

THE CHURCH AGENCY - BADGE FOR BELL RINGERS

The Church Agency Ltd first advertised these badges in September 1899. They were available with various fastenings and in various finishes. Details of prices were added in an advertisement in the following month.

**BADGE for
BELL RINGERS.**

Enamelled in various colours, with Pin,
Stud, or Ring attachment.
Prices from 1s. 6d.

THE CHURCH AGENCY, LIMITED,
6, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, w.c.



'Bell News' 23.ix.1899 p210

**BADGE for
BELL RINGERS.**

Sterling Silver	3s. 6d.
Enamelled in three colours ..	2s. 6d.
Plated	1s. 6d.

With Ring or Stud attachment.

THE CHURCH AGENCY, LIMITED,
6, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, w.c.

EXACT SIZE.



'Bell News' 21.x.1899 p258

Examples of the plated and the enamelled version are shown below:



Left: Plated badge - no manufacturer shown. This example engraved on reverse: C. W. PIPE FIRST PEAL SEP^R 5TH 1920 JULY 31ST 1920

Near right: White, maroon and black enamel on cupronickel

Far right: Blue, black and red enamel on brass

Manufacturer of both: Collins, Newgate Street, London



'I have had my attention directed to a pretty little article called "A Ringers' Badge." This is got up in a very neat manner, those in sterling silver making a quiet ornament, while the enamelled ones are attractive. It is a pity that the bell on this badge is not of the orthodox shape, perhaps the Church Agency, who have brought it into notice, will produce a better model in this respect.'

Editorial comment in 'Bell News' 6.i.1900 p387

Further varieties were added with this advertisement in 1902, with gilt and gold versions and all the finishes available with the bell modelled in relief.



BELL RINGERS' BADGE.

PLAIN.		RAISED BEL
1s. 6d.	White Metal	2s.
2s. 6d.	Metal Gilt Enamel 3 Colours	3s.
3s. 6d.	Sterling Silver	4s.
4s. 6d.	Sterling Silver, Enamel 3 colours	5s.
21s.	Gold	30s.

The Church Agency, 33, Strand, W.C.

'Bell News' 6.ix.1902 page ii



Above and right: An example with the bell in raised relief. It is in hallmarked silver and it was manufactured by J A Restall & Co of Cambridge Street, Birmingham, and was assayed in that city in 1901



The last time the badges were advertised in *'Bell News'* was February 11th 1905, by which time the name and address of the Agency had changed.



RINGERS' BADGE.

FLAT.		RAISED BELL
1s. 6d.	White Metal	2s.
2s. 6d.	Metal Gilt Enamel 3 Colours	3s.
3s. 6d.	Sterling Silver	4s.
4s. 6d.	Sterling Silver, Enamel 3 colours	5s.
21s.	Gold	30s.

CHURCH & GENERAL AGENCY, 45, STRAND, W

An example of the badges being presented is given in *'Bell News'* of February 17th 1900:

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

An interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of St. John's Church at the end of the morning service, on Sunday, December 10th. Mrs. Knowles expressed a desire to give badges to the members of the belfry, and, accordingly, the Rector obtained suitable ones, and Miss Adams accompanied Mrs. Knowles and the Rector up to the belfry. The Rector formally admitted Mr. William Casey a new member, and after a few preliminary remarks, Miss Adams was asked to make the presentation in the name of Mrs. Knowles, which she did by fastening the badges on the coats of the bellringers. The badges are silver mounted, bearing the inscription: "Ring out the False, Ring in the True," and also the words: "Ad Gloriam Dei", and underneath the word: "Veritas."