

The Royal Maundy Thursday service will be in St George's Chapel, Windsor this year, on Thursday March 29th. Ninety-two men and ninety-two women of pensionable age will be receiving the money from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Ever since the 15th century the number of recipients of Maundy gifts has been related to the sovereign's age. Since 1662 in Charles II 's reign it has been Maundy money. One Shropshire man, Stephen Winwood from Pontesbury, will be among those to be given the two little drawstring purses by Her Majesty. A red purse contains a special £5 coin and a special 50p coin both minted in 2018, and a white purse has the specially minted silver coins called "penny pieces" which amount to 92p, being the same as Queen's age this year. In the past the recipients were elderly poor people, now they are citizens of pensionable age chosen for their service to the community. Stephen has been a trustee of Shropshire's Historic Churches Trust for twelve years and chairman for the last seven. The Trust has raised over £1 million pounds during the past 25 years so helping to maintain and repair Shropshire's churches and chapels of all denominations and preserve them for the generations to come.

More about Shropshire Historic Churches Trust can be found on their website <http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk>