

## CHURCH BELLS

Newport Pagnell's church bells are usually rung at set times and days. There are also a few other times when you might hear the bells being rung. In this, Newport is typical of the thousands of towns and parish churches in this country.

Before the main Sunday service at the Parish Church, the bells can be rung for 30 minutes before the service.

For evensong the bells can be rung between 5:00 and 6:00.

On Wednesdays, between 7:30 and 9:00, is practice night. Visitors are welcome to come to watch.

On other weekdays, a number of other ringing events may take place:

- North Bucks Midweek sessions - generally on a Thursday between 11:00 and 12:30. Newport can be expected to host one of these every 2 years.
- Weddings - ringing for a few minutes following a wedding could happen at any time in the day but generally in the afternoon.
- Visiting ringing bands - these could be any day and any time depending on their itinerary but not usually after 6:00. Duration of these sessions will be no more than 1 hour.

Saturdays:

- Full peals - about 3½ hours of ringing, starting in the morning at around 9:00. There will be no more than four attempts in a year though there are usually fewer and there have not actually been any peal attempts here since 2019. These are publicised beforehand through social media and notes through doors.
- Weddings - ringing for a few minutes following a wedding could happen at any time in the day but generally in the afternoon.
- Oxford Diocesan Guild ringing events, such as the annual 8-bell striking competition. Early afternoon with a duration of about 2 hours.
- Local ringers' Guild monthly practice between 5:00 and 6:30. Newport can be expected to host one of these every 2 years.
- Inter-branch striking competition between 5:00 and 7:30. Newport can be expected to host one of these every 16 years.

### **The Clock and Chimes**

The clock has struck the hours and quarter hours during the day since Victorian times. There is also a Victorian tune machine, which replaced a 1762 machine, that plays tunes at 3 hour intervals during the day.