

## St Giles', Oxford : Names of Ringers 1850 - 1979

### NOTES :

The lists which follow below have been copied from a notebook found in the ringing chamber, labelled on the cover '1850'.

The main contents of the notebook are records of payments received by the ringers from 1850 to 1979 (for ringing on 'customary ringing days', for weddings, and on the occasion of election of local aldermen and councillors; from Hendy's Charity; and as a 'Salary'). There is no indication of how the money was disposed of (most or all of it perhaps shared among the current ringers, once every six months or every year?).

Also clipped into the notebook is a letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> May 1935 from the Charity Commissioners, referring to (annual) payments from Hendy's Charity (based on a will dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 1622, specified in a Trust Deed dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 1633 as 4 shillings, and increased at some unknown later date from 4 to 5 shillings).

The first opening with writing has a 'frontispiece' on the right, showing in large letters: "ST. GILES'S Ringers Book 1850", and on the left the 1850 and 1887 lists. The other lists were written on a double sheet of lined paper stuck onto the following page; the 1909, 1919, 1929, 1939 and 1949 lists apparently all written at the same time and in the same handwriting; and the 1959, 1969, and 1979 lists also apparently all written at the same time in another handwriting.

The significance of the ordering and numbering of the names is not made clear; nor the criteria for inclusion as members of the band (presumably, frequent attendance at ringing for Sunday services, and in most cases membership or prospective membership of the Oxford Diocesan Guild).

The words 'dead', 'alive' or 'deceased' have been added to the 1850 and 1887 lists in various different handwritings (presumably added at various later dates). Except in the case of J Richard Chaundy in the 1949 list, the additional initials included below in the 1909 – 1949 lists had been added in pencil (probably, at a much later stage, by the former Tower Captain Philip Walker, who did a lot of investigation of local ringing history).

Round brackets and words included in them are copied from the original: square brackets show comments added by John Pusey (Tower Captain at St Giles), who transcribed the lists and composed these notes in April 2015.

The lists of ringers' names follow on the next page.

[In 1850, the bells were augmented from four to six, and rehung.]

#### Ringers Names -- 1850

James Franklin 1 dead, Stephen Harbud [corrected from Harbert] 2 alive, Richard Giles 3 dead, Thomas Giles 4 dead, Thomas Jones 5 dead, Henry Symonds 6 dead [‘dead’ crossed out in pencil! – perhaps retired from ringing, but still alive?].

#### Ringers Names 1887

Stephen Harbud 1 (deceased 27. x.1901), Edwin Eddles 2 deceased, James Forty 3, Thomas Jacob 4 dead, George Forty 5, Edwin Judd 6 deceased [underlined].

[The six bells were rehung in 1907, in a frame with room for two more to be added]

#### Ringers Names 1909

Alfred Fox, Victor Bennett, Jack Rye, William Stone, George King, W Collett (Senr)

#### Ringers Names 1919

Alfred Fox, Victor Bennett, G E Stone, William Stone, F T Clinkard, W Collett (Senr) Deceased 1949 (age 91).

[The bells were augmented from six to eight in 1927]

#### Ringers Names 1929

Victor Bennett, William Stone, Albert Dubber, Walter Brigham, John Chaundy, William Blake, Richard A Post, George Cook

#### Ringers Names 1939

Victor Bennett, James Buckle, Richard Post, Henry G Bunce, Harry Gardiner [added in pencil: J Henry], Kenneth Walker, Alex Gammon, Leslie F Pullen

#### Ringers Names 1949

Victor Bennett, Philip Walker, William G E Collett (Jnr), Harry Gearing, J Richard Chaundy, Robert Higgins, James Higgins, Anthony Higgins

#### Ringers Names 1959

P Walker, W G E Collett, J R Chaundy, J H Gardner, A H Gearing, Mrs M Gearing [‘nee Wynne’ added in pencil], D O Wilks, D J Roaf, H J Pratley, Mrs D R Cloke [nee Castell], Mrs M Smyth, Miss D McKellar

#### Ringers Names 1969

Mrs D R Cloke, W G E Collett, Miss P Downes, J H Gardner, H J Pratley, Mrs C Roaf, D J Roaf, P Walker, G H Webb, Miss K Wheare, P H Tocock

#### Ringers Names 1979

J H Gardner, Mrs R R Hands, B Masterman, P A Hutchinson, Miss F C Kirwan, H J Pratley, Miss H K G R Hillier, Miss L J Higginson, J G Pusey, Miss E J Roaf, D J Roaf, J J Strange, P Walker, G H Webb, A N Gibbons, Miss M C Nock, Miss J R Nock, Miss C L Metcalf, Miss N Winfield, Mrs C E Gibbons, T N Farrell.