



DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Dedicated to funding repairs and maintenance to places of
Christian worship in the Diocese of Exeter and throughout Devon

NEWSLETTER

January 2017

Welcome to our annual Newsletter. The support of so many parishes and individuals enables the Devon Historic Churches Trust to continue providing grants to help Devon's churches in their hour of need. This newsletter provides a small sample of some of the work undertaken recently with our help and gives a glimpse of a selection of our supporters out and about raising funds and having fun in the process, on our Devon Historic Churches Day (incorporating the Ride+Stride) – half of which is returned immediately to participating churches. *"Everyone in a Winner!"*

Grants Awarded during the past 12 months

During 2016 the DHCT awarded £84,250 in main grant funding, a selection is illustrated here:

Cullompton, St Andrews

DHCT awarded a grant of £3,000 in 2015 and a further £2,500 in 2016 towards the costs of a major HLF approved project to restore and conserve the high level tower, parapets and windows.



Lundy Island, St Helens



DHCT awarded a grant of £5,000 to St Helen's Church which is currently in poor condition with structural problems within the roof, walls and floors. The building is extremely exposed and continues to decay until the repairs are completed. The project costing £1,962,282 also proposes to install new facilities which will enable it to be used for a range of religious and educational purposes.



On entering the church there will be a dedicated space to house the new Interpretation display. The remainder of

the nave will be a flexible space which will be used as a base and wet weather classroom for visiting schools, as a lecture hall for educational groups and specialist societies as well as seating for larger church services. The chancel will be retained for worship as well as being open to visitors. The vestry will house research facilities and accommodation for visiting students and clergy.



The work to the church will present a number of training opportunities for volunteers and apprentices to develop craft skills in carpentry, slate roofing and masonry work. They also want to inform more people about the church and Christianity's role in the history of Lundy.

Buckland in the Moor, St Peters



The DHCT awarded grants of £1,000 in both 2015 and 2016 towards the restoration of this medieval Rood Screen. This work is on-going and due to dampness can only be undertaken during the summer months.

"This year we completed the conservation work on the doors and bays on the west face, part financed by the DHCT. Next year we plan to ask our conservator, Eddie Sinclair, to conserve at least two of the arcades, on the west face and the surround of the doors. Her quotation for this work to be carried out in 2017 is £9022. If we are successful in raising additional funds we will carry out work on one or more extra arcades. To date we have spent in excess of £19,000 on studies and subsequent conservation work."

Patrick Watson, Treasurer.

Instow, St John the Baptist

The DHCT gave a grant of £3,000 in 2015 and a further grant of £3,000 in 2016.

"Instow is a rural and coastal parish set on the banks of the River Torridge. The parish church of St John the Baptist is a grade 1 listed church set on a hill overlooking Bideford Bay. In 2015 The PCC identified the need to



urgently repair their Tower and the main church roof. The total cost of these works was £75k plus vat. This was far too expensive for them to proceed with as a single project so it was divided into two parts. The tower was given the greatest priority as it was believed to be in danger of collapse. Supported by a generous £3K grant from the DHCT this work is now complete. The work needed on the roof is restricted to three distinct areas, only one of which is letting in water at the moment. The cost of these works is £24.4K plus VAT (almost 30% of which is for scaffolding).

Paul Cooper. DHCT Church Assessor

Devon Historic Churches Trust – here to help in times of emergency

Thanks to a generous legacy from one of our supporters, the DHCT created an Emergency Fund in 2014, which has proved of immense value to churches who needed assistance urgently. In 2016 this fund was adapted to apply also to Small Grant applications of up to £1,000. These applications can be dealt with quickly and with the minimum of administration required.



West Worlington, St Marys

The DHCT awarded £667 for work to the church spire which was urgently needed to prevent lightning strikes and keep out the rain. St Mary's spire is particularly distinctive as it is one of the very few 'twisted' spires in Devon.

"We really appreciate the very generous contribution from the DHCT for the repair of the lightning conductor and replacement of spire shingles at West Worlington church."

Patrick Brook, Churchwarden

Grants were also awarded to: Combe Martin: £1,000. Stoke Cannon: £1,000. Romansleigh: £500.

Some Anecdotes from supporters of our Devon Historic Churches Day & Ride+Stride in 2016:

CONGRATULATIONS to our top performing parishes: Galmpton £1,633. Chulmleigh £1,614. Clyst St Lawrence £1,317. Kingsteignton & Teigngrace £1,134. Cheriton Fitzpaine £1,066. Cofton £1,020. Wiggaton £1,000.

Kingsteignton and Teigngrace: 90 years of community service.

"Our theme was service to the community over the last 90 years. So we were greeted by a life-size cut out of the Queen, above her head was an enormous 90 in silver balloons. Various clubs and associations were invited to decorate the windowsills. There was a quiz for the children and they also made 'crowns' out of clay! We were asked to wear our favourite hat. A number of folk who are no longer with us, but have served the church had photos displayed and a 'write-up'; and a good number of funeral service sheets were displayed."

Jo Leakey & Jackie Edwards

County Organiser's note: *"They raised an outstanding £1,133.64 with this project and it was such fun!"*



Hatherleigh, Meeth, Exbourne, Jacobstowe & Northlew



"I enjoyed my bike ride from Hatherleigh to Jacobstowe and back again. My mother and I did our cycle ride to raise money for Devon Historic Churches Trust. We travelled to a number of cycle tracks to get our training done beforehand. On the day it was uphill to begin with, but then we had the pleasure of riding downhill. But of course it would be harder to go back! Although the way back was tricky, we made it in a similar amount of time. Throughout our 9-mile bike ride we were wearing helmets – my hair was normal at the end of it, but my mother's was going haywire! I look forward to my next big ride".

Brendan Hansford, 8 years old

County Organiser's note: **Brendan and his Mum (Rev Dr Ruth Hansford) raised £912. Brilliant!**

Kilmington Church had a wonderful day's exploration

"We aimed to walk this year from Yarcombe to Dalwood. Nineteen walkers and six dogs met at Yarcombe Church at 9.45am in heavy rain. We sheltered in the church porch until 10.10 until the rain eased. It did not rain again, for which we were all most thankful, after we prayed and read an extract from Psalm 84 – a Pilgrim's Psalm." Brian Drew

County Organiser's note: *"Brian created an amusing account of their day, with lots of excellent photos. See the News section on the DHCT website.....and they raised £210, very clever."*

Totnes Team Mission: adventures 'across the water'.

When Joy Hanson decided to cycle around all the nine churches in Totnes Team Mission she faced a really watery problem: the River Dart divided four churches on the east side from five along the West. A diversion down to Greenway Ferry would mean an extra 10 miles and several additional hills to face.

At last only two days before the event her prayers were answered and a friend in Totnes United Free church offered to ferry her and her bike across from Duncannon near Stoke Gabriel to Tuckenhay Quay in his Dory. The route included many hills and pushing the bike up historic old tracks which was challenging.



County Organiser's note: *"Joy raised £460 for work to the windows of St. John's in Bridgetown."* Well done.

Dolton Church: organised a fun day with something for everyone.



The wonderful welcome

100 mile cycle relay ride

Breakfast – followed by lunch!

Community Choir entertains

County Organiser's note: *"Such wonderful community spirit – and they raised £804."*

And 'snapshots' from around Devon.....



Ermington's enthusiastic striders

A very enjoyable day was clearly had by all, with our DHCT Chairman Lady Burnell-Nugent at its heart. Their church organist Peter Thurley also challenged the children to guess his day's mileage on the motorbike.....a clever note to strike! Together they raised £355 – brilliant.



Exeter Prayer Walk at the heart of Devon

This is always a highlight of our 'big day'. As usual they all enjoyed visiting and praying in the mediaeval churches in our city centre and the wider community, plus other visits to the hospice, RD&E and even the prison! They were welcomed at the Cathedral by Canon Ian Morter with biscuits and hot drinks and had picnic lunches by the river – Exeter excelled as always.



Rev. Karen Spray, Exton



The wonderful Worlingtons

"I rose to the challenge in this 80 year old car: 28 miles, 7 church paths, 3 pieces of cake and two biscuits. We met some lovely people and so thank you to all who helped with sponsorship. Steve Baber (pictured on the right) also did his marathon walk again and between us we raised an amazing £600". Geoff Boyles

County Organiser's note: *"I must own up to be a 'Worlingtonian', so am personally very grateful for the superb community support for our cause!"*

We always enjoy hearing about the activities of our supporters and appreciate all those who raise funds to enable us to continue giving Grants to our Devon Churches.

Devon Historic Churches Day 2017

Including Ride+Stride

Saturday 9th September

Organise an event to support the Devon Historic Churches Trust
Or visit our churches and send us a donation.

Make a note in your diary
and encourage your friends

Contact the Devon Historic Churches Trust on:

Email: contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk Grants: grants@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

Further information on our website: www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

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