

Bellringing Policy

St Lawrence Church, Alton



The Parish of the Resurrection welcomes the use of the St Lawrence Church bells to call the congregations to worship, to declare the Christian presence in the town and as part of a wider mission to encourage the ringing of church bells. We therefore support the Parish of the Resurrection Bellringers, the use of the bells for competitions and events organised by our own bellringers and the Alton & Petersfield & District of Bellringers and the use of the tower by visiting teams of ringers.

However, in order to be a good neighbour, we are conscious of our duty not to disturb the peace of the surrounding area unduly.

To promote a reasonable balance between these two aims above we agree the following:

- That bells are rung for all church services other than the 8am Holy Communion Service, for other religious festivals during the year, weddings and funerals when booked in advance, and for specific commemorative purposes, especially New Year's Eve and historic anniversaries.
- Regular bellringing practice every Thursday evening between 7.30 and 9.00pm
- An Alton & District Bellringing practice on every last Saturday of the month between 5.30 and 7.30pm
- In addition to the above, a quarter peal (45 minutes) which is booked in advance up to six times a year
- In addition to the above, a full peal (3 hours) which is booked in advance up to twice a year
- Quarter Peal Week is celebrated annually and local bellringers will use this opportunity to ring more regularly during the week.
- Visiting bands of ringers can be booked to use the Tower up to six times a year restricted to a period of between 45 minutes and one hour.
- Other than for the occasional wedding or funeral, the bells are not rung on weekdays between the hours of 9am and 5pm.
- All occasions when the bells are rung will be advertised in advance on the Bellringers page and the Parish Calendar both publicly accessible on the Parish's website www.potr-alton.co.uk
- All bookings which are necessary are through the Tower Secretary and communicated to the Vicar and Parish Office regularly.
- Any other requests for bellringing not covered by this policy will require agreement from the Vicar or Churchwardens in advance.

AGREED:

SIGNED: