

## Devon Historic Churches Day

*Please observe Government Guidelines at all times*



### **'Refreshing' Anecdotes and Refreshment suggestions.....**

The DHCD is always very appreciative of all the refreshments provided for its visitors to the churches on the day – we know how much it enhances the enjoyment of our supporters who are 'out and about' doing their bit to support the future of our glorious Devon Churches.



There is a variety of hospitality offered at events each year, with many providing Coffee Mornings or traditional Cream Teas to accompany activities in the church on the day. Others provide delicious lunches as part of their events and there are many mentions of



homemade cakes and much more and all those taking part in Ride+Stride really welcome refreshments when they visit your church as part of their day.

---

### **Some Anecdotes ....**

from supporters of our **Devon Historic Churches Day & Ride+Stride** in 2019



#### **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 *Hazel and her daughter Josie*. 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 - **YIPPEE!**



**Sheelagh Michelmore** 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!**

*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.*

So please, everyone, do support our glorious Devon churches in any way you wish – whilst of course observing Government Guidelines.

- Details of churches that are open and participating, together with various community activities can usually be found in the **Guide to Supporting Churches**, however due to current restrictions this will be produced in an alternative format this year and available by clicking on the link.
- Our churches have glorious interiors which are varied and historic and their congregations are dedicated to securing their future.
- Please support the DHCT in anyway you can to enable the trust to continue giving grants to enable their vital fabric repairs and refurbishments.



We also enjoy any anecdotes you have to offer and any photos you wish to send of your activities – so please let us have details of your ‘adventures’ by emailing:

**[contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](mailto:contact@devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)**

Donations can be made by clicking on the **Justgiving** link displayed on this website