

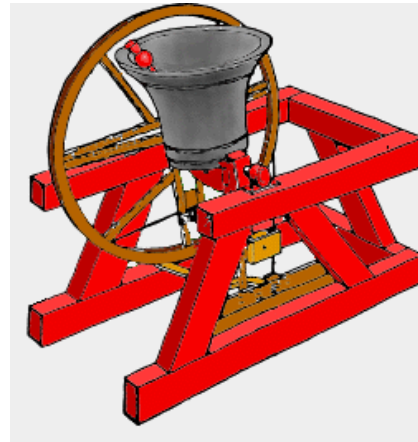
GUILD BELL STOCK SURVEY

About 10 years ago the Guild Belfry Stewardship Committee handed out to all towers an information pack and a set of forms for us to fill in on the condition of our bells. These forms were (and are still) mind blowing for the average steeple keeper to get their heads around. I know personally because I have done Alverstoke's survey twice (the first offering was lost in the post) and it's a very time consuming business. Consequently the amount of completed forms handed in over the years has been disappointing to say the least.

The reason why the Guild need this information is that: (A), the Guild will have a record of the condition of your bells so that they can assess the possible need for BRF grants in the near or distant future and (B), during the course of this survey you might discover something that needs doing to your bells that may get overlooked during routine maintenance, in which case the Belfry Stewards Committee will be able to help and advise.

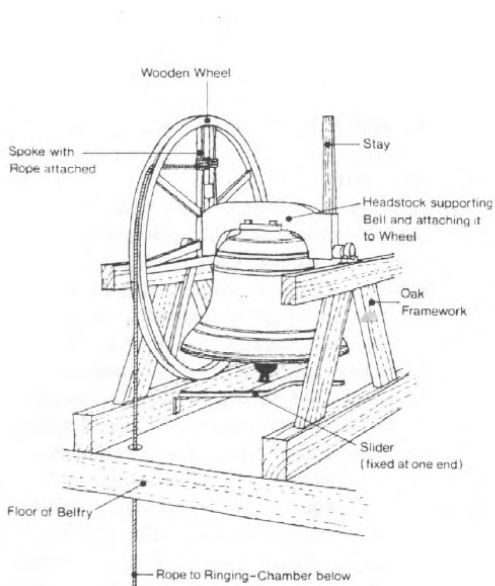
Less than half our District towers have still not been done despite occasionally jogging peoples memories. The Belfry Stewardship Committee has decided to get the job finished within the next 2 years. I have been given the task to get our District's Towers' Surveys finished before the deadline. I am told that the BS Committee has no completed surveys from the following towers:

Botley
Catherington (2 new Trebles only)
Chalton
Fareham
Havant
Netley
Portchester
Portsmouth Cathedral
Portsea
Purbrook
Southwick
Titchfield
Upham



The forms can be downloaded from the Guild Website. Just click on:

<http://www.wp-ringers.org.uk/belfrystewardship/bellsyform1.pdf> .



I don't expect your Steeple Keepers, Captains & Secretaries to go out of you way to do this on your own or even with other tower members, as I know first hand how difficult it is. But I am prepared to assist, or even carry out your surveys on my own when it suits both of us. To be honest I would be more than happy to do the survey as I find looking at bells as enjoyable as ringing them!

However, if you can complete these surveys on your own this would be wonderful and would be a great help to me!

Please can you let me know either if you are going to do the surveys yourselves or would wish me to assist or do the survey myself, I really don't mind—as long as the job gets done!

Steve Hough
Belfry Stewardship Committee (Portsmouth District)