



**Gloucestershire
Historic Churches Trust**



Annual Review 2018

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Association, Baptist Union of Great Britain)

The Reverend Steve Faber
(Moderator Gloucester District -
United Reformed Church)

The Reverend Dr Jonathan Pye
(Chairman Bristol District - The Methodist Church)



Grant Applications

The Trust's Grants Committee considers applications and awards grants in June and December. To apply for a grant, get in touch with the Chairman of the Grants Committee,

Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis
73 Forest View Road
Tuffley
Gloucester
GL4 0BY
Email: grants@ghct.org.uk

Members of the Council

Chairman

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Addresses for Correspondence

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01285 653164

Chairman

Nicholas Talbot Rice
Pigeon House,
Coln Rogers,
Cheltenham,
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Front cover: St Mary's, Dymock

Would anyone care to unravel the architectural history contained in just this short section of the south side of St Mary's, Dymock? Here is work from the eleventh century onwards, and a beautiful pot-pourri of colour and texture. Over the last ten years the Trust has made a number of grants to St Mary's but we have also benefitted from an admirable local record of Ride+Stride participation. Help us to help your church!

Aims and Objectives of the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

The Trust aims to:

- ☼ Assist those responsible for the care of places used for public worship which belong to a Christian religious body;
- ☼ Make funds available to help places of Christian worship of all denominations with repairs and improvements to the fabric of the buildings and their contents, as well as their surrounding churchyards;

Accordingly, it seeks to:

- ☼ Maintain a large support base whose annual committed income from subscriptions and donations will give a firm basis upon which to conduct its affairs;
- ☼ Foster an informed appreciation of the history, architecture and beauty of the churches and chapels and so provide a way for the wider community to help to maintain that irreplaceable heritage;
- ☼ Raise substantial amounts of money, primarily through the annual sponsored Ride+Stride, an event promoted by The National Churches Trust and supported by other County Trusts;
- ☼ Co-operate with other bodies making funds available for the purposes set out above.



The Trust is often asked to assist with schemes for servery facilities, which are often lacking in village churches. Here is a beautifully-made example at Newland, Forest of Dean, designed by Toby Falconer. As well as after-service refreshments, it can cope with the demands of concerts and other community events.



Chairman's Report

2018 proved a busy year for the Trust. Once again an increased number of applications for grants was received and I am glad to say that we were able broadly to maintain our grants awarded at £151,000 [2017 £150,000]. We aim to increase them in 2019. A list of all grants is included in this Annual Review. As you can see we helped towards essential repairs, improvements to facilities, rehangng bells and modernising furnishings.

Our AGM is on Tuesday 2nd July at 6.00 pm at St Mary's Church, Kingswood, near Wotton-Under-Edge – GL12 8RS [please note, this is **not** Kingswood in Bristol]. It would be good to meet with you then. Everyone is welcome and Glenn Duff will be there to talk to our Ride+Stride Local Organisers. There will also be an illustrated talk about some of the projects we have supported.

We do not ask for any fixed 'membership' fees, and rely on voluntary donations from our supporters. I would like to thank everyone for their contributions. We are extremely grateful for your support. I would also like to thank the Trustees of the charitable funds which donate to us: we are indebted to the Summerfield Trust, the Stratton Davis Trust of the Diocese of Gloucester, a Whitbread family trust, the

McCorquodale Charitable Trust and The Prince of Wales Charitable Foundation for their awards to us in 2018.

We hope you will continue to support us. For ways to do that, either use the tear-out sheet in the middle of this Report, or go to our website ghct.org.uk/support-us/

One of the major administrative issues in 2018 was the introduction of new data protection legislation [GDPR]. This is now enshrined, but some of our churches have not given 'explicit consent' for Ride+Stride, and we therefore no longer hold authority to contact them. We are keen to ensure that all parishes in our region receive details of the annual sponsored Ride+Stride Saturday. Please get in touch with Glenn Duff [ride-and-stride@speracc.com] to make certain that you receive the annual pack.

The Ride+Stride Saturday continues to attract satisfactory backing but we are keen to make it accessible to all our supporters: we are thus looking to broaden the fundraising activities on that day. Mindful that some of you have supported us for many years and are no longer active cyclists we hope that those might group with some friends and travel by car or arrange instead a coffee

morning at home or in their local church. We are equally keen to enthuse younger cyclists and cycle groups to explore some of our beautiful churches: Glenn has worked very hard designing web pages which detail all the churches in the County and enables routes to be planned to suit all.

www.ghct.org.uk This year the Ride+Stride Saturday is on 14th September.

Our website is our principal method of communicating with you nowadays. There is a lot of information and news on our web-pages, so do visit it – www.ghct.org.uk. Instagram seems to be attracting more users and we are encouraging people to use this medium: meanwhile we are also connecting with a growing audience through Facebook and Twitter. Our PR is now handled by Andrea Sexton and we look forward to a fruitful relationship with her. I would like to thank Alex Soffe for all her help with PR and our website over the last few years. Our web-site is managed by Glenn Duff.

We still print this Annual Review and send it by post to all on our database. We realise however that many of you now prefer to be contacted by email. Please let us know your preferences, or of course if you no longer wish to hear from us. If we do not have your e-mail address please send it to us so we can update our records accordingly.

I would like to thank the Council members for all their input and support. Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis needs special mention. He spends a tremendous amount of

time in appraising and, supported by his committee, in approving grant applications: his knowledge of buildings in our region is encyclopaedic. He has also produced this year's Annual Review – an additional task in his already full schedule. We would like to find a volunteer to take on this role – please contact me, if you, or anyone you know, would assume this brief.

Philip Kendell is retiring as a Trustee and a committee member after 15 years. I thank him for all his input over this time. We are looking for people to join our Council. Could you or someone you know help us in this way? I can let you have a note about what is entailed and the sort of skills and experience which could be helpful.

We are honoured that Edward Gillespie, who has succeeded Janet Trotter as Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, has agreed to become our President and I am delighted that Janet will become a Vice President and continue to support us.

I close by thanking you all for your patronage – both physical and financial. It is encouraging that in general the fabric of many of our churches is in good repair and that facilities are continually being enhanced, however we all know that this is an endless task. It is as vital as ever that we continue to build our volunteer helpers, our endowment funds and annual donations to further this.

Nicholas Talbot Rice
Chairman of the Trustees

Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

Reg. Charity No. 1120266

The Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at St. Mary's Church, The High Street, Kingswood, near Wotton under Edge, GL12 8RS....not to be confused with Kingswood, Bristol!

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last AGM held on 26th June 2018
3. Matters arising
4. To receive the Chairman's Review for 2018
5. To receive the Summarised Financial Statements for 2018. Copies of the full accounts for the year to 31st December 2018 will be available at the meeting.
6. Election of officers
 - Chairman
 - Vice-Chairman
 - Hon. Treasurer
 - Hon. Secretary
7. Re-appointment of Stephen Michael Shelley of Wenn Townsend (Chartered Accountants) of Cirencester as Independent Examiner
8. Any other business

Directions:

From the A38 or from M5 Junction 14, follow the B4509 (becomes B4508) towards Wotton under Edge. After passing through Charfield, turn right at the next roundabout. On entering Kingswood go straight on at a crossroads into Abbey Street, and then right into High Street. The church is on your left. If you miss the crossroads and carry on into the centre of the village, you can then turn left into High Street and you will approach the church on your right.



St Mary's Church, Kingswood was built in 1722, though it has been enlarged and much restored since. From the Georgian origins of the church there is a fine chandelier, font and commandment boards. In recent years the church has become much more user-friendly, with a loo, small kitchen and a glazed screen separating the north transept, which is now a versatile meeting area. About five years ago the church was relit and redecorated: the nave ceiling and associated details were whitened and given an eighteenth century flavour, using colours associated with the altarpiece of 1723.

The congregation at St Mary's have been enthusiastic Ride+Stride participants over the last ten years, often raising four-figure sums.

In 2018 the Trust made a grant of £6000 towards overhaul of the organ. The instrument dates from 1868 and is by William Sweetland of Bath. Ian Fox, the Diocesan Organs Adviser, describes it as a historic gem, very largely untouched by later 'improvements'.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Income Funds	Capital Funds	Total Funds 2018	Total Funds 2017
	£	£	£	£
INCOME:				
Donations, Legacies and Charitable Activities				
Subscriptions & Donations	44,957	-	39,082	44,957
Grant from Diocesan Funds				
Stratton Davis Bequest	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Grant from Summerfield Trust	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Phillips Estate	20,000	-	-	20,000
Ride & Stride event – gross income	34,089	-	45,894	34,089
Investments	69,945	-	72,035	69,945
Total Income	<u>188,991</u>	-	<u>177,011</u>	<u>188,991</u>
EXPENDITURE:				
Costs & Raising Funds				
Ride & Stride event	20,725	-	19,808	20,725
Other fund raising costs	7,722	-	8,250	7,722
Grants payable to Churches	150,000	-	151,000	150,000
Other support costs	8,425	-	9,525	8,425
Total Expenditure	<u>186,872</u>	-	<u>188,583</u>	<u>186,872</u>
	2,119	-	(11,572)	2,119
Gains/(Losses) on Revaluation Of Investments – Unrealised	<u>-</u>	<u>102,987</u>	<u>(169,512)</u>	<u>102,987</u>
Net Movement in Funds for Year	2,119	102,987	(181,084)	105,106
Total Funds brought forward	112,647	1,647,047	1,864,800	1,759,694
Transfer	-	-		-
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>114,766</u>	<u>1,750,034</u>	<u>1,683,716</u>	<u>1,864,800</u>
Fixed Assets				
Investments			<u>1,580,522</u>	<u>1,750,034</u>
Current Assets				
Debtors			17,276	-
Cash at bank			<u>182,668</u>	<u>211, 816</u>
			199,944	211,816
Less: Current Liabilities				
Creditors: Amounts due within one year			96,750	97,050
Net Current Assets			<u>103,194</u>	<u>114,766</u>
Net Assets			<u>1,683,716</u>	<u>1,864,800</u>

NOTE: The summarised statements may not give all the information needed for a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the Trust, but copies of the full accounts, together with the unqualified reports of the independent examiner and the formal reports of the Trustees, have been submitted to the Charity Commission and may be obtained, free of charge, from the Treasurer and are also available on our website.



A dramatic view of the tower and church, taken from a drone by the contractors, Messrs Splitlath, shows the scale of the work.



This banner tells the story of the shingles.

Westbury on Severn, St Mary, St Peter and St Paul. The saga of the Westbury spire will not be quickly forgotten by those most closely involved. A monumental detached tower and spire of 160 feet, listed grade one, clad in 38,000 wooden shingles and containing a complex mediaeval timber structure ... and all this in addition to a church building far too large for the present congregation. The need for reshingling was becoming urgent a decade ago, and with help from English Heritage (as it then was) the project eventually got underway. The condition of the timber structure proved far worse than expected and the costs soared. Eventually the vast scaffolding structure was removed, leaving the spire temporarily covered with plastic sheeting. With incredible determination, the local volunteers battled on and with massive Heritage Lottery Fund support, the job was finished in early 2019. A new gilded cockerel was fixed in place on 4th February, filmed by drone cameras. The Trust has made two grants totalling £20000 towards the work.



Blacksmith Claire Robertson, aka “Miss Fire”, from Drybrook, with the new weathercock she made for Westbury Spire.



Newnham on Severn, St Peter, only a few miles from Westbury is Newnham on Severn, where St Peter's church commands a superb view across the river. The bells project of 2018/19 was a complex but extremely well-planned operation, which has solved long-standing problems and created a much better environment in the tower. The bells were too heavy for the tower, and movement in the C19 frame, and other faults, made them notoriously difficult to ring, especially for novices.

The ring is now much lighter, with a shorter 'draught' between the ringer and the bell. A fine new glass-fronted ringing floor has been created together with all the modern aids such as CCTV and a system for silent bell practice. Those who enjoy hearing the Victorian chiming system will be glad to know that this has been retained and refurbished. Our grant of £7500 made a significant difference to the appeal.



Bristol, Saint Philip and Saint Jacob, 'Pip n Jay' is a large ancient church near Temple Meads station in central Bristol, with a lively and growing congregation. With a church of this size, roof repairs can be a daunting prospect. Thanks to a major grant offer from Heritage Lottery Fund, the PCC was able to withdraw its first grant application to GHCT, but on starting work a major infestation of death watch beetle was discovered, adding hugely to the cost of timbers repairs. We were able to help with a grant of £9000.



Grants to Churches 2018

Almondsbury	St Mary
Rehang bells	£750
Avonmouth	St Andrew
Refurbishment scheme	£8,000
Badgeworth	Holy Trinity
Repairs to roofs	£750
Berkeley	St Mary
Reordering W end	£2,500
Bishops Cleeve	St Michael and AA
Install AV system and cupboards	£2,000
Bristol	SS Philip & Jacob
Reroofing aisles, porches and chancel	£9,000
Cheltenham	St Gregory RC
Major restoration scheme	£10,000
Chipping Sodbury	Baptist
Install air curtain, also repairs to floor	£1,000
Compton Greenfield	All Saints
Repairs to boilerhouse roof etc	£250
Cranham	St James the Great
New toilet building in churchyard	£5,000
Downend	Christ Church
Reordering	£5,000
Down Hatherley	St Mary & Corpus Christi
Create WC, servery and improve font	£5,500
Dymock	St Mary
Upgrade heating and lighting	£2,250
Forthampton	St Mary
Stonework repairs	£10,000
Framilode	St Peter
Upgrading lighting and A/V equipment	£3,000
Great Badminton	St Mary
Urgent repairs to tower pinnacles	£4,000
Hawkesbury	St Mary
Repairs to tower	£5,000
Hill	St Michael
Install WC and servery	£2,750
Kingswood (nr Wotton-under-Edge)	St Mary
Overhaul organ	£6,000
Lower Swell	St Mary the Virgin
Creation of wc, servery etc at W end	£3,000



Cheltenham St Gregory RC

St Gregory's is a fine church of 1854-77, by Charles Hansom, crowned with a splendid tower and spire. The congregation is to be congratulated on completing a tremendous project of interior refurbishment in less than a year. New LED lighting in place of sodium, complete redecoration, removal of 1970s ceiling panels, and restoration of beautiful stencilling and texts after decades of obscuring whitewash. These were just the headlines in a wide-ranging project which has given the building a tremendous lift. The Trust was glad to help with a grant of £10,000.



Lydbrook	Holy Jesus	Stapleton	Holy Trinity
Improve kitchen and WC and access	£2,250	Repairs to roof (Phase 3)	£4,000
Newent	St Mary	Stroud	Congregational
Upgrade facilities in porch	£5,000	Repairs to windows etc (top up grant)	£2,000
Newnham	St Peter	Tarlton	St Osmund
Rehang bells and install new ringing floor	£7,500	Stonework repairs	£750
Parkend	St Paul	Tetbury	St Mary & St MM
Repairs to N and S porch roofs	£3,000	Create Disabled access at W door	£1,500
Patchway	St Chad Cof E LEP	Tutshill	St Luke
Repairs, esp to failing concrete	£1,000	Major reordering scheme (top up grant)	£4,000
Preston (Ciren)	All Saints	Upleadon	St Mary the Virgin
Install sound system	£250	Repairs to roof and plasterwork	£1,500
Redmarley	St Bartholomew	Westbury Park	St Alban
Urgent stonework repairs to tower	£10,000	New entrance and servery, lighting etc	£2,500
Rodborough	Tabernacle URC	Windrush	St Peter
Improve toilets	£3,000	Relocate memorial slab within church	£250
Sea Mills	St Edyth	Woodchester	St Mary
Reroof S nave and install sound system	£4,500	Reordering W end – new toilets etc	£7,000
Standish	St Nicholas	Wyck Rissington	St Laurence
Conservation of Churchill memorial	£1,500	Overhaul organ	£750



St Andrew, Avonmouth has been completely transformed by a huge reordering project known as Re-ignite, completed in in 2018. St Andrew's church was badly damaged by a fire bomb in 1941 and re-opened in 1957. Fifty years later the church and hall presented a drab and outdated appearance, and the parish



The Rt Revd Vivienne Faull, Bishop of Gloucester, with Revd Dr Andy Murray, parish priest, at the rededication service

is to be congratulated for their vision and determination. The church is now much more suited to the needs of modern worship, while the hall now functions as a Social Justice Hub, complementing the nearby Community Centre. The Trust helped with a grant of £10,000 towards the project.

RIDE+STRIDES

for Churches

A report from Glenn Duff, our Ride+Stride Regional Organiser

Ride+Stride is our annual fundraising event where hundreds of loyal supporters each year take part in sponsored activities to say thank you to us and to raise money for the charity. It nets about a sixth of the money that we give out in grants each year.

The official event day is always the **second Saturday in September**. Our participants enjoy a pleasant and sociable day, usually being sponsored to visit as many churches as they wish by walking, cycling, riding a horse or driving (if that's easier or they are short of time). There is the added attraction of cake at many of our churches (if I don't get there before you!)



Although the event is where most of the fundraising activity occurs, some churches raise extra money by putting on concerts and coffee mornings in aid of GHCT throughout the year as well. Half of the money raised by a church is given back to the church by us; the rest plus any Gift Aid is kept by the Trust to fund grants and cover our running costs.



I organise the Ride+Stride event in our region and I am indebted to the many dependable Ride+Stride local organisers and participants that we have here; you have really

made it an enjoyable role to take on. There is a very real altruistic sense of togetherness in R+S.

If your church doesn't have a local organiser, **I need you** especially if you are one of these

mystical people that have the power to extract money from my pocket every time I bring any into church; I've experienced it, they are lethal but little would get done without them! If you are the church's "mover and shaker" then do I have a nice little job for you?

I believe most of the people that support Ride+Stride say they do so because they value our work and want to ensure that we can keep the bank topped up for future grants. Ride+Stride has been going on for a long time. Anyone with responsibilities for keeping a church going financially knows only too well how hard it can be to keep successful activities running ... successfully! We have to find a way to do that and I think the answer has to be **more churches taking part**. That might sound rather obvious but what I mean is, share the load; less pressure on the 20% of our churches that currently fundraise and new help from the other 80% joining in the fun!

One church told me that they will keep fundraising until they repay what we gave them. We don't ask for that, but if it can be done, it will of course help us provide more grants.
Glenn

The Ride+Stride 2019 Event takes place on Saturday 14 September

The Under-16 Prize...

We have a number of prizes that we award to the highest fundraisers each year. This year we are **doubling the cash element of the prize**



we give to our best under-16 fundraiser so churches, get behind your youngsters this year and help them to win! We also have 2 trophies to present to the best and second best fundraising churches.

Report on the 2018 Event...

The Trust and I would like to thank all those who organised events, participated, sponsored people, were in welcome parties & provided refreshments for our events.

Our £1000+ Fundraising Churches

The following churches raised over £1000 (including Gift Aid) – HAVE A BIG THANK YOU!

Great Witcombe	£2,247
Cranham	£1,875
Coln St. Aldwyns	£1,635
Down Ampney	£1,422
Kingswood	£1,408
Tewkesbury Abbey	£1,197
Dowdeswell	£1,190
Eastleach	£1,030
Dymock	£1,001

Our 2018 Prize Winners

Well done to the following:

Whitbread Trophy (best under 16)

Poppy Bolton-Lake from St. James the Great, Saul

John Cannan Trophy (best 16-69)

Helen Mann from St. Mary & St. Nicolas, Prestbury

Holmes Salver (best 70 and over)

Jamie Eykyn from St. Peter, Duntisbourne Abbots

Eykyn Challenge Cup (best group)

St. Mary the Virgin, Great Witcombe

GHCT Challenge Shield (best church)

St. Mary the Virgin, Great Witcombe

The Ride+Stride Spring Newsletter

Each of our Ride+Stride Churches receives our annual newsletter which goes into more detail on the way we run Ride+Stride in our region and any recent changes. If you would like a copy, please download it from here:



ghct.org.uk/downloads

This is also the place to go if you would like to get our sponsorship forms and all other forms and posters.

If you do want to take part and download your own forms, it is important that the local organiser knows you are taking part. Please let them know. If you don't know who to contact, call Glenn on 01452 538271.

The Financial Report

An excellent all-round effort resulted in £42,891 being raised (including £5,721 Gift Aid). We had 115 churches raising money and 561 participants – the most people taking part on record. We gave back £17,431 in refunds to our churches so, **Church Treasurers, Ride+Stride is good for your bank balance**, be sure to encourage your church in 2019.

Our region had 233 cyclists, 86 walkers and 4 horse-riders and so 58% of our participants took part in the traditional Ride+Stride activities in 2018. This shows that our local flexibility allows more participation. Not everyone can ride or stride though and not every church can find someone to do it for them but in those cases, why not arrange for a car or two to pick up some members of the congregation and take part in a sponsored mini tour of your area? It need not take long and will be much appreciated by those taking part.

Get Involved!

The best way to support the event is to become a participant and be sponsored. Traditionally, people are sponsored to walk, cycle or ride a horse from church to church but there are many other things you can do now including driving and indoor events (thus avoiding any bad weather and automatically providing a welcome party). There is a list of ideas on our website and we believe **anyone who wants to support us can now do so.**



We have a number of churches who have bought our subsidised banners for £35. We have to make a bulk order to get the discounted prices so if you would like to get one to advertise the event, please visit ghct.org.uk/banners.

We have a strong participation base but sadly there is a downward trend in the number of churches taking part and the bottom line in the last 3 years. We cannot be complacent so I hope every person reading this will consider if they can play their part in keeping this tradition going and support this lifeline for many of our churches; call Glenn for ideas!

If you want to take part in the Ride+Stride 2019 Event, please see our Ride+Stride website (ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride) for details and contact your church's local organiser. If you cannot find out who your local organiser is, please contact Glenn. We do not publish local organiser personal details for data protection reasons but this information should be available locally. If you permit us to have your details, we will ask them to contact you.

Some of Your Stories (more on our Social Media Channels!)



Congratulations to our remarkable team from Great Witcombe (left). For 2 years in a row, Bob, Robin, Sarah and Sue won not only the Best Group prize but also the Best Church prize too! Last year they took the car so they could cover a greater area and visit some of our hidden gems.

Sarah, who visited over 600 churches in 2017 has to be the perfect guide to have in the team! Well done all of you.

Our Under-16 winner in 2018 came really close to winning it in 2017 too! Poppy (and her sister Eva who won this prize some years before) come from Saul Church in Stroud.



Thanks to those who encouraged the young ladies to take part and be so successful! Well done Poppy for persisting and congratulations to you. "Queenie Quilt", the Unicorn, had a great time too!



Our regular loyal walking team from Thornbury and Oldbury were out again and together raised over £1,500! Revd Tom is not normally a man to lose his head.

One of our regular participants, John, from a loyal family of Riders and Striders, wrote us a letter to express the established altruistic spirit of Ride+Stride. Help us to keep this spirit going!

"I wish to say how much I enjoyed the Ride+Stride. It is a lovely way to enjoy our local countryside and visit all the beautiful churches and meet the people who welcome us in the churches. I have taken part for 37 years. It became a family event – my brother and father cycled with me for several years and my mother was a local organiser. I was 10 when I first cycled. In 1994 we won the cup – my brother, father and I cycled as the Bell-Ringing Team. I would encourage others to take part. It is a good day out and way to raise money for our churches to help maintain them for future generations. I cycled for St. Peter's Church in Siddington; I visited 31 churches and hope to continue".



If a cooked breakfast before you set out on your day of church discovery is appealing then perhaps you need to head towards St James' Westerleigh next year (other temptations are available!). Between 9am and 11am, these ladies produced 56 cooked breakfasts for their grateful visitors.



Please support our Ride+Stride Event! Best wishes,

Mr Glenn Duff, Ride+Stride Regional Organiser, ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride

Email: ghct.org.uk/contact-us then select **Ride+Stride Regional Organiser**

We have had stories from our main activities: driving, walking, cycling, unicorn-riding so to

finish, let's have some motor-cycling and an excellent example of a church-based activity!

Our Friends Roger and Lynda from Standish took to the roads on a 1957 Bantam motorbike!



They visited 16 churches covering 58 miles in 3.75 hours and they had some tricky moments with steep hills and stones flying off other vehicles to contend with. Their hard work was justly rewarded with fish and chips and strawberries and cream when they got home! What a great effort and we know there were aches and pains after the event but you see, this is the Ride+Stride spirit in full!



The GHCT Website

GHCT is planning to give the website some attention. They have asked me to help with this. As a

professional software engineer, I know that it is very important to understand how people use the website and what they like and do not like. So, you will not be seeing any immediate significant changes in style or facilities until we have produced the requirements and roadmap for this essential tool in the GHCT communications (and other) strategies. To that aim, I would be most grateful for any thoughts you would like to share with me.

Mr Glenn Duff, Spera Computer Consultancy, speracc.com

Email: ghct.org.uk/contact-us then select **Webmaster**

A Prayer for Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

Eternal God, who in past ages didst inspire thy servants to build
in Gloucestershire many churches of both splendour and simplicity;

Strengthen our resolve to preserve and enrich our heritage.

Deliver us from all pride in achievement, and grant us
patience and perseverance in the face of difficulty.

Prosper our work, if it be thy gracious will,
that those who come after us may have
houses of prayer fit for thy name to dwell in,
and be themselves inspired to lives of witness and service.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



www.ghct.org.uk

www.twitter.com/GlosHCT

Could you give time to the work of the Trust?

We need to strengthen the membership of our Council. The work is not onerous, but we are looking for people with enthusiasm and useful skills. For example, we are looking for someone to take over as editor of this Annual Review – it's quite a creative task, and all necessary help and advice will be given.

If you would like to know more please contact Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis on
jonathanmj@virginmedia.com or 01452 502174.