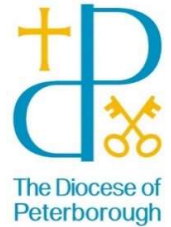


# CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

## RYHALL, Rutland (Grade I)



Case Study  
March 2023

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**SUMMARY OF WORKS:** Recovering of nave and aisle roofs in terne-coated stainless steel, associated roof timber repairs, rainwater goods and stonework.



By late 2019, leaking roofs had become a priority for Ryhall church. The PCC noted almost 30 separate points of water ingress, with buckets used to catch as many drips as possible. Following a visit and recommendation from the Church Support Officer, the building was added to Historic England's Heritage at Risk register, recognising the scale and urgency of the repairs. A fundraising and grants campaign started in 2020, but the PCC sought to reduce costs and theft risk by using terne-coated stainless steel to replace the leaking lead coverings of the nave and aisles. Using steel required separate planning permission and, with the support of Historic England's newly revised guidance on the subject, permission was obtained in September 2021. The leaking rainwater goods were dealt with early in a sub-project funded by the Culture Recovery Fund – government support made available during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic.



In addition to the discovery of a nesting bat in the nave roof, the project had to take into account a bees nest in the nave gutter, unforeseen timber repairs and the various impacts of the pandemic. While planning consent was sought, the churchyard was lovingly restored to encourage wildlife and for the community to enjoy. Work on the roofs was completed in late 2022 at total project cost of c. £185,000. Many grants were applied for and obtained to help with this, including £28,000 from Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust, £13,000 from Garfield Weston Foundation and a remarkable £50,000 from the Augean Community Grant. In addition, the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme covered VAT incurred and provided assurance to project planning. Local fundraising played an essential role without which the repairs would not have happened. One local resident completed 100 laps of the village by her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday and drew in over £5,000 in sponsorship! The determination, hard work and perseverance demonstrated by everybody involved in this project is truly inspirational.

*Project completed in late 2022  
Architect is William Assheton*



*Photos of old roof covering (top) supplied by William Assheton, architect*

*Aerial view courtesy of The Leadworks (UK) Ltd*

More Info: [www.gwashandglenchurches.org.uk](http://www.gwashandglenchurches.org.uk)