

BOW. St Mary atte Bow. Sources

[Several discrepancies]

Built as a chapel of ease for Stepney by Bishop Baldock in 1311. Tower late 15th century. Top of the tower fell 29/01/1829 and was rebuilt. Heavy damage in 2nd World War. Basil Clarke *Parish churches of London*, p.163.

3 bells, 5 cwt. In 1760. *Bell founding from the Armada to the Great War*

1760 [what is this date, if these bells were cast in 1797?]

Treble	5-0-13	28½"	
2	5-1-19	30"	
3	6-1-13	32"	
4	7-0-23	34"	Maiden
5	9-0-25	36¾"	
Tenor	11-2-18	40"	WBF DB/239/97

From Peter Rayner:

Old bells 1850 C & G Mears

Treble	4-2-26	F	2'3½"	C & G Mears 1850
2	5-0-13	E	2'4½"	
3	5-1-18	D	2'6"	
4	6-1-13	Cb	2'8"	
5	7-0-23	Bb	2'10"	
6	9-0-25	A	3'0¾"	
7	11-2-18	G	3'4"	
8	14-0-25	F	3'8"	

Bells 2-7 inclusive by T Mears 1797, cast as minor 6

1850 tenor and treble added to make 8

1941 destroyed by enemy action

13/05/1858 Parish of Bow, Middlesex. G Goddard Esq., churchwarden. 14-0-25; 4-2-26. WBF DB86

Stratford, Bow. Sunday February 14, 1886. Quarter peal by ASCY. A.B. Ward from Derby. Conducted by H.J. Shade of Greenwich and rung on the anniversary of his birthday. *BN & RR* 20/02/1886, p.376

One of the few towers in the London Diocese where the bells are rung from the ground floor. Dedication of the new bells by the Bishop of London 30/11/1952. The tower received a direct hit in 1940, destroying the previous bells cast in 1760. The top of the tower had to be rebuilt. The 8 new bells hung in a teak frame. *RW* 18/12/1952, p.809

The church lies on an island in the middle of the main road east out of the City of London. Sound proofing installed in 1980. *RW* 9/01/1981, p.41 RGB

Saturday April 5, 1884. At the request of the Churchwardens a muffled peal was rung as a last tribute of respect for the departed Duke of Albany, rung by the Bow members: L. Green, W. Hopkins, J. Green, A Cutmore, C. Beech, R. Gray, T. Baner, and D.J. Sutton. *BN & RR* 12/04/1884, p.17

Details of the old eight destroyed by enemy action in 1941:

Tenor	3' 8"	14-0-25	F
7	3' 4"	11-2-18	G
6	3' 0¾"	9-0-25	A

5	2' 10"	7-0-23	Bb
4	2'8"	6-1-13	Cb
3	2'6"	5-1-18	D
2	2'4½"	5-0-13	E
Treble	2'3½"	4-2-26	F

Charles & George Mears, Whitechapel, 1850. Hung for ringing in an oak frame.
 Tenor inscription: Shoulder: C & G Mears, Founder, London 1850. Waist: REVd GEORGE TOWNSEND [check spelling] DRIFFIELD//RECTOR//GODFREY GODDARD, RICHARD WALTON//CRAWLEY, CHURCHWARDENS.

Present bells

Tenor	3'6"	13-3-23	F [revised c. 2015, see below]
7	3'2"	9-2-17	G
6	2'11"	7-3-1	A
5	2'9"	6-2-16	Bb
4	2'7"	5-2-22	Cb [sic: C natural presumably intended]
3	2'5"	5-1-00*	D [*4-3-6 per <i>Dove online</i> & as submitted to VP by PJR]
2	2'3"	4-3-06*	E [*4-1-17 per <i>Dove online</i> & as submitted to VP by PJR]
Treble	2'2"	3-2-15	F

Inscription on tenor: Waist: The eight bells were recast in 1952 / The Rev. Francis Meitnon [sic: actually Mettrick] BA, Rector / Mr F W Allen and Mr H J Singleton Churchwardens

RW 18-25/12/1981 p. 1131 PJR

[Tenor now described as F#, bells being tuned to old concert pitch. See *Dove online*]

In 1552: 5 bells; 1800: 8 bells; 1900: 8 bells; 1937: 8 bells. *Trollope MS*, [Where? Does not match the entry at vol. 6 p. 1423]

[One slip remains. PN 2019]