

Church News

News from the Belfry

In July 2016 the PCC regretfully decided to restrict ringing at St Peter's Church. Some time ago a problem was identified with the structure of the tower. As it did not appear to be getting worse no immediate action was taken. However an architect has now decided that urgent repairs are required. The band decided, that with the exception of weddings and ringing before Sunday morning worship, all ringing would cease until the repairs have been carried out.

Only 15 towers in the Essex Association of Change Ringers practise on a Friday night, the nearest being at Great Baddow, but they only practise on the first two Fridays of the month. However we are fortunate that we are made welcome to ring at other local towers. Our Tower Captain and Duncan joined the band at Tollesbury and I also joined them on a couple of occasions.

The last time our weekly practice was cancelled was during the work to the tower and roof some years ago. However arrangements were made during this work for us to practise at All Saints Inworth on Friday evenings. In early August, our Tower Captain asked the Tower Captain at Inworth if it would be possible to hold our practices there again. At the time of writing this article we are awaiting permission from their PCC.

By the time you read this article, hopefully the repair work will have started and we will have a date when we can resume our Friday evening practice at St Peter's.

If you are interested in learning to ring the bells at St. Peter's please contact our Tower Captain, Janice Spalding, on 01621 892197 or alternatively come to our Friday practice at 19.45 hours.

For further information please visit <http://greattothambellringers.org.uk>

Andrew Hood