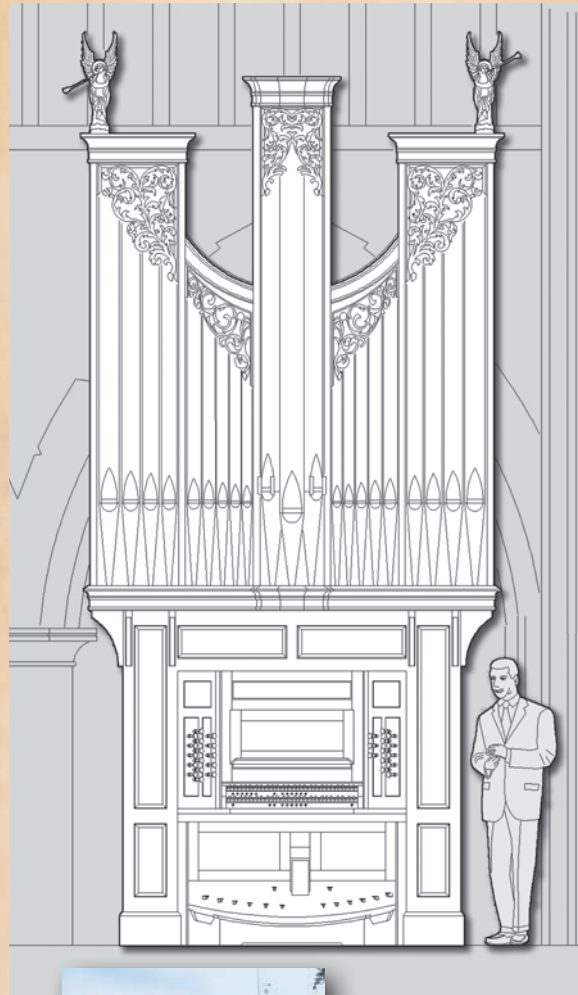


New Pipe Organ

We are seeking £400,000 to replace the organ at St Michael's, Betchworth.



ST MICHAEL'S
CHURCH,
BETCHWORTH

Registered Charity,
No X77787

St Michael's Church

Betchworth lies at the foot of the North Downs, half-way between Reigate and Dorking. A church on this site has served the community for over a 1000 years.

The Vision

At St Michael's our Vision is motivated by our desire to:

- ✚ Love and Worship together
- ✚ Care for each other
- ✚ Serve our neighbours

We aim to show our faith in action, music and words. The church has a tradition of excellent church music, which is badly constrained by the state of the existing organ.

The new organ will enable our worship to be led with traditional musical support from the best available location in the church. It will offer the wider community a venue for concerts, educational events and as a teaching facility for music scholars from local colleges and schools. It will also enable us to create a much needed new vestry in place of the current organ.

Current Organ

The present organ dates from the 1890s but was deeply compromised by an inferior renovation in 1990. Further money spent on it is unlikely to result in any great improvement. It is very difficult to access for maintenance and is located in the worst possible acoustical position in the building. For years it has not provided predictable or reliable performance. Nor does it cope well with the extremes of temperature and humidity in a medieval church.

The Project

In 2004 the Parochial Church Council sought professional advice on the organ problem. Ian Bell, who enjoys an international reputation as an organ consultant, produced a report which indicated that a new mechanical action pipe organ represented the optimal solution.

After full consideration of the options, the Parochial Church Council has concluded that it should raise the necessary funds to commission a new mechanical action pipe organ for the Church. Such an organ will be reliable in operation, simple to maintain and will be less susceptible to the temperature and humidity range encountered in Betchworth Church.

As part of a longer-term strategy for the future of St Michael's, it is intended to create a multi-purpose room in the space vacated by the old organ. This will be used as a vestry or as a meeting room and provide a facility for younger families and children. The basic construction work is to be carried out before the organ is installed in order to avoid the risk of damage to the new organ.



Gift Aid Declaration Form

ST MICHAEL'S, BETCHWORTH (ORGAN FUND)

Please tick as appropriate

- I am making a donation.
- Please send me a Pledge Form.
- Please send me a Pipe Sponsorship Form.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

I enclose a donation of £.....

I am a UK tax payer and wish this donation to be treated under the Gift Aid scheme. I confirm that I pay an amount of UK income or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax reclaimable on this donation.

Signed:

Date:

*Thank you for your contribution
which is greatly appreciated.*

Please make donation payable to:
St Michael's Church, Betchworth (Organ Fund)
and return this form with your donation to:
Mr Charles Hardy FCA
Betchworth Organ Appeal Treasurer
Ravenleigh
Station Road
BETCHWORTH
Surrey RH3 7DF

Messages from Patrons & Supporters

A new pipe organ in St Michael's Betchworth will build the musical life, and so enrich the worship of God in this church for generations to come. I am pleased that the Parish has determined to maintain its tradition of music in its worship and delighted to give my support to this project.

**RT REVD TOM BUTLER MSc DPHIL
LORD BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK (PATRON)**

I am extremely happy to support the Pipe Organ Appeal for St Michael's Church. The music in the church is always exceptionally lovely and the choir, led most admirably by Melvin Hughes, is a joy to listen to. The new organ will greatly enhance the musical tradition of St Michael's and be a lasting investment for future generations.

CORINNA, LADY HAMILTON OF DALZELL (PATRON)

I am delighted and honoured to accept the invitation to support this most exciting project by becoming a Patron of the Appeal. I have much enjoyed the instruments by Kenneth Tickell I have played, notably St Barnabas, Dulwich and Douai Abbey, and look forward to seeing this plan come to fruition.

**PETER WRIGHT MA FRCO
ORGANIST, SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL (PATRON)**

I just remember as a teenager, living on Reigate Heath, cycling to Betchworth on Sunday mornings to sing in the church choir. It was a wonderful formative experience, as my life unfolded first as a choral singer, then as a soloist. It's not a dark sombre church, the whole atmosphere is light and beautiful. It is a church made for music.

**SUSAN GRITTON
INTERNATIONAL OPERA SINGER**

"A church such as St Michael's Betchworth is at the heart of the community it serves, and the church organ is at the heart of the church, giving voice to the music which lifts worship heavenwards. I have been impressed to see all that the people of Betchworth have been doing to raise money for themselves, but clearly the project they are so determined to bring to fruition is beyond the resources of a single small community. Here is a chance to contribute to the life of a community in a lasting and meaningful way. I commend it wholeheartedly."

**JOHN RUTTER
CHORAL MUSIC COMPOSER AND
PRESIDENT OF THE LEITH HILL FESTIVAL**

From the Rector & Church Wardens

We are proud that Betchworth church has a tradition of good music making. Please help us secure this tradition and move forward in a way that is relevant to the 21st century. By supporting the Appeal to provide a new organ you will be securing the many musical demands of the Parish and enrich the worship and mission of our Church, for current and future generations.

**REVD CAROL COSLETT MA, RECTOR
CHRISTOPHER MEADE, CHURCHWARDEN
MARGARET TAYLOR, CHURCHWARDEN**



Who will build the new organ?

A competitive invitation to tender was issued in 2006 to 3 leading British organ building firms. The firm of Kenneth Tickell & Co Ltd of Northampton were chosen as our preferred choice of organ builder, to develop the detail of their outline proposals further and, subject to contract, to undertake the project. In 2008 the firm completed the new Quire organ in Worcester Cathedral (4 manuals, 58 stops). The new organ at Betchworth will be of 2 manuals and pedals with some 25 stops.

What will it cost?

We are seeking to raise £400,000 for the new organ and to erect a permanent architectural screen to enclose the space vacated by the current organ for the creation of a new meeting room at a later date.

Timing?

It is hoped to commission the new organ for installation in the church in 2010/11. To secure this we need to raise sufficient funds to make a contractual commitment during 2009.

Progress to date

We have so far raised over £100,000 for the organ and over £4,500 for external charities as part of our commitment to the wider community. We need to raise the balance of £300,000.

We do hope you will feel able to make a donation, which will be an investment for the future of the life of St Michael's and the generations to come.

How can you help?

DONATIONS

Our aim is to raise at least £300,000 by donations over the next 6 months. These are being sought from individuals, businesses and charitable foundations. This combined with the £100,000 already raised will put the project on course to complete in 2011.

GIFT AID

The Chancellor has confirmed in his Budget Statement on 12 March 2008 that he will continue to contribute 28% of Gift Aid on donations where a simple declaration is completed. If you are able to make a donation, please would you consider the 'Gift Aid' scheme? If you pay tax to HM Revenue & Customs, please complete the Gift Aid declaration so that we can claim back the tax you have previously paid on the donation. **We therefore only need to raise £235,000 to achieve the remaining £300,000, if it is all Gift Aided.**

PLEDGES

If you are unable to make any donation immediately, your gift could be given as a written pledge for the future. Please tick **Pledge form** on the tear off slip and return to our treasurer.

SPONSOR A PIPE

The new organ will contain some 1639 pipes, varying in length from 1 inch to 16 feet. As a permanent record of your donation you may wish to sponsor individual pipe(s) or a rank of pipes. Please tick **Sponsorship form** on the tear off slip and return to our treasurer.

For further details

For more about the Organ Project please contact Pam Armitage on 01737 832806 or email her at betchworthorganappeal@hotmail.co.uk

Please send donations to: Mr Charles Hardy FCA, Betchworth Organ Appeal Treasurer, Ravenleigh, Station Road, BETCHWORTH, Surrey RH3 7DF.