



CHURCH HERITAGE

News from the
Church Buildings Team



St Peter and St Paul, Watlington



**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 UPDATE

Poppy Crooks left the team at the end of July. We thank her for all her hard work over the last few years and for being the first person to complete a church buildings apprenticeship, paving the way for others.

Our new team member, John Morgan, joined us in June as a placement student studying for a Masters in Building History at the University of Cambridge. John will be acting as a case officer for the List B and faculty process.

Please use the **main DAC email for all consent and DAC enquiries** (dac@elydiocese.org) to ensure messages reach both John and Geoffrey.



St Peter, Old Hurst - Kevin Sims

GOOD NEWS

Comberton wins prestigious Churchyard Award

Since 2020, a steering group at [St Mary's Church, Comberton](#) have been working to create a haven for wildlife in their churchyard. This year, their first steps were rewarded with a Silver Award in the Wildlife Trust's Churchyard Conservation Scheme. Find out more about the scheme in [Cambridgeshire](#) and [Norfolk](#).



St Mary, Comberton

Rendering of West Dereham Chancel Complete

The walls of St Andrew's Church were, like many churches, suffering in places due in part to the use of cement. As a result of the deteriorating clunch the east chancel window had to be replaced. To prevent further problems it was decided to re-render and limewash the chancel walls. There was evidence that lime render had originally been used. New rainwater goods and drainage were also installed. [Explore the church](#).



St Andrew, West Dereham

From Hot Lime to Harry Potter: Wisbech School Visit

The major project of repairs and heritage activities at St Peter and St Paul Church is nearing completion. Many of the activities have grown from strength to strength, including the schools project, which offered a heritage careers day for pupils in June. [Read about the activities](#), from stone carving to bellringing, and how your church could work with a local school.



St Peter and St Paul, Wisbech

Buckden Vestry Repairs Completed

Since 2016, St Mary's PCC has completed a number of building projects, the most recent being repairs to the exterior wall of the vestry. The difference is striking. [Find out more on the website](#).



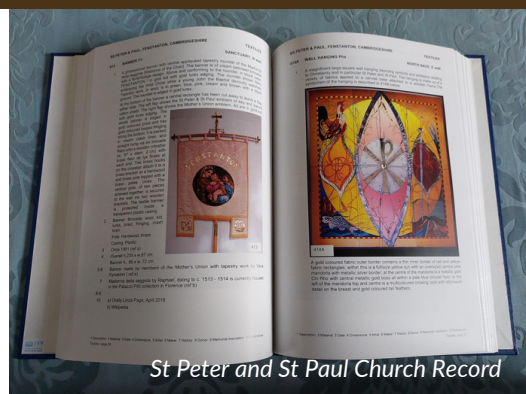
St Mary, West Dereham

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

GOOD NEWS CONTINUED...

Recording the Past for the Future at Fenstanton Church

On Sunday 29th May, St Peter and St Paul Church welcomed a new addition, a book. This was no ordinary book though; produced over four years this was a comprehensive, illustrated record of the church building. The beautiful book was created by volunteers from the Huntingdon Church Recording Group. Church Recording was first introduced in 1973 and has since grown into a fascinating activity for thousands of volunteers. Its principal aim is to produce a comprehensive record in order to help promote, recognise, preserve and protect a church or other religious building. [Discover more.](#)



St Peter and St Paul Church Record



Huntingdon Church Recorders

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Recommended Monthly Tasks

From [*SPAB's Faith in Maintenance Calendar.*](#)

September

- If your roof space has safe access and is boarded, check whether there is 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.
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for any storm damage.
- Take part in [SPAB's National Maintenance Week](#) in November.



REMINDERS

Ride and Stride – 10th Sept 2022

Join one of the biggest fundraising events for historic church buildings. There are numerous ways to take part and if you cannot open your church on the day you can still support the event. David Pritchard, Vice Chair of Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, doesn't have a bike so he's decided to stride onto the organ bench of his local parish church in Little Downham. Between 10am and 1pm, he will play as many hymns as time allows. Find out more: [Cambridgeshire](#), [Norfolk](#) and [other counties](#).



Have Your Say: National Lottery Heritage Fund Survey Closes 5th Sept.

There is still time to take part in a public consultation to help shape the future of the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This is an important opportunity and the more people who take part, the better. There are two surveys, one of which should only take 5 minutes. [Find out more.](#)

Lead Theft

Theft of lead has unfortunately started again, with an attempt in this Diocese at Whittlesford church in June. The church is protected by a roof alarm which did deter thieves. Please ensure you take all steps possible to minimise the risks and protect metal. [More information.](#)

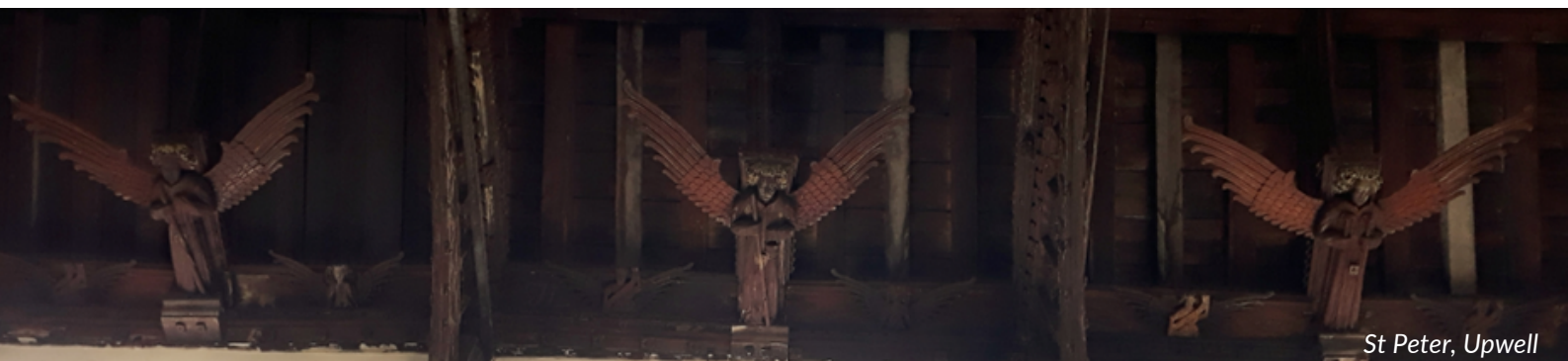
Terrier & Inventory and Logbook - [new electronic versions](#) now available.

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.

Make Sure You Know Your COSHH Essentials

A variety of harmful substances are found in our working environments – knowing how to control these safely is key to safety and protection from harm. If you work with hazardous substances, the [Control of Substances Hazardous to Health](#) (COSHH) website can help you understand the actions you should take to stay healthy.



St Peter, Upwell

GRANTS

Current Deadlines

September

- 1st - The Joseph Rank Trust
- 7th - The Idlewild Trust
- 7th - FCC Communities Foundation
- 12th - Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
- 15th - National Churches Trust: Gateway*
- 17th - Skinner's Company Lady Neville Charity
- 23rd - The Leche Trust
- 30th - The Worshipful Company of Glaziers
- 30th - The On Organ Fund

October

- 3rd - Norfolk Churches Trust
- 3rd - Church Buildings Council (Organs)
- 6th - Veolia Environment Trust
- TBC - Church Buildings Council (Church Plate)
- 10th - Church Buildings Council:
 - Churchyard structures
 - Brasses and metalwork
 - Monuments
 - Textiles
 - Wooden objects
- 20th - The Steel Charitable Trust
- 31st - War Memorials Trust

November

- 1st - Cambridgeshire Community Foundation
- 7th - National Churches Trust: Cornerstone*
- 9th - Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
- 10th - Screwfix Foundation
- 16th - Augean Landfill Fund
- 17th - National Lottery Heritage Fund

Early December

- 1st - The Joseph Rank Trust
- 1st - Amey Cespa Community Fund
- 2nd - John Coates Charitable Trust

**Also apply to the NCT to be considered for a grant from the Wolfson Foundation*



Grants without Deadlines

- All Churches Trust
- The Archer Trust
- BIFFA Award - Community Buildings
- Church Buildings Council Conservation Reports
- Garfield Weston
- Geoffrey Watling (Norfolk only)
- Henry Smith Charity
- The National Heritage Memorial Fund - COVID-19 Response Fund (closes April 2023)
- 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 (Cams only)
- The John S Cohen Foundation
- The Rank Foundation Pebble Grants
- The Round Tower Churches Society
- The Swire Charitable Trust - grants under £25,000
- TASC Grants
- Virridor Credits Environment Co.

GRANTS CONTINUED...

Introducing...

Heritage Skills for Christian Buildings Grants Programme

The Benefact Trust has announced details of its new Heritage Skills for Christian Buildings Grants Programme. It will focus on supporting skills which can be used on Christian (ecclesiastical) heritage buildings - recognising that such skills may also be beneficial to the wider heritage sector.

The aim of the programme is to ensure that heritage skills, which are essential for the conservation of historic Christian buildings, are preserved and promoted through apprenticeships, scholarships, and training courses. It will support organisations offering such opportunities by providing funding to enable them to train individuals who are pursuing a career within the heritage sector. [More details here.](#)

Suspended Grants Programmes

The **Tudor Trust** will remain closed until 1st April 2023: "We are reducing our direct grant making...to create time and space for Tudor's staff and trustees to re-think how the Trust operates."

The **Jill Franklin Trust** will remain closed to church repair projects until at least December 2022. The Trust has decided to focus all its income to relieve poverty and distress among its clients, especially in the North East of England.

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](#)

ENVIRONMENT

Works to Trees in Churchyards

Most works to churchyard trees will need consent from the Archdeacon. Following the very dry summer, there has been a significant increase in requests coming to the Archdeacons for works to trees. Getting consent can be very straightforward, but only if the correct information is submitted to support the application. PCCs should take a look at the guidance published on the [diocesan website here](#).

If your churchyard has been formally closed to new burials, works to trees (and other churchyard features) will normally be the responsibility of the relevant local authority. If you are not sure whether your churchyard is formally closed, please contact the church buildings team at dac@elydiocese.org

Works carried out by local authorities in churchyards will still require the relevant diocesan consent.



All Saints, Hilgay

OTHER SUPPORT

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday 15th November

Following on from the audit of church buildings and communities undertaken during 2021, the **REACH Ely** project team will present the final report and results from the project, together with a suite of new guidance, videos and tools churches can use to enhance their role serving their wider communities.

Re-imagining Churches as Community Assets for the Common Good: Presenting findings and launching new guidance and tools for churches will be an all day event. Venue and booking details will be announced shortly.

How Village Churches Thrive: A Practical Guide

A new book published by Church House seeks to serve as a starting point to provide inspiration. It is not a set of big ideas which will be beyond the capacity of many parishes, but is instead designed to address some key areas where applying relatively small changes can make a big difference. A selection of people contributed to the ten chapters, including Geoffrey. [More details here.](#)

The Future of Heating in Historic Church Buildings

A summary of the key points discussed at the recent national conference can be [found here](#). The conference was organised by the Fit for the Future network, Church of England and Historic England. We also recommend you read [A Practical Path to Net Zero](#).

Bust the myths on portable appliance testing

Portable appliance testing (PAT) is the examination of electrical appliances and equipment to ensure they are safe to use.

There are many common myths about PAT - use the [HSE's frequently asked questions](#) to find the key facts about the inspection and testing of portable electrical equipment.

You can download the leaflet on [Maintaining portable electric equipment in low-risk environments](#). There is also general advice on electrical safety at work.

Safe Use of Ladders and Stepladders at Work

HSE has released the latest annual fatality statistics, and there were 29 fatal injuries caused by falling from height in 2021/22.

Ladders and stepladders are not banned under health and safety law. They can be a sensible and practical option for low-risk, short-duration tasks, although they should not automatically be your first choice. To help you make sure you use the right type of ladder, and that you know how to use it safely, HSE has updated guidance on [staying safe when using ladders](#) at work. It now includes:

- more detail on competency, and what that means for ladder users and those managing ladder use on site
- key safety advice for using telescopic ladders
- practical tips for using combination and multi-purpose ladders
- good practice for securing ladders

You can also download the guidance document [Safe Use of Ladders and Stepladders](#), which was jointly produced by HSE and the Ladder Association.

TRAINING AND EVENTS

Heritage Open Days: 9th - 18th September. England's largest festival of history and culture! [Discover more.](#)

Ride and Stride: Saturday 10th September. Take part in [Cambridgeshire](#), [Norfolk](#) and [other counties](#).

The Great Big Green Week - Take part in this national campaign as part of the Season of Creation. Special events will be taking place at Ely Cathedral including the [Green Fair](#) on 10th September.

Carbon Net Zero 2030: October 20th, 2.00-4.30pm

The Diocesan Environmental Task Group will be hosting an afternoon of presentations on how to use green technologies to help make your church more sustainable. Expert talks will include different heating and lighting technologies and considerations when installing solar panels on a church roof. [BOOK HERE.](#)

Church of England Webinars:

How Parish Buying and 2Buy2 can support parishes with net zero: Thurs 15th September, 12noon-1pm

At this webinar, you will hear about the range of support available for parishes from the central procurement activities of Parish Buying and 2Buy2. [BOOK HERE](#)

Electric Heating Solutions - from pews and panels to chandeliers and cushions. [Dates and details here.](#)

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 18th 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

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