

About the On Organ Fund (Registered Charity No. 289160)

- Why ‘On’?** In 1984 the founder, a retired schoolmaster in the East End of London, used his own money to establish the Fund. He wanted no publicity for himself, so inspired by the infamous ‘A.N.Other’ he always referred to himself as ‘Mr A.N.On’. When the Fund was registered by the Charity Commission they accepted its title as The On Organ Fund. The founder died in 1996, leaving his Estate to augment the money he had already donated to start the Fund.
- What does it do?** The Fund exists specifically to give financial support towards *the installation, renewal, rebuilding, improvement, maintenance, preservation and restoration of pipe organs, including the making of contributions to any fund or collection established for the purposes of acquiring or purchasing a pipe organ*. It is the Trustees’ belief that this is the only national fund of its kind in this country, devoted exclusively to the support of pipe organs.
- Who can apply?** The Trust Deed gives the Trustees the power to make grants to *any church situated in the British Isles*. The Fund is fully ecumenical and the Trustees accept applications from churches (which includes cathedrals and chapels) of any denomination. There is no heritage or other requirement in relation to the instrument except that it must be a pipe organ in a church in the British Isles. The Trustees do not make grants towards electronic or hybrid (part pipe and part electronic) instruments.
- How do I apply?** Our website www.onorganfund.org.uk gives details of our charity and you can download the application form direct from the site. If requested we can send a printed copy of the application form (please write to the Fund at the address below) although the Trustees prefer to keep their administrative costs low by working through email whenever possible. Subject to the conditions below, applications can be submitted at any time.
- When do I apply?** Before applying, churches must have raised at least half of the total sum required (this can include tax due back on Gift Aided donations, grants from other bodies, and pledged income), and must have signed a contract with, or issued a letter of instruction to, the organ-builder so that the Trustees are assured that the work will take place. In the case of Church of England churches, any Faculty or other permission necessary for the work to take place must already have been obtained. The Trustees meet twice each year, in May/June and again in October/November, to consider applications and award grants.
- What size are the grants?** The On Organ Fund is a small but growing Charity. In its first 25 years it gave over £220,000 to 582 churches. Grants currently range between £200 and £1,000 but can occasionally be larger. The Trustees see their awards as top-up grants towards the end of successful appeals, and prefer to give small grants to a large number of applicants rather than larger grants to just a few. The level of award is usually related to the level of finance that the church needs to raise for the project.
- Can I contribute to the Fund?** Donations, standing orders and legacies are of course very welcome. Please note that **the Trustees’ policy is to treat all donations as well as as legacies as capital** thereby helping to assure the long-term growth of the Fund and, subject to investment returns and interest rates, enabling it to grow and to increase on a year-by-year basis the amount that it can give away. In deciding how much can be given away the Trustees work on a year-past basis. The investment income at the end of each financial year, less the very modest costs of the administration of the Fund, determines the amount to be disbursed as grants during the following year. Donors who take out standing orders in favour of the On Organ Fund are sent annually a copy of the Trustees’ report to the Charity Commission together with a list of grants awarded during that year. A booklet listing the grants made from 1984 to 2009 is available on request.

**For further details, to send donations or request Bankers Order forms, please contact:
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