Dear friends,

We have some good news!
The Planning Application has been submitted at last … Since the village meeting in January at which the Architects presented their plans and model for the restoration of the church and despite the church being “under wraps”, much has been happening.

It has taken some time to get the detail right, but it was agreed at a meeting on July 15th to go ahead and present the plans to the planning authority and the Diocesan Advisory Committee. Both these bodies are crucial in the progress of the project, and we have kept them informed with details of how it is all developing, so hopefully their decision should not take too long.

Once permission is granted, the project will be drawn up in minute detail and costed ready for putting out to tender. So we have taken a big step in moving on to the next stage of this, and are praying that nothing will hold up the process.

Fundraising
May I also take this opportunity to turn your attention towards our fund-raising efforts. As you are aware from previous Bulletins, the insurance company will pay a large part of the re-build cost but in order to create facilities within the church for both present and future generations, a further £90,000 is needed to install toilets, a kitchen and an office as well as providing facilities for wider community use.

We are encouraging anyone who would like to run a fund-raising event, whatever that might be, to simply have a go.

We have already had some excellent events – the Village Voices concert, a poetry evening, a few metal-detecting afternoons, and a talk about hearing difficulties have help raise over £3,000 so far – a magnificent sum.

Our fundraising total now stands at over £14,000.

So if you want to hold or help run an event to raise funds for the restoration project, or to make a donation, please contact James Fleuty (883708) or Don Simpson (426652).

Donations can also be made via the website www.stnicholasrestoration.com

Details of events planned are overleaf and all information on the project is on the website.

Rev Martin Green
August 2010
May I tell you about one special event that is coming up in the autumn.

**An Evening of Guitar Music**

*featuring*

**Gordon Giltrap**

Friday October 1st at 7.30pm

St Michael’s Church, Bishops Itchington

Tickets: £12 each (concessions for under 18’s / OAP’s: £10)

Refreshments will be available, as will Gordon’s merchandise.

All proceeds from this concert will go to the **St Nicholas Restoration Fund**

Tickets and details available from: St Michael’s Vicarage (613466) or by email: Louise@kerrins.net

Gordon performed a concert last summer here, and it was a sensational evening – so don’t miss it! Tickets are limited (and selling quickly) so make sure you get one soon.

Martin Green is also selling CD’s of his own guitar music in aid of the St Nicholas Restoration fund. These can be purchased for £10 via Martin’s website [www.martingreen.me.uk](http://www.martingreen.me.uk) or by contacting Martin directly on 01926 613466. Martin’s website also contains lots of information about his music and charitable causes.

Radford Rendezvous coffee morning - Wednesday 8th September 10.30 am – Noon in the Community Hall. Bring and Buy; Raffle; Card stall.

**REGENERATION** The DVD – This is a record of St Nicholas Church, Radford Semele from the 12th Century to the present. It covers early history, archive film and photographs, including the disastrous fire of March 2008 and the events that followed. The film will culminate in the celebration of the reopening of the church after its restoration. It will be a lasting record of the church’s place in the life of the village. The DVD will be available immediately after the reopening of the church. All proceeds from the sale of the DVD will go to the Restoration Fund. If you would like to be informed when the DVD is available, please contact James Fleuty (883708) or Alan Jones (334443).

**The Out of the Blue Festival** is coming! – save the date 18th & 19th June 2011

**How Can I Help?**

- By simply making a donation! If Gift Aid is applied, a further 28p in the £1 is added. If 2000 people (less than the population of Radford Semele) pledge 44p per week over a 2 year period i.e. until the church is rebuilt, this would raise a staggering £91,520 – and that’s without Gift Aid or bank interest!

- Join the Restoration Fund 200 Club. See details on the separate flyer or contact David Evans at 15 Offchurch Lane, Radford Semele.

- Offers of help are always gratefully received. If you have any great ideas of ways to raise money or if you would like to help organise an event, please contact James Fleuty (883708) or Don Simpson (426652).