



# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

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



Annual Review  
2022 - 23

*Front cover: Church of St Mary, Car Colston  
(photograph - Dr Christopher Brooke)*

## Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust

**T**he 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)

### *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.

**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**

## Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trustees

**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 Richard Brackenbury

**Chairman:** Mr Graeme Renton

**Vice Chairman:** Mr Andrew Paris

**Treasurer:** Mr Jon Dawson

**Trustees**  
**as at April 2023**

Professor Jenny Alexander  
Mr David Atkins  
Professor John Beckett  
Mrs Margaret Bennett-Samuels  
Dr Christopher Brooke  
Mr Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes DL  
Professor Michael Jones  
Mr Anthony Marriott

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.

### Nottinghamshire Historic Churches 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

## Chairman's Report

Another year has passed and it is still taking time for normality to return to our lives, post Covid, and of course the impact of the energy crisis has further affected the way that our churches are being used as the huge challenge of heating them remains. For some, different patterns of worship have been adopted with the practice of streaming services being maintained, and, for some, concerns about the risks of contacting the Covid virus has meant that overall numbers attending have reduced.

The news is thankfully not all negative, as the role and value of the church in the community has increased in a number of locations, developing a true social concern as lessons from Covid have been learned. Our churches are places of worship but they are also safe places to meet for coffee and chat, providing valuable food banks, as well as holding community events.

The House of Good Report, commissioned by the National Churches Trust, has indicated that the true value of our churches in social and economic terms within the community is more than £55 billion when taking account of how our buildings are being used, which is a huge figure. However, we still need spaces that are safe, warm and watertight, which is why the Trust is so heavily involved and committed to this work.

Looking back over the last year, the Trustees have continued to meet both on-line and in person, and we can report in a positive way as follows.

Our annual Ride+Stride event took place in September and, despite some challenges, was still able to raise just under £20k, with 165 churches and chapels taking part, which was a great achievement. I personally enjoyed another cycle ride and was welcomed at over 20 churches. A big thank you must go to Margaret Lowe for her tenacity in organising this event, with all the challenges of encouraging as many churches as possible to take part – not easy, post Covid.

Our slightly delayed Summer Party took place at Southwell Minster in early October with over 100 people attending in the State Chamber; we enjoyed talks given by Clare Hartwell on stained glass in Nottinghamshire churches, Victoria Arthurson in the Chapter House on the amazing Leaves of Southwell Project, and included the opportunity to visit the Palace Gardens led by Claire Connely, the Head Gardener.

Returning to our core purpose, it was good to record that £54,450 was awarded during the year to twenty-three churches in the county, to help with their vital repair and maintenance.

The new website has now been in place for a year and presents a good picture of who we are and what we do, so please share with your friends and help us to raise more funds and to introduce more new Friends of the Trust. However, we still require some assistance in the use of social media following on from the excellent work that Cameron Bonser undertook, so if you know anyone who would be interested in helping, please let us know.

My thanks must go to our Secretary, Anthea Moat, for all her hard work in organising the events and encouraging the Trust's Friends, to Maureen Hallam for her crucial work in successfully finding grants and resources, and of course to Jon Dawson, our Treasurer, as he seeks to ensure that we look after the finances. I would also like to thank all the Trustees for their support and expertise, and Richard Brackenbury for taking on the role of President.

**Graeme Renton RIBA AABC IMA PS EASA - *Chairman***

## The Friends of NHCT

**A**t the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the NHCT, it was reported that the Friends of the Trust contributed a most welcome £6,000 towards the grants that it was able to make to churches and chapels in need of help for repairs and maintenance. This is a substantial sum, and the Trustees are most grateful to the Friends for their financial support for the work of the Trust.

Friends' visits to churches started again, after the deprivations of lockdowns and Covid anxiety, with a visit to the church of St Swithin at Wellow, just opposite the magnificent maypole still very much in use at May Day celebrations. There has been a church on the site since the 12th century, closely associated with Rufford Abbey nearby until its dissolution in the 1500s; the Trust has supported work on the church clock, the original having been made by Richard Roe of Epperstone in 1699. It is a consecrated building, having taken over the role of the church during a major upgrade in the 1870s, and never revoked. We then went on to the 20th century church of St Paulinus at New Ollerton, built in 1931 in the Romanesque style, for the community of miners and their families, working at the newly sunk shaft of Ollerton pit. Graeme Renton, the Trust's Chairman, is also the inspecting architect for the church and he talked most interestingly about its building. Sir Giles Gilbert Scott was invited to produce a design for the church, but this was rejected by the Butterley Company who owned the pit, and eventually it was built to a design from more local builders, using bricks produced by the Butterley Company. There is an impressive Miners' Window commemorating the closure of the pit in 1994. The tea provided for the Friends after their visit, in the spacious community centre attached to the church, was much appreciated, and the afternoon was all the more enjoyable because of the deprivations of Covid over the previous two years and more.

The Summer Party morphed into an October event based in the State Chamber at Southwell Minster, where Clare Hartwell talked about the amazing variety of stained glass in the county's churches. This was the climax to an enjoyable mixture of events taking place around the Minster, starting with a visit to the newly restored Palace Garden, with the Head Gardener, Claire Connely, on hand to chat about her plans for the future of this historic garden. Then there was a chance to visit the Chapter House where work has been carried out to make this wonderful place more accessible, and with new interpretations of its origins. This part of the evening was introduced by Professor Jenny Alexander and Victoria Arthurson, as well as others who are involved in this detailed and exciting work. After this, as if there wasn't enough going on, there was the opportunity to attend Choral Evensong in the Minster, before moving up to the State Chamber for delicious food and drinks, and the talk by Clare Hartwell. The Trustees are so very grateful to the Dean for her generous support for this most enjoyable and interesting gathering.

The death of Her Majesty the Queen in September was marked across the county by bells tolling, and it would be interesting to know how many of them had been made safe to ring with grants from the Trust. As churches gradually came alive again after the locked and empty months enforced by Covid restrictions, more events were planned, but it was not until the spring of 2023 that we began to feel relaxed about such gatherings. The Trustees are most grateful for the continued support of the Friends, despite the lack of interesting outings over the last two years.

**Anthea Moat** - *Secretary / Administrator*

# Summarised Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

<i>Income &amp; Expenditure</i>	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Donations and legacies	25892	33,935
Other trading activities	11653	10,416
Investment income	3416	1,541
Repayment of unused Allchurches Trust Grant	-12000	
	<u>28,961</u>	<u>45,892</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Raising funds	9767	8,868
Grants awarded (less withdrawn)	49650	45,500
Management and administration	6291	6,446
	<u>65,708</u>	<u>60,814</u>
<b>Net income for the year</b>	-36,747	-14,922
Change in value of investments	845	2,430
<b>Net movement in funds in the year</b>	<u>-35,902</u>	<u>-12,492</u>
 <b>Balance Sheet</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Investments at market value	42713	41,867
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors and prepayments	1963	446
Cash balances	100335	123,899
Total current assets	<u>102,298</u>	<u>124,345</u>
<b>Liabilities due within one year</b>		
Grants awarded not yet paid	60200	48,200
Other creditors	3555	854
Total current liabilities	<u>63,755</u>	<u>49,054</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>81,256</b>	<b>117,158</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
General unrestricted fund	71747	94,969
Restricted funds	9509	22,189
	<u>81,256</u>	<u>117,158</u>

## 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 2023. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf on 23 May 2023.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to gain 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



## Grants Committee Report

**D**uring 2022/2023, the Trust offered grants to 23 churches and chapels across the county amounting to a total of £54,450, an increase on last year's total of £39,700. The Allchurches Trust roof alarm scheme is no longer in existence.

This year, the grants were well spread across Nottinghamshire with most denominations being in receipt of grants, the majority of which came from our own funds. Two applications were turned down for not matching the eligible criteria of the Trust, by asking for retrospective approval.

The following churches have been helped with offers confirmed over the past 12 months:

	£
BEESTON METHODIST CHURCH - Internal and external spire repairs	4,000
BEESTON ST JOHN THE BAPTIST - Replace copper roof with Terne coated steel	4,000
BLEASBY ST MARY - Erect plaque to south wall of church	100
BRAMCOTE ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS - Internal high level lighting alterations	1,000
CAR COLSON ST MARY - Restore bells, refurbish bell tower	4,000
CLAYWORTH ST PETER - Replace lead gutters	1,500
CROPWELL BISHOP ST GILES - Re-ordering of west end of church nave	1,000
HUCKNALL ST MARY MAGDALENE - Repointing to south transept	1,500
KEYWORTH ST MARY MAGDALENE - New electrical heating system required	1,250
NEWARK ST MARY MAGDALENE - Major repairs (roof wiring, drains, stonework)	4,000
NORWELL ST LAURENCE - Replace unsafe ladder from bell chamber	750
NOTTINGHAM ST MARY - Repairs to south transept gable end wall	4,000
OWTHORPE ST MARGARET - Replace cracked wall stonework under east window	1,500
RETFORD ALL HALLOWS - Repointing to porch and south aisle	750
RETFORD GROVE STREET METHODIST - New heating in vestry and vestibule	4,000
ROLLESTON HOLY TRINITY - Repairs to degraded stonework on church	3,500
SHELFORD ST PETER & ST PAUL - Restore masonry damage	1,800
SNEINTON ST CHRISTOPHER - Replace old heating boiler	4,000
SNEINTON ST STEPHEN WITH ST MATTHIAS - Repair internal walls of choir vestry	2,250
STRELLEY ALL SAINTS - Erosion of lower jamb stones either side of arch	2,500
TROWELL ST HELEN - Replace balustrade and cracks up spiral staircase drum	3,000
WEST STOCKWITH ST MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN - Repairs to rafters (woodworm infested)	4,000

Grants were awarded to a wide variety of repair and restoration projects, both internal and external, and also helped to support major works greater than £200,000 down to £450.

One of the most significant buildings receiving a grant this year was Nottingham St Mary, where essential repairs to the gable end wall were carried out. The church was unable to ring the bells as the wall was in a dangerous condition.

**Graeme Renton RIBA AABC IMaPS EASA - *Chairman of the Grants Committee***



## Ride+Stride 2022

The Launch Party for the Ride+Stride 2022, held at Winkburn Hall in early July, was a great success with many church representatives and riders and striders attending on a perfect summer evening. These included some of those who had won prizes during the 2021 event, and these were duly presented by the Trust's Chairman. The Trustees are so very grateful to Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes for opening his house for this annual event, and for making us so welcome.

Sadly, the Ride+Stride event 2022 took place just a few days after the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and some churches decided not to open out of respect; some of those which did open had a special area set aside for prayer and reflection. A few riders and striders decided not to go out, but others clearly found it a helpful way of working through the enormity of the death of our 96 year old monarch.

Last year the Anglican Diocesan office helpfully made contact with their various Deanery Administrators, asking them to forward the Ride+Stride paperwork to the parishes in their areas. The combined effects of GDPR and multi-church benefices means it is now very difficult to make such contacts, and to disseminate information to those who would be likely to take part in the event. Only a few new churches participated, but it is hoped that lines of communication will improve and more will want to join in. Other denominations are joining in as contact is made, but it is a slow process. There is no requirement on the part of the churches to do anything other than have the signing-in sheet available (preferably under cover!) and perhaps some simple refreshment for the riders and striders. However, there is the opportunity to put on some kind of event for the church itself, making it a win-win day for NHCT and the individual church.

In 2022 the Churches Conservation Trust joined in the event by opening the churches at Fledborough and Littleborough, which are now in their care; Milton Mausoleum was unable to open because of staff shortages, but the CCT hopes it will be possible to do so in 2023.

The total number of churches and chapels taking part in the event last year was 165 with 57 having sponsors. Forty-nine churches requested their share of funds raised, amounting to £8,078.80, and eight churches were content for the Trust to keep all the money raised by their riders and striders. A total of £18,943 was raised for the Trust. JustGiving is becoming more and more popular and has made raising sponsorship very simple. The Trust can also receive sponsor money direct into its Ride+Stride bank account, making the collecting in of these funds very straightforward.

Once again, there was a great response to the various competitions associated with the event, and the prizes for all these will be presented at the launch party at Winkburn in July 2023. The Ride+Stride 2023 will take place on Saturday 9th September.

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

## What Does Legacy Mean to You?

Our ancestors created a wonderful heritage for us when, lovingly and with great faith, they built the parish churches which are such a feature of our towns and villages in Nottinghamshire. In many instances building work on these churches continued over generations, and further additions and enrichments took place over subsequent centuries. The history, architecture and decoration of these sacred spaces are a priceless inheritance.

Sadly, this rich inheritance is under threat; many of the county's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are fighting a battle against the ravages of time. With smaller congregations and falling funding, there is now little money available to churches to maintain and protect their carvings, decorations, windows, and even the very structure of the building. How awful it would be to lose these treasures for future generations.

A bequest or legacy in your Will is one of the more traditional forms of giving to charity but remains a very important one.

### **Once you've taken care of your loved ones, would you consider leaving us a gift too?**

Leaving a gift in your Will to the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust isn't just a gift, it's an investment in the future of our heritage. A legacy in your Will will help the Trust to preserve these precious buildings for future generations. A bequest in your Will is one of the greatest gifts you can give to a charity. These legacies help care for the places that enrich our lives - supporting the historic buildings and irreplaceable history for everyone to enjoy.

You're never too young to consider leaving a legacy to ensure that future generations will enjoy our county's rich heritage of churches and chapels. We welcome all legacies, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in protecting the future of the heritage of churches in Nottinghamshire.

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

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 leaving a specific legacy which is a fixed financial amount from your estate, 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.

**If you wish to leave a legacy to the NHCT in your Will please contact one of the Trustees or a Trust Officer who would be delighted to discuss this with you.**

## Acknowledgements

The Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the help and support it has received from:

Advertiser Group Newspapers	The Lady Hind Trust
The Beaverbrook Foundation	The Jones 1986 Charitable Trust
Geoffrey C Bond, OBE, DL	The Linnardon Trust
The Andrew Buchanan Charitable Trust	Mrs Jenny Mellors
Christian Guild	The Manifold Trust
The Helen Jean Cope Charity	Newark and Sherwood District Council
The David Crane Charitable Trust	Newark Area Arts & Leisure Foundation
The Coutts Charitable Trust	Nottinghamshire County Council
The J N Derbyshire Trust	The Osberton Trust
Dian Hall Conservation	Pinder's Optometrists
Sir Harry Djanogly, CBE	The Poyser Fund
The Dunn Family Charitable Trust	The Prince of Wales's Charitable Foundation
East Midlands Airport Community Fund	Rainbow Nightfreight Ltd
The Sir John Eastwood Foundation	Shakespeares
Alan Evans Memorial Trust	The Jessie Spencer Trust
The Thomas Farr Charity	The Thoresby Charitable Trust
The Jill Franklin Trust	The Veneziana Fund
Gay & Peter Hartley's Hillards Charitable Trust	Lady Warner and the Estate of the late Sir Frederick Warner
The May Hearnshaw Charitable Trust	Mr and Mrs R J Weston-Price
The Gray Trust	The Whiteley Charity
Hardy & Hanson	Mr and Mrs A Wilkinson
The Stuart Heath Charitable Settlement	Anonymous donations from trusts and individuals

We would also like to thank all of our Friends, supporters, and the Trustees who work so hard for the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. Finally, our thanks to Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes for letting us hold our meetings, when allowed, at Winkburn Hall.

# Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust



**The Trust can be contacted via:**

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

Treasurer, Jon Dawson on 0115 987 7291 or 07581 729 520  
or email: [jon@jndaccounting.com](mailto:jon@jndaccounting.com)

Grants Administrator, Mrs Margaret Lowe on 07757 800 919  
or email: [info.nhct@gmail.com](mailto:info.nhct@gmail.com)

Fundraising Co-ordinator, Mrs Maureen Hallam  
on 01636 812580 or e-mail: [maureenjhallam@googlemail.com](mailto:maureenjhallam@googlemail.com)

Ride+Stride Administrator, 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

[www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.nottshistoricchurchestrust.org.uk)



Registered with the Charity Commission No. 1171623