

FUNDRAISING THROUGH TOURISM

FACTS & FIGURES

40 million visits to churches per year (Visit Britain)

55% of day trips include a visit to a cathedral or church (Visit England)

Each parish church typically receives around 700-4,000 visitors each year Trevor Cooper – Ecclesiological Society

Visitors to churches must generate at least £350 million per year

Churches Tourism Association



WHY?

- It is a requirement from some funders, e.g. NCT
- It is a potential income stream
- It is a benefit to your community





REQUIREMENTS

National Churches Trust conditions include:

✓ Open for at least 100 days a year beyond worship, within a year of project completion

✓ Submit details to the Explore Churches Website

National Lottery Heritage Fund: has a mandatory outcome – a wider range of people will be involved in heritage





WWW.EXPLORECHURES.ORG





Explore Churches

Map of churches Experiences Events About us

ENGLISH 🗸

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Keep in touch

We'd love to keep you posted when we add new churches, trails and inspiring ideas for places to visit. Sign up to our monthly five minute update.

SIGN UP HERE



Please support us

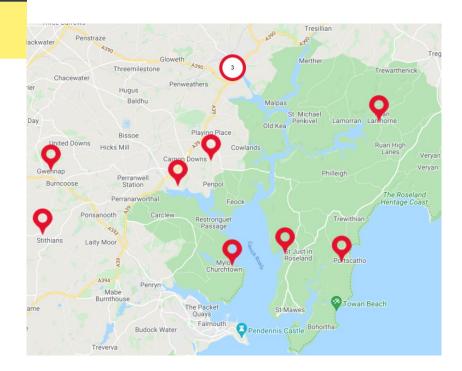
ExploreChurches has been developed by the National Churches Trust using our core funds. Please consider making a donation or, even better, become a Friend of the National Churches Trust.



Add your church

Your church is unique, we would love to include it on ExploreChurches. It's quick and simple.

ADD YOUR CHURCH







INCOME

- Do you have a contactless donation device?
- Online giving set up? (QR Codes can link to this)
- Gift Aid envelopes to hand?

AVOID the request for money being the FIRST thing a visitor

sees







BE INSPIRING!

Make sure your 'ask' is inspiring. Are these?







If your welcome is warm, people will be more inclined to support you financially. You do need to ask!

Perhaps....

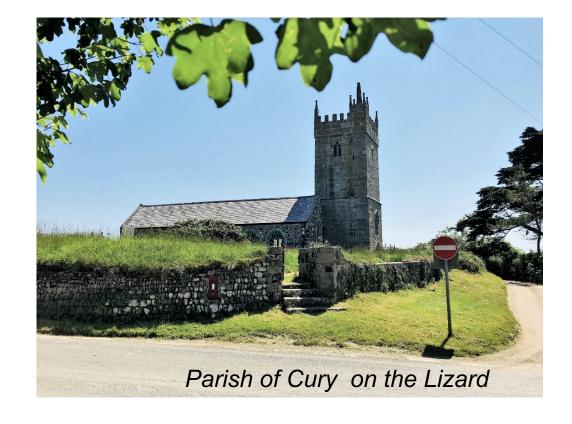
'If you have enjoyed this beautiful church please consider supporting us and keeping this building alive for generations to come'



EACH CHURCH IS UNIQUE

There are over 40,000 Christian places of worship (over 300 in Cornwall)

- ❖Over 10,000 of medieval origin
- ❖All are different
- All have a unique story to tell
- All have a unique experience to offer
- All can offer a warm welcome
- ❖Most are free!





WHY BE A STORYTELLER?

'It's an ancient need to be told stories. But the story needs a good storyteller'

Alan Rickman

- The numbers of visitors purely interested in church architecture are small
- More are interested in social history, people and stories
- We know visitors gravitate towards stories that involve people





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|-------|--|---|---|
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| 2019. | wendy Kirkup. | | Béaut Ou Church ? grounds. Fasariating history - Levely welcom. Thankyout |
| 2018 | Peter Hanagan | Hengrove Bristol | Very interesting and historic church the churchy and . Thanks. |
| 2018 | Maviou Stevens | | Lively, interesting church (Neomy got raped in with the Likelche Group!) |
| 2018 | | PORT ST LUCIE FLURIDA eboyhan@nsn.Com | USA |
| | Johann Jakoh | heiningen, Germany | Für Johann war es etwa. Besonders, einmal eine Globe |
| ا و | 1ery + Jane | Crowntown Helston | länten zu dürfen! De Glocke zu hören! |
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WHAT IS YOUR STORY?

Research your church for stories on:

- Famous and not so famous people
- Local history
- Religious stories
- **❖**Events
- Quirky tales and folklore
- ❖Who is in your graveyard?
- Stained glass windows and monuments





INTERPRETATION

All heritage sites need interpretation. It gives

- √ Factual information
- ✓ Interaction
- ✓ Excitement and interest
- ✓ A way to tell stories
- ✓ A way to dispel pre-conceived ideas





Interpretation is the process of communicating messages and stories about our cultural and natural heritage, providing the audience with inspiration and a wider understanding of our environment. Or quite simply, interpretation is about telling stories...



TRADITIONAL INTERPRETATION

- Free leaflets
- Guidebooks
- Paddles and laminated sheets
- Banners and panels
- Talking with stewards
- Guided tours
- Special events and activities





DIGITAL INTERPRETATION

- Provides exciting new ways to tell your story
- Create engaging interactive content
- Visitors bring their own devices think QR Codes to link to your website

Visitors using digital methods want

- √ Easy navigation
- ✓ Instant and up to date information
- ✓ Pictures
- √Video
- √Scannable text



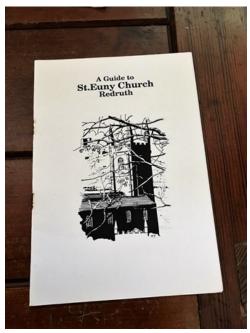


CURRENT INFORMATION

What do you already have?

- Examine it critically!
- Are the guides written clearly and simply? (The average reading age in the UK is 13)
- Is it up to date?
- Is it inspiring and engaging?
- What is missing?





"If people understand their building, they will value it; by valuing it, they will want to look after it; in caring for it, they will help others enjoy it. From enjoyment of the historic environment comes a greater thirst to understand it and the circle begins again."

Dr Simon Thurley, Former CEO, English Heritage



THINGS TO DO NOW

Your online presence:

- ✓ Are you on Explore Churches?
- ✓ Visit your website like a stranger
- ✓ Make sure essential details are on your website/ACNY, including postcode and opening times
- ✓ Claim your google map entry
- √ Social media

Your online content:

- ☐ Could you create a virtual tour?
- ☐ Short videos
- ☐ Photos
- □ stories





RESOURCES

- Explore Churches: www.explorechurches.org
- ➤ National Churches Trust: https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/how-we-help/church-tourism
- Interpreting your building | National Churches Trust
- ➤ Diocese of Truro: A Way to Welcome Archives Truro Diocese:
 Truro Diocese
- Caring for God's Acre is a charity that specialises in the preservation of wildlife and the heritage of burial grounds, graveyards and cemeteries (caringforgodsacre.org.uk)





THANK YOU

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Mon-Thurs mornings

