



The Pilgrim Trust

Preservation & Scholarship Grants

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

| Organisation: | Project Title: | Amount awarded: | The Story: |
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| Greek Orthodox Church of St John Chrysostom | Repair of Triple Foil Warner Bells | £5,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is pleased to be supporting the Greek Orthodox Church of St John Chrysostom to repair the triple foil of their Warner Bells – thus ensuring the safety of the building and preservation of the bells.</p> <p>The Church's supporting beams of the triple bell foil have significantly deteriorated over time and had to be put out of use. They are in a serious condition due to rot and we have been advised that they are unsafe and now need urgent attention. Our Church Community underwent several building maintenance works and repairs recently and as a result, there has been an additional financial burden to our regular running costs.</p> <p>Not only would a grant supporting the cost of making the bells safe be ideal, but it would also allow us to once again have the bells used as part of our weekly worship. We take pride in preserving our Grade II listed building and consider the preservation of the bells as part of these efforts – not to mention conserving these objects for future generations to enjoy.</p> |
| Bristol City Council | A Crypt investigation at St Peter's Church in Bristol | £5,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant to Bristol City Council will allow run a public investigation into the flooring of St Peter's Church. A Grade II* listed building, the Church's unsafe</p> |

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| | | | <p>flooring means this building cannot be accessed by the public or volunteers, which is stopping plans for the building's future.</p> <p>St Peter's Church in Castle Park has serious deterioration of the medieval stonework throughout the building caused by fire and water ingress due to the loss of the roof. Since suffering bomb damage in the Second World War, the church has been left as an un-roofed shell and monument to those Bristolians who lost their lives during the conflict.</p> <p>Historic England funded repair work to the arches. Once complete, these repairs mean the above ground structure will be safe for the first time in several years. We are seeking funds to carry out a public archaeological investigation of the floor and crypt of the church. The existing floor is visibly shifting with several floor slabs unstable.</p> <p>Our intention is to run this investigation as a public event and we will invite school groups and members of the public to get involved. A team of professional archaeologist will carry out the investigation with the support of trained structural engineers. Running this project as a public event will stoke the public's interest and engage them in plans for the building's future.</p> |
| North Devon Museum Trust | Replacing North Devon Maritime Museum's historic staircase window | £5,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is pleased to grant the North Devon Maritime Museum a grant to help repair their historic staircase window.</p> <p>The North Devon Maritime Museum is housed in a late Georgian merchant's house and the central staircase is lit by a single, curved top, very large window. The window frame is wooden and now rotting in a number of places. The age of the window unknown and the building itself is within the local conservation area and is Grade II listed. A grant from the Pilgrim Trust will greatly contribute toward the cost of a suitable window replacement.</p> |
| Royal Albert Memorial Museum Development Trust | Exeter's Health Pioneers – keeping their legacy alive. Conservation of 18th Century Portraits. | £10,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is delighted to support the Royal Albert Memorial Museum's project in conserving four oil paintings of influential 17th and 18th century physicians and hospital benefactors.</p> |

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| | | | <p>RAMM is embarking on a project to conserve four out of a larger group of paintings gifted to us by the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust. Sadly, the portraits had been unseen and kept in poor storage conditions for many years.</p> <p>The portraits are by nationally recognised artists, such as Thomas Hudson, William Gandy, John Keenan and John Opie. They depict physicians and benefactors who played a key role in medical innovations being pioneered in Exeter during the 17th and 18th Centuries. In one portrait, we see Thomas Glass, an early advocate of the smallpox vaccination. In another, we see John Sheldon, who had a reputation for his controversial approach to acquiring and dissecting bodies.</p> <p>Our overall aim is for all these paintings to take centre stage in a 2023 exhibition exploring Exeter's fascinating and lesser-known medical history. We will be contributing to this project from our own budget and have secured grants from the Friends of RAMM and the Leche Trust. A grant from the Pilgrim Trust would get us closer to the target amount required to conserve these four works.</p> |
| St David's church, Mold, Wrexham Diocese | Repairing and displaying the Dalles de Verre by Jonah Jones in St David's Church | £10,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will allow St David's Church to restore and display dalles de verre by well known Welsh sculptor, Jonah Jones.</p> <p>Jones was a respected Welsh sculptor, painter, letter cutter, and stained-glass maker (dalles de verre). He created the dalles de verre for the Catholic Church of the Resurrection of Our Saviour in Morfa Nefyn, North Wales in 1967-68. Sadly this church was de-consecrated and the windows were removed before it was demolished a few years ago.</p> <p>These dalles de verre are made in a unique way with flaked Welsh slate. The Church would like to repair these dalles de verre using expertise developed by the Swansea College of Art, University of Wales Trinity Saint David. The windows have suffered damage and vandalism over the years. Some of the stained-glass pieces will need to be replaced. Students from the College of Art will have the benefit of learning new techniques during the restoration. The finished pieces will be placed back in St David's Church in Mold – 8 within the existing front windows and 4 displayed within the Church. A grant from the Pilgrim Trust will allow these beautiful, heritage works to be seen once again in public.</p> |

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| Gateway (York) CIO | Restoration of Windows at the Gateway Centre | £10,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust will support the restoration of windows at The Gateway Centre, a Grade II listed building and significant local landmark.</p> <p>The Gateway Centre is now as a church and community centre, having previously been a Primary School. A large number of the glazing units in the Centre's windows have failed, resulting in condensation, accumulation of water, mould growth and wood rot. Local contractors have recommended that all of the casements should be replaced. As a Grade II listed building, we must use materials appropriate to the restoration. Our aim is the repair maintains the function of the building, and protect its historic significance.</p> <p>As an organisation, we have already raised approximately £68,000 towards the overall total of £114,000. The Pilgrim Trust grant will help us to move towards securing the funds to complete the project and ensuring the integrity of the building for future generations of the community.</p> |
| The River Stour Trust | Restoring and Fitting New Gates to Dedham Lock in Essex | £15,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is pleased to give a grant to the River Stour Trust to help them restore and fit new gates to Deham Lock in Essex.</p> <p>The original Dedham Lock was built in the 18th Century as part of the River Stour Navigation. The present lock was built in 1930 but fell into disrepair. The River Stour Trust restored the lock in 1991, but the lock gates now need replacing, and the lock island requires piling to stop it eroding.</p> <p>The Trust has raised £80,000 towards the £120,000 cost of the project, through grants from Enover Community Trust, Dedham Parish Council, The Essex Heritage Trust, and local councillors from their Locality Grants. Normally we would be able to provide the balance from reserves, but the COVID-19 pandemic has meant we've had no income from boat trips over the past 18 months.</p> <p>The River Stour Trust has a proven track record of providing value for money for any grants it receives, with the projects going on to provide access and amenity to local people and the wider public.</p> |
| The Chapel of Our Lady of the Crag Trust | Repair of our Boundary Wall | £15,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will be used by The Chapel of Our Lady of the Crag Trust to repair their boundary wall to ensure this heritage site can continue to be used by the public.</p> |

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| | | | <p>Repairing our boundary is the first phase of our Five Year Plan, 2021-5, which we have drawn up since taking on the site as a trust. We are seeking funding of around £50,000 to repair the boundary wall and to replant some of the trees. We are ready to go with full costs and licenses – our only delay is the costs.</p> |
| The Bryntail Cottage Charity | Preserving the legacy of Bryntail for another 100 years. | £20,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is pleased to provide a grant of £20,000 towards the restoration and repair of Bryntail Cottage.</p> <p>Before the charity was formed to take on a new lease, Bryntail Cottage was a school that went into decline over many years. From 2014, the condition of the property has deteriorated, and repairs are needed to the roof, rainwater goods, chimneys, walls, windows, doors and floors. All repairs need to be consistent with the listed status of the buildings. This is one of our first steps to ensure the buildings are fit for purpose in the 21st century.</p> |
| Birmingham Museums Trust | The conservation of Birmingham's Pre-Raphaelite Treasure: The Star of Bethlehem | £22,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is pleased to support Birmingham Museums Trust conserve a high-profile project: the painting of the Star of Bethlehem by Edward Burne-Jones.</p> <p>Star of Bethlehem by Birmingham artist, Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898), was a watercolour commissioned from him by the city for its new Museum & Art Gallery. We cannot move or conserve the watercolour with the current glazing due to high risk of shattering. We want to reglaze it, undertake an assessment and any treatment.</p> <p>BMT is recognised nationally and internationally for leadership in conservation and collections care. These ongoing major conservation projects will support public engagement with our collections whilst Birmingham Museums Art Gallery is closed for repairs. Our aim is visitors to enjoy our city's star Pre-Raphaelite artworks in the best possible condition when the galleries reopen.</p> |
| Chamberlain Highbury Trust | The Place That Made the Weather: Joseph Chamberlain's Highbury | £24,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust was pleased to award Chamberlain Highbury Trust (CHT) £24,000 to assist with project development costs and its Round 2 application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for Highbury Hall and grounds.</p> <p>The grant will go towards the conservation and management and maintenance plans for the mansion and grounds. It will also assist with specialist surveys required</p> |

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| | | | <p>including: a measured survey of the mansion, a topographical survey of the grounds, a hydrology survey for the grounds and an archaeological assessment as part of obtaining SMC.</p> <p>CHT's vision presents a whole range of opportunities to deliver environmentally sustainable heritage. Our Youth Board has a strong interest in the environment and by enabling leadership on these issues we will develop a long-term strategy. For example, in the grounds we will seek to increase biodiversity value and deliver a second phase of capital works including pond restoration, wetlands protection and further access improvements.</p> <p>By 2026, our aim is for this historic place to have been restored as a centre for incubator businesses, cultural events and neighbourhood activities to drive inclusive growth with economic, social and environmental benefits in Birmingham.</p> |
| Courtauld Institute of Art | The National Wall Paintings Survey | £30,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will support the Courtauld Institute of Art's National Wall Painting Survey project.</p> <p>The current absence of a National Wall Painting catalogue means that material within the archive is navigable only in situ, by manual searches. By digitising the survey and creating a searchable online database, we will ensure that the archive is safeguarded in future and fulfills its potential as a resource for conservation and scholarship.</p> <p>The project seeks to broaden access to material on some of the nation's most important wall paintings, to facilitate new analysis of historic paint samples, and to promote critical research into the evolution of approaches to wall painting conservation.</p> <p>Funds would cover the salaries of a suitably qualified project co-ordinator (working part-time) and assistant(s). Resources for the digitisation of material would be sourced in-house, and the database established in collaboration with the British Museum using ResearchSpace.</p> <p>In supporting this project, the Pilgrim Trust would help both to safeguard and widen</p> |

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| | | | access to this unique archival resource for future generations of scholars and conservators. In addition, the project will foster awareness of the UK's rich mural heritage overall. |
| London Historic Buildings Trust Ltd. | Appointment of a Director to help transform London's communities through heritage regeneration | £30,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust's grant will support the London Historic Buildings Trust appoint a Director to lead and drive its work in transforming London's communities through heritage regeneration.</p> <p>After the LHBT's successful 2019 grant application for an Interim Director (6 months), the Director leadership role provided essential support and skills for our growing team. This interim position was very positive and led to the delivery of a 5-year Business Plan, a relaunch, development of an impact measurement framework, the appointment of new trustees and the creation of sub-committees and specialist trustee roles.</p> <p>The emergence of the pandemic in 2020 had a significant impact on LHBT, and it became necessary to focus on reviewing the Strategic and Business Plans rather than pursuing funding for a permanent Director. With our new staff structure, refreshed governance, as well as the increased opportunities for our support, it is now crucial that we secure funding for a permanent Director.</p> <p>The Director will be a figurehead and advocate for our Trust. Someone to provide guidance to and management of our staff team, and to lead on Trust fundraising and diversifying income generation. This role will allow trustees to focus on their strategic responsibilities and staff to expand the Trust's project work, peer to peer support and training.</p> |
| The Ramblers' Association | Don't Lose Your Way | £50,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is excited to be supporting The Ramblers' Association's ambitious and nationally significant project, 'Don't Lose Your Way'.</p> <p>Don't Lose Your Way aims to save historic and unrecorded rights of way by the government deadline of 2026. If we don't act now, we could lose a substantial part of our path network, forever.</p> <p>In 2020, we identified over 49,000 miles of potential lost rights of way in England and Wales. Each path we want to save now requires detailed research and an application</p> |

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| | | | <p>to the relevant highway authority, to add them to the definitive map. With each path taking at least 20-30 hours of work, we will need to recruit, train and support at least 1300 more volunteers. Over 2021 and 2022, key project steps include creating a programme of training, more resources to support historical research and an expanded network of volunteer coordinators. Additionally, we need to build on our existing digital platform.</p> <p>Funding from the Pilgrim Trust would focus on our digital work – making the recording process as easy as possible for volunteers and helping create good quality applications. The grant will help us bring in additional geospatial datasets to our map of lost rights of way, introduce quality assurance and review processes for applications.</p> <p>By adding good quality paths to the network, ultimately the project will improve access to our landscape, nature and green spaces and leave a fantastic legacy for future generations to enjoy the outdoors on foot. Better access will increase opportunities for physical exercise, boost health, wellbeing, and the rural economy. By protecting these paths, we will be safeguarding an important part of our collective heritage long into the future.</p> |
| Church Buildings Council | Conservation of historic church interiors | £185,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust will continue its partnership with the Church Buildings Council with a one-year grant to support its conservation grants programme.</p> <p>Our grants provide confidence to parishes for fundraising, engaging local communities in church heritage, and are a vital contribution to the heritage circular economy. There is ongoing need for funding conservation of historic interiors. Owning nearly half of England’s Grade I listed buildings, our parish churches contain treasures of local, regional and national significance. Most parishes are supported by volunteers who need help with funding, and in particular funding for heritage projects.</p> <p>Applications for grants have remained steady, with a 29% increase in conservation report applications in 2020. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the continuity of the conservation grants programmes has ensured that conservation professionals and</p> |

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| | | | <p>parishes have had the funding available to keep work going during this difficult period.</p> <p>In addition, we are aware of the need to develop the next generation of conservation professionals and one of our aims going forward is to partner with education providers to meet their training needs.</p> |
| National Churches Trust | Three-year funding of the Church Support Maintenance Programme | £780,000 | <p>The Pilgrim Trust is delighted to continue its longstanding partnership with the National Churches Trust by confirming its funding for the next three years of the Church Support Maintenance programme.</p> <p>The Church Support Maintenance programme promotes and fund repairs and maintenance in churches and chapels. The programme aims to encourage churches and chapels to avoid large and very expensive repairs by implementing regular maintenance practices. We use our funding to provide different kinds of grants to churches – including small grants of up to £500 and larger grants up to £10,000. Our aim is to ensure churches have the support, advice and funding that is required, not simply to run a discreet grants programme.</p> <p>Churches encapsulate many parts of the UK’s history and heritage – such as showcasing beautiful architectural features, holding important pieces of art and being the hub of many local histories. The UK's estimated 42,000 places of worship are important to the life of the nation, and are at the heart of local communities. They form part of the traditional iconic imagery of towns, villages and cities, and are amongst the most architecturally and historically significant buildings in the country. About 40% of them - 19,500 - are listed, with churches comprising the biggest category of Grade I and II* buildings. In addition, research shows the wider role Churches play in local communities - church buildings in the UK generate at least £12.4 billion per year in economic and social value.</p> |

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| | | | Finally, with the Pilgrim Trust funding, this would mean our total grants programme of approx. £4m could include over £1m specifically targeted at maintenance and preventative repairs and significant funding in Scotland, one of our priority areas. |
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