

The Parish Church of St Edward the Confessor,
Romford

Bell Restoration Appeal update

www.stedwardsromford.org

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd February 2008

A unique opportunity to see the bells that have spoken to generations of Romfordians, before they are rehung back in the tower with their new fittings.

BELLS SET TO RETURN FOLLOWING REFURBISHMENT

The Bell Restoration Appeal started last year and got underway on Thursday 1st & 2nd June 2007 which saw the removal of the peal of eight bells, since 1922.



The first bell being lowered, the Tenor

Over the next weekend of Saturday 2nd & 3rd June 2007 the bells were

on display for all to see before they were transported to the workshop of Whites of Appleton in Oxford for essential work, that will ensure that full circle ringing can continue in Romford for many years to come. Shortly after arriving to Whites of Appleton the bells were taken to the



All eight bells on display outside the church

local farmer were they where sandblasted to remove years of grime that had accumulated, this has enhanced the appearance and inscriptions on the bells.

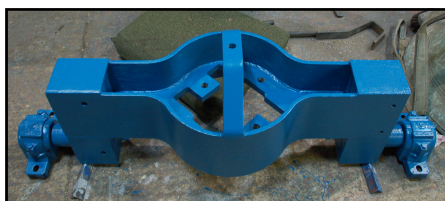
The cast-in staples from all eight bells

The 2nd bell after being cleaned



have been removed while cast insulation pads have been made for the crowns of each bell. Four supporting bolt holes were drilled in the crowns and then turned to present a new surface for the blow of each clapper. New metal headstocks will now replace the worn elm headstocks.

All the mechanical fittings that are used in the process of full circle ringing have been replaced. This



New metal headstock for the Tenor

includes: new wheels, stays, sliders, pulleys.

FINANCE

The cost of this restoration is in excess of £35,000.



The new hardwood wheel for the tenor

We are grateful to all those who have supported the appeal, members of the congregations, bellringers and grants amounting to £12,000 from The Pilgrim Trust, The Essex Association of Bell Ringers Restoration Fund and the Tovell Bequest. Further funds are held in the Bellringers' account and help is available from the Church Maintenance Budget.

FUNDRAISING

Various fundraising activities have taken place over the last seven months. Chris Patmore (Verger) and Patrick Neville (Market Trader) took part in a sponsored bike ride which raised over £1,200. Several Coffee Shops took place in Church House has raised over £2,000.

Fundraising continues to ensure that sufficient funds are available when the invoices are presented.

Donations can still be made directly to the appeal via the website or by posting your donation to the church. You can also gift aid your donation and we will receive 28p in every £1 donated to the appeal.