



Annual Report 2016-2017

Chairman's Report



The past year was one of particular note for the Trust as it marked our 40th Anniversary, and we were able to commemorate this occasion in some style. Firstly in June we had a Celebration Service with Evensong in Norwich Cathedral followed by a drinks reception hosted by our Vice Patron, the Bishop of Norwich, in his garden. Over 150 people attended and it gave us the opportunity to thank those who had done so much for the Trust over the years, especially the architects and craftsmen who do such invaluable work, often unsung. It was a fun evening with a moving speech from Bishop Graham. Then in November we had the honour of a reception being given for the Trust by our Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, at Sandringham House. Over 100 members and supporters of the Trust attended a wonderfully enjoyable and memorable evening, and we are most grateful to His Royal Highness for hosting this event recognising the Trust's achievements over the past 40 years.

During the past reporting year the Trust awarded 35 new grants totalling £122,050 and paid grants on completed repairs to 28 churches amounting to £78,089, with the total of grants offered but not yet disbursed coming to £253,734. Details of

these grants are given on page 8 and 9 and the Grants report. Our schedule of repairs on our leased churches has continued. Work is now complete at both Cockthorpe All Saints and Corpusty St Peter and an Evensong in celebration of the work at the latter was held in July. Extensive work was carried out at Moreton-on-the-Hill St Margaret and we have been offered a substantial HLF grant for urgent repairs to Snetterton All Saints. Major repairs to the tower at All Saints, Barmer are being developed. All our leased churches remain under constant review through a proactive subcommittee consisting of John Maddison, Michael Wingate and John Vigar supported by the Trust's Secretary who have carried out some excellent work this year; and to all of whom I am very grateful for all their time and invaluable advice. We have developed a costed plan to carry out much needed work across our leased churches as a whole over the next 5 years.

The Trust's investments had a good year overall reflecting the generally positive state of the stock markets. As a result at the year end the Trust's net assets have increased from £1,517,060 to £1,820,683; and the income yield has remained at a reasonable 2.49%.

We held a House by the Church event in May which proved highly popular with around 400 people from all over the country attending and visiting 21 properties in North and North West Norfolk. I would like to thank in particular all those who opened their houses and allowed such an invasion of their privacy and all the organising Committee who put the whole event together. It succeeded in raising a fantastic £24,000. We also the continued annual programme of lectures superbly organised by Fiona Fraser, including one by our President, General The Lord Dannatt, at which he launched his new book; and together raised nearly £6,000. On top of this we had a special talk by Sir Nicolas Soames on his Grandfather, Sir Winston Churchill, which packed over 250 people into St Mary's Walsingham for a fascinating evening and raised £8,500. Once again through the extraordinary hard work of Sarah Leicester, two superb operas were held at Holkham Hall which raised an astonishing £24,000. Overall our events over the past year raised an amazing £96,000 in total. This included £11,500 in Gift Aid showing the benefits of this system; and I would encourage all those who are able to Gift Aid any

donations to do so as it adds so much to the Trust without any extra cost to them. I am very grateful to all those who organise these events, and their committees, for all the time they commit; as well as the lecturers, those who let us use their houses and all those who support us in so many ways.

Our annual Bicycle Ride, held in September, despite being on a day of awful weather, raised just under £102,000; almost the same as last year. This was a great achievement by all and enabled this sum to be shared with the participants' designated church. In all 320 churches benefitted in some way. Some wonderful stories came out of the day as to what had been achieved by many of the participants showing great fortitude and ingenuity. This has all been collated by Charles Inglis and his team as they continue to explore new ways to develop the Bicycle Ride and keep it fresh and relevant. As part of this, a regular newsletter is now being emailed to about 700 supporters to keep them informed. If you are not on this list and wish to receive this email please let us know. I hope that you will get on your bicycles, in your cars or get out your walking shoes, (or perhaps even



Chairman's Report *continued*

your canoes as 2 boys did last year!!), and support both the Trust and your church at this year's event on 9th September.

We further greatly appreciate the continuing support of South Norfolk District Council and the following Trusts: The Prince's Charities Foundation, The Lady Hind Trust, The Charles Littlewood Hill Trust, The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust, The Philip & Elizabeth Rackham Charitable Trust, The John Jarrold Trust, The R C Snelling Charitable Trust, The Bedhampton Charitable Trust and the Archant Annual Charity Donation together with all those other trusts and individuals who so kindly assist us financially.

There has recently been a most dreadful spate of lead thefts from roofs of Norfolk churches. We are now working with other interested bodies to fight this through installing alarms on churches which have been identified as being at risk. A dedicated fund is being set up to pay for the alarm installation costs which the Trust is directly involved with. Hopefully this will fight off this scourge which is a particular worry for many churches as they do not have the wherewithal to fit these alarms, yet the problems and potential implications of the theft of the lead, both the cost of replacement and potential damage to the structure and irreplaceable artefacts, is considerable.

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I am sorry to report that Christopher Hartop has resigned as a Trustee, but pleased to

say he has remained as a member of the Advisory Council. I would like to thank him for all his hard work, in particular organising his innovative Secret Artists Auction last year which proved so successful. Hetty Burdon, Major General Sir William Cubitt, Lady Evans Lombe, The Ven Michael Handley and Jamie Jamieson have all resigned from the Advisory Council and I would like to thank them for all their invaluable advice and support.

Membership continues to remain strong with 1,402 active members of all categories and supporters, but we are always looking to increase our numbers. We also have an excellent social media following and a recent survey has identified that we have around 5,600 followers on Twitter and 650 on Facebook.

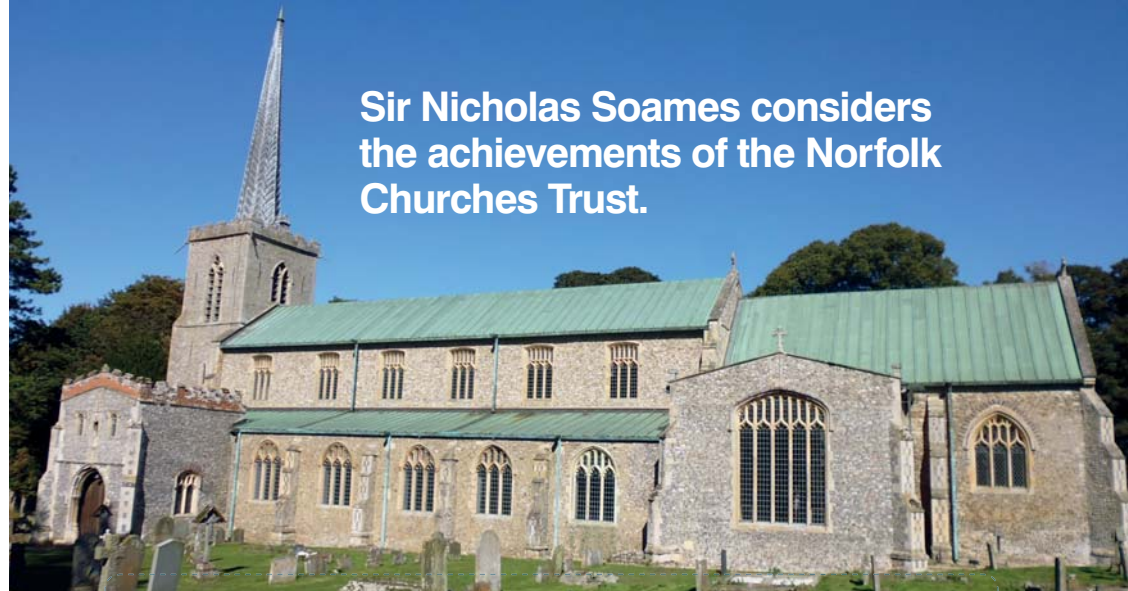
I hope our annual review illustrates how the invaluable help and involvement we receive from so many people and organisations, in very different ways, enables us to continue to fulfil our obligations of assisting with the maintenance of the structure and artefacts of the churches of this county and keeping them open for worship and visitors to enjoy; for both this and future generations. We are so grateful to everyone that supports us in this aim in such diverse ways.

Ian Lonsdale

Chairman, 15 June 2017

JARROLD
The John Jarrold Trust

Sir Nicholas Soames considers the achievements of the Norfolk Churches Trust.



We were most grateful to Sir Nicholas Soames for coming to Little Walsingham in September to give a talk about his grandfather, Sir Winston Churchill. He began his address with these thoughts about the Trust.

It is a great honour for me to be asked to come and speak to this goodly gathering in support of this remarkable organisation, The Norfolk Churches Trust, founded by the truly visionary Lady Harrod, with the ambitious objective of preserving Norfolk's unique historic legacy of medieval churches and keeping them alive and open as far as is possible.

What this Trust has done, through the heroic efforts of many generous donors and supporters, is to preserve the Church Triumphant as the living, breathing evidence of something that has mattered and still matters, very much, in our national life. There are over one thousand churches in England that are one thousand years old: some are abandoned relics of the past, but many of them are alive and well and at the heart of their community and their landscape.

Rich in the memories of generations past and symbolic of hope for the future.

Much of the history of our extraordinary country is embedded in these churches. The walls and floors and the graveyards are filled with the ancestors of our countrymen. They unite us with our past, and they carry the

word, their time and their creative ideas forward for future generations. They give us the chance to find resolution, peace and unity in harmony with the landscape in which they sit.

The memorials in these churches speak quietly about many things of profound importance to us today, amongst them generosity, fellowship, tolerance, understanding, breadth of vision, freedom of thought, honesty and human dignity. These are all values that must remain of the first importance for all of us in all our lives today.

Entering any of these churches is to feel the sensation of history – to sense the feel, the smell and the taste of age.

The Norfolk Churches Trust has saved the soul of many of these buildings and their surrounds and have thus preserved and supported the backbone of the living, breathing heritage of this country.

I am as I said thus, very honoured to be asked to speak in support of this good work.

Sir Nicholas Soames

23 September 2016

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Financial Summary

Norfolk Churches Trust

Year ended 31 March 2017

Summary Statement of Financial Activities

	2015-17 £	2014-16 £
Income from:		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	41,895	44,525
Local authority grants	8,000	8,000
Legacies	59,822	201,000
Subscriptions	37,487	43,525
Heritage Lottery Fund grants	115,800	210,942
Leased churches	1,512	912
Other trading activities		
Sponsored bicycle ride	101,334	101,897
Trust events	96,242	52,521
Sale of goods	2,297	1,947
Investment income	45,388	45,964
Total income	509,777	711,233
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds		
Costs of generating voluntary income	(12,196)	(19,212)
Fundraising costs incl. parish share of ride)	(72,904)	(65,380)
Charitable activities		
Grants offered	(122,050)	(160,440)
Expenditure on leased and other churches	(149,398)	(268,104)
Support costs	(38,645)	(30,612)
Governance costs	(10,635)	(7,144)
Total expenditure	(405,828)	(550,892)
Net income for the year	103,949	160,341
Net (losses)gains on investment assets	199,674	(74,124)
Net movement in funds	303,623	86,217
Fund balances brought forward	1,517,060	1,430,843
Fund balances carried forward at the end of the year	1,820,683	1,517,060

Summary Balance Sheet

	31 March 2017 £	31 March 2016 £
Fixed asset investments	1,353,263	1,163,412
Net current assets	467,420	353,648
Net assets	1,820,683	1,517,060
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted	–	7,013
Unrestricted	1,820,683	1,510,047
Total funds	1,820,683	1,517,060

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 17 June 2017 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 2017.

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
15 June 2017

Grants 2016-17

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 £
Alby, St Ethelbert	-	-	5,000
Banham, St Mary the Virgin	1,000	1,000	-
Barningham, St Mary the Virgin	-	-	10,000
Barton Turf, St Michael	-	-	1,000
Bawburgh, St Mary & St Walstan	-	1,000	-
Beeston, St Lawrence	-	-	3,000
Blofield, Sts Andrew & Peter	(1,000)	-	-
Bracon Ash, St Nicholas	10,000	-	10,000
Braydeston, St. Michael	-	1,000	-
Bressingham, St John the Baptist	-	-	3,000
Brettenham, St. Andrew	3,500	-	3,500
Brisley, St Bartholomew	-	3,500	362
Brunstead, St Peter	10,000	-	10,000
Burgh, St Margaret	-	-	1,000
Burnham Deepdale, St Mary	4,000	-	4,000
Burnham Thorpe, All Saints	-	-	500
Burston, St Mary	-	2,000	482
Carleton Forehoe, St Mary	5,000	-	5,000
Castle Acre, St James	5,000	-	5,000
Caston, Holy Cross	2,000	-	2,000
Catfield, All Saints	-	-	4,000
Clippesby, St. Peter	-	-	1,200
Colton, St. Andrew	-	-	5,000
Congham, St. Andrew	-	-	3,000
Corton, St Bartholomew	-	1,000	-
Crostwight, All Saints	3,000	2,500	3,000
Deopham, St. Andrew	-	-	1,000
East Dereham, Cowper Congregational	-	2,000	-
East Walton, St. Mary	-	-	600
Felbrigg, St Margaret	-	-	3,000
Field Dalling, St Andrew	-	-	4,202
Filby, All Saints	2,000	-	2,000
Fleggburgh, St Margaret	1,000	1,000	-
Flitcham, St Mary the Virgin	4,000	-	4,000
Gimingham, All Saints	1,500	-	1,500
Gissing, St. Mary	-	-	5,000
Great Melton, All Saints	-	7,000	-
Great Plumstead, St Mary	-	1,000	-
Great Ryburgh, St. Andrew	-	-	5,000
Great Yarmouth, St Peter/St Spiridon	-	-	2,000
Haddiscoe, St Mary	1,000	-	1,000
Hempnall, St Margaret	2,000	-	2,000
Hempstead -next-the-Sea, St Andrew	4,000	4,000	-
Hethel, All Saints	1,500	-	1,500
Carried forward	59,500	27,000	112,846

Brought forward	59,500	27,000	112,846
Honing, Sts Peter & Paul	-	-	5,000
Houghton next Harpley	-	-	5,000
Kings Lynn, St Margaret	-	-	5,000
Little Massingham, St Andrew	5,000	-	5,000
Little Walsingham, St Seraphim	4,000	-	4,000
Longham, Sts. Andrew & Peter	-	2,000	-
Marsham, All Saints	-	-	2,000
Merton, St Peter	-	-	1,300
Middleton, St. Mary	-	-	8,000
Mundham, St Peter	-	-	1,000
Narford, St Mary the Virgin	3,000	3,000	-
Newton-by-Castleacre, St. Mary	-	-	1,500
North Walsham, Evangelical	1,000	-	1,000
Norwich Trowse, St Andrew	1,000	1,000	-
Oulton, Sts Peter & Paul	-	5,000	-
Plumstead, St Michael	7,000	-	7,000
Reepham, St. Mary	-	1,500	-
Runhall, All Saints	-	690	188
Santon, All Saints	-	3,000	-
Scoulton, Holy Trinity	3,000	-	3,000
Sedgeford, St Mary	7,000	7,000	-
South Lopham, St Andrew	1,000	-	1,000
South Lynn, All Saints	-	1,000	-
South Pickenham, All Saints	-	1,000	-
Stanfield, St. Margaret	-	2,000	-
Stibbard, All Saints	-	3,000	-
Sustead, Sts Peter & Paul	10,000	-	10,000
Terrington, St Clement	-	6,000	-
Thrigby, St Mary	3,000	-	5,500
Thurne, St Edmund	-	10,000	-
Thurton, St Ethelbert	-	-	1,000
Thwaite, All Saints	-	2,000	-
Topcroft, St. Margaret	-	-	400
Tunstead, St Mary	5,000	-	5,000
Walcott, All Saints	500	-	500
Warham, St. Mary Magdalene	50	2,899	-
Weasenham, All Saints	-	-	10,000
Weasenham, St Peter	7,000	-	7,000
Welborne, All Saints	-	-	20,000
Westfield, St Andrew	-	-	10,000
West Walton, St Mary	3,000	-	3,000
Whinburgh, St Mary	-	-	7,000
Wickhampton, St. Andrew	-	-	3,000
Wickmere, St Andrew	-	-	3,500
Wiggenhall, St Peter	-	-	2,000
Wood Dalling, All Saints	2,000	-	2,000
Wood Norton, St Nicholas	-	-	1,000
General Fund total	122,050	78,089	253,734

Funding in Action



St Andrew's church Hempstead

The table on the previous pages setting out the grants offered and paid out over the year, as well as those yet to be paid shows where the funds raised at events run by the Trust throughout the year are being used to support parishes across the county and Diocese of Norwich. The eye is inevitably led to the largest grants towards repairs such as those of £10,000 to **St Nicholas, Bracon Ash** (extensive remedial work to prevent damp penetration, plus roof repairs); **St Peter, Brunstead** (thatching); **St Peter & St Paul, Sustead** (urgent roof repairs) and **St Edmund, Thurne** (thatching and other high level repairs) but very often the small enabling grants awarded to get a repair project underway can have greatest impact. At **All Saints, Crostwight** a conservation report on the nationally important 14th century wall paintings in the nave was essential to establish scale of the work required: a

grant of £3,000 paid for the report. At **St Mary, West Walton**, urgent remedial repairs were needed to prevent more falls of masonry from the nave arcading and



Crostwight, All Saints. Detail of wall paintings £3,000. Conservation report on wall paintings

west end of the church whilst the full repair project is being developed: a grant of £3,000 helped here.

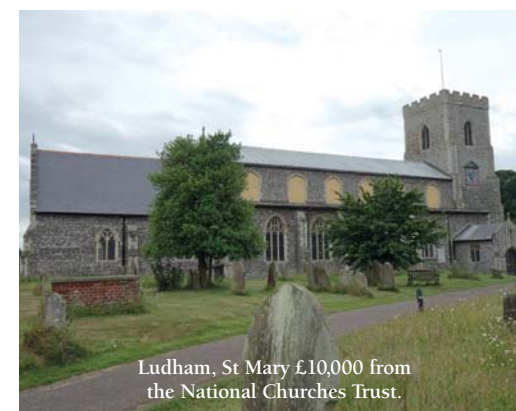
Another major category of applications for grants are from parishes which have been awarded an Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Grant for Places of Worship but are still have a significant shortfall. A case in point was **Sedgeford St Mary** where a huge repair project has revitalised the building and the Trust was able to help with a grant of £7,000 to bridge the gap in funding at a very late stage in the project. Not all repairs involve extensive repairs and these are frequently not considered eligible by major funders. At **Ludham, St Mary** the clerestory windows have been in a parlous state for years. Applications to HLF had been unsuccessful but the Trust



was able to help by putting the repair project forwards for a Partnership grant of £10,000 from the National Churches Trust.

There has been a depressing increase in thefts of lead from church roofs in the county this year. The Trust offers practical support, advice on installing a roof alarm and encourages the church to apply for a grant from the Trust. Grants were awarded to Weasenham, St Peter, Carleton Forehoe, St Mary and Little Massingham, St Andrew, where repeated thefts have led to serious consequential damage to the interior of the churches and the responsibility of undertaking major fund raising campaigns weighs heavily on very few people.

In any year, there is a grant application which stands out for a particular reason: this year it was **St Andrew's church Hempstead** where the repair project began in 2011. This was before the current (but soon to be closed) HLF Grants for Places of Worship scheme had started and decisions on the urgency and extent of a repair was negotiated with



Ludham, St Mary £10,000 from the National Churches Trust.

English Heritage. A bygone time, and by mid 2016 Historic England was keen to pay off the last of these grants. A deadline was set and if not met, the balance of the grant would be withdrawn. Desperate times for Hempstead: the Fabric Officer, Godfrey Talbot, tells their story.

St Andrew's is a thatched Grade 2 listed medieval church set in a rural location, close to the coast and some 4 miles from Stalham, Norfolk.*

We were successful at the first attempt in obtaining an offer of a substantial grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through English Heritage. However, a large sum of money remained to be raised locally and, though small in number, the congregation

launched an appeal for £60,000 and by the end of 2012 the PCC had raised about £27,500.

Initially it was proposed only to renew the thatched roof to the nave and carry out repairs to the chancel roof to extend its life by a few more years, however detailed investigation proved the pressing need to renew the thatch on the chancel at the same time as the nave and English Heritage kindly increased its budget by £45,000 to cover the additional cost. Other repairs were needed on the tower and windows.

Interrupted progress.....

The main phase of restoration work began in August 2013, by which time the PCC had secured all the necessary funding. Most of the repairs to the tower and windows were completed by the end of 2013 and the worn-out thatch had been stripped from the roofs to enable the roof timbers to be repaired as necessary, with the intention that the roof would be re-thatched by Easter 2014. Then in February 2014 the PCC received news that the main contractor had encountered financial difficulties and called in receivers. Work ceased immediately and it took several months to obtain and evaluate new tenders from other contractors. About 70% by value of the work remained to be completed and the temporary roof covering was no more effective in keeping out the rain than the previous dilapidated thatch. The new contractor began work to complete the project during the summer of 2014 but the replacement of the thatched roof was not complete until the early spring of the following year.

...and its aftermath.

By March 2015 the roof was complete, the building was watertight for the first time in many years, but the interior was in an even more distressed condition than when the restoration began. The interior of the building never completely dried out due to the continuing ingress of rainwater throughout the year 2014, winters and summer alike. Large areas of plasterwork had deteriorated and crumbled and it became clear that a further phase of work would be required to repair the damaged interior plasterwork and redecorate the whole interior and the porch.

'The silver lining through the dark cloud shining'.

Fortunately for the PCC, the cost of the restoration work so far was significantly less than had been estimated and agreement was secured to use the remaining funds to contribute to the cost of the additional work, on condition that certain repairs to the south side buttresses were carried out and paid for from those funds as well. It was at this stage that further generous offers of financial support from the Norfolk Churches Trust (£4,000) and the Bishop of Norwich's fabric fund (£1,000) were secured. Remedial work on the plaster and complete redecoration of the interior and south porch was completed by the end of 2016.

The result is a much more comprehensive interior restoration than was planned when work began in 2013. The journey was much longer than expected, but the outcome exceeds all the early expectations.

© Hempstead with Eccles and Lessingham Parochial Church Council, 2017

Making the difference:

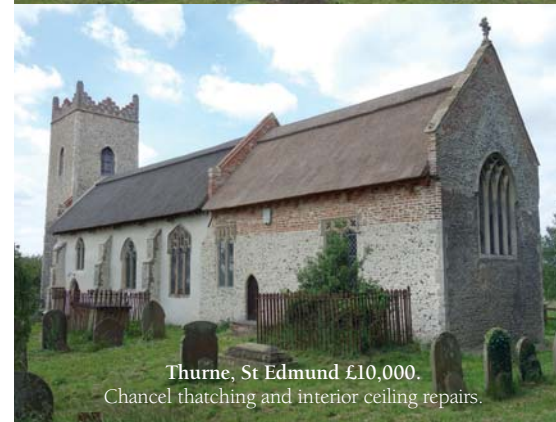
The following photographs illustrate some of the churches that received grants from the Trust over the year. Space does not permit every church to be included but I have tried to include most that were offered or paid grants of over £4,000 plus two enabling grants.



Bracon Ash, St Nicholas £10,000. Repairs to roof and walls to deduce damp penetration.



Sustead, St Peter & St Paul £10,000. Roof repairs and new rain water goods and drains.



Thurne, St Edmund £10,000. Chancel thatching and interior ceiling repairs.



Sedgford, St Mary £7,000 (Photo: Denis Tuttle). Repairs to roofs & windows, new rainwater goods and drains.



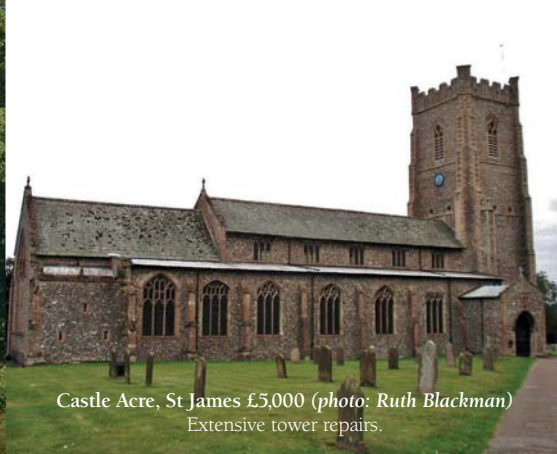
Weasenham, St Peter £7,000 (photo: Ruth Blackman). Following repeated lead thefts: replace nave, south aisle and porch roofs with terre coated steel.



Terrington, St Clement £6,000 (photo: Richard Waite). Repairs resulting from extensive damp penetration.



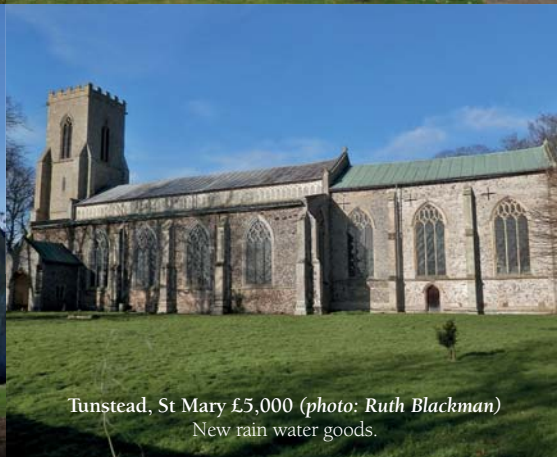
Carleton Forehoe, St Mary £5,000. (photo: Clive Dunn)
Following repeated lead thefts. Replacement withterne coated steel.



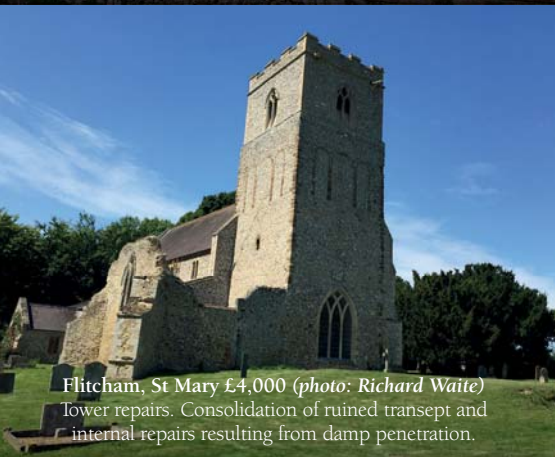
Castle Acre, St James £5,000 (photo: Ruth Blackman)
Extensive tower repairs.



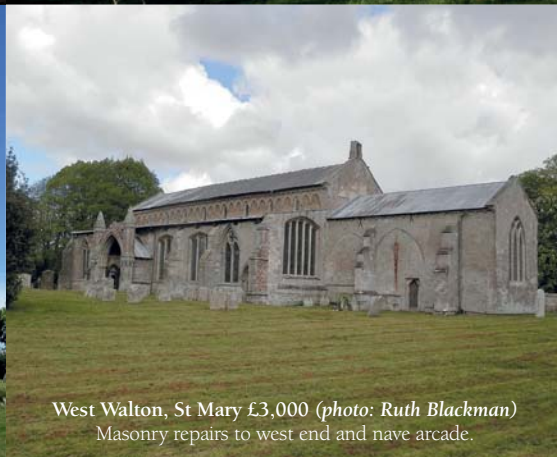
Little Massingham £5,000.(photo: Ruth Blackman)
Following repeated lead thefts temporary felt roof covering to all roofs to prevent further interior damage.



Tunstead, St Mary £5,000 (photo: Ruth Blackman)
New rain water goods.



Flitcham, St Mary £4,000 (photo: Richard Waite)
Tower repairs. Consolidation of ruined transept and internal repairs resulting from damp penetration.



West Walton, St Mary £3,000 (photo: Ruth Blackman)
Masonry repairs to west end and nave arcade.



Leased Churches

All Saints, Snetterton

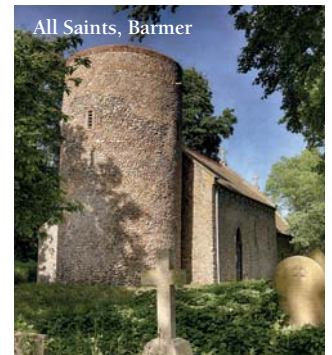
It has been another busy year working on repairs to the churches that the Trust leases from the Diocese of Norwich and Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia. The urgent roof repairs and drainage at All Saints Cockthorpe were completed in March. We are particularly grateful to Lyn Stilgoe who wrote the text for the new guidebook and to Maddison Graphic who donated their design skills to create the churchyard sign. This marks the end of the phased repairs to All Saints which were made possible by significant grants over a period of years from Historic England and latterly the Heritage Lottery Fund Grants for Places of Worship programme.

Our next major repair project is already underway at All Saints, Snetterton. The latest Quinquennial Inspection revealed that the tower is in urgent need of high level stabilisation, as well as roof repairs, new rainwater goods and remedial work on the walls. Again we are extremely grateful

to the Heritage Lottery Fund for offering us funding towards this work.

A rolling programme of repairs largely funded by generous bequests continues in the other Leased Churches: including drainage work at St Margaret's Morton-on-the Hill and Lynford RC church; remedial roof repairs at All Saints, Rackheath and St Peter's Dunton.

Repairs on the tower at All Saints Barmer are at the planning stage and will be the next major project funded by the Trust in the coming year.



All Saints, Barmer





Bike Ride

I am delighted to announce that the Bike Ride raised an amazing £100,261 in 2016 despite the inclement weather on the day, so I would like to pass on a huge thank you to everybody who took part either cycling, walking, driving or manning the churches.

I thought I would report a few statistics, highlights and results of the competitions that run alongside the bike ride from last year's event.

- The bike ride was supported by 565 participants last year making 2,198 visits to churches and chapels.
- 292 new participants joined the ranks of those taking part which was great news.
- The top fund raiser and Winner of the **Prince of Wales Certificate** raised £2,766.
- Seven fundraisers raised over £11,000 between them.
- Two People won prizes for the **Photographic Competition** and had their photographs published in the EDP.
- **Brown and Co** have kindly sponsored this year's event.
- Eighteen out of twenty-two Areas managed to increase their figures from last year.
- Burnham Thorpe, All Saints, regained top church from Hempstead, All Saints by increasing their total by 18% to £4,083
- The number of churches recording visits by car nearly doubled from 109 to 215.
- The amount of money gift aided increased by 3%
- There was an upward trend in Justgiving as a way of donating money. Quite a few chose to create their own fundraising page on the JustGiving website to send out to family and friends around the world to ask for their support. It has the secondary benefit of advertising the Norfolk Churches Trust to a wider audience.

Some amazing individual stories were also reported from the day; as well as the 2 boys canoeing down the River Bure, one of the participants was sponsored by every individual in their village, filling 17 sponsorship sheets! The most churches visited by bicycle was 64 and on foot 50, as well as one person in his 80s, walking around 35 Churches in Norwich.

The money raised by the bike ride is helping

the Norfolk Churches Trust actively work with other interested parties to provide advice and funding for churches with lead roofs, to fit and maintain alarms to fight the continuing scourge of lead thefts. The trust will also give grants towards reroofing.

The Bike Ride Committee tried very hard to publicise the event with Road Signs, Media, and contacting Companies and Organisations. We also made a big push to keep people informed with our regular newsletters and using social media, so please do follow us on Facebook and Twitter (www.facebook.com/NorfolkChurchesTrust/).

However none of this effort beats friends persuading

more friends to take part and enjoy the day together. So please do try and encourage more people to pump up their tyres, dust off their walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route to visit as many of churches in Norfolk as you can on the 9 September 2017.



Lord Dannatt presenting the Prince of Wales Certificate for the top fund raiser in 2015 to Mrs Mary Truman at Somerleyton Hall.

2016 Photographic Competition winners



Honing church shown behind the web

Winner of the 'Architectural Features and favourite church' category - David Nice.

Brown and Co. are kindly sponsoring the Photographic Competition so there are three £100 prizes to be won and the chance to get your picture published in the EDP.

BROWN & CO

Check our website for details.



Winner of the 'People taking part' category - Kathryn Thacker

Fundraising Events

We have had an entertaining and varied series of fundraising events this year. MANY thanks to all involved, either for their incredibly hard work organising them or their kindness in hosting or supporting them.

Firstly Thomas & Amelia Courtauld had been enchanted by a comedy duo they saw at the Edinburgh Festival and persuaded Mr Morgan and Mr West to come to Norfolk, more precisely to Barningham Hall, to entertain a full house with tempting morsels of engaging fabulousness. For those lucky enough to get a seat it was totally splendid. The next event was the ever popular House by the Church in May, this time in north and west Norfolk, when another 25 generous hosts opened their houses for NCT members and their friends to look round. As good as ever and over £20,000 raised. Dr James Noyes gave us a fascinating talk about Iconoclasm in Langham church in June. A topic extensively researched by Dr Noyes for his book (The Politics of Iconoclasm) and a topic which resonated in the minds of the audience, historically and more emphatically, as an almost daily contemporary horror. The challenging Q/A

illustrated the conflicting responses to this most far-reaching indiscriminate devastation.

This was followed by two nights of fabulous opera in the marble hall at Holkham (with enormous thanks to Sarah Leicester)



in July, which raised over £23,000. In September a very full house (or rather, St Mary's Walsingham) were thoroughly entertained by Sir Nicholas Soames who came and talked to us about his grandfather, Winston Churchill, starting the talk with an enthusiastic description of the Norfolk Churches Trust. In October Jeremy Musson came to give an in depth talk on St. Paul's Cathedral. A full to capacity audience sat enraptured in the elegant upstairs drawing room of Burnham Westgate Hall. A challenging Q/A followed, before the audience reluctantly left their seats to return to what must have seemed like bathos, after being immersed in the exalted vision of Sir Christopher Wren. In November Elmham House hosted a talk by General Lord Dannatt, launching his book 'Boots on the Ground'. A crowded to overflowing room relished the information conveyed by Lord Dannatt, with immaculate military precision and clarity, who then kindly donated the money taken from selling his books on the night. In total the talks raised over £12,000 this year.

We had two great celebrations for our 40th anniversary.

Firstly Evensong in the cathedral followed by a wonderful party in the Bishops Garden in June. Secondly a drinks party hosted by HRH Prince of Wales at Sandringham in November. There had been months of meetings and preparations with HRH's office who went out of their way to create the most perfect evening to support our cause. The party was attended by 130 members of the NCT including friends who had given generously to the Trust over the years, employees of the Trust, who had given so much of their time, new benefactors to the Trust who have shown interest in supporting the NCT in the future, and professional advisors among many others. The guests mingled in the splendid ballroom at Sandringham House where champagne and canapes were served. HRH Prince of Wales spent well over an hour chatting and meeting nearly all the guests and we heard afterwards that he had a really enjoyable evening. As a result of kind and generous donations we managed to raise in excess of £25,000.



Leased Churches cared for by the Norfolk Churches Trust

Bagthorpe, St Mary:

PE31 6QY. (Open during daylight hours)
Local contact: Mr & Mrs Morton · 01485 578528

Barmer, All Saints:

PE31 8SP In middle of field off B1454 (Locked)
Keyholder: Mrs Mason · 01485 578220

Cockthorpe, All Saints:

NR23 1QS (Locked)
Keyholder: Mr & Mrs Case · 01328 830202

Corpusty, St Peter:

NR11 6QE off Norwich Road (Locked)
Keyholder: Richard Barham · 01603 788721

Dunton, St Peter:

NR21 7PG (open during daylight hours)
Local contact: Rev Robin Stapleford
01328 813226

Hargham, All Saints:

NR16 2JW (Locked)
Keyholder: Mr & Mrs Amos · 01953 455553

Illington, St Andrew:

IP24 1RS Illington Road. Reached via a farm drive and grassy track. (Locked)
Keyholder: Mr & Mrs Wells · 01953 498121

Lynford, Our Lady of Consolation & St Stephen:

IP26 5EW Reached via forestry track 34, off West Tofts Road. Hidden in trees. (Locked)
Keyholder: Sally & Sheril Leich · 01842 878246

Morton on the Hill, St Margaret:

NR9 5JS Reached via farm drive from Ringland Road. Hidden in trees. (Locked)
Keyholder: Lady Prince Smith · 01603 880165

Rackheath, All Saints:

NR13 6QT. Brown heritage sign on Wroxham Road: continue down Swash Lane. (Open during daylight hours)
Local contact: Jeff Sandell · 01603 782044

Snetterton, All Saints:

NR16 2LR (Locked). Keyholder: World Horse Welfare reception (office hours) · 01953 498329

West Bilney, St Cecilia:

PE32 1XQ (Locked)
Keyholder: Nic Velzeboer · 01760 337382

West Rudham, St Peter:

PE31 8TE (Locked)
Keyholder: Mrs Rouse · 01485 528376

Some of these churches are fairly remote and the postcodes are for the nearest house, which may not be immediately by the church. In these cases and where the churches are reached by tracks and private drives, further directions are given.

Bequest or legacy to The Trust?

The 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

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

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(Chairman)
Jonathan Ellis
(Honorary Treasurer)
Michael Sayer
(Chairman, Grants Committee)
Lady Agnew
Peter de Bunsen
Lady Egerton OBE
Mrs Sara Foster DL
Lady Fraser
Sarah Countess of Leicester
Mrs Henrietta Lindsell
Mrs Holly Rawkins DL, JP

Company Secretary

Mrs Scilla Latham

Advisory Council

Bolton Agnew
Mrs Margaret Alston JP
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Michael Begley
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Mrs Bridget Buxton
Mrs Amelia Courtauld
Maurice de Bunsen
Mrs Diana Don
Christopher Hartop
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Mrs Elizabeth Hoare
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Lt. Colonel Anthony Powell MBE
Matthew Rice
Ashley Spooner
Frederique Baroness van Till
John Vigar
Mrs Alison Wakes-Miller
Revd. Ian Whittle (Hon Chaplain)
Michael Wingate

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.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd.

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: Ian Lonsdale TD

Secretary: Mrs Scilla Latham

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

41th Annual General Meeting

at the Parish Church of St Mary, Barningham Winter on
Tuesday 12th September 2017 at 5:30pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks.
3. To confirm the Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held at the Parish Church of St Mary, Fornsett 27th September 2016.
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 31st March 2017.
8. Election of the board of Directors/Trustees.
9. Election to the Advisory Council.
10. Propose the appointment of Auditors.
11. Any other business of which notice has been received of not less than two weeks before the meeting.

*Followed by a talk entitled The impact of the Reformation
on the Liturgy and Ecclesiastical Silver by*

Jonathan Ellis

Treasurer of the Silver Society

Light refreshments will be available after the talk

Evensong will follow at approximately 7p.m.

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of The Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd

At St Mary's church Fornsett on Tuesday 27th September 2016

Present: General Lord Dannatt (President and Presiding Chairman), Ian Lonsdale (Chairman of Board of Directors/Trustees), Scilla Latham (Company Secretary) and Directors/Trustees, Advisory Councillors and Members of the Trust were also present.

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Clare Agnew, Sara Foster, Sarah Leicester, (Trustees); Bolton Agnew, Margaret Alston, John Birkbeck, Amelia Courtaul, Tom Fitzalan Howard, Karen Knight, Jane Lane, Anthony Powell, Alison Wakes-Miller, Ian Whittle, John Vigar (Advisory Councillors) and twelve Members of the Trust.

2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks. General Lord Dannatt opened the meeting by thanking everyone at St Mary's for allowing the Trust to hold their AGM in their church and in particular to Graham Prior for his unstinting work in the restoration of St Mary's. Over forty years ago, Lady Harrod identified the need to preserve parish churches and the restoration of St Mary's demonstrates the long-term relevance the work of the Norfolk Churches Trust. Lord Dannatt reflected on the 40th Anniversary Service in Norwich Cathedral and reception in the Bishop's Garden where the so many people who support the Trust celebrated past achievements and looked forward to a continuing the work preserving Norfolk's churches for future generations.

3. The Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting held at All Saints church, Great Melton Wednesday 9th September 2015 were confirmed by the meeting as being a correct record.

Proposed by Bridget Buxton and seconded by Holly Rawkins

4. Matters arising from the minutes. There were no matters arising.

5. To receive the Chairman's Report. Ian Lonsdale thanked all the volunteers who organised a wide range of fundraising events throughout the year. He highlighted the Secret Artists' Auction organised by Christopher Hartop and the enduring success of Holkham Opera, where thanks to the tireless efforts of Sarah, Countess Leicester over £24,000 was donated to the Trust. Lady Fraser continues to identify guest speakers that appeal to a wide range of audiences who give generously to the Trust. The House by the Church day raised over £20,000 and Ian thanked those who opened their houses for the event. The hard work of the Bike Ride committee lead by Charles Inglis resulted in over £100,000 being raised. We are grateful to South Norfolk Council, which has again provided a grant towards repairs to churches in their district. A number of charitable organisations generously send annual grants for our work. Major repairs on Cockthorpe and Corpusty churches have been possible thanks to substantial grants from HLF and the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund. Ian thanked Scilla, Helen and Caryl for their hard work that was essential to the smooth running of the Trust. (Lord Dannatt thanked Ian Lonsdale for his work)

6. To receive the Honorary Treasurer's Report. Jonathan Ellis went through his report and the summary Financial Statements. Copies of both were circulated. (Lord Dannatt thanked Jonathan Ellis for his work)

7. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016. Proposed by George Lynne and seconded by Bill Cubbitt

8. Re-election of Directors/Trustees. It was proposed by Caroline Egerton and seconded by Fiona Fraser and unanimously agreed that Mrs Sara Foster, Sarah, Countess of Leicester and Mrs Henrietta Lindsell be re-elected as Trustees.

9. Re-election to the Advisory Council. It was proposed by Holly Rawkins and seconded by Peter de Bunsen that John Birkbeck, Mrs Diana Don and Charles Inglis be re-elected to the Advisory Council.

10. Election to the Advisory Council. It was proposed by Peter Jarrold and seconded by Elizabeth Hoare that Col Tom Fitzalan Howard, Dr John Maddison, Mrs Alison Wakes-Miller and Michael Wingate be elected to the Advisory Council

11. To propose the re-appointment of Lovewell Blake as Auditors. Proposed by Maurice de Bunsen and seconded by Graeme Johnston. Lord Dannatt recommended that since Lovewell Blake have been auditors for a number of years, it would be good practice to identify a new firm to undertake the audit.

12. Any other business. There were no items raised and Lord Dannatt thanked everyone for attending. The meeting ended at 5:55pm

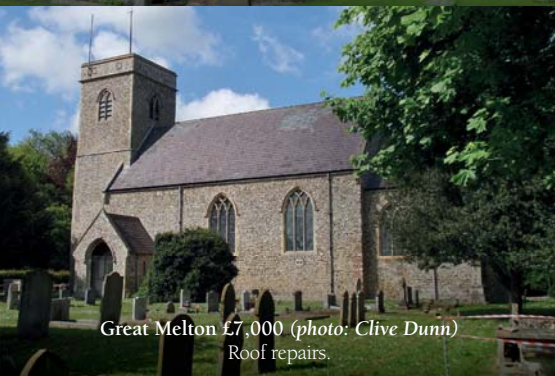
The AGM was followed by a talk about the restoration of St Mary's church by Graham Prior



Plumstead, St Michael £7,000 (photo: Denis Tuttle).
Roof repairs, new rainwater goods and drainage



Oulton, St Peter & St Paul £5,000 Tower repairs



Great Melton £7,000 (photo: Clive Dunn)
Roof repairs.



Brunstead, St Peter £10,000. Thatching



**The NORFOLK
CHURCHES TRUST**

'Supporting Church Buildings'

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