



## Hopton Bells Ap-Peel - Big News!



The Hopton Bellringers are delighted to announce that we have received a very generous grant of £38,200 towards our Ap-Peel from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Adding this to fund-raising, donations and grants already received takes the total to over £77,000 so the project to rehang the bells can now go ahead.

We hope that the work should be completed by the middle of 2010.

### What Does the Project Involve?

- ◀ Remove the existing six bells to Loughborough bellfoundry for servicing. ▶
- ◀ Remove from the tower the existing wooden frame, worn-out fittings and floors. ▶
- ◀ Have two additional, lighter bells cast to augment the ring from six to eight. ▶
- ◀ Install a new steel frame and modern fittings, as well as new floors and ladders. ▶
- ◀ Return the augmented eight bells to Hopton and hang these in the new frame. ▶
- ◀ Install sound control to reduce noise levels near the tower. ▶

### Rehanging the Bells – Local Involvement

We hope to save money by using local labour to assist in many aspects of the work.

The bellhangers will supervise this work but we are appealing to anyone who would be interested in helping us in any way, to contact the Appeal Coordinators.

### How Could You Help?

We will need help from volunteers in the following areas:

- **Assisting the bellhangers:**
  - Helping to remove the old bells, frame and fittings from the tower.
  - Helping to reinstall the new bells, frame, fittings and floors in the tower.
  - Lots of varied jobs are available for all volunteers!
  - There will be lots of opportunities for clambering among bells and finding out about bellringing!
- **Accommodating the bellhangers:**
  - Providing lodging for bellhangers as they work on the bells and supervise volunteers.
- **Feeding the bellhangers and volunteers:**
  - Providing cups of tea and coffee for bellhangers and volunteers.
  - Providing food (sandwiches and so on) at lunchtimes for bellhangers and volunteers.
- **Transporting the bells:**
  - Providing transport from Hopton to Taylor's Bellfoundry (Loughborough) for the existing six bells and from the foundry back to Hopton for the augmented eight bells.

### How Can You Volunteer or Find Out More?

If you would like to add your name to our list of volunteers, or if you would like further information, please contact any of the bellringers, or e-mail or phone the Project Coordinators, Stephen and Ruth Young ([youngs@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:youngs@tiscali.co.uk) - 01359 221722).

### Information Evening

We will soon be arranging an informal presentation with wine and nibbles in the church to explain the project. You will be able to ask questions about the project and find out how you can help.

**This date will be advertised shortly. Do, please, come along!**