

After a lot of work, spread out intermittently over more than a year, I have just completed a transcript of the entries in the leather-covered notebook which was in the cupboard in the ringing chamber in St Giles' tower. Most of the entries are records of both regular and one-off Payments Received by the ringers, from 1850 to 1979, see first attached file; but pasted into the front of the book there are also 'Lists of Ringers' i.e. of current members of the St Giles' band, for 1850, 1887, and then once a decade from 1909 to 1979 inclusive, which I have copied into a separate file, also attached.

No doubt the transcript could be tidied up and improved in various ways - e.g. it should be possible to clarify uncertain spellings of names of churchwardens, bridegrooms and brides, etc, by comparison with other parish records; various statistics could be extracted, and added to the opening 'Notes' which I have written; and people searching for family history information would benefit if there was an alphabetic index to surnames (there are several entries for Pusey's, including ringing for my grandfather and grandmother's wedding in 1894 - paid for at less than top rate - and for what was probably my great-grandfather's in 1854; and Dermot will see that his name appears in 1971). But I thought you would like to see the transcript as it is now, without further delay.

Included in the main transcript in the early 1920's are lists of the names, in numbered order, of those who rang on certain particular occasions - in some cases 720's. This evidence suggesting that the band was particularly active at that time fits well with the fact that augmentation from 6 to 8 went ahead in 1927. Some of these dates and lists could be cross-checked against the records of 720's rung before augmentation in 1927, which Phil Walker compiled, partly from newspaper reports.

Any comments, either general or detailed, would be welcome.

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