



POW--WOW



Newsletter of Places of Worship @ Heritage Link

Issue One

March 2009

Where's the Evidence?

The **2009 Annual Meeting of Places of Worship at Heritage Link** will take place on Tuesday 5th of May at **Saint Paul's Church** in Saint Stephen's Road, Bow, London, E3 5JL.

Saint Paul's has won many plaudits for the innovative timber covered steel pod inside the church, (completed in 2004) which provides spaces for all sorts of activities, and has already become a much valued local community centre.

The theme of the Meeting will be **'Where's the Evidence?'**. As well as learning more about the story of Saint Paul's, there will be sessions looking at the crucial importance of evaluation and evidence in promoting the places of worship sector. Speakers will include the

Rev. Philippa Boardman, Alex Sherratt, the architect who worked on the church, the Rev. Maggie Durran, and a representative from English Heritage. One representative from each member group of Places of Worship at Heritage Link may attend the meeting **FREE**. Any further delegates from member organisations, and those from groups which are not yet members, are asked to pay £20 to help cover the cost of space hire and an excellent lunch provided by the church café.

To book, email Deborah Jarman at placesofworship@heritagelink.org.uk, or phone 07506 675679.

BOOK NOW for a fascinating day!!!



The interior of St Paul's



Places of Worship is a project of Heritage Link, based in Vauxhall. The post has been generously funded by the National Churches Trust—Reg. Charity No.1119845



WILL YOU BE AFFECTED BY THE CHANGE IN WATER CHARGES???

Four water companies have decided that they will in future charge places of worship and other charitable buildings (such as scout huts) the same as commercial companies for drainage—previously they didn't. This could cost many groups thousands of pounds in extra charges. To find out more, and to join the campaign against the imposition of these charges, see www.dontdrainus.org



COURSE NEWS

University of Oxford

Department of Continuing Education
Planning and the Historic Environment:
Sharing Church Space and the Pastoral Amendment Measure(2006)

Friday 15th May 2009
Rewley House, Oxford
For further details see www.conted.ox.ac.uk/x7271



News



The Heritage Protection Bill—How Does Its Loss Affect Places of Worship?

DCMS, CLG and English Heritage are working on the Planning Policy Statement to replace PPG 15 (Planning and the Historic Environment) and PPG16 (Planning and Archaeology). Two workshops have been held prior to the consultation on the draft text and on contents of the supporting guidance which is expected to be announced before Easter.

Heritage Link will be holding a members' seminar in May during the consultation period to inform and co-ordinate a formal response.

The government is also expected to announce its vision statement on heritage before Easter.



New Publication

Fire Safety & Security in Places of Worship

BRE Global—ISBN 978-1-84806-063-0

This guide provides practical information on assessing the risk of fire and enhancing the security of places of worship of all faiths. It is aimed at everyone who is responsible for the care and safety of those who worship and those who visit, whether they are employed or volunteers, as well as their property and the place of worship's assets. It identifies the important issues, and encourages an approach in which good fire safety and security practice become familiar and **normal to the team**. Price : £25.00

Grants Announcement

English Heritage has announced that under its joint Cathedrals Grants Scheme with the Wolfson Foundation, £2.6 million is to be awarded for the repair of 23 cathedrals across England.

Grants range from support for comparatively small works to tasks requiring significant sums of money. The scheme is open to both Church of England and Roman Catholic cathedrals and this year Norwich Roman Catholic Cathedral is receiving a very large grant for roof repairs. The grants total £517,000 in the West Midlands alone, the largest amount awarded to any one region. It is often the many smaller grants that are more critical to fund urgent repairs to masonry and leaking roofs. Many cathedrals are situated in towns which are not as prosperous as they were in their heyday. These grants help to make up shortfalls that the local community alone cannot provide so that nationally important buildings can be maintained for the benefit of the widest possible public.

In addition English Heritage will be carrying out a range of projects to support cathedrals. A new survey, to be carried out in partnership with Church of England and Roman Catholic cathedrals, has been commissioned, to review the condition of England's cathedral buildings. A visitor survey will be carried out by the Association of English Cathedrals, part funded by English Heritage. This autumn English Heritage will publish a book highlighting the best examples of new works in cathedrals, an invaluable guide to cathedrals seeking to make maximum use of their great, historic buildings. For more information visit <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.15479>

SPAB Faith in Maintenance Courses 2009

Faith in Maintenance is a new initiative which aims to help volunteers who look after historic places of worship FREE courses, available to all volunteers who help to look after places of worship, are being held all over the country by the SPAB during 2009. For details of locations, visit www.spabfim.org.uk

Religious Festivals in March 2009

Christian:	St David's Day	1st March
	St Patrick's Day	17th March
Hindu:	Holi	11th March
Jewish:	Purim	10th March
Muslim:	Birthday of the Prophet	9th March

BELLS RING AS HISTORIC CHURCHES APPEAL TO COMMUNITIES FOR USE

Birthday Bells were heard across England from 2pm on Saturday 21 February as over 70 Churches chimed together for the Birthday Bells Appeal, the start of the nationwide, year long 40th birthday celebrations of the Churches Conservation Trust. The charity cares for England's finest historic churches no longer required for regular worship. Highlights of the participating churches included the church with the **UK's most important collection of alabaster effigies** and one of the **most outstanding example of a Norman church in the country** through to churches linked to **bloody Civil War battles**, and other dramatic moments in local history around the country. These historic buildings rang, chimed and pealed (a full peal lasts three hours) their bells celebrating their place in the heart of communities across England and encouraging people to seek them out. The event received national TV news coverage on the BBC.

Ancient Bells On Your Mobile

Ancient bells can also boom on your mobile! The 110 year old bells at St. John The Baptist Church, Avon Dassett, Warwickshire will ring for the first time in 30 years on Saturday. The Churches Conservation Trust is recording the bells to create unique ring tone download for mobile phones – a modern must for conservation lovers and technology fans alike. The bells are able to ring thanks to the restored bell tower, completed via a £700,000 restoration project from the Churches Conservation Trust. Ring tone download details at: www.visitchurches.org.uk.