**Robert's Christmas fundraiser for Devon Historic Churches Trust**



The UK has some of the most historic and beautiful churches and chapels to be found anywhere in the world. But many are at risk of closing for good if urgent action is not taken. According to National Churches Trust, in England, there are now 900 places of worship on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register – with 53 more added in 2023.

Church buildings provide massive social support to people and communities throughout the country, including in the most deprived areas. They provide a network of social support which helps to build more resilient and socially cohesive communities which results in huge wellbeing benefits. But churches are guaranteed no support from government, and many are in danger of closure.

**Devon Historic Churches Trust**

Devon Historic Churches Trust is dedicated to funding repairs and maintenance of places of worship in the Diocese of Exeter and throughout Devon. It provides grants for essential repairs and refurbishments in a simple and accessible formula.

The Trust also provides emergency funding in a matter of days when something unexpected and urgent occurs. Volunteers throughout Devon are giving their time and talents every day to deliver the services that every community needs. But the considerable cost of repairs to the building are almost always beyond their resources – this is why supporting the DHCT is so very important.

**12,000 steps a day challenge**

Throughout December I will be walking at least 12,000 steps a day to raise funds for Devon Historic Churches Trust. You can support my fundraising efforts by donating through JustGiving: **www.justgiving.com/page/devonhct**