



# Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

[www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org](http://www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org)

(Registered Charity No 1063656)

## Annual Report for the year to 31st March 2022

*Riders from St Mary, Fetcham at All Saints, Ockham  
with its famous 7 lancet window*



## **Trustees' Report**

The Trustees present this abridged report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022. A copy of the full report may be obtained from the Chair at the registered office, Edgecombe, Hill Road, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 2JN.

### **Trustees**

Hamish Donaldson MBE DL, Chairman, Sam Osmond, Hon Secretary, John Harris, Martin Higgins, Father Alex Hill, Revd. James McKeran, Richard Morris, Andrew Plumridge, John Roll Pickering, Hon Treasurer.

### **Patrons**

The Bishop of Guildford, The Bishop of Arundel & Brighton, The Bishop of Southwark, Dame Sarah Goad DCVO JP, Michael More-Molyneux Esq. Lord Lieutenant of Surrey.

### **Structure, Governance & Management**

The Charitable Trust was established on 7th July 1997 with a Trust Deed which established its objects and powers. The Trust is not incorporated.

The work of the Trust falls into three categories: the raising of money (mainly through the annual sponsored Ride & Stride), the distribution of grants to needy churches in the county and the education of the public in our church heritage. Accordingly the Trustees require skills which reflect these needs in addition to the need to be representative of different Christian denominations. When vacancies occur the Trustees identify what skills might be strengthened and consult with the relevant Diocesan Advisory Committees (DACs) and others so as to identify suitable candidates.

Richard Morris leads on marketing and publicity aspects, Andrew Plumridge was formerly architectural advisor to the Berkshire Churches Trust, Martin Higgins served on the Southwark DAC and was Historic Buildings Officer Surrey County Council and Hamish Donaldson was chair of the Guildford DAC for 19 years.

The Trustees also take into account the benefits of a broad representation of different Christian denominations. Hamish Donaldson, Revd. James McKeran, John Roll Pickering and Sam Osmond represent Anglican churches in the Diocese of Guildford, Father Alex Hill and Richard Morris represent the Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, John Harris represents URC churches, Martin Higgins represents Anglican churches in the Diocese of Southwark.

One third of the Trustees retire by rotation every year but may offer themselves for re-election. At the Annual General Meeting to be held on 13th June 2022, Hamish Donaldson, Martin Higgins, Father Alex Hill and Richard Morris retire by rotation but offer themselves for re-election.

## Organisation

In addition to the AGM, the Trustees meet three times a year. At two of the meetings (in April and September) they consider Grants and once a year (in December) they review the last Ride & Stride and plan the next one. The annual sponsored Ride & Stride is organised by the County Organiser (Hamish Donaldson) and a team of up to 16 area organisers. Andrew Plumridge is the Grant's Secretary.

## Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the risks to which the charity is exposed and have systems in place to mitigate the risks the Charity faces.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The Trustees apply the funds of the Trust for the restoration, maintenance, preservation, repair and reconstruction of Christian Churches and Churchyards (and of any fixtures and fittings in the said churches) in the County of Surrey. The funds are applied through grants (typically of £1,000 to £3,000) made to churches that apply to the Trust. The main fund raising event is the Annual Ride & Stride which is described below.

The Trust also educates the public in the appreciation of church buildings and their heritage by organising study days and church tours.

## **The 2022 Fund Raising Ride & Stride**

The second Saturday in September is always the day of the National Churches Ride & Stride and again it suffered from the effects of the Covid-19 virus. In the event, 21 churches in Surrey took part and raised £6,854. Leatherhead, Godstone and Godalming were the top areas; St Mary, Fetcham was the top church.

The organising committee consisted of: Hamish Donaldson, Chairman & County Organiser, John Roll Pickering, Hon. Treasurer, Sam Osmond, Hon. Secretary, and a team of dedicated and experienced Area Organisers. Our Gift Aid procedure was handled this year by the Treasurer who was able to reclaim £1,406 in tax refunds from all sources of income. Our Treasurer, our Secretary and our Area Organisers put in a great deal of time and effort to make the Ride & Stride a success and we are very grateful for all their enthusiasm and hard work.

This year's Ride & Stride will take place on Saturday 10th September – and we hope that as many as possible will take part – and enjoy themselves.

## **Grants**

When considering Grant Applications, the Trustees take account of the Ride & Stride activity of the applying church. Our funding system only works if churches help the Trust to raise funds as well as benefiting from grants. The Trustees have therefore put a cap of £500 on grants for churches that have not raised funds for the Trust in the previous 10 years.

At the April 2021 meeting (held by Zoom), the following grants were approved:

- St John the Baptist, Capel £500 towards footpath repair
- St Mary the Virgin, Beddington £1,500 towards masonry repair
- All Saints, Woodham. £1,000 towards new heating system
- St John Evangelist, Caterham. £2,000 towards masonry repairs.

At the September 2021 meeting, the following grants were approved:

- St Michael's, Betchworth £1,500 for the repair and partial replacement of defective rainwater goods
- St Peter and St Paul, Lingfield £1,000 for work to improve the lighting inside the church.

## **Church Tour**

In spite of lockdown restrictions, we were able to re-establish our church tour on Saturday 16th October. The itinerary was St Mary, Frensham (14th Century), St Andrew, Farnham (medieval church on Saxon foundations) and St Mark, Hale (Victorian church with early 20th Century murals). The tour was organised by Samuel Osmond and, as always, was most interesting with excellent presentations from the three incumbents.

## **Events planned for 2022**

Events planned for the coming year include:

- Monday 13 June: Trustees, AGM, & Social
- Saturday 10 September: Ride & Stride
- Monday 19 September at 2.30: Trustees - Grants
- Saturday 22 October: Church Crawl
- Wednesday 23 November: Pevsner Talk
- Monday 5 December at 2.30: Ride & Stride Review

## **Financial Review**

### **Funding sources**

The money raised by the Ride & Stride together with Gift Aid recovery and Donations means that the Trust had a gross income of £10,439 for the year.

Half of the funds raised by the Rider is given to the church for whom he/she rides. A total of £3,560 was returned to the fund-raising churches in this way.

#### Reserves Policy and Going concern

The Trustees have a policy of retaining £10,000 as a reserve in the event of an urgent call from a church in need. Otherwise it is the policy of the Trustees to distribute all monies raised by the Trust. The Trust has £2,500 liabilities for grants awarded but not yet paid.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

#### Investment policy

The Trustees run a current account and a deposit account with Barclays Bank. This deposit account meets the needs of the Trust to have access to the funds while obtaining a higher rate of interest than that available in a bank current account.

#### **Plans for the Future**

The Trustees have set themselves the objectives of

1. finding new ways of generating income as income from the Ride & Stride is decreasing
2. finding a new County Ride & Stride Organiser for 2024
3. increasing the number of Area Organisers from 8 to 12
4. increasing the number of paid-up members to 200 during the next 18 months

Approved by the Trustees on 13th June 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hamish Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Hamish Donaldson MBE, DL, Chairman



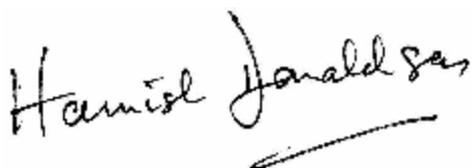
*The Trust gave a grant to St Peter and St Paul, Lingfield towards their lighting improvements.*

<b>Balance Sheet as at 31st March</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Current Account	9,376.96	9,374.90
Deposit Account	30,136.49	30,133.49
	<b>39,513.45</b>	<b>39,508.39</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Grants to Churches authorised but not yet paid	(2,500.00)	(3,000.00)
<b>The funds of the charity</b>		
Unrestricted income funds	<b>37,013.45</b>	<b>36,508.39</b>

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 March

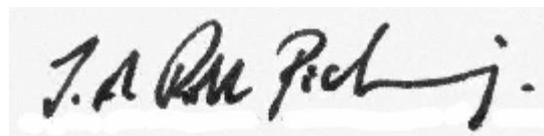
Income	2022	2021
Donations and subscriptions	1,851.21	1,916.95
Gift Aid	1,405.75	951.25
Ride & Stride Sponsorship	6,853.76	6,263.95
Church Tour	105.00	-
Study Day	220.00	-
Interest	3.00	13.76
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,438.72</b>	<b>9,145.91</b>
Expenditure		
Cost of raising funds	(748.83)	(1,450.50)
Ride & Stride Administration	(70.00)	(97.50)
Shares to nominated churches	(3,559.88)	(2,448.50)
Grants to churches	(6,000.00)	(7,000.00)
Church Tour		
Study Day	(54.95)	(62.50)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>(10,433.66)</b>	<b>(11,059.00)</b>
Net income for the year	<b>5.06</b>	<b>(1,913.09)</b>

Approved by:



Hamish Donaldson, Chairman

13th June 2022



John Roll Pickering, Treasurer



*The Trust gave a grant to St Mark, Hale towards the restoration of Murals by Kitty Milroy, painted between 1911 and 1920*



*Members visited both St Mark, Hale and St Mary, Frensham as part of this year's church tour*