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HISTORIC RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS ALLIANCE (HRBA) JANUARY 2018 E-NEWSLETTER

Please continue to let us know what is happening to help secure the future of historic religious buildings, so we can share it with others. **The deadline for information to go in the next e-newsletter is Wednesday 24 January 2018.** Please email: hrbeditor@theheritagealliance.org.uk

We rely on other parties for much of the content and wording of these items. Mistakes and misunderstandings can occur, and if you wish to use any items, you should always check the accuracy and current position with the original source.

Please pass on this e-newsletter, and mention it to others. Anyone can sign up to receive their own copy – free – at our website www.hrballiance.org.uk

Please don't forget, we are on Twitter, and do daily up dates or re-tweets! If you haven't joined up with our Twitter yet - please do @hrballiance <https://twitter.com/hrballiance>

HRBA

1. The Historic Religious Buildings Alliance's Big Update: a big success

Over 100 people gathered on 6th December at the St Alban's Conference Centre to hear a wide range of presentations. The day started with a much appreciated appearance from John Glen MP, Heritage Minister who in a short presentation expressed his support for church buildings as well as confirming that the LPWGS would continue to at least March 2020.

He also announced a new Heritage Council, chaired by the Minister, to emphasise the value of the historic environment, build consensus and ensure greater coordination across Government Departments. HRBA will do what it can to ensure that historic places of worship are adequately represented.

Becky Clark, Director Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, Church of England gave a spirited talk entitled *Austerity, Atheists and Angst: What Future for Church Buildings?* advancing the idea that in these difficult and strange times, the role of churches has never been so relevant.

Presentations followed on the new edition of the Crossing the Threshold resource for places of worship, from Jonathan Gordon-Fairleigh, Stir To Action spoke on how the social enterprise model can work for churches. There were updates from the Church of Scotland and a presentation on *the Strategic Action Plan for Historic Places of Worship in Wales*.

Susan Rowe, a trustee from the now-ended Living Stones organisation, which for 40 years supported church community outreach, spoke about lessons learnt and provided insight into how congregations view their buildings. A talk entitled *Controversy, Typhoid and the Motorway That Never Was* from Ian Simpson, Heritage Officer at the Diocese of Liverpool told fascinating stories about a group of Toxteth churches reminding us that churches are very much about their context and throughout history are affected and reflect what is happening in their local communities.

All presentations will be up on the HRBA website. <http://www.hrballiance.org.uk/resources/talks/>

EVENTS

2. Our Mosques, Our Future' on Saturday 20 January 2018, London

The day will include TED-style talks, keynote speeches and interactive workshops exploring the challenges and opportunities for mosques in Britain today. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-mosques-our-future-conference-tickets-37278875119>

3. Pilgrimage into Mission a conference hosted by the East Anglian Pilgrimage Network Saturday 3 February 2018, Weston Room, 10am - 4pm

A day learning about how the international surge in popularity of pilgrimage is creating significant opportunities in mission for local parishes. <https://www.cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/detail/2018/02/03/default-calendar/pilgrimage-into-mission-o8e6VYqIUeOyd211sbrjtw>

4. Places of Worship in Britain and Ireland 1990–2020 (Oxford) 2–4 February 2018

Last in an annual series of chronologically arranged weekends at Rewley House on Places of Worship in Britain and Ireland. Starting in the 1990s, when members of many of the more recently arrived faiths and Christian denominations began to build permanent, purpose-designed, places of worship, contributors will discuss the proliferation of buildings, discussing their distinctive features, and the ways in which they are used for worship. An overall picture will emerge of how religious diversity is reflected in physical reality and in the contemporary landscape. <https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/places-of-worship-in-britain-and-ireland-1990-2020?code=O17P104HCR>

5. Interpreting Medieval Monuments: Iconography and Meaning: one-day conference in London, Saturday 17 March 2018

The Church Monuments Society is holding this one-day conference in the London School of Economics, New Academic Building, 54 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London. The speakers will be Sally Badham, Jessica Barker, Brian & Moira Gittos, Nicola Jennings, Andrew Murray, and Sophie Oosterwijk. <http://www.churchmonumentsociety.org/cms%20events.html>

6. Stained Glass Museum Study Weekend 19 – 22 April 2018

This study weekend will take place in Suffolk, from Thursday 19 April to Sunday 22 April. Details <http://vidimus.org/blogs/news/the-stained-glass-museum-study-weekend-2018-suffolk/>

NEWS

Items in this section are for information only, and probably do not require any action

7. TAYLOR REVIEW

The report of the Taylor review into the Sustainability of Churches and Cathedrals was published 20 December 2017. The review looked only at Church of England buildings, and at its heart lies the belief that reliance on external funding can be eventually be reduced by increased community use of the buildings, on which it made a number of recommendations, including a two or three year pilot scheme. It is expected that at some stage the government will respond to the review. See our website for more details - <http://www.hrballiance.org.uk/consultations-2/cofe-buildings-sustainability/>

8. Bath Abbey

The Chancellor of the diocese of Bath and Wells has approved the plans put forward by Bath Abbey to remove its nave pews and replace them with chairs stained to match the existing woodwork. At the time of writing, the Bath Abbey website appears not to contain details of the judgement <http://www.bathabbey.org/>. A press release from the Victorian Society, which opposed the removal, is available on their website <http://www.victoriansociety.org.uk/news/defeat-for-baths-heritage-as-abbey-pew-removal-is-permitted/>

9. The Tailored Review of the Heritage Lottery Fund and National Memorial Fund

This Review which examined the Heritage Lottery Fund's effectiveness as a National Lottery distributor and as a Memorial Fund for the nation's at-risk heritage has now been published. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tailored-review-of-the-heritage-lottery-fund-and-national-heritage-memorial-fund>

10. Further changes to HLF Funding

Early in 2018, the Heritage Lottery Fund will be launching its consultation on its next strategic framework. Ahead of this consultation the HLF has announced the following changes:

With immediate effect grants for Parks, Townscapes and Landscape Partnerships will need to apply to the main grant programmes.

- There will be no Heritage Grants over £5m in 2019. Applications which have already been submitted for major grants will be considered in April 2018 as usual, but no new applications in 2018.
- There will be no new awards of grants of over £100k from January to March 2019. Round two applications will be accepted as normal.
- Other funding streams – such as Young Roots and First World War Then and Now - continue, but some will draw to a close in 2018.

<https://www.hlf.org.uk/about-us/our-strategy/changes-our-grant-making>

These changes reflect the decline in HLF's budget. Camelot, the operator of the National Lottery has announced that ticket sales for the first half of the 2017/2018 financial year were down by 3.2% on last year's first half performance to £3.2bn. As a result, Camelot's direct returns for good causes fell by 4.7% to £746.6m. This impacts on the amount of funding available for HLF. <http://www.camelotgroup.co.uk/news/camelot-appoints-nigel-railton-as-uk-ceo>

11. Proposed alterations to a medieval Sussex church refused permission

Permission was refused Holy Trinity, Poynings, Sussex (a medieval Grade 1 listed church) to put underfloor heating into a transept and make other changes. <https://www.spab.org.uk/media-centre/press-releases/press-release/?ContentID=329>

12. St Botolph's, Longthorpe to keep chancel fixtures

Much of the Victorian interiors of the chancel of St Botolph's Church in Longthorpe are to be retained following a protracted legal battle between the parish and The Victorian Society. <http://www.victoriansociety.org.uk/news/grade-i-st-botolphs-to-keep-chancel-fixtures-following-heritage-battle/>

13. Law Commission to explore chancel repair liability

Chancel repair liability is one of 14 projects that the Law Commission will look at over the next three years. Liability for chancel repair is the liability of certain landowners to pay for repairs to a local church. Under the Land Registration Act 2002, such liability should not bind purchasers of land after 2013 unless protected on the register. However, since the act was brought into force, questions have been raised about the liability's legal status <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/law/law-commission-to-explore-leasehold-and-chancel-repair-liability/5064065.article>

14. Germinate: Arthur Rank Centre appoints new Chief Executive

The Revd Claire Maxim, Rector of the villages of Ludgershall and Faberstown in the Diocese of Salisbury, will be the CEO of Germinate from April 2018.

<http://germinate.net/new-ceo-appointed-germinate-arthur-rank-centre/>

15. Friends of Friendless Churches appoints new Director

Roger Evans, Chairman, announced at the beginning of December, the appointment of Rachel Morley as the new Director of the Friends. She will take up the post following Matthew Saunders' retirement in early 2018.

For more information: Roger Evans, Chairman, Friends of Friendless Churches

Email: office@friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk

<http://friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk/latest-from-the-friends/>

16. Allchurches Trust appoints director of grants and relationships

Allchurches Trust announced the appointment of James Laing as Director of Grants and Relationships.

Currently General Secretary of the Council of Lutheran Churches (CLC) in London, James will advise Allchurches Trust's board on the strategic development of its grants programmes, develop the Trust's relations with an increasingly wide range of beneficiaries and lead its team of grants officers. Last year, Allchurches Trust gave more than £13 million to churches, charities and communities across the UK and Ireland. <https://www.allchurches.co.uk/news/james-laing/index.aspx>

17. Christian Heritage Centre

What is said to be the oldest museum in the English-speaking world, the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst, has received as the final act of the Theodore Trust a £2m grant to convert the Old Mill building into a retreat and leadership centre.

<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/anglicans-and-catholics-come-together-to-back-christian-heritage-centre-revamp/121121.htm>

and <http://www.christianheritagecentre.com/theodore-house/>

OF INTEREST

Items in this section may lead to action on your part

18. Church Statistics

Brierley Consultancy has published UK Church Statistics No. 3 - the 2018 edition. The series provides a wide range data for many different denominations, including attendance data. Details from <http://www.brierleyconsultancy.com/>

19. Alarm Equipment

On 7th December, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Home Office Victoria Atkins responded to a written question from James Cartlidge MP (Con, South Suffolk) regarding steps taken to encourage churches to install alarm equipment to deter lead theft.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-12-07/118256/>

Data published by the Office for National Statistics on 6 December 2017 shows that police recorded metal theft has fallen from nearly 63,000 in 2012/13 to under 13,000 in 2016/17.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/focusonpropertycrime/yearendingmarch2016>

20. Number of open Churches

The percentage of Church of England churches open in each county (or each diocese, if you prefer) is available at <https://daephotolibrary.com:4650/keyholderstats/stats> The information relates to something over 11,000 churches, mostly rural.

21. ChurchDays moves to ExploreChurches

On 1st December, Churchdays.co.uk, the On CCB's church tourism website went offline.

A decision was taken to team-up with the National Churches Trust and their site ExploreChurches. The pooling of efforts and resources and importantly integrating content will create more opportunities and mean that information on more churches to visit will go online sooner. Have a look at the ExploreChurches website and especially at the two featured Christmas themed lists – Charles Dickens and the 12 Days of Christmas. <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore-churches>

22. Review of Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

The Home Office has published its review of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. The review has confirmed that the legislation will remain in place and shows that the headline figures across all types of metal theft are good.

It acknowledges the particular impact on churches and that there are ongoing problems here. The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division (CofE) have responded to the offer of engagement with the church that is in the report.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-scrap-metal-dealers-act-2013>

23. 24 Hours of Reality 2017: A Higher Power (UK)

Every year Al Gore, scientists, business leaders and many others come together for 24 Hours of Reality, to demand solutions to the climate crisis and celebrate good things that are happening. For 2017 England was represented by the Church of England's Shrinking the Footprint campaign.

You can watch a short film here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pi8YVmKaEHM&sns=fb>

24. Walking with saints: protection, devotion and civic identity and the role of the landscape.

Call for Papers.

This conference will focus on the origin and evolution of procession rites with a strong link with the landscape. It aims to study the religious landscape, be it a specific spot or a larger territory, not as the mere spatial background for spiritual activities, but as an active agent in the shaping, transmission and transformation of the spiritual activity of human beings throughout time.

Deadline for submissions is the 10th of January 2018.

24. Parish Church Photographic Survey

The annual report of the Parish Church Photographic Survey is now out, with the normal collection of stunning photographs.

<https://www.parishchurches.org/annual-reports>

25. The Shrinking the Footprint's Winter newsletter is out

Read about the Church Times Green Award winners, the news that the electricity bulk purchased by the Church of England procurement service is now 100% sourced from UKbased renewables, with the vast majority generated through solar panels, updates on the Transition Pathway Initiative and the Bats in Churches Projects as well as lots of new resources.

http://www.churchcare.co.uk/images/E-news_winter_2017.pdf

26. Future for Religious Heritage launches new website

Read about the European Parliament's backing of key report on preserving religious heritage as well as new case studies and forthcoming conferences.

<http://www.frh-europe.org/>

27. Major project aims to protect panel paintings in East Anglia from catastrophic effects of infestations

Various bodies, including the Hamilton Kerr Institute at Cambridge University and the Church Buildings Council have submitted a bid for about £1m to the Arts & Humanities Research Council, to support the work of safeguarding and recording these important works of art.

[https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2017/dec/24/medieval-panel-paintings-beetles-bats-infestations-east-anglia?](https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2017/dec/24/medieval-panel-paintings-beetles-bats-infestations-east-anglia?CMP=share_btn_link)
[CMP=share_btn_link](#)

RESOURCES AND COURSES

28. Germinate one-day enterprise events for Devon/Cornwall and Yorkshire

Designed by experienced business and social enterprise entrepreneurs, Germinate Enterprise is a programme that will help you think through how to start a business or social enterprise especially if you are located in a rural area.

<http://germinate.net/mission/germinate-enterprise/>

3rd February – Devon <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/germinate-enterprise-one-day-course-tickets-40707336740>

24th February – Yorkshire <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/germinate-enterprise-one-day-course-in-east-yorkshire-tickets-39688825345>

29. Early bird bookings open for the final BRICK event, 'Learning for the Future: How to evaluate the impact of heritage projects' London

Wednesday 21st – Thursday 22nd February 2018

The BRICK programme will end next Spring and is wrapping up four successful years with a final conference on the theme of evaluation – a key element of any heritage project. The event will be split over two days, each with a slightly different focus:

Day 1 Evaluation: What is it and Why is it Important?

Day 2 Evaluation: Top Tips and Techniques

<https://brick-work.org/events/conference-2018-london/>

Don't miss out on early bird tickets - available now from just £60, including lunch and refreshments, for a limited time only!

Email brickworkshops@princes-regeneration.org or call Sophie Coyle on 020 7613 8553.

30. Bidding for Success: securing major funding for capital projects at a place of worship, 1st March 2018, Exeter.

Are you planning a major repair project? Do you want to make changes enabling greater use of your church or chapel? Do you want to bring the heritage of your church to life? Is your congregation developing a vision to engage to engage your wider community? This one day event is an opportunity to help you build your case and successfully plan so that you can articulate your vision to funders and wider public.

Organised by the National Churches Trust in partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) South West.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bidding-for-success-securing-major-funding-for-capital-projects-at-a-place-of-worship-tickets-41071797853>

31. Cinnamon Grants

worth £2,000 for Cinnamon Recognised Projects such as Germinate Enterprise, Foodbanks, Parish Nursing, etc. are now available in Thames Valley and in Suffolk as well as Cumbria, Hampshire and Scotland.

<http://www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/projects/>

32. Funding Directory re-launched

Managed by the Heritage Alliance and the Architectural Heritage Fund, the Heritage Funding Directory is a free, easy-to-use guide to financial and other support for anyone undertaking UK related heritage projects.

Thanks to support from the Country Houses Foundation, The Heritage Alliance and The Architectural Heritage Fund have combined their funding directories to provide nearly 500 updated listings detailing sources of grants from trusts and foundations, as well as organisations offering loan finance, awards, scholarships and other 'in kind' resources.

<http://www.heritagefundingdirectoryuk.org/>

33. City Bridge Trust announces new Funding Strategy

London's largest independent charitable funder has published its new £100m funding strategy which covers the years 2018 – 2023.

Over the next five years, City Bridge Trust plans to invest £20 million per annum in support of London's disadvantaged and marginalised communities.

<https://www.citybridgetrust.org.uk/strategic-review/bridging-divides/>

34. Launch of new small grants programme for church repair

The Churches Conservation Foundation (CCF) has opened its new small grants programme. Grants of **£250 -£2,000** are available for conservation work to the fabric and contents of historic listed churches, which would not normally be undertaken in the regular cycle of repair and maintenance. Examples include work to listed headstones and monuments, wall paintings, rood screens, fonts, carved stonework, stained glass and altar cloths. <http://www.churchesconservation.org/>

The CCF has also announced the second year of **the Foundation's Travel grant award scheme**.

The scheme seeks to support young craftspeople with an interest in religious built heritage, who want to travel to increase their expertise and knowledge. Up to two awards of between £500 and £1,000 will be granted to young craftspeople. Closing date for applications is **Friday 26th January 2018**

<http://www.churchesconservation.org/travel-award/>

35. WREN's Community Action Fund Reopens for Applications

Waste Recycling Environmental (WREN) will start accepting applications from 6 December for 2018 funding of projects that provide, maintain or improve certain types of public amenities in England. Community spaces provided by churches are eligible.

<http://www.wren.org.uk/schemes>

COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

36. The 2017 Christian Funders' Forum Awards

The Christian Funders' Forum is a group of executives of grant making trusts and foundations. Members of the forum grant more than £30 million a year to Christian work. **The 2017 Awards event was held on Thursday 16th November 2017, at Westminster Central Hall. You can see the winners' here** <http://www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/christian-funders-forum-awards-2017/>

PUBLICATIONS

37. 'Unlocking the Church: The Lost Secrets of Victorian Space' by William Whyte

Unlocking the Church explores a forgotten revolution in social and architectural history and the history of the Church

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/unlocking-the-church-9780198796152?cc=gb&lang=en&>

Forthcoming

38. The British Mosque by Shahed Saleem

will be published in March. There is a planned day conference at the Society of Antiquaries on 12th March to co-incide with publication.

<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/B/bo28190512.html>

VACANCIES

Paid

39. The Churches Conservation Trust: Trustee Appointment - Conservation Specialist

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national heritage charity protecting and opening 350 beautiful and internally important historic churches to the public across England, attracting two million visitors each year. In 2019, they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

The Board of Trustees, led by Peter Ainsworth, is currently leading the organisation through an exciting strategy to inspire people, protect history and create value. They are now looking for a new trustee to strengthen the heritage and conservation voice on the Board.

To find out more about CCT see www.visitchurches.org.uk/joinourboard and download an appointment brief. For an informal discussion please contact Peter Aiers, chief executive, on 020 7841 0402 or chiefexecutive@thecct.org.uk

To apply, please send via email a CV and covering letter, explaining why you are interested in the position and highlighting the

key expertise you feel you will bring, to asaoffice@churchofengland.org

Closing date: 9.00 am Friday 5 January 2018

Interviews will be held in central London on Wednesday 24 January 2018

<https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/get-involved/working-at-the-trust/vacancies/trustee-recruitment-2017.html>

40. Diocese of York, Church of England: Church Buildings Adviser

Salary: £33,441; Location: Clifton Moor, York

The churches range from the modest to the internationally important. Over 50 percent are Grade I or II* listed, from the tiny but perfect Skelton St Giles, to the majesty of twelve major churches including Beverley Minster and Selby Abbey.

Church buildings are both a critical asset and a major driver of cost for us. You will inspire vision and enable action in nurturing and developing our churches, and advise parishes on managing running costs and routine maintenance. You will support the hundreds of volunteers caring for places of worship, and facilitate the Diocesan Advisory Committee in exercising its statutory duties in.

Knowledge of legislation and conservation practice, and the arts and crafts associated with churches is essential.

<https://www.cofepathways.org/members/modules/job/detail.php?record=251>

Closing date for applications is Monday 8 January 2018.

Interviews are scheduled for Monday 22 January 2018.

41. Lincoln Cathedral: Cathedral Archaeologist

This is a challenging role as the Cathedral embarks on a major HLF-funded Project, *Lincoln Cathedral Connected*.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced individuals, for a five-year contract beginning 1 March 2018.

Details can be obtained online or from Will Harrison, Interim Chapter Clerk and Administrator, on 01522 561604 or

at chapterclerk@lincolncathedral.com.

Applications should include proposals for fee structures and services

Deadline for applications Friday 26 January 2018.

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed in Lincoln on Friday 9 February 2018.

<http://www.bair.org/Employment/UKEmploymentDetails.asp?ID=11042>

42. The Diocese of Birmingham, Places of Worship Support Officer

The Diocese is seeking an enthusiastic and committed Historic Places of Worship Support Officer (PoWSO) to provide close support to Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) in their realistic and sensitive planning to realise the full potential of their historic church buildings for mission and wider community engagement. **Applications close on 15 January.**

Full details here: <http://www.cofebirmingham.com/vacancies/view/historic-places-worship-support-officer/>

Voluntary

None this month

The deadline for information to go in the next e-newsletter is Wednesday 24 January 2018 though earlier submissions are encouraged! Please email: hrbeditor@theheritagealliance.org.uk

Janice Gooch
HRBA Newsletter Editor
2 January 2018

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