

Parish Church of  
**St James the Great**  
Barrow-in-Furness

**Festal Evensong**  
Incorporating the  
**Re-Dedication of the**  
**Church Bells**

By the Right Reverend  
**James Newcome**  
Lord Bishop of Carlisle



Sunday 9th March 2014  
4pm

Our thanks go to the very many people and organisations that have generously helped us with funds for this project including



Dennis Ellisdon



The Lancashire Association of Change Ringers

### George Wood Memorial Benevolent Fund



Doug Beaumont



The Billincoat Charity

The Sharpe Trust



Carlisle Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers



Garfield Weston  
FOUNDATION

# Order of Service

## Words of Welcome and Introduction

*By the Vicar, Revd. John Hodgkinson.*

*We stand for the Processional Hymn:*

**O Praise** ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;  
Rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;  
Ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,  
And worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,  
In tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;  
Praise him who hath taught you his grace from above,  
Praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
Loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,  
And, sweet harp the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
To him be outpoured all ages along:  
For love in creation, for heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

**A**men, **A**men.

*Prayers of preparation and confession led by The Archdeacon,  
The Ven. Penny Driver.*

**We** have come together in our Father's presence to offer him praise and thanksgiving; to hear and receive his Holy Word; to ask his forgiveness of our sins; and to re-dedicate the church bells, and ourselves to his praise and glory.

**F**irstly, let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

Lord have mercy,  
**Lord have mercy.**

Christ have mercy,  
**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

*The Bishop pronounces the absolution:*

**May Almighty God**, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever. **Amen.**

V: O Lord, open thou our lips

R: **and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

V: O God, make speed to save us

R: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*We stand to sing:*

V: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R: **as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

V: Praise ye the Lord.

R: **The Lord's name be praised.**

*Remaining standing, we sing Psalm 47*

O Clap your hands together all ye people:  
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

For the Lord is high and to be feared:  
he is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us:  
and the nations under our feet.

He shall choose out an heritage for us:  
even the worship of Jacob whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise:  
and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God:

O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

For God is the King of all the earth:

sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen:

God sitteth upon his holy seat.

The princes of the people are joined unto the  
people of the God of Abraham:

For God which is very high exalted,  
doth defend the earth as it were with a shield.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

World without end. Amen.

*Please sit for the First Lesson*

*1 Chronicles 29; 9-17 (Geoff Pullin)*

*Remain seated as the choir sing:*

## Magnificat.

My Soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud,  
in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:

and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:

and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy: hath holpen his servant Israel.

As he promised to our forefathers: Abraham and his seed for ever.

*Stand as the choir sing:*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end

Amen.

*Please sit for the* **Second Lesson**

*Luke 15; 1-10 (Andy Pollock)*

*Remain seated as the choir sing*

## Nunc Dimittis.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:

according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation:

which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

*Stand as the choir sing:*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end

Amen.

# The Act of Re-Dedication

*The belfry party including Geoff Pullin (Project Leader),  
Dennis Ellisdon (Major Benefactor), Andrew Nicholson (Bell Hanger) and Andrew Murphy  
(Contractor) bring forward a bell rope and present it to the Vicar with these words:*

It gives us great pleasure on behalf of all those who have supported and carried out the project, to present this rope to you as an indication that the bells in this tower have been retuned and installed in a new frame ready to be rung.

*The Vicar passes the rope to the Bishop and asks him to bless the bells.*

Let us pray.

**Almighty God**, we offer to you all the work that has been undertaken to restore these bells. Bless, sanctify and hallow all that has been done in this tower. Bless all who ring here and grant that the message of the bells may lift the hearts of all who hear them.

**+ I bless** and dedicate these restored bells to the Glory of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The bishop passes the bell rope to the Churchwarden and Tower Captain who respond in prayer:*

**Gracious Lord**, we receive these restored bells on behalf of your living church and the wider community. May we use them to proclaim your glory to the world.

**Amen.**

*The bells are sounded and the belfry party return to their places as the following Hymn is sung*

Unchanging God, who livest  
enthroned in heaven on high,  
To men the power thou givest  
Thy name to magnify.  
We raise the bells for ringing  
With ready mind and will,  
And come before thee bringing  
Our hearts, our strength, our skill.

We call, from tower and steeple,  
    Upon the day of days,  
    All faithful Christian people  
To worship, prayer, and praise;  
    We ring with joyous gladness  
When man and wife are blessed;  
    We peal in muffled sadness  
    For loved ones laid to rest.

    By union free and willing  
    The work of God is done;  
    Our Master's prayer fulfilling,  
    We would in him be one:  
One, as the Church our Mother  
Would have her children stand.  
    Befriending one another,  
    A strong and steadfast band.

Our lives, like bells, while changing,  
    An ordered course pursue;  
Through joys and sorrows ranging,  
    May all those lives ring true.  
May we, through Christ forgiven,  
    Our faults and failures past,  
    Attain our place in heaven,  
    Called home to rest at last.

## The Sermon

By the Right Revd James Newcome



*We stand to sing the Hymn:*

Christ is our cornerstone,  
On him alone we build;  
With his true saints alone  
The courts of heaven are filled:  
On his great love our hopes we place  
Of present grace and joys above.

O then with hymns of praise  
These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise  
The Three in One to sing;  
And thus proclaim in joyful song,  
Both loud and long,  
That glorious name.

Here, gracious God, do thou  
Forevermore draw nigh;  
Accept each faithful vow,  
And mark each suppliant sigh;  
In copious shower on all who pray  
Each holy day thy blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heaven  
The grace which we implore;  
And may that grace, once given,  
Be with us evermore,  
Until that day when all the blest  
To endless rest are called away.

*Prayers are said, beginning with the Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father** which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**O** Lord our God, We give you thanks for this restoration project. You give vision to your people; you grant skill to craftsmen; you inspire us to praise.

**We** thank you that these bells will enrich our worship. Bless all who ring here, and grant that the message of the bells may lift the hearts of all who hear them, comfort the lonely and sorrowful, bring joy for new and married lives, strengthen the faithful and draw all people closer to you.

**As** the bells mark the passage of time, we pray that we may pass each day in your service and in love for each other. We remember with gratitude, all who have rung in this tower over the years. We return thanks for the fellowship of those who ring, those who hear, and all those whose prayers are prompted through the ringing of these restored bells.

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God**, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking: We beseech thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things, which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Lighten** our darkness we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy, defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*We stand for the next Hymn  
(During which a collection for the Bell Fund will be taken).*

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,  
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,  
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,  
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,  
Lord of the word, receive your peoples praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,  
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;  
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,  
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;  
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,  
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,  
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;  
Past put behind us, for the future take us,  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

## Blessing and Dismissal

*By the Bishop.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## BARROW BELLS IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

As a keen bell ringer, I wanted to find out why the town's eight bells had not been rung since 1999 when my son started his career in Barrow in September 2007. So, in October 2008, Revd Stuart and Mrs Evason showed me the dire state of the corroded fittings and timber frame! They were enthusiastic about the bells ringing but had greater priorities with the rest of the fine building. A colleague from Daventry and I reported in December that with a lot of volunteer labour and the provision of replacement metal parts, a short term repair could be made and work put in progress.

In September 2009, an obituary written by Stan Walmsley for Jack Bagnall, former ringer and tower captain (1933 -1997), was published in *The Ringing World*. Dennis Ellisdon, who had learned to ring at St James' in the 1950s, read it. He was willing to make a substantial donation towards a full restoration of the bells. With Revd Matthew Peat, now Team Rector, the PCC were happy for me to chair a sub-committee to get advice from professional bellhangers and to investigate availability of grants. The professional recommendations were unanimous: a new frame fitted lower in the tower with bells retuned and hung on new fittings. The PCC decided to go for the full job and to add a chiming system for use for weekday services.

In November 2010 we had the first site meeting with Nicholson Engineering, the chosen bellhanger; the church architect; Lecks, the preferred builders; the diocesan bells advisor and the main donor. We started to raise funds and get donations and grants.

During a storm in June 2012, we saw huge amounts of water cascade down to the ringing chamber. Rain ingress was not new – the tower has had internal rain water gutters for some years, but now the architect took a more pessimistic view and we sought a way to reduce rain ingress. The building work increased such that the Construction Design and Management Regulations applied and costs rose!

We were delighted to hear from the Heritage Lottery Fund in Manchester, that the additional building work and the bell installation came within Your Heritage scheme, so we made an application to top up to the full costs including the recently imposed full VAT.

Eureka! - The Diocese of Carlisle granted a Faculty in February 2013, and the HLF application for £74,400 was successful a month later! The builders started work on July 15th, just as the Revd Matthew Peat was moving to Whitkirk leaving the Rev John Hodgkinson as Team Vicar. From August 12th bell hanger Phil Dunnitt with volunteers dismantled the bells and old timber frame. The bells went to Whitechapel Bell Foundry for retuning. With the old frame gone, the old bell chamber support beams were worse than expected and required support. The floors and an additional ceiling to the ringing chamber were completed. The old belfry received weather protection and a mesh floor to let the sound rise from the bells.

The bells reached Bridport by September 19. Here on November 1, a group of us saw the gleaming bells with the frame and headstocks being made. Long term sickness at the works prevented us from making the original target for dedication during the annual carol service in December, so more volunteers painted the new belfry and the ringing chamber before the bells and frame arrived in Barrow on January 7th 2014. The base grillage was concreted in, and the frame and bells installed, ready for you to appreciate today.

Geoff Pullin.

BELL	Weight cwt-qr.-lbs			Nominal Note ± cents of a semi-tone		English translations of the Latin <b>Inscriptions on the bells</b>
	TOWER RECORD	ACTUAL BEFORE	NOW	BEFORE	NOW	
<b>1</b> (Treble)	5-1-0	5-3-27	<b>4-1-24</b>	F+34	<b>F+30</b>	The gift of the vicar in dutiful memory of the departed. Have mercy, Lord. (Priest's Bell)
<b>2</b>	5-3-0	6-1-13	<b>4-3-5</b>	E+7	<b>E+17</b>	To the greater glory of God, the gift of matrons and maidens (Ladies Bell)
<b>3</b>	6-1-7	6-2-3	<b>5-0-17</b>	D-3	<b>D+20</b>	Sing, ye choirs, a psalm to the Lord, give glory to His praise. (Choir Bell)
<b>4</b>	6-3-7	7-0-1	<b>5-2-11</b>	C-15	<b>C+23</b>	Make us to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.
<b>5</b>	8-0-0	7-2-20	<b>6-2-7</b>	Bb+8	<b>B<sup>b</sup>+28</b>	Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.
<b>6</b>	9-0-0	8-2-18	<b>7-0-0</b>	A+5	<b>A+16</b>	Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace.
<b>7</b>	12-0-0	10-3-17	<b>9-2-0</b>	G-15	<b>G+20</b>	Come ye faithful, worship the Lord in His Holy house.
<b>8</b> (Tenor)	15-3-0	14-0-8	<b>12-0-24</b>	F+8	<b>F+26</b>	These bells are for the honour of God and the use of the Church. In the year of salvation 1877 Richard Palgrave Manclarke A.M. Vicar Joseph Hill and Robert Bowker, Churchwardens

## BEFORE AND AFTER

The eight bells were cast in 1877 by John Warner & Sons of London.

The bells were re-tuned at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in 2013.

The hum, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> partials of each bell have been returned in harmony with the nominal.

## **The work was carried out by:**

Nicholson Engineering Ltd: Andrew Nicholson, Managing Director;  
Phil Dunnett, bellhanger and fabricator.

Church Architect: Malcolm Craig

CDM Co-ordinator: Malcolm Green

Leck Construction Ltd - Principal Contractor: Andrew Murphy, Commercial Director;  
Steve Anderton, Project Manager; Tony Shaw, Site Manager.

## **Sub-contractors:**

Whitechapel Bell Foundry (re-tuning bells, Alan Hughes, Director)

R Forrest Ltd (electrical installation by Derek Forrest, Managing Director)

Gilmour Engineering & Industrial Services Ltd (fabrication and installation in old belfry,  
Robert Seton)

Galebreaker Ltd (low porosity screening)

Warburton's Steeplejacks & Co Ltd (lightning conductor connections)

## **The volunteers:** – dismantling, installing and decorating:

Alan Dewar, Malcolm Eacott, Carl Hallows, Alan Jones, Keith Newby, Cliff Newby,  
Owen Osmotherly, Hugh Pettifer, Andy Pollock, Simon Pullin and Jo Sweeney with  
refreshments by Carole and Geoff Pullin; plus craftspeople for recycling old wooden  
bell frame, and everyone who has helped with fund raising, events, and publicity.

## **St James Bell Ringing Information**

Immediately after the rededication service the bells will be available for general  
ringing until 7.15pm, and an attempt to ring the first quarter peal on the restored bells  
will commence at 7.30pm.

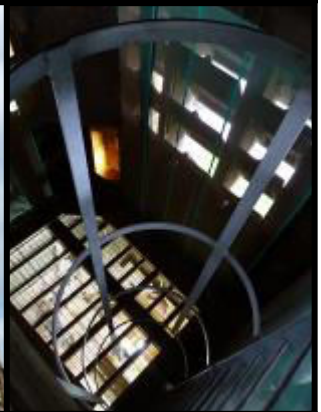
Service Ringing: Sunday 10 to 10:30am

Practice Night: Wednesday 7:30 to 9pm

Other Ringing as advertised on the tower website and outside noticeboard

There is an open invitation and warm welcome for anyone to come along to the tower  
on a practice night to find out more about church bell ringing, and an opportunity to  
'have a go' to see if you would like to learn to ring.

More information at the tower website: [www.barrowbells.org.uk](http://www.barrowbells.org.uk)



First Ringing on all 8 bells for 15 years — Wednesday 29th Jan 2014  
Dennis Ellisdon (centre) with L-R: Geoff Pullin, Jo Sweeney, Keith Newby, Carole Pullin,  
Andy Pollock, Louise Nixon, Owen Osmotherley, Carl Hallows, Alan Dewar, Hugh Pettifer.



St James' Restored Church Bells - Viewed looking down from old belfry into new belfry

