

## PIMLICO, ST GABRIEL

The tower is of brick with Kentish ragstone at the west end of the south side aisle. It is capped with a hollow stone spire. A spiral staircase gives access to the upper floors.

An order from The Revd. Bryan Belcher was placed for a single bell from C & G Mears for St. Gabriel's Church in 1853. It weighed 6cwt and 9lbs. The present eight bells were presented anonymously.

Several touches were rung to open the bells on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1855 by eight members of the College Youths. A peal board in the ringing chamber gives the details:- The Cumberland Society rang on Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1869, 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, John Holt's Ten-Part in two hours fifty minutes:- John Potter, Edward Steventon, Robert Rose, William Hoverd, Robert Beaumont, John Cox - conductor, Isaac Rogers and George Banks. This was the first peal on the bells and was rung on the fifteenth anniversary of the opening of the church. The Revd. B. Belcher was Vicar, Messrs. J Smith and W Severn were the Churchwardens and George Redgrave was the Steeplekeeper at the time of peal.

Source: The Reverend T F Shirley, *The first hundred years: the story of St Gabriel's Pimlico*, 1953, p 8; Whitechapel Bell Foundry records; Association records