

Rebuilding the organ at St Andrew's



The organ at St Andrew's began life in 1860 and had its last major reconstruction exactly eighty years ago. Since then it has been played every single Sunday, often twice, not to mention the many marriages and funerals it has served, as well as countless special events and concerts. It is now pretty worn out—at least as far as the electrics and the console are concerned—and increasingly unreliable.

The Churchwardens and PCC, guided by a highly experienced organ advisor, have decided that it is time to rejuvenate the instrument. They have identified an organ builder, Henry Groves & Son, who has suggested an

attractive scheme for refurbishment. This scheme uses all the existing pipes, but will completely renew the organ's complex inner workings (this picture gives a glimpse of how it looks now) as well as providing a brand new moveable console and some new stops. That means we can keep the organ's familiar and much-loved tone, but with a state-of-the-art mechanism which should ensure that there will be organ music to accompany the worship, greet newly-weds or comfort mourners for many generations yet.



A large proportion of the sum (£124,000) needed for the refurbishment is already to hand, thanks to a bequest left by Barry Eaden, a previous Choir-master, as well as the visionary generosity of the Friends of St Andrew's. Those monies, together with a grant from the Amey Community Fund, mean that we have a sum of £22,000 left to find.

Would you be willing to contribute to ensuring that there will continue to be an organ at St Andrew's for at least another 120 years?

You can give by:

- ◆ Making a cash or card donation in church at the Cherish Your Churchyard day on 15 June (9.30am–5pm).
- ◆ Making a cheque payable to 'St Andrew's Chesterton PCC' and writing 'Organ Fund' on the back (send these to: Organ Fund, St Andrew's Hall, St Andrew's Road, Cambridge CB4 1DH).
- ◆ Making an online transfer to 'St Andrew's Chesterton PCC'; sort code 20-17-35, account number 80263524. Please also include as the reference 'Organ Fund', which is important. It would be very helpful if at the same time you could email treasurer@standrews-chesterton.org to say that you are making the donation and whether you would like us to claim Gift Aid.

