

GIVING NEWS

News on
GIVING AND FUNDRAISING
from the Diocese of Sheffield



giving
can put
a smile on
your face

March 2005

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.

Next Diocesan Giving Conference is planned for February 2006

We had good feedback from those who attended the Giving Conferences last autumn. However, it has been decided to change the time of year the Conference is held in future and to hold it earlier in the year. This will enable parishes to use any ideas they get from it to plan their Giving initiatives for the year well in advance.

The next Conference is therefore being planned for **Saturday February 4th 2006**.

The Revd Canon Prof Martyn Percy has agreed to give the keynote address. He is the Principal of Ripon College, Cuddesdon, Oxford and will be well known to many in the Diocese, having been the Principal of the Lincoln Theological Institute when it was based at Sheffield University. He is the Canon Theologian at Sheffield Cathedral.

Put the date of **February 4th 2006** in your diary now. **Further details will follow nearer the date.**

Gift Aid Tax Seminar

We are holding another seminar on Gift Aid with the help of the Inland Revenue at **7.30 pm on Wednesday March 9th** at the **Church Army College in Sheffield**.

Invitations have also been sent to our friends in the Methodist, Roman Catholic, and United Reformed churches.

If you have not received an invitation and would like to learn more about operating the Gift Aid Scheme, **please contact Tony Beck or Nick Hutton at Church House.**

Tel 01709 309117 or 01709 309151

Giving League Tables

The Archbishops' Council has recently published figures for Giving in 2002.

Out of the 43 dioceses that make up the Church of England, Sheffield comes top in two of the most important tables.

The average amount given through the Gift Aid Scheme in 2002 in the Diocese was £11.16 per giver per week before tax recovery, the highest of all the dioceses (London's figure was second at £10.88 and Southwark's third at £10.50).

Sheffield also tops the table which measures the amount given as a percentage of local average personal income with 4.1% (Southwell comes second with 4%, Birmingham third with 3.8% and London seventh with 3.3%). This is probably a more important figure because we are teaching a standard of 5% of take home pay as an initial target.

These figures need to be treated with caution and there is absolutely no room for complacency. We should thank God for them and celebrate all the work in parishes that they represent. Publicising them is useful in encouraging more realistic levels of Giving in parishes.

Parish Funding Booklet

This booklet has given much helpful advice to parishes who have been planning fundraising appeals since it was first published a couple of years ago. It has recently been fully revised with updated contact names and addresses.

Thanks are due to Unigraph Ltd who undertook the production at no charge.

If you would like a copy of this, contact Karen Hubbard on 01709 309153.

Reduced hours for Karen Hubbard

Following the retirement of her husband and a move to Filey, Karen Hubbard now works a three-day week. She varies which days these are in order to fit in with other people's commitments but, if she is not in the office, you can always leave a message on her telephone and she will ring you back as soon as possible.

***Karen's number is 01709 309153
karen.hubbard@sheffield.anglican.org***

Increased hours for Hilary Perry

Hilary Perry, the Giving and Fundraising Administrator, has increased the hours she works for the department. She is now available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and on Thursday afternoons.

Contact Hilary on 01709 309129.

The UK Church Fundraising Handbook

This very useful book has recently been written by the Revd Maggie Durran, the Historic Churches Project Officer in the Diocese of London. It is both a practical manual and directory of sources.

Along with several other useful books, there is a copy available on short-term loan in the Giving and Fundraising Office or it can be purchased from SCM-Canterbury Press, St Mary's Works, St Mary's Plain, Norwich NR3 3BH or www.scm-canterburypress.co.uk, price £17.99 plus P & P.

Email Addresses

If you have an email address which we don't know about and so we are still sending letters to you by post, please send Hilary an email at hilary.perry@sheffield.anglican.org so that we can add you to our email list and save postage costs in future.

Gift Aid envelopes

Many parishes have found it useful to have some of the special customised Gift Aid envelopes produced by the Giving and Fundraising Department. These are for use by visitors to parishes who wish to make their gifts in a tax efficient way, and for occasional services such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

We have designed a special Easter envelope which is available to parishes.

100 envelopes are free each year to each parish. There is a charge of £20 per 100 pro rata thereafter.

Contact Nick Hutton or Hilary Perry if you would like to see the full range of designs available.

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 Tony Beck at Church House.

Tel 01709 309117

Asian Tsunami Disaster Appeal

In January a circular was sent out from the Giving and Fundraising Department giving advice to parishes who may have been organising appeals following the tragedy in the Indian Ocean on Boxing Day, particularly on how to

maximise donations by using Gift Aid. This advice also applies to other special appeals you may organise in your parish.

The circular was sent to all parish clergy and treasurers by email or hard copy if we did not have an email address for you.

If you did not receive this circular and would like to see it, **please contact Nick Hutton on 01709 309151.**

2006 Parish Share figures

A recommendation is to be made to the Diocesan Synod at its meeting on 26th February that the new Parish Share Assessment Method should be adopted for 2006 onwards. The total Diocesan Budget for 2006 is expected to increase by no more than 3%, which would enable increases in Parish Share to be kept within the range of a minimum increase of 1½% and a maximum of 6%.

Furthermore, it is to be recommended that the assessment be based on the average incomes of parishes for 2001, 2002 and 2003.

As these are already known, this would enable the actual Parish Share assessments to be sent out much earlier this year to enable parishes to plan and budget well in advance.

Retrospective Gift Aid Declarations

One of the advantages of the Gift Aid Scheme over the old covenant arrangements is that declarations can be made retrospectively. However there is a six-year limit on this. This will become relevant from April 2006 when the Scheme will have been running for six years.

If you have any gifts on which you would like to claim gift aid and do not yet have a valid declaration, you should make sure a declaration is completed within the next year.

**News from Karen Hubbard
01709 309153**

**Marketing Skills for
Marketing Group**

A Marketing Group is being set up in the Diocese to help it relate to those inside and outside the Church who can assist it in many ways. This could have direct fundraising benefits.

If there is anyone in the parishes who has marketing skills and who would be willing to help this group, **please ring Karen Hubbard.**

Payroll Giving

Payroll Giving enables tax payers to make monthly charitable donations straight from their gross salaries. Donors receive tax relief on their donations, e.g. a £10 donation costs a basic rate tax payer £7.80.

Charities Together South Yorkshire is a new consortium of local charities all with very strong links to the Diocese. They are:

❖ **DAWN**, working with adults and their children going through divorce or relationship breakdown

❖ **Together for Regeneration**, working ecumenically to help communities put together and implement action plans for sustainable local regeneration

❖ **Industrial Mission South Yorkshire**, also ecumenical, with Chaplains working in organisations like South Yorkshire Police, major companies and large stores across South Yorkshire

❖ **Church in Action**, making general grants to churches, funding initiatives like Major Incident Plan and much much more.

Payroll donations to **Charities Together South Yorkshire** will be shared equally amongst all four charities.

Please will you help these charities by making a small but regular donation from your pay each month? Please contact **Karen** for an easy to complete form. Your payroll department will do

the rest. Thank you, your money will help make a positive difference in the lives of many local people.

Charities Buying Group

Charities Buying Group is a not-for-profit purchasing organisation set up by Leonard Cheshire Homes to get the best rates for charities on a range of services by dealing directly with major suppliers. The Diocese is now a member so all the parishes are too. More than 80 churches in our Diocese have already found they can save 30% on telephone bills and 10% on gas and electricity through Charities Buying Group. The Diocese benefits by receiving 1% back from utility providers on everything spent by participating parishes.

If your parish would like a no obligation written estimate of possible savings, send copies of utility bills for your church, church hall and clergy houses to Karen Hubbard and indicate which contact name and address you wish us to use.

Further details from Karen Hubbard

CONTACT DETAILS

Please note change of email addresses

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