Supporting churches through friendship

Find out how you can help us ensure the UK’s historic churches, chapels and meeting houses stay open

SEE PAGE 8
Churches are so much more than buildings

Over the past few weeks the news from Ukraine has included reports about the shelling of churches, monasteries and mosques in the besieged city of Mariupol.

The death and injury of many thousands of people is – without a doubt - the most distressing aspect of the war. But the damage and destruction of religious heritage evokes a particular sadness. Places of worship are sacred buildings and their violation is abhorrent. They are also rich in heritage; created over many years through the work of craftspeople and artists.

During the Second World War, religious buildings in our country were also damaged and destroyed. Perhaps the most memorable was the destruction of Coventry Cathedral by German bombers in November 1940. The consecration in 1962 of the new Cathedral marked a coming to terms with the past and a determination for reconciliation with former enemies.

The beating heart
The churches, chapels and meeting houses that we support are much more than just buildings. They are, as our Vice President Huw Edwards puts it ‘the beating heart of local communities’. Whether or not we worship in a local church, the mere presence of the building speaks to us of the importance of place, of the many generations who have passed this way before us, and of the ability of the human race to create something greater than ourselves.

We want to see churches open and available, in use and valued.

Last year, we were able to provide grants of over £5 million to support over 300 churches in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This support was provided to buildings belonging to a wide range of denominations including the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, the Quakers, the United Reformed Church, the Church of Ireland, the Church in Wales and the Church of Scotland.

That was a record amount, and was made possible in part by the decision of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Historic England to provide us with £3.6 million from the Government’s Culture Recovery Fund. We were awarded the funding as we have a proven track record of being able to identify and support churches on projects ranging from urgent roof repairs to the provision of much needed community facilities such as kitchens and toilets.

Churches and the future
Last year, we launched The Future of the UK’s Church Buildings’ campaign. This allowed us to show to Government and church and heritage leaders the many reasons why churches need to be there for the future.

I am delighted that many of you took part in the campaign’s online consultation. Many of you provided interesting and practical ideas. Others told us why church buildings are important. In these difficult times, one comment stood out more than others.

“In a world of deepening divisions, rivalries and tensions, to lose a local church diminishes further our faith, our society and our cohesion as a nation.”

Thank you for your continuing support.

Chief Executive

By Claire Walker

Prime Minister Winston Churchill walks through the ruined nave of Coventry Cathedral

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Celebrating our Royal Patron

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth has been our Patron since 1953 when the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, our predecessor charity was founded. In that time we have supported over 12,000 churches with grants and loans in excess of £100 million.

To thank Queen Elizabeth for her support of churches, and our work in particular, we have produced a Royal Proclamation which will be featured in national publications at the time of her Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We are also asking churches to feature the Proclamation in parish magazines and other publications.

In a special message to mark our 60th anniversary in 2013, Queen Elizabeth wrote: “Since the foundation of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust in 1953, I have seen the excellent work you have undertaken to support historic church buildings in this country.” Ten years earlier, in 2003, Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, attended a service of thanksgiving at St Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield in central London to celebrate our 50th anniversary.

Luke March, our Chairman said: “Since 1953 we have helped keep many thousands of churches open, being used and in good repair, confident in the steadfast support of Queen Elizabeth.”

Download our Royal Proclamation at: nationalchurchestrust.org/TheQueen

Our ‘Future of Church Buildings’ campaign, which we launched in November last year with the support of Sir Michael Palin, our Vice President, generated a huge amount of interest in the media.

As part of the campaign we ran an online consultation to find out what the public think about church buildings. Over 1,250 people took part in the consultation, with just under half of responses from Friends of the National Churches Trust.

92% thought that the main purpose of church buildings was as places of worship, with 72% agreeing that the main purpose was as community hubs and 71% agreeing that they were a key part of our national heritage.

The question of who should be responsible for funding the repair and maintenance of church buildings sparked a variety of views. Congregations, heritage bodies and charitable trusts and foundations were the main answers ticked. Many also felt central Government (54%), local councils (36%) or denominations themselves (50%) should also shoulder some responsibility.

Valuing churches

Many churches offered digital services during the COVID-19 pandemic, but only 10% of responses said this reduced the need for church buildings.

“Parish churches are at the heart of the local and community and must be saved at all costs,” said one comment. As another wrote, “a great many fascinating and unique buildings will be lost unless decisions are taken very soon.”

nationalchurchestrust.org/future

New Chairman

Sir Philip Rutnam KCB has been appointed as Chairman of the National Churches Trust. He will take up the role in September 2022 for a period of five years and will succeed Luke March, who has served as Chairman since 2012.

We’ve also appointed four new Trustees who bring with them wide ranging professional expertise: Gerald Corbett DL; Dr David Muir; Sarah Stewart OBE and Dr Nigel Walters. In recognition of their valuable contribution to our work, John Drew and Alistair Hunter, former Trustees, together with Anthony Brown, a former member of our Grants Committee, have been made Vice Presidents of the Trust.

© Mike Swift
Scottish success

2021 was our most successful year in terms of the number and value of our grants in Scotland. We awarded 18 grants with a total value of £148,000.

Pictured left are Gary Zoltie and Father Jock Dalrymple of St John the Evangelist Roman Catholic church in Edinburgh, which we helped with grants of £40,000 in 2021.

Faith in Wales

We recently launched ‘Faith in the Future’, a new project to help churches and chapels in Wales by sharing the latest research and examples of best practice in church heritage.

Funded by Cadw, and run in partnership with the Welsh Places of Worship Forum, it includes three online seminars to provide essential advice and support for the people who look after churches and chapels.

St Anne’s church, on Bowden Hill, Lacock, Wiltshire has had an epic reprieve from closure.

The Victorian church, founded by a brother of Prime Minister William Gladstone, has been temporarily closed for over two years and faces a repair bill in excess of £250,000. However, a campaign has attracted over 1,500 signatures online, and led to the PCC soundly rejecting a motion to start deconsecration.

John Boldon, spokesman for the Friends of St Anne’s, said: “What has amazed us all is the response to our online petition. With that level of support we are confident we can succeed in our determination to save the church and to get it back in use. We believe an exciting future lies ahead”.

More details: fos@corshamandlacockChurches.org.uk

If you need help to keep your church open, please email us at info@nationalchurchestrust.org

Saving churches

Our new website

We have launched a brand new website which brings together our charity and ExploreChurches sites.

With a bright new look, lots of new content and some stunning photography, we hope that you will enjoy our new website and find it a wonderful source of advice, information and inspiration.

A new ‘Get Support’ area includes information about our grants and helpful advice and information about how to look after and maintain church buildings.

The ‘Explore Churches’ section has all the information you need to visit historic churches, chapels and meeting houses. An online map allows you to plan church visits throughout the UK.

We’d love to hear what you think of our new website. Take a look at nationalchurchestrust.org and let us know by emailing info@nationalchurchestrust.org

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Churches and music – a perfect match

Churches and leisure-time music groups have much in common: despite the one usually having striking architectural features punctuating the landscape and the other making quite a lot of noise, both are frequently not noticed as they go about their daily business.

It is only when you are looking for a place to rehearse your orchestra, band or choir that you suddenly see churches everywhere. And only when searching for a choir or an event near you that you realise how much is happening musically right on your doorstep.

So can these two surprisingly invisible giants of all communities help each other become more visible? We believe they do.

“We are Making Music, the UK association for leisure-time music, with over 3,600 music groups in membership, comprising around 200,000 hobby musicians.

Concerts in churches

58% of concerts will take place in churches. Around 60% are choirs; 30% instrumental groups – from brass bands to amateur orchestras, ukulele groups to handbell ringers – and the other 10% are amateur promoters.

But our performing groups’ main activity is their regular rehearsal, usually weekly. Public events give these rehearsals a focus or goal, but the practising together in itself is of great benefit to participants and for many a highlight of their weekly routine, as I can personally attest: having started learning the trumpet three years ago for a fundraising challenge, I then joined a brass band.

Churches are popular

Here’s some of the reasons churches are so popular as rehearsal or performance spaces with our music groups.

• There is one in every community!
• Churches are large!
• Churches are affordable!
• Churches are beautiful!

There are a few potential improvements suggested by groups now and then.

Ventilation, in Covid-times, might be A Good Thing, but it’s hard to enjoy music or a practise session in a draft and without heating.

Toilets. Are there any? Or enough? A rehearsal session or concert will be 1.5 to 2 hours long, and the organisers will arrive earlier and leave later, so facilities are essential. A lack of them can be off-putting for audiences, especially as around two-thirds of them are aged 50+; intervals can be difficult to manage.

Is your building accessible to all kinds of people of all ages or disabilities? 18% of the population, that’s 12 million people, have a disability, and over state pension age it is one in two people. Making your building welcoming to music groups and their audiences also means your congregation and wider community are able to join in with worship and the many other activities you may be hosting throughout a week.

Music groups have long cherished churches as spaces for rehearsal and performance, and churches have found that this regular activity contributes significantly to their income and perhaps also enriches their summer fêtes, and accompanies their weddings, baptisms or funerals.

Churches and music are a match made on earth – we hope you continue to support each other and flourish as the architectural and musical cornerstones of your communities.

© Damien McFadden

By Barbara Eifler, CEO, Making Music

The amateur promoters will host an average of seven concerts a year (so for those in our membership, a total of about 6,000 events annually), to audiences of around 385,000. 58% of their concerts will take place in churches. Our performing groups – vocal or instrumental – will also stage concerts. Their concert audiences are around 1.5 million people a year and 70% of their events take place in churches.

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Saving 32 historic churches for the future

A £3.6 million investment in our grants scheme by the Government’s Culture Recovery Fund means that 32 historic churches and Quaker Meeting Houses are safe for the future.

We want to see churches open and available, in use and valued and the funding makes it possible to ensure the long-term future of some amazing historic places of worship. As well as supporting buildings belonging to the Church of England, help also goes to Quaker Meeting Houses and to the Grade I Listed United Reformed Church in Saltaire.

Huw Edwards, our Vice President, said:

“It’s great news that grants for 32 churches and meeting houses identified by the National Churches Trust is being made available with funding from the Culture Recovery Fund. This will help to protect heritage and keep them open so that they can continue to support local people.”

Our expertise in action

We have been working closely with Historic England to ensure that the funding goes to churches and Meeting Houses that have urgent repair needs, explains Nigel Mills, our Acting Head of Church Support.

“Our expert knowledge and excellent contacts with churches meant that we were able to fast track these really important grants to where the financial help is needed most. One of the great outcomes of the funding is that nine churches will be removed from the Heritage at Risk Register. A huge thank-you to our partners at Historic England, the DCMS and to dioceses and other church organisations for their support.”

More details: nationalchurchestrust.org/heritage-stimulus-fund

See right for some of the places of worship whose future is now secure thanks to the funding.
St Mary the Virgin, Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire

Filling the visitor with awe and wonder, this Grade I Listed church includes magnificent vaulting and was built in the late Middle Ages to replace an earlier church, the tower of which remains.

Described by author Simon Jenkins in ‘England’s Thousand Best Churches’ as a fairy castle, it is has been called one of the finest examples of Perpendicular Gothic architecture in England.

It receives a grant of £36,000 to fund urgent repairs to the tower to safeguard its historic fabric.

St Andrew, Wickhambreaux, Kent

Dating from the 14th century, this Grade I Listed church includes much fine stained glass including a sumptuous Art Nouveau window by Arild Rosenkrantz, which may be the first work by an American glass painter in Europe.

One notable feature of the churchyard is the headstone of Squadron Leader David Maltby DSO DFC, of 617 Dambusters Squadron, who lived in the village and was killed when his aircraft crashed into the North Sea in 1943. The church receives a grant of £118,000 to fund urgent roof repairs to make it watertight.

A £132,337 grant will help fund urgent repairs to the roof of the Grade II* Listed building.

Early Quaker meetings in Kendal were held at private houses and then in a pre-existing building on the present site. By 1814 Friends decided on a completely new meeting house: which was completed in 1816 in the Georgian style. It is used today both by Kendal Quakers and the Quaker Tapestry Museum, which tells the story of 350 years of social history and Quaker life in more than 40 vibrant embroidered panels.

St Mary the Virgin, Northill, Bedfordshire

Dating from around 1330, the nave is the oldest part of the church, with the chancel and original vestry being added some thirty years later.

The tower was raised to its full height in the 15th century, including a set of six bells.

This Grade I Listed church receives a grant of £99,000 to fund the relaying of lead and repairs to roofs to make the building watertight. The church plays an increasingly important role within the life of local villages.

Rosie Fraser, Project Manager and John Bailey, Inspecting Architect, by a crumbling statue

New Welsh slate tiles on the roof of the church

A £584,189 grant will fund urgent roof and stonework repairs at this Grade I Listed church. The work will help remove the church from the Heritage at Risk register. The aim is for the church to be both a vibrant house of worship and a cultural magnet for Newport at the heart of the island.

There has been a church in Newport for well over 800 years and it has always been dedicated to St Thomas. The choice of which St Thomas has changed over that time starting with St Thomas Becket but then changing to Thomas the Apostle or Doubting Thomas. When the church was rebuilt in 1854 Prince Albert laid a foundation stone that dedicated the church jointly to both saints.

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Friends Meeting House, Kendal, Cumbria

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Supporting churches through friendship

We are delighted that 1,173 new Friends joined us in 2021. Last year also saw an increase in the number of our Life Friends to 287. It is wonderful that we have a growing number of Friends with whom we are able to celebrate the architectural and human riches of churches and chapels.

Whether you are a new Friend or someone who has been supporting us for many years - thank you.

Growing our supporter base is a key priority for us in 2022. There are other heritage charities such as The National Trust or English Heritage that are better known than us. So, a very important way you can help spread the word about the National Churches Trust is by telling your friends and family about our work and about our great range of membership options.

**Friends Membership**

The most popular way to join is through individual membership. This costs £45 a year - with a reduced cost of £40 if paying by direct debit.

In return, new Friends enjoy:
- A joining gift of ‘The Treasures of English Churches’, a delightful and inspiring book of photographs by Dr Matthew Byrne, fellow of the Royal Photographic Society.
- Invitations to our exciting events.
- A subscription to our bi-annual Friends Newsletter and monthly Friends e-newsletter.
- A complimentary copy of our Annual Review.

**Gift Membership**

As well as inviting people who share your love of churches to join us, you can purchase a Gift Membership specially for them. This is perfect for anyone who loves the rich history of churches and chapels and who wants to safeguard this heritage for the future. It is a perfect choice for birthdays, Mother’s and Father’s Days and of course retirement when there is more time to get out and about and explore. Recipients enjoy the same joining gift, invitations and subscriptions as individual Friends.

**Life Membership**

For a one-off minimum donation of £500, you can join our closest supporters and enjoy a deepened involvement in our work.

People chose to become a Friend of the National Churches Trust for many reasons. But all our Friends join in the knowledge that their contribution will help us in our work of ensuring that the UK’s historic churches, chapels and meeting houses remain open and available, in use and valued.

**Cornerstone Club**

In addition to our membership schemes we also have a unique supporter opportunity – our Cornerstone Club. We rely on our Cornerstone Club members to help us award significant sums to churches that are tackling major works. The difference Cornerstone members make to places of worship and their local communities is immeasurable. Membership of our Cornerstone Club is £50 a month and brings invitations to exclusive dinners and lectures and personal updates about our work from Claire Walker, our CEO.

**Keystone Membership**

Later this year we will launch a new Keystone Membership scheme. This will provide Keystone members with a new church handbook, showcasing some of the UK’s most historic and must-see churches, discounts and special offers with our partner organisations, a membership card and many other additions.

More details nationalchurchestrust.org/friends

A joining gift for our new Friends
McGregor Bowes – conservation architects

The attraction of conservation architecture is that you are always working with quality, says Chris Bowes, who runs eponymous architecture firm McGregor Bowes, based in Edinburgh’s Stockbridge, which is a member of our Specialist Skills Directory.

“You specify the best quality materials, you appoint and work with tradespeople who are highly skilled.”

Before setting up on his own in 2010, Bowes worked in London, Hong Kong and Scotland. He spent a decade with Campbell & Arnott where he worked on some major Scottish landmarks including Edinburgh Castle.

He was project architect for the conservation of St Giles’ Cathedral in Edinburgh.

A particularly interesting aspect of the job was the installation of chandeliers, which completely altered the lighting in the church - an example of when modernisation and conservation meet.

The result, designed with DPA lighting consultants and fabricated by Mike Stoane Lighting, has around 20 different settings which can be altered to suit the occasion or ceremony. In the same vein, many of the pews in the nave were removed also “to lighten the space”.

“Pews are fixed and static,” says Bowes, “whereas flexible seating allows light through, improves visibility, and is also a practical response to the fact that churches are increasingly used in different ways at different times”.

Ecclesiastical projects

For McGregor Bowes, he has undertaken a number of interesting ecclesiastical projects, including a small, utterly derelict former church turned mausoleum called Kirkmichael in the Highlands of Scotland (pictured).

Church projects have challenges, but they are also particularly rewarding, he says:

“Churches and cathedrals are amongst the most culturally significant buildings in towns and cities. The buildings and the artefacts inside have layers of history with successive generations adding their contribution. I’m always inspired by the past and what has been done before. I think it is important to respect the ideas and works that have been created to enhance the liturgy; it is a pleasure to be part of that continuum.”

Contact: chrisb@mcgregorbowes.com

Find an expert for your church at: nationalchurchestrust.org/specialistskilldirectory

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The National Churches Trust is a ‘noble endeavour’

Many of the UK’s historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are fighting a battle against the ravages of time. By leaving a gift in your Will to the National Churches Trust you can help to ensure that our nation’s rich heritage of churches and chapels will survive for many more years to come. Scott Balthaser is one of our American Friends and has pledged to leave us a gift in his Will. He tells us why he is helping us in this way.

“I’ve been a member of the National Churches Trust for around four years. As an American, the reason I joined the National Churches Trust is my love of your history.”

“I’ve been to the UK about 45 times. I was first there in 1971 when I graduated from college and I was just blown away by the churches. Of course I visited Westminster Abbey; what an amazing place. To go there and see all the monuments to the people that helped make your country great was quite exhilarating.”

“But of course there are many wonderful churches throughout the country. One day my friend picked me up and took me out to Romney Marsh. He got the key to get into St Thomas à Becket Church in Fairfield. I was gobsmacked! It was absolutely stunning. Sitting there all alone in the pasture except for the surrounding sheep made me appreciate the rich history of your incredible churches. That has to be my favourite church.”

Historic England

“I just have a natural affinity for the history of England. I remember getting off at Archway tube station in London and walking down the road to see the Whittington Stone and the statue of his cat. It marks the site in the old folk story where Dick Whittington heard the Bow Bells ringing, predicting his good fortune: “Turn again Whittington, Thrice Lord Mayor of London.”

“Of course Dick Whittington had a connection with a London church, St Michael Paternoster Royal. He was buried on the south side of the altar, and a stone now marks the site. In 1949, I think, an unsuccessful attempt was made to locate the actual grave, but – it is said – they found the body of a mummified cat instead!”

Historic Churches

“Your organisation is trying to keep a lot of historic churches afloat because I’m sure the congregations are diminishing. There are so many churches that need support across the country and I just think it’s a great thing that you’re doing over there.”

“It was on my mind for a couple of years to plan on gifting you a legacy in my Will. The National Churches Trust is just a great thing to contribute to because of your noble endeavour. I think what you are doing is just a wonderful thing and I always enjoy the Friends Newsletter bulletins that are sent to me.”

“I wanted to make some small contribution to ensure the duration of the Trust and I thought, what better way than leaving you a legacy.”

More details nationalchurchestrust.org/legacy

St Thomas à Becket Church, Fairfield, Kent

© Nick Green

By Scott Balthaser

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**Book Reviews**

By Theo Lillington

If These Stones Could Talk: The History of Christianity in Britain and Ireland through Twenty Buildings – Peter Stanford – John Murray Press, £20.00

Peter Stanford brings together almost 2,000 years of Christian history in the United Kingdom and Ireland through just 20 churches. Covering the story of Christian worship from Roman Britain to the present day, Stanford deals with a complex history of upheavals and change. His skill lies in always bringing these stories back to the churches, chapels, abbeys and cathedrals and their surroundings themselves. A great gift for any church crawler.

In the Shadow of St Paul’s Cathedral: the Churchyard that Shaped London – Margaret Willes – Yale University Press, £25.00

A compelling history of the neighbourhood around St Paul’s Cathedral. Margaret Willes offers a new and surprising look at this dynamic area, once the centre of London’s publishing industry, a neighbourhood of bookshops and luxury goods, and for hundreds of years the site of religious debate and protest. Compelling characters, intriguing anecdotes and thorough research bring this vanished world back to life.


A ‘record of a remarkable year’, Tales of a Country Parish collects the regular newsletter of thoughts and reflections Colin Heber-Percy began to share with his Wiltshire parish in Spring 2020. In these short reflections Heber-Percy draws from a kaleidoscopic mix of “philosophy, music, poetry, personal anecdote and the sheer weirdness of organised ministry”. These are in response to the changing seasons and the tumultuous and challenging events of the pandemic.

**Competition**

We have three copies of “Tales of a Country Parish” available for Friends who can answer the following question. **In which English county is the Savernake Forest?** Please either email us at info@nationalchurchestrust.org or write to Book Competition, National Churches Trust, 7 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QB. All correct entries will be put into a hat and the winners drawn on 10 May 2022.

**For the record**

If you have an interest in the heritage found in churches, innate curiosity, a sense of humour – and in winter warm clothes – you’ve got what it takes to become a Church Recorder.

The voluntary work involves a team of up to ten people researching and documenting the artistic and historical heritage of a church and then recording the content in a detailed illustrated Church Record book which is presented to the church. More Church Recorders are urgently needed. nationalchurchestrust.org/blog and churchrecordingsociety.org.uk

**Save the date**

Ride+Stride for Churches will take place on Saturday 10 September 2022. Run by County Church Trusts, and with our support, Ride+Stride for Churches is a great way to raise money to help pay for urgent repairs to historic churches. Last year, the event raised over £1.2 million in a single day; since it started in Suffolk in 1982, the total now stands at £36 million.

Take part: nationalchurchestrust.org/support-us/ridestride
Meet our Team

What does your job involve?
I manage and create content for the charity’s social media accounts and I’m involved in managing our website. I also write our monthly e-newsletters to Friends and supporters, and keep an eye on important things like our website analytics.

What do you like most about your job?
I really enjoy having the chance to research churches and art, history and architecture and then sharing them online in an interesting way. It’s also really satisfying to see the good work churches do and find ways to promote that, and to be able to visit churches and talk directly to the people there.

How did you become interested in churches?
I’ve always been interested in old buildings and got taken round a lot of churches as a child, but it wasn’t until I was older that I started really noticing the art and the architecture inside. During University I stayed in the Monastery of San Masseo in Assisi for a week. It was incredible to see the medieval and renaissance churches and their amazing frescoes in the city. I was also very moved by the simplicity and peace of the monastery. I think both of these experiences increased my interest in churches and informed how I look at them.

What is your favourite church and why?
I find Quaker meeting houses really fascinating because they’re such modest buildings but they can also be very beautiful. The Friends meeting house in Come-to-Good, Cornwall is one of the oldest in the UK, and is especially lovely with its thatched roof, whitewashed walls and simple wooden furnishings.

Theo Lillington,
Digital Engagement Officer
Discover hundreds of interesting days out visiting some of the best church heritage in the UK on our new website:

nationalchurchestrust.org/explore
Stars celebrate our support for churches

The stars came out to celebrate a tremendous year of supporting churches at our special concert of Carols by Candlelight at St James’ church, Piccadilly in December 2021.

The concert had been due to take place before an audience of our Friends. With increasing safety concerns about the spread of the Omicron COVID variant in the run up to Christmas, it was streamed, making it possible for our Friends all around the UK to enjoy it live online.

Huw Edwards, journalist, presenter and BBC News lead presenter, and who is a Vice President of the Trust hosted the concert. Also taking part were Sir Michael Palin, comedian, actor and writer, who is also a Vice President of the Trust and actress Dame Penelope Wilton, who recently appeared in the acclaimed Netflix series ‘After Life’.

The Carols by Candlelight concert featured a wide range of Christmas music for voice, brass and a special performance by accomplished Argentine-Italian flautist Ianina Pietrantonio.

Luke March, our Chairman said:
“We were delighted to have been able to hold our special Carols by Candlelight concert in the beautiful church of St James’ Piccadilly. Many thanks to everyone who joined us via the internet to enjoy a superb concert of music and readings. We raised £7,000 for our work thanks to the generosity of our Friends and supporters.”

The concert was generously supported by CCLA Investment Management who manage investments for charities, religious organisations and the public sector. The evening and the live-streaming was also made possible thanks to the support of DSAV Ltd who provide world-class products and AV solutions for churches.

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