



The Edington Organ Project

Appeal Patrons
LADY BARBARA CALCUTT
SIMON PRESTON CBE

Newsletter

Number 1: September 2011

Countdown to Contract

The Edington Organ Project was launched officially on Saturday August 27th, towards the end of a hugely enjoyable and successful Festival. Do have a look at the photo gallery overleaf to remind yourself of the event - or to see what you missed!

The Project began the week with approximately £200,000 of the target £400,000 either in the bank account, or pledged. By the middle of September it was standing at £250,000.

This is very good progress towards a total which John Bush, Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, says is "significant - but achievable with serious effort."

Now however we have a big deadline approaching: We would like to be able to sign the contract with Harrison & Harrison, Organ Builders, at the end of October. This will allow for works to begin and put us on track for a built, installed and voiced instrument ready for the Festival in 2014.

The Parochial Church Council, the lead

party for the commission, quite rightly needs to be satisfied that we have sufficient funds available or identified before it will commit pen to paper.

So EMFA are working hard to be able to give the PCC the reassurances it needs.

The Project received donations of over £40,000 during the week of the Festival. Thank you!

We therefore have a request to make of all our supporters and donors - "If you know anyone who would be interested in giving, pledging, or loaning an amount to the Organ Project,

NOW is the time to speak to them and use all your good offices to get them on board."

We will be arranging fundraising events at regular intervals, details of which will be in these newsletters. If you have a fundraising idea and would like some help with publicity, please contact Anne Curtis on 01380 831454 (office).

If you would like copies of the Appeal brochure to help you, just contact Sue Lowery on **01380 871549** or organproject@edingtonfestival.org

Pipe Up for Christmas!

If you know some who is looking for a really different Christmas present, why not suggest they donate a pipe for the organ? There are pipes to suit all purses, the gift is recorded, and it will last for generations. What could be better? Details are in the brochure, which is also downloadable as a pdf from the website, www.edingtonfestival.org/organ

The Launch in Pictures



Mark Venning of Harrison and Harrison. He said "Building great music with subtle accompaniment on this organ is a tough call - it's like challenging your Great Aunt to a game of tennis!"



John Bush, Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, and Robin Wilson, Lay Chairman of Edington PCC and member of the Organ Project Fundraising Committee. John Bush urged everyone to bypass their pockets and dip into their bank accounts - excellent advice which was obviously taken to heart.



Lady Barbara Calcutt, co-Patron of the Organ Project. She spoke eloquently at the Launch Lunch about how her late husband Sir David Calcutt, had founded the Festival with Ralph Dudley 56 years ago, and said how pleased she was to be involved with the Organ Project.

Her co-Patron, internationally renowned organist Simon Preston CBE, gave an organist's view of the life of a church organ, and regaled guests at lunch with stories of Yehudi Menuhin and Nadia Boulangere - a Great indeed.



For Your Diary...

The next event in the Edington Organ Project Calendar is the concert of **Music and Readings for Advent, on Friday 9th December at 7.30pm**. Although this event is in aid of church funds, there will be opportunities to support the Appeal. Tickets are £7.50 from Robin Wilson on 01380 830566.

For 2012, we are planning a fundraising event in the spring, in London. Watch this space!

And finally - please, if you haven't already done so, (or perhaps even if you have!) make a donation to the Organ Project. You can make donations online at www.virginmoneygiving.com.

Thankyou!