

## The Historic Religious Buildings Alliance

### *The Big Update*

Wednesday 14 June 2023 at St John's Waterloo,  
73 Waterloo Road, SE1 8TY

### Programme and Biographies

Welcome to the 2023 Big Update.

The day is a mix of shorter and longer items. Those marked ♦ are short, pacey items, typically ten minutes or less; those with □ against them are more reflective, typically twenty minutes or more.

The event is not being recorded. Powerpoint presentations and videos will be placed on our website a few days after the meeting.

**We are grateful to Cathedral Communications for sponsoring this event.**

9.30: St John's will be open for tea, coffee etc.

#### 10.15: First Session

- ♦ *Welcome* from Trevor Cooper, Chair, the Historic Religious Buildings Alliance
- ♦ *What is happening at St John's?* – Canon Giles Goddard, Vicar of St John's
- ♦ *Becoming a corporate events venue – where to start?* – short presentation by Kate Cullinan and Susan Morrissey
- ♦ *How digital interpretation tools can increase visitor engagement* – short presentation by John Harte, ATS Heritage
- *What is happening to parish churches in Wales?* – remote interview with Alex Glanville of the Church in Wales, interviewed by Sara Crofts
- ♦ Emily Gee, who became Director for Cathedral and Church Buildings for the Church of England in the Spring, will briefly introduce herself

#### 11.25 (approx) Refreshments

## 11.55 Second Session

- *Changing Places*  
Paula Griffiths will reflect on how her different roles dealing with historic church buildings, from the Civil Service to ordained ministry, have influenced her perceptions of the issues facing the sector
- ◆ *A little help: short training films from the National Churches Trust*  
Presented by Sarah Crossland
- *Lively Stones: sketching the place of church buildings in our cultural landscape*  
Bishop Andrew Rumsey, national co-lead for church buildings and cathedrals for the Church of England, looks for clues in the past for the future of England's parish churches

## 13.05 (approx) Lunch (cold buffet)

## 13.50 Third Session

- ◆ *Your Big Update*  
Open to any member of the audience, maximum of three minutes per person, updating us with news you want to share. No diatribes, no hard sell. Do you want to speak? – let us know before the end of lunch. The following have already asked for a slot: Adam Klups, Martin Renshaw, Katie Steele.
- *Church attendance post Covid and its implications*  
Dr Bev Botting explains the findings of recent research on how Covid has affected church attendance, and considers what this means in practice
- ◆ *Living Stones: The Heritage Stimulus Fund and Capital Repairs to Outstanding Catholic Churches 2020–2022* – brief presentation from Sophie Andreae
- *Collaborating to address church closures in Scotland - the approach of the BEFS Places of Worship Forum*  
Interview with Sara Crofts, Chair of the BEFS Places of Worship Forum for Scotland, interviewed by Diana Evans, who convenes the Historic England Places of Worship Forum

## 15.20 (approx) Refreshments

## 15.40 Fourth Session

- ◆ *2023: Political turmoil and heritage: an insider's view from here to the Election*  
Lizzie Glithero-West, Chair of the Heritage Alliance
- ◆ *Virtually there: using digital tools to provide access and encourage giving!* – a short presentation by Louise Hampson
- *Heritage Open Days: Unwrapping the 'too good to be true' festival*  
Liam Montgomery explains how Heritage Open Days can help your church

## Finish by 16.45

*Please stay for cake and a glass of something sparkling as you chat the day over*

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Sophie Andreae is the Vice Chair of the Patrimony Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW).** As part of the government's Culture Recovery Fund announced in 2020, funding was made available via Historic England in two rounds for urgent capital repairs to Grade I and Grade II\* buildings open to the public. Church buildings were able to benefit from this funding. The CBCEW was successful in obtaining £6.5m to support repairs at 39 outstanding Catholic churches in England. Sophie will outline the challenges and successes of the programme and lessons it may hold for the future. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/patrimony/>

**Dr Bev Botting is Data Analyst for the Diocese of Oxford**, where she is responsible for providing statistics on all aspects of the Church of England in the Diocese of Oxford and wider ecumenical data. She also is a freelance statistician providing consultancy and commissioning research in the field of the Anglican church and faith more widely. Previously she worked as Head of Research and Statistics for the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England. [bev.botting@lineone.net](mailto:bev.botting@lineone.net)

**Trevor Cooper, Chair of the HRBA**, has had a long-standing interest in church buildings and their future. He wrote *How do we keep our parish churches?* and he jointly edited *Pews, benches and chairs*, looking at the history of church seating, and discussing its future development. He also edited *For public benefit: churches cared for by Trusts*, looking at the variety of Trusts caring for churches no longer needed for regular worship. He has been an external member since 2002 of the Historic England Places of Worship Forum and its predecessor and sat on Southwark DAC between 2003 and 2013. He was Chairman of Council of the Ecclesiological Society from 2000 to 2018. His historical research focuses on the interior of the English parish church after the Reformation. [www.hrballiance.org.uk/](http://www.hrballiance.org.uk/)

**Sara Crofts is currently the Chair of the Places of Worship Forum set up by BEFS (Built Environment Forum Scotland).** She has spent most of her career working in the cultural heritage sector, with various roles at SPAB, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Icon (the Institute of Conservation). Places of worship have featured prominently in her work. She led the SPAB's Faith in Maintenance project and also has many years of experience of dealing with changes to church buildings. She was heavily involved in the Taylor Review into the Sustainability of English Churches and Cathedrals and was the Secretary of the Chapels Society for a while. <https://www.befs.org.uk/policy-topics/places-of-worship-forum/>

**Sarah Crossland is Engagement Manager at the National Churches Trust.** She has worked on regional and national church tourism projects for 25 years and currently manages the church tourism strategy to ensure that churches are promoted and seen as key heritage attractions. She also leads on training and church membership for the Trust and manages the National Church Awards process and event. Sarah is also a Trustee of the Churches Visitor and Tourism Association and heritage adviser on Sheffield Diocese DAC. <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore>

**Kate Cullinan is Marketing & Events Manager, St Johns' Waterloo.** The church uses revenue from corporate events to facilitate access to its spaces for charity and community groups, and to support the wide range of work in the community carried out through its charity, The Bridge at Waterloo. <https://stjohnswaterloo.org/venue-hire/>

**Keri Dearmer is co-editor of the monthly HRBA newsletter.** Keri trained in historic building conservation at Oxford Brookes. She is Church Buildings Officer for the Church Buildings Council. She previously worked at the Diocese of Southwark as the Historic Churches Support Officer and has experience as a Heritage Consultant. Keri is Chair of the SPAB London Committee and an ASCHB Committee Member. <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare>

**Charlotte Dodgeon is a freelance Heritage Consultant and the Volunteer Policy Officer for the HRBA.** Before going freelance, Charlotte worked at the NLHF for nearly 15 years, and was the Programme Manager for the Places of Worship programmes, the Townscape Heritage Initiative and was part of the team developing the Roof Repair Fund. She also worked at Historic England, where she handled the JPOW casework for the South West. She primarily works with places of worship, helping them navigate the funding landscape, and develop and deliver their applications. In her role for HRBA, she works closely with Trevor and Becky to keep abreast of changes to government and ecclesiastical

legislation that impacts places of worship, and helps ensure that the voice of HRBA is heard in consultations.

**Diana Evans has been Head of Places of Worship Strategy at Historic England since 2008.** She convenes the Places of Worship Forum, liaising with faith groups and denominations to explore the challenges of the conservation and sustainable future of historic places of worship. She contributes to the development of Historic England's thinking, policy and actions in relation to places of worship including research and partnership projects to improve understanding and provide evidence to underpin advice to Government.

**Emily Gee is Director for Cathedral and Church Buildings for the Church of England.** She is responsible for providing strategic national leadership for the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings. She leads the national church team supporting parishes, cathedrals, and dioceses with their buildings, enabling them to be used to best missional effect whilst ensuring their protection, enhancement, conservation, and appropriate adaptation. She was previously the Regional Director for London and South East for Historic England, where her responsibilities included Historic England's statutory listing and planning advice, stakeholder engagement, and grants and regeneration projects in the region, and work on contested heritage.

**Alex Glanville is Head of Property Services for the Church in Wales,** a role which covers all aspects of Church property across Wales. A Chartered Surveyor for over 30 years, he has worked previously in estate management positions for a variety of private and charity landowners.

**Canon Giles Goddard has been Vicar of St John's since September 2009.** He is closely involved in helping the Church of England to be more fully inclusive. He is chair of Faith for the Climate which works to support interfaith work on climate change and is a member of the Church of England's Environment Working Group. He is also currently undertaking a course on spiritual direction. Before being ordained he worked for the John Lewis Partnership before in 1988 joining the Housing Corporation, the government agency then responsible for funding social housing. He became Development Director for ASRA Housing Association in 1989, before joining the newly formed Southwark and London Diocesan Housing Association in 1991 as its founding Director, until he was ordained. His book, *Space for Grace – creating inclusive churches*, was published by Canterbury Press.

**Lizzie Glithero-West has been the Chief Executive of The Heritage Alliance since 2016.** Her previous career has been mainly in the civil service and she has expert knowledge of a wide range of policy areas including archaeology, heritage protection, museums and tourism. Lizzie has also spent time as Private Secretary to Culture Ministers and the Permanent Secretary, as Head of Logistics at DCMS at the time of the General Election, and on secondment to English Heritage and to the National Museum Directors' Council. Lizzie's first love is heritage. She is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, writes about Cultural Education and tries to keep up with her academic interest in Egyptian Revival. She is a member of Royal Holloway's humanities advisory board and lectures at Oxford University on heritage.  
[www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/](http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/)

**Paula Griffiths** was born in a vicarage and grew up seeing parish life from the inside. After reading History at Oxford, she joined the (then) Department of the Environment, and from 1987–1992 headed the branch responsible for policy on listed buildings – including policy on the ecclesiastical exemption. The next 10 years with (what was then) English Heritage, where she became Secretary of their advisory panel on church buildings and cathedrals, were followed in 2002 by five years leading the Church of England's Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division. During this time a call to the priesthood developed and, after training at Westcott House, she was ordained and became part of a Team Ministry in 2009 - graduating in 2021 to their ranks of retired clergy, and gaining a little more time for writing and poetry.

**Dr Louise Hampson is a Research fellow Head of Heritage Research and Partnerships for The Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture, University of York.** She works on medieval and early modern culture, and stained glass. She completed a PhD in History of Art at the University of York in 2016 on the post-medieval reception and care of the stained glass of York Minster. She has published on the Minster and has a book based on her thesis in preparation with Brill's *Art and Material Culture in Medieval*

and Renaissance Europe series. She works extensively with churches and cathedrals of all sizes across the country, helping them to connect their heritage with their mission and improve sustainability and outreach. <https://www.christianityandculture.org.uk/>

**John Harte is Digital Experience Consultant with ATS Heritage.** With a background in television production and marketing, John has spent the last 10 years working in digital interpretation for heritage and ecclesiastic sites across the UK. Having project managed the introduction of audio and multimedia guides at many churches and cathedrals across the UK, he brings an understanding of on-site visitor behaviour and the ever changing trends in digital interpretation. While perhaps best known for their multimedia guides at St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, ATS Heritage has developed digital interpretation tools for places of worship of all sizes across the UK. These include the recently launched multimedia guide at Canterbury Cathedral and the latest project for St James's Church Piccadilly, who commissioned a 360-degree virtual tour as part of their strategy to position themselves as a heritage and cultural site. <https://ats-heritage.co.uk/>

**Adam Klups is Care of Churches & DAC Team Leader and Senior Church Buildings Officer at the Diocese of Gloucester, UK.** He is passionate about conservation management, building conservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings. He holds a BA in History of Art with Material Studies, and an MA in Principles of Conservation, both from UCL. Adam is a Fellow of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC) and a full member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC). He sits on the council of the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust. [www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/church-buildings-and-churchyards/](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/church-buildings-and-churchyards/)

**Liam Montgomery is the Heritage Open Days Marketing & Projects Manager at the National Trust.** He has worked in the heritage sector for seven years, previously at the Museum of Brands and the Royal Opera House. He has an MA in Cultural Heritage Studies, from UCL's Institute of Archaeology and a BA in Religion, Philosophy, and Ethics from King's College London. His background is predominantly in marketing and communications, community engagement, and project planning and evaluation. Currently, Liam oversees the national marketing of Heritage Open Days and runs a youth engagement project, New Wave, helping heritage organisations to co-create events for the Heritage Open Days festival each year. <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

**Susan Morrissey is Co-Founder of Venue Doctors, and Advisor to the Trustees, St John's Waterloo.** She has over 30 years' experience both as venue consultant and as sales director, with particular experience in the heritage and arts sectors. Her venue clients have a primary purpose – be it church, palace, Inn of Court, museum, gallery, visitor centre or heritage attraction – which they need to fulfil alongside the need to generate secondary revenue from other sources. She guides them on how to bring their building to market and successfully generate new income streams from events. <https://venuedoctors.com/>

**Becky Payne is Director of Development, HRBA.** Becky was the Policy Officer within the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division for seven years, promoting the potential of church buildings as a resource for the whole community. Becky now works as a freelance consultant and researcher on sustaining historic places of worship through wider community use. She has undertaken research work and evaluations for (among others) the National Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, the Arthur Rank Centre, the National Churches Trust, the SPAB Maintenance Co-operative Project, various CofE Dioceses and the Open University's Empowering Design Practices. In 2020, she became a consultant with the Centre for Christianity and Culture, University of York working first on a research-led project looking at the impact of Covid-19 on churches and currently working on an initiative to provide churches with access to resources. [www.hrballiance.org.uk/](http://www.hrballiance.org.uk/)

**Martin Renshaw is one of the founding trustees of Pipe Up for Pipe Organs.** This is a year-old charity which is already well-known through its installing an organ at London Bridge station (first in the world?) last year and now another in the Whitgift shopping mall in Croydon (first in UK) as well as through the film 'Organ Stops' shown on BBC3 on Christmas Eve. It aims to find new ways in which organs can be appreciated and made available to the communities they were made for, using innovative ideas and by working with other organisations and sponsors. Martin has been a musician from an early age, and organ builder and historian (more recently of medieval music-making). <https://www.pipe-up.org.uk/>

**Bishop Andrew Rumsey is national co-lead for church buildings and cathedrals for the Church of England.** Dr Rumsey became the Bishop of Ramsbury in October 2018, and is responsible for the Wiltshire parts of the Diocese of Salisbury (as well as one parish in Dorset and four in Hampshire). As well as being an author whose writing centres on themes of place and local identity, he is also a musician with a longstanding interest in song writing and popular music.

**Katie Steele is Founder of Cheribim,** a Remote Environmental Monitoring pilot in South Yorkshire. Previously she has been LBAC Secretary for the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Baptist Union of Wales, delivering the Baptist Heritage Property Initiative, and has also worked for the Diocese of Sheffield as Historic Buildings Support Officer. Her particular interests lie in defining heritage value and using technology for conservation through her PhD research into Historic Building Information Modelling, on which she also guest lectures. She has an MA in Conservation of the Built Environment and is a full member of the IHBC. [Katie@cheribimapp.com](mailto:Katie@cheribimapp.com)