



NICHOLSON ENGINEERING LTD

Works: Church Bell Works, St. Swithin's Road, Bridport, Dorset. DT6 5DW
Telephone (01308) 422264 Facsimile: (01308) 427172
Correspondence: Walton, Woodmead Road, Lyme Regis, Dorset. DT7 3AB
Telephone (01297) 445865
Email: bells@nicholsonbellhangers.com
Website: www.nicholsonbellhangers.com

4th November, 2019.

1. BASIC INFORMATION

- 1.1 Church of St. Peter, Over Wallop, Wiltshire. Diocese of Salisbury.
- 1.2 Peal of five bells hung for traditional full circle ringing in church tower.
- 1.3 Bells:

<u>bell</u>	<u>diameter</u>	<u>weight</u>	<u>note</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>founder</u>
Tenor	33"	6 ¼ cwt	A	c.1599	Salisbury foundry
Fourth	31 1/8"	5 ½ cwt	B	1631	John Danton, Salisbury
Third	28 ¾"	4 ¾ cwt	C#	1636	John Danton, Salisbury
Second	29 ¼"	5 cwt	D	1776	Robert Wells, Aldbourne
Treble	28 ¼"	4-2-14	E	1875	Mears & Stainbank, Whitechapel

- 1.4 Project undertaken by Nicholson Engineering Ltd, details as above, with repair by welding of the cracked tenor bell by Soundweld Ltd.
- 1.5 Date of commencement on site: 8/8/19 Date of completion: 31/10/19
- 1.6 Work undertaken following report and recommendations provided by Andrew Nicholson of Nicholson Engineering Ltd dated 8/11/18. Repair by welding of the cracked tenor bell undertaken by Soundweld Ltd with all other work to the bells undertaken by Nicholson Engineering Ltd.

2. RECORD OF CONSERVATION

2.1.1 A hatchway was formed in the clock chamber floor of sufficient size for the tenor bell to pass through, the hatchway having now been made a permanent feature. The cracked tenor bell and its fittings were lowered to the ground and brought to Church Bell Works, Bridport. All remains of the original cast-in crown staple were removed from the head of the bell. The bell was then sent to Soundweld Ltd for repair of a large crack to its soundbow and the filling of all redundant bolt holes in its head. Following repair, a new canon-retaining headstock was made and the bell was eighth-turned to bring new faces to the blows of its clapper.

All other ringing fittings were overhauled and modified as necessary to suit the new headstock. During the course of the project the parish took the opportunity to have the clappers to the remaining four bells overhauled and this was done. The tenor bell was rehung in its pit in the bellframe, all fittings to all bells reassembled and the hatchway closed.

2.1.2 All woodwork to the fittings of the tenor bell were treated with bat-friendly preservative.

2.1.3 The new headstock was hot-dip galvanized and then given two coats of enamel.

2.1.4 See 2.1.1

2.1.5 None

2.2 No discoveries were made during the course of the work.

2.3 No further work is required.

2.4 N/A

3. CARE AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

All fixings to the ringing fittings and bellframe should be checked and tightened. This should be undertaken initially after approx. 12 weeks and then annually thereafter. A few drops of light machine oil should be applied to the clapper pivots once annually.

Andrew Nicholson

4th November, 2019.