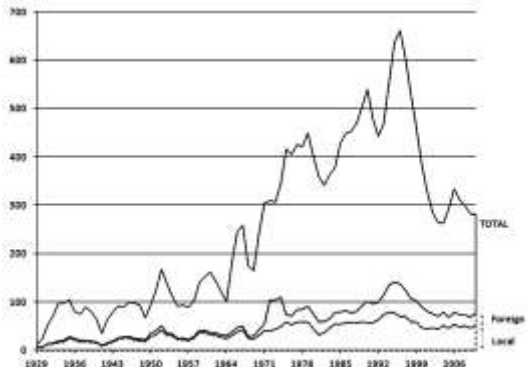


Vowchurch has a full set of church visitor books from 1927 to the present day. The article provides a summary and trend analysis over the last 85 years.

Early on, the totals were generally less than 100 per year. Interestingly, numbers during World War II were not markedly different from before, except 1940 which was very low. In the 1950s and 60s the numbers were mainly in the 100-200 range. Then from 1970 there was a marked increase continuing through to the end of the century. The peak was in the late 1990s, since when visitors have fallen to a new plateau around the 300 mark. Foreign visitors took off from 1970, presumably linked to the more general growth in international tourism. They came from all parts of the world, particularly Western Europe, USA, Canada and Australia. UK visitors came from all parts, with a strong representation from South Wales, and also the English midlands and the home counties.



*Figure shows visitor numbers by year, as three year rolling means.*