

HISTORIC CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

Renown 3054

FULHAM PALACE, LONDON, S.W.6
27 May 1954

Relay, 1 June 1954

Final Arrangements

1. Time, Changing Room, Transport

The Prime Minister has agreed to hand the cheques to the runners at 11.45 a.m. in Downing St. A changing room will be available in the crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields from 11 a.m. onwards. It will be convenient if the runners taking part will assemble there, even if they come changed, for final briefing and to make sure everyone is present. If anyone specially wants to go straight to Downing St., I should be glad to know. Cars will be available to take runners to Downing St. at 11.30 a.m. Mr. Griffiths, senior Verger of St. Martin's, will see that the changing room is kept locked until the return of the runners.

Runners are asked to bring any appropriate vest and shorts to which they are entitled (e.g. International or Blue) and shoes suitable for running along the roads. Mr. George Smith of the A.A.A. will provide track suits.

2. Assembly and Distribution of Runners

The runners will assemble in Downing St. near the door of No. 10 and it is expected that the Prime Minister will wish to greet them.

Car No. 1 will then take Lord John Hope, Mr. Hamilton Kerr, Mr. Geoffrey de Freitas and Colonel Frank Byers to the steps of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and will go on to St. Clement Danes.

Car No. 2 will take A.C.2. Scamm, Mr. Disley, Mr. Vernon Morgan and Mr. P.Ll. R. Morgan to St. Clement Danes; it will go on to St. Paul's Cathedral.

Car No. 3 will take Mr. Alan Pennington and Mr. G. Narkoville to St. Paul's Cathedral, and will go on to All Hallows, London Wall.

3. Start

When the cars have moved out of Downing St., Mr. Roger Bannister, Mr. Christopher Chataway, Mr. C.R. Brasher and Mr. Gordon Pirie will line up for the start. Mr. Bulmer-Thomas will hand the Prime Minister an addressed envelope containing a cheque for £500, being a grant from the Trust to a London church, and the Prime Minister will hand it to the runner who is to bear it, thus,

Mr. Bannister	-	St. Margaret Pattens
Mr. Chataway	-	All Hallows, London Wall
Mr. Brasher	-	St. Martin, Ludgate
Mr. Pirie	-	St. George, Bloomsbury

The Prime Minister will probably give the runners the signal to start by lowering a handkerchief or flag; if not, Mr. E.H.L. Clynes, Honorary Secretary of the A.A.A. will do so.

Mr. Bannister, Mr. Chataway, Mr. Brasher and Mr. Pirie will then run along Downing St., turn left into Whitehall, follow the line of traffic round Trafalgar Square, until they come to St. Martin-in-the-Fields. They will be

/preceded

preceded by television and news reel vans, and they are asked to keep behind the vans and to keep "in the picture" as much as possible. If the lights are against them in Trafalgar Square, it is probable that the police will let the vans and the runners through. There will be no objection to running abreast on this first stage of the route.

4. The Relay

At St. Martin's the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Mr. Bannister to Lord John Hope
Mr. Chataway to Mr. Hamilton Kerr
Mr. Brasher to Mr. de Freitas
Mr. Pirie to Colonel Byers

All four runners will run along the Strand. In this area running abreast will probably be impossible, and it may be best to run in file. The television van will try to keep the runners in view. When the runners come to Aldwych they should follow the line of traffic round the crescent until they come to the ruined church of St. Clement Danes (to be rebuilt as the R.A.F. church).

Car No. 1 will be waiting to take Lord John Hope, Mr. Kerr, Mr. de Freitas and Colonel Byers back to St. Martin's.

At St. Clement Danes the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Lord John Hope to Mr. Disley
Mr. Kerr to Mr. Ll. Morgan
Mr. de Freitas to Mr. Vernon Morgan
Colonel Byers to A.C. 2 Seaman

A.C.2 Seaman will run back along Aldwych, turn right into Kingsway and run the whole length of Kingsway, turn left into High Holborn and sharp right into Bloomsbury Way; this will bring him to St. George, Bloomsbury. He will find the rector waiting there for him in his robes and should hand over his envelope. (He will be provided with a small sketch map.)

Mr. Disley, Mr. Ll. Morgan and Mr. Vernon Morgan will run along the Strand, Fleet St. and Ludgate Hill. The television van will still be trying to keep them in view. At St. Martin, Ludgate, Mr. Vernon Morgan should hand over his envelope to the rector who will be waiting in his robes. Mr. Disley and Mr. Ll. Morgan should run on to the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Car No.2 will be waiting there to take Mr. Disley, Mr. Ll. Morgan and Mr. Vernon Morgan back to St. Martin's, picking up A.C.2. Seaman first.

At St. Paul's Cathedral the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Mr. Disley to Mr. Pennington
Mr. Ll. Morgan to Mr. Nankeville

Mr. Pennington and Mr. Nankeville will run together along the south side of St. Paul's and into Cannon Street. The television van will be trying to keep them in view. At the junction of Cannon St. and Queen Victoria St. they will separate.

Mr. Pennington will continue along Cannon St. and into Eastcheap until he comes on the north side to St. Margaret Pattens. There he will find the vicar waiting and should hand over his envelope.

/ Mr. Nankeville

Mr. Nankeville will turn left into Queen Victoria St., and at the end of that street will turn into Princes St. (skirting the Bank of England) and so into Moorgate. He will run some distance along Moorgate until about the third turning on the right he sees London Wall. He will turn into London Wall, and cross Blomfield St., and will then see All Hallows on his left. (He will be provided with a small sketch map.) The vicar will be waiting in his robes to receive the envelope.

Car No 3 will be waiting at All Hallows and will pick up Mr. Nankeville, go back to St. Margaret Pattens to pick up Mr. Pennington and return them both to St. Martin's (unless Mr. Pennington wishes to go straight to his office).

Notes

I shall be grateful if runners who are put to any expense in taking part will let me know, and I shall see that they are reimbursed.

The police will co-operate in letting the runners and the television and newsreel vans through as smoothly as possible, but, of course, it is not possible to clear the streets of other traffic, and runners should pick their way as best they can round stationary vehicles. I am asked to point out also that the police cannot be responsible for safety; this must be a matter for the individual runner. There is no occasion for racing. I should be grateful if runners would co-operate as fully as possible with photographers and the television and newsreel services as we desire to get the pictures shown as widely as possible throughout the country.

IVOR BULMER-THOMAS

Chairman, Executive Committee

Issued on behalf of:—

Indian L. Trach. 2 - Bury R.
34 marks - Bury.
~~JUNE 1~~
Historic Churches Trust. 74.1
34

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE 9 a.m. THURSDAY, MAY 20.

? } (annum Row. OK. 6 x 4.1
BANNISTER TO RUN IN LONDON
THROUGH STREET WITH G. PIRIE

Roger Bannister, first man to run a mile in less than 4 minutes, will be running through the streets in London's West End on June 1.

With him will be Chris Chataway, the Oxford Blue who paced him during his record, and Gordon Pirie, the Olympic long-distance runner, who is hoping to run a mile against Bannister later this year.

Bannister and the other runners will be carrying cheques handed out by Sir Winston Churchill from No.10, Downing Street, to be taken to four churches in the centre of London. 12-1-15

This will be part of "Save Our Churches" Week, beginning on May 31, when the Historic Churches Trust is making a drive for funds. Over 2,000 churches in different parts of England, many of them built before Elizabeth I was crowned, are in urgent need of repair. Architects' reports show that over £600,000 is required this year if some of these churches are to be saved.

Sir Winston Churchill, as a Trustee of the fund, will be sending off the first relay of runners with cheques for £500 each to these four London churches - St. Martin (Ludgate), St. Margaret Patten, St. George's (Bloomsbury), and All Hallows (London Wall).

From Downing Street the runners will go up Whitehall to St. Martin's in the Fields, where they will hand over the cheques to others, three of whom will be running along the Strand and Fleet St.

Among the runners there will be three MPs and one former MP, as well as other well-known athletes. They will include -

Lord John Hope, M.P., Hamilton W. Kerr, M.P. (Oxford Blue), Geoffrey de Freitas, M.P. (Cambridge Blue), Frank Byers (former Liberal Whip, Oxford Blue), Roger Bannister, Gordon Pirie, Chris Chataway, S.J. Disley (Olympic steeplechaser), G.W. Nankeville (Olympic runner), Vernon Morgan (Olympic runner), Alan Pennington (Oxford Blue, etc.), and Philip R.L. Morgan (Oxford Blue, etc.).

Issued on behalf of:—

21st May, 1954

The Editor.

Dear Sir,

Westminster Abbey.

It would be greatly appreciated if the contents of this letter could be regarded as confidential (not for publication) until 6 a.m. Monday, May 24.

As will be seen by the attached statement, the Dean of Westminster is releasing the news on Monday that the Abbey Appeal has reached its target of £1m.

Naturally there is a desire to mark the occasion by some simple ceremony and gesture. Accordingly quick arrangements have been made for a short ceremony and for the release of a thousand balloons carrying "thank you" messages. Full details of this are enclosed.

Any Press representatives or photographers wishing to attend the function on Monday will be welcome.

Yours faithfully,

Hereward Phillips

PRO

ENC:

Westminster Abbey.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE 6 a.m. MONDAY, MAY 24.

ABBAY REACHES £1m.

Westminster Abbey has reached its target of £1m. for urgent building repairs, maintenance of the fabric, and the endowment of the Choir School, for which an appeal was launched early in Coronation Year, just over twelve months ago.

Announcing this today, the Dean of Westminster (Dr. Alan Don) said - "The moving response to our appeal from men, women and children all over the English-speaking world should ensure the safety and life of the Abbey for many years to come.

"It is not yet possible to give the exact figure of the Fund. Information has, however, just reached us from friends in Australia and the United States showing that, with the gifts they have already collected together with what is expected from efforts in hand, the Abbey appeal has reached its target of £1m.

"At this moment I recall the eloquent words of our Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill when he launched this appeal -

'Westminster Abbey is not only an active centre of our religious faith, but the shrine of nearly a thousand years of our history... Our generation would indeed be held to shame by those who come afterwards if we failed to preserve this noble inheritance.'

"This generation has responded nobly and should be remembered gratefully in years to come.

"Those responsible for the maintenance of the Abbey in all its splendour, and of the great musical tradition of its services, can look forward to handing on their charge to their successors with pride and confidence. We can be sure that Britain's ancient Coronation Church, so recently the centre of all thoughts, will be worthy of many great occasions to come.

2.

"During the past year I have written hundreds of letters of thanks. I only wish I could personally thank everyone, - schoolchildren, housewives, societies, firms large and small, and especially our many friends overseas.

"The response to the Australian and American appeals was most generous. The fund in America was only launched in March and it will, therefore, be a month or so before it is complete. The figure of what they are sending is based upon an estimate by the co-chairmen.

"Now that the £1m. has been reached we at Westminster Abbey all hope and pray that the people will with the same enthusiasm help the Historic Churches Trust in its splendid task of assisting with the restoration of our lovely parish churches.

"The Dean and Chapter are particularly grateful to the Press and Radio throughout the English-speaking world, for it was largely due to their co-operation that success has been achieved. Recent research among medieval manuscripts at the Abbey has established very nearly the exact place where Caxton set up the first printing press. The Dean and Chapter have decided to place a suitable tablet outside Poets' Corner door commemorating this fact, as a token of their appreciation of the help received from the Press."

Work has already started on the immense task of repairing and cleaning the stonework of the Abbey, both inside and out. A great deal of the work requires skilled craftsmanship. This means that while most of the important repairs will be completed within four or five years, the full programme is not likely to be finished for ten years or more.

Westminster Abbey.

Note to News Editors. - The information below is for your guidance should you wish to send a representative or photographer to the Abbey. It would be appreciated if this information could be regarded as -

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE 6 a.m. MONDAY, MAY 24.

ABBAY CELEBRATES £1m.

1,000 BALLOONS WITH "THANK YOU" MESSAGE

A thousand balloons each with a thank you message, will be released at Westminster Abbey today (Monday, May 24) to celebrate the collection of £1m. for urgent building repairs and other purposes (see attached notes for Dean's statement and fuller particulars).

The celebrations on Monday, May 24, will be quite simple and are as follows -

12.30 - The Dean, Clergy, Choir and distinguished guests will assemble at the West Door. Cables from Australia and the USA will be delivered, giving news of amounts collected in those countries, which will increase the fund from £980,000 to over £1m. The Dean will announce this and express thanks.

A workman will paint in the "thermometer" outside Westminster Abbey, showing the fund has reached the million.

i. 12.35 - The party will move into the Abbey and, standing by the Unknown Warrior's grave, will sing a hymn, say a prayer, and conclude with the National Anthem.

12.40 - The party will proceed to Dean's Yard. As the bells of the Abbey ring out, the two youngest choristers will pull the rip-cords securing the roof of a tent, releasing a thousand coloured balloons. Each balloon will carry a card with this message -

"Greetings from Westminster Abbey -
appeal target achieved May 24, 1954 -
thank you very much."

1.15 - 1.45 - An organ recital of triumphant music in the Abbey.

Sturges /

SAVE OUR CHURCHES WEEK - MAY 31-JUNE 5.

Details of Programme.

Silver Steps, Monday, 10 a.m. - Part of the steps of St.Martins-in-the-Fields will be roped off and the public will be invited to cover them with silver. The first coin will be laid by Caroline, Viscountess Bridgeman, D.B.E., a member of the Church Assembly Commission on Historic Churches. Lady Bridgeman will be accompanied by nurses.

Service of Renewal, Monday, 6.30 p.m. - Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, will attend a Service of Renewal at St.Martins-in-the-Fields, at which an address will be given by the Bishop of London.

Prime Minister hands cheques to Roger Bannister and other athletes, Tuesday morning -

This has been arranged provisionally for 11.45 a.m. at 10 Downing Street. If it is found necessary to make any change this information will be circulated, but otherwise this should be regarded as firm. Please see special note attached giving details of the arrangements.

Choir Recital, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. St.Martins-in-the-Fields - By the Arnold Foster Choir and Orchestra.

Silver Steps, Wednesday, 11 45 a.m.- Dame Sybil Thorndike, D.B.E., accompanied by other actors and actresses, lay coins on the silver step.

Choir Recital, 7.30 p.m. St.Martins-in-the-Fields - By the New Fleet Street Choir.

Choir Recital, Thursday, 6.30 p.m.- By the Choir of All Saints, Margaret Street, W.1.

Conference on "Problems in the Preservation of Churches", - Church House, Westminster, Thursday and Friday (see leaflet attached).

In addition there will be at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday an Inaugural Service in Salisbury Cathedral of the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust at 8.30 p.m. on Thursday the St.Cross Players will present "Upon This Rock" at Holy Trinity, Brompton Road, W.1.

Historic Churches Trust

Issued on behalf of:—

SAVE OUR CHURCHES WEEK - MAY 31-JUNE 5

Prime Minister Hands Cheques to
Roger Bannister and Other Athletes.

Tuesday, June 1.

The Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, will be handing the cheques to the athletes at 10 Downing Street at 11.45 a.m. This time is provisional: if it is found necessary to make a change then details will be circulated, but otherwise this should be regarded as firm.

The Prime Minister, as a Trustee of the Historic Churches Trust, will be handing each runner an envelope, each containing a cheque for £500 being a grant from the Trust to four London churches in urgent need of repair. The churches are - St.Margaret Pattens (Rood Lane), St.Martin (Ludgate), All Hallows (London Wall), and St.George's (Bloomsbury).

The four runners at Downing Street will be - Roger Bannister, Gordon Pirie, Chris Chataway and C.W.Brasher. When they leave Downing Street they will run up Whitehall, round Trafalgar Square (following the traffic), to the steps of St.Martins-in-the-Fields. Here they will hand over the envelopes to three M.Ps and one former M.P. - Lord John Hope, M.P., Hamilton W.Kerr, M.P. (Oxford Blue), Geoffrey de Freitas, M.P. (Cambridge Blue), Frank Byers (former Liberal Whip, Oxford Blue).

These four will carry on down the Strand and round Aldwych. At the foot of Kingsway Mr.Byers will hand his envelope to an athlete to be carried up Kingsway to St.George's.

At St.Clement Danes the three M.Ps hand over to Vernon Morgan (Olympics), Philip R.Ll.Morgan (Oxford Blue, etc.), and J.Disloy (Olympics), who will run down Fleet Street and up Ludgate Hill. Vernon Morgan will deliver his envelope at St.Martin's in Ludgate.

At St.Paul's Cathedral the remaining two will hand over to G.W.Nankeville (Olympics) and Alan Pennington (Oxford Blue, etc.). Nankeville will carry on to All Hallows, and Pennington to St.Margaret Pattens, where the Vicar will be sitting outside the church all day to receive gifts.

HISTORIC CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

Renown 3054

FULHAM PALACE, LONDON, S.W.6
27 May 1954

Relay, 1 June 1954

Final Arrangements

1. Time, Changing Room, Transport

The Prime Minister has agreed to hand the cheques to the runners at 11.45 a.m. in Downing St. A changing room will be available in the crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields from 11 a.m. onwards. It will be convenient if the runners taking part will assemble there, even if they come changed, for final briefing and to make sure everyone is present. If anyone specially wants to go straight to Downing St., I should be glad to know. Cars will be available to take runners to Downing St. at 11.30 a.m. Mr. Griffiths, senior Verger of St. Martin's, will see that the changing room is kept locked until the return of the runners.

Runners are asked to bring any appropriate vest and shorts to which they are entitled (e.g. International or Blue) and shoes suitable for running along the roads. Mr. George Smith of the A.A.A. will provide track suits.

2. Assembly and Distribution of Runners

The runners will assemble in Downing St. near the door of No. 10 and it is expected that the Prime Minister will wish to greet them.

Car No. 1 will then take Lord John Hope, Mr. Hamilton Kerr, Mr. Geoffrey de Freitas and Colonel Frank Byers to the steps of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and will go on to St. Clement Danes.

Car No. 2 will take A.C.2. Scamm, Mr. Disley, Mr. Vernon Morgan and Mr. P.Ll. R. Morgan to St. Clement Danes; it will go on to St. Paul's Cathedral.

Car No. 3 will take Mr. Alan Pennington and Mr. G.Narkeville to St. Paul's Cathedral, and will go on to All Hallows, London Wall.

3. Start

When the cars have moved out of Downing St., Mr. Roger Bannister, Mr. Christopher Chataway, Mr. C.R. Brasher and Mr. Gordon Pirie will line up for the start. Mr. Bulmer-Thomas will hand the Prime Minister an addressed envelope containing a cheque for £500, being a grant from the Trust to a London church, and the Prime Minister will hand it to the runner who is to bear it, thus,

Mr. Bannister	-	St. Margaret Pattens
Mr. Chataway	-	All Hallows, London Wall
Mr. Brasher	-	St. Martin, Ludgate
Mr. Pirie	-	St. George, Bloomsbury

The Prime Minister will probably give the runners the signal to start by lowering a handkerchief or flag; if not, Mr. E.H.L. Clynes, Honorary Secretary of the A.A.A. will do so.

Mr. Bannister, Mr. Chataway, Mr. Brasher and Mr. Pirie will then run along Downing St., turn left into Whitehall, follow the line of traffic round Trafalgar Square, until they come to St. Martin-in-the-Fields. They will be

/preceded

preceded by television and news reel vans, and they are asked to keep behind the vans and to keep "in the picture" as much as possible. If the lights are against them in Trafalgar Square, it is probable that the police will let the vans and the runners through. There will be no objection to running abreast on this first stage of the route.

4. The Relay

At St. Martin's the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Mr. Bannister to Lord John Hope
Mr. Chataway to Mr. Hamilton Kerr
Mr. Brasher to Mr. de Freitas
Mr. Pirie to Colonel Byers

All four runners will run along the Strand. In this area running abreast will probably be impossible, and it may be best to run in file. The television van will try to keep the runners in view. When the runners come to Aldwych they should follow the line of traffic round the crescent until they come to the ruined church of St. Clement Danes (to be rebuilt as the R.A.F. church).

Car No. 1 will be waiting to take Lord John Hope, Mr. Kerr, Mr. de Freitas and Colonel Byers back to St. Martin's.

At St. Clement Danes the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Lord John Hope to Mr. Disley
Mr. Kerr to Mr. Ll. Morgan
Mr. de Freitas to Mr. Vernon Morgan
Colonel Byers to A.C. 2 Seaman

A.C.2 Seaman will run back along Aldwych, turn right into Kingsway and run the whole length of Kingsway, turn left into High Holborn and sharp right into Bloomsbury Way; this will bring him to St. George, Bloomsbury. He will find the rector waiting there for him in his robes and should hand over his envelope. (He will be provided with a small sketch map.)

Mr. Disley, Mr. Ll. Morgan and Mr. Vernon Morgan will run along the Strand, Fleet St. and Ludgate Hill. The television van will still be trying to keep them in view. At St. Martin, Ludgate, Mr. Vernon Morgan should hand over his envelope to the rector who will be waiting in his robes. Mr. Disley and Mr. Ll. Morgan should run on to the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Car No.2 will be waiting there to take Mr. Disley, Mr. Ll. Morgan and Mr. Vernon Morgan back to St. Martin's, picking up A.C.2. Seaman first.

At St. Paul's Cathedral the envelopes will be handed over thus:

Mr. Disley to Mr. Pennington
Mr. Ll. Morgan to Mr. Nankeville

Mr. Pennington and Mr. Nankeville will run together along the south side of St. Paul's and into Cannon Street. The television van will be trying to keep them in view. At the junction of Cannon St. and Queen Victoria St. they will separate.

Mr. Pennington will continue along Cannon St. and into Eastcheap until he comes on the north side to St. Margaret Pattens. There he will find the vicar waiting and should hand over his envelope.

/ Mr. Nankeville

Mr. Nankeville will turn left into Queen Victoria St., and at the end of that street will turn into Princes St. (skirting the Bank of England) and so into Moorgate. He will run some distance along Moorgate until about the third turning on the right he sees London Wall. He will turn into London Wall, and cross Blomfield St., and will then see All Hallows on his left. (He will be provided with a small sketch map.) The vicar will be waiting in his robes to receive the envelope.

Car No 3 will be waiting at All Hallows and will pick up Mr. Nankeville, go back to St. Margaret Pattens to pick up Mr. Pennington and return them both to St. Martin's (unless Mr. Pennington wishes to go straight to his office).

Notes

I shall be grateful if runners who are put to any expense in taking part will let me know, and I shall see that they are reimbursed.

The police will co-operate in letting the runners and the television and newsreel vans through as smoothly as possible, but, of course, it is not possible to clear the streets of other traffic, and runners should pick their way as best they can round stationary vehicles. I am asked to point out also that the police cannot be responsible for safety; this must be a matter for the individual runner. There is no occasion for racing. I should be grateful if runners would co-operate as fully as possible with photographers and the television and newsreel services as we desire to get the pictures shown as widely as possible throughout the country.

IVOR BULMER-THOMAS

Chairman, Executive Committee