



THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

I am pleased to report that 2008 was another excellent year for the Trust during which we were proud to host the County Trusts' Annual General Meeting, entitled 'Widening our Engagement', held in the Chapter House of Chester Cathedral on 15 May.

I emphasized the importance of the work being done by the National Churches Trust, WREN and the County Trusts, but said the business of getting and spending funds was not enough by itself - it was vital to maintain and develop enthusiasm for what we all do, most notably by building up local membership and widening interest within the community.

The National Churches Trust's ambitious agenda, to which we lend our support, is to: -

- act as a catalyst to bring in more resources to manage church buildings
- promote the value of using church buildings to the community at large
- provide significant financial support towards the repair, improvement and maintenance of our heritage.

It is hoped to achieve these aims via a new grants programme, new funding and public relations strategies and the newly created professional alliance partnerships.

My sincere thanks to the Bishop and his staff for making this a memorable day.

RESTRICTED FUND

Once again, we were much indebted to WREN in securing a further block grant of £125,000 to help maintain the fabric of Cheshire's churches and chapels. Over £125,000 was paid out in grants and over £75,000 is committed (see Page 2)

From the beginning WREN has worked in partnership with the county based Historic Churches Trusts and other preservation societies to help maintain and improve our heritage. To date over 440 projects have benefitted from a total of £12.7m, of which over £6m has been given to the county based Churches Trusts. I was pleased to attend their 10th anniversary celebrations during the year. I understand that we will receive a block grant of £95,000 in 2009.

Once again, I would like to express the Trustees' appreciation to Cheshire County Council for their great assistance in underwriting the 11% Third Party Funding which secured the grant for 2008. With the change in the unitary authorities, 2009 will mean that this assistance will pass to Cheshire West and Chester Council, who have already offered their willingness to support us.

Many thanks to all concerned.

UNRESTRICTED FUND

I'm pleased to report that our incoming resources were maintained at 2007 levels which enabled the Trust to pay out grants to 4 churches and chapels totalling £10,750 with a further £13,000 committed. The Annual Ride & Stride gross receipts passed £25,000 for the first time this year (see page 3)

The Trust is indebted to all those who gave their support during the year and we were again grateful to receive many donations from individuals and churches.

THE ECONOMY

We have seen a very volatile financial market over the last 18 months and are now seeing the worst economic crisis in most peoples' living memories. In common with similar organisations, we witnessed a virtually uncontrollable decline in equity and investment funds. In particular, the Midas Balanced Income Fund suffered a drop of 30% which we have recognised in this year's accounts. As a result, the Trust liquidated this position by the end of August, but interest income will be greatly reduced in 2009. (see adjustment to Funds)

- FINANCE** Graham Clarke continued as Secretary & Treasurer during the year and was responsible for the maintenance of the Trust's financial records and the preparation of the Annual Accounts to 31 December 2008.
As in prior years, these Accounts have been the subject of independent examination prior to submission to the Charities Commission.
The Independent Examiner was again J K H Cook FCA of Kingsmead, Upton Road, Prenton, CH43 7QQ
- BANKERS** On 1 September 2008, the Trust moved their bank accounts to HSBC's Chester branch, as service levels were greatly improved over that previously offered by NatWest.
- CHARITABLE STATUS** The Historic Cheshire Churches Preservation Trust is a charity, registered with the Charity Commissioners, Registered Number 213837.
- INCOME** The Trust currently derives its income from various sources: -
- Block Grant and Gift Aid from WREN.
 - Income received from Gift Aid donations and donations from both individuals and churches within Chester Diocese.
 - Subscriptions from Friends of Historic Cheshire Churches.
 - Interest received on Cash Deposits and Funds Invested.
 - The annual 'Ride and Stride' day, where 50% of the total sponsorship revenue is retained in each participating church.

GRANTS TO CHURCHES

During the year, the Trust paid the following grants to 34 churches to assist with repair, restoration and maintenance projects: -

		£
Christ Church	Newtown, Chester	4,000
St Mary	Acton	3,000
All Saints	Daresbury	10,000
Holy Trinity	Bickerton	4,000
Middlewich URC	Middlewich	3,000
Padgate Methodists	Padgate	9,500
St John	Weston, Runcorn	7,500
Culcheth Methodists	Culcheth	5,000
St Michael	Baddiley	2,500
St Ambrose	Widnes	5,000
Latchford Baptists	Latchford	5,000
St James the Great	Audlem	7,500
St John the Evangelist	Great Sutton	5,000
St Leonards	Warrington	5,000
Newchurch Parish	Culcheth	4,150
Trinity Methodists	Congleton	7,000
Evangelical Fellowship	Waverton	5,000
Salvation Army	Macclesfield	5,000
Glazebury Methodists	Glazebury	8,000
St Mary	Weaverham	5,000
Heath Methodists	Runcorn	10,000
St James the Great	Congleton	10,000
Holy Trinity	Blacon	3,700
Friars Green Methodists	Warrington	2,000
St Michael	North Rode	5,000
Over Alderley Methodists	Over Alderley	2,000
St Mary	Sandbach	7,500
St Peter	Little Budworth	5,000
St Peter	Chester	1,500
St Chad	Farndon	1,500
Woodhey Chapel	Faddiley	1,000
St Hildeburgh	Hoylake	3,000
St Anne	Sale	6,000
St Mary	Bosley	750

£169,100

At the end of the year, there were committed grants of

£88,223



THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES (Cont.)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

FUNDRAISING, ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

The Friends of Historic Cheshire Churches.

The new Friends' Secretary, Vincent Whitehead, organised 4 visits during the year, all of which were well supported: -

- * St Mary, Nether Alderley
- * St Leonard, Warmingham
- * St Mary & St Helen, Neston
- * St Andrew, Tarvin

Newsletters were published in January and October

Similar events are planned for 2009 and I would encourage those who are not yet members to join, as the group enjoy meeting up to share in the preservation of our heritage.

On a sad note, however, I have to record the passing in January 2009 of our former Friends' Secretary, Roy Bailey. Roy developed the Friends and played a lead role in nurturing our long-standing relationship with WREN.

Annual Ride & Stride

Another fine day greeted riders and walkers on September 13 and I'm pleased to report that gross receipts, at over £25k, broke the previous record in 2007. The Trust is again grateful to Graham Clarke for organising another successful year and to all those who obtained sponsorship. Thanks to to all those churches that opened their doors to welcome visitors. (more details on our website)

Donations - Just Giving and our new Webshop

As we all know, without our activities, events and fundraising, the Trust would not be able to support all those churches that are outside the WREN scheme, and I am grateful to all those individuals and churches that send us generous donations. Our new website is now fully functional and has a link to our fundraising partners, Just Giving and Buy.at, our new Webshop. I would urge you to use both these facilities to help fund HCCPT online. Please use the link to: www.hccpt.org to see just how simple this is to use.

Professional Alliance

2009 will see the launch of our newly created partnership database of businesses that have a professional involvement in the work we do. It is hoped this will provide a useful source of reference to all those involved in repair and restoration projects, especially where there is a traditional craft or trade involved.

TRUSTEES

I was pleased to welcome Viscount Ashbrook and Phillip Posnett as Trustees during the latter part of the year, who will no doubt add new levels of individual expertise. Earlier on, Michael Rains elected to retire after having given over 10 years service to the Trust, for which we are most grateful. In common with other County Trusts, our four Bishops agreed to become our first Vice Presidents

Finally, I wish to record my sincere thanks to my fellow Trustees, Graham Clarke, WREN, the Development Committee and numerous volunteers, for all the hard work they have undertaken, and the support I have received during the year.

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Date: 25/09/2009

Lord Wade of Chorlton

THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY
(Accruals Basis)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	2008			2007		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources:						
Donations, Grants and Gift Aid:						
Church Donations	1,055		1,055	1,315		1,315
Private Donations	238		238	1,097		1,097
'Friends' Subscriptions	935		935	1,000		1,000
Gift Aid & Tax Recovered	3,311		3,311	2,866		2,866
Block Grant from WREN		125,000	125,000		100,000	100,000
Gift Aid from WREN		0	0		46,200	46,200
	5,539	125,000	130,539	6,278	146,200	152,478
Income from Activities:						
Ride & Stride (net)*	11,668		11,668	10,434		10,434
'Friends' Events	33		33	0		0
	11,701	0	11,701	10,434	0	10,434
Investment Income:						
Bank Interest	255		255	346	0	346
Midas Fund		5,933	5,933		3,063	3,063
CBF Deposit	1,196		1,196	979		979
	1,451	5,933	7,384	1,325	3,063	4,388
	18,691	130,933	149,623	18,037	149,263	167,300
Resources Expended:						
Costs of Activities:						
Ride & Stride	702		702	293		293
'Friends'	246		246	289		289
	948	0	948	582	0	582
Support Costs:						
Print, Post & Stationery	800	772	1,572	482	668	1,150
Subscriptions	232	0	232	51	30	81
Secretarial & Sundries	585	135	719	323	473	796
Website & IT	229	229	459		1,200	1,200
	1,846	1,136	2,982	856	2,371	3,227
Management Costs:						
Administration		8,500	8,500		6,500	6,500
Independent Examination	173	173	345		323	323
	173	8,673	8,845	0	6,823	6,823
	2,966	9,808	12,775	1,438	9,194	10,632
Net Incoming Resources	15,724	121,124	136,849	16,599	140,069	156,668
Total Funds b/f	37,986	21,914	59,900	34,137	20,995	55,132
Funds available for Grant	53,710	143,038	196,749	50,736	161,064	211,800
Grants to Churches & Chapels:						
Paid	750	78,200	78,950	2,750	35,996	38,746
Payable	13,000	58,500	71,500	10,000	103,154	113,154
Cancelled		(10,281)	(10,281)		0	
	13,750	126,419	140,169	12,750	139,150	151,900
Funds after Grant Allocations	39,960	16,619	56,579	37,986	21,914	59,900

Notes

* Net of 50% handed back to Participating Churches

A full set of the Trusts Annual Accounting Statements (as submitted to the Charities Commission) is available on request.

THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY (cont.)
(Accruals Basis)
as at 31 December 2008**

	Unrestricted Funds £	2008 Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2007 Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Current Assets:						
Debtors & Prepayments	3,108	171	3,279	3,074	0	3,074
Short Term Investments:						
Midas Balanced Income Fund		0	0		84,034	84,034
Cash at Bank:						
Deposit Accounts:						
HSBC (2007-Nat West)	30,405	39,876	70,281	11,036	0	11,036
CBF Deposit	19,262		19,262	18,233		18,233
Current Accounts:						0
HSBC (2007-Nat West)	359	0	360	15,670	46,116	61,786
Total Current Assets	53,134	40,047	93,181	48,012	130,150	178,162
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year -						
Grants payable (Note 1)	13,000	75,223	88,223	10,000	107,154	117,154
Accrued Expenses	173	173	345	25	1,083	1,108
Total Creditors	13,173	75,395	88,568	10,025	108,237	118,262
Net Assets / (Liabilities)	39,960	(35,348)	4,612	37,987	21,913	59,900
Funds after Grant Allocations:						
Unrestricted Fund	39,960		39,960	37,987		37,987
Restricted Fund		16,619	16,619		21,913	21,913
	39,960	16,619	56,579	37,987	21,913	59,900
Loss on Short Term Investments:						
Midas Balanced Income Fund		(51,967)	(51,967)	0	0	0
Total Funds	39,960	(35,348)	4,612	37,987	21,913	59,900

Notes

1 There are the following known liabilities at 31 December 2008, being grants awarded to churches but not yet paid:-

	2008 £	2007 £
Unrestricted Fund	13,000	10,000
Restricted Fund	75,223	107,154
	£88,223	£117,154

Lord Wade of Chorlton
Chairman of Trustees

J Graham Clarke FCA
Honorary Treasurer

Dated 25/09/2009

A full set of the Trusts Annual Accounting Statements (as submitted to the Charities Commission) is available on request.