



Above: The Connection's Workspace programme helps clients develop skills and find pathways into work © Chris Sowe

THE CONNECTION EAGERLY AWAITS ITS NEW HOME

With the Renewal Project underway and St Martin's exterior transformed into a full-scale building site, it is easy to forget the many faces this unique church presents to the world. Throughout this building project, it remains, all at once, a spiritual refuge from the hectic city, a world-class music venue, a major tourist attraction, and a life-saving centre for social care.

Created in 2003 from the merger of two of London's leading providers of services for homeless people, The Connection at St Martin's has become one of the UK's largest organisations for homeless people of all ages. Each year an average

of 7,000 people turn to The Connection as a safe and supportive place from which to face some of life's toughest challenges. The reorganisation and modernisation of The Connection facilities are a major part of the Renewal Project, which will enable it to continue to provide vital services for people from age sixteen and upwards. Services are tailored to the different needs of two age groups; 16-25 and 26 and over; and the flexible, creative approach adopted by staff means that the unique requirements of each individual client can be addressed.

Providing a range of non-residential

services for homeless and vulnerable people, The Connection helps clients deal with the physical and emotional consequences of homelessness. The aim of the work done here is to empower clients to find long-term solutions to their personal, housing and employment problems by enabling them to gain the confidence and skills they need to live independently and access work or further education. Connection clients benefit from a range of services, including counselling, housing assistance, computer, job and life-skills training, and a variety of creative arts and educational ...



© Chris Sowe

... programmes. Colin Glover, Chief Executive said, "This is a safe, non-threatening environment where people of all ages who are homeless or insecurely housed can access services, from the basics such as healthy food, a shower and clean clothes to specialist counselling and advice, training, education and employment opportunities."

The staff and volunteers are working

diligently to ensure that the level and scope of service provided at the centre will not suffer during building work. Once the Renewal Project is complete, the centre will be able to provide better care to its clients, in a safer, purpose-built space that will give The Connection the inspirational atmosphere its work and clients deserve.

Colin is quick to reassure supporters

that service delivery has not suffered as a result of a move into one building - necessary so the building work could start. He says "Staff have been creative and flexible about using the available space to ensure that schedules for both younger and older clients can be maintained, and the same numbers of clients can be supported each day."

To find out more about the work of The Connection please visit: www.connection-at-stmartins.org.uk.

'BEING' AND 'DOING' IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

When the present church was built in the 1720's, the elegant architecture and fine craftsmanship were the very best London could offer to God. It is somewhat faded now, but the physical fabric of St Martin's still embodies the highest quality. Though time has taken its toll on the church buildings, which are now in great need of restoration, St Martin's continues to convey its preoccupation with aesthetics in the beauty of the music performed here and through the spoken word.

However, St Martin's isn't just about its aesthetic or artistic achievements - of greater consequence to us is the way in which we can best serve the community around us. The spirituality of the church, and our mission, is not just about the pre-eminence of our beautiful architecture or our beautiful music; it is about people. Rather than just excelling artistically, St Martin's achieves a remarkable mix of 'being' and 'doing'- what can we be to the people that we meet and what can we do for them.

A little while ago a well-dressed young

man came into church early on a Friday morning. He went around the church giving cigarettes to those who were sitting there and stayed for Morning Prayer. Once, when I had the chance to speak with him, he told me "I just came back to say thank you. I sat in here for months. This place was really good to me - now I've got a flat and a job and I just wanted to say thank you." I haven't seen him since. In a way, I hope I never do. He has gained his independence.

It is precisely for this kind of support that St Martin's is famous. Throughout the 20th Century we have been known as a shelter for the needy, and a place that cared for the outcast and downtrodden. Caring for others has been part of our story from the very beginning - initiated by St Martin himself, when he shared his cloak with a beggar. In his story the beggar returned to him in a dream to reveal himself as Christ - there is no blessing but a true blessing in return for such generosity. This paradox, that when you think you're doing good to someone it often turns out that the greater blessing is

from them to you, is proof that giving is good for you and there is no proof but a real proof.

For the future, Eric Parry's strikingly elegant and simple architectural scheme is perfectly suited to St Martin's. The beautiful sequence of spaces achieve a dichotomy at the heart of St Martin's - they are both inspirational and practical. Already you can feel that these new spaces will make a very significant contribution to London life, completely in keeping with St Martin's traditions of being and doing something beautiful for God.

Nicholas Hirston

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: SIR JOSEPH HOTUNG

Sir Joseph Hotung has been a loyal supporter since 2004 and is now one of our leading individual donors.

Sir Joseph is a private investor and well-known patron of the arts in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom and the United States. He was born in Shanghai and received an international education in both the US and the UK. He has been a director of a number of major, well-respected companies, including HSBC Holdings, Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and Hong Kong Electric Holdings Ltd.

He is also involved with many cultural, educational and governmental institutions, reflecting his wide range of interests and expertise. Formerly a Trustee of the British Museum and the first Chairman of the Arts Development Council in Hong Kong, he is currently on the board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and St George's Hospital, London. Other board level involvement has included the Judicial

Services Commission of Hong Kong; the Council of the University of Hong Kong; and the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS).

Visitors to the British Museum can enjoy the Sir Joseph Hotung Gallery of Oriental Antiquities. In the gallery next door, they can also get an insight into one of Sir Joseph's passions: he is one of the foremost collectors of Chinese jade, and he has generously loaned much of his collection to the British Museum for everyone to enjoy. Whilst Sir Joseph admits that he is not sure how he became either a great collector of jade, or how he became involved in philanthropy, he is particularly proud of the Sir Joseph Hotung Programme on Law, Human Rights and Peace Building in the Middle East at SOAS. With such a diverse contribution to public life, it is not surprising that Sir Joseph was knighted in 1993 for his services to charity, education and government.

Sir Joseph was introduced to the



Jade Buffalo from Sir Joseph's collection in the British Museum

Renewal of St Martin's through one of the council members of the Ho Ming Wah Chinese Community Centre. He visited and saw the range of work that was being achieved, along with the physical challenges of the site and the ambition of the plans. It was the exciting mix of services and activities on site that sparked his first gift of £250,000, made quietly to the Vicar, Nick Holtam, as something to take away from a dinner hosted by our Patron, HRH the Prince of Wales.

Sir Joseph has been keenly following progress since and recently made a further pledge of £250,000 to be drawn down in the later stages of the project. It is a true testament to the relevance and impact of the Renewal Project that someone who takes such care over his involvement and investment in charitable projects has seen such value in St Martin's. The campaign extends warm and very grateful thanks to Sir Joseph for his leadership and continuous support.

C-CLUB'S EASTER TREAT

Good things come in small packages!

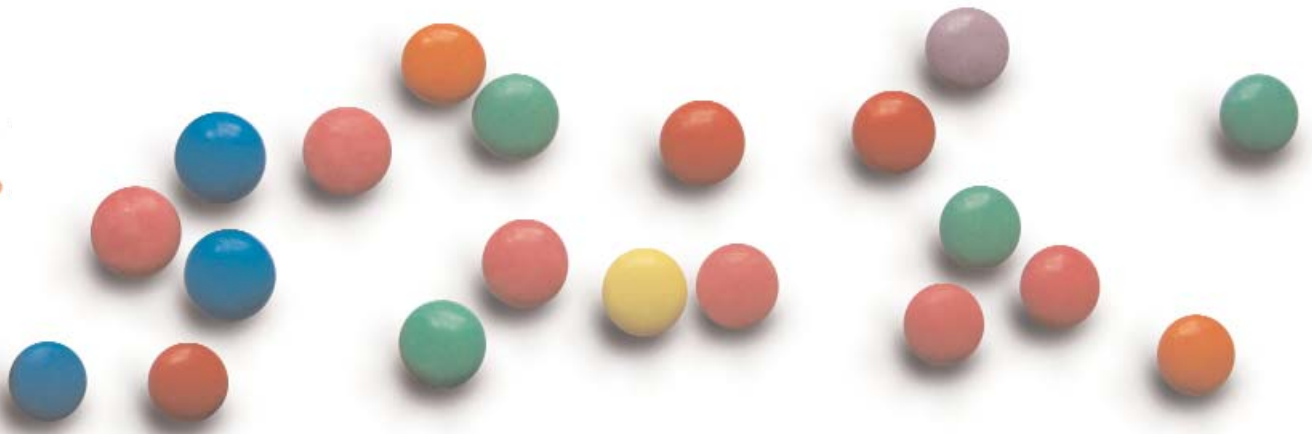
This is the lesson learned by St Martin's Children's Club (C-Club) members over Lent and the Easter weekend through a creative venture into the world of fundraising and philanthropy.

The C-Club keenly targeted the sweet tooth of each of their friends and family members by offering decorated tubes of Smarties on one condition:

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A group of children from St Martin's C-Club with their decorated smartie tubes.





they must promise to collect spare change in the empty tubes and return them to the C-Club after Easter.

And what a successful venture it was! Not only did chocolate prove to be a great incentive, but the C-Club learned that even loose change can make a major difference. When they collected the tubes the amount raised totalled more than £800 for the Renewal Project!

On average, each tube can hold about £15, however the Campaign Team received one letter from a woman in

Australia who said that whilst in London she had enjoyed her Smarties so much that she thought the C-Club deserved a bit more than she could fit into the tube - and we very gratefully received her special donation of £50!

The smarties fundraising was the clever idea of Sally Flatman, who co-leads the Sunday school group with her husband, Andrew Caspari. Andrew, a Churchwarden of St Martin's, was very impressed with the children's efforts: "The children really enjoyed giving out tubes, collecting the money and

learning about the project. It was great to see even the youngest members of the congregation pitching in to help the campaign."

The campaign team would like to offer a big thank you to the C-Club members who helped raise such a huge donation for the Renewal Project. Their hard work and generosity should remind us all that every little bit does, indeed, help.

BUILDING WORKS UPDATE



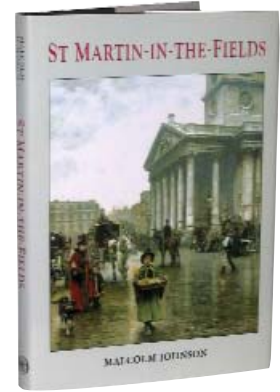
The Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) continues its archaeological investigation of the site

The excavation and demolition around the church progresses



DID YOU KNOW?

The Open Door policy adopted by Dick Sheppard and his congregation in the First World War set the pattern for St Martin's care for the poor and the vulnerable from then on. Tired and weary soldiers arriving from the Front in 1915 found a warm, friendly crypt containing a canteen staffed by volunteers where they could stay. They were followed in the 1920s and 1930s by out-of-work civilians, many of whom had been in the services and were now unwanted and forgotten. A house in Grosvenor Road where 30 men could be given emergency accommodation was leased for three years in 1925. Its residents included the son of an archbishop; a man who had owned his own racing stables; doctors, soldiers, porters and painters.



An excerpt from Malcolm Johnson's book, 'St-Martin-in-the-Fields'

Pick up a copy from the Shop in the Crypt (£20) - it's filled with pleasurable anecdotes and interesting historical information about St Martin's. All proceeds go to the Renewal Project.

ST MARTIN'S SERVES AS MODEL IN THE US

As building work continues apace, the progress on site would seem to suggest that February's symbolic Blessing and Ground-breaking has been left far behind. However, through the generosity of the Rt Revd Mark Sisk, Bishop of New York, who led the blessings that morning, the Ground-breaking has heralded more than the beginning of construction - it has also marked the beginning of strengthened relationships with the US.

Rev. Nicholas Holtam and Campaign Director Patricia Castanha will be visiting New York on the invitation of Bishop Sisk, who was so inspired by what he saw here at St Martin's that he and his wife have offered to host a reception for the Renewal Project at the beginning of June.

Yet St Martin's ties with the US extend beyond the kindness of individuals like Bishop Sisk. Though it sits at the very heart of London, the construction of St Martin's in the 18th century had an immediate and profound effect throughout the English-speaking world, and the church became an architectural paradigm for religious buildings in North America.

As trained architects were extremely rare in the colonies, the new American churches were based on fashionable churches built in England, as detailed in numerous architectural books. In his own 1728 'Book of Architecture', Gibbs provided illustrations of the recently finished St Martin-in-the-Fields, complete with several preliminary versions of his design, and it soon became an essential part of the colonial gentleman's library.

The direct influence of Gibbs' book can be seen in the First Baptist Meetinghouse (1774-1775) in Providence, Rhode Island, designed by merchant and self-trained architect Joseph Brown. Though retaining an element of the restrained design attributed to earlier meetinghouses, its tower and steeple are an exact copy of plate 30 in the book, included as an alternate design for St Martin's.

It is perhaps fitting that of all of the US, the Ground-breaking Ceremony renewed St Martin's ties with New York. Amidst all the adaptations of St Martin-in-the-Fields, it is St Paul's Chapel in New York that is often considered to be its most exact replica. Designed in 1764

by a student of Gibbs, Thomas McBean, it has both of St Martin's signature features; a monumental portico and elegant steeple. However, unlike St Martin's, McBean positioned St Paul's portico at the opposite end of the church from the tower, giving his church a rather unbalanced air to those accustomed to St Martin's!

Today, this tradition of Gibbs-inspired churches is thoroughly ingrained in the collective American consciousness. St Martin's has been used as a template by most American denominations; a popularity that is undoubtedly testament to the inherent value of Gibbs' original design.

Approaching the trip to New York, it is extremely encouraging to know that the architectural significance of St Martin-in-the-Fields is continuing to inspire a response not just in this country, but also on the other side of the Atlantic.

What's On?

Don't miss these special events at St Martin's:



01 BBC Broadcast: BBC Religion's annual Ascension Day service was on BBC Radio 4 on 25th May, but if you missed the service you can still listen to it again at www.bbc.co.uk/radio4 (Only available for 7 days after the broadcast.) The Daily Service Singers and the choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields performed, and St Martin's Vicar Revd Nicholas Holtam presided with The Very Revd Dr Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans.



02 St Martin's Renewal Project Exhibition: Learn more about the history, work and vision for the future of St Martin's Renewal Project, in a new exhibition detailing how our new facilities will improve the St Martin's experience for everyone. The exhibition will be on display in the Gallery in the Crypt from 16th - 25th June, and during the months of August and October (10am - 6pm daily).

03 Architectural Tours: Eric Parry Architects are hosting tours of the St Martin's Renewal Project site as a part of Architecture Week (16-25 June). There will be three tours on Saturday 17th June and three tours on Saturday 24th June led by one of the architects working on the project. For more information please visit www.architectureweek.org or contact Jacqueline Barhouch on 020 7608 9600.



04 East Window Exhibition: Come and have a look at the designs for the new East Window to be installed as a part of the Renewal Project and is funded by an anonymous donor. The exhibition is on display in the church from 23rd May - 28th July from 9am - 5pm daily, except during services and concerts.

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTORS

If you have visited St Martin's in recent weeks you may have seen the message "Business as Usual, Building for the Future".

Starting to think about this statement the other day, I realised that it refers to the building of faith, respect and understanding in people's lives as much as the physical renewal of St Martin's facilities. St Martin-in-the-Fields exists to build faith within people's lives and also to build bridges between people of different faiths. We see the re-building of people's self-confidence through the important work of The Connection and the development of cultural respect through the work of the Ho Ming Wah Chinese Community Centre. The world-class music programme at St Martin's helps to build an appreciation of the arts in Central London and offers inspiration to every type of visitor. With over 350 performances a year taking place on the site, 7,000 vulnerable people coming through the doors of The Connection,

and 700,000 visitors each year, St Martin's inspires people, and sometimes even transforms lives.

This spring has demonstrated the amazing strength of the Renewal Project's "building" message. It has reached into the hearts of many of the people behind the funding bodies we have approached and as a result we have received several top-level gifts from trusts and foundations. We have been delighted on several occasions over these past few weeks to hear the words "...this is our highest gift to date", and "we believe this will be our largest grant made this year".

I feel fortunate to reside in a community filled with people who care so very much about the work of St Martin's, whether it is the heritage of the building, the work with homeless people, the support for the Chinese community, or the outstanding music programme. That they are willing to stretch and give at the

very highest end of their personal or organisational levels reaffirms the significant impact this worthy project has made on people. We are most grateful to all of you for your tremendous generosity. Thank you to everyone who is keeping us open for "Business as Usual" as we continue to build, and build, and build - and especially to those who have made the highest level of contributions to the campaign's success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Davidson".

Barbara is now on maternity leave, expecting her second child and we wish her all the best. She will return in September, but in the meantime, please address all enquiries to Patricia Castanha, Campaign Director (direct line 020 7766 1131).

the Renewal of St Martin's

SUPPORTER FORM



IF YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE YOUR OWN GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUILDING PROJECT, WE THANK YOU.
PLEASE DO FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS ON AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN YOU.

PERSONAL DETAILS: Title(s) and full Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Data Protection: We will store your details in our database. We will not share your information with other organisations. Occasionally we may contact you with details of the work of St Martin-in-the-Fields. These messages may include requests for donations. We fully understand that you may not be able to respond. If you would prefer not to hear from us in this way, please contact us.

MAKING A GIFT: I would like to make a gift of _____ to the Renewal of St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Frequency: Once / Monthly / Quarterly / Annually

Payment Type: Cash / Cheque / CAF Vouchers / Banker's Order / Credit Card

(Please make cheques and CAF vouchers payable to 'StMartin-in-the-Fields')

Credit Card Donations: *(Please sign below)*

Card Type: Visa / Mastercard / Maestro (Switch) / Eurocard / Delta / Solo

Card Number: | | |

Expiry Date: M M | Y Y Y Y

MAESTRO (SWITCH) ONLY: Start Date: M M | Y Y Y Y

Issue Number:

Banker's Orders: Please pay the account of: St Martin-in-the-Fields, Natwest Bank, PO Box 414, 38 Strand, London WC2N 5JQ (A/c No: 32033214, Sort Code: 60-40-05)

Your Bank's Name & Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Your Account Number:

Your Sort Code: | |

Please debit the above amount from my account starting on: D D | M M | Y Y Y Y

(You may change or cancel this standing order at any time)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Gift Aid Declaration: All gifts to St Martin's are eligible for the Gift Aid Scheme which allows St Martin's to claim back the tax you have paid on the money you donate. This means that by signing the Gift Aid Declaration below you will increase the value of your gift by almost a third (approximately 28%) at no cost to you. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying us. You must pay an amount of Income or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that we reclaim on your donations in the tax year. Please notify us if you change your name or address or if you no longer pay enough tax to qualify. *Please note: your declaration is not valid unless you include your home address and the date.*

I am a UK taxpayer and want St Martin-in-the-Fields to treat all donations I make, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

* delete as appropriate

PLEASE CUT HERE

PLEASE CUT HERE



The Renewal of St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin-in-the-Fields is a living community in a changing world. The building project will develop the physical accommodation needed for the long-term continuation of the worship and work of this church, including hospitality to visitors and the care of homeless people.

For further information please contact us:

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Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 4JJ

020 77661120
campaign@smitf.org

St Martin-in-the-Fields Development Trust
Registered Charity No. 1110406

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales
Chairman: Ian Henderson CBE

Advisors: Lady Bischoff, The Earl of Cork and Orrery, Mrs Gilly Drummond DL, The Earl of Home CVO CBE, The Archbishop of Hong Kong, The Bishop of London, Sir Neville Marriner CBE, Lady Marriner, Lady Panufnik, John Robinson, The Lord Stevenson of Coddenham, Rear Admiral Charles Style CBE, David Tang OBE, Rabbi Mark Winer



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