



New Bells for Old St. Martin's

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The ten bells installed at Old St. Martin in the Cornmarket, Worcester were first rung on 11 November 2011 for the Patronal Festival. The bells had been blessed by the Right Reverend Dr John Inge and the Reverend Andrew Greany on 4 September 2011.

The tower Old St. Martin contains 17 bells which hang in two separate bellframes.

The original six bells, five of which pre-date the Georgian church, a small sanctus bell, along with the frame and fittings, have been conserved. Electro-magnetic hammers have been fitted to the old bells, and after a silence of 100 years, these can again be heard. They tell the time using the rare St. Martin's chime.

A new ring of ten bells, with a bright modern sound, has been hung in a new frame below the original bells. The bells are easy to ring and Old St. Martin's will become a ringing nursery for young ringing talent in Worcestershire.

The bells are cared for by the Worcester Cathedral Guild of Bellringers. They form part of the Guild's innovative enterprise teaching bellringing to school children, students and adults in Worcester and further afield.

The Project was conceived and led by Mark Regan. The bells were installed by John Slater and Peter Elliott from Worcester Cathedral. The Project received support from:

- Christopher Whitehead School
- Red Hill Primary School
- The Church Buildings Council
- The University of Worcester
- The City of Worcester
- Worcester Cathedral
- The Diocesan Advisory Committee
- Worcester Cathedral Guild of Bellringers
- English Heritage
- Worcester Live
- The Georgian Group
- Worcestershire County Council
- The King's School
- The Worshipful Company of Founders
- The Parochial Church Council of Old St Martin's



For more information, please contact Jim Clatworthy or visit the project website.

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Worcester Cathedral
Guild of Bellringers



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Old St. Martin in the Cornmarket, Worcester

The Old Bells

The New Bells

The Project



The New Bells for Old St. Martin's Project was conceived and led by Mark Regan. Work began in November 2010 with the restoration of the old bells and the new bells were first rung in November 2011. The project was documented throughout and event milestones can be seen on the project website at www.oldstmartinsbells.co.uk.

The Project's suppliers:

- John Taylor, Bell Founders
- Cumbria Clock Company
- Caroe and Partners (formally Stainburn Taylor)
- Ward Cole, Structural Engineers
- NDS Engineering
- Hereford Galvanisers
- Philip Pratt, Bellropes
- Pete Rose, Crane Services
- Probert's, Builders
- Nick Bragg, Stonemason.

The Project's funders comprise:

- The Heritage Lottery Fund
- The Foundation for Sports and the Arts
- The Bransford Trust
- Bernard Taylor
- Paul and Gillian Westcott
- Eddie and Elizabeth Prior
- Ursula Anderson and Gerhard Hamburg
- The Severn Waste Environmental Fund
- The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- The Rowlands Trust
- The Edward Cadbury Trust
- The Worcester and Dudley Churches Trust
- The Elmley Foundation
- The Worshipful Company of Mercers
- The Worshipful Company of Grocers
- The Worcestershire and Districts Change Ringing Association
- The City of Worcester
- The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths
- The Grimley Trust
- The Central Council of Church Bellringers
- The Martley Guild
- Hereford Galvanisers.

and:

The family of Joan Summerhayes.
The family of Bishop Philip Goodrich.
A number of personal individual donations.

Bell	Founder	Date	Diameter	Weight
1	Thomas Rudhall	1780	28½"	4¾ cwt
2	Thomas Mears II	1833	31"	6-0-19
3	John Mitchell of Lichfield (attributed) or Unknown founder	c.1320 c.1400	30¾"	5½ cwt
4	Hugh Watts II	1638	33½"	7½ cwt
5	Hugh Watts II	1638	37¼"	9 cwt
6	Hugh Watts II	1640	42"	13 cwt
Santus	Unknown Worcester founder	1621	18"	

Bell	Founder	Date	Note	Diameter	Weight
Treble	John Taylor & Co	2011	D#	19.5"	2-1-17 980 kg
2	John Taylor & Co	2011	C#	20.63"	2-2-2 1100 kg
3	John Taylor & Co	2011	B	21.38"	2-2-15 1236 kg
4	John Taylor & Co	2011	A#	22"	2-3-1 1310 kg
5	John Taylor & Co	2011	G#	23"	2-3-23 1468 kg
6	John Taylor & Co	2011	F#	23.88"	3-0-8 1651 kg
7	John Taylor & Co	2011	E	25.5"	3-1-11 1854 kg
8	John Taylor & Co	2011	D#	26.25"	3-3-21 1954 kg
9	John Taylor & Co	2011	C#	29.5"	5-0-13 2201 kg
Tenor	John Taylor & Co	2011	B	32.56"	6-2-17 2474 kg

Bell	Inscription
1	GOD PROSPER ALL OVR BENEFACORS (vine border) 1780 (vine border) Below (cutting into the beadings): (arabesque border) JOHN BAND CHVRCHWARDEN (vine border)
2	Thomas Mears of London Founder 1833 Waist: Christopher Barden } / John Goodman } Church Wardens
3	+ (fleur-de-lis) SANCTE (fleur-de-lis) MARTINE (fleur-de-lis) HORA (fleur-de-lis) PRO (fleur-de-lis) NOBIS (fleur-de-lis) (Arabesque border all round) / (Brasyer shield) DVRANTIA (border)
4	DONIA (border) IN (border) HONOREM (border) DEI (border) 1638 (border) / (arabesque border all round) 1638 (acorn border all round) / (Brasyer shield) THE (mark) GIFTE (mark) OF ROBERT (mark) DURANT (mark) FOR (mark) THE (mark) HONOUR (mark) OF GOD (mark) / (arabesque border all round) On rim: (three coins)
5	(Arabesque border all round) / + DEO (border) GLORIAM (border) ET (border) GRATIAS (border) SONO (border) BERKELEY (border) 1640 (border) / (arabesque border all round)
Santus	+ THE GIFT OF RICHARD DVRANT 1621

Bell	Inscription
Treble	THE CITY OF WORCESTER GAVE ME
2	ST MARTIN PRAY FOR US PAUL AND GILLIAN WESTCOTT GAVE ME
3	IN MEMORY OF BISHOP PHILIP GOODRICH "RING OUT WILD BELLS"
4	URSULA ANDERSON AND GERHARD HAMBURG GAVE ME
5	EDWARD AND ELIZABETH PRIOR AND FAMILY IN THANKSGIVING
6	BERNARD TAYLOR GAVE ME
7	THE FOUNDATION FOR SPORTS AND THE ARTS GAVE ME
8	THE BRANSFORD TRUST AND THE KINNEAR FAMILY GAVE ME
9	IN MEMORY OF JOAN SUMMERHAYES
Tenor	THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS CHANGE RINGING ASSOCIATION BELFREY REPAIRS FUND GAVE ME

