



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

*raising money to grant-aid historic churches  
and chapels in Nottinghamshire*



Annual Review  
2021-22

## Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust

**Patrons:** The Rt Revd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham  
The Rt Revd Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham  
The Very Revd Nicola Sullivan, Dean of Southwell  
His Honour Tony Mitchell

**President:** Mr David Atkins  
**Chairman:** Mr Graeme Renton  
**Vice Chairman:** Mr Andrew Paris  
**Treasurer:** Mr Jon Dawson

**Trustees  
as at April 2022** Dr Jenny Alexander  
Professor John Beckett  
Mr Richard Brackenbury  
Dr Christopher Brooke  
Mr Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes DL  
Professor Michael Jones  
Mr Anthony Marriott  
Mr Malcolm Stacey  
The Revd Canon Keith Turner

The trustees of the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust are chosen from various backgrounds to represent a cross-section of occupations and professions suitable to look after the needs of the Trust. Among these trustees are architects, archaeologists, specialists in many historical matters, landowners whose estates include an historic church, representatives from the legal and accountancy professions, surveyors, valuers, and various other appropriate disciplines. All give their services free and are diligent workers in achieving the aims of the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust.

The Trust can be contacted via:

The Secretary, Mrs Anthea Moat on 01909 472324 or email: [nhct@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nhct@hotmail.co.uk)

The Treasurer, Jon Dawson on 0115 987 7291 or 07581 729 520

or email: [jon@jndaccounting.com](mailto:jon@jndaccounting.com)

The Grants Administrator, Mrs Margaret Lowe on 07757 800 919

or email: [info.nhct@gmail.com](mailto:info.nhct@gmail.com)

The Fundraising Co-ordinator, Mrs Maureen Hallam on 01636 812580

or email: [maureenjhallam@googlemail.com](mailto:maureenjhallam@googlemail.com)

The Ride+Stride Organiser, Mrs Margaret Lowe on 07757 800 919

or email: [info.nhct@gmail.com](mailto:info.nhct@gmail.com)

Print Production, Andrew Paris on 0771 460 3060

Details of our work can be found on our website at: [www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk)

Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171623

## How the Trust Works

The Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust was founded in 1986 and gave its first grants in 1987. It raises money to grant-aid historic churches and chapels in Nottinghamshire. It is non-denominational and can consider making grants to any Christian historic church or chapel in need of support.

On 31 December 1986 a small handful of committed people, concerned at the decline in the ability of Christian church groups to fund proper care of our historic ecclesiastical buildings, met to sign the Trust Deed thereby creating the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. Today there are between twelve and twenty trustees at any one time, invited to take on the role because of their expertise, knowledge of and interest in the preservation of our architectural heritage.

*The Trust raises money from*

- Individuals
- Institutions
- Local authorities
- Charitable trusts and foundations
- Legacies

*It organises*

- The annual Ride+Stride
- The Friends of NHCT
- Annual Summer Party
- Events and visits

A Friends' Application Form and Standing Order is available from the Trust secretary. These, together with details of the Ride+Stride and other information, are also on our website: [www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk)

NHCT has been awarded £30,000 from the Allchurches Trust Limited to offer grants of up to £1,500 to provide help for the installation of roof alarms to deter the theft of lead.

*The Trust spends money*

- By making grants to historic churches and chapels in Nottinghamshire for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and fittings. Most buildings in receipt of grant-aid pre-date 1914, but the trustees may also consider places of worship built between 1914 and 1969.
- Size of grants depends on various conditions laid down by the Constitution at the discretion of the trustees.

*Why the Trust needs your help.*

- The Trust makes a major contribution to the preservation of our heritage by helping to conserve and repair ecclesiastical buildings of outstanding architectural merit or of historic interest.
- The Trust must keep raising money to continue with its work. The task of preserving our ecclesiastical heritage increases rather than diminishes with time.

## Chairman's Report

As I approach the end of my first year as Chairman, it has been another challenging year with the effects of Covid-19 but hopefully we find ourselves cautiously moving back to some sense of a new normality. It has not been easy for churches, both financially and in promoting their value and quality for those visiting, but as a Trust we will carry on and generally become stronger. Our concern and sympathy go out to those who have lost loved ones or who have been affected in any way by the pandemic.

The trustees have continued to meet and review our work via Zoom during lockdown, and we now look forward to our first face-to-face meeting this May. However, we still succeeded in undertaking several events which was a great achievement, and all were well attended.

The Ride+Stride event last September was a fantastic success, and despite some challenges, we were still able to raise over £20,000, with 195 churches and chapels taking part. The weather was ideal, the riders and striders in good spirits, the various competitions were well supported, and a very positive result was achieved. A big 'thank you' must go to Margaret Lowe for her tenacity and hard work in achieving such a positive result.

Our Summer Party took place at Winkburn Hall in September and, after an excellent buffet, the Friends and supporters of NHCT took the short walk to the little church of St John of Jerusalem where Professor Michael Jones gave a talk on the Knights of St John, followed by Dr Chris Brooke who described the history and architecture of the church.

The Friends' activities recommenced with a visit to see the conservation work undertaken by Michelle Pepper on the Blind Arcade at Worksop Priory and then onto St Michael's church in Retford to see her work on the restoration of the Sir Ninian Comper reredos. It is hoped to continue these visits with the Friends of the Trust, now that the risk of spreading Covid 19 has reduced, and our next visit will be to St Swithin's at Wellow and St Paulinus at New Ollerton at the end of April.

It is exciting to see the new website going live and our increasing use of social media to advertise the work of the Trust. Our thanks go to volunteers Cameron Bonser and Andy Platt, and to Andy Nicholson, who has kept an eye on the website for many years. Enjoy the churches illustrated and share with your friends!

We have been re-engaging with the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham this year to increase the profile of the Trust, and hopefully increasing financial support and interest in our work.

The Trustees have allocated 23 grants totalling £39,700 through the year towards the maintenance of our churches and chapels. We have also been able to spend £21,600 out of a £30,000 grant given to us by the Allchurches Trust Limited over the past few years specifically to support the provision of church roof alarms to prevent lead theft, which is a great effort.

At the upcoming AGM we will be losing two valued trustees, Keith Turner after 19 years, and Malcolm Stacey after 10. We will be sad to lose them from the team and are most grateful for their time and expertise over the years. We hope to keep in touch with them as Friends of the Trust. Our President, David Atkins, will be standing down from that role, but we are delighted that he will remain as a trustee, and thank him for his ten years as President of the Trust. We are pleased to say that Richard Brackenbury has agreed to take on the role after the AGM, and I look forward to working with him.

We will be welcoming a new trustee, Margaret Bennett-Samuels, who brings with her a wide-ranging passion for history and archaeology as a landscape architect and historian, as well as corporate experience.

Finally, my thanks go to the Trust's treasurer, Jon Dawson, for giving so much of his time to the finances of the Trust and the allocation of grants, and to Maureen Hallam for her perseverance in approaching grant-giving bodies for their financial support. He thanked Anthea Moat for keeping the trustees in the picture, the Friends in touch, and being general dogsbody for the Trust, especially during this difficult period when normal life came to a halt. It is good to feel we might now be able to move forward into a new, more positive period.

**Graeme Renton** – Chairman

## Grants Committee Report

There were a variety of denominations helped by the Trust this year and involved a diverse range of projects. The grants total offered to churches this financial year amounted to £ 39,700, up on last year's total grants offered. This is in part due to the allocation of monies for roof alarms – which ran out at the end of March 2022.

Unfortunately, as in previous years, we have also had to decline or postpone some applications for various reasons, either insufficient funds available, works classed as new and not repair, and, in some cases, a request for a revised application detailing specific works required.

The following churches have been offered grants over the last year:

Annesley All Saints – Urgent stone repairs to all sides of church	£ 4,000
Basford St Leodegarius – Repointing and securing parapet stone to tower	£ 1,500
Bestwood Village St Mark – Renewal of pointing to rear of church	£ 400
Bramcote St Michael and All Angels – Roof maintenance works	£ 5,000
Bramcote St Michael and All Angels – ‘One off’ emergency payment’ windowpane slipped	£ 500
Coddington All Saints – Replace northwest churchyard wall	£ 4,000
Daybrook St Paul - New roof alarm system	£ 2,200
Gotham St Lawrence - Repairs to damaged stonework	£ 1,350
Halam St Michael the Archangel – New roof alarm system	£ 2,000
Hickling St Luke – New roof alarm system	£ 2,200
Hyson Green St Michael and All Angels – New roof alarm system	£ 2,200
Kirkby-in-Ashfield St Wilfrid – Lightning conductor replacement	£ 250
Mansfield Old Meeting House - Alarm system	£ 500
North Muskham St Wilfrid – Reposition and conservation of hatchments	£ 1,000
Retford St Joseph Catholic Church - Repairs to roof and removal of woodworm	£ 2,000
Sibthorpe St Peter - Urgent repairs to ceilings and walls in chancel and nave	£ 1,000
Sneinton St Cyprian - Issue with flat roofs leaking and sandstone pieces failing	£ 4,000
Tollerton St Peter - New roof alarm system	£ 2,200
Warsop St Peter and St Paul – New roof alarm system	£ 2,200
Worksop Priory - Earth bonding connection of gas pipes (failure)	£ 500
Worksop St John the Evangelist – Roof and steeple defects, stone erosion	£ 4,000

Grant monies upgraded

Ratcliffe on Soar Holy Trinity - Original offer £ 1,000 – works more intensive than first thought, additional grant of £500 given (making total £ 1,500)

Misson St John the Baptist - Original grant £ 750. More damage to boundary wall found, extra £ 200 given

Grants withdrawn:

Bramcote St Michaels and All Angels – Roofing works not carried out £ 5,000

Please note:– above figures include the following:

Roof grants offered late March £4,000 - (Total £12,500)

Additional monies offered £ 700

Minus grant withdrawn £ 5,000

**Graeme Renton RIBA AABC IMA PS EASA**

Chairman of the Grants Committee

## The Friends of NHCT

The Friends of Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust have had poor exchange for their subscriptions over the last two years and more, and the Trustees are so grateful for their loyalty and continuing support for the work of the Trust. This work has, of course, been going on during the Covid interlude, albeit at a slower rate since some repair work has been impossible to do due to Covid restrictions; it has also been very hard to find safe ways of raising funds from local communities, as opposed to funding from trusts and grant-giving charities.

However, there was great excitement and a full house for our first post-Covid Friends' visit, which was to Worksop Priory and to St Michael's church in Retford, in August 2021. Although we had visited the Priory before, this visit concentrated on the restoration by Michelle Pepper of the Blind Arcade. This had originated as a reredos, designed by Sir G.G.Scott, at the east end of the church, and the Trust had helped fund the refurbishment of this unique work of art. There was also the opportunity to look round this historic building, full of intriguing mysteries, like the newly revealed little primitive stone face on the south wall; was this a medieval mason leaving his mark, knowing it was to be plastered over in this grand building? We then went to Retford where Michelle talked about her restoration of the reredos housed in the church for the last 120 years, created by Sir Ninian Comper for a church somewhere in Lincoln (probably All Saints). Quite why it ended up in Retford is still a mystery! The tea that St Michael's produced for us was up there with the best, and the opportunity to chat was just wonderful, after 18 months with no such social activity allowed.

Sadly, the next planned visit was to be in October, just as another wave of Covid anxiety hit, and we all began to think about keeping safe in order to be able to celebrate with our families over Christmas. So the decision was reluctantly taken to postpone the visit until better times.

However, we did manage to meet at Winkburn Hall in September 2021 for a Summer Party, with a capacity crowd of supporters on a glorious late summer evening. What could have been lovelier? Winkburn Hall, the Trust's 'home', was at its most idyllic, the evening sky and peaceful landscape a stunning backdrop, and the talks in the little church of St John of Jerusalem, about its history and its association with the Knights Hospitaler and the Crusades, were stimulating entertainment. Once again, the Trust is indebted to Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes for his hosting of trust events, since its inception at his kitchen table some 36 years ago.

We look forward to a full series of Friends' events and welcome any suggestions as to what these might include. Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to several Friends who have died recently, and to others for whom the Covid lockdowns forced decisions to restrict activities. The support of the Friends for the work of the Trust is greatly valued by the Trustees, and we all look forward to more social contact once again as life becomes more relaxed.

**Anthea Moat** - Trust Secretary / Administrator

## **Ride+Stride 2021**

The second Saturday of September 2021 dawned fair for the annual Ride+Stride for churches across the country. In Nottinghamshire, 195 churches and chapels had agreed to take part by opening their doors for visiting riders and striders; some put on events such as scarecrow competitions, coffee mornings, art exhibitions and, most especially, refreshments. The launch event had had to be cancelled twice due to Covid-19 restrictions that came into place at the time, and finally there was an 'after party' at which the participants were thanked, and the prizes won in 2020 were presented. Over 140 riders and striders took part, including several new recruits, and the three competitions were well supported; the photographic competition had many interesting entries featuring Nottinghamshire churches and chapels. The winners will be presented with their prizes at the launch party for the 2022 event, which will take place in July at Winkburn Hall, where the paperwork for the 2022 event will be available.

The final sum raised by the 2021 event was an amazing £21,370 which is truly staggering, given the lack of social involvement and many restrictions on activities during the year. It is, of course, a wonderful way to get out and about safely; there is no need to enter any of the churches, and all that fresh September air must be good for us! Sponsorship seemed to flow, with various forms of donating now available, including 'Just Giving', and direct payments into the Trust's Ride+Stride bank account.

Some of the event's regular participants have told us of their adventures, starting with planning their route – it is amazing how many churches there are to be found in rural Nottinghamshire; approximately one every five miles according to one regular cyclist! In the north of the county, it would be interesting to follow in the footsteps of the disenchanted parishioners who walked for many miles to hear the preaching of the Separatist leaders, who eventually triggered the journey to America in the Mayflower. And the horse races now known as point-to-points were originally chases from church spire to church tower. The annual Ride+Stride is its modern successor, raising much needed funds for those churches.

**Mrs Margaret Lowe** – Ride+Stride Administrator

## Summarised Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

<i>Income &amp; Expenditure</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Donations and legacies	33,935	33,106
Other trading activities	10,416	9,046
Investment income	1,541	2,162
	<b>45,892</b>	<b>44,314</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Raising funds	8,868	9,539
Grants awarded (less withdrawn)	45,500	37,740
Management and administration	6,446	5,401
	<b>60,814</b>	<b>52,680</b>
<b>Net income for the year</b>	-14,922	-8,366
Change in value of investments	2,430	12,712
<b>Net movement in funds in the year</b>	<b>-12,492</b>	<b>4,346</b>
 <i>Balance Sheet</i>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Investments at market value	41,867	39,438
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors and prepayments	446	
Cash balances	123,899	144,629
Total current assets	<b>124,345</b>	<b>144,629</b>
<b>Liabilities due within one year</b>		
Grants awarded not yet paid	48,200	54,374
Other creditors	854	43
Total current liabilities	<b>49,054</b>	<b>54,417</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>117,158</b>	<b>129,650</b>
Funds		
Unrestricted	94,969	99,695
Restricted	22,189	29,955
	<b>117,158</b>	<b>129,650</b>

### The Trustees' Statement on the Summarised Accounts

The summarised accounts are an extract from the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 10 May 2022. These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the Trust. Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Treasurer, Jon Dawson Unit C17, Kestrel Business Centre, Colwick Industrial Estate, Nottingham NG4 2JR. In accordance with the legislation relating to charity accounts, the accounts have been subject to an independent examination by Zydna Limited.

On behalf of the Trustees.

**Jon Dawson**

Treasurer



## Making a Lasting Difference - Leaving a Legacy

Leaving a gift in your Will to the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust isn't just a gift, it's an investment in history and heritage. Many of the county's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are fighting a battle against the ravages of time. We need to make sure that they get the repairs and renovations they need to remain at the heart of their local communities.

A gift in your Will helps the Trust to preserve these precious buildings for future generations. As a small charity with limited resources, your legacy could make a big impact on what we are able to achieve.

We welcome all legacies, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference to the historic legacy of churches in Nottinghamshire. A bequest or legacy in your Will is one of the more traditional forms of giving to charity but remains a very important one.

You are never too young to consider leaving us a legacy to ensure that future generations will enjoy our county's rich heritage of churches and chapels.

All gifts given to charity in your Will are tax-free and are deducted from your estate before inheritance tax is calculated. Therefore, you could reduce or remove your estate's potential inheritance tax liability by including a gift to charity in your Will.

There are several ways to benefit a charity:

By a specific legacy which is a fixed amount from your estate  
e.g. "I leave the sum of £....."

or

By leaving the charity a share of your residuary estate. After any funeral, taxes and testimonial expenses are paid the balance left is known as your residuary estate and can be left to charity in full or in part.

**All legacy income is spent on direct project work, and is never spent on general administration costs.**

If you wish to leave a legacy in your Will to the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust, and would like to indicate your intention, please contact one of the Trust's officers.

Mrs Maureen Hallam - Fundraising Co-ordinator  
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