

GIVING NEWS

News on
GIVING AND FUNDRAISING
from the Diocese of Sheffield

giving
From the heart

For the
Love of
God

June 2004

This is the latest 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*, Administrator. 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.

Diocesan Giving Conference

A Conference is being organised for all those who are involved with encouraging Giving in their parishes. It is planned to hold this on Saturday morning 25th September in Doncaster and to offer a shorter version, for those who cannot manage that date or time, on the following Tuesday evening, September 28th, at Church House. Details of this event will be sent out later but please put one of these dates in your diary now!

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the last budget that this Grant Scheme is to be continued until 31st March 2006 and that all VAT on repairs to listed church buildings carried out after 1st April 2004 will be returned in grant aid. For work before that date, 12½% of the VAT can be reclaimed.

***For more information and the application form visit
www.lpwscheme.org.uk***

Developing Your Church Project

Since our last newsletter, more than 120 parishes and churches from all denominations have been represented at two free events focusing on developing church or church based projects. The events were organised by ourselves in the Giving Department and our colleagues in Together for Regeneration, an ecumenical project working from Church House Rotherham in some of South Yorkshire's most disadvantaged areas.

The keynote speech was given by Graham Brownlee, Chief Executive of the Churches Regional Commission. Graham encouraged us to look outwards to see how we can contribute to the rebuilding of our own communities

and build mutually beneficial relationships with other local groups and organisations.

Participants were able to spend time in workshop type settings looking at issues such as where to find funds, the Disability Discrimination Act, engaging with the community, hearing good news stories and sharing experience with others in similar situations.

Update on Giving in Parishes

Nick Hutton has now been in post as Diocesan Christian Giving Director for three years. He has worked in about ninety parishes, and has experience of a wide variety of types of parish - large and small; UPA, suburban and rural; and parishes with different types of churchmanship.

Whilst the basic approach is usually similar, parishes can benefit from different ways of encouraging Christian Giving. Parishes of all types and traditions have found that a carefully planned Giving Renewal has helped teach the spiritual use of money and has inspired generosity.

To arrange an informal chat, ring Nick Hutton on 01709 309151.

'Funding Your Project' updated

This very popular booklet is now widely used across the Diocese and is about to undergo another major review and update. The current edition is still available until the updated version appears, and is still free thanks to "Unigraph", who have generously produced the booklets for us free of charge.

The review will take a considerable time and we would like to offer apologies to anyone who may be waiting for a copy.

Copies of the current booklet or an electronic version if you prefer, are available from ***Hilary Perry at Church House. 01709 309129*** whilst the review takes place.

Envelope Scheme Suppliers

It has recently been announced that Kenrick & Jefferson Lockie Ltd, the major supplier of boxed sets of envelopes, has been bought by its management after being in administration. It is trading normally and you should continue to place orders as before, if you wish.

There are, however, several other suppliers of boxed envelopes. Nick Hutton has details of all the major manufacturers and keeps samples of a range of different designs of envelopes for all kinds of purposes.

Contact Nick Hutton for further information - 01709 309151

Gift Aid Advice

As there have been no changes to the Gift Aid arrangements recently, it has been decided that the next Gift Aid seminar at which a presentation is given by the Inland Revenue will not be held until 2005.

However, if you need any help or advice in the meantime on the subject of Gift Aid ***please contact Nick Hutton or ring the very useful Help Line run by the Inland Revenue on 0151 472 6036/7.***

Parish Giving Directors

Sheffield Diocese was probably the first to set up a network of Parish Giving Directors about twelve years ago.

The intention was to encourage each parish to have a team of people to look after financial matters, with the Treasurer being responsible for payments and the accounts, the Parish Giving Director promoting Giving, and a Gift Aid Secretary managing the records and the tax reclaim. This is the ideal but, of course, many parishes find it difficult to recruit people to each of these roles. A Parish Giving Director, is, however, a very valuable

resource and help is available if you have someone who is thinking of taking on this position.

Nick Hutton would be happy to talk to anyone who is considering this, to help them understand the job and assure them of the support and training that is available.

There is a suggested Job Description to help people be aware of what the role entails.

Contact Nick Hutton for further information. 01709 309151

The Prayer of the Chalice

*Father, to you I raise my whole being,
A vessel emptied of self. Accept, Lord,
this my emptiness and so fill me with
Yourself, Your Light, Your Love, Your
Life - that these your precious gifts
may radiate through me and over-
flow the chalice of my heart into
the hearts of all with whom I
come in contact this day
revealing to them
the beauty of
your joy
and
wholeness
and
the
serenity
of your peace
which nothing can destroy.*

Useful Funding Websites

www.btcv.org/ppawards/intro.html

The People's Places Award Scheme from New Opportunities Fund. Can turn your churchyard into a rural or urban retreat.

www.fundsforhistoricbuildings.org.uk

Great website for church funding needs.

www.ltcs.org.uk

Landfill Tax Scheme - lists distributive environmental bodies in your area

which give out funds under the scheme. The quickest way to find out if you are eligible is to click on "Distributive EBs" in left-hand menu, click "Browse the D-EB Directory" at the foot of the page, click "Central" on the map and "South Yorks" in the list. Details of the various bodies, including websites and phone numbers, are given.

www.governmentfunding.org.uk

A free searchable guide to funds available from a variety of Government resources.

Diocesan Growth and Opportunities Fund

This Fund helps a variety of work in the Diocese, mainly by supporting innovative parish initiatives which enable the Church to grow and further God's work in our communities.

The Fund is administered by the Diocesan Grants Committee.

The Bishop's Council has agreed that the collections taken at all Diocesan services such as Confirmations and the Installation and Induction of new parish clergy will go to this fund. New and creative work in parishes often needs only a small sum to get it started so please apply to this fund for help with this. **Ask for an application form from the Diocesan Secretary's Office on 01709 309 107.**

Legacy Leaflet Available

Some people ask for basic information about leaving money in their will to their church.

A simple leaflet is available to answer these questions and many churches keep a small supply of them accessible for people to pick up if they wish. Some local solicitors have agreed to their names' being kept on a central list if parishioners do not have their own solicitor and want advice as to whom they could contact to arrange a will.

For a supply of legacy leaflets or, if

you are a solicitor and would like to have your name added to the list held in the Giving Office, **ring Nick Hutton on 01709 309151.**

Barclays Community Programme, Employee Involvement

Barclays offer their employees an opportunity to volunteer in the community. They offer employees a Volunteer two-day scheme - giving each employee at least two days' business time to take part in community activities.

Groups of five or more employees can claim grants of up to £1000 for materials and expenses. They may be able to help with your needs.

Perhaps your church grounds need a makeover, or the church hall needs repainting or you want to turn part of the area round the church into a community garden, install accessible footpaths, repair crumbling ones or outside lighting to make it feel safer round the church? Whatever your need, perhaps Barclays can supply volunteers and materials through this scheme to help make it happen.

To find out, contact the Community Team for our area on 01924 323601.

Barclays also offer a range of sponsorship and donations to support community activities. These are focused on education, people with disabilities, social inclusion and the arts.

Barclays do not give funds for capital projects.

Money from South Yorkshire Key Fund

Key Fund for the Social Economy offers a variety of grants and loan packages to support social enterprise and entrepreneurs. These cover grants for initial start up, revenue and capital costs and loans for capital investment.

Global Grants offers grants of up to £10,000 to community groups and

voluntary sector organisations based in, or whose activities support, certain areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield. The grants are for 100% of eligible costs to help with skills development, improved employability and development of community resources. Grants are for revenue or capital.

To find out if your need is eligible **contact Key Fund general enquiries on 0114 2797288 or go to www.keyfund.org.uk**

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