

The Christian Science Trust in Great Britain

The Christian Science Trust in Great Britain (Trust Brit) is a UK charity working to support the promotion and extension of Christian Science in the United Kingdom.

Who we support

- Christian Science Churches and Societies, Informal Groups and Christian Science College Organizations.
- Although the Trust does not provide financial support to individual Christian Scientists, applications for assistance will be considered from Mother Church appointees, Committees on Publication, and Christian Science nurses to attend international and national conferences and activities which are specific to their position. Other meetings and activities may be considered on the basis of their compliance.

What we support

We are open to creative ideas and have given financial support to a wide range of Church Manual-based activities. Feel free to phone if you'd like to talk through your ideas before making an application - we'd love to hear from you. Please be aware that in order to apply for financial aid, there should be a financial need.

Some examples of recent grants include:

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| ❖ Christian Science lectures | ❖ New signage |
| ❖ Reading Room upgrades and enhancements | ❖ Assistance with information technology |
| ❖ Roof repairs | ❖ Zoom video conferencing |
| ❖ More efficient heating systems | ❖ Building drainage problems |
| ❖ Replacement windows | ❖ Rising damp |
| ❖ Compliance with current building and fire regulations | ❖ Upgrade of outdated electrics |
| | ❖ Disabled facilities |

All projects are considered regardless of the size, and all applications are considered individually.

Funding guidelines

- A financial need must exist in order to apply for financial aid. Donations and all financial contributions from other sources will be taken into account when making a decision on funding. The total funds available to the church, including any investments or reserves, will also be taken into account.
- The applicant should contribute at least 25% of the total cost of the project to be funded.
- An application form should be completed and submitted by the Clerk.
- Please note that no on-going funding is available for routine operating expenses, e.g. salaries and regular up-keep costs.
- An application for financial aid should normally be in place before any expenses are incurred.
- A fruitage report should be completed and submitted at the end of each project.

Funding categories

Funding is not automatic and may not always be to the maximum percentage mentioned.

Lectures

Lectures given by Churches – a contribution of up to 75% of all lecture costs for second and subsequent lectures held in the same lecture year.

Lectures given by Societies – a contribution of up to 75% of all lecture costs.

Lectures given by Informal Groups – a contribution of up to 75% of all lecture costs. The application for the lecture must be supported by a Church or Society.

Lectures given by College Organizations – a contribution of up to at least 75% of all lecture costs.

Reading Rooms

Contributions of up to 75% will be considered to support the upgrade/enhancement of Reading Rooms to improve their visibility and outreach potential. For example, daylight window display screens and other display facilities.

Opening hours and availability to the public will be taken into account.

Media and Technology Development

A contribution of up to 75% may be given to a Christian Science Reading Room, Church, Society, or Informal Group wishing to upgrade their online technologies, for example:

- ❖ Livestreaming services
- ❖ Website development. There must be a sustainable plan to maintain and update the website going forward.
- ❖ Video/audio conferencing systems (e.g. Zoom Standard Pro).

Financial assistance does not include on-going subscriptions or maintenance fees.

Building Assistance

Assistance may be available to branches for structural and other repair work to buildings, including refurbishment and enhancements to buildings and environs, and also for those branches moving to more efficient settings and for seeking compliance with local accessibility and safety regulations. Grants will not normally be given to a Church or Society for modifications to buildings and environs for the sole purpose of generating income.

We'd love to hear from you!

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These guidelines are reviewed annually – Oct 2021