

HIGHGATE, ST ANNE

The Kentish ragstone tower with spire is at the west end. Gillett & Johnston made the turret, birdcage frame clock with two faces in 1854, now electrically operated. A single bell existed before the present bells.

The peal boards in the tower bear witness that St. Anne's was a favoured tower by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths for ringing peals. One board in particular details the long length of 8896 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major with tenors together which took five hours twenty-two minutes to ring on Wednesday April 27th, 1876 by: G Newson - conductor, H Dains, J Cox, J Howe, D Stackwood, E Gibbs, S Jarman and J Barrett. The Revd. G S Ram, Vicar and J J Miles and S Sadler were the Churchwardens at the time of the peal.

Another peal by this Society is recorded, not on the usual material of wood but constructed in marble in the shape of a bell made by Mr. G Hannington of Highgate. It is placed above the tower door in the church porch. Ten members of the Society met by invitation of Mr. Chapman at the Roe Buck, Hampstead to celebrate the completion of this tablet recording the peal. It details the first true peal of Cambridge Surprise Major ever rung in London and the third in the United Kingdom.

Source: Basil F L Clarke, *Parish churches of London* 1966, p 143; George F Morley; *Bell news and ringers' record* December 8, 1888 p 473; David Cawley, *Ringing world* September 18, 1992, p 912; *Ringing world* May 29, 1953, p 347.