

Meet the Funders

25 April 2024



Cornwall Historic Churches Trust

Jeremy Sharp
Grants Secretary

CHCT – who are we?

The Cornwall Historic Churches Trust was formed in 1955 to assist in the restoration and repair of Cornish churches that have architectural or historic merit. The Trust is a registered charity and churches and chapels of all denominations are eligible to apply for assistance.

The Trust is fortunate to have links with other charitable organisations, particularly the Duke of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund and the Cornwall Heritage Trust. We have been given the responsibility of distributing funds on their behalf to churches that meet their criteria, thus supplementing what we are able to provide.

The Trust awards between 15 and 20 grants each year, typically ranging from £250 to £10,000 depending on the cost and type of the project.

The Trust is run entirely by volunteers whose committee members combine professional skills with dedicated hard work, visiting churches to assess and report on the need for grant support.

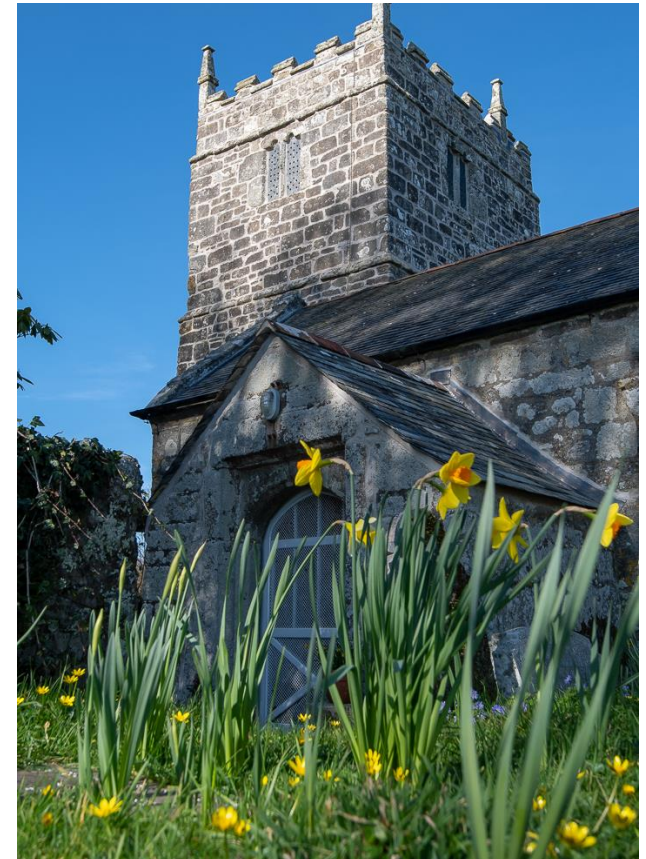


CHCT – The Reason Why

In Cornwall, four-fifths of our churches are pre-1550. From the Trust's foundation document it was recognized that: "The churches are still there, still praying through the storms and the rains. We must not let down the past which has loved and cared for them".

The preservation and restoration of our churches should not be regarded as a tedious burden. Amongst other outcomes, successful projects

- Encourage appreciation of our heritage
- Make our buildings more attractive as places of worship
- Make our buildings better suited for community use
- Engage local communities
- Improve financial viability



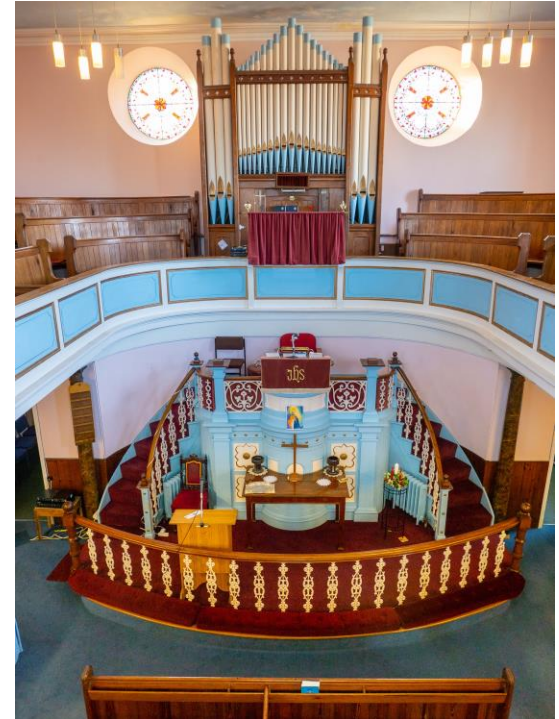
How can we help?

- Cornwall Historic Churches Trust funds are applied for "the preservation and ***maintenance***, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches in Cornwall and of monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in churches and churchyards".
- In this context "Churches" are defined as Christian places of worship of any age in current use. If your church is in need of restoration or repair, we may be able to help.
- Experience has shown that our support can be useful when seeking grants elsewhere.



We have three types of grant....

- 1. Restoration and Repair Grants:** - for larger and more complex works.
- 2. Smaller Project Grants:** - for maintenance and repairs identified in QI survey or similar for works costed at £10,000 or less.
- 3. Maintenance and Kickstart Grants:-** for help with routine maintenance or start-up costs associated with major projects.





Restoration & Repair Grants

- Our Trust Deed states that our funds are applied for "the preservation and maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches in Cornwall and of monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in churches and churchyards".
- **However, our resources are limited and therefore at present we prioritise our activities to structural work, followed by electrical safety and heating systems.**
- As indicated above, we also support work on windows, monuments, bells, paintings and clocks.
- The Trust does not repair organs.
- We do not usually support new build kitchens and toilets, or re-ordering.
- We do not provide funding for boundary walls unless they form part of the church building itself.
- We do not fund car parks.
- The minimum grant size is £250, the maximum is £5,000, or £10,000 for Church Friends.

Grants for Smaller Projects

- This scheme covers smaller projects that fall outside the scope of regular maintenance. It is also designed to accommodate urgent repairs.
- CHCT will offer grants of £1,000 or 25% of the cost of the scheme before VAT, whichever is less. The minimum grant size is £250. VAT may be reclaimable under the Listed Places of Worship (LPW) Grant Scheme.

The main criteria are:

- The work **MUST** have been identified by QI report or report by regular maintenance contractor / builder;
- Two quotes for the work must have been obtained;
- Work costed between £1,000 and £10,000 before VAT
- Confirmation that the work does not require a faculty or similar permission.



Grants for a Hostile Climate - Maintenance and Kickstart Scheme.

- All churches are facing immense challenges that have only increased since the Pandemic. General uncertainty is resulting in essential maintenance work being delayed and the shelving of much needed capital schemes.
- In order to encourage churches to act sooner rather than later, we have set aside £10,000 for help with **either** routine maintenance **or** start-up costs incurred putting together major projects.
- Grants of up to £500 per church are available on a first come, first served basis.
- Originally intended to operate in 2023 only, the Scheme has been extended until funds have been used.
- Participation in this scheme does not prevent churches from applying for other types of grant from CHCT.



General Conditions for Maintenance and Kickstart Grants

Eligibility is restricted to Church Friends of CHCT.

The Scheme can be withdrawn at any time, without notice.

Each church can only apply once for one of the grants described above.

Churches that have received Maintenance Inspection grants in the past are not eligible to apply for the Maintenance grants in this scheme.

We reserve the right to refuse applications that do not meet our criteria.

Please note, costs incurred in engaging a professional fund raiser are not eligible.

Retrospective applications for Kickstart grants will not be accepted.



Grants Awarded in 2023

23 grants to 22 churches, total awarded £67,108

10 of these were Maintenance or Kickstart grants of up to £500

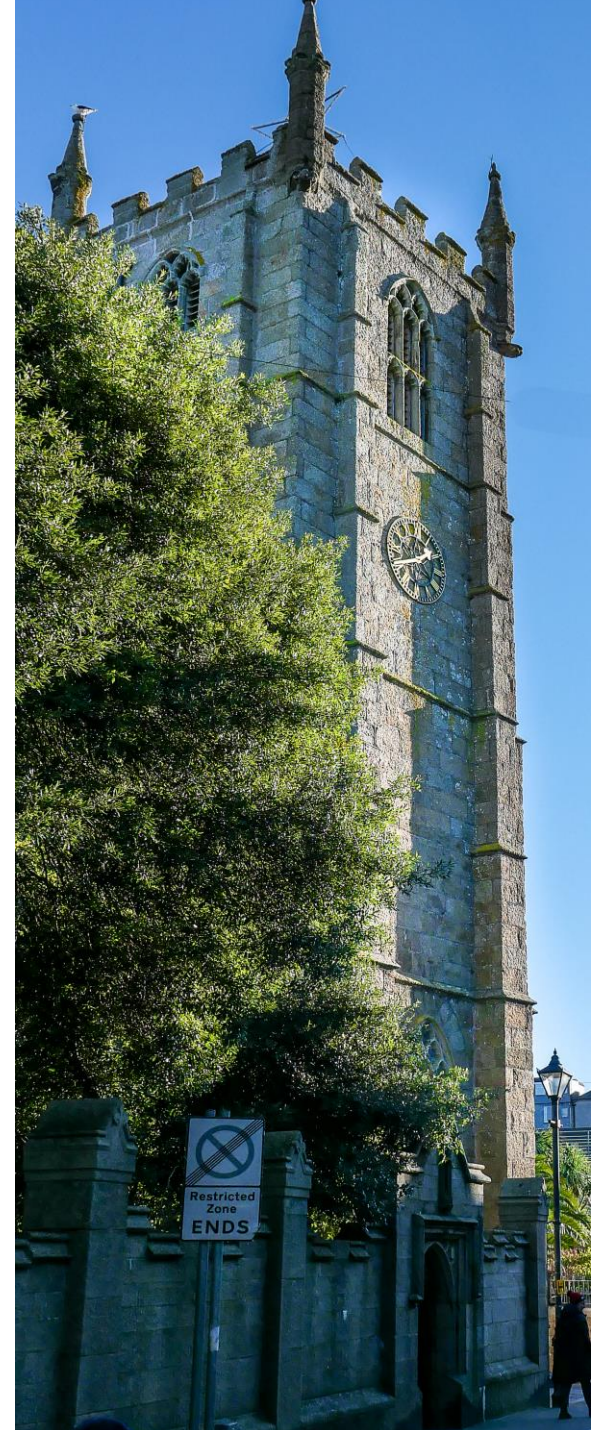
- Windows: 1
- Doors: 1
- Roof and Rainwater Goods: 6
- Water ingress: 2
- Medieval Glass: 1
- Bells: 2

- Church of England: 11
- Baptist: 1
- Zion Community Church: 1
- Methodist: 0

Grants Awarded in 2022

13 grants totalling £34,180

- Replastering following bat infestation: 1
 - Clock Repairs: 1
 - Heating: 1
 - Repointing and water ingress: 3
 - Internal plasterwork: 3
 - Roof and rainwater goods: 2
 - Bells: 1
 - Door Repairs: 1
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- Church of England: 10
 - Methodist: 3



How can you apply for a grant?

In the first instance please look at our website: www.chct.info or email our Grants Secretary, Jeremy Sharp: grants@chct.info, Alternatively, contact your area representative:

If you wish, seek guidance from us before you start: grants@chct.info or your local Deanery or Area rep, whose name is shown on our website: www.chct.info

All the criteria, application forms and other requirements for each type of grant are displayed / available on the website.

We have a simplified application process for Smaller Projects and Maintenance / Kickstart Grants.

Normally your Church will be visited by two members of the CHCT Executive Committee, one of whom will be your Deanery or Area rep.

Applications for Restoration & Repair Grants are considered at the quarterly trustee meetings. Decisions for other grants are made after assessment visits (Smaller Projects) or on receipt of correct paperwork (Maintenance / Kickstart grants)



Area Reps

- Area 1 - **Penwith** - Alexandra Bolitho
- Area 2 - **Kerrier** - Cecilia Bisson
- Area 3 - **Carnmarth North** - David Purser
- Area 4 - **Carnmarth South** - Libby Reed
- Area 5 - **Powder** - Kirsty Newton
- Area 6 - **Pydar** - Katharine Willis
- Area 7 - **St Austell** - Caroline Tetley
- Area 8 - **Trigg Minor & Bodmin** - Andrew Langdon
- Area 9 - **West Wivelshire** - Jill Jobson
- Area 10 - **East Wivelshire** - Charles Hulbert-Powell
- Area 11 - **Trigg Major** - Willa Bailey
- Area 12 - **Stratton** - Trelawny Williams





Some other sources of help

National Churches Trust: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants.

Churches Together Charity Funding Links: ctbi.org.uk

Historic England: <https://historicengland.org.uk>

ChurchCare: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare>

Truro Diocese Buildings for Mission Scheme

<https://trurodiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/BUILDINGS-FOR-MISSION-GUIDANCE.pdf>

Parish Resources Funding Guides, especially National List of Charitable Grants for Churches: parishresources.org.uk

Listed Places of Worship Scheme – refund of VAT for Listed churches.

<https://listed-places-of-worship-grant.dcms.gov.uk>

CHCT has a limited database that we are happy to share on request. Many of our committee members are acknowledged experts in their fields. They will be happy to share their knowledge with you.

How can you help us?

Become a Friend:

Friends receive an annual report with invitations to all of our events, often without charge. These include guided church visits and talks and renowned Christmas drinks party.

Persuade your church to become a Friend:

A Church Friend applying for a grant has the benefit of a maximum possible offer increased from £5,000 to £10,00 as well as being directed to other grant funding bodies which have helped with similar projects. We very much hope that every church in the Duchy will become a Friend and suggest a minimum donation of £50 a year.

Email: membership@chct.info



How can you help us further?

Corporate Sponsorship:

Suggest that your company or business supports us through corporate sponsorship. For more information contact carolinetetley@chct.info

Organise a fundraising event:

“CORNISH CHURCHES DAY” is officially in September but your church can host any event at any time of the year to raise funds for the Trust. We are hoping that all Duchy churches will hold a joint fundraising event annually. Full details can be found on our website.



Finally....

- If you haven't done so already, please provide us with a history of your church for our website to enable us to cover the whole of Cornwall.
- Please keep in touch! Do send us before and after photos that you are happy for us to use on our website.
- Jeremy Sharp, Grants Secretary.
- grants@chct.info

