



For whom the bell tolls:

Restored Rudding Park church bell blessed at Parish service

Having tolled for over a century, the bell from the church at Rudding Park was taken down for resoration in 2005. Now the bell has been reinstalled, and on Sunday 30 July the Parish of Spofforth and Kirk Deighton with Follifoot and Little Ribston service was held at Rudding Park Church.

The service, led by Revd Kenneth McAllister, was attended by a congregation of 50, and the church bell once again rang out. Revd McAllister blessed the bell as part of the service and it was rung for the first time by Rudding Park resident Stuart Hutchinson.

The copper bell, weighing 1½ cwt , was first erected in 1876, and had been taken down a year ago in order that its housing and mechanism could be restored. David Potter of Minster Yard, York carried out the restoration work and reinstalled the bell in its previous position.

Simon Mackaness, Managing Director of Rudding Park commented: "It is a little known fact that the Church at Rudding Park is a consecrated place of worship. Every year, we host a Parish of Spofforth and Kirk Deighton with Follifoot and Little Ribston family service.

"We work hard to ensure that every element of Rudding Park is maintained to the highest standard and the church bell is no exception. It was especially fitting that Stuart Hutchinson was the first person to toll the bell. Stuart lives at Rudding Park and his father manages the Holiday Park and Repton Green."

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