

WORCESTERSHIRE & DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Patrons

The Viscount Cobham
Mr. John Berkeley, DL.
The Right Reverend Dr. John Inge, Bishop of Worcester
The Most Reverend Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham
The Right Reverend Graham Usher, Bishop of Dudley
The Reverend John Howard, Chair of the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury Methodist District
Mr. Michael Wall

Trustees

Chairman

Tim Bridges
3 Severn Drive, Upton upon Severn, Worcs, WR8 0JL
Tel: 01684 593257

Secretary

John Davies
Yarringtons, Alfrick, Worcester, WR6 5EX
Tel: 01886 884336 E-mail: flora.donald@virgin.net

Treasurer

Jean Crabbe
Fetterlocks Farm House, Fetterlocks Lane
Shelsley Beauchamp, Worcs, WR6 6QS
Tel: 01886 812373

Andrew Grant, DL.
Philip Jones
Annette Leech

Richard Slawson
Michael Thomas
Sam Driver White

Officers

Cycle Ride Event Organiser

Helen Peberdy (to November 2014) currently vacant

Committee Secretary

Jacci Hunt

Front Cover Photograph: St Michael, North Piddle (interior)
Back Cover Photograph: Bethel Chapel, Wollescote (exterior)

Courtesy Gilbert Barlow: www.flickr.com/photos/tudorbarlow

Chairman's Report

Today there are many challenges facing our churches, chapels and meeting houses, and the Worcestershire and Dudley Historic Churches Trust is pleased to support congregations with the repair, maintenance and development of their buildings. We are fortunate to have so many places of worship in our area from all periods and of many different types, which date to a variety of periods from Anglo-Saxon times to the present day. Although our funding is limited we have been pleased to authorise a further eight grants during this year. We have received a further grant from the R.D. Turner Trust, which enables us to offer greater support to churches, and so we would like to record our particular thanks to the Turner Trustees for their ongoing generosity. We have also continued to make a financial contribution towards the post of Historic Buildings and Communities Officer in Worcester Diocese, now in the final year of a second three year term. We remain very impressed with the level of engagement by Andrew Mottram in securing enhanced usage of church buildings throughout the Diocese and achieving a greater awareness of the issues of maintenance. We are only too well aware that unless this is undertaken properly, the risk of large repair bills for historic church buildings is all too often greatly increased. The recent Government grant programme for the repair of roofs and rainwater goods on listed churches has aroused much interest in our area, and it is likely that there will be many calls on our resources for matching funding once the results are announced later in the Spring.

I am delighted to be able to record that the new Bishop of Dudley, the Right Reverend Graham Usher has accepted our invitation to become a patron of the Trust. As always, I would also like to record my thanks to our trustees and officers for all that they undertake on our behalf. It is a particular pleasure for me to again acknowledge the enormous amount of hard work by both John Davies our Secretary and Jean Crabbe our Treasurer, and by Jacci Hunt who continues to provide us with expert administrative support. Their contributions are invaluable in keeping the Trust operating with such great efficiency. Thank you all very much indeed!

'Ride and Stride' in September continues to be our annual single most important fundraising event, and we are very grateful to Helen Peberdy for distributing paperwork before the event and collecting the funds afterwards. Helen has recently been much helped by Anna Hill and Annette Leech, and they have all played valuable roles in the continuing success of 'Ride and Stride' in our area. Sadly Helen feels that the time has now come to retire, but we are most appreciative of all she has done to support the Trust in this capacity. We are extremely grateful that Annette Leech has offered to undertake a wider role this year, and much of the distribution of information in 2015 will hopefully be done via the website. We were once again linked up with the Churches Festival, organised with the Diocese and Herefordshire and Shropshire Church Tourism Groups, and understand there was an increased response in Worcestershire last year. As these Festivals now look set to become biennial events, we hope that they will continue to raise the profile of our churches over the 'Ride and Stride' weekends in the future. However, we hope that as many people as possible will support the work of the Trust in 2015 through 'Ride and Stride' on bicycle, foot or horseback, and by sponsoring participants or arranging for our places of worship to be open and welcoming on the day. This year a list of participating churches, chapels and meeting houses will be available on our website.

Thanks must also be offered to Haydn Rhodes and Jan Gill who again organised highly successful car tours last June and July, this time to groups of churches around Chaddesley Corbett and Castlemorton. Details of the 2015 tours appear at the back of this report. This year we are planning a special evensong to be held in October, and a visit to Rugby School and Alvechurch in May to commemorate William Butterfield's bi-centenary last year.

Details of all these events and how to book will be posted on our new website www.worcesteranddudleyhistoricchurches.org.uk. We continue to be extremely grateful to Annette Leech for developing such an excellent site. Gilbert Barlow is working with Annette to build up an extensive online library of photographs of our places of worship. This project is now nearing

completion for Worcestershire, and work will get underway later in 2015 with adding images of buildings in the Dudley area. A visit the website to look at the photographs is strongly recommended; here you will also find information on the work of the Trust, other sources of funds and links to numerous useful sources of information.

During the year I attended meetings of the Churches Trusts Forum in London at which I continue to represent this trust and, together with Sarah de Rohan of the Herefordshire Trust, the interests of colleagues on the trusts for Staffordshire, Herefordshire and Shropshire. The Forum helps to develop links between the county trusts and the National Churches Trust, which has recently moved offices to Westminster.

As always I would like to conclude with a plea for all our supporters to continue to contribute to our work with historic churches, chapels and meeting houses in Worcestershire and Dudley. Please consider becoming a Friend, making a bequest to the Trust and encouraging others to do the same. Please support 'Ride and Stride' in September, and visit our website for information on Trust events. If you are able to make a donation to the Trust by using the form at the back of this report, you will be helping the Trust with its valuable work in preserving these much loved historic buildings.

Thank you for any help you are able to give us. I look forward to seeing you during 2015.

Tim Bridges

St Michael, North Piddle

The Trust was very pleased to be able to offer a grant of £1000 towards stonework repairs at this tiny country church, which stands in a small hamlet near the Piddle Brook, and just south of the main Worcester to Stratford road, close to Grafton Flyford.

St Michael's was built in 1875 to designs by the Worcester architect, Henry Rowe. The stone church has just a nave, with a bellcote and timber entrance porch, and a chancel with vestry. It is in the Decorated Gothic style. The church replaces a medieval building, from which are preserved the fourteenth century font bowl and piscina carved with the head and shoulders of a man, together with a group of six fine fifteenth century floor tiles. The interior is of white painted brick, and there is a fine chancel arch as well as cleverly detailed timber roofs. The collection of fine Victorian fittings includes the stone pulpit. The colourful stained glass in the east window is believed to have been installed in about 1880, perhaps to designs by the London glassmakers, Burlison and Grylls.

The Trust hopes that this grant will help secure the future of this delightful yet simple church, which forms the focus of this scattered rural community in the east Worcestershire countryside.

Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust Church Car Tours 2014

The first tour in 2014 was on Sunday 22nd June - We met at 2.30 pm at Holy Trinity & St. Mary, Dodford; a modern church which replaced a wood & corrugated mission hall in 1908. Dodford was a Chartist village and the church contains many features of the Arts & Craft movement mainly the work of the Bromsgrove Guild.

The second Church St. Cassian's, Chaddesley Corbett was very much a contrast; a 12th century Norman church which has retained many of its original features one of which is a magnificent Norman font dating from 1160. Mike Wall gave the introductory talk.

We moved on to another contrasting church All Saints, Wilden. As one walks into the church there is a blaze of colour from the Pre-Raphaelite glass of Edward Burne-Jones. The church has a

close relationship with the Baldwin family. The introductory talk was by the head teacher of the neighbouring school. He uncovered some wonderful treasures including some work of William Morris.

The good people of the final church, St. James, Hartlebury had kindly offered to provide tea which was splendid. The church has close links with the bishops of Worcester being near the old Bishops' Palace. There are five tombs of former bishops in the churchyard. The introductory talks were given by Mike Wall and Caroline Grumbley.

The second tour was on Sunday, 20th July - We were grateful that the Reverend Chris Moss (Vicar of the benefice) & Mike Wall had volunteered to give the introductory talks at each church.

Bushley, St. Peter was the first church. It was not the first church in Bushley a 12th century, followed by a 14th century, church preceded the current church which was built in 1843; funded by Dr Edward Dowdeswell of Pull Court and designed by Edward Blore who had also designed Pull Court. Memorials to the Dowdeswell family are the main features of the church although a Norman font remains from the 12th century church.

We were able to take a short cut through the grounds of Bredon School (now the residents of Pull Court.) The head teacher, Mr. David Ward, kindly to allowed us to do so. This brought us to Queenhill, St. Nicholas. The church has several Norman features despite being restored by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1855. There are also 16th and 17th century brasses. It is said that Elgar was inspired by the views from the church porch.

Longdon, St. Mary was the third church where the Reverend Chris Moss greeted us with very welcome refreshments. The church is unusual as the tower, the oldest part of the church, dates back to 1300 but the nave is 18th century & the chancel 19th century. There are several memorial tablets and five memorial windows.

As we always do we were anticipating the tea provided this time by the good ladies of St. Gregory, Castlemoreton. The story of the Deerhurst Saxon font and its link to Castlemoreton is intriguing. There are several Norman features e.g. windows, north & south doorways. Rebuilding was undertaken in the 17th century to repair Civil War damage. The tea was scrumptious!

Jan Gill and Haydn Rhodes

Ride and Stride 13th September 2014

A lovely day for a cycle ride - which I found very annoying as a bad knee prevented me from participating! Fortunately plenty of others were able and willing to cycle - some notched up huge milages and visited numerous churches, some managed to find lots of sponsors and some enjoyed a leisurely pootle round the Worcestershire lanes. All appreciated a welcome from someone at the churches they visited - though we all understand that it is impossible for churches to be manned all the time.

I would not wish to single out any one benefice but it was noticeable that more than ten cyclists (or groups of cyclists) raised more than £500 - and that means £250 back for their nominated place of worship! Just think how much money we could bank if we could persuade more churches to have a go.

I shall not be bullying you all next year, as I have decided to stand down and let someone take over who can cope better with it all being 'on line'! It just remains for me to thank all you participants over the years for your efforts (I do know that it is an effort) - I shall miss hearing from you. But I may meet you cycling or walking in future years when I shall be able to enjoy just taking part.

Helen Peberdy

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2014

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	£	2013 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary Income		
Donations : R.D.Turner Trust	5000	5000
Others	-	455
Refunded Grant	-	3862
Donations from Grant Aided Churches	1522	3316
Friends' Subscriptions and Donations	1215	1057
Gift Aid recovered	199	272
	<u>7936</u>	<u>13962</u>
Activities for Generating Funds		
Annual Ride & Stride	10659	10172
Gift aid recovered	1560	956
	<u>12219</u>	<u>11128</u>
Investment Income		
Bank and deposit interest	314	537
	<u>314</u>	<u>537</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>20469</u>	<u>25627</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating funds		
Ride & Stride fund raising costs	125	558
Charitable Expenditure		
Grants paid to churches	1000	16500
Refunds to churches and chapels - Ride & Stride	5026	4846
	<u>6026</u>	<u>21346</u>
Governance Costs		
Trustee secretarial and administration	941	825
Support for English Heritage inspired programme	2000	2000
Independent Examiner's fee	200	200
	<u>3141</u>	<u>3025</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>9292</u>	<u>24929</u>
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR	11177	698
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2014	34767	34069
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2014	<u>45944</u>	<u>34767</u>

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

BALANCE SHEET At 31st December 2014

		2013
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors and Prepayments	127	108
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	8758	2745
Market Harborough BS Deposit	32619	25317
Cash at bank and in hand	4909	6943
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	46413	35113
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals	469	346
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET ASSETS	45944	34767
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
INCOME FUNDS		
General Fund - Unrestricted	45944	34767
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Note: A further 12 grants totalling £21,750 have been authorised for payment by the trustees subject to the appropriate faculty being obtained, a satisfactory report from the visiting Trustee, and work starting within twelve months.

STATEMENT BY THE TRUSTEES

The preceding summarised financial statements contain information extracted from the full accounts and may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Trust. For further information, the full accounts together with the Independent Examiner's report on those accounts should be consulted; copies can be obtained from the Secretary.

The full financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 18th February 2015 and have been independently examined. They will be submitted to the Charity Commission in due course.

The statement shown above was approved by the Trustees on 18th February 2015 and signed on their behalf by

T. J. Bridges Chairman of the Trustees

STATEMENT BY THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF WORCESTERSHIRE & DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

In my opinion the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 are consistent with the full financial statements in respect of which I signed an Unqualified Independent Examiner's statement on 19th February 2015.

38 Lark Hill

Richard T. Barnes

Worcester

WR5 2EQ

GRANTS AUTHORISED IN 2014

Church	Place	Project	Cost	Grant
St. Michael & All Angels	North Piddle	repair of stone roof copings	£9,900	£1,000
All Saints	Evesham	extensive renovation of bell tower	£379,186	£1,000
St. Nicholas	Pinvin	stonework repair to wall, mullions & bellcote	£14,367	£1,000
Holy Trinity	Malvern	nave & south aisle roof repairs	£199,962	£2,500
St. Luke	Headless Cross	repairs to masonry, chimney, guttering, flashing	£25,280	£1,250
St. Martin	London Road, Worcester	total electrical refit: renovate choir stalls	£98,250	£2,500
St. Michael & All Angels	Great Witley	extensive roof repairs	£134,414	£2,500
TOTAL				£11,750

GRANTS PAID IN 2014

Church	Place	Project	Cost	Grant
Bethel Chapel	Wollescote	restoration of windows & rainwater hoppers	£6,752	£1,000
TOTAL				£1,000

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc
Malvern

**Independent
Examiner:**

R.T. Barnes
Worcester

Barclays Bank plc
Droitwich Spa
(Cycle Ride Account)

Registered Charity No. 1035156

Constitution:

Trust Deed dated 21 October 1993, as amended by a Deed of Variation dated 23 November 2005.

Objects:

1. The preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep or beautification of any Christian church within either the Church of England Diocese of Worcester or the County of Worcester;
2. The education of the public in the history and architecture of churches.

Trustees:

New Trustees are appointed by the serving Trustees. The total number of Trustees shall not exceed eleven. There is a sub-Committee for the running of the Cycle Ride that has one member who is not a Trustee. There is also a Sub-Committee for the arrangements of events. Decisions are made by the Trustees at their quarterly meetings. Administration is carried out between meetings by the Secretary in accordance with guidelines agreed from time to time. The Trust is affiliated with the National Churches Trust (Registered Charity Number: 1119845).

Policy:

The Trust has no permanent endowment and distributes the income. Apart from reimbursement of some expenses, no payments are made to Trustees.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

All requests for grants must be made through our Secretary who, providing the project meets our criteria, will forward an application form for completion. A considerable amount of information is requested both in relation to the scope and specification of the project, and the profile and financial position of the parish. Applications are considered at the quarterly Trustee meetings when provisional grants are agreed and then confirmation of the grant is subsequently given following a satisfactory visit to the church by a Trustee.

The grant reservation is normally held for a maximum period of twelve months and payment will only be made following receipt of an architect's interim certificate or an appropriate invoice.

During the year the Trust approved provisional grants to 7 churches, totalling £11,750. We paid out £1,000 to one church. A further 12 grants remain to be paid totalling £21,750.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Will you be a Friend of the Trust?

- Yes, I want to be a friend of the Trust
- I wish to make a single donation
- I wish to make a regular donation
- I enclose cheque / CAF voucher.

(Tick as appropriate)

Signed..... Date.....

Name..... Address.....

.....

.....

GIFT AID If you wish to Gift Aid your donations please sign this form. We can then claim Gift Aid tax relief of 25p on every pound you give.

I am a UK taxpayer and would like the Trust to reclaim the tax on any donations I make now or in the future. I confirm that I will pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax each year at least equal to the amount of tax that all charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that year. I note that other taxes such as Council Tax and VAT do not qualify.

Signed..... Date.....

Please return completed form to the Treasurer – Mrs J Crabbe, Fetterlocks Farmhouse, Fetterlocks Lane, Shelsley Beauchamp, Worcester. WR6 6QS

Payment (minimum £15) may be made by cheque, standing order, or on line.

BANKERS ORDER (Do not detach)

To the Manager Bank plc

Sort Code...../...../.....

Please pay to Lloyds Bank plc, Belle View Terrace, Malvern, Worcs. WR14 4QG. Sort Code 30-95-41
For the credit of Worcestershire and Dudley Historic Churches Trust a/c 01166146

The sum of £.....(.....) (*in words*) commencing

on theday of201..... and on the same day each month/quarter/year (delete as appropriate) until further notice and debit my account No.....with each payment made.

.....
Full name in block letters

.....
Address

.....
Signature

WORCESTERSHIRE & DUDLEY



HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

2015 CHURCH TOURS AND EVENTS

Sunday, June 21st 2.30 pm

Cotheridge St. Leonard followed by Broadwas St. Mary Magdalene,
Alfrick St. Mary Magdalene and Leigh St. Edburga (Tea)

Sunday, July 26th 2.30 pm

Crowle St. John the Baptist followed by Himbleton St. Mary Magdalene,
Huddington St. James and Grafton Flyford St. John the Baptist (Tea)

If you want to have a booking form or any further information please do not hesitate to contact either of us by phone or email.

Haydn Rhodes 01386 554953 haydn@pershire.eclipse.co.uk

Jan Gill 01386 554441 jangill46@gmail.com

Events:

Friday 8 May: A Celebration of William Butterfield and Victorian Architecture: Visit by coach to Rugby and Alvechurch 9.30am to 6.30pm. For more details contact Tim Bridges tbridges0506@aol.com or 01684 592380.

Saturday 12 September: Ride and Stride

Monday 5 October: Evensong at Worcester Cathedral 5.30pm followed by Reception with Launch of our Website. For more details see our website www.worcesteranddudleyhistoricchurches.org.uk