

Suggestions from Ride & Stride Tea Party – March 2026

Publicity



Advertise event in good time: local newspapers, Parish magazines

Publicise to bicycle clubs, rambling associations, riding clubs

Suggest routes around main churches: Chelmsford Cathedral, St Mary's Saffron Walden, Colchester, Southend/Westcliff or themed routes (?use ChatGPT)

Publicise/circulate afterwards experiences with photos, what the cause is and what was raised

Capture parish email addresses via R&S return forms and website – *Actioned*

Problem submitting 'Churches Open' form on webpage – *In progress*

Spread the fun (and the effort)



Organise across a benefice/liaise with neighbouring churches

Encourage local churches to open

Encourage youth of the church and community to participate

Hold other events on day of R&S – art show, cleaning party, flower festival, performances, exhibitions, tower tours, bell ringing

On the day



Be flexible about date/start times, particularly if other church events already planned

?Hold event on Sunday or other more suitable day

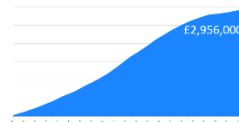
Put up roadside signs and bunting, tables at church/garden/verge

Revisiting local churches can be repetitive – drive to start from another location

Towns and cities offer greater concentration and variety of churches to visit

Photograph churches visited that are not open

Increasing the money raised



Obtain sponsorship from local businesses/employers

Sponsor stewards/put exercise bike in church/garden and sponsor riders

Put on website a list of employers sympathetic to matched funding

JustGiving makes donating easy.

Print QR code of FECT JustGiving page onto Sponsorship Form

Take donations by bank transfer

