Saving St John's - Why is St John's closed?

The Church of St John the Evangelist was declared redundant as a parish church in 1981 and vested in the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) in 1983. CCT is the national charity protecting churches at risk, and cares for over 350 churches nationwide.



In 2015 Storm Desmond swept across the North of England, causing the River Lune in Lancaster to burst its banks and overwhelming the city's drainage system. St John's was flooded with around twenty inches of muddy brown water and subsequent problems for the building included both wet and dry rot.

A successful fundraising campaign – Stop the Rot – tackled the most urgent of these issues. Nonetheless, a lack of volunteers and the generally poor condition of the fabric, in particular the plaster ceilings which have fallen in places, means it is not possible to open the church to the public on a regular basis. There are problems of water ingress which remain unsolved and the access to the galleries and vestries is restricted due to the risk of falling plaster.

St John's is on the Historic England 'Heritage At Risk' register because of its poor state of repair. It is listed at Grade II* and in the Lancaster Conservation Area.


LANCASTER GUARDIAN

LOVE LANCASTER

WHY WE NEED TO BACK LANCASTER'S TRADERS

NEW COLUMN STARTS – PAGE 29

STOP THE ROT

£28k appeal launch to save historic church

FULL STORY: PAGES 8&9



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Churches Conservation Trust