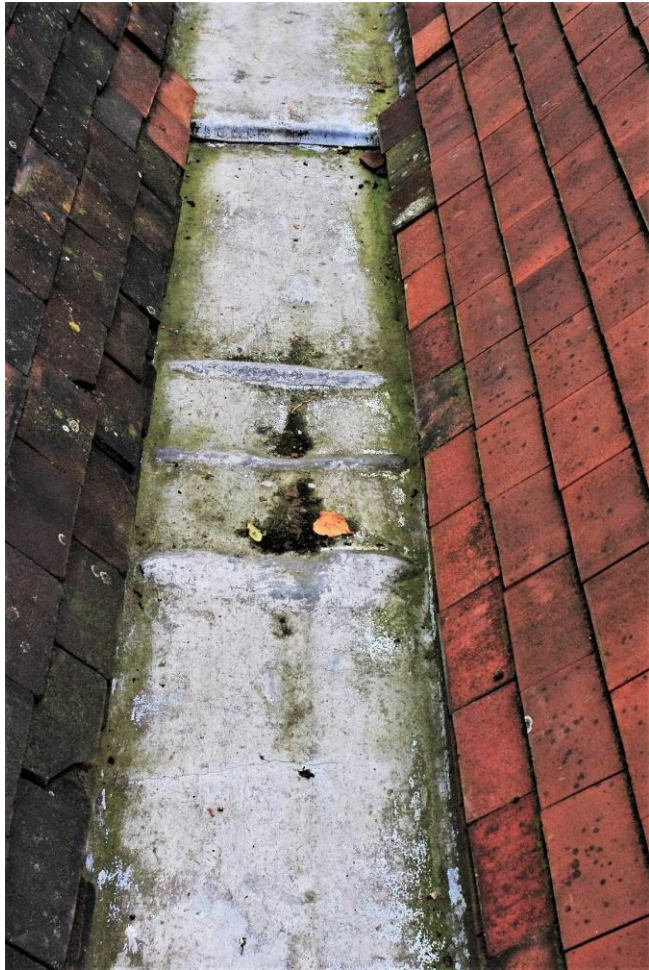


As a roofing material, lead is surprisingly efficient: in times past it was in plentiful supply; it is malleable and easily moulded into complex shapes; providing that it is not moved it can last for two centuries. However, there are drawbacks.



During the last hundred and fifty years the lead has moved with changes of temperature, creating folds in the lead; the folds develop cracks allowing water ingress. The Victorian practice was to use long lengths of lead sheet; unfortunately, with changes of temperature this causes a lot of movement due to expansion and contraction.

### Can you help to secure the future of the building?

Two detailed and exhaustive bids have been made for direct government funding, though without success. At present, the cost of repairing the roof will be £100,000. If the repair work is not carried out soon, the cost will be considerably more. Other sources of grant aid are being pursued. Should you feel that you wish to help conserve this unique piece of English history, then please consider the following:

**Gift Aid:** If you are a tax payer in this country, completion of a Gift Aid form or envelope will allow us to claim an additional 25% of your donation from the government. A Charity Gift Aid Declaration form can be found in this leaflet.

**Donations** can be made at the church where there is always a supply of Gift Aid envelopes.

**Cheques** should be made payable to: Long Eaton PCC (Roof Appeal) and may be posted to:

Roof Appeal,  
The Vicarage,  
Regent Street,  
Long Eaton,  
Nottingham,  
NG10 1JX

**Just Giving:** Donating money on line can be done through Just Giving. Using your browser, enter **Just Giving** to find their website; using the Just Giving search window, enter **St Laurence, Long Eaton**. In order to make a donation you will need to open an account on this secure site. Just Giving will collect the Gift Aid money for St Laurence and transfer balances regularly.

Visit us at: [www.st-laurence.net](http://www.st-laurence.net)

# The Parish Church of St Laurence, Long Eaton

The Past The Present The Future?



The Church of St Laurence is the oldest building in the town of Long Eaton, offering a little oasis of calm next to the busy market place. The distinctive triple roof is one of a number of striking architectural features of the church, as is the fourteenth-century, fortress-like tower.

The church is open on:

Sunday	9.00am - 11.30am
Wednesday	9.30am - 11.00am
Friday	11.30am - 1.00pm



The oldest part of the building is the Lady Chapel which dates back to before the Norman Conquest in 1066; some authorities have placed it as early as 1025. Though restored and rebuilt several times over the last thousand years, this modest little architectural gem is the oldest building in the town and has survived fire and tempest, plague, war and revolution, serving the people of the town for almost a millennium. The original Saxon/Norman Nave was enlarged after the great plague in the late fourteenth century by the addition of the tower.



One of the little-known treasures of the area is the Norman-style tympanum over the South West door. Although generally hidden from view by the porch, the tympanum is quite well preserved, the more modern porch serving to protect it from the elements. The Chancel, Nave and North Aisle were added in 1866, greatly increasing the size of the earlier building; the shallow-pitched roof of the Norman Nave was also replaced during the Victorian expansion of the church to create a balanced architectural structure.



Unfortunately, time has taken its toll and the Victorian additions to the 11th century Lady Chapel are causing problems. The main roof pitches are finished with clay tiles, many of which have stood the test of time and weather, but the tiles are now brittle and crack with extremes of temperature.



Broken pieces of tile slide down the roof into the lead-lined valleys and puncture the lead sheet. Over the years there have been many repairs to the leadwork, but the time has come to replace many tiles, the lead and the wooden underboarding that supports it.