

**Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Restoration Fund  
(Registered Charity No. 284053)**

Report of the Managing Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2010

**Fund Raising**

Fund raising at £1884.04 was down from last year (£2630.39). The Managing Trustees are pleased to note that six Branches (Banbury, Bicester, Oxford City, Reading, South Oxon and Witney and Woodstock) have made donations totalling £973. The Guild once again donated £550 and this generosity is much appreciated. Personal donations of £35 were received. The Managing Trustees hope that this income source will increase in the future and that donations will include a gift aid declaration to allow tax to be reclaimed for the benefit of the Fund. Tax refunded on the gift aided donations will be received during 2011. This year there were donations from three towers (Fullbrook £216.04, Great Linford £30 and Windsor £100). The Managing Trustees hope that more towers, in particular those that have received grants, will wish to make an annual donation.

**Grants**

The provisional grants previously offered to Great Brickhill (£1525) and Padbury (£235) have been paid. Provisional grants towards repair costs were approved and paid to East Ilsley (£300) and Thatcham (£95). Payment of a grant depends upon a report confirming the satisfactory completion of the work. The Managing Trustees take this opportunity to thank members of the Towers and Belfries Committee who inspect the completed work.

A provisional grant has been offered to North Marston (£470) for urgent repairs. The work has been completed and the grant is expected to be paid early in 2011. No further grant applications were received during the year.

For reference, provisional grant offers are based on the formula agreed in 1999 (a variable percentage of the approved augmentation costs depending upon the number of bells resulting from the works: for up to 6 bells - 15%, for 6 to 8 bells – 7.5% and for more than 8 bells – 5%).

The Trustees again wish to emphasise the importance of fund raising to allow them to continue to meet these targets for grants and take this opportunity to thank those who contributed during 2010.

**Investments**

Investment income for the year reduced to £55.57, compared with £82.77 in 2009. This reflects the generally low deposit account interest rates. However, the value of the undated stock remained constant and provided an attractive return. In order to minimise risks, the Trustees continue to follow an investment policy to maximise income whilst maintaining funds that are readily available to pay grants as they become due.

**Future Grants**

Grant application forms are available from the Honorary Treasurer and should be returned to him when completed.

Managing Trustees:  
William Butler, Barry Cowper, Derek Fowles  
Brian J Gatward (Honorary Treasurer)