

NEWNHAM: A HISTORY OF THE PARISH AND ITS CHURCH

SUMMARY

Newnham is a long-established community. It dates from well before 1130, which is the earliest written reference. It has some unusual features, for example being built on a ridge away from water. Its church, despite being renovated by the Victorians, yet contains many interesting elements, including a wonderful Norman chancel arch and a carved-in-stone memorial to a priest of the 13th century – comparable to a brass but in this case perhaps unique in Hampshire. Its oldest bell has been ringing over the land since Henry VII was king (1485-1509). It is a charming backwater, aside from the mainstream of headlong 'progress'. A place where the generations have made their contribution and laid their bones – the very essence of rural England.

SETTING

Newnham, as it exists today, lies on a ridge of high ground above and to the east of the river Lyde. The central feature is The Green enclosed on three sides by a cluster of houses. Here four lanes meet at the crossroads, a fifth leads to the church and a sixth branches away, past the pub. Along these lanes are scattered many dwellings: some very old, others newer. The highest point is the church which stands about 95m or 312 ft above sea level, the Green itself is a little lower. The soil is Plateau Gravel with London Clay preponderating in the surrounding area as it falls away in each direction; immediately along the Lyde the soil is Alluvium (1). The geology to some extent explains the location of the settlement: the plateau gravel lies above a 'saucer' of clay so that rainfall percolates through to the impermeable clay where it is retained; when a well is sunk through the gravel, water is found fairly close to the surface. Thus from earliest times it was possible for those living on the ridge to obtain water.

The geology also suggests why Newnham was a secondary settlement: because working lighter soils such as the chalk would have been easier in earliest times, while clearing and cultivating heavier soils, like the London Clay, would have been very labour intensive. When those living on the nearby chalk needed more land, other lighter soils would first have attracted their attention. The Plateau Gravel around Newnham Green may have been the starting point from which incomers could in due time have extended their penetration into the less workable, if more fertile, land around.

Today the village lies in an ordered landscape of rolling countryside. The Parish is well wooded with many mature trees in the extensive hedgerows. Copses and small woods are significant features; oak, ash, maple, hawthorn and hazel predominate, with alder, sallow and willow important in the wetter parts, and many other species besides. The whole enclosing large and small fields. It is an intimate landscape typical of the riverine catchments of north east Hampshire, but with long views in some directions from the higher ground.

ORIGINS

Prior to the first written reference to Newnham, little is certain about the area comprising the village. Two Neolithic flint hand axes have been found: one at Naish's Farm, one between Newnham Lane and Compfield Copse, and other ancient finds have been recorded (2). There are no indications whether or not the land was being farmed by the Celts before the Roman era, nor whether the Romans were involved in economic activity here. Roman evidence from neighbouring communities, e.g. Hook, Mapledurwell and Old Basing, suggests there may well have been people in the area, but whether present day Newnham was occupied is unknown. There are no Roman-derived place names nearer than Silchester. The only British or Celtic name postulated for a local feature is the river into which the Lyde flows, the Loddon, meaning 'muddy', but there is some uncertainty (3).

After the Anglo-Saxon invasions from the fifth century onward north east Hampshire undoubtedly became increasingly influenced by the incomers. All around they gave their own identifications to places and streams. The Lyde, for example, first mentioned in 1262, means 'torrent' (4). And the community from which Newnham was later excised, Mapledurwell, meant in Anglo-Saxon, 'mapletree spring' (5). This is possibly because a branch of the Lyde once bubbled from the ground in a grove of maples near to the present site of that village's church. Newnham itself meant 'new estate or new settlement or new village' (6) If, as some philologists believe, '-ham' names indicate early settlement by Anglo-Saxons then Newnham was perhaps established well before 800 or 900 AD (7).

Newnham's first mention is in a church document, a charter of Henry de Port, Lord of Old Basing and a justice itinerant in 1130 (8), who during Henry I's reign (1100-1135) gave certain tithes to the church at *Neoham* (9). It is, therefore, possible to affirm the church building existed in about 1125-1135. Bearing in mind the substantial size of the church building one might infer the community was already well established by then.

Previously, and indeed until 1198, Newnham was part of Mapledurwell, which features in Domesday Book of 1086, although Newnham does not. In this context, it has been conjectured that a mill on the site of present Lyde Mill may have been one of two mentioned in the Domesday survey as belonging to Mapledurwell (10) and, if correct, it reinforces the view that a fair-sized population already existed at Newnham, during or before the Conqueror's reign.

THE MANOR OF NEWNHAM

In 1198 'Alan Basset lord of Mapledurwell granted 3 hides [about 360 acres or approximately 150 hectares] of land in Newnham pertaining to his vill [= settlement or manor] of Mapledurwell to Hugh de Arundel to hold to him and his heirs. by the service of half a knight's fee. The wood called 'Le Ho' (the modern Hook Common) was expressly excepted from this grant' (11). This marks the beginning of Newnham's independent existence as a manor. But it seems to have been owned by various influential, local families who were normally domiciled elsewhere. It was, perhaps, viewed as an investment.

The manor was held from 1198 by the de Arundels, Hugh, William and another William, for many years; by 1275 it had passed to Adam de St. Manefeo of Heckfield, who was succeeded by Henry - probably his son - then John, Robert (alive 1346), Thomas and finally his son John de St. Manefeo, who in 1381 yielded the manor to Robert Fulmere. In 1395 Edward Bokeland possessed the manor but dying childless in 1405 it passed to Sir Philip la Vache, who died about five years later. Ownership of the manor until 1428 is obscure, but then it became Thomas Stukeley's; John Stukeley was in possession in the 1460s and he or a namesake is named in 1502.

By 1598, when William Paulet Third Marquess of Winchester died, he was 'seised of three-quarters of the manor', and the Fourth Marquess owned the whole manor in 1609 (12, 13). It remained with the Paulets (a family that later became the Dukes of Bolton) and their successors - the Orde-Powletts, Barons Bolton - until 1816. In 1835 Guy Carleton, third Lord Dorchester, purchased the manor (14) and it has remained in that family until now: the current Lord of the Manor is James, Seventh Earl of Malmesbury.

THE PARISH'S EXTENT

The three hides of land granted in 1198 would have been arable. By implication there would have been copses and larger areas of woodland, probably used for pasturing livestock; there may have been some common land, and there would have been meadows; furthermore, much of the lower-lying land would have been boggy. Villagers at this time may have considered that Newnham's full extent reached several hundred acres, and perhaps near to the 1009 acres it comprised in 1878 (15).

The 1871 Ordnance Survey map shows the main part of Newnham stretching from the Lyde in the west, to the old Reading road in Hook. Immediately to the east there was a detached part of the parish extending from approximately the new Hook by-pass down to the Whitewater river; a third detached segment of about 10 acres lay to the north between Bunkers Hill Farm and Borough Court. These areas were separated from each other by a major insertion of a detached part of Natley Scures. How the two parishes came to be laid out in this way is unknown, but presumably it was due to land ownership at a distant period, because the existence of a tongue of Natley Scures between two parts of Newnham is implied in 1561 (16).

The first rationalisation of the parish took place in 1879 when the detached part, identified as the Holt, some 363 acres in size (17), was moved from Natley Scures to Newnham. Then in 1918 a further portion of Natley Scures, evidently about 30 acres, was placed in Newnham, by which stage the parish comprised 1401 acres (18). But in 1932 Hook, which until then had comprised a rapidly growing sector of Newnham, was separated as a new civil parish. At the same time Natley Scures was amalgamated into Newnham to form a new civil parish.

Ecclesiastically Hook was still combined with Newnham, but in 1955 a separate parish of Hook was created; since then Newnham's church parish and civil parish boundaries with Hook have coincided (19).

THE INFLUENCE OF ROADS

The King's Highway

In early times the road from London to Lands End progressed via Guildford, Farnham, Alton and Winchester to Salisbury and thence to Shaftesbury, Exeter, Truro and onward. Then in the 1400s a faster route from Salisbury via Andover and Basingstoke to Staines and London became established (20). This Great West Road development must have influenced Newnham's economy, with travellers of every quality using such services as the village could provide. The road was identified as the 'King's Highway' or the 'London Way' in early maps and documents; its route, having come along the line of the present A30 from Hartley Wintney and through Hook, ran from the war memorial in Hook along the north side of Jubilee Green, and before the railway cutting was dug it bent leftward along the rear of Morris Street. It reached the present Old School Road some 130 metres north-west of the former school building and turned half right towards Newnham Green joining Newnham Road close to King's Bridge over the railway. The derivation of the bridge's name is unknown, but close to the location of Buckland's Yard there was once a footbridge, called Hackyngryth Bridge (22), which crossed a small stream, and a corruption of this may explain the name's origin.

This main road went to Newnham Green where it turned left down Crown Lane, named after the Crown Inn which was the former name of Crown Lodge. About 150 metres beyond the railway bridge it reached the Natley Scures parish boundary. Then after another 280 metres it turned right, along Green Lane; it reached the present A30 by the bridge over the Lyde at Water End, next to the Red Lion Inn.

Newnham Becomes Side-tracked

This was for generations the line of the main road, and in due course it was turnpiked (23). But by 1786 there is reference to a route change, which local tradition believes was to speed military forces if the French invaded (24) and we read of 'A new road from Hook, missing Newnham and the long water, and coming in a mile before Mapledore [Mapledurwell], being a mile and quarter nearer' (25): from this time the traffic must increasingly have by-passed the village. Then while Hook grew, particularly following the opening of the railway station in 1883; the improvements to the A30 in the 1920s; and the coming of the M3 in 1971, Newnham became something of a backwater.

THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Originally the primary employment, locally, was in agriculture. The land here is good for barley, oats, wheat, beans and peas, and it grows good grass; and relict hop plants in hedges imply this crop was sometimes planted. These together would form the basis of a mixed farming economy from early times. That it continued we know from the wills or inventories of Newnham folk from the 16th and 17th Centuries (see Appendix 1: Wills and Inventories). Besides these crops, cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry were frequently noticed. Milk, butter and cheese were regular income sources (and presumably eggs also, although these are not itemised), and beehives, suggesting honey sales, were noted in a very few inventories. Horses also feature either as draught animals or for riding; oxen (for ploughing or carting produce) are mentioned as late as 1641. It is noteworthy that in 1640 chalk, to reduce soil acidity, is recorded: improving arable husbandry was evidently important (26).

As already mentioned there was a mill at Lyde Mill, clearly an economic activity linking agriculture and domestic life. And it is most likely there were craftsmen, such as harness makers, farriers and wheelwrights, to service local farmers but there is no very early record. But more recent evidence of local tradesmen comes from the gravestones of 'John Cooper of Hook, Farrier' died 1795 and 'John Marsh of Hook, Farrier' died 1801.

There were probably alehouses from early on. However, the development of the highway from London to Lands End, alluded to above, surely stimulated the establishment of eating places and hostleries to meet travellers' needs. And these will have evolved into inns as trade increased during the 16th to 18th centuries. It is certain that a new income source, reliant on passing trade and travellers, became established. The first reference to an inn relates to Ann Atkinson of The Raven, Hook (now Old Raven House on London Road in Hook) then in Newnham. She issued trade tokens about 1660-1670 one of which is held by the Museum of English Rural Life, Reading. The Raven was probably built in 1536 (27) as a private house but later became a hostelry. In present day Newnham there was probably an ale house on the site of *The Old House at Home* from early in the 18th Century (belonging to

the Poulter family) and possibly long before. *Crown Lodge* in Crown Lane is believed to have been an inn for many years until perhaps 1820.

There was a tradition of weaving in this part of Hampshire dating, it seems, from the 1600s. Daniel Defoe who travelled around the Britain during 1685-90 wrote 'Basingstoke...has...lately...fallen into a manufacture of making druggets and shallons, and such slight goods' (28). This was probably a cottage industry and inventories give confirmation of a framework knitter in Newnham in 1701 (29) and also of spinning, see Appendix 1; additionally amateurs using metal detectors have often discovered loom weights in local fields. When weaving or the making of clothing died out here is unknown.

A new source of employment arose after 1838 when the London & South Western Railway was constructed and by the 1841 census there were 'railway labourers' in the village, and subsequent census returns reveal their number increased steadily. Then in about 1900 a brick-field began operating in Crown Lane below the railway bridge and 'brick makers' first appear in the 1901 census (30). The local clay seems to have held too many fine stones which caused the bricks to cool differentially and they tended to crack, furthermore the scale of operations was too small. After about 1950 local bricks were uncompetitive and manufacture ceased.

In summary, farm work was from ancient times, and until about 1945, the main local source of employment. Associated trades were also important. And from the 1400s jobs related directly or indirectly to the main road to the south-west grew in importance. The coming of the railway generated new work, and for half a century brick making was also significant. Since about 1900, with steadily improving means of transport, professional people and, later, commuters to London or elsewhere have tended to make up an increasing proportion of the village's population.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH

The Building's History

There is no record of whether or not the present church was preceded by an earlier building. However, if the 'new settlement' was established before - say - 800 or 900 AD the author suggests it was probable that a Saxon church already existed. Without appropriate excavation this can only remain speculation.

The first reference, as noted above, is in a Charter of Henry de Port to the Priory of West Sherborne, now Monk Sherborne, dated about 1130; in this he provided income for the priory to enable the monks to support the village's church (31). The identities of the earliest clergy are unknown but a record of the incumbents from 1304 is given in Appendix 2.

This charter gives no dedication for the church, but it seems probable that from 1130 it was identified with St. Nicholas. Certainly it has been St. Nicholas' for generations e.g. the will of Thomas Fielder, dated 1540, requests burial in 'the Church of Seynt Nicholas of Newnham' (33). *Perhaps* it was named for St. Nicholas at the suggestion of Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester, 1129-1171 there is some evidence that the bishop felt a duty to St. Nicholas (34) who was *inter alia* the patron saint of seafarers.

The chancel arch, which stands where it has done for centuries, is in the Norman style with dog-tooth decoration typical of its period and has been dated to about 1125. Thus the charter already mentioned would seem to coincide with the building of the church. Over the subsequent centuries there is no written information about how the church may have been modified; the ground plan may not have changed at all but *assuming* the first windows were small 'Norman' apertures it seems some were altered at an early stage to meet the evolving fashions. This premise is based on the picture on page 9 which suggests Early English features.

By 1846 major restoration work was necessary (35) and was completed early in 1848 (36), when the Rector, the Reverend George Wylie, stated the building was almost a new one. In fact major changes to the structure had been introduced - a totally new bell tower with a new staircase to the gallery and a new vestry, new buttresses at every corner, re-designed windows and a new interior seating layout. Nevertheless, it must be stressed he had an interest in trying to impress on the Incorporated Church Building Society, from whom he had sought funds, that a major 'improvement' had been achieved.

In fact the nave's dimensions before the modifications (37) only differ modestly from those visible today (38). It seems probable that the nave walls stand where the Norman builders placed them, and that the chancel walls are sited exactly as before. The west window may be an innovation, but there was perhaps a window to illumine the gallery. The original east window may have been smaller than the one illustrated on page 9, which shows the one given by the Reverend Dr. Hutchinson in 1733: it depicted Christ on the road to Emmaus (39). The current east window is clearly differently shaped, and it has new glass.

The church before 1846 was tiled, not thatched or slated, also there was a porch (40). The *exact* positioning of this porch is unknown; the painting of 1832 shows it was not a south porch; a north porch is not possible because of the positions of graves which predate 1846. The author believes it was a west porch, and that the old shafts and capitals which stand either side of the *tower* doorway were probably part of the inner doorway to the original porch and those at the entrance to the *nave* probably originally stood at the west end of the porch. This may explain why they have suffered so much weathering.

The pre-1846 church had a separate entrance for the parson leading straight into the Chancel, but there was no vestry.

Description of the Present Church

The church is reached from The Green via Church Path. At the entrance to the graveyard there is a tiled oak, flint and stone lichgate dated 1910 (41), and a footpath leads along the south side of the building to the west door. The church comprises a north-west tower, the nave and the chancel; the vestry is below the tower with the entrance from the nave, and there is a gallery or organ loft over the west end of the nave but reached via the tower entrance.

The Tower

The tower dates from 1846/48. Its roof has been described by Pevsner as 'a sort of Rhenish helm (cf Sompting, Sussex)' (42). It is surmounted by a weather-vane showing a cockerel in full crow above the points of the compass. Like the remainder of the church, its walls are of flint with limestone quoins, and there are buttresses at the lower levels at all corners. The tower entrance is 12th century work, flanked by undecorated shafts, and it leads up slate stairs to the bell ringing platform, also of slate, and to the gallery. Of interest is the roughly carved cross halfway down the right door jamb; these marks are sometimes *thought* to be the work of pilgrims (43). There is also a series of scratches, evidently someone counting in groups of five (sets of 4 vertical scratches struck through by a diagonal).

The architect for the renovation is unknown but a comparison with other work by Owen Browne Carter (1806-59) who 'was involved in the design and restoration some of the most significant buildings in Winchester' (44) suggests he *may* have been involved (see also Appendix 3). **Please see Addendum at the end of this document.**

**For information on the bells,
please see Addendum at the end of this document.**

The church's west door is flanked by twelfth century shafts and capitals: the north capital is carved with three early volutes, and the other has a small human head with long ears, from which issue two knotted and twisted tails (47). The rest of the doorway is modern. The significance of this carved capital is unknown but it *may* have been a visual reminder to worshippers that they should leave their fears of supernatural things outside the church and concentrate on spiritual matters within God's house. At the entrance to St. Swithin's church, Nately Scures, a mermaid is carved on the left capital: mermaids represented water spirits and *perhaps* a similar message was being conveyed to the faithful there.

The Nave and Chancel

The interior of the nave is dominated by the chancel arch, almost 7ft. 6ins. inches wide and 10ft. 8ins. to the top of the arch, set in a massive wall. The arch itself is emphasised by the concentric outer curves and the 4 inch wide band of dog-tooth Norman carving, and by the high roof above. Either side of the arch are detached shafts (or columns) resting on two rolls and with cushion capitals.

Long ago, features on both sides of the arch were deliberately destroyed. There is no record of what has gone, nor when, nor why; perhaps the destruction recalls more than one incident of anti-church feeling. Interestingly, the

damage at the top of the left shaft was subsequently painted over implying damage done before the Reformation (48), and the red colour resembles that used in the faded mediaeval scroll paintwork on both sides of the arch. This same red may also be seen on some of the re-used stones around the nave's south-facing windows; this suggests red was used here extensively, in earlier times.

Besides the chancel arch, the visitor also gains a sense of the building's solidness from looking at the entrance and the windows. The nave's west wall is 40 inches thick, and the south and north walls are about the same thickness.

The chancel also conveys this sense of strength. The north, east and south walls of the chancel are almost the equals of the nave. The roof is substantially lower than that of the nave, and the walls closer together. Within this setting, the old style undistinguished pews - the former choir stalls, and the chequer board black and white marble floor, give a sense of intimacy. This is reinforced on winter mornings at early service, when the velvet curtains are drawn to reduce the draught.

The furnishings of the church are 'modern'. A plate on the pulpit records that the refurbishment of the interior, including the pulpit, prayer-desk and pews, also the east window, were completed by Christmas 1892. The reading lectern was given at Easter 1910. The altar was given in 1920 (in memory of Capt. G.A.Maconochy, 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles, k.i.a. Waziristan, 1920). In subsequent years further gifts and some changes have been made. The kneelers were made by members of the parish in the early 1980s.

The Windows

All the north windows, and the single south window of the chancel, and the west windows in the gallery and the tower, are of clear glass, which allows maximum light into the building. The east window was given by Mrs. Helen Wylie, widow of the Reverend George Wylie, in 1892. It was made by Alfred Octavius Hemming (49) and replaced a painted glass window dated 1731/33 which had shown Christ on the road to Emmaus. The present window represents the Ascension of Christ into Heaven, with two angels holding a scroll bearing the words, *Ye men of Galilee why stand ye gazing up into heaven* (50). The scene is of a stylised Jerusalem with the eleven disciples in two groups looking upward at Christ; there are nine other angels in white, and a further eleven angel faces depicted in red glass.

In the nave, on the south side, the easterly window is composed of a frame enclosing individual glass lozenges with four motifs: fleur de lys, vine leaves, oak leaves and a cruciform flower, perhaps dogwood - a symbol of the Crucifixion.

The central window shows Christ with a scroll above and the words, *Come unto me all ye that labour* (51). It was given, 'In loving memory of William and Ann Maria Goring, late of Sheldons, Hook' (52). The westerly window depicts Christ holding a small child with four others crowding around; underneath are the words, *Suffer the little children to come unto me* (53). It was given by a former rector, the Reverend Andrew Wallace Milroy, to record the baptisms of his family. By local tradition the children's faces in the window are likenesses of his five offspring.

Memorials

There are several memorials on the nave's walls. The first on the north side is to the Reverend George Wylie and his wife Helen. During his 34 years as rector he masterminded the rebuilding of the church in 1846/48. Some feel his Victorian zeal was excessive and that we *may* have lost forever several features of historic interest, for example earlier memorials (54), and *perhaps* markers for graves of those buried in the nave or chancel (see end note 33).

Next is a plaque to the Reverend Charles Henry Coryndon Baker DD, for 15 years rector. Then above the prayer-desk is the 1914-1921 memorial to those who died in the Great War, 19 names in all (55).

In the Chancel, on the north wall, a tablet commemorates the death in 1781 (aged 38) of Jane Richmond wife of the rector; and also of her husband the Reverend Joseph Richmond DD who died in 1816 aged 97, and who was the incumbent for an astonishing 54 years. On the chancel floor a flagstone records them as 'JR 1781 JRDD 1816'.

Next, on the north wall of the sanctuary, is a feature which may be unique in Hampshire. It is part of an early 14th Century gravestone 'incised with the head and shoulders of a tonsured and bearded priest, apparelled in alb and chasuble, under a trefoiled canopy' (56). The only part of the inscription remaining is '+ Hic jacet' (= Here lies),

but the identity of the person is unknown. The stone was brought to Newnham from Andwell Priory Farm and used to reside on the west wall of the chancel (57).

On the south wall is a black stone memorial erected by the Reverend Paul Daniel Eyre to his father the Reverend Charles James Phipps Eyre MA for many years rector of St. Marylebone, and also his brother Ernest Eyre who died in 1882, aged 22, while still at Christchurch, Oxford.

Then to the right of the south window, the Reverend Richard Hunter AM (sic) who died in 1844, and his wife Mary who died in 1840, are recalled.

There is also a coffin stool inscribed 'Louis and Rosemary'. This was given in memory of the Simmonds, husband and wife, who lived at Tithe Barn on Newnham Green and who died in 1947 and 1940, respectively.

On the south wall of the nave are further memorials: a pulpit light to Fanny Vernon Harrop, and there are tablets to the Right Honourable Sir Frederick John Wrottesley Kt who lived at Manor Farm and died in 1948: he was probably the only resident of the village who has featured in the Dictionary of National Biography (58); Georgiana Pechell (née Harrop) and two of her infant grandchildren, Aimée and Estelle Pechell; and William Mortimer Charles Pechell of Newnham Hill, and his wife Emily Louisa Pechell.

Whether armorial bearings are memorials may be arguable, however the church possesses those of George I, painted on wood. This coat of arms used to hang from the front of the gallery but was banished to the tower for many years. Fortunately the church wardens in the late 1980s arranged for the paintwork to be refurbished (59) and it hangs again in the nave. Displaying the royal arms was a sign of loyalty to the Crown. *En passant* it may come as a surprise to know that during the 18th Century Newnham, and probably many other communities, also displayed loyalty year by year by ringing the church bells to mark the anniversary of the Coronation and again on November 5th - Guy Fawkes' Day.

Outside the church there are two benches given in memory of Miss Kathleen Close, 1960, one by the west door the other by the lichgate. She lived at Rookwood on London Road, Hook, where Rookwood Close is today.

The Gallery

The only feature of importance is the organ. This is inscribed as, Presented to St. Nicholas Church Newnham on January 13 1952 by Mrs F. E. W. Bell of Newnham Green Farm. A document, now in the vestry, prepared by the person who renovated it in December 1951 says, *inter alia*,

It was made almost 100 years ago ... it has 268 organ pipes, some wood but mostly metal. The largest is 10 feet long and almost 20 inches in girth, while the tiniest is not as long as a new pencil and less than half as thick.

The Crypt

There is understood to be a small crypt under the chancel. The entrance is under the choir stalls on the north side and was formerly covered by a wooden trapdoor. This used to deteriorate because of the damp, and in about 1935 it was replaced by a concrete slab (60). No recent entry has been made and the present status of the crypt is unknown.

The Church Yard

On leaving the church it is worth looking firstly at the gravestones immediately adjacent to the west end. To the north of the tower are those of Rogers and Rowlands, and to the south of the church are many Webbs, all were local farming families. On returning down the path to the lichgate the oldest extant tombstone may be inspected beside the south east buttress of the nave. It is of very weathered granite and legible with the very greatest difficulty. It records the last resting place of Mary daughter of Peter Justice, who died 14 August 1728, aged four months; her father *may* have lived at Lyde Mill.

The next oldest gravestone is that of Mary wife of James North. She died on 13 May 1745 aged 37 years, and she lies under the yews to the south of the path. The stone is carved with two pierced hearts on either side of an hour-glass, a symbol of the transience of human life.

Further along the path is the grave of John Callaway who died 24 June 1831; his headstone bears this poem,

Pray look at me as you pass by,
As you are now so once was I.
As I am now so you must be,
Prepare yourself to follow me.

Just beyond this grave there is a yew on the north side of the path which marks the old entrance to the church yard. A clear earth bank can be seen running in a westerly direction, north and south from this point, towards the Manor Farm farmyard. This was the original boundary of the church yard protected from wandering livestock by a fence. During the 18th and early 19th Centuries the responsibility for maintaining identified sections of the fence fell to particular properties or families, see Appendix 4.

The churchyard was added to: first on the south side, probably in the late 18th century, the glebe land being given by the Reverend Joseph Richmond. The second extension, to the north, was the gift of Major Sir Herbert Cayzer (later 1st Baron Rotherwick) in 1923 and was consecrated in 1924 (61). And in 2000 a further gift at the northwest edge was confirmed by Mr. Colin Lewin. The memorial garden, east of the Cayzer gift and by the lichgate, was given by the late Mrs. Denys Oppè in 1997.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As ever, the Hampshire Record Office has been extremely helpful in producing the essential data upon which this booklet is based. Since writing the original in 1993 more information has come to hand. Mr. Rodney Hubbuck provided data about the history of the church's east window. Others have shared their learning and I have tried to acknowledge such data in footnotes.

Local people have also helped with their knowledge, and sadly some have died since they and I talked. It has seemed invidious to try to separate out each individual contribution. So, if I may, I would like to express my inclusive gratitude for all their help and I hope each will feel her or his evidence has been faithfully recorded.

EPILOGUE

This second account of Newnham, and its church of St. Nicholas, includes much new material. In places I have included speculation about what may have happened, partly to suggest an explanation, partly to stimulate thought and study. I have tried to emphasise my unverified ideas by italicising words like '*perhaps*' and '*may*' in the text.

Local History is, of course, a specialised form of detective work and ever more data is revealed by investigation, but occasionally new facts seem to arrive by chance. I have little doubt other information from documents, the work of metal detectionists, archaeological studies and many other sources will come to light - some of my speculations may be confirmed and others proved wrong. This account should be viewed as an interim stage in the on-going study of this charming village's evolution. I hope others will turn detective or (changing the metaphor) become explorers and discover more facts. In the meanwhile I would be most grateful to receive readers' corrections, information or other advice, so that if this booklet is ever reissued it will be more accurate or relevant. Please write.

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5. Idem p. 114.
6. Idem p. 122.
7. *Vide* Margaret Gelling, *The Place Names of Berkshire* Part 3. pub English Place Name Society. Cambridge 1976. Vol. 51 page 816 *et seq.* Also Eilert Ekwall, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names*. 4th Ed. Oxford 1960. Introduction page xv.
8. *Dictionary of National Biography*. Vol.46. (1896). pp. 163/4.
9. W. Dugdale. *Monasticon Anglicanum*. New ed. (1846). Vol.VI. Part II. p. 1014.
10. *Victoria County History of Hampshire*. Vol 4. (1911). p. 157a.
11. Ibid. p. 156a/b.
12. Ibid. pp. 45b/46a & 156b/157a.
13. However the will of Oliver Smith 'of Newnham in the County of Southampton, yeoman', dated 10 April 1639 (died 1641) states 'whereas I do now stand seised in fee simple of and in the fourth part of the Manor of Newnham aforesaid'. This raises questions about how ownership of the Manor was passed or acquired.
14. Parish of Newnham. Notes prepared by the late E.J.B.Miskin.
15. W. White. *Hampshire*. (Sheffield 1878). p. 336.
16. A Survey of the Manor of Nateley Scures, 1561. HRO 21M58/E37.
17. HRO. 42M91 PX8.
18. *Kelly's Directory of Hampshire*. (1927). p. 302.
19. Map of the Parish of Hook etc. 6 inches to 1 mile. Church Commissioners. 1955.
20. C. Cochrane. *The Lost Roads of Wessex*. (New York 1969). pp. 27, 33, 34.
21. This map is reproduced from the original watercolour by kind permission of Winchester College for whom it was painted about 1552 and amongst whose muniments it is held. Ref Himsworth 3233 (1535-50).
22. A Survey of the Manor of Nately Scures, 1561. op.cit. p. J.
Note: The Langford Map of 1616 illustrating Corpus Christi College, Oxford lands in Newnham, identifies the relevant area on Hook Common as 'Hackingrow'.
23. An Act for repairing the Road from Hertford Bridge Hill, to the Town of Basingstoke. 10 Geo. 2. Cap. 12. (1737).
24. Verbal information from the late 6th Earl of Malmesbury.
25. Daniel Paterson. *A New and Accurate Description of all the Direct and Principal Cross Roads in Great Britain*. (1786) p. 27.
26. The late Mr. Peter Schagen of Hook, with the help of members of the Hook Local History Group, prepared a transliteration of some 55 wills of local people mostly using material held by the Hampshire Record Office, Winchester. The two inventories cited to are of, Oliver Smith (Ref: HRO 1641 AO/104) and John Russell (HRO 1640 AO/96) respectively.
27. See 'Trouble in Hook: A Sixteenth Century Mini-Saga' N. Bell. Hook Local History Group *Journal No.1* 1991 p.44 *et seq.*
28. Daniel Defoe. *A Tour through the Whole Island of Great Britain*. 1724. Letter 3.
29. Inventory of Edward Amballin.
30. 1901 Census Return, pp. 18-20. Newnham. Microfiche RG13/1108.
31. W. Dugdale. op.cit. The relevant wording is:
'*Ecclesiam de Neoham cum decima ipsius villae tota, et cum decima virgulti, et cum decima duorum molendinorum et cum una virgata terrae, et altera virgata ad Mappedreuellam*'.
[The church of Newnham with all the tithes of the said vill, and with the tithes of the woods and with the tithes of two mills and with one virgate of land, and another virgate at Mapledurwell. N.B. a virgate was about 30 acres or 12 hectares, but could vary according to land quality from 15 to 60 acres: *The Local Historian's Encyclopedia* John Richardson 1986.]
32. This picture, and those of nearly every other church in the Winchester Diocese, was painted at the behest of Bishop Charles Richard Sumner (1827-68). The original is held in the Winchester Cathedral Library and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter and of the Librarian.
33. As stated in note 26 (above) the late Mr. Peter Schagen, masterminded the study of local wills and inventories using material held by the Hampshire Record Office, Winchester. The reference for the quoted Thomas Fielder (Fylder in the original) will is HRO B/3. Also the will of Robert Preston, Rector of Newnham, dated 1534 requests burial in the Chancel of St. Nicholas, Newnham: HRO 1534 B/37.
34. See Nicholas Riall. *Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester*. Hampshire Papers No.5. HCC 1994.
35. ICBS. 3757. Lambeth Palace Library. 8 April 1846.
The Rector, George Wylie applied to the Incorporated Church Building Society for assistance in repairing Newnham church because it was 'in a dilapidated state owing to age and the foundations having suffered. from want of drainage. The Bell turret is in such an insecure state as to shake every time the bells are rung.' He recorded the existence of a gallery at the west end of the building, but stated there was no vestry.
36. ICBS. 3757. Lambeth Palace Library. 21 January 1848.
The Rector reported to the I.C.B.S. that the rebuilding work had been completed, 'making the church almost a new one, and very different from the original building scarcely any of which except the Chancel Arch and wall above it remains'.
37. ICBS. Op.cit. 8 April 1846.
Internal dimensions of the nave of the church before renovation: 41ft 8ins long, 20ft 3ins wide, height 14ft.
38. VCH. op.cit. p.157 b. Following the 1847 restructuring, nave measurements: length 41ft 7ins, width 20ft 8ins, height to the beam running lengthwise above the windows, 15ft 4ins.

39. Portsmouth Central Library, Local History Collection. ref. 942.27. Hampshire Newspaper Cuttings 1688-1799 Collected by Sir F. Madden. Vol.1. p.55. Also *Medieval Churches in Hampshire in Old Pictures 1700-1900* by Rodney Hubbuck. Part2. Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Newsletter 26. Autumn 1996. p.12, confirms that 'the former East window, [contained] a large round-arched light that held stained glass of 1731 by John Rowell, representing Christ at Emmaus'.
40. HRO:67 M 80 A. PW1. Churchwardens' rate and account book 1724-1797. References include: 1742/43 '700 tiles 10s.' and '10 ridge tiles and sand 2s. 2d.'; 1763/64 '400 tiles and 18 ridge tiles in total 9s.'; and 1759 'timber for porch £1. 8s. 9d.'; 1787/88 'tiles and lime for porch 6s.'
41. The gift of the late W.M.C.Pechell of Newnham Hill.
42. N. Pevsner & D. Lloyd. *The Buildings of England: Hampshire and the Isle of Wight*. (1967). p. 353.
43. *Inside Churches, A Guide to Church Furnishings*. NADFAS 1993 p.64
44. R Freeman *The Art and Architecture of Owen Browne Carter (1806-1859)* . Hampshire Papers No.1 HCC 1991. See also Appendix 3.
45. W. E. Colchester. *Hampshire Church Bells*. (Bath. 1920 repr. 1979). pp. 9, 33/34, 37.
46. **Please see Addendum at the end of this document.**
47. VCH. op.cit. p.157 b.
48. If this damage was done before the Reformation (say 1538) it *may* have been caused by dissidents such as the Lollards who were active during about 1375 to about 1425, but the author has not read that they were active near Basingstoke.
49. I am grateful to Mr. Rodney Hubbuck, who wrote 'The stained glass of the east window ... is by A. O. Hemming. The reference is *The Building News* 60 (1891) p. 494. ... [Hemming's] most prominent work must be in the Chapter House at Canterbury Cathedral.'
50. The Acts of the Apostles. 1 v.11
51. St. Matthew. 10 v.28
52. Sheldons was located approximately where Sheldons Orchard ,off Middlemead, Hook, is today; the house was razed in May 1985. The Goring family owned and lived at the farm from 1853 until William Goring died on 12 February 1879, aged 47 (see Glynis Wilsdon. *Sheldon's*. 1985.).
53. St. Mark. 5 v.14.
54. It would have been unusual if there had been no such memorials at Newnham. All the surrounding churches have at least one memorial predating 1800. During repairs to the tower in 1990 the stonemason found part of a stone moulding, of the kind used to frame wall memorials, in the rubble used in making the 'new' tower in 1846/48.
55. The names of the fallen are: W.J.Champion, A.J.Clark, H.Englefield, A.V.Fitchett, W.Gubby, A.Holdup, E.J.Holdup, H.C.Lane, W.G.Lane, J.Lever, G.A.Maconochy, T.M.Marker, F.G.Matthews, S.J.Morris, V.Morris, C.H.Stent, F.Stringer, J.Willis, H.Young.
56. VCH. op.cit. p.157 b.
57. W.M.C.Pechell, who lived at Newnham from 1890 until 1932, left notes as follows: This 'grave stone' was moved from the west wall of the chancel previously to 1890: the bricklayer who helped to move it, Newman, was alive in 1920.
58. *Dictionary of National Biography 1941-1950*. (Oxford) pp. 980/1.
59. Verbal information from Mr. P. G. Hedley-Dent
60. Verbal information from the late Mrs. M. Mortimer Bell.
61. HRO. 21M65 DD 263. Diocesan Deeds, Newnham.

APPENDIX 1

Evidence Farming from Newnham Wills and Inventories

W= will;

I= inventory

- 1534 W John Fielder bequeathed 7 sheep a cow and a heifer to several destinations.
- 1534 W Robert Preston (Rector of Newnham) — lambs (number unstated) and 3 yearling calves
- 1535 W John Howyk — 2 cows, 3 bullocks, a calf, a whether, 3 hives of bees
- 1536 W William Whitcombe — a cow and 3 heifers
- 1540 W Thomas Fielder — lambs (number unstated)
- 1541 W John Hooker — 4 Cattle, a horse, fields of wheat, barley, oats, peas, other cattle and a lamb
- 1549 I Elisabeth Fielder — 56 cheeses, 4 acres of wheat, 5 acres of oats, 1 acre of mixed barley and peas, 8 cattle, 2 yoke of oxen, 2 mares, 44 sheep (various), 6 pigs, hay, wool
- 1557 I John Fielder — 3 cheese vats, 3 spinning wheels
- 1558 W Thomas Stephens — 62 old sheep, 8 cattle, 1 pig, cock and hens, wheat and hay in ricks
- 1572 W+I Denis Lyde — 2 cattle, some wheat and oats
- 1586 I William Whitcombe — 1 cheese press, 1 mare, 4 cattle, 9 sheep a cock and 4 hens, goose and gander, 3 ducks, 1 pig, sown corn, hay
- 1588 I John Smith — 1 cheese press, 12 hens, 1 duck, 1 goose, 4 horses, 8 sheep, 1 acre of wheat, 1 sack of wool
- 1592 I John Collins — 10 acres wheat, 8 acres barley, oats, peas, 5 horses, 12 cattle (various), 10 pigs, poultry
- 1608 I James Segrove — 14 cattle, 1 horse, cock and 2 hens, goose and gander
- 1614 I Rowland Upton — 15 cattle, 3 horses, 15 pigs or piglets, ducks, cocks and hens, oats and wheat in the barn, corn in the ground, 36 lbs of wool, 8 hives of bees
- 1619 I Thomas Acres — butter churn, 6 cheese vats, 3 cream pots
- 1619 I John Hockley (yeoman) — hay in the barn, stack of oats and peas, wheat in the barn, 4 acres newly sown wheat, 11 pigs etc, 12 cattle (various), 1 horse, poultry
- 1621 I Richard Amlin (yeoman) — butter churn, 16 cheeses, wheat in the barn, oats in the ground, 10 cattle, 3 pigs, poultry
- 1632 I John South — 6 cattle, 3 horses, 12 pigs and piglets, beans and peas in the ground, threshed oats
- 1640 I John Russell — cheese press, 2 butter churns, 6 cheese vats, cheese (seemingly a lot), 10 lbs butter, 30 acres of oats and peas, 22½ acres hay, 16 pigs (various), 8 horses, 45 cattle (various), 24 sheep or lambs, 2 heaps of chalk
- 1641 I Oliver Smith (yeoman) — cheese press, 9 cattle, 2 horses, corn and hay (in the barn), wheat in the ground, 2 pigs, geese ducks and other poultry
- 1668 I Roger Wilkins (yeoman) — 6 cattle, a stack of wheat, a stack of oats
- 1673 I Amy Wilkins (widow) — cheese press, 7 cows, 2 pigs, 7 acres of wheat, 10 acres of oats and peas, oats in the barn from 8½ acres

Evidence of Other Trades

- 1701 I Edward Amlin (framework knitter) — frame and associated tools
note also
- 1557 John Fielder (above): spinning wheels
- 1614 Rowland Upton (above): 36 lbs wool, but apparently no sheep
furthermore, John Fielder (1557) and Thomas Acres (1619) on page 23 do not seem to have had farm stock, *perhaps* their livelihoods were based on food processing or were shopkeepers.

APPENDIX 2

Clergy: An Historical Record

1304-1305	William de Essex
1304-1306	Andrew de Guldeford (Deacon)
1311	Robert de Kelkefeld
1314-1326	Andrew de Guldeford
1326-1337	Thomas de Menestoke
1337	Walter de Heyford
1339	John de Peuseye
1339	Walter de Stratford
1339	Henry de Twyverton (Clerk)
1349	William de Ranby (Clerk)
? – 1378	William de Rovenby
1378	William de Wynton
1381	William Wychot (or Withot) Parson of St.Peter's Without Southgate, Winchester
1389	William Bereford
1408	John Stockton (Clerk)
1427	John Fereby (Rector)
Records Lost	
1449-1477	William Belne
1477-1507	Thomas Cuthbertson
1507	Edward Hylton
1507-1519	William Estwood BA
1520-1521	Richard Fetherston MA
1521-1534	Robert Preston MA
1534-1538	Edward Lush (or Loyshe) BD, Canon of Carlisle 1542
c.1552-3	Thomas Peyrson
1567	Nicholas Cooke MA
1589	John Hewlett BA (Clerk)
1589	Nicholas Smith (his will is dated 5 th November 1617)
1618	William Cape
1654	James Potter
1658	Andrew Whelpdale (also Rector of Dogmersfield from 1671)
1679	Philip Nanson (also Rector of Dogmersfield from 1679)
1719-1740	Michael Hutchinson DD (Minister of Hammersmith [1712], Rector of Longdon [1721] and Freford [1727])
1741-1761	Robert Atkinson MA
1761-1816	Joseph Richmond DD. He died 3 rd January 1815 aged 98.
1816-1844	Richard Hunter MA
1845-1879	George Wylie MA
1879-1889	Andrew Wallace Milroy MA
1889-1899	Paul Daniel Eyre DD
1901-1916	Charles Henry Coryndon Baker DD
1916-1924	William Hipwood Mowatt MA
1924-1933	Edward Waring Ormerod
1933-1944	Horace Spence Footman MA
1945-1950	Frederick Alexander Sanders
1951-1955	Roy Aubrey Dacre BD
1955-1961	Kenneth Caesar Davis
1961-1963	Bernard Williamson BA
1964-1980	Reginald Haines
1981-1986	Brian Cowell
1986-1997	Michael Hawes AKC
1999-2008	Michael Jaggs MA
2008-	Jane Leese BA (Econ)

APPENDIX 3 Please see Addendum at the end of this document.

Possible Identity of the St. Nicholas', Newnham Architect in 1846/47

There appear to be no extant records relating to the identity of the architect who was involved with the reconstruction of St. Nicholas, Newnham in 1846-1847. None of the guidebooks consulted *inter alia* White's *Hampshire*, Kelleys Directory, Arthur Mee, Nikolaus Pevsner gives any information. The Incorporated Church Building Society (ICBS), which provided some money towards the work, is silent. The remaining Dorchester family papers (Guy 3rd Baron Dorchester was Lord of the Manor at the time and seems to have funded much of the re-building) no longer cover this period (1).

Perhaps somebody will come forward with the actual data, but for the present the author offers the following *possible* identification:

In 1846/47 Newnham church was remodelled. At that date buttresses were added to all the corners, the windows were changed, the parson's door into the chancel was removed and the bell tower was built. It is improbable that the Revd George Wylie would have been allowed, by the ICBS to whom he had applied for a grant, to undertake such extensive work without an architect. The sum of money given by the ICBS was clearly insufficient, and Guy Carleton 3rd Baron Dorchester, paid much of the restoration cost from his own pocket. It is suggested that he may have insisted on being involved in choosing the architect. And he may have chosen a recognized Hampshire man in preference to going for a London establishment figure.

If this speculation were correct Owen Browne Carter (1806-59) would seem a suitable choice. He was 'between about 1823 and the 1850's involved in the design and restoration of some of the most significant buildings in Winchester ... working in a wide range of architectural styles' (2). Interestingly he was responsible, apparently, for St. Peter's church in Southampton and the comparison with St. Nicholas', Newnham is striking. The facts that the tower roofs are similar, there are four courses to both towers, the doors and windows, and the buttresses, have much in common *suggests* Owen Browne Carter *may* have influenced the modifications to Newnham church. However, a note of caution is necessary because the *Biographical Dictionary of British Architects 1600-1840* by Howard Colvin, pp 230/1 does not mention Newnham church among the buildings associated with Owen Browne Carter (4); see also note 2 below.

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Notes

1. I am grateful to the Earl of Malmesbury for this information.
2. *The Art and Architecture of Owen Browne Carter (1806-1859)*, Robin Freeman. Hampshire Papers No.1, 1991. But as Mr Freeman indicates, Carter's pupil, G. E. Street, may have had a hand in the design having seen St. Mary's, Sompting, Sussex which has a similar tower roof. Thus Street *may* have been involved in the design of the towers of both St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' churches.
3. ~~Mr. Robin Freeman kindly gave permission for this photograph to be reproduced.~~
4. I am grateful to Mr. D. Evans of the RIBA Information Unit for drawing this to my attention.

APPENDIX 4

List of Persons Responsible for the Upkeep of the Churchyard Fence

No	Ft & ins	Panels	1766	1782/86	1796/1812-16	1816/35
1	29'	3	Alexander Wix	Clue	Jn. Rogers	Jn. Rogers
2	28'	4	Edmund Chamberlain, Paper Mill	Chamberlen	Thos. Horn	Ed. Chamberlin
3	15' 8"	2	James Webb	Webb	J. Horn	Jn. Webb
4	10' 10"	1	George Poulter	Polter	Ben Poulter	Mr. Cooper
5	11' 6"	2	James Webb	Webb	Mrs Bird	Jn. White
6	26' 6"	3	Rush Mason	Mason	Rev.Langdon	Rev. Davis
7	26'	3	Charles Roberson, Sheldons	Stevens	J.W.Clark	Rev.Parker
8	17'	2	William Naish	Naish	Rowland	?
9	9'	1	Norman, The Shop	Norman	Varndell	?Baldock
10	12' 6"	2	John Keep	Bath Jnr	Hockley	?Bartlett
11	11'	1 + gate	Revd. Dr. Richmond	Richmond	n/a	Mr.Hunter, Rector
12	30'	4	James Webb	Webb	n/a	Mrs.Hewett
13	15'	2	John Stevens, Tichenors	Chamberlen	J. Horn	Ed.Chamberlin
14	24'	3	Thomas King	King	J.W.Clark	Mr.Luff
15	28' 6"	4	John Stevens, Hook Farm	Stevens	J.W.Clark	Mr.Luff
16	31' 6"	4	Bernard Lee	Lee	John & James	Rogers
17	10' 4"	1	Thos. Balding, The Raven	Bullock	J. Hewett	Eli Lee
18	8'	1	John Newell	Lambel	J. Harris	Silvester
19	14'	2	Marshall, Crooked Billet	Chamberlen	n/a	?Dorchester
20	25'	3	Richard Baffe	Bath	n/a	Baffe
21	18'	2	David Crimble, Lyde Mill	Kite	n/a	Readman
22	16'	1+ gate	Earl Tynney, Malt House	Bath	Rogers	Mr.Ellis

Ref: HRO 67M80 PW1 & PO1

ADDENDUM (2012-14)

Since the time of writing in 2004, more information has come to light and also there have been changes to the bells. This new information is given below and supersedes some of that written in the main body of the text.

Identity of the St. Nicholas' Newnham Architect in 1846/47

A Google search of the ICBS (Incorporated Church Building Society) documentation shows that the professional responsible for the extensive restoration of St. Nicholas' Newnham in 1846-1848 was Benjamin Thorne (who flourished at Basingstoke during 1846-1850) who was the Surveyor. He was also stated to have been the Architect for the refurbishment of St Mary's Church Mapledurwell. From this it is unclear whether the Newnham surveyor was also the architect or whether an unidentified architect was also involved.

Bells

There are five bells hung for full-circle ringing, and a sixth – dated around 1500 – now hung as a static “Sanctus” bell.

Until 2010 there were three bells, all 17th century or earlier, but in the years leading to 2010 the tower was deemed unsafe for full-circle ringing so they were only chimed. On Easter Monday 2010, two bell-ringers recorded the sound for posterity. Next day the bells were lowered, so that the original headstocks and bearings could be renewed, and the bells re-tuned by Whites of Appleton, Abingdon, Oxon. The oldest bell was then stood down after many centuries of ringing out over the landscape, and in 2012 it was rehung as a static “Sanctus” bell. Three additional bells from around the year 1900 were purchased, and the new ring of five bells was blessed on 11 July 2010 and subsequently hung in the tower. A full peal was first rung at a service of dedication on 19th September 2010 in which the Bishop of Winchester participated.

The current bells, with weights in hundredweights/quarters/pounds and diameters in inches, are:

No. 1 (Treble), note G, weight 2-3-3, diameter 23.50.

Formerly at Upper Beeding, Sussex, marked “Mears & Stainbank Foundry, London. Queen Victoria Jubilee 1897, H. D. Meyrick Vicar, G. A. Flowers [and] C. Budd. Church Wardens.” It was donated by the Earl and Countess of Buchan, Church Warden 1993-2010.

No. 2, note F, weight 3-0-4, diameter 25.00.

Formerly at Shiplake, Oxon. Marked “Cast by John Warner & Sons Ltd, London 1902”, it was donated by The Buckleys of Tithe Barn since 1971 (who left Newnham in 2011).

No. 3, note E, weight 3-1-15, diameter 26.50.

Also from Shiplake, cast by Warners in 1902.

No. 4, note D, weight 3-3-27, diameter 27.25.

An original tenor (note C) marked “Henry Knight made me 1662” (Henry Knight II, bell founder at Reading, 1662-1673);

No. 5, note C, weight 5-0-8, diameter 30.13.

An original tenor (note D) marked “Henry Knight made mee 1602” (Henry Knight I, bell founder, 1587-1622).

No. 6 (retired), weight 2-1-10, diameter 22.75.

The original treble (note F), marked with two crosses and “WH” (William Hasyllwood, bell founder at Reading, 1494-1509). Now hung as a static Sanctus bell.

Sources

- Towers with three bells or less in the Basingstoke area. D. A. Holmes (J. Hannon & Co, Oxford, 1979).
- Hampshire Church Bells. W. E. Colchester (Kingsmead Press, Bath, 1920, reprinted 1979).