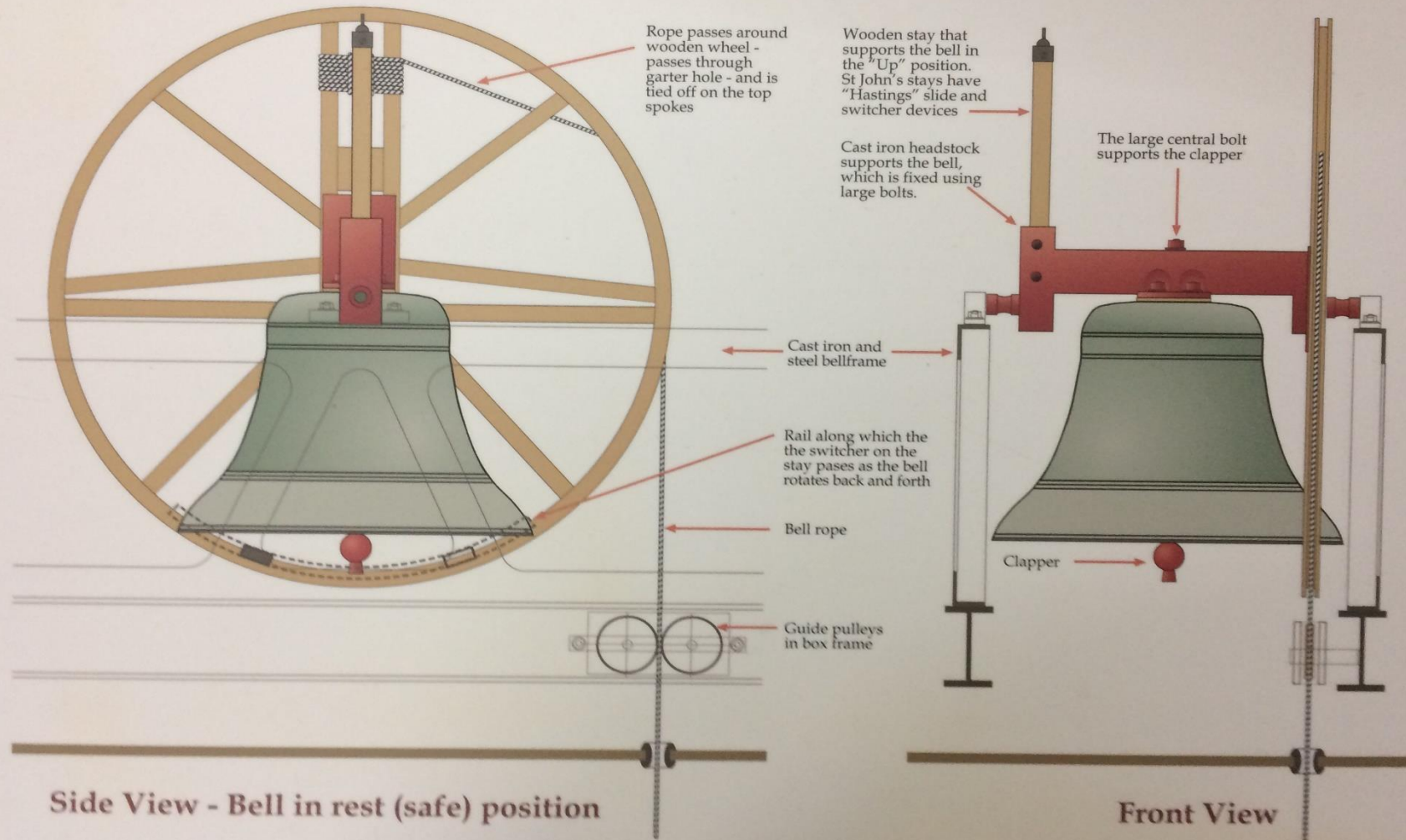
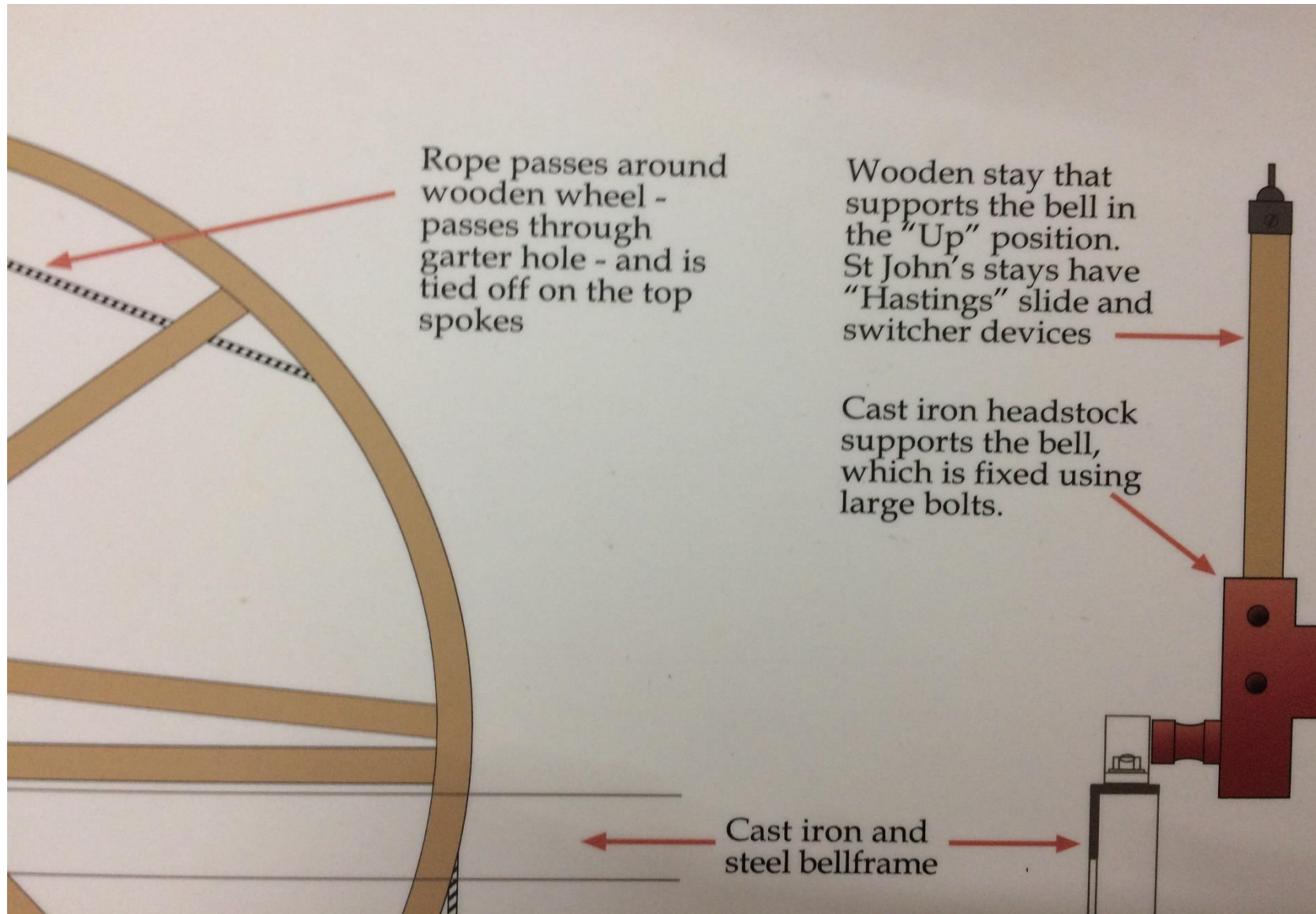


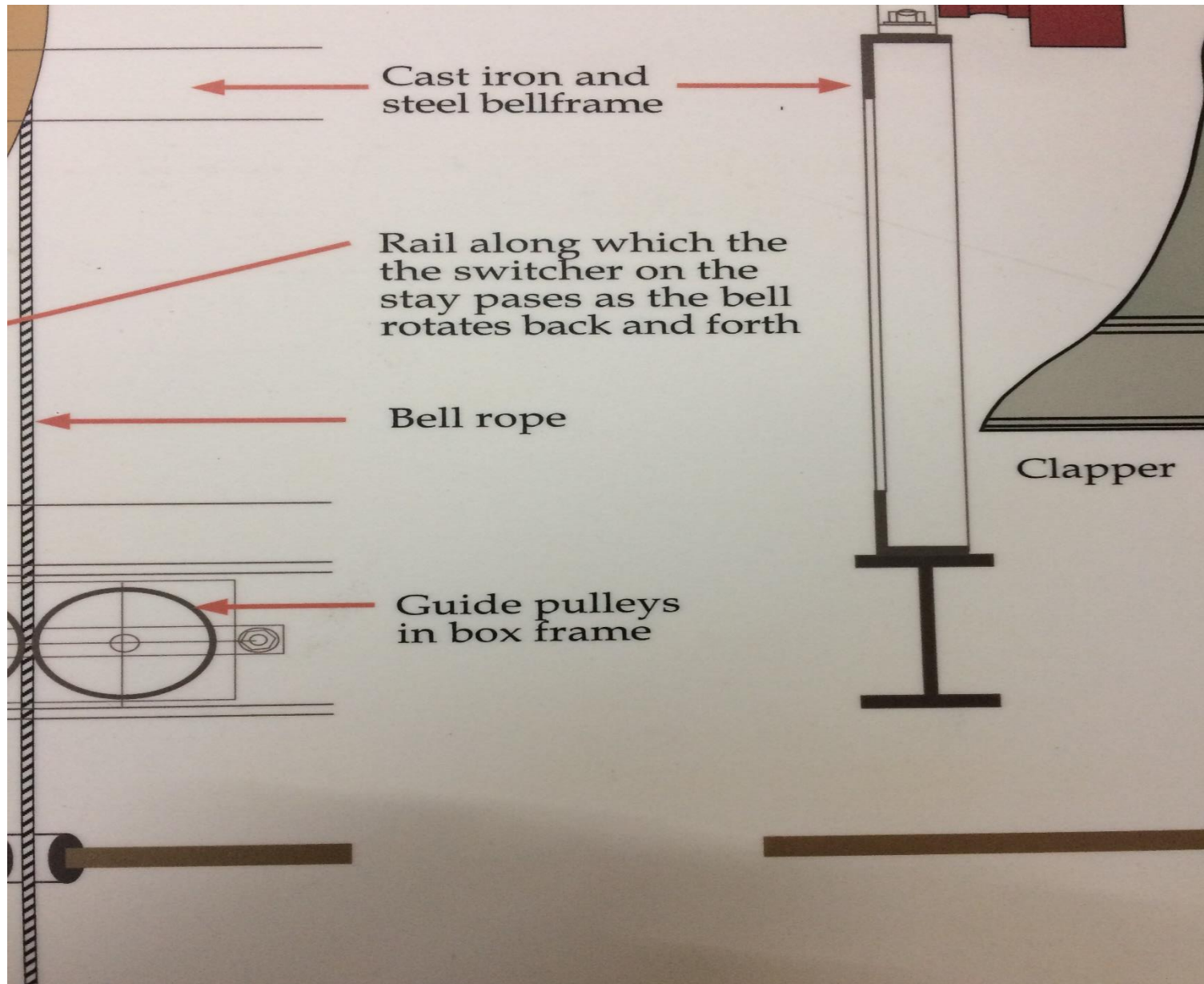
# Presentation Boards for an Open Day

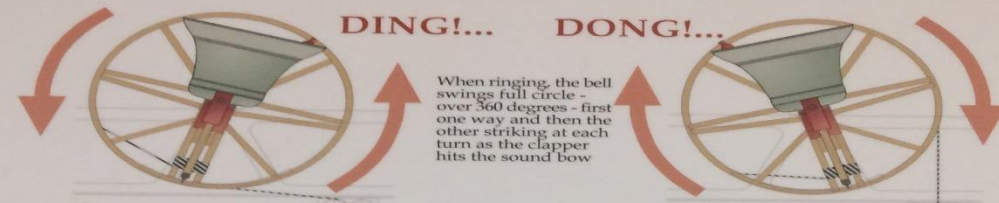
At St John's, Knaresborough



**A Church Bell Hung for Ringing with Rope and Wheel**





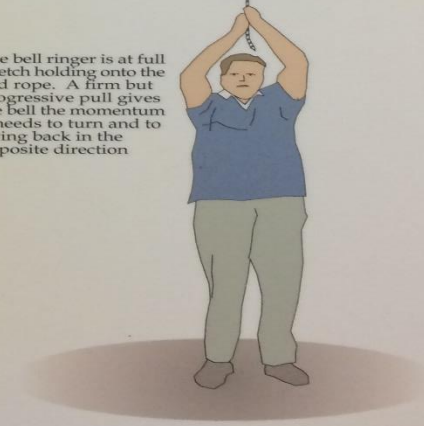
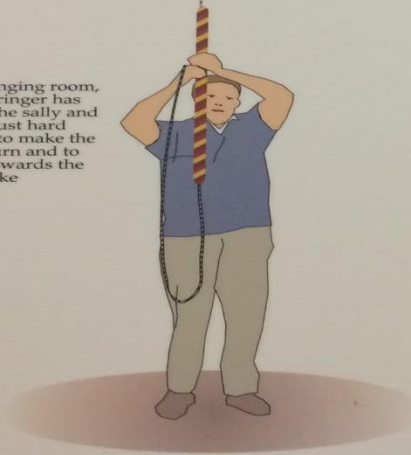


At Handstroke, the bell is at one extent of its full turn and the rope is only partially wrapped around the wheel

At Backstroke, the bell is at the other extent of its full turn and the bell rope is taken up fully on the rim of the wheel

In the ringing room, the bell ringer has caught the sally and pulls it just hard enough to make the bell to turn and to swing towards the backstroke

The bell ringer is at full stretch holding onto the end rope. A firm but progressive pull gives the bell the momentum it needs to turn and to swing back in the opposite direction



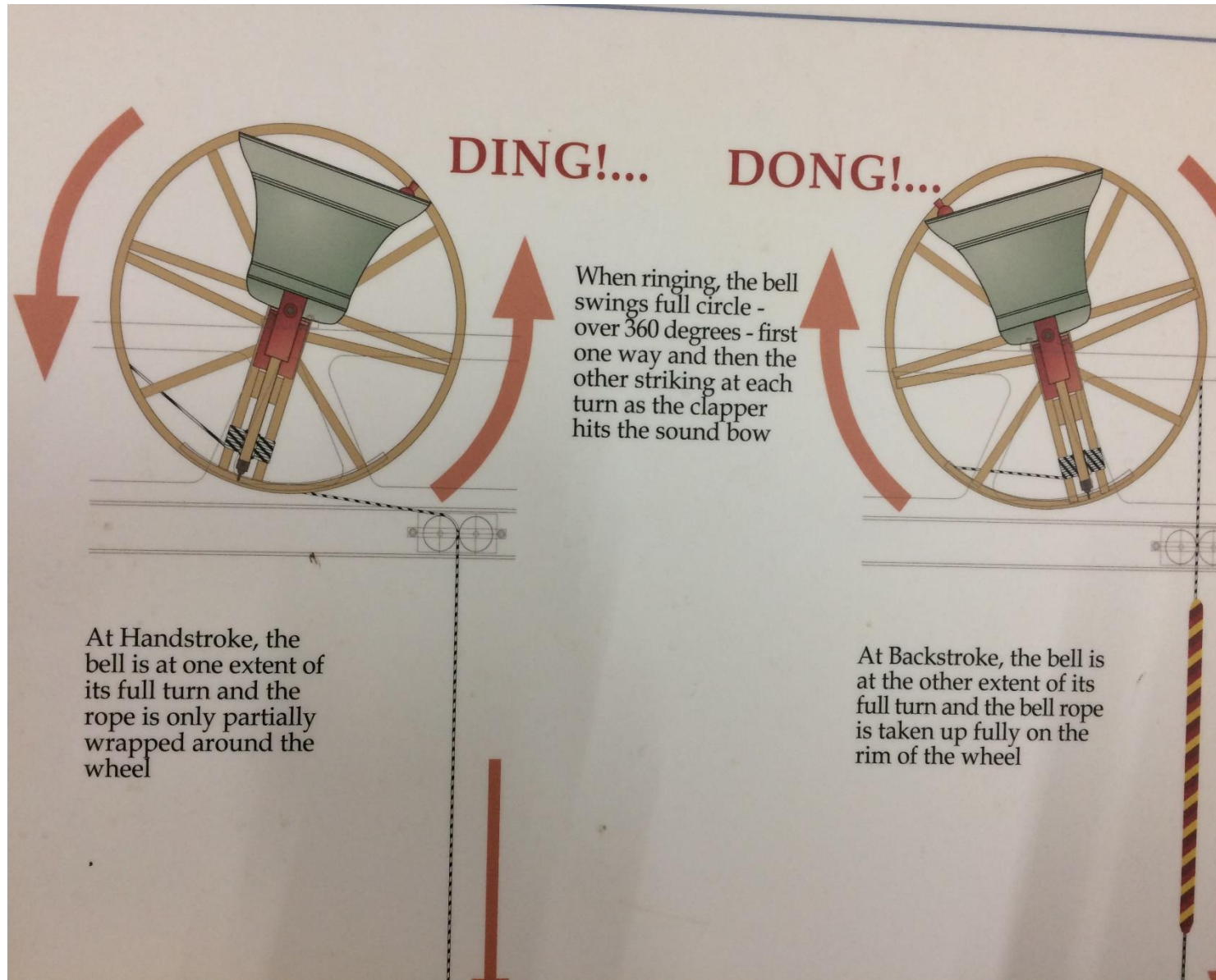
**Handstroke**

**Backstroke**

# How a Church Bell is Rung

The bell ringer is at full stretch holding onto the end rope. A firm but progressive pull gives the bell the momentum it needs to turn and to swing back in the opposite direction





St John's Church Tower - Knaresborough Guild of Bellringers

# TOWER SAFETY NOTICE

## THE TOWER

This tower has 83 steps in two stages:

53 steps to the Ringing Room;  
up a stone spiral staircase with a handrail  
The steps are worn and uneven in places

30 steps from the Ringing Room to the Belfry;  
up a steep wooden staircase

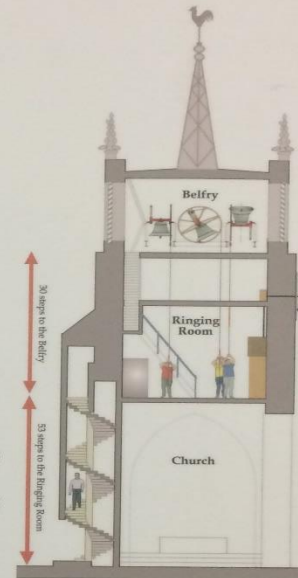
There is one stopping point;  
at the Ringing Room

**DO NOT** climb if you suffer from claustrophobia,  
vertigo, severe asthma or heart/lung conditions

If you suffer from any medical condition which  
may affect your climb, please tell one of the Ringers

It is recommended that you wear sensible footwear;  
the tower steps are worn and uneven

If you need help - please **ASK** for it.



## RULES FOR VISITORS

NO SMOKING

**DO NOT TOUCH** anything - unless you are told  
that you can. This applies particularly to the bell ropes;  
when the bells are set they can be very dangerous!

Please listen to what you are told by your guide and  
abide promptly with any instructions given. Thank you



### DISCLAIMER

Visitors visiting the tower do so voluntarily and at their own risk. We accept no responsibility whatsoever for damage to clothing or personal property of any kind that occurs as a result of your visit. All reasonable attempts have been made to look after your safety - it is therefore important that you comply with our requests and instructions

**LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER - AND PLEASE ENJOY YOUR VISIT**

30 steps from the Ringing Room to the Belfry;  
up a steep wooden staircase

There is one stopping point;  
at the Ringing Room

**DO NOT** climb if you suffer from claustrophobia,  
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## **RULES FOR VISITORS**

NO SMOKING

30 steps to the Belfry  
53 steps to the Ringing Room

... help - please **ASK** for it.

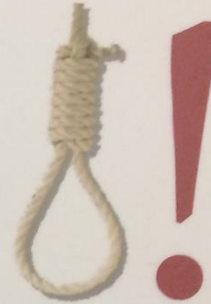


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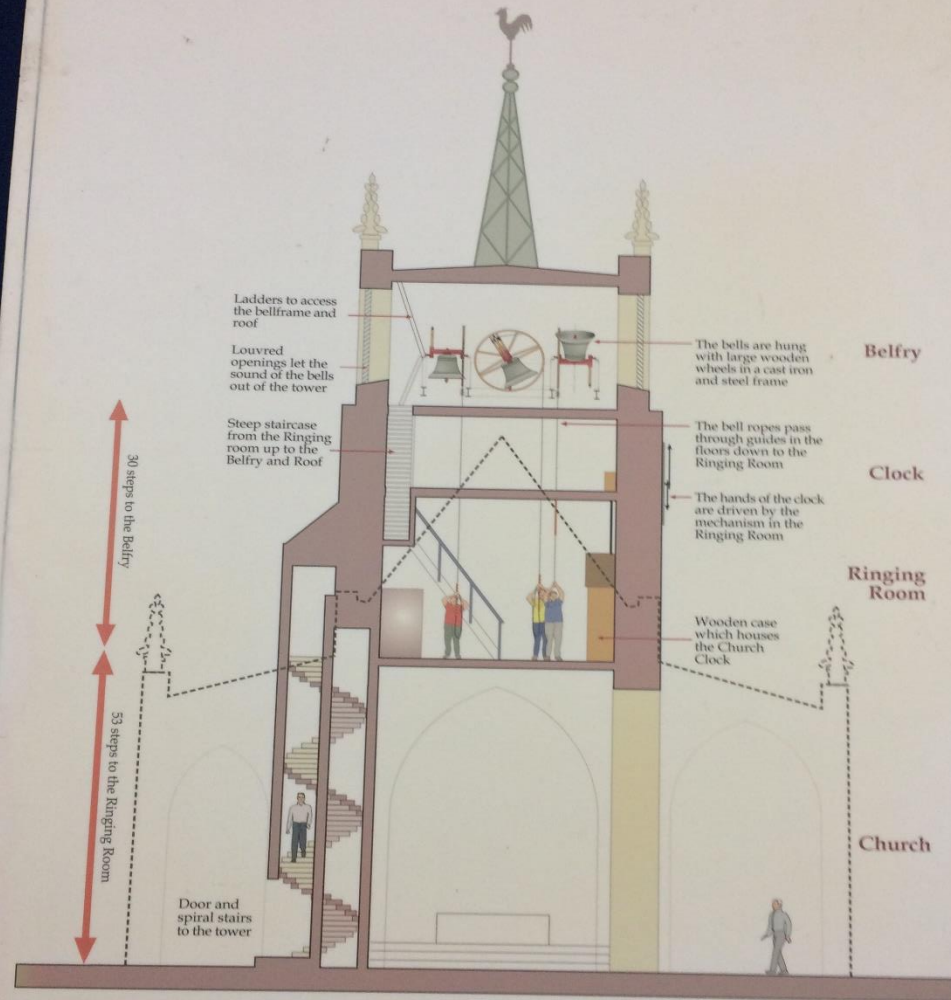
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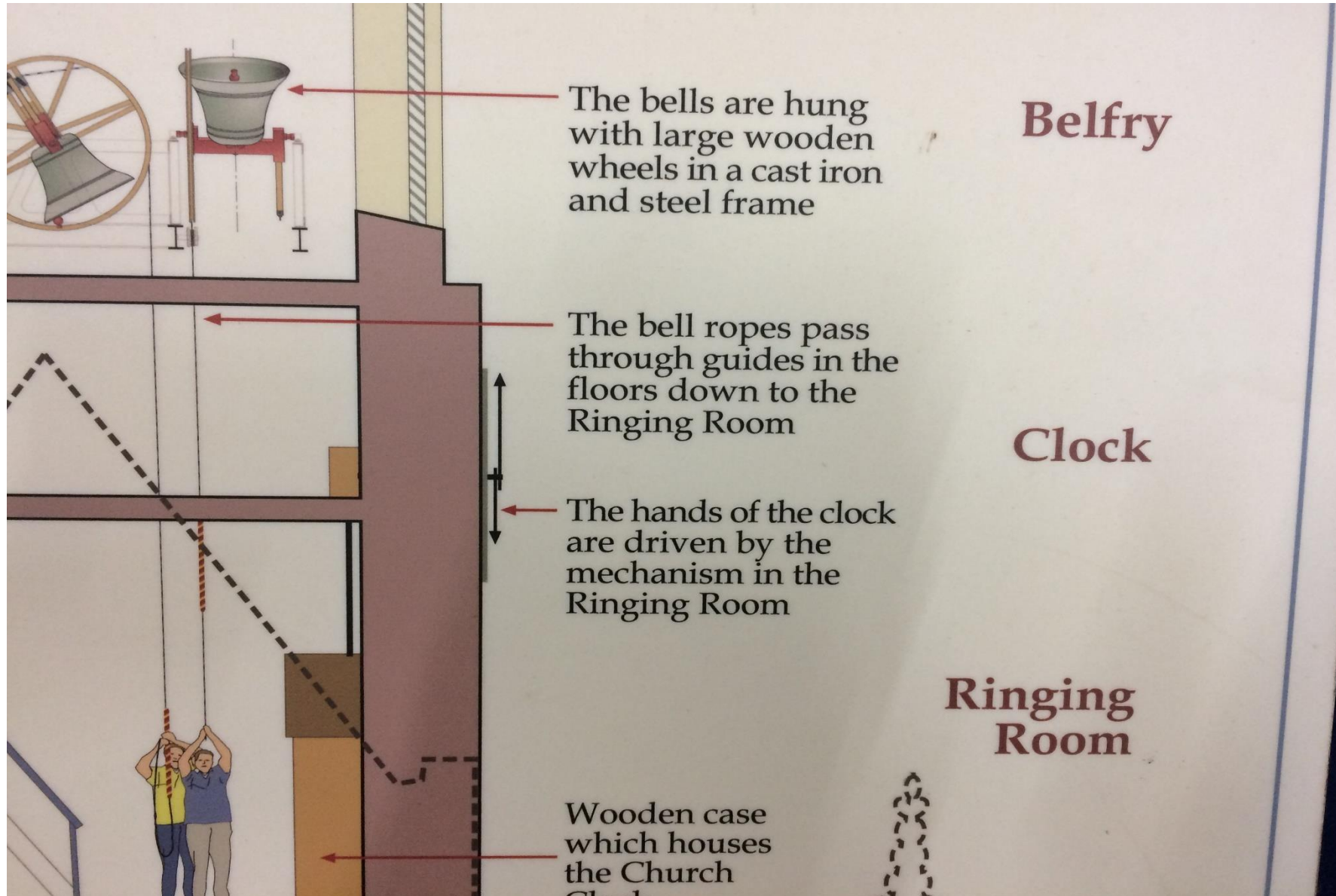
### **DISCLAIMER**

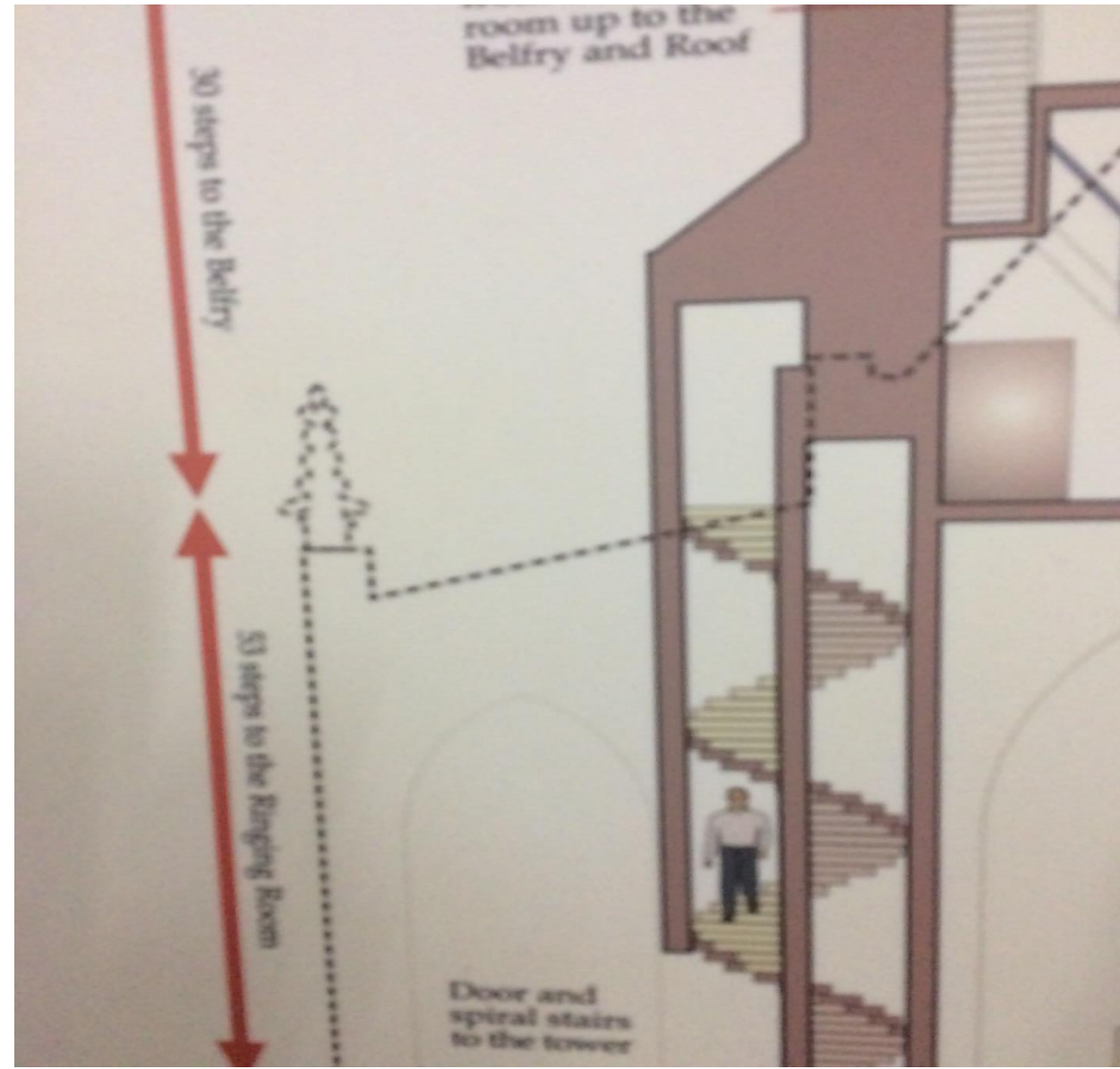
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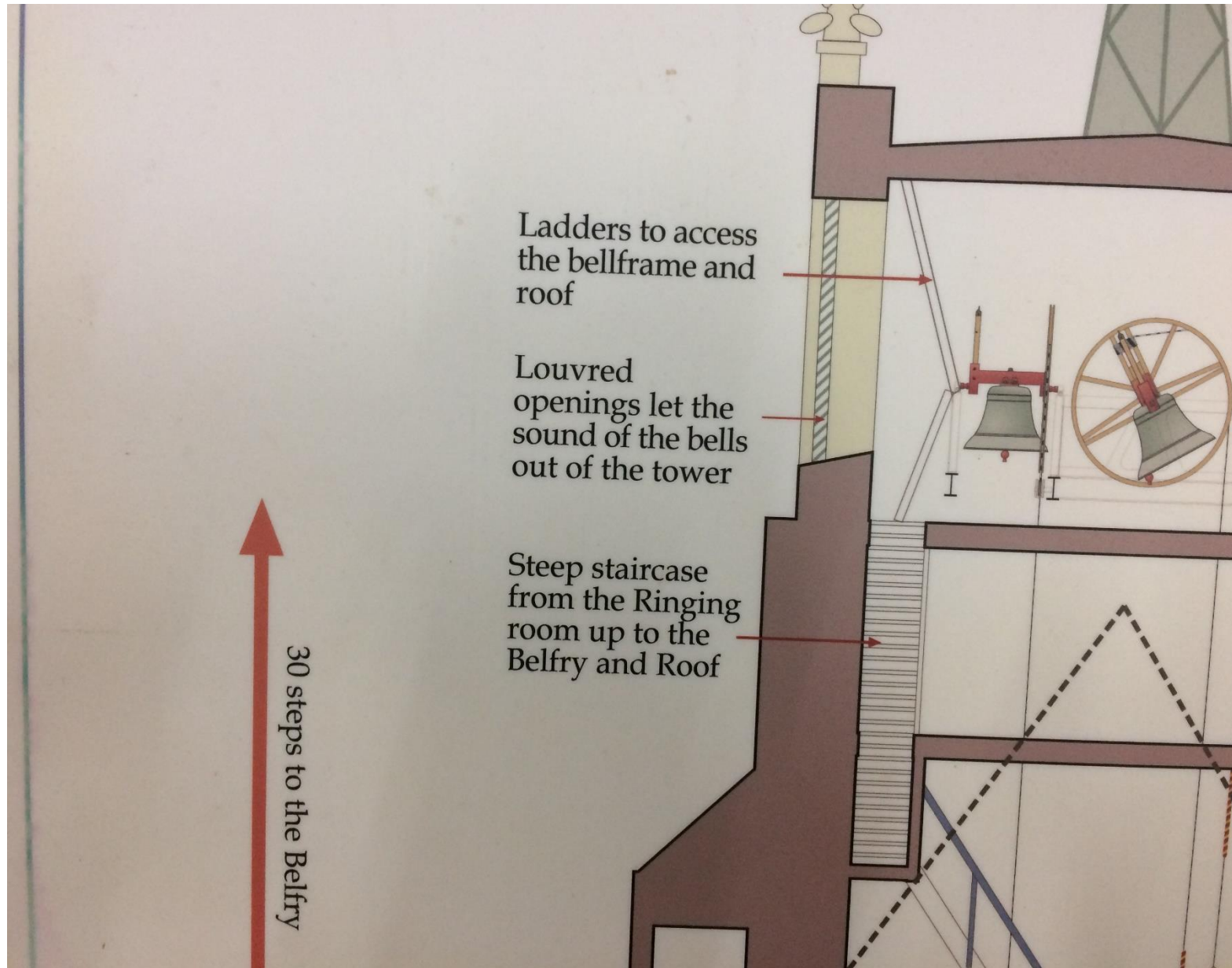
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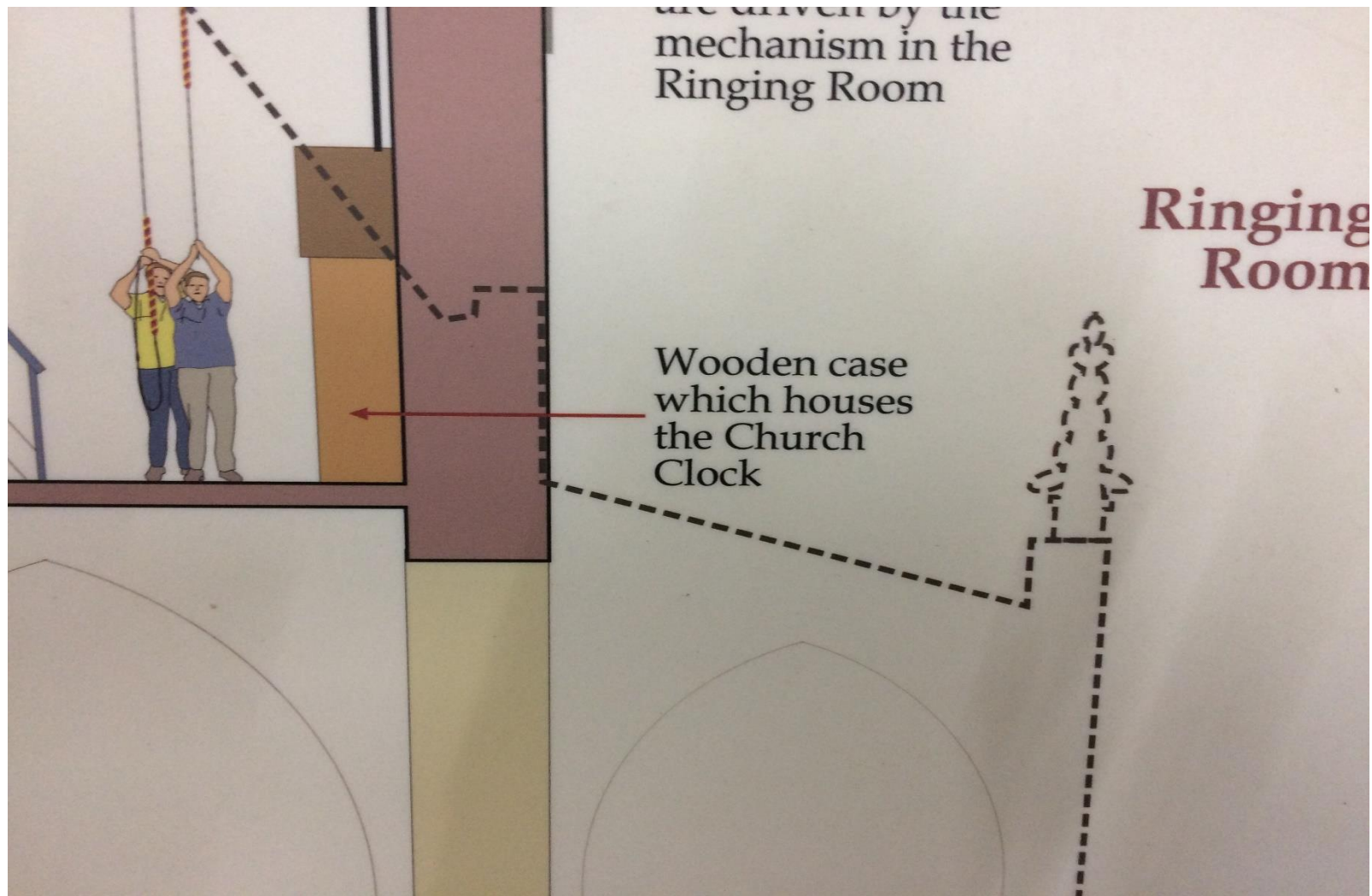


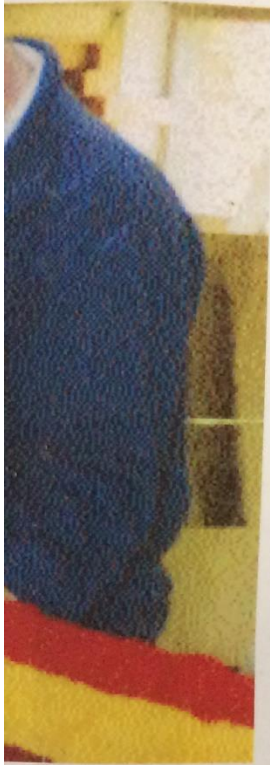
St John's Church Tower











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Later the sallies were sheared so that they are more compact and fit our hands easily and the ropes were delivered to Knaresborough



Before being  
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# New ropes for the bells

Replacing the ropes is a major cost in keeping the bells of St John's ringing every Sunday. They fray and break and after some years there is no longer a sufficient length of rope to splice together.

With recent improvements to the pulleys, which had caused some of the fraying, we hope that these new ropes will have a much longer life than the current set.

The Bellringers of St John's are very grateful to the anonymous benefactor who has provided the funds for the ropes.

They have been made at Hawes by WR Outhwaites & Son. The rope in these pictures, made on Friday 21 March 2003, will be fitted to one of the "front" six (the lighter bells) and stronger ropes will be used on the two tenor (heavier) bells.



Almost the full length of the ropewalk was needed as Knaresborough has a long draught – the distance from the bell frame to the ringing room floor.



As hemp is now almost unobtainable the new ropes are made from flax yarn, highly suitable for a town that was famous for its flax products.

The wool for the sallies (the fluffy part, 36 inches long, that the ringer catches) had been prepared earlier by the ropemaker.

The colours to be used in the sallies had been chosen by the ringers; Red and Gold, for a Church dedicated to a Saint and Martyr.

The ropemaker uses a wooden grooved "top" to keep the strands apart while the twist is put in.

Pushing and pulling the top through the sally required a good deal of strength as well as skill.

As the ropemaker tied up his morning's work a new rope for Knaresborough was recognisable.



Later the sallies were sheared so that they are more compact and fit our hands easily and the ropes were delivered to Knaresborough



Before being tied to the wheels the ropes were "lubed" by the ringers. This adds protection against chafing and also helps to prevent the ropes changing length in response to the humidity of the belfry.



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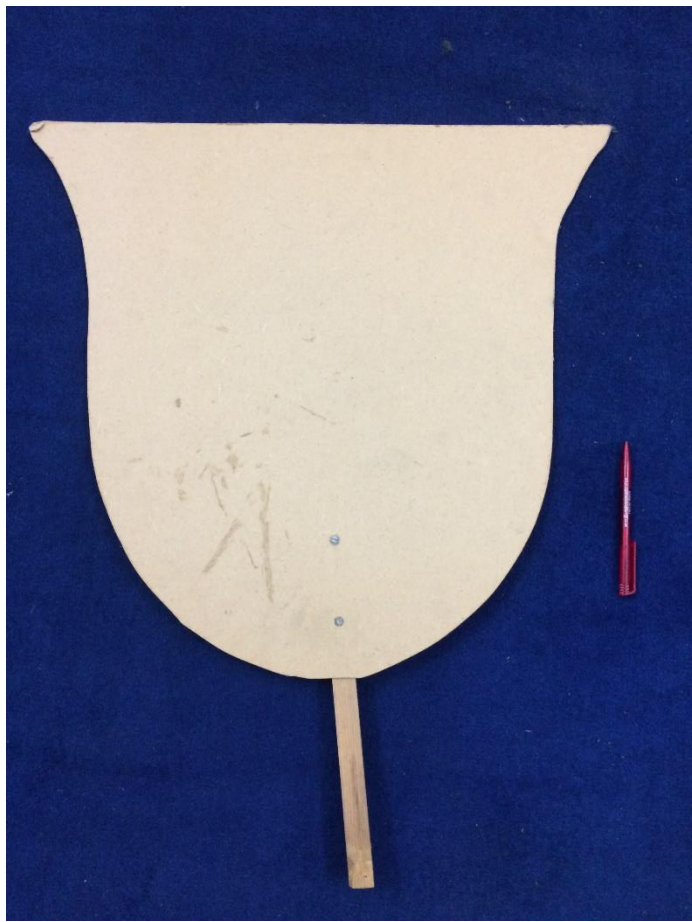
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