## OXFORD DIOCESAN BELL FUND

Registered Charity Number 268390

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2020 Leap Year Sponsored Ringing

The Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund AGM celebrated its 45th anniversary in September 2019.

Since its inception it has been able to assist bell restoration in the Diocese by granting over £400,000 to more than 200 projects. Better still because it is a capital fund, all the money that has been raised is still invested and the grants have been paid from interest and dividends generated by the capital,

Every year there are activities, which generate new money for which the Trustees are very grateful as only by increasing the capital can the Fund keep pace with rising costs, We are keen to ensure the 2020 Leap Year Sponsored Ringing Event, is a resounding success.

First organised in 1979 when Branches were encouraged to organise a sponsored Peal or Quarter Peal and donate the money raised to the Bell Fund. A special Shield was provided by Bill Butler and inscribed by Ted Gosling for presentation to the Branch raising the largest amount of money. Bicester Branch won, raising over £231. We don’t expect peals and quarters (but by all means ring them if you like), any ringing can be sponsored, so presents a great opportunity to involve all levels and abilities and to introduce new members to the work of the Bell Fund.

In 2020 the Sponsored Ringing “Week” will be the 22nd to 29th February, The Shield will be presented to the Branch raising the greatest amount per head of membership. Sponsorship money can be Gift Aided to benefit from recovery of Income Tax.

Sponsor forms are available at [http://odg.org.uk/2020-leap-year-sponsored-ringing](http://odg.org.uk/?p=834&preview=true), or from the Secretary - Katie Lane (email kt.catchmole@googlemail.com)

Alan Marchbank

Bell Fund Chairman