



September 2019

Theft of Metal

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Almost 40% of Listed Churches in the UK targeted..

Criminal gangs strike at almost half of churches in rural Britain



Church of St Peter's at Stourton, Wiltshire, England, UK in October CREDIT: CAROLYN JENKINS / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

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By Catherine Pepinster

25 AUGUST 2019 • 6:00AM

Almost half of listed churches have been targeted by criminals, new figures show, as police warn of professional gangs using the latest technology find easy targets and map out escape routes.

The epidemic of crime is dominated by metal thefts with entire roofs being removed from historic places of worship.

The crisis threatening the heritage of rural Britain is now so great that the heritage body Historic England estimates 40 per cent of listed churches have been targeted.

NEWS

2 hrs ago

Lead stolen from Salisbury Cathedral and The Rectory in Zeals renewed Wiltshire Police appeal



By Gemma Gibson | [@Journal_Gemma](#)
Reporter



EXPERTS IN THE
**DOUBLE
GLAZING
INDUSTRY.**

For double glazing
installations in Hampshire,
Dorset & Wiltshire

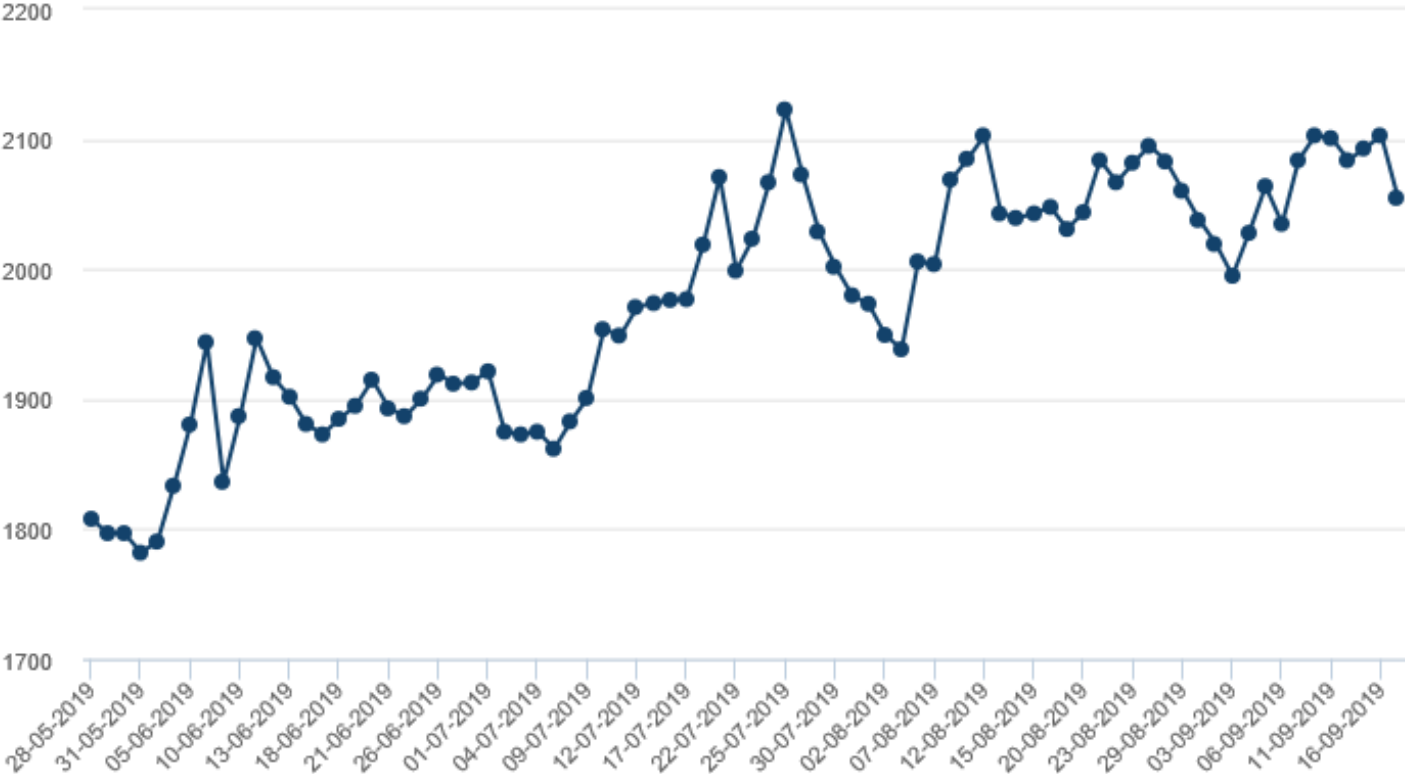
[Enquire Here](#)

Lead - 14% rise in value 3 months

\$1808 per tonne in May 2019

\$2100 per tonne in Sep 2019

LME LEAD HISTORICAL PRICE GRAPH



© London Metal Exchange

Technology



Holy Stone HS100 Drone with 1080P HD Camera FPV Live Video RC Quadcopter with GPS Return Home Function Follow Me and Altitude Hold, Drone for

from Amazon.co.uk - Amazon.co.uk-Seller

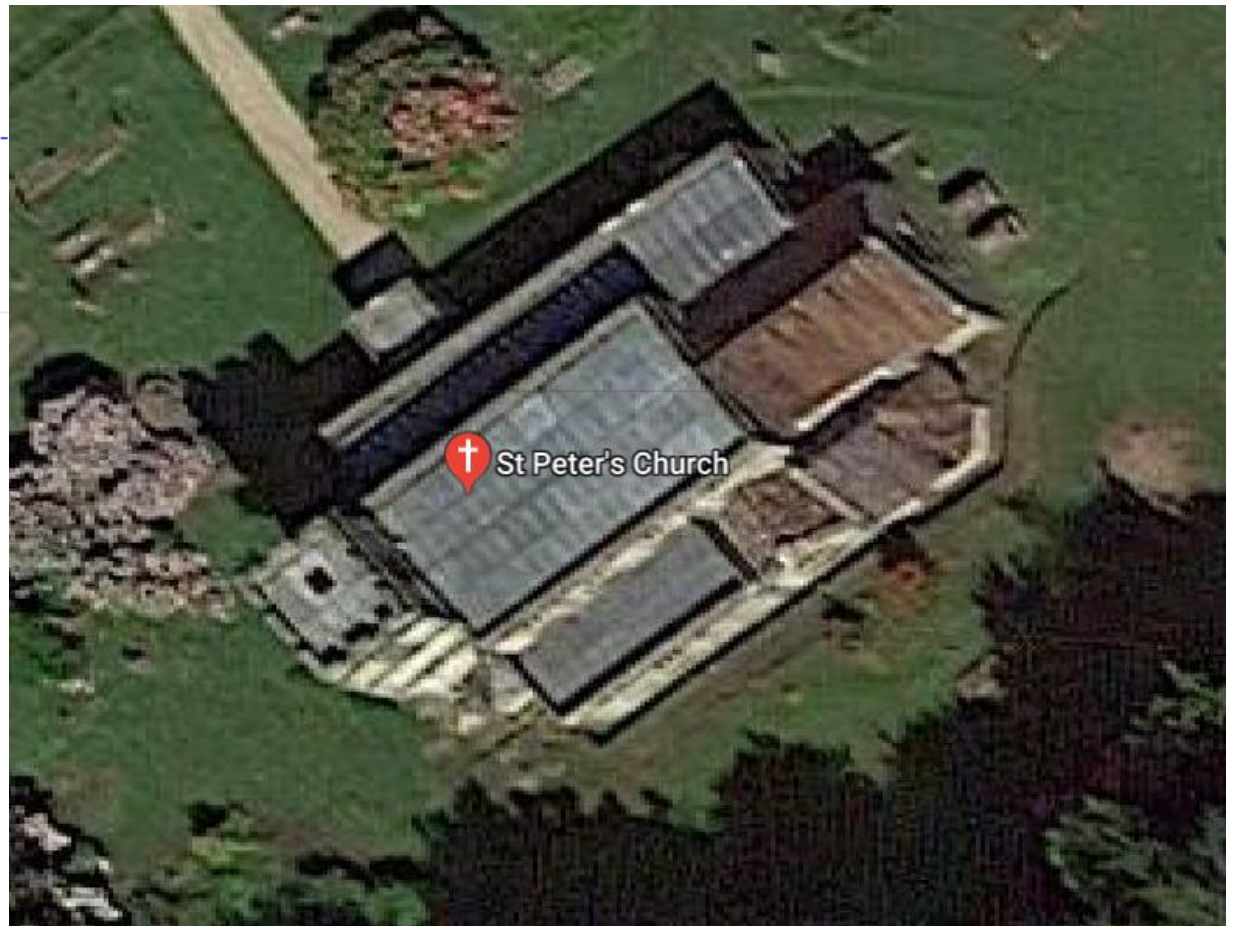
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GPS assisted flight: Provides you with accurate positioning details of your drone. Built in Return-to-Home (RT) function for safer fly, the drone will automatically return to ... [more »](#)

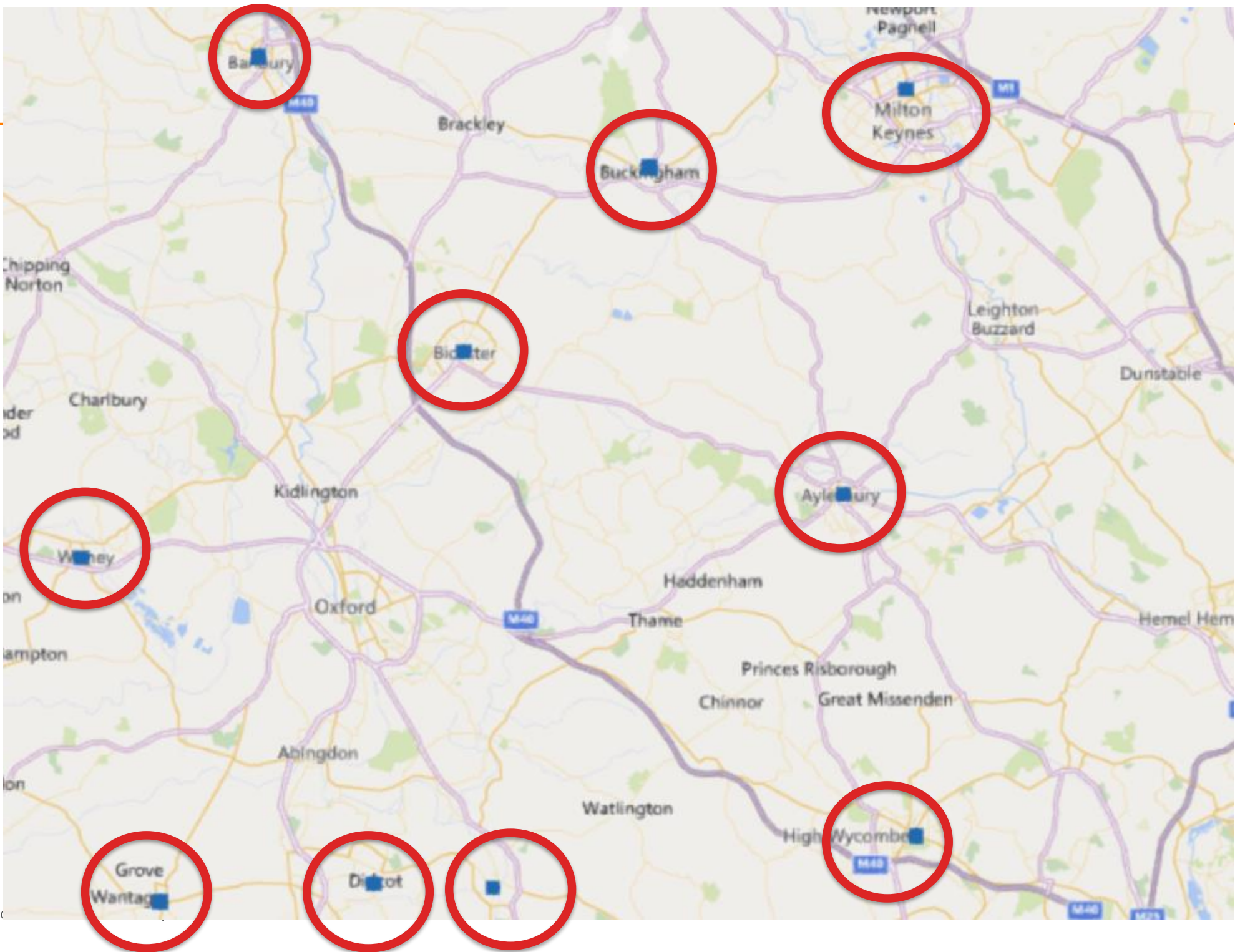
£189.99

Free delivery
[Amazon.co.uk](#)

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© Google maps



Case Study: St Bartholomew's, Colne- Roof Alarm

Attempt 1:

Mon 6th May 2019:

Alarm monitoring centre: movement on church roof & alerted the contact(s). Alarm also heard by neighbour who called police. Police attended, thieves arrested on site with tools
Some damage, lead flashing lifted, no lead removed from premises

Attempt 2:

Sun 12th May 2019: Alarm & strobe lights activated – thieves fled.
No damage

Attempt 3:

Weds. 15th May 2019: Alarm & strobe lights activated – thieves fled.

The alarm company visited the church the next day and discovered that one of the sensors had been tampered with and this was the cause of the initial alerts that they had received

Organised Criminal Gangs

Do not approach

Do not challenge

Do not chase

call the police

If Authorised alarm – either security centre
or police response

Immediate Damage

Safely observe immediate damage and be aware:

Theft of lead can lead to water ingress:

Saturating roof timbers affecting roof structure, linings,
internal woodwork, plasterwork.

Increased risk of fungal presence

Increased risk of insect attack,

Damaged Parapets?

Insurance Claim – Typical steps

1. Appoint personal claims handler

2. Clarify if unlimited or limited cover. >70-80% Unlimited
(up to Loss Limit of Policy).

Limited: £7500 Theft + a further £7500 Subsequent damage.

3. Clarify policy conditions met, e.g.

Smart Water Conditions:

- Application / Signage / Registration

- **Authorised Alarm conditions**

e.g. Alarm was maintained and active

Insurance Claim

4. Steps to make the roof watertight

- Builder/roofer for emergency repairs? (e.g. tarpaulin/batons)
- Builder/roofer for short-term repairs? (e.g. bituminous roof felt)

5. May appoint a loss adjuster – especially in a larger claim

- confirm cover
- helping hand with estimates etc.
- on-hand to liaise throughout the claim

Emergency Response Plan

Lead contact(s) for police/security/insurance/repairs

- Inform Police (crime reference number)
- Inform Ecclesiastical Claims **0345 603 8381 (24/7)**
- Inform DAC / Architect

Details of local Builders/roofers

Summary notes regarding potential replacement materials.

Inform DAC and other Stakeholders

DAC –

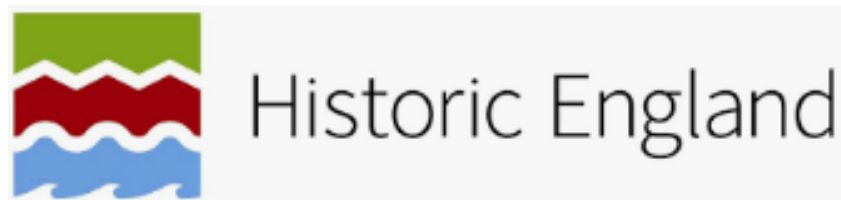
Faculty Approval

Inform Church Buildings Council

Inform Historic England

Inform Local Authority if listed?

Inform other stakeholders



Alternative Materials?

ZINC? Looks similar once weathered but:

- * High Scrap Value
- * Corrosive effect with stainless steel or copper

TERN-COATED STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless steel dipped in alloy of lead and tin

- * Good scrap value but harder to remove
- * noisier than lead

COPPER

- * High Scrap Value
- * Green patina / incompatible with lead / iron / zinc

Alternative Materials?

ANNODISED ALUMINIUM

- * Durable but expensive
- * High Scrap value

NON METALLIC COVERINGS

- * membranes
- * GRP
- * aesthetics

Risk Management Guidance

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Risk management and guidance

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Security

- [Metal theft >](#)

[Theft of metal \(PDF\)](#)

30 August 2018

[Download](#) [Metal theft guidance for churches \(PDF\)](#)

27 June 2018

[Download](#) [Metal theft checklist for churches \(PDF\)](#)

27 June 2018

[Download](#)

Roof Alarm Suppliers

Approved roof alarm suppliers

Ace Defence

Albany House
14 Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1BJ

Tel: 0118 380 5150

Email: brian@acedefence.com

www.acedefence.com

GBSG Limited

Security House
High Street
Donington
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE11 4TA

Tel: 01775 821100

Email: enquiries@gbsg.co.uk

www.gbsg.co.uk

Overton Electrical Services Ltd

Unit 43 Bleak Hill Way
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 5EZ

Tel: 01623 632302

Email: jacqui@oesonline.co.uk

www.overton-electrical.co.uk

E-Bound AVX Ltd

Litton House
Saville Road
Westwood
Peterborough
PE3 7PR

Tel: 01733 843341

Email: lynne@e-bound.co.uk or diane@e-bound.co.uk

www.e-bound.co.uk

Marriott Security Ltd

15-16 Dodson Way
Fengate
Peterborough
PE1 5XJ

Tel: 01733 894334

Email: admin@marriottsecurity.co.uk

www.marriottsecurity.co.uk

There is no third party accredited performance standard for roof alarms as this is very much emerging technology. Instead Ecclesiastical has devised a minimum performance standard for the installation of roof alarms, to which all our approved suppliers have signed up to.

We are able to consider roof alarm installations from non-approved installers. Before being granted approved supplier status Ecclesiastical require the installer to demonstrate their expertise in the heritage sector.

Need to contact us?

For further advice Ecclesiastical customers can call our risk advice line on **0345 600 7531** (Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm, excluding bank holidays) or email us at risk.advice@ecclesiastical.com and one of our experts will call you back within 24 hours.

Claims

Make a claim


If you need our help, please call us as soon as you can.

 **0345 603 8381**

24 hours a day, 7 days a week (UK only)

+44 1452 533 528 (outside UK).

Enquiries regarding existing claims can be made between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

 Email us:

Funding

- **www.allchurches.co.uk**
 - Grants for Roof Alarms (typically £1,000)
 - Grants for Church buildings / restoration /



- **HERITAGE FUNDING**

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

THE HERITAGE FUNDING DIRECTORY

The
Heritage
Alliance

Historic Religious
Buildings Alliance
a group within the Heritage Alliance

Buckinghamshire: Archdeacon £500? / matched by Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust

Oxfordshire: [Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust](#)/(ATL) funding up to 50% of cost of alarm

Berkshire www.allchurches.co.uk

Dorchester www.allchurches.co.uk



Questions