



## Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

Supporting Oxfordshire's Churches since 1964

From the Chairman

Dr Stephen Goss

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June 2019

### Summer and Autumn Events: 2019

It is a pleasure to write to you about our events, special guest lectures and Annual Meeting for 2019.

Online booking will open on June 12<sup>th</sup>: please go to the OHCT website [www.ohct.org.uk](http://www.ohct.org.uk) and click on 'EVENTS' at the top of the page. If any of you prefer not to use the online system, then do contact Richard Hughes by email: [secretary@ohct.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ohct.org.uk) or by phone (01865 559305) as soon convenient *after booking opens*. If you need help in July or later, then please use our usual contact, Clare Fox: by email: [events@ohct.org.uk](mailto:events@ohct.org.uk), or phone 01844 279716 or 07941717687. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### Lecture and Reception in Wolfson College – Oliver Everett: Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> July at 5:30 p.m.

*How HM The Queen entertains at Windsor Castle: Treasures from the Royal Library*

We are looking forward to an illustrated lecture showing us some of the finest treasures from the Royal Library. Our lecturer, Oliver Everett, CVO, is Librarian Emeritus of the Royal Library, Windsor Castle, and was formerly Assistant Private Secretary to the Prince of Wales, and Private Secretary to Diana, Princess of Wales.

Mr Everett has an extensive knowledge of the Royal Library and lectures widely in Britain and abroad. He will focus on some 45 items in the Royal Collection chosen to demonstrate its range and magnificence as well as to show the varying collecting interests of individual monarchs and other members of the Royal Family. It will be a privilege to hear from someone with an intimate knowledge of the royal collection.

The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception, which, with a repeat of last year's good weather, will be outside with a view over the river. Do please buy your places in good time so that we know how many to cater for.

#### Annual Meeting: Burford – Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July at 4:00 p.m.

Please note that we shall be meeting later than usual, at 4:00 p.m. in Warwick Hall (in the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Burford). Bishop Colin will chair the formal meeting which will be followed by a guided tour of the church and evening prayer. Then all who wish will return to Warwick Hall for a ploughman's supper and bar – we hope, out-of-doors by the river.

Those wishing to stay for the supper should please use the online system to book and pay for supper. I do hope that many will stay for what will be an enjoyable opportunity for informal discussion.

There will be plenty of free parking available: turn off the High Street to the church, and then follow the road round past the church entrance to the main public car park for the town (an overflow car park in an adjacent field will be available for use if needed).

#### August evening outing – Kingston Lisle, 28<sup>th</sup> August at 6:30 p.m.

Holly Kilpatrick has arranged for us to visit the newly restored parish church of St John the Baptist and to have a pub supper afterwards.

#### 'Forum for Friends of Churches' in Dorchester Abbey – Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

This all-day event is jointly sponsored by OHCT, the Abbey, and the Diocese. Representatives of all churches and chapels in the County and Diocese are welcome. We shall have brief plenary sessions delivered by national speakers about how important 'Friends' groups can be for the future of our churches, about the

**Patrons:** The Rt Revd Dr Stephen Croft, Bishop of Oxford, Tim Stevenson OBE, Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire; Bernard Taylor DL; Sir Hugo Brunner KCVO

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challenges, and about the support that is available; and there will be workshops to promote discussion on a wide range of pertinent topics.

Please see the enclosed flyer and use it in your church to publicise this event which will be a valuable source of help and encouragement to all who are striving to ensure their church is broadly valued, well used, and preserved for the future.

Booking, as for all events, is via the OHCT online system.

**The Blenheim Lecture and Reception: – Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 9:45 p.m.**

*The Emergence of China as a World Power: Reflections on Fifty Years of Broadcasting*

We are delighted that, John Simpson, World Affairs Editor of BBC News, has agreed to be our speaker: we can look forward to an exceptionally well-informed and insightful lecture. Do book early to reserve your place.

We are again grateful to the Duke of Marlborough for kindly making the Palace available as the splendid venue for this meeting. We shall meet for drinks at 6:30, and then take a light supper before the lecture.

**Ride and Stride: Saturday – 14<sup>th</sup> September**

This is by far our most important single source of funds. Walk or cycle between churches for *Ride and Stride*, and get yourself some sponsors. It is always heartening to meet so many others during the day who value our churches, and the money you raise can be divided if you wish - half for a church of your choosing and the remainder to the Trust. This year, for those who like to have their sponsors give online, we are switching to *Virgin Money*, a service which is particularly easy to use.

Read more about *Ride and Stride* and sign up by visiting [www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/](http://www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/), and do recruit your friends!

**OHCT Christmas Cards**

Our cards for 2019 show a Nativity scene from a stained glass window in St Mary the Virgin, Buckland. They will first be on sale at the Annual Meeting.

**Last, but not least**

We should like to encourage more members to join through our website, and you can help with that by submitting a brief 'review' about the importance of our work and the advantages of membership. We'll send an email to you later this summer telling how you can do this very simply should you wish to help us in this way. What you write would be shown (unattributed) on our membership page.

Very many thanks for all your support.

