

# SHROPSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Registered Charity No. 1010690



ANNUAL REPORT & REVIEW OF 2010



**Photographs:**

*Font at St Gregory Morville.*

*Font at St Mary Stottesdon.*

*Font at St Eata Atcham.*

**Front Cover Photograph:**

*Holy Trinity, Leaton.*

**WEBSITES:**

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

**PRESIDENTS**

The Bishops of Hereford and Ludlow  
The Bishops of Lichfield and Shrewsbury  
The Roman Catholic Bishop of Shrewsbury  
The Chairman, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District  
The Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire

**TRUSTEES**

Archdeacon John Hall, Mr Roland Bream, Mr Jerry Bridgeland, Mrs Marian Haslam, Mr Harvey James, Dr John Leonard, Bishop Alistair Magowan, Rev. Canon William Price, Mrs Diane Radford, Mr Stephen Winwood

**CHAIRMAN**

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(Chairman after January 2011, Mr Stephen Winwood)  
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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** All Trustees and:

Mr Richard Bifield, Mrs Sally Bifield, Revd Preb David Crowhurst,  
Mr Martin Locke, Mrs Linda Savage, Mrs Gwen Sidaway

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Mrs Marian Haslam, 16 Mill Street, Ludlow SY8 1BE  
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**OPEN GARDENS CO-ORDINATOR**

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**RIDE AND STRIDE ORGANISERS**

*North Shropshire* - Revd Preb David Crowhurst  
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**EVENTS ORGANISER**

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**WEBSITE MANAGER**

Mr Martin Locke  
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# DATES FOR 2011

## **Open Gardens**

Various dates between  
April and September  
(see separated Gardens Open 2011  
leaflet or visit the website)

## **Green Man festival, Clun**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (May Day bank holiday)

## **South Shropshire Churches Tour**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May

## **Summer Social Event**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Cound Hall

## **Annual Meeting of Members/Tea**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July at Moreton Corbet  
Church and Preston Brockhurst

## **Visit to Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Cathedral**

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July

## **Burwarton Show**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August

## **North Shropshire Churches Tour**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August

## **Annual Sponsored Ride and Stride**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September

## **Autumn Lecture**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October

Venue to be announced – check website  
for details [www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

## **Further details and bookings:**

Mrs Diane Radford  
32 Foster Road, Bridgnorth,  
Shropshire WV16 4LS

**Tel:** 01746 762089

**Email:** radfords@inbox.com

*"This Shropshire church is judged by Pevsner to  
be one of the best early works of a renowned  
Victorian architect who went on to design  
London's Central Law Courts in The Strand.  
Can you name the church and the architect?"*

*(see page 18 for the answer)*





**Photographs:**

*The Venerable John Hall.*

*Fan vaulting of the "Golden Chapel", St Bartholomew, Tong.*

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[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

## CHAIRMANS REPORT

**It is with some sadness that I write what will be my final report as Chairman of the SHCT. I inherited this post just over twelve years ago. They have been twelve years of exciting work with a small group of dedicated people that I am proud to be able to call friends. Together we have steered the Trust to a solid financial state, taken on new initiatives, lost a few of our stalwarts to the sad progression of age and discovered some fresh members with new ideas. Throughout all of this we have worked successfully together to assist the churches of Shropshire with their urgent fabric repairs. It has been a real privilege to chair a group of such high calibre men and women with such a wide range of expertise.**

The Trustees have two main aims. The first is to increase our income and thereby increase our capital investment to keep a pace with inflation. Over the past twelve years we have been very successful in this area, for which we are extremely grateful to all our members and supporters and those who have offered their homes and other fine facilities for our fund raising events. The measure of this success is that twelve years ago our maximum grant was sent at £3000 compared to 2010 where it is set at £7000.

Our second aim is to assist the historic church of Shropshire with essential repair work. Many of these are small rural parish churches, mostly listed buildings, a good many grade 1, with a very small population to call on to assist with raising funds for these buildings, which in most cases, are very expensive to maintain. A grant from the SHCT can be the catalyst for further funding without which some of the beautiful buildings could be lost for ever. This is possibly the most joyful part of our work. Trustees are always willing to go along to a service and present the cheque and we are often invited to celebratory service when the work has been completed.

As I head for retirement and a new phase of my life and Christian ministry I leave the SHCT in a healthy state with a first class group of people, who enjoy working together for the benefit of our historic churches and I know that they will all give the same support and commitment to Stephen Winwood, my successor as chairman, as they have myself.

**John Hall**

# JOHN HALL – AN APPRECIATION

**Members of the Trust will be sorry to hear of the retirement of John Hall as Archdeacon of Salop and Chairman of the Trust.**

In the past twelve years, he has guided the Trust and presided over the Trustees' meetings with exemplary skill, displaying his unrivalled knowledge of Shropshire churches and their needs; his judicious combination of good humour and friendliness, firmness and fairness, has indeed served the Trust well.

When he arrived to preside over the Trust's fortunes, we were usually able to give only £500 - £1,000 to applicant churches; now we regularly give up to ten times those sums - this is a measure of the way in which the Trust has grown in stature and in financial status during John's term of office, aided of course by the wisdom of our treasurer, Harvey James, and the hard work of many of the Trustees and members of the Trust.

John's friendly personality has endeared him to all who have sought his guidance and help, even if (or perhaps especially if) the answers have not always been what they wanted to hear - such is the fate of archdeacons!

The Trustees will greatly miss his firm hand on the tiller and his grasp of the Church's needs; we wish John and Kay a long, happy and fruitful retirement. They have unanimously elected Stephen Winwood to be Chairman of the Trust, and are confident that in his hands the Trust, and we hope the churches of Shropshire, will continue to prosper.

**John Leonard**

## CONSTITUTION

The Trust was set up by a Declaration of Trust dated 12th November 1991, 'having no fewer than four, or more than twenty-five Trustees'. There are ten at present (their names are on the inside front cover), who meet quarterly to consider grant applications from churches. They serve for five years, but are eligible for re-election. New Trustees are appointed by resolution at a meeting of Trustees and are usually found from existing members of the Trust.

## OBJECTIVES

To apply the income and capital of the Trust, at the discretion of the Trustees, to the maintenance and repair of churches and chapels in Shropshire, of all denominations, especially those of architectural or historical significance. Its income is derived from subscriptions, donations, bequests and fund raising events. The Trust's secondary function is to encourage public appreciation of Shropshire's many beautiful churches by means of talks, visits, and touring photographic displays which visit churches, libraries, festivals, shows and other events.

## ACTIVITIES

The Trustees are allowed by the Trust Deed to delegate any part of their function and so they have formed an Executive Committee to be responsible for the activities of the Trust, other than the award of grants to churches.



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2010

<b>Income General Fund</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions and donations	23,230	21,190
Income Tax reclaimed	1,604	1,611
Ride and Stride	20,260	21,722
Income Tax reclaimed	2,628	2,446
Open Gardens Scheme	9,455	11,904
Sales of books	-	222
Meetings and outings	5,067	1,980
Investment income	16,592	15,869
Legacy	21,600	1,000
<b>Total Income General Fund</b>	<b>100,436</b>	<b>77,944</b>
<b>Expenditure General Fund</b>		
Grants paid to Churches	41,500	45,250
Ride and Stride: expenses	252	114
paid to parishes	10,166	11,414
Open Gardens expenses	2,554	1,962
Cost of books sold	-	173
Meetings and outings	2,971	1,381
Support costs	3,315	3,959
	<b>60,758</b>	<b>64,253</b>
<b>Net Income for year to General Fund</b>	<b>39,678</b>	<b>13,691</b>

The full statement of independently examined accounts will be available at the Annual General Meeting on 12 July 2011.

## Financial Review

The trust has had another successful year with income exceeding £100,000 for the first time thanks in part to a generous legacy from the estate of the late Robert Edward Deeley. There were increases in subscriptions and donations and investment income whilst income from the Trust' main activities, Ride and Stride and Open Gardens Scheme, was slightly down. Income from meetings and outings increased thanks to a successful evening, coupled with the A.G.M., at Hodnet Hall and greater support for the other activities.

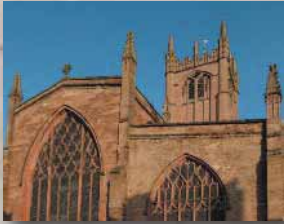
Our investments increased in value during the year and our total reserves at year end exceeded £498,000, close to our longstanding target of growing our reserves to £500,000 in order to provide income for the trust.

The trustees will carry out a review of their reserves and investments policies in 2011 and will also consider anew the level of grants which they consider they are able to sustain in the light of those reviews.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are of the opinion that this charity fulfills the requirements by providing much needed resources by way of grants to church and chapel congregations in Shropshire.

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Last year The Trust raised over £21,000 from subscriptions and donations but this year our membership figures have dropped to 61 Patrons, 158 Friends and 136 Member Churches/Chapels. In spite of this I am hoping that we will top the amount raised for this year as we have received some generous donations from individual Patrons and Friends.



## Photographs:

**Above:** *St Laurence, Ludlow.*

*The Crossing at St Laurence.*

*Misericord at St Laurence.*

**Right:** *All Saints, Broseley*

We greatly value all the membership support, but I believe we could do better than this, by recruiting more members even though the country is going through 'difficult times'. So please do encourage your friends to join.

We have over 300 historic churches in Shropshire, but under half are members of the Trust. If your church does not belong, please urge your Church Council to consider becoming a member by adding us to their charity list.

If you would like to join the trust please contact me, Marian Haslam, (Membership Secretary), or visit our web site [www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk) to download a membership form. These are also available at our events or from other Officers. The annual subscription is £10 minimum for both individuals and churches, and £50 (or more) for Patrons.

**Marian Haslam**





#### Photographs:

*Grant presentation to St Peter's, Adderley (at Ightfield church).*

*Grant presentation to St Mary and St Leonard, Wombridge, Telford.*

*Shifnal Methodist Church (grant-aided 2009)*

#### Right:

*Mr Louis de Wet and members at Priors Lodging, Wenlock Abbey.*

*Hodnet Hall Gardens.*

*Members at St Mary's Shrewsbury.*

#### WEBSITES:

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

## GRANT APPLICATIONS: ADVICE TO CHURCHES

### A message to PCCs, Churchwardens, Treasurers, Fundraisers and Donors

Requests for grants should be made through the Secretary, who will forward an application form, provided the project fulfils the Trust's criteria. Grant application forms can also be downloaded from the website: [www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

The Trust will only assist churches and chapels in regular use. It cannot assist with church halls, extensions to existing buildings, or the provision of toilet or kitchen facilities within a church or chapel building. Disability access will only be considered if the ancient fabric is involved. A considerable amount of information is requested (though no more than is required by other grant-awarding bodies).

Applications are considered and grants allocated at quarterly meetings of the Trustees. It is essential that application forms are obtained and returned in good time for each quarterly meeting. Late applications do not give sufficient time to fully understand all the details and may result in postponement to the next meeting. Delay may also occur if insufficient detail is provided. It is therefore wise to involve your church architect at an early stage. Financial figures must add up correctly!

The grant offer can be held by a church for up to three years; payment will only be made following the receipt of an architect's interim certificate or an appropriate invoice. The cheque, together with a certificate to mark the award, is presented by one of the Trustees at a suitable service at the church or chapel.

**Erica Watson Todd (Secretary)**

## SHCT EVENTS

**A significant aim of the SHCT is to offer its members the opportunity to visit and learn about the churches in our county. In planning our visits we try both to spread these events both across the region and throughout the summer months.**

This year, we linked our 'Summer Social' and our 'Autumn Lecture' by focusing on Saxon and Medieval churches and, in

particular, on St Milburga and Wenlock Abbey. We were the guests, at Wenlock Abbey, of Mr and Mrs Louis de Wet, where we all enjoyed a fascinating tour of the Prior's Lodging led by Mr de Wet followed by a wine and cheese party in their garden on a brilliant June afternoon. In September, Dr Trevor Hill delivered a lecture on the early churches in Shropshire, illustrating Shropshire's part in the spread of Christianity throughout Britain.

Annual General Meetings are not necessarily the highlight of most people's week, but I venture to say that our AGM is an exception! The AGM was held in Hodnet Church. Once the 'meeting' had been concluded, William Price gave us a brief and highly enjoyable talk on the church and we then made our way through the delightful gardens of Hodnet Hall and, eventually, to a splendid supper given in the garden house. Our generous hosts were our President and his wife, Mr and Mrs Algernon Heber-Percy.

Our North and South Shropshire Tours are reported on elsewhere. Our remaining visit this year was to St Mary's Church in Shropshire. Our guide, Mrs Jennifer Farlow, gave us an extremely interesting tour of the church, and a particular insight into the great variety of stained glass that the church is so fortunate to own through the knowledge and good fortune of a former vicar.

The Trustees always welcome suggestions – and offers – of places for us to visit. Please do contact any member of the Committee if you have a suggestion. I am especially indebted to all who have helped to plan and lead our various trips.

**Jerry Bridgeland**





#### Photographs:

*The Manor Sherriffhales.*

*Tea Ladies at Harnage Farm.*

*Byeways, Whittington.*

**Right:** *Elmfield Road, Shrewsbury.*

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[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

## OPEN GARDENS SCHEME

**After a record year in 2009 I knew it would be difficult to emulate our success again this year and so it has proved. Nevertheless, we managed to raise £16, 700, of which 50% came to the Trust and 50% was divided amongst the nominated local churches. At the same time we provided a pleasurable afternoon for some 3150 visitors.**

The weather throughout the season was not exactly conducive to garden visiting but having said that the heavens opened up, on only one occasion at The White House, Lee Brockhurst. Six events raised over £1000. Once again Cardington (2700) led the field by a large margin. Stevenshill/Harnage Farm (£1803) dislodged Morville (£1752) from second place. Culmington (£1144) put in another good result and Clee St Margaret's (£1062) had a record year, Little Ness did very well (£1057). Our congratulations and thanks go not only to them but to all who opened their gardens for the Trust. I always marvel at the number of people who are willing to do this, knowing from my own experience how much work and effort is required.

Once again I am pleased to say that Savills have agreed to sponsor and support our leaflet production and we are very grateful to them.

We have a most promising programme for 2011 Golding Hall and Mawley Hall (nr Cleobury Mortimer) are newcomers to our list. The former is a rare example of a mid 17th century garden, while that at Mawley Hall was laid out in the 1960's and includes rolling lawns, parterres, urns and monuments, an octagonal folly and an interesting herb garden. We are pleased to welcome back both Preston Hall and Stokesay Court to our list.

Garden trails are always popular and we shall be featuring at least two new trails this year-Whittington and Cleobury Mortimer. I am pleased to say that both Loppington and Eaton Constantine have returned to our list.

The plans are laid and I do hope that you will support them by visiting as many gardens as you can, There is no better reward for all the hard work involved than to have a good turn out on the day.

Finally, I would like to thank my wife Gay once again for all her efforts during the last 12 months not only for being an excellent secretary but for ensuring that our programme is widely advertised throughout the county and beyond.

**Roland Bream**





### Photographs:

*Riders and Striders at Clunton.*

*Riders from Hadnall at St Mary's, Astley.*

*Billie (walked to six Telford churches) at St Mary's, Ketley.*

### WEBSITES:

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

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## RIDE AND STRIDE

Ride and Stride is well established in Shropshire as in many counties throughout England and Wales, and is often the chief means of fundraising for the care of ancient churches. Shropshire has taken part for over twenty years, but the event began in Suffolk in 1982 – so 2011 will see the thirtieth such occasion; in this time nearly £30 million has been raised nationally. Ride and Stride continues to evolve as new situations call for new responses. This year, for the first time, we wrote to all the non-Anglican churches and chapels in the county (about 120 in all) inviting participation. Some took part and were well rewarded.

The total raised for 2010 was £18,675. Although a bit of a bane to eager participants looking for sponsorship, because of the need for sponsors to accurately declare their particulars, Gift Aid should be seen as an extra layer of icing on the cake, and sought for all that it is worth!

The event stands a bit like a three-legged milkmaid's stool. The three legs are the church or chapel registering and taking part and being open on the day; the willingness of people to Stride or Ride; and the generosity of sponsors. Sponsors do not have to be regular supporters of the church: they may be family members or friends of participants – just anybody who is generous enough to support the event and individual effort. There is, of course, a local flavour and incentive – as half of the money raised in sponsorship is returned to the participant's nominated church or chapel. If any of the three legs of the stool are not in place, then the event cannot succeed.

We hear of many clashing events – for example the Ludlow Food Festival: the sponsored Ride or Stride can now be undertaken on a day other than the official day of the event, but of course this is not so practicable as churches are open to Riding and Striding visitors on the nominated day (a day when all counties take part.) It is now possible, however, for the intrepid to travel by horse. Insurance issues do have a bearing, so a phone call to the County Organiser is advisable. We hear also of buildings that have not been visited all day. Sometimes remote places are a challenge to walk or cycle to if the hills are steep or the building remote from everywhere else, and maybe not open. But be encouraged, and do your bit by entering your participants!

The Trust is grateful to the army of local Church Organisers, the Church Stewards, Participants and Donors. The Bishop of Ludlow's PA, Linda Savage, and the Archdeacon of Salop's PA, Ann Taylor (who has recently retired) have both done invaluable work over many years in the printing of the stationery involved and the circulation of many churches each. Richard Bifield has tried very hard to publicise various local efforts: publicity nationally was achieved in an increasing and developing project through the National Churches Trust and their professional advisers. A special thank-you has to be given to Stephen and Jackie Winwood, who for some years have painstakingly received and collated all the money, claimed the Gift Aid and returned the local church's share. And a very special thanks

to the Trust's Chairman, the Venerable John Hall, Archdeacon of Salop from 1998 until recently, for all his assistance and encouragement.

This year's event is on Saturday 10 September. Once again, we shall invite all churches and chapels to take part, and perhaps we could see an even better turn-out on the day. It is a good opportunity to open the church building and attract visitors, and it would be good if we could achieve 100%, and the financial take would be even greater! Your prayers for this event are always invaluable, and appreciated.

**Revd Preb David Crowhurst, County Organiser.**

## PUBLICITY & EDUCATION

David and Ruth Taylor are a very hard act to follow, but they have kindly given us much valuable advice and we aim to continue their good work for the Trust.

Our display stands have again been on show at open garden weekends through the season and our thanks go to the Deanery Reps who have transported them around the county. The Trust's exhibition gazebo attracted a great deal of attention at the Clun Green Man Festival in early May and the ever-popular Burwarton Show in August.

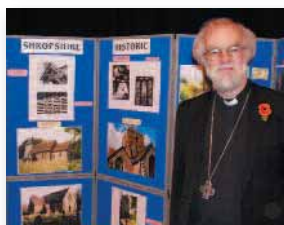
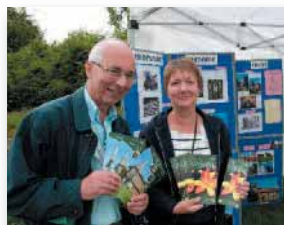
An unexpected opportunity to "set out our stall" came with the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Telford International Centre in November. With a captive audience of well over 1500 the Trust's display generated much interest, not least from the Archbishop himself – see photo.

Since our appointment we have been buttonholing our contacts in the local media with Trust news and developments and are pleased to report that this has resulted in several articles in the Shropshire Star, Telford Journal and Shropshire Life.

Richard will be taking over the excellent illustrated talks that Ruth has been able to give on Shropshire churches over the past several years. His new talk, working title: "Shropshire's finest and most interesting churches" is now available f.o.c. to PCCs and other church groups who might consider booking the talk as part of a fund-raising event, the proceeds of which could be split between the church(es) and the Trust (contact Richard on 01952 614319 or email richard.bifield@blueyonder.co.uk).

Finally we strongly recommend that you visit our newly upgraded website [www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk) which, expertly managed by Martin Locke, will keep you up to date with all Trust news and events.

**Richard & Sally Bifield**



### Photographs:

*Green Man Day, Clun.*

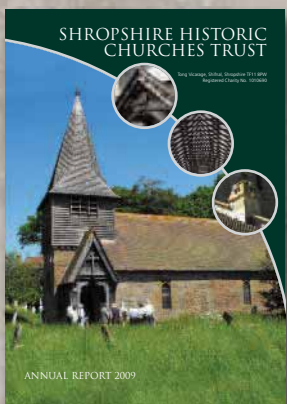
*Burwarton Show.*

*Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury*

### WEBSITES:

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)



### Photographs:

*David and Ruth Taylor.*

*SHCT Annual Report 2009.*

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[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

## DAVID AND RUTH TAYLOR

**It came as rather a shock to learn that David and Ruth Taylor after 15 years of loyal service had decided to retire as trustees. During this time they have established for themselves a rather special place in our hearts and their enthusiasm has been a great inspiration to us all.**

For many years they have been responsible for our Publicity and Education activities and until recently they organised our social events programmes. Together, they worked as a marvellous team and managed to achieve so much.

David will be remembered perhaps best for his excellent photography and the display boards bear witness to this. These boards have become a vital part of our publicity campaign and give rise to much interest at the Burwarton show and other venues. They are displayed also at many of our Open Gardens and David and Ruth have become masters at overcoming the logistical problems of moving them from site to site.

David in recent times has been editor of our Annual Report and it is thanks to him that it has now become such a well produced document.

Ruth on her part has set up our Deanery Representative body which meets annually and it has become a vital force for the distribution of our Open Garden Leaflets within the 14 deaneries and for local support of the Ride and Stride scheme.

Ruth, too, has delivered many talks over the years to local bodies such as the WI on Churches in Shropshire and this has been a useful source of funds for the Trust.

They have been great supporters of our Open Garden Scheme and one could rely on meeting them at so many of the events—David with camera in hand recording the occasion for posterity.

We shall miss them dearly and wish them a long and happy "retirement", but we shall not lose them completely for Ruth is to stay on as the deanery representative for Edgmond.

**Roland Bream**

# CHURCH TOURS FOR MEMBERS

## The northern tour

We were privileged to be generously hosted to morning coffee at Halston Hall by Mr and Mrs Rupert Harvey and shown their private Chapel. Built in the mid 15th century as a Preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers it is one of only three timber-framed ecclesiastical buildings in Shropshire. The wonderful interior shows fittings of the early 17th and early 18th centuries and has remained virtually unchanged ever since.



## Photographs:

**Above:** Reading desk and 2-decker pulpit at Halston Chapel.

Kempe's signature "wheatsheaf" motif at St Mary's Duddleston.

Rev. Canon William Price at St Mary's, Ellesmere.

**Right:** Members at St Martin, St Martin's.

St Martin's, our next stop, where lunch was taken, is of a mixture of styles, the highlights of which are the fine nave and chancel roofs and what is perhaps the best three-decker pulpit in the county. Rev William Price, our tour guide, gave us an excellent introductory talk on the church's history.

Of medieval origin, though much rebuilt in 1819, St Mary's, Duddleston, our next port of call, was notable for its splendid array of benefactors' plaques in the porch and some excellent stained glass by Kempe complete with his signature "wheatsheaf".

On to St Matthew's, Criftons, a simple redbrick structure of 1871 and our tour ended at St Mary's Ellesmere, its fine tower dominating the town. Though much restored by Sir George Gilbert Scott it retains its medieval character and the south chancel roof is one of Shropshire's very best. Members were grateful for Mrs Estelle Parker's explanatory talk on St Mary's, for the excellent tea provided here and to Rev William Price for organising and leading the tour.





### Photographs:

*Stephen Winwood (Chairman from February 2011) and tour guide, Tim Bridges.*

*St Mary's, Bromfield.*

*Tea ladies at Onibury*

**Right:** *Tim Bridges and members at St Michael's, Onibury*

### WEBSITES:

[www.shropshirehct.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk)

[www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk](http://www.shropshirerideandstride.org.uk)

## The southern tour

Our tour started with coffee at Onibury village hall then it was back up the A49 to the splendid church of St John the Baptist at Stokesay. Norman in origin and virtually rebuilt after the Civil War destruction the interior displays a rare example of an intact late 17th ensemble.

Back down to St Michael's, Onibury with a most attractive interior: rustic tie beam and queen post roof and good pulpit and panelling. Detmar Blow made a sensitive restoration in 1902 and added the west gallery and unusual, but attractive iron lamps.

St Mary's, Bromfield was probably the highlight of our tour. Occupying a most picturesque site, Bromfield was an important collegiate church from Anglo-Saxon times. Internally full of character the climax is the extraordinary Baroque painted chancel ceiling of 1672.

Up the A49 once more, to Holy Trinity, Wistanstow, a strong centrally-towered church with an elaborate Norman doorway relocated to the south wall of the chancel.

Our final stop was the little visited St. Michael's, Sibdon Carwood. Of medieval origin the present building is of 1741 and is attractively sited in the grounds of the impressive Sibdon Castle.

An excellent tea was provided by the parish ladies back at Onibury Village Hall and thanks was given to them and to Tim Bridges who most ably led the tour and to Stephen Winwood for organising a very successful day.

## Richard Bifield

### A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCHES OF SHROPSHIRE

Almighty God our heavenly Father,  
We remember before you now  
The churches in this county of  
Shropshire,  
and the houses of worship they use.

Make the doors of our churches  
Wide enough to receive all  
Who need human love and fellowship  
And a Father's care;  
And narrow enough to shut out  
All envy, pride and lack of love.

In them  
May the tempted find help,  
The sorrowing receive comfort,  
The careless be awakened to repentance,  
The penitent be assured of your mercy,  
And there

May all your children renew their  
strength  
And go on their way in hope and joy;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# PATRONS

Mr A C A Arrol  
Lord Barnard  
Mr G A Barratt  
Mr B W Bazeley  
Mr J R Bettinson  
Lady Boyne  
Earl of Bradford  
Mr J Bridgeland  
Mrs S A Bury  
Mr A Clarke  
Mr J W Cole  
Mrs J W Cole  
Mr J Conneely  
Miss B J Cousins  
Mrs C A S Cundy  
Mr R Currell  
Mr P T Davies  
Mr R J Dean  
Mr D J Dixon  
Mr J M Dugdale  
Mr A C Dyball  
Mr C A Eade  
Mr D P Evison  
Mr D O Fitzhugh  
Mrs I Forbath  
Mr F V Ford  
Mr G Frost  
Mr C Gill  
Mr H van Gorkum  
Mr D Graham  
Mr W H Grove  
Miss B Harper  
Mr J G Haslam  
Mrs M Haslam  
Revd R Hayes  
Mr A Heber-Percy  
Mr T Heywood-Lonsdale  
Mr H J Hill  
Mrs M A Hyde  
Preb D and Mrs Jenkyns  
Dr E M Leonard  
Dr J C Leonard  
Mrs R Lockhart  
Mrs D M J Marsh  
Mr S W Martin  
Cllr C J Mellings  
Mrs M Mitchell  
Mrs J Morris-Eyton  
Mr C O Motley  
Lady Newborough  
Dr P E Nicholls  
Mrs M J Nicholls  
Mr V Nicholson  
Mrs V Nicholson  
Mr A P Osborne  
Mr and Mrs G Paris  
Earl of Plymouth  
Miss O Preston  
Mr and Mrs J Ravenscroft  
Mrs M L Redwood  
Mr G Rollason  
Mr R C Sawtell  
Scott & Newman Ltd  
Mrs G A Sidaway  
Dr P E Smith  
Mr D Sugden  
Mr E M A Thompson  
Tanners Wines Ltd  
Mr J T Udale  
Mr & Mrs C Ullmer  
Mr K Vine  
Mr D J C Weston  
Cllr B Williams  
Mr A H P Williamson  
Mr S J Winwood



# MEMBER CHURCHES 2010



## Photographs:

*St Luke's, Hodnet.*

*Wooden dog carving at St Michael's, Munslow.*

*Maiden's Garland at St Callixtus, Astley Abbots.*

## Back cover photograph:

*East window at St Mary's, Whitton  
by Sir Edward Burne-Jones*

The answer to the question on  
p.3 – St George's, Telford by  
George Edmund Street

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Abdon  
Acton Burnell  
Acton Scott  
Adderley  
Alberbury  
Albrighton  
Ashford Bowdler  
Ashford Carbonell  
Astley  
Astley Abbots  
Bettws-y-Crwyn  
Billingsley  
Bishops Castle  
Bolas Magna  
Bedstone  
Bomere Heath - Methodist  
Bridgnorth St Marys  
Broseley with Benthall  
Bucknall  
Cardington  
Caynham  
Chetton  
Chirbury  
Claverley  
Cleobury Mortimer  
Cleobury North w Burwarton  
Clive  
Clunbury  
Clungunford  
Coalbrookdale  
Condover  
Cound  
Culmington  
Diddlebury  
Ditton Priors  
Doddington  
Dorrington  
Eaton Constantine  
Eaton under Heywood  
Edgmond  
Edgmond Methodist Chapel  
Edgton  
Ellesmere  
Ford  
Forton  
Hadley  
Hadnall  
Harley  
Heath Chapel  
High Ercall  
Holdgate  
Hope Bagot  
Hope Bowdler  
Hopesay  
Hopton Castle  
Hordley  
Ketley  
Kinlet  
Kinnerley  
Knockin  
Knowbury  
Leaton  
Lee Brockhurst  
Leighton  
Lilleshall  
Little Drayton  
Little Ness  
Little Wenlock  
Llanyblodwel  
Longdon on Tern  
Loppington  
Ludford  
Ludlow  
Lydham  
Montford Bridge  
More  
Moreton Saye  
Morville  
Much Wenlock  
Munslow  
Myddle  
Neen Savage  
Neen Sollars  
Newcastle  
Norbury  
Onibury  
Oswestry St Oswalds  
Oswestry Holy Trinity  
Pontesbury  
Pulverbatch St Ediths  
Quatford  
Ratlinghope  
Rushbury  
Rhydygroesau  
Ruyton X1 Towns  
Sambrook  
Selattyn  
Shawbury  
Sheinton  
Sheriffhales  
Shifnal  
Shelve  
Shrawardine  
Shrewsbury, All Saints  
Shrewsbury St Alkmund's  
Shrewsbury, St Chad's  
Shrewsbury St Georges  
Shrewsbury, St Giles  
Shrewsbury Unitarian Church  
Smethcott  
Stanton on Hine Heath  
Stanton Lacy  
Stokesay  
Stottesdon  
Tasley  
Tilstock  
Tong  
Tuck Hill  
Tugford  
Uffington  
Upton Magna  
Waters Upton  
Welsh Frankton  
Welshampton  
Westbury  
Weston-Under-Redcastle  
Wheathill  
Whitchurch  
Whixall  
Wistanstow  
Withington  
Whitton  
Wombridge  
Wrockwardine  
Wrockwardine Wood

# GRANTS AWARDED TO CHURCHES IN 2010

Parish	Church	Date of building	Description of proposed works	Grant (£)
Adderley	St Peter	Mostly 1801	Window and drains repair	3,000
Broseley	All Saints	1843-45	Works to nave parapet, clerestory windows, nave roof and gutters	7,500
Cwm Head	St Michael	1846-49	Re-leading windows, stonework repair	3,000
Easthope	St Peter	Medieval rebuilt 1928	Repairs to stone roof; new rainwater goods and drainage	5,000
Hughley	St John the Baptist	Medieval	Re-tiling nave and chancel roof	5,000
Kinnerley	St Mary	Medieval & 18th Century	Nave stonework repair and repointing	5,000
Knowbury	St Paul	1838-39	Renew chancel roof tiles and battens	5,000
Ludlow	St Laurence	Medieval	Masonry repairs to chancel north and south clerestory and to cracked reredos	6,000
Meole Brace, Shrewsbury	Holy Trinity	1867-90	Repair work to tower and guttering	2,000
Shrewsbury	Unitarian Church	1839-40	Repairs to windows	2,500
Tugford	St Catherine	Medieval	New floor to tower	2,000
<b>Total grant offered</b>				<b>46,000</b>

The Trust has now completed 19 years of work and inspection of its records shows that it has given 178 grants to nearly 150 churches, worth almost £375,000. The average grant in 2010 was over £4,200—over three times as much as the average grant at the turn of the century. Rarely is SHCT the only grant provider, churches having to search diligently for other sources to raise five, and sometimes six, figure sums with the hope that the Big Provider, English Heritage, will come to their rescue.

The work that our churches most often need is repair to the fabric—stone, brick, slate and wood. The villain of the piece is our wet climate. So leaking roofs, gutters, downpipes, drains and drainage feature more often than anything else. Most problems originate high up, so scaffolding for inspection as well as repair is an added expense. Our advice is to come to the Trust early, to help with small problems before they become big ones.

## DEANERY REPRESENTATIVES

Bridgnorth (30)	Mrs Diane Radford Mrs Lesley Wilkinson	Tel 01746 762089 radfords@inbox.com Tel 01746 764338 lesleywilkinson@yahoo.co.uk
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Ludlow (36)	Mrs Gwen Sidaway	Tel 01299 270957 g.a.sidaway@btinternet.com
Conover (35)	Mrs Yvonne Bridgeland Mrs Jane McMillan	Tel 01952 511977 ybridgeland@btinternet.com Tel 01694 771424 j.mcmillan@wvmblaw.co.uk
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Edgmond (24)	Mrs Ruth Taylor David Harding	Tel 01952 604473 taylor@lammas9.fsnet.co.uk Tel 01902 372744 djlharding@btinternet.com
Ellesmere (14)	Edward and Amanda Bevan	Tel 01691 622838 amanda_bevan@tiscali.co.uk
Hodnet (20)	Reg Anslow	Tel 01630 685584
Telford (10)	Richard Bifield	Tel 01952 614319 richard.bifield@blueyonder.co.uk
Telford Central Team (6)	Mrs Barbara Crawforth	Tel 01952 591508 bcrawforth@btinternet.com
Telford Severn (11)	The Revd Michael & Gillian Pope	Tel 01952 883960 gill.h.pope@googlemail.com
Wem/Whitchurch (20)	Martin Locke	Tel 01939 210639 martinlocke@lineone.net

**In brackets: number of churches in the deanery**

