

HARROW ON THE HILL. Sources

Bells: eight (1719, 1779, 1634, 1779, 1805, 1683, 1869, 1759). LMAS *Transactions* vol. 18 part 2 (1955) entry 77.

Tower a Norman foundation. Bells rededicated March 25th. Bells removed from wooden frame in August 1960 by Taylors of Loughborough. New cast iron frame. The bells cast 1654 and 1683 retuned. Original inscriptions reproduced on recast bells. *Ringing world* May 19th 1961 p. 337.

The Rev G. C. Taylor, President of the MCALDG, preached at the rededication service. *Ringing world* April 14th 1961 p. 257.

In the reign of King Edward the Sixth there were 'in the ancient tower of Harrowe Church v great bells and a saunce bell'. They were recast and added to at various times in the following centuries, and by 1780 they were a ring of eight. The old bells still remain in the steeple, the third cast by W Whitmore of Watford, in 1654, and the sixth cast by William Eldridge of Chertsey, in 1683.

The first peal on the bells was by the London Youths, 5040 changes of Bob Major, rung on May 7th 1780, and conducted by Robert Pye Donkin, who rang the treble. William Paris rang the tenor and John Reeves, Richard Wilson & Allen Grant were in the band. This was the last performance by this company before they joined the Ancient Society of College Youths to begin the last period of activity of that society and ultimately to cause its final extinction.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century there was a number of ringers living in Watford and Rickmansworth who were members of the Society of Cumberland Youths. On April 20th 1810 they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Harrow, conducted by Daniel Pope. These seem to be the only peals known to have been rung in the tower in early times with the exception of 5088 Oxford Treble Bob Major by the College Youths in 1806. *Ringing world* July 7th 1944 p. 285

Saturday October 11th 1884. St James's Society. 5040 Grandsire Triples, Reeve's variation, in 3h 22m. James R Haworth, William Copping, John Mansfield, Richard French, William H Fussell, George Banks, Arthur Hayward, Edward Albon ©. First peal on the bells for 47 years. *Bell news & ringers' record* October 18th 1884 p. 342.

Bells: eight (1779, 1779, 1654, 1779, 1805, 1683, 1869, 1759) and small bell (1869) Peal board in belfry. LMAS *Transactions* vol. 18 Part 2 (1955) entry

The lower two storeys of the tower are all that remains of the Norman church. *Church guide*.

1	26"	4-3-2	Whitechapel 1978
2	27 ¼"	5-1-6	Whitechapel 1978
3	28 ½"	5-1-9	J. Taylor & Co. 1960
4	29 ½"	5-3-13	J. Taylor & Co. 1960
5	31 ½"	6-3-27	J. Taylor & Co. 1960
6	33 3/16"	6-3-14	W. Whitmore 1654
7	37"	11-0-10	J. Taylor & Co. 1960
8	39"	11-3-4	J. Taylor & Co. 1960
9	42 5/16"	13-1-2	W. Eldridge 1683
10	47"	19-0-4	J. Taylor & Co. 1960

Frame for ten bells from 1961 – probably iron? *Draft schedule of bells in the Archdeaconry of Northolt* June 1987. VP note: "Check against my details given deposited in Library"

Schedule of Bells shows the bells cast by Taylors as 1961.

A roughcast tower and its tall handsomely scaled, octagonal lead spire. The lower parts of the tower are Norman. Pevsner *Middlesex* 1951 p. 96

Arch of 1094, filled with flint at a later date. [I.e. west door. Source? Evidence?]

Inscriptions [Query layout and punctuation]

1

At proper times our voices we will raise
In sounding to our benefactor's praise
Pack & Chapman, of London, Fecerunt, 1779

2

Music is medicine to the mind
Pack & Chapman, of London, Fecerunt, 1779

3

John Smith and John Anderson, Churchwardens
O (probably a coin) 1654 W.W.

4

Walter Williams, Vicar.
John Edlyn & John Bartlett, Churchwardens, 1779
Pack & Chapman, of London, Fecerunt

5

The Revd Walter Williams, Rector
Daniel Hill, John Higgs, Ch. Wardens
Thomas Mears & Son, of London, Fecit, 1805

6

Gulielmus Eldridge me fecit, 1683. T.W.

7

Cast by John Warner & Sons, London, 1869
(Engraving of Royal Coat-of-Arms
Patent)

8

The Rev. Frans. Sanders, Vicar: Jemru* Forrow & John Gurney,
Ch. Wardens, 1759
Lester & Pack, of London, Fecit
[*Probably=Henry]

All slips transcribed. PN 2021