

EAST BEDFONT St Mary the Virgin. Sources

The ring of six (tenor 8 cwt) restored by Gillett and Johnston Ltd will be re-dedicated by the Archdeacon of Middlesex on Sunday December 16th at 3 pm. *Ringling World* Dec 14 1934, p.798

The bells had been silent for several months...practically impossible to ring them. Re-opened Sunday December 16th after being rehung by Gillett & Johnston. The tower built in 1864 on the site of the 1st tower, which was added to the church in 1500. The existing frame strengthened considerably, all the bells tuned and fitted with iron headstocks and ball bearings. *Ringling World* Dec 28th 1934, p.828

There are six bells; four were recast in 1870 but the first and fourth are by Richard Phelps, 1713. F. Clive-Ross *The church of St Mary the Virgin East Bedfont Middlesex* 3rd rev. ed., 1984, p.14

In 1865 a W extension to the nave, and a S porch with a tower adjoining replaced the former free-standing S tower. The upper part of the tower is recessed and of timber, the lower storey and the W extension are of gravelstone. *The buildings of England: London 3: North West*, p.413.

1	--	3-2-16	F#	R Phelps made me 1713
2	--	3-1-21	E	Recast by J Warner & Sons London 1870
3	--	3-3-12	D	As 2
4	--	4-3-4	C#	Richard Phelps made mee 1713
5	--	5-2-14	B	Recast by John Warner & Sons // London 1870
6	--	7-1-4	A	As 5

Valerie Payne notes

"Originally a small wooden bell turret. Present tower probably built 19th century. Four bells recast in 1870; the first and fourth by Richard Phelps, 1713" "Churchwardens' and overseers' accounts: Paid Mr Swain for a brass to hang one of the bells £1 4s. Paid him for hanging ye bell 3/- (Thomas Swain, an 18th century bell founder, was born at West Bedfont which is, or was, situated between East Bedfont and Stanwell. His foundry was at Longford and there is an 18th century Swain grave, with a stone, in Stanwell churchyard) Paid for a set of bell ropes £1 1s. 8d. 1763 August 5th paid for ringing for the coronation 5/-. F. Clive-Ross *The church of St Mary the Virgin East Bedfont*. 2nd revised ed. 1978.

Tower 1865, restored 1934. 6 bells, two 1713. LMAS *Transactions* vol. 18

Six bells. Four were recast in 1870 but the first and fourth are by Richard Phelps, 1713. Sir Clifford Radcliffe: *Middlesex*.

1	--	1713	R Phelps
2	--	1870	J Warner
3	--	1870	J Warner
4	--	1713	R Phelps
5	--	1870	J Warner
6	7-1-20	1870	J Warner

Geo Elphick *Schedule of bells in the Archdeaconry of Middlesex, Diocese of London*

1	25 3/4"
2	26 1/2"
3	28 1/8"
4	30 1/4"
5	33"
6	36"

From Mr Maurice Davies of Bedfont.

South tower, upper part built of timber. Pevsner: *Middlesex*

Remaining: photographs of the belfry