



Chairman's Report

For a small organisation, CHCT has once again achieved much this year. We awarded £141,000 in grants and loans to help congregations realise their building projects, held a conference at Wolfson College in March and visited twelve churches across the county over the summer. We also took part in Scilla Latham's seminar on fund raising and supported her post for the third (and last) year. Trustees are looking at how we can help the diocese continue the work she has started, as it is clearly much appreciated by congregations.

Our Conference on Dissent introduced us to much new information on the people and buildings of non-Conformity. Although these denominations have suffered from the same decline in support as the Church of England, many of their churches and chapels remain in regular use. Indeed, as non-Conformist denominations have always encouraged social and educational activities, they have been quicker than parish churches to adapt their buildings for uses beyond worship. Not so many are grade I & II* listed buildings it is true, but their internal character is often created by fixed furnishings like galleries and pews and these are what have to be adapted and removed to create the flexible space that non-worship use requires. Regrettably the Trust is not often approached for help, which is a pity as the 'historic' in our title goes beyond just buildings that are listed; we will consider helping any building of some age and architectural merit.

David Thompson's talk on the development of the denominations in East Anglia brought home the fact that it is people, not buildings that engender activity. As we tour around parish churches in the summer, we see some very different settings for worship and great variety in provisions for other activities – even on the same afternoon in adjacent churches. The common thread is engagement

and that is equally true for this Trust as for the congregations that support Cambridgeshire's places of worship. CHCT cannot exist without the willing involvement of its trustees, officers and most important of all, its members. But we need more! Like many other voluntary organisations, we find it harder to recruit officers and members. We are sure that we could raise more from the Ride and Stride if we had a county organiser and more local organisers too. Can you help?

Many non-members support our activities, especially by sponsoring participants in the Ride, Drive and Stride, so we must be seen as a 'good cause', but to continue we need to get ourselves better known and supported. This is the key task for the next couple of years and I am pleased to welcome three new Trustees, Nicholas Grantham, Revd Simon Talbutt and Richard Turpin to help us. All have great experience of working both within parishes and on a wider level, so I look forward to exploiting them for the good of the Trust!

However, we could not have done what we have in 2012-13 without the enormous effort put in by the members of the Executive Committee and I thank them, on behalf of all the Trustees and members of CHCT, for all they have done over the last twelve months.

Richard Halsey



• Littleport, St George: The Trust's £3000 grant and £15,000 loan might seem a small contribution to this £250,000+ tower repair, but it was a third of the shortfall required by the parish to match the English Heritage grant.



• The servery at Woodditton (see page 2).

The trust is an independent Charity with a primary task to support the repair and restoration of places of Christian worship in Cambridgeshire. Its funds accrue from the annual sponsored cycle ride and are used to make grants and interest-free loans to churches.

Support to the Trust is also given through Membership. Members receive advance notices of the Annual Conference and the summer afternoon Church Tours. Annual subscription is £20.

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Membership Secretary:
Mrs Jenny Lowles 01353 861574 Email: members@cambshistoricchurchestrust.co.uk

Secretary's Report

Financially, the past year has seen some glimmers of light for the Trust and for the churches of Cambridgeshire. Revenue from the 2012 Ride and Stride at least halted the decline of recent years. The uncertainties have now been removed from the Listed Places of Worship VAT reimbursement scheme. The present Government has confirmed that the £42m annual funding of that scheme will be maintained at least until 2015, and there are indications that this would be continued thereafter in the event of a change of power at Westminster.

The fact remains that the Trust's net income is only around £25,000 per year and without depleting our assets we cannot award more than this amount in grants, which remain limited to a maximum of £3,000 per project. National grant-giving bodies such as WREN now choose to administer their own schemes, as does the National Churches Trust, though CHCT retains a role in recommending projects to benefit from these arrangements.

Loans, of up to £15,000 continue to be a valuable facility for churches, though the amount out on loan has decreased markedly, both because of early repayments and because some awarded loans are not being taken up. Nonetheless we believe that the availability of a loan is a vital reassurance to churches as they embark on their projects.

We completed our usual range of activities. St James' Little Paxton hosted the 2012 Annual Meeting in great style and amply showed how well a church can be transformed for community use. We also enjoyed an informative talk by our

Chairman, Richard Halsey, about the life and work of John Buonarotti Papworth, Architect to the King of Württemberg, whose monument is in the churchyard. However, the attendance was again disappointing and this has led us to rethink the format of the member's meeting, which we hope will appeal more widely.

Thanks to the efforts of John Maddison, Jane Kennedy and Andrew Westwood-Bate, the Annual Conference again provided an excellent series of presentations in comfortable surroundings, attended by a few more people than last year. The simpler and more economical lunch arrangements also proved popular. The summer church tours have all been highly successful, culminating in a record attendance of around 60 at the August 2013 tour to Bassingbourn and the Mordens. Hearty thanks are again due to the churches we have visited, not least those who have provided us with some excellent teas. Those of us who have remained for Evening Prayer, either the church's own scheduled service or one specially conducted for us by the local



• *Farcet, St. Mary: Dr John Maddison talking to members in May 2013. A grant of £3000 and loan of £5000 has been offered for much needed fabric repairs.*

clergy, have also much appreciated this conclusion to the day. The joint visit to Chichester with the Cambridgeshire Association for Local History, expertly led as usual by the Revd Dr Lynne Broughton, has again been well supported.

RIDE, DRIVE & STRIDE

I have already emphasised that the annual sponsored Ride, Drive and Stride, as we have renamed it, is now our main source of income. As we go to press it has yet to take place. The future of this event has been discussed nationally, and although one does not lightly do anything to increase our carbon footprint, we recognise that many of our older supporters are excluded from participating. We have therefore opened the Day to users of all types of transport, hence the change of title. In Cambridgeshire we still sorely need an organiser for the event, but our Publicity Officer Andrew Westwood-Bate has again stepped in to get the information and paperwork out around the diocese. We have simplified the paperwork this year, which we hope will have been helpful, but we welcome comments.

My thanks are again due to Richard Halsey and all the other officers, trustees and Executive Committee members I have not mentioned by name, for everything they have done for the Trust in the past year and for their unfailing assistance to me personally.

David Stazicker



• *We contributed a £3000 grant and £15,000 loan to a £70,000 scheme to install a toilet pod in the base of the tower with a servery and storage around the west end of the north aisle.*

Statement of Accounts

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30th June 2013

	2013	2012
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
2013 Conference	1,842	1,564
Subscriptions (Gift Aid)	3,890	3,700
Subscriptions (other)	5,169	4,009
2012 sponsored ride & stride	24,656	24,528
Income Tax refund on Gift Aid	4,189	4,560
Other Income	<u>3,181</u>	<u>3,179</u>
Total Incoming Resources	<u>42,927</u>	<u>41,540</u>
Resources Expended		
2013 Conference expenses	1,686	2,014
2012 sponsored ride & stride share to churches	11,593	11,682
Grants to churches	49,425	90,300
Other expenditure	<u>4,498</u>	<u>4,555</u>
Total Resources Expended	<u>67,202</u>	<u>108,551</u>
Net Incoming Resources	-24,275	-67,011
Balances as at 30th June 2012	<u>540,378</u>	<u>607,389</u>
Balances as at 30th June 2013	<u>516,103</u>	<u>540,378</u>

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2013

	2013	2012
	£	£
Current Assets		
Loans due from churches	199,250	261,750
Accrued Income	367	214
National Westminster Bank	9,226	17,998
National Savings Investment	93,357	92,822
Central Board of Finance		
COIF Deposit Fund	214,503	163,164
Deposit Fund Account - WREN	0	5,000
	<u>516,703</u>	<u>540,948</u>
Creditors		
Accruals	600	570
Net Assets	<u>516,103</u>	<u>540,378</u>
The funds of the charity		
Restricted income funds	0	5,000
Unrestricted income funds	<u>516,103</u>	<u>535,378</u>
	<u>516,103</u>	<u>540,378</u>

Loans Outstanding	£	Grants Payable	£	Loans and Grants approved but not paid by 30th June 2013	£
Loans Outstanding	£	Grants Payable	£	Loans and Grants approved but not paid by 30th June 2013	£
Bartlow St Andrew	3,750	Grants to churches (WREN)		Loans	
Buckworth All Saints	1,500	Houghton with Wyton St Mary	<u>5,000</u>	Barrington All Saints	15,000
Castor St Kyneburgha	3,500		<u>5,000</u>	Farcet St Mary	5,000
Coveney St Peter ad Vincula	15,000	Grants to churches (CHCT)		Great Catworth St Leonard	4,000
Easton St Peter	2,500	Bassingbourn St Peter & St Paul	2,000	Great Eversden St Mary	15,000
Eltisley St Pandionia & SJTB	15,000	Broughton All Saints	3,000	Hemingford Grey St James	15,000
Elton All Saints	20,000	Fletton St Margaret	3,000	Littleport St George	15,000
Fowlmere St Mary	3,750	Haslingfield All Saints	5,000	March Westry St Mary	10,000
Fridaybridge St Mark	8,000	Little Gransden StPeter&StPaul	5,000	Orwell St Andrew	15,000
Godmanchester St Mary	10,000	Little Paxton St James	3,000	Papworth Everard St Peter	10,000
Great Catworth St Leonard	2,500	Little Wilbraham SJTB	2,000	Ramsey St Thomas a Becket	10,000
Great Paxton Holy Trinity	2,500	Meldreth Holy Trinity	2,000	Shudy Camps St Mary	5,000
Harston All Saints	7,500	Somersham St John the Baptist	150	Somersham SJTB	<u>15,000</u>
Haslingfield All Saints	15,000	Stetchworth St Peter	3,000		<u>134,000</u>
Horningsea St Peter	7,500	Thorney Abbey	3,000	Grants (CHCT)	
Isleham St Andrew	2,500	Tydd St Giles	2,000	Barrington All Saints	3,000
Little Paxton St James	15,000	Wilburton St Peter	5,000	Eltisley St Pandionia & SJTB	3,000
Little Wilbraham SJTB	4,000	Woodditton St Mary the Virgin	3,000	Elton All Saints	5,000
Marholm St Mary	1,500	Woodhurst St John the Baptist	<u>3,000</u>	Farcet St Mary	3,000
Oakington St Andrew	11,250		<u>44,150</u>	Great Eversden St Mary	3,000
Rampton All Saints	10,000	Grants for memorials (CHCT)		Hemingford Grey St James	5,000
St Neots URC	5,000	Somersham St John the Baptist	<u>275</u>	Littleport St George	3,000
Tydd St Giles	4,500		<u>275</u>	March Westry St Mary	3,000
Whaddon St Mary	10,000			Offord Cluny All Saints	5,000
Witcham St Mary	2,500			Orwell St Andrew	3,000
Woodditton St Mary	<u>15,000</u>			Papworth Everard St Peter	3,000
	<u>199,250</u>			Shudy Camps St Mary	<u>3,000</u>
					<u>42,000</u>
				Grants (CHCT) for memorials	
				Over St Mary	<u>1,000</u>
					<u>1,000</u>

The surplus unrestricted funds of £140,000 are available for Grants (£25,000) i.e the net income for the year and £3,000 for Grants for memorials. The balance of £112,000 plus £72,000 due to be repaid in the next financial year will leave £184,000 for interest free loans.

Availability of full accounts etc

The full accounts for the year 1st July 2012 to 30th June 2013, and other reports required for compliance with charity law and the recommendations of the Charity Commission, are available on the Trust's website www.cambshistoricchurchestrust.co.uk or on request from the Hon Secretary David Stazicker at The Willows, Low Bank, Mepal, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB6 2AU 01353 778129 secretary@cambshistoricchurchestrust.co.uk

Membership Secretary's report



• *Stetchworth, St. Peter. Our grant of £3000 meant that this small parish could re-wire and install some badly needed under bench heating.*

As at 30 June 2013, membership stood at 273 made up of 197 individual (including 38 joint members at the same address) and 76 corporate members. Since July 2012, we have welcomed 5 new individuals and 10 churches. These figures have been offset by 11 resignations and the removal from the database of about 14 members who have been in arrears for two years or more.

I am pleased to say that further reminders sent during the year have resulted in many renewing their subscription leaving only 9 individual and 2 corporate members who are currently more than one year in arrears. I have also contacted those members who pay below the current subscription rate and again have met with some success with only 8 not having amended their standing orders as yet.

You may have noticed that the number of individuals joining the Trust is fewer than in recent years. Whilst our long-standing members remain loyal, it is harder to attract new members. This may be due partly to the current economic climate but also perhaps to our failure to promote the Trust more widely. To this end we are producing a new membership leaflet which we hope will make us more visible once it is on display in churches and elsewhere and available on our church tours.

Jenny Lowles

Grants Secretary's report

In this financial year the Trust has been able to offer assistance to twelve rural churches from across the county, with two further churches recommended to the National Churches Trust partnership scheme (but sadly only one was accepted).

Whilst most awards were for fabric repairs, others were for building services (heating and rewiring) and new facilities like toilets and serveries; one monument grant was also offered. Including the NCT award, grants totalling £29,000 and loans totalling £112,000 were offered in 2012-13.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Grants Secretary early in their planning, as this tends to help things go smoother for all.

Andy Clarke

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered as a charity in England and Wales no. 287486

Trustees

Richard Halsey MBE (Chairman)
The Revd Canon Christopher Barber
Nicholas Grantham (from July 2013)
Canon Julian Limentani
Dr John Maddison
The Ven Richard Sledge
The Revd Simon Talbott (from July 2013)
Alison Taylor
The Rt Revd Dr David Thomson
Richard Turpin OBE (from July 2013)

Executive Committee

Richard Halsey MBE (Chairman)
The Revd Dr Lynne Broughton
Andrew Clarke (Grants Secretary)
William Craven
Ron Dexter (Hon Treasurer)
Jenny Lowles (Membership Secretary)
The Revd Annette Reed
David Stazicker (Hon Secretary)
Andrew Westwood-Bate (Publicity Officer)

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

WILL BE HELD AT
**The United Reformed Church, High
Street, St Neots**
on Sunday 6th October 2013 at 1.30pm

Opening Prayer
Chairman's Report
Officer's Reports

The Reports are printed here but members are encouraged to ask questions!

- 2.30 Guided tour of the United Reformed Church
- 3.30 Guided Tour of St Mary's Church, St Neots
- 4.30 Tea and guided tour of St Mary's Church, Eynesbury
- 5.45 Close