

EDMONTON

The church is late 15th or early 16th century with a west tower with turret.

There were four bells during the reign of Edward VI with approximate weights of 11cwt, 14cwt, 16cwt and 18cwt. In 1734 a new ring of six bells, probably incorporating metal from the previous bells, was augmented to eight in 1788.

The bells were opened by the Cumberland Youths on May 8th, 1788. One of the 18th century peal boards records that this Society rang on Monday, November 23rd 1795, 10,080 changes of Bob Major which took six hours twenty-nine minutes, composed and conducted by George Gross, Senior. The accompanying ringers were George Gross, Junior, William Shipway, M Channon, Stephen Collier, William Gibson, Henry Symondson and G Harris. To better this record, a peal of 15,136 changes of Oxford Treble Bob was attempted in 1800. In the ninth hour of continuous ringing, one member of the band felt the need to slacken his knee buckle. In doing so, his leg became entangled in the coil of rope by which he was elevated to a considerable height and fell down on his head. He broke his collar-bone! At all times bells demand a healthy respect!

Miss Edith K Parker was Edmonton's first lady ordinary ringing member of the Middlesex County Association in 1907/8. In the following year her father conducted her first peal in which she rang an inside bell to 5088 changes of Superlative Surprise Major here. She was only seventeen years of age and the first lady to accomplish a peal in a Surprise method.

Source: Martin Speight, church guide, (n.d.); Tower leaflet; T G Hawkins, *Ringing world* January 10, 1969, p 20; *Ringing world* April 21, 1961, p 270; Association records.