

New church bells 1791

The rebuilding of the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul, following the collapse of the mediaeval tower and spire in 1634, was delayed by the Civil War, and was not completed until around 1683. In the meantime, all but one of the five bells had been requisitioned by Charles I in 1643 and melted down to be made into artillery. A promise that the bells would be restored in material or money was not honoured.

In 1788, the 3rd and 4th bells were reported as broken, and a new ring of six bells was cast in 1791, at the foundry of Messrs. Mears, late Lester, Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel. A notice in *Jackson's Oxford Journal* publicised the inaugural peal on 3 January 1792, by a Society of Gentlemen from Oxford, describing bell-ringing as an "ingenious and Athletic Art".

More about the history of the bells can be viewed via:

<http://www.deddingtonhistory.uk/deddingtonchurch,stpeterandstpaul/bells>

31 December 1791

Inaugural ringing of new church bells in parish church.

RINGING at DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuefday January 3d, 1792, will be opened a Compleat PEAL of SIX BELLS, (by a Society of Gentlemen from Oxford) cast by Mears, late Lefter, Pack and Chapman, of London. On which bells, every Gentleman Profeffor of Ringing may have an Opportunity of difplaying his Abilities in that ingenious and Athletic Art.

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000073/17911231/006/0001>