

Bike Ride News – August 2018

August is well underway and the team are beginning to get ready for taking part in the Bike Ride on Saturday 8th September. The summer has been glorious and the sun continues to shine. Norfolk has been a wonderful place to be and the big blue skies have created a perfect backdrop to the county's churches. Please help us to help you all keep them in good repair by encouraging parishioners and friends to take part in the Bike Ride. It is still Norfolk Churches Trust biggest fund raising event with monies going directly to your parish too.

With this in mind we hope that you have all received your Bike Ride packs. Please let the office know if you haven't received one and we will send it to you in the post immediately. If you have received your packs and you need more forms of any kind or details for the day don't forget our website <http://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/> where you can download or print more copies of forms and get a full list of the churches open. There is also a direct link to JustGiving for those who would like to contact a wider circle of friends for sponsorship or donations. Please remember to encourage Gift Aid if sponsors and donors are eligible. It is so easy to do and ensures we are able to raise as much money as possible.

Slowly, slowly interest is building in the competitions that run alongside the Bike Ride. Their success is reliant on people taking part. Please, please have a go and encourage others to. For the second year running we are very lucky to have Brown & Co as a sponsor. They have given a number of cash prizes of £50 for their favourite photographs of the day. Send yours in and you could find that they are published in the EDP.

For those who like to be challenged look at the **Wall of Fame** on the website. This is an online record of the names of participants who have biked or walked to the most churches each year and the number of churches visited. It is inspiring <http://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/wall-of-fame/>. For those who like to be rewarded don't forget the fabulous Prince of Wales Certificate, signed by our Patron, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. This is presented each year to the person who raises the most money on the day.

For those who for whatever reason are unable to take advantage of this special day of opening and friendship on Bike or foot please don't forget the car! Each year more people are choosing to drive around the churches, not only in their own area but driving to churches that they have always wanted to visit but never had the time.

However, our main message to you is one of thanks. Thank you for doing everything you do to make the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, Walk and Drive the successful and happy day that it is. We wish that we could thank you personally but such is its size that it is impossible. We do hope that you feel that the time you all give to its organisation is valued by the Norfolk Churches Trust. Thank you a million times and fingers crossed for a sunny, dry day with Norfolk's churches looking resplendent.

With all best wishes to you all

The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride Team