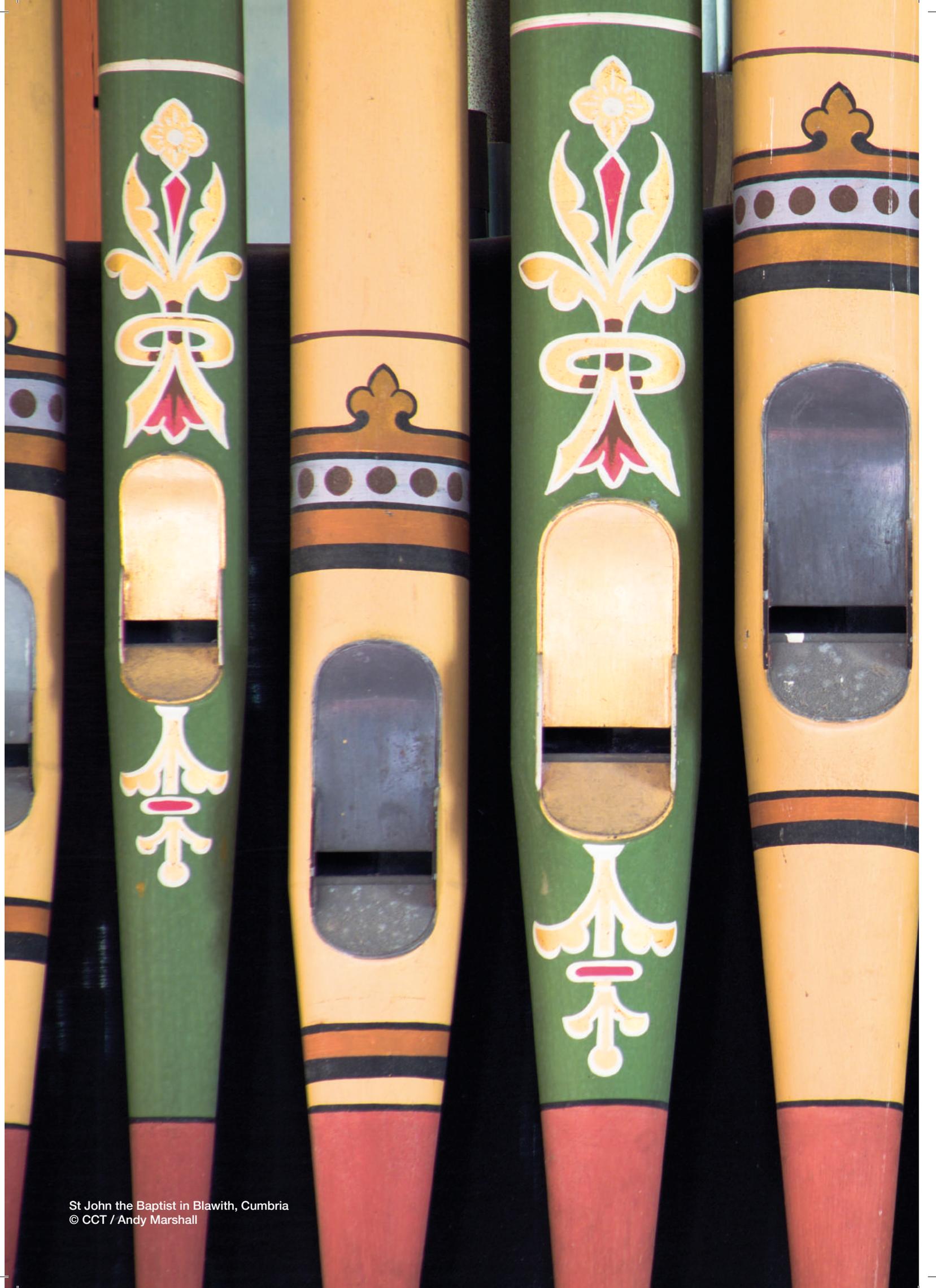




Saving Historic Churches.

Annual Review 2018-19





St John the Baptist in Blawith, Cumbria
© CCT / Andy Marshall

Celebrating 50 years of saving historic churches together.

Annual Review 2018-19

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CCT does important work. While the to-do list can seem daunting – beautiful buildings need constant care and attention (and that means money and expertise) – the skill and passion of our staff and volunteers is inspiring. Our thanks go to all our donors and members: the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), the Church Commissioners and – via players of the National Lottery – to the Heritage Lottery Fund for its continuing support.

Every one of our churches is unique and each faces different opportunities and challenges. In the summer, the Trustees visited several churches along the Thames Valley over two days. The contrast between St Bartholomew's, Lower Basildon, and All Saints', Shirburn, was stark. Both are superb and full of historical and artistic interest; but there the similarity ends. The former has been brought to life by a dedicated, happy and growing group of local supporters; the latter has a spooky air of sadness, and gaining access can seem difficult (awkward neighbours), but if you are in the area do go; you will have a very rewarding experience.

As we look towards our 50th anniversary events next year, it is increasingly clear that our assets are not just buildings but people. It is no accident that our mission is to 'Inspire People', 'Protect Heritage' and 'Create Value'. We need to put people right at the heart of all we do. This means engaging with communities to ask them what they want from us and what we can do for them. We may own our churches, but in fact they belong to the places where they are. By inspiring people, we can better protect our heritage and create lasting social and economic value. That is the principal aim of our evolving strategy.

Peter Ainsworth
CCT Chairman



The main focus of this year was firmly on devising a new strategy for CCT. As an organisation, we spent much of the year reflecting on what we have achieved and what we need to change to ensure that we can meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities that exist. We consulted widely, to ensure that we understood the needs of the communities who care for our churches. The result is a strategy that will help support the communities who care for our historic places of worship.

The future of the historic parish church, particularly in the countryside, is not clear. CCT seeks to ensure that we are ready to use our infrastructure of maintenance, conservation and community skills to offer a level of support to those wonderful people who invest time, energy and money to keep their churches open.

CCT has restructured the staff team to better reflect our new focus and we have more staff engaging with communities who support historic churches across the country.

Not only are we working on our own collection, but we are working very closely with the Quakers in Norfolk to care for their historic meeting houses and we continue to work in partnership with the Historic Chapels Trust (HCT) and Historic England to make sure that this collection of chapels has a viable future. Next year we will be reporting on the progress of our new strategy, but none of this is possible without the support of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), the Church Commissioners and all of those people across England who love their historic church.

Peter Aiers
CCT Chief Executive

Our churches

Bedfordshire

St George's, Edworth
St Michael's, Farndish
St Margaret of Antioch, Knotting
St Deny's, Little Barford
St Mary's, Lower Gravenhurst
St Mary's, Potsgrove

Berkshire

St Margaret's, Catmore
St Thomas', East Shefford
St Mary's, Lambourn Woodlands
St Bartholomew's, Lower Basildon

Bristol

St John the Baptist, Bristol
St Paul's, Bristol
St Thomas the Martyr, Bristol

Buckinghamshire

St Lawrence's, Broughton
St Mary's, Edlesborough
St Mary's, Fleet Marston
The Assumption, Hartwell
St Mary's, Pitstone
St Michael & All Angels', Thornton

Cambridgeshire

St Margaret's, Abbotsley
All Saints', Cambridge
St Peter's, Cambridge
All Saints, Conington
St John's, Duxford
Guyhirn Chapel, Guyhirn
St Michael's, Longstanton
St Peter's, Offord D'Arcy
St John the Baptist, Parson Drove
St Andrew's, Steeple Gidding
St Cyriac & St Julitta, Swaffham Prior
St Andrew's, Ufford

Cheshire

Christ Church, Macclesfield
St Mary's, Thornton-le-Moors

Cornwall

St Anthony-in-Roseland, Roseland

County Durham

St Andrew's, Shotley

Cumbria

St Ninian's, Brougham
The Old Chancel, Ireby
St Gregory's, Vale of Lune

Derbyshire

St Werburgh's, Derby
All Saints', Kedleston

Devon

St Nonna's, Bradstone
St Martin's, Exeter

St James', Luffincott
St Mary's, North Huish
St Petrock's, Parracombe
St Michael & All Angels, Princetown
St Peter the Poor Fisherman, Revelstoke
St Peter's, Satterleigh
Holy Trinity, Torbryan
West Ogwell, West Ogwell

Dorset

Old Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton
All Saints', Nether Cerne
St Cuthbert Old Chancel, Osborne
St George's, Portland
St Edwold's, Stockwood
St Mary the Virgin, Tarrant Crawford
Whitcombe Church, Whitcombe
St Peter's, Winterborne Came
St Andrew's, Winterborne Tomson

East Sussex

St Andrew's, Hove
St Peter's, Preston Park

Essex

St Michael's, Berechurch
St Mary's, Chickney
St Leonard-at-the-Hythe, Colchester
St Martin's, Colchester
All Saints', East Horndon
Holy Trinity, Halstead
St Mary the Virgin, Little Bromley
St Mary the Virgin, Stansted Mountfitchet
All Saints', Vange
St Mary's, West Bergholt
St Andrew's, Willingale Spain

Gloucestershire

St Swithun's, Brookthorpe
St James', Charfield
St Michael & St Martin's, Eastleach Martin
St Nicholas', Gloucester
St Oswald's Tower, Lassington
St Mary's, Little Washbourne
St Arild's, Oldbury-on-the-Hill
St Nicholas of Myra's, Ozleworth
St Nicholas', Saintbury
St Kenelm's, Sapperton
St Mary's, Shipton Sollars
All Saints', Shorcote
St Saviour's, Tetbury

Greater Manchester

St George's, Carrington
St Edmund's, Falinge
St Werburgh's, Warburton

Hampshire

St Mary's, Ashley
St Peter ad Vincula, Colemore
St John the Baptist, Upper Eldon
St Nicholas', Freefolk
St Mary's, Hartley Wintney

St Mary's, Itchen Stoke
All Saints', Little Somborne
The Old Church of St Mary the Virgin,
Preston Candover
Holy Trinity, Privett

Herefordshire

St Cuthbert's, Holme Lacy
St John the Baptist, Llanrothal
St Michael's, Michaelchurch
The Church, Moreton Jeffries
St Bartholemew's, Richards Castle
St Cosmas & St Damian's, Stretford
St Mary's, Wormsley
The Chapel, Yatton
St Mary the Virgin's, Yazor

Hertfordshire

St Andrew's, Buckland
St Mary the Virgin, Little Hornead
Oxhey Chapel, South Oxhey
St James', Stanstead Abbots

Kent

St Mary's, Burham
St Thomas à Becket, Capel
St Mary's, Capel-le-Ferne
St James', Cooling
St Michael's, East Peckham
St Mary the Virgin's, Fordwich
St Bartholomew's, Goodnestone
St Mary's, Lower Higham
St Catherine's, Kingsdown
St Clement's, Knowlton
St Mary's, Luddenham
St Benedict's, Paddlesworth
St Peter's, Sandwich
St Mary's, Sandwich
All Saints', Waldershare
All Saints', West Stourmouth

Lancashire

The Old Church, Becconsall
Holy Trinity, Blackburn
All Souls', Bolton
St Thomas', Friarmere
Christ Church Tower, Heaton Norris
St John the Evangelist, Lancaster
St Leonard's, Old Langho
St John the Baptist, Pilling
St Mary's, Tarleton

Leicestershire

St Peter's, Allexton
All Saints', Beeby
St Mary's Tower, Brentingby
St Michael & All Angels, Edmondthorpe
St Mary's, Freeby
St Mary's, Garthorpe
All Saints', Leicester
St Mary Magdelene, Stapleford
St Michael's, Stretton-en-le-Field
Withcote Chapel, Withcote

Lincolnshire

St Mary's, Barnetby-Le-Wold
 St John the Baptist, Burringham
 St Michael's, Burwell
 St Michael's, Buslingthorpe
 All Hallows', Clixby
 St George's, Goltho
 All Saints', Great Steeping
 St Barbara's, Haceby
 St Benedict's, Haltham-on-Bain
 All Saints', Haugham
 St Peter's, Kingerby
 St Helen's, Little Cawthorpe
 St Peter's, Normanby-by-Spital
 St Nicholas', Normanton
 St Mary's, North Cockerington
 St Andrew's, Redbourne
 All Saints', Saltfleetby
 St Botolph's, Skidbrooke
 St Lawrence's, Snarford
 St Peter's, South Somercotes
 St John's, Stamford
 All Saints', Theddlethorpe
 St Martin's, Waithe
 St John the Baptist, Yarborough

London

St Andrew's, Kingsbury
 St Lawrence's, Little Stanmore

Merseyside

Christ Church, Waterloo

Norfolk

St Mary's, Barton Bendish
 St Michael the Archangel, Booton
 St Nicholas', Brandiston
 St Nicholas', Buckenham
 St Michael's, Coston
 St Mary's, East Bradenham
 St Mary's, East Ruston
 St Nicholas', Feltwell
 St Andrew's, Frenze
 St Andrew's, Gunton
 St Margaret's, Hales
 St Gregory's, Heckingham
 St John the Baptist, Hellington
 St Peter's, Hockwold
 St Mary's, Islington
 St Nicholas' Chapel, King's Lynn
 St Faith's, Little Witchingham
 St Mary's, Moulton
 St Peter's, North Barningham
 St Augustine's, Norwich
 St John's, Norwich
 St Laurence's, Norwich
 St George's, Shimpling
 All Saints', Thurgarton
 St Andrew's, Walpole St Andrew
 All Saints', West Harling
 St Mary's Bell Tower, West Walton
 St Mary the Virgin's, Wiggshall

North Yorkshire

St Martin's, Allerton Mauleverer
 St Mary's, Birdforth
 Holy Trinity, Coverham
 St Michael's, Cowthorpe
 St Andrew's, East Heslerton
 St Stephen's, Fylingdales
 St Mary's, Lead
 St Mary's, Rocliffe
 Christ the Consoler,
 Skelton-cum-Newby
 All Saints', Skelton-in-Cleveland
 St Mary's, South Cowton
 St Mary's, Stainburn
 St John the Baptist, Stanwick
 Holy Trinity, Wensley
 St Martin's, Whenby
 St Peter's, Wintringham
 Holy Trinity Goodramgate, York
 St Lawrence's, York

Northamptonshire

All Saints', Aldwincle
 Holy Trinity, Blatherwycke
 St Andrew's, Cranford
 St Peter's, Deene
 St Bartholemew's, Furtho
 All Saints', Holdenby
 St Peter's, Northampton
 St Peter & St Paul, Preston Deanery
 St Michael's, Upton
 St John the Baptist, Wakerley

Northumberland

St Andrew's, Bywell

Nottinghamshire

St Michael's, Cotham
 Elston Chapel, Elston
 St Gregory's, Fledborough
 St Peter's, Gamston
 St Nicholas', Littleborough
 St Wilfrid's, Low Marnham
 Milton Mausoleum, Markham Clinton
 St Martin of Tours, Saundby

Oxfordshire

St Katherine's, Chislehampton
 St John the Baptist, Mongewell
 St Mary's, Newnham Murren
 All Saints', Nuneham Courtenay
 All Saints', Shirburn
 St Peter's, Wallingford

Rutland

St Mary the Virgin, Ayston
 Holy Cross, Burley
 St Botolph's, Wardley

Shropshire

St Peter's, Adderley
 St Mary Magdelene, Battlefield
 St Leonard's, Bridgnorth
 St Leonard's, Linley

Talbot Chapel, Longford

St Martin's, Preston Gubbals
 St Mary the Virgin, Shrewsbury
 St James', Stirchley
 St Michael's, Upton Cressett
 St Andrew's, Wroxeter

Somerset

St Nicholas', Brockley
 St James', Cameley
 St Michael's, Clapton-in-Gordano
 All Saints', Dodington
 St Martin of Tours, Elworthy
 The Blessed Virgin, Emborough
 St Mary's, Hardington Bampfylde
 St Andrew's, Holcombe
 All Saints', Langport
 Low Ham Church, Low Ham
 St Andrew's, Northover
 All Saints', Otterhampton
 St Thomas a Becket, Pensford
 Holy Saviour's, Puxton
 St Mary's, Seavington
 St Mary's, Stocklinch Ottersey
 The Church, Sutton Mallet
 St Thomas', Thurlbear
 St Nicholas', Uphill
 St James' Tower, Upton

South Yorkshire

St John the Evangelist, Cadeby
 St Peter's, Edlington
 St Oswald's, Kirk Sandall
 St John's, Throapham
 Holy Trinity, Wentworth

Staffordshire

St Mary's, Patshull

Suffolk

St Mary's, Akenham
 St Mary's, Badley
 St Mary's, Bungay
 St Mary's, Chilton
 St Peter's, Claydon
 St Andrew's, Covehithe
 All Saints', Ellough
 All Saints', Icklingham
 St Mary-at-the-Quay, Ipswich
 All Saints', Little Wenham
 All Saints', Newton Green
 St Mary's, Redgrave
 St Mary's, Rickinghall Superior
 St Andrew's, Sapiston
 All Saints', South Elmham
 St John the Baptist, Stanton
 St Mary the Virgin, Stonham Parva
 St Peter's, Sudbury
 St Mary's, Washbrook
 All Saints', Wordwell

Surrey

St Peter & St Paul, Albury
 Lumley Chapel (St Dunstan's), Cheam
 St George's, Esher

Tyne & Wear

St Stephen's, Low Elswick
Holy Trinity, Sunderland

Warwickshire

St John the Baptist, Avon Dassett
All Saints', Billesley
St Michael & All Angels', Brownsover
All Saints', Chadshunt
St Peter's, Wolfhamcote

West Sussex

St Botolph's, Botolphs
St John the Evangelist, Chichester
St Wilfrid's, Church Norton
St Giles', Merston
St Mary's, North Stoke
St Mary Magdelene, Tortington
The Holy Sepulchre, Warminghurst

West Yorkshire

St Stephen's, Copley
All Souls', Halifax Haley Hill
All Saints', Harewood
St John the Evangelist, Leeds

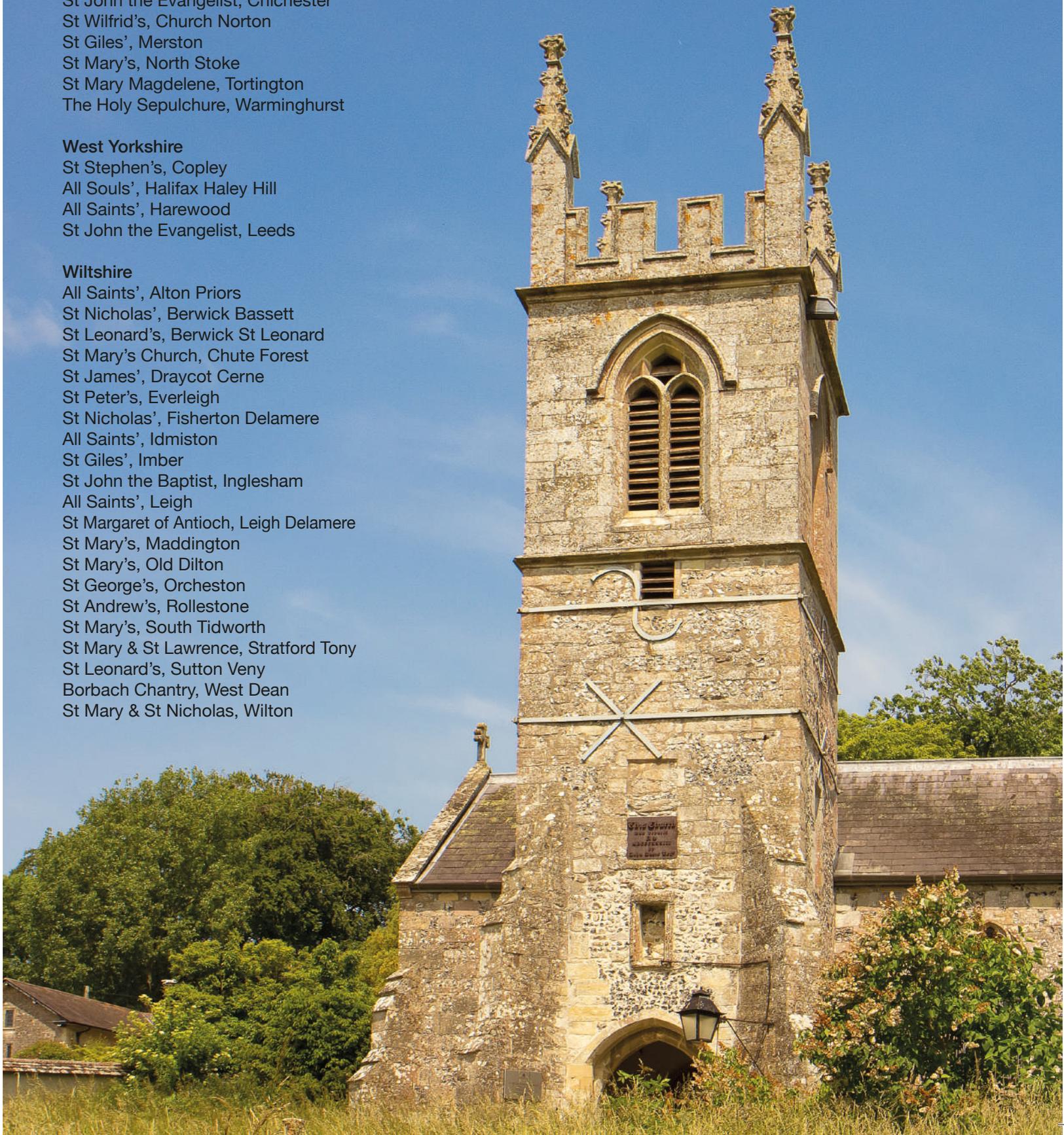
Wiltshire

All Saints', Alton Priors
St Nicholas', Berwick Bassett
St Leonard's, Berwick St Leonard
St Mary's Church, Chute Forest
St James', Draycot Cerne
St Peter's, Everleigh
St Nicholas', Fisherton Delamere
All Saints', Idmiston
St Giles', Imber
St John the Baptist, Inglesham
All Saints', Leigh
St Margaret of Antioch, Leigh Delamere
St Mary's, Maddington
St Mary's, Old Dilton
St George's, Orcheston
St Andrew's, Rollestone
St Mary's, South Tidworth
St Mary & St Lawrence, Stratford Tony
St Leonard's, Sutton Veny
Borbach Chantry, West Dean
St Mary & St Nicholas, Wilton

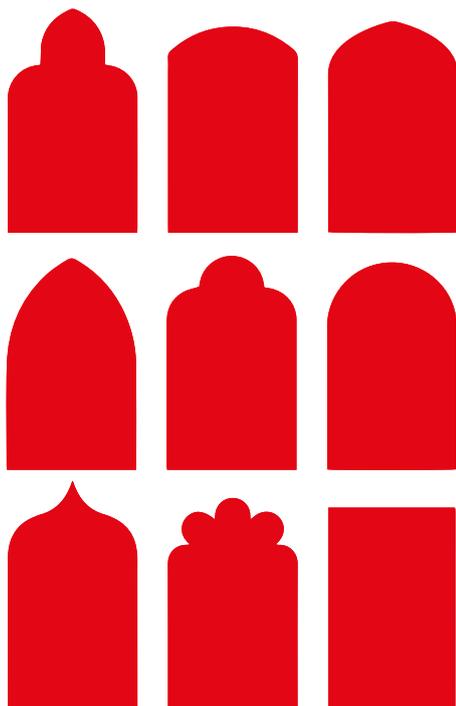
Worcestershire

St Michael's, Churchill
St Mary Magdelene, Croome D'Abitot
St Lawrence's, Evesham
St Bartholemew's, Lower Sapey
The Church, Pendock
All Saints', Spetchley
St John the Baptist, Stensham
St Swithun's, Worcester

St Nicholas', Fisherton Delamere
© CCT



Recent achievements



Friends Meeting House, Norwich



Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Blackpool, HCT Chapel. CC BY-SA 3.0 Wikipedia

CCT's brand new look

In March 2019, as part of our vision for the future, we undertook a brand refresh exercise, which was underpinned by extensive research into audience perceptions of our organisation.

This research showed that preconceptions of the work of CCT, and a more general societal indifference to organised religion, led some people to see historic church buildings as irrelevant. The brand refresh sought to overturn this perception, demonstrate CCT's personality and build an identity around which existing interest groups and new supporters can cohere.

CCT worked with designer Jim Sutherland who has previously worked on the rebranding of The Arts Society and The Natural History Museum and has also designed over 50 stamps for The Royal Mail.

The brand refresh sees an evolution of the old arch-shaped logo to reflect the variety of place, people and activities at CCT. The designs drew inspiration from the wealth of diverse arches in our churches and a selection of different arches can be used as a graphic feature to show the variety of CCT's work.

Maintenance project with Quakers in Norfolk

CCT recently started working with the Quakers in Norfolk to support volunteers caring for their historic meeting houses. Our team can make sure that the Quaker volunteers are supported in the care of their buildings, informed of the work needed, and that we respond to any building fabric issues about which the volunteers inform us.

At CCT we are uniquely placed to develop an infrastructure of support for groups and volunteers who care for religious heritage. We can apply the experience we have gained over the last 50 years of managing our own collection, and supporting our volunteers, to support other volunteers and buildings across the country. Our fully tendered maintenance service extends right across England and includes annual maintenance and inspection visits, an emergency 24/7 call-out service and small repairs and periodic maintenance.

Historic Chapels Trust

CCT began working with The Historic Chapels Trust (HCT) in 2018, taking over the day-to-day running of the organisation, including its 20 historic chapels, for a period of one year whilst a strategic review took place. HCT was established in 1993 to look after historic redundant places of worship other than those of the Church of England, receiving core funding from Historic England. These sites include non-conformist and other non-Anglican places of worship.

However, increased pressure on public sector funding has meant that future support cannot be guaranteed. With the support of Historic England, the Trustees of HCT commissioned a strategic review to look at a sustainable future for their properties and a way forward for the charity. During the review period, and in addition to taking over the administration of HCT and its properties, CCT has been undertaking an assessment of the sites and looking in detail at longer-term commitments. Through this partnership, CCT hopes to share knowledge and expertise in helping HCT to achieve a positive and sustainable future.



A flying success

Thanks to the National Heritage Lottery Fund, our Bats in Churches Project has really taken off...

A ground-breaking project led by Natural England to help churches that host large bat roosts was granted £3.8 million of funding by the National Lottery Heritage Fund in October 2018.

The funding is helping to deliver a five-year partnership project, bringing together wildlife, heritage conservation and church organisations to save bats and protect churches for future generations.

The UK's bat population has suffered significant historical decline, which is why bats are protected by UK law. Loss of natural habitats means some bat species have been forced to find safe havens in buildings including historic churches.

Many church communities live harmoniously with bat roosts. However, in some cases, bats are causing irreparable damage to historically significant church monuments and memorials as well as impacting upon the people who use the buildings.

Natural England is working in partnership with The Church of England, Historic England, Bat Conservation Trust and The Churches Conservation Trust to deliver this ambitious and innovative project.

This project is committed to finding solutions that place equal value on churches, bats and communities and will run from 2019 to 2023.

By bringing together heritage, community and nature conservation, we will develop sustainable solutions that can be repeated at other sites in a long-lasting legacy. CCT will work closely with professional ecologists to understand the ways in which bats use church buildings. We will also be working with heritage conservators to understand the impacts upon church fabric and furnishings and will develop a network of skilled volunteers in both heritage and the natural world with close links together. The demonstrable, practical techniques and solutions for the project churches we are working with will be deliverable at other church locations in the future and will be a source of knowledge for ecologists and heritage people to draw upon.

The Churches Conservation Trust in particular is working within the project to promote and preserve the survival of historic building fabric. Staff from CCT have designed and will deliver conservation cleaning workshops with a focus on cleaning up bat droppings and urine and will be working closely with church communities and ecologists to find the best approach. CCT will also advise on conservation approaches, when to call in a conservator and will be promoting the great value of historic churches within the project.

Out of the 102 project churches, seven belong to CCT: All Saints' Church in Theddlethorpe (Lincolnshire), St Mary's Church in Wiggshall (Norfolk), the Church of St John the Baptist in Parson Drove (Cambridgeshire), St Mary's Church in Freeby (Leicestershire), St Mary's Church in Garthorpe (Leicestershire), St Peter's Church in Wintringham (N. Yorkshire) and St Andrew's Old Church in Holcombe (Somerset).

Each of these churches has been conserved by the Churches Conservation Trust because they are of architectural or archaeological significance. However, the historic fabric has been exposed to the presence of bats, their droppings and urine, for years. Some churches in the project are receiving bespoke capital works to alter the ways in which the bats use the inside of the building or protect the historic artefacts, for example through the installation of bat boxes, blocking in entry points or installing deflectors.

Through close work with heritage professionals and ecologists, the project will aim to find the most suitable outcome for each of the 102 project churches. Find out more at batsandchurches.org.uk

**BATS
IN
CHURCHES**

Key figures for 2018 - 2019

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

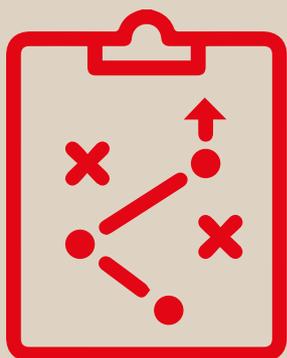


2060
members

1.76 million
visitors to our churches



1800
volunteers



66
friends
groups

Prepared

a new five year strategy



Legacies

provided £254,000 of unrestricted income



**Regeneration
Team**

worked with 69 community groups
(growing from 40 the previous year)

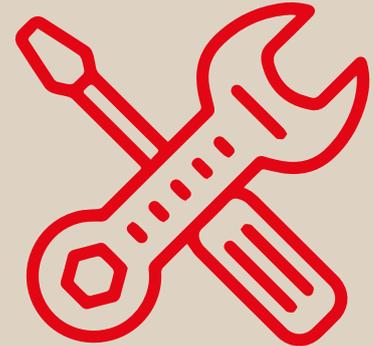
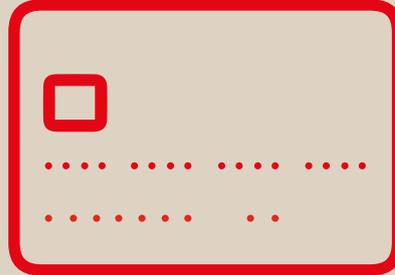


Achieved

our annual appeal target for Sunderland appeal

Contactless giving

piloted in York



Champing

we had 21 Champing churches, which included three franchises and we had a total of 1200 champers. Champing also featured on BBC Countryfile, which has an audience of over 8 million people

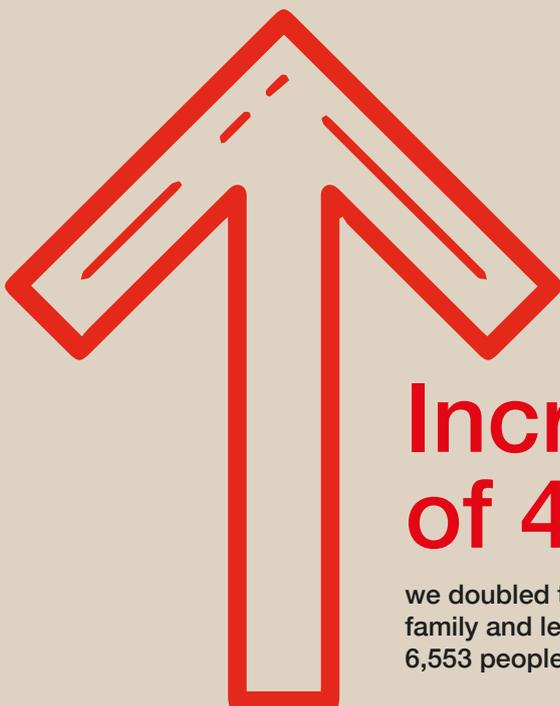
91% of expenditure

is spent on frontline projects



12 historic church tours

just over 200 individual bookings



Increase of 46%

we doubled the participation at our family and learning events, reaching 6,553 people compared to 3032 last year

Learning and Participation update

CCT continues to promote the significance of church heritage through two exciting partnerships...

Allchurches Trust grant

The Heritage Schools programme continues to thrive. CCT is the national delivery partner of this project which is now in its eighth year and is part-funded by The Department for Education. This year, CCT's Heritage Learning Officers welcomed a total of 6,315 school children to historic churches up and down the country, smashing the milestone of 15,000 pupils since the project began. Our engaging Learning Outside the Classroom sessions involved school children of different ages and abilities focusing on a range of curriculum subjects such as History, Art, RS, Maths and Science. These sessions were always tailored to the specific church heritage found at each site.

We were delighted to receive a grant of £52,125 towards this learning programme from Allchurches Trust. This generous, one-off grant provided us with a great opportunity to build a robust and sustainable funding model from 2019 onwards. Facilitated by three full-time Heritage Learning Officers, the Heritage Schools programme has actively engaged school-aged children and young people in learning activities. The grant from Allchurches Trust match-funded the ongoing support from The Department for Education as part of the Heritage Schools partnership.

Sir Philip Mawer, Chairman of Allchurches Trust, says, 'Allchurches Trust is pleased to be able to support the valuable work of the Churches Conservation Trust's Heritage Learning Officers. We recognise the unique role they play in providing stimulating and creative learning opportunities for children and families at CCT churches, helping them to appreciate their significance to local heritage and as historic places of worship. We trust that our grant will help in the process of securing the future of these roles for many years to come.'

Google Arts & Culture launch

By teaming up with Google Arts & Culture, we are able to give history, art and architecture lovers new access to the secrets held in historic churches the length and breadth of England. Using Google's cutting-edge Gigapixel Art Camera, museum-quality artefacts and artworks from our churches have been captured and curated into new online exhibitions.

Some of the highlights include curious medieval wall paintings hidden away in the ancient village of Broughton, Buckinghamshire, and a window into York's medieval history is revealed in astonishing detail through stunning stained glass. Virtual visitors can step inside ancient churches with 360-degree Streetview tours and meet fascinating but lesser-known women from history, from 10th-century royalty to 19th-century social reformers.

Chloë Meredith, Learning and Participation Project Manager at CCT said, 'The Churches Conservation Trust is always looking for new ways to share our collection of 353 outstanding historic churches with a broad audience and to bring alive their extraordinary stories. Thanks to this partnership with Google Arts & Culture, we're now able to share these architectural gems with global audiences and enable people to explore them in a totally new way.'

Suhair Khan, UK Lead at Google Arts & Culture, said, 'We are thrilled to have partnered with the Churches Conservation Trust and to have been able to help capture the beauty and architecture of some of England's historic churches. We hope that bringing them online will allow for visitors from around the world to learn about their unique stories and heritage.'



© Google Arts and Culture



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Holy Trinity, Sunderland
© CCT

Regeneration update

The past year has certainly proved to be a success for CCT's Regeneration Team

Three major projects

CCT's Regeneration Team were successful with two National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) grants in 2018: £2.8 million for Holy Trinity, Sunderland, providing the funds needed to repair and secure the future of the church, and a £275,000 development grant for St Peter's, Sudbury, allowing CCT to work with the local friends group to undertake plans for vital repairs and improvements that will sustain the building for the long term. These are in addition to the NLHF grant secured for St Swithun's, Worcester, in 2017. Having three major projects in each CCT region has been a huge victory, and it would not have been possible without the support of our partners and donors. The St Swithun's and Holy Trinity projects are due to be completed in autumn 2020, and the team are working towards a March 2020 round two submission to the NLHF for St Peter's to secure the funds for the building works.

Taylor Review workshops

CCT's Regeneration Consultancy service has successfully secured the commission from Historic England to carry out community training workshops as part of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS)-funded Taylor Review pilot project. This project aims to support communities who are responsible for listed places of worship. Between September 2018 and March 2020, the team will be delivering 16 workshops focusing on five different topics: maintenance, community engagement, project management, fundraising and business planning.

CCT in Denmark

The Regeneration Team recently travelled to Denmark to share their community-led approach to regeneration. The team shared much valuable practical experience with groups keen to explore new ways of caring for rural churches. CCT's Regeneration Manager, Tessa Harvey, led a round-table discussion with a pastor, church volunteers and others involved in encouraging a broader range of uses of places of worship. With church attendance in decline – a trend exacerbated by the 'flight' of rural populations to urban centres – Danish communities in remote areas are facing a growing need to reimagine their church buildings as welcoming community spaces alongside their religious functions. While in Denmark, CCT also worked with aspiring architects at the Aarhus School of Architecture, hosting a workshop on sustainable uses for rural places of worship. This was an opportunity to explore different ways of measuring the value, or 'significance', of a historic church building and using that understanding to inform the development of new activities. The session provided students with new inspiration and practical approaches to incorporate in their individual project studies. By sharing CCT's experiences, we hope to encourage others to find creative ways to secure the future of these important cultural landmarks.

Outstanding contributions from our volunteers

Volunteers from across the country were recognised at our Volunteer Awards and conference in January, hosted at The British Library and supported by the Marsh Christian Trust.

The seven award categories recognised those who had made an outstanding contribution to their local church and community, illustrating the astonishing range of activities and events that take place across our 353 churches.

The seven categories were awarded as follows:

**Volunteer of the Year for the North:
Fel Birk, Christ the Consoler,
Skelton-cum-Newby, North Yorkshire**

Fel has opened the church at Skelton-cum-Newby, daily, for the past 15 years and has been particularly supportive after a recent spate of vandalism which led to the removal of the wall safe.

**Volunteer of the Year for the South East: Helen Saddleton,
Area Volunteer in Essex**

Helen joined CCT as a volunteer two years ago as the first Area Volunteer in Essex. She has since made a huge contribution to the understanding of maintenance issues at the five churches she supports and has forged excellent relationships with local volunteers, providing an important additional tier of support for them.

**Volunteer of the Year for the West:
Mary Szuster, St Cuthbert's in
Holme Lacy, Herefordshire**

Mary has lived next door to St Cuthbert's for her whole life and can often be found on her lawnmower in the churchyard or cleaning the inside of the church. This year she is moving away, but has offered to continue acting as key holder and caretaker for the church and churchyard, as she has done for decades.



Volunteer Teams of the Year:

Friends of St Bartholomew's, Lower Basildon and Friends of Milton Mausoleum, Nottinghamshire

Friends of St Bartholomew's in Lower Basildon: In 2018, the Friends completed their clock restoration project for which they raised over £10,000. They were a great help in supporting the West Region's Trustees' Tour and hosted a volunteer celebration event for over 100 people at the church.

Friends of Milton Mausoleum, Nottinghamshire: The Friends of Milton Mausoleum were only founded three years ago and have brought their historic building back into community use. They are a willing and determined team, and their efforts have recently been rewarded by the arrival of electricity in the building, thus enabling future events to be held all year round.

**Fundraising Volunteer of the Year:
Teresa Brown, Holy Trinity in Privett,
Hampshire**

Teresa is the Volunteer Event Coordinator and Tower Captain at Holy Trinity, Privett, and has always been an important part of the day-to-day activities of the church. In 2018 she went above and beyond in her role when she led the community in organising a fundraising flower festival at the church which raised £9,500 for urgent repairs to the north wall of the church.

**Young Volunteer of the Year:
Roisin Ryan-Self,
St Peter's in Sudbury, Suffolk**

Roisin is an event steward at St Peter's in Sudbury and has recently taken on the role of Communications Officer. She has brought considerable experience from her day job at a marketing agency along with a fresh approach to how the church can promote itself on social media.

**Digital Volunteer of the Year:
Jessica Clarke**

Jessica has supported and enabled CCT to promote its historic churches on the Google Arts & Culture platform. She has worked hard to complete the project, overcoming all technical issues with diligence and determination. Without her, the project would not have been such a success.

Each winner was awarded £500 from the Marsh Christian Trust.

MARSH
Christian Trust

Our new strategy 2019 - 2024

CCT recently launched a new strategy to better support communities who care for their historic church buildings. The prime purpose of the strategy is to shape CCT into a supportive infrastructure which can help communities across England practically care for their historic places of worship.

The strategy not only seeks to take best care of our collection of churches but widen our support so that we can use everything we have learnt to help more people and communities to care for their historic places of worship. Our overall objective is to ensure that society can care for historic places of worship.

There are three main pillars to our strategy:

1: We will use CCT's infrastructure to enable communities to best care for their historic places of worship.

We will do this by offering maintenance, technical advice and support, fundraising and governance support and by entering into partnership agreements with local groups over the care of historic churches. Our Local Community Officers will be the contact with local people and will help to build support for our churches.

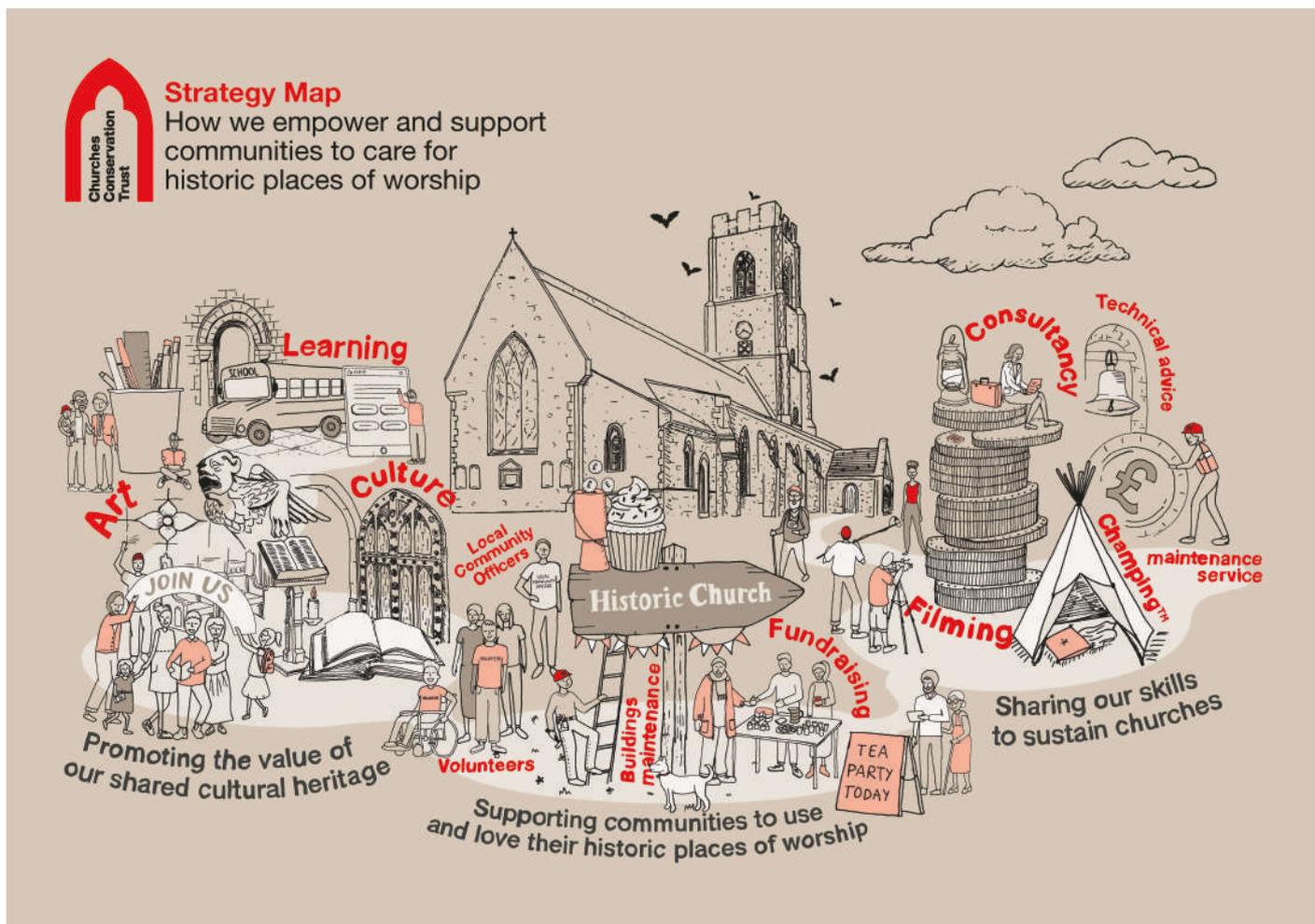
2: We will generate a surplus to invest in our churches through commercial activity.

Building on the firm foundations of the Regeneration Team's consultancy service, Champing™, our maintenance service and film location work, we will develop our services to produce a surplus to invest back into our work.

3: We will promote the value of historic places of worship.

We will celebrate and demonstrate the importance of historic places of worship.

The CCT infrastructure will be dedicated to supporting communities and volunteers in opening and using these churches. These historic places of worship have a great deal to offer the local community and they tell a story of place in a way that no other building can.



A year in the life of CCT

April 2018

We received a National Lottery grant of £275,500 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to transform St Peter's church in Sudbury, Suffolk, into an exciting new cultural and community centre. The grant is the first stage of an ambitious £2.8 million project to repair and adapt the Grade I listed building in the centre of Sudbury into a multi-use centre for community events, music, arts and performance.



Champing at the Church of The Holy Sepulchre, Warminghurst © CCT / Joseph Casey

May 2018

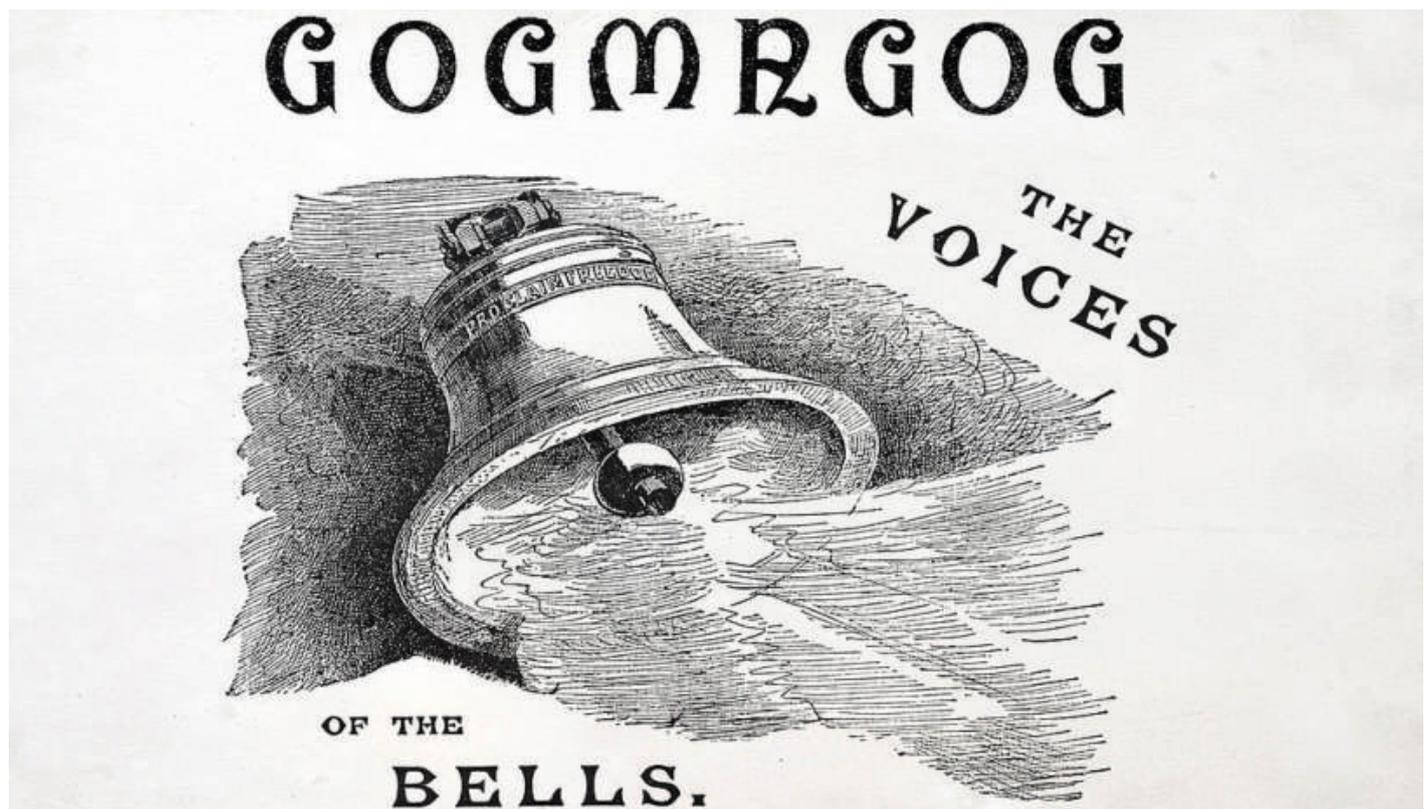
We took stock of our recent successful events with the Commonwealth Big Lunch, where thousands of people across the UK came together in CCT churches for communal feasts in celebration of the Commonwealth and community. The Commonwealth Big Lunch is a partnership between educational charity the Eden Project and the UK Government, backed by CCT. Lunches of all shapes and sizes took place, strengthening community links and bringing people together to celebrate local and global connections through food.

June 2018

CCT's Champing™ church at Warminghurst, West Sussex, was featured in a BBC episode of *Countryfile*. Presenter Matt Baker met with Changers and CCT Chief Executive Peter Aiers to find out more about the phenomenon of camping in churches. This *Countryfile* episode presented a significant opportunity to CCT, as the programme has an audience of approximately 8 million viewers.

July 2018

Gogmagog: Voices of the Bells was a new sound installation sited in the nave of the historic Holy Trinity Church in Sunderland. Created by artist Matt Stokes, the installation reinterprets a peal rung on its bells in 1898. Although the bells were silenced due to the condition of the bell tower, a new version of the peal has been given life by local composers, bell ringers, musicians, singers and choirs, drawing lyrics from the story of the church's history.



August 2018

Holy Trinity Church, York, was chosen to take part in a trial for contactless giving, as a way of collecting donations from visitors. Contactless giving is being embraced by a number of charities as an alternative, or an addition, to the traditional cash collection box. The contactless giving terminal at York has brought in nearly £3,000, with donations increasing each month. Since the initial trial, terminals have now been placed in our churches in Sandwich and King's Lynn.

October 2018

Our 2018 annual appeal, The Fight against Heritage Crime, was launched. Sadly, crimes at historic churches across the country are on the increase and our appeal focused on prevention and awareness. Metal theft, vandalism and theft of cultural artefacts are the most common types of crime. This has been one of CCT's most successful appeals to date.

November 2018

The CCT annual lecture was held at St Margaret's Church, Westminster. Author and architectural editor of *Country Life*, John Goodall, spoke to a packed audience about his book, *Parish Church Treasures*.

December 2018

Margaret Faultless, renowned musician and co-leader at the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, was awarded the prestigious Heritage Hero award by the Heritage Alliance. She was presented the award for her role as Musical Director of the ensemble, Music for Awhile, and its annual music festival at All Saints' Church in Alton Priors. As a committed volunteer for CCT, Professor Faultless has raised more than £35,000 since 1996 from ticket sales of the summer performances held in the church.

January 2019

2019 marked the beginning of CCT's 50th anniversary celebrations. Since 1969 we have developed well beyond our initial purpose of merely saving church buildings; today our approach is to find new uses for the buildings that give them a fresh lease of life.

February 2019

Electric-folk duo, India Electric Company, continued to tour a number of CCT churches. Described by *The Telegraph* as 'bursting with invention and full of surprises', the concerts were a huge success, drawing audiences from all over the country to hear innovative and exciting music performed in atmospheric, historic spaces.



Margaret Faultless

March 2019

Over 300 visitors searched for hidden creatures by torchlight at All Saints' in Cambridge as part of a partnership with Cambridge University Museums. The event was part of the Cambridge-wide Twilight at the Museums, aimed at encouraging families to explore local sites after dark. Children used UV torches to hunt for neon figures, created stained glass windows and told stories using shadow puppets.



© India Electric Company

Thank you to our patrons and donors

CCT wishes to record its thanks for the continuing help and support it receives that enables it to do its work across its 353 churches. The list below notes CCT sponsors (who provide its Statutory Grant), the Trusts and Foundations, Friends of Churches, other organisations and individuals who, in the year, gave generously to the Trust. We are also grateful to other members and donors who prefer to remain anonymous.

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Friends of Stourmouth Church
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Gifts in Wills or Pledged Gifts

Gifts in Wills play an important and much valued part in supporting the work of the Trust. We would like to thank the following named donors and those who wish to remain anonymous for pledging a gift for the Trust in their Wills:

Christopher Anderson
Nigel Benford
Darrell Buttery
Richard Digby Day
David Flemington
Paul Mollard

In Memoriam CCT gratefully acknowledges donations given in memory of:

Brian Anthony
Alan Dawkins
Val Pretlove

Who we are

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk. Since 1969, we have played a unique role in national life. Without our work, 353 historic churches might have disappeared entirely and, with them irreplaceable architecture, art and archaeology spanning over 1,000 years of history.

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