

# Campsea Ashe Church Bells Project

## Newsletter

No 3  
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### Project Progress

The Campsea Ashe Bells Project was launched in September 2007 and already great strides have been made towards achieving its aim of restoring and augmenting the four bells.

In less than six months the project has already raised, or been promised, over £16000, including a grant of £6500 promised by the Suffolk Guild of Ringers who have been very supportive of the project. The total cost of the project will be in the region of £95000, but with the start we have made we are confident that the total will be reached in record time!

### Your Village Bell

A major feature of the project is the dedication of one of the bells as the Campsea Ashe Village Bell. A small group of volunteers has been formed to raise the £6000 that the new bell will cost and they have been working exceptionally hard to involve as many residents of the village as possible in their activities. To date they have organised:

- Talents challenge, whereby individuals are using their talents to raise money;
- sponsored Quarter peals;
- Who Are Your Ancestors? - tracing your family history;
- sale of quilts.

About half the money for the new Village Bell has already been raised.

### Village Bell Events

Look out for many more Village Bell events, including:

#### Table Top Sale at the Village Hall

Saturday 5th April 2008

2.00 to 4.00 pm

#### Concert at Campsea

Sunday 27th April

4.00 to 6.00 pm in the Church

(Tickets on sale from Glenys Fear tel 747177 or Sheila Marr 747995)

Other events in the planning:

Village Dance

Car Boot Sale



**For more information about the Bells Project see the display in the Church and visit our website:**

[www.campseashechurch.org.uk](http://www.campseashechurch.org.uk)

## **What happens next?**

The Bells Project will take two or three years to complete. As well as fund-raising, many other things are happening, including:

- appointing an architect

The Church Architect, Stephen Claydon of Mullins Dowse Ltd, has been appointed architect for the project and he will be undertaking a full survey in the next few weeks.

- structural engineer

We have received a visit from a renowned Structural Engineer, Adrian Dempster, and he will continue to advise us in the coming months.

- Bell hangers

Four firms of bell hangers have been approached and have provided us with reports. Provisionally we have selected Nicholson Engineering to be our bell hangers and Andrew Nicholson has made a number of visits to the Church already.

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## **A Big Thank You**

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed towards the successes we have already had with this project. We would like to thank:

- everyone who has made any donation;
- those involved in raising funds for the Village Bell;
- the Friends of the Ringing Gallery who have already promised nearly £2000;
- The Suffolk Guild of Ringers and the Sharpe Trust for promises of grants for the project;
- the many people who are encouraging us to continue.

## **The Bells - Your Heritage**

Bell ringing is part of the heritage of the village and so the Bells Project is not just about raising money. The Project is an ideal opportunity to help people throughout the village learn more about their heritage and we are doing this in a number of ways:

### **Bell ringing for Beginners**

Villagers have been ringing the bells at Campsea Ashe for over four hundred years! Why not learn more about this fascinating part of your heritage by joining us for the sessions specifically designed for beginners? They are being held on the first three Saturdays of April from 9.00 to 10.30 am. Let Glenys Fear (747177) know if you would like to join us.

### **Church Quiz**

A quiz, particularly written for young people, but of interest to everyone, is now available in the Church - and it's free!

### **Bells Project Display**

Please visit the Church to look at the display boards that provide information about the Project, including pictures of the current bells.

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## **Worship at St John the Baptist Church**

*You will always receive a warm welcome at your Church and you are invited to join in worship:*

*13th April at 9.30 am*

*20th April at 6.30 pm*

*27th April at 8.00 am*

*18th May at 9.30 am*

*25th May at 11.00 am*