



# ST LAURENCE ROOM

## MARKET SQUARE WINSLOW

### Refurbishment & Annexe Construction

#### **Makeover planned for historic Winslow building for its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday**

An amazing **£160,000** has already been raised towards the refurbishment of the St Laurence Room. Built in 1912 this unique facility off the central market square in Winslow has already done fantastic service for many local groups and individuals. Now, with the building in need of some TLC, plans have been drawn up to not only refurbish the hall with its kitchen and toilets to provide improved accessible community facilities but also to create an annexe with space to house copies of Winslow's archives and a 'living history' project.

A dedicated team has already drawn up the plans and secured grants totalling £160,000. Now as work is about to begin it's the turn of Winslow residents to help raise the final £30,000 and make sure the town's history is held for posterity

Local historian Julian Hunt says *"I am really excited to be involved with this project. Winslow is an exceptionally well-documented town with a fascinating history. The new facility will ensure future generations know all about their past and can hear the voices of their predecessors"*.

The hall is administered by church officials including the current Rector of St Laurence, Rev Belinda Searle-Barnes who is taking a hands on approach says *"This is a very exciting and imaginative development to widen the use of the St Laurence Room in Winslow. The new restoration and development of the site will provide a friendly but high class medium sized central venue in the Town. It will offer scope for a wide variety of uses such as club meetings and family parties and also educational facilities. With the church only a very short walk away I'm even expecting wedding and baptism receptions!"*

---

Donations, Information and Questions to:

Project Manager: Paul Bagni

c/o St Laurence Church, Winslow. Phone: 07976254430 Email: [paulbagni@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paulbagni@yahoo.co.uk) Cheques to 'St Laurence Room Development Fund'

Rector of St Laurence: Rev Belinda Searle-Barnes Phone: 01296 712564

Email: [rector@winslowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:rector@winslowbenefice.org.uk) Website: [www.winslowbenefice.org.uk/winslow](http://www.winslowbenefice.org.uk/winslow)

Press contact: Diana Slevin Tel: 01296 713903 07803 174583 Email: [diana@slevin.plus.com](mailto:diana@slevin.plus.com)

*Additional Notes:*

- The Room was built & given to the Church & townspeople of Winslow by Norman McCorquadale of Winslow Hall in 1912.
- It is situated in the corner of the historic market square which was laid out in 1235 & is now a conservation area.
- The Room has had very little upgrading since then & is now in dire need of a major facelift to bring it up to modern day standards for the communities use.
- The new annexe which will be built on the back of the renovated room will provide full facilities including disabled, enlarged kitchen for full catering & 2 rooms upstairs one of which will become the Winslow Historical Archive.
- Our major funders are Heritage Lottery, Wren, Garfield Weston Foundation & Leader funding.
- Total funding required for the whole project is £190,000 & our major funders have given us £160,000 to date.
- The project will begin in March this year with completion in September.
- As we are £30,000 short of the total required we are appealing to the public, in particular the Towns people of Winslow to give us as much money as they can so this wonderful new facility can be completed for the benefit of the whole community.
- The Room will be the only facility of its size in the Town with its position making it very special for organisational & club use, wedding receptions, parties, business meetings etc.

*SLR Press Release No. 1 Dated 2 February 2010*