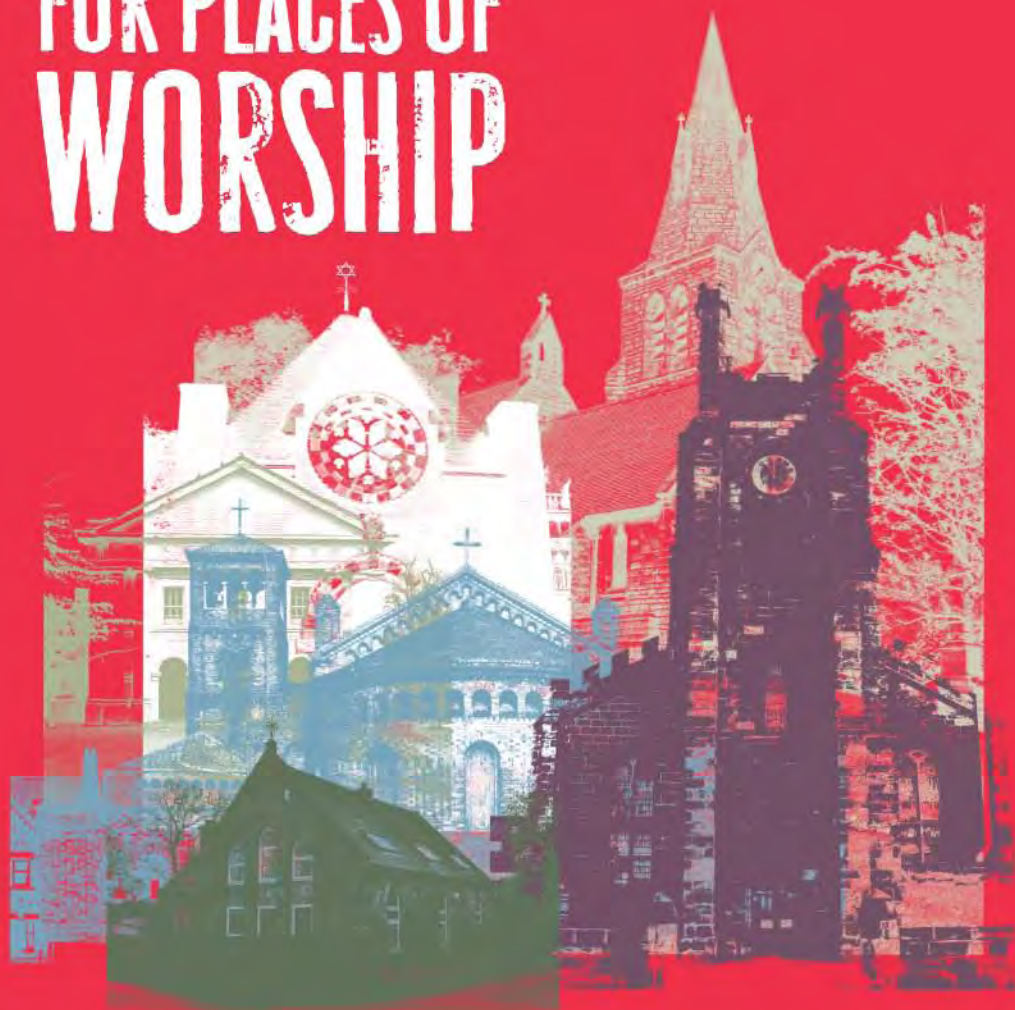




ENGLISH HERITAGE

CARING FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP



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St Leonard, Yarpole,
Herefordshire

Welcome

This booklet is for everyone involved in caring for England's 14,500 Grade I, II* and II listed places of worship. We hope you will share it as widely as possible. Much of the advice applies to any building, so it will help those caring for unlisted places of worship, halls and meeting rooms too. Clearing gutters or raising funds to mend the roof is probably not your main reason for being involved with a place of worship. But thousands of us do it, year in, year out, caretaking the nation's greatest architectural legacy, for the sake of past, current and future generations.

What is the scale of the challenge across the country? And what are the real needs and concerns of the parishioners and volunteers undertaking it? English Heritage's recent research suggests that most of the country's listed places of worship are in good condition but that around 10% may be in poor or very bad condition. There are many congregations who are successfully maintaining their faith buildings. However, there are others who, through no fault of their own, are struggling simply to keep the building watertight.

We, and other faith and heritage organisations with whom we work, would like to thank all the individuals involved in caring for places of worship who have shared their stories, knowledge and experience with us. What we have learnt has helped shape this booklet, the DVD and website which accompany it at www.english-heritage.org.uk/powar. We hope it is the start of a continuing conversation – one through which we can help congregations to help themselves, make our expertise their expertise and ultimately find a way forward for every historic place of worship in the country.

THANK YOU

Dr Simon Thurley
Chief Executive,
English Heritage

Steve Wood
Managing Director,
Ecclesiastical Insurance (UK & Ireland)

The scale of the challenge

Keen to understand the challenges faced by volunteers who look after historic places of worship, English Heritage asked congregations up and down the country about their main concerns.

We discovered that people did not know:

- why their building was “listed” or what made it significant
- how they could get permission to make changes
- what they had to do to get lavatories and tea points installed
- where to find funding
- whether they could get the wider community involved
- who would care for the building when they were too old to manage it.

We also discovered that people who do not want to worship with a particular faith group nevertheless care about the building and are willing to help keep it in good repair.

“ We estimate that congregations are themselves finding a massive 66% (£73 million) of the £110 million spent annually on repairs. ”

Janet Gough,
Director of Cathedral and Church Buildings Division,
Church of England.



St Mary's, Market Place,
Stockport, Greater Manchester



All Saints, Beckingham,
Lincolnshire

We also carried out a sample survey covering 2,215 buildings to assess whether they were ‘at risk’. For this we considered whether they were windproof and watertight, free from obvious structural problems and had stonework, glazing, gutters and drainpipes in sound order.

Early evidence suggests that:

- 11% could be potentially at risk. If the results of the sample survey were repeated across the country, up to 1,600 listed places of worship could be at risk in England
- approximately half are in fair condition and 40% in good condition
- rural places of worship are more likely to be at risk than urban ones
- grade I and II* buildings are more likely to be at risk than Grade II buildings
- buildings that are used more often are up to 50% less likely to be at risk.

The main causes of a place of worship being at risk were found to be:

- loss of fabric, such as heavily weathered stonework
- bad design, such as inadequate drainpipes
- materials wearing out because of age or previous repairs failing
- insufficient maintenance, where a minor problem like a blocked gutter leads to saturated walls, decaying plaster and rotting woodwork.

“ St Bees Priory in Cumbria had extensive repairs in 2007 with the aid of an English Heritage grant and around £85,000 raised by the community. In 2008, the community raised similar amounts for a RNLI Inshore Lifeboat, but now the church’s chancel needs £150,000 worth of repairs. We cannot reasonably expect the community to produce large sums for the Priory again. ”

Ian McAndrew,
Cumbria



St Joseph RC Church, Burslem,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire



St. Joseph RC Church, Burslem,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire

What are you worried about?

Here are 10 questions addressing problems that are common to all faiths and denominations.

1 How do we find out if our building is listed?

- Buildings are listed if they have special or architectural interest. Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important. Grade II* are particularly important buildings, of more than special interest. Grade II buildings are nationally important and of special interest. The older the building is, the more likely it is to be listed.
- Details of all the listed buildings in your area are available at your local planning authority and usually on the planning or environment pages of their website. They are also held by county council offices and most public libraries. You can look up listings at www.heritagegateway.org.uk.
- To find general information see www.english-heritage.org.uk/protecting/heritage-protection/what-can-we-protect.

IN TOTAL THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY

14,500

LISTED PLACES
OF WORSHIP
IN ENGLAND

2 Do we need permission to make changes to our building?

-
- Works affecting the character of listed buildings need consent from the local planning authority. However, the majority of Christian Places of Worship enjoy “Ecclesiastical Exemption” from secular listed building controls so long as their denominational body has an approved system to manage change. Where Ecclesiastical Exemption applies, neither English Heritage nor the local planning authority takes the decisions.
 - Planning permission is needed for external development in all cases, whether or not the place of worship is covered by Exemption and whether or not it is listed. This applies to extensions and “material” changes, such as extending a window to make a door or changing the roof materials.
 - In every case applicants have to demonstrate that their needs are reasonable and based on a proper understanding of the architectural, artistic, archaeological and historic significance of their building and of the impacts such proposals would have on that significance. This means congregations should prepare Statements of Significance (to tell the building’s story) and of Need (to explain the circumstances which make the proposed work essential).
- Congregations can use these Statements to help justify the proposals and explain them to people who do not know the background circumstances.
- Congregations’ plans should be supported by a summary of what options have been considered to meet the need and their strengths and weaknesses both in terms of impact on the building and effectiveness in addressing the need.
 - Before commissioning any drawings or engaging a professional advisor seek pre-application advice from your denominational advisory body or the local authority. It is free and could save you thousands of pounds! It could also save you endless frustration as you will know what the appropriate authorities think, making it easier to agree achievable proposals that everyone will support.
 - Once you have had that initial conversation and understand the key issues, obtain independent professional advice from someone who understands historic places of worship and the legislative framework within which they operate. This can save time and money and is more likely to result in a viable, high quality outcome.



St Mark, Pensnett,
Dudley, West Midlands



The Reverend Dr Alan Megahey
outside St Swithun, Leadenham, Lincolnshire

3 How can we make our building more secure?

- Insurers consider that places of worship are more secure if they are left open during daylight hours since thieves and vandals do not then have to break in, causing damage. Criminals may be deterred if they think they can be seen.
- Making sure contents cannot be easily removed will deter opportunistic theft.
- Having someone in the building while it is open or asking neighbours to be watchful will make the building more secure but their personal safety must be carefully considered.
- Further information is available at www.ecclesiastical.com/church, www.churchcare.co.uk/building and at www.nationalchurchwatch.com. For specific guidance for your building consult your own insurer:

4 How do we prevent lead theft?

- The high price of lead, copper and other metals in recent years has encouraged theft from places of worship, particularly from roofs, lightning installations and drain pipes – this is demoralising for the congregation and endangers the building.
- As the frequency of such thefts increases, insurers expect a greater degree of care from building owners and may limit payouts, particularly if simple precautions have not been taken.
- Basic security measures are important – make sure ladders are stored securely, that rubbish bins cannot be used to help people get onto roofs and consider the use of devices such as SmartWater, intruder alarms and CCTV as a deterrent.
- See www.churchalert.co.uk, www.ecclesiastical.com/metaltheft and www.churchcare.co.uk/building, but for specific guidance on your building consult your own insurer:

5 What about insurance?

- Besides Employer's Liability Insurance, which is a statutory requirement, third party insurance should be arranged for volunteers and visitors. Insurance is also a key method of managing the financial risk of damage to your building or loss of contents.
- It is particularly important to have cover in place when carrying out repairs or development work. You can make this a requirement in your agreement with any contractor.
- Lack of adequate insurance may leave you exposed to severe financial loss as a congregation.
- Review insurance levels regularly to ensure that you have sufficient cover.
- See insurers' websites such as: www.baptist-insurance.co.uk, www.congregationalinsurance.com, www.ecclesiastical.com/church, www.methodistinsurance.co.uk or ask your own faith group to get an idea of the sort of cover you need.

6 Is it true we can't use ladders?

- Ladders can still be used but the risks must be assessed. See www.hse.gov.uk.
- If you are responsible for your building you must take reasonable care to ensure that anyone – including visitors and people working in the building – with access to roofs or towers has their risk of falling limited as far as possible (Work at Height Regulations 2005).
- Only people who know how to manage the risks should be allowed to work at heights – so take care when accepting casual help.
- Guidelines on the use of ladders should be followed carefully and rigorously. Straightforward advice is offered by insurers. See www.ecclesiastical.com/church, www.churchcare.co.uk/building and other denominations' websites.



Holy Trinity, Bickerton, Cheshire © English Heritage

7 What do we need to know about Health and Safety Regulations?

- You must ensure your building is safe to visit, use and work in as part of the common duty of care to others. This will also ensure it can remain open!
- Understanding the building and its potential hazards is critical to ensuring safety.
- Doing risk assessments and using action plans will help to make it safe. See www.hse.gov.uk and www.ecclesiastical.com/church as well as your own faith group's website.
- You must ensure you address health and safety issues in a reasonable and effective way. Insurers can provide helpful guidance and basic policy documents designed for places of worship.

8 What other legal duties should we be aware of?

- There is a duty to undertake regular checks on fire extinguishers, electrical installations and lightning conductors. The frequency of these may be a condition of your insurance so check how often they should be done.
- You also need to complete a fire risk assessment and review it regularly.
- Depending on the use of the building, first-aid provision or ensuring food hygiene standards are met may also be important. You should also consider safe emergency evacuation – especially if the building is used for special events.
- Visit www.churchcare.co.uk/legal or your own faith group's website for more information.

ECCLESIASTICAL EXEMPTION

Each Anglican Diocese has a Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), the Roman Catholics have Historic Churches Committees (HCCs) and the Baptists, Methodists and United Reformed Church have Listed Building Advisory Committees (LBACs). These committees are made up of experts in various relevant fields who give their time free. They advise congregations seeking permission to undertake repairs or make changes to their buildings. The DACs advise the Diocesan Chancellor who issues the consent ("Faculties"). The other bodies issue consents themselves after advising the applicants and debating the cases.

9 What about disabled access?

- Under the Disability Discrimination Act you must make reasonable efforts to give everyone equal access to what you provide in your building.
- Care should be taken not to spoil the special historic and architectural character of the building but access can usually be provided, often without making any changes. You will need to get permission for any adaptations or alterations.
- English Heritage's free publication *Easy Access to Historic Buildings* is available on www.english-heritage.org.uk. See also www.churchcare.co.uk.

34 MILLION
PEOPLE IN ENGLAND,
ALMOST

9 OUT
OF 10

WENT INTO
A PLACE OF
WORSHIP
FOR A SERVICE, EVENT
OR OTHER ACTIVITY
DURING 2009

Source: ORB 2009 for Archbishop's Council

10 How can we attract volunteers to help maintain our building?

- There may be many people who are not part of your congregation but nevertheless care about your building who would be willing to offer their time and skills. Seek help locally or through national networks such as www.volunteering.org.uk and www.churchcare.co.uk/legal.
- Volunteers willing to do basic maintenance should take advantage of the free Faith in Maintenance training and guidance provided by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) www.spabfim.org.uk.
- One way to harness the interests, skills and fundraising potential of volunteers is to set up a Friends Group which can relieve the burden on those who need to concentrate on worship and mission.
- The National Churches Trust offers specific advice on Friends Groups and has a telephone help-line 0207 600 6090 as well as a website, www.nationalchurchestrust.org.



Wycliffe Congregational Chapel,
Stockport, Greater Manchester



St Mary Magdalene, Baldock, Hertfordshire
© Brijesh Patel

The big issues

If you are trying to initiate a project or want to check that you are doing the right things you might find it helpful to get together in a group and use these aids to discussion and, let's hope, to action!

What have you got?

Understanding your building enables you to enjoy it more, manage it better and explain its value to the wider community.

- What does your place of worship mean to you – as an individual, as a congregation and to the wider community? Think about its significance, its place in the locality, and what the building represents.
- Research its history, its significance as a listed building and make a record of its contents. This will tell you what you have.
- A Statement of Significance tells the building's story – what makes it special architecturally, artistically, archaeologically and historically? For guidance on preparing a Statement of Significance visit www.churchcare.co.uk/legal, other denominational websites or www.english-heritage.org.uk/your-property/planning-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-place-of-worship/



Perhaps start your discussion by viewing the short films which illustrate these topics on the accompanying DVD.

Maintenance

Identifying and planning regular maintenance minimises the risk of unforeseen, crisis situations arising.

- What does “maintenance” mean?
For helpful checklists and information go to www.spabfim.co.uk or www.churchcare.co.uk/building.
- Are there maintenance issues that are being ignored because of lack of money, people or not knowing what to do?
- Is there a maintenance plan for the short term (this year), medium term (next two years) and longer term (five years)?
- Who is involved in maintaining the building?
Is there one person who takes the lead?
Has he/she been on one of the free Faith in Maintenance courses run by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
www.spabfim.org.uk?
- Do you have the necessary skills and expertise or do you need to employ someone to clear gutters and drains for you? If so could you work with other local churches and faith groups to set up a joint arrangement with a contractor? For further advice see www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/advice-by-topic/places-of-worship/maintaining-places-of-worship/gutter-maintenance/.



Rory Young completes the fixing of Christ Triumphans, which he designed and carved, on the chancel gable at St Peter's, Windrush, Gloucestershire.
© Henry Russell



Faith in Maintenance training day, St Mary's Old Church, Stoke Newington, London.
© Ralph Hodgeson (SPAB)

Wider community

Your place of worship is important locally but it also has a big impact on the wider community.

- Being listed means that your building is subject to special legal requirements. Find out what that means in terms of the benefits and duties involved. Visit www.ecclesiastical.com, www.churchcare.co.uk/legal or your own faith group's website for more information.
- What does your place of worship mean to people outside the worshipping community? Do they value it as a local landmark, for its architectural interest, or as a social or community centre?
- Apart from the congregation, who visits the building? Local people, tourists, architectural historians?
- Why do people use it? As a peaceful place, as a café or shop, as the home of a playgroup or for personal prayer?
- Do you want to attract the wider community into the building? What do local people need? And what would you be willing and able to offer?
- Start by talking to a range of potential users and then prepare a Statement of Need – a list of the things you would like to do and need to do to make them possible. Learn more from www.churchcare.co.uk/develop.



Singers Hill Synagogue, Birmingham

70% OF PEOPLE
AGREE THAT
PLACES OF WORSHIP
PROVIDE VALUABLE
VENUES FOR
CULTURAL
AND SOCIAL
ACTIVITIES

Source: ORB 2009 for Archbishop's Council



St Mary Magdalene,
Stoke Canon, Devon

Managing change

Places of worship are always evolving but managing that process can be challenging. Be positive, seek advice, talk to people who have already done things. Share your vision and look at the Hereford Diocese's *Crossing the Threshold* toolkit. Search on www.hereford.anglican.org. The church of England is also running conferences and seminars under this title. See www.churchcare.co.uk.

- First consider if changes are really necessary, remembering the “less-is-more” principle! One pew removed for a tea point might be less expensive and contentious than a major re-ordering.
- What would be the effect on the worshipping community using the building? Will the long-term benefits outweigh the cost and short-term nuisance of noise and disruption of worship? What is the life-expectancy of the proposed new facilities?
- Where would the money come from? It is essential to have a financial plan that sees the project through from start to finish.
- Who will manage the project for the congregation? Expert help can save time and money by avoiding problems before and during the work.
- Who will carry out the work? While it is tempting to accept offers of voluntary help, it is essential that the people in charge are qualified and experienced in working on historic buildings.
- When planning the work decide who will be responsible for maintaining the facility.



St Leonard, Yarpole, Herefordshire

7 OUT OF 10
PEOPLE THINK
THAT A PLACE OF
WORSHIP IS AN
IMPORTANT
PART OF THE LOCAL
COMMUNITY

Source: ORB 2009 for Archbishop's Council

Growing support and funding

Most places of worship would benefit from greater local support and funding – and many already try to identify resources from further afield for major repairs or development works.

- Where does your current support – both financial and practical – come from? A small group of stalwarts? A cross-section of the congregation?
- How does this support meet your needs and where does it fall short? Thinking about this will reveal where your needs are most pressing. Is it for regular support or a major appeal for repairs or development work?
- Could you attract help from non-worshippers? Would the establishment of a Friends Group give outside supporters a greater sense of involvement and commitment? See www.nationalchurchestrust.co.uk.
- If you are looking for resources for major works the Heritage Lottery Fund publishes good guidance on preparing high-quality applications at www.hlf.org.uk. For advice on obtaining funding for community initiatives visit the grants and funding pages at www.ffhb.org.uk, www.heritagelink.org.uk, www.churchcare.co.uk/funding and www.nationalchurchestrust.co.uk.

“ The easiest way for any Church community to save tens of thousands of pounds is to make sure 'little and often' repairs are done every year. Don't ignore the problems in the hope that they will go away, but deal with them when they are small and manageable. Water in the wrong place puts buildings at risk, so make sure the rainwater goods function and the pointing is in good condition.

Give your building the 'dry hat and boots' it needs. ”

Andrew Mottram,
Support Officer for the
Diocese of Worcester



St Edmund King & Martyr,
Dudley, West Midlands

Opening up to others

Making people welcome helps them to value your faith building and understand its significance and purpose in the wider community.

- Who are your current visitors and who would you like to attract?
- What first impressions does your building make on a visitor? Is the entrance inviting and is it clear that the visitor is welcome to simply look around? Is information clearly displayed? Is there something on the building's history and architecture? Have you asked visitors about their experiences? How can you better meet their expectations?
- Could you increase visitor numbers by linking up with other local attractions or, for example, by doing simple things like providing drinking water and local information for walkers?
- Have you opened your building as part of the Heritage Open Days scheme? See www.heritageopendays.org.uk.
- If you regularly give guided tours, why not ask visitors if they would like to get involved in caring for the building or its surroundings?
- Good advice, based on practical experience, about making visitors welcome, writing guides and using the building in attractive ways can be found on many sites including www.divine-inspiration.org.uk, www.multi-faith.org and www.churchestourismassociation.info.

“ I think in the longer term I see churches having to be sustainable, I mean financially sustainable. In order to be able to do that they've got to be able to open their doors to the wider community to be able to use the building. ”

Jo Russell,
Lincolnshire



Singers Hill Synagogue,
Birmingham

Environmental sustainability

Is your place of worship environmentally sustainable and are there things you need to do to help it cope with climate change?

- Have you done an audit? If not, www.shrinkingthefootprint.org.uk will help you with audits, action plans and the small changes that have a big impact on energy consumption.
- Is sustainability a consideration in everything that goes on in your building, from heating and lighting to transporting worshippers?
- If you are contemplating making alterations to the building, think about appropriate but sustainable materials, techniques and designs – www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk provides advice about microgeneration, heat pumps and their impact on all kinds of historic buildings, not just homes.
- Managing climate change is about reducing the consumption of resources. Remember, an historic building that has lasted for many generations embodies all the very best ideas for avoiding waste. You can get further information from www.energysavingtrust.org.uk or www.decc.gov.uk.

“ Churches have an enduring appeal; they are special places that people invariably want to keep and look after. Communities just need to be encouraged to get involved. ”

Ian Morrison, Head of Historic Environment Conservation at the Heritage Lottery Fund



St Mary, Cranwich, Norfolk
© English Heritage



St Leonard, Yarpole,
Herefordshire

Developing other uses

How might your building benefit from being used in partnership with others for a wider range of uses?

- What facilities or spaces does the community need that are not available in the immediate vicinity? Ask your local authority what its priorities might be. Identifying what is lacking can be a spur to considering new uses for your building.
- What uses could be added to your building that would benefit the community? A café, a shop, a Post Office, a social centre?
- What would be the practical considerations (space, facilities, alterations) and regulatory issues (health and safety, disability access) and who would run the new facilities?
- How could other people in the community, for example the school or local interest groups, be brought in to help develop other uses? Involving others helps to share the responsibility and turn the building into something in which the whole community can take pride.
- If you are looking to work in partnership with other organisations *Churches and Faith Buildings: Realising the Potential* outlines some of the issues and potential sources of funding – go to www.churchcare.co.uk/develop, where you will also find many other helpful links.

IN THE NORTH EAST

50% OF PLACES OF WORSHIP OFFER ACTIVITIES FOR OLDER PEOPLE OR BABY/TODDLER GROUPS;

33% UNDERTAKE SOME FORM OF YOUTH WORK

What English Heritage is doing

Raising awareness

Our research reveals that congregations have a huge sense of responsibility for passing on their place of worship to future generations. English Heritage hopes to raise awareness of their good work and widen support for it through our ongoing Places of Worship at Risk campaign of which this booklet forms a part.

Offering repair grants

Each year £25 million is available under the joint English Heritage / Heritage Lottery Fund Repair Grants for Places of Worship Scheme. This is the largest single funding source for repairs to places of worship and since it began in 2002, £179 million has been awarded to more than 1,900 projects around England. Listed places of worship of all denominations with urgent need are eligible whether or not they are on the Heritage at Risk Register. The scheme is very popular and typically offers grants to only 50% of those who apply. If you are interested in applying for a grant please see our website or contact your regional English Heritage office.



St. Mark, Pensnett, Dudley,
West Midlands

Funding Support Officers

English Heritage's Support Officers Scheme part-funds posts in faith organisations throughout the country. The aim is to provide a skilled and experienced local person for congregations to turn to. Officers are currently working on projects involving repairs, adaptations, community projects, welcoming visitors, and providing local services such as shops, cafés and Post Offices. They are also helping to find new uses for buildings no longer needed for worship. See www.english-heritage.org.uk/protecting/places-of-worship.

Researching the impact of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

Introduced by the government in 2001, this provides a grant equivalent to the VAT payable on repairs and maintenance on all listed places of worship, including professional fees and works to some fittings such as organs, bells and pews. It is non-discretionary and accessible to all faith groups, contributing £12 million per year in England. The Scheme is due to end on 31 March 2011 but a campaign for its continuation is underway at www.savetherefund.info.

English Heritage, with support from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, is investigating the impact of the scheme, in particular how it helps congregations to keep their buildings open and make best use of them for the community.



Support Officers February 2010
© English Heritage

CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Funding

English Heritage

Customer Services
0870 333 1181
www.english-heritage.org.uk

Funds for Historic Buildings

A directory of funding sources especially for historic buildings.
www.ffhb.org.uk

Heritage Lottery Fund

Has useful guidance on various aspects of looking after historic sites.
Helpline 020 7591 6000
www.hlf.org.uk

National Churches Trust

An independent source of advice and grants. Their website includes a directory of professional advisers, building contractors and craftsmen.
020 7600 6090
www.nationalchurchestrust.org

Sources of general advice

Building Conservation Directory

An annual publication and also an online database of suppliers and professional advisers.
01747 871717
www.buildingconservation.com

Churchcare

Advice for Anglican parishes on care, development and funding. Much of the advice is applicable to any place of worship.
020 7898 1866
www.churchcare.co.uk

Faith in Maintenance

Guidance on how to maintain your building and information on maintenance training courses. 020 7456 0913
www.spabfim.org.uk

See also National Churches Trust (details opposite).

Registers of accredited professionals

Architects

Architects Accredited in Building Conservation (AABC) 01625 871458
www.aabc-register.co.uk

Conservator-restorers

Conservation Register
020 7785 3805
www.conservationregister.com

Surveyors

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
0870 333 1600
www.rics.org (follow the links to Services/Find a surveyor/Accreditation)

Ecclesiastical Exemption Denominations

Baptist Union of Great Britain

General Enquiries
01235 517 700
www.baptist.org.uk
(follow links to Resources /Admin/BUC Guidelines)

Catholic Church in England and Wales

Patrimony Sub Committee
020 7630 8220
www.catholic-ew.org.uk
(follow the links to Bishops Conference/Departments/Christian Life and Worship/ Patrimony Committee)

Church of England

Cathedral and Church Buildings Division
020 7898 1866
www.cofe.anglican.org
(follow the links to About the Church/Built Heritage)

Methodist Church

Resourcing Mission Office
0161 236 5194
www.methodist.org.uk
(follow links to Church Life/Resourcing Mission Office)

United Reformed Church

General enquiries
020 7916 2020
www.urc.org.uk
(follow links to What We Do/Administration/PLATO)

Statutory Amenity Societies

Ancient Monuments Society

020 7236 3934
www.ancientmonumentsociety.org.uk

Council for British Archaeology

01904 671 417
www.britarch.ac.uk

Georgian Group

0871 750 2936
www.georgiangroup.org.uk

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

020 7377 1644
www.spab.org.uk

Twentieth Century Society

020 7250 3857
www.c20society.org.uk

Victorian Society

020 8994 1019
www.victoriansociety.org.uk

Insurance

Baptist Insurance

Leading insurer of Baptist churches
www.baptist-insurance.co.uk

Congregational and General Insurance

Insurer for thousands of places of worship of most denominations
www.congregationalinsurance.com

Ecclesiastical Insurance

Advice on a range of practical issues relating to the upkeep of places of worship.
0845 777 3322
www.ecclesiastical.com/church

Methodist Insurance

Insurer for Methodist churches and other denominations.
www.methodistinsurance.co.uk

Welcoming visitors

Churches Tourism Association

020 7213 0665
www.churchestourismassociation.info

Divine Inspiration

024 7652 1346
www.divine-inspiration.org.uk

Heritage Open Days

A national event co-ordinated by English Heritage to open up interesting places to the public.
0845 335 1884
www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Heritage Inspired

0845 6529624
www.heritageinspired.org.uk

North West Multi-Faith Tourism Association

07545 580 437
www.multi-faith.org

Volunteering England

0845 305 6979
www.volunteering.org.uk

Other useful contacts

Chapels Society

Promotes interest in the architectural and historical importance of all nonconformist places of worship and their associated structures.
01283 558 169
www.britarch.ac.uk/chapelsoc

Church in Society

Helping churches make an effective contribution to their communities
01622 755 014
www.churchinsociety.org

Ecclesiological Society

For the study of church architecture, furnishings and liturgy.
www.ecclsoc.org

Health and Safety Executive

0845 345 0055
www.hse.gov.uk

Jewish Heritage UK

Dedicated to caring for the historic buildings, sites and collections of Britain's Jewish community.
Jewish Heritage UK
PO Box 193
Manchester M13 9PL
www.jewish-heritage-uk.org

One Church 100 Uses

Promoting and assisting the effective regeneration of churches for wider community use.
020 7785 6202
www.onechurch100uses.org

National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS)

NADFAS Church Recorders are volunteers who make comprehensive records of the contents of churches. They also make church trails for children.
020 7430 0730
www.nadfas.org.uk

Shrinking the Footprint

The Church of England's national environmental campaign. 020 7591 1865
www.shrinkingthefootprint.org.uk

For more information about *Caring for Places of Worship* or to give us feedback visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/power or telephone customer services on 0870 333 1181.



St Mary the Virgin,
Ayston, Rutland

Caring for Places of Worship is one of a series of publications produced as part of English Heritage's national Heritage at Risk campaign. More information about Heritage at Risk and other titles in the series can be found at www.english-heritage.org.uk/risk

Published June 2010 by
English Heritage
1 Waterhouse Square,
138-142 Holborn,
London
EC1N 2ST

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PRODUCTION

Photography: Boris Baggs
(unless otherwise stated)
Design: www.evolvedesign.co.uk
Print: The Colourhouse
Recycled Paper: Revive 100
Uncoated / 75 Silk



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