

## How Bells Are Rung

Each bell is attached to a wheel and controlled by a rope from the wheel down to the ringer in the ringing chamber below.

A bell starts with its mouth facing down. By pulling on the rope the bell is swung higher & higher until it can be rested with its mouth facing up. From this position it can be rotated full circle first one way and then the other.



Only the rope is used to perform these operations. The bell sounds once with each rotation.

There can be up to 16 bells in a RING of bells.

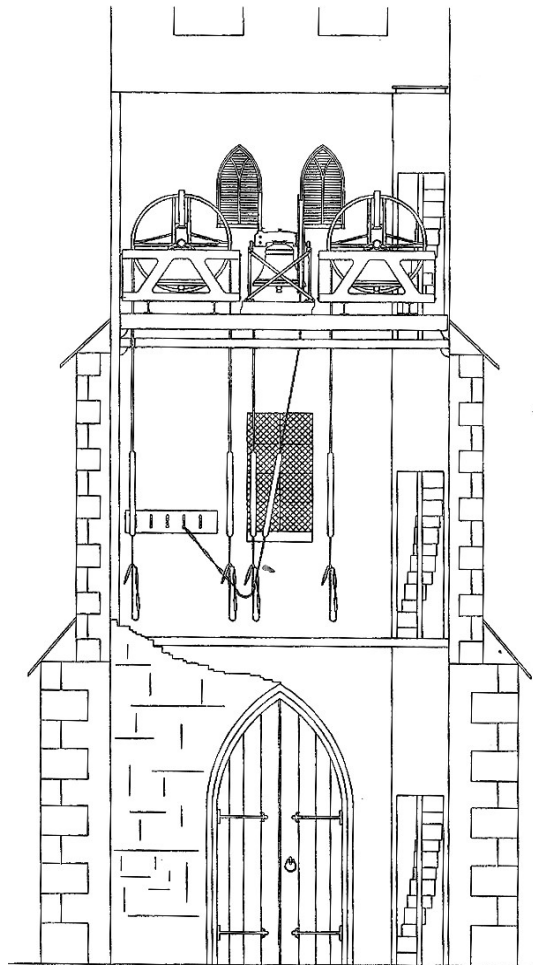
Bells can weigh from just a few pounds to over 4 tons.

There are over 5000 churches with bells and they all need ringers.

**Why not try your hand at bell ringing today?**  
**Discover this addictive pursuit which can exercise both body and mind.**  
**You will join a band of enthusiasts and be welcomed at towers across the country.**



THERE IS A PLACE HERE  
FOR YOU



### **CONTACT:**

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**The St. Andrew's Society of Change Ringers**



## **Bell Ringing at St. Andrew's**

**Bell ringing is fun!**



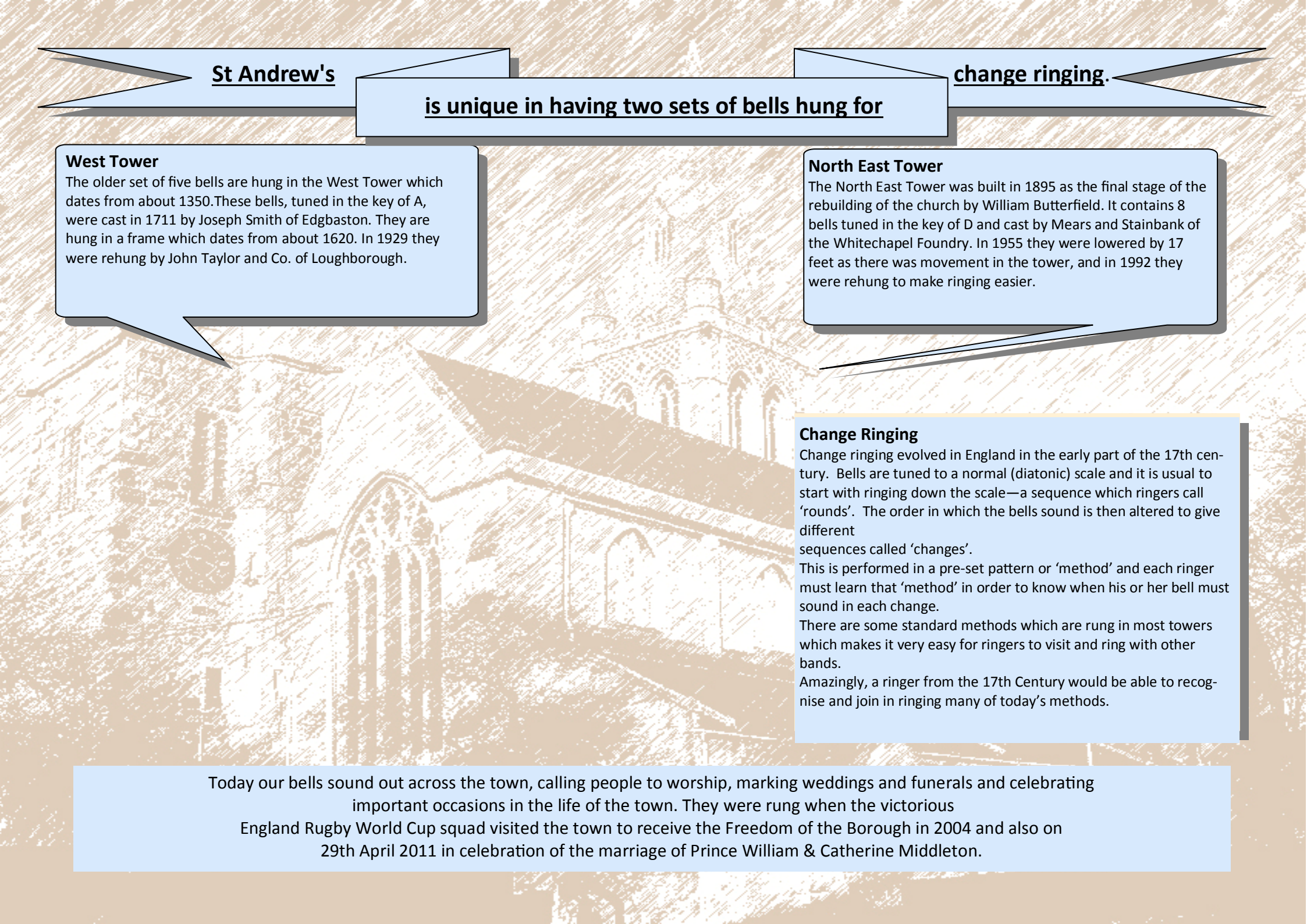
**A pastime which involves:**

- **learning new skills**
- **exercise for body & mind**
- **being part of a team**
- **providing a service for the Church**
- **a good social life**

**There are more than 40,000 bell ringers in the UK from all walks of life.**

- \* **Young & Old** \* **Men & Women** \*
- \* **Short & Tall** \* **Girls & Boys**
- \* **Non-musical & Musical**
- \* **Church-goers & Non-Church-goers**



A detailed line drawing of St Andrew's Church, showing its Gothic architecture with multiple spires, arched windows, and a large central tower. The drawing is in a sketchy, etched style.

**St Andrew's**

**change ringing.**

**is unique in having two sets of bells hung for**

**West Tower**

The older set of five bells are hung in the West Tower which dates from about 1350. These bells, tuned in the key of A, were cast in 1711 by Joseph Smith of Edgbaston. They are hung in a frame which dates from about 1620. In 1929 they were rehung by John Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.

**North East Tower**

The North East Tower was built in 1895 as the final stage of the rebuilding of the church by William Butterfield. It contains 8 bells tuned in the key of D and cast by Mears and Stainbank of the Whitechapel Foundry. In 1955 they were lowered by 17 feet as there was movement in the tower, and in 1992 they were rehung to make ringing easier.

**Change Ringing**

Change ringing evolved in England in the early part of the 17th century. Bells are tuned to a normal (diatonic) scale and it is usual to start with ringing down the scale—a sequence which ringers call 'rounds'. The order in which the bells sound is then altered to give different

sequences called 'changes'.

This is performed in a pre-set pattern or 'method' and each ringer must learn that 'method' in order to know when his or her bell must sound in each change.

There are some standard methods which are rung in most towers which makes it very easy for ringers to visit and ring with other bands.

Amazingly, a ringer from the 17th Century would be able to recognise and join in ringing many of today's methods.

Today our bells sound out across the town, calling people to worship, marking weddings and funerals and celebrating important occasions in the life of the town. They were rung when the victorious England Rugby World Cup squad visited the town to receive the Freedom of the Borough in 2004 and also on 29th April 2011 in celebration of the marriage of Prince William & Catherine Middleton.