

Campsea Ashe Church Bells Project Newsletter

No 1

October 2007

The Project is launched!

Around 70 people visited the Tower one Saturday morning in September to help launch the Campsea Ashe Bells Project. As well as viewing the displays, most visitors climbed the 31 steps to the ringing chamber to see a local band of ringers at work and to have a go at ringing for themselves!



The plans for the project are to restore and augment the current 4 bells to a peal of 6 bells, together with a service bell. In addition there will be a need for some building work - repairing a leaking roof, making the steps safer

and so on. The final and perhaps the most exciting part of the plan is to restore a gallery around 15 feet above the ground and to use this as a ringing gallery. The original gallery was home for the organ and was used as a 'children's gallery' before being removed in the 19th century.

The benefits to the village and the Church

- The new peal of bells will be much more tuneful and be easier to ring.
- Visitors to the Church will have easy access to the Ringing Chamber and the congregation will be able to see what is happening there.
- The bells will be in place for around 500 years, we hope!

The Campsea Ashe Village Bell

One of the new bells will be dedicated to the residents of Campsea Ashe - past, present and future. The bell will be cast at the Whitechapel Foundry in London and it will be inscribed to the villagers. The estimated cost of the Village Bell is in the region of £7000 and over the next year or so there will be a number of fund-raising activities taking place. Already over £1500 has been raised! The first activities are:

1 Who are your Ancestors?

If you can provide us with the name of someone who was alive in 1901 we will attempt to trace your ancestry through the 1841 to 1901 censuses. (see next page)

Suggested donation of £35

2 Sponsored Quarter Peals

An ideal way to celebrate a family event!
Suggested donation of £40 - £50

For more details contact Tim on 01728 747995

For more information about the Bells Project see the display in the Church and visit our website: www.campseaashechurch.org.uk



Who are my Ancestors?

In order for us to carry out the research please provide us with as much information as you can (all treated in strictest confidence, of course). As a minimum we need the name and approximate location of at least one person living in 1901. If you have birth, marriage or death certificates please provide as much information from these as possible – or let us have a copy.

Your name

Address/email

Name of Ancestor
(Maiden name as well if appropriate)

1901

Where did they live?

Additional Information which would be helpful if you have it:

Age

Date and place of birth

Spouse

Date and place of marriage

Date and place of death

Any other information

Return to Tim & Sheila, White House, Marlesford Road, Campsea Ashe, Suffolk IP13 0QG.
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