

## **Bells Restoration Grant Organisations**

**Updated December 2025**

### **How we did it! Bell restoration at Barford St Martin**

“Below is a list drawn up in 2021 of likely sources of grants for the restoration of our 6 church bells. The project included 2 bells being recast, all 6 tuned to perfection and rehung in new headstocks, bearings and wheels. The existing steel bell frame was repainted by the bell ringers and an additional cross beam installed beneath the bell frame, with associated stonework. The new ropes were not coverable by bell grants it seems.

In addition to the grants received from the sources highlighted in yellow, we also sought and received a grant from the [Bell Restoration Fund of our local Salisbury Diocese](#). We had no joy in seeking lottery funding.

We also recovered the VAT on the project from the [Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme](#) in 2 stages during the project, to help cash flow, as the stage payments out to 'Whites of Appleton Bell Hangers' were made. Whites were very good, helpful and a delight to deal with.

Our project cost was in the region of £68,000. To enable the project contract work to start, sound finances had to be in place, so one kind donor also loaned a substantial sum, at no interest, which was repaid in full, in stages, once sufficient donations from our fundraising and the grants were received.

Most grants and the LPWGS VAT recovery only paid out to us after works were completed and paid invoices submitted, but they had made a pledge, which helped secure the peace of mind of the person who made the loan!

Our Parish Church's own Fabric Fund also contributed of course.”

*PCC Treasurer, Barford St Martin*

### **LPWG - reclaim the VAT – possibly closing end of March 2026**

If the project is completed in time, you will be able to take advantage of reclaiming the VAT from the Listed Places of Worship Scheme. Currently the fund is closing in March 2026, but we are praying for its continuation.

[Listed Places of Worship \(LPW\) Grant Scheme](#)

### **Llewellyn Edwards Bell Restoration Fund**

Apply by either the end of April, August or December

This is the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers Fund

[LEBRF – Apply for a Grant – Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers](#)

## **Dorset Historic Churches Trust**

2026 deadlines: 26 January, 1 June and 21 September

Will fund repairs to historic fittings; including bell-frames, but NOT new bells or new bell frames.

[Dorset Historic Churches Trust](#)

## **Church Care Grants – Church Buildings Council**

Next closing date: 26 January 2026 Decision: 13 March 2026

**Contact Details:** 020 7898 1872

John Webster Church Buildings Council Church House Great Smith Street London, SW1P 3AZ

**Email:** [john.webster@churchofengland.org](mailto:john.webster@churchofengland.org)

**Web:** [www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures)

**Grant potential:** £8,000 (Some awards give larger grants)

**Interests:** Grants for historic furnishings and artworks. Grants for fabric repairs: sculpture and furnishings, glass, paintings and wall paintings, bells and bell frames, organs and organ cases, clocks, books and manuscripts, Grants for Repairs.

## **CCBRF – The Central Council of Bell Ringers Fund**

[Central Council Bell Restoration Fund – CCCBR](#)

Currently CCBRF are showing no funds available for grants. I have written to ask for confirmation on the future of the fund.

**Contact Details:** 01279 726159

Mary Bone 11 Bullfields Sawbridgeworth CM21 9DB

**Email:** [secretary@cccbr.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cccbr.org.uk) **Web:** [www.cccbr.org.uk/bellrestoration/fund](http://www.cccbr.org.uk/bellrestoration/fund)

**Grant potential:** £1,000

**Interests:** Bell restoration: prioritise urgent repairs costing over £5000, and, where augmentation is proposed, rings of five or six bells.

**How to Apply:** Contact Secretary to apply for funds.

**Exclusions:** Churches where a band of ringers is not in place or hoping to continue.

## **Barron Bell Trust, to whom you can apply in writing.**

**Website:** [THE BARRON BELL TRUST AND ADDITIONAL FUND - 228846](#)

**Contact Details:** 01892 823289 (private number)

Ian Walrond c/o 71 Lower Green Road Pembury, Tunbridge Wells TN2 4EB

**Email:** [barronbelltrust@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barronbelltrust@hotmail.co.uk)

**Grant potential:** £1,000-£3,000

**Interests:** The Trust makes grants towards the provision, installation, inspection, repair and maintenance of carillons of bells in churches.

**How to Apply:** Contact Ian Walrond for information on how to apply. Trustees meet twice a year

**Exclusions:** 50% of funding already secured.

**Charity No:** 228846

**The Sharpe Trust**, to whom you can apply in writing.

### **THE SHARPE TRUSTEES**

**Contact Details:** 01285 885734

Alan R Strickland Grants Secretary 71 North Home Road Cirencester Gloucestershire, GL7 1DS

**Email:** [alan.strickland4@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.strickland4@btinternet.com) **Web:** [www.sharpetrustees.org.uk](http://www.sharpetrustees.org.uk)

**Grant potential:** £50 - £500

**Interests:** Grants for the maintenance and restoration of church bells in England and Wales.

**How to Apply:** Application forms are available on the website and must be addressed to the Grant Secretary of the Trustees.

Applications will normally be acknowledged within one month of receipt, but are only considered at the twice-yearly meetings of the Trustees (usually mid-March and mid-October). **Charity No:** 277727

### **The Ironmongers Trust**

#### **Iron Projects | Ironmongers' Company**

Applications are accepted from registered charities, churches and schools for projects in the UK only. For church bells projects, only the repair/rebuilding of existing iron framesides, or the provision of new framesides cast in iron, will be considered.

**Contact Details:** 020 7776 2311

Helen Sant Ironmongers' Hall Shaftesbury Place, Barbican London, EC2Y 8AA

**Email:** [Helen@ironmongers.org](mailto:Helen@ironmongers.org) **Web:** [www.ironmongers.org](http://www.ironmongers.org)

**Grant potential:** £2,000-£10,000

**Interests:** Support is given primarily for the conservation of historic ironwork or the creation of new decorative iron or steel work. They prefer to fund the entire project.

**How to Apply:** Instructions for application are provided on their website. Applicants should contact the Charities Manager.

**Exclusions:** Building work, restoration projects. **Charity No:** 1142175

### **Cottam Will Trust: The Friends of Friendless Churches** *(seems unlikely if your church is open!)*

**Contact Details:** 020 7236 3934

Distributed by the Friends of Friendless Churches St Ann's Vestry Hall London, EC4V 5HB

**Email:** [office@friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk)

**Web:** <http://www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk/>

**Grant potential:** £1,000-£20,000

**Interests:** The Trust give grants for new works of art in medieval churches. Grants can be made for items such as: bells, statues, murals, paintings, paschal candlesticks, vestments, Commandment Boards, stained glass, altars and altar frontals. Grants are normally made for new works of art, but they have funded the purchase of salvaged items.

**How to Apply:** Applications should be made in writing. Contact the Secretary first.

**Exclusions:** They use the phrase 'ancient Gothic' churches to rule out the exclusively post-medieval but as long as the building is recognisably medieval, even if restored, they are likely to accept it as a candidate.