



Helping Yorkshire's Historic Churches & Chapels  
since 1988



St Helen's, Amotherby  
Awarded £6000 for roof repairs

# Annual Report



Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust report for the year 2023

# Our people



## President

The Most Reverend & Right  
Honourable Stephen Cottrell,  
Archbishop of York

## Patron

Dr Terry Bramall CBE

## Trustees

Tom Ramsden, Chairman

Richard Bailey, Treasurer

Robert Beaumont

Jane Crease

Moira Fulton

Kate Giles

Sylvia Johnson

Clive Lloyd

Rory Wardroper

Michael Wildblood

## Administration

<b>Hon. Treasurer:</b>	Richard Bailey, 2 Dalton Terrace, York YO24 4DA T: 01904 643943, Email: <a href="mailto:treasurer@yhct.org.uk">treasurer@yhct.org.uk</a>
<b>Administrator and principal address:</b>	Vanessa White, 77 Silverdale Drive, Leeds LS20 8BE T: 07786 656883, Email: <a href="mailto:generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk">generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk</a>
<b>Grants Secretary:</b>	Jonathan Stamp c/o 11 Ovington Close, Templetown, Consett, Co. Durham DH8 7NY. T: 07594 578665, Email: <a href="mailto:grants@yhct.org.uk">grants@yhct.org.uk</a>
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	Sarah Wearing FCA, HPH Chartered Accountants, 30 Bootham, York YO30 7XZ
<b>Investment Managers:</b>	abrdn Capital Ltd, Minerva House, 29 East Parade, Leeds LS1 5PS
<b>Bank:</b>	Co-operative Bank, PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Lupton Fawcett LLP, Stamford House, Piccadilly, York YO1 9PP
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.yhct.org.uk">www.yhct.org.uk</a>
<b>Twitter:</b>	@YHCT88

# President's welcome



One of the joys of being Archbishop of York is the opportunity to visit the churches and parishes of the region. Naturally such visits focus on teaching the faith, preaching the Gospel, encouraging people in their following of Jesus. But those visits also take place in particular places, in particular buildings. We call them Churches, they are houses of God and meeting places of his disciples. They are places where Jesus is known in the lives and witness of

the people who inhabit them. But of course the way we care for such buildings, how we use them, furnish them and maintain them says something profound about the God who is worshiped within them. It says something about who this God is, why he matters, how lives are transformed through an encounter with him.

That is why the work of the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust is so important and why I am pleased to commend this annual report to you. The work of the Trust not only supports the extraordinary built heritage of our region, but helps keep these wonderful buildings in good repair and open to fulfil the purpose for which they were built. Often with heritage buildings they are monuments to some age that is now past, or they have been repurposed to new use. Not so our Churches. Still these buildings are used to the glory of God, for worship and to serve the communities in which they are set. This is no small thing and I remain tremendously grateful to the Trust and its supporters and all who give so generously of their time, gifts and resources to support the flourishing of our church buildings.

**The Most Reverend & Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell,**  
Archbishop of York

# Chairman's report



As I write this report in the spring of 2024, I must remind myself that it is about the activities of 2023 rather than the ever present and developing work of the trust in 2024.

The bottom line of this report is the resources raised to help the maintenance and repair of Yorkshire's Places of Worship. The surplus available for awarding grants increased from £130,000 in 2022 to £154,500 in 2023. This is entirely due to the generosity of our supporters and the work of all those involved with the trust.

The amount available for grants has been further enhanced by the receipt of £118,000 in bequests to the trust over the past two years. The trustees have a policy for legacies and bequests whereby 100% of all funds received are distributed in grants over a period of up to ten years to avoid dramatic variation in the grants available from year to year. The smaller amounts (up to £5000) are distributed within a year of receipt, those between £5000 and £25000 are spread over 5 years and those over £50000 are spread over 10 years. This should give comfort to those considering leaving a legacy or bequest that their gift will be spent in full and without delay. It will give immediate support to Yorkshire's churches. The bequests received are already increasing the grants awarded for the next 5 years. Please give this thought and consider leaving to the YHCT a gift in your will.

Apart from legacies your trustees remain deeply grateful to all those who help the trust each year. Many of these supporters are acknowledged below but excluded from that list are individual donors wishing to remain anonymous. The communities throughout Yorkshire that benefit from well repaired and maintained buildings are the beneficiaries of this generosity and are very grateful for it.

***Continued...***

# Chairman's report

*(continued)*



The messages of appreciation we receive are heartwarming and add value to all the work put in. This applies particularly to the work of the grants committee, administered so efficiently by Jonathan Stamp and led by Sylvia Johnson. It looks in detail at each application, gives help to the applicants and then advises the trustees about the size of individual grants.

There is an increasing and significant number of Church Friends. This recognises the value of the trust to all Yorkshire's churches and the desire to help others as well as your own church. If reading this as a member of your PCC or other church council, please persuade your church to become a Friend. You will be kept in touch with YHCT activities, advised about available grants and helped with fund raising opportunities like Yorkshire Churches Day. The subscriptions received will swell the funds available for grants to your own and other churches.

The winter zoom lectures and the church tours remain ever popular. These tours are inevitably sold out and in 2023 included visits to Rotherham Beverley and the Howardian Hills. There were five winter evening lectures each attended by over fifty participants and each providing stimulating and lively debate about the subject at hand. As a result of these another ten friends joined the trust. All this is organised by Moira Fulton and Jane Crease and is adding a not insignificant contribution to trust funds.

Your trust remains busy and active on all these fronts. The tireless and largely unacknowledged work of the trustees, the officers and all other supporters of the trust deserves grateful thanks. I make no apology for referring you again to the list of donors below and the thanks due from many communities to the trustees of the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation.

**Tom Ramsden**

# Yorkshire Churches Day



Taking place on Saturday 14 September, Yorkshire Churches Day (YCD) is a chance for every place of worship in the county to open up and showcase the amazing history and heritage found inside their buildings.

The aim of the day is to encourage people to explore local churches even if they have never stepped foot inside one before. It will be a day for those who are curious about history and the heritage of their local surroundings.

Once again, YCD is running in partnership with the Heritage Open Days festival (HOD), whose theme is 'Routes – Networks – Connections'. This year, as well as individual churches opening, in line with the HOD theme, many are working together to put on trails, offering refreshments and entertainment to encourage visitors to spend a day exploring several different churches whether that be on foot, by bike or by car.

More information can be found at: [yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day](http://yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day)

## Dates for your diary



**Friday 14 June** - A visit to North Yorkshire County Record Office

**Wednesday 4 September** - A tour of churches in and around Driffield

**Saturday 14 September** – Yorkshire Churches Day

**Tuesday 22 October** - Treasures: Yorkshire People and Parishes, York Medical Society. A lecture by Kirstie Mitchell, who recently assembled the current exhibition in the Minster's Museum in the Undercroft.

More information can be found at [yhct.org.uk/eventspage](http://yhct.org.uk/eventspage).

# St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail



In 2023, the Upper Ryedale parish invited members of the local community to join them on a sponsored walk, connecting the five churches in their care. The event was a fantastic success, with 23 walkers, two runners and a lone cyclist taking part, raising over £1600 for the churches and the YHCT. Participants visited St John's, Bilsdale, All Saints, Hawnby, All Saints Old Byland, St Mary's, Scawton, finishing at St Michael's, Cold Kirby.

After the success and popularity of the trail, members of the parish were joined by colleagues from Helmsley PCC were inspired to design a new 41-mile walking trail, named the St Aelred's Pilgrim Trail, after the second abbot of the Rievaulx Abbey, who was a great walker and a great believer in friendship.

The trail starts and ends in the market town of Helmsley and leads walkers along a route through a land shaped by Christianity through the ages. It includes eight Anglican churches, two Methodist chapels and the magnificent ruins of Rievaulx Abbey, and the full length would take the average person four days to complete.

The trail will be officially launched on Yorkshire Churches Day, with people invited to join in with a 12 mile 'gathering walk' on the route, starting at All Saints in Hawnby, and gathering walkers along the way at churches in Old Byland, Scawton, and Cold Kirby, finishing with a service in Rievaulx Abbey and a celebration event in the Abbey Café.

More information can be found at: [youtube.com/watch?v=vHx76iWbI\\_Y](https://youtube.com/watch?v=vHx76iWbI_Y) and [yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day](https://yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day).

# St Helen's Amotherby



St Helens, the Parish Church for the thriving villages of Amotherby, Swinton and Broughton near Malton is a Grade II listed building and part of the Street Benefice that follows the ancient Roman road from Malton to Hovingham. Earliest ecclesiastical records go back to 1218 when the church was gifted to St Alban's Abbey. Victorian excavations to extend

the church in 1872 exposed an Anglo Danish grave slab, dating between 900 – 1000 ad which now rests in the church porch.

The extension and upgrade of 1872 has given the church a rich Victorian interior, with much of the carvings to the end of the pews undertaken by the then Rector Rev'd Peach.

Fast forward to 2023, and the church was on the Heritage at Risk register, the Victorian roof drainage system had failed allowing standing water to accumulate along the north wall of the building causing the wall to bulge. Movement to the north wall had caused displacement of the roof impacting damage to the arch above the organ and two of the glazed windows. It was essential along with addressing the structural issues that an effective soak away was reinstated to safely disperse standing water from the roof that had caused the problems.

In October 2023, the YHCT were delighted to award £6,000, which, along with the fundraising efforts of the local community, was an integral part of enabling the church to address these long standing issues and securing it for future generations.

Church warden Wendy Wilson said: *"We were most grateful for the support we received from the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust for our fundraising efforts. We found the application process straightforward, with lots of useful guidance on the website"*.



# Acknowledgements



We remain indebted to our many Friends who continue to support the Trust and we were delighted to be joined by so many of them at the events we held throughout the year.

We are especially grateful to the donors who generously support the Trust, including those listed below:

**The Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation, Holy Rood Community Trust, Spooner Trust, Ilkley Charitable Trust, Lord Barnby Foundation, Calmcott Trust, Edward Ramsden Trust.**

We are grateful to the following Churches and PCCs who have supported the Trust:

Airton Friends Meeting House	St Andrew's Church Aysgarth	St Martin's Church Scarborough
All Hallows' Parish Church	St Andrew's URC Sheffield	St Martin's Potternewton
All Saints Northallerton	St Cuthbert's Church	St Martin's Yapham cum Meltonby
All Saints and St James	St Edmund Roundhay	St Mary Magdalene Yarm PCC
All Saints Pavement	St Germain' Church Winestead	St Mary's Church Sand Hutton
All Saints PCC Clayton	St Giles Burnby	St Mary's Church Embsay
All Saints Settrington & Scagglethorpe	St Giles Lockton	St Mary's PCC Gate Helmsley
All Saints Slingsby	St Helens Amotherby	St Matthews Chapel Allerton
All Saints South Kirby	St Hilda's Bilsdale	St Matthew's Sheffield
All Saints South Cave	St James Baildon	St Matthew's Wilsden
Central Methodist Church	St James the Great Woodall & Waterloo	St Michael's Skidby
Christ Church PCC	St John the Baptist Roughtown	St Nicholas Stillington
Diocese of Leeds	St John the Baptist Royston PCC	St Nicholas Bawtry
Doncaster Minster	St John the Divine	St Oswald Thornton in Lonsdale
Gomersal Methodist	St John the Evangelist Golcar	St Oswalds Church Leathley
Harswell PCC	St John Minskip	St Oswalds Fulford
Holy Trinity Church Low Moor	St John's Church Goole	St Peter's Church Cranswick
Leeds Cathedral (RC)	St John's Church Allerston	St Peter's Parish Church Birstall
PCC of Honley with Brockholes	St John's Sharow	St Stephen's Church Lindley
Providence Methodist Church Golcar	St Lawrence Parish Church	St Thomas Thurstunland
Saltburn PCC	St Lawrence Siggleshorne	St Wilfrid of York Hickleton
Settle PCC	St Margaret's Church Horsforth	St. Michael & All Angels Church Thornhill

# Ways to help the Trust



Please become a Friend of the Trust (for less than £1 per week) and help secure the future of Yorkshire's places of worship. You will be joining a group of likeminded people, greatly committed to preserving and maintaining places of worship and help us make a vital difference to their future.

## Subscription Rates

Details of current subscription rates can be found below. Please make sure your payment and / or standing order is up to date and being paid into:

<b>Bank Name</b>	<b>Sort code</b>	<b>Account number</b>
Co-operative Bank	08 92 99	65846678

## Types of membership (per year)

<b>Membership type</b>	<b>Value</b>
Individual	£35
Joint	£45
Church membership	£50
Business supporter	£100

Do please let us know if your contact details change, so we can continue to keep in touch.

Please contact [generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk).

*Continued...*

# Ways to help the Trust

*(continued)*



## Leaving a legacy

Leaving a gift in your Will is a lasting way to continue supporting Yorkshire's places of worship beyond your lifetime and keeping them alive for others to enjoy.

Making a bequest is simple – it can be included in a new Will or added as a codicil to your existing Will.

The YHCT is tasked with the responsibility for looking after Yorkshire's churches and chapels and will use your gift wisely, respect and act upon any conditions attached to your gift and respect your right to change your mind at any time. For more details, please contact Vanessa White at [generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk) or visit our website.

## Gift Aid

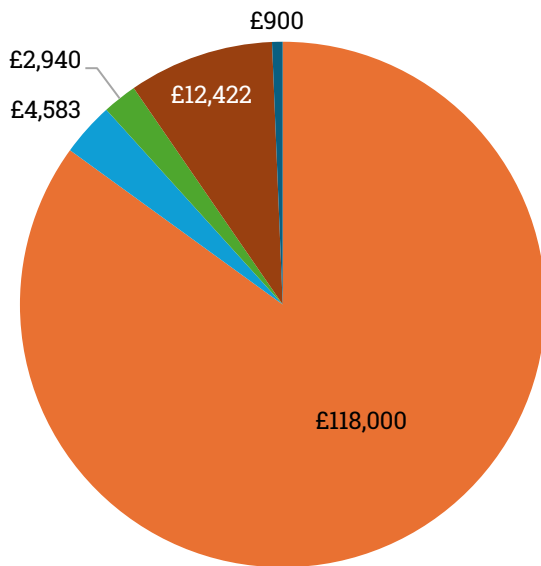
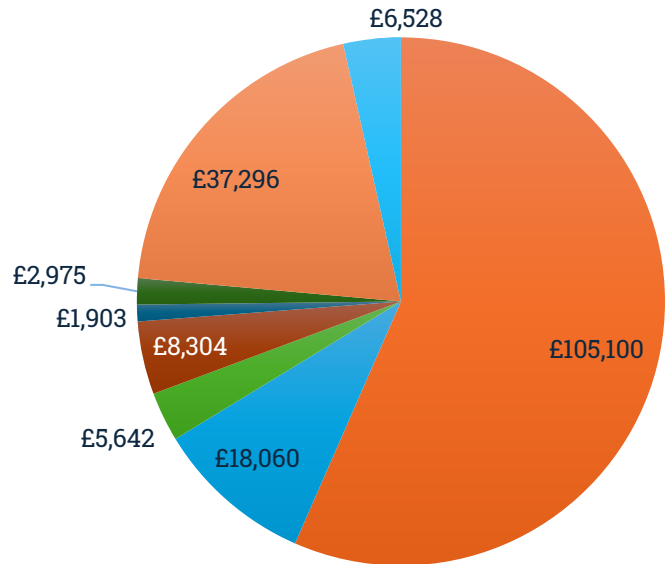
If you pay income or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount YHCT can reclaim, the Trust will benefit by an additional 25p in the £1 on all monies paid. If we are able to apply Gift Aid to any donation you make, please be sure to let us know.

# Income and Expenditure 2023



## INCOME £185,808

- Grants from charitable trusts
- Individuals (donations, subscriptions, Gift Aid)
- Churches (donations and subscriptions)
- Legacies
- Ride & Stride
- Members Events
- Investment Fund monthly payment
- Bank interest



## EXPENDITURE £138,884

- Grants to Churches
- Administration - Grants
- Administration - Membership
- Administration - Charity
- Yorkshire Churches Day

A full copy of the accounts is available upon request,  
 please email: [treasurer@yhct.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@yhct.org.uk)

# Grants Awarded 2023

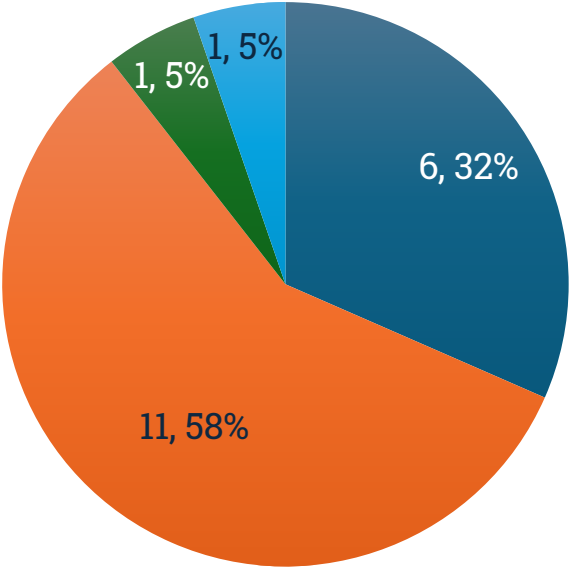


LOCATION	CHURCH NAME	FUNDING FOR	AMOUNT
Amotherby	St Helen (Anglican)	Structural repairs	£6000
Bradford	Our Lady of Lourdes & St William (Catholic)	Dry rot treatment	£3000
Bradford	Holy Trinity (Anglican)	Parapet repairs	£9000
Bradford	St Joseph (Catholic)	Roof and stonework repairs	£8000
Clifford	St Edward King and Confessor (Catholic)	Fabric repairs	£8000
Cookridge	Holy Trinity (Anglican)	Window repairs	£7000
Healey	St Paul (Anglican)	Masonry repairs	£1000
Hickleton	St Wilfrid (Anglican)	Altar repairs	£3500
Holmbridge	St David (Anglican)	Organ restoration works	£7000
Leeds	St Augustine (Catholic)	Roof repairs	£6000
Long Marston	All Saints (Anglican)	Wall and guttering repairs	£4000
Mount Pellon	Christ Church (Anglican)	Dry rot repairs	£12000
Ripon	St Wilfrid (Catholic)	Altar repairs	£4000
South Kirby	All Saints (Anglican)	Roof repairs	£5000
Lindley	St Stephen's (Anglican)	Parapet repairs	£8000
Wetherby	St Joseph (Catholic)	Roof repairs	£2000
Whitgift	St Mary (Anglican)	Fabric repairs	£3000
York	Cornerstone (Free Church)	Roof repairs	£5000
York	St Michael le Belfrey (Anglican)	Glazing and stonework repairs	£15000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£116500</b>

*Continued...*

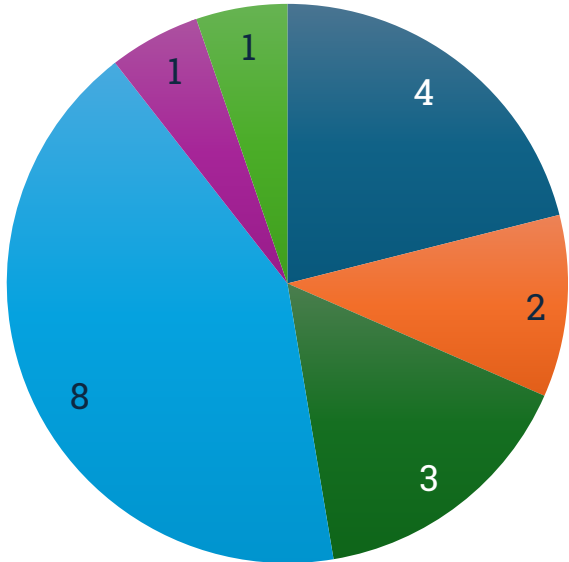
# Grants Awarded 2023

(continued)



## GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

- North Yorkshire
- West Yorkshire
- South Yorkshire
- East Yorkshire

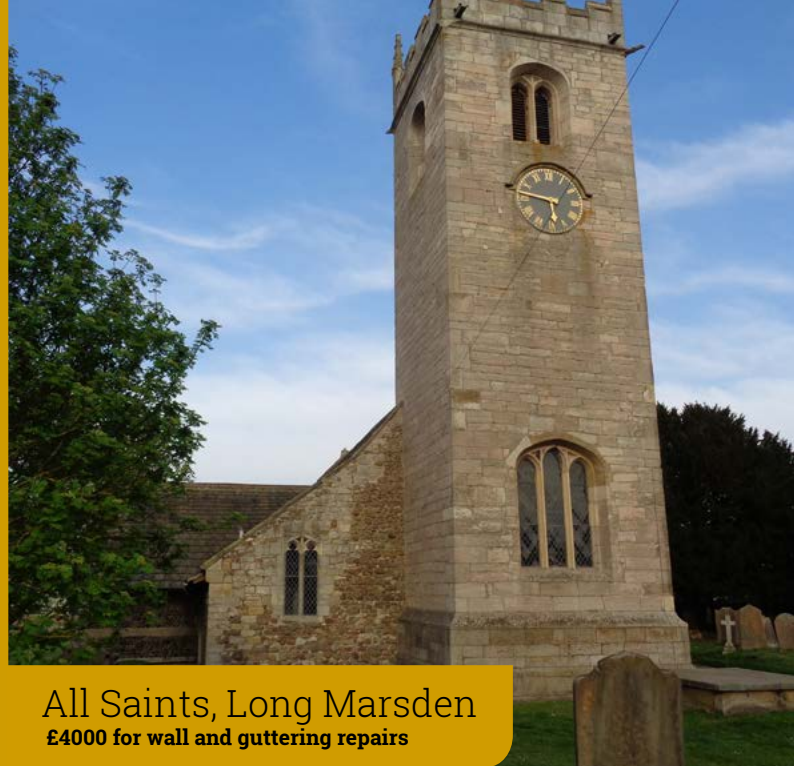


## FUNDING TYPE

- Fabric repairs
- Masonry and Stonework repairs
- Guttering and Dry Rot repairs
- Roof repairs
- Window repairs
- Organ repairs



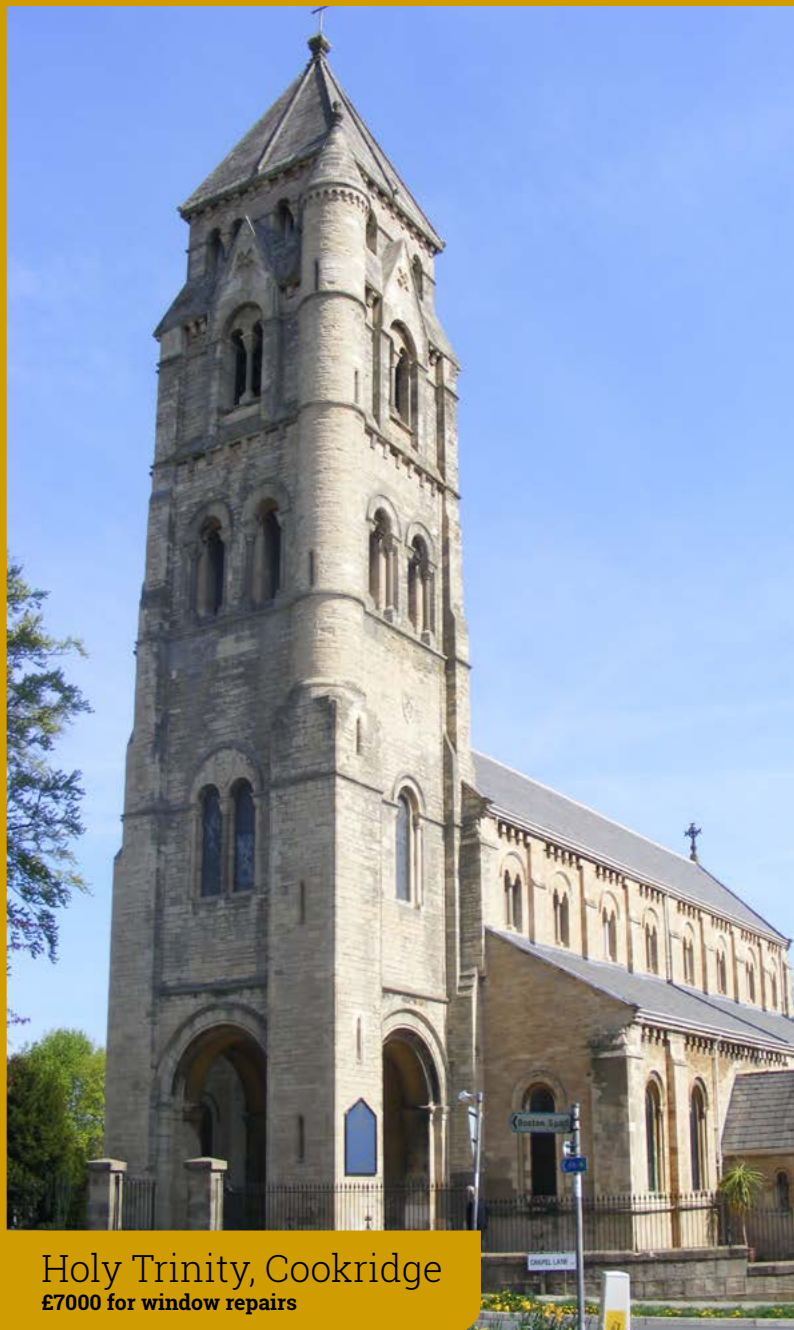
**St Wilfrid, Hickleton**  
£3500 for alter repairs



**All Saints, Long Marsden**  
£4000 for wall and guttering repairs



**St Edward King & Confessor, Clifford**  
£8000 for fabric repairs



**Holy Trinity, Cookridge**  
£7000 for window repairs