



# Campsea Ashe Church Bells Project Newsletter

No 7  
May 2009

## Bells Project Progress

The Bells Project was launched in September 2007 and since then we have made a great deal of progress towards reaching our goal. As well as restoring the bells in the tower at St John the Baptist Church, we will also restore a gallery that was removed in the 1870s and from which we will be able to ring our new bells.

## Faculty Application

The main development since the last Newsletter is that we have now applied for a Faculty. For any major works in a Church it is necessary to apply to the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) for permission to undertake the work. The Committee has visited the Church on two occasions and has considered the plans in detail. We were delighted that they recently approved our application in full and so the work has been given the go-ahead and as soon as funds are in place we will be able to start work.

## Fund-raising

Our main focus is, of course, on raising funds. We need somewhere in the region of £95000 in total and we have so far raised about £44000, a magnificent total. We are applying to many different bodies for grants and we hope that a number of these will be successful. Early indications are good so far.

## A message from our MP

The Rt. Hon. John Gummer MP recently wrote to us recently with the following message:

*I was so pleased by the Campsea Ashe Bells Project. Church bells are so much part of the English tradition and of the Suffolk countryside. The beautiful Church of Campsea Ashe needs to be in full voice and I hope very much that your splendid efforts will be successful.*

*We owe it to those who have gone before to keep our inheritance in real order, not least so that future generations can be reminded of the things that continue and the truths we all cherish.*

*Yours sincerely*

*John Gummer*

## Sponsorship of a Bell

We have just two bells left to be sponsored! The three new bells are all sponsored - one will be the Village Bell. Two of the four bells currently in the tower that will be restored have also been sponsored, which leaves just two bells.

Would you like to sponsor a bell? Sponsorship of a bell can be a fitting memorial for someone, or some family, and will last for many hundreds of years.

Sponsorship of the bell will cost £3500. If you are interested, please contact Glenys Fear, Chair of the Bells Committee, on 01728 747177.



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## Thank you

A number of organisations have generously made offers of grants towards the cost of the Project and their support is very gratefully received. The groups concerned include:

The Suffolk Guild of Ringers

The Sharpe Trust

The Barbara Whatmore Trust

The Scarfe Trust

The Allchurches Trust

The Moncrief Trust

The Alan Evans Trust

The Ganzoni Trust

Suffolk County Council.

## 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:*

### *May*

*3rd May at 11.00 am*

*24th May at 10.00 am*

### *June*

*7th June at 6.30 pm*

*28th June at 8.00 am*

### *July*

*12th July at 11.00 am*

*26th July Benefice Service*

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## Flower Festival

Saturday and Sunday

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.

Around the Church there will also be refreshments, stalls and, of course, the raffle!

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.