FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our Annual Report and enjoy reading about our activities and successes this year. Once again, we have had a year to celebrate.

Congratulations to all of you who took part in our Ride and Stride this year which has produced record results! It is also the first time that we have exceeded the target set at the AGM last year, even if only by a small amount! Thank you to everyone and especially to those who arranged and inspired such a great success. We couldn't do the important work for our churches without the funds raised in this way. Whether you played a large part or a small one, my most grateful thanks.

Thanks, too, of course, to our faithful and hardworking Committee who never fail to give whatever help is needed and who produce good ideas and enable us to have a lot of fun. Events take effort to arrange and we have had some memorable ones this year. Enjoy reading about them and if you missed them, make sure you join us on the ones to come!

We had sad news in the summer when Brian Hay died. He was one of our earliest supporters and, with his wife Margaret, did a great job as an Area Coordinator. We shall miss him but I’m so glad that he was well enough to attend our AGM and receive a long service award from us. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go to Margaret who continues to support us.

We also have important news from the Treasurer and there will be a fuller report at the AGM. During 2018 we were again grateful for the support of the National Churches Trust and of Hampshire County Council. I look forward to seeing many of you on 7 May for our AGM in Winchester Cathedral when we can celebrate together the help we have been able to give to our lovely churches.

Joan Appleyard, Chairman
FUNDRAISING
In order to provide the grants, funds are raised through the annual Ride and Stride, membership subscription, donations, Gift Aid, and grant aid.

The sponsored annual Ride and Stride in aid of historic churches takes place throughout the whole country on the second Saturday in September, organised by each county trust. In our area the money raised by participants is divided: half goes to the place of worship of their own choice, and half goes to the Trust. This is our principal source of funding.

Ride and Stride is an ecumenical venture, and although the majority of participating churches in Hampshire and the Islands are Anglican, it is well supported and enjoyed by a variety of other denominations including Baptist, Free Church, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Society of Friends (Quakers) and United Reformed Church.

The Trust would like to thank all who contribute, through their hard work and generous support, to the success of Ride and Stride. Before and on the day this includes those involved in organising, riding, striding, sponsoring, stewarding, and providing refreshments. The day itself is also followed by much work in collecting, submitting and processing the funds raised.

GRANTS
As you know, we rely on the funds raised through Rise and Stride for grants to help maintain and improve Hampshire and the Islands churches. In the list of grant offers below, the frequency of words like ‘repairs’ shows just how desperately our churches need support. Thank you all so much for your efforts in September 2018. We are very grateful and look forward to being able to help our churches.

Grants offered
Applications in 2018 were more than double the year before and we were able to offer grants to 15 churches. The total we were able to offer was £75,500, including grant funds we allocated on behalf of Hampshire County Council and the National Churches Trust (NCT). Early indications are that 2019 will be even busier. Unfortunately, the NCT Partnership Grant ended at the end of 2018 (see below for more details). However, despite the lack of £20,000 from the NCT, we still hope to award £75,000 to our churches and if Hampshire County Council is generous enough to offer us funding for 2019/20, this figure will rise.

Grants received
We are very grateful to the National Churches Trust for their Partnership Grant to us of £20,000 for distribution to churches in 2018. This was their final allocation to us: as mentioned above, the NCT ceased its Partnership Grant at the end of 2018. Instead, it is offering churches funding under a number of new grants for which churches can apply direct. Full details are on the NCT’s website. Although Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust no longer has NCT funds to allocate to our churches, we are very grateful for the NCT’s support in 2018 and in
the past and hope that our churches will benefit as much, if not more, under the NCT’s new arrangements.

The Trust was also allocated a generous grant of £25,000 from Hampshire County Council for the year 2018/19 and we are delighted to be able to allocate these funds to Hampshire churches on their behalf. It does make such a difference, not only to the congregation but also, in so many cases, to the wider community which is able to access and make better use of the church building. We are very grateful to Hampshire County Council for their generous support which is always much appreciated by us and by historic churches across Hampshire.

**Grant offers (including NCT grants) were made to the following churches in 2018:**

- **URC, Petersfield and Liss** £5,000 Improved disabled access and related works
- **St Michael the Archangel, Shalfleet, IOW** £10,000 Repairs to windows and surrounding stonework
- **St Philip, Cosham** £1,500 Repairs to ceiling, especially over organ loft
- **St Paul, Winchester** £10,000 Major re-ordering to improve facilities for growing community
- **St Leonard, Cliddesden** £6,000 Re-ordering to improve disabled access and install WC
- **St Margaret of Antioch, East with West Wellow** £2,500 Restoration of late 14th cent south door
- **St Faith, Havant** £1,000 Repairs to patronal banner
- **All Hallows, Whitchurch** £5,500 Repairs to roof and stonework
- **St Bartholomew, Winchester** £7,000 Repairs, improved access and WC
- **St Nicholas, Wickham** £5,500 Repairs to roof, stonework and plaster
- **St Leonard, Sherfield-on-Loddon** £500 Repairs to gutters and replacement of roof tiles
- **St Mary, Breamore** £5,000 Repairs to roof, gutters, stonework
- **Our Lady of Sorrows, Ringwood and Fordingbridge** £500 Interior redecoration
- **St Swithun, Nately Scures** £7,500 Repairs to/replacement of crumbling ceiling plaster
- **St James the Less, Litchfield** £8,000 Replacement of roof, repairs to stonework
The churches which actually received their grants during 2018 are listed on page 21.

**Corinne Bennett 7th Memorial Award**
Corinne Bennett was a founder Trustee and Committee member with a particular interest in stonework restoration. In 2018, the award in her memory, worth £500, was presented at the AGM to All Saints, Portsea. The church is grade II listed and located in the heart of Portsmouth. It supports a busy community life in one of the poorest parishes in England. In 2017, work was completed on repairs to the church pinnacles and stonework.

**Grants Sub-Committee membership**
There was no change of membership to the Grants Sub-Committee in 2018. The Trust is delighted to have a Committee comprising so many professionals, all of whom provide their time and expertise pro bono.

**Trust membership and publicity**
All churches are encouraged to become members of the Trust and individuals are encouraged to join as Friends. Churches that are offered grants are asked to join for at least five years. We welcome invitations from churches who have received grants to join their celebrations on completion of works and to give a brief talk on the work of the Trust.

**Who may apply for a grant?**
The Trust welcomes applications from churches of all denominations which are members of ‘Churches Together in England’ (CTE) or ‘Churches Together in Britain & Ireland’ (CTBI) and seeking funds for repairs to the church fabric or improvements to facilities. Grant application forms can be found on our website, www.hihct.org.uk and any queries can be emailed to grants@hihct.org.uk

**Rosemary Walker, Secretary, Grants Sub-Committee**

**RIDE & STRIDE 2018**
A warm and sunny day provided perfect conditions for our annual Ride and Stride event, held as always on the second Saturday in September. This event is our principal way of raising money for the restoration of our beautiful historic churches and so it is important to us. We are very pleased to be able to report that we considerably exceeded our expectations. The important point emerging from this success is that our Ride and Stride day is enormous fun for the participants however they take part and whether or not they are part of a church community. We describe below some examples of the many ways in which people joined in the day.

Our success is also due to the very dedicated team of people who help organise the day and to many who participate regularly and raise large sums. But one does not have to travel large distances from church to church to experience the warm welcome, often with tempting refreshments, which greets the visitor. Of the about 400 churches open throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, all are repositories
of local and national history, are of architectural interest and contribute enormously to our beautiful landscape. We receive many comments after the event from people saying how rewarding the day has been, exploring areas they might not have seen before, meeting delightful people and appreciating our countryside and environment.

Anybody can join in by raising sponsorship from family or friends or by personal contribution and then travelling between as many churches as desired in whatever way is enjoyable and practical. Below we describe older and young Riders and Striders who have travelled between churches on foot and bicycle, but also on horseback and mobility scooter, and there are others who have travelled by canoe, bus and car – we are waiting for someone to do it in a hot air balloon! Some have travelled between churches as a choir, singing in each, and this year, a very successful concert was held in St Thomas’s, Lymington. All of this enthusiasm has helped us to raise a total of £65,000 in 2018 compared with £60,000 in 2017, and of course half of the sum raised by the participants goes to their nominated church or, if they wish, entirely to Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust.

Robin Hart is one of our most loyal supporters and is an example of long-distance cycling hardiness. Over the years he has completed 27 rides and ranged far and wide from his base in Portsmouth. His preference has been to ride the open country lanes, avoiding towns. This involves greater distance between churches and more pleasant cycling in our wonderful landscape, while observing nature. The most churches included in a single ride stands at 36 and on many occasions a ride would entail a distance of about 65 miles. He reckons that his itinerary of churches totals about 150 and that he has raised about £17,000 since 1995. But Robin is not interested in his impressive statistics; rather it is the history of the many places he has visited and revisited which encourages him to join Ride and Stride each year.

Children are very welcome to join in and Jacob Swann at the age of 14 has already completed two rides. He lives on the Isle of Wight and those of us who have cycled there know it is not flat! This year he cycled 30 miles and visited 15 churches,
cycling from Ryde via Wootton and Whippingham to Newport and home to Bembridge via Newchurch and Sandown over the hills. He has had lots of support from his school which is the Ryde School with Upper Chine.

But not all of us can or wish to get involved in such exertions and Brenda Cook of Portsmouth decided to do her Ride and Stride on a mobility scooter and has done so for the last six years. So, this is a navigational as well as a technical battery management challenge, but as she says: ‘Can you really resist the idea of a day that begins with a sense of purpose and ends with a sense of achievement and includes seeing inside some fascinating churches, meeting some nice people and getting some fresh air? Irresistible!’ Her day took in 12 churches and encounters with others who were joining in the day: a group of friends who were walking, the Hairy Bikers on a motorised trike and a noble couple who described themselves as ‘wheelchair and walker’. During the following couple of weeks Brenda collected the sponsorship money – not really difficult, she says.

Annette Gibson decided she would make her Ride and Stride journey on horseback, a distance of about 17 miles. She was excited but apprehensive, not being a teenager with a pony and not having ridden that distance for over 20 years. In company with two friends, it turned out to be a really good ride, along bridle paths under a cloudless sky across some beautiful Hampshire countryside. More to the point, the outing raised £420, split between the Trust and Northington church. As she says; ‘I would absolutely recommend R+S on horseback and there must be younger riders out there who could plan an even bigger adventure next year’.

At St Thomas’s, Lymington they decided to make the church itself an attraction by setting up Vistas Café and staging a promenade concert. This generated considerable interest from church members and numerous visitors. The café was set up at the back of the church by 9.30am with tea, coffee and homemade cakes. There was a steady stream of folk showing interest, especially with the onset of the concert at 11am, comprising a varied and entertaining programme given by semi-professional musicians. The café remained open throughout the day and was well supported, all proceeds going to the Trust. A guide was on hand to show visitors round the church and point out salient points of interest.

Christine and Geoffrey Wort, Ride and Stride County Coordinators
RIDE & STRIDE 2018 - AREA TOTALS AT MARCH 2019

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<td>Alresford</td>
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Gift Aid

|                | 10,041 | 8,806  | 7,654  | 8,219  | 8,987 |

RIDE & STRIDE 2018 - TOP TWENTY CHURCHES

- Shalfleet, St Michael
- Empshott, Holy Rood
- Kings Somborne, St Peter
- Petersfield, URC
- Winchester, St Lawrence
- Buriton, St Mary
- Froxfield, St Peter
- Idsworth, St Hubert
- Shalden, St Peter
Winchester, St Cross 1,145
Lymington, St Thomas 1,006
Weston, Holy Trinity 1,000
Bembridge, Holy Trinity 904
Shipton Bellinger, St Peter 816
Brook, St Mary 802
Boldre, St John 784
Havant, St Faith 772
Alton, Resurrection 770
Goodworth Clatford, St Peter 740
Shedfield, St John 735

**Membership**

Thanks to everyone who has given permission for us to use their email addresses, saving hours of envelope-filling, and to those members who using standing orders for subscriptions. You can also help the Trust, if you are a tax payer, by completing a Gift Aid statement. Please remember to let me know if you change your address or email address. The annual report can be downloaded from the Trust website, under the Grants and Finance section: www.hihct.org.uk

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<td>Family</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other contacts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub total of others</strong></td>
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<td>117</td>
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<td><strong>Grand total on mailing list</strong></td>
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ANNUAL PATRONS IN 2018
Mr and Mrs P M H Andreae, Lady Appleyard, Mr and Mrs C Balchin,
Mr and Mrs F Ball, Mr N Barnfield, The Very Revd T Beeson, Mr K C H Bennett,
Mr and Mrs M Blakstad, Mr J Blott, Sir James and Lady Butler,
Mr and Mrs D Cooper, Mr R Cross, Mrs J E Crowther, Mr and Mrs N Denison,
Dr J D Dubois, Mr S Edwards, Mr D G F Evans, Mr S F Every,
Mr and Mrs R T Fox, Mrs A Gibson, Mr R Goulson, Dr A Green, Mr B Green,
Mrs C M Grover, Mr and Mrs J Guthrie, Mr T C W Henderson, Caroline,
Lady Hervey-Bathurst, Mr R Hungerford, Mr P N Jeffery, Mrs A Jones,
Mrs S M Jones, Mr and Mrs A Lang, Mr and Mrs S Lipa, Mrs A MacAlister,
Mr and Mrs B J Mansbridge, Mr R Perry, Sir Jonathan and Lady Portal,
Mr J Pringle, Mr D Pye, Mrs S Rivlin, Mr and Mrs D St John, Mr and Mrs J Sawtelle,
Lord and Lady Selborne, Mr J Standing, Mr W F Taylor, Mr J Thompson-Hall,
Mr M R Weakley, Gen Sir Antony and Lady Walker, Mr M Woodhall,
Mr B J Woodruffe, Mr B Woods, Prof M J Woodward, Mr and Mrs G Wort.
In addition: two people who prefer not to be mentioned.

CHURCH AND CORPORATE MEMBERS IN 2018
Abbotts Ann, St Mary
Alton, St Lawrence / Church of the Resurrection
Blackmoor and Whitehill, St Matthew
Bramdean, St Simon and St Jude
Calbourne, IOW, All Saints
Chilbolton, St Mary the Less
Cliddesden, St Leonard
Copthorne, St Mary
Cove, St John
Curridge, St Peter
East with West Wellow, St Margaret
Fareham, Holy Trinity
Hartley Mauditt, St Leonard
Hartley Wespall, St Mary
Havant, St Faith
Idsworth, St Hubert
Lymington, St Thomas
Nately Scures, St Swithun
Odiham, All Saints
Penton Mewsey, Holy Trinity
Portsea, All Saints
Portsmouth, St John, Roman Catholic Cathedral
Shanklin, IOW, St Paul
South Warnborough, St Andrew
Southampton, Hyde, St John the Baptist
Southsea, Trinity Methodist Church
Stratfield Saye, St Mary
Thurston, St Peter and St Paul
Titchborne, St Andrew
Titchfield, St Peter
West Worldham, St Nicholas
Whippingham, IOW, St Mildred
Wickham, St Nicholas
Winchester, St Cross with St Faith
Winchester, St Lawrence with St Swithun
Winchester, St Matthew with St Paul
Test Valley Borough Council
University of Winchester

Our grateful thanks go to all those who so generously support us in so many ways.

Membership application forms, Gift Aid declarations and bankers’ standing order forms are available for downloading from the Trust’s website at www.hihct.org.uk or by post from the address at the end of the Annual Report.
Keith Miller, Friends Secretary membership@hihct.org.uk
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 8 MAY 2018, WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Our Chairman, Lady Appleyard, welcomed everyone and expressed gratitude to the Dean and Chapter for hosting the AGM. Apologies had been received from a number of people, including our President, Nigel Atkinson, Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire. The minutes of the AGM on 9 May 2017 were signed, and the current officers and Committee members (as listed in the Annual Report) were elected en bloc. The Chairman made a plea for new Committee members and for Area Coordinators which were needed for several areas. In addition, Sue Sheridan had resigned as Friends Secretary and had been replaced by Keith Miller, Michael Carden had resigned from the Executive Committee but continued to serve on the Grants Sub-Committee, and the Revd Samantha Martell (from Portsmouth Diocese) had joined the Executive Committee.

The Treasurer, John Steel, presented the 2017 accounts, as set out in the Annual Report. Receipts totalled £70,041, mostly from Ride and Stride. He thanked Hampshire County Council for their grant of £25,000 which had been received after the end of the Trust’s financial year and so had not been included in the figures. The Trust administered the National Churches Trust Partnership Grant of £20,000 but as this did not pass through HIHCT’s accounts the figures were not shown. The NCT Partnership Grant would no longer be available from 2019. The Ride and Stride total of over £60,000 (including Gift Aid) was the best ever recorded. The Treasurer congratulated everyone involved. A sum of £26,016 had been distributed to churches as a share of Ride and Stride income. Gift Aid amounted to £8,183. The Trust had changed from Just Giving to My Donate for online payments as there was a good cost saving by doing this. Grants to churches totalled £58,000 and administrative costs were low, at £6,326. The accounts had been approved by the Trustees and Rothmans as Independent Examiner. The accounts were adopted. The Chairman thanked the Treasurer and all those who had supported Ride and Stride. Rothmans was re-appointed Independent Examiner.

The Chairman congratulated the team for the wonderful Ride and Stride results: John Steel, Christine and Geoffrey Wort (County Coordinators) supported by Chris and Meryl Balchin, the Area Coordinators and Church Representatives. She urged everyone to do even better and set a fundraising target of £65,000 for 2018. Our President, Nigel Atkinson, the Lord-Lieutenant, was unable to come at the last minute but his wife, Christine Atkinson, had kindly agreed to make the presentations. The Chairman thanked Alderman Michael Woodhall for sponsoring the wine for supper following the AGM. She thanked Caroline Edwards and Glen Miller for producing the Annual Report; Glen does the design work at no charge. She also thanked the Committees for working so hard and above the call of duty and in particular, Chris and Meryl Balchin and Rosemary Walker (Grants Secretary). The Trust had complied with the General Data Protection Regulation and our Privacy Policy was on our website thanks to David Pye and John Steel. The Chairman gave warmest thanks to
Hampshire County Council and asked the Leader, Roy Perry, to pass these on. We were very sad to hear of Helen Green’s death in September. Helen had been the Trust’s Grants Secretary for eight years and a wonderful supporter; our warmest condolences were offered to Bernard, her husband. Richard Mallinson, Area Coordinator for Whitchurch, had also died recently and would be greatly missed; our warmest condolences were offered to his wife, Anna. The Chairman encouraged everyone to attend the two forthcoming Trust events. The Summer Outing with Adrian Harbidge was always a treat; this year we would be visiting churches near Alresford. In the autumn we would be visiting Holy Trinity Church, Gosport for two very special talks, on the Spanish Pretender who landed at Gosport and on the famous Chandos/Handel organ, by Christopher Whittick and Geoffrey Holroyde respectively; generous hospitality would be provided by Holy Trinity. John Davies, our previous caterer for the AGM, had retired this year, so a caterer known to the Chairman, David, had stepped up and had done us a great favour.

Christine Atkinson made the following presentations:

- 7th Corinne Bennett Memorial Award (£500), 2018: All Saints, Portsea

For 2017 Ride and Stride:

- Church raising the most money: Petersfield United Reformed Church, led by Robin Hart (£2,000 raised)
- Church making a huge effort: Holy Trinity, Weston – Jo Green, Mark and Theresa Hillier and Chris Gilroy (£949 raised)
- Area with the greatest increase in sponsored churches: Isle of Wight – Area Coordinator, Sally Rivlin (up six to 25 churches)
- Area with the most encouraging increase in donations: Isle of Wight – Area Coordinator, Sally Rivlin (51% rise to £5,780)
- Outstanding continued church support: St Peter, Froxfield on the Green, led by Ian Hughes
- Outstanding effort by a large church participating for the first time: St Thomas, Lymington, led by Anthea MacAlister with Nigel Mussett
- Outstanding effort by a small church participating for the first time: St Michael, Shalfleet, led by Claire and Nicholas Oulton with Ben Collins (£1,195 raised)
- Outstanding effort by a small church: St Peter, Shalden, led by Peter Rankin and the Shalden Chain Gang (£1,595 raised)
- Honorable mention: Holy Trinity, Bembridge, led by Revd Amanda Bloor and her husband, Mark (£1,073 raised)
- Area Coordinators’ remarkable individual contribution to Ride and Stride over many years: Ralph Atton (Basingstoke, since 1992), Lindie Sawtell (Havant, since 1996), Brian and Margaret Hay (Fareham and Gosport, since 1996)
- School participation for the first time: Appleshaw C of E Primary; Kimpton, Thruxton and Fyfield C of E Primary; and Shipton Bellinger Primary

The Venerable Adrian Harbidge (Chairman of the Grants Sub-Committee) gave a presentation on churches to which grant offers had been made in 2017 (listed in the...
the Annual Report). The Chairman thanked him and the Grants Sub-Committee for their hard work during the year. Finally, John Steel raised a vote of very special thanks on behalf of everyone for the work carried out by our Chairman; we could not manage without her drive, wisdom and enthusiasm. An excellent talk by John Crook on the Cathedral roof bosses was followed by supper.

Meryl Balchin, Grants and Executive Committees, Ride and Stride, Events

SUMMER OUTING 2018 - ITCHEN ORIGINS
For the first Saturday in July to be dry after a month without rain is remarkable, but 40 or so HIHCT members also found some remarkable churches in the lovely valley south of New Alresford where the Itchen has its origins. However, at the end of the day members actively participated in a contentious historical argument.

A lot of people gave the impression that their main reason for joining the outing was so that they could have a meal in the incredibly popular (and rightly so) Bush Inn at Ovington. The standard of food and service was immaculate and a lot of people said they would be returning. (If you do, why not take along Joan, our Chairman who, for the first time ever had to send her apologies as she convalesced from an op.)

All three of our churches had received grants for work to their fabric; in addition there were a lot of energetic supporters of Ride and Stride in their congregations.

We began with St Andrew, Tichborne – a lovely ‘Saxo-Norman’ church started around 1066 with (uniquely) a Roman Catholic mortuary chapel for the use of the Tichborne family. We were shown the little paving stone that starts the process of opening the vault. It is inscribed ‘THIS IS YE WAY INTO YE VAULTE’!

On to St Simon and St Jude, Bramdean. Built in 1170 (their first vicar was ‘Giles the Englishman’), various additions over the years have added to the character of this church. However, some earlier work on the east end of the chancel was no longer tied in with the rest of the church, leading to the need for a grant from us and quite a lot of scaffolding holding everything together. Embroidery is an important part of village life and their ‘Tree of Life’ has the name of every child baptised in the church, added year on year, on the wall by the font.
St Michael and All Angels, Cheriton.
Two or three months without rain and in 2018 we're struggling. Cheriton’s 12th century parish church is built on a little hill, said to be a prehistoric burial mound. In 1744 there was a fire, brought about by four years of drought which wasn’t broken until the last quarter of the year. Although completely destroyed, apart from the walls, the villagers rebuilt it within two years, as we see today.

Although they were bidding farewell the next day to their beloved vicar (Revd Graham Bowkett), the parish is to be congratulated on producing possibly the best afternoon tea we have ever seen. Our warmest thanks to everyone involved!
The Venerable Adrian Harbidge, Chairman, Grants Sub-Committee

Autumn Outing, 6 October 2018
Our Autumn Outing was to Holy Trinity Church, Gosport, for a varied, informative and entertaining day based on the church and its environs.

To begin with we were asked ‘Why would claimants to the Spanish throne come to Gosport?’ Christopher Whittick, Chairman of Sussex Historic Churches Trust and East Sussex County Archivist, told a story full of amazing surprises and often rather dry humour, leading up to the final chapter describing ‘the journey undertaken by two corpses to Trieste’. The royal personage who actually came to Gosport was Queen Maria, wife of Carlos I, pretender to the Spanish throne. After his failed attempt to claim the throne she was installed in Alverstoke Old Rectory and after her death in 1834 she was buried in Gosport Roman Catholic Church. Her son Juan’s cause was taken up by an eccentric English aristocrat, Lord Ashburnham, who proposed to run guns to Spain to put his claimant on the throne. He got ready for this by practising military manoeuvres on his estate in Wales, but alas, the guns were intercepted and the plan failed. This story, full of incongruities, seemed perpetually to hover on the brink of farce, even in the final stages. After the death of Juan in 1887 his body was taken to Trieste and it was decided that his mother, Queen Maria, should go with him, which entailed exhuming her from Gosport Roman Catholic Church – lifting a large area of the church near the altar, which must have been very inconvenient as it was just before Christmas!

The Revd Andy Davis, Lady Appleyard and Christopher Whittick
Back to the present day – before lunch, the Revd Andy Davis gave us a fascinating talk about the history of Holy Trinity Church, and we had the opportunity to browse an exhibition: Gosport Women Artists: celebrating and commemorating 100 years 1918-2018, which was especially extended to include our visit.

After an excellent lunch served by the ladies of Christchurch, Holy Trinity’s partner church, we heard a presentation by Geoffrey Holroyde, Hon Fellow of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, who initiated the organ’s restoration, telling us about the organ in the church, which was originally built for Handel in 1720 when he was employed at Cannons, the seat of the Duke of Chandos. The organ was subsequently extended and modernised, and we were given the technical details about the numbers, composition and history of the 36 banks of organ pipes, so organ buffs had all they needed, but Geoffrey himself concentrated on making the organ and its function come alive for us. Organists, he said, are insecure people, and they gain satisfaction from making a lot of noise. Before his recital he demonstrated – by blowing on specially prepared sections of pipe – all the types of organ-pipe, helping us to hear the individual quality of ‘noise’ made by each. The opportunity to watch such a skilled performer at work, via the built-in video screen, was much appreciated. Geoffrey’s actual recital was in two parts, the first concentrating exclusively on using the original organ stops used by Handel – and appropriately he played extracts from Handel’s Music for the Royal Fireworks. After that he played extracts from Elgar’s Suite for Organ using all the present organ stops, and an encore by Karg-Elert. He was ably supported by Keith Miller, the Trust’s Friends Secretary.

All of us are grateful to the speakers, to the Revd Andy Davis for allowing us to use the church, to the providers of lunch and tea, led by Elizabeth Miles and Katherine Ford, and to Meryl Balchin, supported by Joan Appleyard, who organised a day which gave us such stimulation and entertainment.

Daphne Burgess, Trust Friend
A Double Christmas Party
Thursday 7 December was damp and dismal, however the annual Christmas party was a convivial event, shared with members of Hampshire Archives Trust.

The evening began with a talk by Barry Meehan, Specialist Services Librarian for Bournemouth and Poole libraries. He gave an enlightened and fascinating illustrated talk on churches at a time of change, his examples coming from churches in 19th century Hampshire. His thorough research, including archives at Hampshire Record Office, meant that he was able to paint a detailed picture of the churches he had studied. The talk seemed too short for hearing all that he had to say. However, canapés and wine beckoned and soon the guests were all mingling and enjoying the party atmosphere. The food was masterminded and largely made by our Chairman, Joan Appleyard.*

For those who wanted more, there was an interesting exhibition on the First World War.

It was a stimulating and hugely enjoyable evening.

Sue Filer, Executive Committee member

*We also have Sue herself to thank for sharing the catering with our Chairman!

Greetings Cards
Our cards (blank inside) are designed for us by Caroline Hervey-Bathurst who is a well known local artist and a very generous and supportive member of the Trust. The sale proceeds provide valuable funding for further grants.

They are excellent value at only £3 per pack of six

For p&p costs or to arrange collection, contact: joanappleyard@aol.co.uk or 01794 388224
Events for 2019

Tuesday 7 May, 7-9.45pm
AGM and Supper
Winchester Cathedral

Thursday 6 June, 10.15am-3.30pm
Stratfield Saye House and St Mary’s Church
Including house tour, Wellington exhibition and grounds
Light lunch and refreshments

Saturday 22 June, 12.30-4.15pm
Summer Outing: New Forest Ramble: Milford on Sea, Boldre, and South Baddesley
Meet for lunch and end the day with tea

Saturday 14 September, 10am-6pm
2019 Ride and Stride
The main fundraising event for the Trust. Help open your church and offer hospitality, participate and raise sponsorship. Find the latest information at www.hihct.org.uk

Thursday 12 December, 7-8.30pm
Christmas Party
Including wine and light supper
Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester
Joint event with Hampshire Archives Trust

Details of all activities can be found on our website www.hihct.org.uk and on the Friends 2019 Programme. If you are not a Friend of the Trust but are interested in the Trust’s work or in attending future events, please contact the Friends Secretary: membership@hihct.org.uk

Ride & Striders at St Mary’s, Buriton
Gillian Coles with Mike Bridgman, Area Coordinator for Portsmouth

Phil Carr at St John’s Chapel, Winchester

Ride & Striders at St Peter in the Wood, Appleshaw
Reserves Policy
The Trust aims to use the money it raises for the benefit of churches within its remit as soon as possible. A sum of £15,000 is earmarked in case of emergencies. Aside from a small annual expenditure on administration, the aim is to allocate the remaining funds to churches in the form of grants and loans, in response to need. In any year a number of grants will be paid out while others will be offered, for payment on completion of the work being funded. The Annual Report provides details both of those churches receiving grants and of those churches being promised (but not yet receiving) grants during the year. The reserves policy is reviewed annually.

Legacies
Nestling within the rustic beauty of our countryside or glimpsed between the crowded tenements of our urban areas, our historic churches, chapels and meeting houses capture our imagination and stir our senses. These buildings are not just of architectural interest – they reflect the story of the community in which they sit. They appeal not just to the worshipper but also to the visitor in search of quiet contemplation and to the wider community as a focus for public events and other activities.

But many of these buildings are fighting a battle against the ravages of time. With reducing amounts of public funding available, the task of maintenance and repair often falls on a small group of people. We need to make sure that these buildings get the repairs and maintenance that they need to remain open at the heart of the community.

Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust helps to achieve this objective by making grants and loans towards the cost of repairs and maintenance of churches, chapels and meeting houses open for public worship in Hampshire (including the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton), the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. It is a registered charity so giving is a tax efficient way of providing practical help.

Leaving a legacy in your Will helps us to keep these precious buildings alive for future generations. Whether a fixed sum or a percentage of residue, a legacy can make a huge difference. A legacy can also be a positive way to celebrate your life or the life of a loved friend or relative. If you would like to give an ‘in memory’ legacy we would be happy to discuss with you how your name or that of your friend or relative might be linked to those funds when they are used in the future to make a grant or loan.

If you or your professional advisers have any questions or wish to discuss leaving a legacy to the Trust, please contact the Treasurer: c/o Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester SO23 8TH; treasurer@hihct.org.uk; 01962 776361.
NB From 1 April 2019 the status of HIHCT has changed to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust, number 1181370, regulated by the Charity Commission for England and Wales (see the Treasurer’s update on page 20).

Policy Statement
The aim of Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust, as stated in the Trust deed dated 10 September 1988 is:

The raising of funds to assist with the preservation repair maintenance improvement upkeep beautification and reconstruction of churches in Hampshire the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands and of monuments fittings fixtures stained glass furniture ornaments goods and chattels in such churches and of the Churchyard belonging to any of such Churches for the benefit of the public.

The Trust delivers public benefit by making grants and loans to churches for the purpose described above, thereby helping to preserve an important part of the country’s heritage and supporting the ongoing use of churches as centres of worship and community amenities.

The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission’s public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Trust Governance and Operation
The structure of the Trust is shown at the end of this Annual Report. There is a minimum of four Trustees. The Trustees appoint new Trustees, including the Chair of Trustees, and they direct how long the Chair holds office. The Trustees meet once a year to review and approve the operation of the Trust during that year. The Trust’s activity is effected through the Executive Committee of which most of the Trustees are currently also members; the Chair of this is also the Chair of the Trustees. The Trustees may appoint to the Committee and terminate membership. The Executive Committee met three times during 2016. It received reports of the Sub-Committees and approved decisions principally relating to the allocation of grants to churches in furtherance of the Trust’s aim (see above). The extent to which the Trust has furthered its aim and delivered public benefit this year is detailed in the grants report within this Annual Report.
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust changes its status

In June 2018 the Executive Committee of the Trust agreed to appoint a sub-committee to explore the possibility of setting up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to take over the operation of the Trust. A CIO entitled Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust was formed and registered with the Charity Commission under number 1181370 in December 2018. In February 2019 the Trustees of the Trust resolved to transfer the funds held by the Trust to the CIO as soon as appropriate bank accounts had been opened in the name of the CIO and then to wind up the Trust. The CIO commenced operation on 1 April 2019.

The initiative for the formation of the CIO was that National Westminster Bank, the bankers to the Trust since 1988, indicated that they now required all the Trustees of the Trust to give personal guarantees for the accounts of the Trust. This was not considered to be a reasonable request. At the same time, the activities of the Trust have developed to such an extent that it is considered that operating through a corporate entity is a more satisfactory structure.

Advice on the transfer of assets from the Trust to the CIO was taken from solicitors who have confirmed that the Trustees had sufficient powers under the terms of the Trust Deed to act in this way.

The objects of the CIO are identical to those of the Trust except that Southampton and Portsmouth are expressly referred to as being included within the area of benefit and, whereas the Trust deed refers to a list of denominations whose churches may benefit from grants from the Trust, the CIO objects refer instead to churches that are part of Churches Together in England.

A final set of accounts for the Trust will be prepared once the Trust bank accounts have been closed and the Trust dissolved.

One of the consequences of the move to a CIO is that members will be asked to amend their standing orders for subscriptions to the new bank account of the CIO and to enter into new Gift Aid declarations for the benefit of the CIO. Members will be hearing direct from the Friends Secretary in due course.

John Steel, Treasurer
# Grants to Churches

**Grants made as at December 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thruxton, St Peter and St Paul</td>
<td>£5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copythorne, St Mary</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Cowes (IOW), St James</td>
<td>£500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanklin (IOW), St Saviour</td>
<td>£7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calbourne (IOW), All Saints</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Cowes (IOW), St James</td>
<td>£4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holybourne, Holy Rood</td>
<td>£6,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**: £26,500

**Grant commitments as at December 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cosham, St Philip</td>
<td>£1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idsworth, St Hubert</td>
<td>£3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bramdean, St Simon</td>
<td>£7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester, St Matthew</td>
<td>£7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laverstoke, St Mary</td>
<td>£8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copythorne, St Mary</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petersfield, URC</td>
<td>£5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliddesden, St Leonard</td>
<td>£6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Havant, St Faith</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitchurch, All Hallows</td>
<td>£5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester, St Bartholomew</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wickham, St Nicholas</td>
<td>£3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East with West Wellow, St Margaret</td>
<td>£2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherfield on Loddon, St Leonard</td>
<td>£500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester, St Paul</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringwood and Fordingbridge, Our Lady of Sorrows</td>
<td>£500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nately Scures, St Swithun</td>
<td>£2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litchfield, St James the Less</td>
<td>£8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalfleet (IOW), St Michael</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northington, St John</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**: £87,500
AREA COORDINATORS, AS AT MARCH 2019
(areas are based on Anglican deaneries)

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The Annual Report and Newsletter 2018 was approved and signed by the Chairman on 16 April 2019.

Cover photograph (Glen Miller)

Our thanks to www.raggedapple.com for design & www.bulpittprint.com for printing.
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust

President
Nigel Atkinson, Esq

Vice-President
Lady Mary Fagan, LG DCVO

Patrons
The Bishop of Winchester, The Bishop of Portsmouth
The Bishop of Portsmouth (RC)
The Wessex Synod Moderator of the URC
The Superintendent of the Baptist Union (Southern Area)
The Chairman of the Southampton Methodist District
The Dean of Winchester, The Dean of Portsmouth
Lord Montagu of Beaulieu
The Secretary of the National Churches Trust
The Secretary of the Council for the Care of Churches

Trustees
Lady Appleyard, Caroline Edwards, The Ven Adrian Harbidge
The Revd Canon Dr Howard Mellor (from Feb 2018)
The Revd Canon Dr Roland Riem, John Steel, The Revd Canon Paul Townsend

Chairman
Lady Appleyard

Executive Committee
Secretary: Caroline Edwards, Treasurer: John Steel
Chris Balchin, Meryl Balchin, Sue Filer, Annette Gibson
The Ven Adrian Harbidge
Margaret Hay, The Revd Samantha Martell (from Feb 2018)
Keith Miller, Richard Osmond, David Pye
Cathy Roberts, The Ven Dr Peter Rouch, Lady Walker
Christine Wort, Geoffrey Wort

Ride and Stride County Coordinators
Christine Wort and Geoffrey Wort
supported by Chris Balchin and Meryl Balchin
Grants Sub-Committee
Chairman: The Ven Adrian Harbidge
Secretary: Lady Walker, Meryl Balchin
Michael Carden, James Lunn-Rockliffe
Jeremy Poll, David Pye, Gary Seymour, The Ven Peter Sutton

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Area Coordinator Rep: Margaret Hay
Friends Secretary: Keith Miller

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Winchester SO23 9AW

Solicitor
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Tollgate
Chandler's Ford
Eastleigh SO53 3LG

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