



City Stories secures National Lottery support

St Peter's Church has received a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £211,000 for an exciting heritage project, City Stories, in Nottingham. Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project focuses on urgent repairs to the roof and for activities for people to enjoy the heritage of the church.

Supported through The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project will enable outreach work and includes the installation of a touch screen kiosk in the church to allow visitors to take a virtual tour of the church, which will also be available online. The important work the church undertakes with homeless people and those with mental health issues will be enhanced through special photography tutorials for rough sleepers and the collection of oral histories in collaboration with the Gateway self-help group. Plans are in place for schools sessions with Years 4, 3 and 2 from Victoria School in the Meadows. Pilots have already taken place with a Horrible History Day and the Art and Architecture day attended by Years 5 and 6.

St Peter's, located in the heart of the city centre is considered to be of National Importance and a Grade I listed building, but is sadly, also considered Heritage at Risk. The roofs were laid in 1812 and are in need of attention as is the magnificent timber interior roof made for Strelley Oaks donated in 1480 by Sir Nicholas de Strelley.

Christopher Harrison, the Rector of St Peter's Church, said "I am absolutely thrilled with the news that we have been awarded such a substantial grant towards the essential work to renew the roof at St Peter's and for us to carry out a wide range of exciting activities that will continue to involve the people from Nottingham and the wider area in our wonderful heritage. We are most grateful to The National Lottery Heritage Fund for making this possible. Their generous support will ensure that for another 200 years the peace and tranquility which is found in our ancient church at the heart of the city will continue to be experienced by future generations."

About St Peter's Church

The church serves the parish of St Peter and All Saints, and the people from beyond the parish who regularly attend. Activities include services, baptisms, weddings and funerals as well as outreach support for marginalised people.

There are three services every Sunday: 8:15am Holy Communion, 10:45 Sung Eucharist or Matins, always followed by coffee and biscuits, and an evening service which is either Holy Communion with prayers for healing, Choral Evensong, Taizé or Compline. The Choir of St Peter's has an excellent reputation, singing in church every week, as well as on frequent visits to churches and cathedrals throughout the UK and abroad.

On Monday mornings, the church welcomes a group of homeless women for breakfast and NHS support. At 1.15pm there is silent meditation, followed by a women's reading group. On Tuesday there is a communion service at 1:15pm. Wednesday morning sees another session of support for homeless men and women, and in the afternoon the Gateway mental-health self-help group meet.

The Thursday morning 11am Holy Communion service is followed by coffee and biscuits and a Bible study. Thursday lunch time talks occur during Lent on a range of issues, and the church frequently hosts City Debates on crucial issues, such as climate change.

The Saturday morning Coffee Break Concerts have been a popular attraction for the people of Nottingham for many years. Taking place during the months of February, June and October, the concerts are given by a wide range of performers, both amateur and professional.

The church is used for plays and talks and concerts throughout the year. The church is normally open every weekday from 10.00am to 4.00pm and for Sunday services (although services are currently suspended and the church closed owing to the Covid19 emergency).

St Peter's also runs a popular Coffee Room and Fair Trade & Christian Book Shop, which can both be found in the St Peter's Centre (adjacent to the church).

About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire, lead and resource** the UK's heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future.

www.heritagefund.org.uk.

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Further information

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