

## CAPEL Advice Leaflet for Threatened Chapels

**One of the most important elements in saving a chapel from closure is local support and this should be sought at an early stage. Premises for community use are often at a premium and financial survival may be possible if the chapel can be adapted for local events.**

1. Assess the historical, architectural and townscape importance of the chapel using Local Authority expertise and by contacting CAPEL if necessary.

2. If restoration or renovation is decided upon, funds may be available from the organisations listed in:

- Funds for Historic Buildings in England and Wales, (A Directory of Sources). Available from The Architectural Heritage Fund, Clareville House, 26-27 Oxenden Street, London SW1Y 4EL Tel. 0171 925 0199, e-mail [ahf@ahfund.co.uk](mailto:ahf@ahfund.co.uk) Website: [www.ahfund.org.uk](http://www.ahfund.org.uk). This is a comprehensive list of sources for repair, conservation, conversion and rehabilitation(with updates)
- Information Sheets on Welsh Charitable Trusts. Available from The Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff CF10 5FH Tel. 029 2043 1700, e-mail [enquiries@wcva.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wcva.org.uk) This is a regularly updated general guidance list.

3. For chapels which are deemed redundant:

- A useful CADW booklet is available: 'Chapels in Wales: Conservation and Conversion (reprinted 2003). Available from CADW, Plas Carew, Unit 5/7, Cefn Coed, Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ.
- The Welsh Religious Buildings Trust is interested in purchasing suitable redundant chapels. Information from Gruff Owen, WRBT, 10 Heol y Dwr, Pen y Groes, Caernarfon LL54 6LG Tel.01286 882398 e-mail [gruff.owen@yacwrbt.plus.com](mailto:gruff.owen@yacwrbt.plus.com)
- The Church Land and Property Service exists to match up churches and chapels in Wales with developing housing associations. Chapel buildings and land may be used for social housing and community use, or housing might be constructed around a functioning chapel. Aelwyd, a Christian Housing Association, co-ordinates this free Service. Contact Martin Hughes, Aelwyd Housing Association Limited, Pontycymmer OAP Centre, 55 Oxford Street, Pontycymmer, Bridgend CF32 8DD Tel./Fax 01656 872 757 e-mail:martin.aelwydha@ic24.net

4. In the event of chapel closure or demolition, please ensure that all records are deposited in the local county record office or in the National Library of Wales according to denominational practice. On the disposal of plaques and other artefacts, advice should be sought from the denomination or from the local museum curator.