



# The History of Ewyas Lacy: Clodock Church

Document Record

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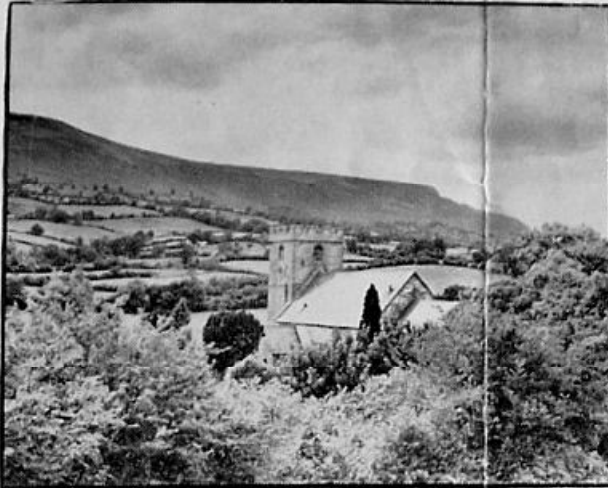
Photograph of leaflet appealing for funds for restoration of the church tower and bells.

Digital Images Collection: Clodock Church Appeal 1952

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## CLODOCK CHURCH IN THE BLACK MOUNTAINS



### The Church Restoration Fund Appeal

*Photos by courtesy of THE HEREFORD TIMES*

**T**HE little village of Clodock is situated in the south-west corner of Herefordshire, at the foot of the picturesque Black Mountains on the Welsh Border.

The present Parish Church was built in the 12th Century on the Bank of the River Monnow and stands on the site of an earlier Church, which dated from about 500 A.D.

Its dedication to St. Cleodicus is unique and legend relates that this British Saint, who was murdered nearby, was being taken home for burial when the oxen refused to cross the ford, which lies just below the present bridge. He was therefore buried at the spot where the Church now stands.

The Church itself is in a reasonably good state of repair and well repays a visit (the door is always open).

It has many unusual features of interest. The three-decker pulpit dates from about 1700 but incorporates some excellent earlier panelling of the 17th Century and it has been described as one of the best examples in existence.

There is also a 12th Century chest hollowed out of a log of wood, a 13th Century Font, wall paintings, some possibly of the 15th Century, Box Pews dating from 1660, and a Gallery which has a most attractive staircase.

We are endeavouring to raise the sum of £1,500 in order to repair the Tower and its peal of Bells, but we have to look to well-wishers far and wide for help, because there are today only 500 inhabitants in our large and scattered parish.

The Tower, except for its walls, is in a bad condition, and a considerable amount of work will be necessary to restore it.

The roof and parapets require attention, the oak floors are unsafe and must be renewed, and the timber frame supporting the Bells would probably collapse if they were rung.

As for the Bells, some of which were cast by John Finch of Hereford in the early 17th Century, only one is sound and that is so worn after 300 years' service that it also needs to be recast.

A Bell costs from £200 to £350.

Donors of £50 may, if they desire, have inscribed on a Bell, either their own name or that of someone whose memory they desire to perpetuate.

Will you help us to carry out this very worthwhile job?

If so, please send your donation to:—

REV. H. ASTBURY, CLODOCK VICARAGE, LONGTOWN, NR. ABERGAVENNY.

All donations, no matter how small, will be gratefully acknowledged.



1952.