

INSPECTION OF BELLS AT ALL SAINTS, SAWLEY
November 29th 1992

Request for inspection from Mr. Roy Dady, Ringing Master.

BELL CHAMBER

The double louvres on each side of the tower have been covered with netting to keep out the birds - this is as it should be. The bell chamber is clean and well cared for.

BELLS

All eight bells are in sound condition. Bells 6 and 8 have been quarter turned when 6, 7 and 8 were rehung a few years ago. No. 7 has not been quarter turned.

Details of the bells are as follows:

Bell note	diameter	weight	date	founder	
Treble	24 1/8"	3-1-22	1919	J. Taylor	G
2	25"	3-2-27	1919	J. Taylor	F#
3	27 1/2"	4-2-18	1893	J. Taylor	E
4	29 1/2"	5-1-5	1893	J. Taylor	D
5	31 1/2"	6-0-12	1893	J. Taylor	C
6	33"	6-1-4	1658	G. Oldfield	B
7	36 3/8"	8-1-25	1625	G. Oldfield	A
Tenor	39 3/8"	9-3-4	1591	H. Oldfield	G

The inscriptions are as follows:

Treble: GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS 1914-19

2: IN GLORIOUS MEMORY OF SAWLEY MEN WHO GAVE UP THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1919

3. :TAYLOR & Co FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH
IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL HEY, RECTOR 1845-1893

4. :TAYLOR & Co FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH
IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL HEY, RECTOR 1845-1893

5. :TAYLOR & Co FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH
IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL HEY, RECTOR 1845-1893

6. GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH G+O 1658

7. I sweetly tolling men do call to taste on meats that feeds the soole 1625 G+O

Tenor: + GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1591 ho

BELLFRAME

This is a low-sided half timber frame, with cast iron metal A frames between upper and lower levels. There are vertical and horizontal tie rods. One horizontal tie rod was very loose. All tie bolts should be checked for tightness. This should be done by removing the nuts at one (or both) ends of the tie rod, wire brush cleaning the screw threads, liberally oiling them before replacing and retightening the nuts. Afterwards repaint the nuts with Hammerite. Washers should be

used to take up space. In some places where the lower frame is close to the walls dirt has become lodged in the narrow space. This space should be raked out to allow free air circulation round the frame. Creosote the frame periodically.

HEADSTOCKS

All cast iron. All serviceable.

WHEELS

All serviceable.

STAYS

All serviceable.

SLIDERS

All serviceable.

PULLEYS

All serviceable. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are grooved. No. 3 has some sideways movement. All should be overhauled when convenient (say in the next two years).

CLAPPERS

All are independent. Those on Nos. 6, 7 and 8 are new and made of spheroidal graphite cast iron. Those on Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are wrought iron. These five have flats on the balls and exhibit wear in the clapper pins. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 clappers should be overhauled and reshaped in the next two years.

MAIN BEARINGS

All bells are fitted with fully enclosed self-aligning ball bearings. These should not be greased, because unless the bell goes badly one assumes that the bearings are in good condition. Closer inspection would probably be pointless.

SUMMARY

The bell installation is well cared for and is in good serviceable condition. The bells may continue to be rung indefinitely. However the following items of maintenance and repair are recommended as desirable.

1. Rake out the narrow spaces between the lower frame and tower walls.
2. Overhaul clappers on bells Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
3. Overhaul pulleys.
4. Tighten all tie rods - best done in dry weather (when timber has shrunk).

Note on oddstruckness.

Some of the bells at Sawley are "oddstruck". That is the time interval between ding and dong, and dong and ding is uneven when the bell is rung evenly. This unevenness has to be corrected by the ringer ringing unevenly. The odd struckness in the bell can be corrected by moving the clapper sideways - away from the rope to quicken the backstroke. The clapper movement is best achieved by using a tapered washer between the clapper and the bell. At Sawley, on the tenor, this process is a bit "hit and miss" because the inside surface of the crown of the bell is very uneven due to the removal some time ago of the cast in crown staple.

G.A.HALLS.