

BELL RESTORATION REPORT TO AUGUST 2019

Bearsted	A casting fault, where the clapper was striking, meant that the tenor was not sounding very good. The bell has now been quarter turned and is much improved.
Broadstairs	Inspection of single bell.
Burmarsh	There has been a problem with the treble bell here for some time but I feel confident that the problem has been found and rectified. The old bell that is on display in the church was lifted sufficiently to chime it. Is it cracked or is it just very poor tone?
Davington Priory	A band gained permission to 'ring' the 3 bells and in the process, the tenor wheel collapsed such that the bells could not even be chimed. The bells have now been rigged such that they can only be chimed. They are hung for ringing but require a complete rehang.
East Langdon	Castor oil and felt, which had congealed, removed from the bearings and re lubricated. Bells now swing.
Faversham	Better news on this in that the bells are to be rehung with all new fittings as a 10 with 3/10 and 4/10 hung above in a new frame.
Gillingham	Inspection of single bell. (DAC)
St Luke	
Kingsdown	Inspection of 2 bells in West end turret. (DAC)
Monkton	The 2 new trebles have been installed by KCACR and were rung by the locals for the first time on Christmas morning. The bells were then silent for a period while work on a very plush kitchen toilet meeting room was done. We have returned recently to complete some outstanding work.
Milton Regis	These bells have been removed and will be rehung and augmented by Whites. The bells are back and in the tower

and work on a rope guide to be completed. KCACR removed the bells and assisted Whites with rehanging.

Ospringe

Further work planned.

Penshurst

Ringling is limited here at the moment as there is a crack in the 6th headstock. Some local work on this.

Rochester

Cathedral

There is a proposal to augment the bells to 12 and provide an additional bell to form a light 8. Grant application received.

Stockbury

Work to the tower and ringing room complete.

Sutton Valance

A new 4cwt bell installed in the chapel

School

Westgate

The bells hang in an 8 bell frame and it is the intention to install the 2 missing bells. Two suitable bells have been located. Project is being led by Revd Stanley Evans, ex vicar of the parish.

Brian G. Butcher Bell Restoration Officer and Diocesan Bells Adviser.