

STAPLEHURST FREE CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT



NEWSLETTER 3
June 2007

HIS Project
People
Building
Purpose

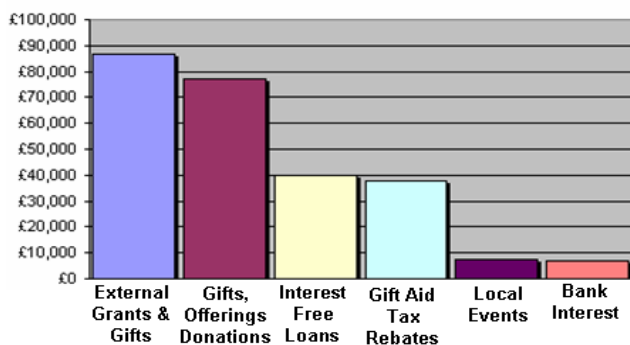
Welcome

This is the third brief newsletter which is specifically for those supporting and interested in the total rebuilding of Staplehurst Free Church (SFC), Kent. As in previous newsletters, we start with a big 'Thank You!' to everyone who has given money to this cause. Since the second newsletter last November, an amazing £105,000 has been added to the building fund, bringing the total to just over £255,770. But with an estimated cost of £1.4million for the rebuild scheme, there is still some way to go!

Taking Account

As a free church, SFC is not part of any national body for its operation or indeed its funding. It has therefore always known that a diversity of giving will be needed to put a completely new building in place. There continues to be much generosity from members and friends of the church locally, but grants and gifts are now coming from a variety of sources as shown in this graph.

Fundraising by Type



Interest is Up

Many people recognise the value that faith-based organisations deliver to communities and, even if individuals or organisations do not have Christian faith outlook, they still actively support projects being undertaken by organisations like SFC. Each week there are on average 250-300 person visits to the 20 or so activities that SFC runs and this shows just how much the current building is used. This figure will go up when the

new building, with its increased capacity and rooms, is developed. We believe that is why we have had such a great response to our appeal, and continued blessing from our God, all of whom want to see the work of SFC carry on.

The Credits

Special thanks for external recent grants and donations received since the last newsletter go to the Chainhurst Trust, Childs Trust, the Marsh Christian Trust, St. Luke's Church, Maidstone and local business Clearey & Downey. Church members and friends continue to work hard at their fundraising activities with initiatives ranging from selling unwanted items on eBay to ensuring they make purchases via Amazon's Associates scheme which has on its own recently added over £100 to the building fund!

Making a Withdrawal

In April 2007, even though much money is still needed, the membership of the church made a decision to demolish the existing building. This is a corporate act of faith, with an expectancy that God will continue to richly bless this project. Nearly all church-run activities will continue but these will 'move-out' and become an even more integral part of community life as they take place in various village venues.

More Information

If you would like more information about SFC and its building project, including how to donate on-line by credit card, then visit the church web site at www.staplehurstfreechurch.org.uk. If you are considering making a new or additional donation but would like more specific information then please contact Pastor Clive Jones by phone to 01580 890644 or by email to clivelynnej@btinternet.com.

Pass It On

If you have a relative, friend or colleague who you think would be interested in hearing about or supporting this project then please feel free to pass this newsletter on to them.