



BANK OF ENGLAND

News release

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Bank of England Governor Sir Edward George to Auction Banknotes for the Commonwealth Education Fund

As announced last month, an innovative auction of low-numbered Bank of England banknotes in aid of the Commonwealth Education Fund will take place in the Bank of England Museum, Bartholomew Lane, London at 5.30pm on 24 January.

Sir Edward George, the Governor of the Bank of England, who is Chairman of the Oversight Committee of the Commonwealth Education Fund, will auction the first lot, and will hand-sign some of the auction catalogues. Sir Edward said: "This will be my first experience as an auctioneer, and I am delighted to be involved in this worthwhile cause. I hope that the auction will raise a large amount of money for the Commonwealth Education Fund, and that it will increase awareness of the Fund and its promotion of universal primary education throughout the Commonwealth via the partnership of ActionAid, Oxfam and Save the Children".

Merlyn Lowther, the Bank's Chief Cashier will be hand-signing a small number of the notes at the auction.

The sale will be managed by Spink on behalf of the Fund. Bidders will need to register with Spink in advance of the auction. Details of the registration and bidding process can be obtained by contacting Spink. The auction is open to members of the public but entry will be by catalogue only. Catalogues are available from Spink at a cost of £5, and will also be available from the Bank's Museum on the day of the sale. Provision has been made for those members of the public who do not wish to bid to watch the auction in the Bank's Conference Centre, via a videolink.

Note to Editors

Details of all the lots can be obtained at www.spink-online.com or by contacting Spink at: 69, Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET Tel: +44 (0) 20 7563 4000 fax: +44 (0) 20 7563 4066 More information about the Commonwealth Education Fund can be found at www.commonwealtheducationfund.org or by contacting the CEF Co-ordinator at: Hamlyn House, MacDonald

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