



CHURCH HERITAGE

News from the
Church Buildings Team



Tilney St Lawrence



St Peter's, Wimblington



Tilney All Saints

**Welcome to the newsletter from the Church Buildings Team,
giving a quick overview of key information and updates.**

All the information in this newsletter is correct at the time of writing.
If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the team directly.

TEAM CHANGES

Over the summer we welcomed a new member to the Church Buildings Team, **Mrs Sam Reeder**. Sam joins us as the DAC Administrator, providing help and support to all who contact the DAC office. Her usual working hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9am to 5pm.

John Morgan is now the Assistant DAC Secretary and continues to provide guidance to parishes on building repair, alteration works and all other matters requiring full Faculty or List B consent.

Whilst Holly Isted is now Mrs Holly Robinson.

All contact details are at the end of this newsletter.



All Saints', Walsoken

GOOD NEWS

Little Thetford's Pond Project

A small wildlife pond has been created at St George's church, Little Thetford, thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the Creation Care Team and the New Life on the Old West project. The aim of the project was to increase the amount of habitat available locally in order to make little "stepping-stones", linking fragmented wildlife communities. The project includes a wildlife meadow, trail around the churchyard and benches to create quiet spaces for people to enjoy the peace and beauty of nature. The team is hoping to achieve a Silver Award from the Churchyard Conservation Scheme. Find out more in the [Project Summary](#).



Little Thetford

New Construction at Cottenham Completed

Buildings come in all shapes and sizes, and the newest addition to [All Saints' Cottenham](#) is a magnificent bug hotel. It was completed on a sunny Saturday in June, as part of an eco-themed Messy Church.

"...the children loved helping to construct the bug hotel with the guidance of John who was part of the Messy Church team. The bug hotel currently stands in the church grounds in front of our bicycle shed and has had many visitors - both bug and human - since it was completed..."

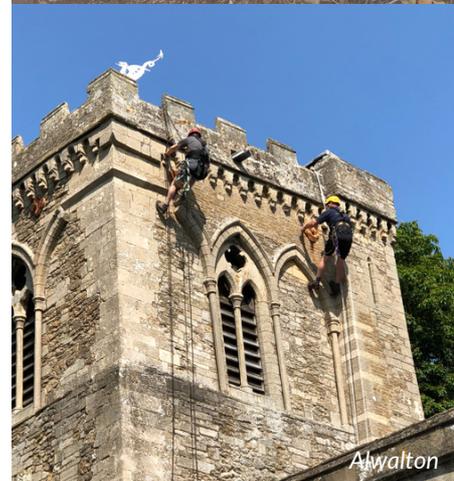
Churchwarden



Cottenham

Pattress Painting at Alwalton

The pattress plates at the top of St Andrew's church tower were rusting and in need of painting. Not a particularly expensive or difficult job in itself, but the location of the plates did present a challenge in terms of access. With the cost of scaffolding being particularly high, the Churchwarden carried out some research and identified a company which used ropes to descend to the pattress plates on the side of the tower. Find out more in the [Project Summary](#).



Alwalton

Work Begins at Kingston Church

After several years of fundraising and delays due to Covid, bats etc... urgent repairs at All Saints and St Andrew's church have finally begun.

The building is now scaffolded inside and out in order to repair the nave ceiling, south aisle roof, clerestory and other associated items. The church was added to the Heritage at Risk Register in 2019. The church will be closed during these works. A summary of the project will be added to our collection once work has been completed.



Kingston

[See the full collection of Project Summaries on the Diocese's website.](#)

GOOD NEWS CONTINUED...

QI Repairs Successfully Completed at Sawston, Woodditton and Soham

A range of repairs including drainage improvement, re-pointing, glazing and new handmade bricks for the churchyard wall, took place at **St Mary's in Sawston**.

"It's mostly mundane stuff and, unless you look closely, you might not notice the work, but it will keep the building watertight and safe from crumbling for the next generation."

Revd Petra Shakeshaft

Meanwhile, at **St Mary's in Woodditton** extensive repair work was carried out to the masonry rendering and flintwork of the distinctive church tower. The project was funded by the PCC together with generous grants from the Cambridge Historic Churches Trust and the Garfield Weston Foundation.

Finally, at **St Andrew's in Soham**, work to re-roof and repair masonry on the transepts, and also carry out holding repairs on the rest of the roofs has recently finished. An accompanying programme of community activities will continue into next year. This project received grants from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Thalia WB (formerly Amey Cespa) and the Cambridge Historic Churches Trust. A summary of the full project will be added to our collection next year.

Wonderful Windows

A memorial window in **All Saints', Haslingfield**, has been repaired and cleaned. This stained glass window on the east wall of the south aisle, was installed in 1869 in memory of Bishop Charles Frederick Mackenzie, once curate at the church. It commemorates his missionary work in Malawi. The church still supports the charity MACS and sends aid to Magamero where he is held in high regard for his work to stop slavery along with David Livingstone. The repairs were undertaken by Susan McCarthy, Laura Perry and colleagues from Auravisions.

A new stained glass window has been installed in **St Mary's and St Andrew's, Whittlesford**. The village was 1,000 years old in 2022 and many events were held to celebrate, but it was also decided to do something a bit more permanent. A new stained glass window was commissioned for the Parish Church, with the theme of 'caring'. The window was installed in June this year.

[Find out more on the Diocese's website.](#)

Please share with us your good news stories. They could be about building or churchyard projects, events, a new guidebook or display or other ways to draw people to your church.



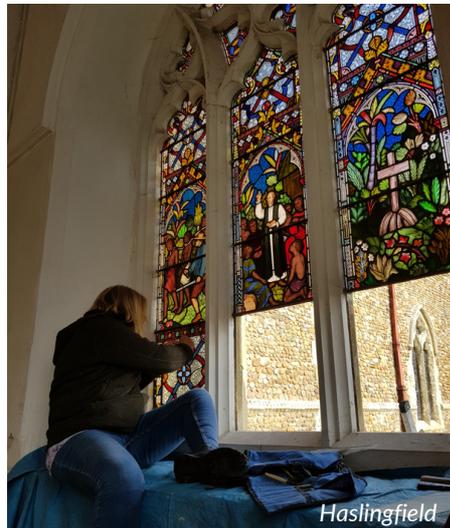
Sawston



Woodditton



Soham - Mark Fairhurst



Haslingfield



Whittlesford

REMINDERS

Time to Ride and Stride - Saturday 9th September

One of the biggest fundraising events for historic church buildings.

There are numerous ways to take part - you can be a sponsored participant walking, riding a bike, horse etc... to visit as many churches as possible, or you can be a sponsored welcomer at a church, greeting participants. You can open your church for all or part of the day, or if this isn't possible, encourage people to stop and explore the churchyard instead. If all else fails, simply displaying a poster or mentioning the event on social media will still help.

Please take part in [Cambridgeshire](#) and [Norfolk](#).

You can also take part in [Heritage Open Days](#) 8th-17th September. The theme this year is Creativity Unwrapped.

Looking for some tips on maintenance? Want to know more about managing glorious gutters and making simple stitch in time repairs?

Join architect Peter Slinger for a morning of maintenance at Holy Trinity, Orton Longueville on Wednesday 20th September, 9:45am-12:30pm.

This free session includes a tour around the church highlighting aspects of maintenance. Lots of practical tips and advice for anyone involved in looking after a church building. Refreshments provided. Please contact Holly to book a place.

Call for Maintenance Contractor Recommendations

We need your help to gather a list of maintenance contractors in order to help parishes across the Diocese. If your church uses a trusted maintenance contractor for more specialist tasks, including clearing gutters and rodding drains, please pass their details to Geoffrey so we can help other churches in your local area to access their services.

Quinquennial Inspections

Please ensure that your Quinquennial Inspection (QI) is up to date, and that all other regular checks have been completed such as, electrics, boilers, fire extinguishers and lightning conductors. If you are not sure when your QI is due, please contact Sam.

Contact Details for Church Officers

Please remember to send the Diocese a list of your church officers each year. Without this, the contact details we have on our database may be incorrect, meaning information is not getting to the right people. This should be done at the APCM, but if any details change in the interim, it really helps to let us know. If the care of the church building is carried out by someone in a 'different' role, and they would prefer not to be added to the database, please ask them to contact Holly to receive information relating to church buildings.

Thefts from Churches Continue

Lead theft, break-ins and vandalism continue to threaten churches. There has been a concerning increase in theft in the neighbouring Diocese of Lincoln recently. Please ensure you are taking all the necessary steps to minimise the risks and have in place adequate insurance cover if the worst happens. See the INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE section for details of new crime prevention guidance.



MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Recommended Monthly Tasks From SPAB's Maintenance Calendar

September

- If your roof space has safe access and is boarded, check for evidence of leaks or damage to the roof covering during heavy rain, especially below gutters.
- Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel.
- Make sure that water tanks and exposed water and heating pipes are protected from frost. Any leaks should be repaired.
- Make sure that any airbricks or under floor ventilators are free from obstruction and clean if necessary.

October

- Check masonry for signs of damage. Report any deeply eroded mortar joints or cracks or signs of movement.
- Check that snowboards and access walkways are in a good state of repair.
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for any storm damage. Frequent attention may be needed if the building is surrounded by trees or perched on by pigeons.

November

- Check that the flagpole is secure.
- Check the roofs for damage. Debris on the ground from broken or missing slates and tiles indicates that there may be a problem.
- Continue to clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for any storm damage.
- Take part in SPAB's National Maintenance Week 17th-24th November.

For guidance, including maintenance plans and videos [visit our website](#).

RISK CALENDAR

Taken from Ecclesiastical Insurance's Church Risk Calendar.

September - Slips and Trips

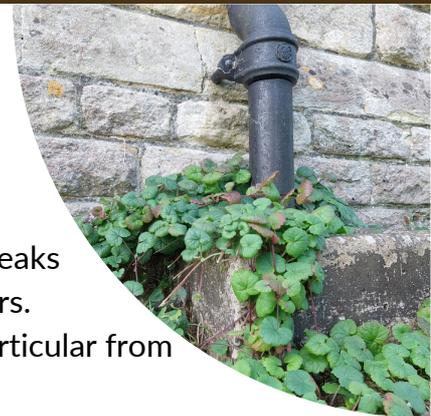
Claims data shows that slips and trips are the most common cause of injury in churches. To reduce the risk, review your precautions to tackle slip and trip hazards both indoors and outside.

October - Working Alone

Working alone can present a number of hazards, including an increased risk of assault and/or aggression. Review situations where people complete tasks on their own to check the adequacy of precautions in place to protect them.

November - Flood Safety

Climate change is resulting in more extreme weather events. Though it's impossible to flood-proof your church properties, there are some simple actions you can take to reduce the damage caused.



GRANTS

INTRODUCING...

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Funding / Community Assets

Expressions of Interest 24th September

The fund will award grants of up to £40,000 to support with the capital costs needed by an organisation to make a community building or other community asset better meet the needs of local residents and users of the facility. [Full Details](#).

UPDATES

Prince of Wales' Charitable Fund

The small grants programme is currently closed to new applications. It will reopen in early 2024 - please [check the website](#) for updates. *Major grants are by invitation only.*

The Leche Trust

Online application in development - due to open for applications in September 2023. Please [check the website](#).

National Lottery Heritage Fund Publishes First Delivery Plan for Heritage 2033

Earlier this year, the National Lottery Heritage Fund (aka Heritage Fund) published a new 10-year strategy called Heritage 2033. Details of the first delivery plan have now been released.

The key changes in the next year include:

- A simplified application process, making it more proportionate to the amount of money you're requesting
- Increase the lower threshold for grants to £10,000
- A short period when grants up to £250,000 will be closed

From January 2024, the Heritage Fund will be open for the first applications for grants from £10,000 to £10m under Heritage 2033, with new guidance and application forms. There will be no further grants below £10,000. [Read more here](#).

The National Lottery Community Fund New Strategy

The National Lottery Community Fund launched a new strategy in June this year. It will continue to support projects which create accessible and welcoming community spaces, and those which focus on environmental sustainability. The biggest change is the increase in funding available from the small grants programme, Awards for All, from a maximum of £10,000 to £20,000. [Find out more here](#).

Churches as Community Business Venues - Hubs Working Together

Do you know anyone who has an idea for a community business and is considering where to run it from? More and more community businesses are exploring Places of Worship as an option. Thanks to generous funding from the Benefact Trust, the Plunkett Foundation are delighted to offer a free webinar looking into how this 'co-location' model can work and hear first-hand from two community businesses already running from within churches. There'll be plenty of time for questions and you will find out how to access free advice and support plus grants of up to £5,000 to help explore how co-location might work.

[More information and to book](#).



St Andrew's, Caxton

GRANTS CONTINUED...

Current Deadlines

September

- 1st The Sharpe Trust
- 1st Thalia WB Community Fund
- 1st The Joseph Rank Trust
- 5th The Idlewild Trust
- 6th FCC Communities Foundation
- 11th The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
- 15th Skinner's Charity Foundation
- 30th The On Organ Fund

October

- 2nd Church Buildings Council (Organs)
- 2nd The Worshipful Company of Glaziers
- 5th Veolia Environment Trust
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Church Plate)
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Churchyard structures)
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Brasses & metal)
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Monuments)
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Textiles)
- 9th Church Buildings Council (Wooden objects)
- 12th Norfolk Churches Trust
- 20th The Steel Charitable Trust
- 31st War Memorials Trust
- 31st Valencia Communities Fund

November

- 1st Cambridgeshire Community Foundation
- 6th The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
- 7th National Churches Trust Large Grants
- 15th Augean Landfill Fund
- 16th National Lottery Heritage Fund

December

- 1st The Joseph Rank Trust
- 1st Thalia WB Community Fund
- 6th FCC Communities Foundation

Grants without Deadlines

- The Archer Trust
- Benefacts Trust
- Church Buildings Council Conservation Reports
- Garfield Weston
- Geoffrey Watling (Norfolk only)
- Henry Smith Charity
- National Lottery Community Fund: Awards for All
- National Lottery Community Fund: Reaching Communities Fund
- National Lottery Heritage Fund: Grants for Heritage (upto £250,000)
- Paul Bassham Charitable Trust (Norfolk only)
- Suez Community Fund
- Tarmac Funding
- Tesco Bags of Help
- The Barron Bell Trust
- The Beatrice Laing Trust
- The Bernard Sunley Foundation
- The Clothworkers' Foundation
- The Co-op Local Community Fund
- The Foyle Foundation Small Grants
- The Hobson Charity Ltd
- The Jack Patston Trust (Cambs only)
- The Jill Franklin Trust
- The John S Cohen Foundation
- The Rank Foundation Pebble Grants
- The Round Tower Churches Society
- The Swire Charitable Trust - grants under £25,000
- The Tudor Trust
- TASC Grants

For advice on grants whether it is for repairs or new works, please contact Holly. If you would prefer to search for grants and receive more frequent updates on funding opportunities, you can register for free with the following websites:

- [Support Cambridgeshire](#)
- [Hunts Forum](#)
- [Grants Online](#)
- [My Funding Central](#)
- [Funds Online](#)

FUNDRAISING

Raising Funds for Community Projects

UK funders often aim to support projects that strengthen communities in times of need and many churches play a huge role in this. Focusing your fundraising narrative on these objectives can open up a wider range of donors. This blog, produced by Methodist Insurance, includes tips on how you can strengthen your case for support by focusing on what you do for your community. [Raising funds - all faiths and none.](#)



Fundraising for your Carbon-cutting Projects

The Church of England has organised a series of webinars focusing on fundraising for carbon-cutting projects. There are two options for each webinar in order to try to tailor information to smaller and larger churches. Please see the **TRAINING AND EVENTS** section towards the end of this newsletter.

BUILDING VOLUNTEERS

NEW volunteer portal coming soon to Cambridgeshire

Support Cambridgeshire partners (Hunts Forum of Voluntary Organisations and Cambridge CVS) are excited to announce they have received funding from system partners to set up a countywide Volunteer Portal in Cambridgeshire. This will allow groups to promote volunteer roles in a formatted way in one place. More details coming soon on the [Support Cambridgeshire website](#).

HRBA Publication

In 2022, Holly presented the findings of the Church Building Volunteers Survey at the HRBA's Big Update. Still relevant today, her presentation was used to create an HRBA publication which was available at this year's Big Update back in June. You can download a copy here: [HRBA Publications](#). Thanks go to Trevor Cooper, Chair of the HRBA, for producing it.

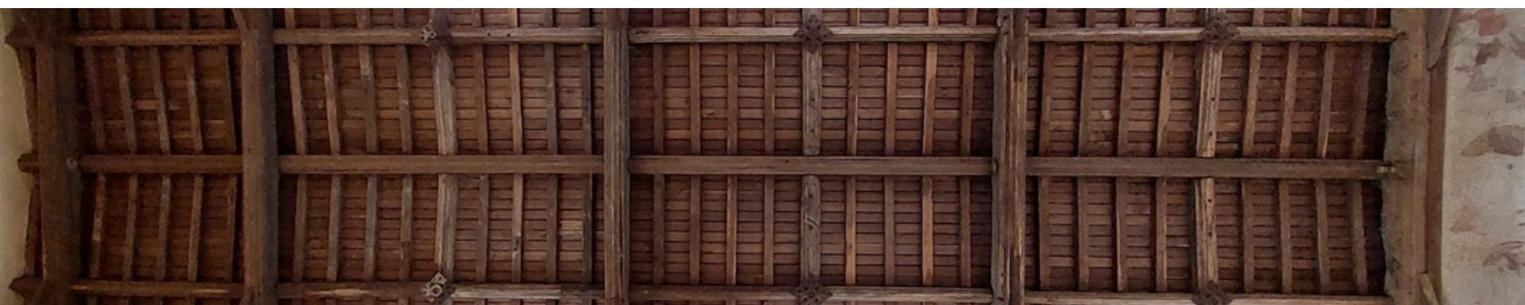
CCVS Photo Competition

The CCVS (Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service) photo competition returns this year with the theme Improving Lives. Entries will be accepted until 4pm on Friday 29 September.

What's in it for you?

- Cash prizes will be awarded to the organisations linked to the winning photographs.
- An opportunity to showcase your organisation. "We know the difference local charities and groups make to the community, but we want everyone to be able to see a snapshot of your valuable work in pictures."

Shortlisted entries will be displayed at a future CCVS event and winning entries will be shared on social media, in CCVS publications and with local media. [More details and how to enter.](#)



INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

Footpaths and Car parks

The diocese has recently updated its guidance on [Church Footpaths, Access Ways and Car Parks](#) to emphasise the importance of permeability and effective drainage for new surfaces and to highlight the issues related to certain surface finishes.

A like-for-like repair can be undertaken under List B but a change to the surface requires faculty permission. If you are planning to upgrade your churchyard footpaths, access ways and/or car parks please contact the Church Buildings Team at DAC@elydiocese.org as early as possible so that it can provide detailed advice.

Wiring for Heating, Lighting and Audio-Visual Installations

If you are planning works which requires the installation of new wiring within the church you should follow the Church of England guidance: [Electrical Wiring Installations in Churches](#). Wiring, conduit, or trunking should be painted the same colour at the surface to which it is fixed in all cases. List B and Faculty applications should include details of the proposed wiring runs, preferably using marked up photos of the interior. The Ely DAC has also indicated that fixings for wiring, conduit trunking or equipment should be made into mortar joints rather than stone and that the church architect should approve all new wiring runs.

List B – Like-for-Like Replacement of Existing Electric Wall Heaters

The Chancellor has agreed to a new Additional Matters Order enabling the like-for-like replacement of existing electric wall heaters to be approved under List B. To qualify as like-for-like replacements the heaters themselves must be of a similar size, appearance and use no more energy than those being replaced. The required wiring must also meet either of the first two criteria below to qualify for consideration under the Additional Matters Order:

1. Wiring - Where the same route is to be used for new wiring, renewal of the wiring can be provided under List A.
2. Where a different wiring route is to be used, this is to be considered by the DAC and, if it has no effect on the fabric (with the exception of a few fixings for the new wire) than the route presently used, no faculty is required.
3. Where the new wiring route will require some intrusion into the fabric (i.e. drilling through a mediaeval beam or through ancient stonework) then the applicant is to apply for a faculty.

New Crime Prevention Advice

Historic England has recently published new advice on [Crime Prevention](#) and a separate heritage crime risk assessment. Information is also available in the [Security and Crime Prevention](#) section of the Church of England website.

Images: St Peter's, Wentworth



TRAINING AND EVENTS

Ride and Stride - 9th September - [County Trust Details](#).

Heritage Open Days - 8th-17th September - [Event Website](#).

Churches as Community Business Venues - 12th September, 1pm - Free Webinar delivered by the Plunkett Foundation. [BOOK HERE](#)

How to deliver successful fundraising events - 13th September, 10:30 am - Free Webinar delivered by The Benefact Group. [BOOK HERE](#)

Maintenance Morning at Orton Longueville - 20th September - Contact Holly

FUNDRAISING FOR YOUR CARBON-CUTTING PROJECTS - FREE

The Church of England has organised a series of webinars focusing on fundraising for carbon-cutting projects. There are two options for each, depending on the size of your church.

Community Grant Makers - Tuesday 10th October:

Larger churches/cathedrals, likely to have staff: [BOOK HERE](#)

Small/medium churches with volunteer fundraisers: [BOOK HERE](#)

Environmental Grant Makers - Thursday 19th October, two options:

Larger churches/cathedrals, likely to have staff: [BOOK HERE](#)

Small/medium churches with volunteer fundraisers: [BOOK HERE](#)

Faith Based Grant Makers - Thursday 9th November, two options

Larger churches/cathedrals, likely to have staff: [BOOK HERE](#)

Small/medium churches with volunteer fundraisers: [BOOK HERE](#)

Statutory Funders - Tuesday 21st November, two options

Larger churches/cathedrals, likely to have staff: [BOOK HERE](#)

Small/medium churches with volunteer fundraisers: [BOOK HERE](#)

NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST ONLINE TRAINING SESSIONS - BOOK HERE

All cost £6 unless otherwise stated and are on Thursdays from 2pm-3pm - [BOOK HERE](#)

Welcoming Visitors: a workshop to help you church benefit from visitors - 7th September

Finding and sharing your stories: a workshop to help you welcome visitors - 28th September

Applying for National Churches Trust Grants: a FREE online workshop - 19th October

Traditional, digital and social: making publicity work for your church - 9th November

Footfalls: a workshop exploring the impact of visitors on your church - 30th November

TRAINING AND EVENTS CONTINUED...

SPAB National Maintenance Week - 17th -24th November - [SPAB website](#)

SAVE THE DATE: In 2024 Love Your Burial Ground Week will take place from Saturday 8th to Sunday 16th June. [Caring for God's Acre](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

Please contact Holly if you:

- have any problems with the links contained in this newsletter
- would like to be added to/removed from the mailing list for the newsletter
- have information for the next edition; cut-off date 17th November.

All initial enquiries about works to your building or churchyard and queries about the faculty process or applying for consent should please be directed to the Church Buildings office via dac@elydiocese.org

Geoffrey Hunter - DAC Secretary and Head of the Church Buildings and Pastoral Department
Telephone 01353 652737 or email geoffrey.hunter@elydiocese.org

John Morgan – Assistant DAC Secretary
Telephone 01353 652705 or email john.morgan@elydiocese.org

Sam Reeder - DAC Administrator
Telephone 01353 652718 or email sam.reeder@elydiocese.org

Holly Robinson (née Isted) - Historic Church Buildings Support Officer
Telephone 07948 350211 or email holly.robinson@elydiocese.org



St Peter and St Paul's, Wisbech during building works in 2021 - NeillRobinson