

CONSERVATION OF THE MORRIS MEMORIAL HALL

Early in 2016, a small group of residents in the tiny community of Kelmscott set out to raise enough money to conserve the roof of our village hall, the beautiful Grade II listed memorial to Arts & Crafts founder, William Morris. Thanks to our generous supporters and a great deal of hard work, we managed to raise the necessary funds and we are now delighted and very proud to be able to show you the results with a truly stunning and beautiful roof.



Before



After

The Raise the Roof appeal was formally launched in January 2016 and requests for grants and donations both large and small were submitted to a variety of organisations and individuals during 2016.

Village fundraising activities ranged from Arts & Crafts lectures to bingo, something for everyone!

In January 2017 we appointed Heritage Roofing Company (Oxford) Ltd to carry out the project and work officially commenced on Monday 13th March 2017. To ensure the integrity of this listed building, all work was done on a like for like basis following guidance from a local conservation architect, a SPAB scholar and West Oxfordshire District Council Conservation Officers;



Where possible, we used the original, existing slates but where new slates were required, we adopted English Heritage Policy which states that “wherever possible, new stone slates rather than second-hand should be used, promoting the development of stone slate production and saving many old buildings from having their roofs pillaged for supplies, occasionally through theft”.



Cotswold Stone Quarry slates were the closest match in terms of geological type, colour and texture and this choice was approved by the Council’s Conservation officer.

To conserve energy, the roof was insulated. We also used traditional roofing felt, a bat friendly material should any bat colonies decide to take up residence at any time in the future!



The roofing work completed on June 26th 2017. We can now turn our attention to restoring the rest of the building!

May Morris endowed the hall to the village in memory of her father, William Morris and responsibility for its upkeep lies entirely with the residents. We are a registered charity and still in need of funds to complete our ongoing conservation of the building therefore if you would like to make a financial contribution, it would be most gratefully received.

More information, including a full list of sponsors and many more pictures, can be seen on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MorrisMemorialHall and will shortly be available on our website, www.morrismemorialhall.org.uk



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has helped. We couldn't have done it without you!

Kathy Haslam
Liz Nelson
Jake Nelson
Sarah Richards
Laura Roberts
Anne Stephens

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The Morris Memorial Hall is a Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation, number 1169621, formerly an unincorporated Registered Charity, number 304323