

# F O S B

## The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Lostwithiel

Registered Charity Number 1115047

### Appeal

#### Overview

The ancient Stannary town of Lostwithiel occupies an important position in Cornwall's history. The Church of St Bartholomew has been at the forefront of historical events, both as a point of departure to the Mediterranean during the Crusades, and later during rigors of the Civil War. Thus St Bartholomew's Church symbolizes the history of Lostwithiel and has been a focus of Christian worship and social concern within the community for well over a thousand years. Sited in the heart of the community, this fine building is the most notable architectural feature in the town and attracts many visitors.



St Bartholomew's Church  
Photograph © 2005 Jonathan Barker

#### The Building

This lovely church building has many wonderful features to cherish that make it well worth maintaining. For example the East Window is the tallest in any Cornish Parish Church. This and many other examples are engagingly depicted in a separate FOSB document entitled **The Church Building - Some Features to Cherish\***.



St Bartholomew's Church, from the transept looking southeast  
Photograph © 2005 Jonathan Barker

#### Sharing the Cost

Despite their heroic endeavours, the cost of maintaining the fabric of this Grade 1 listed building is more than can be raised by the congregation. The building enjoys a special position in the affections of many people outside the church's regular worshippers. The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Lostwithiel (FOSB) was set up in 1995 to reach out and appeal to this wider community of supporters.

## Mission

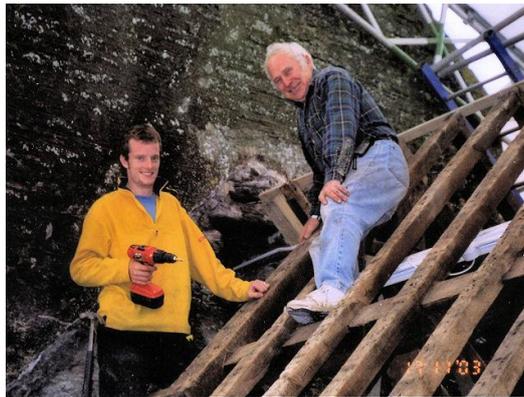
The Friends is established to assist in the restoration, preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement and beautification of St Bartholomew's Church and of the monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in the Church and Churchyard. For full details please see our constitution.

## History

FOSB was inaugurated in 1995. On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006 FOSB adopted a new constitution and on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2006 this was registered with the Charity Commission, Registered Charity Number 1115047.

## Achievements

During the years 1995-2005 FOSB has, by soliciting donations and running fund-raising events, raised £82,006. Of this £64,215 has been paid out in grants to St Bartholomew's PCC to help them with the projects tabulated lower down. The balance is earning interest and awaiting the next project.



St Bartholomew's Church Roof Restoration Autumn 2003  
Photographs © 2003 Kitty Chanter Menendez

### Grants made by FOSB towards church restoration projects:

2008	Re-hanging the Bells	8,000
2008	Restoration of Tower and Spire	32,000
2004	New central heating system	16,000
2003	Restoration of the church roof	40,000
1998	Refurbishment of the vestry	3,215
1996	Upgrading the church electrics	5,000
1995-2008	Total grants made since inauguration	<u>£104,215</u>



St Bartholomew's New Central Heating System  
Photographs © 2005 Douglas Steven

## Future

Our work is ongoing. For example, the church tower needs renovating and repointing, the cost of which might be in the order of £60,000. This project is now the main focus for our fund-raising efforts, though all the money we collect is for ongoing maintenance rather than for specific projects. With the generous support of the public we strive to enhance and maintain this lovely old church for the benefit of the present generation and for generations to come.



West wall damaged by water penetrating from the tower

Photograph © 2006 Douglas Steven

## Please Help

With the help of many supporters FOSB has achieved much during the last decade, but the task of keeping such a building weatherproof is ongoing, and when damp begins to penetrate, repairs become essential and urgent. This appeal is to all those who live in catchment area of the town and in the wider world beyond who care about this lovely ancient building and wish to maintain it.

## What to do next

Please turn to the FOSB document **How to Help\*** along with its related **Membership Application Form\*** and three **Gift Forms\***.

For more about the building, please see **The Church Building – Some Features to Cherish\***.

\* *Copies of all our documents are downloadable from [www.fosb.org.uk](http://www.fosb.org.uk). There you will also find our programme of events, contact details, news, photographs, useful links and much else.*