

SA DONATE Scheme

'An opportunity NOT to be missed'

On the 6th April 2004, an extension to the Gift Aid scheme introduced by the Government in April 2000 is available. This scheme applies to the 3 million people in the UK who complete Income Tax Self-Assessment forms each year. We are advised that through these Self Assessment forms HM Revenue and Customs refund some £3 billion tax to individuals annually.

The details of the scheme are as follows: -

- The scheme gives the opportunity for those people due a repayment of tax to choose to nominate a charity to receive the refund instead. This is done via their Self Assessment form.
- There will be an opportunity on the Self Assessment form to Gift Aid this refund.
- The refund can be donated anonymously if required.
- To receive refunds, each Charity must register and will receive a separate reference number from their current Inland Revenue reference. We understand this is for security purposes.
- HM Revenue and Customs will publish a list of all Charities registered to receive refunds. This list will include your Parish name, alternative name (if needed) and the registration number.
- **It is the responsibility of each Charity to ensure that all its members know this reference number.**
- The Charity will receive payments direct from HM Revenue and Customs into their bank account. The main payment/refund will be sent separately from the tax element – refunds and tax payments should be recorded separately in your cash book.

HOW TO REGISTER

The application form is available by ringing HM Revenue and Customs (☎ 08453 020203) or by their internet address (www.hmrc.gov.uk) and type in 'SA Donate application form' in the search box. This form should be completed and forwarded to HMRC. You will then be notified as to your registration reference for this scheme.

The form includes -

- Full name of your Charity e.g. '*Somewhere, St Peter **not** just 'St Peter's'*
- 'Another name for your Charity' - if your Church is known locally by some other name than the one listed, please enter the appropriate details.
- Address – This address may be published but initially is required to acknowledge the receipt of the registration form.
- Contact name – the current person authorised to sign your claims.
- Telephone number
- To receive payments, the full bank details **must** be listed.

To date, there appears to be only limited use of this scheme. However, if your congregation do not know you are registered, success will only be very limited.