

On 19th July 2022, a wildfire swept across the village of Wennington in the Diocese of Chelmsford, part of a number of similar fires recorded all across Greater London on the hottest day ever experienced by the UK. While **St Mary & St Peter's Church** was fortunate to escape significant damage, 16 homes across Wennington were destroyed by the blaze, with the rest of the village also forced to evacuate.

Prior to this event, wildfires seemed an unlikely threat to the village, something for which preparation was not really necessary. However, with average temperatures increasing year on year, fire occurrences will follow the same trend. In this case, glebe land had inadvertently acted as a corridor for the fire to spread to different parts of the village and churchyard, partly due to the presence of grass clippings and leaf litter that had dried substantially in the heat.

In the immediate aftermath of the fire and subsequent return of the local population, the church played host to some of the response activities, as well as reviewing the land management practices that had enabled the fire to spread.



Read the Case Study below.

- [Wennington Case Study | The Church of England](#)

# Learn more about Wennington: St Mary & St Peter

## Church Heritage Record

[Wennington: St Mary & St Peter - CHR Church \(churchofengland.org\)](#)

## A Church Near You

[Wennington: St Mary & St Peter - A Church Near You](#)

## Chelmsford Diocese Environment Page

[The Chelmsford Diocese | Chelmsford Diocese \(anglican.org\)](#)

## Caring for God's Acre

[Caring For God's Acre – the conservation charity for burial grounds across the UK – Protecting Wildlife, Preserving Heritage, Involving People \(caringforgodsacre.org.uk\)](#)

# Also of interest

## Net-zero Carbon Church

[Find helpful guidance](#)

## Net-zero Webinars

[Learn about net-zero](#)

## More Case Studies

[Back to the main case studies page](#)

## Eco Church

[Find out more about the Eco Church scheme, run by A Rocha](#)

## Environment Home Page

[Main landing page for environment](#)

## Fundraising

[Information about fundraising options](#)

