

## HAMPTON

There used to be six bells which had been recast in King Charles II's reign. They were rung from the ground floor with the tenor reputed to weigh a ton. On the demolition of the old red brick church, these bells were sold. In the pinnacle cupola there formerly hung a "ting-tang" rung for fifteen minutes before service. Originally it hung in the branch of a tree by the porch.

The present church and tower was built on the banks of the river Thames in 1830/1.

The first peal on the present bells took place on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1833 of Grandsire Triples, the method used for the following four peals until 1905. In 1897 the Steeplekeeper, W Benn, bought eight 60 ft bell ropes at 10s. 6d. each.

One of the peal boards records 5040 changes of Scientific Triples which took two hours fifty-five minutes, rung at the first attempt by members of the Middlesex County Association on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1958.

Source: Whitechapel Bell Foundry records; David Dearnley - peal records; H B Walters, manuscript; W S Deason *Ringing world* May 12, 1967 p 318 ; Association records