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DOUGLAS HUGHES, O. B. E.
ALAN HUGHES

Ref: AH/vm

29th July, 1996

The Rev. Canon James R. Fry, M.A.,
The Vicarage,
2a Vicarage Lane,
Chalk,
Gravesend,
Kent
DA12 4TF

Dear Canon Fry,

Re: **CHALK, KENT - ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

Thank you for your fax of the 22nd of July.

It was in July 1966 that we undertook a detailed inspection of the Church bells and submitted a report and estimates at that time. In 1976 we updated the specifications and I enclose a copy of the correspondence from that time. The updated costs are as follows:

Estimate No.1	-	£ 12,822.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Supplementary Estimate	-	£ 2,289.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.2	-	£ 5,832.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.3	-	£ 4,747.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.4	-	£ 4,540.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Supplementary Estimate for providing chime hammers for the additional bells	-	£ 450.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable per bell

In 1985 you contacted us again and we submitted further estimates. Copies of the correspondence are included and we would advise you of the current prices as follows:

Estimate No.5	-	£ 12,797.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Supplementary Estimate	-	£ 2,289.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.6	-	£ 5,080.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Alternative	-	£ 2,753.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.7	-	£ 4,747.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Alternative	-	£ 2,732.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Estimate No.8	-	£ 4,540.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Alternative	-	£ 2,730.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable
Additional cost of chiming hammers, fitted	-	£ 450.00 plus V.A.T. if applicable per bell

I enclose information concerning Value Added Tax from which you will see that the current guidelines allow for the provision and installation of new frames, completely new fittings, and additional bells, to be zero rated for V.A.T. purposes provided that we have documentary evidence that the Church is a listed building. Work to the existing frames, existing bells, and existing fittings carry tax at the standard rate.

I also enclose two photocopies of press releases from Customs and Excise which show that these guidelines will only hold for orders placed, and deposits paid, by the end of September this year, and provided that work commences by the 1st of October 1998. Unfortunately, I am still unable to establish the guidelines that will exist after the end of September, however I believe it likely that tax liability generally will increase.

I also enclose information on the funding of church bell restoration.

I hope that I have clearly covered your enquiry. If you do have any queries, or would like any further information do not hesitate to come back to me.

Yours sincerely,
p.p. THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY LTD.,

Total

Alan Hughes

encl.