



The Bell Restoration Fund

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

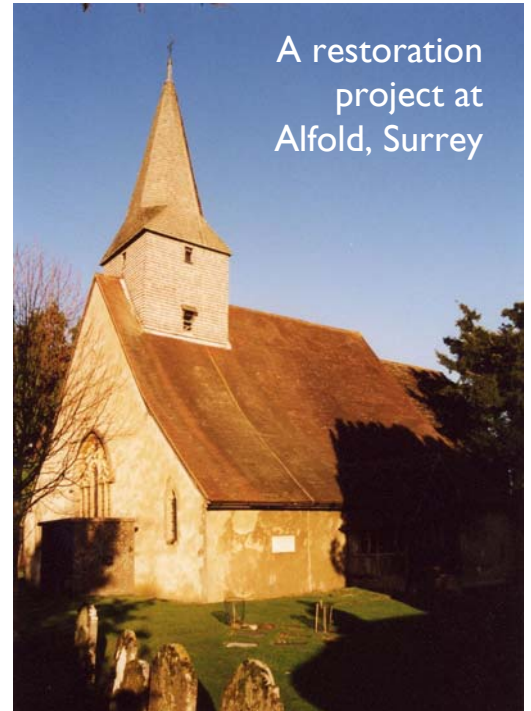
PRESIDENT: THE BISHOP OF GUILDFORD

The Bell Restoration Fund is a registered charity whose object is to further the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to Churches in the Diocese for maintaining and improving their bell installations. It is run entirely by volunteers who provide free advice and labour and who are working on several projects in the Diocese at present.

Bells have been used to proclaim the presence of a living and active Church in England for over 1,000 years. In our increasingly secular age, they act as a reminder to warn the heedless and to call the faithful to prayer.

There are over 60 churches in the Diocese with rings of five or more bells, and the Fund has given grants towards work of all types, ranging from a contribution to the new 'Millennium Peal' of ten bells at Dorking, to installing six new and restored bells at Alfold, Surrey.

The Fund's main income is from the subscriptions and fund-raising activities of bell-ringers in the Diocese, plus donations from PCCs and others.



A restoration project at Alfold, Surrey

Bequests are another source of income, sometimes with money being given for individual bells which are often inscribed with the donor's details.

The old tenor bell being lowered from the tower



The six new & restored bells awaiting hanging



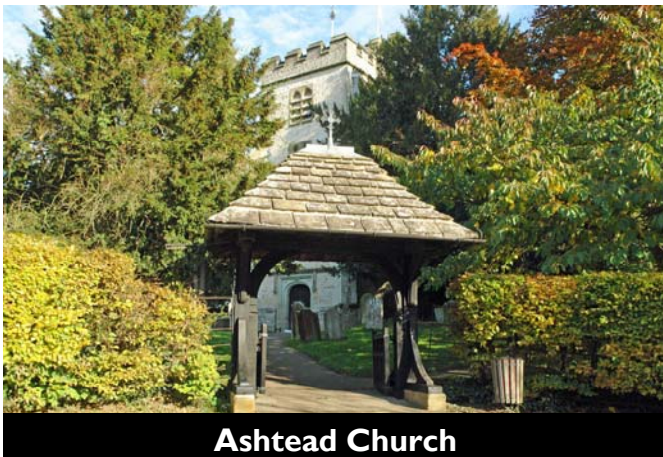


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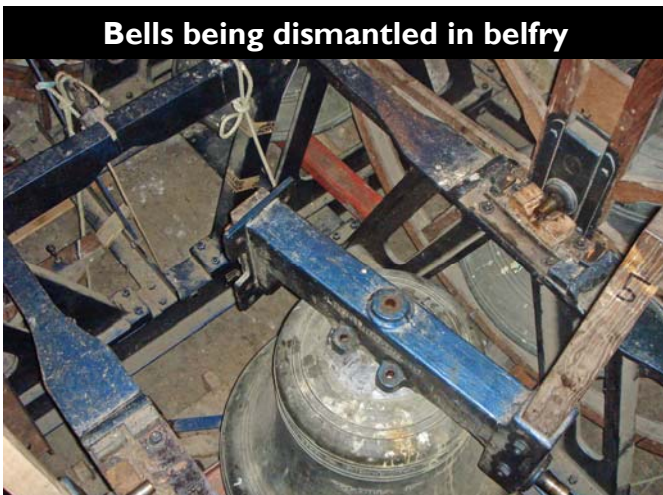
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Current Projects in the Leatherhead area

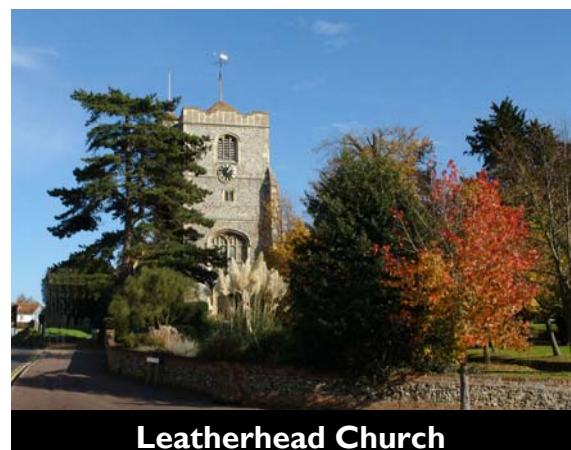


Ashted Church

Present work in the immediate locality is on the ring of eight bells at **Ashted** which were last given a major overhaul over forty years ago. In recent years, the bells have become more difficult to ring, and in order to avoid more serious deterioration, new bearings are being fitted and various other adjustments are being made. The Guild's Bell Restoration Fund provided advice and guidance on the project and also gave a grant towards the cost of the work.



Bells being dismantled in belfry



Leatherhead Church

A similar overhaul of the ten bells at **Leatherhead** is also being planned with advice from the Guild and again it is expected that the Bell Restoration Fund will provide a grant to towards the cost.



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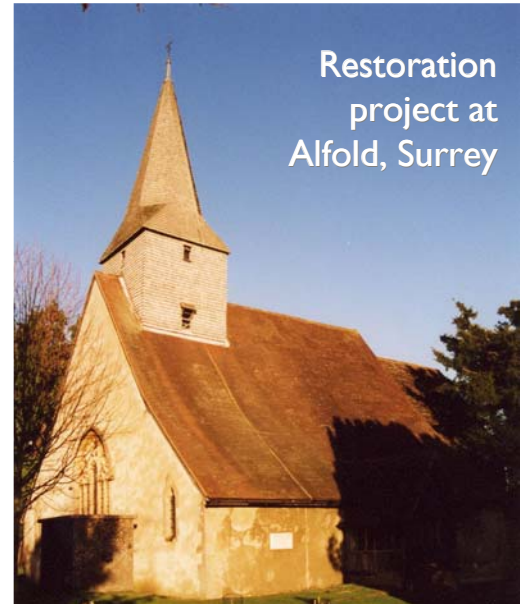
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If you would like to find out more about the Bell Restoration Fund, to make a donation or to make a legacy under a will, please write to the Guild's Treasurer at:
The Guildford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers' Bell Restoration Fund,
Diocesan House, Quarry St, Guildford. GUI 3XG (Registered Charity No 278025).



Restoration project at Alfold, Surrey



Overhaul at St Mary and St Nicholas, Leatherhead



Overhaul at St Giles', Ashtead