



Annual Report 2017-2018

Chairman's Report

The past year has been a particularly busy one for the Trust. We started with our major fundraising event of the year, a Stately Home Car Boot Sale. This was once again held at Sennowe Park by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Charles Temple-Richards and Mr Tom Cook. Our last such event took place there 3 years ago and raised over £52,000 with 4,500 members of the general public attending. Our aim was to surpass this. In the end it exceeded our wildest expectations. We were blessed with good weather and as a result with nearly 200 pitch holders, over 6,000 members of the general public attending and a Silent Auction of 30 lots put together so expertly by Patrick Lines which proved incredibly successful we ended up raising, after deducting expenses, £88,500. It was an exceptionally hectic day for the army of amazing volunteers who all worked so hard to make it the success it was, and to whom the Trust is so indebted; but one that will not be forgotten by all involved for all the right reasons. I would particularly like to thank the amazing organising committee, led by Clare Agnew and Henrietta Lindsell, for all their extraordinary efforts without which such a fantastic result would not have been possible.

On top of this once again through the

extraordinary hard work of Sarah Leicester, two superb operas were held at Holkham which raised an astonishing £24,000. We continued the annual programme of lectures superbly organised by Fiona Fraser, which this year included ones by Viscount Norwich and Earl Spencer. Richard Foster also gave a special exhibition and lecture on some of his works. I would further like to particularly mention David Brough who bicycled from Lands End to John O'Groats for the Trust and Gunthorpe Church raising a fantastic £7,881.40. Overall our events, including the Bike Ride, over the past year raised an amazing £228,019 in total. This included £46,410 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, and all those who support us in so many ways.

Our annual Bicycle Ride was held in September as usual. The overall figure was very slightly down on that raised in 2016; being just under £100,000 in total from which 300 churches and chapels across

the County will directly benefit. This is a fantastic result and it was heartening to see amongst the total of 528 taking part (making 2,683 recorded visits in total) were a number of new participants to the event. Some amazing individual stories were reported from the day. The most money raised by an individual was £3,730 with the top 3 fundraisers between them raising over £8,500; so there was stiff competition for The Prince of Wales's Certificate. The most raised by a particular church was All Saints, Hempstead-by-Holt at £2,538.30; the church visited by most people was St. George, Colegate Norwich with 77 visitors, the most number of churches visited by someone walking was 50, by someone on a bike was an extraordinary: 87 and by car was 34. Through modern media we have been able to share this with information everyone as the stories came in. We are also sending out a newsletter to over 700 individuals who have registered with us as being interested in the Bike Ride. 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, get out your walking shoes, or use any other mode of transport, and support both the Trust and your church at this year's event on 15th September.

We further greatly appreciate the continuing support of the following Trusts: The Privy Purse Charitable Trust, The Prince's Charities Foundation, The Lady Hind Trust, The Charles Littlewood Hill Trust, The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, The Monument Trust, The John Jarrold Trust, The R C Snelling Charitable Trust, and The Bedhampton Charitable Trust together with all those other trusts and individuals who so kindly assist us financially. The Trust also been the beneficiary of some extremely generous legacies over the past year which have totalled just over £116,000, and I would like to express our deep gratitude to all those who have remembered us and the work that we do in their wills.

During the past reporting year the Trust awarded 44 new grants totalling £191,614 and paid grants previously offered to 38 churches amounting to £138,340, with the total of grants offered but not yet disbursed coming to £307,008. These grants are detailed in note 9 and a brief description of repairs carried out can be found later in the report. Work has also continued on our leased churches, in particular the development stage of major urgent repairs to Snetterton All Saints largely funded by the HLF, for which we are most grateful.



Chairman's Report *continued*

We have also completed tower repairs at Barmer. A total of £130,008 was expended on our leased churches in the past year of which £29,450 was as a result of HLF grants. They all continue under constant review through a subcommittee who have carried out some excellent work once again this year.

The Trust's investments had a steady year overall reflecting the overall state of the Stock Markets, but of note were boosted by some significant legacies for which we are most grateful. At the year end the Trust's net assets had fallen slightly from £1,820,683 to £1,784,701 due to a dip in the Stock Market at that time, but have since recovered; whilst the income yield has increase to a good 3.30%.

I reported last year on the most dreadful spate of Lead Thefts from roofs of Norfolk Churches. We are continuing to work with other interested bodies, to fight this threat through installing alarms on Churches which have been identified as being at risk and provided £50,000 above our other grant awards mentioned above to assist in funding this work. With it is being administered by the Diocese of Norwich as the lead organisation, of the original 50 churches identified 43 alarms have been installed, 3 are awaiting instructions and 4 have declined. With sufficient funds being available a second phase is now in the process of being worked up. It would appear that this initiative is having some success as the reports of lead thefts has

reduced considerably of late; and long may this continue. However the potential implications of the theft of the lead, both the cost of replacement and potential damage to the structure and irreplaceable artefacts, is considerable; and we keep this matter under constant review as we know what a particular worry this is for many churches who have limited funds.

I am sorry to report that Henrietta Lindsell has resigned as a Trustee, She has been the mainstay of many of our fundraising events, not least several Stately Home Car Boot Sales and as a result been directly involved in raising many thousands of pounds for the Trust, as well as providing wise counsel. We are going to miss her and I would like to thank her for all her hard work, I am pleased to report that Amelia Courtauld and Patrick Lines have agreed become Trustees, and have much pleasure in welcoming them both. Bolton Agnew, Margaret Alston, Michael Begley, Elizabeth Hoare, Peter Jarrold and Tony Powell have all resigned from the Advisory Council. I would like to thank each and every one of them for all their invaluable advice and support, as well as the time they have given to assisting the Trust in various ways. I am delighted to welcome Christopher Hartop, Rosabelle Batt, Scilla Landale and Peter Sheppard to the Advisory Council and look forward to working with them.

Membership continues to remain strong with 1,337 members of all types. We continue to have an excellent social media

following on both Twitter and Facebook. If you are a user of Social Media I would encourage you to join.

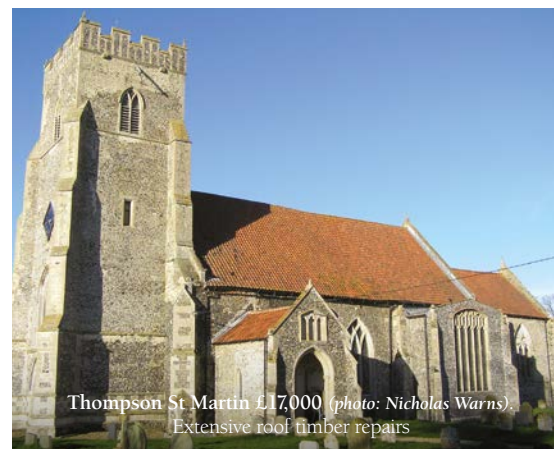
I hope our annual review illustrates how the invaluable help and involvement we receive from so many people and organisations, in very different ways, enables us to continue to fulfil our obligations of assisting with the maintenance of the structure and artefacts of the Churches of this County

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, 21 June 2018

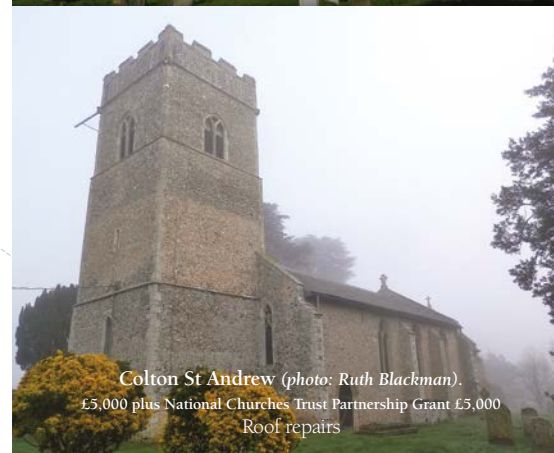
JARROLD
The John Jarrold Trust



Thompson St Martin £17,000 (photo: Nicholas Warns).
Extensive roof timber repairs



Honington St Peter & St Paul. £8,000.
Roof repairs



Colton St Andrew (photo: Ruth Blackman).
£5,000 plus National Churches Trust Partnership Grant £5,000
Roof repairs



Starston St Margaret £10,000
Roof repairs

Financial Summary

Norfolk Churches Trust

Year ended 31 March 2018

Summary Statement of Financial Activities

| | 2017-18 £ | 2016-17 £ |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income from: | | |
| Donations and legacies | | |
| Donations | 47,907 | 41,895 |
| Local authority grants | | 8,000 |
| Legacies | 166,113 | 59,822 |
| Subscriptions | 35,366 | 37,487 |
| Heritage Lottery Fund grants | 13,360 | 115,800 |
| Leased churches | 1,373 | 1,512 |
| Other trading activities | | |
| Sponsored bicycle ride | 96,397 | 101,334 |
| Trust events | 131,622 | 96,242 |
| Sale of goods | 2,507 | 2,297 |
| Investment income | 48,293 | 45,3884 |
| Total income | 542,938 | 509,777 |

Expenditure on:

Raising funds

| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Costs of generating voluntary income | (13,220) | (12,196) |
| Fundraising costs incl. parish share of ride) | (75,953) | (72,904) |
| Charitable activities | | |
| Grants offered | (241,614) | (122,050) |
| Expenditure on leased and other churches | (130,008) | (149,398) |
| Support costs | (41,652) | (38,645) |
| Governance costs | (9,177) | (10,635) |

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Total expenditure | (511,624) | (405,828) |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Net income for the year | 31,314 | 103,949 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| Net (losses) gains on investment assets | (67,296) | 199,674 |
|--|-----------------|----------------|

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Net movement in funds | (35,982) | 303,623 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fund balances brought forward | 1,820,683 | 1,517,060 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|

| | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Fund balances carried forward at the end of the year | 1,784,701 | 1,820,683 |
|---|------------------|------------------|

Summary Balance Sheet

| | 31 March 2018 £ | 31 March 2017 £ |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed asset investments | 1,337,900 | 1,353,263 |
| Net current assets | 446,801 | 467,420 |
| Net assets | 1,784,701 | 1,820,683 |
| The funds of the charity: | | |
| Restricted | — | — |
| Unrestricted | 1,784,701 | 1,820,683 |
| Total funds | 1,784,701 | 1,820,683 |

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 21 June 2018 and will be submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.

Jonathan Ellis, Honorary Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT OF THE NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST

I have examined the summarised financial statements of The Norfolk Churches Trust in order to report to you my opinion on the consistency of those summarised financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements of The Norfolk Churches Trust for the year ended 31 March 2018.

GILES KIRKHAM FCA DChA LARKING GOWEN LLP
King Street House, 15 Upper King Street, Norwich NR3 1RB
21 June 2018

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.

Grants 2017-18

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 | - |
| Ashby, St Mary | 635 | 635 | - |
| Ashwellthorpe, All Saints | 10,000 | - | 10,000 |
| Barningham, St Mary the Virgin | - | 10,000 | - |
| Barton Turf, St Michael | - | 1,000 | - |
| Beeston, St Lawrence | (1,000) | 2,000 | - |
| Beighton, All Saints | 1,443 | 1,443 | - |
| Boughton, All Saints | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| Bracon Ash, St Nicholas | - | - | 10,000 |
| Bressingham, St John the Baptist | - | 3,000 | - |
| Brettenham, St. Andrew | - | 3,500 | - |
| Brisley, St Bartholomew | - | - | 362 |
| Brunstead, St Peter | - | 10,000 | - |
| Bunwell, St Michael | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Burgh, St Margaret | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
| Burnham Deepdale, St Mary | - | - | 4,000 |
| Burnham Thorpe, All Saints | - | 500 | - |
| Burston, St Mary | (482) | - | - |
| Carleton Forehoe, St Mary | - | - | 5,000 |
| Carlton Rode, All Saints | 4,000 | - | 4,000 |
| Carlton Rode, Baptist Church | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Castle Acre, St James | - | 5,000 | - |
| Caston, Holy Cross | - | - | 2,000 |
| Catfield, All Saints | (4,000) | - | - |
| Clippesby, St. Peter | - | - | 1,200 |
| Colton, St. Andrew | - | - | 5,000 |
| Congham, St. Andrew | - | - | 3,000 |
| Cranworth, St Mary | 2,000 | 2,000 | - |
| Crostwight, All Saints | - | - | 3,000 |
| Deopham, St. Andrew | - | - | 1,000 |
| East Walton, St. Mary | 4,000 | - | 4,600 |
| Edgefield Old Church | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Erpingham, St Mary | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| Felbrigg, St Margaret | - | - | 3,000 |
| Felthorpe, St Margaret | 1,000 | - | 1,000 |
| Fersfield, St Andrew | 4,000 | - | 4,000 |
| Field Dalling, St Andrew | 5,000 | - | 9,202 |
| Filby, All Saints | - | 2,000 | - |
| Fritcham, St Mary the Virgin | - | 4,000 | - |
| Forncett, St Mary | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Gimingham, All Saints | - | 1,500 | - |
| Gissing, St. Mary | - | 5,000 | - |
| Great Ryburgh, St. Andrew | - | 5,000 | - |
| Great Yarmouth, St Peter & St Spiridon | - | - | 2,000 |
| Haddiscoe, St Mary | - | 1,000 | - |
| Hempnall, St Margaret | - | 2,000 | - |
| Hethel, All Saints | - | 1,500 | - |
| Hevingham, St Mary & St Botolph | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Honing, St Peter & St Paul | 3,000 | 5,000 | 3,000 |
| Houghton next Harpley | - | - | 5,000 |
| Carried forward | 55,596 | 75,078 | 103,364 |

| Brought forward | 55,596 | 75,078 | 103,364 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Kings Lynn, St Margaret | - | - | 5,000 |
| Langham, St Andrew & St Mary | 7,253 | - | 7,253 |
| Lessingham, All Saints | 4,000 | - | 4,000 |
| Little Massingham, St Andrew | - | 5,000 | - |
| Little Walsingham, St Seraphim | - | 4,000 | - |
| Marlingford, Assumption of the BVM | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Marsham, All Saints | - | 2,000 | - |
| Merton, St Peter | - | - | 1,300 |
| Middleton, St. Mary | - | - | 8,000 |
| Mundham, St Peter | - | - | 1,000 |
| Mutford, St Andrew | 1,100 | - | 1,100 |
| Narford, St Mary | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Newton-by-Castleacre, St. Mary | - | - | 1,500 |
| Northrepps, St Mary the Virgin | 4,000 | - | 4,000 |
| North Walsham, Evangelical | - | 1,000 | - |
| Norwich Heartease, St Francis | 1,897 | - | 1,897 |
| Oxborough, St John | 10,000 | 3,110 | 6,890 |
| Pentney, St Mary Magdalene | 6,000 | - | 6,000 |
| Plumstead, St Michael | - | 7,000 | - |
| Runhall, All Saints | - | - | 188 |
| Scoulton, Holy Trinity | - | 3,000 | - |
| Sisland, St Mary | 2,000 | 2,000 | - |
| South Lopham, St Andrew | - | 1,000 | - |
| South Raynham, St Martin | 10,000 | - | 10,000 |
| Starston, St Margaret | 10,000 | - | 10,000 |
| Strumpshaw, St Peter | 3,000 | - | 3,000 |
| Sustead, St Peter & St Paul | - | - | 10,000 |
| Swannington, St Margaret | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Tasburgh, St Mary | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Thompson, St Martin | 17,000 | - | 17,000 |
| Thrigby, St Mary | - | 5,152 | 348 |
| Thurning, St Andrew | 7,000 | - | 7,000 |
| Thurton, St Ethelbert | - | - | 1,000 |
| Topcroft, St. Margaret | - | - | 400 |
| Tunstead, St Mary | - | - | 5,000 |
| Twyford, St Nicholas | 8,000 | - | 8,000 |
| Walcott, All Saints | - | - | 500 |
| Waterden, All Saints | 10,000 | - | 10,000 |
| Weasenham, All Saints | - | 10,000 | - |
| Weasenham, St Peter | - | 7,000 | - |
| Welborne, All Saints | - | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Wells next the Sea, St Nicholas | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Westfield, St Andrew | (10,000) | - | - |
| West Lexham, St Nicholas | 7,000 | - | 7,000 |
| West Walton, St Andrew | - | 3,000 | - |
| Whinburgh, St Mary | - | - | 7,000 |
| Wickhampton, St. Andrew | (3,000) | - | - |
| Wickmere, St Andrew | - | - | 3,500 |
| Wiggenhall, St Peter | (2,000) | - | - |
| Wood Norton, St Nicholas | - | - | 2,000 |
| Wood Rising, St Nicholas | (1,000) | - | - |
| 3 others subject to other grant applications | 24,768 | - | 24,768 |
| General Fund total | 191,614 | 138,340 | 307,008 |

Some grants have been outstanding for more than 5 years. Where there appears little likelihood of the related repairs proceeding in the short term, the grant has been withdrawn and is shown in brackets. In addition a further £50,000 was given towards the Roof Alarm Initiative (2017 - £nil).

Funding Matters



Field Dalling, St Andrew.

The grants awarded over the last twelve months demonstrate the continuing importance of the support the Trust has given to churches in Norfolk of all denominations since it was founded in 1976. Calls for help about every aspect of funding and managing repair projects come thick and fast. Mondays are always the busiest day: no doubt due to resolutions made over the weekend to do something about a leaking roof, overflowing gutter or cracks in the church walls which can no longer be ignored. Mercifully, there were far fewer calls to report lead thefts this year but we have had more requests for enhancements to grants to cover shortfalls when repairs have turned out to be more expensive than anticipated, or deadlines imposed by public funders have forced work to be completed within weeks rather than months. The enabling grants for small emergency repairs to prevent further deterioration or for investigative reports

required by major grant providers have helped several parishes when their funds are impossibly slender.

Thanks to generous bequests, we have been able to increase the level of grants awarded to a total of £191,614 compared with £122,050 in 2016/17. A further indication of the number of repairs the Trust is actively supporting is confirmed by previously awarded grants totalling £138,340 being paid. Eighteen of these projects were only possible because of major grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Grants for Places of Worship (GPOW) programme. It therefore came as a great shock to learn in April 2017, without any prior warning, that this scheme would close after the final round of applications in August: thus ending forty years of protected public funding for repairs to churches and other places of worship. All church repair applications now have to compete with the full

range of secular projects in HLF general grant programmes. The feelings of many Churchwardens in small rural parishes faced with the prospect of applying for an HLF grant under the new regime are well summed up by the following quote from an email I received from a churchwarden last week:

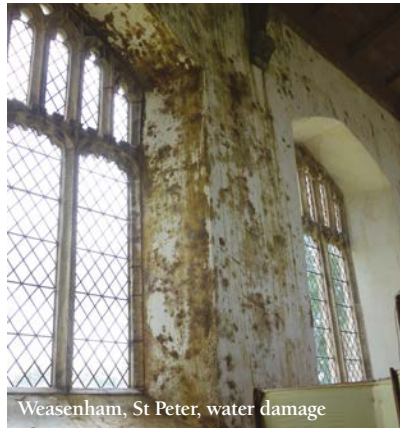
As we are a very small parish, 18 houses, it is an uphill struggle to keep our heads above water, both financially and intellectually. When the three of us took over the roles of Churchwarden, Secretary and Treasurer it was with the sole intention of keeping the doors of our beautiful little church open. Then the Quinquennial inspection happened and with it came the enormous responsibility to raise funds and repair the church. Our first reaction was "we didn't sign up for this".

The majority of repairs funded by the Trust have as ever concentrated on roof and high level repairs including replacing rainwater goods and drainage. Serious structural failure of the roof timbers at St Martin's, Thompson required comprehensive internal scaffolding to prevent imminent collapse: an initial grant of £7,000 was followed by a second of £10,000 when the full extent of the repairs was revealed during the development stage of the HLF project.

Other major grants were awarded to All Saints, Ashwellthorpe (£10,000) for extensive high level repairs including replacing stolen lead; St John's, Oxborough (£10,000) for roof repairs due to the theft of the Bedingfield Chapel lead roof which has caused consequential damage to the interior and the terracotta Bedingfield tombs. Grants were awarded to St Martin's, South Raynham (£10,000), St Margaret's,

Starston (£10,000), All Saints, Waterden (£10,000) and St Nicholas, West Lexham (£7,000) following successful applications for HLF GPOW grants for major structural repairs. Each project has its own story to tell – the journey to success with HLF grants frequently involves rejection at the first attempt and the need for all concerned to turn round and start again. Even when the offer is made, the full repair grant is dependent on making a successful second stage application after the development stage, which as the project team at All Saints, Beighton discovered, is not a formality. The 'disappointment' at Beighton meant they had to start the whole two-year process again from the beginning despite the fact that the thatched roof now had holes allowing rain to fall directly onto the nave floor. The Trust stepped in and awarded an enabling grant to pay for the full cost of patching the roof to prevent further deterioration over the time it would take for the new application to reach the stage of starting the repairs. Beighton has been encouraged to apply for a further grant from the Trust to help with any shortfall in funding (*Front cover*). Ashby St Mary and St Andrew's Mutford both received small enabling grants to pay for reports to support HLF grant applications. Another way the Trust has supported churches applying to other grant providers has been by offering grants towards establishing sufficient match-funding for an application to be considered. The requirement to have raised as much as 50% of funds needed for a repair before applying for a grant can be a real obstacle to success for parishes starting from a very low financial base.

Major grants previously awarded and paid during the year include the grants of £10,000 to All Saints, Welbourne (Tower repairs) and St Mary's Barningham Winter (extensive fabric repairs), and a grant of £5,000 to St Ethelbert, Alby (roof repairs). All of these had been awarded substantial



Weasenham, St Peter, water damage

HLF GPOW grants. The £7,000 grant paid to St Peter's, Weasenham this year towards the cost of lead roof replacement following two lead thefts in 2015/16 has at least helped to prevent further water ingress but the consequential damage to the interior will require another fund-raising effort to carry out widespread repairs.

As well as HLF grants, the Trust has worked with churches in receipt of grants from other funders. St Andrew's, Field Dalling was awarded a DCMS Roof Repair Fund (RRF) grant in 2016 for chancel roof repairs. Whilst this project was being developed, lead thieves made their plight worse by stealing the lead from the north aisle roof. Delays ensued. In late 2017, they were given an ultimatum that the RRF funds



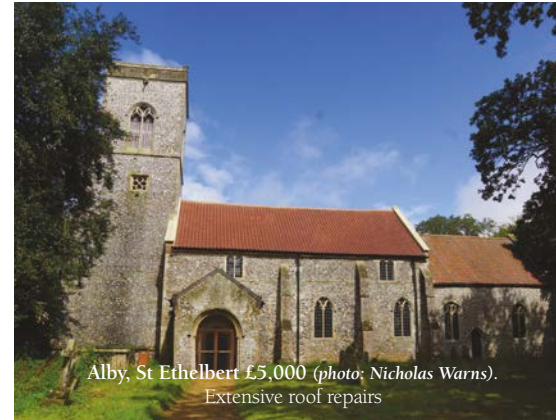
would be withdrawn if the chancel repairs were not completed by late June 2018. Grants totalling £9,200 towards the cost of the lead roof replacement have done much to ease the financial pressure on the PCC and at the time of writing, the work is set to be completed in time. St Andrews, Colton received a RRF grant in 2016, however they were still short of the total required and this was made worse when further investigations revealed that the extent of the repairs was greater than anticipated. The Trust awarded a £5,000 grant and put the project forward for a National Churches Trust Partnership grant of £5,000 which provided further much needed funds to complete all the roof repairs in one phase.

The Trust has supported the newly formed Diocesan Churches Trust (DCT) by paying the grant of £10,000 for repairs to All Saints, Weasenham, which had been offered to the PCC before the church was accepted into the DCT. The Trust's grants are not limited to medieval, or indeed even listed churches. This year the Trust awarded a grant towards urgent underpinning at the 1950's church of St Francis Heartease, Norwich: a busy city church which is a community hub for the area.

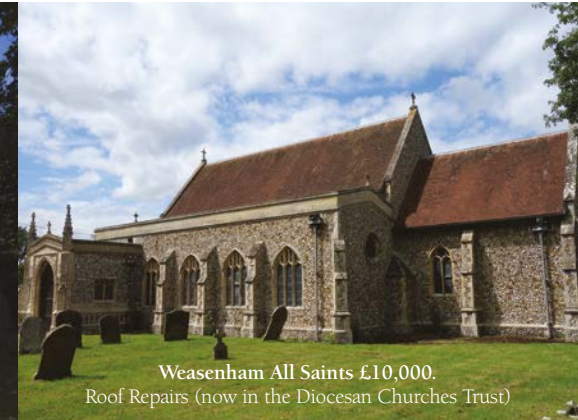
This report should be read in conjunction with the table of grants offered, paid and still outstanding on the previous pages. The length of the list is a testament to the enduring hard work of the hundreds of volunteers who take on the management of these complex projects. These are the heroes of this report who in the words of the churchwarden quoted earlier "didn't sign up for this".

Making the difference:

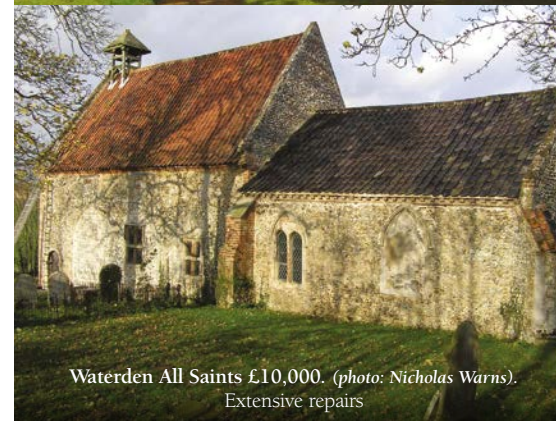
Churches that have received grants from the Trust in the past year are illustrated throughout the Report. Space only permits the larger grants to be shown but more information is provided on the Grants page of the Trust website. www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk



Alby, St Ethelbert £5,000 (photo: Nicholas Warns).
Extensive roof repairs



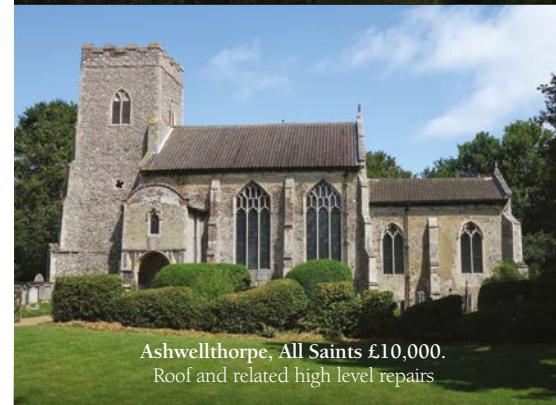
Weasenham All Saints £10,000.
Roof Repairs (now in the Diocesan Churches Trust)



Waterden All Saints £10,000. (photo: Nicholas Warns).
Extensive repairs



Herringfleet Saint Margaret £8,000
Roof repairs

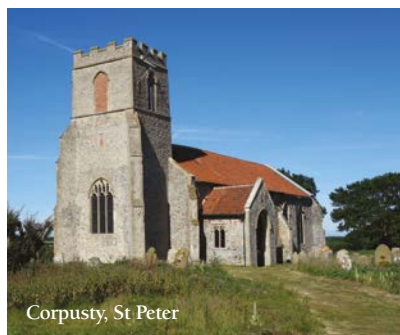


Ashwellthorpe, All Saints £10,000.
Roof and related high level repairs



Gissing, St Mary £5,000.
Chancel repairs and drainage work

Leased Churches



The Trust is responsible for the maintenance and repair of this group of thirteen redundant churches which are leased to Trust by the Diocese of Norwich and the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia. The majority were taken on in the late 1970's and early '80s when redundant churches were frequently demolished if no use could be found for them: they were described by the Church of England at this time as "excess plant". Others were taken over later as individual cases when their future became uncertain. St Peter's Corpusty, which had been cared for by the Friends of Friendless Churches since 1982, was taken on by the Norfolk Churches Trust in 2009. It is especially appropriate for the Trust to care for St Peter's since its desperate state due to constant vandalism in the 1970s was the catalyst for Billa Harrod's crusade to save all of Norfolk's churches for future generations. Fortunately we have moved on from those times but with the withdrawal of all public funding for church repairs for the first time since the Trust was founded in 1976, the future of funding major repairs in our Leased Churches looks

uncertain. Whilst several of the churches are in the centre of their community, for those which stand in remote rural locations with no immediate community it will be hard to make the strong community activity plan that now more than ever determines the success or failure of any HLF grant application. Occasional services are held in the churches throughout the year and they are open to welcome visitors from far and wide. At some, the local community arranges exhibitions, festivals and concerts to raise funds for their upkeep. The number of weddings and baptisms that are held in them every year demonstrates the continuing affection that many families have for these churches. They may be redundant but they are not unloved.



Repairs

Every year we have a programme of repairs to carry out across the portfolio of leased churches. Many identified in the annual inspections are fairly small but essential repairs to keep the buildings in good condition, however there are always major repairs to be tackled. This year the tower roof replacement and associated high

level repairs at All Saints, Barmer were completed: this was largely funded by a recent generous bequest.

When routine maintenance reveals serious problems, keeping within the annual budget involves some hard decisions and other repairs inevitably get delayed. This year even the weather has been against us. This was the case at the late 19th century Roman Catholic chapel of Our Lady of Consolation and St Stephen at Lynford where as a result of the freezing temperatures in early March, some sections of the parapet became unstable leading to falls of stonework. Scaffolding has been erected to hold the parapet in place and protect visitors and worshippers until funds can be raised to carry out this urgent work.

Saving All Saints Snetterton

The development stage of the HLF funded repairs to All Saints Snetterton continued through much of 2017 and it was with considerable relief that we heard that our application for the second stage of funding had been successful in early 2018. We are very grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for this grant, without which the work would not be possible. The repairs will begin in early summer 2018, starting with the tower which has no bats in residence to hold up the work and then the repairs to the chancel arch and nave will follow in the autumn. As part of this project a full community activity plan has been developed. This includes a church guidebook, research into the local history of Snetterton which



will result in a booklet and interpretation boards in the church. A new sign will be designed for the churchyard. We plan to work with the World Horse Welfare Charity and the Dogs Trust at Snetterton to hold events in the church and encourage more of their visitors to come to the church. During the repair project there will be 'hard hat' days when everyone will be welcome to come and learn more about the skills involved in repairing medieval churches and we plan to hold a 'Bats in Churches' evening in the church in the summer of 2019 when the repairs are complete. Keep an eye out for publicity about these events on the Trust website. If you would like to get involved with any aspect of the Snetterton repair project please get in touch.

We are always keen to encourage more people to take part in our work caring for this special collection of churches across the county. This is a wonderful way to get firsthand experience in all aspects of looking after a church and its churchyard and meeting other likeminded people in the process: training will be given if you are uncertain how to do what you want to do. If you would like to become part of the team of people who support us by helping in many different ways in looking after these churches, or researching or developing new ways of displaying information about them to improve the welcome we give to visitors, please do get in touch by emailing me on secretary@norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk

Bike Ride

Once again the people of Norfolk cycled, walked, drove and even rode horses to raise an amazing £97,687 for the Norfolk Churches Trust and the church or chapel of their choice. This figure was on a par with 2016 (£100,067), which is particularly encouraging for the Trust as it is such an important fundraising event. For that I give sincere thanks to all those who took part in so many ways, from the parish co-ordinators who encourage people to take part and arrange for the churches to be open, to area co-ordinators who distribute the paperwork and all those that help on the day checking people in and handing out refreshments.

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 528 participants last year making 2,683 visits to churches and chapels. The number of visits reported was up by 22%.
- 207 new participants joined the ranks of those taking part which was great news.
- The top fundraiser and winner of the **Prince of Wales Certificate** raised £3,730.
- Five fundraisers raised over £11,300 between them.
- Three 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 again.

- Burnham Thorpe, All Saints, was top church, beating Hempstead, All Saints, into second place by raising an impressive figure of £4170.
- The number of churches recording visits by car increased from 215 to 253.
- 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: Hannah Limbach visited 87 churches by Bike and she will be top of the Wall of Fame on the website this year; and Paul Nichols again was sponsored by every individual in his village, filling 17 sponsorship sheets!

The Bike Ride committee tried very hard to publicise the event with road signs, media, and contacting companies and organisations. We are also making 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 the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can on the **8th September 2018**.

Don't forget that **Brown and Co.** are kindly sponsoring the event and we really want as many people as possible to send in photographs of the day. The three the judges like best will receive £50 and the chance to get your picture published in the EDP. Please see the website for more details.



2017 Photographic Competition winners

Top right:
Abigael Pooley
People Taking Part

Bottom right:
David Nice
Favourite Church

Right:
Charles Inglis
Architectural Feature

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. Check our website for details.

BROWN & CO





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.

On Sunday 30th April we had an incredibly successful Stately Car Boot Sale at Sennowe. It was dry and mostly sunny as over 5,000 visitors came to look round 175 stalls. Everything from plates to kennels, from curtains to old police helmets, from tricycles to a vintage Fiat car were sold.

Philip Mould, from Fake & Fortune, opened the great day at 10.00am and the hordes poured in. As well as browsing, shopping and socialising people were bidding in the Silent Auction and stocking up from the wonderful variety of caterers. Favourites included the duck wraps from The Duck and Feather, fish finger sandwiches and delicious cake from a Sennowe Park resident. The magnificent Silent Auction raised £37,446.00. Lots included a drawing by Antony Gormley UNDER MY SKIN II, 2012, donated by the artist and the 3ft "Garden Tool Gate"

designed by Chelsea gold medalist garden designer George Carter. Up on the terrace, those in the VIP tent were enjoying being surrounded by jewellery from Humphrey Butler, furniture from Birdie Fortescue, garden things from George Carter and drinking wine kindly supplied by Adnams. For the first time, this year we had an Art Competition for pupils in Norfolk Primary schools to draw or paint parts of their village



churches, we had over 350 entries with some really wonderful artwork. Bishop Graham very kindly helped in choosing the final winners and also came to view the pictures which were up in the Norfolk Churches Trust tent on the day.

With all these people, supported by generous sponsors and hosted by Charlie and Ginny Temple Richards, some kind donations and the proceeds from the Silent Auction and the raffle we cleared around £85,000. Not just the best ever, but by quite a long way! Huge thanks to all who came and all who helped both before and on the day to make it such a success. £85,000 will help a lot of churches



In July Richard Foster RP held an exhibition of the preparatory works of his three paintings which are hanging in St Andrews Church, East Lexham. The latest of which a Reredos, having recently been completed. On a beautiful Saturday evening, Richard kindly gave us a fascinating talk in aid of the NCT about his approach to his religious work and his use of contemporary portraits in their biblical scenes. Thank you to Sara Foster for organising this.

Each year Fiona Fraser organises not one but many fantastic fundraising talks for



us. The first of these events took place at Burnham Westgate Hall this year was a recital by the renowned Russian pianist, Nellie Akopian-Tamarina, by kind permission of Baroness Rawlings. At the beginning of September a full South Creak Village Hall welcomed Charles Spencer to talk on the gripping story of 'To Catch a King'. A spirited Q&A session followed, in which some of the descendants of those involved contributed to a lively and informative session.

Two weeks later at Burnham Westgate Hall, John Julius Norwich played the piano, to welcome another capacity audience, to hear him talk with his usual charm, backed by scholarship, on his latest book about Henry VIII, Francois I and Suleiman.

Again Sarah Leicester organised the opera in the Marble Hall at Holkham in late July, the audience were treated to La Boheme and the following evening to La Cenerentola with picnics sitting out on the terrace overlooking the lake and grounds. With many thanks to Sarah for organising it (and her kind sponsors for funding it) and Lord and Lady Leicester for providing the venue.

Leased Churches cared for by the Norfolk Churches Trust

Bagthorpe, St Mary: PE31 6QY.

Local contact: Mr & Mrs Morton
01485 578528

Barmer, All Saints: PE31 8SP In middle of field off B1454

Keyholder: Mrs Mason · 01485 578220

Cockthorpe, All Saints: NR23 1QS

Keyholder: Mr & Mrs Case · 01328 830202

Corpusty, St Peter: NR11 6QE off Norwich Road. Open on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the year or by contacting the keyholder.
Keyholder: Cathy Stern · 01623 587014

Dunton, St Peter: NR21 7PG

Local contact: Rev Robin Stapleford
01328 853226

Hargham, All Saints: NR16 2JW

Keyholder: Mr & Mrs Amos · 01953 455553

Illington, St Andrew: IP24 1RS Illington Road.

Reached via a farm drive and grassy track.
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.
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 please contact Keyholder: Lady Prince Smith · 01603 880165

Rackheath, All Saints: NR13 6QT.

Brown heritage sign on Wroxham Road: continue down Swash Lane.

Snetterton, All Saints: NR16 2LR

Currently closed whilst major repairs are carried out.

West Bilney, St Cecilia: PE32 1XQ

Keyholder: Nic Velzeboer · 01760 337382

West Rudham, St Peter: PE31 8TE

Keyholder: Mrs Rouse (Cherry Tree Cottage, Pockthorpe PE31 8TB) · 01485 528376

Whenever possible the churches are kept open during daylight hours. Keyholder details are provided in case a church has had to be locked. Some postcodes are for the nearest house and a few of the churches are down farm drives and grassy tracks so access is not always easy.

It is never too soon to consider leaving a legacy to the Norfolk Churches Trust

By leaving a legacy to the Norfolk Churches Trust in your Will, you will be investing in the long term future of Norfolk's churches and help to ensure the Trust can to satisfy the continuing demand for grants for repairs to these precious buildings.

The Norfolk Churches Trust is a registered charity which means your gift will be exempt of inheritance tax. In the first instance we suggest you speak to a solicitor who can advise on the different types of legacy and the tax advantages of a charitable legacy.

We cannot afford to let down the work of previous generations and every penny you give will go towards grants that will help us protect our churches so they remain at the centre of their communities for future generations to enjoy.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Limited

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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
Mrs Amelia Courtauld
Lady Egerton OBE
Mrs Sara Foster DL
Lady Fraser
Sarah Countess of Leicester
Patrick Lines
Mrs Holly Rawkins DL, JP

Company Secretary
Mrs Scilla Latham

Advisory Council

The Trustees receive advice from the Advisory Council which comprises the Trustees and the following members:

Richard Barham
Mrs Rosabelle Batt
John Birkbeck
Mrs Bridget Buxton
Maurice de Bunsen
Mrs Diana Don
Col. Tom Fitzalan Howard
Fr Philip Gray (Hon Chaplain)
Christopher Hartop
Canon Jeremy Haselock (Hon Chaplain)
Stephen Heywood
Brian Iles
Charles Inglis (Bike Ride Co-ordinator)
Mrs Karen Knight
Mrs Scilla Landale
Mrs Jane Lane
George Lynne
Dr John Maddison
Matthew Rice
Peter Sheppard
Ashley Spooner
Frederique Baroness van Till
John Vigar
Mrs Alison Wakes-Miller
Rev. Ian Whittle (Hon Chaplain)
Michael Wingate

Privacy Statement

The preservation of your privacy is important to the Norfolk Churches Trust. We treat all the personal data you give us with great care and we are committed to letting you know how we use your personal information and only making responsible use of your data.

The Norfolk Churches Trust (NCT) complies with the General Data Protection Regulation by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure, and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

We use personal data for the administration of NCT membership records, promoting the work of the Trust; administering fundraising events; the administration of grants to churches and the administration of subscriptions, donations and Gift Aid.

The full Privacy Policy Statement is available on our website. www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk

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

42nd Annual General Meeting

at the Parish Church of St Margaret, Fleggburgh
on Wednesday 12th September 2018 at 5:30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks.
3. To confirm the Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting held at the Parish Church of St Peter, Matlaske on Tuesday 12th September 2017.
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 2018.
8. Election of the Board of Directors/Trustees.
9. Election to the Advisory Council.
10. Propose the appointment of Larking Gowen as Independent Examiners.
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 Art of Memory: creating hand-carved memorials" by

Louise Tiplady, a lettercutter from Sporle, whose apprenticeship was funded by the Lettering Arts Trust, and Harriet Frazer, the founder of Memorials by Artists.

Light refreshments will be available after the talk
Evensong will follow at approximately 7:00pm

Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting of The Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd

At St Peter's Church, Matlaske on Tuesday 12th September 2017 at 5:30pm

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

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Lady Egerton, Holly Rawkins (Trustees); Patrick Lines, Richard Barham, Tom Fitzalan Howard, Karen Knight, John Birkbeck, Jane Lane, Frederique van Till & Michael Wingate, (Advisory Councillors) and 15 Friends of the Trust.

2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks. General Lord Dannatt opened the meeting by thanking the vicar and church wardens of St Peter's church for allowing the Trust to hold their AGM in their church at very short notice after the delay in completing repairs at Little Barningham church had led to a late change of venue. He noted that 2016 had marked the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Trust which had been celebrated in the summer with Evensong in the Cathedral followed by a party in the Bishop's garden and in the autumn by a reception at Sandringham hosted by our Patron HRH the Prince of Wales. Charles Inglis organised another extremely successful Bike Ride, which raised over £100,000 to be shared by the sponsored parish churches and the Trust.

3. The Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held at St Mary's Church, Fornsett on 27th September 2016 were confirmed by the meeting as being a correct record and signed by the President of the Trust.

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

5. To receive the Chairman of the Trust's Report: Ian Lonsdale reflected on the Trust's achievements during the past 40 years and the events celebrating the 40th Anniversary. He thanked everyone involved in organising the constant cycle of fundraising events, which this year raised £95,000, and are fundamental to maintaining the level of grants awarded for repairs to churches. This year Grants totalling £122,050 were awarded to 35 churches. Work maintaining the 13 Leased Churches continued apace: the major repairs at Cockthorpe and Corpusty were completed and essential repairs were carried out at Morton on the Hill and Rackheath. The Trust contributed £50,000 towards the Norfolk Roof Alarm scheme to provide free alarms to protect lead roofs at the most vulnerable 50 churches. He thanked retiring Trustees and Advisory Council members for their work over the years, and also Helen Evans who left during the year, for her meticulous work as the Trust's Membership and Financial administrator.

6. To receive the Honorary Treasurer's Report. Jonathan Ellis presented his report and the summary of Financial Statements (circulated to the meeting in advance) and offered to answer any questions. There were no questions and Lord Dannatt thanked Jonathan for his work.

7. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2017. Proposed by Clare Agnew and seconded by Peter de Bunsen.

8. Re-election of Directors/Trustees. It was proposed by Fiona Fraser and seconded by Sara Foster and unanimously agreed that Ian Lonsdale, Clare Agnew and Holly Rawkins be re-elected as Trustees.

9. Re-election to the Advisory Council. It was proposed by Michael Sayer and seconded by Clare Agnew and unanimously agreed that Amelia Courtauld and Patrick Lines be elected as Trustees.

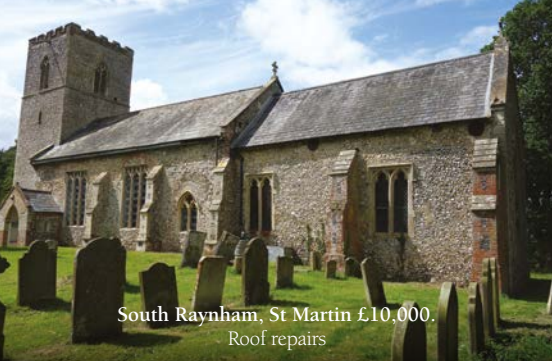
10. Re-election to the Advisory Council: It was proposed by Sara Foster and seconded by Neil Foster and unanimously agreed that Stephen Heywood, Matthew Rice and Frederique van Till be re-elected to the Advisory Council.

11. Election to the Advisory Council: It was proposed by Peter de Bunsen and seconded by Fiona Fraser and unanimously agreed that Rosabelle Batt, Christopher Hartop, Scilla Landale and Peter Sheppard be elected to the Advisory Council.

12. To propose the appointment of auditors: Proposed by Jonathan Ellis and seconded by Graeme Johnston. It was noted that the process of auditing the annual financial report was under review and that once this was completed a new company would be approached to undertake the task.

12. Any other business. There were no items raised and Lord Dannatt thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6pm.

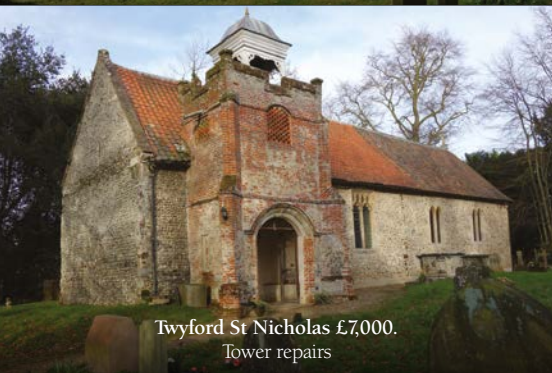
The AGM was followed by a talk on church silver by Jonathan Ellis.



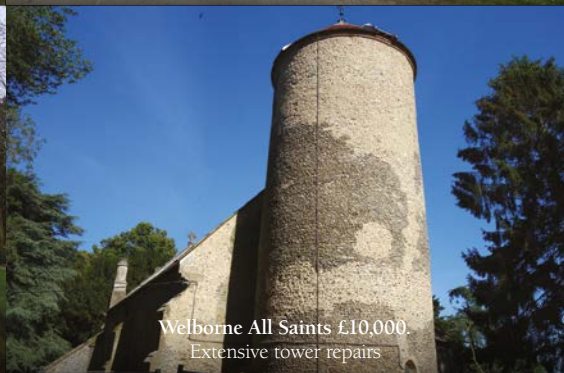
South Raynham, St Martin £10,000.
Roof repairs



Carlton Rode Baptist £5,000.
Timber frame repairs



Twyford St Nicholas £7,000.
Tower repairs



Welborne All Saints £10,000.
Extensive tower repairs



**The NORFOLK
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'Supporting Church Buildings'

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