



Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

The Bike 'n Hike

The Beds. & Herts. Historic Churches Trust runs this event on the second Saturday of September each year with the aim of raising money both for the Trust and for the participating churches, with half of the sponsorship money going to each.

The Bike 'n Hike is the most important fundraiser for the Trust and key to enabling it to continue to give grants to churches and chapels for the care and repair of their buildings, which are so important in the lives of our towns and villages. The Trust is non-denominational and our grants are available to any place of public Christian worship of whatever denomination or age. The church's share of the money raised can be used for any of the church's activities, not just building projects.

It is open to everyone to take part, whether churchgoer or not, who is interested in supporting our heritage of church buildings. Often churches are open for the event which normally have to be kept locked, so it is a great opportunity for a visit. Plan your own route – a personal challenge worthy of sponsorship – and ask your friends, relatives and colleagues to sponsor you. The churches are listed in areas to make planning a bit easier.

We encourage churches to be open between 9am and 5pm. Bikers, hikers and other visitors (whether by car, mobility scooter, etc.) sign the Register to say they have visited and get their form signed to confirm their visit. Often there are refreshments available and a chance to look round the church.

After the event, money raised should be given to your church organiser, together with the sponsorship form. This is then submitted to the Trust using the supplied remittance form which also asks for the details needed by BHHCT to return the church's share of the money to them. If you do not know a church contact, please email bikenhike@bedshertshct.org.uk.

Alternatively you can use the online site JustGiving to make it even easier to collect sponsorship money. Any participant or team can create a page on JustGiving and use email or social media to encourage friends and family to sponsor their efforts.

Encourage your sponsors to gift aid their sponsorship, to raise another 25% courtesy of the tax man. Gift aid is kept by the Trust to help with grants. Also, some employers will match fund your efforts.

We encourage folk of all ages to take part but do be aware of personal safety and take appropriate care. Remember the Highway Code and use off road routes where possible, adding to the pleasure of the day.