



SOMERSET CHURCHES TRUST

2018 EVENTS PROGRAMME

The Trust is a non-denominational charity giving grants for repairs and improvements to churches and chapels open for Christian worship in the historic county of Somerset, helping to keep them alive.

**JOIN US FOR ONLY £20 for an individual,
or £30 for a family, per year.**

You will be helping us give grants to overburdened church congregations, who have to fund repairs and improvements to their buildings.

Membership Forms from: www.somersetchurchestrust.org

COME TO OUR EVENTS

Please book in at least a week before so that there is enough tea!

MARCH: SAT. 17th, 2pm

Cheddar

Start at **St. Andrew, Church St, BS27 3RF**. Car park opposite entrance. Grade I, dating from C.14th. C.15th stained glass, painted stone-carved pulpit c. 1450, altar table of 1631, chest tomb of 1442. 110ft. tower from c. 1423. Up Cliff St. and Tweentown to **Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, Tweentown, BS27 3HU**, opened 19th June 1966. Down Tweentown to the **Methodist Church, Cliff St, BS27 3PL**, built 1897 by philanthropist Sidney Hill as a memorial to his wife. Approx. 300 yds. to the **Baptist Church, Lower North St, BS27 3HA**, (right), established 1832, where we will have tea – donations, please. Further parking advice on the day.

Book with Rowena Wallace, email rowena@directoffset.co.uk, tel: 01458 272844.



APRIL: SAT. 14th, 2pm

ANNUAL MEETING

at St. Hugh's, Charterhouse on Mendip, BS40 7XR

FOLLOWED BY A TALK AND TOUR



The construction of St Hugh's church began in 1908 at the instigation of Revd Menzies Lambrick, who had first worked amongst the agricultural community living at Charterhouse while he was curate at Cheddar. He accepted the living at Blagdon on condition that he could maintain his mission with the inhabitants of Charterhouse. The land was originally owned by the Carthusian monks of Witham Priory, hence its link with St Hugh, who was Abbot there before becoming Bishop of Lincoln. The austere exterior of the church belies the beauty of the interior, designed by W D Caroe in the Arts and Crafts style.

Following the meeting there will be a talk on St. Hugh's and lead mining, which was important from Roman times until the C.19th,

followed by a short tour and tea – donations please.

Booking essential by Sat. 7th April with Dr. Axel Palmer, email: sct@combefarm.co.uk, tel: 01761 221020.

MAY: SAT. 19th, 1.30pm

South Somerset

Three very different churches in the southern-most corner of Somerset. **St Michael, Park Lane, Wayford, Crewkerne TA18 8QG** – a small C.13th church, adjoining Wayford Manor. Simple and rustic with box pews and oak supporting columns. 5 miles to **St Stephen, 33**



Church St, Winsham, TA20 4HY (left) – claims to hold the last *Fox's Book of Martyrs* in England and famous for its C.16th Tympanum of the Crucifixion, painted on canvas on timber framing and the C.15th Rood screen on which the original sat. 4 miles to **St Thomas, Cricket St Thomas,**

TA20 4DD, within the grounds of the Georgian manor house (of 'To the Manor Born' fame) and totally rebuilt in 1820, with monuments (one designed by Sir John Soane) to the families of Hood (Viscounts Bridport) and their predecessors the Viscounts Nelson, who gained the title through Horatio Nelson, 1st Viscount Nelson. Tea at Cricket St Thomas Manor.

Book with Simon Colledge: email simoncolledge@hotmail.co.uk, tel: 01460 75815.

JUNE: SAT. 16th, 2pm Churches near Bath incl. Organ Recitals

Tour of three churches with a mini-organ recital at each one. Meet at **St Mary, Church Road, Bitton BS30 6LJ** to learn about the church and listen to its fine organ. Thence to **All Saints, Weston, Bath** (right, car park is off Lynfield Park BA1 4ER) for a talk on their ROCK development project and to hear the Sweetland organ. Finally to **St Mary Magdalene, Langridge BA1 8AJ** for light refreshments, and where Bishop Richard Fenwick, Bishop of St Helena, will give an organ recital on the Roland organ (recital commencing at 5pm).



Book with Tony Davies, email tony@anthonydavies.demon.co.uk, tel: 01225 336124.

JULY: SAT. 21st, 2pm Medieval Churches of the SW Mendips

Start at **St Congar, Badgworth BS26 2QP**, on the Levels south of the A38 and Axbridge. Park in the schoolroom car park in the village and walk up to the church; there is parking by the churchyard entrance if you have mobility difficulties. 14th century church with an interesting founder's tomb, pulpit and font. On to the church of **St Peter and St Paul, Bleadon BS24 OPG** (left), chancel of 1317 and early statue of the Virgin and Child in the porch. Next we visit **St Mary, Christon BS26 2XX**, a small Norman church with a carved Romanesque doorway and early tower. Finally, we arrive at **St Andrew, Compton Bishop BS26 2HF**, nestling below Crook Peak; much early fabric remains along with what is said to be one of the finest stone



pulpits in Somerset. Here we will have tea, donations please. At each visit we will have a talk from a local churchwarden or historian. Parking for people with mobility difficulties close to each church. There are two flights of 3 steps at the entrance to the graveyard at Christon, otherwise all churches have single step or level access.

Book with Rob Harding, email: robhardingbristol@gmail.com, tel: 0117 924 0333.

AUGUST: SAT. 18th, 2.30pm

Mid Somerset

The churches to be visited boast fine rood screens from different periods as well as other notable features. Start at **St Andrew, High Ham TA10 9BZ** (right). This has 'an outstandingly good' rood screen dating from c1500. Elsewhere, the church has an excellent nave roof dating from 1476–77, chancel and chancel arch dating from a similar period, an unusual lectern and pulpit and lovely C15th stained glass figures in the chancel. On to **St Mary, Chedzoy TA7 8RL**, Grade I. Chancel rebuilt 1884–85, from which dates the rood screen, which has some 'remarkably delicate' carving for the date. Bench ends date from the C16th, and pulpit, organ seat, lectern and altar all date from 1620–1637. Finally, to **Blessed Virgin Mary, Westonzoyland TA7 0EP**, 'the most splendid of Somerset Perpendicular churches'. The rood screen dates from 1935–36 by W.D. Caroe and is 'the finest piece of church woodwork of the C19th or C20th in Somerset'. There is so much more to see in this iconic church including a museum display commemorating the battle of Sedgemoor, 1685, the night following which the church notoriously was used as a prison.



Book with William Newsom, email william@williamnewsom.co.uk, tel: 01963 441533.



CYCLE, WALK, RIDE A HORSE OR DRIVE

on SATURDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2018

Take part in this enjoyable event to raise funds for the Trust and for your own church, chapel or charity.

- View some of Somerset's many historic and beautiful places of worship.
- Visit as few, or as many, as you like.
- Take part on **Saturday 8th September**, or on any day from **1st to 16th September**.
- Make up your own route, or download one of the many walk or cycle routes we have mapped for you.
- Participate on your own or as part of a group.
- Choose whether to cycle, walk, ride a horse or drive*
- Nominate a church, chapel, or charity to receive 50% of the money you raise through sponsorship, or donate it all to the Trust.

- Help the Trust to continue giving grants to churches, chapels and meeting houses in Somerset.

**If you are on horseback you must have your own insurance and if you are driving you must check with your motor insurer that you are covered for this event.*

Full details, and all the forms you need, will be on our website:

www.somersetchurchestrust.org

Raise sponsorship online at

<http://www.justgiving.com/somersetchurches>

Further information about Ride+Stride from:

Philip Skelhorn at pjskelhorn@gmail.com or on 01963 220586

OCTOBER: SAT. 13th, 10 for 10.30am **Somerset churches and the Victorian Gothic Revival**

St Thomas of Canterbury, Lovington BA7 7PY, Listed Grade II*. Originally of medieval origins, c. C13th, the nave and south porch were demolished and rebuilt in 1862–63 to the same design with the north aisle, vestry, and tower turret added by the architects, Paull and Robinson of Cardiff. Donations please for coffee at 10am. On to **St Peter, Hornblotton BA4 6SB**, Listed Grade I

(right), for 12 noon. Built 1872–1874 to the design of Sir Thomas Graham Jackson for the Rector, Godfrey Thring, St Peter's replaces an earlier church on the same site that had fallen into disrepair. Lunch here 1pm – bring your own (**essential**), liquid refreshments provided – donations please. Depart approx. 1.30pm for



Holy Trinity 1844–1846, Chantry, Nr Frome BA11 3LJ, Listed Grade I. Built to the design of Sir George Gilbert Scott and William Moffitt for Mr James Fussell, owner of the nearby Old Iron Works, Mells. Depart for **St Thomas, 75 St Thomas Street, Wells BA5 2UZ**, Listed Grade II*, arriving approx. 4pm. Designed by S S Teulon, a Victorian Architect whose reputation has grown over the years, and opened in 1857 to serve the desperately poor of East Wells, this magnificent church is the Gothic Revival at its most extravagant. A fitting place to finish. Tea here – donations please.

Book with Philip Skelhorn, email: pjskelhorn@gmail.com, tel: 01963 220586.

NOVEMBER: WED. 21st, 7.30pm

AUTUMN TALK **Archaeology and Churches, by Bob Croft**
at Wells Museum Lecture Hall
8 Cathedral Green, Wells BA5 2UE

Bob Croft is the County Archaeologist for Somerset and also the manager of the Historic Environment and Estates Service of the South West Heritage Trust at the Somerset Heritage Centre. He is a long-standing member of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, an active member of Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society, and a Trustee of Somerset Churches Trust.

Booking essential by 14th November. Tickets, £5, include a glass of wine – additional donations very welcome. Write, enclosing SAE and cheque made out to Somerset Churches Trust to: David Sisson, Providence House, Blackford, Wedmore, BS28 4NA, email: davidsisson@hotmail.com, tel: 01934 713617.