BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION (Founded 1890)

Version A

No photograph available

No details of design known, but manufactured by Mappin and Webb

'The Association on the occasion of this Special Meeting chose the badge submitted by Messrs. Mappin and Webb. I believe the badge, if worn by members on their watch chains or where it can be seen, will be a help towards good fellowship amongst our members by enabling them to recognise one another as members of the same Association although they may not have been beforehand personally acquainted. It is desirable therefore that every member should possess a badge.'

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1907-08

'300 Badges at 11½d. £14 7 6 (193 sold at 1s.)' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1907-08

'We have been asked, by some quarters, for the Badges of the Association, but these have been all disposed of. It is proposed, however, to have a Copper Badge struck, which we hope it may be possible to supply, free of charge, to New Members.'

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1912

'Re Badges. Mr Stacey was asked to see what he could do & send prices.' Minutes of B & W General Committee meeting 18.iv.1912

'It was also agreed to accept Mr Stacey's design for Badge master & Sec to settle details.'

Minutes of B & W General Committee meeting 24.v.1913 (Rough notes for the minutes have, 'Agreed to accept Mr Stacey's design with B W in open space if this is impossible [sic] if not master & Sec be empowered to proceed with letters on Bell.')

'We have secured, I think, an excellent Badge for the Association, and our thanks are due to Mr G Stacey, who has taken much trouble over the matter. It will be possible to issue this badge at sixpence each.'

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1913



Version B

Brass or hallmarked silver 25mm diameter

Pendant ring, buttonhole and brooch fastenings, all with plain reverse

No manufacturer shown on pendant type

'The Master pointed out that they had not yet paid for the issue of the new badges....' 'The Ringing World' 17.vii.1914 p414

'Badges, Dies and Tools £8 18 0' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1915



This example is hallmarked for Birmingham 1921





This example is hallmarked 'N' for Birmingham 1937

Version C

'Stacey' design in brass or hallmarked silver

25mm diameter Horseshoe and pin fastenings Manufactured by George Stacey

'.....and a further quantity of badges is being ordered.' 'The Ringing World' 28.vi.1928 p414

'The Secretary said that Mr Stacey owned the die of their badge, which had been in use for 50 years, and he had quoted £32 8s. a gross for badges, which they could sell at 4s. 6d. each. The committee had ordered a gross.'

'The Ringing World' 6.iv.1951 p217

'Mr Fry was able to inform the meeting that a new die had been made and badges would shortly be available at the price of 3s.' 'The Ringing World' 23.xii.1955 p809

'Bronze badges of the Association are now available again. They may be obtained from the Branch Secretaries after April 4th, 1957, price 3/6 each. Brooch or stud fittings are available.' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1955

'For the first time for four years there was a supply of badges in hand. The Association was grateful to Mr W A Osborn, who had very generously defrayed the cost of the new die, which would now be held in safe custody by the committee.'

'The Ringing World' 20.iv.1956 p250

'New Die' £8 0 0' and 'Donation to Defray Cost of Die for Badges £8 0 0.' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1956

Badges were bought by the Association in 1956, 1958, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968 and 1980

'Badge-Piercing Tool £27 10 0' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1963

Badges were bought from S E Read & Son (jewellers of 15 Moorland Road, Bath) in 1973, 1976 and 1977



Version D

Cupronickel 25mm diameter Plain reverse No manufacturer shown

Earlier badges have vertical pin, later ones have horizontal pin as shown.

'New badges and Cutting Tool £292.47' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1983

'Purchase of badges £68.54' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1986



Version E - produced for Association centenary

Silver, brass or cupronickel with dark blue enamel outer border and shield 30mm diameter

Pin fastening or pendant with plain reverse No manufacturer shown, but known to be Vaughton of Birmingham

Designed by Roy Rice and based on Stacey design (see Specials Section)

'The Master reported that the Banwell Ringers will be producing a bronze or silver Centenary Medallion' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1987

'Purchase of stock of badges £149.25' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1988





'The Ringing World' 22/29.xii.1989 p1171



Version F (1992)

As version C, but with centenary date omitted
Pin fastening with plain reverse

No manufacturer shown, but known to be W H Darby, of Birmingham, who took over Vaughton's work

'The new badges produced this year are based on the Centenary ones and we needed only one different die to produce them.' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1991

'Roy Rice of Banwell had generously given the die of the Centenary badge to the Association for adaptation and use as a model for the future.' 'The Ringing World' 26.iv.1991 p392

'We are grateful to Roy Rice for donating his profit on the special Centenary badges to the bell fund and also giving us his remaining stock to sell.' Bath and Wells Diocesan Association annual report for 1991

Roy Rice admits to going 'a bit mad' and had copies of versions E and F made with both brooch fastening and pendants in the finishes below:



Silver



Silver and enamel



Silver gilt



Silver gilt and enamel



Special 1

'Stacey' version for Association known (see Specials Section) Diameter 30mm

This example is silver with horseshoe fastening Hallmarked for Birmingham 1920



Special 2

Four of these badges were produced in sterling silver for four Banwell ringers to mark the Silver Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II in 1977. Two further copies were made in 1986 They were all made by Toye, Kenning and Spencer and are hallmarked for Birmingham, with the makers' mark 'TK&S' and the date letters 'C' and 'M' respectively. They were privately commissioned, not through the Bath and Wells Association.