

Students appeal to the tune of £1,000

By John Birch

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A YOUNG musician is set to be the recipient of a unique violin crafted by students at Newark School of Violin-making as part of a fundraising project.

Students there are seeking sponsorship from small businesses for the project that will lead to a pupil at a Newark school being given the violin.

The money will go towards the purchase of a book, *The Restoration Of Stringed Instruments And Their Bows*, which students say will significantly raise the standard of the violin school.

The book costs about £1,000 and has to be shipped from Canada.

Some of the money will also go towards the school and the pupil selected to receive the violin.

The students will contact the Magnus Church of England School, Newark, and The Grove School, Balderton, and ask them to recommend pupils, before choosing one.

Student Mr Antoni Ruschil, 26, who led

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Mr Antoni Ruschil

the project, said: "For just £5, £10 or however much people would like to donate, they would be enabling a student of the town to learn and play a fine violin, while also raising the standard of the Newark School of Violin-making."

The violin has been crafted by 16 students from nine countries who each made a small part of the instrument over the course of a year. All that remains to do is the varnishing and stringing.

It has been made in an antique style, complete with an old label stuck inside.

Mr Ruschil said: "It is a violin full of character. Because so many people from different parts of the world have been involved in making it, there are so many different influences that show.

"It represents the diversity and hard work of many people in one object. I don't think we could do it again if we tried."

He decided to donate the instrument to a school because he wanted it to stay in the town where it was made.

He said the book, which is in three volumes and includes CD-roms giving technical guidance, would greatly improve the quality of the violin school library.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the project can contact Mr Ruschil on 07800 542769 or email antoniruschil@gmail.com



VIOLIN school student Mr Antoni Ruschil with the violin to be given to a young Newark musician. — Photograph by MARIE WILSON. 080212MW2-2