



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

Review 2011-12



We are very grateful to our sponsors, the Department for Culture Media and Sport and the Church Commissioners of the Church of England and to the Trusts and Foundations, our 62 Friends' groups and other organisations and individuals who gave so generously to the Trust in so many different ways during 2011-12.

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To read this review online go to visitchurches.org.uk/review112

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Welcome

Find out more about us:
visitchurches.org.uk

This has been another busy and exciting year at the Churches Conservation Trust.

Our work with historic churches and their communities has continued apace. We have carried out expert repairs to 65 churches, improved signage and public access and achieved increases in numbers of visitors and community events for the tenth year in a row.

The reduction in our funding continues to be a major challenge and looking for new ways to support our work has been in our thinking this year.

We have launched a joint initiative with English Heritage to encourage visitors to come to CCT churches close to their sites and vice versa. We have also been exploring different avenues for financial support and have attracted new grants from a range of charitable funders.

With a keen eye to the future, we are now redoubling effort, focussed on our 2012-15 priorities of tourism, volunteering and fundraising. With your fantastic help for which we are very grateful, we aim to achieve great things in the years ahead.

This Review celebrates the huge effort and enthusiasm of the many people who support our work. To everyone who helps us look after our beautiful and historic churches in whatever way – thank you.



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Our fundraisers support us in so many ways. [See p. 13-14](#)

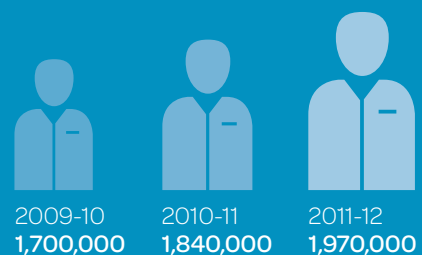
Welcoming more visitors than ever



Thank you for visiting our churches!
This year, we have continued to
develop ways of creating a more
satisfying and enjoyable experience
for all, with further investment in
better signage and more.

It's a fact

Church visitor numbers
were up 7% to 1,970,000.



Picture caption: A visitor admiring the dazzling stained glass
in All Souls' Church, Haley Hill, Halifax in West Yorkshire

A children's eye view of history

This year we are delighted to have brought out the first ever CCT walk round guide written and designed by children. It was created for St Mary & St Lawrence, Stratford Tony by pupils from Coombe Bissett Primary School, which is just a short walk along the river from the church.

Head teacher Deborah Cockrean said: *"We would never have had the opportunity to have something published if the CCT hadn't enabled us to do it."*

Year 5 and 6 children from the school worked with great enthusiasm as, through a series of visits and discussions at the church, they researched information for the leaflet. They had assistance from the CCT team, particularly Dr Frances Hurd, while the children's learning was also supported by the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre. Deborah Cockrean commented: *"The children really enjoyed the process of being historians."*

The project was also useful as a source of work for history, RE, maths and geography. It proved to be *"really powerful as a learning opportunity"* said Deborah. The school hopes to develop a new project at the church in the year ahead.



Students of Coombe Bissett Primary School with Loyd Grossman and Deborah Cockrean being interviewed for local radio

What our visitors say



St John the Baptist, Inglesham, Wiltshire

"What an amazing find, it's so wonderful to know that this church hasn't been lost. It's like walking into a time capsule with such beautiful old box pews. Anyone with an interest in churches needs to see this."

Su Hoffman



St Andrew's Church, Shotley, Northumberland

"Beautiful church, full of peace and calm. Views around are stunning. Well worth the short trek across the field."

Lucy Christian



St Michael's Church, Clapton-in-Gordano, Somerset

"Finding this church was an unexpected jewel. The interior has some beautiful and original features. If you can, make this a 'must' on your next day out."

SC Smith



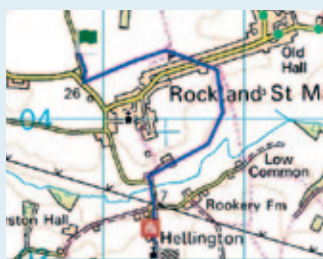
All Saints' Church, Cambridge

"What a treasure... I was not expecting the sight that greeted me when I opened the plain wooden door those magnificent stained glass windows! However, what struck me most was the complete peace and quiet within this church. It is as though once inside you are completely cocooned from all the noise and stress of modern day life. A joy to have discovered."

Anonymous

Did you know

- Holy Trinity Church in York has been awarded the Visit England 'Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Standard'.
- St Andrew's Old Church, Kingsbury in London was leased to a Christian group for regular worship.
- Our major investment in signs over the past three years is almost complete, and a programme of improving directional signage is now well under way.
- Using our website, you can now create your very own walk around CCT churches for a great day out.



How you can help

It costs:



£80 for a bell rope

£250 to buy a new wall safe



To send us your great days out ideas or to download free county guides or purchase church guides go to visitchurches.org.uk/dayouts

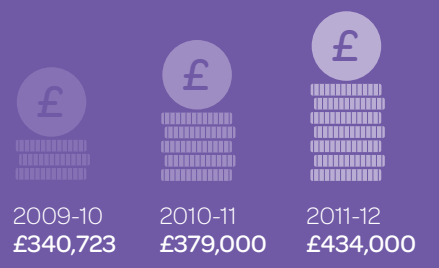
Our donors help us keep our churches open



We are very grateful to all our donors, whose support helps us to make sure the churches in our care are kept open for all, living once again at the heart of our communities.

It's a fact

Donated income has increased by 15% to £434,000.



Making more of a beautiful church

Stephen Dawson has an interesting connection with St Katherine, Chiselhampton in Oxfordshire – it was built by his partner’s ancestors. Thinking it was a shame that the church hadn’t been used a great deal in recent times, Stephen approached the Trust in 2007. Since then, and thanks to the work of a team of volunteers, art exhibitions and heritage open days have been held at the church. “We’ve also taken to doing guided tours” said Stephen.

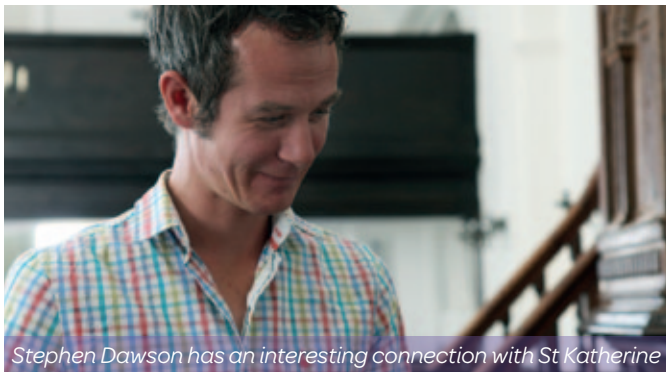
As well as donating his time, Stephen donates financially to the work of the Trust and is a CCT Patron. “I donated when I attended events, then became a Supporter. When I heard that the Trust had had their funding cut, I decided to join the Patron scheme.”

Speaking about reasons for donating to the Trust, Stephen said: “They’ve got some of the finest and most historic churches in their care and I think that anyone who loves historic buildings should support the work of the Trust.”

He added: “I have always found the staff at the Trust very helpful and approachable and they have a ‘can do’ attitude. I can’t praise the work of the team that run the charity highly enough.”



To read more about Stephen’s story visit visitchurches.org.uk/review1112



Stephen Dawson has an interesting connection with St Katherine

Offering time and expertise

Management Consultant, Dr Janet Townsend-Stojic, first became involved in helping the Trust in 2007. She has offered her time and professional expertise, encouraged and supported by her employer PA Consulting’s pro-bono scheme. She is also a CCT Patron.

Janet said: “I particularly like the way in which CCT combines the conservation of our heritage with an investment in the future through regeneration activities.”

She has also found the organisation to be: “keen to adopt new technologies, new ways of working and creative in the way in which it interacts with communities and current and future donors.”

Janet commented: “Everyone I have met in the charity is enthusiastic, hardworking and keen to do the best they possibly can with relatively limited resources and I want to make sure that this goodwill is harnessed for maximum impact.”

Janet has recently started working with CCT’s management team to design and implement tools and techniques to streamline all the business management processes. To make sure it is up and running in good time, Janet has arranged a seven-month sabbatical with her employer to allow her to work full time, unsalaried, for CCT.



Management Consultant, Dr Janet Townsend-Stojic

? Did you know

- This year, the Trust’s projects have been in the news and on TV a number of times: including the ‘And thereby hangs a tale’ interpretation initiative at All Saints church, Billesley, a series of short films with BBC South and through coverage of the opening of St Giles, Imber on Salisbury Plain for an episode of Songs of Praise.



BBC South interview archaeologists at Portland, St George

! How you can help

It costs:



£800 to repair the brick paving in a porch

£5,000 for a roof alarm to protect the lead on a church

No matter what size your donation we appreciate your support. You could:

- Become a Supporter for as little as £2.50 a month
- Become a Director Club Member for £20 a month
- Become a Patron for £83 a month

Or contact us to find out other ways you can support us at supporters@tcct.org.uk



Please help us by donating now. Text code ‘OCCT05’ to 70070 or visit our website

Successes 2011-2012

1 St Peter, Sandwich

£74,200

The project has received funding from the Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust, the Friends of St Peter's and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The church has been repaired and redecorated with new church guide information.



2 St Leonard, Bridgnorth

£160,496

The project has received funding from Shropshire County Council as part of the Market Town Revitalisation Scheme, the Sita Trust and the Friends of St Leonard's. We raised the funds needed to install facilities and heating to increase the use of St Leonard's as a heritage, tourism and cultural venue.



3 St George, Portland

£47,700

The project has received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Gosling Foundation and The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation. Following a successful Heritage Lottery Fund bid, we were able to start conserving 300 monuments in the churchyard and will install new heritage interpretation.



Val and Colin Sparks, who volunteer in Kent, and Brian Keefe, who is a volunteer at St Oswald, Kirk Sandall, South Yorkshire, were the joint winners of our Marsh Christian Trust sponsored Volunteer of the Year Award in 2011. Congratulations to them all.



Picture above: Norman Taylor, Volunteering Officer (left) and Lorraine Ryan, Marsh Christian Trust, Trustee (2nd from right) present the awards to Brian Keefe (middle left) and Val Sparks (far right)

Total income in this year was

£6,451,197

- The Department for Culture Media and Sport: **£2,926,000**
- Church Commissioners: **£1,355,060**
- Generated income: **£2,170,137**

Generated income made up of:

- Donations: **£434,005**
- Trusts and foundations: **£509,727**
- Listed Places of Worship Scheme: **£128,881**
- Earned income: **£238,959**
- Legacies: **£828,656**
- Investment income: **£29,909**

Key

- CCT churches
(church locations are approximate)

To read a copy of our statutory accounts go to visitchurches.org.uk/accounts

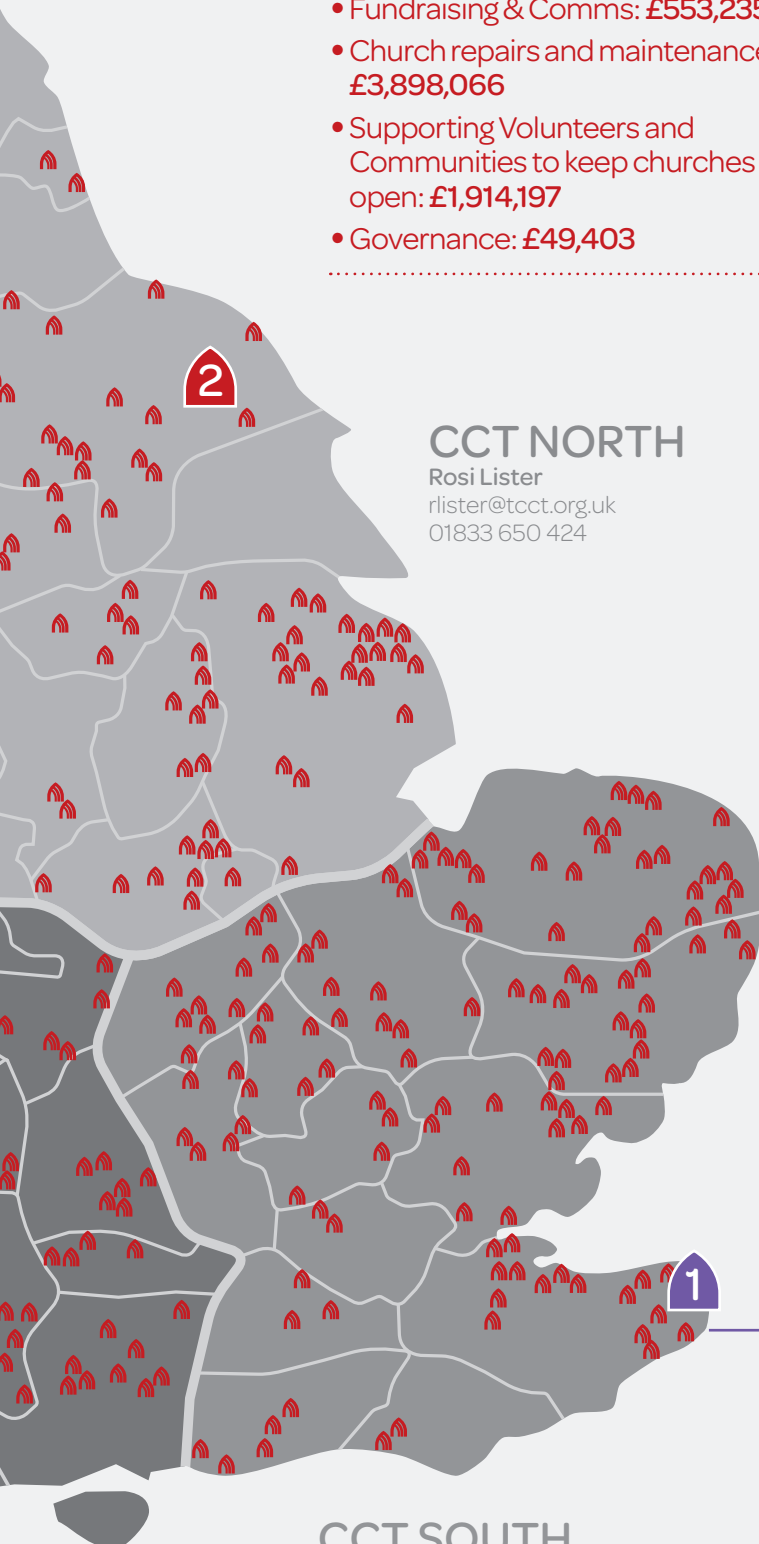
CCT WEST

Colin Shearer
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07721 866 424

Total expenditure in this year was

£6,414,901

- Fundraising & Comms: **£553,235**
- Church repairs and maintenance: **£3,898,066**
- Supporting Volunteers and Communities to keep churches open: **£1,914,197**
- Governance: **£49,403**



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CCT SOUTH EAST

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1 St Michael, Clapton-in-Gordano

Estimated project cost

£116,000

Still to raise: **£6,000**

For urgent removal of cement render so that we can save newly-discovered wallpaintings in time, and for repointing, building work and upgrading facilities.



2 Holy Trinity, York

Estimated project cost

£210,000

Still to raise: **£60,000**

To protect the historic masonry of this medieval gem over the next three years.



3 St Michael and All Angels, Princetown

Estimated project cost

£118,000

Still to raise: **£60,000**

To conserve the East Window of the only church in England built by Prisoners of War.

The project is supported by the National Society of United States Daughters of 1812.



Visit our website visitchurches.org.uk to search churches using our interactive map

A new CCT church

Late 2011 saw St Peter, Swingfield in Kent, parts of which date from the 12th and 13th centuries, come into our ownership. £325,000 had to be spent on extensive work. We provided most of the funds but are grateful to contributions from our partners – The Church Commissioners, English Heritage and other grant giving trusts.



Highly skilled experts assist us in our work



As well as using the finest experts and conservation contractors to help us look after our churches, we are aiming to increase the involvement of our volunteers.

It's a fact

91% of our income is committed to frontline activities.



2009-10
90%

2010-11
89%

2011-12
91%

Picture caption: The sumptuous furnishings and decoration in St Peter's Church, Deene in Northampton by G.F.Bodley

“I just loved being involved”

Morgaine Fitzsymons

“I walked past St Peter’s, went in and was blown away by it. I went home and immediately went on the CCT website and signed up to be a volunteer.”

While she was volunteering at the church, she heard about the textile project at St Peter, Deene. This was to involve two days’ training led by textile conservator May Berkouwer on cleaning and maintaining a number of the important ecclesiastical textiles with a view to the volunteers going back by themselves to continue this work. During the training, young volunteers learned about the condition of the collection and the need for care. Some of the furnishings could only be looked after by textile experts so May trained them to handle ones they could help with, and carry out routine maintenance such as light cleaning with specialist equipment.

Morgaine was involved in sewing inventory numbers onto the kneelers using a special sewing needle. Due to the skills she showed, May invited Morgaine to work with her on a number of projects at her conservation studio. Since the training, the volunteers have been back several times to St Peter’s to continue with the cleaning of furnishings and to rehang some of the curtains. Morgaine said: *“It’s been great to see it progress.”*



To read more about Morgaine’s story online go to visitchurches.org.uk/review1112



Morgaine sewing inventory numbers onto kneelers in St Peter’s Church, Deene

Including communities in archaeology and conservation

The huge churchyard at St George, Portland contains as many as 2,000 headstones. Many of the memorials tell extraordinary tales of shipwreck, tragedy and heroism all carved on to the local smooth, white Portland stone.

In the first part of 2012, CCT Conservation Manager Dr Neil Rushton, who himself is an archaeologist, worked with Wessex Archaeology on an intriguing project designed to conserve, repair and investigate the churchyard, supported by £40,700 from a successful Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid together with other local grant funding.

The project involved creating a highly accurate surveyed plan of the monuments in a very short time. Students and local amateur archaeologists volunteered to help, while soldiers who had recently returned from active service abroad also lent their time and skills; aiming to acquire associated professional skills as part of their programme of rehabilitation named ‘Operation Nightingale’.

Paul Cripps, lead surveyor at Wessex Archaeology, said: *“This project has allowed us to apply the very latest surveying and laser scanning surveying technology, and train a range of people how to use it.”*



Soldiers at work in St George’s churchyard as part of Operation Nightingale

? Did you know



- We organise a number of placements, apprenticeship programmes, Cathedral camps for 16-25 year olds and craft skills courses. Find out about current opportunities on our website.



- Edible Churchscapes (a Big Lottery funded initiative) was an innovative wildlife project that took place at St Martin’s Church, Preston Gubbals, Shropshire. Read more about it, including our partners in this exciting venture at visitchurches.org.uk/ediblechurchscapes

! How you can help

It costs:



£50 to repair a broken quarry pane of glass

£250 to fund a church volunteer cleaning day



Please help us by donating now. Text code ‘OCCT05’ to 70070 or visit our website.



Visit our website to find out more about the exciting work of our experts and to find out how to get involved at a CCT church visitchurches.org.uk/donate

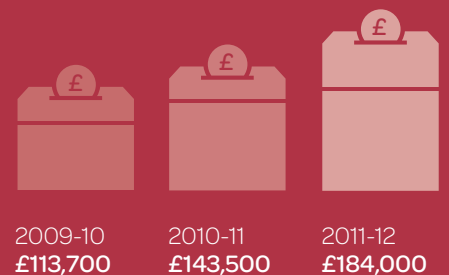
Our volunteers help bring our churches back to life



We really value the enormous contribution our 1,400 volunteers make. They are the very foundation of our work at every level.

It's a fact

In-church collections were up a huge 22% to **£184,000**.



Creating a great visitor experience

62,000 visitors came through the door at Holy Trinity, York in this year. It has become one of the city's major visitor attractions – and it is run by volunteers, many of whom are students or former students, or are interested in this field.

Volunteers are taking on increasing levels of responsibility in many of our churches and this is demonstrated at York. Graham White, the Volunteering Officer who led the transition to the greater volunteer involvement at Holy Trinity, commented: *"They have established a really good code of best practice."*

Euan Mathieson is one of several core volunteers involved in the day-to-day running of the church and has been helping there for three years. He told us that his work can include many different tasks, from: *"showing people around, getting volunteer rotas sorted, hosting a concert and/or doing less glamorous tasks like putting out the bins before the squirrels get them."*

Euan enjoys his work as a volunteer. He commented: *"I enjoy talking to people from around the world and watching their faces light up with interest and enjoyment."*

The volunteers at Holy Trinity are becoming more and more involved in increasing the use of the church for events, and in attracting more interest/visitors. [Please go to page 8 for details of the fundraising challenge we face at Holy Trinity.](#)



Euan Mathieson and Volunteers at Holy Trinity, York

Calling all Angels

The magnificent St Nicholas' Chapel, King's Lynn is of national, and international significance and the largest building in our care.

In recent years, it had become apparent that the Chapel needed major investment to keep it in use for the community. Since the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded a first-round pass, the CCT Regeneration Taskforce has been working with the Friends of St Nicholas' Chapel on a stage two bid; sharing knowledge and helping them engage fully in the process of developing the project.

It is all part of the 'Calling all Angels' campaign. The Friends are also working with us to raise at least £210,000 to secure the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Adrian Parker, Secretary of the Friends said: *"The CCT has the specialists to apply for grants, so they have worked on a national level. We've run a local appeal committee, and there is a lot of teamwork."*

The total money will enable the church to be re-roofed, which is urgently needed to preserve the unique carved angels, facilities to be installed, modern interpretation information to be developed, and activities and uses of the building planned to attract more visitors. Almost £163,000 has been raised so far.



Read more about the St Nicholas' project at visitchurches.org.uk/kingslynn or email angels@tcct.org.uk



An angel in the 15th-century wooden roof of St Nicholas' Chapel in Kings' Lynn'

? Did you know

There are many volunteering opportunities available at CCT. These are just some of the ways in which our fantastic volunteers help:

- Fundraising
- Being keyholders/stewards
- Church cleaning
- Churchyard maintenance
- Event stewarding
- Guided church tours
- Event organisation
- Promotion of the church/ events
- Office based internships in marketing, communications, fundraising, conservation, human resources, regeneration and more



Donations box

! How you can help

It costs:



£20 a month to become a Director Club Member

£500 to sponsor an Angel at St Nicholas, King's Lynn

Would you like to join our 1400 active volunteers, and be a valued part of our organisation? In return for your time, abilities and energy, we hope to give you an opportunity to develop your skills and interests, make new friends and to make a satisfying contribution as you help us to achieve our aims.



Contact us to enquire about volunteering volunteering@tcct.org.uk or call 020 7213 0660

Our fundraisers support us in so many ways



We very much appreciate the help of every one of our fundraisers. They support our churches and our work around the country by organising and/or taking part in a wide range of events, activities and challenges.

It's a fact

Events have increased by 4% from last year to 4,357.



2009-10
3,566

2010-11
4,201

2011-12
4,357

A towering challenge

March 24, 2012 saw more than 20 people abseiling 100 feet down the Gothic tower at St Leonard, Bridgnorth raising £1,600. They were helping us to raise money for the installation of toilets, kitchen facilities and the updating of a Victorian heating system at the church.

Just 13 years old when the abseil took place, Freya was one of those who braved the tower. She has been visiting the church since she was very young and has also helped as a volunteer there – she would do some cleaning on Saturdays.

Freya commented: *"I saw a leaflet for the abseiling in the church and thought it would be great to do it, especially for a worthwhile charity."* She raised a fantastic £120 and said: *"It wasn't hard getting the money because people thought it was such a great cause to support."*

Despite never having done that kind of abseiling before, Freya said: *"If it comes round again, I'll definitely do it."*

Both Shropshire County Council and the SITA Trust having pledged financial support towards the project and with ongoing fundraising and a grant of £25,000 allocated by the National Churches Trust, it is hoped the new facilities will be installed by November 2012.



Freya taking part in the abseil down the tower of St Leonard, Bridgnorth

Pedal power

Visiting 72 churches in 10 days and cycling 700 miles... that's what Andy White took on in 2011 in aid of CCT. It sounds like a quite a challenge but he is no stranger to difficulty.

Andy completed a four and a half month detachment in Saudi Arabia in the First Gulf War (Desert Storm) in 1990, during which he worked for 17 hours a day while in charge of two Explosive Storage Areas and 42 armourers, with only one day off throughout, and the stress and turmoil impacted on his mental health. He experienced the destabilising effects of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, now widely recognised as a common symptom in the aftermath of military service.

When Andy paid a visit to St Peter, Claydon near Ipswich, which is cared for by CCT, he found that the building's stained glass and carvings provided the tranquil environment he needed. He said: *"If the church hadn't been taken over by the CCT, I suppose I would never have found it."* This is when Andy's involvement with the Trust began, and he has raised funds for us since 2006/07.

Starting on 1 August 2011 and covering most of East Anglia, Andy raised over £1,200 for the Trust. He commented: *"I think they do a really good job. I've seen the result of their work as I cycled round."*



Andy White – visiting 72 churches in 10 days and cycling 700 miles

? Did you know

- Our 2011 Hospitality Days sold out. In response to their success we have launched a new Historic Church Tour in 2012. The tours offer a unique opportunity for a behind-the-scenes look at our churches and a chance to meet some of the expert staff and volunteers who care for them. 2013 will see an increase of three to nine tours.



A Midsummer Tea Party in Holy Trinity church, York

! How you can help

It costs:



£250 for an annual clock service

£12,000 to re-limewash the external walls of a church

What could you do?

As you can see here, some people cycled many miles while some abseiled from great heights in support of our work. Others have organised events of all different kinds. What might you do?



For ideas, take a look at our National Fundraising Events Programme, visitchurches.org.uk/nationalfundraisingeventsprogramme or contact fundraising@tctt.org.uk for further information

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk

87,000 individual visits were made to our website, up 19% from 73,000 last year

4,357 community and arts events were held in our churches

342 beautiful buildings

91% of our £6,414,901 was spent on frontline activity

65 churches had major repairs, with investment in conservation repairs higher than the previous year, despite a cut in our statutory grant

+39%

increase in Director Club membership

+34%

increase in number of Supporters

For the **10th** year in a row, the number of visitors to our churches went up



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

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