

Little Horwood Church Bells



Little Horwood Church, 1991

THIS CHURCH was new pewed
and repaired in the Year 1830, by which
means **71** additional **Sittings** were
obtained, and in consequence of a **Grant**
from the **Incorporated Society** for pro-
moting the enlargement, building, and
repairing of **Churches and Chapels**, **58**
of that number, are hereby declared
to be free and unappropriated for ever;
in addition to **138** **Sittings** formerly
provided: **50** of which was free.

The Rev^d. J.W. Harding, Minister.

John Curtis, } **Church Wardens.**
John Leeson, }



Little Horwood Vicarage



Old Oaks, Little Horwood, 1991

Rectory of Little Horwood

1632 Rectory of Little Horwood sold to John Grange

1634 Death of John Grange
Leaves Rectory to son Robert Grange

1649 Death of Robert Grange
Leaves Rectory to second son Robert Grange

1676 Thomas Footman Vicar of Little Horwood presented by Robert Grange

1701 Samuel Foster Vicar of Little Horwood presented by Robert Grange

1707 Death of Robert Grange
Leaves Rectory to son Robert

1740 Purchas Denchfield Vicar of Little Horwood presented by Robert Grange Esq

In the Slante of God Thme

Robert Grange of Little Averwood in the County of Barts Esquire
being weak in Body but of sound and disposing mind memory and
understanding prais'd be God therefore do make and ordain this my
last Will in manner and forme following (that is to say) principally
Committing my Soul into the hands of almighty God my Creator and
Redeemer and my Body to the Earth to be decently buried at the
discretion of my Executors hereinafter named and for what worldly
estates I am possessed with I give and devise and bequeath the
same as follows vizt I give and devise all the nient Estates (except
those purchased by me or my Father) which came to me by Heile
and descent whether freehold & easelhold or copyhold together with
the Great Chys of Little Averwood aforesaid and the Right of a
pre-emption to the Barage thereof unto my three first Cousins
Elizabeth Ridgell widow of Francis Dolmane Spawther and Amy Wells
widow and also all my Lands and tenements wherforever lying in
the parishes of Bringley and pightlethorne to hold to them the said
Elizabeth Ridgell & Frances Dolman and Amy Wells their heirs and
assigns for ever as Servants in common and not jointenants provided
they or their assigns pay thereout the sum of four pounds per annum
to Agatheine partie for her life for the education of ten poor
children yearly to be educated in Writing or Reading and also pay



Horwood House c. 1900

Rectory of Little Horwood

1777 Feet of Fines Mich. 17 George III
Advowson sold by Kidgel Sandon to Stephen Langston of Berkhamsted

1791 Stephen Langston Vicar of Little Horwood presented by his father Stephen Langston of Berkhamsted

1816 Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Stephen Langston A.M. for 26 years Vicar of this parish, during which period he laboured among the people of his charge to lead them to the knowledge of the truth which is in Jesus. He died 13 March 1816 in his 51st year.

Sacred to the Memory of
The Reverend **STEPHEN LANGSTON A.M.**
For 26 Years Vicar of this Parish.

During which period, he labored among the people of his charge
To lead them to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

He died 13th March 1816.
In his 61st Year.

This is a faithful saying, and
Worthy of all acceptance, that
Christ Jesus came into the world
To save sinners; of whom I am chief.

1st Timothy 1st Chapter. 15 Verse

Also of
HENRY WILLIAM LANGSTON
His seventh Child
Who died 19th August 1817.
In his 21st Year.

Rectory of Little Horwood

1824 Bryant's Map 'Rectory'

1831 Directory Dauncey, Philip Esq Little Horwood

1833 Register of Electors
Bartlett, John Manowood near Coalbrook Dale Shropshire:
The Rectory, Farm House , and Farm attached Philip Dauncey Esq tenant

1847 Clergy List Rectory of Little Horwood property of Mr Dauncey

1851 Census The Rectory
Philip Dauncey 56 Magistrate Proprietor b. London

1881 Census Rectory
Philip Dauncey J.P. 86 Occupier owner of 190 acres employing 11 men & 3 boys b. London

1888 Philip Dauncey of little Horwood Co Bucks Esq died 2 January 1888. Probate 1 March 1888
to John Dauncey Anderson of Thornton Watlass Rectory near Bedale Co York clerk and
Meyrick Edward Selby Lowndes of Winslow Esq surviving executors £4,734 9s 9d

1891 Census Horwood House
Emma E Dauncey 58 Yorkshire London...

1910 House purchased by Frederick Anthony Denny

 In affectionate memory of
EMMA ELIZABETH DAUNCEY
widow of **PHILIP DAUNCEY**
of Horwood House
BORN AUGT 6TH 1832 DIED JUNE 6TH 1909
"PEACE PERFECT PEACE"

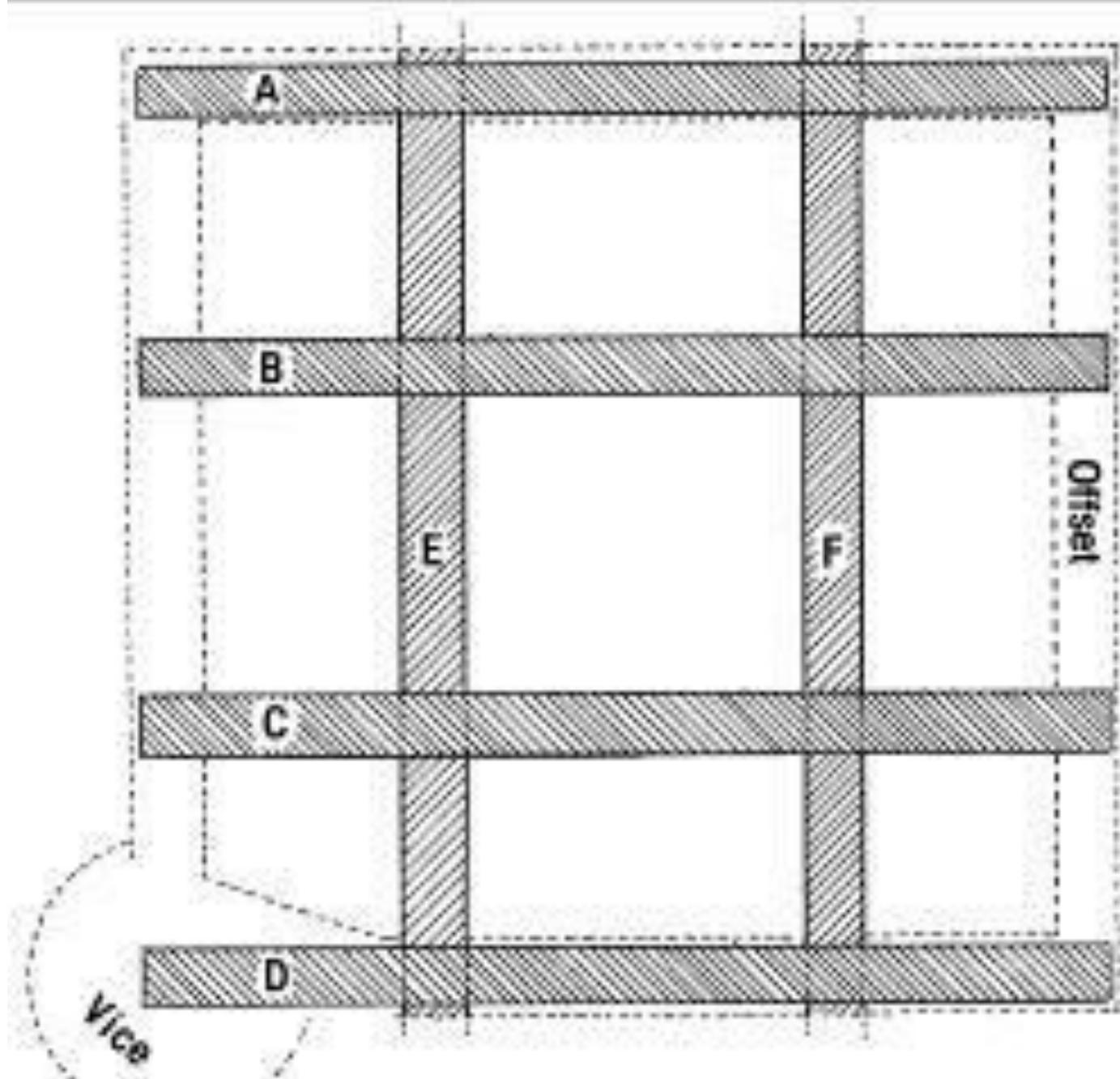
This tablet was erected by her sister-in-law



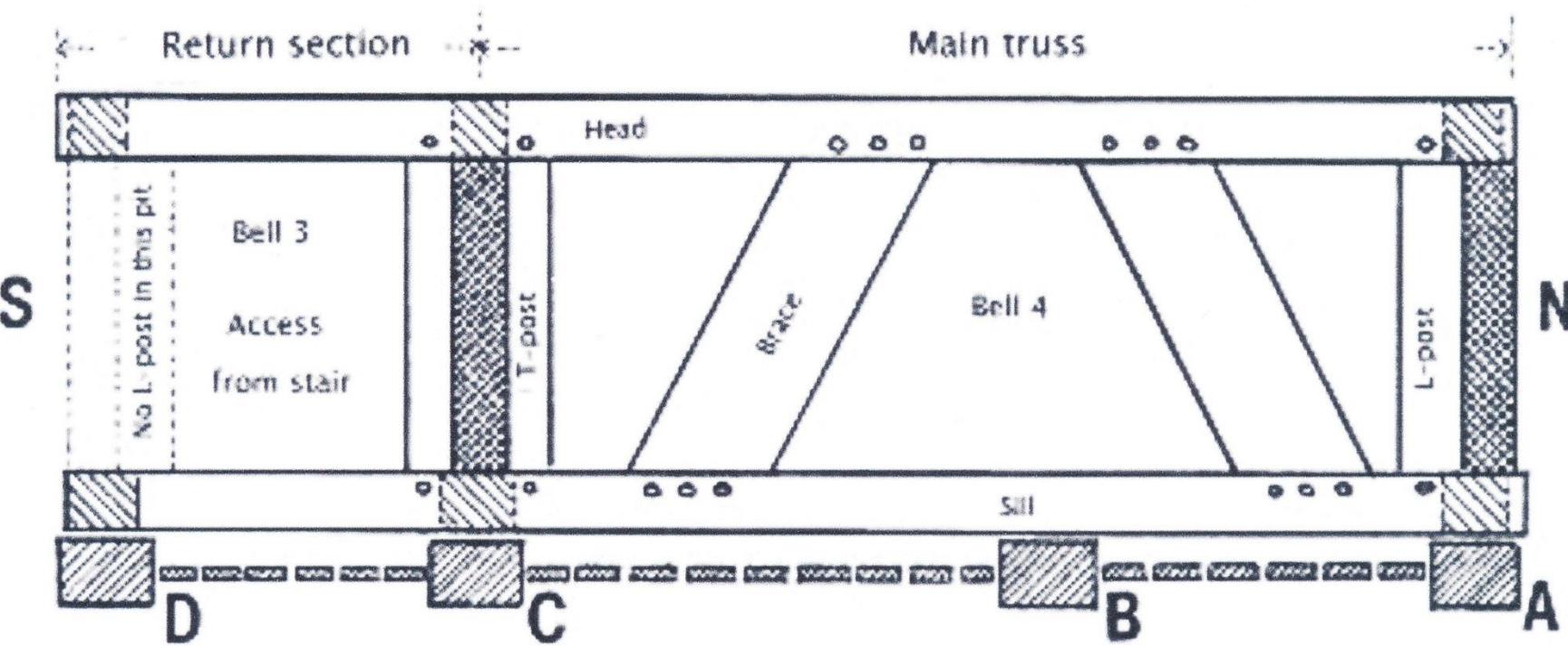
Horwood House, 1998

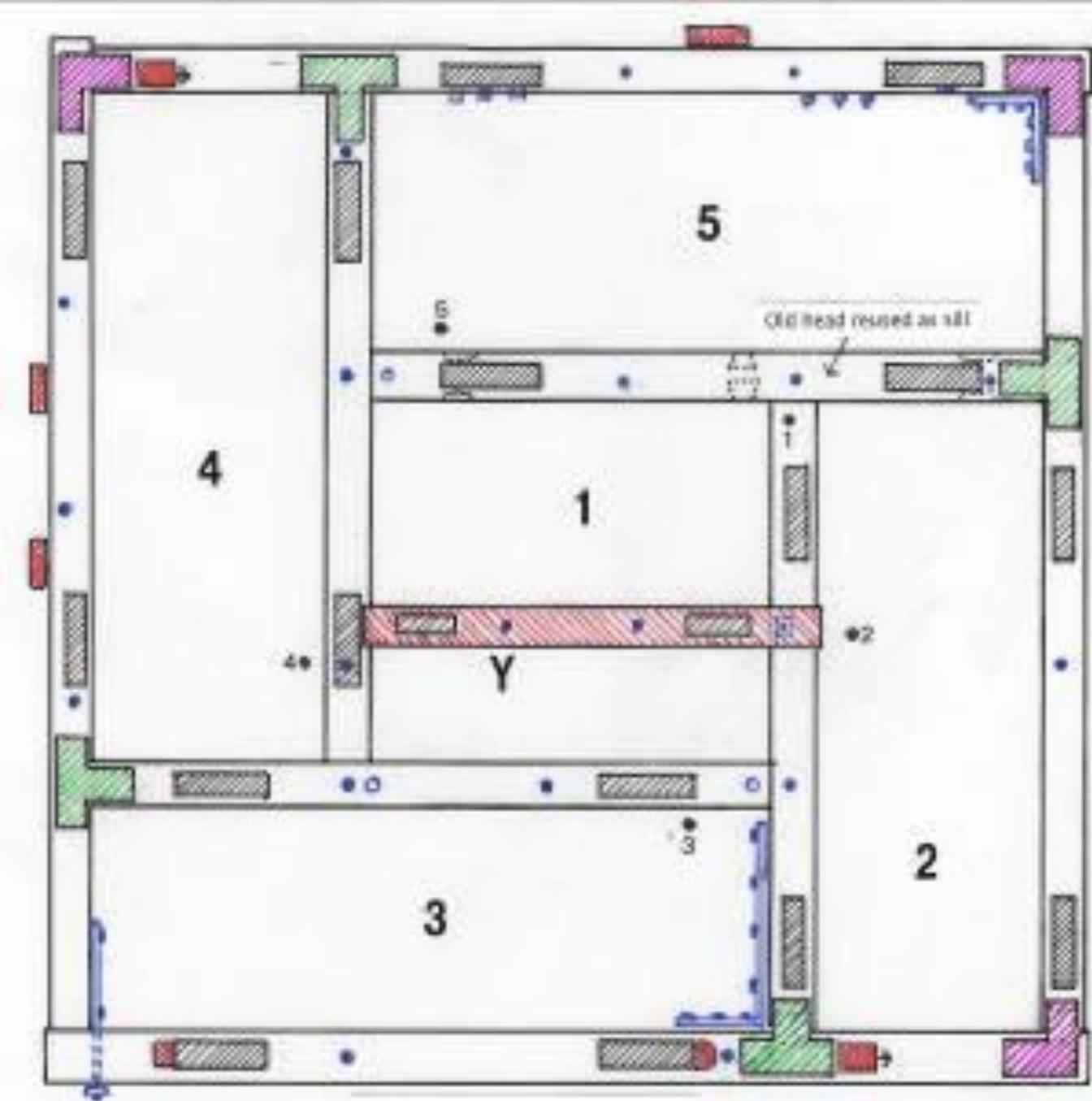


Little Horwood bell tower

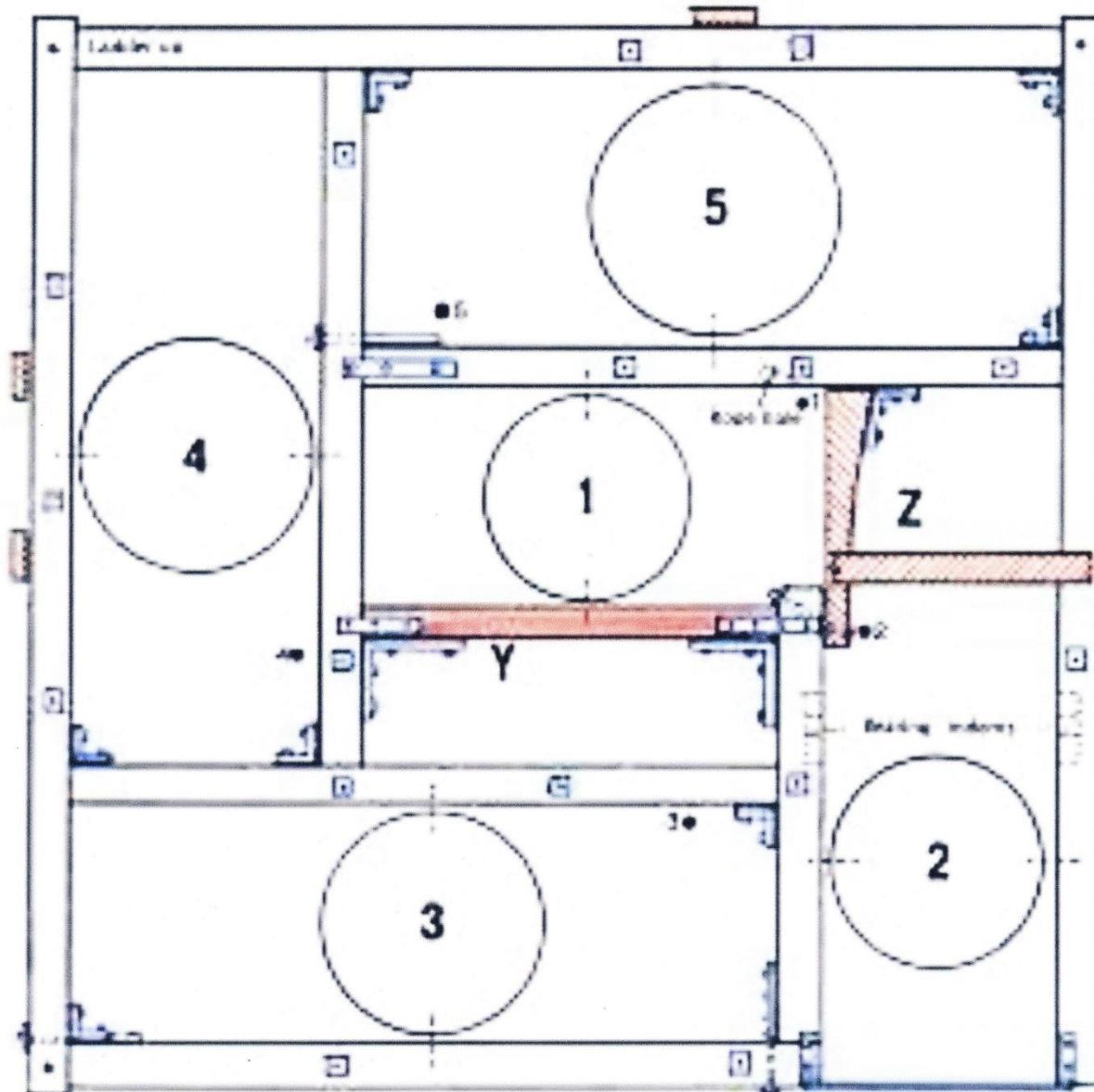


Plan view (from above)





Plan at sill level



Plan at head level

THE CHURCH BELLS
OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*Their Inscriptions, Founders, Uses, and Traditions:
&c.*

BY
ALFRED HENEAGE COCKS, M.A.

F.Z.S., F.R.G.S.,
(JOINT) HON. SEC. BUCKS ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.



(At Wincanton.)

LONDON:
JARROLD & SONS, 10 & 11, WARWICK LANE, E.C.
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1. 3. —CHANDLER—MADE—ME— 1672— (29½, 33½)

2. —A—C— I—F—R—B—C—W— 1672— (31½)

4. STEPHEN LANGSTON A. M. VICAR GEO. OAKLEY &
JOHN CURTIS CHURCH WARDENS. THOS MEARS OF
LONDON FECIT 1793 (35)

5. — 1672 — CHANDLER — MADE — ME — (39)

5. —CHANDLER—MADE—ME—1690— (15½)

The ring (probably including originally the fourth bell), is in Anthony Chandler's lettering; the saunce is in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set; but all have the inscriptions below the rims, and are therefore perhaps, as I would suggest, by Richard Chandler II. (pp. 226, 232). Someone when ringing the tenor, somewhere about the later part of the fifties, missed the sally; and as the stay (as is so often the case) was too strong, it did not give way before the consequent "bump," but caused the bell to be thrown out of its bearings, with the result that it was split, and a piece broken out of the lip as well. The wheel, from long disuse, has almost decayed away. As at Hanslope, and elsewhere, the four lower bells hang round the walls, with the treble cross-cornered in the centre.

This is one of the most filthy and ruinous belfries in the county; the bells are ready to drop from their hangings, and I was kept awake a good part of the night following my visit to it, by the irritation from the bites of the starling vermin, which had here joined company.

23 July, 1552. Lyttyll (also Lytle) Horwod. Item iij belle in the steeple & a sancte/
bell ij hand belle

(There is a second indenture for "Littill Horwood," of the same date, with similar entries, but on the reverse side, is :) this Invyntry (*probably "wanteth"*) ij
hanbelle.

1714. 5 bells.

The "Pancake Bell" used to be rung on Shrove Tuesday at noon ; discontinued during the sixties probably.

Death Knell tolled about an hour after death, or as soon as information is sent to the clerk. The tenor used for adults ; the fourth for children under 14 (?). Tellers : 3×3 = a male ; 2×3 = a female. Tolling for five minutes, about an hour before funerals, and continuously for the last half-hour, ceasing as the body reaches the gate.

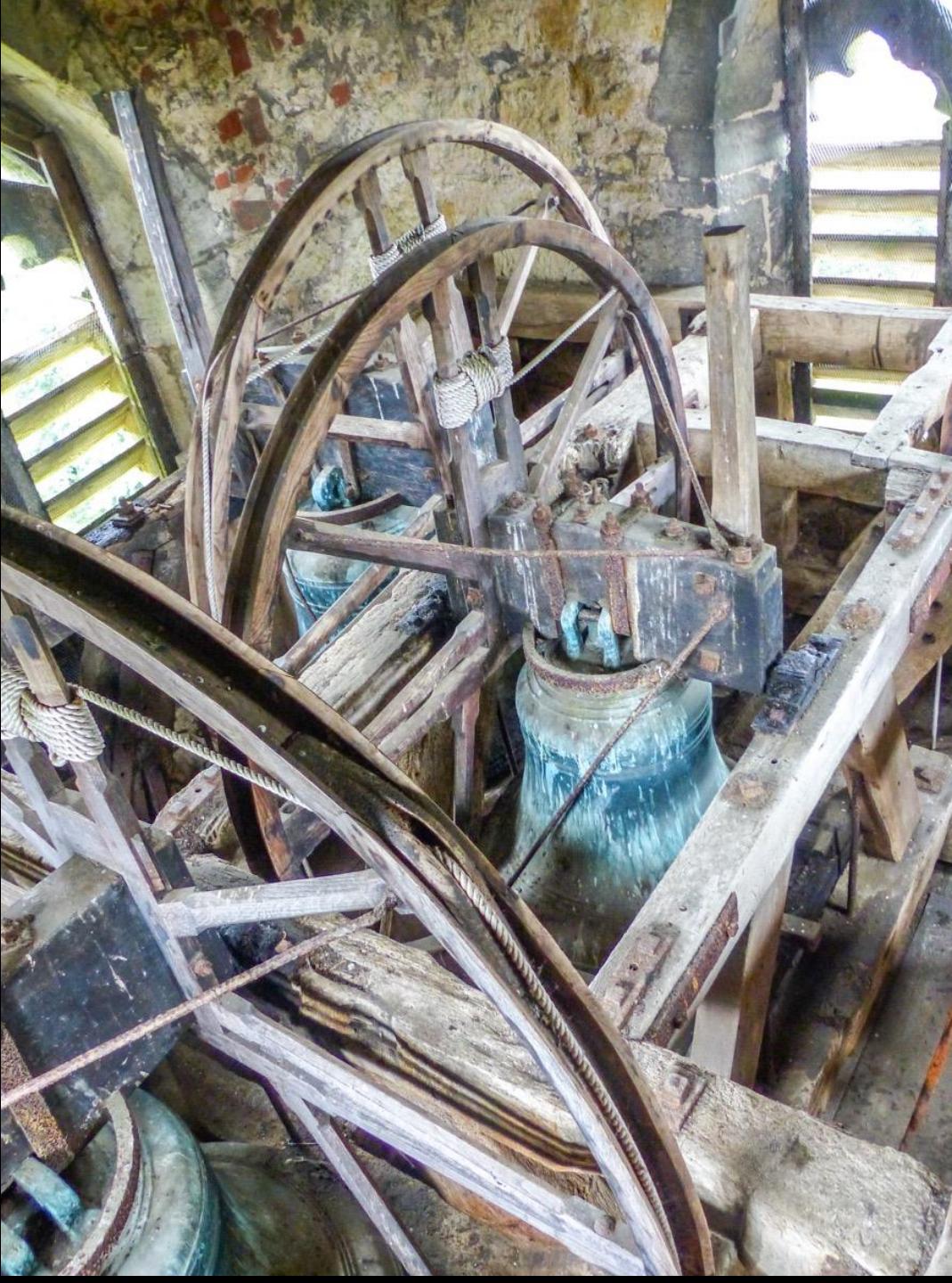
On Sundays, the bells are chimed for the Services ; the tenor rung (?) for the last five minutes, and called the Sermon Bell ; then the saunce until the clergyman appears in church. These usages are of old establishment.

The bells are rung for practice before Christmas ; and at Christmas and New Year there are "early peals." There is also ringing on 5th November and S. Andrew's Day (30th November), and on the day of a wedding.

There is an endowment of 2s. 6d. for ringing on 5th November.

A bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. F. R. W. Malpas, Vicar.



Little Horwood

Bells 1, 4 & 5

Little Horwood Church Bells

1. CHANDLER MADE ME 1673
2. MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. 1934 (*Whitechapel foundry mark*)
3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1672
4. STEPHEN LANGSTONE A.M. VICAR GEO. OAKLEY & JOHN CURTIS CHURCHWARDENS THOS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1793
5. MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON.
CAST AT DRAYTON 1672 RECAST 1895
F. R. W. MALPAS, VICAR G. CHAPMAN J. HANSON,
CHURCHWARDENS
JESSE GRAINGE, CLERK.



Little Horwood Bell 1



Little Horwood

Bell 4

Little Horwood Bell 4

STEPHEN LANGSTON A.M. VICAR GEO. OAKLEY & JOHN CURTIS
CHURCH WARDENS, THOS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1793

Stephen Langston, Vicar, 1791-1816

George Oakley, Shoulder of Mutton, 1785-1807

John Curtis, Green Farm, c 1781-1800

WHITECHAPEL BELL

CAST AT DRAZTON 1874
RECAST 1895

MR. W. MALLABY. VICAR
G. CHAPMAN. CHURCH WARDEN
J. HANSON
JESSE CRAINGER. CLERK

"PRAISE THE LORD"

Little Horwood: Bell 5

MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON.

CAST AT DRAYTON 1672 RECAST 1895

F. R. W. MALPAS, VICAR

G. CHAPMAN

J. HANSON, CHURCHWARDENS

JESSE GRAINGE, CLERK.

[Gaius Chapman, Moat Farm

John Hanson, Wood End Farm

Jesse Grange, Pond Farm]

Buckingham Express, 26 October 1895

LITTLE HORWOOD. RESTORATION OF THREE CHURCH BELLS

For some years the bells of Little Norwood Church have been silent, the reason being that the fittings and framework of the bells had become so decayed that it was unsafe to peal them. One of the bells (the tenor bell) was badly cracked about 60 years ago, and unable, in consequence, to be used. At the restoration of Ike church six years ago, this work was left undone, but in the year 1890, a fund was started, which has been gradually increasing from year to year, until the spring of the present year, when it was thought sufficient money was in hand to justify the work being commissioned. By the advice of the Rev. F.E. Robinson, Warden of the Bell Ringers' Guild, of Drayton Vicarage, Abingdon, estimates were obtained from Mr. Thos. Blackburn, of Salisbury, and Messrs. Webb and Bennett, of Kidlington, Oxford. The latter's estimate was finally accepted, and the work commenced in June. On Thursday, October 10th, the village and surrounding neighbourhood was roused about 5.30 am by the sound of the church bells of Little Horwood, ringing forth a joyous peal, and proclaiming to everybody that they were again in speaking order. And throughout the day their sweet melodious tones were wafted through the air at intervals, that there might be abundant opportunity of judging how the work had been done. There seemed to be but one opinion. Everybody rejoiced. Everybody was satisfied. Mr. Webb came over on purpose to see that all went satisfactory, and he is certainly to be congratulated upon the way in which the work has been done.

Buckingham Express, 26 October 1895

The tenor bell had been recast, and the small sanctus bell, which was also cracked, was added to the tenor bell to make up the loss of metal (a large piece having been broken out), the other four bells have been quarter turned, and all have new fittings. The framework has been thoroughly made good and strengthened. The framework of the treble bell, which was much higher than the others, had been lowered, and now all the bells are on the same level. Other work has also been done in the tower, and this portion was contracted for, and thoroughly well accomplished by Mr. Gerard Grainge, of Little Horwood. A new main beam, on which the bells rest, has been laid across the tower. A new floor has been made under the bells. New louvres have been placed in two of the tower windows, and wire netting on frames, made to fit all the tower windows, to keep out the birds, which had in the past done it damage. New lead lights have been placed in the small windows in the tower, and a new ceiling underneath the second floor of the tower, of matchboard, stained and varnished, makes a neat finish to the whole work, with round bosses through which the new ropes run to the ground floor.

Buckingham Advertiser, 9 June 1934

Little Horwood's Church Bells

After being silenced during the few years, the bells of Little Horwood Church rang out again on Sunday evening over the gold and white countryside of early June. The bells were rung during a service of dedication, evensong, by the Bishop of Buckingham ... Owing to the condition of the tower and of certain the bells, ringing had been inconsistent with safety and through the enthusiasm of the parishioners, the considerable sum required to put the tower and bells in order had been raised. The repair of the tower had been effected at a cost of £300 and the work associated with the bells cost £65, one the bells being re-cast and all of them being rehung. One of the bells dates from 1690. In addition to this work, the churchyard wall has been repaired at a cost of £36 and £40 has been expended on the Church Schools, this money having been raised by means of village efforts, and gifts, during the past three or four years ... It is hoped, a later date, to raise sufficient money to install electric lighting and to restore an interesting mural painting in the old and picturesque church. Part of the money for the work accomplished was raised by means a sale work arranged by Mrs. Last and a fete at Horwood House, the home Hr. and Mrs. Denny, also by other events in tlhe village and by gifts. The architect Mr. W. Weir, and the bell-hanger. M;. White, came from Berkshire.

Buckingham Advertiser, 9 June 1934

Bishop Takes the Ropes

Accompanied by the Rev. J.R.C. Forrest and the Churchwardens (Messrs W.A. Davies and C.F. Grainge, the Bishop then proceeded to the belfry at the rear of the church The first peel on the five reconditioned bells was rung by a band of Little Horwood ringers composed of Messrs Joe Illing, Reginald Savage, Mark Viccars, Fred Grainge and L. Wrighton. Ringers from Winslow, Whaddon, Shenley and Cosgrove took part in subsequent ringing. The oldest ringer present was Mr Austin Curtis, aged 79, of Little Horwood, who has been ringing since he was eight years old, and whose father was also a ringer for twenty years. Those present in the congregation included Mr and Mrs F.A. Denny of Horwood House, Mrs Brazier Creagh, and Captain Jordan. Sidesmen in charge of the seating were Messrs J.G. Boots and C. Ash. There were over 170 present.