

## The Bells Of Lydeard St Lawrence

In 1880 two of the then existing five bells in the tower were recast and all five were rehung at a cost of £332. 17s. 4d.

A hundred years later in 1980, following extensive tower repair and repointing, the interior of the bell tower was renovated. A new bell-frame was installed replacing the old wooden frame and the bearings and the existing five bells were then retuned and augmented to make a ring of six.

This work was completed in 1983 and an old wheel and clapper, replaced during these renovations, can be seen on the interior church wall.

In 2004 the existing ring of six bells had two additional bells installed, making a ring of eight bells in the key of F.

In 2006 another bell was added to allow the following choices: ring of eight bells in the key of F, plus the use of the back six, and also a light ring of six bells in the key of G. There are only about eight towers in the world that have this option.

The oldest bell is the fifth, which was cast and hung in 1717, the next oldest is the tenor, cast in 1785.

The tower has an active band of bell ringers who ring regularly for church services and special occasions.