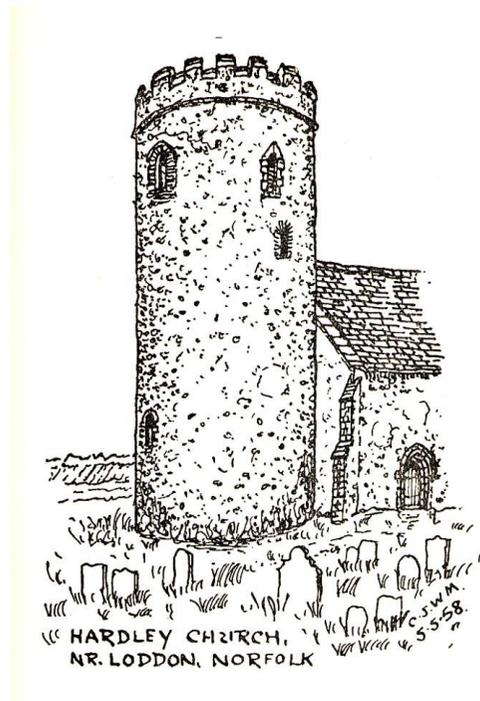




The Round Tower

Vol. XL111 No 4

June 2016



£2 to non members
www.roundtowers.org.uk

ITEMS FOR SALE BY THE SOCIETY

Tea Towels — Five Norfolk Churches design	£3.00	Plus 70p p&p
East Anglian Round Tower Churches Guide Revised edition of A5 booklet	£1.50	Plus 70p p&p
The Round Church Towers of England -By S Hart	£12.00	Plus £2 p&p
Round Tower Churches to the West, East and South of Norwich By Jack Sterry	£10.00	Plus £1.50 p&p
Round Tower Churches on the Norfolk and Suffolk Borders By Jack Sterry	£9.00	Plus £1.50 p&p
Round Tower Churches. Hidden Treasure of North Norfolk By Jack Sterry	£9.00	Plus £1.50 p&p
Round Tower Churches in Mid Norfolk, North Norfolk and Suffolk By Jack Sterry	£10.00	Plus £1.50 p&p

Please forward orders to: - Mrs P Spelman, 105 Norwich Road, New Costessey, Norwich NR5 0LF. Cheques payable to The Round Tower Churches Society.

As always the June magazine contains our accounts for 2015-16, the Treasurer's Report and the Minutes of our AGM held on the 7th May. Thanks to the generosity of the membership we have been able to give grants of £14,000 in the financial year to April 2016. Because of limitations on space the Grant Officer's Report will be held over until September.

This magazine also includes a follow up to the Wooden Grave-Board Survey undertaken by the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society. Sadly no extant wooden grave boards have yet been identified in our Round Tower churchyards.

You will enjoy John Rhead's article about his visit to Hardley. From feedback we know that articles about visits to Round Tower Churches are always welcome reading for our members.

The Society have arranged a Study Day on the 15th October. Early booking is advisable. Details on how to book are on page 20. The day will very likely also include a visit to the church.

This magazine also includes our March letter to the Eastern Daily Press expressing our support for their campaign to combat lead thefts from church roofs. The Lead Roof Appeal closes on the 30th September (see page 7).

The next issue is September 2016 and the deadline for contributions is 1st August 2016.

Please send items for publication either as email attachments or on disc as **separate** files – text, photos, drawings etc., or by post to:-

Anne Woollett and Paul Hodge
The Cardinal's Hat
Back Street
Reepham
Norfolk
NR10 4SJ
Tel: 01603 870452
anne.woollett@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Subscription

Minimum £20 (overseas £30) a year of which 25% goes towards the printing and posting of The Round Tower magazine and administration. The rest goes to the Repair Fund of the RTCS.

Magazines are published in March, June, September and December. The membership renewal date is the first day of the month following the application for membership.

To join the Society or to make any enquiry about your membership please contact :-

Mr Richard Barham
6 The Warren, Old Catton,
Norwich, NR6 7NW
Tel: 01603 788721

THE ROUND TOWER

The quarterly magazine of the
Round Tower Churches Society
www.roundtowers.org.uk
Vol. No XL111 No 4. June 2016.

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There are good reasons to receive the magazine as a PDF as well as a paper copy. Firstly colour photographs are in colour. Secondly the text can be read in as large a font size or as small a font size as you like.

Email pt.hodge@tiscali.co.uk to receive the magazine as a PDF .

**The Wooden Grave-board Survey. A London and Middlesex
Archaeological Society Local History project.**

In the March 2013 Round Tower magazine we reported that a research project is now underway in an attempt to determine the past distribution of wooden grave-boards in England from records of those still surviving in churchyards and burial-grounds or shown in old photographs or prints. Progress has been rather slower than the project coordinator had hoped but it still proceeds, albeit spasmodically.

The earliest headstones, marking burials, commonly found in graveyards date to the 17th century. Wooden grave-boards being more perishable than stone do not survive as long. Actually it is not known when they started to be used. Of course simple grave markers of wood probably go back to antiquity but as a board along the length of the grave supported off the ground by end posts they are very distinctive grave markers.

Typically the inscriptions were in black on a white background but mostly they have been weathered away. The earliest records are early prints of churchyards (e.g. St Mary's Church, Harmondsworth, see below). One has to be aware that artistic licence might have resulted in too many or none being illustrated. Some wooden grave-boards do still survive but judging from old photographs clearly very many have gone. Most have rotted away but in addition many churchyards have now been 'tidied' to help with grass cutting removing many memorials of any sort.



There is a particularly fine example at St Margarets at Darenth, Kent (no photograph). The grave-board was erected in memory of Anne Rogers who died on the 13th September 1859 aged 61 years. The memorial was recorded in the summer of 1920 by the antiquarian Leland Duncan who noted the incised inscription 'BE YOU ALWAYS READY'. He reported that the quality of the lettering was high. Perhaps not surprisingly the survey so far indicates that wooden grave-boards were more common in the Home Counties and Eastern England where little suitable stone occurs for burial memorials. What class of person was likely to have had a wooden grave-board? One might assume that they were the not so well off who could afford a stone memorial or the not so poor who could not afford a memorial at all.



If you can offer any help please send any records to Colin Bowlt at 7 Croft Gardens, Ruislip, Middlesex. HA4 8EY. His email address is c.bowlt@tiscali.co.uk. It would be useful for Colin to have:

- 1, Name of church or burial ground.
- 2, Location (grid reference would be helpful).
- 3, Number if still present (any dates, inscriptions etc).
- 4, From photographs (details – book, postcard, dates etc).
5. From prints (details – book, dates etc).

Letter from the RTCS Chairman published in the Eastern Daily Press. Thursday 10th March 2016.

Dear Editor.

A high profile campaign to combat lead thefts from church roofs is welcomed by the Round Tower Churches Society.

The support of the EDP and its sister paper, the East Anglian Daily Times, church bodies and the police commissioners in Norfolk and Suffolk, have highlighted the devastating impact of dozens of lead thefts in recent months.

When St Peter's Church, Merton, near Watton, was the target of thieves again last August, the Round Tower Churches Society gave £500 towards the estimated £25,000 cost of repairs. It was the second theft in four years from that church.

Members have also given generously to the society's "lead appeal" since it was launched last autumn. At the society's 43rd annual meeting on Saturday, May 7 at Spexhall village hall, near Halesworth, it is hoped to report further donations from members.

The society's membership of more than 500 pay a minimum annual subscription of £20 and our limited funds are given to round tower churches needing help with maintaining and repairing the fabric.

As the overwhelming majority of more than 180 round tower churches in the country include 124 in Norfolk, 38 in Suffolk and half a dozen in Cambridgeshire and Essex, our small charity tries to help.

At least 75% of the £8,000 annual subscriptions goes toward funding repairs. Last year, £6,000 was given towards repairs of five Norfolk churches.

Since 1973 when the society was founded to safeguard this country's precious heritage of distinctive round tower churches, it has given total grants of more than £160,000 – all donated by members and supporters.

Details of the society's programme of summer visits in Norfolk and Suffolk, starting in May, which are open to all those interested in churches, can be found on the society's website –

www.roundtowers.org.uk

Stuart Bowell

Lead Roof Appeal.

Merton and Thwaite churches both had lead stolen from their roofs in autumn 2015. The churchwardens secured their churches against the winter weather to keep damage to a minimum. They have now started the difficult and lengthy process of seeking funding to repair their roofs.

RTCS is providing some financial support for these churches but the income we have from members' subscriptions necessarily limits what we are able to do. We are therefore making a special appeal to members to help these and other round tower churches who lose their lead. Any gift you feel able to make will help churches to repair the damage to their roofs.

Please send a cheque to Richard Barham at 6 The Warren, Old Catton, Norwich, NR6 7NW. You can also hand over cash or cheques to Richard (known to many of you as Dick) on our tours. This appeal will close on the 30th September 2016. Please mark your envelope 'Lead Roof Appeal'.

A Round Tower Church Experience.

Staying near Norwich during the summer of 2014 I decided to visit Hardley round tower church which I had not seen previously. When I arrived four or five cars were parked by the road outside the church. This seemed somewhat strange for a Tuesday but a dozen or so folk were in the church chatting. A few moments later most went into the chancel and became the church choir.

The organ sounded, and they started singing the popular wedding hymn 'O Perfect Love' which I know well. I found myself, sitting at the back of the church, singing the bass line. This was noticed by a lady creating a floral arrangement on the font cover, she stopped, went into the chancel, and promptly returned with another lady who asked whether I was free on Friday? Would I join the choir for her daughter's wedding? I was and I would. I became a member of the choir then and there.



Hardley St Margaret. Photograph by Simon Knott.

However, there was a dress code. White shirt, grey trousers, dickey bow and black shoes. I explained I was in a caravan, my lightest shirt pale yellow, a bow tie in a caravan? No chance. A lady in the front row asked my collar size. 'You'll have a white shirt on Friday'. A gentleman to my left promised a dickey bow.

When I arrived on Friday I was ushered into the vestry, and changed into the promised white shirt. The dickey was placed round my neck. My stone coloured trousers and brown shoes could not be seen from the nave, so all requirements were satisfied. The young couple were duly married. Afterwards I returned the borrowed clothing, was one of the last to leave the church, and hoped to slip away quietly. However, the bride's mother spotted me, came across, thanked me most graciously, and showed me where her late husband was buried. How she wished he could have been with her that morning.

John Rhead

Tour of the three churches in the Blofield Benefice on Saturday, 13th August 2016 from 1.15 p.m.

North Burlingham, St Andrew's Church - a mid 15th Century church with octagonal font and several early brasses plus a striking arch braced hammer beam roof with angels and a beautiful and possibly the latest rood screen in Norfolk. Nearby is a view of the ruined church of St Peter.

Hemblington, All Saints Church - an isolated Saxo-Norman round tower church rebuilt over several centuries containing a unique 15th century wall painting of the life of St Christopher before and after conversion, a beautiful Medieval font recoloured in the 1930s and interesting examples of statue niches and early brass inscriptions.

Blofield, St Andrew and St Peter - a large and impressive late 14th Century church with startling recent archaeological excavation results to consider. There is a unique Medieval font showing incidents from the life of Christ, a fine Medieval rood screen with restored paintings of the apostles and interesting 18th Century box pews and older benches & poppy heads.

The afternoon, which will cost £10 per person, includes a delicious cream tea at Blofield church.

The tour will be led by 'Lyn Stilgoe and Richard Barham together with Rev'd Canon Nick Garrard, Rural Dean of the Blofield Deanery and Rector of the Broadside Benefice.

E mail enquiries to : hemblington@gmail.com

To reserve a place on the tour, please send a cheque for £10 per person, payable to All Saints Church, Hemblington, to: Blofield Benefice Tour, 15 Allens Close, Blofield Heath, Norwich, Norfolk, NR13 4QR, confirming your name, e-mail address, telephone number and any cream tea dietary restrictions.

Confirmation of a place and timings/directions to the churches will be e-mailed / 'phoned to each attendee.

Grants to churches, 2015 –2016.

Ashby, St Mary. £1,000. Provision of wheelchair access.
Barsham, Holy Trinity. £500. Plasterwork repairs.
Clippesby, St Peter. £2,000. Rainwater goods and parapet repairs.
Fritton, St Edmund. £500. Re-thatching of nave roof.
Matlaske, St Peter. £500. Repairs to nave roof.
Mautby, Sts Peter and Paul. £500. Lighting repairs.
Merton, St Peter. £500. Replacement of stolen lead.
Ramsholt, All Saints. £2,000. Tower repairs.
Sedgeford, St Mary.£2,000. South transept roof and floor repairs.
Syderstone, St Mary. £2,000. East gable and roof repairs.
Thwaite, All Saints. £500. Replacement of stolen lead.
Welborne, All Saints. £2,000. Tower repairs.

Total grants paid 2015-2016 £14,000.

At the end of March we have outstanding grant promises of £8,700.

Stanford. £1,000.
West Dereham. £200.
Topcroft. £1,500.
Lamarsh. £2,000.
Tuttington. £2,000.
East Lexham. £500.
Gissing. £500.
Burnham Deepdale. £1,000.

The Round Tower Churches of Ravenna.

Henry Long wrote an article in the September 2008 magazine (available as a pdf download from the RTCS website) about the Round Tower Churches of Ravenna.

Your editors were inspired by his article to revisit Ravenna in March 2016. To put the Italian city of Ravenna into context the United Kingdom and our overseas territories have twenty nine Unesco World Heritage Sites. Ravenna with a population of less than 160,000 has eight Unesco World Heritage Sites. You can view photographs of the churches and their round towers and much more besides on the RTCS Facebook page. A reminder that RTCS are also active on Twitter. Members and others can access our Facebook page and our Twitter feed via the RTCS website.



GREAT RYBURGH, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

"THINK AND THANK": World War 1. Sunday, 5th June.

This is the last in our series of Lottery supported WW1 events.

12.30 for 1: WW1 style lunch (please book a place).

2 - 5: commemorative peal.

Displays, colourful WW1 memorial screen, tea and cake in church.

6 p.m. Sung Evensong

Details from 01328 829413

GREAT RYBURGH OPEN GARDENS.

Saturday, 18th June 1 – 5 p.m.

Gardens open throughout the village.

In aid of church funds.

Details from 01328 829413

ROUND TOWER CHUI
Statement of Accounts for the Ye

2015	Income	2016
19,883	Opening balance	24,230
8,096	Annual subscriptions	10,202
1,223	Tax relief on Covenants and Gift Aid	1,331
4,156	Donations and lectures	1,340
59	Bank and COIF Charities Deposit Interest	62
111	Magazine advertisements	75
508	Sale of books and Society items	596
34	Postage charges from sale of Society items	24
530	Study Day/Tour donations	-
36,600		37,860

Balance Sheet as at 31

1	Nat-West Bank— Current Account	226
11,361	Nat-West Bank—Reserve Account	7,676
12,552	COIF Charities Deposit Fund	12,609
316	Petty cash in hand	217
24,230		20,728

Richard Barham. Hon. Treasurer

I have examined the Accounts and Books etc of the Society and certify that this is tr
Michael Coates. Hon. Independent Examiner. 19th April 2016

CHURCHES SOCIETY.
Year Ended 31st March 2016.

<u>2015</u>	Expenditure	<u>2016</u>
6,500	Grants to churches	14,000
1,000	Magazine printing	1,000
792	Magazine posting	836
539	Purchase of Society items for sale	84
202	Postage, Stationery and Advertising	161
105	Hire of rooms for AGM and committee mtgs	-
850	Donations to churches	860
132	Website rental	132
-	Secretary's expenses	19
-	Overpaid subscription	40
250	Speakers Fees, Study Day	-
24,230	Closing balance	20,728
<u>34,600</u>		<u>37,860</u>

at 31st March 2016.

24,230	Society Account	20,728
<u>24,230</u>		<u>20,728</u>

is true Statement of the financial records.

Treasurer's Report, 2015-2016.

During the financial year the Society has given grants totalling £14,000 to twelve Round Tower Churches. We also have outstanding grant promises of £8,700 to churches where work has yet to start.

At the last Annual General Meeting it was agreed to increase the minimum membership subscription to £20. A few members who pay their subscription by standing order have yet to instruct their banks to increase the amount. Please check that you have instructed your bank to pay us the new amount.

As so many people now do their banking online it is my intention to include the appropriate information on the renewal reminders should you wish to pay your subscription direct to our bank account.

The cost of posting out the magazine continues to increase year on year. Thankfully I still have access to a franking machine and this saves us £300 a year that we can use to help our churches. The sale of used postage stamps and old stamp collections also continues to raise money. This year Geoff Swain has been able to donate £144 to the Society so please continue to send me stamps or hand them over to me on the tours.

Thanks once again to Michael Coates for examining the accounts. Our annual get together has become a very pleasant catch up of the events of the year.

I am now entering my last year as Treasurer for the Society. I flagged up at the Annual General Meeting last year my decision that I need to take a rest after looking after the finances of the Society for twenty years. I think twenty years is long enough. Before taking on the role I had no accounting experience but once I got going I found it fairly easy to master. The emergence of online banking and online communication has made me think that I need to stand down. I am not online connected to the outside world. This is a deliberate choice on my part and yes I am content with my lot. This is a reason though that I feel that the Society needs a new, younger and more 'up to date' Treasurer.

My time as Treasurer of the Society has led to many new friendships. I hope that these will continue for many years to come.

Richard Barham. Hon Treasurer.

Piddinghoe.

A weathervane in the form of a salmon trout sits at the summit of the round tower at Piddinghoe. Kipling's description of it as a 'gilded dolphin' in his poem 'Sussex' may be indicative of his poor eyesight.

**I will go north about the shaws
And the deep ghylls that breed
Huge oaks and old, the which we hold
No more than Sussex weed;
Or south where windy Piddinghoe's
Begilded dolphin veers
And red beside wide-bankèd Ouse**



SUMMER TOURS 2015 - PART 2

In **July**, on one of the hottest days of the year, our first call was **All Saints South Elmham**, which is in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. The tower has been partially rebuilt (a 19th century drawing shows it with an octagonal top) and there was much Victorian restoration. Inside can be seen a sturdy late Norman font, complete with five columns and base, a number of old benches with carved figures, including a four-legged creature with a long head and a lop-eared dog. Amongst the stained glass are fragments of 15th century work, two armorial shields and two roundels depicting female saints, perhaps St Dorothea and St Ursula. Wild orchids were blooming in the churchyard adding to the enjoyment of our visit.

Ilketshall St Margaret has a rendered tower, circular for its full height of almost 50 feet. There are two round double splayed openings about 10 feet from the ground. On our visit, both were occupied by nesting white doves giving an almost spiritual presence. Inside the tower some plaster has been removed showing the rubble walling beneath. We were privileged to be shown the parish chalice by the incumbent. This beautiful object is inscribed 'SAYNTE MARGRETS ILKENSAL A 1567' (sic).



**The white dove
at Ilketshall St
Margaret.**

Gisleham Holy Trinity has a later octagonal belfry on its circular stage. A blocked 12th century doorway, on the north of the nave, shows remains of engaged columns and caps. The octagonal 'lion font' has unusual corbelling to the bowl, with eight heads alternatively male and female, wearing contemporary headdresses. A wall tablet in memory of two brothers, Martin and

Edward Pugh, records that they died while prisoners of war in the Far East. 'their graves lie amid the forests of Siam...'. In the north wall window splays are two beautiful wall paintings, which Roger Rosewell tells us show 'the Annunciation and an angel with an unidentified saint'.

August gave us a sunny start at **Hardwick St Margaret**. Unfortunately, we were unable to view the interior because of ongoing work. However, there is much of interest on the outside of the building. We admired the newly repaired roof with its single ridge covering nave and chancel. The tower collapsed in the 18th century, leaving a half round ruin partly infilled at the front with brick. This gives the impression of a rather superior shed, roofed with lead. In fact, this 'shed' houses a single bell. A north door with flint jambs, has a very early look, while knapped flint and brick form chequer work on the front of the south porch.



Hardwick St Margaret.

Morningthorpe St John the Baptist, has a tower circular for its full height, although it may once have had an octagonal top. Inside the church is a 15th century 'lion font', an elaborately carved piscina decorated with a Tudor rose and a leopard head representing the de la Pole family. The Royal Arms are of George III. A black ledger slab with a skull and crossed bones has the inscription 'Hodie Mihi Cras Tibi' (today to me, tomorrow to you) as a grim reminder to all.

Fornsett St Peter's tower stands over 60 feet tall and is circular for its full height. The flints are evenly coursed and the many circular openings at two different levels, are framed with flint. The two-light belfry openings have round heads to the east and west and triangular heads to the north and south. Bench ends with figures on the armrests are a feature here. One shows a woman in a sort of sentry box. It has been suggested that this represents incontinency, the sentry box being, in fact, a privy.

In **September** a breezy, Broadland welcome awaited us at **Hardley St Margaret**. This tower is circular for its full height and Stephen Hart wrote that he thought that the lower part might be Saxon. The 15th century, square headed screen has had part of its base removed, while ship graffiti can be seen on some of the pews. A brass War Memorial names seven men from the village who made the 'supreme sacrifice' during the Great War. Perhaps the outstanding features of interest here, are the paintings on the south wall. An enormous St Christopher carries the Christ Child through a river teeming with fish, while a harnser* watches from the riverbank. This painting dwarfs the second, a figure of a female saint, beside it.

**harnser – East Anglian dialect word for a heron*



Hardley St Margaret.

Hellington St John the Baptist, is in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. It has a Norman tower, circular for its full height, with 14th century bell openings. A simple Norman north doorway is decorated with saltire crosses. The chancel windows have beautiful 14th century tracery, while the porch has three windows on each side with trefoil, cinquefoil and septfoil heads. All

this scarcely prepares one for the outstanding Norman south doorway, which has three engaged shafts and six orders above, giving an organised riot of various mouldings. It stands comparison with doorways at Hales and Heckingham. Once inside the church, the piscina is worthy of note, while a brass memorial to 'Sir Anthony Gaudy Knight' has a shield showing the Gaudy Tortoise.



The porch at Helington St John the Baptist.

Surlingham St Mary's tower has a later octagonal belfry stage. The blocked former bell openings are clearly visible in the circular section. Inside we found a west gallery with an East Anglian 'lion font' beneath. There are two interesting brasses here, both to priests. John Alnwick was rector from 1432 to 1449 and is shown in his vestments. Richard Lonhawkys was rector from 1497 to 1513 and has a chalice brass. On leaving St Mary's, through the imposing War Memorial lychgate, some of our party walked down the lane to the ruins of Surlingham's other church, St Saviour. Here the Norfolk naturalist Ted Ellis and his wife Phyllis are buried.

Society tours provide a chance to explore churches led by our two hard working and well prepared guides, Lyn and Dick, to whom we are very grateful. During the tours we often meet local people who clearly love and support their parish church and kindly provide us with refreshments.

Text and photographs by Stuart Bowell

**RTCS Study Day at Rickinghall Inferior Village Hall
Saturday, 15th October 2016 starting at 10am**

Speakers:

Ian Groves (Ruined churches).

Mark Mitchels (The Bible in English).

Michael Rimmer (The Angel Roofs of East Anglia).

Tea and coffee will be provided but bring your own lunch.

A RTCS member who wishes to remain anonymous is sponsoring this event. The ticket price to RTCS members is therefore only £10. The ticket price for non-members is £12.

For further information or to book tickets (cheques payable to The Round Tower Churches Society with a stamped addressed envelope please) contact Stuart Bowell at 2 Hall Road, Chilton Hall, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1T. 01449 614336 or email gw.sab@btinternet.com

**ROUND TOWER CHURCHES SOCIETY
The 43rd Annual General Meeting was held at Spexhall
Village Hall,
on Saturday, 7th May 2016 at 2.15pm.**

1. The Chairman, Mr Stuart Bowell, welcomed the 33 Members and Friends present. The Rev'd Philip Gray, as the Honorary Chaplain, kindly led the opening prayers.
2. **Apologies** had been received from Mrs Sterne and Mr Pollitt.
3. The **Minutes** of the **42nd AGM** on 9.5.2015 were agreed and signed.

4. The **Chairman** thanked everyone, the Committee, Members and Friends, who had given great support to the Society during the year. Membership numbers are down, largely due to increasing age. Concern for those churches suffering thefts of their lead roofs had led to the setting up of a special RTCS fund to help them. All the money from the Harmer bequest had now been allocated as church grants, as reported in the December 2015 Magazine.

5. The **Treasurer**, Mr Richard Barham, presented the Accounts, the capital having been reduced because of the greater number of grants paid during the past year. Following the raising of the annual subscription, he thanked those who now gave £20 or more. However there were still some banker's orders that needed updating. Postage costs had risen, but he had the use of a franking machine, which saved £75 per quarter. He thanked Mr M Coates for his help as Independent Examiner of the Accounts. He closed by saying that he would only be Treasurer until 31st March 2017. After 20 years in post, he felt it was time for a more computer-literate Treasurer.

6. The **Grants Officer**, Mr Nick Wiggin reported on the 12 grants totalling £14,000 that had been paid, (5 more than last year), and there were outstanding promises of a further £8,700.

7. **Election of Officers and Committee:** Mr Barham (temporarily in the Chair) expressed his thanks to Mr Bowell, and proposed him as Chairman again, seconded by the Rev'd P. Gray, and agreed. The existing Committee Members and two new Members, Mr Nik Chapman and Mrs Caroline Chapman (observer with speaking but no voting rights), were each proposed and seconded individually, as recorded in the Minute Book.

8. **Independent Examiner:** Mr N Chapman proposed the re-appointment of Mr M Coates, seconded by Dr Woollett, and agreed.

9. **Any Other Business:** Dr Woollett expressed thanks to Mr Pollitt, who had been typing up many studies of round tower churches for the Magazine and web-site. Details of 68 churches are now available on line. Mr Hodge mentioned the many excellent photographs contributed to the Facebook pages. Mr Bowell gave notice of a Study Day at Rickingham Inferior Village Hall on Saturday, 15th October 2016 at 10am with speakers: Mr I Groves (Ruined churches), Mr M Mitchels (The Bible in English) and Mr M Rimmer (Angel Roofs).

Following the Meeting, refreshments were kindly provided by members of the Spexhall PCC.

ROUND TOWER CHURCHES SOCIETY TOURS

Saturday Tours, first Church 2.30pm

4th June Potter Heigham, Dilham, Witton

2nd July Little Saxham, Higham, Snailwell

6th August Bexwell, West Dereham, East Walton

3rd September Thurgarton, Wickmere, Thwaite,

CHURCH TOURS

on Sundays, first Church at 2.30pm.

19th June Felthorpe, Alderford, Swannington, Attlebridge,

17th July Hilborough, Bodney, Didlington, Foulden,

Everyone is welcome to join us and all our tours are free, though donations are encouraged at every church. Teas will be provided by one of the churches during each afternoon. The Sunday Tours normally end with an optional form of Evening Prayer at 6pm or 6.30pm. Further details from 'Lyn Stilgoe 01328 738237.

Beachamwell Open Gardens Sunday June 5th 12 noon to 5pm. Many lovely gardens will be open, Ploughman's lunches, Afternoon Teas with Live Music in the Old Rectory Garden, Organ Recitals in the church, variety of stalls and a raffle. Adults £4.00 and children free. In aid of St Mary's Church, Beachamwell.

www.stmarysbeachamwell.co.uk Enquiries 01366 328706 or dick-wainer@hotmail.co.uk

ROUND TOWER CHURCHES SOCIETY

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