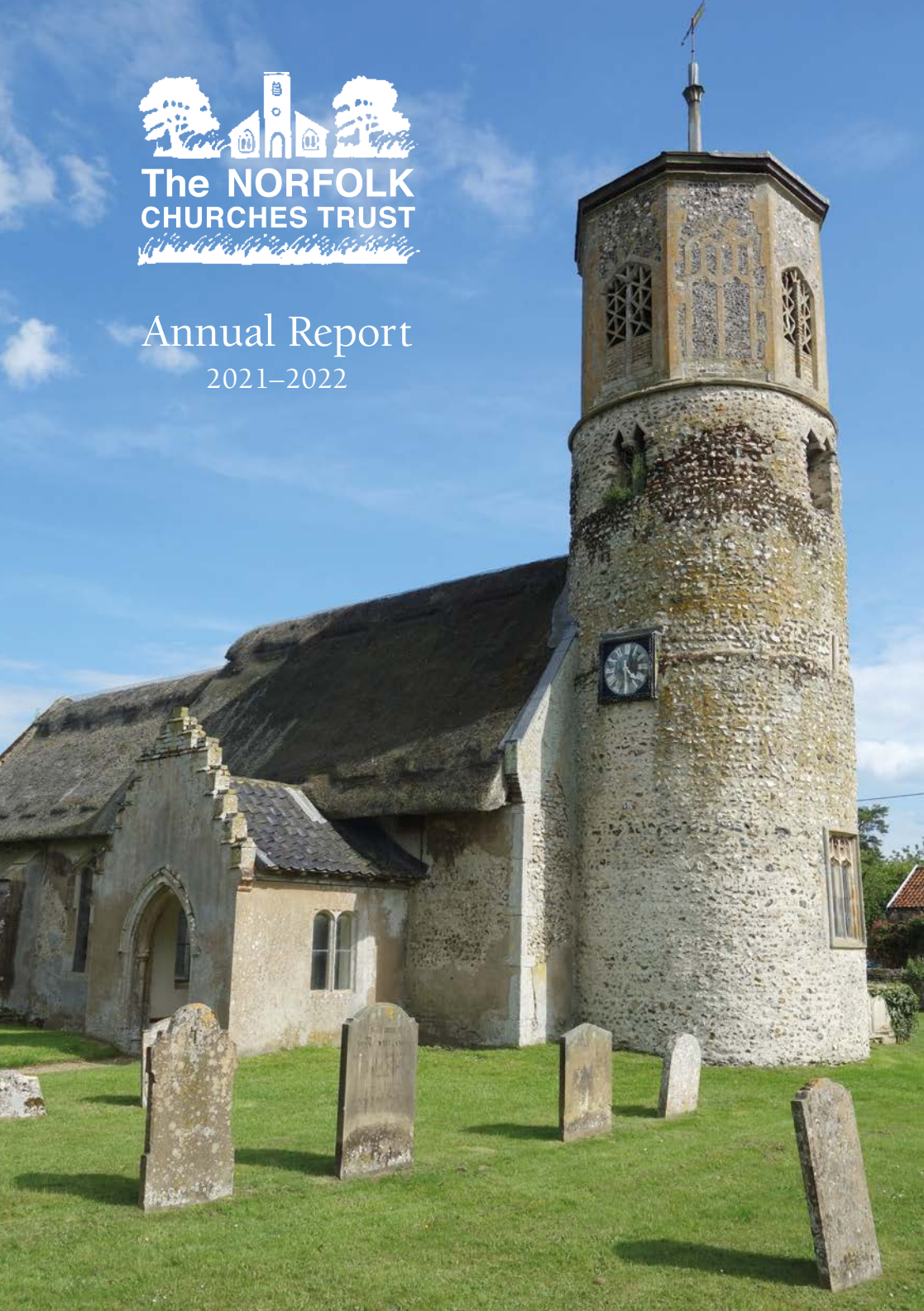




Annual Report

2021–2022



Chairman's Report

This year began when the second Covid-19 lockdown restrictions had three months to run before the lifting of all constraints on 19th July.

During the year, we allocated repair grants to 34 churches totalling £172,457. Grants of £131,495 previously awarded to 31 churches have been paid out. The total of outstanding grants yet to be claimed from previous years is £315,175. The recognition that routine gutter and drain clearance can prevent developing problems and expensive repairs in the long term has led the Trust to experiment with pilot programmes of assistance with maintenance and small, stitch-in-time repairs in two benefices. The effectiveness and potential of this help will be evaluated in the coming year, but our experience has been that relatively modest grants can have a disproportionately large effect on parish morale and encourage other grant givers to contribute.

Good progress has been made on the care of our leased churches. At St Peter's Corpusty essential repair work prepared the church for a new role as a home for part of the Lettering Arts Trust's collection of carved stones; a generous

grant from the Behrens Foundation paid for the installation of the collection. Our Lady of Consolation Lynford (1877–8) has delicate and decaying stonework whose repair has been funded by a very substantial Covid Recovery grant from Historic England.

We have received a number of significant grants from charities and individuals including The Lady Hind and Charles Littlewood Hill Trusts, The R. C. Snelling Charitable Trust, the Samuel Gurney Foundation, the Barratt Family Foundation, the J. A. Floyd Charitable Trust, The Antelope Trust, The Bedhampton Trust and Maurice de Bunsen. We are very grateful for these gifts and for several other individual donations and funeral collections devoted to our work. Annabel Buchan left the Trust a very generous bequest of £100,000.

The main annual financial support for the Trust's work is derived from events which this year raised £124,903. During the annual Bike Ride in September, 706 participants raised £130,360 of which £85,690 came to the Trust after deducting the share belonging to individual churches. Other events included a very enjoyable open gardens day, an open-air

concert at Wolterton as well as Holkham Opera, a guided visit to Ranworth Church and a reading of Eliot's *Four Quartets*. Drone aerial photography of private houses also supported our work as did the sale of over 7,000 Christmas cards which raised £5,480.

The Trust's finances are generally healthy but if we are to sustain our present levels of grants for churches we will need to boost our general fund in the coming years. So, the importance of the fundraising activities described above cannot be overstated. The sustained work done by our committees is at the heart of our effectiveness as a Trust and I would like to thank them and all the members who have assisted them on subcommittees and in other roles for their continuing commitment and professionalism.

Our Patron the Prince of Wales generously offered the Trust a reception at Sandringham which took place on the evening of November 24th 2021. It was a



Sandringham Reception. HRH the Prince of Wales with guests.
Credit: Ian Jones Photography

chance to say thank you to several of the people who have been particularly helpful to the Trust in past years, and it gave his Royal Highness the opportunity to meet craftspeople, volunteers, events organisers, record-breaking bike riders and others who have made notable contributions in different ways.

The membership of the Trust now stands at 1476 of which 1244 are fully paid up.

Communication with our members and the wider world is now much more effective following the launch of our new

Chairman's Report *continued*

website which went live in May and June of 2021. This powerful and attractive digital resource gives a greatly enhanced image of the Trust, enables more effective marketing and booking of events, and has great potential for the future. It runs alongside an active social media campaign which has given the Trust a global following.

Holly Gold resigned from the Board after many years during which she chaired the events committee and subsequently organised several innovative fundraising occasions.

Two Advisory Council Members also stood down at the AGM; Peter de Bunsen, past Chairman, and George Lynne have both served the Trust faithfully and energetically for many years. It is a pleasure to welcome Julian Taylor to the Advisory Council as the Lord Lieutenant's nominee. The role played by our committee members is at the heart of our effectiveness as a Trust and I would like to thank them and the other members who have assisted them for their continuing support and the hard work that it involves.

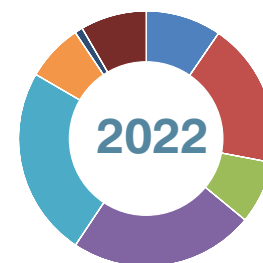


Treasures of Ranworth tour. Detail of the Rood screen at Ranworth church.

The death of Sir Timothy Colman in September 2021 marked the end of an era for Norfolk and for the Trust. In addition to his manifold interests and his leadership role in the county he served as our President and was a long-term supporter of our work.

John Maddison
Chairman, June 2022

Where does the money come from?



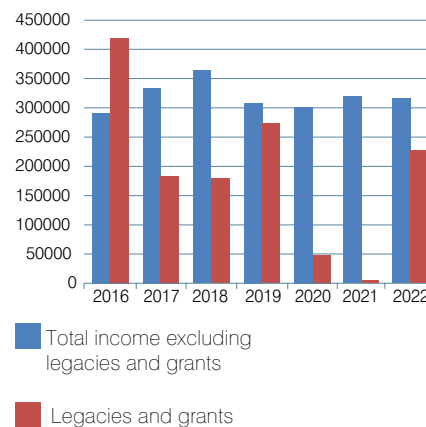
- Donations
- Legacies
- Subscriptions
- Grants
- Sponsored Bike Ride
- Trust events
- Sale of goods
- Investments

Where does the money go to?



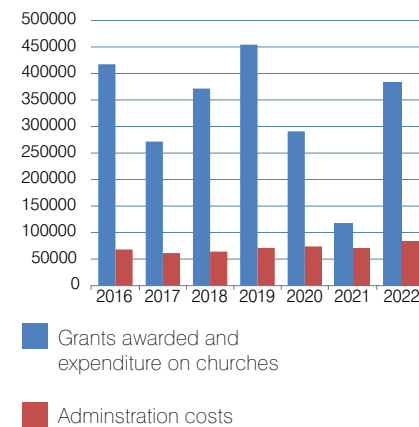
- Costs of generating voluntary income
- Fundraising costs (incl. parish share of Bike Ride)
- Grants offered
- Expenditure on leased and other churches
- Support costs
- Governance costs

Income 2016–2022



- Total income excluding legacies and grants
- Legacies and grants

Expenditure 2016–2022



- Grants awarded and expenditure on churches
- Administration costs

Financial Summary

Norfolk Churches Trust

Year ended 31 March 2022

Summary Statement of Financial Activities

	2020 – 22 £	2019 – 21 £
Income from:		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	50,909	48,554
Legacies	100,000	4,000
Subscriptions	43,233	37,898
Heritage Lottery Fund grants	126,867	-
Leased churches	942	2,157
Other trading activities		
Sponsored Bike Ride	130,360	175,066
Trust events	39,213	11,122
Sale of goods	5,481	4,833
Investment income	45,419	36,871
Total income	542,424	320,501
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds		
Costs of generating voluntary income	15,644	12,268
Funding costs incl. parish share of Bike Ride	102,842	112,201
Charitable activities		
Grants offered	169,595	96,500
Expenditure on leased churches	213,984	21,966
Support costs	58,745	49,253
Governance costs	10,388	8,648
Total expenditure	571,197	300,836
Net (surplus/deficit) for the year	(28,773)	19,665
Net (gains/losses) on investment assets	149,191	200,687
Net movement in funds	120,418	220,352
Fund balances brought forward	1,887,965	1,667,614
Fund balances carried forward at the end of the year	2,008,383	1,887,966

Summary Balance Sheet

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Fixed asset investments	1,681,037	1,533,546
Net current assets	327,346	354,421
Net assets	2,008,383	1,887,967
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted		
Unrestricted	2,008,383	1,887,967
Total funds	2,008,383	1,887,967

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 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 independently examined by Larking Gowen and received an unqualified report. They were approved by the Trustees on 16th June 2022 and will be submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.

David Missen – Hon Treasurer

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 fund-raising 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

Grants 2021-22

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

General Fund	Offered during the year £	Paid during year £	Unpaid at year end £
Alderford, St John the Baptist		7,000	0
Anmer	10,000		10,000
Beachamwell, St Mary			3,000
Billingford, St Leonard		2,000	0
Blickling, St Andrew			10,000
Bracon Ash, St Nicholas			10,000
Brandon Parva, All Saints	2,376		2,376
Breckles, St Margaret			4,000
Brisley, St Bartholomew	15,000		15,000
Brooke, St Peter	5,000		5,000
Burnham Deepdale, St Mary		4,000	0
Caister on Sea, Holy Trinity			5,000
Carleton Rode, Baptist		3,000	0
Caston, Holy Cross	3,000	3,000	0
Colkirk, St Mary			2,000
Congham, St. Andrew			3,000
Crostwight, All Saints			10,456
Deopham, St Andrew		4,375	3,625
Edgefield, Old Church			0
Felthorpe, St Margaret			1,000
Feltwell, St Mary	2,768	2,768	0
Gateley, St Helens		2,000	0
Geldeston, St Michael	10,000		10,000
Gooderstone, St George			2,000
Great Snoring, St Mary		3,000	0
Great Walsingham, St Peter		3,000	0
Great Yarmouth, St Peter & St Spiridon			0
Harpley, St Lawrence			10,000
Haverlingland, St Peter			500
Heacham, St Mary		4,000	0
Helhoughton, All Saints	10,000	1,400	10,475
Hemsby, St Mary the Virgin	10,000		10,000
Hindringham, St Martin			3,000
Kelling, St Mary		3,000	0
Kettlestone, All Saints	6,092		6,092
Kirstead, St Margaret			5,000
Limpenhoe, St Botolph	5,000		5,000
Little Cressingham, St Andrew's			10,000
Long Stratton, St Mary	2,000		2,000
Ludham, St Catherine	500		500

Marham, Holy Trinity	3,000	2,910	90
Marlingford, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary			2,000
Morston, All Saints		5,000	0
Mutford, St Andrew	10,000		10,000
Narford, St Mary the Virgin	2,000	2,000	0
Necton, All Saints	300	300	0
North Tuddenham, St Mary	12,000		12,000
Norwich Mile Cross, St Catherine's			7,000
Outwell, St Clement	5,000	5,000	0
Postwick, All Saints			500
Pulham Market, St Mary Magdalene	6,000		6,000
Pulham St Mary, St Mary the Virgin	7,500	7,500	10,000
Reymestone, St Peter		1,992	1,008
Ringland, St Peter			2,000
Saxthorpe, St Andrew			10,000
Scottow, All Saints		7,000	0
Scoulton, Holy Trinity	300	300	0
Sloley, St Bartolomew			5,000
South Burlingham, St Edmund	4,000		4,000
South Lopham, St Andrew	1,200	1,200	0
South Lynn, All Saints		8,000	0
South Raynham, St Martin	4,000	4,000	0
Stoke Holy Cross, Holy Cross	2,000		2,000
Surlingham, St Mary			7,000
Swaffham, St Peter			5,000
Swainsthorpe, St Peter	1,018		1,018
Tacolneston, All Saints		750	0
Tasburgh, St Mary			2,000
Tatterford, St Margaret	8,000		8,000
Terrington, St John			5,000
Threxton, All Saints	3,000		3,000
Thrigby, St Mary	208		2,340
Thurning, St Andrew	7,000	14,000	0
Tittleshall, St Mary			7,000
Topcroft, St Margaret	4500		4,500
Tuttington, St Peter			10,000
Twyford, St Nicholas			8,000
Wacton, All Saints	7,500		7,500
Weasenham, St Peter	2,195		2,195
Wellingham, St Andrew		8,000	0
Wells next the Sea, St Nicholas			5,000
West Walton, St Mary		9,000	0
Wilby, All Saints		7,000	0
Wiveton, St Mary			7,000
Wreningham, All Saints		5,000	0
General Fund total	172,457	131,495	315,175

2 grants (totalling £2,862) outstanding for more than 5 years which are no longer needed have been withdrawn



Supporting Churches

Turning, St Andrew. £14,000 paid for roof repairs.

The year began with a gradual relaxation of the Covid-19 lockdown rules that had been in place in varying degrees for over a year. The effects of these constraints on morale of people caring for churches, as well as routine management and access to them cannot be over emphasised. Even when in late July 2021 the remaining restrictions finally were lifted, it was several months before many PCCs felt confident enough to return to their former pattern of meetings and fundraising events. An additional frustration has been the difficulty of finding contractors to carry out work already planned and quoted for but delayed due to the backlog of work from full lockdown in late Spring 2020. With the spiralling cost of materials, some quotations had to be revised leading to repairs being scaled back or in some cases postponed.

Against this background, it is satisfying to see the number of grants awarded pick up from last year's Covid-affected low point of 27 to 34 this year, which whilst still considerably lower than previous years

does indicate that PCCs are addressing urgent repairs that were put on hold last year. The Trust awarded grants totalling £172,457 (£104,500 in 2020/21) which is approaching the average annual grants total of £181,725 awarded in the three years prior to Covid. However, despite the imaginative new fundraising events and the amazingly successful Bike Ride, the grants budget remains less buoyant than in the past. In the next couple of years, it may be difficult to maintain this level unless there is a significant increase in funds available. Grants previously awarded totalling £131,495 (£112,378 in 2020/21) were paid to 31 churches where repairs have been completed. Grants awarded but not yet claimed total £315,175 (£277,075 in 2020/21). A number of these repairs are nearing completion so I hope this high figure will be reduced over the current year.

The announcement at the end of January that the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme will remain in place until the end

of March 2025 was a huge relief to everyone involved in the care of listed churches. This scheme enables VAT to be reclaimed on all eligible repairs and professional fees. The Trust was very active in lobbying for a significant extension to the scheme in order to end the cycle of annual renewals that gave no certainty to parishes planning major repairs.

The two maintenance pilot projects begun last year are progressing well despite some meetings being cancelled due to Covid. What has emerged is that the majority of churches in the benefices involved do carry out routine maintenance but there are a few where help is needed. Advice on working with other parishes within the benefices is already beginning to have results with PCCs coordinating repairs at churches within a group to achieve savings. We are also looking at pooling skills within the benefices to provide support for those PCCs that are less confident. Analysis of grant applications made over the past four years has provided a useful overview of how many churches carry out routine maintenance. Advice is offered whenever poor maintenance

can be directly linked to the repairs for which funding is being sought.

The table on the preceding pages sets out the grants offered in the year, which as ever cover the full spectrum of repairs eligible for Trust grants although the majority were for roof, rainwater goods and related high-level repairs. Many of these were highlighted in recent QIRs or structural surveys as a result of recent cracking: in particular £15,000 for Brisley where the south aisle roof and associated drainage system requires urgent attention. Other churches offered significant grants towards roof repairs include, Geldeston (£10,000) and Helhoughton (£10,000), Pulham St Mary (£7,500), Thurning (£7,000), Outwell (£5,000), and thatching at South Burlingham (£4,000).

Tower repairs were also high on the agenda: North Tuddenham was offered up to £12,000 for the major tower repairs to cover an anticipated shortfall due to increased costs. Grants for tower repairs of £10,000 were awarded to Hemsby and Mutford, £5,000 to Brooke and at Kettlestone £6,092 for tower repairs and surface water drainage replacement.

As well as these eye-catching grants for major repairs there were many for lists of seemingly 'minor' repairs within one application often identified in a QIR. It is important to tackle these before they get worse and cause more serious structural problems. These include Tatterford: rainwater goods and high level flintwork repairs (£8,000); Pulham Market: roof, rainwater goods and window repairs (£6,000); Limpenhoe: porch repairs (£5,000); Stoke Holy Cross: roof, rainwater goods and stitching-in cracks (£2,000); and South Lopham (£1,200): roof and gutter refurbishment.



Limpenhoe, St Botolph. £5,000. Porch repairs.

Window repairs are another category that is well represented in the grants awarded: South Raynham (£4,000), Caston (£3,000), Marham (£3,000) and Thrigby was offered £208 to cover the shortfall for repairs to windows vandalised over the Easter weekend in 2021.

Two grants were awarded towards the cost of structural investigations into extensive cracks to determine the best course of action before making funding applications to the Lottery and other national bodies. Wacton was awarded £7,500 to cover the cost of a full investigation into extensive cracking around the tower arch and west end of the south aisle which required internal scaffolding. Brandon

Parva was awarded £2,376 for a survey to assess cracks in the chancel arch walls and remedial work required.

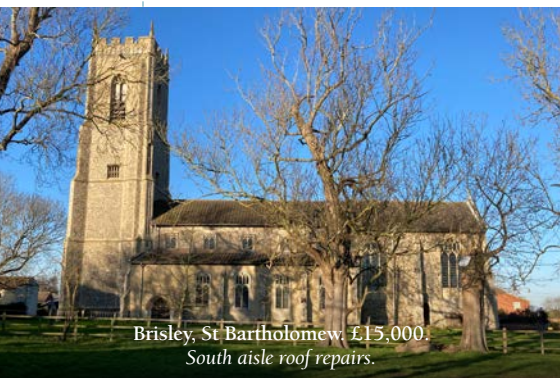
I hope this report will encourage people caring for churches who are worried about where to start when faced with a repair to get in touch with the Trust for advice. For those who read it without this heavy responsibility may gain a better insight into how much we owe all the churchwardens and fabric officers who volunteer to shoulder this task without any formal training in the care of complex listed buildings.

Scilla Latham

Secretary, Norfolk Churches Trust

Making the Difference:

These photographs illustrate some of the churches offered grants this year. There is more information about all the grants awarded on our website.



Brisley, St Bartholomew. £15,000.
South aisle roof repairs.



Lutterford, St Margaret. £8,000.
Rainwater goods & high-level mortar/flintwork repairs.



Topcroft, St Margaret. £4,500.
Roof and pew platform repairs.



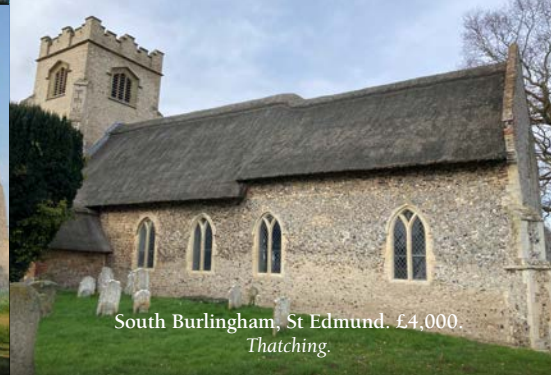
Pulham Market, St Mary. £6,000.
Roof, rainwater goods & window repairs.



Anmer, St Mary. £10,000 offered.
Tower, roof, drainage & window repairs.



Wacton, All Saints. £7,500 offered.
Investigation & report on extensive cracking.



South Burlingham, St Edmund. £4,000.
Thatching.



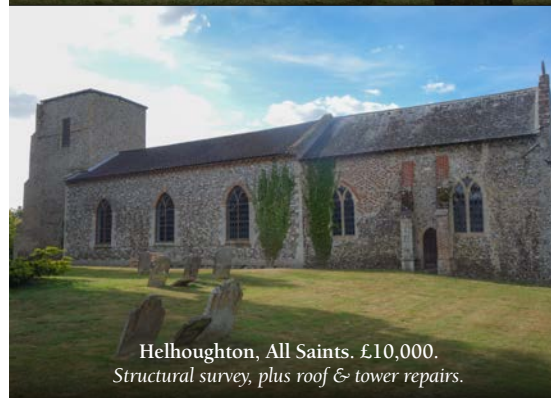
Stoke Holy Cross, Holy Cross. £2,000.
Roof, rainwater goods & tower repairs.



Geldeston, St Michael. £10,000.
Roof, rainwater goods & windows.



Hemsby, St Mary. £10,000.
Tower repair & masonry.



Helhoughton, All Saints. £10,000.
Structural survey, plus roof & tower repairs.



Long Stratton, St Mary. £2,000.
Tower stairs, roof, window & rainwater goods repairs.

Leased Churches

Good progress has been made on the care of our leased churches this year. Routine maintenance and minor repairs have been carried out at all of them, and where more extensive work is required this has either already been followed up, or is planned when funds are available.

The complex repair of the vandalised chancel windows at Dunton was completed in the autumn and window guards were installed to ensure their future safety. Whilst the beautiful north window will always bear a few scars from the attack, we are indebted to the skill of Devlin Plummer Stained Glass for achieving what at first sight seemed an impossible conservation challenge. The smashed clerestory window at All Saints Rackheath had to be completely replaced due to the severity of the damage caused. Both of these repairs were covered by insurance but as with any criminal damage to a church, it is the pain to those closely involved that takes the longest to recover.



Dunton, St Peter: detail of restored north chancel window.

After a lull in progress over the last two years, it is good to report on two major projects that have been long in gestation. At St Peter's Corpusty repairs to the tower arch, timber flooring and areas of unstable wall plaster prepared the church for a new role as a home for part of the Lettering

Arts Trust's collection of carved



Corpusty, St Peter: interior with the exhibition linked to the Lettering Arts Trust collection of memorials installed in the churchyard.

stones. A grant of £16,000 from the Behrens Foundation paid for the removal and installation of these distinguished examples of the letter cutter's art, a collection that will be augmented by other works in future years. Strong local support for the project means that a 'redundant' church has a new and sustainable role in the local and wider community, whilst remaining in use for occasional acts of worship.

The church of Our Lady of Consolation and St Stephen Lynford (1877–8), a distinguished Roman Catholic work of the



Lynford, Our Lady of Consolation & St Stephen: detail of parapet repairs in progress.

architect Henry Clutton, has Bath stone openwork parapets that are a conservation challenge. A Cultural Recovery Fund Grant of £119,956 from Historic England allowed us to repair and consolidate the worst of them as well as the fine bell turret which crowns the west gable. The repairs have been carried out by the Skillington Workshop, specialists in complex stonework conservation. Our application for funding was coordinated and strongly supported by the RC Diocese of East Anglia. The Trust is very grateful to the church architect Ruth Blackman of Birdsall, Swash & Blackman for all she has done to bring this long-awaited repair to fruition. As a side note, it is with considerable relief that at the time of writing, the repairs are nearing completion in good time for the local barn owls to return to their familiar nesting place to rear another family.

There continue to be increased numbers of visitors to the churches. Perhaps more people are moved to sign the Visitors Books to say how much they appreciate the peaceful atmosphere of these quiet places seemingly lost in time, or maybe there really are more visitors exploring the countryside.

Scilla Latham.
Secretary, Norfolk Churches Trust

We are always keen to encourage more people to take part in our work caring for this special collection of churches across the county. Because of their geographical spread, there is bound to be one or possibly more near you. This is a wonderful way to get first-hand experience in all aspects of looking after a church and its churchyard and meeting other like-minded 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 perhaps in other ways such as researching or developing new ways of providing 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 News 2022

Thomas Abbott: Family and friends outside Weybourne church.

As I sit at my desk in June 2022 to write this article, I am struck by how lucky we are to live in Norfolk with its beautiful countryside, without the terrible horrors of war ravaging Ukraine. It has made me realise that one cannot take peace for granted and one has to fight to protect the things one loves. In Norfolk we are blessed with extraordinary church buildings that face their own challenges and we hope that you will support a church of your choice and the Norfolk Churches Trust by taking part in this year's Bike Ride.

Last year the Bike Ride produced another amazing result. An extraordinary total of £130,156 was raised by 711 gallant participants who took to their bikes, laced up their walking or running shoes, braved the sea and used transport that included boats, horses, tandems, mobility scooters, cars and buses. This meant the Bike Ride has raised over £4 million since its inception in 1983. This money has made a huge difference to preserving Norfolk's iconic and beautiful churches over the years. A total of

307 places of worship received cheques last year. We would like to pass on an enormous thank you to everybody who took part either cycling, walking, driving or manning the churches. You have made a great contribution to the church of your choice and you enabled the Trust to continue to give grants last year when many fundraising activities had been cancelled.

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.

- Harry Steel from Baconthorpe won the Prince of Wales Certificate by raising the most money.
- Brampton, St Peter, was the church that improved its fundraising the most and will receive a cheque for £1,000. (also this one needs a full stop).
- Keith Gilbert was the top cyclist, having visited a staggering 61 places of worship.
- Gwen Spooner, Jenny and Richard Holcombe tied as top walkers.

- Thomas Abbott, David Nice and Elizabeth from Norfolk won £50 cheques for their photographs and had their pictures published.
- Hempstead, All Saints, was the top church this year, with Baconthorpe, St Mary, Burnham Thorpe, All Saints and Burgh Castle, St Peter and St Paul coming 2nd, 3rd and 4th.
- Of the 711 who took part, 189 of them were new participants who we warmly welcome and hope that they enjoyed themselves and will want to do it again this year. We also thank all our loyal regulars who have taken part in previous years.

We would like to thank Savills for sponsoring the event this year. With the cost of organising the event increasing we really appreciate their support.

We will be posting out packs again which should arrive in the parishes in early July with plenty of time to prepare for the 10th of September. Many of you used the online Bike Ride Registration on the new website which gives an alternative to the paper packs sent

out to parishes. A lot of participants last year also used Just Giving as a useful way to help raise money from family and friends and there is a link on the new Bike Ride website pages. There are also copies of all the documents in the packs on the website.

The Bike Ride committee tries 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, instagram and twitter (<https://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 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 possible on the 10th September 2022. Don't forget to send in your photographs of the day. The three we like best will receive £50 and the chance to get your picture published in the *Eastern Daily Press*. Please see the website for more details.

Bike Ride Photo Competition Winners

Congratulations to the prize-winners whose photographs were published in the EDP and received a prize of £50



David Nice. Elsing church welcoming cyclists.

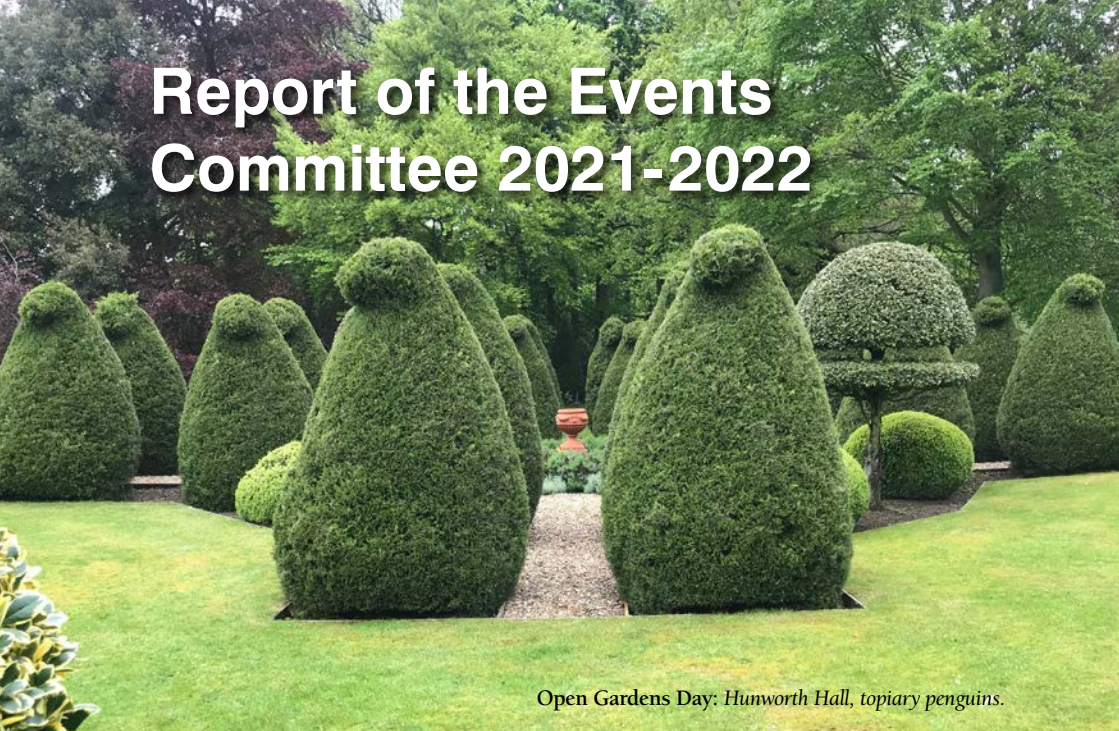


Elizabeth from Norfolk. Little girl in pink outside Great Cressingham church.



Peter Skivington. Exhausted sons outside Melton church. (runner up)

Report of the Events Committee 2021-2022



Open Gardens Day: Hunworth Hall, topiary penguins.

The period under review saw the first easings of the Covid-19 lockdowns. This allowed us to recommence our schedule of events, albeit under certain restrictions. Although, unfortunately, the triennial Stately Car Boot Sale had to be delayed yet again and the ever popular House by the Church event was not possible to run, we came up with the new concept of Open Parks and Gardens for the NCT. This permitted members to visit up to eight outdoor spaces on a socially distanced basis by the simple purchase of a passport for the day. The event was enthusiastically received and 300 hundred passports were sold. The event raised over £9,400.

As the year progressed and restrictions were further eased we were able to have something of a musical bonanza in July with two outdoor concerts at Wolterton Hall, courtesy of Peter Sheppard and Keith Day, entitled Nature's Inspiration and Russian Romance, performed by a dynamic group of international musicians, under the artistic direction of Hannah Perowne, former leader of the Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig. These concerts were followed swiftly by two performances by Diva Opera – *Don*

Giovanni and Carmen – at Holkham Hall. The outdoor concerts at Wolterton were much enjoyed and well attended – although numbers were slightly down on the prior year due to an unfortunate and unforeseeable clash with England playing in the World Cup Final as well, of course, as with the Wimbledon Men's Final. Unfortunately, the public did not seem quite ready for indoor events and the operas were poorly supported. This was obviously very disappointing for the volunteers, and in particular Sarah

Leicester who puts so much hard work into events year after year. Both the events, however, gave long-suffering musicians and singers the chance to perform and earn after a very long downtime and so can be considered a success on that basis alone. The Wolterton concerts raised £2,700 and the operas, principally (and as always) due to the generosity of the sponsors, raised a total of nearly £14,000.

August saw the Treasures of Ranworth event. This interesting day out at Ranworth was led by Canon Phillip McFadyen and involved a tour of St Helen's Church, known as the Cathedral of the Broads. St Helen's contains three internationally significant treasures: the painted rood screen, the cantor's desk and the Ranworth Antiphoner. The Trust's thanks go to the Cator family for honouring the late Jaquetta Cator's wish that guests have their picnic lunch in her beautiful garden close to the church. The day was perfectly rounded off with a delicious afternoon tea served in the Ranworth Visitor's Centre. The event took £1,267.

In October former NCT Trustee Holly Gold together with her husband, Nick Gold, hosted a recitation of T. S. Eliot's Four Quartets by Peter Wilson in the atmospheric surrounds of the ruin of Kempston church. Notwithstanding very damp weather on one of the two nights, the event was a sell-out success on both nights and very much enjoyed by the audience. Many thanks to Peter Wilson and Holly and Nick Gold. The event raised £1,500.

Once again the ever generous Colin de Chair offered his services of

photographing member's houses from his aerial drone. This raised £350 for the Trust.

Our Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, graciously offered to host an evening reception at Sandringham House on Wednesday 24th November 2021 to mark the 45th Anniversary year of the Trust. This was limited to a maximum of 60 people attending and at His Royal Highness's request focussed on those who have provided support behind the scenes such as the contractors who work on the buildings, professionals who give advice, winners of his Bike Ride Certificate and leased church supporters. A very enjoyable time was had by all, and although this was an event very much directed towards enabling our Patron to personally thank these key personnel for their support, which he did in a warm speech to conclude the evening, rather than fundraising, we were also able to raise £835 towards the Trust's work.

The end of the year saw serious work start on the Stately Car Boot sale scheduled for 1 May 2022 as well as a number of other events (including a tour of the STANTA battle area churches). Please keep an eye on the Trust website for updates.

As ever I should also extend a very special thank you to all the energetic volunteers who come up with creative ideas and organise events. People often don't realise how much work goes into the events and we certainly would not be able to put on anything like the quality and quantity of events without such enthusiastic helpers.

Patrick Lines,
Chair of the Events Committee

Leased Churches cared for by the Norfolk Churches Trust

Whenever possible the churches are kept open during daylight hours. Keyholder details are listed below 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.

Bagthorpe, St Mary: PE31 6QY
Keyholder: 01485 578528

Barmer, All Saints: PE31 8SR
In middle of field off B1454
Keyholder: 01485 578220

Cockthorpe, All Saints: NR23 1QS
Keyholder: 01328 830202

Corpusty, St Peter: NR11 6QE
Off Norwich Road.
Open on Fridays and Saturdays. Otherwise,
the key is available at village shop or contact
the keyholder: 01263 587014

Dunton, St Peter: NR21 7PG
Keyholder: 01328 853226

Hargham, All Saints: NR16 2JW
Keyholder: 01953 455553

Illington, St Andrew: IP24 1RS
Illington Road. Reached via farm drive and track.
Keyholder: 01953 498121

Lynford, Our Lady of Consolation & St Stephen:
IP26 5EL. Reached via forestry track 34, off West
Tofts Road. Hidden in trees. Currently closed due
to condition. Keyholder: 01842 878246

Morton on the Hill, St Margaret: NR9 5JS
Reached via farm drive from Ringland Road.
(Locked, please contact the keyholder in advance).
Keyholder: 01603 880165

Rackheath, All Saints: NR13 6QT
Brown heritage sign on Wroxham Road:
continue to Swash Lane. Visitors welcome but
currently locked and lane gated due to security concerns.
Please contact keyholder or Trust office in advance.
Keyholder: 07858 370400

Snetterton, All Saints: NR16 2LR
Keyholders: World Horse Welfare reception
(office hours) 01953 498682;
or: 07867 512084

West Bilney, St Cecilia: PE32 1XQ
Keyholder: 01760 337382

West Rudham, St Peter: PE31 8TE
Keyholder: 07584 122346

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 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 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

Vice-presidents

Bolton Agnew
Charles Bingham-Newland
Emma Bridgewater CBE
Peter de Bunsen
Neil Foster
Lady Fraser
Mrs Sara Foster DL
Roger Last
Matthew Rice

Trustees/Directors

Dr John Maddison (Chairman)
Michael Sayer
(Chairman, Grants Committee)*
Mrs Amelia Courtauld
Lady Egerton OBE*
Mrs Holly Gold JP, DL
(resigned September 2021)
Charles Inglis
(Bike Ride Co-ordinator)
Sarah Countess of Leicester*
Patrick Lines
Ian Lonsdale TD, DL*
Lauren Parker
Peter Sheppard

Advisory Council

The Trustees receive advice from
the Advisory Council.

Lady Agnew DL
Mrs Rosabelle Batt
Maurice de Bunsen
Peter de Bunsen*

(resigned September 2021)

Col. Tom Fitzalan Howard CBE
Jonathan Ellis

Fr Philip Gray (Hon Chaplain)

Christopher Hartop

Stephen Heywood

James Hickman

Mrs Scilla Landale

Mrs Jane Lane

George Lynne (resigned September 2021)

Rev Canon Mair McFadyen
(Hon Chaplain)

David Missen (Hon Treasurer)

Mrs Philippa Taylor DL
(appointed 9/9/2020, resigned January 2022)

Julian Taylor (appointed February 2022)

Michael Pollitt

Matthew Rice*

Ashley Spooner

Frederique Baroness van Till

John Vigar

Mrs Alison Wakes-Miller

Revd Ian Whittle (Hon Chaplain)

Michael Wingate

*indicates Vice President

Company Secretary:

Mrs Scilla Latham

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: Dr John Maddison

Secretary: Mrs Scilla Latham

Trust Office: Manor Farmhouse, Diss Road, Tibenham, Norwich NR16 1QF.

46th Annual General Meeting

at the Parish Church of St Mary, North Tuddenham

on Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 5:30pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks.
3. To confirm the Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting, held at St Martin's Thompson on Wednesday 15th September 2021.
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 2022.
8. Election of the Board of Directors/Trustees.
The following retire and seek re-election: Charles Inglis and John Maddison.
9. Election to the Advisory Council.
The following retire and seek re-election: James Hickman, Tom Fitzalan Howard, Stephen Heywood, Alison Wakes-Miller and Michael Wingate.
The following seek election: Caroline Egerton, Laura Baily, Moira Morrissey and Mike Smith.
10. Propose the appointment of Larking Gowen as Independent Examiners and authorise the Trustees to agree their remuneration.
11. Any other business of which notice has been received of not less than two weeks before the meeting.

Following the meeting Mike Smith, St Mary's Church Fabric Officer will give a talk entitled "A Race against Time", describing the story behind the Tower's rescue from imminent collapse.

Light refreshments will be served after the talk

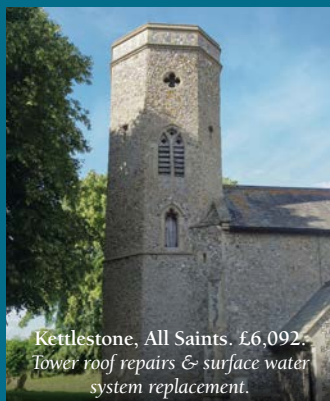
Evensong will follow at 7:00pm

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting of The Norfolk Churches Trust Ltd

held at St Martin's Church, Thompson on Wednesday 15th September 2021.

Present: General the Lord Dannatt (President and Presiding Chairman), Peter Sheppard (Chairman of the Board of Directors/Trustees), Scilla Latham (Company Secretary) and Directors/Trustees, Advisory Councillors and Friends of the Trust.

- 1. Presiding Chairman's opening remarks:** Lord Dannatt thanked the church wardens for allowing the Trust to hold their AGM in the church and congratulated them on the completion of the first stage of the roof repairs. He gave a brief appreciation of Peter Sheppard's Chairmanship of the Trust, two years of which was frustrated by the Covid pandemic, meaning that so many fundraising events had to be postponed.
 - 2. To confirm the Minutes of the 44th AGM.** Lord Dannatt signed and dated them.
 - 3. To receive the Chairman's Report:** In Peter Sheppard's absence, John Maddison reported on the highlights of the year. These included a record-breaking Bike Ride raising £175,000 towards the care of churches across the county. Innovative fundraising events such as online talks, and opening Elsing Hall gardens proved very popular. The long-awaited new website was launched in the summer providing seamless access to events, membership and information about grants. He thanked the administration team for their continuing hard work.
 - 4. To receive the Hon Treasurer's Report:** David Missen gave an overview of the Trust's financial position. Despite original gloomy predictions investments rose by £300,000 and higher levels of fundraising than expected led to more grants being awarded.
 - 5. To receive the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021.** Proposer: Michael Sayer; Seconder: Patrick Lines.
 - 6. Re-election and Election of the Directors/Trustees:** It was proposed by Ian Lonsdale and seconded by Rosabelle Batt that Sarah Leicester, Michael Sayer and Peter Sheppard be re-elected as Trustees, and that Lauren Parker be elected as a Trustee.
 - 7. Re-election and Election to the Advisory Council:** It was proposed by Ian Lonsdale and seconded by Malcolm Fisher that Clare Agnew, Maurice de Bunsen, Revd Mair McFadyen, David Missen and Michael Pollitt be re-elected to the Advisory Council and that David Longe be elected to it.
 - 8. To propose the appointment of Larking Gowen as Independent Examiners and for the Trustees to agree their remuneration:** Proposer, David Missen, seconder, Caroline Egerton.
 - 9. Any other business:** there was nothing raised.
- Lord Dannatt closed the meeting at 5:55pm.



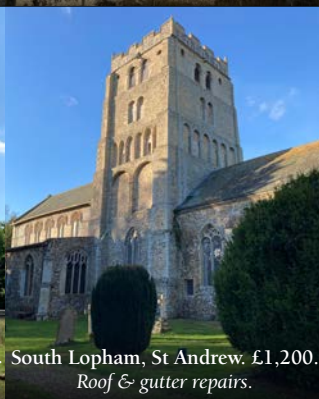
Kettlestone, All Saints. £6,092.
Tower roof repairs & surface water
system replacement.



Mutford, St Andrew. £10,000.
Tower repairs.



North Tuddenham, St Mary. £12,000.
Tower repairs.



South Lopham, St Andrew. £1,200.
Roof & gutter repairs.



**The NORFOLK
CHURCHES TRUST**

'Supporting Church Buildings'

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