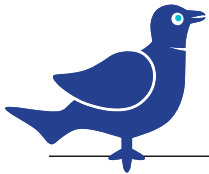


OPERATION PUGIN

CREATIVE
WORKSHOPS FOR
SCHOOLS

Things you didn't know about

PUGIN The Architect



Pugin decided to live in Ramsgate so that he could build a church there because, in 597AD, St Augustine had landed very nearby, bringing Christianity to southern England. This was very important to Pugin, and he felt that Ramsgate was a sacred and historic spot.



Edward Pugin, Pugin's eldest son, built an attractive little Anglican church at Kingsdown, near Faversham, in Kent. It was fairly unusual for members of the Pugin family not to build Catholic churches, but they did occasionally.

St Augustine's church, which Pugin gradually built in Ramsgate, is full of very beautiful stained glass, telling stories, and showing saints, birds, flowers, even a mouse, and heraldic shields. It is all designed by Pugin, or by those who followed his style.

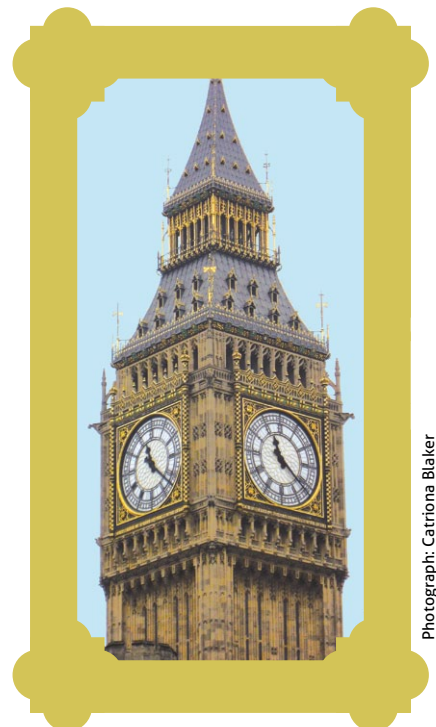


Pugin greatly loved **mediaeval, or gothic, buildings,** and his one wish was to create buildings in this style himself. A gothic building is one with tall columns and pointed arches, pinnacles and gargoyles. Locally, Canterbury Cathedral is the most famous example of the sort of gothic architecture that he wanted to re-create.

Stained glass designed by Pugin in a church in Woolwich, London.

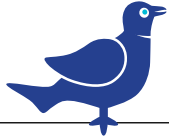
Photograph: Catriona Blaker

Pugin was a very important architect indeed. The Houses of Parliament, with the clock tower that is so famous, known as 'Big Ben', the wonderful colourful and beautifully detailed interior of the House of Lords, and the very throne our Queen sits on when she opens Parliament, were designed by him.

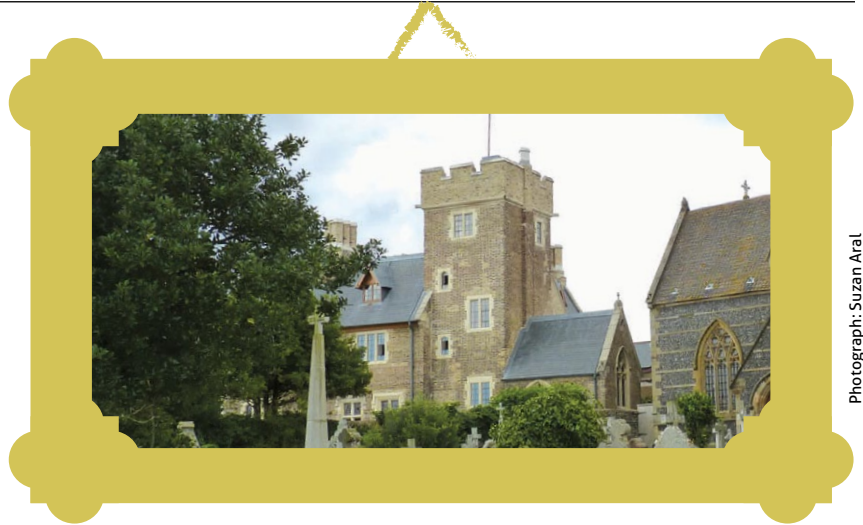


Photograph: Catriona Blaker

Continued →

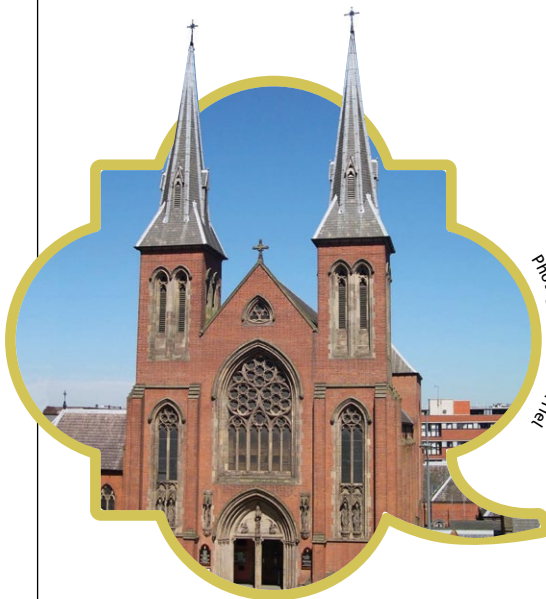


Altogether, Pugin
designed over
100
buildings!



Photograph: Suzan Aral

The Grange, Ramsgate, is the house that Pugin constructed for himself, his family, and some servants. It is a very famous house because the way it was planned and built was very unusual in 1843. It was very different from the Classical Regency terraces in many towns, such as Bath, or Edinburgh. If you live in East Kent you can look at Augusta Road in Ramsgate, or Royal Crescent, also in Ramsgate, and can see the difference.

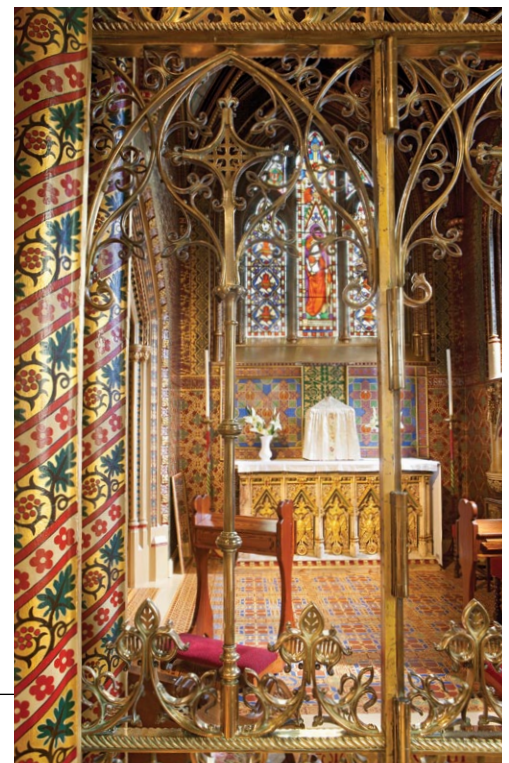


Photograph: David Friel

St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham is a very impressive church that Pugin built early in his career, between 1838 and 1841.

Pugin thought that when he was designing churches, or houses, the most important thing was not their outward appearance, but what they should be used for. This should dictate their plan and shape. He thought that if you considered these points, you would end up with a good and true structure, honestly designed. In this way, **although Pugin loved the architecture of the Middle Ages, he also looked forward to more modern styles of building.**

Pugin built a very famous church dedicated to **St Giles, at Cheadle**, in Staffordshire. This a beautiful gothic-style church paid for by a very rich patron, the Sixteenth Earl of Shrewsbury. It is full of ornamentation and colour, in the form of tiles, stained glass, metal work and carvings.



Inside St Giles Catholic Church, Cheadle.

Photograph: © Mark Titterton

See Activity 03 included in this pack and Activity 02 / 04
available online at
thepuginsociety.co.uk/operation-pugin



THE PUGIN SOCIETY



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



All information sheets and activities can be downloaded in PDF format from
thepuginsociety.co.uk/operation-pugin