



The Pilgrim Trust

Preservation & Scholarship Grants

Please find information below on the 14 grants made in the past quarter, June 2021, from our Preservation and Scholarship fund.

Organisation:	Project Title:	Amount awarded:	The Story:
The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society	Abingdon Abbey Buildings: Enhancing a threatened community asset	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust grant will be used to fund part of our development costs to enable Abingdon Abbey Buildings to move forward in its £4.5 million capital renovation project.</p> <p>Abingdon Abbey Buildings are regarded as the heart of the history in the ancient town of Abingdon-on-Thames. However, the Buildings are now at risk since we have no endowment or revenue support. We are run entirely on income earned from volunteer led events, lettings and visitors. The fabric of the Buildings are increasingly becoming untenable – for example repairs are needed to the roof and Long Gallery, and we have no disability access.</p> <p>In 2017, we undertook a strategic review and successfully secured a Resilient Heritage grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The resulting feasibility study described how we the Buildings could have a sustainable future and attract wider and more diverse audiences. We are currently submitting for grants from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for £4.5 million in project costs and £337,405 in development costs. We currently have a shortfall towards the development costs and therefore are looking for match funding towards this cost to enable to project to move forward.</p>

1st Godstone Scout Group	Repairs to the our Scout Group building: The Endeavour	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust grant will fund structural repairs to the local Scout HQ in Godstone, called The Endeavour.</p> <p>The Endeavour is the Scout HQ in the pretty village of Godstone in Surrey. We are looking for financial assistance for main structural repairs. We have secured some funds but currently have a shortfall of £21,305.</p> <p>The Endeavour was constructed by the Rover Scouts between 1936 and 1938, but used materials from much older materials, such as a 15th century barn in Sussex and bricks, timbers, and tiles from other cottages from the Tudor period. Thus, the building looks much older like other buildings in Godstone in Tudor style. The works needed mean we can continue to provide a safe environment for the young people and local community who use the space in many ways.</p>
Music and Arts Production Leeds	MAP Charity's window restoration project at Hope Foundry: a case study for heritage education	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will help fund MAP's window restoration programme, which includes heritage education for the local student community.</p> <p>MAP Charity bought Hope Foundry in 2019 and has begun a million-pound redevelopment project. The project will transform the space into a self-sufficient cultural hub serving MAP students, local artists, and the public for years to come.</p> <p>We are asking the Pilgrim Trust to support our window restoration programme. Working alongside a heritage window provider and a specialist heritage architect, students and MAP will replace five damaged-beyond-repair windows and restore a further ten damaged windows. The project will provide a platform for students at MAP and Leeds building schools to see how two centuries of heritage windows can be preserved. The work will also be documented using 3D photography to create a series of interactive digital resources for future reference and available to nearby schools and colleges.</p>
Friends of Tarlair Community Group	Conservation, repair and restoration of the Pavilion Block within the Tarlair Swimming Pool Complex, an A-listed structure	£30,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust is delighted to fund Tarlair Swimming Pool Lido's repair and restoration, specifically the Pavillion workshop, roof terrace and shower/toilet facilities.</p> <p>Tarlair Swimming Pool is a disused lido at the base of a sea cliff just outside Macduff in Aberdeenshire in Scotland. It is considered by Historic Environment Scotland to be the best example of only three surviving outdoor seaside pools in Scotland, the others being at Stonehaven and Gourrock. The structures at Tarlair Swimming Pool Complex</p>

			<p>is a fine example of the Art Deco period of architecture, and unique in both visual and working design.</p> <p>The Tarlair Pool Lido is beloved by the local community. As a group of volunteers, we have been fundraising for over the last 5 years to help bring this site back to life for the community. The Pilgrim Trust's grant will help the repair and restoration of the Pavilion, workshop, roof terrace, shower and toilet facilities of the Tarlair Pool Lido.</p>
St Columb's Hall Trust	Re-Awakening St Columb's Hall	£15,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust grant will fund a number of building surveys needed to re-awaken this important community building, St Columb's Hall.</p> <p>St Columb's Hall was built in 1886 and over the course of its 134 years, it has been a huge asset to the local community. We've hosted thought leaders including Emmeline Pankhurst, Eleanor Marx, Eamon De Valera and major international performers such as Roy Orbison. Having entered a period of decline at the turn of the new Millennium, it now requires significant investment to re-invent the Hall for the 21st century to save it from dereliction.</p> <p>Given the Grade A Listing on the building, this project will require a suite of building surveys to fully assess the cost of the capital works required. The support from the Pilgrim Trust will allow us to complete these surveys. As with all buildings of this age, the longer required action is delayed the bigger the likely intervention.</p>
Paddington Development Trust	Chapel of St Sepulchre Conservation Project.	£20,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust will support the conservation of the at-risk Chapel of St Sepulchre at St Mary Magalene's in Paddington.</p> <p>St Mary Magdalene's, Paddington is a Grade 1 Listed Victorian masterpiece. From 2017-2019 an innovative partnership between Paddington Development Trust, a local community charity, and the parish, successfully delivered a major programme of conservation, repair and new building works. Now St Mary Magalene's has re-opened for new community, heritage, and cultural uses.</p> <p>In the undercroft, the Chapel of St Sepulchre, by Ninian Comper, remains to be undertaken as a separate project. It is at risk, and of outstanding architectural importance. The chapel presents a particularly complex conservation challenge due to</p>

			<p>its poor condition, the testing environmental conditions in the undercroft, and the significant amounts of modern intervention to the decorative scheme.</p> <p>The grant will allow us to establish a conservation studio in the chapel, allowing conservators to proceed with treatments and also to facilitate a programme of public engagement. Specifically, the Pilgrim Trust will fund the conservation of the wall painting in the nave of the chapel, a central and essential part of the overall project.</p>
Guild Estate	Death Revealed: uncovering and conserving the Dance of Death and other wall-paintings in Stratford Guild Chapel	£20,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will go towards assessing how best to preserve and share the 'Dance of the Death' wall paintings in Stratford Guild Chapel.</p> <p>The Guild Chapel Stratford-upon-Avon is an exceptional example of late medieval civic architecture. The chapel houses a unique sequence of wall-paintings depicting the Dance of Death, which were covered up in the late 16th century. The chapel is open to the public, but the paintings are currently concealed by a significant scheme of wall panelling designed by renowned 20th century architect Stephen Dykes-Bower installed in the 1950s.</p> <p>The Stratford Town Trust now wish to assess the state of preservation and to decide how best to conserve these paintings and adapt the panelling scheme. To do so, we will engage paintings conservators and heritage woodworkers to explore how to work on such sensitive composite features. We would then share that learning with the wider conservation community and with trainees in those disciplines.</p>
The Paxton Trust	Conservation of the Recognised Chippendale and Trotter Furniture collections at Paxton House	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust grant will help fund the conversation of the Chippendale and Trotter furniture collection.</p> <p>In 2018, celebrating the tercentenary of Thomas Chippendale's birth, we held an important exhibition of our own and loaned Chippendale. The research revealed that Paxton has 120 items of Chippendale furniture, as well as two interiors fitted out by the Chippendale firm. The outstanding Trotter furniture was commissioned for Paxton House in 1812-15 and comprises 30 of his masterpieces, the largest publicly accessible collection.</p> <p>We wish to commence a vital phased 3-year programme of conservation to preserve, repair and conserve this internationally important collection. Through this programme,</p>

			we will conserve and display these items for our visitors to enjoy in person and online through our website.
The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park	Heritage & Us: Understanding and preserving the history of a unique East End Cemetery	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust grant will be The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park fund initial exploratory work to help ensure the future of the Cemetery Park and engagement of the local community.</p> <p>The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park is one of London's Magnificent Seven cemeteries. Closed in 1966, it is now a nature reserve as well as a historic cemetery. It is recognised locally and nationally for its huge diversity of built and natural heritage and unique historic monuments.</p> <p>However, the fabric of the site has received little investment since its closure in 1966 and, with >350,000 people buried at THCP, it remains an untapped resource for social history and built heritage. To ensure this heritage, including seven Grade II Listed monuments, the 1940s cemetery lodge and the Grade II Listed boundary wall, is secure for the future, we are in urgent need of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP).</p> <p>This project is partially funded by the NLHF, however we are looking for further funding to help us conduct initial exploratory work, such as a topographical survey, archival research, and a feasibility study.</p> <p>Once the initial exploratory work has been completed, we will engage with the community, in particular underrepresented people in our community who rarely engage with heritage. By project end, the organisation will be more resilient, have increased support from the local community and authorities, and be in a better position to manage of our heritage landscape, monuments and buildings.</p>
Blackpool Museum Trust	Roll Up! Roll Up! Conserving nationally important circus collections at Blackpool's new museum, Showtown	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will support the conservation and display of significant circus history at the Blackpool's new museum, Showtown.</p> <p>We want to conserve Blackpool's nationally significant circus collections to create the first ever permanent exhibition exploring Britain's circus story, enhanced by photography and AV which illustrate objects in performance.</p>

			All require conservation and mounting, framing or other specialist installation before display. The exhibition includes posters of Doodles the Clown, drawn by George Cooke, portraits of Norman Barrett, an elephant stand and headdress and more.
Bournemouth University Higher Education Corporation	Maiden Castle: solving an Iron Age murder mystery	£10,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust will fund the fascinating archaeological research project to discover the true story behind a group of 34 prehistoric skeletons buried near the entrance of Dorset's Maiden Castle – one of Britain's best-known hill forts.</p> <p>The skeletons were first discovered in the 1930s by Sir Mortimer Wheeler, one of the most eminent archaeologists of his time. Based on his findings, it was concluded that the individuals had been slaughtered by the Romans during a vicious assault on the fort – and this interpretation was widely accepted for decades. Recent research has, however, pointed out significant holes in Wheeler's hypothesis as well as several unusual features in the group which the 'Roman assault' theory does not explain.</p> <p>In essence, it is now clear that Wheeler's assessment was incorrect but what exactly happened is still unknown. Archaeologists at Bournemouth University have come up with theory, but funding for additional research is needed to solve the mystery. In particular, we are seeking donations to enable radiocarbon sampling and a full reassessment of the skeletons and the burial site.</p>
National Churches Trust	The Nayler Awards for Excellence in Church Maintenance	£75,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust will continue its longstanding support of the National Churches Trust and its commitment to church maintenance by funding 'The Nayler Awards' for Excellence in Church Maintenance for the next three years.</p> <p>Following two successful years of first piloting, then developing online awards in 2020, we would like to continue to build momentum and maximise the benefits of running such an award scheme. We are keen to continue rewarding those looking after listed church buildings throughout the UK, promoting both the benefits of maintenance and raising awareness of how to access funding and other support.</p>
Board of Deputies Charitable Foundation	Restoration of the Bath Jewish Burial Ground Cottage and sharing the history of a provincial Jewish Community	£5,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust will support the Board of Deputies Charitable Foundation restore the Bath Jewish Burial Ground Cottage.</p> <p>Jewish migrants began to arrive in Bath from the 1750s and established a small thriving community. The Jewish Burial Ground is the only remaining site of their heritage. It is Grade II listed and one of only 15 surviving Georgian cemeteries in the country. It dates from 1812, when the Jewish Community leased the land from one of</p>

			<p>the local stone quarry owners. The land included a small cottage, the home of local quarry men who also became the Cemetery caretakers. It provides a unique opportunity to create a permanent exhibition of the history of a small Jewish community, a story which is rarely uncovered.</p> <p>The core capital work is to reinstate the walls, ceiling, and stone floor; replace the door; install lighting and sockets; fit out for displays; and build a small store for maintenance equipment currently stored in the cottage. For residents, visitors and students, the Burial Ground visitor centre will bring to life the legacy of the Jewish community and be a focal point for understanding the hidden diversity of the City.</p>
Lichfield Cathedral	Conservation of Virgin and Child by Sir Ninian Comper	£5,000	<p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will fund the conservation of a sculpture of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Child by Sir Ninian Comper at Lichfield Cathedral.</p> <p>The sculpture is an exemplary if little known piece of early twentieth century liturgical art and is the product of the late 19th/early 20th century movement which aimed to restore to the Church of England some of what was lost at the Reformation. The beautification and adornment begun over 150 years ago. Sir Ninian Comper was one of the last great architects of the Gothic Revival movement.</p> <p>The entire sculpture consists of statue, plinth and canopy. We have secured funding from the University of York Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture for a new curved pricket stand to surround the ensemble. It is our intention that it will become a place for candle lighting and prayer. However, the piece itself requires repair, conservation and careful cleaning. Its place at Lichfield Cathedral will mean many more people can enjoy it and we would like to see it repaired and properly cared for in future.</p>