

# GIVING NEWS

**News on**  
**GIVING AND FUNDRAISING**  
*from the Diocese of Sheffield*



giving  
can put  
a smile on  
your face

December 2002

This is the second in an occasional series of newsletters that are designed to keep those who are working on Giving and Fundraising in parishes aware of issues that affect them and what is available to help them.

The Giving Department, based at Church House, Rotherham, consists of Nick Hutton, Diocesan Christian Giving Director; Karen Hubbard, Diocesan Fundraising Manager; and Hilary Perry, Secretary. Nick's job is to work with parishes to encourage and stimulate realistic levels of Giving from church members. Karen's role is to find new sources of income to help pay for work carried out by the Diocese (from trusts, public money, companies, etc.) and to give advice to parishes.

## Giving Update

Nick Hutton has been working in over fifty parishes since he started as Diocesan Christian Giving Director in May 2001. He has spoken to several deanery synods and chapters (and has arranged to see the others) to explain what his message is and how he can assist parishes understand how Giving is an important part of a Christian's life. If you would like to have an informal conversation about

how he can help, please ring **Nick Hutton**.

## Parish Share

Thank you to all those parishes which have paid their Parish Share on time throughout the year. The Diocese of Sheffield has a very good record of responsibility for Parish Share payment. This is a crucial part of the Diocese's budgeting and provides the income from which the parish's ministry is resourced. If a parish does not pay its Share in full, it is, in effect, saying to all the other parishes in the system, 'you must pay for your own ministry and a bit of ours as well'.

## Books on Giving Available

Nick Hutton has several useful books on Giving in his office for loan. In particular, he has a few copies of 'First Fruits', which is a useful book for anyone who is wanting to plan a service with Giving as its main theme. It includes collects, prayers, and intercession material, hymns written to well-known tunes, sermon material, etc. The book comes with all the copy on disc ready to be used in assembling a service sheet.

Contact **Nick Hutton** to borrow one.

## **Parish Fundraising Booklet**

Do you need help with finding a way through the funding maze? Confused about where to go for money for your church buildings or to develop a community project?

We have produced a booklet which may be of help.

"Funding for Churches and Church-based Projects" is available from Church House. The first copy is free to every parish and for further copies there will be a small charge of £5.

The booklet has information on different sources of funding for differing needs and lots of ideas on where to go for further help. It also has a basic list of funders interested in churches and church based projects.

To get your copy ring **Karen Hubbard** or **Hilary Perry**.

## **Links with Rotherham College**

One of the initiatives we are currently working on is a Training Franchise with Rotherham College of Arts and Technology. Some of you may have been asked to fill out enrolment forms for this at Diocesan training events. Thank you if you have and please be patient with the forms if you are asked to do this.

The franchise scheme allows us to attract funds for various Diocesan events. Also through the scheme we are working with the college on quality assurance to build on and improve training offered. We have regular meetings with college staff who may attend training events unannounced to observe and offer constructive help.

There are other advantages too. If you are asked to fill out an enrolment form for this scheme you in fact become a student of the college. This means you can get a student card - to

find out how, ring Karen Hubbard on 01709 309153 - and access discounts on shopping, travel etc. You can also have access to many college libraries around the Diocese with free use of IT internet access and printing facilities.

## **Website in Resources Centre**

If you have a specific funding need, parishes can now carry out their own detailed search for help with funding using a new web site accessed via a computer terminal in the Resources Centre at Church House.

The web site is run by the Directory of Social Change and contains information on all UK grant-making trusts. Information is updated every month helping target the right trust for your need. The new service is free for parishes but you need to book to use it.

***To arrange a demonstration or to use the new web site to carry out a search for help with your funding need contact the Resources Centre on 01709 309105.***

## **Latest Fundraising News**

We have been successful in raising money from new sources to support many Diocesan activities like Major Incident Planning, training events for parish workers and clergy, supporting young parents, Chaplaincy and others for which we offer thanks to God. We pray this will continue and develop next year.

We are also working with a Sheffield Company called Production Direct to design a direct mail appeal that will be sent to individuals in some parts of the Diocese focusing on supporting our built heritage ie church buildings. This will take the form of an Easter greeting. It may be you receive one, if so your comments would be appreciated.

## The Church in Action

An important initiative this coming year will be the launch of a new general fundraising campaign for the Diocese called "The Church in Action".

This will focus on the many superb projects and pieces of work enabled and supported by the Diocese of Sheffield. A leaflet and posters to support this are currently in production and will be available towards Christmas. These are primarily aimed at businesses and individuals who do not have contact with church but may also be of use within your own parish.

***If you are able to take these to work to pin on notice boards, leave in staff rooms or pass on to whoever decides on fundraising or which charity to support in your workplace this would be very helpful. You may like copies for your own PCC. They are available by ringing 01709 309153.***

## Gift Aid Seminar

We have arranged another Gift Aid seminar with the Inland Revenue to help those who have recently taken on this role and answer any queries 'old hands' may have.

This will be held at 7.30 pm on March 12th at the Wilson Carlile Church Army College in Sheffield. We will be joined by those who look after Gift Aid within our fellow Christian denominations.

Details of this will be sent out in the New Year but you might like to put the date in your diary now.

## Computers for Churches

Does your parish need a computer?

An organisation called Computers for Charity recycles redundant computer equipment from businesses that have upgraded their systems. They

rebuild/update these at minimal cost and then pass them on to church groups and charities. They can provide a fully functional computer system for under £100.

***To find out more contact the organisation direct on 01636 819043 or go to [www.computers-forcharity.org.uk](http://www.computers-forcharity.org.uk).***

## New Funding Opportunity

The Diocese of Sheffield is not often thought of as being in rural England. Those of us who live here, however, know we have some of the most beautiful and varied countryside to be found anywhere and many villages and communities with strong identities and traditions.

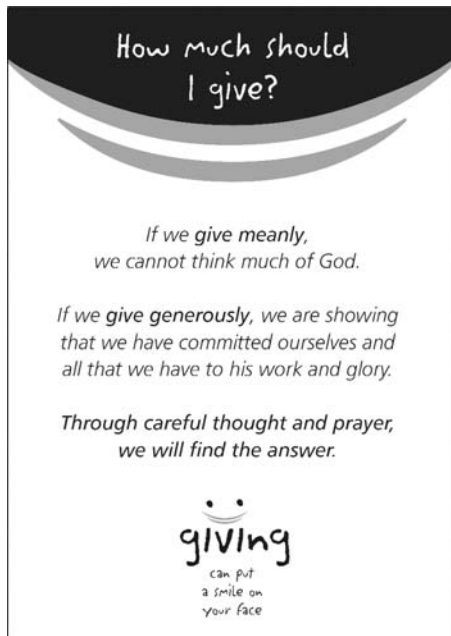
The Countryside Agency has launched a series of funds available to people who live in English villages. This means many of us in the Diocese of Sheffield.

The new programme is called **Vital Villages** and money is available under a number of headings:

- **Parish Plans Grant**  
To fund partnership action plans which cover social economic and environmental issues for the village.
- **Community Services Grant**  
Has a very broad brief with the aim of enabling projects to maintain or introduce new services which are local priorities, for example new disabled toilet facilities, help for village shops or childcare schemes.
- **Parish Transport Grant**  
To support small scale projects to meet local transport needs like travel to a luncheon club perhaps.
- **Rural Transport Partnership**  
To enable the development of local partnerships to implement solutions to local transport needs.

In addition, also through the countryside agency, there are other pots of money available which may also be of interest to church groups:

- **Local Heritage Initiative**  
Grants between £3000 and £25000 to help community groups investigate and care for their local heritage.
- **Walking the Way to Health**  
Projects should organise walks, literature to encourage walking and improvements to access to walking routes and footpaths.



- **Doorstep Greens**

Grants up to £150,000 available to provide safe accessible green space close to people's homes particularly in disadvantaged areas - could be a way of improving and using areas around your church?

**For a free Vital Villages information pack call the Vital Villages Team on 0117 9746265**

### Prayer Need

Please keep Nick Hutton and his family in your prayers over the coming weeks. Nick has suffered a slight heart attack but you will be pleased to know he is now home and convalescing and expects to be back at work in the new year.

Until then Hilary Perry and Karen Hubbard will do their best to help with parish queries and supplying gift aid forms, giving envelopes, leaflets, etc.

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