



Tower History

St Thomas, Belfast



St Thomas's church is situated on the corner of Eglantine Avenue and the Lisburn Road. It has a square tower with spire containing a ring of eight bells.

The eight bells were donated by Robert Atkinson, a wealthy city merchant, who in 1899 went on to present Bangor Parish Church with a ring of eight bells. The full peal was first rung in September 1871.

The eight bells, in the key of E natural, were cast and installed by John Taylor & Co. of Loughborough, the treble weighing 6.1.3 and the tenor 20.0.9. The tenor carries the following inscription

"IN HONOREM DEI ET SANCTI THOMAS ME SEPTEM QVE SORORES MEAS ROBERTUS ATKINSON DE BEAUMONT IN HAC COMITATE ARMIGER HUIC ECCLESIAE DD AD MDCCCLXXI"

In 1965 the front three bells were recast and the peal retuned to the key of E flat. The lighter peal (tenor 18.2.24) were rehung at a lower level in a steel frame.

Link to tower on web site

<https://bellringingireland.org/tower/belfast-st-thomas/>

Other Links

<http://www.stthomas.connor.anglican.org/site/>

Bell Weights & Inscriptions

<https://dove.ccbbr.org.uk/detail.php?tower=11316>

Below are the weight of St Thomas bells Belfast

Original Three Trebles

	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	Founders
<i>Treble</i>	6	0	22	Taylor
2	6	1	3	Taylor
3	6	3	9	Taylor

Present day bells

	Note	Weight	Cast	Founders
Treble	E Flat	6cwt, 1qr 3lbs	1965	Taylor, Loughborough
2	D Flat	6cwt, 0qr 22lbs	1965	Taylor, Loughborough
3	C	6cwt, 3qr 9lbs	1965	Taylor, Loughborough
4	B Flat	8cwt, 0qr 0lbs	1871	Taylor, Loughborough
5	A Flat	9cwt, 1qr 6lbs	1871	Taylor, Loughborough
6	G	11cwt, 3qr 4lbs	1871	Taylor, Loughborough
7	F	14cwt, 0qr 9lbs	1871	Taylor, Loughborough
Tenor	E Flat	18cwt, 2qr 24lbs	1871	Taylor, Loughborough

Below are the inscriptions of St.Thomas Bells Belfast

Original three trebles

Treble	<i>IB</i>	John Taylor & Co Loughborough 1871
2	<i>IB</i>	John Taylor & Co Loughborough 1871
3	<i>IB</i>	John Taylor & Co Loughborough 1871

Present Day Bells

Treble	<i>IB</i>	Cast 1871
	<i>W</i>	Recast (Founder's mark) 1965
2	<i>IB</i>	Cast 1871
	<i>W</i>	Recast (Founder's mark) 1965
3	<i>IB</i>	Ditto
	<i>W</i>	Ditto
4	<i>IB</i>	John Taylor & Co Loughborough 1871
	<i>W</i>	
5		Ditto
6		Ditto
7		Ditto
Tenor		IN HONOREM DEI ET SANCTI THOMAS ME SEPTEM QVE SORORES MEAS ROBERTUS ATKINSON DE BEAUMONT IN HAC COMITATE ARMIGER HUIC ECCLESIAE DD AD MDCCCLXXI