What, in the majority of towns and villages, is the most impressive building? You’ve guessed it: the church! And Wiltshire, as much as any county, has a rich variety of styles of architecture and historical features to explore.

**Ride+Stride** provides an ideal opportunity to visit some of our county’s beautiful churches. Most will be open on Ride+Stride Day, **Saturday 14th September**, and many will have someone to welcome you with refreshments. If you can at the same time get friends, family, church members to sponsor you, you can make a valuable contribution to church funds. Half of the money raised also goes to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, enabling it to give grants for the upkeep and enhancement of churches and chapels around the county. 40 churches benefited from grants last year.

Participants can take part on a bike, on foot or on horseback. Last year the ages of the 350 or so who took part ranged from 3 to 86, and over £62,000 was raised. There is no enrolment fee – just get a sponsorship form and instructions from your Parish Organiser or from the website (see below), and then plan your own route. Whether you simply walk from one local church to another or more ambitiously aim to cycle to fifty churches, you are a welcome participant. There are also prizes for the most successful individuals and parishes.

***This year the event will be ceremonially launched at St. Bartholomew’s Church, Corsham, by the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mrs Sarah Troughton. Participants from the Corsham area might like to plan their route to start from there.***

For more information contact Charles Graham, email ctg100@hotmail.com or visit <https://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk>.