

May 2007

Issue 23

A new hall for Linslade



Dates for your diary:

May 10th: Concert by RAF Halton Band (part of the Leighton Buzzard arts festival)

12th: concert by South Beds Concert band – in church

June 9th – concert by the Dunstable Serenata and the Luton Road Wind Ensemble

June 17th – Strawberry Teas at St. Mary's

June 24th – Strawberry Teas at St. Mary's

July 1st: Showcase concert (3 p.m.) in church by Beds Music Service (inc. Saturday Music School)

July 14th – Wine appreciation evening – in hall

October 27th – Quiz night – in hall

December 8th – 30th anniversary concert by the Linsdale Singers

December 22nd – St. Mary's Concert

Overleaf

Fundraising news

Debut for the Dunstable Singers

Our vision

Did you know?

The St. Leger was founded by Colonel Anthony St. Leger in 1766 and is the world's oldest classic horse race. With the exception of the war years, the race has been run over the same Doncaster course for over 300 years.

Building the future in our community



Stop press: "Night Hawk" wins 1913 St. Leger

Building work is progressing well on stage 2b, the replacement of the hall roof and the extensive repairs to the stonework.

All the old tiles are now off the roof and the damage to the original wooden supports underneath have been laid bare. The extent to which the original structure has been changed has also become apparent. Over the years, gable windows have been inserted and running repairs made. Many of these repairs have actually been the first sections of the structure to fail, and in one part our builders discovered some interesting graffiti on one section of timber.

It appears that when one of the windows was constructed, the original builders decided to place 2 shillings each on a horse called "Night Hawk"

for the 1913 St. Legers. It seems that the nag in question romped home at 50-1, so presumably those builders went home happy.

We are expecting the work on the roof to be complete within the next few weeks. At present the builders are moving up 11,000 tiles up the scaffolding before the roofers start the work of pinning the tiles in place. Once this is complete, there will then be a slight pause during which time the scaffolding is likely to be removed. Once the new windows have arrived, then the stonemasons can get to work to repair the large sections of the west-facing wall which so badly needs attention. The new windows will be double-glazed and will be longer than the existing ones, thus giving an improved view out onto the park.

"A new roof – at long last"

Dovecot needed

As reported in the last issue, a family of beautiful white doves is, unfortunately, about to become homeless as a result of the new roof to the hall.

Would anybody be interested in paying for or supplying a dovecot to

re-house these birds. Please give us a call or send an email if you could help!



Linslade Hall Re-development project

St. Barnabas Cottage
Waterloo Road
Linslade, Beds., LU7 2NR

PHONE:

01525 371802

E-MAIL:

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

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

Fundraising news

The Leighton Buzzard Festival Singers marked Good Friday at St. Barnabas with a performance of Stainer's masterpiece "The Crucifixion". It being Good Friday, there was no charge for admission but we were delighted that £360 was raised for the project in donations through the retiring collection. Many thanks indeed to the Singers for a most uplifting evening.

The "webshop" (see details on the left about the "buy at" scheme) has raised us a total of £234 since starting over a year

ago. Keep on buying!

We have completed and submitted our application for a grant under the Big Lottery's "Community Buildings" grant. This is a multi-stage process: we expect to hear the result of this initial application within 6 months. We may

also be awarded a small sum as a "development grant to assist in preparatory research. There then follows a second application process to be completed within 9 months. Watch this space!



The Festival Singers were in excellent voice for Stainer's Crucifixion on Good Friday.

Linslade Debut for the Dunstable Singers

The 9th June promises something a little different – the first ever performance in Linslade of the Dunstable Singers with Luton Road Wind Ensemble. This is a fun evening including solo and ensemble items by Glen Miller, Elgar and original items by the band. The emphasis is firmly on the fun!

The group comes fresh from such demanding venues as Slapton Village Hall and the Luton Road Methodist Church in Dunstable. Press reviews have been unanimous:

"Best heard from afar" commented Hearing Aid Weekly, and Tailors' Monthly summed up the Slapton programme with "I thought my tie was loud".

On a serious note, we hope to attract plenty of Xylophone fans with the first appearance in Linslade of Stephen Walden whose reputation rivals even that of Patrick Moore.

Entry is free with donations to the hall fund.

Before that we have two concerts in May, one of which forms part of the

Leighton-Linslade Arts festival. Buy your tickets also for the Wine appreciation evening in July – like the previous events, this is likely to be very popular so we recommend getting your tickets early.

Strawberry Teas at St. Mary's will also be popular, and soon we will be looking forward to the 30th anniversary Linsdale Singers concert and our Christmas concert at St. Mary's

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."