

Grant all set to restore church's former glory

By Joanna Sayers

01437 761764

jsa@westerntelegraph.co.uk

Twitter @WTelegraph

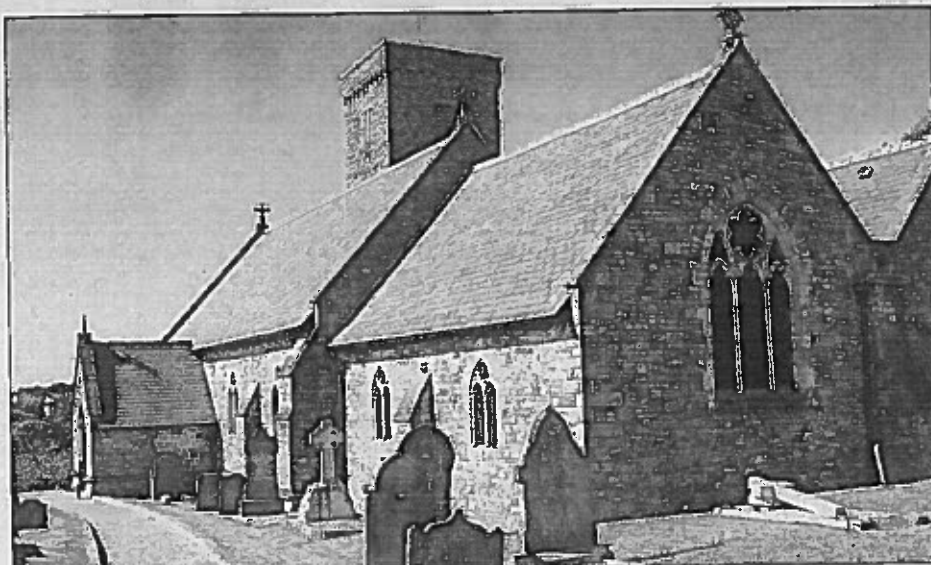
ST DAVID'S Church in Prendergast is to benefit from a £10,000 grant to fund urgent repair work to its medieval tower.

The National Churches Trust grant will pay for strengthening and repair work to the fragile tower, and help bring the Grade II-listed building back to its former glory.

The church's central newel and stone enclosure will also be reinforced, and repairs to the roof timbers, ceiling and the north wall of the nave – which have been damaged by damp – will also take place.

Mark Edwards, county councillor for the Prendergast ward, said the announcement was “fantastic news” as the church was a focal point for the area.

The tower dates back to the late medieval period,



CASH BOOST: The money will restore the Grade II building ‘to its former glory’. (3404870)

although the rest of the church was rebuilt between 1866 and 1868, mostly of squared rubble stone with slate roofs.

It has a fine Victorian interior with 19th and 20th-century stained-glass win-

dows and 18th-century and later wall monuments.

The grant is part of a £645,000 rescue package for 45 of the UK's most historic and community-minded churches.

Huw Edwards, broad-

caster and journalist and vice-president of the Trust, said: “Churches are some of the most beautiful buildings in the country and these grants will help to bring more of them back to their full glory.”