



October Newsletter

On the 10th October we will mark [World Mental Health Day](#) – a reminder that mental wellbeing is every bit as vital as physical health. Every year in England, 1 in 4 people will face a mental health challenge, yet only a third of those will receive any form of treatment. Without the right support, many struggle to live well, sustain employment, build relationships, and take part fully in community life.

As churches, we have an important part to play in responding to this challenge. Sometimes the simplest gestures – a warm smile, the offer of a cup of tea, or simply providing a safe space to be with others, can make all the difference to someone's day. Earlier this year, our report on [Creating a National Healthcare Service](#) highlighted how faith groups can be part of the solution to the wider healthcare crisis, offering networks, resources, and holistic support both for individuals and for those working in social prescribing. We encourage you to read through our [how-to guides](#) to see what activities your churches are already running that can be a support to those who may need it.

This call to care feels especially urgent in light of the recent riots and scenes of fragmentation across the country. The witness of the Church as a place of peace and welcome has never been more needed. God's commandment to *love our neighbour as ourselves* reminds us of the heart of our calling: to serve God by serving others, bringing hope and light, just as Jesus did.

So this month, let us be mindful of those who might appreciate a simple check-in. A friendly chat, a shared cup of tea, or the simple question, "How are you?" can mean more than we realise. Small acts of kindness can shine light in even the darkest seasons. Let us also remember what our churches have to offer to the community and those who need it the most.

Blessings,

Ellie & The ChurchWorks Team

The ChurchWork's Summit

Get your Early Bird Tickets Now!

On Friday 27th February 2026, [The ChurchWorks Summit](#) will bring together senior church leaders, government ministers, public sector representatives, and charity leaders to explore how faith and policy can work together for the common good. Hosted by Justin Brierly, we are excited to reveal even more exciting speakers soon.

You can purchase your [early bird tickets](#) now on our website. These will be on sale for a limited time only so make sure to get yours today!

Want to exhibit with us?

We would love for you to exhibit with us at the Summit to showcase your organisation to senior leaders across church, government, and charity sectors, engage in national conversations shaping policy and practice, and build meaningful connections with key decision-makers.

We are offering a variety of exhibitor packages. Find out more by clicking on our [Eventbrite page](#).

[Click here to find out more](#)

Wellbeing

Join our Accelerate Wellbeing Workshop: The NHS and The Lord Darzi Review

Tuesday 14th October, 12-1pm

Our next Accelerate Wellbeing workshop will be lead by **Harry Quilter-Pinner** (Executive Director at the Institute for Public Policy Research).

In this workshop, Harry Quilter-Pinner will share an overview of the state of the NHS, highlighting where the greatest needs lie and what role community and faith-based organisations can play in implementing the recommendations of the Lord Darzi review.



Accelerate Wellbeing Workshop:
The NHS and the Lord Darzi Review
Harry Quilter-Pinner

Tuesday 14th October, 12-1pm

This workshop will explore:

- An overview of the state NHS and where the greatest needs lie
- The findings of the Lord Darzi review
- The role faith-based organisations can play in implementing the recommendations of the Lord Darzi review
- What neighbourhood health care based in faith groups could look like

[Click here to sign up to October's workshop](#)

Report Launch: The role of heritage buildings on community wellbeing in a 'decade of renewal'

Thursday 27th November 2025

ChurchWorks has been working with [Historic England](#) to research the role of heritage on the wellbeing of individuals and communities accessing [Warm Welcome Spaces](#) in historic church buildings. This research aims to equip churches to articulate the value of their Warm Welcome Space and the importance of preserving their building when approaching funders and local authorities.

We are excited to share our latest research showing how heritage sites, especially historic churches, are transforming lives, boosting wellbeing, and strengthening communities. Our report explores why connecting with heritage matters for the future and how church buildings can unlock unique potential for local people.

We invite you to [complete this short form to express your interest](#) and be among the first to hear more about the event.



[Sign up to be the first to know more](#)

Partner Resources



Read the More Than Sundays Report: Breaking Down Barriers to Opportunity

The Children and Families Alliance – [Safe Families](#) and [Home for Good](#), [Kids Matter](#), and [Transforming Lives for Good](#) – have launched *More Than Sundays*, a powerful new report highlighting how churches are already delivering vital care and support for children and families, and how they can do even more.

Through a network of nearly 7,000 volunteers, this work has supported 33,000 children, 12,000 families, and equipped over 1,800 carers, with

life-changing impact in homes, schools, prisons, and communities.

Instead of a live webinar, the Alliance has produced a short video featuring inspiring stories, voices from government ministers, and a vision for how faith-based organisations can partner with government to help deliver the Opportunity Mission.

[Click here to find out more](#)



Discover the Value of Your Church : The House of Good Local Calculator

The House of Good: Local calculator helps churches highlight their impact on local communities, strengthen fundraising, motivate volunteers, and support future mission planning.

By answering nine questions about activities at their building, churches can calculate their social, economic, and wellbeing value - usually in under 30 minutes.

For support or questions, contact: houseofgood@nationalchurchestrust.org

[Click here to use this practical tool](#)



Join the Christian Community Hubs Launch Event

Thursday 6th November, Oldbury

Across the country, Christian Community Hubs are bringing people and communities to life, blessing one another in the name of Jesus. To celebrate and strengthen this movement, a national launch event is taking place.

The event will explore the "DNA" of Christian Community Hubs and offer workshops on:

- Growing Christian Community
- Partnership working with health services and local authorities
- Good help and referral

Attendees will have the chance to share their stories, be inspired by others, and help shape the support needed for hubs to grow and flourish.

You can find out more about the Christian Hub Movement by watching their introduction video [here](#).

[Get your tickets to the launch here](#)



The AVOCADO Church Campaign

The AVOCADO Foundation is a Black-led charity supporting churches to address economic inequality and build financially resilient communities. Through financial literacy, entrepreneurship training, and

leadership support for BAMER-led charities, their work is grounded in faith, lived experience, and cultural relevance.

This autumn, the Foundation is launching the **AVOCADO Church Campaign**, providing resources, tools, and guidance to help churches respond to economic need and restore dignity. Congregations can get involved by raising awareness, supporting training programmes, or contributing to the £1 million goal for 2025.

To get in touch, email : rawle@theavocadofoundation.org

[Click here to find out more](#)

We Want to Hear From You!

Have you attended a ChurchWorks event?

We'd love to hear from you! Your feedback helps us shape our events so they're as helpful and practical as possible. Whether you joined a webinar, workshop, or used our resources, your thoughts will guide us in equipping you better.

Please take a few minutes to complete this short form – we'd greatly appreciate it!

[Share your thoughts through this short form](#)



Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn & X to keep up to date with our work!

If you're subscribed to our newsletter, you are officially part of the ChurchWorks community!

If you're a local church this gives you access to:

- Monthly newsletters with jam packed content (like this one)
- Reflections and blogs from the ChurchWorks team
- Stories of impact from churches around the country
- Information about upcoming in-person and online events
- Updates and resources from our partner organisations

Did you know that being a subscriber also gives you access to a free 30 min consultation call with one of the ChurchWorks team?

Whether you want to hear more about one of our mission areas, find out how you can connect more with your Local Authority or share a

story of impact, we'd love to hear from you.

[Get in touch](#) to arrange a call.

Thank you so much for journeying with us as we seek to make a difference within communities by building connection in our churches. If you have any questions or feedback, please do get in touch by emailing info@churchworks.org.uk.

The ChurchWorks Team



Churchworks.org.uk

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