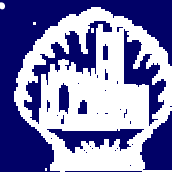


# The Conservation Trust for St Laurence, Ludlow

Charity No: 1114678



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## ST. LAURENCE'S 1 - GLOUCESTER 2

Led by David Lloyd and Joanne Lindsay on **Friday 3 October 2008**, Tickets £25 each (limited to 40 places)



*Holy Innocents Church, Highnam*

"HOW ABOUT A RETURN FIXTURE?" Those were the words of their chairman Robin Nunn after a party of guides and Friends of Gloucester Cathedral were shown around St Laurence's by our own chair David Lloyd and trustee Joanne Lindsay. And, added Cathedral Friend Tom Fenton, would we like to make a day of it, by touring also the Church of the Holy Innocents at Highnam near Gloucester, built by his great-grandfather? So took shape an Autumn Churches Day to follow the very successful May Day church coach tour. Your ticket includes morning coffee and afternoon tea, and there will be a generous break for your own lunch arrangements in Gloucester. See the box for at-a-glance details on Page 2. **Holy Innocents at Highnam** is regarded by many as the finest

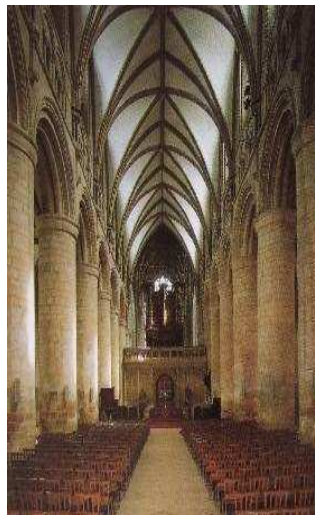
High Victorian church in the country - the late poet John Betjeman was among them. There are fabulous frescoes, mostly painted by the founder Thomas Gambier Parry himself, terrific tiles, wonderful windows - and in Tom Fenton we have the perfect guide. He is the author of two books on **Holy Innocents**, and is specially placed to tell us of his great grandfather's inspiration for the church, a family story that is both affecting and inspiring. **Gloucester Cathedral** of course needs no introduction, but our guides from the Cathedral Friends have plans to surprise and inform even those who think they already know it well! Hosting Christian worship continuously for over 1300 years, the Ca-

thedral was the coronation place of Henry III and the burial place of Edward II, whose shrine-like monument and commemorative Great East Window are two of its greatest architectural features. But the cathedral does not stand still - recent stained glass commissions have Alan Younger, Caroline Swash and Tom Denny all represented. Earlier this summer Gloucester was fea-



*Tomb of Edward 11*

tured on one of 6 special Royal Mail stamps, showing the late C11th nave with its colossal Norman drum piers holding up the great stone roof. Lectures, concerts and special events intermingle with the daily life of worship - and on the day of our visit we may be fortunate enough to see Lance Pierson and the Glevum Consort preparing their evening celebration of animals in words and music.



*The Nave, Gloucester Cathedral*

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE TRUST

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**AUTUMN TOUR  
by coach to  
HIGHNAM AND  
GLOUCESTER**

**FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2008**

**£25 to include morning  
coffee and afternoon tea**

**Lunch break in Gloucester  
\*\*\*\*\***

**8.45am - Coach leaves Smith-  
field car park Ludlow**

**6pm - Back in Ludlow**

**Visits to - Holy Innocents  
Church, Highnam**

**& Gloucester Cathedral (guided)**

**Tickets - from Helen Coleman  
tel. 01584 875113  
or Church shop**

**\*Please book early, tickets  
are limited and  
final figures are needed by  
early September**

FATHER AND SON team Ben and Ian Dawson - Steeplejacks bravely scale the heights of the famous landmark the tower of St Laurence's. Urgent repairs where need to stop the rainwater that has been flooding into the church in the last few weeks. A team from Treasure's - Ludlow build-

**Shaun Ward – Clerk of Works for St Laurence’s**

MANY OF YOU may be surprised to see me wearing another hat (hard hat this time) apart from music at St. Laurence's. I will endeavour to enlighten you as to the skills I bring to the new position of *Clerk of Works*. The PCC Fabric Committee for St Laurence is now chaired by Ewart Carson who also serves as a Trustee on The Conservation Trust for St Laurence, Ludlow. The Clerk of Works' job is there to action works as they arise on the building, assessing nature and extent of work needed, consulting with our retained architect where appropriate, finding appropriate contractors, and obtaining quotes etc and then facilitating work on site and reporting all of this to the Fabric Committee and Conservation Trust. After reading music as an under- and post-graduate, I worked as a freelance musician for a number of years, performing and teaching. After moving to Hereford I became involved with Trevor Hewett Architects and worked as an architect-

tural assistant and trainee surveyor in the field of building conservation and particularly church conservation. I recently completed a two year course at Bath University in Built Heritage Conservation and am working towards submitting a dissertation for an MSc in Conservation of Historic Buildings. My aim at Saint Laurence's is to provide a comprehensive vision for the repair, conservation and development of the building so that we may leave a building for those who come after us in superb condition, as our forebears of the 19<sup>th</sup> century did for us.



*New clerks of works Shaun Ward inspects recently damaged stone-work on the nave of St Laurence's with newly appointed retained builders Stephen Treasure of Treasure's.*



ers were also making emergency repairs to the inside of the building. The famous carillon was silenced for the

day to enable the men to work safely up the tower.

**Looking Forward**

**2008**

**Monday 7 July** - Annual Meeting in St Laurence's at 7.30pm Tim Ratcliffe, Church Architect, to give a brief talk looking ahead at the forthcoming projects likely to be the concern of The Conservation Trust. David Lloyd will give us the story behind the Salwey tomb in the chancel. There will be refreshments.

**Monday 8 September** - Evening cocktail party at 145 Corve Street, home of Lottie and Nick James. This will be a joint event with the Teme Weirs and Whitcliffe Trusts.

**Friday 3 October** - coach trip to Highnam Church and Gloucester Cathedral.

**2009 - so far**

January - event in the plan-

ning to be held in St Laurence's Church

February - annual coffee morning at 26 Broad Street, home of Elizabeth and Leonard Bennett

April - The Palmers' Feast

June - Garden Party at Maryvale, Mill Street, home of Alison and Richard Cundall.

## Drainpipes running freely - Garden Looking Good



*A beautiful new hopper*

THE PAVED GARDEN at the South East and East end of the church, now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year has developed very well, so much so that this year the Ludlow in Bloom organisers have requested that the judges visit as part of the 'Ludlow in Bloom Town Tour'. Jen Davies, who maintains the garden, says that the planting is still about 80% natural planting from self seeding wild flowers, judiciously weeded or thinned; the other 20% being carefully thought out planting or seeding. Visitors' comments are very favourable. Jen Davies



## Trustee Spring Shuffle

THIS SPRING WE had a move around within the Trustee body and reallocated our 'officer' responsibilities. We are a very active group and every Trustee plays a part in most of the events we put on and in the general running of the Trust. We have discovered, more or less by accident, that a Trustee will either suggest an event and then run with it, or pick-up an idea that has already been put forward and carry it forward. However, any organisation such as ours needs to have people in position to maintain the ordinary day-to-day procedures. It is necessary to have a Chairman to keep the Trustees in some sort of order: David Lloyd. We have to have a Vice Chair to step in should he not be able to do

so at any time: Jen Davies. Our Treasurer (vital): Michael Hunt. We now have an Administrator: Helen Coleman. We have someone to oversee the Supporters' file: Maureen Stinton. Most of the general publicity is handled by Jen Davies, 'though every event leader/organiser will see to much of their own by way of posters, tickets etc. This does not mean that any one of us stands in isolation because

our larger events, for example The Palmers' Feast, require all to play their part. The Trust has representation from organisations of the town: John Aitken, Town Councillor; Bill Eastwell, Civic Society and Ewart Carson, Churchwarden of St Laurence's. The remaining co-opted Trustees: Joanne Lindsay and Rosemary Wood. Over the coming issues of the Newsletter we plan to present a profile of each Trustee, starting (in alphabetical order) with John Aitken.



*David Lloyd, Chairman of the Conservation Trust*

## John Aitken - Trustee

JOHN AITKEN JOINED the Conservation Trust as the representative of the Town Council in spring 2008. He joined the Town Council to, in his own words, represent constituents' views to the Council; ensure the Council considers the needs and wishes of ALL Ludlow residents; engage in open debate and help improve communications and finally, but crucially, work to restore the credibility of the council to regain the confidence of the community. These commendable ideals are part of the reason that the Trust accepted him so gladly. He is an experienced business man having worked in Human Resources, is married to Pam, has 2 daughters and is a Quaker. Amongst his many voluntary activities he is the Chair and a founder member of the Friends of St Leonard's Churchyard, a former steering group member of the Ludlow Hospital

League of Friends and is a member of the Ludlow Rotary Club. He has a keen interest in encouraging and involving the youth of the town. The Trust welcomes him and hopes that he will be part of its organisation for many years to come.



## The Old Ludlovians' Stall

The Old Ludlovians organised their fifth Annual Market Stall in aid of the Conservation Trust and the Teme Weirs Trust on Sunday 29 June. In less than favourable weather, including two really heavy showers, Trustee Jen Davies, her sister Polly Hamilton and Barbara Hall, also OLs and friends Helena and William Fox sold plants, jams, books and pictures. The successful outcome from sales and donations was £150. Many thanks to those who brought items to the sale and to those who came and supported us by purchase or donation. NB Plants which remained unsold (we closed a little early because of the weather), will be on sale at the Fête at St Laurence's on Saturday 12 July. Jen Davies



*Polly in the sunshine!*

## May Day in Herefordshire Coach trip to 3 contrasting churches

OUR FIRST STOP was for coffee at the home of Meryl and Christopher Powell. They welcomed us into their delightful house and garden and we were most grateful for their generosity. It proved quite hard to tear ourselves away for the short



*Kilpeck Church*

journey to **Kilpeck** where we were greeted by a churchwarden. For those who did not already know this little Norman church with its wealth of sculpture, it was a revelation. Next stop, **Abbey Dore**, in its lovely setting amongst the orchards and gentle hill of the



*Elizabeth Bennett*

Golden Valley. It is a wonderful experience to see its origins as a Cistercian Abbey and how it was rescued from ruin in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, since then largely untouched by

restoration. **Abbey Dore Court Gardens** was the location for our picnic lunch. We were able to enjoy the extensive gardens and meet its owner before going on to **Shobdon**, a restful drive through the sunny countryside. The church, as rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century is a unique blend of fanciful gothic decoration. Most of our party, taking advantage of the lovely sunny weather, walked up the grassy hill to the ‘**Shobdon Arches**’ – the Norman

chancel arch re-erected as a folly. We rounded the day with a delicious tea of chocolate cakes at Dunkerton Cider Mill.



*Enjoying lunch*

The Trustees would like to thank Elizabeth Bennett and Helen Coleman for a glorious day out and for all the thought and planning that went into it.

## Evening visit to Stockton Bury Gardens – Kimbolton June 14, 2008



*Linda and Steve Binns by the bed of oxeye daisies*

wandered freely through, round, under and over the bowing greenery. An ancient Monkey Puzzle tree stood tall on the smooth soft lawn. Vegetables (surrounded by full, colourful beds), were growing in abundance – perhaps we would taste some later? Well trimmed hedges hid secret openings beyond which were smaller intimate areas, while the bank of Oxeye daisies was a feast for the eyes. A natural spring has been used to create a singing stream with iris, grasses, lilies and other water loving plants. Tucked away is a grotto,

not unlike those seen in the gardens of Italian villas. Our evening was brought to an end with a delicious supper served in the barn. This is next to a large orchard of apple trees stretching towards the fields. Here Clun sheep that have been reared on this land for hundreds of years, could be seen grazing peacefully. We spent a very enjoyable evening and these Gardens are certainly now on my list of places to take visitors in the future. Our thanks go to Helen Coleman for organising such a successful visit. Fay Carson

NOT ONLY WERE we blessed with sunshine when we visited Stockton Bury Gardens but we were also bowled over by the delights of this very special place. Twenty two of us



*Peter doesn't like onions!*



*The water garden*

## A Feast to Remember

FRIDAY 16 MAY saw more than 60 of us gather together for the second annual Palmers' Feast, an evening which has already established itself as an important event in Ludlow's social calendar. The venue, like last year, was the Old School Room of Ludlow College in Mill Street which was decked out to provide a truly festive setting for the occasion. The feast itself was a splendid 4-course gastronomic delight, ably prepared and served by Capers, naturally using only the finest of local produce as befits a town that is proud of its membership of *Cittàslow*. During the course of the feast we were entertained by the five singers of "Sons of Harmony", led by Shaun Ward, St Laurence's Director of Music, who delighted us with their varied programme of part-songs, nicely tuned to the occasion. The combination of superb food, excellent wines, music and good



*Matthew Lenthall, Shaun Ward and Patrick Dunachie, three members of the "Sons of Harmony"*

companionship made this very much an evening to savour and remember. The date of next year's Feast will be published shortly – a date for your diary!

Ewart Carson



*Don Beattie, Hilary Clayton-Smith, Fay Carson and Jane Hunt*



*Bill Lloyd-Kitchen, Jean Turner, Penny Dunachie and Gareth Williams*