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The photograph shows the Bishop passing the treble rope to the Vicar of Yalding. Behind the Vicar is one of the churchwardens, Mr. David Beck, and behind the Bishop, wearing his choir robes, is Richard Young (tower captain).

Dedication

SS. PETER AND PAUL, YALDING, KENT

After two seemingly endless years of silence the bells of SS. Peter and Paul, Yalding, Kent, are ringing again, following their return from the Whitechapel Foundry where they had been retuned and refurbished. The six bells (tenor now 17 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.) have been rehung lower in the tower in a new wooden frame and the tower has been strengthened by the construction of a concrete ring beam (which in fact forms the base into which the new frame has been fixed).

The service of rededication was on the afternoon of Sunday, October 8th, a warm golden autumn day which was also Harvest Thanksgiving. The beautifully decorated church was filled to capacity for the service which was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Peter Wilkinson) who has been deeply involved with the restoration work. The Bishop of Tonbridge (Rt. Rev. Philip Goodrich) dedicated the bells, following which rounds were rung by the local band: Richard Young (tower captain) 1, Caroline Monckton 2, Mark Gibbons 3, Philip Parker 4, Roy Barclay 5, Simon Pope 6.

The theme of the Bishop's address was the community and the role of bellringing within the community. The Bishop (himself a ringer) reminded the congregation of the days when he used to ring at Edenham, Lincs.

Music by the choir included the Magnificat to a setting by J. Tertius Noble and Henry Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord Alway" (known appropriately as "The Bell Anthem"). The lesson was read by Richard Young (tower captain) and the intercessions led by Roy Barclay. The service concluded with the hearty singing of the Bellringers' Hymn "Unchanging God, who livest".

The bells were put to good use after the service when many visiting ringers, from all over Kent and beyond, took the opportunity to try them out. The Bishop, too, showed that he had lost none of his ringing skills and all were unanimous that Whitechapel had done a first-class job with Phil Jakeman carrying out the rehanging to his usual high standard of perfection.

The thanks of the Yalding band are extended to all ringers and others who helped to make the day such a success. It will remain in the minds of Yalding people for many years to come.

R.A.B.

ST. PETER, HESWALL—continued

ringers. Money was set aside for the bells to be annually overhauled for the festivity of Guy Fawkes, and the ringers were also paid for ringing at times of national celebrations.

The records report that there were three bells in 1553 and that these were recast by William Clibury, of Wellington, and William Scott, of Wigan. They were again recast by John Warner and Son in 1881-84 when two new bells were added. The treble, cast by John Taylor and Co. was added in 1955.

The bells have been regularly rung, and whilst they are away, the band has been practising on eight bells at Port Sunlight. The new bells are due back in the early new year and it is hoped they will be ready for the centenary celebrations.

This is the third augmentation in Wirral within two years and we hope the new ring will encourage more recruits to learn the art.

That's one of them anyway! Resting at the foot of the tower during the work of removing the bells last July.



25 YEARS AGO

**Taken from The Ringing World for
December 4th, 1953**

During the "Save the Abbey" week, a quarter peal was rung each evening at Westminster Abbey—five of Stedman and one of Grand sire.

With the co-operation of the Education Committee of the Essex County Council, the Essex Association of Change Ringers made a breakthrough by holding a week-end course on bells and bellringing at the Residential Hostel, Thaxted. In addition to practical sessions, three lectures were given by Mr. L. E. Last, Mr. F. V. Gant, and Mr. H. M. Howard, the latter being a director of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

40 YEARS AGO

December 2nd, 1938

When their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited St. Paul's Walden in Hertfordshire they attended Sunday morning service at the Parish Church. Mr. Ernest East, captain of the local band, accompanied their Majesties up into the belfry to watch the ringers at work. When the bells had been lowered for safety, Her Majesty ascended the narrow staircase to the bell chamber to see the new "Elizabeth" bell, which had been added to the old five to commemorate the Coronation.

Beverley Minster tenor was turned in to a peal of Bob Royal by Pat Cannon, who called a composition by James George as a birthday compliment to the Birmingham veteran. This was only the third occasion on which the Minster tenor has been turned in to a peal.

REAL STUFF

A young priest, filling in for the rector, explained his feelings to the congregation this way: "You've heard of putting a square of cardboard in a window when a glass is broken, haven't you? That's what I am today—a substitute."

After the service, one of the women of the parish shook his hand and reassured him: "You weren't just a cardboard in the window. You were a real pane."

—A parish bulletin (Diocese of West Missouri)