

# St Michael's Church

## Alnwick

### Tower Project

#### A Message from our Patron

I am delighted to be able to commend to you the exciting Tower Project at our lovely ancient parish church of St. Michael in Alnwick – including the installation of a peal of ten bells.

For centuries the two medieval bells of St. Michael's called the faithful to worship and marked other important events in the lives of our townsfolk, and they will be conserved in well-earned retirement. In the eighteenth century a third bell was added - the only sound which has been heard for many years. Now the opportunity has arisen for our county town to become one of the two places in Northumberland to acquire a ring of ten.



In addition to the normal summoning of folk to church on Sunday the bells could become a focal point for community and civic events as well as enhancing weddings and other times of celebration.

And all this has become possible at a time when there is a renewed interest in the art of bell-ringing as people have recognised once again that it is a rewarding social activity for young and old alike.

Please do read the information which is available and consider this a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be associated with such an historic project in our lovely town.

#### How you can help

Would you like to be part of this exciting project bringing church and town together?

There are opportunities to make a personal and lasting contribution to a particular bell and to the works necessary to house them in the tower for centuries to come.

#### We need your help

**You, or a group of people, could sponsor a bell and have an inscription put on it (an inscription lasts for centuries).**

This might be in memory of a loved one or to give thanks for a significant event, perhaps a marriage or the birth of a child. It could be to recognise an organisation in the town or simply a gift for blessings received.

Arrangements will be made for a permanent record of all benefactors which will be displayed in the church.

All contributions – large or small - will be gratefully received.

## Latest News

Firstly we want you to know how thrilled we are with the response we have had to date.

Currently (August 2020) three of the four new bells have been pledged leaving only one for sponsorship.

Four of the refurbished bells have been fully sponsored and the remaining two set aside for sponsorship from the church and the town, "Ring out for St. Michael's" and "Ring out for the Town/Alnwick". Already we have received a number of generous contributions to the St Michael's bell and a substantial pledge from the Freemen for the town bell, further sponsorship is encouraged towards meeting the full cost of both.



## Thank you for taking the time to read this update.

We have already made a number of applications to grant-making bodies and have had positive responses from the Keltek Trust and the Durham & Newcastle Association of Bellringers.

New bells have been priced at approximately £10,000 and refurbished bells at approximately £8,000 depending on the length of the written dedication.



If you are interested then please initially be in touch with the vicar :

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