

# Every Church Counts: How you can keep the campaign going

Dear Supporter,

Since the launch of *Every Church Counts*, we have been delighted with the impact that our six point plan to save UK church buildings is having.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the campaign by sharing it with people they know, on social media, and by writing to their MP. It is making such a difference.

But this progress is just the tip of the iceberg – many churches and chapels are at risk of closure and the loss of their priceless heritage. You can help by writing or sending an email to your MP, encouraging them to ask for a Westminster Hall debate on the future of the UK's church buildings, to help ensure that the topic stays on the radar of the Government and politicians.

We have had very positive feedback from Parliamentarians, but a letter from a constituent is something that MPs cannot ignore. You can <u>send an email to your MP</u> <u>by using the They Work for You website</u>. Just enter your Postcode, click on the name of your MP and then on the green Send a Message button.

You can find out more about Every Church Counts and how you can help us here.

Best wishes,

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Chief Executive



### Explore churches on your doorstep and beyond

# Discover church trails across the UK

With the weather getting warmer and the days longer, spring is a great time of year to get outside and explore UK churches. Stepping in ancient footsteps on a spiritual journey can broaden your mind and boost your wellbeing. And you can discover brilliant parts of the UK's heritage. To help you, we have created a guide to church trails, with resources and tips to help you explore different local areas.

#### Find out more

# Explore churches through walking festivals

The UKs independently run walking festivals offer a wealth of walking opportunity and we are celebrating these with a helpful guide to upcoming events. Church and chapel walking festivals encourage people to visit, stay, eat, drink and shop. You can enjoy a great day out while supporting local churches and communities.

#### Find out more





### Hear from church explorers Daisy and Sarah

Sarah Morris has been busy visiting the delights of cathedrals with her dog, Daisy. An increasing number of the UK's churches are welcoming pets, with almost two thirds considering themselves to be 'pet friendly'. And Sarah and Daisy have taken full advantage of this, making pilgrimages to cathedrals together. In the latest blog on our website, you can hear about their experiences and highlights

# Read about Sarah and Daisy's pilgrimages

### Catching up with a church



# Lincolnshire church scoops another national award

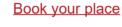
Congratulations to Scampton St John the Baptist Church who were recently presented with the 'Keeping Their Stories Alive' award at the coveted Ministry of Defence Sanctuary Award Ceremony. The church has had a long association with the RAF. Inside, you'll find memorials, flags and squadron badges. And there are two stained glass windows dedicated to both local RAF heritage and to the 617 Squadron, The Dambusters, who were formed at RAF Scampton on 23 March 1943. Scampton Church were also the winners of our Tourism Award at the 2022 National Church Awards. We continue to be impressed by the wonderful way the church welcomes visitors and how they share the history of the church with others.

### **Upcoming events**



### Get tickets for our Liverpool Cathedrals tour

Photographer and author of The Treasures of English Churches, Dr Matthew Byrne will be guiding us around Liverpool's Cathedrals on Wednesday 1 May. Liverpool Cathedral and Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, together, represent the remarkable development of twentieth-century ecclesiastical design.



# Explore the legacy of church architect G.E. Street

To mark the bicentenary of the birth of gothic-revival architect George Edmund Street, the Victorian Society and St James the Less in Pimlico are running a series of events throughout 2024. These include visits to some of the churches designed by Street, such as St James the Less in Pimlico itself, pictured here, and St John the Evangelist in Whitwell-on-the-Hill, Yorkshire.

#### Find out more

#### Gifts to give church lovers

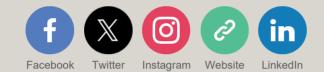
Surprise a friend or family member with a National Churches Trust gift membership





Our gift membership is the perfect present for people who love heritage and who appreciate the rich history the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses. Our gift welcome pack includes a copy of The Treasures of English Churches, an inspiring book of photographs by Dr Matthew Byrne.

#### Find out more



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