

March 2007

Issue 21

# A new hall for Linslade



## Dates for your diary:

Good Friday (6<sup>th</sup> April) 7.30 p.m.: Stainer's Crucifixion with the Leighton Buzzard Festival Singers (N.B. entry is free)

Sat. 12<sup>th</sup> May: South Beds. Concert Band (please note date change)

Sat. June 9<sup>th</sup>: Concert

Sat. July 14<sup>th</sup>: Wine appreciation evening

Sat. October 27<sup>th</sup>: Quiz Night (venue tbc.)

To be confirmed: race night

## Overleaf

Good and bad fundraising news

Our vision

## Did you know?

We have applied to over 40 grant-giving trusts or charities for financial support. Several of these trusts operate only in Bedfordshire (e.g. Wixamtree) and many are national trusts established by big companies (e.g. Dulux trust, the National Power trust). Others are established by wealthy individuals who wish to support activities of interest to them (e.g. the Beatrice Laing Trust who gave us £5000 in November 05). It is essential to apply to trusts only that match our criteria and we acknowledge with gratitude the support of the Voluntary and Community Action

*Building the future in our community*



## Building starts for stage 2

We are delighted to see the start of work to stage 2 of our project. With the completion of stage 1 (the hall-church link with new entrance and disabled toilet), we attracted considerable attention and focus then switched to starting work on stage 2.

Stuart Tredgett and his colleagues from Apex Construction this week started to erect scaffolding around the hall to being the work of replacing the roof. At the same time, we are putting in place the plan to repair the badly corroded stonework on the east-facing façade. New windows will be installed. These will have the benefit not only of being double glazed, thus providing for better insulation and fuel efficiency but will also lower the sills. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century windows, designed to prevent children from gazing out at the park and planning their recreation after

release from Arithmetic and English composition, will let in more light and will afford better views. This stage of the work is planned to take about 3 months.

We acknowledge with gratitude the financial support of Waste Reduction Environmental (WREN) Ltd. whose grant of **£50,000** has enabled us to finance this stage of the project. Wren project manager Emma Brooks has been very helpful in overcoming delays in the process of drawing up a contract between the PCC and Wren. Grateful thanks are also due to the **generous donors** who provided the additional **£45,000** needed to keep our project on track. We are delighted that our supporters are so committed to this project and we invite more friends to come forward with similar donations to enable the rest of the work to be completed.

*"After the success of stage 1, we are delighted to welcome Stuart Tredgett and his Apex team back on site for the work to replace our hall roof and stonework"*

## More thanks to Owls

Many thanks once again to Southcott Owls whose fundraising has enabled them to present us with a cheque for £50. We continue to be grateful for all the fundraising efforts across our community in support of our project.

Many thanks also to those who buy online through [www.buy.at/linsladeparish](http://www.buy.at/linsladeparish). In January, this raised £26.29 with most purchases coming through the online bookstore Amazon.



## Linslade Hall Re-development project

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Linslade, Beds., LU7 2NR

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01525 371802

E-MAIL:  
[stbarnabas.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:stbarnabas.hall@btinternet.com)

## Events box office

To reserve tickets for any event listed on page 1, please contact Nick and Sandra Moore:

PHONE:

01525 374473

E-MAIL:

[n.moore@bbk.ac.uk](mailto:n.moore@bbk.ac.uk)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.linslade-parish.org.uk>

Give as you spend

If you buy goods on the internet, your e-retailer will pay us a commission if you first visit

<http://www.buy.at/linsladeparish>

EBay Charity Auction

Auction off your unwanted items at EBay and donate to the project:

[st\\_barnabuzz@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:st_barnabuzz@yahoo.co.uk)

## Good news and bad for fundraising

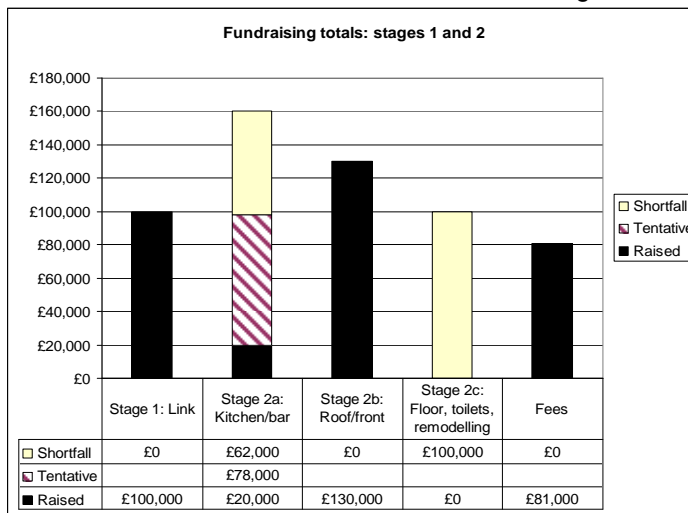
Over the past 6 months we have made a number of applications to various funds operating in the Bedfordshire area and beyond. One of these was the Steel Charitable Trust which has generously donated £10,000 towards stage 2b of the project and we are grateful to them for their support.

Churches Trust.

Our landfill application to Biffa was presented to their board last December and we have had a very positive response indeed from them for our application to provide £45,000 towards the kitchen and bar. However, there remain conditions to be met before this grant

funds available. The lottery does not enter into any communication with applicants about their applications. It has been made clear however that we are at liberty to apply again, which we shall do.

We express our gratitude to Andrew Selous M.P. and to Dr. John Rees, the Diocesan Registrar, for writing in support of our application to the lottery. Mr Selous stressed that Bedfordshire has received a low share of lottery funding and this also gives us hope for our next application.



A second application has been made to the Wixamtree trust and we are very hopeful indeed that the trust board will look favourably on our application for £10,000 at its meeting in the next few weeks. Wixamtree is a trust which only supports projects in Bedfordshire. It works in close partnership with the Bedfordshire Historic

can be released.

Bad news to start 2007 was the letter from the Big Lottery "Reaching Communities" fund to tell us that our application had been unsuccessful. However, we were told that our application had "many good points" but that the number of applications exceeded the

The graph shows that we have raised over £300,000. if the Biffaward application and other projects (shown as "tentative") are successful, we will be much closer to our target for stage 2a. So please keep those gifts and fundraising events flowing – there is always room for more volunteers to help out.

## Our Vision: putting Community at the heart of all we do

St. Barnabas church is looking to put Community at the heart of all its work. Our aims are to:

- Foster activities that will reduce social isolation
- Offer an affordable, accessible, social meeting place
- Nurture a community spirit and to be a

focus for community pride

- Be an economically viable but non-profit-making facility

Our project will provide for the complete rebuilding of the hall including:

- New link between church and hall with disabled access and disabled toilet (stage

1 – complete)

- new kitchen, bar and offices (stage 2a)
- new roof covering and repaired stonework (stage 2b)
- completely refurbished interior (stage 2c)
- new extension with counseling and conference facilities (stage 3)

*"St Barnabas Parish Hall seeks to become the centre of the community of Linslade and a resource for the wider area of Leighton-Linslade."*