



# the Renewal of St Martin's

Campaign Update Summer 2007



THE FUTURE OF ST MARTIN'S  
COMES INTO VIEW



## RECYCLING THE PAST by Matthew Durran, Glass Artist

As I entered the darkened church full of scaffolding and sounds of building work, I could see St Martin's Renewal Project in full swing. It felt like strange territory for me since, as a glass artist, I am used to working in light-filled spaces.

After a health and safety check, we were directed towards where they were dismantling the heavily leaded glass panels from the windows of the outer walls of the church. Made of recycled coloured glass, these windows were installed after St Martin's Victorian stained-glass windows were blown out during bombing in the second World War. They were installed by White Friars, who were mainly known for vases and tableware, but who, after periods of conflict, were sometimes used as part of the reconstruction of treasured architecture. These windows were never meant to remain a permanent feature of St Martin's and will finally be replaced with clear glass, similar to James Gibbs' original design.

Removing the windows and creating replacement panels are quite specialised processes. The retaining putty and wiring is removed using small hand tools; this allows the glazed panels to be lifted out of the main bronze frame. Each panel holds a different number of pieces of glass depending on location and shape. Bespoke replacement panels have been hand-made using traditional methods by Holywell Glass, based in Somerset. The glass has been blown at the Antique English Glass Company's works in Redditch, near Birmingham, by the UK's last remaining glass blower of this type. Holywell cut the flattened sheets of glass to size and install into lead frames, which can then be installed back into the existing bronze frame. The tie wires and putty are then replaced to secure the panels back in place.

I am working on a short film about my involvement with the Renewal Project as part of a larger project about recycled glass. With such rich history embedded in each pane of glass, St Martin's wanted to make sure it was not just thrown out, but re-used to make something



Stills taken from Matt's short film showing the removal of the glass panes © Mike Paterson ([www.apimedia.co.uk](http://www.apimedia.co.uk))

beautiful again in another form. My job is to recycle this lead crystal glass with all its history and city grime into something of beauty on behalf of the Renewal Project.

It is my artistic goal to take something of the fabric of the building and reproduce the spirit of St Martin's into a new shape for the future. I plan to use a fusing technique to link some of the panes together, unlike the blown glass technique that originally made them. The glass will have to be cooled very quickly so that the pollution it has endured over the years in St Martin's central location doesn't affect the clarity of the new glass forms.

I am very grateful St Martin's has agreed to participate in this recycling project, as part of which I will be staging public glass-blowing exhibitions in Central London.

For more information on Matt's work, please visit: [www.mattdurran.com](http://www.mattdurran.com).

## FAR FROM HOME

Thanks so much to Greta Trevers and friend Liz for taking St Martin's with them on their adventures in Patmos, Greece.

We'd love to see how far the newsletter can roam - if you are off somewhere exotic please take your newsletter and send us a photo!





## NEW CHURCH FURNITURE

As the renovation and restoration of Gibbs' church has always been at the very heart of the Renewal Project, reaching this stage has proved a fulfilling benchmark. As well as preserving St Martin's heritage, the Renewal Project will also increase access and flexibility of use, transforming the whole experience of visiting the church.

Working with St Martin's to achieve this is Treske, a family firm in North Yorkshire that has been specially commissioned to make our new sanctuary furniture. In what Director, Justin Bartlett, describes as "a great showcase" of their skills, Treske is creating oak clergy chairs, pews and choir stalls which will reflect the quality and craftsmanship of St Martin's original design.

Though construction of the furniture is currently in its earliest stages, St Martin's Associate Vicar, Revd Liz Griffiths and Church Music Director, Nick Danks, recently visited the factory in Thirsk. "We really got a terrific impression of the care and intricacy that

goes into making each piece" said Liz. "It was great to see the wood in its various stages - from rough-hewn timber to beautifully crafted pieces."

Replacing previously fixed furniture, the two new choir stalls - each with an accompanying Minister's stall or Preacher's stall - will be movable, allowing for different furniture permutations and freeing up space at the East end of the church. The Minister's and Preacher's stalls are specially designated seats from which services are led. They are designed to affix to the choir stalls or stand alone. As well as being transportable, Treske has designed each piece of furniture with a mechanism that allows for height adjustability. For the first time, St Martin's will be able to comfortably welcome congregations of varying sizes, becoming as adept an intimate venue as it is a grand one. Musicians can be offered a more adaptable performance space and audiences will have better sight-lines.

As ever, this work has been supported



A Treske craftsman at work in their North Yorkshire premises © Revd Liz Griffiths



The new sanctuary furniture will be made from solid oak © Revd Liz Griffiths

by contributions from many sources. For instance, the Preacher's chair, will be dedicated in memory of a well-loved member of the congregation, Ralph Davies, and the new choir stalls, have been funded by a generous gift from Lady Kaye. General restoration work has also been made possible by the ongoing commitment of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

## LIFE AT ST MARTIN'S: RALPH SMITH

What is your favourite part of being Head Verger at St Martin's?

I have been at St Martin's for almost seven years and the best aspect of this job is leading a flexible and co-operative team. Whilst primarily serving the needs of the clergy as stage managers in the drama of the liturgy, there is also our contact with the public, particularly external users, that gives me a great deal of satisfaction. We are usually able to meet their needs and have become very

good at coping professionally with the unexpected.

I was a teacher for many years, so my personal involvement with church tours satisfies a particular desire to communicate the story of St Martin's in the context of history and ethos. For instance, I love the story of how St Martin's became the Royal Parish Church: In the 16th Century, Henry VIII ordered that the monks' garden chapel, which was St Martin's at the time, be

upgraded so that the bodies of plague victims could be buried there and not carried through his palace on Whitehall.





# HOME IMPROVEMENT... RENOVATED PREMISES FOR THE CONNECTION AT ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

Currently prominent in their temporary accommodation next to the church, the work of The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields continues unabated by the building work. Meanwhile, next door, the builders are undertaking the job of making their permanent home fit for purpose once again.

The Connection at St Martin's premises span five floors of the North Range - a terrace of buildings that are located immediately to the north of the church - sharing the space with clergy offices and accommodation. Once complete in early 2008, the predominant physical improvements to the buildings will not be visible from the outside, but will make great changes inside. The drawing on the right from Eric Parry Architects shows that services at The Connection at St Martin's will mainly be concentrated within the old school building on the right end of the terrace, but will also utilise the underground level along the entire North Range. Where previously the different component buildings were insufficiently linked together, a new strip of building will be added, providing a significant increase in office space thereby expanding the rooms in which services are delivered.

These improvements mean services can be delivered that meet the needs of different client groups. There will be an



improved Reception, ensuring that the first impression of the organisation is a clear message about engagement and change. The Main Hall will be a multi-purpose space, accommodating completely diverse uses from a performance space to a drop-in area with internet access. In the morning this space will be designated for use by young people aged up to 25, and in the afternoon will be open to all for group activities. Here clients can get involved in music, drama or art, or attend any of the weekly sessions for targeted groups, like rough sleepers. The new mezzanine

level will generate space for a number of new interview rooms, which are key private spaces for the initial assessment of clients needs and for the casework undertaken by specialist drug, alcohol and mental health workers. Vocational guidance for clients seeking work will be given in specially created training rooms, and which will also host basic literacy, numeracy and ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) classes. The basement will contain the kitchen and dining area, a day centre for over 26 year olds, and the medical services rooms staffed by NHS GPs.



Images: (main) Architects' visualisation of the new Connection spaces © Eric Parry Architects, (below left) Some of the many services offered to clients of the Connection © David Lindsay



Throughout the building, amenities will be completely renewed. Vital practical facilities such as the kitchen, laundry and showers will be specifically designed for intensive use. The IT Training Room, delivering accredited IT

and other courses, will be brand new and fully equipped. The creation of purpose-built facilities as part of the Renewal Project will provide a space for clients which reflects a commitment to hold one's self in high esteem. It also

will allow The Connection at St Martin's staff to deliver services with the flexibility to respond to the changing needs of homeless people well into the 21st century.

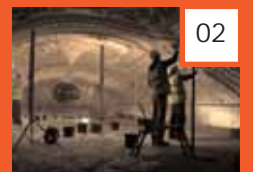
# What's On?

- 01 St Martin's 'On Tour' - to mark the 150th anniversary of Elgar's birth, the Kerem String Quartet will be performing Elgar's String Quartet in E minor at the National Portrait Gallery on Friday 31st August 6.30-7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (unreserved).
- 02 Please join us for a joint English and Chinese service of thanksgiving on Sunday 30th September at 10.30am to celebrate the completion of the internal restoration of the church and our return to worship at St Martin's.
- 03 The Café in the Crypt will be re-opening to the public on Monday 1st October with improved seating and a range of exciting new menus. Next time you are in London please do drop in and see our new facilities.

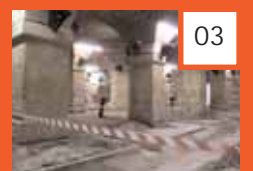
To book tickets for St Martin's 'On Tour' please call the box office on 020 7839 8362 (open Mon to Fri 10.00am - 5.00pm) or visit our website at [www.smitf.org](http://www.smitf.org).



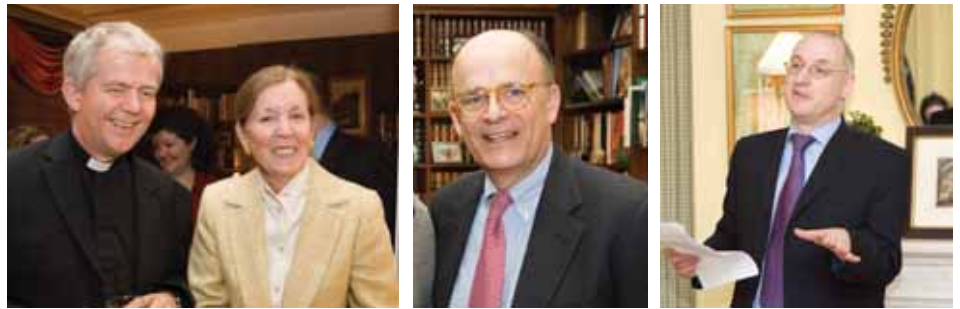
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## EVENTS UPDATE

St Martin's has been busy fundraising from the US to Hong Kong over the last few months. In New York City, Jane and Bill Havemeyer graciously hosted a private reception in their home...

... While Vincent Cheng and HSBC hosted a glitzy dinner in Hong Kong to recognise Sir Willie Purves and thank Renewal Project major donor Sir Gordon Wu...

... Here in London, the Museum of London hosted a private view of the Roman sarcophagus discovered last year at St Martin's as part of the project.



Photographs, left to right: (Top row) Revd Nicholas Holtam and Jane Havemeyer; Bill Havemeyer; Churchwarden, Andrew Caspari, gives a speech about the Renewal Project © Kara Flannery Photography, New York. (Middle row) Sir Gordon Wu receives a key to St Martin's - a thank you for his very generous donation of £1 million; Sir William Purves, CBE, DSO and Vincent Cheng, OBE, JP; Sir Gordon Wu presents Revd Nicholas Holtam and Ian Henderson, CBE with his donation to the campaign © andrew@coffeehouse.com, Hong Kong. (Bottom row) Authors Andrew N Wilson and Peter Ackroyd enjoy the reception at the Museum of London; Guests study the Roman sarcophagus; Revd Nicolas Holtam and The Rt Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Carolyn Keen © David Lindsay, London.

## A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTORS

It is said that "it takes a village to raise a child", and it is equally true that "it takes the world to raise funds for St Martin's"! This is a campaign which has seen support arrive from a diverse group of people from around the world. We've been grateful to receive donations in US, Hong Kong, Australian, and Canadian dollars, to name just a few.

This global support has not been insignificant and we project more than 12% of the total £36 million needed for the project will be contributed by donors outside of the UK. The generosity of our Hong Kong donors alone has contributed over £2 million to the project so far. Gifts have been arriving from American donors with others in the US considering how they will be involved in helping us achieve our goals for the Renewal Project. Of

course, those of us who have worked on this campaign for some time are not surprised by the international interest- we've long known that St Martin's history and contributions are not merely for the benefit of those in London and the UK.

St Martin's has been a source of strength and inspiration in many ways. James Gibbs' design was an architectural template for churches of all denominations the world over; St Martin's was a sanctuary to Jewish refugees and was prominent in the anti-Apartheid Movement, during the 20th century. It was also the place where Peter Benenson discovered the inspiration for founding Amnesty International. Contributions like these along with the work that takes place with homeless people, are what make St

Martin-in-the-Fields a distinctive capital project.

However, I'm pleased to say that our UK donors are well aware of the good work that this building project will provide and are making their own significant contributions. We are immensely grateful to Pauline and Jon Moulton for their recent gift of £1 million. This leadership gift, together with over £120,000 in recent gifts from UK-based Jewish philanthropists, demonstrates that our local village is behind us as well! If you haven't already, please will you join them in supporting us?

The role of Campaign Director is shared by Patricia Castanha and Barbara Davidson.

# 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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 St Martin-in-the-Fields)*

Credit Card Donations: *(Please sign below)*

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

Issue Number:

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

MAESTRO (SWITCH) ONLY: Start Date:

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:

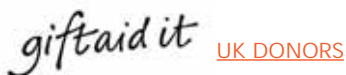
Your Sort Code:

Please debit the above amount from my account starting on:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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



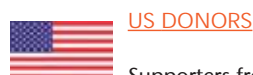
Gift Aid Declaration: I am a UK tax payer and I want St Martin-in-the-Fields to treat all donations I have made for the six years prior to this year (but no earlier than 06/04/2000), and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

*(Please note: your declaration is not valid unless you include your home address and the date)*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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. By signing the Gift Aid Declaration above 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.



Supporters from the US who wish to make their donation in dollars (US\$) can do so via our 501(c)3 registered organization. Please fill in the appropriate sections above and send this form, along with your gift, to: The Foundation for St Martin-in-the-Fields London, c/o Chapel and York Ltd, PMB #293, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue N W, Suite 900, South Building, Washington, DC 20004.

Please make all checks payable to: *The Foundation for St Martin-in-the-Fields, London.* All gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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

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For further information please contact us:

St Martin-in-the-Fields Development Trust  
Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 4JJ

020 77661120  
campaign@smitf.org

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 Right Revd Peter Kwong, The Bishop of London, Sir Neville Marriner CBE, Lady Marriner, Lady Panufnik, John Robinson, The Lord Stevenson of Coddenham, Vice Admiral Charles Style CBE, David Tang OBE, Rabbi Mark Winer

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