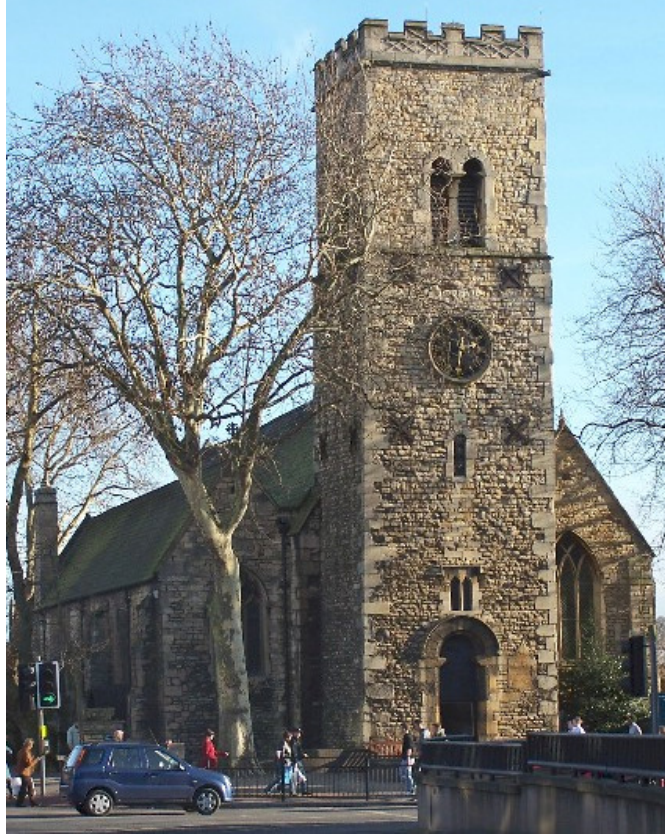




## **BELLS PEAL OUT OVER CITY**



The four ancient bells at the Parish & Civic Church of St Mary le Wigford in the City centre of Lincoln have been busy pealing out over the City to celebrate three special occasions during the past two weeks.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 the bells were requested to be rung prior to a special service being held at the Church in the afternoon. This service was for the Lincoln Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association to mark the laying up of the Association's Standard in the Church and a Quarter Peal was rung immediately prior to the start of the service.

### **CITY of LINCOLN**

#### ***St Mary le Wigford***

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 (45 mins)**

**1272 Plain Bob Minimus**

1. Robert Harvey
2. Jean Williams
3. Yvonne A. Woodcock
4. Christopher C. P. Woodcock (C)



On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 the bells were again specially requested to be rung to celebrate St George's Day. It was decided to ring a Quarter Peal starting at 12 noon which received many comments from passers by and shoppers on how nice it was to hear the bells ringing.

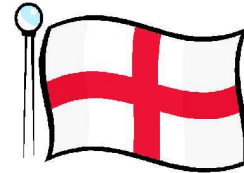
**CITY of LINCOLN**

*St Mary le Wigford*

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 (43 mins)**

**1272 Plain Bob Minimus**

1. Janet Crafer
2. Jean Williams
3. Yvonne A. Woodcock
4. Christopher C. P. Woodcock (C)



On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010 the bells were requested to be rung for a big Civic/City occasion, the annual Freedom Parade of RAF Waddington. This year's parade marked the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of RAF Waddington being granted the Freedom of the City of Lincoln. Around 120 personnel stationed at RAF Waddington exercised their right to parade/march through the City of Lincoln with Colours flying, bayonets fixed and bands playing.

Shortly before 11.30am the City centre of Lincoln came to a standstill as the police cleared the way for the parade. Then at exactly 11.30am the parade set off from City Square on Waterside South led by the RAF Waddington Pipes & Drums and RAF Waddington's Voluntary Band, and the bells at St Mary le Wigford Church pulled off in rounds before going into changes for a Quarter Peal.

The Regiment marched down Sincil Street and through Cornhill, before turning onto the High Street by St Mary le Wigford Church. Then once the parade had reached the City War Memorial on the High Street, just a few hundred yards up from St Mary le Wigford Church it came to a halt. At exactly 11.36am a fly-past of planes stationed at RAF Waddington thundered overhead which included a Nimrod, Sentry & Sentinel. This was then followed by the official salute to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Lincoln, Councillor David Grattrick, and to members of Lincoln's Civic Party after which the Mayor made a speech and inspected the Regiment along with the Station Commander, Group Captain Richard Powell. The parade then continued on up the High Street, passing the Guild Hall and Stonebow, and finally came to an end at City Hall.

The event was a very colourful and exciting occasion, with hundreds of people turning out to line the route to show their support, on what was a lovely sunny day. As well as shoppers, tourists and well wishers who stopped to watch the parade, many veterans and past RAF personnel also turned out.

After the parade we received many comments saying how nice it was to hear the bells pealing out over the parade. We also later received thanks from RAF Waddington & the Mayor of Lincoln.

**CITY of LINCOLN**

*St Mary le Wigford*

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010 (43 mins)**

**1272 Single Court Place & Plain Bob Minimus**

1. Yvonne A. Woodcock
2. Jean Williams
3. John Nicholson
4. Christopher C. P. Woodcock (C)



*Christopher C. P. Woodcock*