



Members visited St Mary the Virgin, Horne as part of the Autumn church tour and saw this model of the early church



Members visited St Peter and St Paul, Lingfield as part of the Autumn church tour



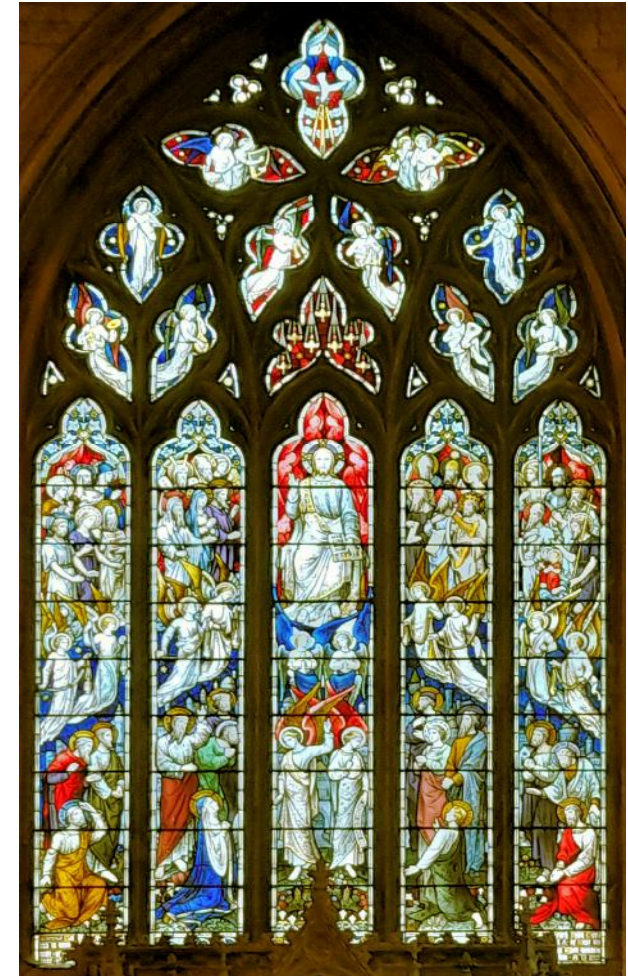
Surrey Churches Preservation Trust

www.SurreyChurchesPreservationTrust.org

(Registered Charity No 1063656)

Annual Report for the year to 31st March 2023

The Trust gave a grant to St John the Evangelist church, Caterham and visited the church at the AGM in 2022



Trustees' Report

The Trustees present this abridged report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023. 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. HM 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.

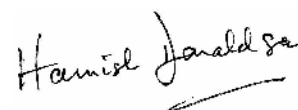
The Trustees also take into account the benefits of a broad representation of different Christian denominations. Hamish Donaldson, Revd. James McKeran, John Roll Pickering and Sam Osmond represent Anglican churches in the Diocese of Guildford, Father Alex Hill and Richard Morris represent the Roman Catholic 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 17th June 2023, John Harris will retire. Andrew Plumridge and Revd. James McKeran retire by rotation but offer themselves for re-election.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 March

Income	2023	2022
Donations and subscriptions	2,458.68	1,851.21
Gift Aid	1,477.25	1,405.75
Ride & Stride Sponsorship	12,962.90	6,853.76
Church Tour	95.00	105.00
Study Day	1,164.73	220.00
Interest	65.81	3.00
Total Income	18,224.37	10,438.72
Expenditure		
Cost of raising funds	(701.79)	(748.83)
Ride & Stride Administration	-	(70.00)
Shares to nominated churches	(4,869.90)	(3,559.88)
Grants to churches	(2,000.00)	(6,000.00)
Study Day	(126.72)	(54.95)
Total Expenditure	(7,698.41)	(10,433.66)
Net income for the year	10,525.96	5.06

Approved by



.....
Hamish Donaldson, Chairman



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John Roll Pickering, Treasurer



The Trust gave a grant to All Saints, Woodham to support their under floor heating project

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

		2023	2022
		£,p	£
Current Assets	Current Account	19,837.11	9,377
	Deposit Account	30,202.30	30,136
		50,039.41	39,513
Liabilities	Grants to Churches		
	Authorised but not yet paid	(3,000.00)	(2,500)
	Net Assets	47,039.41	37,013
The Funds of the charity			
	Unrestricted income funds	47,039.41	37,013

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 Grants 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 £500 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. On Wednesday 23 November 2022, Trustee Richard Morris organised a very popular talk by Charles O'Brien (series editor of the world-famous Pevsner Architectural Guides) on the latest update to the Surrey Guide

The 2022 Fund Raising Ride & Stride

The second Saturday in September is always the day of the National Churches Ride & Stride. In the event, 21 churches in Surrey took part and raised £12,963. Leatherhead, Godstone and Godalming were the top areas; St Peter, Limpsfield 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 £1,477 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 9th 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 on grants for churches that have not raised funds for the Trust in the previous 10 years. This policy has meant that churches applying for grants are encouraged to take part so that a larger grant can be considered.

At the April 2022 meeting the following grants were approved:

St Michael's Church at Farley Green. A grant of £500 for installing new heaters

Christ Church, Coldharbour. A grant of £500 for organ restoration.

At the September 2022 meeting, the following grant was approved:

St John the Baptist, Malden. A grant of £2,500 for fabric repairs.

Church Tour

Our church tour this year was on Saturday 22nd October. The tour started at **St Peter and St Paul, Lingfield** (with a number of monuments to members of the Cobham family) followed by **St Mary the Virgin, Horne** (the oldest part of the church is the south doorway of c1250, The most interesting feature is the monument to John Goodwine (d1618) and his wife on the north side of the chancel). The tour ended at **St Bartholomew, Church Road, Smallfield, Burstow** (first mentioned in 1221 when the Archbishop of Canterbury granted it to the Cluniac Priory of St Pancras at Lewes). We are very grateful to Peter and Angela Gillman who organised such an interesting day.

Events planned for 2023

Events planned for the coming year include:

- Saturday 17 June: Trustees meeting followed by AGM at St Bartholomew's Church, Haslemere
- Saturday 9 September: Ride & Stride
- Saturday 30 September: Church Crawl
- Monday 2 October: Trustee Meeting, Grants
- Saturday 14 October: Talk 'Around the world in 80 churches' by Andrew Plumridge
- Monday 4 December at 2.30: Ride & Stride Review

Details of all these events can be obtained from Sam Osmond
sjosmond@gmail.com 01252 716772

Financial Review

Funding sources

The money raised by the Ride & Stride together with Gift Aid recovery Subscriptions and Donations means that the Trust had a gross income of £18,224 for the year. Half of the funds raised by the Rider is given to the church for whom he/she rides. A total of £4,870 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 £3,000 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 17th June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Hamish Donaldson MBE DL, Chairman