



DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

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

NEWSLETTER

Covid 19 update

The DHCT hopes that this **Update** finds you and your families in good health.

Because of Covid 19 the DHCT will not be holding any meetings until further notice and if you have any matters you wish to raise, please email: contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Whilst all of us understand the need for measures to be taken (such as cessation of church services and meetings) to reduce the spread of the Virus, we are concerned about the impact of these upon the future mission of the Church through a possible reduction in the size of congregations. I would ask you, therefore, to give whatever encouragement you can to Churchwardens and parishioners to keep faith and to look forward to the time when we can start rebuilding the whole range of activities centred upon the Church.

Meanwhile the financial impacts of Covid 19 (from reduced levels of dividend income, current reductions in market values of investments, and the great uncertainty surrounding whether or not Devon Historic Churches Day will happen this year) have been given careful consideration and they point to a very reduced income for the Trust and for the foreseeable future its ability to make grants. The Grant Applications already received have been considered although the grants awarded are at a much reduced level.

For future Grant Applications, extra consideration will be given to those churches that regularly support the DHCT in their main fundraising event the **Devon Historic Churches Day including the Ride+Stride** as this provides the vital funding that we need to deliver grants. Additionally a condition of future grants would be based on membership as a Friend of DHCT.

It would also be helpful if everyone supporting churches in the Diocese became a Friend of DHCT and [Application Forms](#) are available both on the website: www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk and via email: contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

The DHCT is a volunteer charity which enables the maximum income to be delivered as grants to our churches in their hour of need. To enable our on-going ability at this very challenging time with very limited income we will only give **Emergency** or **Small Grants** for the time being. Full **Grant Applications** will not be accepted until increased income can be secured.

- **Emergency and the Small grant fund** is open and we are happy to receive applications for this.

Fundraising to provide our grants is significantly challenged at the moment and the DHCT will take a decision in June regarding the viability of our event scheduled for 12th September **Devon Historic Churches Day including the Ride+Stride.**

The DHCT needs your support to enable it to continue giving grants to our churches.

Become a Friend

Send a Donation

Create a 'virtual' or alternative fundraising event!