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# ChurchCare



16,000 buildings. One resource

**Impact Review 2013**

Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, Archbishops' Council

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# Cathedrals

# Churches

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ChurchCare is the Church of England's national resource, adding value to the work going on locally in 16,000 parish churches and 42 cathedrals. The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, ChurchCare, supports all those in parishes, dioceses and cathedrals, many of whom are volunteers, caring for their buildings.

ChurchCare is the comprehensive source of information for everyone managing a church building.

Janet Gough  
Director, Cathedral and Church Buildings Division

£30m    £2.5m

£30 million extra secured by ChurchCare for works to listed church buildings to offset VAT changes announced in the 2012 Budget.

£2.5 million distributed in grants by ChurchCare in 2012.

£115m    6,500    80%

£115 million is spent annually on repairs to churches.

6,500+ Church of England parishes now provide community services for elderly people, school children, parents and new immigrants.\*

80% reduction target in carbon emissions from Church of England buildings by 2050.

\*The Church in Action: a national survey of church-led social action (Church Urban Fund, 2013)



# Welcome



The Church of England's 16,000 churches, 12,500 of which are listed, are loved, cared for and financed by a vast army of volunteers. This review is about the practical help and resources available and we hope parishes, cathedrals and dioceses will find it encouraging and useful.

The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Richard Chartres  
Bishop of London, Chair of the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division

ChurchCare's aim is to share ideas, to encourage clergy and congregations struggling with the possibilities and challenges of our wonderful built heritage to see what can be done and how they can achieve it.

**Justin Welby**  
**Archbishop of**  
**Canterbury**

Cathedrals attract around 12 million visitors a year and congregation numbers have increased by 30% since the millennium. These wonderful buildings are very much living centres of our spiritual and cultural heritage. The role of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission and the individual cathedral Fabric Advisory Committees is to manage changes to cathedral buildings, drawing on their expert volunteer members to offer advice and support.

**Rt Hon Frank Field MP**  
**Chair of the Cathedrals**  
**Fabric Commission**  
**for England**

Decisions about conserving the past and planning for the future of church buildings lie in the hands of parishes, Diocesan Advisory Committees and Chancellors. What the Church Buildings Council can do is add value by offering expert advice where appropriate, seeking both public and private funding and campaigning and developing policies which will work for the Church as a whole.

**Anne Sloman OBE**  
**Chair of the Church**  
**Buildings Council**



# Securing funding







Photo: Tim Wilson

### One-off capital grants

A project supported by a £6,000 grant saw the introduction of 66 solar panels to the roof of Holy Trinity in Hull (York). Other capital grants included the improvement of visitor facilities for tourism and concerts at the much visited church of St Michael in Framlingham (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) and a shower facility for homeless people at St Peter in Brighton (Chichester).



Photo: Nick Clarke

### Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

In 2012 the Bishop of London led the campaign against the removal of zero-rate VAT on alterations to listed places of worship introduced in the Budget. This secured an increase to the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme of £30 million to a total of £42 million annually to cover the cost of VAT on all repairs as well as alterations to listed church buildings.



Funding for church buildings is raised locally by congregations and communities. ChurchCare, the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, provides extra funding through its grant schemes for churches and cathedrals, works with other funders to channel their philanthropic giving, and campaigns to ensure that national schemes offer maximum benefit for church buildings.

### Heritage Lottery Fund

The annual estimated cost of repairs to churches is £185 million. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) - [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk) - offers vital grants totalling £25 million annually for urgent repairs to listed church buildings through its new Grants for Places of Worship scheme. In consultation with ChurchCare and others, the HLF has made several improvements to enhance the scheme's effectiveness, including four application opportunities annually, financial assessments based on value for money (with no requirement to state chancel repair liability), and making up to 15% of the grants available for new works to extend community use.

Additionally, cathedrals and churches are encouraged to apply to the main HLF grant programmes, now significantly increased to more than £375 million annually, for conservation of historic furnishings, for community events celebrating and promoting heritage.

### National fabric survey of parish churches

In 2012 a £140,000 grant from English Heritage was secured to assess the fabric condition of all Church of England parish churches. For the first time there will be a comprehensive overview of the state of the fabric of these 16,000 buildings, allowing for prioritisation of resources and better decision making at diocesan and national level.

### Working with Funders

The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, ChurchCare, provides expert support to national grant giving organisations. Working in partnership with funders, such as the Wolfson Foundation and the Pilgrim Trust, has ensured they achieve their objectives with the satisfaction that works carried out in historic church buildings are of high standard and follow best conservation practice.

## £2.5m

In 2012 ChurchCare distributed approximately £2.5 million to more than 300 projects supporting the conservation of artworks, fabric repairs, improvements to amenities, energy efficiency, and the introduction of new facilities into cathedrals and church buildings.

# Securing funding



## Capital grants to improve facilities in listed churches

In 2012/13, a one-off scheme in partnership with the Department for Culture Media and Sport distributed £781,000 for improvements to facilities and energy efficiency in 88 churches.

## Cathedrals funding

In 2012, £957,500 was awarded to 22 projects in English cathedrals to improve their settings, conserve artworks and for fabric repairs. The Cathedral Fabric Repair Fund, a partnership of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England with the Wolfson Foundation and Pilgrim Trust, is the only ring-fenced fund for cathedrals and in three years it has already supported 28 fabric repair projects with £1,863,000 in grants.

## Grants for fabric repairs to parish churches

In partnership with the Wolfson Foundation £409,000 was distributed in 2012 for the repair of 88 parish churches.

## Conservation grants

ChurchCare is one of the few national funders that support the conservation of artworks and historic furnishings in parish churches.



## Norwich Cathedral

A grant of £60,000 enabled Norwich Cathedral, which welcomes 100,000 visitors a year, to re-roof St Luke's Chapel. The Chapel, constructed in the late 11th to early 12th century, is part of the earliest phase of the Cathedral building. The work, completed in October 2012, replaced emergency repairs in flashband (a sticky silver waterproof adhesive tape) with a new lead roof.

Commenting on the project, the Dean of Norwich, The Very Revd Graham Smith said, "We are most grateful for the Cathedral Fabric Repair grant which has allowed the Dean and Chapter to address this long-standing problem. St Luke's Chapel roof had been patch repaired for a number of years. It is reassuring to know that this job has now been properly attended to."





**St Lawrence in Folke (Salisbury)**

Awarded £10,000 to repair roofs including the replacement of timbers, roof tiles and asbestos. Built in 1628, the church has a strong community focus and wishes to become a safer and more attractive event venue, displaying the splendour of its Jacobean interior.



**St Mary in Wortham (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich)**

Supported with a fabric repair grant for works to the roof and timbers. This was the catalyst for further successful fundraising helping to keep the church open.

Photo: John Salmon



**St Margaret in Paston (Norwich)**

The Grade I listed church of St Margaret in Paston (Norwich) originates from the 14th century. The building was restored in 1843 but medieval wall paintings were not uncovered until 1921. The wall paintings, dating from the early 15th century, depict popular medieval subjects including St Christopher, the Christ Child, the Three Living and the Three Dead. Post-Reformation texts are also visible.

A £7,500 grant is helping to conserve fragile painted surfaces which require emergency stabilisation to prevent further loss.

This much-loved church hosts many concerts, lectures and exhibitions, and soon these medieval wall paintings will again be on display to their local community and the church's 1,200 annual visitors.

Photo: Dr Andrea Kirkham



# Expert advice







#### Disaster recovery

A ChurchCare conference at Southwark Cathedral helped those caring for churches and cathedrals respond effectively when disaster strikes. For example, St Mary in March (Ely), was destroyed following an arson attack in 2010 and is undergoing restoration. More on disaster management plans can be found at [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk).



Photo: Richard Davies

#### New works to inspire higher design standards

A conference at Lambeth Palace, attended by more than 100 architects and professionals responsible for the development of church buildings, discussed a range of architectural solutions including modern juxtapositions (such as Norwich Cathedral's refectory), sympathetic additions and energy efficiency.

Altarpiece at St Mary in Thornham Parva (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich)



The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, ChurchCare, supports the sensitive development of church buildings to meet current needs, whilst ensuring that their special character is respected and their historic integrity retained, protecting and enhancing them for future generations.

The Division supports the work of national advisory and decision-making bodies: the Church Buildings Council for parish churches, its sub-committee the Statutory Advisory Committee for closed and closing churches; and the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England.

Central to this advice is the support of committees that bring together more than 100 international experts to ensure that the Church benefits from the most up-to-date expertise.

#### ChurchCare

ChurchCare ([www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)), the website of the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, was redesigned in 2012 with sponsorship from the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, bringing four websites under one banner. It now features more than 60 guidance documents ranging from helping draft a Statement of Significance or Need or compiling a Conservation Plan, to thematic advice on, for example, renewable energy generation in churches and cathedrals, extensions and reorderings, alterations and new facilities. ChurchCare also has a portal to apply for grants, information on campaigns, regularly updated news items, and information on upcoming events. Follow ChurchCare on Twitter via @CofE\_ChurchCare.

The ChurchCare eBulletin, a tri-annual email newsletter, contains news and updates on policy and recent developments, alongside information on events, guidance and advice for those who care for churches. It is distributed internationally to more than 3,000 email addresses. Download or subscribe from [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk) or email [ChurchCare@churchofengland.org](mailto:ChurchCare@churchofengland.org).

#### The Church Buildings Council

The Council is the national statutory body advising Chancellors and Diocesan Advisory Committees on projects involving the most significant churches, where works are complex or have a major impact. In 2012 almost half of the cases the Church Buildings Council considered were schemes for reordering or extending church buildings of high significance.

The Statutory Advisory Committee, a sub-committee of the Church Buildings Council, gives independent advice on heritage matters relating to closed and closing churches to the Church Commissioners and the Churches Conservation Trust. Whilst closures are very few – around 20 out of 16,000 churches each year – the Committee provides information on significance and advice on preservation, alternative use and disposal of churches and their contents.



# Expert advice

Churches and cathedrals are 'monuments in sacred space' which have a presence that can be lost if new work and modifications are not well made. Understanding spatial and social layering as essential components in the development of churches is critical for an estate of buildings which is

unparalleled in its architectural richness and extraordinary in its social potential.

**From Eric Parry's keynote address to the New Work in Historic Churches conference, 31 October 2012.**

## Training events

ChurchCare training events are intended to support, advise and enhance understanding for those caring for church buildings. More than 60 events have been organised since 2000. In 2012, 15 were run by the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division reaching a varied and international audience. The annual conference for Diocesan Advisory Committees and triennial conference for Fabric Advisory Committees remain important fixtures in the ChurchCare calendar. The team also adds value by contributing regularly to training provided by others, such as Archdeacons' conferences and induction training for cathedral chapters organised by the Association of English Cathedrals.

## Conservation symposia

In partnership with Westminster Abbey, an annual forum has been developed to reflect on conservation challenges. In 2011 a group of 50 international experts looked at key conservation projects in various European countries. These included the return of paintings from museums back into churches in Norway, and the conservation of the Ghent Altarpiece, where security and access has many parallels with work in Anglican parish churches, including the display of the medieval altarpiece at St Mary in Thornham Parva (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

In 2012 the symposium focused on the challenges facing monuments in church buildings, including church closure and security. The on-going care of war memorials in churches, as the Church looks ahead to the centenary of World War I, was also on the agenda. New guidance on the care of artworks is now available on [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk).

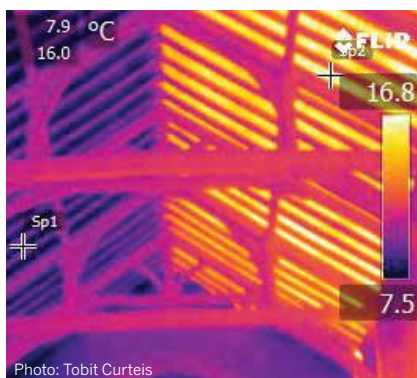
## The ChurchCare library

The library in Church House (London) houses a unique collection of records on England's parish churches, pictures and more than 14,000 books covering almost every aspect of cathedral and church architecture in England. It is open to the public by appointment ([ccblibrary@churchofengland.org](mailto:ccblibrary@churchofengland.org)).



Altarpiece at St Mary in Thornham Parva (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich)





### Heating without the hot air – a review of church heating

A conference at the Mercers' Hall in the City of London in 2012 explored the complexity of balancing conservation needs with energy efficiency when heating church buildings. It reviewed the diverse range of available technologies and included an exhibition of successful projects. A similar event on lighting is to follow in November 2013.



### Getting the best out of your church building

Most incumbents have had no formal training in caring for church buildings so a series of seminars, run by experienced clergy, are being held focussing on four themes - develop, care, sustain and fundraise. The first was held at St John's, Hyde Park in 2012. Subsequent events will be held around the country (see [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)).



Durham Cathedral – new visitor facilities.

### The Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England

The Commission is an advisory and decision-making body overseeing alterations to cathedrals in England (its 2012 report is available to download from [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)).

In 2011 the Commission approved the first phase of Durham Cathedral's 'Open Treasures' project to create a new cathedral shop, with fully accessible entrance, in the west cloister undercroft. The new shop replaces an enclosed exhibition area, allowing the wonderful undercroft space to be seen and appreciated by visitors. It was officially opened by Paralympian Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson in November 2012. Later phases will create new exhibition spaces and an accessible visitor route around fascinating parts of the Cathedral complex including the Great Kitchen (previous recipient of a Cathedral Fabric Repair grant) and the Monks' Dormitory.



# Open and sustainable



Open

sustainable



**Churches at risk of closure**

In 2011 the Church Buildings Council surveyed seven churches in Dudley (Worcester), looking at their architectural and historical significance and potential to the town. A plan was developed to integrate two into the local authority's new heritage-focused town-centre regeneration project.

Location, community and heritage value were recognised as the buildings' strongest attributes. The Parochial Church Council is now working with local stakeholders, focusing on new cultural and community uses, such as adult learning and treating drug dependency.



**Transforming burdens into assets**

St German's Priory (Truro), a Grade I listed church on the site of the Saxon Cathedral of Cornwall, faced closure in 2010. The Church Buildings Council surveyed the building looking at significance and value within its rural setting. A local group was established to explore options and a heritage and learning centre and performance venue are

now being considered, alongside regular worship.

A Trust has been established to maintain, fundraise and manage the building and is applying for a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to explore further options for sensitive and sustainable development.



St Leonard in Yarpole (Hereford)

**Open and sustainable**

**Churches**

Keeping churches open and sustainable at the heart of their communities is vital for their future, but congregations often need help overcoming obstacles in making this happen. ChurchCare, the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, has developed options to support congregations and communities in selecting the right legal and funding model to develop their church buildings in order to engage communities as well as their congregations.

**Cathedrals**

The recent report *Spiritual Capital: The Present and Future of English Cathedrals* (Theos and the Grubb Institute, 2012) quantified the impact cathedrals have in their regions and the place they hold in people's affection. 59% of respondents agreed that "cathedrals belong to the whole community, not just the Church of England" and locally this rises to 83%. Church of England cathedrals are major national visitor attractions and in 2011 attracted around 12 million visitors. Cathedrals also contribute to the local economy, social action and provide a cue for regeneration initiatives.

**Leicester Cathedral Gardens**

This scheme will create a new public space encompassing the Cathedral churchyard and the forecourt of St Martin's House which stands adjacent. The project will be an asset for the whole city and is intended to be a place where people of all faiths and none can feel at home and to which visitors will be drawn.

**Salisbury Cathedral's Little Paradise**

The project will fill in an underused space alongside the Chapter House in an architecturally sensitive way to create a modest but high-quality new building. This will provide much needed facilities to support the regular congregation and the Cathedral's 260,000 visitors a year (picture right).

**Tackling bureaucracy**

**Simplification of the Faculty process**

The Faculty process is an essential safeguard to ensure that necessary alterations and repairs to our church buildings are of the highest quality but, for volunteers at parish level, it can seem cumbersome.

In 2012 the Faculty Simplification Group consulted widely with parishes and dioceses on the working of the Faculty system. These have provided the basis for practical proposals to speed up and simplify the process for those who operate it. Most of the recommendations can be implemented by the adoption of best practice. Others will be brought to Synod as soon as possible (see [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)).





# Open and sustainable



## Durham Sanctuary knocker

The 12th century Sanctuary knocker from Durham Cathedral was loaned to the Bronze exhibition at the Royal Academy in London in 2012, where more than 224,000 visitors had the opportunity to admire it. The image is a copy of this rare example of bronze European sculpture of the Middle Ages. It features a lion's head with a tendrill-like mane and heart-shaped ears.

## Celebrating church treasures

The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division is actively addressing major challenges facing the Church's collections including the threat of sale of artworks and preservation of important objects following closure of parish churches. The policy of the Church Buildings Council is that treasures belong in churches and should only be removed in the most exceptional circumstances. In recognising the challenges facing parishes the Church Buildings Council has produced guidance on the sale of church treasures (see [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)), which highlights the theology underpinning the policy, legal issues, and insurance and security concerns.

In difficult economic times, with pressure on limited resources, parishes can be tempted to sell unique artworks. The sale of a treasure is not only a permanent loss to the Church but artworks and historical objects can be lost to this country too.

### The care of medieval rood screens

A conservation initiative to protect 400 medieval screens in East Anglian parish churches is underway. This remarkable collection has very specific conservation needs, with painted screens displayed within uncontrolled environments in church buildings. £40,000 was secured from the Headley Trust to undertake a pilot project of 10 churches. The aim is to find practical ways of helping parishes raise funds for the future treatment of the panels and draw out guidelines to help parishes with similar artworks in their care. This is a partnership with the Hamilton Kerr Institute, seeking to develop a more ambitious plan for the large-scale protection of the whole collection.

### Treasures on tour

The 42 cathedrals are unique repositories of treasures of international significance. The Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England supports Chapters with national and international loans to ensure that outstanding artworks reach the widest audience with the utmost care and protection. Practical guidance on lending objects is available from [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk) where you can also keep track of loans of cathedral artworks via the 'Treasures on Tour' section.



### Kings and Scribes – The Birth of a Nation

Winchester Cathedral receives 275,000 visitors annually and is developing an exhibition area to unlock access to its hidden treasures, including a new display of the 12th century Winchester Bible. This outstanding illuminated manuscript will be interpreted and

exhibited to modern standards, in a protected and controlled environment. In 2012 the Cathedral received a £10.5 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund which will be central in re-energising the celebration of this unique treasure.

Image reproduced by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester Cathedral. All rights reserved.

The V&A supports the vital safeguarding and conservation of the rich heritage and collections contained in church buildings across the UK.

**Sir Paul Ruddock,  
Chairman of the Victoria and  
Albert Museum.**





### Zero carbon church

A Grade I listed church, St Michael and All Angels in Withington (Gloucester), has cut energy consumption by over 40% by reducing the use of floodlighting and increasing energy efficiency. A biomass heating system replaced the old oil boiler, and the installation of 24 'no fix' photo-voltaic panels now generates more energy than the church uses, achieving a

zero carbon status and income of more than £1,000 a year.

The total cost of the project was £43,500 funded from a range of sources including the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust, Community Sustainable Energy Programme and Low Carbon Buildings Programme.

Eco-congregation Award winner, Bradford Cathedral's solar panel installation.



## Shrinking the Footprint

Reducing the Church's carbon footprint is a joint project with the Mission and Public Affairs Division of the Archbishops' Council to work with cathedrals, churches, church schools and clergy houses to reduce the Church of England's carbon footprint in line with the General Synod's commitment to an 80% reduction by 2050.

Chaired by the Bishop of London, *Shrinking the Footprint* campaigns on environmental issues. Recent examples include fuel poverty, the Green Deal and the Energy Bill. It works with a wide range of secular partners including the National Trust, English Heritage, Natural England and the Building Research Establishment.

### National energy audit

To manage reduction in energy consumption, the Church needs a better idea of its carbon footprint today. During 2012, £43,000 was secured from the Department of Energy and Climate Change to pilot an online energy monitoring tool (sMeasure) in six dioceses. Following a successful pilot with more than 300 churches and schools, the energy audit has now been extended nationally and is free to all church buildings. It is currently working to integrate elements of the Diocese of London's Energy Saving Benchmarking to create a comprehensive audit with bespoke action plans for parishes in addition to energy monitoring.

These simple methods of collecting data locally will give the whole Church an authoritative picture of its energy use and highlight areas where energy can be saved.

*Shrinking the Footprint* organises events throughout the year. It supports annual meetings for Diocesan Environment Officers and partners projects with Government and other faiths and denominations.

### Green Cathedrals

Cathedrals can lead by example on energy efficiency, renewable technology, sustainable procurement and education as the mother church of the diocese. In 2013 Chelmsford Cathedral launched a Church of England

carbon calculator smartphone application in partnership with *Shrinking the Footprint* and Climate Week to help congregations and visitors better understand their own energy use.

# 78

More than 78 churches have installed photo-voltaic cells, including 18 Grade I and 16 Grade II\* listed buildings.

Up-to-date information on current initiatives, including the energy audit, 'Nurture in his Name' films and national policy issues is available on [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk). The campaign can also be followed on Twitter @CofECampaign or on Facebook at *Shrinking the Footprint*.



## Encouraging innovation



*Design a Church Chair!* One of the winning entries by Tomoko Azumi of TNA Design





### New art in church buildings

The Jerusalem Trust Prize in the commissioning of new art in parish churches encouraged community involvement. One of the joint winners, The Church of the Good Shepherd in Kirk Sandall (Sheffield), held a community art day 'Colour in Your Church' using glass-related crafts to inspire a new stained glass window.

Competitions have proved a new way of engaging parishes in achieving excellence.

### New art in church buildings

A determination to ensure that works of 21st century art in churches are of as high quality as those from the past lead to new guidance for parishes commissioning new art. This is now available on [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk).

To launch the guidance, and in partnership with the Jerusalem Trust, a competition was run to recognise excellence in the process of developing a brief and commissioning new art, rather than the finished work itself. The £10,000 prize was awarded jointly to St Andrew's in Plymouth (Exeter) and The Good Shepherd in Kirk Sandall (Sheffield) at an exhibition held at St Stephen, Walbook (London) in November 2012 where all 11 shortlisted entries (out of 50 applications) from around the country were exhibited. Details can be found on [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)

Reading through the submissions... has been profoundly inspiring: the breadth of imaginative response, visual ambition, and theological engagement has been a wonderful experience!

**Mark Cazalet, artist.**

Acceptance of the award... will be such a great boost to our community...we look forward to all that lies ahead.

**One of the winners from Kirk Sandall.**



Image: Nick Shurey and Sebastian Klowiter, winners of the student category.

### High quality seating for church buildings

To address increasing concern over the quality of replacement furniture the *Design a Church Chair!* competition was launched to drive excellence in new church furniture design. The competition encouraged designers to engage with ecclesiastical settings and raised the importance of good design to parishes. Over 100 entries were received and a winning design, Tomoko Azumi's wave chair, is now being taken into production by Luke Hughes & Company.

The competition has attracted some excellent designs that will complement church buildings through their simplicity of form, their sound construction and their enduring quality.

**John Makepeace OBE, furniture designer and maker.**



# Campaigning



Photo: John Leverton

## Assessing the impact of the high speed rail link

The Church Buildings Council lobbied successfully for amendment of phase I of the route of the proposed new High Speed 2 rail link to reduce the impact on 25 churches between London and Birmingham. These churches, most of them Grade I or II\* listed buildings, faced demolition, isolation, and irreversible damage to their historic fabric and setting.



Photo: Ecclesiastical Insurance Group





### Addressing the impact of bats on church buildings

Bats, a protected species found in the majority of parish churches, in most cases live in harmony with the church community. However, large roosts can impact disastrously on church life and cause serious damage to artworks of international significance.

Since 2012 the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division has been working with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to develop mitigation strategies backed up by substantive publicly funded research programmes (see [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)).



St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol (Bristol)

The responsibility for church buildings rests with parishes and chapters. The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, ChurchCare, adds value by campaigning nationally to ensure that Church issues are taken fully into account by Government in policy and legislation.



Tewkesbury Abbey (Gloucester)

Photo: Ecclesiastical Insurance Group

### Metal theft legislation

The problem of lead theft was addressed in a report delivered by the Church Buildings Council to the Home Secretary in 2011. It was followed by a sustained campaign with the Home Office and Parliament on behalf of all dioceses. Legislation to abolish cash sales for scrap metal came into effect on 4 December 2012 and The Scrap Metal Dealers Bill received Royal Assent in February 2013. The Church Buildings Council has produced a guidance note on alternatives to lead in cases of multiple thefts which is available on [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk)

Support from the team at Church House has been invaluable to the early success of the Scrap Metal Dealers Bill. While the Church has been a constant and vocal advocate of the merits of the Bill, staff pulled out all the stops in the run up to the critical third reading [in the House of Commons] which was vulnerable to being 'talked out'... We are also very grateful for a quick turnaround of statistics and material in the course of our research into the impact of metal thefts on church buildings.

**Richard Ottaway MP**

# ChurchCare



16,000 buildings. One resource

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## Closed and Closing Churches

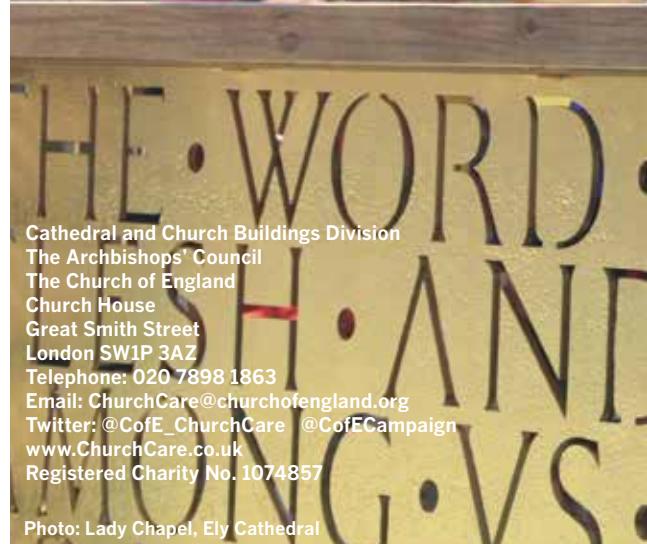
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**For details of your local Diocesan Advisory Committee see [www.ChurchCare.co.uk](http://www.ChurchCare.co.uk).**



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Photo: Lady Chapel, Ely Cathedral

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