

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST



St Mary Magdalene Church, Great Hampden

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023 / 2024

www.bucks-historic-churches.org



President

The Countess Howe
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire

Vice-President & Trustee

The Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson (d.17/02/2024)
Bishop of Buckingham

Chairman & Trustee

The Rt Hon Sir David Lidington KCB CBE

Trustees 2023 / 2024

Mrs Caroline Abel Smith OBE DL	Chairman, Appeal Committee & Inspection Committee Member
Mr George Anson DL	Trustee
Mrs Cherry Aston	Inspection Committee Member
The Hon Mrs Farncombe DL	Appeal and Inspection Committee Member
Mr Andrew Finn-Kelcey	Inspection Committee Member
Mr Robert Frostick	Trustee - Appointed October 2023
Revd Michael Hunt	Trustee - Appointed July 2023
Mr Philip Hynard	Secretary to the Trust – Resigned March 2024
Mrs Marilynne Morgan CB	Chairman, Friends of Buckinghamshire's Historic Churches
Mr Laurie Johnson	Treasurer to the Trust
Mr Robert Ruck-Keene	Trustee
Mrs Mary Saunders MBE	Chairman, Inspection Committee
His Hon Christopher Tyrer DL	Trustee
Mrs Mary Villiers OBE DL	Appeal and Inspection Committee Member

Appeal Committee Members

Mrs Joanna Barclay DL	
Mrs Kate Eckett	
Mrs Mary Jane Gibson	
Mrs Candida Godber	Retired September 2024
Mrs Nina Newton	
Mrs Anne Oakley	
Mrs Marie-Helene Oliver	Joined September 2024

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Registered Charity No: 206471

THE PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

The work of BHCT in supporting our important heritage of religious buildings throughout the county continues to be absolutely vital. Our 'crumbling churches' are seen by the National Churches Trust as the UK's biggest heritage challenge.

It is concerning to observe that there are many churches at risk of closure. Whilst the upkeep of our churches rests with each individual parish, few local clergy have the expertise in either building management or fundraising.

It is incumbent on us all to rise to the challenge and keep our churches open by expanding the use of church spaces into areas like food banks, youth clubs, nurseries, and then by bringing additional people in for such things as concerts, exhibitions and craft fairs.

None of this is easily achieved but innovative approaches to using church buildings as community spaces will contribute to their survival.

Grants made by BHCT to our churches provide a crucial injection of funds in cases of emergency, for routine maintenance and in acting as a catalyst to a local fundraising initiative.

I would particularly like to thank the BHCT fundraising committee for their extraordinarily enjoyable events held at Chequers. The time and effort put into ensuring the success of these events was immense, and they have generated much needed funds.



The Countess Howe
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire

THE CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Looking back on the past year, two things strike me. First, the need for the Trust's work remains as important and urgent as ever. The Trustees hold our meetings in Churches around the county. In some, we see the practical results of our work: walls and arches that have been repaired; buildings that are now dry, not damp. In others, we have seen why our work needs to continue: cracks, subsidence, leaking roofs and fragile windows.

Every penny that you contribute through your donations, your subscription to the Friends of BHCT, a legacy in your will or your tickets to our events makes it possible for us to help more churches, chapels and meeting houses throughout the historic county of Buckinghamshire - from Milton Keynes to Slough. Last year, we gave out grants totalling £74,500. Thank you for making that possible.

Second, the drop in applications for help that we saw during the covid years (when church committees could not meet in person and both inspection and construction work was hampered by legal restrictions), has been only partly reversed. Not every churchwarden, Minister or PCC is aware of BHCT and the Trust's ability to help fund repair and restoration work, and the Trust, largely because of data protection regulations, does not have an up-to-date database of the key points of contact in each church within the county. So, if you know of a church in Buckinghamshire that needs help, please do encourage them to get in touch with us.



I am very grateful to all the Trustees for their service during the last year. The sudden death of Bishop Alan Wilson came as a shock to all of us. I shall always remember Alan's enthusiastic commitment to BHCT, his generosity with time and his personal kindness. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lucy and their children.

Thanks, are also due to Caroline Abel Smith and her team on the Appeals Committee, Marilynne Morgan and the Friends of BHCT and the organisers of Ride and Stride throughout the county. Their efforts have added to our resources and therefore our ability to help local churches.

Finally, my thanks to Philip Hynard who has stepped down from his positions as a Trustee and BHCT Secretary and a warm welcome to Suzanne Lindsey who has taken on the secretaryship.

The Trust is always in search of both new funds and new volunteers. If you would like help organise Ride and Stride or other events or serve as a Trustee or leave a legacy to BHCT in your will, please do let us know.

Sir David Lidington
Chairman

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

We live in a time of soaring energy costs and increasing calls for improved awareness of the environmental impact of our activities and of heritage sites.

Two images have stuck with me in recent months. The first was the description in Peter May's thriller 'A Winter Grave', which is mostly set in 2053, of getting around the streets of Glasgow by boat because of the rise in sea-level. This describes the effect of climate change. The second is a picture on the Historic England website of the Bishop of Chester, holding his crozier, and accompanied by the Dean, both in full vestments, on the apex of the cathedral roof for the blessing of the solar panels last year. Solar panels reduce the demand for electricity generated by fossil fuels and so decrease the amount of CO₂ released into the atmosphere thus causing less global warming.

The impact of climate change is already with us and will only become more severe in future years. Severe weather events such as extreme heat, heavier prolonged rain and stronger winds will all increase in frequency. They will continue to do so unless the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere can be reduced significantly; even if all such emissions stopped today it would be another 30 or 40 years before climate change would stop or stabilise.

The latest guidance from Historic England for historic buildings is Historic England 2024 Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency: Historic England Advice Note 18 (HEAN 18). This begins by stating:

'Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. To avoid the worst impacts, we must act immediately to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming, and we must plan for and respond to the impacts from further warming over the coming decades.'

In the coming years we shall all need to develop climate resilience, whether as individuals, as members of congregations and as members of local communities. This is how we can, as far as possible, be ready for the effects of climate change and take the necessary steps of mitigation and adaptation to reduce the causes.

There are particular challenges for places of worship as they seek to build resilience. Often these are significant historical buildings which cannot easily be altered and adapted in the same way as more modern buildings. Nonetheless, there are many options. Solar panels, heat pumps and insulation can all help to reduce the carbon footprint (and reduce future costs), but they are expensive to install and can present technical difficulties. They are likely to involve additional work to protect the historic fabric of the building.

For example, some of the questions which need to be answered before any scheme is decided are (1) is the roof strong enough to bear the additional weight of solar panels, (2) how their visual impact can be minimised, or (3) will the installation of heat pumps have significant archaeological implications either above or below ground. Not all places of worship will have an adequate electricity supply for such installations in any case.

But resilience is not limited to large and glamorous schemes, like at Chester Cathedral or King's College Chapel, Cambridge, which has also installed solar panels on its roof.

Maintenance, the assessment of risk and forward planning are all tools which can contribute to the resilience of a church or chapel. A maintenance plan will give a framework in which regular tasks can be undertaken so that problems do not accumulate and expose the church to greater risks from climate impacts – and more expensive works and repairs.

Regular gutter and drain clearing, carrying out minor repairs (such as dealing with slipped slates or tiles) in a timely fashion and monitoring of nearby trees against potential wind damage can all assist in making the building more resilient in the face of climate change.



Keeping the roofs, walls and windows in good repair will also ensure that such heating as is being used effectively for the benefit of the fabric and, of course, the congregation. At the same time it can reduce the cost as well as the amount of energy used. The use of LED light bulbs, wherever, possible, can also make a significant contribution to reducing energy usage. Modern boilers are likely to be more efficient if replacement of a boiler is the only sensible option.

Heating people with underpew heaters or even blankets are both options which have been adopted in various places.

If repairs are required to rainwater goods, perhaps consideration could be given to increasing their size and capacity to move heavy rainfall away from the walls, including the provision of adequate surface drainage to reduce the risk of standing water.

Where major work is required to a roof, and if it is appropriate for the type of roof, the installation of roof insulation might be considered. Such projects will, of course, require professional advice and the necessary permissions. They should also be proportionate, effective and sustainable.

Historic buildings usually have thick walls and can be useful as ‘Cool Spaces’ during periods of extreme heat. Could your building be used in these circumstances to support the wider community? There are many practicalities which would need to be considered and plans put in place well before any such event occurs.

This might include identifying potential volunteers, access to refrigeration, wifi, comfortable cushions to sit on hard pews and making sure the community is aware of what is proposed. It may also be possible to join a local authority network for the provision of ‘Cool Spaces’.

Most churches are unlikely to be suitable to be ‘warm spaces’ in extreme cold weather, but a hall may be available for such purposes in some places.

Although most mediaeval churches were built on slightly higher ground than the surroundings – think of the pictures of Tewkesbury Abbey surrounded by floods – some places of worship are vulnerable to flooding. Indeed, one of the reasons a new church was built at Flaunden in 1837/8 was because the old village and church of Flaunden were near the river and had been susceptible to flooding. In the event of serious local flooding, a church might be made available as a place of refuge providing food, clothing, storage space and shelter for members of the emergency services as well as the local community. As with ‘Cool Spaces’, prior planning and identification of resources and personnel is essential in a contingency plan.

Planning for such events is not a new thing. Ninety years ago, Dorothy L Sayers in ‘The Nine Tailors’ described the planning which the Vicar, and (especially, I think) his wife, had made to accommodate the inhabitants of Fenchurch St Paul in the parish church. Due to a failure to carry out maintenance, the nearby sluice gates broke under the pressure of floodwater and flooded all the fenland for miles around. Although not framed in these terms, what happened demonstrates the result of lack of maintenance and the value of forward resilience planning for the church and its community.

Mary A L Saunders
Chairman, Inspection Committee
August 2024

OBITUARY – The Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson

Bishop of Buckingham

The news of Alan Wilson's sudden death after a heart attack shocked and saddened thousands of people throughout Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes who had known Alan as priest, pastor, colleague and friend.

The heaviest loss is borne by Alan's wife, Lucy, their children Catherine, Stephanie, Stuart, Nick and Anna, and the wider family. We hold them in our thoughts and prayers.

For the Trustees and Friends of Bucks Historic Churches, Alan's death means the loss not just of a diligent and competent Vice-President, but a man of boundless energy and constant thoughtfulness. He understood the challenge facing small congregations struggling to maintain and restore the fabric of a much-loved but decaying church building, and deployed his intellect, energy and persuasiveness to help them. It was common, in the margins of a trustee meeting, for Alan not only to support a grant from BHCT but talk to the churchwardens or local clergy to explore what other funders they might approach and how they could frame their case to stand the best chance of a favourable response.

All of us in BHCT are grateful for what Alan did for the Trust throughout his years as Bishop of Buckingham. We will miss him enormously. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

OBITUARY - The Reverend Canon David Meakin

We are extremely sorry to report the death of David Meakin on 7th August this year after a short illness.

David led the Schorne Team in the Claydon Deanery for the past 20 years and was a supporter of the Trust via Ride + Stride. He twice walked the 26 miles from Waddesdon to Weedon passing through the Schorne Team parishes and raising much needed funds not only for the Trust, but also firstly for the Schorne Team of Churches and secondly as part of a visionary project to pay for a professional Statement of Significance for St Martin's, Dunton.

Our condolences go to Heidi, David's widow, and all the family.

GRANT-AIDED CHURCHES 2023/2024

St Mary, Turville

Externally Victorian but with a 12thC nave, a fine crown post roof and a 14C chancel.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £8,000 towards a £312,339 project to repair the roofs and tower parapet and replace the rainwater goods.



St James the Less, Dorney

The church is adjacent to Dorney Court. The nave dates from the 12thC and is mainly of stone and flint with tiled roofs. A chapel for the Garrard family was built in brick on the north side in the 17thC. The interior has many original fittings, including a Norman font, and has great charm.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £10,000 towards stripping and retiling the Garrard chapel roof and the north slope of the chancel.



Stripping and retiling of the chapel roof and the north slope of the chancel

St Michael, Horton

John Milton lived in the parish 1632-38 and is depicted in the east window by Kempe. His mother, Sarah, is buried in the chancel. The three-bay nave of flint and stone is 12thC and there is a fine Norman north door.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £10,000 towards repairs to the east end of the church including the Lady Chapel plinth, repointing in the south wall and repairs to the SW buttress to tower.



Repairs to the east end of the church including Lady Chapel plinth, repointing in south wall and repairs to the SW buttress to tower

St Michael & All Angels, Edgcott

The 12thC nave is the oldest part of the church but altered over the centuries and has a 14thC chancel and 15thC tower. It is built of coursed rubble stone and the chancel has a red clay tile roof.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £10,000 towards the replacement of the temporary roof with a terne-coated steel roof.



St James, Barton Hartshorn

The church has a 13C nave with 14thC and 16thC doorway and windows.

The transept, bellcote and chancel were restored/rebuilt in 1842.

A further restoration in 1905 included new roofs and windows.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £4,000 towards steel pinning the north wall which is moving away from the nave.



Steel pinning of north wall and associated groundworks and archaeology

St Augustine, Westbury

On the borders of Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire, the church is built of rubble stone with tiled roofs and slate over the aisle.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £2,000 to install bird protection grilles in the tower and clear the bio waste inside.



Clearance of bio waste from church tower and installation of bird protection grilles

Stony Stratford Greek Orthodox

The church of St Mary was built in 1864 by Giles Gilbert Scott.

The Greek Orthodox community of Milton Keynes acquired the building in 2010 for use as their church.



The Trustees agreed a grant of £1,000 to replace the wooden entrance doors.

St Mary the Virgin, Radnage

The Grade I listed church is set in the bowl of the Chilterns below the Bledlow Ridge on the Ridgeway long distance path. Built in the late 12thC with windows enlarged in the 14thC, it has a particularly fine set of wall paintings, dating from the 13th to the 18th centuries.



The Trustees agreed a grant of £5,000 towards internal west wall plaster repairs.

Little Hampden Church

A grade I listed church with fine wall paintings dating from the 13thC.

The Trustees agreed a grant of £3,000 towards the repairs to rainwater goods. A previous grant of £4,000 had been awarded in 2020/21, this is a further phase of the work.



Holy Trinity, Gawcott

The Trustees agreed a grant of £2,000 towards a further phase of plaster repairs and redecoration.

BHCT had previously awarded a grant to this church in 2023.



St Mary, Ballinger

The Trustees agreed a grant of £1,000 towards removal of hard render and repair with lime.

BHCT has already assisted with grants towards the removal of cementitious render which has cracked and caused damp problems.

The work already carried out has transformed the building and this is a further phase of the work.



All Saints', Bow Brickhill

The Trustees agreed a grant of £2,000 towards retiling and repair of the south porch which had been added in 1907 by E Swinfen Harris.

The church is shared with the Romanian Orthodox community.



Retiling & repair of s porch

Grants were also given to Great Missenden, Great Hampden and Dagnall churches in 2023 but details were included in last year's review

Grant Funding for Churches

Bucks Historic Churches Trust offers grants to churches built 100 years ago or of special architectural or historical interest, please see our website for details.

The Bucks Historic Churches Trust website also has a valuable document relating to other sources of funding that may prove useful for all types of church maintenance, repair or restoration projects.

There are a surprising number of charities with funds available. There is not space to list them all here, but they can be found using the following link <https://www.bucks-historic-churches.org/grants/> and then clicking on the fourth article in FAQs on the right hand side of the page "Are there any other sources available for work of this nature?"

FUNDRAISING

Chequers 27th and 28th June 2024

Certainly, an evening to remember and then followed by a morning to remember too! We were so very fortunate.

Drinks and canapes were served on the terrace at Chequers on a glorious June evening with the Rose Garden at its best and the Hampden valley glowing in the evening sun.

Guests then moved into The Great Hall to hear Dame Norma Major give an impressive and fascinating talk on Chequers and the history of the house. Her understated knowledge of the house was a delight to listen to.



This was followed by comprehensive tours of the house and grounds led by Emma Paterson and David McCormick, together with Katie Sheffield, Head Gardener.

Dame Norma signed the updated book on Chequers, which she originally wrote in 1996, and was available for sale. It will surely become the Christmas present of 2024 in Buckinghamshire.



She was accompanied by Sir John and the two of them gave very generously of their time talking to guests.



The following morning guests arrived for coffee and home-made shortbread on the terrace, a little cooler than the evening before but still fine and dry.

Rodney Melville, recently retired Secretary and Managing Agent to the Trust for 13 years and Curator of the Chequers Collection for 11 years until 2023, then gave the most fascinating insight into Chequers and its inhabitants including some very amusing anecdotes, before guests again toured the house and grounds and the morning ended with drinks and canapes in the Great Hall.

What a privilege it was to feel so close to history and yet being in a living household at the same time with such friendly and helpful staff always ready to please. We are extremely grateful to them for making the two events such a success and resulting in the record amount of over £20,000 being raised for the Trust.

We are hugely grateful to everyone who supported the two events but, in particular, several very generous sponsors – our sincere thanks to them.





Ride + Stride

As I write this piece, Ride + Stride has not yet taken place. We hope for another fine day and lots of participants BUT we are still looking for a County Organiser for this event which not only raises good money for the Trust but also for your own local church. Over £26,000 last year was divided equally between the Trust and Ride and Striders' chosen churches.

The day not only raises awareness of the Trust but also can be a fun day out for all the family. Please come forward and be part of the team. This is a national event held in most counties across the country on the second Saturday in September every year.

An Evening of Music and Song

As you read this report the concert on Wednesday 27th November at St Peter and St Paul's church in Great Missenden will be about to take place. There may be a few tickets left, so do check the website www.bucks-historic-churches.org and click on Events, then scroll down to buy tickets.

I feel sure it will be a very special evening for all, organised by local professional opera singer Lucy Knight with, among others, girls from Wycombe Abbey school taking part. More about this in next year's Annual Review but, meanwhile, thank you Lucy.

Gardens near the Church

Our fourth *Gardens near the Church* Day is to be held again in 2025. This is likely to be during the last week in June as previously but watch the website for more details early next year. We will be moving south of Aylesbury this time where even more lovely gardens and churches are to be found.

We are very sad to lose Candy Godber from the committee, who feels it is time to retire, but I would like to express our grateful thanks for her stalwart support and generosity over many years. On a happier note, we are delighted to welcome Marie-Helene Oliver who is joining us and who will, I am sure, bring lots of new ideas for future events.

Finally, my sincere thanks to all the members of the Appeal Committee and to all our supporters for their continued generosity which is greatly appreciated.

Caroline Abel Smith
Chairman, Appeal Committee

FRIENDS' ACTIVITIES

The Trust's Report for 2023 was completed before the final Friends' event of the year - our Annual Lecture in November, a talk given by the medieval historian John McNeill at St Mary's, Princes Risborough on the intriguing subject of things to look out for on entering a church. The event was well attended, and the talk itself was very well received. St Mary's again provided facilities to allow us to stream the lecture and that facility was used by a number of Friends.

In mid-May we arranged an unusual trip to Oxford – a walk around the centre of Oxford with the theme of *Medical Oxford*, kindly led for us by guide Ian Mitchell, a member of the Oxford Guild of Tour Guides, who was excellent.

We were so lucky with the weather, bright and sunny and day!



*Medical walkers in Oxford, May 2024. Our guide is fourth from the left.
Photo by David Peck*

We started in the magnificent Christ Church War Memorial Garden, created in 1926 to commemorate the First World War and those members of Christ Church College who had died in it. In the medieval period the Priory of St Frideswide, which was on the site of the College, was where medicine was first practised in Oxford, so it was an appropriate place to begin.

From there we walked all along the Meadow to the Botanic Gardens, out into the High, past the Examination Halls (where so many medics had done their exams) to Merton Street (site of the first dissecting room), along to Magpie Lane, back to the High and into the University Church (where we had a nice sit down), out to Radcliffe Camera, and on to the Bodleian, the Old Ashmolean and finally the Weston Library.

In the course of the walk we learned from Ian everything there is to know about how medicine was practised, researched, taught and funded at Oxford and about the famous, and not so famous, people involved.

Our Annual Crawl was held on what turned out to be a pleasant day in mid August (it did rain on the way home) when we visited three very different churches in the Hambleden Valley Benefice: St Bartholomew Fingest, St Mary Fawley, and St Mary Hambleden. The crawl was kindly led for us by trustee and chairman of the Inspection Committee Mary Saunders who has a fund of information about Bucks Churches. We started at Fingest where some of our number attended communion. Such an imposing Norman tower – and yet such a narrow church within. There we were served coffee before looking round the church, which is very special. At the risk of getting lost in the beech woods above Henley-on-Thames we next visited Fawley church, a complete contrast – medieval flint without, more of a beautiful City of London Church within, quite stunning.

After lunch at the pub in Hambleden we ended at Hambleden church, famous for being used in so many films. Again so different – Norman cruciform in layout but without a central tower (the tower at the west end was a C18th addition altered 150 years later gems such as the charming C17th Doyley monument and the pretty painted chancel ceiling from the late 1850s. Our thanks as ever to the three churches for making our visits possible, and in particular for the great welcome we were given at Flaunden.

Our last event of the year will be our Annual Lecture on **Wednesday 13th November at 6:30pm** once more in St. Mary's, Princes Risborough. It will be a talk on *Heralds and Heraldry : The Picturesque World of Coats of Arms, Chivalry and Ceremony*, given by Patric Dickinson CVO, Clarenceux King of Arms 2010 – 2021. The talk will be streamed.

The Friends have three aims - to raise awareness of the Trust; to involve more people in the Trust's activities; and to raise funds for the Trust. In 2023 we were able to donate £7,000 to the Trust. As ever I must thank all our Friends for all their support and generosity this year. We continue to attract new Friends (more always welcome – see <https://www.bucks-historic-churches.org/friends/> for further details).

We are particularly keen to encourage churches and other organisations to take out our new corporate membership - it costs only £30 a year.

Marilynne A Morgan CB
Trustee and Chairman of the Friends

The Trust's Income and Expenditure 2023-2024

Incoming Resources			Expenditure		
	2023/24	2022/23		2023/24	2022/23
From Donors					
Gift Aided subscriptions	156	162	Grants	74,500	53,000
Annual subs/donations	7,140	2,105	Roof Alarm Grants from Restricted Funds	0	0
Friends of Buckinghamshire Churches	8,303	6,043	Annual report	320	442
Donations from PCCs	3,275	3,560			
Legacy Income	0	2,000	Printing/stationery/telephone/postage etc	235	304
	18,874	13,870			
Ride & Stride less expenses	13,724 -2,103 11,621	14,168 -3,490 10,678	Travel expenses	0	0
Summer Reception & other events less expenses	28,692 -331 28,361	9,310 -310 9,000	Insurance	345	345
Grants Written back	0	7,000	Bank service charges	267	310
Book Sales	0	10	Administration fees	2,219	1,144
	0	7,010	Web site expenses	2,660	801
Investment Income			Other expenses	0	0
Dividends	31,620	31,677			
Interest on investments	1,732	800			
Bank interest	754	96			
	34,106	32,573			
Other Income					
Restricted Fund Allchurches Trust	0	0			
Misc. Income	0	0			
	0	0			
Total incoming resources	92,962	73,131	Total expenditure	80,546	56,346
			Balance Sheet		
	2023/24	2022/23		2023/24	2022/23
Surplus/Deficiency for the year	12,416	16,785	Investments	1,018,031	970,043
Unrealised surplus/loss on investments	47,988	-15,485	Cash at Bank	101,688	87,709
Net movement in funds	60,404	1,300	Debtors	5812	3875
Unrestricted Fund balance brought forward	974,627	973,327	Total Assets	1,125,531	1,061,627
Fund balances carried forward	1,035,031	974,627	Sundry Creditors	0	0
Unrestricted Fund	1,035,031	974,627	Grants Not Yet Paid	-90,500	-87,000
Restricted Fund Allchurches Trust	0	0			
Total Funds	1,035,031	974,627	Net Assets	1,035,031	974,627

Notes:

A copy of the full financial statements is available from the Treasurer.

The Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust exists to help.

Churches are very expensive to repair and many of the most precious are in very small communities which cannot carry the whole burden of conservation and maintenance.

You can help, too, by an annual donation or by remembering the Trust in your will.

For more information see our website or contact our Secretary, whose address is on the inside front cover.

www.bucks-historic-churches.org



Chequers 2024

The Annual Review 2023/2024 was collated by Nina Newton, Kate Eckett, Mary Villiers, edited by Caroline Abel Smith produced by Marisa Abel Smith & printed by Admor Printers, West Sussex www.admor.co.uk