

March 2020



The Church of England
Diocese of Ely

CHURCH HERITAGE

News from the Church Buildings and
Pastoral Team



**Welcome to the first newsletter from the Church Buildings and Pastoral Team.
It's a quick overview of key information, updates and good news stories.**

It's been a busy start to the new year with at least three lead thefts and two copper thefts, but there is good news too...

Thanks to grant funding and the efforts of valued volunteers, repair work is about to start at St Leonards' Little Downham, is underway at St Andrew's Witchford and is nearly finished at St Andrew's Cherry Hinton.

YEAR OF THE BURIAL GROUND

2020 is the 20th Anniversary of Caring for God's Acre and the charity is celebrating with a 'Year of the Burial Ground'. During the year they will be partnering with experts and organisations to raise the profile and celebrate the unique heritage within these special sites.

There will be many ways of becoming involved including conferences, a photographic project and the Love Your Burial Ground week. For more information visit

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>



Snowdrops at Shouldham Thorpe

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Ongoing, small scale, maintenance is the key to ensuring the long-term health of your church and reduces the risk of expensive large-scale repairs. The biggest threat to the survival of historic buildings is water. Regular monitoring for tell-tale signs, such as blocked gutters, damp patches and slipped slates, can be easily done by the congregation and the community but it is good if one or two people take on the responsibility and know how to react to such problems quickly.

Recommended Monthly Tasks

(taken from SPAB's Faith in Maintenance Calendar - <https://www.spab.org.uk>)

March

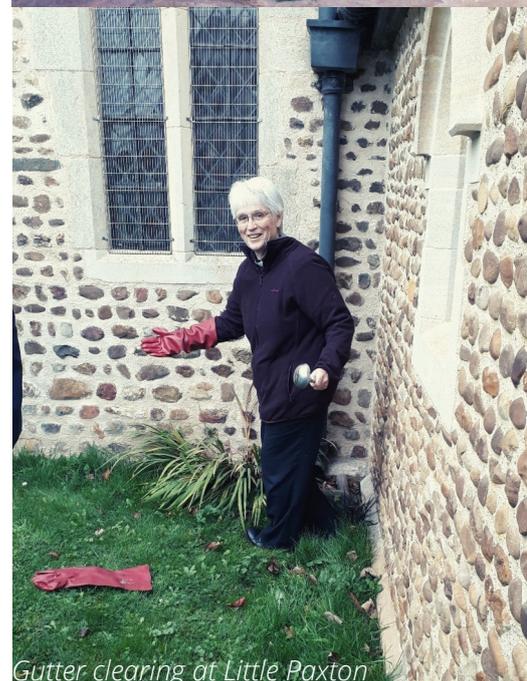
- Check that eaves, gutters and downpipes have not been damaged by frost. Look for cracks and leaks in rainwater goods.
- Clear parapet and valley gutters of snow to prevent melt water rising above them and causing damp internally. Take care in icy conditions.

April

- Check the roofs for frost, snow and wind damage. Look for signs on the ground like broken bits of slates and tiles.
- Check for splits and cracks in areas of flat or sloping sheet roofing.
- Inspect lead flashings and mortar fillets at chimneys for signs of decay.
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly. Cast iron gutters may also require repainting.

May

- Regularly clean out gully and drains to make sure water flows freely away from the building
- Make sure that windows and ventilators are operable so that the building can be ventilated. Lubricate door and window ironmongery and check security of locks.
- Have the boiler serviced, bleed radiators and ensure that the frost thermostat is operational.
- Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel.



Gutter clearing at Little Paxton

GRANTS

The National Churches Trust

Applications for **Foundation Grants** will now be considered on a rolling basis, with decisions made within 6 weeks. The final opportunity to submit an application will be 30th October 2020.

Grants of between £500 - £5000 are available to support urgent maintenance works and small investigative works. Total project costs should not exceed £10,000 excl. VAT.

The **Gateway Grants** programme has been opened up to include repairs and maintenance where the total cost is between £10,000 and £100,000.

The **Cornerstone Grant** continues to offer grants for project totalling over £100,000.

Churches must be open to the public for a minimum of 100 days a year beyond worship use, or will be within 1 year of project completion. The Trust will continue to encourage that meaning as being fully open, but do concede that some churches will only be able to leave details of a keyholder. For more information and a full list of the eligibility criteria, visit www.nationalchurchestrust.org

All Churches Trust

The Roof Protection Scheme has been extended until the end of 2020 with an increase in the amount of funding available. Grants will now fund up to 50% of the cost of the alarm, up to a maximum of £2500. To apply visit : <https://www.allchurches.co.uk/what-we-fund/roof-alarm-grants/>

The Wolfson Foundation

During 2020 administration of the Wolfson Foundation funds for fabric repairs of churches will move from the Cathedral & Church Buildings Division of the Church of England to the **National Churches Trust**.

This will result in a simplified funding application process for fabric repairs. Parishes will be able to submit one application form and be considered for up to two fabric repair grants. The Church of England's conservation grants programmes administered by the Cathedral & Church Buildings Division (ChurchCare) will continue with its focus on conservation of historic interiors.

All parishes with ChurchCare grants will be able to claim their grant from ChurchCare. Cathedral & Church Buildings Division Conservation Grants Administrator. From 28 January 2020, new applications for fabric repair grants should be sent to the National Churches Trust.



St John the Baptist, Somersham

Quick Glance Grant Deadlines	
March	
1st	The Joseph Rank Trust
1st	The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
2nd	Amey Cespa Community Fund
2nd	National Lottery Heritage Fund
2nd	National Churches Trust: Cornerstone
2nd	Amey Cespa Community Fund
4th	FCC Communities Foundation
13th	The Skinner's Company Lady Neville Charity
16th	The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
31st	William and Jane Morris Fund
31st	The Archer Trust
31st	The Swire Charitable Trust
31st	War Memorials Trust
April	
TBC	The Leche Trust
1st	Mick George Community Fund
30th	The Prince of Wales' Charitable Foundation
30th	On Organ Fund
30th	The Steel Charitable Trust

Grants without Deadlines

- All Churches Trust
- ASDA Foundation
- Augean Landfill Fund (Peterborough only)
- Church Buildings Council Conservation Reports
- Garfield Weston
- Geoffrey Watling (Norfolk only)
- Henry Smith Charity
- LPWGS - VAT Reclaim Scheme
- National Lottery Community Fund: Awards for All
- National Lottery Community Fund: Reaching Communities Fund
- The Tudor Trust

May	
TBC	The Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust
TBC	The Rank Foundation
1st	Cambridgeshire Community Foundation
14th	National Churches Trust: Gateway
27th	Church Buildings Council (Organs)
31st	BIFFA Award
31st	Screwfix Foundation
31st	Veolia Environment Trust
Early June	
1st	The Prince of Wales' Charitable Foundation
1st	The Swire Charitable Trust
1st	The Joseph Rank Trust
1st	The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
1st	Norfolk Churches Trust
1st	National Lottery Heritage Fund
3rd	FCC Communities Foundation
10th	Mick George Community Fund

- National Lottery Heritage Fund: Grants for Heritage (under £100,000)
- 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
- The Hobson Charity Ltd
- The Jack Patston Trust (Cams only)
- The Jill Franklin Trust
- The John S Cohen Foundation
- The Swire Charitable Trust - grants under £25,000

ADDITIONAL FINANCE OPTIONS

The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund Diocesan Loan Scheme

Loans from the Central Board of Finance are now available again.

Key Features:

- Short- and medium-term flexible loans
- Flexible draw-down and repayment
- Lower interest charges compared with commercial alternatives
- Interest calculated daily and applied half yearly

Loans can be very useful for aiding cashflow in big projects.

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust offer interest free loans of up to £20,000 for historic church building projects.

The Bach Cello Project

The Bach Cello Project raises money for any organisation that needs it, though it primarily focuses on churches. It was formerly called The Bach Cello Pilgrimage.

No minimum ticket sales are required; 50% of all proceeds from tickets is donated to the Church after the concert. This means these concerts do not cost the church a penny unless it chooses to provide refreshments.

All concerts are one hour long with no interval which means it is not necessary to provide refreshments.

All concerts are solo cello performing a large variety of repertoire which will include some of Bach's Cello Suites.

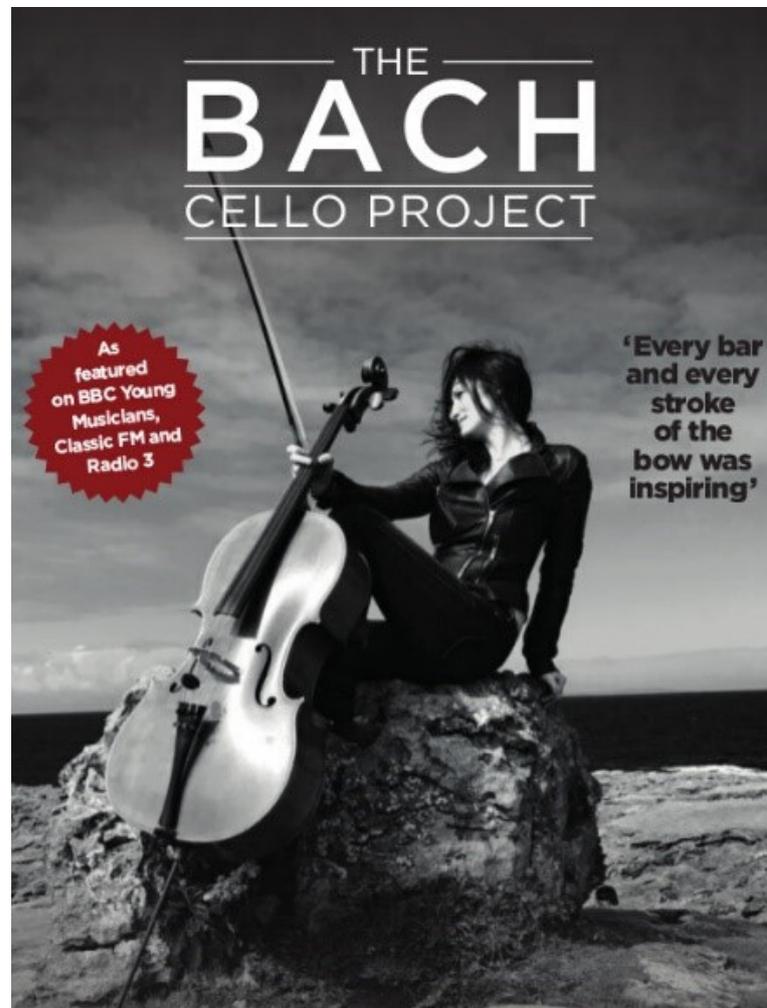
All publicity material is provided at no cost to the church. No seating or lighting is required for the performer. These concerts are designed for their simplicity and suit Churches who are not used to putting on concerts.

Contact: Rowena Calvert:

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TRAINING & EVENTS

Diocese of Ely

Faith in Maintenance – 21st March. FULLY BOOKED.

Cambridge CVS - <https://www.cambridgecvs.org.uk/training-events>

Run a range of training courses, many are free to attend.

Topics include:

- Improve your digital and communication skills - includes the power of storytelling.
- Finances and fundraising
- Training for trustees
- Managing volunteers
- Developing your organisation - includes First Aid and safeguarding

For full details visit the website and sign-up to receive their newsletter.

Community Action Norfolk - <http://www.communityactionnorfolk.org.uk/sites/>

An easy guide to cyber safety – free for VCSE organisations - March 12th.



PASTORAL UPDATES

New Church Representation Rules came into effect on 1 January 2020, and have been reformed to make them easier for parishes to follow and operate, and a great deal easier to understand.

The new Rules implement a range of reforms some of which are outlined in brief below:

- Revision of church electoral roll and preparation of new roll (Part 1) have been simplified, and the roll may be published electronically instead of in paper form.
- The annual parochial church meeting must now be held between 1 January and 31 May, rather than 30 April. (Rule M1).
- Lay members of a PCC cannot be outnumbered by clerical members (Rule M15(2)), and the PCC meeting is only quorate if the majority of members present are lay members.
- A PCC no longer has to hold a minimum number of meetings each year, but is required to hold a sufficient number of meetings to enable the efficient transaction of its business (Rule M23(1)).
- PCCs can now conduct business by paper or email correspondence (Rule M29).
- The annual meeting of 'connected parishes' can make schemes to establish a Joint Council (Section C of Part 9). Parishes are connected if they belong to the same benefice, if they belong to benefices held in plurality or are in the same group ministry.
- The Rules now facilitate the use of electronic voting in elections to Diocesan Synod and General Synod (Rule 42(5) and 56).

All the rules relating to parish governance are now contained in one part, Part 9.

An outline of the new Rules is detailed on the Diocesan website at www.elydiocese.org/department/pastoral-organization/church-representation-rules.php or online at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/church-representation-rules>

A paper copy can also be purchased from Church House Publishing at www.chpublishing.co.uk



CONTACT DETAILS



If you have anything you would like included in the next issue please contact Holly Isted by the 16th May

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 on (01353). 652729 or via dac@elydiocese.org

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