

Holy Trinity Anglican Church – High Victorian Gothic Revival - Orange

A fund raising appeal by a rural Anglican community to restore their Gothic Revival Church provided the inspiration for the Kick Start fund raising program”

Project	Kick start fund raising
Type of work	Physical conservation
Funding	\$10,000 seed funding grant
Project cost	\$1.2 million
Heritage listing	LEP state significant heritage item
Local government area	Orange
Applicant	Holy Trinity Anglican Church Orange

Project aim To assist the restoration appeal for the Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Orange

Funding focus The Kick Start program provides a start up grant of \$10,000 as an early boost to community based fund raising appeals for conservation work on significant heritage items

“In my experience churches are in a special class of heritage items. Even amongst non-believers there is a strong recognition of their value as an important part of our shared cultural identity,” quote from Michael Collins, former Chair, Heritage Council of NSW



The Holy Trinity Anglican Church Orange

To reinforce its prominence in Orange's social and cultural history, the spire of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church dominates the streetscape of the city's town centre.

Holy Trinity Anglican Church was completed in 1879 to the design of distinguished colonial architect Thomas Rowe. Dedicated in 1909, the High Victorian Gothic Revival brick church and its accompanying buildings first identified its state heritage significance in a Central West community consultation heritage study. It is already listed by the National Trust and the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

But after 125 years of use the church was showing signs of age and weathering. Parts of the original slate roof were leaking and clearly needed replacing. The sandstone slabs on the church tower were in danger of falling off.

A conservation report identified priorities including removing exterior paving slabs that were contributing to rising damp as well as installing new stormwater pipes and urgent electrical works.

The Church turned to the community for support to raise the \$1.2 million needed to fund these major works. It established a tiered fundraising appeal through the National Trust of Australia (NSW) that was designed to attract major community sponsorship with built in tax deductibility as an added incentive.

In February 2005 The Heritage Office spearheaded the campaign with a seed funding grant of \$10,000. With this impetus – and a touch of divine inspiration perhaps - the fund raising appeal proved a major success and two years later the conservation work is well underway.

Since 2005 grants through the Kick Start fund raising appeals have given a boost to other grass roots fund raising campaigns across NSW as well.

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