

Spurgeon's College - in Administration

Sales teaser

September 2025

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL



An opportunity to be part of the history of Spurgeon's College

Spurgeon's College was a leading Baptist theological college, known and respected throughout the Baptist community worldwide. The Joint Administrators are offering a unique opportunity to become part of that history and its revered founder, Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

Overview & opportunity

- ▶ Founded in 1856, initially as Pastor's College and known since 1923 as Spurgeon's College, the College was a leading and respected provider of evangelical Baptist theological studies, training thousands of men and women for Christian mission, ministry, and leadership.
- ▶ Even in the present day, the name Spurgeon's and the late Charles Spurgeon are synonymous with the Baptist community, both in the UK and internationally.
- ▶ Spurgeon's ceased trading on 31 July 2025 and on 1 August 2025, William Matthew Humphries Tait and Mark Thornton of BDO LLP were appointed as Administrators ('the Joint Administrators').
- ▶ Whilst Spurgeon's is no longer trading, the Joint Administrators are offering a unique opportunity to become part of the history of Spurgeon's through its academic teachings, library and numerous artefacts, including several directly related to Charles Spurgeon. **This is a rare opportunity to preserve and continue his legacy and the impact both he and Spurgeon's had in the Baptist community and the wider world.**
- ▶ The College's assets offered for sale are summarised in the adjacent table. Further details are available on request from the Joint Administrators' appointed agents, Hilco Global Advisors.
- ▶ Offers are sought for individual items and, for interested parties who wish to preserve the legacy and history of Spurgeon's, for the **whole collection** of artefacts, theological texts, and intellectual property relating to the teachings of Spurgeon's.
- ▶ Offers are invited by way of a sealed tender process and interested parties should seek to submit their bids **by 18 September 2025**.
- ▶ **There is unlikely to be a better opportunity to commemorate and participate in the history of Spurgeon's, and the late Charles Spurgeon.**
- ▶ In addition, certain antiquarian texts are being sold by way of a separate auction process, these books include the 'Coverdale' New Testament (1539). The auction (accessible online) will be held on **25 September 2025**. Please contact Rupert Powell of Forum Auctions or the Joint Administrators for full details.

Asset highlights



Theological library collection

Spurgeon's has what is widely regarded as **the best collection of theological textbooks in the UK**, holding an estimated 60,000 books. The collection consists of:

- Academic theological textbooks
- Collection of academic journals
- Certain Spurgeon texts such as The Sword and Trowel magazines

The theological book collection has **been catalogued by Spurgeon College's librarian** and is available for sale as a whole, giving interested parties a rare opportunity to acquire and **preserve one of the most significant theological libraries** in the UK.



Artefacts attributable to the late Charles Spurgeon

Spurgeon's owns several artefacts including some with historic association to Charles Spurgeon:

- **A sword and trowel**, the trowel being used by Charles Spurgeon to lay the foundation stone of the original Pastor's College, which then became Spurgeon's College
- **A bookcase**, originally from the study of Charles Spurgeon
- **A full-size statue of Charles Spurgeon** by the leading sculptor, Francis Derwent Wood, known for his work in restoring the dignity of facially disfigured soldiers injured in WW1 as well as several public monuments.
- **Two large oil paintings of Charles Spurgeon**



Intellectual property

Spurgeon's has **five written theology programmes** which are categorised into various courses including those to train ministers for the Baptist community.

Interested parties wishing to preserve this pedagogy are invited to acquire **the materials** relating to these courses and any other intellectual property of Spurgeon's, **including the name 'Spurgeon's College'**.



For more information:

To contact the Joint Administrators please email:

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To receive a catalogue of the assets of Spurgeon's College and to register your interest / submit your bid

MATT CALLAHAN

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To receive details of the auction of antiquarian books

RUPERT POWELL

info@forumauctions.co.uk

On 1 August 2025, William Matthew Humphries Tait and Mark Thornton were appointed Joint Administrators of Spurgeon's College ('the Company') (collectively, the "Joint Administrators"). The Joint Administrators act as agents of the Company and without personal liability.

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