Fund Raising for Pipe Organs

Guidance for Those Involved in Raising Funds for a New Organ or a Restoration Project.

This information leaflet is intended to help those who are seeking to raise funds for work on a pipe organ. The advice given covers all manner of projects from modest restorations to the installation of a completely new instrument and is aimed primarily at churches and religious institutions, though others may equally benefit from it.

Gathering funds for an organ project requires a huge effort by all concerned. Several different approaches might be considered, but before fundraising can begin a target figure must be set. How is this achieved? This cannot be done before a working party – committee – has been established and initial consultations carried out.

The committee

A committee should be established to conduct research and establish aims and objectives in general terms. It has great responsibility and the success of the project will depend on the decisions they make.

Once the target has been set then the focus of the committee will turn to raising funds; the make up of the committee should therefore reflect this and within its membership it would be useful to have:

- At least one individual of moderate wealth who might be counted on to make a substantial donation to the cause.
- At least one member who is in opposition to the plans, in anticipation that their views will be changed as the process develops and that they become a useful ally to persuade others who doubt.
- A good communicator who will present information to church members and the world at large. Media contacts would be useful.
- Someone who can produce good quality publicity material.

Some charities may not be listed nationally, and information may be available locally from staff at the Diocesan Office, Citizens’ Advice Bureau or with firms of long-established solicitors.

Helping with fund raising

Directory of Grant-Making Trusts is a major source for identifying suitable trusts, and for advice on how to present applications.

T H E  I N S T I T U T E  O F  B R I T I S H  O R G A N  B U I L D I N G
13 RYEFIELDS THURSTON BURY ST. EDMUNDS SUFFOLK IP31 3TD
Telephone & Fax: 01359 233433 e-mail: administrator@ibo.co.uk web site: www.ibo.co.uk
Registered Office: 17 Market Place, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1BA Co. Number 3136882

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The Charities Aid Foundation
25 Kings Hill Ave, King’s Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA
www.cafonline.org 03000 123 000

National Lottery Charities Board
7th floor, St Vincent House, 30 Orange Street, London WC2H 7HH 020 7839 5371

Books

Guide to Local Trusts – 24 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2DP 0207 209 5151

Fundraising for Churches - Jane Grieve –SPCK

N.E. Guide for Grant Seekers – John Haswell House, 8/9 Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead NE8 4DY

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Titles available in this series are:

CHURCH HEATING AND THE ORGAN
WRITING ORGAN REPORTS
DEALING WITH ASBESTOS
ACOUSTICS AND CHURCH MUSIC
GUIDELINES FOR VAT ON CHURCH ORGANS
ORGAN BLOWING – BEST PRACTICE
REDUNDANT PIPE ORGANS

Further copies of this leaflet and other titles are available on-line and from:

Second Edition 2012
Someone who is comfortable with finances.

At least one musician.

A representative of the Clergy.

The process

The committee should consider taking independent professional advice and then develop a brief, but avoid being too prescriptive.

With the aims and objectives established, the advice of a limited number of organ builders, whose work is compatible with your requirements, should be taken. Many builders will charge a fee for this advice, though this might be waived if evidence is shown that good quality professional advice has been obtained. Having reviewed the proposals the committee should select a preferred organ builder with whom the scheme can be developed.

Once the scheme is established a final budget and target figure can be set.

Reaching the target

Now the hard work begins! Among the possibilities that might be considered are:

- A wealthy donor. These rare birds can make fund-raising appear easy. High profile projects are likely to appeal and a charismatic member of the committee may be required to develop such a source. High quality incentives might help such as personalised visits to the workshop to see the work progress and gifts linked to the project; don't forget to build the cost of these into your target figure.

- Grants; see the comprehensive list on pages 4-8 of this booklet. This may require extraordinary perseverance, much letter writing and form filling. Grants might range from very modest to extremely generous. Avoid rejections by understanding the criteria put forward by grant-givers.

- Component sponsorship. Your organ builder can assist in this by providing a breakdown of costs related to the main components.

- Sponsor a pipe schemes have worked well. The size of the pipe might be related to the contribution sought, but there may be many small sums. Consider a reward scheme for large donors of a whole stop or the very largest pipes of each stop for instance.

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The William Adlington Cadbury Charitable Trust
Rokesley,
University of Birmingham,
Bristol Road, Birmingham
B29 6QF
☎ 0121 472 1464
www.wa-cadbury.org.uk

Include conservation and protection projects, generally only in the West Midlands, at the discretion of the Trustees.

Other useful sources of funds or information

For European Funding apply to local Business Innovation & Skills (BIS) office.

For advice on funding in the regions:

Wales: CADW, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 1UY ☎ 029 2050 0200

Northern Ireland: Department of the Environment NI, 5-33 Hill Street Belfast BT1 2LA ☎ 028 9023 5000

Scotland: Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH ☎ 0131 668 8600

Computer Program: Funderfinder

British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS)
Ashcroft, 10 Ridgegate Close, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0HT
hughesmelvin@hotmail.com

BIOS publishes a leaflet (£2) giving details of charities that have made grants towards the conservation of historic organs. It also gives useful information about the preparation of organ appeals and how to research the history of your instrument. www.bios.org.uk
Grants to registered charities only and with some geographical preferences.

Small grants for the maintenance of pipe organs in places of worship and for new pipe organs. Applicants should not approach the fund until a Faculty or other necessary permission has been obtained, a contract has been signed with the organ builder and over half the money required has been given or pledged.

Supports work in church, including work to organs. They will receive applications from churches. For C of E churches, apply to the Church Buildings Council (p5)

Interested in organs used to support traditional Anglican worship, particularly where it includes a choral tradition. Typically the project might involve a major repair or replacement of the church organ.

Maintenance of Church of England buildings, including the repair and renovation of organs, in the counties of Durham and York.

An example of a trust with a specific local interest, in this case Gloucestershire.

- Sponsored visits to view the organ under construction/being restored. Organ building workshops are fascinating places and visitors are rarely disappointed.

- Tap into staged payments for the project. Organ builders usually work on a staged payments basis and fund-raising targets can be aimed at incremental payments. NB this may be a problem if the diocesan faculty demands a certain percentage being raised before the contract is signed.

### Publicity & communication

Throughout the whole process it is vital to maintain a good flow of information. This will boost fund raising and good publicity will help to get the message across. Project publicity can help to reinforce a positive image of what is being done and may boost morale.

Newsletters are effective. Produced regularly, these might initially be illustrated with a case design and organ layout drawings with later versions including photographs of work in progress. An additional benefit is that these can be sent out as press releases.

While it is unlikely that the general public will be a source of major funding, good publicity can produce surprising results.

Positive external publicity may encourage church members to donate even if internal publicity has failed to do this.

### An illustration of a recent innovative approach:

A particularly successful example of fundraising for an organ project saw those attending a church on a regular basis being visited in their homes.

This required a selected group to be trained and tasked to each visit six homes to present the plan and to follow this up in four to six weeks to collect a pledge in a sealed envelope.

Deeds of Covenant over four years formed an important part of this process and gifts by this means were encouraged no matter how small. The majority of the sum required was raised in five weeks!
SELECTIVE LIST OF GRANT-MAKING BODIES IN THE U.K.

Despite our best efforts for accuracy when going to print, this list quickly becomes out of date. Your local library may have a directory of grant making bodies.

National Heritage Memorial Fund
7 Holbein Place, London SW1W 8NR
☎ 020 7591 6042
www.hlf.org.uk

and also at the same address:
HLF Your Heritage Scheme
☎ 020 7591 6000
enquire@hlf.org.uk
www.hlf.org.uk

Awards for All
☎ 0845 410 2030
www.awardsforall.org.uk

NHMF (administered by HLF Trustees) gives grants for restoration of organs of outstanding historic interest and national importance. It is funded by the National Lottery. Advisable to speak first to regional officer (local ☎ no.s at the website).

HLF Your Heritage Scheme can consider applications for the conservation of historic organs in places of worship. Grants up to £100,000 offered to organisations which aim to enhance the UK’s heritage, or to increase involvement in heritage activities (e.g. visits by schools, or concerts by non-church groups).

Awards for All Scheme offers grants up to £10,000 to fund many types of community-based as well as heritage projects.

For restoration only of instruments not of heritage importance; for new organs, rebuilding of organs ‘with potential’, or relocation of an instrument. Applicants should demonstrate regular use of the instrument, a development programme for young organists and use for non-liturgical performance open to the public.

The Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust
Hogarth House, 34 Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SE
☎ 020 8948 3388
Email: grantadmin@cfct.org.uk

An example of a trust which operates in a specific geographical area, in this case, only Kent.

Grants are available for church fabric restoration and reordering. Sometimes grants are made for organ restoration if the parish has already raised some money locally. Guidance notes are available.

Very few grants available for organs; priority given to churches in South Wales and Suffolk.

Only interested in organs which are significant in design terms. A substantial proportion of funds would need to have been raised already with a viable plan to raise the remaining shortfall.

Assists in conservation of organs within the period 1680 to 1830.