

CITY, ST LAWRENCE JEWRY

The old church was one of the many victims destroyed in the Great Fire of London of 1666 but was one of the first and most expensive churches rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren between 1671 and 1677. (AWAIT PERMISSION FOR THE FOLLOWING)
The workforce included: Edward Pierce, mason, Thomas Newman, bricklayer, John Longland, carpenter, Richard Kedge, joiner, Thomas Mead, plasterer.

There were five bells in 1552. By 1775 there were eight bells. The previous bells - treble by Pack & Chapman 1775, Churchwardens were Wm Hamilton, Jno Pyke and Jno Anderson. 2nd bell by Richard Phelps in 1710 - Churchwardens Mr. Willm Patten Richard Avery, Ino White. The third and seventh bells by James Bartlet in 1679. Tenor weighed 30cwt 1qr 22lbs in C sharp by James Bartlet in 1687 inscribed with the names of the Churchwardens Iohn Bedell, William Pick. Gridiron on the last four bells were larger than on the third and fourth, and no point handle. These bells were lost in the great fire raid on the City of London on December 29th, 1940. The metal was salvaged for the new bells. The steeple is a glass-fibre copy of the old one and it rises to a height of 175 ft. The shaft is in the form of an incendiary bomb.

At the request of the Churchwardens a peal was rung on April 30th, 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's reign of fifty years - the first peal rung in the City of London, by members of the St. James' Society:- James R Haworth, Robert Jameson, William Weatherstone, Joseph Waghorn, Senior, Joseph Barry, George R Banks, Richard French, Edward Albone. These members were entertained at supper. Mr. Churchwarden Benningfield took the chair. Ex-Churchwarden Christien was an old friend and spoke of his family connections with the parish since 1816.

Source: Church guide (n.d.); Basil F L Clarke, *Parish churches of London* 1966, p 31; Mervyn Blatch, *A guide to London's churches* 1979, p 96; J A Trollope, manuscript *History of London Ringers and Ringing*; J R Jerram, manuscript in the care of The Revd. D L Cawley; *Bell news & ringers' record* June 25, 1887 p 165