

Telegrams - Burnham - Bucks - Tel. 6.
Station - Taplow.

9 NOV. 1940

Hitcham House
Burnham
Bucks

Dear Rector

I have just come
across the 4/- for the
Church Bells which I gave
some years ago. It may be
of interest to someone
100 years hence, so you may

think it worth while to
put among other old
documents. If not
leave them up.

Yours Sincerely
Frederic H. Allen

Estimate No.2.

of the cost of a peal of six bells, Tenor $7\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. with Fittings and Framework, erected complete.

Paid for by Col. L. H. Hanbury.

To a peal of six bells, to be cast of best bell-metal, and to be perfect in tone and tune.

Tenor - 2'. 11" dia: $7\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Note B

5th. - 2'. 8" " $5\frac{3}{4}$ " " C#

4th. - 2'. $5\frac{3}{4}$ " " 5 " " D#

3rd. - 2'. 5" " $4\frac{3}{4}$ " " E

2nd. - 2'. 3" " 4 " " F#

Treble- 2'. $1\frac{3}{4}$ " " $3\frac{3}{4}$ " " G#

$30\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. @ £12/2/8 per cwt.

364. 0. 0.

Less old Bells (4 & $2\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.) $6\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. @ £7/14/- per cwt.

48. 2. 6.

315. 17. 6.

To six sets of Fittings complete, consisting of independent crown staples, wrought iron clappers, supporting bolts, best tough cast iron headstocks fitted with steel gudgeons, gun-metal bearings in iron carriages with hinged covers, oak wheels wheel braces, stays, sliders, rollers, runner-boards and ropes.

106. 0. 0.

To Framework for the six bells, constructed of best tough cast iron sections, accurately fitted and secured with heavy angle plates, the whole being bolted to a foundation of rolled steel joists. Erect same in the Tower, fit and hang the six bells therein, in perfect ringing order, including mens' time, journeys and carriage.

159. 0. 0.

£580. 17. 6.

To clear the Tower of old bells, fittings and framework

6. 10. 0.

£587. 7. 6.

Cost of inscriptions, 6d. per letter. Actual weights to be charged in Invoice.

TELEPHONE NO
9549 LONDON WALL.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1570.

Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

London 7th November 1919.

Colonel Lionel H. Hanbury, C.M.G.
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

We beg to enclose ³/₄ two photographs of your Church Bells erected in their framework. Everything is packed and quite ready for forwarding, but so far this week, we have been unable to get The Great Western Railway Co. to accept same. We are however given to understand that it should be possible early next week to take delivery.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Mears & Stainbank

Estimate No. 1.

of the cost of a peal of six bells, Tenor 6 cwt. with fittings and Framework, erected complete.

To a peal of six bells, to be cast of best bell-metal, and to be perfect in tone and tune.

Tenor - 2'. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " dia: - 6 cwt. Note C.

5th. - 2'. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " " - 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " " D.

4th. - 2'. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " " - 4" " E.

3rd. - 2'. 1" " - 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " " F.

2nd. - 2'. 0" " - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " G.

Treble- 1'. 11" " - 3" " A.

25 cwt. @ £12/2/8 per cwt.

303. 5. 0.

Less value of larger and smaller of the three old bells (4 & 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.) 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. @ £7/14/- per cwt.

48. 2. 6.

255. 2. 6.

To six sets of Fittings complete, consisting of independent crown staples, wrought iron clappers supporting bolts, best tough cast iron headstocks fitted with steel gudgeons, gun-metal bearings in iron carriages with hinged covers, oak wheels, wheel braces, stays, sliders, rollers, runner-boards and ropes.

100. 0. 0.

To Framework for the six bells, constructed of best tough cast iron sections, accurately fitted and secured with heavy angle plates, the whole being bolted to a foundation of rolled steel joists. Erect same in the Tower, fit and hang the six bells therein, in perfect ringing order, including mens' time, journeys and carriage.

146 0. 0.

£501. 2. 6.

To clear the Tower of old bells, fittings and framework

6. 10. 0.

£507. 12. 6.

Cost of inscriptions, 6d. per letter. Actual weights
MEARS & STAINBANK. to be charged in Invoice.

LONDON, E.



Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E.

London February 17th. 19 19

Colonel Lionel H. Hanbury,
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

Hitcham Church Bells.

With reference to our inspection of your Belfry on Friday last, we beg to report that there are three bells, of the following diameters, and approximate weights :-

Tenor	2'. 3"	diameter,	4 cwt.
2nd.	2'. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	"	3 "
Treble	1'. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	"	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "

The Treble and 3rd. were cast in 1755, by Thomas Swain, a London Founder; the 2nd. is a Pre-reformation bell, probably cast by John Saunders of Reading, about 1540.

They are badly out of tune, and poor in quality of tone, their harmonics being very discordant. The interval between the Tenor and Treble is a long 4th. and between the 2nd. and Tenor a long major 3rd. They could not satisfactorily be used in adding bells to complete the peal, and we can only recommend recasting them. On account of the very long connection of the 2nd. with the Parish, it might be desired to retain this bell.

The fittings and Framework of the three bells are in a dilapidated condition, and nothing less than their entire renewal would be of service. Your Tower is well able to carry a light peal of six bells, with a Tenor of 6 cwt. in the Key of C, or 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. in the Key of B. Either of these rings would be in every way suitable to the Tower and Church.

We therefore submit on the annexed sheets, Estimates of the cost of both these peals, with ringing fittings and framework, the whole erected complete

In these figures, we have allowed for the metal in the larger and smaller of the old bells.

In constructing the new Framework, the larger two bells would be arranged to swing East and West, and the four smaller ones North and South, thus equally distributing the strain on the Tower.

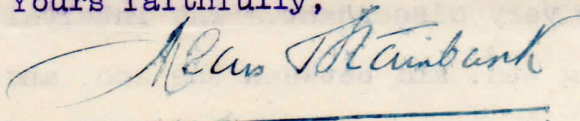
Should you wish to hear bells of about the weights we have suggested, we could refer you to :-

Padworth, Berks, . . .	. 6	bells, Tenor 7 cwt.
Mortimer, St. Johns . . .	. 6	" " 8 "
Linslade, Bucks . . .	. 5	" " 7 "
Wivenhoe, Essex. . . .	. 6	" " $7\frac{3}{4}$ "
Tendring, Essex. . . .	. 6	" " $7\frac{1}{2}$ "
Froxfield, Hants . . .	. 6	" " 6 "
Tangley, "	. 5	" " 6 "
Wolverton "	. 6	" " 8 "
Bengeo, Herts. . . .	. 6	" " 7 "
Buckland, "	. 6	" " 7 "
Clifden Hampden, Oxon. .	. 6	" " $6\frac{1}{4}$ "
Freeland "	. 6	" " 6 "
Chaldon, Surrey. . . .	. 6	" " 6 "

We are now moulding a peal of eight bells, Tenor 14 cwt. for Pickering, Yorks, the 4th. bell of which would be somewhat similar to the 6 cwt. Tenor, we have suggested for you. If desired, we would advise you when these bells are ready so that you could hear them. We shall be pleased to give you any further information if desired, and in the meantime,

Remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,



TELEPHONE NO.
9549 LONDON WALL.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1570.

Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

London 6th December 1919.

Colonel Lionel H. Hanbury, C.M.G.
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks..

Dear Sir,

Having completed the erection of the new peal of six bells at Hitcham Church, we beg to enclose our account, and shall be glad if you will kindly inform us when the Dedication will take place, as our Mr. Hughes would very much like to be present to satisfy himself that everything is in thorough working order.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Mears & Stainbank

TELEPHONE NO 9549 LONDON WALL.



Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

London, July 11th. 1919.

Colonel L. H. Hanbury, C.M.G.
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

As the mould for your Tenor bell
is now in hand, we should be glad if you
could let us have the inscription at your
earliest convenience.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

M. Stainbank

TELEPHONE NO
9549 LONDON WALL.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1570.

Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

London

20th October

1919.

Colonel Lionel H. Hanbury, C. M. G.
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

I have just returned from a tour of Belfry Inspections in the West of England, and have seen your two letters. I can assure you that the delay in completing the work is not really due to any negligence on our part, and we regret it equally with your good self. It has really taken us much longer to get settled down into our pre-war ways than ever we anticipated, and there has also been much delay in obtaining materials, all of which has set back work right through, one job with another. Further, I have been most anxious that your peal, which is unusually light, should be the finest for the weight that we have ever made, and to that end I had entirely new "sweeps" designed and made. This has delayed the casting, but the result has however well paid for the trouble. We now have the Treble 3'rd and Tenor Bells cast and cleaned up, and they are exceedingly clear toned bells, perfectly in tune with themselves and each other.

The framework and the Fittings are made, and we hope to send down and commence the erection of the framework two weeks hence. The work should then take three weeks to complete in the Tower.

I shall strain every effort to push the work forward, and

can assure you that nothing shall stand in its way.

With compliments

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A. M. Hughes

Colonel Lionel H. Hanbury, C. M. G.,
Hitchin House,
Birmingham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

I have just returned from a tour of Bell's
inspections in the West of England, and have seen your two letters.
I can assure you that the delay in completing the work is not really
due to any negligence on our part, and we regret it equally with you.
Good self. It has really taken us much longer to get settled down
into our pre-war ways than ever we anticipated, and there has also been
much delay in obtaining materials, all of which has set back work right
through, one job with another. Further, I have been most anxious that
your bell, which is unusually light, should be the finest for the
weight that we have ever made, and so that and I had entirely new
"sweeps" designed and made. This has delayed the casting, but the
result has however well paid for the trouble. We now have the frame
3' 6" and Tencor Bell's cast and cleaned up, and they are exceedingly
clear toned bells, perfectly in tune with themselves and each other.
The framework and the Tencor are made, and we hope to send
down and commence the erection of the framework two weeks hence.
The work should then take three weeks to complete in the Tower.
I shall strain every effort to push the work forward, and

TELEPHONE NO
9549 LONDON WALL.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1570.

Church Bell Foundry.

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, E. 1.

London

18th October

1919.

Col. Lionel H. Hanbury, C.M.G.
Hitcham House,
Burnham, Bucks.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your memo of the 14th inst, and in reply beg to say that, in spite of the recent trouble with Transport and Moulders, we have cast three of your bells, which have come out very clear and pure in tone, the remainder will be cast at the end of next week. The frame is built, and the whole of the Fittings nearing completion. As soon as the other bells are cast we can give you a definite date for completion,

We remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Mears & Stainbank

