

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH ALNWICK

TOWER RESTORATION AND BELL APPEAL





- St. Michael's, apart from being a living centre of worship, is in constant use for those who come to mark important milestones in their lives.
- It is a grade 1 listed building and has been described as an 'architectural gem.'

Many folk have asked why this ancient Parish Church does not have a ring of bells. The 2 medieval bells are unringable and the 3rd which was recast in 1764 is cracked.



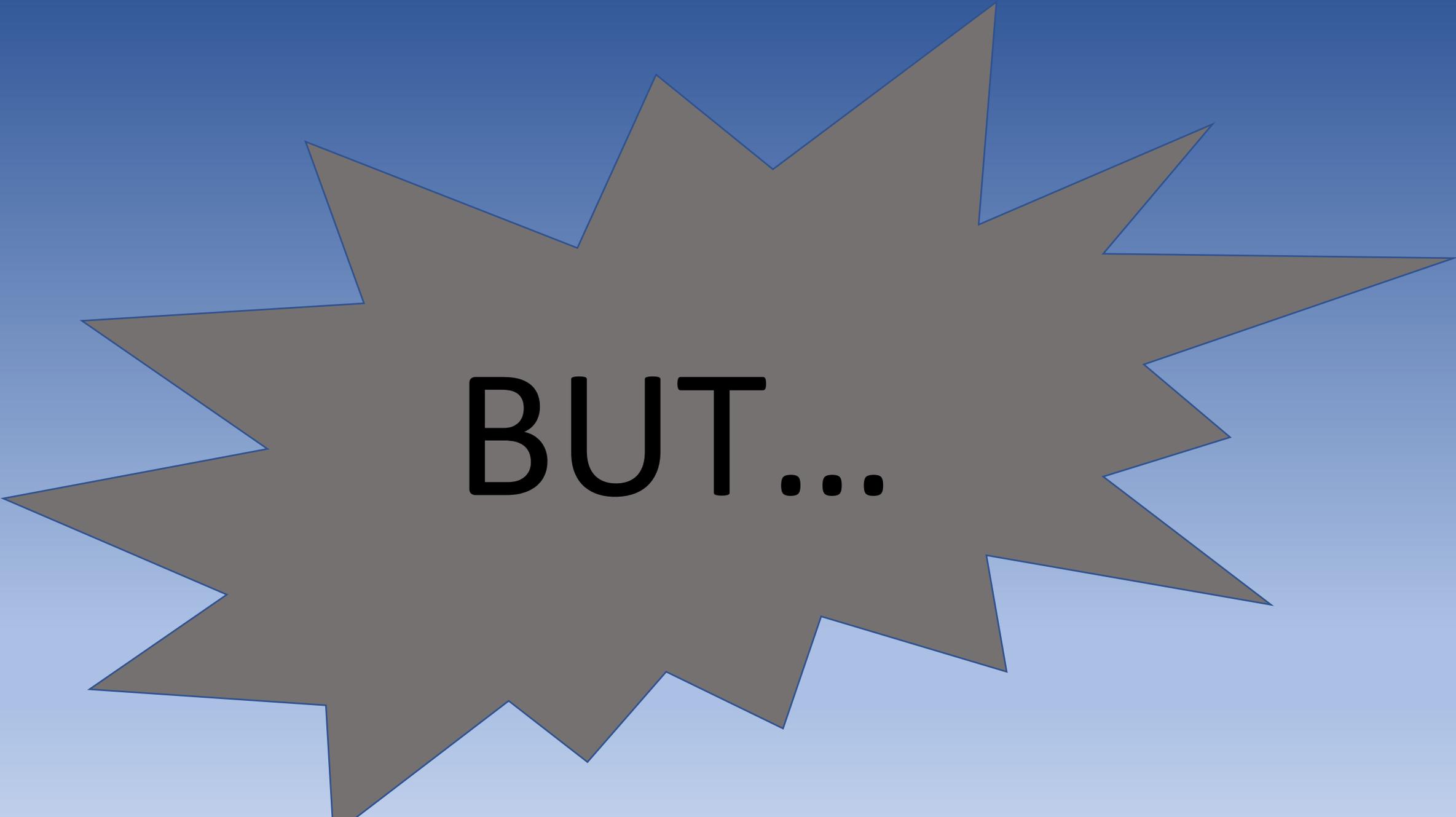
- Thanks to the Keltek Trust and Mr Jim Crowther the church has been offered the 6 bells removed from St. James's Newton Hall. 4 new bells have been cast by Taylor's of Loughborough making an exciting prospect of having a ring of 10 in St. Michael's tower.





- The 6 bells from the Keltek Trust ready to be engraved and refurbished by Whites of Appleton

If St. Michael's is to have these bells (making only the 2nd ring of 10 in Northumberland) the tower is in need of repair and alteration to accommodate them.

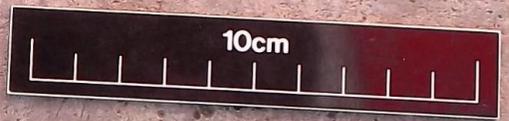
A large, brown, jagged starburst shape is centered on a blue gradient background. The starburst has multiple sharp points and is outlined in a thin blue line. The text "BUT..." is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font in the center of the starburst.

BUT...

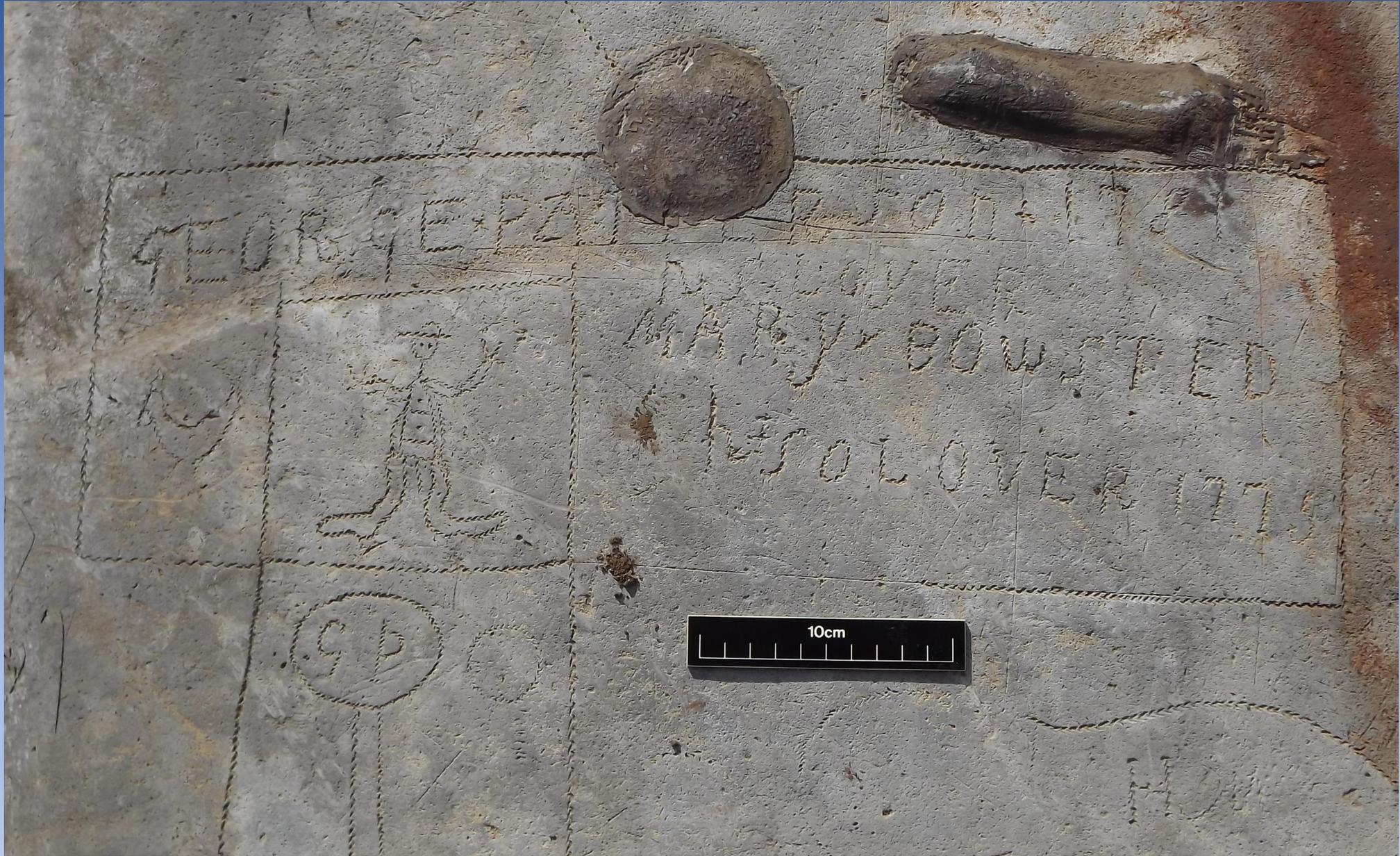


A severe problem was the leaking roof. The lead was in need of renewal... A major expense.

WILLIAM
MARY WIFE OF
LOVER
1775







900
MARY BOWSTED
150 LOVERINTS

10cm



- The graffiti was carefully removed and catalogued by an expert archaeologist, John Buglass.

The most important pieces will be retained and displayed in church. It will be used by schools, museums and the public for local history and research covering the period from 1764 to 2008.

Duplicates and surplus pieces will be available for purchase.

A large, bright yellow five-pointed star is centered on a blue gradient background that transitions from a darker blue at the top to a lighter blue at the bottom. The star has a thin black outline. Inside the star, the text "ALL WAS GOING WELL" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

ALL WAS GOING WELL

- The structure was declared sound
- All the bells were sponsored and ordered
- The architect's plans for changes to the belfry, the ringing room and the movement of the clock mechanism and the refurbishment of its dial were approved
- Provision was made to sound- proof the tower for ringing practice

- The 3 existing bells were returned to Whites. The cracked tenor to be melted down and the 2 medieval bells to be cleaned and returned to be displayed in the church.





A dark grey, jagged starburst shape with multiple sharp points, centered on a blue gradient background. The text "THEN HORROR!" is written in white, bold, uppercase letters across the center of the starburst.

THEN HORROR!

The south
parapet was
found to be
leaning
dangerously.



-and when the roof timbers were removed all the joists and beams were found to be rotten right through.



Costs soared
but work is continuing



Lead work is
being renewed

The ringing room has been cleaned, panelled in oak and completely refurbished.



The clock dial
is being
refurbished





Worn tracery has been renewed

The bell
frame
and
wheels
were
brought
from
Whites



The bells were delivered ...



... brought into church to be seen for one day only ...



... and blessed by the
Bishop of Berwick





The bells were
lifted into the
tower

- All the contingency fund has been used up
- Repair to the stairs to the ringing room has been postponed
 - There is a shortfall in funding of approximately 10%
£45,000

We are very grateful for the help already given by:

All those kind people from St Michael's, the town, local organizations and many others who have contributed to sponsoring a bell or to tower repairs

The Keltek Trust

Mr Jim Crowther

Beaumont Brown Architects

David S Ferguson Ltd Contractors

John Buglass Archaeologist

Whites of Appleton Bell Hangers

Taylors of Loughborough Bell founders

The Church buildings Council

The National Churches Trust

The All Churches Trust

Church Care / The Wolfson Foundation

Northumbria Historic Churches Trust

The Diocese of Newcastle

The Durham & Newcastle Bellringers' Association

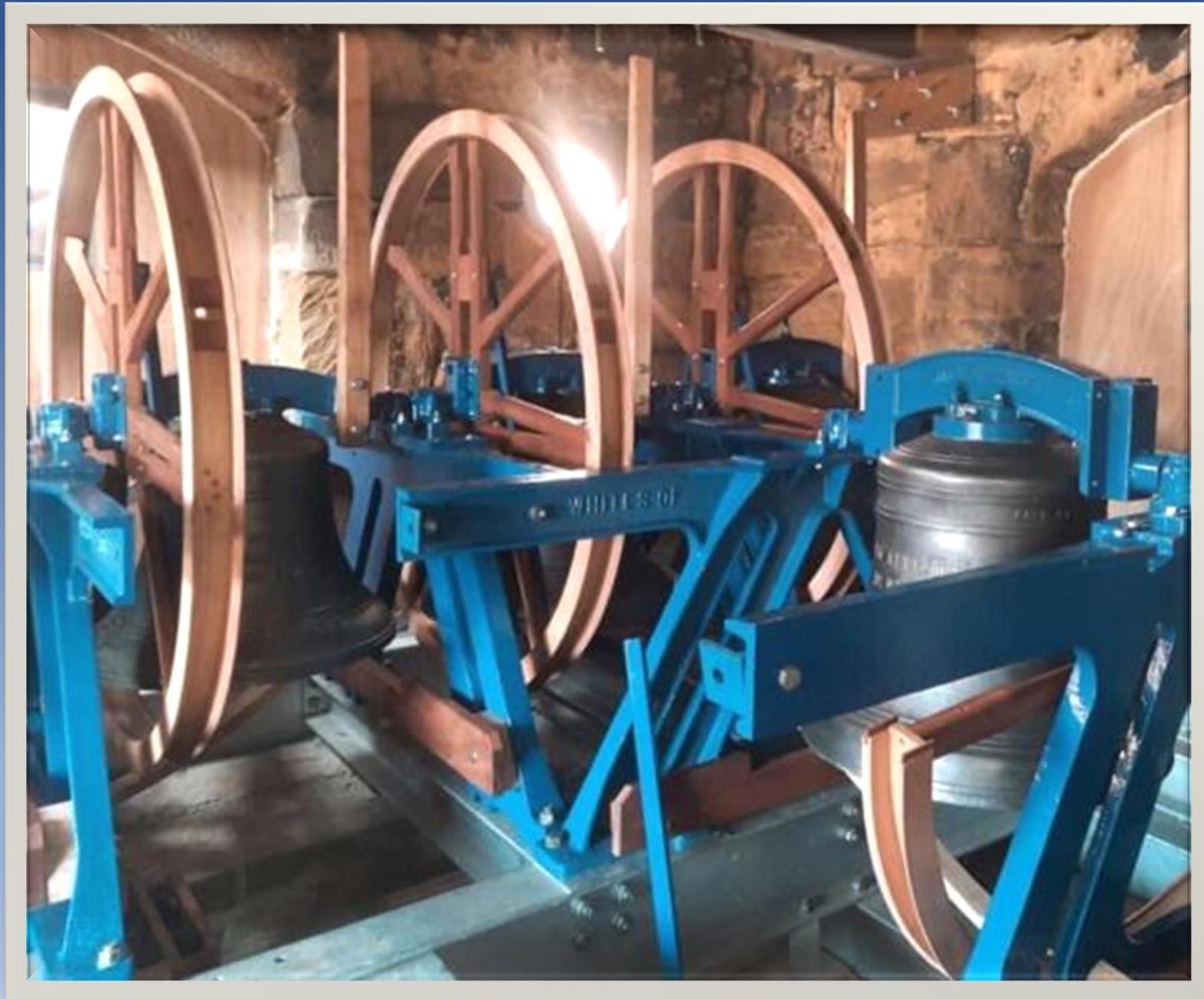
The Garfield Weston Trust

Thank you all.



Please help us
to complete this
fantastic project

LET THE BELLS RING
OUT FOR
MICHAELMAS
SEPTEMBER 29th



Donations can be made in
several ways.

Details are shown on this
table



THANK YOU
SO VERY
MUCH