 294902	louise.brown@exeter.anglican.org
Imogen Marshall-Smith	Church Buildings Support Officer	01392 294962	imogen.smith@exeter.anglican.org

Website: <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/church-buildings/>

What we do

- Based at the Old Deanery, but travel around the Diocese.
- Facilitate the permission process for repairs and alterations to church buildings.
- Liaise with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) on your behalf.
- Arrange free DAC informal advice – huge range of expertise.
- Monitor the condition of church buildings.
- Support churchwardens with maintaining church buildings
- First point of contact for any query about looking after your church building.
- Quarterly newsletter – sign up on our website.



Living Stones The Church Buildings Newsletter in the Diocese of Exeter

Spring - 2nd May 2025

Welcome to the first issue of our new newsletter which we hope to be a special celebration of the CofE church buildings in Devon and a network of support for all those who care for them.



Visit our website/contact us for

- A 5 minute video guide to permissions.
- Flow charts showing the process for List B and Faculty applications.
- Guidance on writing Statements of Significance and Need.
- 'Bitesize' instructional videos on carrying out maintenance checks.
- Templates for maintenance plans, log books and inventories.
- Quick links to Church of England guidance on everything from accessibility to organs.



Minor Repairs & Improvement Grant

We are hoping to have grants to distribute from Autumn 2026

- Funding from the Church Commissioners *Buildings for Mission* programme.
- Will be promoted in *Roots & Shoots* and *Living Stones* newsletters.
- Grants for small repairs and improvements e.g. List A or B work identified in most recent Quinquennial Inspection report.
- Consecrated church buildings and licensed places of worship only – no churchyard structures.



**New national funding:
Listed Places of Worship
Renewal Fund**

Introduction

- Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme closed earlier this year.
- Replaced by the Places of Worship Renewal Fund (for listed buildings).
- New fund is administered by Historic England based on priorities from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).
- Two grant rounds per year.
- Diocese are not involved in administering the scheme or directing funding.



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



**Historic
England**

A replacement?

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

- Grant to reclaim VAT on capital projects
- Non-competitive
- One fund, one application process
- £42m budget in 2024/25 reduced to £23m in 2025/26. All funds allocated before the fund was closed.
- Rolling application window – no deadlines.
- Estimated 5,000 places of worship supported annually.



Places of Worship Renewal Fund

- Grants of £10,000 - £1,000,000 for capital works that keep buildings safe, open and in public use.
- Three streams for different project sizes.
- Competitive, with areas of England with the greatest need for investment and those that bring most community benefit prioritised. **Not all applications will be successful.**
- £92m allocation, over a four-year period. £23m per annum.
- Two application rounds per year, with set deadlines.
- Estimated 100-150 projects supported annually.

Grant streams

Small grants
£10,000 - £50,000

Medium grants
£50,001 - £350,000

Large grants
£350,001 - £1,000,000

The £23m per year is a national pot – it has not been split between regions

Match funding of 20% is needed in most cases

Requirements

Any listed place of worship can apply...

BUT

This is a **competitive** grant scheme

Your application must align with Historic England's priorities **and** the fund's objectives and criteria if your application is to be successful.

You will need to demonstrate that the works are **necessary, deliverable** and **aligned** with the fund requirements.

The full list is available on Historic England's website.

Fund requirements

At both the expression of interest (EOI) and full application stages, projects will be assessed in line with how they meet Historic England's priorities and the fund's objectives and criteria.

Priorities



Objectives



Criteria



Start an EOI now

Prioritisation of funds

- Projects that are in areas of England with the greatest **deprivation**.
- The **urgency** of repair and **risk of loss** and/or the **community benefit** the project brings.
- The project's **deliverability** and **value for money**.
- Projects from places of worship with the **lowest available budget** and capacity to raise funds.

If you apply, you will need to tell Historic England how your project matches with these priorities

No 'improvements' without 'repairs'

New heating, access related projects, reordering, improved facilities, conservation of fixtures/fittings etc. will not be eligible unless they form part of a broader repair project.

Repairs must be the **majority** of the cost of your project

This means you may need to change your focus to identify a fundable project.

'Repairs' does not include work such as redecoration.

Other sources of funding

It might be that your project is a better fit with other funders...

Repairs under £10,000:

- Minor repairs and improvements grant scheme (Buildings for Mission)
- Devon Historic Churches Trust
- Archdeacon's rural repair fund

Facilities and accessibility:

- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Benefact Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Forte Charitable Foundation
- Joseph Rank Trust

Accessibility only:

- Church of England Parish Accessibility Fund

Conservation of monuments, bells, organs, stained glass, brasses, rood screens, wall paintings, clocks, listed lychgates/walls/railings:

- Church of England Conservation Grants
- William & Jane Morris Grant
- Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund

Large projects incorporating facilities, repairs, interpretation, engagement:

- National Lottery Heritage Fund

Net zero initiatives:

- Give to Go Green
- Parish Decarbonisation Fund
- Boiler Hardship Fund
- Benefact Trust

Further information

Historic England website:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/grants/what-we-fund/places-of-worship-renewal-fund/>

Contact them with any questions PWRF@historicengland.org.uk



Questions?

Thank you for your time



MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

ASDA FOUNDATION

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon 2035

ASDA
Foundation,

ABOUT US



2025 - OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

SCOTLAND

£420,658

NORTHERN IRELAND

£146,607

ENGLAND

£2,418,401

WALES

£237,054



**ASDA FOUNDATION IS AN INDEPENDENT CHARITY
WITH MORE THAN 30 YEARS' HISTORY OF HELPING
PEOPLE IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES.**

IN TOTAL £3,222,720 AWARDED IN 2025

90P

IN EVERY POUND SPENT ON GRANTS

MONEY AWARDED BY GRANTS



£529,977

Outdoor Community
Spaces Fund



£510,465

Young Futures Fund



£1,255,314

Local Community Spaces
Fund



£401,400

Better Together Fund



£400,200

Foodbank Fundamentals
Fund



£13,291

Match Funding



£37,573

Colleague Hardship
Programme

“



THE ASDA FOUNDATION IS PROUD OF THE SUPPORT WE HAVE PROVIDED TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS. WORKING WITH ASDA COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS, OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE STRONG COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND ENSURE OUR FUNDING REACHES THE LOCAL GRASSROOTS GROUPS WHO NEED IT MOST.

Karl Doyle
Asda Foundation Chair and Vice President George Clothing
at Asda

”

OUR TRUSTEES

Working independently of Asda Stores, The Asda Foundation is led by a Board of Trustees. The Board consists of both Asda colleagues and experts from the wider sector, giving us a breadth of knowledge and experience to draw on when setting our overall strategic direction and decision-making.

Karl Doyle

Jane Earnshaw

Suneer Fida

Mark Benton

Maggie Jones

John Fallon

THE ASDA FOUNDATION OFFERS GRANT FUNDING TO SMALL COMMUNITY GROUPS.

As an independent charitable foundation funded by Asda, The Asda Foundation supports the small, grassroots groups at the heart of our communities. We aim to empower local groups with the funding they need, exactly where and when they need it.

We work closely with In-store Asda Community Champions to understand the needs of the people living and working locally in the communities surrounding Asda stores and fund vital community projects.

WHAT WE FUND

Each year, the Asda Foundation receives a donation from Asda Stores. We use this donation to provide grant funding to grassroots groups at the heart of communities throughout the UK. We work with In-store Asda Community Champions to award grants to the local groups that need them most.

From enabling foodbanks to purchase vital supplies to funding community centres to repair their roof, our funding enables grassroots groups to make a positive impact in their local community.

By focusing on small community projects, we're able to support groups that may not have been able to access funding before.

WORKING WITH IN-STORE ASDA COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



Asda's network of almost 400 In-store Asda Community Champions use their local insight to assist in grant curation and delivery. Community Champions are able to signpost to Asda Foundation funding, support with the application process and also offer a range of Asda initiatives that support local people.

- In-store Asda colleagues understand where support can make the most impact in their local community
- In-store Asda Community Champions signpost groups to Asda Foundation funding, or to the other community support offered in-store
- Our grants are designed to support grassroots organisations and In-store Asda Community Champions can support them throughout the application process.



A photograph showing a woman with glasses and a blue jacket leaning over a young boy in a wheelchair. The boy is smiling and waving his hand. The text "OUR GRANTS" is overlaid in the center of the image. There is a faint heart shape in the background on the right side.

OUR GRANTS



LOCAL COMMUNITY SPACES FUND

Supporting grassroots community groups to transform spaces at the heart of their local community

[Learn more](#)

WHO CAN APPLY

Charities, CICs and Community Benefit Societies that benefit local people

GRANT VALUE

Grants of £10,000 to £20,000

WHEN TO APPLY

The application window has now closed





YOUNG FUTURES FUND

Improving mental health and wellbeing for teens (13-18 years) to help build better futures

[Learn more](#)

WHO CAN APPLY

Not-for-profit groups helping improve mental health and wellbeing of teens aged 13-18

GRANT VALUE

£500 to £1,000

WHEN TO APPLY

The application window for this fund is now closed





FOODBANK FUNDAMENTALS FUND

Providing food distributors with essential provisions and equipment necessary to sustain and enhance their services for disadvantaged members of the local community.

[Learn more](#)

WHO CAN APPLY

Not-for-profit groups with a primary aim of supporting food distribution and provision

GRANT VALUE

Up to £750

WHEN TO APPLY

Applications open Autumn
2026





COLLEAGUE MATCH FUNDING FOR LOCAL CAUSES

Giving Asda colleagues the opportunity to boost the amount they raise for causes close to their hearts.

[Learn more](#)





COLLEAGUE HARDSHIP PROGRAMME

Supporting Asda colleagues and their families experiencing financial difficulty.

[Learn more](#)





LOCAL COMMUNITY EMERGENCY DONATIONS

Acting fast to support the local community
during times of crisis.

[Learn more](#)





TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES IMPROVING LIVES



MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon **2035**

NATIONAL CHURCHES

TRUST

National Churches Trust Grants



**NATIONAL
CHURCHES**
TRUST



**We want to keep
wonderful churches
open and in use**

**WELCO
ME**

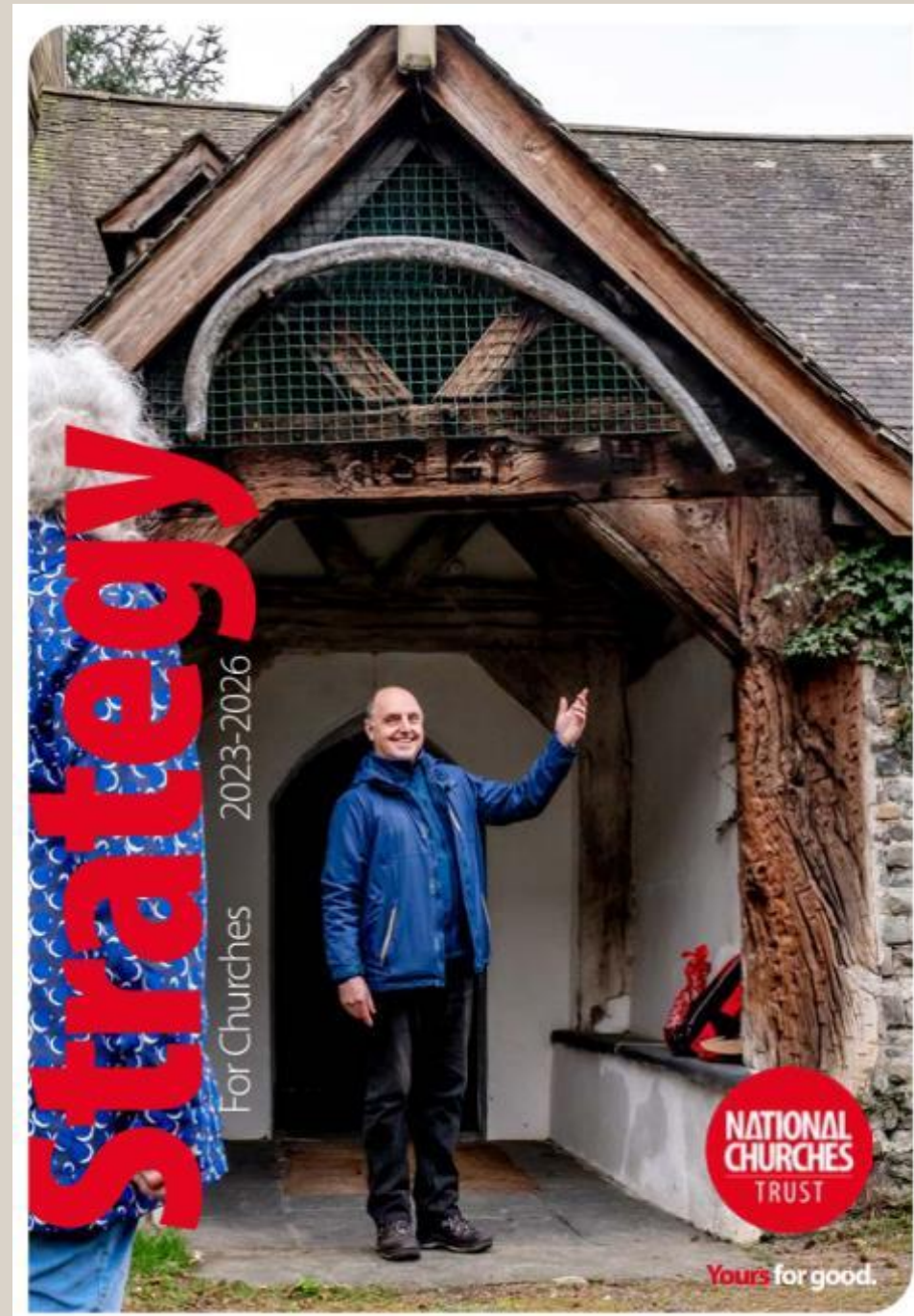
**Yours for
good**

STRATEGY

For Churches 2023-2026

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

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



HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

Build Up:

- Grants for repairs, maintenance, facilities
- Advice, guidance and training

Open Up:

- Help churches meet community needs
- Project Development Grants
- Support church tourism

Speak Up:

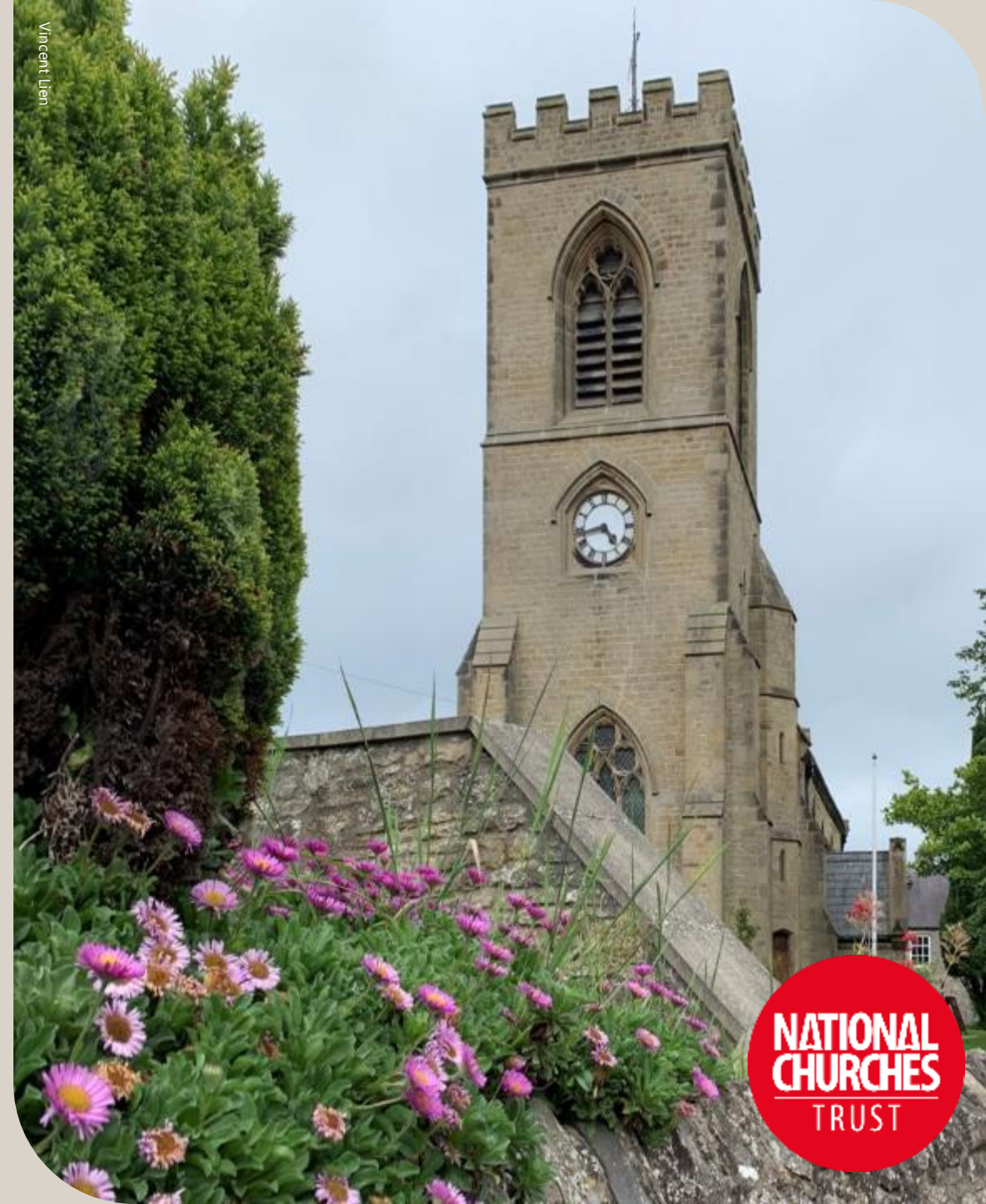
- Communicate the value of churches
- Research and evidence-based data

nationalchurchestrust.org/about-us



2025 IN NUMBERS

- 713 applications received
- 326 grants made or recommended
- Over £2.6 million awarded or recommended



Vincent Lien

**NATIONAL
CHURCHES**
TRUST

Wolfson Foundation & other funders

- Essential fabric repairs for Grade I or II* listed buildings
- Up to £10,000 additional grant – via Medium or Large Programmes
- We recommend to several other funders too
- Simply a box to tick (Medium, Stage 2 of Large) for your application to be considered for all other funders.

The Wolfson 
Foundation



NATIONAL
CHURCHES
TRUST

OUR CORE GRANTS

- 3 decision rounds per year
- **Medium Grants:** Up to £10k
 - project development up to RIBA Stage 1
 - essential repairs costing up to £80k
- **Large Grants:** Up to £50k
 - urgent structural repairs costing over £80k
 - new facilities (kitchens/toilets) over £30k

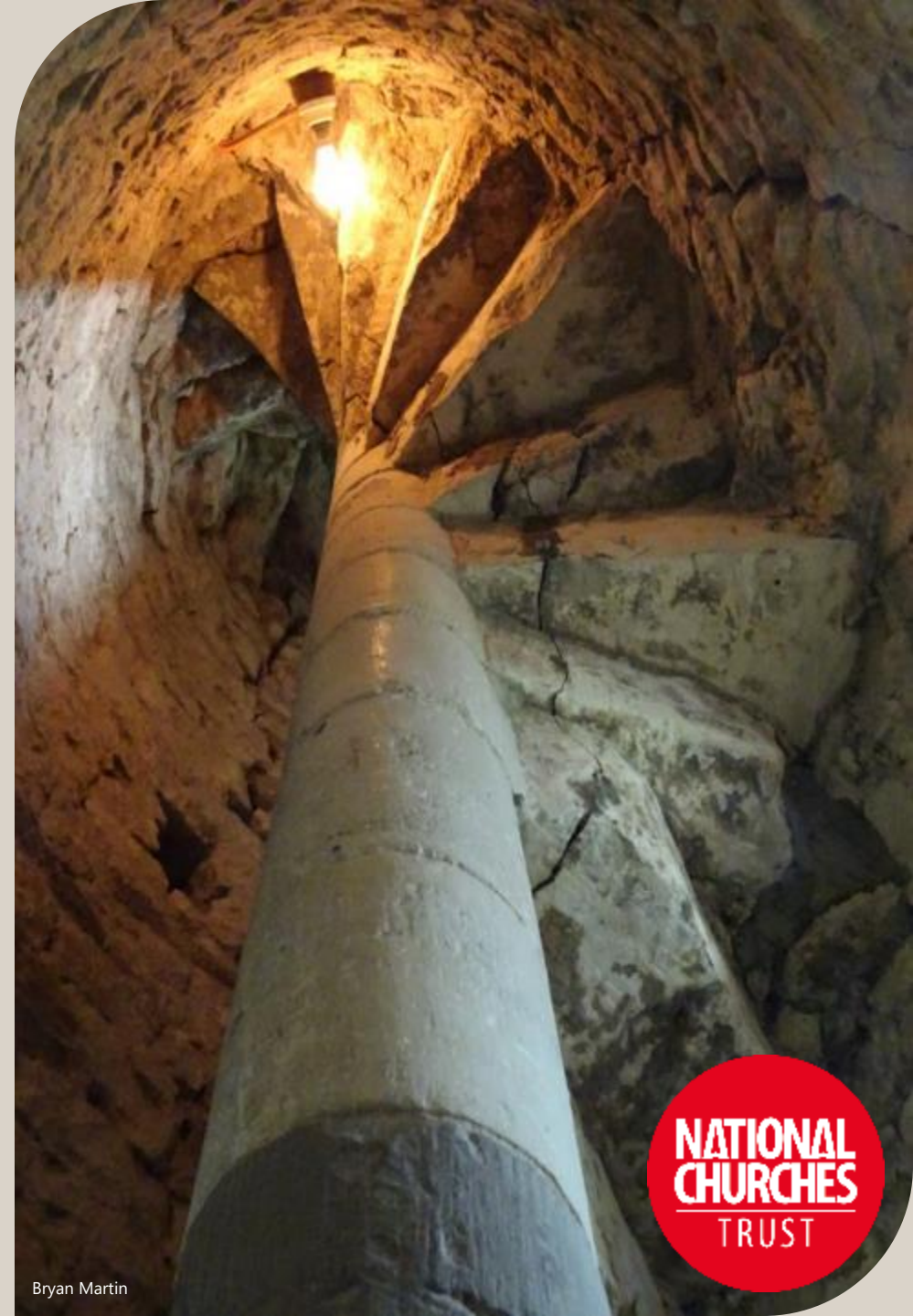
nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants



**NATIONAL
CHURCHES**
TRUST

Large Grants

- Awards up to £50,000
- Urgent structural repairs costing over £80,000
- New facilities (kitchens & toilets) costing over £30,000
- Two stage Process



Bryan Martin



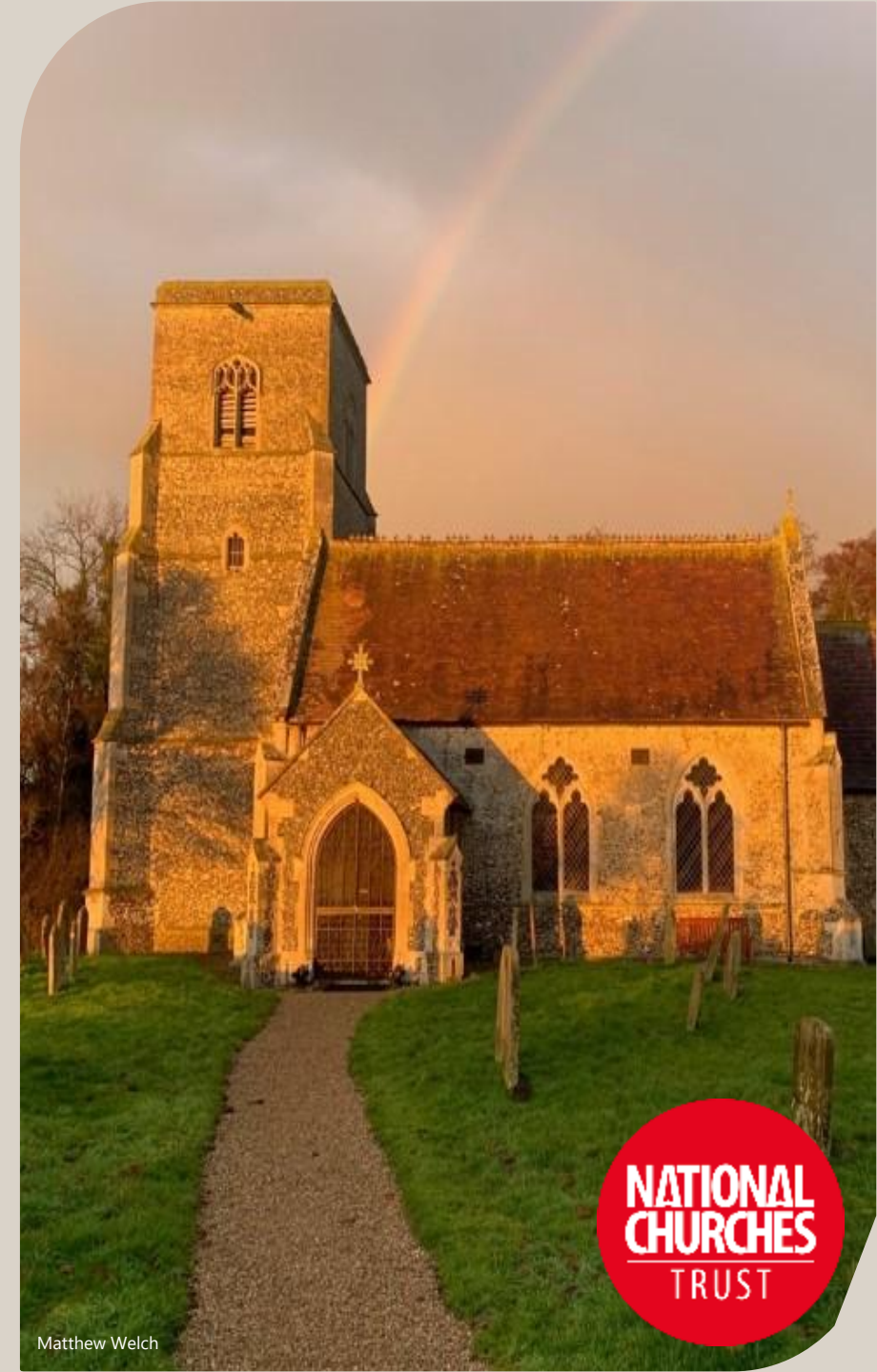
Medium Grants (Maintenance and Repair)

- Awards up to £10,000
- Essential repairs costing up to £80,000
- E.g. roof repairs, masonry repairs, rainwater goods – ideally identified in a recent Five Year Inspection Report/survey



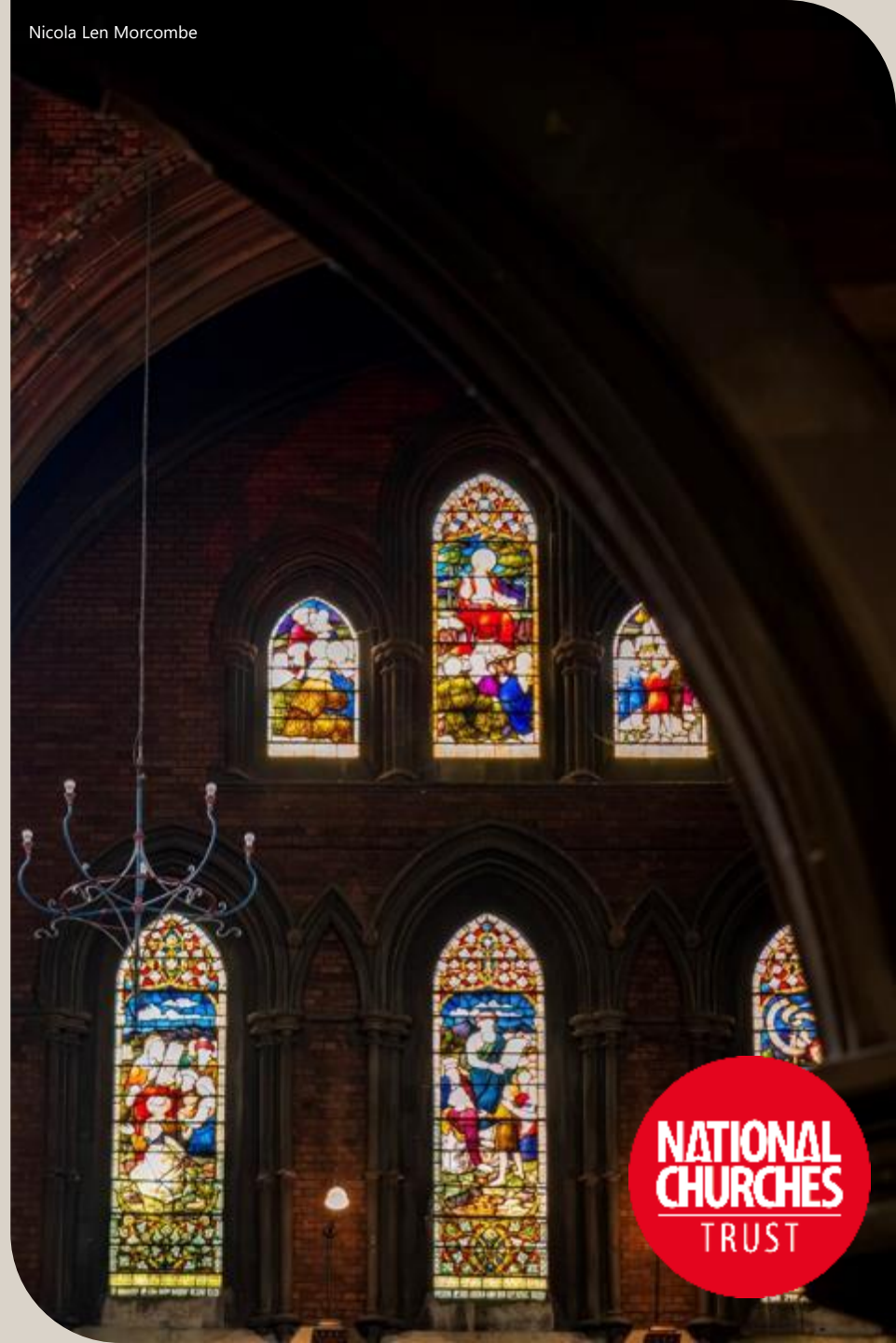
Medium Grants (Project Development)

- Awards of up to £10,000
- Project development up to RIBA Stage 1
- E.g. feasibility studies, option appraisals, detailed reports to better understand an issue
- Generally, to inform works which would be eligible for a National Churches Trust Grant (repairs or facilities)



What we don't fund

- Approximately 30% applications are ineligible at the outset
- We don't fund:
 - Works to the churchyard, boundary walls, car parks, paths
 - Repairs to heating and boilers
 - Reordering, lighting, electricity, audio-visual equipment
 - Repairs or maintenance for clocks, organs, bells, monuments
 - Restoration of wall paintings, stained glass (unless urgent repairs to window structure)
 - New builds, or separate structures
 - If in doubt, reach out!



Eligibility

The application begins with an eligibility quiz.

- ✓ A Christian place of worship within in the UK
- ✓ Originally built as a place of worship (over 30 years ago) and open for regular public worship
- ✓ At least 50% funds raised
- ✓ Open at least 100 days per year – or within 1 year of completion
- ✓ Leading qualified professional with conservation accreditation if listed
- ✓ Necessary permissions and multiple quotes in place
- ✓ Work not yet started at the point of application



Scoring Criteria

- Heritage – architectural significance
- Need – problem that needs addressing/urgency
- Case for investment – case for funding now
- Risk management & project planning – level of project planning undertaken
- Heritage & community impact/outcome



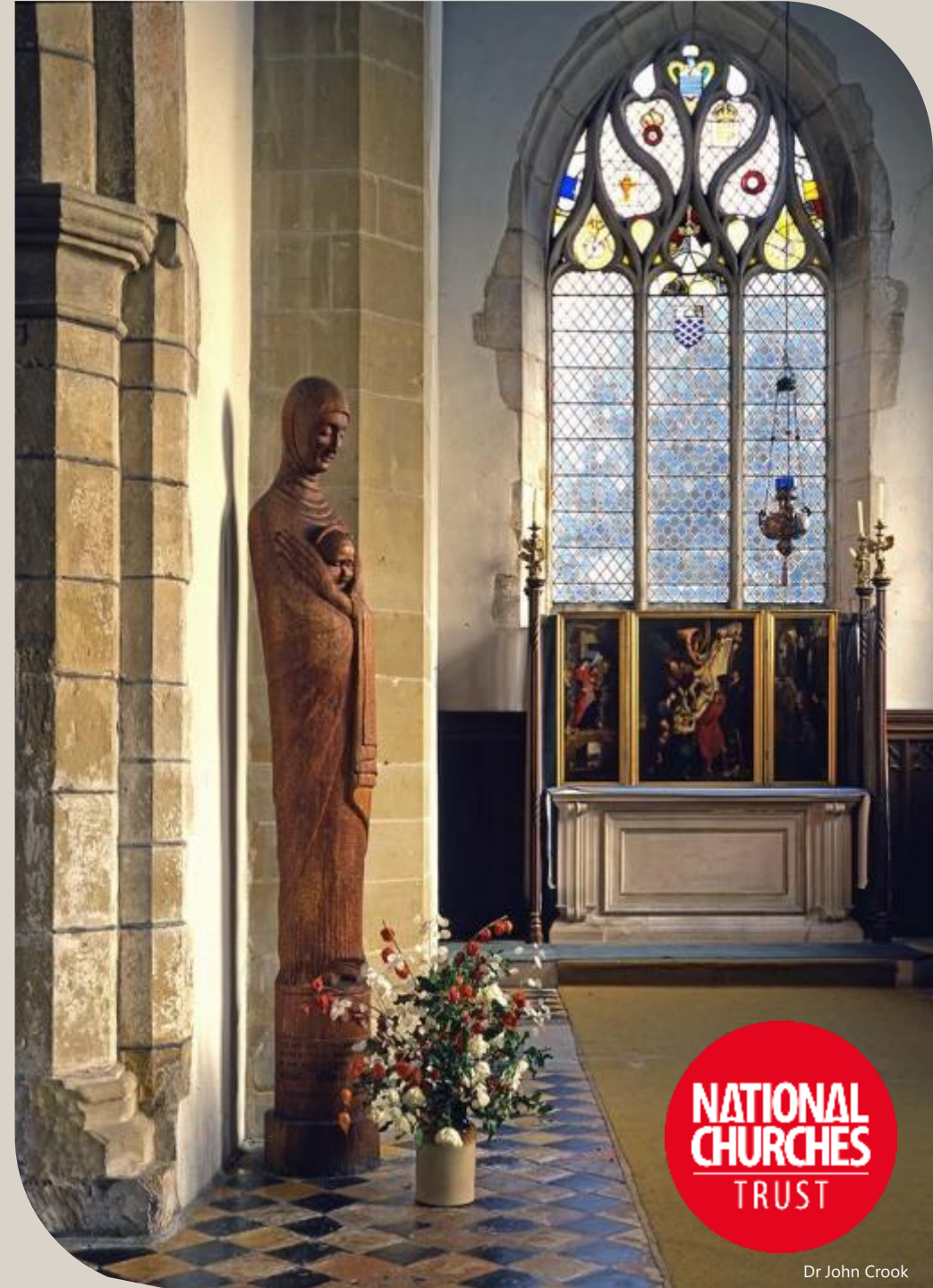
Programme Outcomes

- Well maintained, adaptable and in good repair
- Sustainable, open and welcoming
- Environmental sustainability
- Community and social outcomes



Top Tips

- Apply on time
- Ask your **professional** to help, especially with problem, impact, solution
- Make sure your **figures** are clear
- Submit all **required** documentation
- **Lead** with the need
- Celebrate your **successes**
- Go into **detail**
- Ask **someone else** to look at the application



Upcoming deadlines

- Large – 7 July
(or 3 November)
- Medium – 18 August
(or 15 December)



OUR FRIENDS

Becoming a Friend is one way individuals can support us in the work that we do.

- Annual membership from £40
- Two newsletters per year plus e-bulletins
- Annual Review detailing our work
- Participation in Friends Vote Grant
- Joining gift '*A History of English Churches in 100 Objects*'
- Invitation to select events, Carol Concert and tours

nationalchurchestrust.org/friends



**NATIONAL
CHURCHES
TRUST**

CONTACT DETAILS



Grant enquiries:

grants@nationalchurchestrust.org

Me:

isidore.hiscock@nationalchurchestrust.org



MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon **2035**



How to Write a Good Grant Application

Joseph Davies BSc (Econ) MSc (Econ)
Church Support Manager

Meet the Funders, Diocese of Exeter
25th June 2026



Proudly part of the BENEFACT GROUP 

Where to start?

- ▶ Key steps and suggestions for you and your church to take for successful fundraising.
 - Your vision
 - Forming a fundraising team
 - Fundraising planning guidance
 - Developing a case for support
 - Digital fundraising.

Outputs and outcomes

- ▶ Output - services or goods delivered
- ▶ Outcome - the difference the output will make
- ▶ What do you want your project to achieve
- ▶ Are the outcomes:
 - ✓ Cost effective
 - ✓ Logical
 - ✓ Ambitious but achievable.

Researching possible donors and funders

- ▶ Successful fundraising and grant applications begin with research into possible donors and funders.
 - Donors and funders list
 - Research possible donors
 - Engaging with the wider community.

Researching possible donors and funders

Grant-making bodies

- ▶ Trusts
- ▶ Community Foundations
- ▶ Lottery Pots
- ▶ Landfill trusts

Community

- ▶ Events
- ▶ Volunteering
- ▶ Direct Giving
- ▶ Online giving

Corporates

- ▶ Pro bono work
- ▶ Gifts in Kind
- ▶ Access to networks

Earned income

- ▶ Cafes
- ▶ Hall hire

Ideal potential donors are:

- ▶ Acceptable to the church (e.g. Lottery)
- ▶ Align with the mission and share values
- ▶ Realistic
- ▶ Ideally can provide unrestricted income
- ▶ Low risk

Finding donors

Collecting information:

Realistically, does this fit with the church's project?

NAME OF FUNDER	TYPES	AREA(S) OF INTEREST	PAST GIVING	KEY PEOPLE	PROCEDURE	IMPORTANT TO NOTE	TARGET AMOUNT	NEXT STEPS
Name of potential funder or donor	Individual, trust/foundation, corporate, or statutory funder	What is the funder's area of philanthropic interest, as relevant to your church?	The kind of projects and organisations that a funder has supported in the past	A list of trustees, key executives or administrative staff (such as a grants manager) of a given trust, foundation or funder	The application procedure of the potential funder	Any special considerations relating to your approach	Proposed target grant or gift amount	E.g. Set up meeting or draft application

Why does this donor give? What motivates them?

Charity commission website can be helpful for this

Key rule: do what they say!

the ask

- ▶ Once you've planned your fundraising and done your research into potential donors, the next step is the ask.
 - Checklist for grant applications
 - Key principles for successful grant applications



Questions?

25th June 2026

Ecclesiastical: How can we Help Meet the Funders – Diocese of Exeter



Proudly part of the BENEFACT GROUP 

Proud to be different

Ecclesiastical is proudly part of the Benefact Group and owned by the charity Benefact Trust, an international family of financial services companies, built on the idea that better business can better lives and which exists to serve the greater good.

A family of **30+** specialist financial businesses



working across **3** continents, united by the belief that



better business, can better lives.

Proud to be part of the Benefact Group the 3rd largest UK corporate donor over a decade¹, donating over £250m to over 10,000 UK charities.



BENEFACT GROUP



BENEFACT TRUST

¹ Directory of Social Change's UK Guides to Company Giving 2017-26

Here to help

Church Support Managers

- ▶ Can provide online and in person training to groups of churches
- ▶ Work closely with Archdeacons and Diocesan officers
- ▶ Services provided at no extra cost to our customers.

A comprehensive suite of training seminars

Designed for churches, tailored support includes:

- ▶ An introduction to church insurance
- ▶ Risk management training presentations on topics such as 'how to open your church safely', 'climate change and your church' and 'health and safety'
- ▶ An introduction to fundraising
- ▶ Support for your Diocesan/Archdeaconry events and communications.



Joseph Davies
Church Support Manager

- ▶ Joined Ecclesiastical in August 2024
- ▶ Former verger at Salisbury and Ely Cathedrals
- ▶ Excellent understanding of issues faced by churches.

Trusted, specialist insurers



Award-winning home insurance¹



Grant and donation programmes



Free risk management, fundraising and insurance guidance



Award-winning claims and risk team²



Environmentally positive and a voluntary member of ClimateWise



We're involved in protecting 10 of the UK's World Heritage sites and are the main insurer of Grade 1 listed buildings



Our customers and clients trust us to look after assets worth over £300 billion.

¹ Which? Best Buy Buildings Insurance 2025 and Contents insurance 2025, Fairer Finance 1st place Gold Ribbon for customer experience Spring 2025.

² The Gracechurch UK Claims Monitor 2025 - Outstanding Service Quality. British Insurance Awards 2025 – Risk and Resilience Winner.



Proudly part of the BENEFACT GROUP 



Excellent
432 reviews, 29 May 2025



Benefact Trust



- ▶ The charitable owner of Benefact Group, Benefact Trust, supports churches and Christian charities with several programmes including Building Improvement Grants and Community Impact Grants.

www.BenefactTrust.co.uk/grants

Movement for Good



In the south of the UK:

- ▶ Over £1.1m donated to over 425 charities in 2023-2025
- ▶ Including more than 90 churches and community groups
- ▶ Regular draws of £1k
- ▶ Four special draws through the year awarding 10x £5,000 each
- ▶ 12 days of giving (120 x £1k)
- ▶ Partnership funding (£10k)
- ▶ Award amounts up to £45K.

www.MovementForGood.com/ecclesiastica

!

Ministry Bursary Awards



- ▶ Providing financial support to members of the clergy taking a sabbatical
- ▶ Open to individual clergy in the Anglican Church in the UK and Europe
- ▶ Since 1987, we've given more than £1.4m, supporting over 1,500 members of clergy.

www.ecclesiastical.com/mba

Trust 130



- ▶ We'll donate £130 to your Anglican church or cathedral when you take out a new home insurance policy with us*
- ▶ Since 2017, we've donated over £500,000 to churches and cathedrals chosen by our customers
- ▶ A little can go a long way.

*Terms & conditions apply

www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130

Here to support – risk management

- ▶ **Risk calendar:** marks key risks throughout the year.
www.ecclesiastical.com/risk-calendar
- ▶ **Made simple guides:** easy-to-understand information on everything from events to building works, outreach to climate change.
www.ecclesiastical.com/MadeSimple
- ▶ **Risk guidance:** free videos, animations, templates, checklists and forms to support you in managing risk effectively.
www.ecclesiastical.com/ChurchRisk



Here to support - fundraising

- ▶ Our church fundraising hub has easy-to-use support, guidance and tools to help you and your church with fundraising now and into the future. Organised into four steps:
 - Step 1: Where to start?
 - Step 2: Researching donors
 - Step 3: Making the ask
 - Step 4: Saying thank you.



www.ecclesiastical.com/fundraising

WE HAVE A VERY SMALL CONGREGATION, HOW SHOULD WE FUNDRAISE AND APPROACH APPLYING FOR GRANTS?

ecclesiastical | www.ecclesiastical.com/churchfundraising | Church fundraising helpline: 0345 601 9959

Bitesize videos including ones with Philanthropy Company and The Directory of Social Change.



Fundraising **key terms**

Checklists and templates

Funding for **sustainability** projects

List of **funders** who support churches

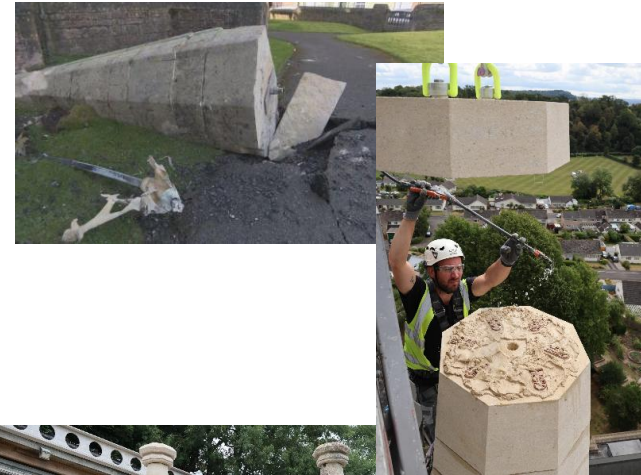


Church of the Ascension, Salford
Rebuilding following devastating fire.



[Click for more information](#)

St. Thomas' Church, Wells
Restoration of a fallen spire.



[Click for more information](#)

Here to support

Ecclesiastical operates sustainably to tackle climate change and we're committed to supporting our customers and partners to tackle theirs.

What we're doing

We have a 'climate positive plan' which aims to make sense of the climate challenge.

Measurement: we are assessing the carbon footprint of our underwriting and not underwriting fossil fuel or climate-harming industries.

Decarbonisation: we are recycling, moving to sustainable offices and electric vehicles.

Giving: we are giving to environmental charities including biodiversity, rewilding, transition, regenerative agriculture, wetland restoration and more.

How we're supporting our customers

'Climate change and your church' made simple guide - covering a range of topics, including reducing energy consumption, understanding potential risks, and finding further climate support resources.

www.ecclesiastical.com/green-churches

Project funding

Benefact Trust has pledged £1.5m towards a major Church of England climate project, which will support 60 churches to achieve net zero (or close to) by the end of 2025. Grants are also available for building improvements and community impact projects.

www.benefacttrust.co.uk

Other products, resources and services

“Excellent specialist insurer – They are a specialist insurer, so cover things not present in most home insurance policies. It makes them perfect for me, as a Vicar living in a 'working' vicarage. They're also an ethical and charitable ...

★★★★★ by Andrew Sillis

Rated 4.7 / 5 | 149 reviews 



Home insurance



Clergy car insurance



Charity and community insurance



Independent financial advice and pre-paid funeral plans



Cyber protection



Church worker / volunteer / trustees insurance



Building surveys



Risk advice line



Church e-news

Archdeacons Visitation News (AV News)



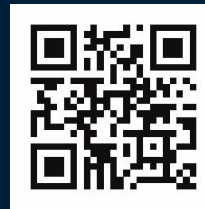
Risk advice line

For specific questions about risk guidance or how to manage risk better, contact our risk experts:

0345 600 7531

Lines are open 9am – 5pm
Monday to Friday
(excluding bank holidays)

risk.advice@ecclesiastical.com



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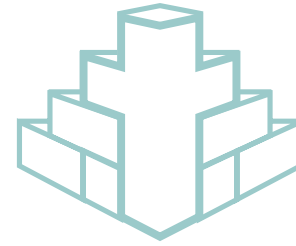




MEET THE
FUNDERS DAY
2026

NATIONAL GIVING TEAM: CORNERSTONE

PRAYGROWSERVE
Inspiring Faith in Devon 2035



CORNERSTONE

Exeter Example Parish 60

Main Parish Example • Example Diocese Diocese



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Pathways



Next Up

Encouraging Generosity through Fresh Expressions of Church

[Find out more](#)

Next Up

Getting Started with Contactless Giving

[Find out more](#)

Next Up

Income Generation: Maximising Church Hall Income

[Find out more](#)

Current

Create an 'Impact of Giving' Leaflet

Started: 11 months ago

[Continue](#)

Current

Communicate Your Impact

Your Cornerstone Journey



27 Pathways Shortlisted



Latest data from



5 Grants In Progress



Generosity Review



COMING SOON

Understand your generosity and giving



Grants



Churches received £109 million in grants in 2022 making up 10% of total church income.

Find your next grant by exploring the grants database.

[Search Grants](#)



Insights



Regular Giving

Average for Exeter Example Parish 60,

£1,046.20

National average

£1,046.20

[View](#)

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Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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Insights



Pathways



Grants



Support

959 grants available

[Show closed grants](#)[Sort](#)[Recommended](#)[County](#)[Region](#)[Amount](#)[Category](#)[Application method](#)

1772 Debtor's Relief Fund Charity

Over the past twenty years, 1772 has provided financial assistance to registered charities working for the welfare of prisoners and ex-prisoners and their families, homeless people, sex workers and people involved in alcohol and drug abuse.

[Learn more](#)[☆ Shortlist](#)[Available](#) Closes 1 April 2027**Location**

UK Wide

Value of Grants

Usual grants range from £1000 to £3000.

1989 Willan Charitable Trust

The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust Fund supports registered charities and exempt organisations whose activities benefit residents of Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, County Durham, and Teesside. Priority will be given to those that alleviate social deprivation and/or enrich the local community and improve the quality of life for individuals within it.

[Learn more](#)[☆ Shortlist](#)[Available](#) Closes 15 August 2026**Location**

UK Wide, Durham, Middlesbrough, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear

Value of Grants

Grants range from £1000 to £10,00.

29th May 1961 Charitable Trust

The 29th May 1961 Charity is a charitable trust that provides grants. It prioritises organisations working in the Midlands, especially in Coventry and Warwickshire.

[Available](#)**Location**

UK Wide, Warwickshire, West Midlands



Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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Grants



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Search for a grant

959 grants available

Show closed grants

Sort Recommended County Region Amount **Category** Application method



- Maintenance and conservation of historical buildings 279
- Music, art and culture 291
- Net-Zero 81
- Older people 376
- Peace and reconciliation 131
- Poverty prevention, Cost of living crisis 415
- Prisoners and ex offenders 250



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[Learn more](#) [Shortlist](#)

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UK Wide, Warwickshire, West Midlands



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Search Grants

☆ View Shortlist

Submit a Funder



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Search for a grant

279 grants available

Show closed grants

Sort Recommended County Region Amount Category Application method

X Maintenance and conservation of historical buildings

Clear Filters

- Maintenance and conservation of historical buildings 279
- Music, art and culture 291
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Learn more Shortlist

Available

Location UK Wide, Warwickshire, West Midlands

Value of Grants

You should apply for what you need. Trustees will note any requested amount you may indicate, but they do not work on an "all or nothing" basis, so they may provide support at a different level than that requested.

A H Lynall Foundation

A.H. Lynall Foundation is a trust that supports projects in Warwickshire, such as church repairs, hospital and hospice projects, village appeals, and character-building activities for young people.

Learn more Shortlist

Available

Location UK Wide, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire

Value of Grants

This is a small, family trust fund with an annual spend of under £16,000 in total.



Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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279 grants available

Show closed grants

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- Application method



- Isle of Wight
- Kent
- Kingston upon Hull
- Lancashire
- Leicester
- Leicestershire
- Lincolnshire
- Luton
- Medway
- Merseyside



X Maintenance and conser

Clear Filters

29th May 1961

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[Learn more](#)

[☆ Shortlist](#)

Available

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UK Wide, Warwickshire, West Midlands

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[Learn more](#)

[☆ Shortlist](#)

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Grants



Support

76 grants available

[Show closed grants](#)[Sort](#) [Recommended](#) [County](#) [Region](#) [Amount](#) [Category](#) [Application method](#)[× Maintenance and conservation of historical buildings](#)[× Kent](#)[Clear Filters](#)

Community Infrastructure Grant - REPF- Swale

The grant scheme is open to not-for-profit organisations that provide community facilities and amenities within Swale.

[Learn more](#)[☆ Shortlist](#)[Available](#)**Location**

UK Wide, Kent

Value of Grants

Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available to organisations to cover no more than 75% of the costs of the works.

Friends of Kent Churches

The Friends of Kent Churches aims to assist those responsible for the care of any church or chapel in the County of Kent (pre-1965 boundaries), principally by giving grant assistance to help with repairs and other works.

[Learn more](#)[☆ Shortlist](#)[Available](#) Closes 1 November 2026**Location**

UK Wide, Kent

Value of Grants

In previous years, grants have ranged from £500 to £12,000.

Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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Search for a grant

32 grants available

Show closed grants

Sort Recommended County Region Amount Category Application method

Application Form	673	<input type="checkbox"/>
In Writing	274	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Maintanance and conservation of historical buildings

Kent

In Writing

Clear Filters

Alligator Trust

This trust gives grants for various charitable purposes to registered charities in the UK and overseas. They have previously supported churches.

Learn more

Shortlisted

Available

Location UK Wide

Value of Grants In the past, the average grants have varied from £300 to £25,000.

Ancient Society of College Youths - Bell Restoration Fund

This registered charity provides grants to support bell installations at churches in which the Society has a significant interest, primarily in and around the City of London, where the Society operates. The Fund's main activities include removing existing bells, supplying and installing new bells and fittings, overhauling or maintaining

Available

Location UK Wide

Value of Grants



Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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Search for a grant

32 grants available

Show closed grants

Sort Recommended County Region Amount Category Application method

✕ Maintenance and conservation of historical buildings

✕ Kent

✕ In Writing

Clear Filters

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Learn more

☆ Shortlist



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UK Wide

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6 grants shortlisted

[Print Grants](#)

[Show closed grants](#)

Available

Bergqvist Charitable Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Beatrice Laing Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Barron Bell Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Aurelius Charitable Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Ancient Society of College Youths - Bell Restoration Fund

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Alligator Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)



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- Support

Full details

Available

East End Family Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Barron Bell Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Alligator Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Alligator Trust



Description

This trust gives grants for various charitable purposes to registered charities in the UK and overseas. They have previously supported churches.

Registered Charities Only?

Yes.

Value of Grants

In the past, the average grants have varied from £300 to £25,000.

Eligibility Criteria

The Trust has previously given grants to churches.

This trust does not maintain a website. For more information, email: richard@filmaccounting.co.uk or telephone 02074047001.

Fund Core Costs?

Application Dates/Deadlines

There are no deadlines.

Website

<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/3969159>

Status

Shortlisted

Date applied

dd/mm/yyyy

Total spend amount

Close

Save updates



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Full details

Available

East End Family Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Barron Bell Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Alligator Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

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<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/3969159>

Status

Shortlisted

Date applied

dd/mm/yyyy

Total award amount

£ 0

Amount paid to date

£ 0.0

Close

Save updates



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Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

East End Family Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Barron Bell Trust

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Full details

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Alligator Trust

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<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/3969159>

Status

Shortlisted

Shortlisted

Applied

Successful

Unsuccessful

Amount paid to date

£ 0.0

Close

Save updates



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Full details

Available

East End Family Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

Available

Barron Bell Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Full details

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Alligator Trust

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Full details

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<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/3969159>

Status

Applied

Date applied

22/06/2026

Total award amount

£ 0

Amount paid to date

£ 0.0

Close

Save updates



Grant Opportunities

Explore the grants database which has over 600 grants opportunities - all are regularly updated and suitable for churches.

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[Submit a Funder](#)



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10 grants shortlisted

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[Show closed grants](#)



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Frognal Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Lord Barnby's Foundation

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Sabina Sutherland Charitable Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

East End Family Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Bergqvist Charitable Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Beatrice Laing Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

[Full details](#)

Available

Barron Bell Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Available

Aurelius Charitable Trust

Shortlisted 23 June 2026

Available

Ancient Society of College Youths - Bell Restoration Fund

Shortlisted 23 June 2026



Pathways

Pathways are simple actions, broken down into bite size chunks, which your church can take to develop specific areas of giving and generosity.

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- Support

Shortlist

- Active
Building a Case for Support
Started: Today
[Continue](#)
- Active
Getting Started with Contactless Giving
Started: 21 days ago
[Continue](#)
- Active
Getting Started with Online Giving
Started: 21 days ago
[Continue](#)
- Active
Apply for Grant Funding
Started: 4 months ago
[Continue](#)
- Active
Exploring Generosity Throughout Lent
Started: 4 months ago
[Continue](#)

Filter by MINT or IDEA

55 Pathways

- Activate
A Welcome to Cornerstone!
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- Activate
Activate Generosity with a Boomerang Offertory
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Apply for Grant Funding
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- Inspire
Encouraging Generosity in Young People
[Find out more](#)
- Embed
- Mechanisms
- Embed

Show 24 more pathways



Pathways

Pathways are simple actions, broken down into bite size chunks, which your church can take to develop specific areas of giving and generosity.

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Building a Case for Support

Need

0% complete

Steps

- 1** STEP 1: Introduction
- 2 STEP 2: Identify your funding need
- 3 STEP 3: Getting Started
- 4 STEP 4: Write an overview of your church and activities
- 5 STEP 5: Describe the problem or need
- 6 STEP 6: Describe your solution
- 7 STEP 7: Describe the impact
- 8 STEP 8: Add case studies
- 9 STEP 9: Outline your funding request

Step 1 out of 10

STEP 1: Introduction



Mark complete

Owner



Introduction

A case for support outlines why a potential donor should give to support your church, or a specific campaign or appeal within it. It explains why your church is seeking funding and how contributions will be used to make a difference. This then acts as a foundation for your fundraising activities, incorporating all the information and messaging you need to effectively communicate about your project. You can use it to write grant funding proposals, produce copy for your website, set up a community fundraising campaign, or prepare for meetings with donors.

This pathway will help you produce a case for support for your church's project or campaign. By the end, you will have everything you need to communicate with confidence and consistency to your project's potential supporters. It's also a great shortcut, helping you reduce your workload by creating a single document that can be tailored to each fundraising context, enabling you to respond quickly to funding opportunities.

Before you start:

If you've previously completed the 'Communicate Your Impact' pathway, we recommend retrieving your notes to help you as you complete this one. You can use the information gathered in that pathway to help build your case for support.

This pathway contains nine steps, each taking between 5 and 30 minutes to complete.

Take an action

Add document

Content you upload will be visible to members of your organisation, and they will be able to download it. You can add two documents per Step in each Pathway.

View document

Another member of your organisation has uploaded a document. You can preview and download it here:



Register for access to Cornerstone

Cornerstone Grants Database Registration

The National Giving Team has developed a database with more than 900 grants as part of the new Cornerstone platform, which means we no longer use the Church Grants database. Please complete this form if you would like access. For more information, including the use of Cornerstone for financial insight and pathways, please see our website: <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/generous-giving/cornerstone/>

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Your church name and location (e.g. St XXX, Exeter) *

2. Your church code starting 615 (A Church Near You, not your postcode please) *

You can find this on your 'A Church Near You' page under 'More information', 'Location Information' It's usually a 6-digit code. Follow this link for more information: <https://vimeo.com/675859637>

3. Your name *



