



SOS



Save Our Steeple

ENGLISH HERITAGE TO HELP SAVE THE STEEPLE

The campaign to save Bramley's much loved local landmark of St Peter's church steeple has been given a huge boost by the offer of a very generous grant from a scheme operated by English Heritage in partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund. Our steeple is in urgent need of extensive repair and this offer means we can now start planning the repairs.

The steeple has stood on Hough Lane since 1863. It is not only an historically significant feature of the West Leeds skyline and a local landmark, but is also a symbol of the value of the church and its buildings to the community, not only for worship, but also for use by a wide variety of local organisations. The activities they support cover all age groups, including lively activities for young people. Both the building and this valuable community work were threatened by the steeple's current state of repair.

We officially launched our fundraising campaign in January 2007 and the response from the local community and from friends of Bramley as far away as New Zealand has been magnificent. We have also been lifted by grants from the Church Buildings Committee, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust and the Alan Evans Memorial Trust. We are grateful also to Bramley History Society for its donation and support.

The grant from English Heritage means that we can start the first stage of the project, which is a detailed assessment of what repairs are actually needed. All the preparation for the repair work will also be done, so that the work itself can start in early 2010.

We won't know the exact amount that is needed for repairs until the detailed assessment is finished, but we do have an approximate idea. The actual fabric repairs will cost in the order of £170,000 (excluding VAT). The funds raised so far, including a generous 'in principle' grant from English Heritage of £114,000, cover about £135,000 of this. We are therefore out to raise a further £35,000 to make sure that Bramley steeple will still be a treasure to Bramley in a hundred years time. Our campaign has raised an additional £10,000 for the automation of the steeple clock, though this work will not be done until the steeple repairs are completed.

We are so thrilled that our campaign has brought us so far. There is a bit more to go and any help will be so warmly appreciated.

If you would like to support the campaign, you could get some gentle exercise in pleasant surroundings by joining our sponsored walk on 6th June, so why not stir your stumps for the steeple??

For further information, please contact:

Norah Gibson on 0113 2570966

Or

The Parish Office on 0113 2578590