

The Church of the Holy Rood, Shillingstone

Appeal

Our Church in Shillingstone is in urgent need of help due to the collapse of a section of the roof tiles above the North Aisle, resulting in a large amount of rainwater leaking into the structure below. We are now urgently fundraising to fix the hole and protect the beautiful interior from further damage.



Heavy build up of moss and bracken



Tiles bedded on lime
Rotting battens



Delamination of tiles

This year we were prepared to begin a project to replace the roof on our beautiful church, Holy Rood. We knew it would be a big undertaking; the church was built in the 12th century and is Grade 1 listed, and we know from older members of the community that no major work has been carried out on it since the end of WW2.

However, we were shocked to find the situation is much worse and more serious than we expected.

Find out more inside

What is wrong with the roof?

We were first alerted to a problem when we saw plants growing on the roof tiles. We brought in architects to carry out a full survey. The outcome is that not only does Holy Rood need a complete new roof but there is a hole over the North Aisle that requires **very urgent attention**.

These photos show the collapsed tiles as a result of decayed tile supporting battens and plant growth. Three lines of tiles extending 20 feet have dropped into the roof space and allowed major rainwater ingress into the North Wall below. Rain damage and black mould is starting to show on the walls.

We have already covered the hole with a tarpaulin, to stop further damage. We must now urgently repair the roof to protect the inside of the church.



A full report by the Architects details alarming problems section by section. You can view the report by scanning this QR code.



What is the cost?

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has worked with the architects in assessing the extent of the work required. The total cost to repair the whole roof will be in the region of £340,000. This is a considerable sum!

We have set our initial target at £140,000 to prioritise the repair of the hole in the roof of the North Aisle. Phase two will require us to raise a further £200,000 to repair and replace the rest of the roof in 2024/5.



Watch this short film of our beautiful church on YouTube

https://youtu.be/G8OdUrOD_cl

Can you help save the roof?

We are asking the people of Shillingstone to please help us raise £20,000 in 2023 for the North Aisle roof repair. The Parochial Church Council is putting £40,000 towards the project. The Reddaway Trust has given a grant and we are actively seeking grants from other charities. We are grateful to already have £14,000 in pledged donations.

North Aisle Fundraising Appeal Target	£140,000	
	Received	To raise
Parochial Church Council	£40,000	
Redaway Trust	£20,000	
Pledges received	£14,000	
Grants we will apply for		£46,000
Shillingstone Village donations - can you help?		£20,000
Total to raise		£66,000

Thank you sincerely to all who have given so far.

How to donate

- By credit or debit card, paypal or direct debit at:
www.peoplesfundraising.com/donation/Shillingstone-church-roof-appeal
Scan this QR Code or Google 'Peoples Fundraising' and search 'Shillingstone'



- By BACS to PCC Shillingstone, giving payee reference as '**roof**':
Sort code: 40-52-40 Account No: 00010777

- By cheque or cash to The Treasurer, Anne Powell, Shottsford Cottage, Shillingstone DT11 0TT. Please 'gift aid' your donation if you can, to add an extra 25% to the value of your gift.

If you have any questions about donating, or would like a gift aid form, Anne will be pleased to help. Contact her email powellanne@btinternet.com or phone 01258 861397.

If you see Anne (right) stop her and make a donation!



We Need You!

We need you to forward the appeal to your family and friends, as well as people who used to live in Shillingstone and maybe went to the village school? We would love to hear from anyone who can offer experience of Fundraising and Publicity.

A message to Shillingstone villagers from the Parochial Church Council

Our Parish Church has stood here since the early 12th century to serve the Community of Shillingstone as a vital meeting place for worship, weddings, baptisms, funerals and National Celebrations.

During war and peace, it has served as place for private prayer and thanksgiving, and of course celebrating Christmas and Easter. The bells have rung out across the village to celebrate notable events down the ages. Many of our ancestors are buried around our Church and are a precious reminder of how much they contributed to the village we now call home. It was also Chapel to Croft House School (1947- 1997) and a few years after its closure, stained glass windows were transferred from 'The Grange' (now the Forum School) to the North Aisle in commemoration of the many years of its connection with Holy Rood.

It must be unthinkable that we could lose this precious and historic building in Shillingstone which has been lovingly preserved by so many in past years. Even if you are not a regular churchgoer, please help if you can.
Yours sincerely

Ray Suter, on behalf of the Parochial Church Council

What is the Parochial Church Council?

We are a group of people who volunteer as Trustees of Holy Rood church. We are responsible for the financial matters, and maintenance of the church buildings, including the parish hall. Every PCC is a charity. Many people assume that the church receives funding from the Government, or support from a central body, after all we are looking after a very old building that is an important part of our country's history. This isn't the case. In fact, every Anglican church in England is looked after by the people who live in its parish.

Holy Rood is still open while the roof is being fixed

Life can be tough at times, harder still if we are trying to go it alone. If you are facing difficult times or need a peaceful place for quiet reflection our door – and our hearts – are open. Holy Rood is your building as much as anyone's.
The church is **open every day 10am - 4pm**, longer in the summer.

We currently hold a service each month every 2nd Sunday plus special occasion services. Do come along, everyone is welcome, and you will make friends. Find out when our services are on:
<https://okefordbenefice.org>

