November 2024

PROPERTY MATTERS

The Methodist Church

Welcome to the November edition of Property Matters with
a focus on property-related updates and guidance.
For the latest property guidance, please refer to the Property pages.
Meet the Property Support Team

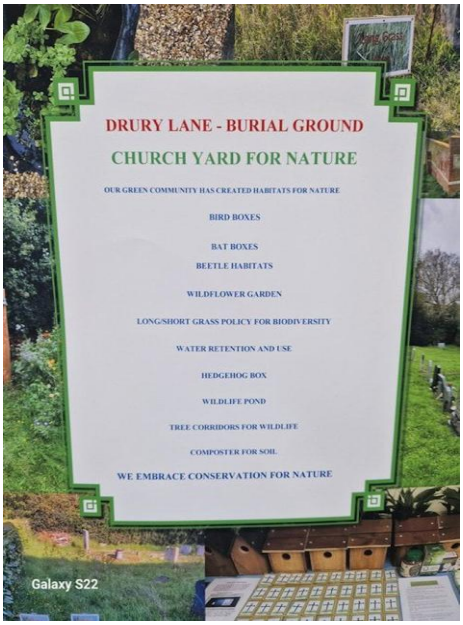
IMPORTANT REMINDER
Deadline for LBAC Paper Submission is 31 December 2024

A Little Bit of Inspiration

Mortimer Methodist Church Leads The Way In Eco-Friendly Initiative

In the Southampton District, Mortimer Methodist Church's congregation achieved it's **A Rocha UK Gold Award** in July 2023 and has been supporting and inspiring their community to join them in their journey from them on.

The Church's eco-journey began back in 2020 when LED lights were installed and this quickly evolved into a comprehensive effort to reduce its carboy foot print.



Click here to read the steps they took in their eco-journey, their community engagement and the next steps.

The Church held an Eco Open Day on the 9th of November. If you would like to find out more about how this event went, you can contact them by clicking here

A Useful Toolkit for Churches

A Toolkit For Welcoming Visitors
Discover Churches: a resource designed to help volunteers extend a warm and meaningful welcome to visitors exploring church heritage, art, and community.
This toolkit aims of encourage curiosity about new ways of attracting visitors, inspiring and sharing knowledge, values and experiences.

For information about this resource and top tips on how to improve visitor experience, click here

Upcoming Free Event

The House of Good: Health (Report)
This is a free event hosted by Transforming Churches & Communities (TCC).
This course aims to make a dry topic as interesting as possible and is ideal for anyone in a trustee position in the Methodist Church, including Church Councils, Circuit meeting members, and so on.

Date: **Saturday, 30th November 2024**
Venue: **Withington Methodist Church, 439 Wilmslow Road, M20 4AN**
Time: **10am - 1pm**
For more information and to register, click here

Essential "Must Reads"

The House of Good: Health (Report)

Churches across the UK are doing an amazing work in supporting their local communities by providing services that is taking the pressure off the NHS.

A few months ago, the **National Churches Trust** launched a new report – ***The House of Good: Health*** – in the House of Parliament.

This research shows that the UK's churches take an immense amount of pressure off the NHS and provide essential support services that it would cost an extra £8.4 billion a year to deliver. This is equivalent to nearly 4% of UK health spending.

You can read the entire report and find out more about to support the campaign here

New Era Opens for Welsh Historic Environment Legislation

In a joint written statement issued on the 4th of November 2024, Jack Sargeant MS, Minister for Culture, Skills and Social Partnership, and Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, announced that the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 ('the 2023 Act') comes into full effect as of this date, along with its suite of supporting regulations. To read the full statement, click here

The 2023 Act gives Wales the most up-to-date historic environment legislation amongst the UK nations. From today, the existing legal framework for the management and protection of the Welsh historic environment — principally the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 — is replaced and the 2023 Act and its associated regulations provides the country with fully bilingual law that is logically structured, consistent and expressed, as far as possible, in plain, everyday

language. While the new legislation makes it easier for everyone to find, understand and apply the law, it makes no changes to the way in which the Welsh historic environment is currently managed and protected.

The legislation represents the culmination of the Welsh Government's first consolidation project in its ambitious programme to improve the accessibility of Welsh law and also constitutes the first code of Welsh law produced under the programme. For more information on these milestones, click here see the news story on the Cadw website.

The Conservation Team are keen to express that these positive changes do not change the way in which we administer the Ecclesiastical Exemption for Wales, further details of which can be found in Managing Change to Listed Places of Worship in Wales: Please contact the conservation officer by clicking here with ant questions.

E-News Updates From Methodist Insurance

Dialogue Autumn Edition Now Available Online

Read the latest edition of Dialogue – our biannual look at insurance as it affects Methodist churches, charities and you.

Meet new board members, see upcoming events, read topical risk advice and learn about how Methodist Churches are benefiting from funding.

Click here to read Dialogue

7 Steps To Fundraising Success

New fundraising guidance in collaboration with the Philanthropy Company.

Whatever the scale of the fundraising goal for your church, following this seven-step process will help you to get

organised and improve your chances of success.

Click here to see the steps to success

Securing your shed this winter
With darker nights upon us, a quick check of your shed security can help protect it from opportunistic thieves.

The contents of your shed is covered by our home insurance policy, but you need to take some precautions.

Click here to access tips on how to secure your shed

Flood Safety
Climate change is resulting in more extreme weather events.
Though it's impossible to flood-proof your church properties, there are some simple actions you can take to reduce the damage caused.

Click here for flood safety guidance

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Pop-up Chapel
We are delighted to sponsor a new pop-up Methodist Chapel, first seen at the recent 3Generate children's and youth community event held at the NEC in October.

This eye-catching, hard-standing structure (with expanding walls and roof), provided a unique space for attendees to meet and participate in church-related activities, generating much interest and excitement.

Are You Looking To End Homelessness In Your Community?

In the latest episode of their podcast, Benefact Trust sits down with Matthew Carter OBE, Group CEO of Depaul International, to discuss the growing issue of homelessness on a domestic, local, and global scale.

Having spent the past 35 years working in global humanitarian assistance for major charities, Matthew brings extensive experience to Depaul International, a group of charities on a world mission to end homelessness.

In this episode, Benefact Trust explores the root causes of homelessness, the challenges people are experiencing worldwide, and what support services are currently in place. Matthew gives us an insight into Depaul's innovative strategy and highlights the importance of collaboration, across the sector, in creating long-term solutions.

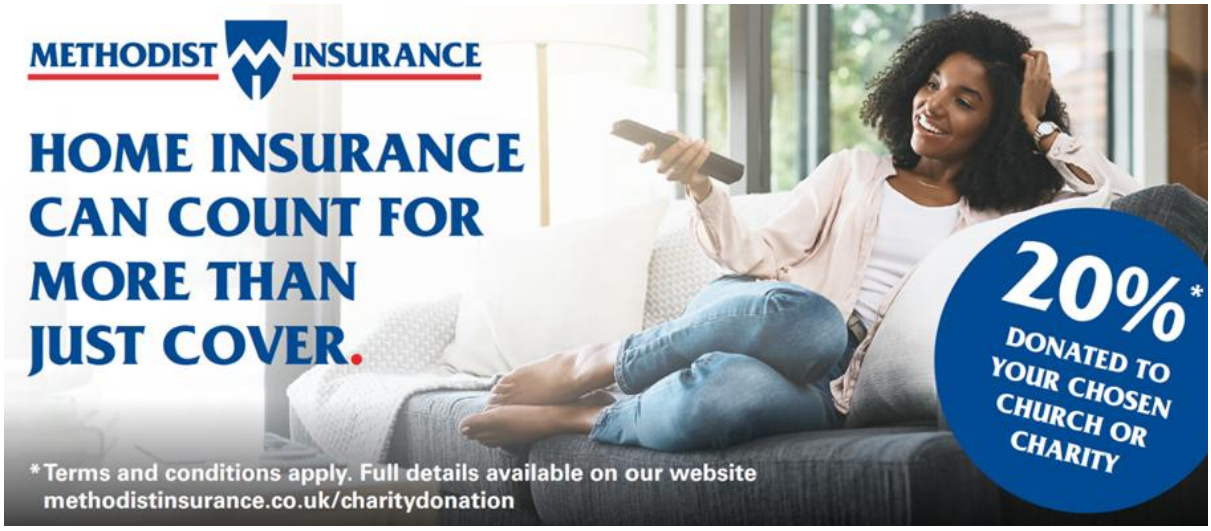
Click here to learn from this insightful conversation

Fire Risk Assessment

Do you know churches are required to undertake a Fire Risk Assessment by law?

if you have not done yours, we recommend conducting an assessment without delay.

Click here to use our template to get started



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Listed Building Advisory Committee (LBAC)

Meeting Dates:

- **21 January 2025** - Deadline for paper is 31 December 2024
- **29 April 2025** - Deadline for paper is 8 April 2025

Supporting the Methodist Connexion

Methodist Insurance has been protecting the property of the Methodist Church since 1872. We are a Public Limited Company owned by shareholders and independent of the Methodist Church. The company operates like a mutual by returning most of our profits back to our community in the form of a significant financial contribution to the Methodist Connexion. Find out more.

METHODIST INSURANCE

Property Matters is a monthly newsletter focused on giving updates on property related guidance and legalisation as well as providing information and links to related subjects. To view the most current content, please refer to the Property pages on the website. We cannot know about everything

that’s going on, so please do email us if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.

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