



Campsea Ashe Church Bells Project Newsletter

No 8
July 2009

Restoration work starting soon

We are delighted that we now have enough funds in place to make a start with the restoration work. We now have promises and actual cash in the bank amounting to nearly £50000 and although we still need a lot more money, we can at least make a start.

Work programme

We are not ready to do all the work needed to restore the bells and build our new gallery in one go. Firstly, we do not have enough money and secondly there are more 'hurdles' to go through first. For example, although we have estimates for the cost of the work we need to go to tender to obtain firm quotes from local builders. Secondly we also have to submit our application for Building Regulations.

However, we can make a start and very soon we will be upgrading the electrical system for the tower to ensure the additional electrical items - lighting and power - can be safely added. Where possible we will save money by doing some of the work ourselves - digging a trench for the cable, for example - but the cable will be fitted by an qualified electrician.

It is only a small start, but an important and exciting one for us. We hope further building work will take place later in the year.

You are invited to

Art and Craft Event

at St John the Baptist Church, Campsea Ashe

including

*Private View of The Summer Exhibition at
The Old Rectory*

Friday 17th July 2009 from 7.30 to 9.00 pm

*Admission by ticket in advance £5.00 per person to
include glass of wine*

*From
Tim & Sheila Holmes
01728 747995*

How the money is raised

At this stage of the Project most of our efforts are going into raising the funds needed for doing the work. As well as the bell hangers, we need to employ builders, electricians, architect, structural engineer amongst others and this all adds up to a lot of money needed. The funds are coming in at a good rate from many different sources, including:

- the people of Campsea Ashe raised over £6000 last year to buy 'The Village Bell'
- events such as the Messiah from Scratch last Christmas and the Summer Exhibition in July
- sponsorship of bells and other items by individuals or groups
- the sponsored 10K run that our Chair ran recently
- generous donations by many individuals
- grants from many charitable organisations.

We also receive quite large sums recovered through the Gift Aid scheme. We are extremely grateful for every contribution, however large or small.

Why can't the Church pay for the Bells Restoration?

Occasionally we are asked this question. The Church receives no external funding and raises funds for day to day activities through the generosity of worshippers and visitors to the Church, as well as through special events, such as the Flower Festival, for example. These funds are used to pay for insurance, heating, lighting, and other costs. The annual income just about matches annual expenditure and the accounts are audited every year. They are available for public inspection. Any special projects, such as The Bells Project, have to raise additional funds and these funds are 'ring-fenced' and cannot be used for general Church activities.

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:

July

12th July at 11.00 am

26th July at 10.00 am Greater Benefice Service

August

9th at 6.30 pm

23rd at 8.00 am

Flower Festival

4th & 5th July

Always a memorable event, we hope you will put the dates in your diary and make a point of visiting the Church to enjoy the sight and smell of the magnificent flowers, all of which are displayed by local flower arrangers.

The Flower Festival is the main annual fund raising event for the Church and we hope as many people as possible will take the opportunity to visit the Church and see it at its most beautiful.

Please note, the proceeds from this event go to general Church funds, not the Bells Project.

Open Garden

As well as enjoying the flowers at the Church, why not enjoy visiting Ian & Eve Hall's beautiful garden in The Glen, Campsea Ashe?

Open from 1.30 to 6.00 pm on Sunday 5th July, they are raising funds for the Children's Hospice and the Church.