

# The Spirit of England

News from the English Music Festival

Issue 3 - Summer 2006



## Countdown to Musical Milestone

English Music Festival, Oxfordshire, Friday 20th to Tuesday 24th October 2006

It's been four years in the making, but we're now only a few months away from an important new event that aims to revolutionise the classical music scene in Britain – and bring many neglected works back in from the cold. Focusing on the 'Heirs and Rebels', Holst and Vaughan Williams, and their friends, the first English Music Festival will nonetheless showcase the brilliance and diversity of British composers throughout the ages.

Dorchester-on-Thames in Oxfordshire will host this unique and groundbreaking festival, in which world-class artists will give outstanding live performances of some of Britain's most exciting, innovative, inspiring and evocative music. The opening concert, on Friday 20th October, will feature the internationally acclaimed cellist Julian Lloyd Webber and the BBC Concert Orchestra conducted by David Lloyd-Jones, performing Holst's Walt Whitman Overture and Invocation, Vaughan Williams's Norfolk Rhapsody No.1, Sullivan's Irish Symphony and Bridge's Oration – a truly marvellous start to what promises to be a most memorable event.



*Julian Lloyd Webber*

A highlight of the Festival will be the première performance of a major new work entitled Prayerbook – commissioned by the EMF – which will show that innovative musical composition in the great



*Gustav Holst and Ralph Vaughan Williams  
- 'Heirs and Rebels'*

Historic buildings such as the mediaeval abbey at Dorchester-on-Thames, All Saints' Church at Sutton Courtenay, and the Silk Hall at Radley College will echo to the strains of music from centuries past.

English tradition is very much alive today.

The educational dimension to the Festival is also extremely important and we have organised a special 'joint schools concert' that will take place at Radley College on Wednesday 11th October, at 7.30pm, which will bring together young musicians from all over the area in performances of a wide variety of English music. (Tickets on the door.)

There will be a number of other events at the Festival to keep you entertained in between concerts. We will be holding a series of talks - tickets for these will be available from our box office at the Festival itself. There will also be an EMF fair in the Village Hall, where you will be able to browse stalls selling products ranging from English CDs and books through to food and drink.

### Booking Opens

Tickets for the inaugural English Music Festival are now on sale. Individual and group bookings for concerts, day passes (offering you 10% off every event that day) and Festival passes (offering you 20% off every event in the Festival, as well as free access to talks and a free Festival programme) are available by calling

**0207 241 8953**

Prices and full programme details are enclosed with this newsletter, and are available to download from the EMF website

**[www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk](http://www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk)**

The EMF Box Office is managed by our partner organisation, EFDSS.

**EMF President:** Boris Johnson MP

**Vice-Presidents:** Lord Armstrong of Ilminster - Lady Bliss - Lord Chadlington of Dean - Paul Guinery - Jeremy Irons - Sir Simon Jenkins - Henry Kelly  
Michael Kennedy - Julian Lloyd Webber - Professor Sir Patrick Moore - Sir Roger Norrington - The Marquess of Salisbury - Professor Roger Scruton  
Leonard Slatkin - Terry Waite CBE - Ursula Vaughan Williams - Sir Rowland Whitehead Bt

# Festival News

Conservative Member of Parliament, Daily Telegraph columnist and former Editor of The Spectator, Boris Johnson, has been appointed President of the EMF. Shadow Minister for Higher Education and a key member of David Cameron's Opposition team, Boris is MP for the constituency of Henley-on-Thames, which includes Dorchester-on-Thames, the Festival's principal venue. He is actively involved in promoting the cultural life of the area and believes that the Festival should be a highlight of the calendar for everyone in Oxfordshire.



*Festival Director Em Marshall with our President, Boris Johnson MP*

Boris recently hosted a champagne reception for businesses in the Henley constituency, to introduce them to the Festival. This event, generously sponsored by Brakspear, was attended by representatives of some 40 local companies and was covered by the area's two main local newspapers, the Henley Standard and the Oxford Times. In his speech, Boris commented on the reticence of the English people to celebrate their 'Englishness', and the low awareness of England's glorious musical heritage, and said that the Festival would help to put this right.

Internationally acclaimed and Oscar-winning actor Jeremy Irons, perhaps best known for his performance as Charles Ryder in the television adaptation of Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*, has agreed to become one of the EMF's Vice-Presidents and, subject to his filming schedule, may take part in this year's Festival by being the narrator in Vaughan Williams's evocative *Oxford Elegy*.

Writer and broadcaster Terry Waite CBE is also supporting the Festival and has recently become one of our Vice-Presidents. Terry was formerly the Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Envoy, and in this role he negotiated the release of Western hostages in Iran and Lebanon, where he was himself captured by militant Islamists and held prisoner for four years. He is passionate about music and an enthusiast for British composers.

The EMF Friends scheme was launched at a champagne reception last December at Hampton Court Palace, by kind permission of Historic Royal Palaces. Festival director Em Marshall and pianist David Owen Norris spoke to a gathering of founder-Friends about the EMF mission to 'put English music back on the map'. This was followed by a deeply moving concert of English solo song from EMF artists Peter Savidge and David Owen Norris. The Friends will play a critical role in supporting and developing the Festival in the years ahead.

This *England Magazine*, edited by that staunch advocate of 'Englishness', Roy Faiers, devoted a double-page spread to the English Music Festival in its Spring 2006 issue and a further half page article by editor Roy Faiers in the Summer issue, just published. This *England* has agreed to be one of our Media Partners and will continue to champion the cause of English music.

# Message from the Managing & Artistic Director

After four intensive years of planning, I can hardly believe that our inaugural Festival is almost upon us! Now at last, thanks to a small team of helpers and the generosity of businesses, organisations and individuals who share our love of English music, our vision is very nearly realised.

I am delighted that amongst the artists performing in our very first Festival are some of the foremost champions of English music – not least the wonderful David Lloyd-Jones, who will be conducting our opening concert, and the hugely talented and versatile Julian Lloyd Webber, who will not only perform on the first night, alongside the BBC Concert Orchestra, but also returns to us three days later to give a recital of British cello sonatas. Hilary Davan Wetton and Ronald Corp have also championed English music and I am delighted that they will be involved - they have helped me enormously 'behind the scenes' to make this festival happen, and I greatly appreciate their commitment, enthusiasm and patience.

While the accent will be very much on composers of the early twentieth century – the golden renaissance of English music – the Festival programme this year is wide-ranging and eclectic, and I am particularly pleased to be welcoming the Dufay Collective, who will be bringing us an evening of Elizabethan and Jacobean music, the Scottish lutenist Rob MacKillop, and Tonus Peregrinus, whose wide-ranging repertoire stretches from the Middle Ages to the present day. *Prayerbook*, a new composition that is being premiered at the Festival, is a fresh and hugely innovative work that has been commissioned by the EMF – and will be performed for us by Peter Savidge and the Oxford Bach Choir.

I would like to thank the organisations that have rallied round and supported our first Festival, in particular the Campaign for an English Parliament, the Elgar Society, the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Royal Society of St. George and the Vaughan Williams Society. I am especially grateful for the donations from grant-making trusts such as the Aurelius Charitable Trust, the Delius Trust, the Doris Field Trust, the PF Charitable Trust, the Mercers' Company and the RVW Trust. A few companies – too few – are sponsoring the inaugural Festival, and I should put on record my heartfelt appreciation for the support given by Lloyds Private Banking, Brakspear and the Epworth Group in particular.

It is a salutary lesson, however, that most of the British companies we approached balked at the prospect of sponsoring such an explicitly British event, and I find this a sad reflection on the self-image of British business. As a result of this shortfall in sponsorship, we have, very reluctantly, had to set ticket prices that are rather higher than we would have liked and we are also relying very heavily on your support, both by joining the Friends scheme and attending the Festival, to help us make this a financial as well as an artistic success!

That said, I know that this will be an amazing Festival and well worth the hard work and, I must admit, stress that it has caused me these last four years! I look forward to seeing you in Oxfordshire in October for what I promise will be an absolutely fantastic and unique event!

Em Marshall  
Managing & Artistic Director

# Festival Programme – October 2006 – "Heirs and Rebels"

Date	Friday 20th	Saturday 21st	Sunday 22nd	Monday 23rd	Tuesday 24th
<b>Venue</b>		<b>The Silk Hall</b>	<b>The Silk Hall</b>	<b>The Silk Hall</b>	<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>
11.00 to 12.30		W H Reed <i>Phantasy</i> Aston <i>Viola Sonata</i> Dale <i>Suite</i> <b>Paul Silverthorne</b> <b>David Owen Norris</b>	Elgar <i>Piano music</i> <b>David Owen Norris</b>	Ireland, Britten, William Lloyd Webber and Bridge <i>Cello sonatas</i> <b>Julian Lloyd Webber and</b> <b>John Lenehan</b>	Dowland, Campion, Purcell, John Daniel and Henry Lawes <b>Michael Chance</b>
<b>Venue</b>		<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>	<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>	<b>The Silk Hall</b>	<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>
14.30 to 16.30		William, Monk of Stratford <i>Magnificat</i> Richard Davy <i>St. Matthew Passion, part I</i> John Browne <i>Jesu, mercy, how can this be?</i>  interval William Cornysh <i>Ave Maria, Mater Dei</i> Richard Davy <i>St. Matthew Passion</i> <i>part II</i> John Browne <i>Stabat Mater</i> <b>Tonus Peregrinus</b>	Holst <i>The Evening Watch, Nunc dimittis, Ave Maria, This have I done for my true love</i> Vaughan Williams <i>Three Shakespeare Songs, The Spring Time of the Year</i>  interval Vaughan Williams <i>Just as the tide was flowing, The Lover's Ghost</i> Bax <i>Mater Ora Filium</i> Delius <i>On Craig Dhu, Wanderer's Song, Midsummer Song, To be sung of a summer night on the water</i> <b>CC21 with readings of Ivor Gurney by Paul Guinery</b>	Dunhill <i>Phantasy Trio</i> Bowen <i>Rhapsody Trio</i> Bax <i>Piano Quartet</i>  interval Bowen <i>Piano Trio in E minor</i> Moeran <i>Trio in G</i> <b>Endymion</b>	Armstrong Gibbs <i>Prelude, Andante and Finale</i> Rutter <i>Suite</i> Holst <i>Brook Green Suite</i>  interval Orr <i>Cotswold Hill Tune</i> Bridge <i>Suite for strings</i> Holst <i>St. Paul's Suite</i> <b>Southern Sinfonia</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
19.00 to 21.30	Holst <i>Walt Whitman Overture</i> Vaughan Williams <i>Norfolk Rhapsody No. 1</i> Bridge <i>Oration</i>  interval Holst <i>Invocation</i> Sullivan <i>Irish Symphony</i> <b>BBC Concert Orchestra</b> <b>David Lloyd Jones</b> <b>Julian Lloyd Webber</b>	Lord Berners <i>Luna Park</i> Holst <i>Cotswolds Symphony</i>  interval York Bowen <i>Symphony no. 2</i> <b>New London Orchestra</b> <b>Ronald Corp</b>	Holst <i>Psalms</i> Britten <i>Simple Symphony</i>  interval Wesley <i>Symphony no. 5 in Eb</i> Vaughan Williams <i>Oxford Elegy</i> Jeremy Irons <b>Milton Keynes City Orchestra</b> <b>City of London Choir</b> <b>Hilary Davan Wetton</b>	19.00 Performance Britten <i>Canticles 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</i> <b>Peter Savidge</b> <b>Michael Chance</b> <b>Charles Daniels</b> <b>David Owen Norris</b>  20.30 Performance EMF Commission Prayerbook <b>Peter Savidge,</b> <b>Oxford Bach Choir</b> <b>Nicholas Cleobury</b>	Finzi <i>Eclogue</i> Foulds <i>Indian Suite</i> Lambert <i>Piano Concerto</i> <b>David Owen Norris</b>  interval Finzi <i>Intimations of Immortality</i> <b>James Gilchrist</b> <b>New London Orchestra</b> <b>London Chorus</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>	<b>The Silk Hall</b>	<b>Sutton Courtenay</b>		
22.00 to 23.00	<i>Music from Shakespeare's London</i> <b>Dufay Collective</b>	Finzi <i>Before and After Summer</i> Britten <i>Songs and Proverbs of William Blake</i> <b>Howard Wong</b> <b>Hein Boterberg</b>	Early English guitar music <b>Rob MacKillop</b>		

## Join the Friends

The EMF Friends are the backbone of the Festival - it is critical that we have the aid of our network of Friends to provide moral support and a steady flow of funds to the EMF. To encourage more of you to sign up we have decided to increase the benefits and discounts available to Friends - please see the enclosed form - and we also hope to have a designated Friends Room, where Friends will be able to get a glass of wine (first one free!) and meet other Friends.

If you are interested in volunteering to help at the Festival - whether as a steward, in the box office, with local publicity or with refreshments, please do tick the appropriate boxes on the form. Help is gladly welcomed!

**For details call 0207 834 5743**

# Accommodation in the Dorchester-on-Thames Area

Daily room rates given are as 16th July 2006 and apply to the dates of the festival.  
Bookings for several nights generally attract a lower room rate.

## Hotels in Dorchester-on-Thames

(All hotel prices include full English breakfast unless stated)

### The George High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames Oxfordshire OX10 7HH

A traditional, comfortable XV century coaching inn with an award-winning restaurant. Families with children welcome.

Manager: Wilma Orr

Double room (per night)	£ 55.00
Twin bedded	£ 75.00
Four poster	£ 100.00
Single	£ 55.00
Family room	£ 100.00

based on four sharing, extra beds £ 10.00

Tel: 01865 340404

(17 ensuite rooms)

[www.thegeorgedorchester.co.uk](http://www.thegeorgedorchester.co.uk)

### The White Hart Hotel High Street Dorchester-on-Thames OX10 7HN

A traditional XVI century inn with a good restaurant. An ideal 'special weekend'

General manager: Sean Harris

Special rate for 2 nights during weekends including Friday, Saturday or Sunday for 2 people sharing:

Double or twin room (per person per night)	£ 65.00
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Dinner, Full English Breakfast, complimentary bottle of champagne and buy one get one free entrance to Blenheim Palace.

Standard double room	£ 115.00
Single	£ 95.00
Four poster double	£ 135.00
Single	£ 115.00

Tel: 01865 340074

(28 rooms)

[www.white-hart-hotel-dorchester.co.uk](http://www.white-hart-hotel-dorchester.co.uk)

### Fleur De Lys Inn, 9 High Street Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxon OX10 7HH

Traditional country inn with a pleasant dining room, cosy bar. Families with children welcome.

Rooms from £75.00 per night  
Full English B & B

Tel: 01865 34050

(5 ensuite bedrooms)

[www.fleurdorchester.co.uk](http://www.fleurdorchester.co.uk)

### Buena Vista B&B. 34 Watling Lane Dorchester-on-Thames OX10X7JG

Small private B&B in a modern house, pets accepted.

One Double room (per night) £ 65.00

Full English breakfast £ 5.00 per person.

One Twin room (per night) £ 60.00

Single person (per night) £ 40.00

Small dogs (per night) £ 5.00

Tel: 01865 340903

(One double ensuite room. One twin room with private bathroom)

[www.buonavistabnb.co.uk](http://www.buonavistabnb.co.uk)

## Accommodation within a 5 mile radius of Dorchester-on-Thames

### The George Hotel Wallingford

(4 miles)

Part of the large Peel hotel group. Comfortable but corporate.

Full English Breakfast included at weekends only. £ 11.50 on week days.

Double room	£ 95.00
Single room	£ 81.00
Twin room	£ 95.00

Tel: 01491 836665

(39 rooms)

[www.george-hotel-wallingford.com](http://www.george-hotel-wallingford.com)

### The Kingfisher Inn. 27 Henley Road Shillingford, Wallingford OX10 7EL

(5 miles)

Hosts: Alexis and Ayumi

A privately owned, family run hotel with 4 diamond rating from the English Tourist Board. Vegetarian food option.

Single room £ 62.00

Double room £ 79.50

Tel: 0865 858 595 (6 rooms)

[www.kingfisher-inn.co.uk](http://www.kingfisher-inn.co.uk)

### The Plough At Clifton Hampden Abingdon Rd. Clifton Hampden Abingdon, Oxford, England OX 14 3EG

(5 miles)

A lovely old inn dated from 1600. Friendly, informal atmosphere, fresh fish from the coast daily. Home cooked meals in the dining room.

Double room £ 90.00

Tel: 0971 2220 190

(8 rooms)

[www.ploughinns.co.uk/](http://www.ploughinns.co.uk/)

### The Springs Hotel And Golf Club Wallingford Road, North Wallingford OX10 6BE

(5 miles)

A large Victorian, mock Tudor hotel with a golf course and lovely views of the natural spring fed lake.

Families with children welcome.

Front of house manager Emma Pretorius

Double room	£ 105.00
Single	£ 95.00
Executive double	£ 115.00
Family room	£ 135.00
Extra child	£ 10.00

Tel: 01491 836687

(31 rooms)

[www.thespringshotel.co.uk](http://www.thespringshotel.co.uk)

## Accommodation nearby - within 7 miles

### Kingfisher Barn Holiday Cottages Rye Farm, Abingdon OX14 3NN

(6 miles)

B&B 3 self catering cottages and 2 self catering lodges (total 10 rooms) prices as given on their website.

Twin room for 2 people	£ 75.00
Twin room single occupant	£ 57.00
Triple room	£ 87.00

Tel: 01235 537538

[www.kingfisher-barns.co.uk](http://www.kingfisher-barns.co.uk)

### 1 Lincoln Farm Park, High Street Standlake, Nr Witney OX8 7RH

(12 miles)

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Tel: 01865 300 239

(89 pitches)

[touristnetuk.com/WM/lincolnfarm](http://touristnetuk.com/WM/lincolnfarm)

## Oxford

Numerous hotels and B&B's are available with prices ranging from £30.00 per night upwards. A comprehensive list is supplied as information online.

[www.hotelsandguesthouses.net/accommodation-Oxfordshire-1-2.htm](http://www.hotelsandguesthouses.net/accommodation-Oxfordshire-1-2.htm)



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If you enjoy good music then you will certainly appreciate our quarterly magazine which deals solely with England's glorious heritage and culture. With regular features and minimal advertising we stand for traditional values and freedom of speech. Independent in ownership we speak up for honesty and fair play, opposing the increasing stranglehold of the EU on our green and pleasant land.

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# Booking Form

Date / Time	Standard Seating		Limited Visibility Seating		Friends Scheme Discount %	Total Cost
	Price	Number of tickets	Price	Number of tickets		
Date: Friday 20 October Time: 19:00	£ 25.00		£ 15.00			£
Date: Friday 20 October Time: 22:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Saturday 21 October Time: 11:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Saturday 21 October Time: 14:30	£ 15.00					£
Date: Saturday 21 October Time: 19:00	£ 25.00		£ 15.00			£
Date: Saturday 21 October Time: 22:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Sunday 22 October Time: 11:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Sunday 22 October Time: 14:30	£ 15.00					£
Date: Sunday 22 October Time: 19:00	£ 25.00		£ 15.00			£
Date: Sunday 22 October Time: 22:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Monday 23 October Time: 11:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Monday 23 October Time: 14:30	£ 15.00					£
Date: Monday 23 October Time: 19:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Monday 23 October Time: 20:30	£ 10.00					£
Date: Tuesday 24 October Time: 11:00	£ 15.00					£
Date: Tuesday 24 October Time: 14:30	£ 15.00					£
Date: Tuesday 24 October Time: 19:00	£ 25.00		£ 15.00			£
<b>Day Pass - Saturday</b>	£ 63.00					£
<b>Day Pass - Sunday</b>	£ 63.00					£
<b>Day Pass - Monday</b>	£ 49.50					£
<b>Day Pass - Tuesday</b>	£ 49.50					£
<b>Festival Pass</b>	£ 232.00					£
<b>Total</b>						<b>£</b>

Day Passes give 10% off all events that day, based on standard seating.

Festival Passes give 20% off all events in the Festival, based on standard seating, and entitles you to free access to all talks and a free programme.

If you are a Friend of the EMF please put your relevant percentage discount in the Friends Scheme Discount box and recalculate your total cost. Discounts are: Ally 10%, Supporter and above 15%.

We prefer payment by cheque along with this booking form. If you are able to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope it would be a great help to us.

If you wish to pay by credit card please call our booking line on 0207 241 8953 but note that a surcharge of £1.50 will be applicable to credit card sales.

- Please tick if you do NOT want to be added to the EMF mailing list  
 Please tick if you do NOT want to be added to the EFDSS mailing list

**We will NOT give your details out to any third parties.**

Please make cheques payable to "EFDSS" and send to:

Ethel Beaumont. The English Music Festival  
 c/o EFDSS, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY

Your Details:

Name: .....

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Telephone number (in case of queries):

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# English Music Festival

## Application to join the Friends

There are five tiers to the Friends' scheme, offering an extensive range of benefits. The standard package, available to all tiers of membership, offers:

- Invitations to exclusive Friends' events and concerts
- Opportunities to meet performers
- Priority booking
- Special last-minute ticket offers
- Access to selected rehearsals

### Ally – for an annual £50 donation:

- The first level of Friends membership entitles you to all the standard benefits listed above and 10% discount on Festival tickets

### Supporter – £100 annually:

- All the standard benefits, plus:
- One free ticket for a Festival concert of your choice
- 15% discount on any additional Festival tickets

### Advocate – £250 annually:

- All the standard benefits, plus:
- Two free tickets for Festival concerts of your choice
- 15% discount on any additional Festival tickets
- Invitations to exclusive receptions for Advocates, Companions and Associates
- Your name in the Festival programme as an Advocate

### Companion – £500 annually:

- All the standard benefits, plus:
- Five free tickets for Festival concerts of your choice
- 15% discount on any additional Festival tickets
- Invitations to exclusive receptions for Advocates, Companions and Associates
- Your name in the Festival programme as a Companion
- Access to the Artists' tent

### Associate – £1,000 annually:

- All the standard benefits, plus:
- One free pass for all Festival concerts
- 15% discount on any additional Festival tickets
- Access to the Artists' tent
- Invitations to exclusive receptions for Advocates, Companions and Associates
- Invitations to exclusive champagne receptions at Le Manoir with artists, EMF Vice-Presidents and other VIPs
- Your name in the Festival programme as an Associate

## EMF Friends

I would like to join the Friends of the EMF as: (please tick)

- Ally (minimum donation £ 50)  
 Supporter (minimum donation £ 100)  
 Advocate (minimum donation £ 250)  
 Companion (minimum donation £ 500)  
 Associate (minimum donation £ 1,000)

I enclose a cheque for £ .....

## Helpers' Group

I would like to join the EMF Helpers' Group and can offer my services in:

- Local Publicity  Refreshments  
 Stewarding  Box Office / General Help  
 Other - please specify: .....

The EMF welcomes donations, however large or small. Every donation goes towards making this groundbreaking project achieve its aims.

I would like to give a donation of £ .....

## Gift Aid – help The English Music Festival make more from your donation with Gift Aid.

Every £100 donated is worth £128 to the EMF (at current tax rates). For every £1 given, we can reclaim an additional 28p at no extra cost to you (if you are a UK tax payer). In order to qualify, this donation form must be filled out in **FULL** - below with details of your donation including the **DATE GIVEN** and opposite, with your **NAME**, **HOME ADDRESS** and **POSTCODE**.

The information given is for tax purposes only. It will remain confidential and will not be used for mailing.

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