



Cornwall Historic Churches Trust  
Annual Report 2011



# **CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**

(Correct at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012)

## **Patron**

HRH The Duke of Cornwall

## **President**

The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel E T Bolitho OBE

## **Vice President**

The Bishop of Truro, The Rt Revd Tim Thornton MA

## **Honorary Life Presidents:**

The Right Hon Viscount Falmouth

Lady Mary Holborow DCVO JP

## **Trustees**

Mrs Helen Briggs (Chairman)

Mrs Vanessa Leslie (Vice Chairman)

Viscountess Boyd DL

Mr Andrew Foot

Mr Charles Hall

Mr Geoffrey Holborow OBE

Dr Joanna Mattingly

Mrs Mary Parr

## **Executive Committee**

Mrs Helen Briggs (Chairman)

Mrs Vanessa Leslie (Vice Chairman)

Viscountess Boyd DL

Mrs Elizabeth Bolitho DL

Dr Emma Carlyon

Revd Howard Curnow BSc AKC.

(From 14 May 2011)

Mr Anthony Davidson

Mrs Christine Edwards MBE DL

The Reverend Peter Facer

(Until 14 May 2011)

Mr Andrew Foot

Secretary, Diocesan Advisory Committee

Mr Murray Gowan MBE

Mr Charles Hall

Mr Geoffrey Holborow OBE

Dr Joanna Mattingly

Mrs Mary Parr

Mr Ron Purser

Sir Richard Rashleigh Bt

Mrs Victoria Tapper

Mrs Caroline Tetley

Mrs Victoria Thompson

Mrs Sarah Williams

The Archdeacon of Cornwall

The Archdeacon of Bodmin

## **The Officers**

Treasurer, Mr Anthony Davidson (Until 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012)

Mr Philip Willoughby OBE JP (From 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012)

Sponsored Event Organizer, Mr Murray Gowan MBE

Independent Examiners and Advisers, Winter Rule

Secretary, Mr Simon Coy OBE

Dipper Bridge, Ruthernbridge, BODMIN, PL30 5LU

01208 831906 [mail@chct.info](mailto:mail@chct.info)

Registered Charity Number: 218340

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It has been a successful but challenging year at the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust. However, thanks to the unfailing generosity of our Friends, supporters and sponsors we have been able to meet those challenges and have approved grants to 20 churches and chapels totalling £58,500. I am also extremely pleased to announce that HRH The Duke of Cornwall, has agreed to continue as our Patron

The coming year 2012, will be a year of change. Lady Mary Holborow who has been our President since she became Lord Lieutenant has been a huge help to us in her wise counsel and advice and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking her on behalf of us all at CHCT for her guidance. However, Lady Mary retired as Lord Lieutenant in September 2011 and we were delighted when the new Lord Lieutenant, Colonel Edward Bolitho agreed to become our new President. We welcome him.

Anthony Davidson who has been the Honorary Treasurer of CHCT for over 26 years stood down at our Executive Committee Meeting in March. He has been a most adept Treasurer and has displayed a very steady hand with our finances. We have him to thank for looking after our books so meticulously over so many years. Luckily for us Anthony is staying on the Executive Committee. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our auditors, Winter Rule, now Francis Clark, for their help over the years. We have been extremely fortunate in finding a replacement for Anthony as Honorary Treasurer in Philip Willoughby who has recently moved to the county. We are delighted that he has agreed to take on the role and we welcome him too.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the Archdeacon of Bodmin, the Venerable Audrey Elington, to our Executive Committee. The Archdeacon took up her appointment in July 2011 and we look forward to receiving her help and advice while she is in that post. We have also welcomed The Revd Howard Curnow who has joined us as our Methodist Church expert, replacing The Reverend Peter Facer whom we thank for his service over many years.

We were delighted to briefly welcome back to the county in June 2011 the Rt Revd. Bill Ind, who when he was Bishop of Truro, was our Vice-President. He addressed our Annual Meeting at St Juliot Church on the subject of Thomas Hardy and Hardy's connections with that church. It was a fascinating afternoon and some were lucky enough to lunch in the garden of the Old Rectory thanks to the generosity of Sally Searle who now lives there. This was where Thomas Hardy initially encountered his first wife Emma.

I have now completed my five years as Chairman and it has been hugely enjoyable. We have a splendid website [www.chct.info](http://www.chct.info), which is kept up-to-date so ably by Victoria Tapper, we have a wide circulation of Friends of CHCT wonderfully organised by Geoffrey Holborow, our Annual Lunch goes from strength to strength thanks to Alice Boyd and her team of cooks, Murray Gowan has most efficiently organised the Ride and Stride sponsored event longer than I can remember, and our Christmas Party seems to be the event not to be missed, it would appear from the rush for tickets, thanks to the initiative of Caroline Tetley and her team. However, the work of the CHCT achieved during my Chairmanship would not have been possible without the indefatigable help and enthusiasm of Simon Coy, our Honorary Secretary who has enabled every task to be made easier by his technological expertise and advice.

If I had another five years as Chairman, I would like to think that every church in Cornwall would be open during the day. It is a big ask in some areas, I know, but I still think that it is vitally important and in most cases possible.

As I come to the end of my tenure I would like to thank the Trustees and Executive Committee members for their support, unfailing good humour and hard work. When asked they have never failed to deliver. I wish my successor, Vanessa Leslie every good wish for her time at the helm. I hope she will enjoy it as much as I have.

Helen Briggs

## **CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST 2012 ANNUAL MEETING TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011 AT 2 PM AT BLISLAND CHURCH**

Our Annual Meeting will be held at 2 pm on Tuesday 12th June at Blisland Church, with Rev'd Peter Beacham as our speaker. He is writing the new "Pevsner" which is due to be published in late 2013. His subject is 'What happened to churches in Cornwall during the 19th century'. The meeting will be chaired by our new President, The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel E T Bolitho OBE. Refreshments will be served after the meeting and we hope as many as possible will be able to attend.



### **The 2011 Annual Meeting was held at St Juliet Church**

Left to Right: Helen Briggs (Chairman 2007 to 2012), Lady Mary Holborow (Trust President to September 2011), Mr Colin Wadey receiving a Cheque from the Trust, Rt Revd Bill Ind (Bishop of Truro 1997 to 2008 and our speaker, on Thomas Hardy), The Revd Robert Thewsey Priest in Charge





**St Juliot Church**



# CORNWALL HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST LUNCHEON

Croan Manor, Egloshayle

by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. John Willis  
on Wednesday, 16th May, 2012  
at 12.30 pm for 1 o'clock

## ANNUAL LUNCHEON 2011

The 2011 Annual Lunch took place at Trereife Park, Penzance by the kind invitation of Tim and Liz Le Grice. to whom many, many thanks because although we provide the food the upheaval to the home owners is colossal both before and after. Unlike many of our lunches, it took place on a lovely day and people were able to overflow onto the gravel outside the front door and enjoy the view of the delightful garden before exploring the fascinating house. The lunch was provided by the now very experienced band of helpers to all of whom we are very grateful.

Alice Boyd

(PS If anyone knows of anywhere with room to seat 100 people, suitable for one of our lunches, please get in touch with Alice Boyd 01752 842672)



Trereife 2011

## ANTHONY DAVIDSON

*Anthony Davidson has been the treasurer of the CHCT for the last 28 years. The extent of his contribution to the Trust can be judged from the following words of farewell he used at his last meeting, and they are repeated here as a tribute to his long and valuable service. We wish him a long and happy second retirement*

Madam Chairman, friends. Please excuse a written speech but I am no good off-the-cuff and sure to miss out important matters if I try so here goes.

It was in 1984 that Simon Bolitho saw me in the bank one day and said, "I've got a job for you, boy. Arthur Hill wants to retire from being treasurer of the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust. You could do that". I said, "Oh I don't think so Major Bolitho", but he replied, "Oh yes you could – you will meet a lot of very nice people". Those words have always stuck with me and I never waste an opportunity to say how right he was. Not only the various committee members over the years but also many of our regular supporters with their own distinctions, like keeping the local alcohol and tobacco industries going. (No names etc)

Simon had interviewed me for employment with the bank way back in 1956, and in fact I got involved with the Trust only 10 years later in 1966 when I was attached to Truro branch and found myself regularly helping, in pre-Gift Aid days, with the registration of stamp duty on the Trust's Covenants, which was quite a complicated procedure involving sending off the paperwork to our Head Office Stamping Dept, so when Arthur handed over I already felt I knew a bit about the organisation.

I would accordingly, if I may, just like to direct here a personal thanks to Elizabeth for the support I always received from her husband, without which I would certainly not be standing here now. When he died I was very honoured, and pleased to be allowed, to carry the processional cross at his memorial service in the Cathedral – not normally one of my regular duties.

I suppose there is a certain satisfaction in being head-hunted (unless it is obviously in desperation) but as a result this happened again in 1991, when Lady Mary was planning the craft fair in memory of Charlotte Galsworthy. She said something like we must find someone to handle the money and Geoffrey said I think I know the chap. I had retired just the year before, and at the same time Jennifer Llewellyn said we are looking for a new treasurer for the Diocesan Mothers Union. A formidable trio of offers from offerors I could not dare refuse!

I have just one particularly pleasant memory I would like to share with you and thank you for. When it was decided we should mark our Golden Jubilee in 2005 with a service in the Cathedral, Bishop Bill agreed to preach. Andrew Foot and I, in reader and canonical robes respectively, added colour to the procession, and read the lessons. I was entrusted with the very appropriate tongue-twister about Mr Zerubbabel rebuilding the temple walls, whilst at the same time keeping more than half an eye on the opposition. (I suppose times have not changed all that much over the years as nowadays we do occasionally hear the odd mutterings about English Heritage.)

Anyway, in his sermon Bill made a reference to “that extraordinary chap Anthony Davidson”. He had phoned me just after lunch (probably that same day) to ask just how much had we given away in total grants. Knowing that I had the figure to hand but in the next room, I said give me two minutes and Bill said he was back in 45 seconds to say £632,420 (or whatever the figure was). But the jam on it for me was to notice, having ascended the lectern in good time, that amongst the congregation were not just my brother, Robin, but also our good friend our senior English master from school to hear this recognition and fruit of his elocution training.

Now I think I know what this package contains. The national bellringers organisation commissioned a wooden jigsaw puzzle to mark our Centenary augmentation project at the Cathedral last year and it has been a very popular choice, selling extremely well. Recently Worcester Cathedral produced a puzzle of their own and, as that is where my brother now lives, it will complement the Truro one splendidly. Worcester is probably the leading tower in the country for training ringers, apart from possessing undoubtedly one of the world’s finest rings of bells, and I was very pleased to be able to pay Robin a visit in the summer of 2010 and we duly listened to the bells on their practice evening from the comfort of the Diglis Hotel beer garden.

So, thank you very much for this and for your good friendship over such a long time – Arthur served 29 years and I would not wish to eclipse his record so I am very pleased to declare my innings now closed on 28. I have thoroughly enjoyed my association with you and as a result visited some wonderful buildings which I would otherwise probably have never seen. Whether or not you consider you have had good value from Simon’s head-hunt is not for me to speculate on, but I can wish you all well in the knowledge that you will have in Philip a very safe and experienced hand on the cheque book for hopefully many years to come – 27 for tidiness – who knows?

Anthony Davidson





## THE SPONSORED EVENT 2011

The fine weather in September 2011 allowed us all to dispel the gloom of the struggling economy. The success of the day is reflected in the fact that we did not lose ground on the great efforts made in 2010. So, once again, we succeeded in raising some £10,000 across the County to be shared between Churches and Chapels and the Trust.

Therefore we thank all those who helped towards this end whether it was by supporting events locally or taking part and raising money. We are also grateful to those who may have added Gift Aid to their donations. We also thank those businesses that support and encourage our work. I cannot emphasise too much how greatly this contributes to what I seek to do and so I thank you all most sincerely. I received good support from some of those who enjoyed walks, cycle rides and visits to Churches and Chapels. Our Secretary, Simon Coy, spent the day cycling with Richard Genochio, the Chairman of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Churches Trust, who was visiting the County on holiday at the time. It has always been interesting to learn of those visitors who have used our excellent web site and then contacted me to tell me of their wish to participate on Event Day.

I expressed concern last year at the need to recruit Area Friends who could help me with local contacts and assist in distributing literature to their local Churches and Chapels. Happily several people responded to the plea and I am very grateful for their interest. If you can spare some time to help, either by filling a gap or supporting another Area Friend then please do get in touch with me. I can assure you that you will join a very happy band of people and be able to meet with them at Friends events.

Our Sponsored Event for 2012 will take place on Saturday, 8th. September 2012. Rather than give emphasis to Cycle Rides as such, I am seeking to encourage programmes of Church and Chapel Visits by whatever means is most suited to you locally. If you should use a car then please make sure that your insurance cover is adequate. Otherwise do take care that all events are conducted safely and that children are well supervised. If I can do anything to help or encourage a particular event then please give me a call either by phone at 01726 813116 or by e-mail at [murros@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:murros@hotmail.co.uk).

Murray Gowan

## FRIENDS OF CORNISH CHURCHES

Last year we visited Pelynt and Trelawn Chapel – very much a Bishop Trelawny visit, being his parish church and also his own private chapel. We were told about Pelynt by Joanna Mattingly, who has such a depth of knowledge of Cornish Churches, and then we heard more from Carol Vivian, the local historian and Trelawny expert.

The afternoon concluded with a wonderful cream tea, generously provided by Carol Vivian at Trelawn Barton, where we had the opportunity to look round her interesting and attractive house.

This year we visit two churches in mid Cornwall, Creed and Probus. We do hope that Friends will be able to come and also to the Annual meeting which is being held at Blisland Church.

Geoffrey Holborow

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### CHURCH HISTORIES

We are gathering short histories of Cornish places of worship, which you will see on the website ([www.chct.info](http://www.chct.info)) and are very grateful to all of you who have helped us. It is our ambition over the years to get a piece on all of our Cornish churches, chapels and places of worship. We now ask all recipients of grants to give us a short history and these we then pass by our Historian Joanna Mattingly, and Archivist Christine Edwards, before putting on the website. Many parishes have already small booklets about the history of their church and really what we are looking for is a shortened version of this, so that people might be encouraged to visit a church where they could then be able to read the full story.

For more information please email: [Tetley@chct.info](mailto:Tetley@chct.info)

Carolone Tetley

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### Photo Credits

Front Cover	St Just in Roseland	Tim Green
Page 5	St Juliot	Victoria Tapper
Page 6	Trereife	Victoria Tapper
Page 11	Christmas Party	
Rear Cover	St Levan	Lynn Batten



## THE CHRISTMAS PARTY 2011 – SCORRIER

This year's Christmas party was back at Scorrier and we are indebted to Caroline and Richard Williams for making us so welcome there again. Tickets had been sold out three weeks prior to the party so there were a fair few disappointed supporters. It really is important to apply early; we aim to send invitations out by the first week in November and can only operate on a first come first served basis. We raised in excess of £7,000 for the charity this year, which is a record. Once again Savills generously sponsored the event and despite a ticket price increase ticket sales held up well and donations were up by nearly double last year which reflects on the generosity of our supporters.

Thank you all so much.

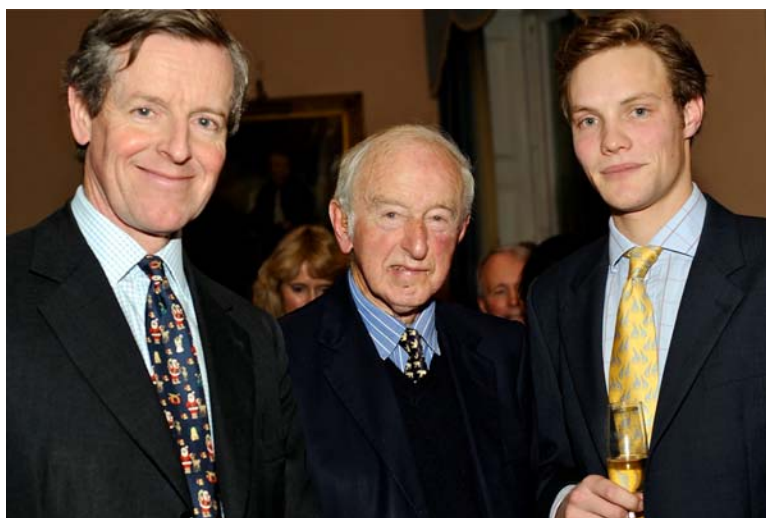
Caroline Tetley



**Sarah Fitzgerald, Sinead and Julie Lowry and Judy Beadel**



**Jan Trefusis, Alice Berryman, Paul Cressy and Jonathan Cunliffe from Savills.**



**Edward Bolitho, Robert Hichens and Arthur Voelcker**



**Florence Bate, Dido Tetley and Izzy Wild.**

## Grants Made by CHCT in 2011

Church	Work	Grant	Denomination
Bodmin, St Petroc	Complete new lighting scheme new sound system: moving of Font to a more theological position together with cleaning to also give it space and dignity.	£2,500	C of E
Penzance, St Mary's	One of the beams which supports the gallery on the S.W. side of the church has started to rot where it is exposed to the full force of the prevailing and very wet, southwest wind. The church surveyor has decided that the end of this beam and the other two beams on that side, one of which is already beginning to show signs of rot, should be capped in stainless steel. This will entail quite considerable digging out of wood, granite and plaster work. The balcony is, in the meantime, being supported by an acro prop.	NCT £2,500	C of E
St Issey	Two reinforced concrete ring beams were installed during the 1950's to strengthen the tower's stonework. Major corrosion has taken place since, making it dangerous to ring the six bells, and threatening the security of the tower. 1950's repairs must be removed and replaced with more suitable materials.	NCT £2,500	C of E
Cury, St Corentyn	Re-Wire and re-visit of application of 10 03 25 for Replacement of bell support framework. Total removal of the bell installation Including bells and all other components. Severe corrosion of main and secondary RSJ's.	NCT £2,500	C of E
Beacon Methodist Church	Deterioration of the stonework mainly due to frost damage	NCT £2,500	C of E
Jacobstow, St James's	Roof: Valley and Tower	£4,000	C of E
Landulph, St Leonard and St Dilpe	The important 17th Century carved wooden panelling, which used to be pew ends and were put on the back wall when the pews were renewed at the beginning of the 20th century, need repairing as they have become very damp and (some are rotting) against the wall. The wall is having a damp proof membrane and then the panelling will be put back, but not right up against the wall	£2,000	C of E
St Dominic	(a) Replacement of heating boiler, replacement and extension of the heating system; (b) Erection of a glass Tower Screen; and (c) Creation of a Family Area.	£2,000	C of E
St Paternus Church, South Petherwin	Weld/repair bell no. 2 which is cracked, thus disabling the quarter chimes of the clock. Repair & refurbishment of the fixtures & fittings of all the six bells in the ring. These have come to the end of their useful life, and they will soon become unsafe to ring. This work will also make them easier to ring for both younger people and the more mature. (they are heavy bells) Re-tune all 6 bells.	£1,000	C of E
Stithians, St Stythian	Roof and Tower. Subject of English Heritage Grant	£4,000	C of E



Church	Work	Grant	Denomination
Maryfield Church, Torpoint	There is a need to re-point all faces of the spire using a lime based mortar. At the apex of the spire there is a slate cap supported by iron bars which are corroded to such an extent that the slate cap is unsafe and needs replacing. One bell louvre is missing and it is likely the others are in need of repair or replacement.	£2,000	C of E
Tuckingmill, All Saints	This church dates back to 1845 and was built by the Bassett family. Existing external Stone-work is of red sandstone, with granite window and door surrounds, string courses, plinth and pilasters. Over the years the sandstone has eroded and water penetration is causing serious damage. The situation now is that urgent works are required to avoid further decay and to prevent water penetration. This would consist of a phased scheme for re-pointing in lime based mortar, replacing and repairing defective stonework and rainwater goods. The church is now in need of considerable renovation works to put this right.	£2,500	C of E
Davidstow, St David	Major repairs to tower masonry, roof, floors and belfry. Also replace bell frame.	£5,000	C of E
St Buryan	The work is essentially high level repairs to the roof and valley guttering. Both valleys over the arcades need re-leading; all six slopes of the roof require re-slating; guttering and down-pipes need refurbishing; several rotten roof timbers need replacing; the tower needs some re-flooring and re-leading.	£6,000	C of E
St Just In Roseland	Complete roof restoration. Overhaul and repainting all rainwater goods. Cut out defective pointing of the upper tower masonry and renewal with lime mortar. Repairs to the north belfry opening following detailed inspection. All the above work to be carried out as a single phase to make efficient use of scaffolding and protection including temporary roofs.	£5,000	C of E
Boconnoc Church	Re-slate Roof	£2,500	C of E
St John the Baptist, Pendeen	Hack off all interior plaster Consolidate walls as necessary Mortar and bed rake out joints	NCT £2,500	C of E
St Levan	1. Under drawing of ceilings with Glasroc boarding to internal plaster 2. Internal plaster patching, lime washing and internal decorations 3. Work to the main roof, where there is ingress of water against the tower.	NCT £2,500	C of E
St Winwalloe, Gunwalloe	Hack off all interior plaster Consolidate walls as necessary Mortar and bed rake out joints	NCT £2,500	C of E
Tresmere	Floor and Pew Repairs Rainwater Goods Windows	NCT £2,500	C of E

## TREASURER'S REPORT, 2011

Receipts and Payments show total net receipts amounting to £51,401 compared with £54,075 in 2010 and payments £40,589 compared with £63,598, producing a surplus position of £10,812. Friends subscriptions continue to make a very considerable contribution to our income at £7,814. That figure is just £40 less than in 2010. Donations at £18,584 include the final instalment of £14,000 from the Manifold Trust, £2,000 from the Tanner Trust, £1,000 from Cornwall Heritage Trust, £1,000 from Albert Van den Bergh Trust and nine smaller donations totalling £584.

Calculated net the fund-raising events total £15,944 compared with £15,428 in 2010 – an increase of £516. The real money-spinners were there again, chronologically, the Lunch which brought in £3,933, the Cycle Ride £4,734, and the Christmas Party £7,277. (These figures include any late receipts and Gift Aid relating to the previous year's events.) Purely financial comparisons, however, can be dangerous and detract from very enjoyable and successful occasions. The various hosts and organisers have quite rightly been acknowledged by the chairman in her report on page three.

Investment Income amounted to £9,059, an increase of £187.

Grants paid out totalled £38,750 compared with £61,400 and administration £1,839, compared with £2,198.

My traditional finish with a few feel-good statistics:

- i. Since the Trust was formed in 1955, I calculate some 600 grants have been approved, totalling in round figures £750,000, plus £130,000 from the Manifold Trust and £20,000 from the National Churches Trust (£900,000 in all);
- ii. Since the Sponsored Event was introduced 25 years ago, net receipts total £198,800;
- iii. Since the Annual Lunches started 22 years ago, £55,730 has been raised;
- iv. Since the Christmas Parties started 6 years ago, £36,460 has been raised

Anthony Davidson

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### NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

In 2011 the National Churches Trust (NCT) offered County Trusts, such as the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust (CHCT), the opportunity to recommend to the NCT Churches in their County who had "small" projects (under £50,000) for grants of between £2,500 and £5,000. Henceforth, the NCT would only deal themselves with projects valued at over £50,000. The CHCT accepted the offer, and in 2011 eight Cornish churches each received a grant offer under the terms of the CHCT agreement with the NCT. These churches are listed as "NCT" on pages 12 and 13 in the grant column. The CHCT is very grateful to the NCT for injecting £20,000 into the fabric of Cornish Churches. The scheme will continue in 2011, but the total sum available will be reduced to £10,000.

Simon Coy







