



# DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Dedicated to funding repairs and maintenance to places of  
Christian worship in the Diocese of Exeter and throughout Devon

## NEWSLETTER

February 2020

**Welcome** to our annual Newsletter. The support of so many parishes and individuals enables the Devon Historic Churches Trust to continue providing grants to help Devon's churches in their hour of need.

This newsletter provides a small sample of some of the work undertaken recently with your help and gives a glimpse of a selection of our supporters out and about raising funds and having fun in the process, on our Devon Historic Churches Day (incorporating the Ride+Stride) – half of which is returned immediately to participating churches. *"Everyone is a Winner!"*

### Grants Awarded during the past 12 months

During 2019 the DHCT awarded £88,500 in main grant funding, and £9,300 in Small and Emergency Grants plus over £20,000 in direct funds to supporting churches. A selection of works enabled by grants are illustrated here:



**Stoodleigh, St. Margaret's Church.** St. Margaret's applied for an Emergency Grant initially to fund the assessment of work required for repairs to the church tower. Once this was completed they applied for a main grant from the DHCT to assist with the cost of the work.

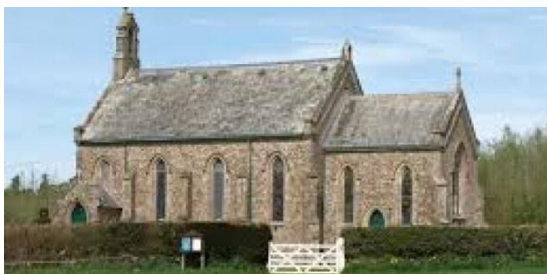
As you will see from this photo, they discovered that there were worthwhile savings to be made by using rope access specialists' abseiling from the tower roof, rather than erecting very costly and cumbersome scaffolding.

Their Churchwarden Peter Broadbent reports: *"One cannot overstate the importance of the immediate response by DHCT, for funding the preliminary work needed for projects such as this one and then providing funds for the work to be undertaken".*

DHCT awarded an Emergency Grant of £1,000 + £4,000 towards the cost of the work.

**Kingskerswell, St Mary the Virgin.** This amazingly active church is undertaking two large projects for which they requested a Grant for Phase 2 which will incorporate a full rewire, a replacement lighting scheme, moving the vestry to the rear of the church, removal of pews and pew platforms and replacing with stackable oak benches and chairs, completion of the central heating system, redecoration throughout and the restoration of the quarry tile floor .

DHCT awarded a Grant of £5,000 for this work



**Escot, St. Philip & St James.**

For many years Escot had an old and inefficient boiler, probably converted from an original solid fuel one. To add to the problems it was covered with asbestos which was flaking off thereby making it dangerous to anyone going near it – a necessity to set it for the services. They decided that, in spite of the cost, it had to be replaced

and they now have an efficient shiny new boiler operated digitally from within the church. From now on, they can maintain the boiler with regular servicing, something which was never possible.

*"DHCT's very generous Grant of £1,500 made a huge difference to us and for that we are most grateful."*

## Some Anecdotes .... from supporters of our Devon Historic Churches Day & Ride+Stride in 2019:

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our top performing parishes: **Cheriton Fitzpaine** a record breaking £4,088. **Chulmleigh** £1,697.78. **Galmpton & Hope Cove** £1,534.50. **Kingsteignton** £1,060. **Moretonhampstead** £950.



*Hazel and her daughter Josie.*

### **St Mathews Church, Cheriton Fitzpaine**

Glorious mid-Devon on a sunny Saturday in September.... And an early start for the rider and striders of Cheriton Fitzpaine to clock up the miles and the churches before sunset. The skies that magical shade of deep dark blue: not still dark, yet not quite light, as Hazel and Josie Norton and Alice and Patrick May crept out of their homes. Hazel and Josie had their route planned, Alice hers – all on foot. Patrick had his route planned– using pedal power.

A wonderful thing about spending a day walking and cycling is the casual conversations with those you happen to meet. Chance conversations, always interesting, always good for the soul. From the heartlands of Cheriton to the hilltops of Lapford, Nymet Rowland, Coldridge and Down St Mary, and lovely little Knowle church. On to the gentle lands of the Exe valley churches with cream teas and scarecrows. All feel a world away when travelled to by foot or pedal power. Devon has many special churches all offering warmth and friendship and many offering much appreciated food and drink on the Ride and Stride day.

And while we four were swanning around the county, a wonderful team was serving up teas, coffees, delicious cakes and home-made lunches in St Matthew's back in Cheriton Fitzpaine. And the wonderful people of Cheriton, and 'foreigners' too, were supporting the Ride and Stride day by enjoying the warm welcome in St Matthew's.

After total of 53 'visitations' to a cluster of mid-Devon's historic churches, 121 miles walked and cycled, dimpsy creeping up on us, we returned to our starting places, weary and thankful for a safe day out and a safe return. I call it my annual retreat.

We were thrilled to be supported this year by two generous supporters of the Ride and Stride day. Offers of match funding is a sure-fire way of garnering enthusiasm and determination! With these incentives spurring us on, we raised the amazing amount of £4088.00. We would like to thank all who sponsored us this year – sponsors both large and small. **You are all wonderful.**

**Alice May**

County Organiser's note: *"They raised the single largest amount by any parish for this event. A very significant contribution to the future of our Devon churches and we are singing their praises!"*



**Exeter Cathedral** – the mother church of Devon were truly inspirational in their outstanding support for our main fundraising event. The Dean of Exeter Jonathan Greener, the Chancellor Chris Palmer, the Precentor James Mustard and Canon Treasurer Mike Williams cycled 'enthusiastically' around Exeter. In addition to this they gave on-going publicity and encouragement to congregations and supporters and their contribution will certainly benefit our parish churches.



County Organiser's note: *The DHCT is enormously grateful for their Perfect Pedaling which produced Pounds aPlenty to support our grant giving ability to Devon's churches.*

## St James' Church, Christow.



WOW! Devon's teddies had the most marvellous day imaginable – and I can speak from experience as my lucky teddy (pictured here!) was one of the many that zip-wired from the tower in a beautifully decorated basket. The teddies then had a chance to chat to each other, view the lovely art exhibition in the church AND enjoy the most scrumptious Devon cream tea.



Christow church deserves great applause for their initiative in organising this event and it was wonderful to see so many families present supporting the event - AND added to which Tom Sewell did another wonderful walk on our behalf.

Together they raised a superb £852 whilst giving lots of fun to everyone involved!

County Organiser's note: *Christow are a great inspiration showing how to raise funds and have fun for all the family*



**Tavistock churches:** Annie Jefferies regularly shows huge enterprise and commitment by organising unusual fundraising challenges – however in 2019 'our Annie' was not sure what exactly to do. Then her Vicar's son Joab Atkins said that he had come up with an idea..... why didn't Joab himself challenge her to two consecutive rounds of match play golf, played on the same day, which would mean 36 holes of golf, and Joab would select the courses! It would mean walking 10-12 miles playing golf, over hilly Devon courses but Annie is always up for a challenge!



They had had a great day on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October, finishing at 5pm when they were both quite tired and chilly, and dusk was creeping in. A hot chocolate seemed well deserved, and of course for Joab an engraved trophy and a financial reward!

Between they raised raised **£355 for Devon Historic Churches Trust !**

County Organiser's note: *As well as being such a clever fundraiser, Annie also tells tremendous tales – and an inspiration to us all!*

## Chulmleigh – always a fundraising leader.



Chulmleigh are always amazingly innovative in their fundraising initiatives and in 2019 they delivered excellent income from the following sources:

- Cemetery grass cutting £200
- Coffee Morning £448
- Ladies Walking Netball! £1,000
- Funeral Director Donation £50

**Total of £1,698**



County Organiser's note: *Chulmleigh raised the second largest sum in 2019 Please join us in giving them a BIG CHEER!*

When planning your fundraising event, you may wish to create your own  
**Personalised Promotional Poster.**

Email: [judith.kauntze@btinternet.com](mailto:judith.kauntze@btinternet.com) or [contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](mailto:contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)  
and we will provide a Template.

## Fundraising Fun from around Devon.....

Sue & Richard Bonnie taking a break from their cycle tour around Ottery Deanery. Together they raised £505 on behalf of West Hill church - **YIPEE!**



Sheelagh Michelmores is a great supporter and is pictured here with her friends organising a delicious Cream Tea at Salcombe Regis church. They raised £286 - **Scrumptious!**

At Powderham church they served delectable Cream Teas with Musical Interludes provided by local youngsters. They raised £250 – **Encore!**



Duncan Michie, DHCT Trustee with his wife Jillie exploring Devon and pictured here outside Sampford Courtenay church in their Vintage Alvis (Alice!). Duncan not only raises vital funds but leads the DHCT Grant Assessing team – **Vroom!**

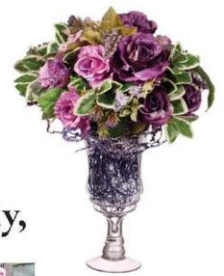
## HAVE FUN RAISING FUNDS FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR DEVON CHURCHES

Our Parish Churches really need the support of DHCT - can you help us by:

Opening your Garden



Floral displays in your Church



Cream Teas and Cakes



Fun for all the Family,

Games Balloons, Songs



or a Treasure Hunt!



A Litter Picking Walk – get sponsorship and generate donations from appreciative residents.

An entertaining musical event



or Sponsored Hymn singing

*We always enjoy hearing about the activities of our supporters and appreciate all those who raise funds to enable us to continue giving Grants to our Devon Churches.*

**Devon Historic Churches Day Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Including Ride+Stride**

Organise or attend an event to support the Devon Historic Churches Trust  
Or visit our churches and send us a donation.

**Make a note in your diary and encourage your friends**

**Devon Historic Churches Trust – here to help when you need our support.**

Thanks to a generous legacy from one of our supporters, the DHCT created an Emergency/Small Grant Fund (max £1,000) for churches who need assistance urgently. Also please note that Exeter Diocese has announced a new website aimed to help churches access funding for work <https://exeter.churchgrants.co.uk> Access to the site requires the Parish Reference

**Contact the Devon Historic Churches Trust on:**

Email: [contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](mailto:contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk) Grants: [grants@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](mailto:grants@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)

**Further information on our website: [www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](http://www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)**