St. Kyneburgha Building Preservation Trust
Safeguarding this ancient building for present and future communities

Since September, "Project Rot" has been completed with an exciting discovery on the way. The Time Team broadcast date is set and we are planning an exciting range of events for this year

Latest – Time Team broadcast

We have just heard that "Beneath the Graves" – the Time Team's programme about their dig at Castor in June last year, will be shown at 5.30pm Sunday 13th March.

Trust projects

"Project Rot" has been completed to plan, in spite of some of the additional discoveries along the way. Thanks to Jackie Cook's work and the generosity of the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, it has been funded part by grant and part loan. William Baxter has done a great job managing the project even managing to secure £200 for recycling the unwanted radiators!

Coffin Discovery
During the works to improve the drainage along the south aisle wall (a potential source of the rot), Robbie Lander and Jason Green discovered a limestone coffin. Adrian Challands, a local Archaeological Geophysicist from Helpston, was asked to investigate and report.

Adrian's report establishes that the south aisle wall (1230) was built over the coffin in its original burial location rather than the coffin being moved and used to prop up the wall. He discovered evidence of subsidence which had been repaired and tracked this back to the building of a vault inside the church for John Lawrence and Mary Wright in the 19th Century. Adrian's investigation also uncovered the footings of an earlier porch.

Trust events 2011

6th May Roman Birth of a Saxon Church – St. Kyneburgha's first 700 years
At St. Kyneburgha's itself – tickets will be available from April 1st - £12.50 each
This is the last in our current History Series: a look at the foundations of the present church out of the foundations of the Roman Praetorium. First a Saxon Convent, burned twice by the Danes, rebuilt by the Saxon-Normans with substantial extensions up until the 14th Century. The stories are in the stone, the walls, the wood and the artefacts used and reused over the first 700 years of this building's earliest life. This evening will comprise a talk illustrated with sound and light, complimented by mini-tours to illustrate what you have heard. Accompanied by a beer or a glass of wine, it promises to be a splendid evening.
tickets@stkbpt.org – add your name to the list for a ticket reservation

19th June Treasure Hunt at Milton Park
Our Patron, Lady Isabella is kindly hosting a fun afternoon around Milton Park hunting for treasure. Bring your own picnic and savour our locally sourced traditional soft drinks and see what else you can find! Tickets will be available from May 1st at tickets@stkbpt.org

Summer Roman Roamings
June – July - We will be repeating our Roman Strolls – these were very popular and we will offering a further opportunity to catch up with the Romans in Castor 2000 years ago. Dates and tickets will be available to friends subscribing to our newsletter in May from
tickets@stkbpt.org

Will you help us?
We are keen to attract regular donors. A small regular donation of £5 or £10 a month means that we can put more energy into grant applications and events which show of the history of the church and its situation and less into other forms of fundraising. All trust funds are spent on the preservation and maintenance of the church building and its environs. If you are interested in becoming a regular donor please contact William Baxter confidentially on William.Baxter@virgin.net.

Would you like to get involved with the Trust?

We are a small group with a big challenge and we rely on the support of a wide circle of Friends to both help arrange and support the events that raise the precious money the Trust needs to fund its work. In addition to raising money through the events we run, a large amount of the money we spend comes from grant applications. Once we have a project identified and funds available, the Trust manages the project directly or with the help of a volunteer. If you would like to take part, then please get in touch.
Claire Winfrey, Chairman of the St. Kyneburgha Building Preservation Trust, 380216 or Claire@winfrey.co.uk.

Please consider remembering the Trust in your will to help preserve the church of St Kyneburgha for the enjoyment of future generations

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What is the St Kyneburgha Building Preservation Trust?
The Trust was set up in 2000 to deal with what became our first project, the crisis of the East Window which was in serious need of repair.

The church of St. Kyneburgha is one of two Cambridgeshire entries in the top 100 churches in the country. (The other is the church at Barnack which also has a Building Preservation Trust). Over the last 9 years, the Trust has funded 8 projects including the rejuvenation of the porch, contributing to the heating, re-siting the 7th century Saxon figure and setting up the mensa – a 14th Century altar in the Lady Chapel.

Built by the Normans St. Kyneburgha's church was built by the Normans on the site of a Roman Palace and dedicated in 1124. It is one of the oldest buildings in the country, Grade 1 listed, with features of great interest to architectural historians and admirers of Anglo Saxon building expertise. Any repairs or adjustments to the church require specialist architectural guidance and workmanship. It is, perhaps inevitably, an expensive building to maintain.

The Trust is responsible for raising money, deciding which projects to fund, managing projects and communication. As a registered charity its mission is to maintain, improve and enhance the building and surrounds of this ancient church.

Happy staying in touch?
Our plan is to communicate our news via email. If you would rather we did not email you then reply to this email with **Unsubscribe** in the subject heading. We also use the Parish Magazine and village websites to publicise events.