

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

Spring Newsletter

2022

News from our Vice-Chair

RIGHT: The Revd Canon David Pritchard Vice-Chair of Trustees



As I write the dark clouds of war in Ukraine are horrifying us all. The wanton destruction of human life on such a scale in the continent of Europe is beyond understanding. Buildings, sacred and secular, are being flattened to rubble – I am lost for words.

How lucky we are to live where we do, in cities, towns and villages in which our ancestors invested their best to the glory of God. The work of the Trust is to ensure the county's church buildings remain fit for purpose in these post-Covid days; so I thank you for your continued support.

Please make 2022 a year when you encourage at least one new person to become a member of Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust. Go online today at <https://camhct.uk> and give a friend Gift Membership now. After you have done that, enjoy exploring the rest of the website (still work in progress) where you will see what has been going on behind the scenes to enhance the appreciation of the fine church buildings in the county.

It is good that this year's conference will be an 'in-person' event at Wolfson College – the chairman and I, together with other trustees and members of the executive, look forward to seeing you there. This year the summer Church Tours are taking place once again – how fortunate we are that Rev Dr Lynne Broughton will be our tour guide.

Some news about people:

In acknowledgment of the work they have done for the trust for many years the Trustees have given Life Membership to our former secretary, David Stazicker, and to Graham Phillips for his work as webmaster.

At the last trustees' meeting, Mr Nick Grantham tendered his resignation – Nick has been a diligent and supportive trustee whose calm wisdom will be missed.

Ride and Stride 2022

Where will you be on **Saturday 10 September**? We hope you will be helping your parish with this year's annual fund raising event. With your encouragement and support this year's Ride and Stride will be 'bigger and better than ever'! Remember that you can nominate your church to receive 50% of the monies you raise. If you want to do something other than Ride or Stride to raise much needed funds, that's perfectly acceptable. You can see what happened in previous years on our Facebook page.

David Pritchard

The Trust is an independent charity whose primary task is to give financial help in the form of grants and interest-free loans towards the cost of repair and improvement of churches and chapels of all denominations throughout Cambridgeshire. Its funds accrue mainly from membership subscriptions and from the annual sponsored Ride and Stride. Members receive twice-yearly newsletters and other information about the Trust's activities including in normal times an annual conference in the Spring and Sunday afternoon church tours in the summer. Minimum annual subscription £20 for up to two individuals at the same address, £50 for corporate membership for churches.

Administrator: Sue Holgate, 9 The Chase, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB6 3DR. Phone 01353 668438

Email: admin@camhct.uk.

For our formal Annual Report and Financial Statements visit www.camhct.uk or ask the Administrator for a printed copy.

Annual Conference

Radiancy Divine

Light and Heat in Church

Saturday 2nd April 2022

9.30 am – 3.15 pm

Wolfson College,
Cambridge



Photo © Mick Lobb

Having been prevented in 2020 and 2021 from holding a “live” conference, we are pleased to be able to return to our usual format and venue. The programme includes:

- Windows from Saxon times to the twenty-first century - Dr Jasmine Allen, Curator, the Stained Glass Museum
- Candlelight and its accessories – Dr Kirstin Kennedy, Victoria and Albert Museum
- From gas and gasoliers to incandescent lamps, and sodium floodlighting to LED light sources – Bruce Kirk, Light Perceptions Ltd
- Keeping warm in church – from the Middle Ages to the present day - Sarah Khan, Conservation Architect.

Trust and enabling members to ask questions and express their views.

Recognising that many people may only be gradually re-acustoming themselves to live events, we are making the programme slightly shorter than usual and have reduced the cost to £21 for members and £26 for non-members. A finger buffet lunch is available in the College’s Combination Room for £12.50. If you have not already booked, visit www.camhct.uk/events or phone 01353 778129 for a booking form.

NB. We and the College will of course be taking all due precautions due avoid any risk of spreading Covid-19 infection. Although it will no longer be mandatory, we would ask everyone concerned to wear face covering except when addressing the audience.

In addition to these presentations there will be the usual brief session describing the work of the

David Stazicker

Membership

Please may I encourage those members who have not yet paid their 2022 subscription to do so. The easiest way is to set up a Standing Order. Single membership is £20.00 per year and our bank account is CAF Bank; Sort Code 40-52-40; Account number 00031047. If you are in doubt about your payment please contact me at members@camhct.uk

Thank you.

Sue Holgate

www.camhct.uk

Grants

With only one meeting still to go in this financial year, grant applications have dropped from twenty last year to only nine so far this year. Of those nine, two were just roof alarms and a further one, an electric heating proposal, has been deferred until more details are worked up and approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, (the DAC).



• Hail Weston, South Porch

Of the two major grant aided cases this year, work has now started on the Vestry windows at Wisbech, St Peter and St Paul and on Phase 1 landscaping at Hail Weston, St Nicholas. Here in Phase 2, the main north access to the church will gain a porch, (taken from the south), and a new porch-like extension on the south side will eventually provide new facilities in the church. (See photo).

Also in this year, we were pleased to support the rehangng of bells at Great Chishill, St Swithun where not only the bellframe, but four of the five bells are listed by the Church Buildings Council, (CBC), for their heritage merit. The bells have already been removed from the tower, (See 1 photo).

It is also pleasing when work is not only completed, but completed to a high standard of craftsmanship as can be seen now on the rainwater goods and other iron work at Thriplow, St George. (See 2 Photos).



• Thriplow, St George rainwater goods



• Great Chishill, St. Swithun Bells lined up

I wrote last autumn about the new website and on-line grant applications. We are now able to list the most recent grant awards and, just recently, see a photo to illustrate what it was for. See <https://camhct.uk/grants/> I have also been busy uploading church photos as well and, if you go to the churches page at <https://camhct.uk/churches/> you will see perhaps half of the 473 Cambridgeshire churches already have photos. My thanks to Steve Cole and Geoff Grayton for supplying most of these and getting us off to a flying start. If you would like to submit photos of your own church and can see that none currently are shown, do please use the link at the top of the page - "Is there something missing or do we have something wrong? Click here to report an error or addition" – you will get your name in the credits as well for all gallery photos used.

Graham Pledger



• Thriplow, St George door hinge

Church Tours

The other feature of our activity that we are resuming this year is the tours of local churches on Sunday afternoons in the Summer. The Revd Dr Lynne Broughton has kindly agreed to lead these again, and believes that the following are very impressive examples of the fine churches to be found in our county.

8th May	Castle Camps	All Saints
	Shudy Camps	St Mary
	Bartlow	St Mary
12th June	Hamerton	All Saints
	Steeple Gidding	St Andrew
	Little Gidding	St John the Evangelist
10th July	Shepreth	All Saints
	Foxton	St Laurence
	To be confirmed	
14th August	Elm	All Saints
	Outwell	St Clement
	Upwell	St Peter

As before, each tour starts at 2.30 pm at the first church named. On arrival at the final church, our hosts in past years have been kind enough to provide us with tea, and to make toilets available. Given the difficulties arising from Covid-19 this is a lot to ask, but our hosts in May and August have agreed to do this and we are hopeful that we may be able to arrange similarly in June and July. The other feature we hope to reintroduce is that those who wish to can stay after the tour of the final church, for a short service of Evening Prayer, or join the congregation for their evening service if there is one.

There is no charge for participation in these tours, which are open to all, but those attending are asked to donate generously to the churches visited, and especially for the teas. Directions, and updates about the remaining details of the June and July tours, will be posted on our website and printed in leaflets nearer the time of the tours. Unless the situation changes we would ask all those attending to wear face coverings when inside the churches.

David Stazicker

Ride & Stride Results 2021

We are very pleased to announce the results of the 2021 CHCT Ride and Stride Event.

The total raised was £18,091.60 which was an excellent result, although just a little short of last year's record amount.

The tradition is that participants nominate their parish church to receive half the funds they raise, although some people simply nominate the trust itself and there are always some donations made to the trust in the Ride & Stride time frame which are normally accounted with the other income of the event. After all the accounting has been done and payment details checked, the Trust paid out to parishes a total of £8,850.80 across December and early January.

The more than £9,000 retained by the trust will fund a significant proportion of our grants budget in the coming year.

Once again we are all very grateful to everybody who participated in the 2021 Ride and Stride and we hope you will all want able to join the event again this year.

Please keep an eye on these web pages in the coming months as we work to improve them and make them more user friendly. We want to make it as easy as possible to download and print out the traditional paperwork but at the same time to make signing up on your phone for the event something you can do while drinking your morning coffee on a sunny September day.

Tim Thompson, R&S Treasurer

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered as a charity in England and Wales No 287486

Trustees

Sir Hugh Duberly CBE KCVO (Chair)
The Revd Canon David Pritchard (Vice-Chair)
David Ball
Geoffrey Hunter
David Stazicker
The Revd Canon Simon Talbott
Alison Taylor
The Revd Dr Nicholas Thistlethwaite
Canon Tim Walters (Hon Treasurer)

Executive Committee

The Revd Canon David Pritchard (Chair)
The Revd Dr Lynne Broughton
William Craven
Graham Pledger (Grants Secretary)
The Revd Canon Annette Reed
The Revd Tim Thompson (Ride & Stride Treasurer)
Canon Tim Walters (Hon Treasurer)

Administrator

Sue Holgate