



THE CHURCHES  
CONSERVATION TRUST

# A year of creativity, energy and commitment

## The Churches Conservation Trust Your annual review 2012–2013

### There's an evolution going on

St Mary's great treasure is its continental stained glass, including the internationally famous St Bernard panels that have travelled to both Paris and Cologne in the past for exhibitions. No other church in the country has a collection to equal it.

Church of St Mary the Virgin, St Mary's Street, Dogpole, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY11 1DX

#### Volunteers come together to open church 6 days a week

The Church of St Mary the Virgin is a hugely popular destination. With over 50,000 people coming through its doors every year from all round the world, it is one of the most visited attractions in Shropshire.

We were keen for the volunteers at St Mary's to play an even bigger role in the day-to-day running of the church. Their fantastic work during 2012–13, along with two Trust members of staff, has quickly become a benchmark for how to increase involvement through a stewarding rota and programme of events.

One result is that this important church will soon be open to visitors six days a week. Congratulations to the team for the recognition its work has achieved over these 12 months. St Mary's was awarded a VAQAS (Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Scheme) award in 2012. In early 2013, it won a Shrewsbury Town Mayor's award for tourism. These add to the Blue Badge awarded in 2011.

We have designated St Mary's as a 'gateway church': to help us make the most of our limited resources, it will become a source of information on our churches in the region.

Trustee **Nick Thompson** helps us work effectively with our property assets and develop our commercial thinking.

We discussed the importance of St Mary's with him. Nick commented:

'It's an example of how working with volunteers is absolutely vital to enable CCT to do what it does so well. How we prioritise our resources is a real challenge, and having gateway churches like this is also absolutely pivotal in meeting our overall responsibilities.'



Left  
Trustee Nick Thompson  
Below  
A visitor enjoys St Mary's, Shrewsbury ©Barry Cawston



#### How you can help

It costs around £2,000 to run a specialist training day where experts can pass on skills that are vital for looking after our churches.

£50 would train a volunteer in events management.

To donate go to [visitchurches.org.uk/donate](http://visitchurches.org.uk/donate)

### Hidden Somerset

In contrast to most churches, which are located in the heart of their communities, St. Andrew's is tucked away down a farm track through fields, a mile from Holcombe.

St. Andrew's Old Church, Holcombe, Radstock, Somerset BA3 5E

#### Archaeology in action

If you had happened to be in the vicinity of the small church of St Andrew, Holcombe in July 2012, you would have seen the unusual sight of a small drone plane buzzing backwards and forwards across the landscape.

It was the early days of the Hidden Somerset project: a landscape and church survey that has seen the Trust join forces with Wessex Archaeology and other partners. One of the project's key aims is to provide an in-depth archaeological survey to show how our churches fit into the county landscape.

St Andrew's was the first port of call. We now know the work has unearthed evidence of a drove way – a track for driving sheep or cattle past the church. Will it also show the church was originally part of a medieval village that no longer exists? Time will tell...

To help secure heritage skills for the future and encourage interest from visitors, the Hidden Somerset project is incorporating training and education throughout – and this proved very popular at Holcombe last summer. Its open day featured talks from a number of experts, including the late Professor Mick Aston – well known to archaeologists and *Time Team* viewers. As ever, he very generously gave his time throughout the project.



Above  
Archaeological survey at St. Andrew's, Old Church, Holcombe  
Left  
Trustee, Lucy French

Our trustee **Lucy French** is an experienced arts fundraiser. She was very interested to see the work at Holcombe. She commented:

'It's fantastic when we discover a special church – it's something to be shared. That's why an initiative like this is important – it's a brilliant way to get people involved.'



#### Professor Mick Aston

1<sup>st</sup> July 1946 – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Professor Mick Aston was a great supporter of CCT and was instrumental in setting up the Hidden Somerset project. He dedicated much of his time and expertise in support of the project and we really enjoyed working with him. He will be sadly missed.

# Protecting historic churches at risk

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

**President**  
His Royal Highness  
the Prince of Wales

**Vice Presidents**  
Lord Brooke of Sutton Mandeville CH PC  
Rt Hon Frank Field MP  
Dame Liz Forgan  
Candida Lycett Green  
Jools Holland OBE

**Chairman**  
Loyd Grossman OBE FSA

**Chief Executive**  
Crispin Truman

## Celebrating an amazing wealth of built heritage

Loyd Grossman offers his personal thoughts about the importance of maintaining our heritage.

I am honoured to be Chairman of The Churches Conservation Trust; it gives me an opportunity to continue the work I have done for many years with England's heritage. Working for CCT provides huge pleasure and joy for us, and more importantly for those who visit our churches, now and in the future.

I developed my love of architecture as I was growing up in New England, and when I moved to the UK in the mid-70s, I soon discovered how this country is blessed with a phenomenal variety of built heritage in every corner. The buildings in our care are so precious and valuable – and vulnerable. Those of us involved in this sector have to fight every day against gravity, the weather, time – all these things that have an impact on the buildings we love and protect.

On a more personal level, I enjoy being able to immerse myself in the beauty and inspiration of churches and being involved with all the wonderful people who make our work possible and to whom we're very grateful. The knowledge and enthusiasm of individuals up and down the country is immense. It's fantastic to see the local support and pride.

We want the heritage of our historic churches to be here for future generations. When it's gone, it's gone forever; we can't recreate it. In the meantime, it doesn't take care of itself, which is why the work we do together is invaluable. Together, we're making a difference that will last for generations to come.

### Thank you

Loyd Grossman



Loyd Grossman OBE FSA  
Chairman

## 2012–2013: A year of getting down to business

At CCT, our job is to protect and open to the public our wonderful collection of – now 344 – historic churches and their very special contents. That is why we are completely focused on our three programmes of work to strengthen volunteering, tourism and income generation.

This year, with our new volunteering support team fully in place, 1,385 people have given 88,960 hours of their time to CCT churches, at all levels of our work from keyholder to trustee. I am so grateful to all of you who do so much for our historic churches.

Our tourism projects this year have included a range of improvements for visitors including better signposting, a new information and interpretation plan and more churches open with volunteer teams, for more hours of the day.

Building membership, involving donors through our highly successful historic church tours and increasing visitor donations are examples of progress made towards securing increased income.

In a year when we have seen further steep cuts in our government grant and bad weather affecting visitor numbers, and we have suffered isolated incidents of demoralising thefts and vandalism, our job has not always been easy. We need your support more than ever. Whether you are giving time, funds or practical help, saving our historic churches and their contents is a partnership and your contribution is crucial.

I hope you enjoy finding out more about our year. You will notice we have changed the format of this review, with the central pages doubling up as a useful poster. This is because we want it to be practical and because we are always looking at ways to make our marketing materials more cost effective.

Crispin Truman



Crispin Truman  
Chief Executive



# A year in the life of The Trust

It has been a busy year at The Trust. Here we take a brief look at just a few of the stories behind our own headlines.

April 2012

## 53 featured buildings

Spring saw the launch of a collaboration with English Heritage, which you may have read about in last year's Review. It is designed to encourage visitors to visit our churches close to English Heritage sites and vice versa. As part of this, 53 of our fascinating buildings have been featured in English Heritage's 2012/13 handbook.

May 2012

## 2012 Historic church tours launched

In 2012, there was a 50% increase in historic church tour ticket sales on 2011 figures. An enthralling programme included six very different tours.

[visitchurches.org.uk/historicchurchtours](http://visitchurches.org.uk/historicchurchtours)

## 'Revealing Royal Arms' project launched

'Revealing Royal Arms' is an online project to provide an interactive guide to Royal Arms in England, with accessible and concise information. It was launched to much acclaim.

[visitchurches.org.uk/RoyalArms](http://visitchurches.org.uk/RoyalArms)

June 2012

## £6,000 raised

Each year, volunteers around the country hold Midsummer Tea Parties that raise much-needed funds for the CCT. Despite what was said to be the wettest summer for nearly 100 years, 28 churches took part in 2012 and raised £6,000. Events ranged from piano recitals to fancy dress competitions. Thank you to everyone involved.

July 2012

## Sails and seafarers' tales

With Weymouth and Portland hosting Olympic sailing events, the 1766 St George's Church stood proudly in the middle of the action. Its churchyard holds some heart-breaking stories of those who have been lost, and the effect of the sea on the local area. Throughout the summer, a core team of six volunteers led guided tours, bringing these tales to life for visitors.

August 2012

## Clockwork in Esher

A wonderful joint project took place at St George's, Esher this year to repair the church clock. The work in the late summer/autumn included conserving and restoring the face, and regilding the lettering on the dial. While we contributed some funds, the Friends Group raised most of the money. The clock was re-installed in October 2012.

September 2012

## Oldest church in Leeds

Despite dreadful weather conditions, a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all at the re-opening of the church of St John the Evangelist. After extensive repair and adaptation work, it now has new meeting room and office facilities. Guests were invited to see our Chairman, Loyd Grossman, officially re-open the building, which is the oldest church in Leeds city centre.

October 2012

## Our first 'One Trust Day'

On 4 October, over 100 CCT volunteers, staff, trustees and members of church friend groups gathered at St Paul's Church in Bristol to discuss the future direction of the Trust. It also provided an opportunity to recognise the very valuable work of our volunteers.

See page 6 for details of the winners of the 2012 Marsh Christian Trust Volunteer of the Year Award.

## A full house

We are very grateful to Candida Lycett Green, one of our Vice Presidents, for presenting our fifth annual lecture at the Royal Academy, and to all those who joined us there. Candida delighted the audience with a brief journey through her life, detailing how she came to fall in love with churches.

November 2012

## A highly rewarding journey

A cold, wintry night saw the launch of new facilities at St Leonard's Church for the people of Bridgnorth. It was the culmination of several years' work by the Trust and the Friends of St Leonard's to make the installation of lavatories, a kitchenette and a new heating system possible.

December 2012

## A call for would-be bell ringers

We launched a light hearted initiative with The Ringing Foundation to encourage people to get involved in bell ringing as a way of keeping fit. It received a lot of media attention.

'The Churches Conservation Trust do a fantastic job caring for over 340 beautiful historic buildings which attract almost two million visitors a year. They are masters at finding clever solutions to bring church buildings back to life when they are no longer needed for regular worship.'

**Ed Vaizey MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries

January 2013

## The shock of the new

2012 was a busy year for St Nicholas' Chapel in King's Lynn with so much going on. In October, planning approval was granted to proceed with the project to save this nationally significant medieval building. Green technology measures have been built into the design, including low carbon radiant chandeliers to provide heat and help reduce heating costs. Experts also worked on returning the west doors to their original medieval colours – bright red and green – and these were revealed in March.

February 2013

## Cycling round the ArChWay

ArChWay is an exciting project linking fourteen of our rural Lincolnshire churches through the arts. Thanks to help from our friends at the Lincolnshire Cyclist's Touring Club, we have devised three different length cycle routes round it. These offer an alternative way of enjoying the wonderful churches, the beautiful countryside and the art installations.

March 2013

## 364 days a year

Alongside conservation of our heritage, public access to our churches is a cornerstone of our work. We believe a church in our care is only properly conserved if it can be enjoyed. Under our new Open Churches policy, our aim is for all our buildings to be open to the public during daylight hours, 364 days a year.

[visitchurches.org.uk/opencurches](http://visitchurches.org.uk/opencurches)

# Our year at a glance 2012–2013

'I have worked closely with the Trust for many years now – both as a professional partner and as a supporter – and the team's determination to safeguard the future of some of the UK's most evocative historic buildings, is an inspiration. The Trust evolves and adapts to find new ways to ensure that historic churches and chapels that have fallen out of use, have a real future ensuring not only the buildings, but the communities around them, continue to flourish.'

Carole Souter  
Chief Executive  
Heritage Lottery Fund

## Growth in giving

Growth in our annual giving schemes is essential to sustaining our future.

18%

increase in Supporter membership. It costs £36 a year or £3 a month for Supporter Scheme membership

29%

increase in donations

£210,000

fundraising target was set and exceeded by Friends of King's Lynn St Nicholas, who led our first capital fundraising appeal so magnificently

344

churches and almost 2 million visitors

89%

of our expenditure went straight to frontline projects

88,960

hours donated by our 1,385 regular volunteers

88%

of our volunteers would recommend volunteering with CCT to others

### Total income this year

£5.87m

£2,828,000  
Grant-in-Aid from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)

£1,355,000  
Church Commissioners of the Church of England

£744,000  
Non-statutory grant income

£560,000  
Donated income

£321,000  
Earned income

£48,000  
Legacies

£17,000  
Investment income

### Total expenditure this year

£5.86m

£3,382,000  
Church repairs and maintenance

£1,853,000  
Supporting volunteers and communities to keep churches open

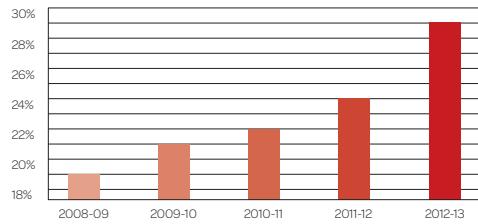
£580,000  
Fundraising and Marketing

£47,000  
Governance

### Income and expenditure highlights

To read a full copy of our statutory accounts go to [visitchurches.org.uk/accounts](http://visitchurches.org.uk/accounts)

#### Percentage growth of independently generated income Non-Grant in aid income increase over the last five years



#### Governance costs continue to fall

19% reduction since 2008-09



## Successes

### 1 St Mary at the Quay, Ipswich

Total funds raised

**£4,000,000**

This innovative project has received significant funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Once the project is completed the church, which has been closed since 1973, will be open to the whole community as a Heritage Wellbeing Centre in partnership with Suffolk Mind.

### 2 St Nicholas' Chapel, Kings Lynn

Total funds raised

**£2,500,000**

The successful 'Calling All Angels' fundraising campaign helped to secure funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and from grant funders including Garfield Weston Foundation. It also received significant local financial support with the help of the Friends of St Nicholas'.

### 3. Heritage Schools Project

(Leeds, Cambridge and Bristol)

Total funds raised

**£143,000**

This exciting project will receive funding over the next three years from English Heritage, with regional learning hubs being created in Bristol, Leeds and Cambridge. New Learning Officers will work with at least fifty schools, including piloting innovative models to encourage and facilitate the adoption by these schools of 'their' local CCT church.

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## Challenges

### 4 St Nicholas, Gloucester

Estimated project cost

**£1,000,000**

We need to raise this money to protect the historic fabric of this landmark city centre church with a conservation project to the roof, and to work with local partners to find a sustainable use for the building.

### 5 St Mary the Virgin, Shrewsbury

Estimated project cost

**£100,000**

This project will ensure visitors enjoy the best experience possible from a visit to St Mary's, with a welcome hub, new signage and new heritage interpretation. We will also offer local volunteers training to support the day-to-day management of the church.

### 6 St Mary, West Bergholt

Estimated project cost

**£50,000**

These funds are vital to replace the failing central valley roof gutter so that further water damage is avoided to a crucial medieval beam, and to enable us to assess the effects of Deathwatch beetle damage to the timber belfry.

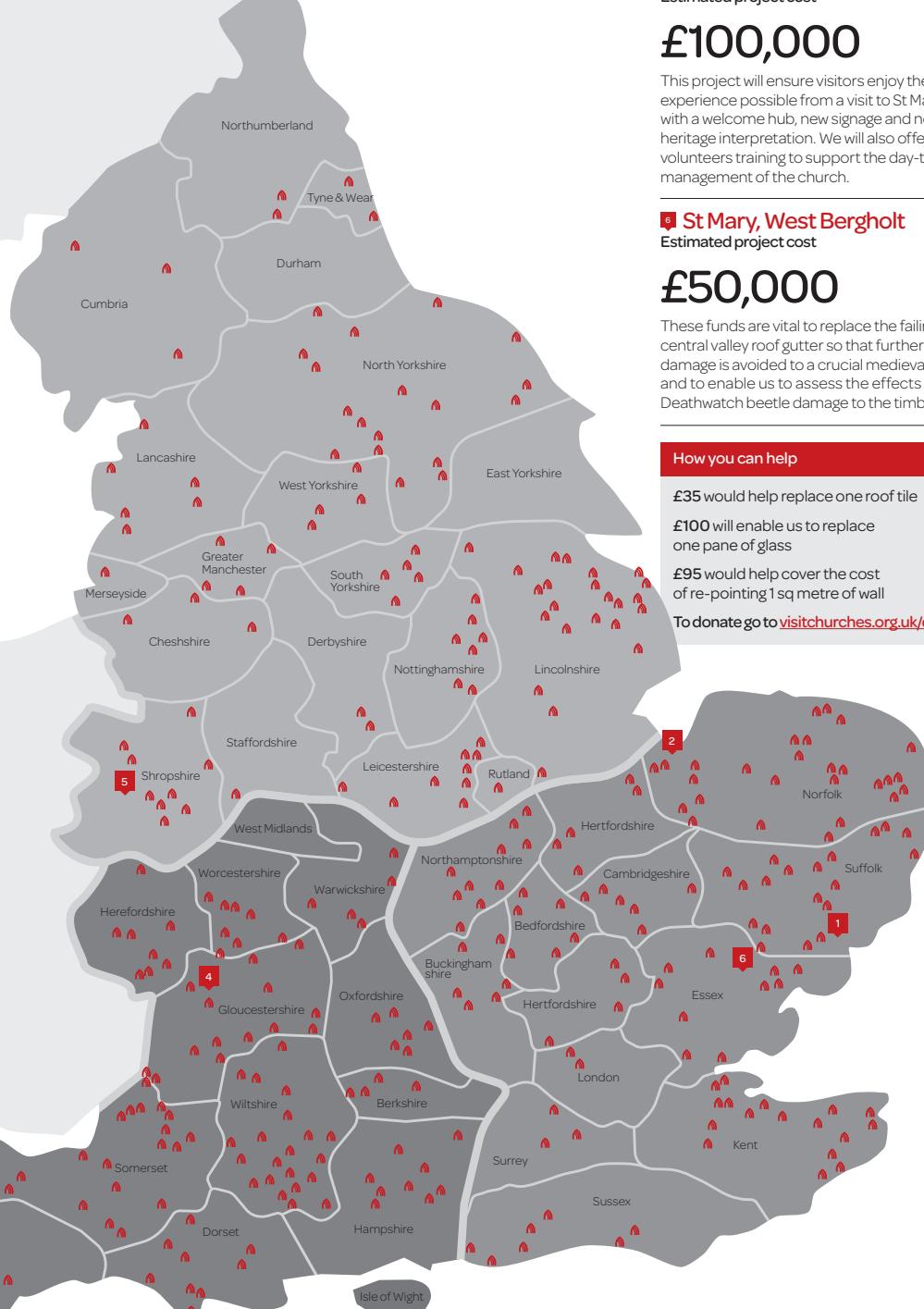
### How you can help

£35 would help replace one roof tile

£100 will enable us to replace one pane of glass

£95 would help cover the cost of re-pointing 1 sq metre of wall

To donate go to [visitchurches.org.uk/donate](http://visitchurches.org.uk/donate)



Visit our website [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk) to search churches using our interactive map

### Key

■ CCT churches  
(church locations are approximate)

■ St Mary at the Quay, Ipswich

■ St Nicholas' Chapel, Kings Lynn

■ St Nicholas, Gloucester

■ St Mary the Virgin, Shrewsbury

■ St Mary, West Bergholt

# Thank you for your help and support

## Congratulations to our volunteers of the year

Raymond and Elizabeth Fowler were the joint winners of the 2012 Marsh Christian Trust Volunteer of the Year Award for their sterling work with the Friends of St Swithun's Church, Worcester. Two regional prizes were awarded to John Marks, of the Friends of St James' Church in Cooling, Kent and Penny Taylor at St Leonard's Church in Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

The award was presented by Marsh Trustee, Lorraine Ryan, during our first 'One Trust Day'. Congratulations to all our winners.

MARSH CHRISTIAN TRUST

### Our Trustees

#### Loyd Grossman OBE FSA Chairman

Chairman, The Heritage Alliance, broadcaster and food entrepreneur

#### Jane Weeks (Deputy Chair)

Museums consultant

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#### Keith Halstead

Project Manager, The National Trust for Scotland

#### Humphrey Welfare FSA

Archaeologist and editor

#### Christopher Knight

Chartered Accountant and company director

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(since April 2013)

Development Director, St James Theatre

#### The Rev'd Duncan Dormer

(since May 2013)

President (Vice-Master) and Dean of Chapel at St John's College, Cambridge

#### Liz Peace CBE

(since October 2013)

Chief Executive, British Property Federation

#### The Rev'd Brian McHenry CBE

(until September 2013)

Vicar of All Saints, Orpington and former Government lawyer

#### The Very Rev'd Peter Judd

(until May 2013)

Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral

#### Debbie Dance

(until April 2013)

Director, Oxford Preservation Trust

We are very grateful to all those who gave so generously to the Trust in so many different ways this year. This includes our sponsors, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and The Church Commissioners of the Church of England, a number of Trusts and Foundations, our 64 Friends Groups, and many other organisations and individuals.

### Trusts and Foundations

Anson Charitable Trust  
Dame Violet Wills Will Trust  
English Heritage  
Gannett Foundation  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Heritage Lottery Fund  
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National Manuscripts Conservation Trust  
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Thank you, too, to those of our generous donors who choose to remain anonymous.

# In the spotlight 2012–2013

## How you can help

£300 would help towards the cost of one day's work to conserve historic wall paintings

£5,000 will help cover the cost of re-leading a stained glass window

To donate go to [visitchurches.org.uk/donate](http://visitchurches.org.uk/donate)

## Highlights of our activities in 2012–13



© Harriet Armstrong



© Harriet Armstrong



Top  
Candida Lycett Green presents the Annual Lecture 'For the love of churches'

Second  
Volunteers at the 'One Trust Day' in St Paul's, Portland Square, Bristol

Third  
Clock repair at St George, Esher

Fourth  
Bellringers take part in 'Ring for Fitness' at Christ Church, Macclesfield

## A forgotten architectural treasure

The Church of St Edmund, Falinge, was built in 1870–73 for Albert Hudson Royds, a prominent banker and Freemason. No expense was spared. Everywhere there is Masonic symbolism, especially in the scheme of stained glass, and in the astonishing lectern.

The Church of St Edmund, Edmund Street, Falinge, Rochdale, Greater Manchester OL12 6QF

### Major repair work carried out on The Church of St Edmund

One of the most recent churches to join our collection is a most extraordinary building. At first sight, St Edmund's looks like a fairly standard Victorian Gothic church. Then you begin to realise quite what an exceptional concoction it is. The latest Pevsner Guide described it as 'Rochdale's temple to Freemasonry, a total concept as exotic as Roslin Chapel in Scotland.'

Standing in a suburban area of Rochdale and surrounded by cherry trees, it came into our care in October 2012. By the beginning of 2013, work was underway on the first stage of repairs that the church needed in order to make it weathertight, and to put in facilities for volunteer stewards.

Stage two now needs careful thought to make the most of the funds we have – and those that we can raise. The church desperately needs a new lighting scheme, and some redecoration. Then there is the organ, badly affected by damp. Originally made for Lincoln cathedral in 1840, it is among the best produced by the hugely successful London firm of Hill and Sons.

We will get together with local interest groups to discuss how St Edmund's can be used for the benefit of the community and how we can provide a great experience for visitors.

Our trustee Humphrey Welfare is an archaeologist by training, and spent most of his career in the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and in English Heritage. He commented:

'St Edmund's is an extremely unusual building; one which illustrates the diversity of the Church of England. One of our big challenges will be to explain this church clearly and simply. I think visitors will be fascinated.'



Above  
Humphrey Welfare  
Right

The Church of Saint Edmund, Falinge © Andy Marshall

## An adaptation for modern use

Grade 1 listed St Mary, Bungay, Suffolk was built in the late 15th century as part of the church of the Benedictine priory on the site. It remained the parish church after Henry VIII closed the priory in 1536.

St Mary's Church, St Mary's Street, Bungay, Suffolk NR35 1AX

### New meeting room opens at St Mary, Bungay

There is now a striking new meeting room right at the heart of St Mary, Bungay, with glass panels providing a view through from the north to the south of the church. Glazing in its ceiling also means that, from inside it, you can see up to the nave roof and west window.

This practical and beautiful new addition to the church is the conclusion of a remarkable achievement in a very short period. In 2008, a substantial legacy had been received from Miss Kathleen Bowerbank, a Bungay benefactress. The Friends, who over the years have done fantastic work in making St Mary's a focal point for this small country town as a venue for events, meetings and exhibitions, wanted to do a project that would make the church useful for future generations too.

They established that this could be done with match-funding under the Rural Development Programme For England (RDPE) 2007–13. They enlisted our expertise to develop a viable project to meet CCT criteria and to help steer their proposals through historic building legislation and approvals.

The funding was awarded – meaning the Friends, with support from us and our eminent conservation committee, had worked very quickly to turn dreams into the splendid reality of the new facilities that are now in place at St Mary's.

Trustee The Reverend Brian McHenry CBE brings in-depth understanding of the dynamics of the relationship between the church and state to his role as a Trustee. Brian told us he was very interested to learn about the wonderful work done on this project. He commented:

'It is an example of the way in which the Trust, together with local volunteers and enthusiasts is putting fresh life into buildings and doing incredible work in revitalising churches as focal places in the community.'



Above  
Reverend Brian McHenry  
Right  
The Friends of Bungay St. Mary's Priory Church enjoying use of the new meeting room space © Keith Mindham



THE CHURCHES  
CONSERVATION TRUST

# Help us protect 1,000 years of history



- 1 St John the Evangelist, Leeds  
2 Holy Trinity, Sunderland  
3 All Saints, Little Wenham  
4 St Michael, Michael church  
5 St Martin, Allerton Mauleverer

- 6 St Thomas, East Shefford  
7 Holy Trinity, Blackburn  
8 St Lawrence, Evesham  
9 St Thomas Old Church, Friarmere  
10 St. Nicholas, Saintbury

Picture 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10  
© Andy Marshall  
Picture 5  
© Stephen Hipperson

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Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm  
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Registered Charity No: 258612

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