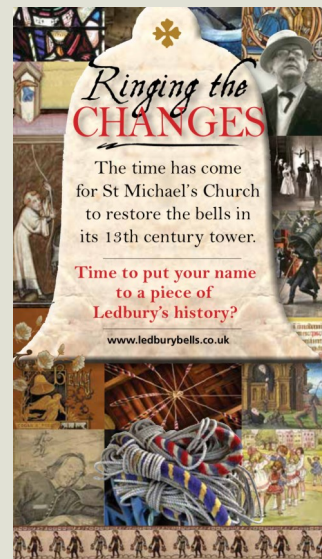


Bell Restoration Project

We are pleased to say that we have already raised close to £65,000 in gifts and firm pledges towards our project. This is a really good start. As part of this, we are hugely grateful to the people of Ledbury who, since last November, have raised more than the £10,000 needed to fund “A Bell to Remember”: a bell to mark the 100th anniversary of the Armistice and to show a commitment to peace.

We are pleased to report that we have the all-clear from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (which approves any significant restoration or development work in churches) for our bell restoration and conservation project.

Ringers held a “Seed Swap” event in the church in February which raised £250 towards our bells project. The next phase of our fundraising will be an engagement with local businesses, families and individuals offering them the chance to sponsor some aspect of the project and so contribute to this important feature of our local heritage.



Engaging the next generation in the art of Bellringing

In January, Ledbury Ringers spent a day at John Masefield High School working with 150 Year 7 & Year 8 pupils in small groups. They all had a chance to ring the portable dumbbell.

In February we ran a similar session at Ledbury Primary School, working with all the pupils in Year 5.

Later in the month, we welcomed teenagers from the local Youth Drop-In Centre to take some video of ringing in the tower as part of a film project. We also set them a variety of practical tasks to help them understand what we do. In March, we offered a similar opportunity to a group of local Scouts.

Telling the story locally



In March, an audience of over 250 people enjoyed an action-packed evening of history, drama, music, poetry, bellringing trivia and audience participation as we put on a special performance about the place of Bellringing in English history and culture. Pupils from both Ledbury Schools took part. We were very grateful to Clive Gunn, Ledbury Town Crier, for being prepared to be part of our cast.

We are pleased to have been able to give talks on the place of bellringing in history and literature as part of the Evesham Festival of Words and to a Ledbury U3A group.

15 members of Ledbury WI came on a visit to the tower and were all determined to learn as much as they could. All of them visited not only the ringing room but also the clock room and the third floor belfry itself.

