



It's Party Time

By kind permission of the Bishop of Ely, the Trust will be holding a Garden Party in a marquee in the grounds of The Bishop's House (next to Ely Cathedral) on Wednesday June 18th, from 3.00 to 5.30.

Trustees are very pleased that Dr Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury and now Master of Magdalene College Cambridge, has accepted our invitation to attend and speak. Details and booking forms will be available later this year. It promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon, so put the date in your diary now!

As at our 2008 garden party, we plan to offer some short guided visits to nearby areas and buildings of interest. Tea will be served and



• *The well buttressed west tower of Conington St Mary, visited by the trust in May 2013.*

attendees will be able to complete the afternoon with choral evensong in the cathedral at 5.30. This will also be our opportunity to demonstrate how the Trust encourages congregations to look after their places of worship by displaying some examples of recent projects to which we have offered grants and loans.

Our four Sunday afternoon church visits will commence on May 11 and continue on 8 June, 13 July and 10 August. Not only are we going to all four corners of the county, but we are venturing beyond it - to Northamptonshire in June and Norfolk in July (where all three churches are actually in the diocese of Ely). On Ride, Drive and Stride day, September 13th, we will also tour some of the older churches of Cambridge and St Radegund's Priory, now at the heart of Jesus College. So come and raise money for CHCT whilst enjoying some of the finest architectural delights of the city!

CHCT can only succeed with the active support of its members, so more members would enable us to do even better. Please persuade your friends to join! Invite them as your guests to the Garden Party where they can see for themselves what we do. I look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a most enjoyable afternoon right next to Ely Cathedral.

Richard Halsey
Chairman

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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Church Tours for 2014

Sunday 11th May

Swavesey, St Andrew
Rampton, All Saints
Cottenham, All Saints

Sunday 8th June

Warmington, St Mary the
Blessed Virgin
Elton, All Saints
Elton, Methodist
Nassington, St Mary the Virgin

Sunday 13th July

Walpole St Peter, St Peter
Tilney All Saints, All Saints
Terrington St Clement,
St Clement

Sunday 10th August

Westley Waterless, St Mary
the Less
Great Wilbraham, St Nicholas
Little Wilbraham, St John

Each tour starts at 2.30 pm at the first church named. On arrival at the final church, our hosts are kind enough to provide us with tea, and toilets are available. A short service of Evening Prayer will follow the tour of the final church. There is no charge for participation in these tours, which are open to all, but attendees are asked to donate generously to the churches visited, and especially for the teas. Directions will be posted on our website and printed in leaflets available on the day.

Saturday 13th September

In addition to our usual church tours we will walk around some pre-University churches in



• A rare signature by Grinling Gibbons on the 1697 Cotton monument seen by members visiting Conington St Mary in May 2013.

Cambridge, starting at St Bene't's church at 1.30 on Saturday 13th September. We plan to see St Peter, St Giles whose 1875 exterior conceals Norman arches inside, St Clement and finally Jesus College Chapel, formerly the church of St Radegund's nunnery.



• Dr John Maddison addressing the Church Tour at Lolworth church in May 2013

Ride, Drive and Stride 2014

13th September is of course the CHCT's annual sponsored Ride, Drive and Stride day, as well as Open Cambridge Weekend when lots of university and college buildings are specially opened. <http://www.cam.ac.uk/open-cambridge/about-open-cambridge> Why not help the Trust by getting your walk sponsored? You could even make a full day of it, visiting other open churches and chapels and raise even more for CHCT.



• The fine scrollwork of the metal enclosure to Mrs Rowley's tomb of 1893 in St Marys church at St Neots, seen by members in October 2013.

CHCT GRANTS

CHCT offers grants and loans towards repairs and for certain improvement projects to 'historic places of worship'. They don't need to be listed or over a certain age, but we aim to help buildings of some architectural and historic interest used for Christian worship.

The Trust's maximum grant is currently £3000 per project, which can be offered with a loan to a maximum of £15000. We offer grants of 50% up to £1000 for work to protect lead roofs, including getting access to apply Smartwater and the installation of alarms approved by your insurer. £3000 is also reserved each year for grants towards the conservation of important monuments, including significant churchyard table tombs.

Please contact the Grants Secretary, Andy Clarke 01223 861314 to discuss your project before you apply to us.

The National Churches Trust (NCT) has again offered CHCT a Partnership Grant of £10,000 for us to allocate to churches in the county. Two were offered last year to Spaldwick and Horningsea. After advice from us and NCT, Farcet was offered £30,000 from the WREN Heritage Fund. Look at their grant schemes at www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants

The Heritage Lottery Fund runs the biggest grant scheme, Grants for Places of Worship. Look at their website www.hlf.org.uk to read the guidance notes or contact their Cambridge office Terrington House, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NL, 01223 224870 eastofengland@hlf.org.uk.

The best listing of national grant schemes is on the Churchcare website at www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants. Scilla Latham's excellent Diocese of Ely Church Funding Fact Sheet is available on the diocesan website www.ely.anglican.org/about/archdeacons_pages/advice_papers

Locally, the Amey-Cespa Community Fund continues to offer grants from landfill tax credits anywhere in Cambridgeshire for the repair, maintenance or restoration of a place of worship (Object E) and can help with kitchens and toilets (and

church halls) that serve as a general public amenity (Object D). A package of smaller items costing at least £10,000 can qualify, as will refurbishment of existing facilities and services.

Go to www.cambscf.org.uk/AmeyCespa-fund.html for details or phone 01223 410535. Any landfill site operator can offer grants under these Objects, so if there is one within 10 miles of you—even over the county border – look at their website for details, especially www.wren.org.uk



• The Trust has offered a maximum grant of £3,000 to help the parish of Farcet St Mary match big grants from the HLF and WREN



• The modern interior of St Neot's URC where we held our annual meeting in October 2013.

HELP AND ADVICE

The biggest national source of advice on looking after church buildings is ChurchCare run by the Church Buildings Council www.churchcare.co.uk

Diocesan Advice Papers are on the Home-Information section of the Diocese of Ely website www.ely.anglican.org and for Peterborough www.peterboroughdiocesanregistry.co.uk/dac

The Arthur Rank Centre's Key Resource for Rural Places of Worship goes into ways of using (as well as caring for) rural places of worship at www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk

Want help with a new guidebook?

The voluntary Church Guides organisation www.churchguides.co.uk is going from strength to strength and can help you create a new guidebook.

Ride, Drive and Stride

Ride and Stride Day is a national fund raising event for CHCT and the churches nominated by participants who get sponsorship for visiting places of worship on foot or by bicycle.

In 2013, after a number of requests, CHCT extended it to include those who wanted to help us by driving between churches, so it was Ride, Drive and Stride in Cambridgeshire. But it seems that fewer people took part and the total raised fell £3200 short of that raised in 2012.

But we are enormously grateful to those who did take up the challenge. They raised a splendid £24,874 (including Gift Aid). After returning money to the nominated places of worship, the Trust has benefited by £14,815, every penny of which will go in grants in 2014. Nine fewer teams or individuals took part, but the 59 participating churches/chapels each raised quite a lot more on average than in 2012 - £421 as against £359. How to make any sense of these figures! The break down in the 14 Church of England deanery areas is as follows;

Deanery	No. of churches (2012 in brackets)	Total raised £
Bourn	6 (7)	2090.50
Cambridge (N&S)	5 (5)	1373.00
Ely	5 (3)	1729.00
Fordham & Quy	5 (7)	1555.50
Granta	4 (5)	1548.00
Huntingdon	13 (12)	4046.10
March	2 (3)	209.50
North Stowe	8 (7)	4997.55
Peterborough	1 (1)	20.00
St Ives	0 (3)	-
St Neots	4 (4)	1168.00
Shingay	4 (9)	2138.00
Wisbech	0 (0)	-
Yaxley	2 (2)	535.00



• The 'cycling canon' Chris Barber setting off from home.

Congratulations to the three prize winners;

Highest congregational total; £125 to St Andrew's Oakington who raised £1340

Highest individual total; £50 to Tim Stone of Whittlesford (an amazing £895!)

Highest under 16 total; £25 to the grandchildren of Mr and Mrs Day of Madingley with sponsorship of £135.

Our 'Cycling Canon', Chris Barber, raised a personal best of £1404 but as he's a Trustee we had to exclude him from the prizes, but thank you Chris! Once we have done some research into what went well and where we can improve, let's hope **September 13th 2014** will bring an even better result. Our Cambridge afternoon Church Tour is designed to help those who can't walk or cycle too far to take part – about a dozen churches and chapels can be visited in less than a mile!



• The curious head at the apex of the chancel arch at Pampisford, visited in June 2013.

War Memorials

In this special anniversary year, much information and good advice on researching and looking after war memorials is available from the War Memorials Trust 0300 123 0764 www.warmemorials.org. They also run a grant scheme, as do the Heritage Lottery Fund www.hlf.org.uk

People

We were very sorry to learn of the death of Revd John Graham. He had been a staunch supporter of CHCT, regularly raising over a thousand pounds each year from his sponsored bus trips to churches. See his Wikipedia page to learn about his career as the crossword compiler Araucaria.

Metal theft

The passing of the Scrap Metal Dealer's Act has had a radical effect on lead theft from places of worship. The campaign launched by the Church Buildings Council and Ecclesiastical brought about much greater police interest too, resulting in a 40% reduction in the number of reported cases in 2012/3. Congregations still need to be vigilant (it is an old crime, that took place in the Middle Ages) and both the CBC and Ecclesiastical websites give good advice.