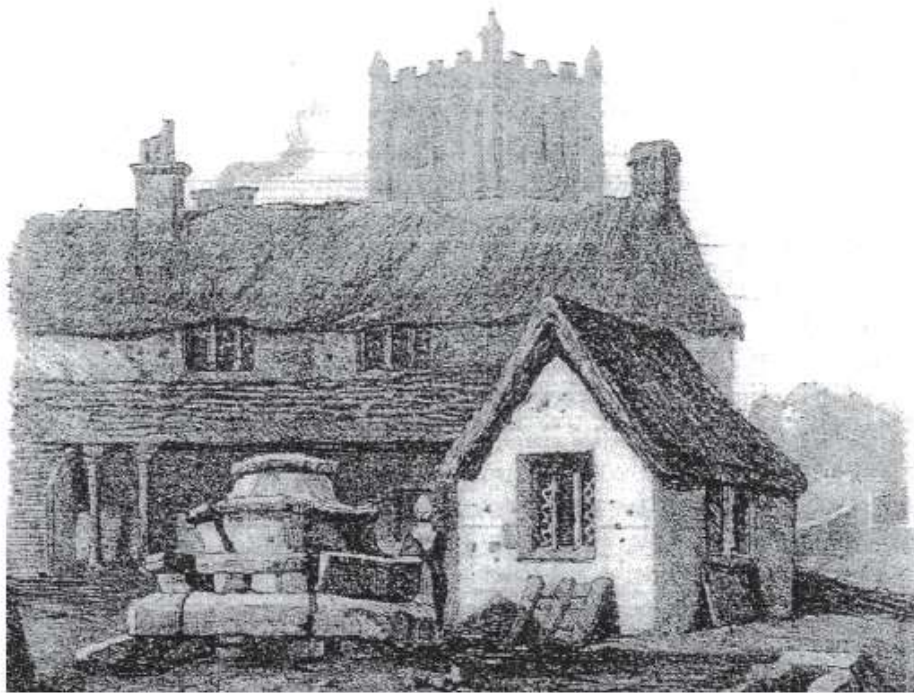


The Parish Church of  
**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**  
Chagford

*A Short History and Guide*  
*Start With a Walk Around*

The Rector and people of the Parish Church of St. Michael the Archangel, Chagford, are pleased to welcome you and hope that you will enjoy your visit to our historic town and church. This parish is in the Diocese of Exeter, and is the largest of the Whiddon Parishes of Dartmoor, which is a benefice formed of Chagford and five adjacent sister parishes (Drewsteignton, Spreyton, Hittisleigh, Gidleigh and Throwleigh).

**1261    THERE HAS BEEN A CHURCH ON THIS SITE FOR 747 YEARS    2008**



**SKETCH OF SQUARE AND CHURCH C.1810**



FRANCIS FRITH COLLECTION

**CHAGFORD, HIGH STREET 1922**





#### **NORTH WEST DOOR**

You will have entered through the North West door (the ancient door had been blocked up in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and was reopened in late 2006-2007 during reordering of the west end of the church with a new glass-panelled oak door). On your right is a statue of St. Michael the Archangel, presented by two parishioners in 2005.



**THE STATUE OF ST. MICHAEL** has an uncertain history. It is 400 years old and thought to be of German origin. Although the Roman dress might suggest a later date, the hair and booties make it earlier. The lively gesture, with the sword (or flail) raised to slice off the nasty little demon's head is unusual.

#### **THE SOUTH PORCH**

Traditionally, the main entrance was through the South Porch outside of which is a fine sundial. The fan vaulting and groined stone roof in the porch are painted white. On the unusual split door is a sanctuary ring (the lower fixed ring).



#### **THE FONT**

The Font, traditionally placed inside the main entrance is a granite font made in 1857 by a Chagford stonemason, John Aggett, and given by Mrs. H. Hames. It replaced earlier fonts, one of Norman origin and one of Portland stone made in 1762 at a cost of £3.3s.0d. The wooden cover, designed by R. Pearson RA, was made by Luscombe of Exeter at a cost of £10 in 1892.

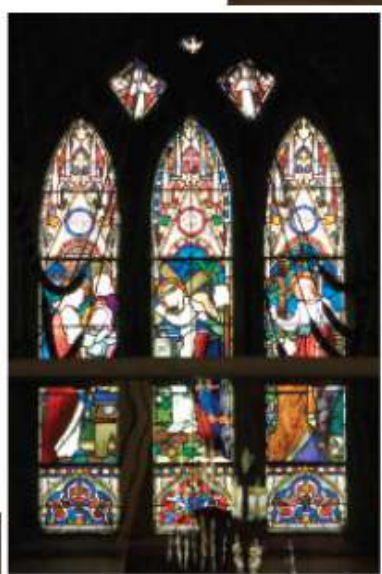
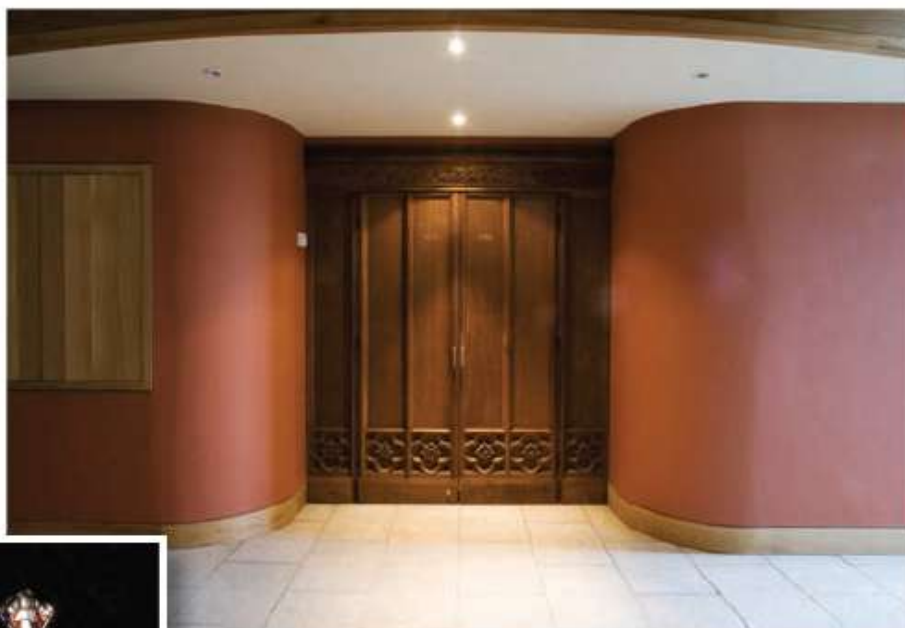
## THE TOWER

At the west end is the **Tower** and **West door**. The tower is late fifteenth / early sixteenth century, but contains the stonework of the thirteenth century west window with later glass. There was a ring of four bells here in the sixteenth century which were sold in 1537. By 1553 there was a ring of five bells and in 1765 by a licence of the Bishop of Exeter the five bells were cast into six the following year by Thomas Bilbie of Collumpton. Two more were added in 1877 making a peal of eight. In 1913 it was found that the old oak frame was unsafe. The bells were recast and rehung in 1914 on a new wooden bellframe made by William Aggett of Chagford which remains in good order.





Originally the ringing chamber was on ground level under the tower. The Ringers' gallery, and the choir vestry under the tower, were constructed in 1961 on the seven hundredth anniversary of the dedication of the church. This was extended to form a combined meeting room and choir vestry — **the Gabriel room** — with a newly installed servery and cloakroom in 2006-2007.



The extended gallery has a **glass balustrade** giving a fine view of the **ancient west window**. The tower screen doors, part of the Septcentenary thank offering dated 1261-1961, were retained.



Coffee being served to the congregation following the family church service

### THE NAVE

The church consists of a Nave with three aisles and a crossing. The side aisles are separated from the Nave by monolithic (each being of one piece) granite, octagonal columns, supporting five arches north and south, a feature shared with several Dartmoor churches.



### THE SOUTH DOOR

Over the south door is a fine royal coat of arms and to its west side is an interesting account of **benefaction of bread** to the poor. The ceremony took place each year until 1985. In 2002 the tradition was partly restored by the gift of hot-cross buns presented to the congregation by the Rector during the Good Friday service for the school.

The handsome oak pews are all 20<sup>th</sup> century by the well-known church wood carvers, Herbert Read of Exeter. Many have been given as memorials and superseded Victorian deal pews which in turn had superseded old high pews in 1865.





## THE NORTH AISLE

The windows in the north aisle are dedicated (from the west forwards) to:

- Constance Harriet Hayter-Hames d.1893, age 67, widow of Hayter George Hayter-Hames, Rector
- Jemima Belinda Hames d.1884, age 86, widow of William Hames MA, Rector
- Hayter George Hayter-Hames MA, Rector for 33 years, d.1886



The pillars in the north aisle match those in the south aisle, with octagonal bases. However, the front east pillar is the only one with a round base which leads historians to think that the builders may have used a millstone. On the north wall is a brass plaque commemorating Dorothea Ann Watts, with a most touching inscription:

*"If in this Shadowland of life thou hast  
found one true heart to love thee, hold it fast,  
love it again, give all to keep it thine,  
for love, like nothing in the world, can last."*



Above it is a memorial to two well-loved doctors Hunt, father and son, who between them served the people of Chagford for a total of ninety-five years. Also on the north wall are memorials to:

- George Hayter-Hames d.1820, age 29, Rector;
- The Tunnard-Moore family, who can trace their ancestry to Sir Thomas More;
- John Webber d.1909, Preacher to the Chagford (Methodist) Circuit for 50 years. This plaque was rescued from the Methodist Church in Mill Street when it was closed, and rehung and rededicated in St. Michael's in 1999.

## THE ROOD LOFT

The rood loft, put up in 1524, and screens were removed in 1865 having been found to be rotten. Apart from the existing fine medieval parciose screens on each side of the choir, which were regilded in 22 carat gold in 1963, the church was open until the present screen, also by Herbert Read, was installed. It is a memorial to Noël Hayter-Hames who was killed in a flying accident in 1925 and was dedicated by the Bishop of Plymouth on March 20<sup>th</sup> 1927.

The top stone of the large niche in the north wall, now covered by the screen, is considered to be 13<sup>th</sup> century work.





### THE PULPIT

At the east end of the north aisle is the pulpit, a fine example of the work of Herbert Read of Exeter. It was dedicated by the Bishop of Exeter in January 1930 as a memorial to Mr. Colville Hayter-Hames. Notice the



many birds hiding coily in the foliage. This pulpit replaces one which is now to be found in use in St. Andrew's Church,



Hittisleigh, although previously there was a double-decker pulpit in the church. The crucifix above is a *Majestas* — our Lord clothed as Priest and King — given in memory of Cyril Ley, the son of a former Rector. He became Dom Benedict of Nashdom Abbey.

### THE ORGAN

Through the screen one can see the highly decorated organ and casing in the area believed to be the former chapel of St. Katherine, possibly the patron saint of tanners. The window incorporates the only surviving medieval glass in the church, the roundels incorporated into the Hayter-Hames memorial window. It includes the arms of the Battishall and Ferrers families. The door to the narrow staircase leading to the rood loft is on the north wall.

A new organ was presented to the church by Constance Hames (née Colville) in 1853, but the present instrument was built by Heles of Saltash in 1891 at a cost of £350. It is three-manual and has over 1500 pipes. The case was designed by Dykes Bower to match the medieval screens. Baring Gould wrote his famous hymn *Onward Christian Soldiers* after visiting Chagford.







### THE CHANCEL AND SANCTUARY

The choir stalls were carved by Violet Pinwill, a renowned Dartmoor artist. The glass in the east window, an 1860 memorial to the Reverend W. Hames depicting scenes from the life of Our Lord was painted by Beer of Exeter. The beautiful stonework is fourteenth century. In 1482, £11.6s.5d (£11.32) was paid for building a window in the *Chapel of St. Mary*. There are two carved heads beside it of earlier date, apparently wearing coronets.

The triptych below the east window was a gift in memory of Hayter G. Hayter-Hames. It is the work of J.L. Pearson RA, the architect of Truro Cathedral, made by Clayton Bell of Regent Street, London, and was dedicated on Whit Sunday 1888 and depicts the Ascension. The Reredos was regilded, new curtains provided (which hide the "Torquay Ware" tiled wall), and a granite floor laid (in place of tiles) in time for the Septcentenary Thanksgiving service on July 30<sup>th</sup> 1961 when the Bishop of Exeter dedicated these alterations.

The large tomb on the North wall is that of Sir John Whiddon, a judge of the King's Bench in 1552, who was reputedly the first judge to ride to Westminster Hall on a horse instead of a donkey. He died in 1575. On the same wall is a plaque in memory of Thomas Hayter, D.D., Bishop of Norwich 1749 and of London 1761, son of a Chagford Rector.

In the granite floor of the sanctuary are several memorials of Hayters who succeeded each other as Rectors of Chagford and on the south side, an appealing verse commemorating Mary Whiddon. It is said that she was shot by a jealous former suitor as she left the church after her wedding in 1641. This reads:

*"Reader wouldst know who here is laid,  
Behold a matron yet maid,  
A modest look, a pious heart,  
A Mary for the better part,  
But dry thine eyes, why wilt thou weep -  
Such damsells do not die but sleep."*

It is believed that this inspired R.D. Blackmore to write the story of *Lorna Doone*. Tradition has it that any girl married from Whiddon House (now the *Three Crowns*) will meet the ghost of Mary Whiddon.

In the roof are several fine bosses — a whirlpool, a pelican, the instruments of the Crucifixion and, most famous of all, the *Tinners* rabbits — each rabbit has two ears, yet only three ears between them. Although the latter has traditionally been associated with tanners it has been found across the world and on the Silk Route as far as China.



The processional cross is of aluminium, from a Zeppelin brought down at Cuffley, Hertfordshire on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1916. It was given by Major Frazer who, with his family, presented the cross in memory of some gallant soldiers who fell in the Great War. He procured the metal in London and had it made into a cross mounted on an oak shaft.



#### **THE LADY CHAPEL (WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL)**

to the south of the choir, was designed by Herbert Read and dedicated by the Bishop of Crediton on January 15<sup>th</sup> 1919. In it are lists of Chagford men who fell in the two World Wars. The walls are panelled in richly carved oak. On part of the panelling the following inscription is carved:

*This Ancient Chapel was furnished to the  
Glory of God  
and in Memory of the men of this Parish,  
who fell in the Great War 1914-1919.*

The altar of the chapel is of English pattern, with Riddel posts at each corner. On the posts are oak figures of the patron saints of the British Isles — St. George, St. Patrick, St. Andrew and St. David.



Above the altar on the south wall is a wooden model of an Esquire's helmet once used in funeral processions, which belonged to a member of the Prouz family, who lived at Waye Barton during the Middle Ages and were connected by marriage to William the Conqueror. The carved case, containing a memorial roll standing in front of the screen was commissioned by the Rev. Roger Roberts, C.V.O., M.A. in memory of his son.





### **SOUTH AISLE WINDOWS**

The three windows in the south aisle are dedicated (from the east backwards) to:

- John and Susanne Berry d.1877
- David Gibbons d. 1908
- Miss I.M. Leslie 1882-1963. Designed by Dykes Bower. Her bequest for the beautification of the church led to the 1961 restoration.

The Prouz monument has an interesting coat of arms showing, among others, the Prouz, Redvers, Dinham, Gidley, Ferrers and Wadecote families. It was formerly in the Lady Chapel

### **THE APPLIQUÉ**

hung at the west end of the south aisle, was made by the Chagford Women's Institute to commemorate its Diamond Jubilee. It took nearly ten years to make, 1983-1992, and depicts the history of Dartmoor and Chagford.







#### OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

The church stands on the hill from which one can look east over the town towards the Teign valley. The "old" churchyard surrounds the church itself while the "new" churchyard extends east down the hill.

Above the west door is a statue of St. Michael, the work of John Skeaping, R.A. who lived locally and was responsible for the sculpture of Hyperion at the entrance to Ascot Racecourse. It is a memorial to a former rector, Alexander Goudge. A memorial plaque to the right of the south porch door records this. The latin inscription on the west door reads: *May the Peace of Christ be to this house and all who dwell herein — here is rest.*

On the North elevation, is the turret encasing the stairs to the rood loft. On the bank to the North side of the church is the "Roman Alter", so called because of its great antiquity. It is thought to have been one of the earliest alters in this church — at one time there were reputed to have been no fewer than eighteen! Mr. Caroe, M.A., F.S.A. said in his report of 1912: *"In fact it must be late Saxon or very early Norman work and without doubt it is the stone alter of Chagford Church. We do not know of a more perfect specimen of an ancient alter in Devonshire. It is, therefore, the most valuable*

*and ancient (Christian) treasure belonging to Chagford".* Other authorities differ from Caroe's opinion, preferring to think that it was a tomb.

There is a headless animal on the ridge of the roof, marking the division of the present nave from the chancel. When the church was extended it may have marked the end of the building before the addition of a sanctuary. It is thought to be a lamb, regarded by some as a Christian symbol associated with tin.

The external floodlighting of the Church was installed in 1989 in memory of Major General Walkley who lived locally and was a faithful supporter of the Church. A plaque to the left of the south porch door commemorates this.

There are graves of many notable people, including the artist William Morrish who died in 1867, James Perrott, the famous Dartmoor guide who set up the first Dartmoor "letter-box" at Cranmere Pool, and of the Berry family who built the former woollen factories of Chagford in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Below the Church is the War Memorial, the base and top sections being made of two crosses which formerly stood in the Square. Here there is a welcome bench to rest on with an excellent view of **Castle Drogo** and the **Teign Gorge**.



Surely this churchyard has one of the finest of British views!

#### REFERENCES:

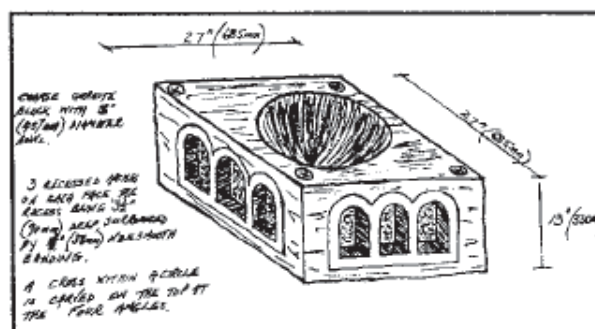
- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Cresswell       | <i>Churches</i>                                    |
| Ormerod, G.W.   | <i>Historical Sketch of the Parish of Chagford</i> |
| Hayter-Hames, J | <i>A History of Chagford</i>                       |



## A Short History

### IT IS EVEN POSSIBLE THAT THERE WAS AN EARLIER CHURCH BUILDING ON THIS SITE.

In 500—700 AD, Celtic missionaries arrived in this area. A 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman font top was found buried in the church when alterations were carried out in 1865. It was thought to date from AD 1160 and, if this is accurate, confirms the existence of an earlier place of worship than the 1261 church. Sadly it was broken and the pieces were preserved in Chagford House (formerly the Rectory) gardens, but it is not known where.



Sketch of font top based on description by G.W.Ormerod MA, FGS

Crediton, only twelve miles away, was the centre of Christianity from the eighth century, so there have undoubtedly been Christians here for a very long time. Until 1975 an old oak tree stood just outside the south wall of the churchyard and was always known as the "Cross Tree". Perhaps the first meeting place of Christians was on this spot; could there have been a wooden chapel?

In 1196 the Norman, Henri de Chageford (or Kajefort) became the Lord of the Manor and the church was built at the edge of the manor lands. The Bishop of Exeter, Bishop Branscombe, who dedicated many churches in Devon and Cornwall, dedicated the

**The Bishop of Exeter, Bishop Branscombe, who dedicated many churches in Devon and Cornwall, dedicated the church to St. Michael the Archangel on July 30th 1261.**

church to St. Michael the Archangel on July 30th 1261. In 1306, the reign of Edward I (1239-1307), Chagford, already an important local town, became by Charter one of the four Stannary towns of Devon, for the weighing, assaying and stamping of locally mined tin. The church then would probably

have had a single central aisle with a chancel extending at the east end.

One of the windows of an earlier building is probably thirteenth century. The stonework is believed to be original, although the glass is definitely much later, and is now the west window (in the tower) having been moved when the tower was built. The present building was mainly built in the early part of the fifteenth century. Ormerod, in his *Historical Sketch of the Parish of Chagford*, concludes that, probably up to 1482, the original church did not extend eastwards beyond the screen. An inspection of the capitals of the pillars near the screen seems to support this theory for they are different from all the others. The construction of the church suggests that the aisles are essential to the structural stability of the whole building and thus could not have been added later. Also inspection of the external stonework over the Nave windows, on both the north and south elevations, shows stone relieving arches over the head drip mouldings whereas the windows of the Chancel do not have such arches. Another clue may be by close examination of the stone coursing and bonding externally. Where the stone work of the Chancel meets the Nave it does not course correctly. Could it be that the headless figure of the lamb on the ridge of the roof signified the extension of the church to include a Chancel and Sanctuary?

Ormerod also said that, judging from the style of the architecture and whirlpools, or gorges, in the bosses of the roof, it is probable that the great family of Gorges were the promoters of the present building. This family had a great influence in the Parish between 1439 and 1461 being descended, in the female line, from the Wibberi family.

**IN THE RETURNS OF ST. MARY OF THE CHAPEL FOR 1482** (Churchwarden's accounts for St. Machael 1480 — 1600) there are entries showing the charges for building a Mary Chapel (Lady Chapel). One entry in particular is *"3s 4d paid to Richard Stapiulhgill for the head of a gabell window"* This must have been an important window; presumably the East window.

**Over more than 700 years much work has been done on the church fabric.** The early church was plastered, as can still be seen in many local churches. A medieval rood screen and loft were put up in 1524 as the church was used for many community activities — plays, pageants, dancing and feasts, and perhaps a market — to separate the chancel from the body of the church. At the same time an altar was installed in St. Katherine's Chapel where the organ now stands. The guild of St. Katherine (regarded by some as the patron saint of tanners) was considerable in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In 1530 there were 145 brothers and 129 sisters but then it declined rapidly. During its existence it rented Church House and had a field called Katherine Hay.

**The first mention of a clock** was in 1488 when in the old Churchwarden's accounts there is an entry for a *"charge of two pence for a nut for the clock"*. The present clock, made by Benison, was obtained by subscription in 1867. An electric mechanism was installed in 1962 and this was replaced in 2001.

**The tower was completed in 1513.** It used to have pinnacles to the four angle castellations. These were removed in 1914 as (in the words of Revd. Herbert

Studdy, Rector) "the old ones were poor and dangerous and could not be repaired, nor were they worthy of the Tower". New pinnacles were designed costing about £50 — £100 each. The Rector and Churchwardens strenuously opposed such expense and the pinnacles were never replaced. It is recorded that a new set of bells was hung when four old bells were sold, in 1537.

**The medieval church was full of paintings,** but in 1551, in the reign of Edward VI, they were defaced and in 1857 the arches and pillars were scraped.

**There is a reference to an organ** which needed attention, in 1527, possibly sited in a gallery at the back of the church. It is recorded that in 1574 there was an organ with eighty-two pipes. However, in 1812 the singing was organized by the leader of the Parish Choir who was paid five pounds for instructing the singers. A sum of about two pounds was paid for bass viol and other string instruments. In 1853 the string band ceased to play and a new organ was presented by Mrs. Hayter-Hames.

**In 1865** there was a restoration of the interior of the church. The old high pews were removed and pitch pine ones were installed (which are now the "old" pews at the back of the church.) The plaster, and remains of the paintings, were removed from the walls (traces of the plaster can still be seen) and the north and south chancel screens were removed as they were found to be rotten. The centre aisle screen had been removed previously.

**Five years later in 1870** a gallery at the back of the church was removed, an arch into the tower was opened and the organ was resited in the north-east corner (where St. Katherine's Chapel once stood), the organ chamber and vestry having been added.

**In 1876,** when the rood loft stairs were cleared out, the heads of four granite crosses were discovered. Could these have been those removed from the pinnacles of the tower as mentioned in *A History of Chagford* by Jane Hayter-Hames?



**O**n Remembrance Sunday 1931, as the Reverend Cecil Holmes and the visiting preacher were leaving the church, part of the ceiling collapsed. It was discovered that death-watch beetle had damaged the ceiling laths and supporting beams, and that the likely cost of repair would be over £2,000.

**A**ll the ceiling had to be removed, the roof stripped and reslated, defective timbers replaced, damaged moulded bosses renewed and the whole treated with infestation liquid. The work was completed in 1933 at a final cost of £2,584.99. However the ceiling panelling was only replaced in the chancel and sanctuary. The roof was again treated against death-watch beetle in the early 1960's and it is recorded that "we cannot complete the restoration by replacing the plaster until we are satisfied that the beetle is no longer active".

**A**s a Septcentenary thanksgiving in 1961, Mr. Dykes Bower, at one time surveyor of the fabric of Westminster Abbey, was engaged to direct work on a number of alterations. The whole church was refloored in granite, the traditional material of Dartmoor, a Ringer's gallery was constructed in the tower with a choir vestry at ground level, and the Reredos

and parclose screens and organ front were re-gilded restoring a great deal of color. In 2000, an appeal raised over £50,000 required to restore rotten beams in the tower and replace and renew timbers and lead-work of the south porch roof.

**M**ost recently, the ancient North West door which had been blocked up in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century was reopened in late 2006-2007 during reordering of the west end of the church with a new glass-panelled oak door).

**A** combined meeting room and choir vestry — **the Gabriel room** — with a servery and cloakroom was installed in 2006-2007. The extended gallery has a **glass balustrade** giving a fine view of the **ancient west window**. The tower screen doors, part of the Septcentenary thank offering dated 1261-1961, were retained.



2006-2007 restoration showing the Gabriel Room, extended gallery and glass balustrade

## The Rectors of Chagford

The Rectors of Chagford, recorded on the board in the west end of the north aisle, are as below. However, G. Wareing Ormerod M.A., F.G.S., a prominent Chagford solicitor and antiquarian of the Victorian period, read a paper at Ashburton in 1876, printed in the *Transactions of the Devonshire Society for the Advancement of Science, Literature and Art* 1876. He stated that the list of Rectors was obtained for him by a Dr. Oliver from the Diocesan Registry at Exeter.

The differences in Ormerod's list from that on the board in the church are shown below in CAPITALS, those in (parentheses) not being recorded by him.

Simon de Wybberi (Wilbury)	1315	George Hayter	1622
Laurence de Wybberi (Wilbury)	1319	(ADMITTED ON DEPRIVATION OF GOLDSTONE)	
(Henry de Folforde)	(1320)	William Reade	1680
Thomas de Folforde (INSTITUTION NOT RECORDED)		George Hayter	1701
John Tolthorpe	1382	Thomas Rennell	1729
Robert Burgeys (Burgess)	1384	Joshua Hayter	1742
William Mayow (Mayor)	1391	Joshua Worth	1771
(John Dypphull)	1392)	<b>John Hayter</b>	<b>1779</b>
(Laurence Haukyn)	1397)	William Moore	1810
John Lydeford (INSTITUTION NOT RECORDED)	1397	George Hayter Hames	1819
Robert Chirbury	1429	William Hames	1821
<b>Michael Lerchdekne</b>	<b>1434</b>	William Hames	1827
William Ford (Forde)	1440	Hayter George Hames	1852
Thomas Coplestone	1447	Gerald Lewis Henry Ley	1886
Richard Stoyale	1470	Hubert Charles Studdy	1912
Henry Grymstone		Thomas Collins Walters	1916
Edward Wyluchby (Wylucghby)	1490	Thomas Morgan Bell-Salter	1922
(INSTITUTION NOT RECORDED)		Cecil Frederick Joy Holmes	1931
William Trugg(e)	1500 (1508)	Charles Egerton Chadwick	1939
Robert Becansawe	1517	Ralph Sadleir	1948
Robert Weston	1525	Alexander Goudge	1953
Francis Coplestone	1539 (1531)	Cuthbert Harold Septimus Buckmaster	1959
Robert Harneman (INSTITUTION NOT RECORDED)		George Vivian Syer	1971
Robert Fisher (Fisser)	1555	William Joseph Bully	1977
John Staughton		Philip Louis Baycock	1984
John Dynham	1610 (1618)	Anthony Geering	2001
German Goldston (Gouldston)			
(Commonwealth)			

Ormerod mentioned that two Rectors were of particular note:

- **Michael Lerchdekne** who died as Treasurer of Exeter Cathedral in 1442, and
- **John Hayter**, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, who was referred to by Disraeli as a classic antiquary who first discovered the art of unrolling the Herculaneum manuscripts.



# The Bells of St. Michael's Church, Chagford

## WEIGHTS AND PRICES OF BELLS SOLD IN 1537

The little bell	5cwt	51 lbs	£4.18.2	(£ 4.91)
Second	8cwt	18 lbs	£ 7.5.0	(£ 7.25)
Third	11.5 cwt		£10.6.0	(£10.30)
The great bell	13cwt	10 lbs	£12.0.0	(£12.00)

## NOTES TAKEN FROM OLD PARISH MAGAZINES AND CHURCH REGISTERS

The *Inventory of Church Goods* in the reign of Edward VI , 1553, records "Parish of Chagford with the Chapel of South Tenton, ffyve belles in the churche and one bell in the chapel of Southteyn."

On 12 August 1765, a license was decreed by the Bishop of Exeter to cast the five bells into six. The work was done the following year by Thomas Bilbie of Cullompton. In 1877 a treble and second were added making a peal of eight.

During 1913, when it was found that the old oak frames had become unsafe, the bells were removed and a new frame constructed by Messrs W. Aggett of Chagford. The bells were recast to form a perfect octave by Messrs. Taylor and rehung in December 1914 and January 1915, all of this at a cost of £460.00.

The recast and rehung peal weighs 69 cwt and 13 lbs (the former weights are in parentheses)

<b>Treble</b>	4 cwt	0 qtrs	27 lbs	(5/0/4 )	<i>Hear me when I call</i> Rev. H.G. Hames, Rector J. Hooper, Churchwarden 1877
<b>2</b>	4 cwt	2 qtrs	1 lb	(6/2/0)	Rev. H.G. Hames, Rector 1877 J. Hooper, Churchwarden
<b>3</b>	5 cwt	0 qtrs	9 lbs	(6/2/10)	Thomas Bilbie, Cullompton, fecit 1766
<b>4</b>	6 cwt	1 qtr	22 lbs	(6/3/16)	<i>God preserve the Church and King</i> T. Bilbie, fecit 1766
<b>5</b>	7 cwt	3 qtrs	5 lbs	(7/3/4)	Mr. J.C. and Mr. J.E. Churchwardens Thomas fecit 1766
<b>6</b>	9 cwt	3 qtrs	6 lbs	(8/1/21)	Mr. John Coniam and Mr. John Ellis, Churchwardens T.B. fecit 1766
<b>7</b>	13 cwt	1 qtr	8 lbs	(11/1/7)	Mr. John Hooper and Mr. John Wills John Sarrell, W.S. Sidesmen 1766 T.B. fecit 1766
<b>Tenor</b>	18 cwt	0 qtr	22 lbs	(16/2/7)	<i>I to the Church the living call and to the grave do summon all</i> Mr. Joshua Hayter, Rector Mr. Coniam and Mr. John Ellis, Churchwardens 1766 This peal was being recast when the Great European War broke out, 1914 C.G. Hayter-Hames, T. Amery, Churchwardens

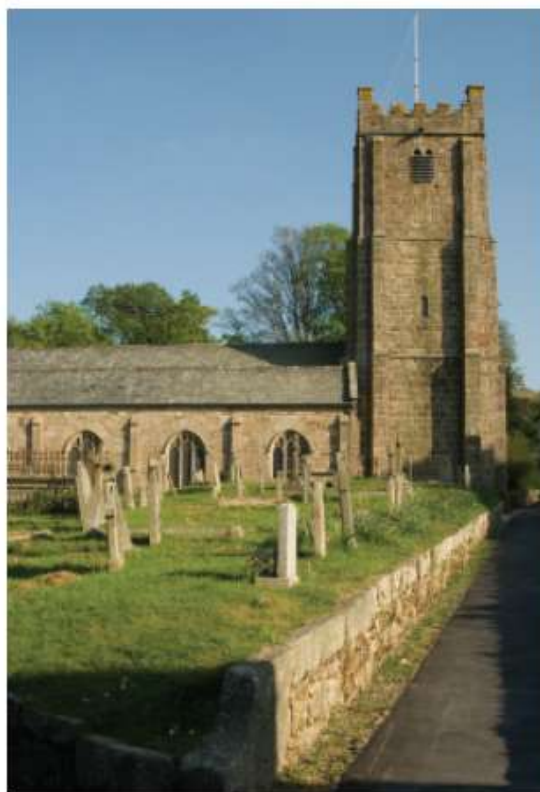
The service for the blessing of this peal was held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1915 when it was exceedingly wet and windy.

**1947:** the bells were rehung by Taylors of Loughborough at a cost of £287.

**1961:** as part of the work carried out to mark the Septcentenary of the dedication of the church, a new Ringers Gallery was built at first floor level to allow for a Choir Vestry to be constructed at the base of the tower.

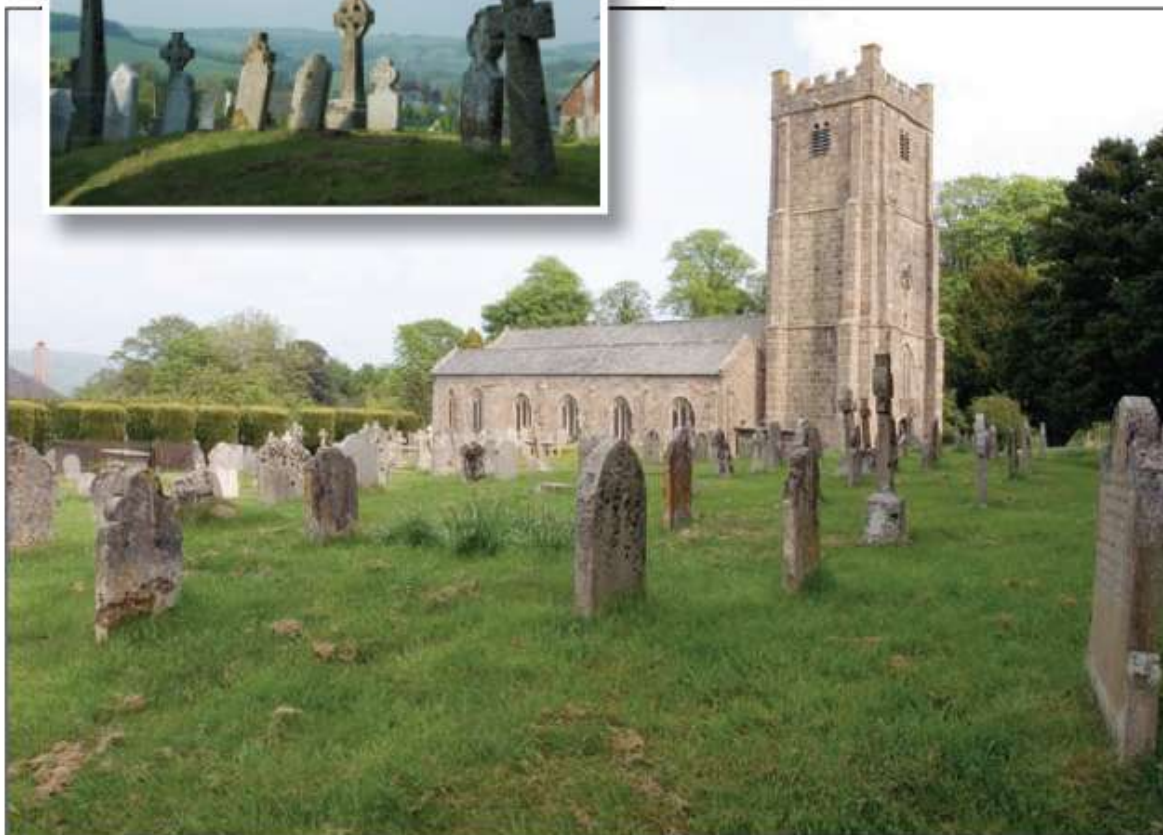
**1980:** further work was carried out on the bells by Arthur Fidler in memory of Percy Rice, Tower Captain for 33 years, who had died the previous year. A new clock and an oak table were installed in the belfry in his memory.

**2000:** the bells were silenced while rotten beams below the bell frame were repaired. An appeal raised over £50,000 for this work in 11 months.



MAY 2007





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