

THE BELL RINGERS



George Arthur AINGE (1889 - 1950)

George was the sixth son and seventh-born of Thomas AINGE and Elizabeth (née BURFORD).



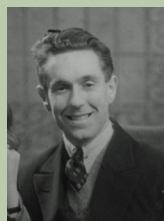
Phillip Richard AINGE (1897 - 1985)

Phillip the seventh son and youngest, of the ten children of Thomas AINGE and Elizabeth (née BURFORD). The AINGE family can be traced back to 1800 in Bishampton, the earlier generations having lived in Crophorne.



John George LUDLOW (1890 - 1976)

The LUDLOW family have their origins in Childswickham, before moving to Church Lench and Sheriff Lench, Ralph moving from there to Bishampton sometime in the 1870s. Ralph LUDLOW and his family lived in Broad Lane and Pershore Road, before finally settling in Babylon Cottages (now 'Copperfields', Babylon Lane). John is survived by his grandson Ken Ludlow, possibly the only surviving descendant of this group of bell ringers still resident in the village today.



Edward HEMMING (1903 - 1974)

The HEMMING family moved to Bishampton from Rous Lench in the mid-1860s, and the FRYER family have been traced in the village back to the 1780s. Edward ran a haulage business and a milk service in the village based opposite 'The Dolphin', and was a Church Warden. Phyllis and her sister ran the Post Office in Broad Lane for several years until the 1970s. Ted and Phyllis's daughter Sheila, later married to Gerry Moule, was the village the Post Lady for many years.



Cyril James SALISBURY (1911 - 1987)

The SALISBURY family only arrived in the village in the early 1900s, Cyril's family having lived in Radford and Rous Lench. However, his mother Nora's CHANDLER family can be traced back to 1791 in the village when her great great grandfather Thomas moved here from South Littleton to marry a village girl. The SALISBURYS lived at The White House in Broad Lane, and the CHANDLERs at Orchard Cottage also in Broad Lane.



Francis John ANSELL (1896 - 1962)

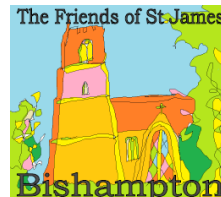
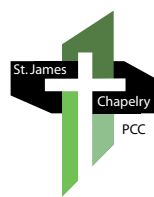
The ANSELL family arrived in the village when his grandfather arrived here in about 1850 just before Francis's father's birth here, but the GANDERTON family are traceable in the village back to at least the late 1700s. Francis was Church Sexton for 32 years.



William John HARRIS (1900 - unknown)

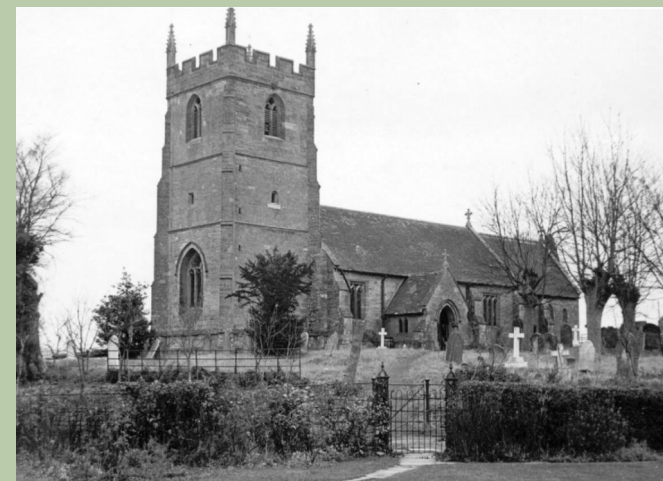
William's father's family arrived in the village in 1870/1871 having lived in Lower Moor, being the son of John Boulter HARRIS and Ellen (née GREENAWAY).

St. James Festival of Bells



ST. JAMES

FESTIVAL OF BELLS



THE BELLS

Early History of the Bells

In 1552 Bishampton had four bells in the tower and two small bells. Some information on the bells existing before the erection of the present ring in 1690 is preserved by John Noake in his book *The Rambler in Worcestershire* (1851).

Noake suggests that John Martin of Worcester cast six bells for Bishampton in 1661, but the number is more likely to have been five since the later documents (quoted below) indicate that a further bell was added in 1690. Martin's bells were to be short-lived, however, as in 1687 the churchwardens reported one of them to be cracked.

The Present Bells

There are six bells in the ring, a Sanctus bell in the south window of the belfry and a small bell in the porch. Details of the bells in the ring (in the key of G – 773Hz or G minus 24 cents) can be seen in the original Bell Description opposite.

The canons remain on all six bells, and the bells have all been quarter turned. There is one false iron canon (a single) on the fourth, and the canons on the fifth are cable patterned. There are some errors and inconsistencies of spelling in the inscriptions, and the first V in "Gulielmus" on the treble is up-side down. The configuration of moulding wires on some of the Bagley bells (i.e. the 2nd, 3rd and tenor) is distinctive and unusual. The two larger bells have both been extensively skirted or edged at the lip. The bells were retuned in 1937, only the fifth being left unaltered.

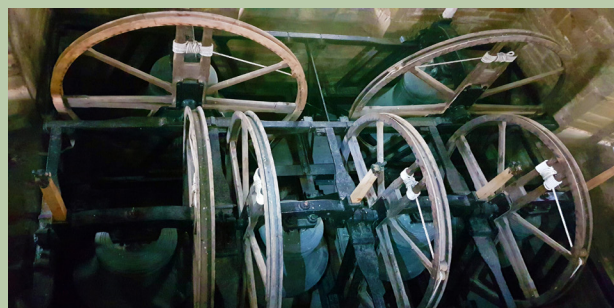


BISHAMPTON CHURCH.

RING OF 6 BELLS.

	<u>NOTE</u>	<u>DIA</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>INSCRIPTION</u>
TREBLE	E	2'-3 1/2"	4-1-2	GULIELMVS KEYT BARONET HVNS MANERIS 1690.
2	D	2'-5 3/8"	4-3-8	ROBERT GAYWOOD AND WILLIAM FARLEY CHVRCHWARDENS 1690.
3	C	2'-7 7/8"	5-1-12	WILLIAM GRIMIT 1690.
4	B	2'-9 1/4"	6-1-19	WILLIAM BAGLEY MADE MEE 1690.
5	A	3'-0"	8-1-23	RD SANDERS MADE MEE WILLIAM POWELL CHVRCHWARDEN 1706.
TENOR	G	3'-8"	10-2-4	FERRE GOD HONNOR THE RING 1690.
SANCTUS BELL		1'-2"	0-2-12	G DUGARD & FAIRLEY 1721.

THE PEAL TUNED AND REHUNG IN NEW FRAMEWORK
IN 1937 BY:- JOHN TAYLOR & CO.
BELLFOUNDERS & BELLHANGERS.
LOUGHBOROUGH.

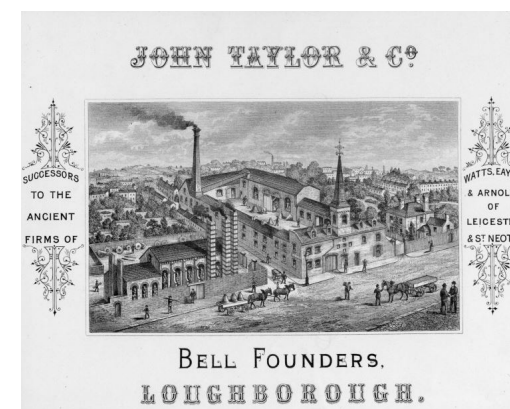


JOHN TAYLOR & CO

A Brief History

John Taylor & Co. continues a line of bellfounding which has been unbroken since the middle of the 14th Century, when Johannes de Stafford was active only 10 miles from the site of the present foundry.

From 1784 the business was operated by members of the Taylor family, and in 1839 it moved to its present position in Loughborough, and is now proud to operate the largest bellfoundry in the world.



Bells at St. James

The bells hang in a cast iron lowside frame (Bellframes type 8.3.A.h and layout 6.1) installed by Taylors in 1937 (job number 526). The fittings are also of this date and include cast iron canon retaining stocks of the high-arched type, ball bearings, Hastings stays etc. The fittings were overhauled by John Taylor & Co in 2017.

