



August 2023

Our building's Jubilee and the latest on its Refurbing

Dear friends of Brunswick Church.

In June 2024 the Brunswick Church building will be 50 years old, and on the weekend of June 29-30 we will be celebrating this jubilee with some special events – still being planned (ideas welcome!) For now we are inviting all of our ex-members (the 'Brunswick Diaspora') to join us on that weekend. We see it as a time to reminisce and reflect and rejoice in all that God has done in and through this particular part of His Church. And re-commit to more years to come as we continue with our 'Refurb' project (watch out for a Jubilee Appeal to help fund some aspect – see list below). As an extra part of our jubilee year we have also invited our former curates to return on a Sunday morning in 2024 to preach, and share an update on life and ministry since Brunswick, with some memories and stories.



Refurb Project Phase Two

In May the PCC decided to do Phase 2 in chunks as and when funding becomes available. This currently comprises:

2a The lounge: Probably our most used room, the lounge is in desperate need of repair and refurbishment, both structurally and internally - watch [this short video](https://youtu.be/na9P4O-hPKk) to see for yourself! [<https://youtu.be/na9P4O-hPKk>].

2b The toilet block: If you have memories of it from your time at Brunswick, it's exactly the same, apart from Ladies and Gents being swapped over a few years back for reasons that seemed good at the time, but now escape us. It all still works and is hygienic, but badly in need of an extensive makeover.

2c The foyer and main doors: These are also pretty much as they were and with many thousands of openings and closings and footfalls, in need of renewal. Doors that are easier to open, while still being safe, and an entrance that lets in more light will be part of the spec.

So, beginning with Phase 2a – the lounge...

The main priority is to finally sort out the lounge roof which has leaked on and off for most of its 49 years! Numerous repair attempts have been made over the years, going back at least as far as 1979 with then Church Administrator Paul Keeble going up there with tubes of mastic (not in the original job description!). The rotting wooden frames of the single-glazed windows are the next priority. Ideally, to give our community a lounge to be proud of where they can meet more comfortably, we also need to re-carpet, re-decorate and re-furnish, make some changes to the storage, and replace the sliding door (which, unlike the roof, has done very well to last this long) with a more modern, and hopefully more soundproof, one.



The good news is that, thanks to the generosity of our supporters we have already raised £39,000 towards the cost of the new roof. The bad news is that the quote we have is £45,000! Our recent application to the B&Q Foundation for £10k was unsuccessful and we are waiting to hear from Screwfix Foundation about our application for £5k. So, as things stand, we nearly have enough to do the roof - which, in itself, will be a huge improvement! As for replacing the windows, the internal ceiling, lighting and furnishings to give our community a lounge to be proud of and in which they can meet more comfortably, we continue to hope and pray for God to provide like he did for Phase One.