

News & Annual Report 2014



Caring for Christian churches and chapels in Essex and East London



Gutter clearance scheme launched by Martin Webster, Archdeacon of Harlow, at All Saints Church in Galleywood. Read about our incentive grants in our Chairman's Message on Page 2.

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Message from our Chairman

'Stave off decay by daily care', wrote William Morris in the manifesto of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), which he and a group of friends founded in 1877. Or, to put it another way, 'prevention is better than cure'. This applies particularly to church buildings. The chief enemy of any building is damp, and the first object of anyone looking after a church must be to get rid of the rainwater that falls on to it. This means keeping gutters and drains in good order – not a particularly glamorous or high-minded task, but an essential one and, if done properly, curiously satisfying.

We have been thinking for some time how we might encourage and assist parishes to keep on top of this important job, and we are delighted to have been able to lend our support to the Gutter Clearance Scheme that was launched by the Diocese of Chelmsford in November 2013. Details of the scheme, which is similar to others being run in other dioceses and has been devised for us by George Allan of Maintain our Heritage, can be found on our website, www.foect.org.uk.

To help get the scheme off the ground we are offering a grant of £50 to the first 100 parishes who sign up to it. This is an indication of the importance we attach to gutters and drains. It has been estimated that £1 spent on routine maintenance of this sort can prevent £20-worth of repairs within five years, and a £50 grant now is money better spent than a £1000 grant towards



repairing the damage caused by a blocked downpipe. As with our normal grants, these are open to Christian churches and chapels of all denominations, not just Anglican.

David Lodge, chairman of our Grants Committee, has played an important role nationally encouraging routine maintenance through the National Maintenance Week and Faith in Maintenance programme of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. We are, therefore, delighted that in recognition of his services to building conservation he was appointed MBE in the 2014 New Year Honours. Congratulations and thanks to David, and also to all those volunteers who work so hard to keep our beautiful churches in good order and in a fit state to meet the needs both of their congregations and of the wider community.

James Bettley
Chairman - FECT

Events

We have been fortunate to have held a number of varied events over the past year. Our bridge drive held at Gardeners, by kind permission of Fiona Nelmes, was not well supported, but none the less an enjoyable afternoon, with a delicious tea provided by the committee.

The re-arranged visit to Philippa Burrough's garden at Ulting Wick was extremely popular. The coldest winter in recent years meant spring was somewhat delayed, but we were lucky that the sun shone and the tulips, which flower in profusion in this spectacular garden, were just beginning their display. Again the committee excelled themselves and provided a tea worthy of Mary Berry which was much commented on.

The High Sheriff, our former chairman Julia Abel Smith, hosted a wine tasting in July. This was a most successful evening shared with the High Sheriff's fund. David Roberts MW introduced some delicious and interesting wines for us to taste. Each table was hosted by a committee member who had provided the supper.

The annual Christmas Fair was again held at Hylands Park in October. The fair was opened by Julia Abel Smith, High Sheriff of Essex. The Fair organiser, Rachel Grainger, deserves special mention for all her hard work. She takes great effort to source different and varied stalls selling gifts and food to suit all ages, tastes and pockets.



Catharine Hutley

Our Christmas card proved more popular than ever. It featured a mural by Fyffe Christie from Stanford Rivers Church. Photography was provided by John Lawrence Jones, to whom we are extremely grateful.

We were sorry that our Treasurer, Vanessa Watson, has decided to step down after many years on our Committee. She has been extremely efficient and a valued member of the FECT – we shall miss her.

Catharine Hutley,
Chairman – Events Committee

E-mail events@foect.org.uk,
tel 01371 820344

Southend Branch

“Never volunteer!” is, I am told, instilled into the minds of all Army recruits. Well, I did volunteer – as a direct result of a *cri de coeur* from Don Woracker, then Chairman of the Branch, on my very first outing in 2010.

Little did I know then that a mere two years later I would be summoned to his hospital bedside and asked to organise the last two outings of 2012. Shortly afterwards Don resigned due to ill-health



The semi-circular apse at Copford Church is covered by frescoes of Biblical stories thought to be originally by Master Hugo, who worked at Bury St Edmunds in the 1130s. Picture by John Warburton.

and I found myself Acting Chair, then Chair, because as someone pointed out, “There is no-one else”. No-one on the committee, that is, with a car, time and energy to research and arrange four coach trips every year.

Running a branch, however, involves so much more than this. I am fortunate in

having an experienced, hard-working and diligent committee – plus the support of Don, now our first President.

Luckily, the 2013 programme came together fairly easily. In April, after coffee at Hylands House, we were warmly welcomed to All Saints’ Church, Norton Mandeville, which FECT had once helped to save from closure. Then to Fyfield for a delicious WI lunch and the Branch AGM, followed by an interesting visit to St Martin’s at Chipping Ongar.

Our second trip, in May, was to Great Bromley Church, followed by lunch at nearby Beth Chatto Gardens, and then Copford Church, with its famous medieval wall paintings. A fine WI tea at Heybridge rounded off a full day.

June saw us at Ely Cathedral Flower Festival, a popular trip due to the beautiful floral displays. Finally, in September, we visited the fascinating churches of Wormingford and Little Horkesley, with an excellent lunch being provided by Mile End, Colchester, WI.

All in all, a successful year, with £1,500 being sent to FECT, plus over £400 in Gift Aid donations.

Sandra Markham
Chair, Southend Branch

E-mail sandra.markham@hotmail.co.uk
tel 01702 477537

Grants

Grant applications continued to fall from nineteen in 2012 to a low of seventeen this year. As reported previously the fall is probably due to the continuing recession, creating fund raising difficulties. The applications were spread throughout the year and required the Grants Committee to meet on the usual four occasions. Thanks are again extended to the committee members who both attend the meetings and visit the churches applying for grants. Three new committee members from various parts of Essex were a considerable help. Sadly we have had two further retirements from long standing members, Simon Mynott and Neil Stedman, both of whom brought great knowledge to the committee and will be sadly missed.

The budget for the year was set at £130,000. Although this was £10,000 more than 2012, it was still relatively low and it seemed likely that the committee would be able to use all of this funding. It is, therefore, surprising to report that the total grants offered was £90,000. The legacy from the late Mrs Norma Radford (see News & Annual Report 2013) was also available to offer to churches where it was felt there was a special need to top up the grant offer. Unfortunately no church reached this criterion during the year. The balance has been carried forward to 2014 and has been added to the budget for the year.

In the light of the low numbers of grant applications the committee discussed the

possibilities of using some of the funds for improvement projects which are not allowed at present. It was agreed that this may be a way forward; however, it was agreed to not proceed with this proposal in 2013 but to review the situation at the end of 2014.

The grants offered ranged as in the previous year from £1,000 to £10,000 and covered a wide range of repairs. Roof repairs inevitably required the greatest funding and 50 per cent of the offers were in this category. The Baptist church at Burnham-on-Sea was one of these projects, needing an overdue re-slating



Great Bardfield St Mary the Virgin received £3,000

of the roof. For many years the Friends have tried to encourage non-conformist churches to apply for grants; so it was very pleasing to have three included in this year's offers. Great Bardfield St Mary the Virgin received a grant of £3,000 towards the re-shingling of the spire which had suffered due to hungry woodpeckers - not an unusual problem but nevertheless very annoying. Whilst the scaffolding was erected the parish took the opportunity of repairing and redecorating the clock face which is reputedly the largest in Essex.

The church of St Nicholas at Elmdon had suffered damage to both the roof and rainwater pipes caused by the dreaded metal thieves. The insurance did not cover the total cost of repair. The committee realised how important it was to carry out the repairs as soon as possible and gave a grant of £4,000 which enabled the work to go ahead.

The Parish of Navestock St Thomas had been carrying out a number of repairs over a number of years using money raised within the community without applying for grants. The Friends were, therefore, pleased to be able to offer a grant of £5,000 for the final phase of stonework repairs to windows.

The committee are fully aware that minor repairs stave off further decay and were pleased to give a small grant of £1,000 to St Nicholas Tillingham for flashing repairs to the roof.

The applications for grants do not only

cover a wide range of repairs but also are spread throughout the county. The range is from Elmdon in the far North West to Holland-on-Sea in the South East and down to Plaistow in the South. Unusually a lack of applications from the London boroughs was noticeable.

Good news was received in the summer relating to the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme for reclaiming VAT. From October 1, 2014 the full 20 per cent can be reclaimed until March 2016. Even greater news is that this includes professional fees, clocks, bells and organs.

Applications from all denominations and for any type of repair will continue to be welcome in the year ahead.

**David Lodge MBE,
Chairman – Grants Committee**

Application forms for grants are available from John Bloomfield,
E-mail john.bloomfield@btinternet.com,
tel 01708 745273.



Little Waltham URC offered £4,000

2013 grant offers in full

Beneficiary	Repairs	Amount
Bobbingworth St Germain	Roof repairs	£5,000
Bradfield St Lawrence	External render repairs	£2,000
Burnham on Crouch Baptist Church	Roof repairs	£7,000
Elmdon St Nicholas	Roof and rainwater repairs	£4,000
Goodmayes St Paul	Repairs to rainwater goods	£10,000
Grays St Peter and St Paul	Palmer Chapel repairs	£4,000
Great Bardfield St Mary the Virgin	Reshingling of Spire	£3,000
Great Braxted All Saints	Repairs to Spire	£10,000
High Ongar St Mary	Chancel roof repair	£10,000
Holland on Sea St Bartholomew	Carpentry repairs to windows	£2,000
Little Waltham United Reformed Church	Ceiling repairs	£4,000
Mount Bures St John	Roof repairs	£8,000
Navestock St Thomas	Masonry repairs to windows	£5,000
Plaistow Memorial Community Church	Masonry repairs	£10,000
Roydon St Peter	Removal of Boilerhouse	£1,000
Saint Osyth St Peter and St Paul	Roof repairs	£4,000
Tillingham St Nicholas	Roof Flashing repairs	£1,000
Emergency grant		
Wickham St Paul	Heating Guards	£1,000
TOTAL		£91,000

2013 Ride & Stride

“What a horrible morning!” The weather this year was very different from the lovely weather that we had experienced in the summer, but while bikes and bodies may have been dampened, spirits were not. Nearly 400 people were out and about riding and striding in support of the event in Essex and East London and at the time of the FECT News going to print we had raised £85,279.

Congratulations to the team from Our Lady and St Anne Line, Dunmow who turned the damp conditions into an opportunity to compete for the person who went through the most puddles; and to the pilgrims cycling from Barking to Waltham Abbey who reported that once they were on the move and had warmed up sufficiently the weather seemed quite pleasant and the rain almost refreshing.



SongCycle's Nick Rayner with Amanda and Trevor

That's the way to look on the bright side!

Thank you to SongCycle, the 'all singing, all cycling' male voice quartet and their team who boosted visitor numbers in the St Osyth area and well done to the member of St James, Clacton participating in her 23rd walk aged 90 – what an amazing feat. Also well done to St Laurence, Rowhedge who were supported by two cyclists and one swimmer with combined ages of 233 years; St James, Greenstead Green who had two riders out on horseback; and to St Mary Benfleet whose vicar and church warden took to their bikes and were named the Velocity Vicar and the Trailing Blazer.

It is disappointing when the number of visitors is down. St Andrew, Chelmsford can remember the time when they had up to 100 visitors, a mixture of cyclists and walkers. Those were the good old days when there were less demands on everyone's time. But nevertheless, the Ride and Stride continues to be supported by young and old and is still the main fundraiser for the FECT. So thank you to all who took part in the 2013 Ride & Stride.

The 2014 Ride & Stride will be on Saturday, 13 September 2014.

Fiona Nelmes,
Organiser – Ride and Stride

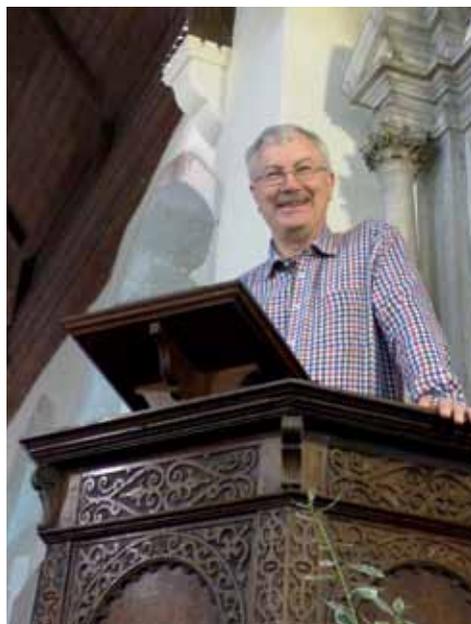
E-mail fionanelmes@lineone.net
tel 01245 380365

Study Days *by our Vice-Chairman, Christopher Starr*

The Spring Study Day in the Valley of the Stour began with refreshments at St Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh where we were joined for the first time by members of the University of the Third Age and the Little Cornard Heritage Group. Together we looked at this impressive church with a medieval tower and porch which powerfully combine the use of stone, brick and flint. Inside, we examined the wall and ceiling paintings in the chancel which were designed by the Revd Ernest Geldart. Unusually, the war memorial has the following surnames among the list of the Fallen: Gosling, Starling, Rookard, Partridge and....Peartree.

St Mary's Langham was next, the original church may have been built by the regicide Walter Tyrel who held the manor of Langham in 1086. A great treasure in the Victoria and Albert Museum came from here, an English oak altarpiece of about 1200 depicting the Virgin and Child which once adorned the chancel. After lunch we visited All Saints, Great Horkesley where no less than four species of bat make their home. Here too there is evidence of Norman work but the exceptionally fine roof of the nave is of the fifteenth century.

Our final visit during the Spring Study Day was to St Peter's, Boxted, constructed of mixed rubble, Roman brick, and iron puddingstone. Perhaps the most arresting feature of church is the blue painted chancel ceiling on which stars, the Hale-Bopp comet of 1998, and the total eclipse of the sun in 1999 are featured.



Dr Christopher Starr in the pulpit at St Michael's church, Aveley

During the Autumn Study Day we visited four churches along the Thames, beginning with St Mary the Virgin, Stifford. The first to research the history of the church in depth was the rector the Revd William Palin, ancestor of Michael Palin of Monty Python fame. Like many Essex churches, St Mary's suffered damage from enemy action during World War Two. Happily its fine series of monumental brasses survived intact. St Giles and All Saints, Orsett has many interesting monuments and a chapel dedicated to the Whitmore family of Orsett Hall. The church has twice suffered the consequences of a disastrous fire, the latest being in 1926. Much of the church was built in the early fourteenth century, shortly before the Black Death.



Inside St Peter's church, Boxted

St Helen and St Giles, (a dedication unique in England) Rainham, is in the London Borough of Havering, and is an absolute gem. Built in the 1170s it has nevertheless survived relatively unaltered since that time. We are fortunate to have an exact

record of an event which took place here on 14 February 1327 when Elizabeth le Bret was baptised in the Norman font which is still in use to this day.

To conclude the Study Day we visited St Michael's, Aveley, a church well known to the former slave trader and Church of England minister John Newton, author of many splendid hymns including Amazing Grace.

Our grateful thanks to the clergy and churchwardens who continue to make our Study Days so enjoyable and so successful.

The next Study Day is on 7 May 2014 and will include Ashen, Ovington and the three Belchamp churches, Otten, St Paul and Walter. We hope to see you there, and please bring your friends.

Enjoy a Study Day!

Our Study Days fulfil our educational role, provide access to church buildings that might not normally be open, and introduce people to unexpected delights that might otherwise be overlooked. Along the way we explore Essex and East London and, weather permitting, have a picnic.

As well as this, the Study Days often provide an opportunity to visit churches that have been repaired with the help of a grant from the Friends.

Study Days are open to all, Friends and

friends alike; a small charge is made, with the proceeds helping the Friends to continue their work of helping to preserve and maintain our churches and chapels.

The Friends hold two Study Days each year, usually on the first Wednesday in May and the first Saturday in October, when we visit five or six churches or chapels somewhere in Essex.

For more information contact Sarah White Email sarahwhite279@aol.com, tel 01245 233363.

FECT Events

All Friends of Essex Churches events for 2014 can be found at www.foect.org.uk/events.php

Wednesday 7 May - Spring Study Day

To include Belchamp Otten, Belchamp St Paul, Belchamp Walter, and Ashen. Details from Sarah White, Email sarahwhite279@aol.com, tel 01245 233363.

Thursday 15 May - 2014 Gepp Lecture

Evening lecture by the Rt Revd Graeme Knowles CVO, formerly Bishop of Sodor and Man and Dean of St Paul's, St Andrew, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford CM3 2LE 8.15 pm, following the Annual General Meeting at 7.15 pm and refreshments from 7.45 pm. Open to members and non-members; admission free. Please email jamesbettley@btinternet.com to be sent further information; it would help us to know if you are planning to attend.

Tuesday June 10 - Visit to Feeringbury Manor garden

A visit to the spectacular 10 acre garden at Feeringbury Manor, Coggeshall Road, Feering, Essex CO5 9RB by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Giles Coode-Adams.

2pm – 4.30pm. Tickets at £12 each (£2 to go to All Saints Church) from Leonie Marks, Scripps Farm, Goat Lodge Road, Great Totham CM9 8BX, tel 01621 892873/07980 977917 leoniemarks@btinternet.com. Cheques payable to FECT please.

Saturday 13 September - Ride & Stride

To raise funds for the Trust and participating churches. 10.00 am to 6.00 pm. Everyone can ride, stride, steward or sponsor! You can choose your own itinerary, visiting the places that you want, because there is no set route. To take part in you can download the forms from www.foect.org.uk/rideandstride/ or create your own fundraising page on [Justgiving www.justgiving.com/foect](http://Justgiving.com/foect) straight away.

Saturday 11 October - Autumn Study Day

We will visit East and West Mersea, Fingringhoe and Peldon. Details from Sarah White, Email sarahwhite279@aol.com, tel 01245 233363.

Wednesday 15 October - Christmas Gift Fair

Christmas Gift Fair at Hylands House, Chelmsford CM2 8WQ (off the A414). Offers Christmas shopping in elegant surroundings. Opening times 10am-3pm. Wine and light lunches will be available. Entrance £5 (includes coffee and biscuits) or £2.50 after 1.30pm. Free parking. Many new and exciting stalls.

Southend Branch Events

For further information please contact Mrs Betty Garrood (01702 557466, evenings preferred).

Wednesday 23 April

Visits to churches at Margarett and Willingale, and lunch with Fyfield WI followed by Branch Annual General Meeting.

Wednesday 14 May

Visits to All Saints' Tudeley and St Mary's Leigh in Kent. Lunch with Chiddingstone Causeway WI.

Wednesday 4 June

Visits to churches at Little Leighs and Fairstead, and lunch with the Eastons & Tilty WI at Great Easton.

Wednesday 24 September

Visits to churches at Layer Marney and Little Braxted, and lunch with Mile End WI, Colchester.

“It’s a record!” says our Membership Secretary

For the first time more than £50,000 was given to the Trust in 2013 by our members, donors and congregations throughout Essex and East London. In fact, something approaching £52,000 was given to the Trust.

During my time as Membership Secretary, the yearly average has been around £45,000. This year’s upturn is mainly due to some very generous donations. Over £3,300 was donated in memory of the late Mrs Anthea Speakman, a former chairman of the Trust, and we received a private donation of £2,400. The Augustine Courtauld Trust and Lodge & Sons (Builders) continue to support us year by year. Many other donors generously bring the total under this head to over £17,000; a record in itself. I send my heartfelt thanks for every donation, little and large.

Membership itself stays very buoyant. We succeed in making good the inevitable lapses. Members’ subscriptions, at nearly £20,000, are up on 2012 which is also up on the average for the past 10 years. Contributions from congregations, mainly Church of England parishes, are a little down, partly due to cheques arriving late.

May I be forgiven for one more statistic? My excuse is 10 years in the post. During that time, giving by members, donors and congregations, plus gift aid, totals over £400,000.

I have another target. Half a million pounds before I stand down. That gives me another couple of years unless you are very generous and get rid of me sooner!

Subscriptions – a reminder

Many of you will have committed your contribution to us by Standing Order. Others will have already sent me a cheque. For everyone else, now is the best time to renew. A renewal sheet is enclosed to make the task easy. If you would like to set up a Standing Order or have not already Gift Aided your subscription, there are sections for this on the renewal sheet. Please

remember that any new Standing Order will cancel an existing one.

To keep our overheads to a minimum, we do not acknowledge subscriptions as a matter of course. Please accept our thanks now. If you would like a receipt, please indicate accordingly when you complete the renewal form and I will be happy to send one.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a valuable part of the Trust's income. It is claimed, where appropriate, on members' subscriptions, donations, Ride & Stride sponsorship and the like. For many years, 20 years or more, our Gift Aid Officer has been Alastair Stewart, to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude. Sir Alastair has now handed this job on to Philip Smith, our treasurer. This change will not affect members or donors in any way but it coincides with some changes and 'clarifications' made by HM Revenue & Customs.

HMRC have put the whole thing online and in some ways have simplified the system but they are at pains to confirm that Gift Aid declarations must be made by the actual taxpayer who must be the person making the donation, ie the person signing

the cheque; also that a person's total donations to all charities must not exceed the tax they pay in the relevant tax year. It seems clear that HMRC will be making checks to ensure these rules are complied with because they are asking the Trust (and all other benefitting charities) to provide them with more information including first names in full, first lines of address and postcodes in addition to the information we already provide. Please make sure the first name is entered in full on all renewal sheets, as we do not hold these details for all our members.

Keith Gardner,
Honorary Membership Secretary

E-mail keith@thegreenwood.me.uk,
tel 01708 688576

Treasurer's Report

Our finances have continued to strengthen with reserves rising by over £60,000 to £526,510. We are conscious that this may give the impression that 'we are putting money away while the sun shines' but this is not the case.

We give thanks for an increase in income through subscriptions, donations and fund raising activities and, as in 2012, there was a significant rise in the value of our investments, although this could change depending on movements in the financial markets.

Our experience, however, over the last year or two has been that applications from churches for grants for the maintenance and preservation of their existing fabric have been fewer than expected, with approvals in 2013 being some £40,000 lower than budgeted. This lies behind the increase in reserves rather than any reluctance to help where it is appropriate.

Our summarised accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013 are overleaf.

Philip Smith, Hon. Treasurer

Summarised accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2013

Total 2012 £'000		Total 2013 £'000
45.7	Subscriptions and donations	51.6
76.0	Legacies	11.3
52.1	Fundraising - ride & stride	47.3
15.8	Fundraising - other events	21.9
12.3	Interest and dividends	13.7
201.9	Total Income	145.8
(0.5)	Support costs	(0.6)
(2.0)	Governance costs	(2.3)
(2.9)	Fundraising/publicity costs	(3.8)
(4.1)	Fundraising expenses - ride & stride	(3.5)
(5.9)	Fundraising expenses - other events	(8.6)
(103.5)	Grants payable	(89.0)
(0.0)	Grants and publicity - Gutter Clearance	(6.3)
(118.9)	Total Expenditure	(114.1)
83.0	Net incoming resources	31.7
21.4	Gains on investments	28.7
104.4	Net movement in Funds	60.4

Summary balance sheet as at 31 December 2013

2012 £'000		2013 £'000
243.3	Investments - market value	271.9
296.0	Cash and deposits	346.6
12.2	Sundry debtors	6.6
551.5	Total assets	625.1
(83.5)	Undrawn grants	(90.0)
(0.0)	Creditors - Gutter Clearance	(6.3)
(1.9)	Creditors - Audit fee and others	(2.3)
466.1	Net assets	526.5
	Represented by	
466.1	General Fund (unrestricted)	526.5
466.1		526.5

Auditors Statement to the Members of The Friends of Essex Churches Trust

We have examined the above summarised financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2013.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors

The trustees are responsible for preparing the summary financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full financial statements and the Report of the Trustees.

We also read other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we became aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies

with the summarised financial statements.

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of The Friends of Essex Churches Trust for the year ended 31st December 2013.

Edmund Carr LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AW

14 March 2014

Working in partnership

St John the Baptist, Little Maplestead was awarded a grant of £5,000 from the National Churches Trust for urgent repairs to gutters. The church was put forward for funding by the Friends of Essex Churches Trust.



*St John the Baptist Church, Little Maplestead.
Picture: Jon Longman.*

Legacies

Legacies are an important source of income for charities, and the Friends of Essex Churches Trust is no exception. It is always particularly touching for us to realise how much our members and their families value the work of the Trust. John Howes, a long-standing member from Loughton, died in 2008 and his wife Daphne in 2013. At Daphne's funeral a collection was made for the Trust that resulted in a donation of more than £400. Since then, John and Margaret's children have given to the Trust a small collection of pictures of Essex churches, including two Victorian watercolours and two paintings by John himself, for us to sell or otherwise dispose of for the benefit of the Trust. Legacies can take many forms, and we are grateful to the Howes family for thinking of us in this way.

We urge all our members to consider remembering us in their wills; apart from

anything else, bequests to charity can reduce liability to Inheritance Tax. Please contact the Hon. Treasurer if you would like advice on suitable wording (Philip Smith, 13 Britten Crescent, Great Baddow, Chelmsford CM2 7ER, tel 01245 472530).



Old Kelvedon Hatch Church in 1878. This is one of the pictures from the Howes family. The church has been disused since 1895 and is now a ruin.

The Friends of Essex Churches Trust 2013-14

Patrons:

The Bishop of Brentwood, the Bishop of Chelmsford, HM Lord Lieutenant of Essex.

President:

George Courtauld, Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Essex.

Executive Council and Trustees:

James Bettley (Chairman), Christopher Starr (Vice-Chairman), Philip Smith (Hon.

Treasurer), Keith Gardner (Hon. Secretary & Hon. Membership Secretary), Jill Cole, Catharine Hutley, David Lodge, Sandra Markham, Ralph Meloy, Fiona Nelmes.

Advisory Council:

John Bloomfield, Ray Clements, Ann Hilder, David Hoppit, Simon Mynott, Sir Alastair Stewart, Sarah White.

We are grateful to all our supporters and members.