**The Church of St Mary & St Alkelda, Middleham**

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Middleham Bells Restoration

**Patrons: Eileen Harrison-Topham, Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes and Rodney Tennant**

Dedicated to the memory of John Sarginson, Thomas Sarginson and Harold Collinson, Middleham ringers devoted to their bells who gave their lives in the Great War.

*“The bells are amongst the finest ever cast in our foundry”*

(John Taylor & Co, Bellfounders)

The 8 bells in the tower of Middleham Church were installed in 1911. The then existing 6 bells were returned to the bell foundry who re-cast them, added 2 more bells, and made a massive iron frame for them. The frame was fitted in the church tower and the new set of 8 bells was hung from it. The bells swing in bearings that have become worn over the past 106 years and we are going to replace the worn out bearings with specially engineered sealed roller bearings. The bells will then be able to ring out for another 100 years.

The bellringers raised almost £5,000, of which about £1600 was spent on refurbishing the clappers, leaving about £3,300 in the bell fund. We are looking to raise a total of £25,000 and ensure the bells are fit for the next 100 years. Any donation towards the cost of the bells’ restoration would be most gratefully received. If you would like to make a donation, please use this form. If you give a donation of at least £1000, your generosity will be acknowledged in perpetuity by a plaque attached to a headstock of a bell.

**TO: St Mary & St Alkelda’s Church, Middleham**

**Details of donor**

**Title \_\_\_\_\_\_ Initial(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Home address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Gift Aid Declaration (**Under the Gift Aid scheme, we will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give.)

Name of the Charity: St Mary and St Alkelda’s Church, Middleham (but please make cheques payable to **Middleham Church Committee**,and write “Bells” on the back of the cheque).

*I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ made under the Gift Aid scheme. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less in Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay the difference.*

Please tick this box to confirm that you are happy for us to contact you in the future about the bell restoration project.

If you wish to donate, please either:

(i) send your donation and this form to: **The Treasurer, Middleham Church, c/o Oak House, Park Lane, Middleham. North Yorkshire, DL8 4QY**; or

(ii) make a donation by debit or credit card via BT’s free “mydonate” website. To do this, search for “mydonate” and then enter “St Alkelda” in the charity’s name search field; or

(iii) make your donation by BACS (details below) and, unless you wish to remain anonymous, either send this form to the above address or send us an email to middleham.bells@outlook.com.

BACS payments:

Sort Code: 20-25-29

Account No: 70633445

Reference: Bells/Your Surname

**Please make cheques payable to: Middleham Church Committee.** Please address any questions to the Appeal Co-ordinator, Jonathan Couchman, by email to middleham.bells@outlook.com or on 07770 302653.

Bell Restoration Appeal Co-ordinator: Jonathan Couchman

Phone: 07770 302653 Email: middleham.bells@outlook.com