



The NORFOLK
CHURCHES TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

2014–2015

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Trust awarded 33 new grants during the year, and together with grants committed in earlier years we gave support to 46 churches. These grants are detailed in note 9. Among the new grants the most significant were awarded to St Margaret's Hardwick, St Mary's Elsing and St Nicholas Fundenhall. Work has also continued on our leased churches. The development stage of the third phase of repairs to All Saints Cockthorpe has been completed and our other leased churches are under constant review.

The Trust's investments performed well this year and as a result the net assets have increased from £1,313,095 to £1,430,843.

Due to the tremendous efforts of all our fundraisers, a record £110,000 was raised over the year. There was a huge team involved to ensure the success of the Stately Car Boot Sale which took place at Sennowe Park. My thanks go to them all, together with our kind hosts, Charlie and Ginny Temple-Richards. This was followed by two wonderful operas at Holkham, The House by the Church, a snowdrop walk, and our annual programme of lectures. I am so grateful to all the organisers, their committees, the owners who so kindly open their houses for us and the lecturers. Our annual Bicycle Ride also took place in September and raised over £103,000, half of which goes to the participants' designated church. Charles Inglis and his team have introduced some exciting new initiatives this year, which included a photography competition. I hope that you will get on your bicycles and support both the Trust and your church at this year's event on 12th September.

We also appreciate the continuing support of South Norfolk District Council, and the following Trusts: The Lady Hind and Charles Littlewood Hill Trusts, The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, The Paul Bassham Charitable

Trust, The Mr and Mrs Philip Rackham Charitable Trust, John Jarrold Trust and Allchurches Trust Limited.

This year there has been a big change in the running of the Trust. Malcolm Fisher, our Secretary for 19 years, retired in October. Many of you kindly donated to his leaving present, and as a result we presented him with a piece of silver and a watercolour at his leaving dinner. Scilla Latham took over from Malcolm in November and has already proved to be a worthy replacement.

Very sadly, I have to report the loss of three great supporters of the Trust. The Earl of Leicester, who so generously offered us the use of Holkham Hall and the park where we have held, and continue to hold, some of our most important fundraising activities, Mark Baily a member of our Advisory Council, and The Rev Jonathan Peel, one of our founder members and past chairman.

Rupert Travis moved away from Norfolk and so resigned from the Advisory Council and Jamie Jamieson resigned from the Board but remains on the Advisory Council. I am delighted to welcome Fiona Fraser to the Board and Frederique van Till, John Vigar and Jane Lane to the the Advisory Council.

I hope our Annual Review illustrates how the invaluable help and involvement we receive from so many people and organisations, in very different ways, enables us to fulfil our obligations to the wonderful churches of Norfolk. We are so grateful for all your support now and in the coming year.

SARA FOSTER
CHAIRMAN
14TH JUNE 2015

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST

Year ended 31 March 2015

Summary Statement of Financial Activities

	2014–15	2013–14
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Incoming resources from generated funds		
Voluntary income		
Donations	37,897	33,318
Local authority grants	8,000	10,000
Legacies	17,044	1,500
Subscriptions	37,795	29,265
Heritage Lottery Fund grants	20,800	–
Leased churches	1,411	1,430
Activities for generating funds		
Sponsored bicycle ride	103,819	106,841
Trust events	110,670	68,248
Sale of goods	717	836
Investment income	45,718	44,480
Total incoming resources	383,871	295,918
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Cost of generating funds		
Costs of generating voluntary income	(25,919)	(21,650)
Fundraising trading costs (incl. parish share of ride)	(87,201)	(70,830)
Charitable activities		
Grants offered	(101,269)	(92,049)
Expenditure on leased and other churches	(41,700)	(26,692)
Support costs	(45,866)	(43,596)
Governance costs	(10,619)	(10,928)
Total resources expended	(312,574)	(265,745)
Net incoming resources for the year	71,297	30,173
Other recognised gains and losses		
Gains on investment assets	46,451	24,467
Net movement in funds	117,748	54,640
Fund balances brought forward	1,313,095	1,258,455
Fund balances carried forward at the end of the year	1,430,843	1,313,095
<i>of which</i>		
Restricted funds:	7,013	7,013
Unrestricted funds:	1,423,830	1,306,082
	1,430,843	1,313,095

Summary Balance Sheet

	31 March 2015	31 March 2014
	£	£
Fixed asset investments	1,207,716	1,126,877
Net current assets	223,127	186,218
Net assets	1,430,843	1,313,095
Funds		
Restricted	7,013	7,013
Unrestricted	1,423,830	1,306,082
Total funds	1,430,843	1,313,095

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of The Norfolk Churches Trust. For further information, the full audited annual accounts should be consulted. Copies are available from The Norfolk Churches Trust, Manor Farmhouse, Diss Road, Tibenham, Norfolk NR16 1QF.

The full accounts have been audited by Lovewell Blake and received an unqualified opinion. They were approved by the Trustees on 30 July 2015 and will be submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.

JONATHAN ELLIS, HONORARY TREASURER

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT OF THE NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST

We have examined the summarised financial statements of The Norfolk Churches Trust.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report. We also read other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of The Norfolk Churches Trust for the year ended 31 March 2015.

MARK PROCTOR ACA DChA
(SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR)
FOR AND ON BEHALF LOVEWELL BLAKE LLP,
STATUTORY AUDITOR

BANKSIDE 300, PEACHMAN WAY,
BROADLAND BUSINESS PARK,
NORWICH NR7 0LB
30 July 2015

GRANTS 2014–15

During the past year, the Trust offered and paid grants from its General Fund to the following churches:

General Fund

	Offered (released) in year £	Paid in the year £	Unpaid at year end £
Alburgh, All Saints	3,000	–	3,000
Beachamwell, St Mary	2,000	–	2,000
Beeston, St Lawrence	–	–	3,000
Blickling, St Andrew	1,000	6,000	–
Blofield, SS Andrew & Peter	1,000	–	1,000
Bodney, St Mary	–	6,000	–
Brisley, St Bartholomew	362	–	362
Brunstead, St Peter	–	1,000	–
Burgh Castle, Sts Peter & Paul	500	500	–
Burgh-next-Aylsham, St Mary	–	5,000	–
Burston, St Mary	–	–	482
Carlton, St Peter	–	1,000	–
Catfield, All Saints	–	–	4,000
East Tuddenham, All Saints	–	5,000	–
East Winch, All Saints	2,000	–	2,000
Elsing, St Mary	2,000	7,000	–
Felbrigg, St Margaret	3,000	–	3,000
Feltwell, St Mary	3,000	3,000	–
Field Dalling, St Andrew	5,000	–	5,000
Forncett, St Mary	–	6,000	–
Framlingham Pigott, St Andrew	2,000	–	2,000
Fundenhall, St. Nicholas	–	–	5,000
Garveston, St Margaret	–	6,000	–
Gayton, St Nicholas	–	5,000	–
Great Bircham, St Mary the Virgin	2,000	–	2,500
Great Hockham, Holy Trinity	–	3,000	–
Great Plumstead, St Mary	–	–	1,000
Great Yarmouth, St Peter/St Spiridon	–	–	2,000
Grimston, St Botolph	2,000	–	2,000
Griston, Sts Peter & Paul	–	–	4,000
Hardwick, St Margaret	2,000	7,000	–
Hethersett, St Remigius	–	1,500	–
Hockering, St Michael	5,000	7,000	–
Horsham, St Faiths	–	3,000	–
Kings Lynn, St Margaret	–	–	5,000
Merton, St Peter	–	5,000	–
Morley, St Botolph	1,500	–	1,500
Mundham, St Peter	–	–	1,000
<i>Carried forward</i>	37,362	78,000	49,844

	Offered (released) in year £	Paid in the year £	Unpaid at year end £
<i>Brought forward</i>	37,362	78,000	49,844
Narford, St Mary	2,500	–	2,500
New Buckenham, St Martin	2,000	2,000	–
North Walsham, St Nicholas	3,000	3,000	–
Northwold, St Andrew	–	2,000	–
Old Buckenham, All Saints	–	–	2,000
Oulton, Sts Peter & Paul	5,000	–	5,000
Outwell, St Clement	7,000	–	7,000
Rushford, St John	7,000	–	7,000
Santon, All Saints	3,000	–	3,000
Scarning, Sts. Peter & Paul	2,000	4,000	–
Scolton, Holy Trinity	3,000	3,000	–
Southacre, St George	–	–	7,000
Stibbard, All Saints	–	–	3,000
Swaffham, Sts Peter & Paul	2,000	–	2,000
Swafeld, St Nicholas	4,000	4,000	–
Terrington, St Clement	6,000	–	6,000
Thrigby, St Mary	407	4,125	–
Thurne, St Edmund	10,000	10,000	–
Thurton, St Ethelbert	2,000	2,000	–
Upper Sheringham, All Saints	–	2,000	–
Weasenham, All Saints	–	–	10,000
Welborne, All Saints	–	–	10,000
Westfield, St Andrew	–	–	10,000
Whinburgh, St Mary	–	–	7,000
Wickhampton, St. Andrew	–	–	3,000
Wickmere, St Andrew	–	–	3,000
Wighton, All Saints	5,000	–	5,000
Wiggenhall, St Peter	–	–	2,000
Wood Rising, St Nicholas	–	–	1,000
General Fund total	101,269	104,125	155,344

THE CONTINUING WORK OF THE TRUST



All Saints, East Tuddenham (photo: Ruth Blackman).

Introduction

Next year the Norfolk Churches Trust will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of its foundation in 1976, at a time when redundant churches were being demolished if no further use could be found for them. During this time, the Trust has provided funds for repairs worth over £6 million – including work on the thirteen churches leased to the Trust by the Diocese of Norwich and the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia. The Trust also provides support and advice to any parish seeking help and in some cases proactively approaches a parish where the condition of the church is considered to be of serious concern.

Today it is hard to imagine listed medieval rural churches being destroyed. It is thanks to the continuing work of the Trust and the determination of hundreds of unsung heroes in parishes across the county that Norfolk's churches remain central to their communities. Whilst many congregations may be shrinking, interest in church buildings in the wider community continues to grow. Visiting churches is frequently cited as a reason for days out rural England and these visitors provide an important economic boost to the rural community. The Trust's Church Tours are an enduring and valued part of the Trust's annual cycle of events, regularly attracting between fifty and seventy



All Saints, East Tuddenham: north nave roof after re-tiling (photo: Ruth Blackman).

people. The church leaflets prepared for each tour are frequently the only guide available in a church. As with so much of the Trust's work, these tours are entirely run by volunteers.

Support to churches

The table of grants at the beginning of this report gives information about the monetary value of the support the Trust provides to churches of all Christian denominations in Norfolk. A grant once offered remains available until the work is completed. This means that our commitment to a repair project may continue for several years during which time we provide support and advice whenever necessary. In the short time since I took over from Malcolm Fisher, I have started helping several parishes where I have no doubt it will be a matter of years before complex repair projects are completed.

The range of work funded by the Trust focuses on a wide range of repairs and conservation but in any year by far the majority of applications are for urgent roof repairs and overhauling rainwater goods and drainage. Of the twenty-seven grants paid out this year, twenty-two fell into these categories. However, this only tells part of the story because some of these applications also included repairs to masonry, windows, floors, ceiling repairs and conservation of wall paintings and medieval screens. To name a few: major projects completed during the year include complex repairs to the chancel



St Michael, Hockering: chancel roof (photo: Nicholas Warns Architects).

All Saints, Upper Sheringham: north aisle roof (photo: Nicholas Warns Architects).



roof at St Michael's Hockering, roof repairs and overhaul of rainwater goods at St Mary's, Bodney and All Saints, East Tuddenham, north aisle roof repairs at Upper Sheringham and extensive repairs at St Mary's Elsing. At St Margaret's Hardwick, our grant for roof repairs has been paid although the interior of the church will remain scaffolded until the autumn owing to the return of the resident bats in April before the internal timber treatment could be completed.

More general support to PCCs and fabric officers includes advice on funding sources and making effective applications: at a time of ever growing competition for grants it is particularly important to get the application right. Too often, people are put off by the complexity of the application process and in the case of the HLF Grants for Places of Worship, the need to create a project to engage the community with the building. Clarifying these forms and identifying simple ways of producing a community project is very often the catalyst for a parish group to have the confidence to tackle what had previously seemed an insuperable problem.

Churches leased to the Trust

The Trust's guardianship of the leased churches is an important aspect of its commitment to the architectural heritage of the county and the Diocese of Norwich. Currently the Trust is tackling major repair projects at All Saints Cockthorpe and St Peter's Corpusty: fortunately we have received substantial grants from HLF Grants for Place of Worship and the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund to help with the costs, without which this work would not be possible. For both churches these major roof repair projects are the next stage of long-term repair programmes. An important part of both of these programmes is to

increase the community engagement with the churches, which in turn will lead to more people being committed to their sustainable future.

Whilst the Trust's leased churches may no longer have regular services, they embody the cultural and social heritage of their communities: local history is literally held within their walls and churchyards. The architecture, furnishings, monuments, wall paintings and stained glass of these churches illustrate over a thousand years of the development of architecture and decorative arts. As well as occasional services, many hold well-attended annual events such as flower festivals, concerts and exhibitions. The Trust is indebted to the local volunteers who look after these churches, some of whom have cared for 'their' leased church for many years. The number of enquiries received about visiting these churches demonstrates the widespread interest in them, both in the county and from people travelling considerable distances as a 'pilgrimage' to a church where their ancestors worshipped or are buried. There are however, several leased churches where we need help to keep them open and welcoming – if you would like to become involved with our work by joining a group caring for one of the churches, or helping us research their history and monuments, please either contact the Secretary of the Trust (secretary@norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk, 01379 677272) or keep an eye on the website for volunteering opportunities.

SCILLA LATHAM
COMPANY SECRETARY



Grants for Places of Worship – England

The Grants for Places of Worship programme is for projects that involve urgent structural repairs to public places of worship that are listed at Grade I, II or II*.

As part of a repair project, we can also fund work to encourage greater community use and engagement. Churches can apply for a grant from £10,000 to £250,000.

See website for details www.hlf.org.uk and follow the links.

A Prayer for The Norfolk Churches Trust

*Bless, O God, the work of The Norfolk Churches Trust in its concern for the parish churches and chapels of this County, that they may be preserved and enhanced as signs and channels of your abiding love and presence in every place, and serve as beacons of faith and hope to succeeding generations, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.*

LEDGER-STONES IN NORFOLK CHURCHES



King's Lynn (St Nicholas' Chapel). Cruso ledger, 1773 (photo: Chloe Cockerill).

At the west end of the nave at St Peter's, Great Walsingham, a large black marble slab set into the floor marks the grave of Joseph Wilson, "late of the Black Lion, Little Walsingham" who died in 1790 in the fifty-second year of his age.

If your parish church was built prior to 1854 then there's every possibility that it contains one or more ledger-stones. Some can be highly decorative, displaying the armorial bearings of the deceased or a representation of some form of funerary symbolism,

such as an angel holding a crown and blowing a trumpet, or a grinning skull sporting a wreath of laurel on its bony cranium. The majority, though, are simply incised legends sketching the earthly details of the deceased and listing the grave's contents.

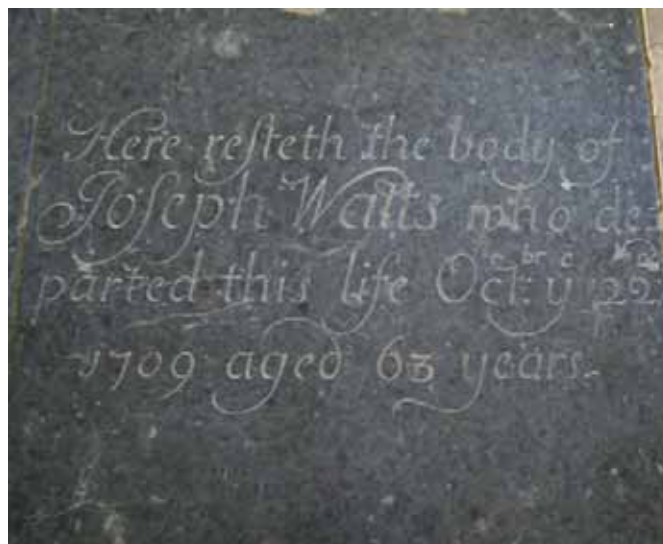
Intramural Burial

As a general rule, it was during the Commonwealth (1649–1660), when faculty jurisdiction was rarely enforced, that the middle classes adopted the interior of their parish church as a place of high-status burial, the incumbent being deemed fit in ecclesiastical law as the most appropriate person to assess the merits of request for intramural request amongst the applicants. For example, whilst it was considered right and proper for the landed gentry, solicitors and surgeons to be afforded the privilege, a wealthy tradesperson stood less chance of having his request honoured, which makes it all the more surprising that the landlord of Little Walsingham's Black Lion managed to secure space within Great Walsingham church.

Of course, as burial registers only came into being in 1538 we shall never know how many bodies have been buried within our medieval parish churches. Furthermore, few burial registers record the location of the burial unless it was in the large dynastic vault of a noble family, i.e. 'In his Lordship's Vault'. Nevertheless, a hint as to the differential between churchyard and intramural burial – a 'code', based on titles of courtesy – can be found in the burial register entries. For example, a 'John Smith' would have been buried in the churchyard, but a 'Mr John Smith', a 'John Smith Esq', a 'Mrs Jane Smith' or 'The Hon Mrs Jane Smith', would have been afforded intramural burial.

Intramural burial was an expensive exercise. In addition to the fee paid to the incumbent for the privilege (there was no set fee, the incumbent merely deciding how much he thought that the family of the deceased would be willing to pay), one had to consider the cost of disturbing the pavement, digging the grave, lining it with bricks – usually to a depth of ten feet for three coffins – the making good of the floor, the laying of a temporary stone and the purchase, lettering, transport and setting of the ledger stone. Translated into today's prices this could cost anything from £25,000, which was a substantial outlay on the part of parishioner and which, no doubt, explains why there are so few ledger-stones in churches.

The funeral furnishing part of the exercise was similarly expensive as it was necessary to provide a triple coffin – known as 'coffin, shell and case' – for vault deposits. The body was first placed into a wooden coffin. This was then lapped in lead and the whole placed into a stout outer wooden case, usually upholstered in black



East Ruston. Watts ledger, 1709 (photo: J Litten).

Genoese or Utrecht velvet, studded all round with one or two rows of gilt-headed upholstery pins and affixed with cast brass handles and a large plate of inscription. Apart from maintaining an outward show of pomp and wealth, these triple coffins had a sanitary purpose for the lead guarded against the escape of any unpleasant gasses and odours from the decaying contents. Unfortunately not all funeral furnishers were to be trusted and some made away with providing a lead shell, leading to some unpleasant nasal offences within the church building which gave rise to the expression 'stinking rich'.

With the passing of the Burial Act of 1854 intramural burial came to an end, except in those vaults and brick graves which still had space at the time of the passing of the Act. From then on the middle classes began creating burial vaults within the churchyard, leading to larger monuments and an almost total abandonment of the ledger-stone as a means of grave-marker.

Types of Ledger-stones

Most ledger-stones are large, measuring 760mm × 1830mm, although as they were cut in the age of Imperial measurement this can be translated to 30in × 72in, or 2ft 6in × 6ft. Types of stone vary, the most common in Norfolk is black Belgian marble – most of it having been brought back as ballast from the Lowlands by merchant vessels – although white Italian marble, Purbeck stone, Derbyshire limestone and Portland stone were also used. A few of the black marble ledgers incorporate inset roundels of white Italian marble, depicting the armorial bearings of the deceased. Some ledgers have infilled lettering, usually of white mastic, while others (usually those of the first quarter of the nineteenth century) have brass lettering, and there are a few eighteenth-century ledgers whose



Grundisburgh. Abigail Bloys ledger, 1652 (photo: Jon Bayliss).

inscriptions bear faint traces of having had gilded lettering.

Freestone ledgers were frequently used as temporary sealing stones and many survive, albeit with eroded lettering, simply because the family who laid it had relocated. The explanation for this is as follows: it was not unusual for a rising member of the middle class, such as a solicitor or surgeon, to have a brick grave created within his parish church on the occasion of the death of the first child of his marriage. A temporary freestone ledger would be laid, with the intention of having it subsequently replaced with a more sumptuous black marble ledger on later years. But often these young professionals moved to the cities, and their eventual place of burial was in a church other than that where their first child had been laid.

As for the inscriptions on the permanent ledger-stones, the majority tend to be in English but some, particularly those commemorating the clergy, are in Latin. Indeed, there are a few ledger-stones in Norwich churches, marking Huguenot burials, where the inscriptions are in French. It also begs the question as to whose benefit these inscriptions were intended. Not

many people could read in the seventeenth century, but by the eighteenth century primary education extended literacy amongst the working classes. Those of you who remember Lady Ludlow from Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell's 1851 novel *Cranford* will recall how her ladyship frowned upon those coming what she regarded as 'the lower classes' being able to read, and hers was a widespread opinion amongst the aristocracy in the 1840s and 1850s. In short, the inscriptions were meant for the edification and information of the middle classes and those of the family of the deceased and not for the general populace. More so, were they in Latin.

The standard legend begins 'Beneath this stone lies . . .' or 'Here lies deposited the body of . . .' It was standard practice for the font size of the name of the deceased to be large than the rest of the legend, sometimes appearing in italics followed by the standard initials denoting academic honours, such as 'B.A.' or 'M.A.', although the longer form 'Bachelor of Arts' or 'Master of Arts' were occasionally used.

Some ledger-stones begin with 'H.J.' or the fuller '*Hic jacet*', which stands for 'Here lies', although 'H.L.D.' for 'Here Lies Deposited', would have been lesser expense than having the entire legend, 'Here Lies Deposited', cut. A Latin inscription could land the purchaser with a larger bill as more words would be needed than adhering to the vulgate. Conversely, some ledger-stones have exceptionally short inscriptions, such as

JOHN SMITH Esq
1801

whereas those to be read in association with a neighbouring mural monument had simpler markings, such as

J.S.
1801

merely to indicate the place of burial. In these instances it is always worthwhile examining the mural monument to see if it is signed – usually in the bottom right-hand corner – by the sculptor, which will give an indication of the chisel used to cut the inscription on the ledger-stone.

Most inscriptions begin with the name of the prominent male within the grave and it is not unusual to discover from the inscription that this individual died many years after the death of the first deposit within the grave. There are some ledgers which begin with the traditional 'Here lies Deposited' followed by a gap before the first inscription. At the east end of the nave at All Saints', South Lynn is the Curtis ledger-stone. The inscription begins 'Beneath Lie the Remains of', followed by and appreciable gap before the

inscriptions commemorating the two Curtis wives. Mr Curtis himself is not buried beneath the slab which might imply that he married for a third time and is buried elsewhere in the county with his third wife.

Subsequent inscriptions were usually cut *in situ*, which was a demanding task for the letter-cutter and also explains why later inscriptions are in a different script to the original. There are also examples of pre-need inscriptions, where those of the surviving spouse had been cut at the same time as that of the primary inscription, though with the date of death and age of the deceased omitted. In those instances one would need to have recourse to the burial register to ascertain whether or not the surviving spouse was indeed buried within the church or, as with Mr Curtis of South Lynn, had re-married and moved away from the area.

Lettercutters and Masons

The provision of ledger-stone, particularly those in the late seventeenth century throughout the eighteenth, was limited to letter-cutters working in the larger towns. In Norfolk this was usually Attleborough, Aylsham, East Dereham, Fakenham, King's Lynn, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn, North Walsham, Norwich, Thetford and Wymondham. The county's extensive system of navigable rivers was used to transport the finished items to their destinations, though some went by road. Indeed, the cost of transporting a large ledger to a remote rural church could be as much as the cost of the stone itself.

Setting a ledger over a brick grave was a delicate operation for such stones are bulky and unwieldy items, frequently as much as 100mm (4ins) thick. Once the temporary stone had been uplifted and discarded, three or more wooden bars were placed across the width of the brick grave to take the ledger, which would be jockeyed into place by means of eight men using lengths of webbing passing under the slab. On a given signal the men would take the strain, the bars would be removed and the slab manoeuvred into position. Subsequent re-openings of the grave can often be identified by the chips around the edge of the ledger where crow-bars had been used to lift it on to wooden rollers for temporary removal.

Location

The location of brick graves within churches depended on the status of the individual being interred. The sanctuary was considered to be reserved for the clergy and their spouses, although some patrons of the living were also afforded that position, though they usually preferred the main body of the chancel. Prominent members of the community can be found the centre alley of the church or, if they required a more

substantial vault, at the west end of the nave. The side aisles were favoured by wealthy spinsters, single gentlemen and lesser members of the middle class, such as wealthy tradespersons. However, this is a general rule and not necessarily the case for every church building.

It has to be borne in mind that many churches were re-floored or re-paved during the nineteenth century and some architects, such as George Edmund Street for example, were not averse to clearing all of the ledgers into the churchyard. This is what happened at Great Massingham in 1863 when Daniel Penning restored the church, shifting the ledgers to the east end of the churchyard and arranging them chronologically according to the death of the deceased individuals. At Saffron Walden, Essex the architect R C Hussey shifted all of the ledgers to the west end of the church when he restored the building in 1859–60, which goes to show that one cannot be completely sure that a ledger-stone marks the literal place of burial. The fashion in the mid-19th century for elevating chancel altars by three steps often led to the obliteration of some ledger-stones, many of which are now either entirely covered or only half-visible, and heating programmes also saw the removal and re-siting of ledgers to facilitate the laying of the pipes.

Late 20th-century re-ordering have been particularly unfortunate for ledger-stones, the saddest cases being where broadloom carpet has obliterated their very presence thereby making them almost impossible to record. The author is aware of one Norfolk church where three abutting ledgers have been used as a firm foundation for two lavatory pods.

Care

Ledgers are easy to clean, although it is advised not to wash them. All one needs do is to clear the inscriptions of dust – a medium to hard stencil brush is best for this task – and then run a vacuum over them before

Reepham. Barber ledger, late 17C (photo: J Litten).





Saxthorpe. Hagon ledger, 1772 (photo: J Litten).

applying two coats of pure beeswax polish. This will bring them up to as good as they day they were laid; from then on, a weekly dust with a dry mop will suffice.

It needs to be remembered that ledger stones are important objects, for not only do they (in the main) mark the burial place of the individual/s recorded but also contain vital genealogical information of those within the grave. Therefore they should not be used as convenient hard-standing for stacking chairs, flower-stands, drum-kits or staging.

Finally, it is essential that in churches which do not have heating systems that ledgers are not covered by carpeting, more especially rubber-backed carpeting. In cold weather the burial space beneath the ledger gives up dew and it is not unusual for the slabs to be powdered with dew-drops in the early morning. This will rot broadloom carpeting, thus it is better to let such stones breathe naturally or, if it is necessary, to cover them with rush matting.

The Ledgerstone Survey of England and Wales

There are about 250,000 ledger-stones in England and Wales. The Ledgerstone Survey, in association with the National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies (NADEFAS), began recording ledger-stones in churches in 2002. As far as Norfolk is concerned, all of the ledgers in churches under the guardianship of The Churches Conservation Trust have been recorded and it is now hoped that those in the guardianship of the Norfolk Churches Trust can also be transcribed. Anyone can take part in the survey and a Recording Manual and Recording Sheets can be downloaded from the Ledgerstone Survey web-site by visiting www.lsew.co.uk

Recording ledger-stones will give you hours of pleasant pastime, will assist in helping to document a much-neglected form of funerary commemoration and will, it is hoped, prove that ledger-stones and not quite the 'ugly ducklings' of the funerary monument world.

Dr Julian Litten FSA is the founder and Chairman of the Ledgerstone Survey of England & Wales.

Ledgerstones in Norfolk Churches Trust Churches

Bathorpe, St Mary. To be ascertained.

Barmer, All Saints'. One, to Thomas Kerslake (d.1826) and his five children.

Cockthorpe, All Saints'. None.

Corpusty, St Peter. None.

Dunton, St Peter. None.

Hargham, All Saints'. Two armorial ledgers in the chancel.

Illington, St Andrew. To be ascertained.

Lynford, Our Lady of Consolation. None.

Morton-on-the-Hill, St Margaret. Four, in the chancel.

Rackheath, All Saints'. A number in the chancel and nave to the Pettus and Stracey families.

Snetterton, All Saints'. Three in the nave, to the Porter family.

West Bilney, All Saints'. Six, in the sanctuary.

West Rudham, St Peter. To be ascertained.

JULIAN W S LITTEN, PhD FSA



NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE AND WALK

The run up to the 2014 Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk was very busy for the Bike Ride Committee as we tried to promote the event to as many people as possible. We managed to put up 43 road signs in North Norfolk, have articles in the EDP and Norfolk Magazine, we were on several Radio stations and Mustard TV. We contacted Bike Organisations, the Scouts, Rugby Clubs and distributed 5000 leaflets in shops and businesses, the diocese kindly send e-flyers to all the parents of Anglican Schools and many companies kindly agreed to send out details to members of staff.

The day itself proved to be a perfect for cycling with a light wind (one only notices these things on a bicycle!) and broken sun. A grand total of over £103,000 (including Gift Aid) was raised by 667 people who used the day to provide money for their church and the Norfolk Churches Trust. As a result 356 churches received cheques from the Norfolk Churches Trust this year.

This was the first year that we ran some competitions alongside the main event. The winners of the photographic competition each received £50, thanks to the kind sponsorship of Cheffins Fine Art Auctioneers of Cambridge, and had their pictures printed in the EDP. The leader of the 'Wall of Fame' visited a



staggering 81 churches using a combination of two wheels and four. The most money raised by an individual was a very impressive £1,621, who will be awarded the Prince of Wales certificate.

Photographic competition winners



Best picture of an architectural feature by Charles Inglis.

I would like to thank everybody who took part either on foot, bicycle or by car, helped promote the event, distributed paperwork, signed people in at churches, produced refreshments and took part in our competitions. It is an enormously important day for raising much needed money for local churches and the Norfolk Churches Trust.

Finally, I would like to remind people of the date of this year's Bike Ride which will be on **Saturday the 12th of September**. The event really does provide something for everyone. If people want to explore a new part of the county, and take the opportunity of so many churches being open, then they can now get sponsorship to drive round. If they wish to test their endurance then they can aim to be in the top ten for the number of churches visited, either walking or cycling, and we will post it on the 'Wall of Fame' on the website. If they want a fun day out with the family then they can download some activity sheets from the website and take part in the photographic competition. (Cheffins fine Art Auctioneers have kindly increased their sponsorship this year) The Prince of Wales, who is patron of the Norfolk Churches Trust, has again kindly



Best picture of people taking part by William Cubitt.



Best picture of favourite church by Ashley Spooner.

agreed to sign a certificate that will be given to the individual who raises the most money in this year's Bike Ride. If getting sponsorship makes people feel uncomfortable then we suggest sponsoring oneself or using 'Just Giving' which makes it all much easier. (See the website for details). Please encourage all your family and friends to take part and be inventive about how they raise money. The more people who explore our wonderful churches the more they will appreciate them and want to save them for the future. Please visit the website page for more information.
<http://www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/sponsored-bike-ride>

CHARLES INGLIS

EVENTS



As we began to plan the Stately Car Boot in the autumn of 2013 and Ginnie and Charlie Temple Richards kindly agreed to let us use the magnificent park at Sennowe, I could hardly believe what a different atmosphere it would be from the peaceful, idyllic scene of our first meeting to the enormous, milling crowd of happy shoppers and sellers that gathered there on the May bank holiday six months later.

In the week running up to the event envisage the group of us planning the layout, including Malcolm Fisher coming with a helpful friend, several lengths of 20metre rope and many more of 10m (and most importantly his system learnt from many years of laying out previous car boots at Holkham and Houghton), Jamie Jamieson with his lawnmower (with his system learnt from many years of running the Aylsham show), Laura and Serena Jamieson and I with our mallets, Ian Lonsdale (I imagine with years of laying out army camps) and boxes of white wooden pegs. The project was to ensure that each pitch gets a somewhat similar, fair amount of space, the wonderful ancient Sennowe trees get treated with the respect they deserve (and ditto the nettles underneath them), the flow of people between the 3 rings works well, the pitchholders can access and park without too much trouble, the catering arrangements can suit most people, the vintage tent from Burnt Fen can house the band and of course the loos can be accessible but tucked away beyond a huge oak tree at the far end. Not forgetting a slot for St Johns Ambulance (whom I pleased to say no-one needed) and the NCT tent. A lot of work, an awful lot of work, produced 170 pitch holders lured by an elegant invitation (and, probably our trump card, a history of many successful and well attended stately car boots before) and 5,000 punters on the day, all steered in successfully by the cadets and Ian Lonsdale's gang. To slightly misquote a volunteer who'd just read the instructions 'I thought we were helping with a car boot, not invading Russia.' The invasion level instructions were essential it turned out, blessed as we were with great weather, great publicity and an enormous volume of keen punters on the day. Of course the advantage of doing an event for churches means you might have The Good Lord and very likely His clergy behind you, one of whom was to be found in the VIP tent announcing, as he looked over the huge crowd (£5/head plus commission on the food), that the success of the day was

due to him as his prayers for good weather had clearly been successful. We have had an auction of promises before at car boots but due to a big push from our Treasurer and a lot of generosity from supporters (including a very kind commission to be painted by Gerard Stamp) we raised about £16,000. What's more as a result my household has eaten some of the finest sponge cakes (one a month for a year) ever baked.

A big thankyou to anyone reading this who helped in any way – in the run up, on the day, producing and/or buying an auction promise, taking a pitch or coming as a punter. It could not have been such a success without the massive amount of help from all of you

So please be all be gathering things in your attics ready to take a pitch at the next one – we want it to be as big a success as Sennowe 2014. No, we haven't set a date (or year) yet but we'll keep you posted

The next event after that was the Sponsored Bike Ride in September 2014, now in the second year of being ably organised by Charlie Inglis and his team. This was followed by Houses by the Church, ran by Peter de Bunsen and held in South Norfolk. This normally takes place in May, because gardens tend to look at their best then, but this took place in September so as not to clash with the car boot. Some fascinating houses were included across a wide variety of ages and styles. Having organised the previous one in East Norfolk it was a joy to go round as a punter this time, and I particularly enjoyed visiting the newly extended house on the river at Surlingham and the garden in Wymondham. The hospitality and kindness of all the hosts remains remarkable – thankyou again to all of you. We are planning another one (details to be decided) in May 2016, so expect an invitation early next year. Fiona Fraser organised some more fantastic talks this year, Charles Spencer spoke about his book on Charles I and Christopher Hartop entertained us all in the garden room at Houghton talking about the silver that was made for Houghton, putting it in its historical and artistic context. And finally in March Loyd Grossman kindly came to the wonderful barn at Hales Hall to talk to us about churches.

CLARE AGNEW



THE REVD JONATHAN PEEL, CBE, MC, DL (1937–2014)

Jonathan Sidney Peel was born in London on 21 June 1937, the eldest for the four children of Major David Peel, MC and his wife the Hon. Sara Vanneck, and a great great grandson of Sir Robert Peel, 2nd Bt, the Prime Minister. He spent his earliest years in Wiltshire. His father was killed in action in Belgium in 1944, just as his grandfather Maurice Peel, MC, an army chaplain, whose little-known war poetry throws a kindred light on Sir John Arkwright's hymn *O valiant hearts*, had been killed in 1917. At the age of seven, he thus found himself having to take a degree of responsibility for his younger brothers and sister, as well as the object of the expectations of his mother and great aunt Lady Delia Peel, née Spencer.

He was educated first at the Norwich School and then at Eton. From 1951 to 1953, he was a page of honour to King George VI (he remembered him taking a sword to the icing of Princess Margaret's birthday cake), and then to the present Queen, including at the Coronation.

In 1956, he was commissioned into the Rifle Brigade, and was posted to Malaya where the British army was engaged in counter-terrorist operations in the jungle. Here he served under Captain (later General Sir) Frank Kitson, who was an enduring influence and close friend. In July and August 1957, he commanded two platoons searching for Communist terrorists in the jungles of Mount Ophir, often leading patrols himself. This required considerable persistence, and during this time, four terrorists were killed. He was awarded the Military Cross, the citation stating that he had shown 'outstanding qualities of leadership well beyond that expected of a twenty year old officer'.

After three years in Germany with BAOR, he was attached to the Ghana army from 1960-61 and sent to the Congo as part of the UN peacekeeping force. Here he was briefly captured by disorderly Congolese troops, who announced their intention to kill him, but was released, after intervention from UN HQ, on the orders of General (later President) Mobutu, who then offered him a soda and whisky (in that order). He was then ADC to Field Marshal Sir Francis Festing, CIGS. The Field Marshal kept two bottles on his desk, labelled Stopper and Starter, which the ADC had to replenish as occasion demanded. The story is enigmatically told in the beautifully observed memoir *Glimpses* (2013): the reason was to regulate the Field Marshal's uncertain digestion.

Serving in Cyprus in 1962, he met his future wife Jean, daughter of Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barnett, and they married on 20 January 1965 during a final posting to Germany. On leaving the army with the rank of Captain the following year, he read Land Economy at St John's College, Cambridge, obtaining an MA, and the family then settled permanently at Barton Turf.

Barton Hall had been bought 1940 by David Peel, and Lady Delia lived in one wing until her death in 1981. Nearby farmland was acquired as opportunity occurred, and he became a keen farmer and tree-planter, as well as keeping an eye on his mother's land at Huntingfield (the house was built as an 'eye-catcher' for her own family's seat at Heveningham).

He had a close and natural sympathy for small villages and appropriate development policies which

would permit them growth while retaining and enhancing their character. He was a member of the Smallburgh Rural District Council and in 1974 was elected as a Conservative to Norfolk County Council. Here he became chairman of the Planning and Transportation Committee, and later (and appropriately in view of his famous ancestor's earlier role in creating the Metropolitan Police) of the Police Committee. He took a special interest in the Norfolk Broads, set up and chairing the How Hill Trust, a small educational charity to promote public education on their unique environment. As first chairman of the Broads Authority from 1985 to 1997, he was largely instrumental in negotiating the successful passage of the Broads Act (1988) through Parliament in the face of concerns expressed by the navigation interest, and initiating a programme of mud pumping. This was carried out by the Authority in conjunction with the Environment Agency, and the accumulated sediment, enriched by phosphates and nitrate, was removed from a series of shallow Broads (often less than six feet deep) and banded, to allow the cleaned water to drain back and enable the reintroduction of their earlier aquatic vegetation and the recovery of the ecosystem. He was appointed DL in 1977, Vice Lieutenant in 1980 (until 2005) and served as High Sheriff in 1984.

He was one of the founder members of the Norfolk Churches Trust who signed the Memorandum of Association in 1976, with Lady Harrod, Sir Edmund Neville and the writer, and in 1982 succeeded Lady Harrod as chairman, a position he held for two years. He was County Commissioner for Scouts from 1977 to 1981 and served as a magistrate and a tax commissioner. He was also responsible for successfully raising £240,000 for a specialised unit for hip surgery and the treatment of arthritis at St Michael's Hospital, Aylsham. He was a Director of the Norwich Union from 1973 to 1998, and Vice Chairman of the Norfolk Naturalists' Trust (now Norfolk Wildlife Trust) from 1984, and Chairman of the Governors of Norwich School from 1985 to 2003, working closely with Chris Brown, the Headmaster, during a time in which boarding ended and girls were admitted to the sixth form.

He became chairman of the East Anglia Regional Committee of the National Trust, leading the public

appeal which led to the acquisition of Sheringham Hall, the house and park designed and realised in 1812–18 for Abbot Upcher by Humphry and John Adey Repton, following the death of Thomas Upcher in 1885, and he tactfully negotiated other acquisitions such as Friary Farm, Blakeney. The role also required handling the sometimes delicate relationship between the Trust and donor families, as at Ickworth. He became Chairman of the Properties Committee in 1990 and was Deputy Chairman of the Trust from 1992 to 2002.

He was awarded the CBE in 1994 and received the honorary degree of DCL from the University of East Anglia in 2005.

He was a first class shot and he trained his own gundogs with skill and patience. (A rare failure had a hard mouth and, without a trace of irony, was given to the police.) He also enjoyed teaching his children and those of friends to shoot and fish, and insisted on safety in the field on shooting days.

He was an observant and agreeable travelling companion, always taking a detailed interest in what he saw. One of his notable characteristics, indeed, was an ability to stand back, and this and his own quiet Christian faith led him into non-stipendiary ministry. He was ordained deacon at Norwich Cathedral in 2000 and priest in Barton Turf the following year as (non-stipendiary) ordained local minister for the Horning benefice.

On the day of the 7 July 2005 bombings, he was in London and having walked several miles in steady rain to Boodles was asked by the porter why he had removed his tie: he had to re-equip in Jermyn Street before lunch.

He suffered a major stroke in 2010, from which, after eight weeks unconsciousness, he made a rapid and remarkable recovery. In the autumn of 2014, however, he was found to be suffering from an advanced and inoperable cancer. 'I intend to take this straight on', he said, the last time I saw him, just over a fortnight before he died on 11 December. His youngest daughter later said: 'It was his finest hour'.

He leaves a widow, four daughters and a son, Robert, as well as twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild.

• BEQUEST OR LEGACY TO THE TRUST? •

The Directors/Trustees would be extremely grateful to any member, or indeed non-member, who decided that the Trust would be a suitable recipient for a bequest. Any amount of cash or kind can be given to a registered charity before death or in a will without the payment of Inheritance Tax. Ask a lawyer to draw up the will, or a codicil to an existing will. For those who write their own wills, instructions are to be found on the official form available from any Law Stationers. Your bequest should be worded as follows: I give the following residual charitable legacy and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being of the legatees shall be good and sufficient discharge to my executors therefore; To the Charity, The Norfolk Churches Trust (Registered No. 271176) of Manor Farmhouse, Diss road, Tibenham, Norwich NR16 1QF

• GIFT AID AND OTHER TAX MATTERS •

Please note that any gifts and donations are available for Gift Aid (providing that you are a UK taxpayer). The response by donors and members to enable us to claim this tax continues to be most encouraging and beneficial to the Trust. There is a further method of donating to the Trust which might prove "painless". It is possible for those who have paid excess tax to HM Revenue and Customs to elect to have this excess donated and paid direct to The Norfolk Churches Trust with Gift Aid enhancement. Details are available from HM Revenue and Customs.

• DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984 •

Under the Act it is a requirement to inform supporters of the Trust that their details are held on a computer. No disclosures of the information will be made other than to Officers and Council Members of the Trust, and to HM Revenue and Customs in connection with the claims for repayment of tax deducted from contributions paid by Gift Aid. You are entitled to request details of the information that is kept about you. Written requests for this information should be sent to the Secretary.

• LEASED CHURCHES CARED FOR BY THE NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST •

Bagthorpe, St Mary: Mrs & Mrs Morton	01485 578528
Barmer, All Saints: Mrs Mason	01485 578220
Cockthorpe, All Saints: Mr & Mrs Case	01328 830202
Corpusty, St Peter: Richard Barham	01603 788721
Dunton, St Peter: Rev. Robin Stapleford	01328 853226
Hargham, All Saints: Mr & Mrs Amos	01953 455553
Illington, St Andrew: Mr & Mrs Wells	01953 498121
Lynford, Our Lady of Consolation & St Stephen: Sally & Sheril Leich	01842 878246
Morton-on-the-Hill, St Margaret: Lady Prince-Smith	01603 880165
Rackheath, All Saints: Jeff Sandell	01603 782044
Snetterton, All Saints: World Horse Welfare Trust	01953 498329
West Bilney, St Cecilia: Mrs D Curl	01760 337320
West Rudham, St Peter: Mrs Rouse	01485 528376

Many of the churches leased to the Trust are kept open during daylight hours. Should you be planning a visit, it may be worth checking with the key holders listed before setting out.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Limited

Patron

HRH The Prince of Wales

Vice Patrons

The Duke of Norfolk
The Bishop of Norwich
The Bishop of Ely

President

General Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL

Trustees

Mrs Sara Foster *Chairman*
Jonathan Ellis *Honorary Treasurer*
Michael Sayer *Chairman, Grants Committee*
Lady Agnew
Peter de Bunsen
Lady Egerton OBE
Lady Fraser (appointed 12 February 2015)
Christopher Hartop
Jamie Jamieson (retired 16th December 2014)
Sarah Countess of Leicester
Mrs Henrietta Lindsell
Ian Lonsdale TD
Mrs Holly Rawkins JP DL

Company Secretary

Mrs Scilla Latham

Advisory Council

The Trustees receive advice from the Advisory Council, which comprises the Trustees listed above and the

following members:

Bolton Agnew
Mrs Margaret Alston JP
Richard Barham
Michael Begley
John Birkbeck
Mrs Hetty Burdono
Mrs Bridget Buxton
Mrs Amelia Courtauld
Major Gen. Sir William Cubitt, KCVO, CBE
Maurice de Bunsen
Mrs Diana Don
Lady Evans-Lombe, DL
Fr Philip Gray (Hon. Chaplain)
The Ven Michael Michael Handley (Hon. Chaplain)
The Revd Canon Jeremy Haselock (Hon. Chaplain)
Stephen Heywood
Mrs Elizabeth Hoare
Brian Iles
Chalres Inglis (Bicycle Ride Co-ordinator)
Lady Laura Jamieson
Peter Jarrold
Mrs Karen Knight
Mrs Jane Lane
Patrick Lines
George Lynne
Lieut. Col Anthony Powell, MBE
Matthew Rice
Mrs Mary Rudd
Ashley Spooner
Mrs Sandra Starling
Frederique Baroness van Till
John Vigar
The Rev Ian Whittle (Hon Chaplain)

The Norfolk Churches Trust Limited

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales.

Vice-Patrons: The Duke of Norfolk, The Bishop of Norwich, The Bishop of Ely.

President: General the Lord Dannatt GCB CBE MC DL

Chairman: Mrs Sara Foster

Secretary: Mrs Scilla Latham

Manor Farmhouse, Diss Road, Tibenham, Norwich NR16 1QF

39th Annual General Meeting

at the Parish Church of All Saints, Great Melton on Wednesday **9th September 2015 at 5:30pm.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks.
3. To confirm the Minutes of the Thirty-eighth Annual General Meeting held at the Parish Church of All Saints, Intwood on 10th September 2014.
4. Any matters arising from those Minutes.
5. To receive the Chairman's Report.
6. To receive the Honorary Treasurer's Report.
7. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2015
8. Election of the board of Directors/Trustees. The following seek election to the board of Directors/Trustees: Peter de Bunsen, Lady Egerton OBE, Jonathan Ellis and Michael Sayer and the following seek election to the board of Directors/Trustees: Lady Fraser
9. Election to the Advisory Council.
The following Advisory Councillors retire and seek re-election: Richard Barham, Mrs Bridget Buxton, Maurice de Bunsen, Fr Philip Gray, The Revd Canon Jeremy Haselock, Brian Iles, Mrs Karen Knight, George Lynne, Ashley Spooner and Mrs Sandra Starling and that the following seek election to the Advisory Council; Mrs Jane Lane and John Vigar.
10. Propose the re-appointment of Lovewell Blake as Auditors.
11. Any other business of which notice has been received of not less than two weeks before the meeting.

to be followed by a talk by

The Rt Revd Graham James, Lord Bishop of Norwich
Churches: their impact on mind, heart and faith

Light refreshments will be available

Evensong will follow at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd at the Parish Church of Intwood, All Saints on 10 September 2014

Present: General Lord Dannatt (President and Presiding Chairman), Sara Foster (Chairman of Board of Directors/Trustees), Malcolm Fisher (Company Secretary), and Directors/Trustees, Advisory Councillors and Members of The Trust were also present.

Apologies for absence had been received from 2 Directors; no Advisory Councillors and 5 Members/Friends.

Presiding Chairman's opening remarks. General Lord Dannatt, being a Churchwarden for Intwood and Keswick said that Revd Paul Burr welcomed the Trust for holding their AGM at Intwood and announced that as the two locations had been one parish since 1598 Keswick was also open on this occasion.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Parish Church of Holkham, St Withburga on 10 September 2013 were confirmed by the meeting as being a correct record.

Matters arising from those minutes. There were no matters arising.

1. **To receive and adopt the Company's annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2014 together with the Trustees' and Auditor's reports on those accounts** – The accounts were submitted for adoption by Jonathan Ellis. This was proposed by Holly Rawkins, seconded by Sara Foster and was unanimously agreed.
2. **To receive the Chairman of the Board of Director's report.** Sara Foster highlighted her report in the following items. The third restoration phase at Cockthorpe would be undertaken, investments made a good recovery to £1.3m, the Bicycle Ride continuing to be a major fund raising event. Other fundraising events were mentioned with thanks to all those involved.
3. **To receive the Honorary Treasurer's report.** Unfortunately Jonathan Ellis was again not present but was thanked for his Treasurership.
4. **To re-appoint Lovewell Blake as the Company's auditors to hold office from the conclusion of this Meeting until the conclusion of the next meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company.** Lady Egerton proposed and Clare Agnew seconded and the meeting agreed that Lovewell Blake be re-appointed.
5. **To authorise the Trustees to agree the remuneration of the auditors.** This was agreed by the meeting to be £2800
6. **Any other general business to be discussed.** The meeting was advised that the memorial to Lady Harrod was in hand.

The following resolutions were considered and then passed;

- 7–9 **Re-election to the board of Directors/Trustees.** Clare Agnew, Ian Lonsdale and Holly Rawkins. Proposed by The Revd Canon Jeremy Haselock, seconded by Sara Foster and unanimously agreed.
- 10–11 **To elect as Directors/Trustees.** It was proposed by Lady Egerton, seconded by Bridget Buxton and unanimously agreed that Christopher Hartop and Jamie Jamieson be elected.
- 12–17 **Re-elect the following to the Advisory Council.** Margaret Alston, Michael Begley, Amelia Courtauld, Elizabeth Hoare, Peter Jarrold and Matthew Rice were proposed by The Revd Canon Jeremy Haselock, seconded by Michael Sayer and unanimously agreed.
- 18–20 **To elect the following to the Advisory Council.** It was proposed by The Countess of Leicester and seconded by Sara Foster and unanimously agreed that Patrick Lines, Lieut Col Anthony Powell and Frederique van Till be elected to the Advisory Council.

The President thanked all those who gave up their time for the Trust

The AGM was followed by an eventually illustrated talk by

Emma Bridgewater and Matthew Rice



'Supporting Church Buildings'

Registered Office – Manor Farmhouse, Diss Road,
Tibenham NR16 1QF

Telephone 01379 677272

www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk

Registered Company Number 1247797

Registered Charity Number 271176

Environmental Body Number 111076