



FAITH IN MAINTENANCE TRAINING DAYS



Do you worry about damp in your church building?

Faith in Maintenance aims to help volunteers who look after historic places of worship. We provide training to help you understand how your building works and how to solve problems caused by leaky gutters and blocked drains.

A Faith in Maintenance **free one-day course** will help you:

- Recognise potential problems
- Tackle common maintenance tasks
- Understand inspections and reports
- Know when to call in expert help



As well as talks, the day includes a practical exercise looking at elements of a church building and learning to identify defects. There are also opportunities for discussion with professionals and other delegates.

Everyone who attends receives a free copy of the *Good Maintenance Guide* and a maintenance calendar and after the course help is available from a telephone technical advice service. You can also sign up to our **free monthly maintenance reminder** email service for regular tips to help you care for your place of worship.

Date: Tuesday 17th May 2011

Time: 10am – 4pm

Venue: Pirton Methodist Church, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

This course is hosted by Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire Methodist District

Turn over the page to find out more about what you will learn and why you should attend a **Faith in Maintenance** course.

Courses are **free** but everyone attending must book a place by contacting:
Kate Minnis, SPAB Faith in Maintenance, 37 Spital Square, London E1 6DY
Tel: 020 7456 0913 email: katem@spab.org.uk

You can also book online by accessing our course calendar at www.spabfim.org.uk and following the link for the course you would like to attend.

Frequently Asked Questions...

Q. Is maintenance really important?

A. Yes! Carrying out regular maintenance on your place of worship is the best and most cost effective way of looking after the fabric. Maintaining our old buildings properly reduces the need for expensive repairs and prevents the loss of original fabric.

Q. Why should I attend a Faith in Maintenance course?

A. Our free one-day course will help you to recognise potential problems; tackle common maintenance tasks; understand professional inspections and reports; and know when to call in expert help. In addition, everyone who attends a training course will receive a free copy of our *Good Maintenance Guide* and our handy maintenance calendar.

Q. Does it matter if I look after a listed place of worship or not?

A. No. Our courses are designed to be relevant to all volunteers who care for all historic places of worship - listed or unlisted. Our advice applies as much to a brick-built Victorian synagogue as it does to a medieval parish church or an eighteenth century Nonconformist chapel.

Q. Is the course suitable for people who don't have any technical knowledge or previous maintenance experience?

A. Absolutely! No existing technical knowledge is required as we will teach you everything you need to know. Anyone can learn how to look after a historic building as the skills are quite straightforward.

Q. I already know a bit about maintaining historic buildings, so is this course suitable for me?

A. Yes! We will look at a whole range of issues related to the care and maintenance of historic buildings so you will be able to add to your existing skills. There will also be opportunities to put questions to our expert panel and share local knowledge with other volunteers.

Q. Will I learn how to specify repairs or carry out repairs myself?

A. No. We believe that volunteers should focus on learning how to spot potential problems and knowing where to obtain professional help and support if required. In most cases specification writing is best left to your professional adviser whilst repairs, such as repointing, may require a skilled craftsman.

Find out what last year's participants thought about the course at
www.spabfm.org.uk/pages/comments.html

Faith in Maintenance is run by the **Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings** and supported by the **Heritage Lottery Fund** and **English Heritage**.

