

From: [National Churches Trust](#)
To: ctcinfohub@gmail.com
Subject: Your May 2024 Newsletter
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43 churches saved thanks to your support

Dear Supporter,

We're delighted to announce that another 43 historic churches across the UK will stay open and support their communities thanks to £478,110 awarded by the National Churches Trust in our latest round of grants.

Craig Stocks, Leader of City Church in Dundee shared what a £20,000 grant meant to his church and community:

"The grant from the National Churches Trust is a huge help towards a large project in one of the most deprived areas in the UK. Renovations at the Friary will restore community access to a treasured asset in Dundee and give the church a much-improved space to worship."

You can [read more about the churches you've helped here](#), where you can also explore an interactive map and a photo gallery.

Thank you for your commitment to helping churches stay open. Your support is crucial in helping us to reach so many churches with the help they need.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire".

Claire Walker

Chief Executive

Latest news and updates



Amid difficult landscape, 43 churches are saved for the future

In our latest round of funding, we awarded almost half a million pounds to 43 churches. Through our Large and Medium grants, we have been able to reach places of worship of different denominations right across the UK with vital support, enabling them to keep their buildings well maintained and open for all.

[Read more about the churches we've been able to help](#)



King Charles III becomes Patron of the National Churches Trust

We are honoured to welcome King Charles III as Patron of the National Churches Trust. This highlights the significance of UK churches and the important role that the National Churches Trust plays in keeping these wonderful buildings open and in good repair.

With so many churches facing increased repair costs and at risk of closing, the future of the UK's churches is the single biggest heritage crisis today. The news of His Majesty King Charles III's support will mean a great deal to our Friends, generous donors and the churches we are helping to keep open.

[Read more about how the Royal Family have played an important role in championing churches across the UK](#)



Help us save more churches like Darlington St Cuthbert

One church you helped last year was St Cuthbert's in Darlington. Like many, its history is incredible, stretching back to 1180 and including a restoration by Sir George Gilbert Scott in the 1860s. But more recently the roof failed, and rain began to leak into the church. This Grade I listed building was in serious danger and placed on the Heritage at Risk Register. Thanks only to our supporters, to people like you, the National Churches Trust was able to award a £20,000 grant for repairs. And we also awarded them a £10,000 Wolfson Fabric Repair Grant on behalf of the Wolfson Foundation. St Cuthbert's will soon be wind and watertight at last. But there are 900 churches still on the Heritage at Risk Register.

Please consider [becoming a Friend](#) to help us save even more historic churches.

Remembering Lord Field

We are sorry to hear about the death of Frank Field, former MP, cross bench Peer and a Vice President of the National Churches Trust.

"I much enjoyed my conversations with him over many years. What a delightful and caring person, and hugely committed to our cause. I remember him telling me that he was strongly promoting a National Trust for



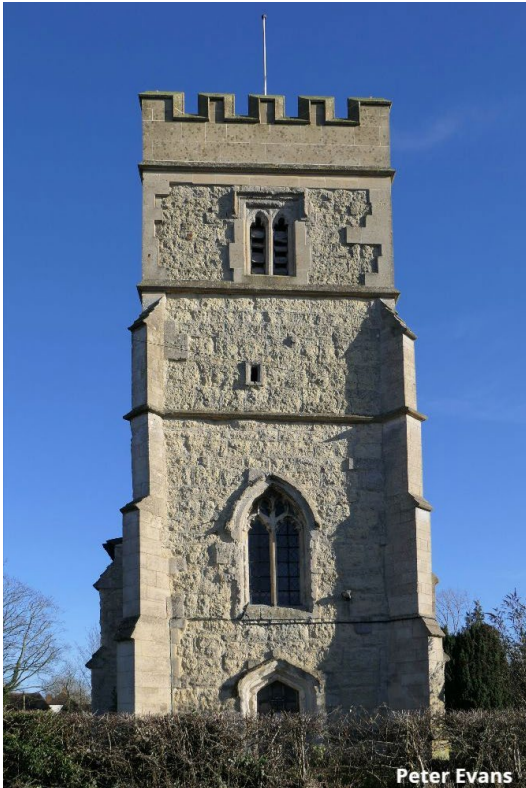
Churches in the early years," shared Luke March, former chair of the National Churches Trust.

Alongside his work with the National Churches Trust, Frank was also Chair of the Churches Conservation Trust for ten years and served from 2005-2015 as the Chair of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England. We are grateful to Frank for his support in keeping churches buildings open and helping others. Our thoughts are with his family and loved ones.

Hear from a church we've supported

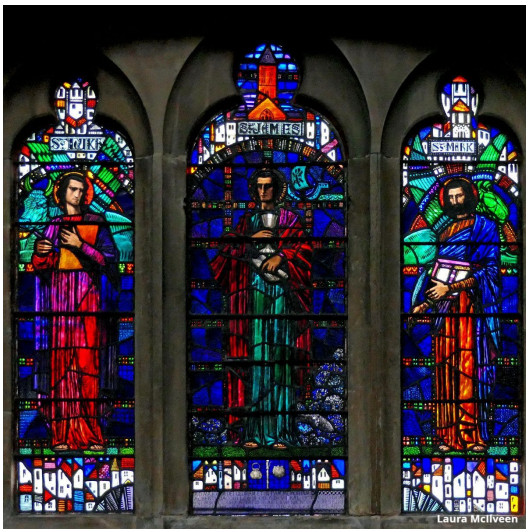
For years, the stonework tower at St John the Baptist Church in Granborough, Buckinghamshire, had been slowly decaying. But in 2023, a £10,000 grant awarded by the National Churches Trust on behalf of the Wolfson Foundation helped with vital restoration work to the historic tower at St John's. Damaged material was removed, cracks were repaired, and parts of the tower were refaced with new stone.

Thanks to your support, the church is



structurally sound once again, and will be open for years to come.

Explore places of worship across the UK



St Mark's Dundela: treasured connections to CS Lewis

Join us on 6 June at St Mark's Church in Dundela, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where stained glass expert Dr David Caron will speak on the window in the church commissioned by writer CS Lewis. You'll also have a chance to hear more about the life and work of its maker, the celebrated artist Michael Healy. A glass of fizz and nibbles are also included in the ticket price.

[Get your tickets](#)

Walking tour of Marylebone churches, London

On 10 September, we're running a walking tour of three churches in Marylebone, London. First, you'll be



delighted by the joyful interior of St Cyprian Clarence Gate before heading to our 'Church of the Year 2023', St Marylebone. The tour ends at St James Spanish Place, a dramatic 19th century Neo-Gothic wonder. A sandwich lunch will be provided.

[Book your place](#)



Visit Lincolnshire churches this May

The West Lindsey Churches Festival is taking place this weekend, the 11-12 May, and next weekend, 18-19 May. Over the four days, 88 local churches will be opening their doors and hosting all kinds of events for you to enjoy. You could indulge in the Norman architecture at Market Rasen St Peter & St Paul or pay a visit to Hackthorn St Michael & All Angels, which plans to carry out vital repairs thanks to a £10,000 grant that we have just awarded on behalf of the Wolfson Foundation. There is so much to explore, so make sure to visit one or more of these brilliant churches if you are nearby.

[Find out more about the West Lindsey Churches Festival](#)

Liverpool Cathedrals tour recap

Thank you to all those who came on our recent Liverpool Cathedrals tour



and made the day so much fun. We heard all about the local sandstone that Liverpool Cathedral is constructed from and explored the extraordinary space inside Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral. We run regular events throughout the year, so make sure to keep an eye out for more opportunities to enjoy UK churches with us.

[Find out more about future events](#)



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