# About bells & ringing

#### most towns and villages in England

# There are 7135 rings of 3 or more bells in the world mostly in **churches in England**

also rest of UK, USA, Canada, South Africa, Australia & New Zealand



EnglandWales

□ Rest of the World In England you are never far away from some bells!

There are 6 bells at Chatsworth in St Peter's Church Edensor ♦



## how many bells in a ring?



#### Most rings (sets) have 6 or 8 bells

but there can be as few as **3** or as many as **16**!





# how heavy are bells?

#### The heaviest weighs 82cwt (4171kg) (Liverpool Cathedral tenor) ✓



**0** 1 TON

Anything between **1cwt (50kg)** and **35cwt (1778kg)** is normal for a bell!

# useful terminology

**treble** = lightest/smallest bell **tenor** = heaviest/biggest bell



**down** = bell mouth downwards

**up** = bell upside down ready for ringing

**set** = bell stopped in the up position

look to, treble's going, she's gone = command to start ringing

**stand** = command to set the bell and stop ringing

**go** = command to start ringing a method **that's all** = command to stop ringing a method

### 8 bells ringing viewed from above



### a ringing chamber viewed from above



### ringing in action



#### in a bell chamber (bells down)



# history and future of ringing

Bells have been in churches for over a thousand years In the **1600s change ringing** was invented in England and became the 'in' thing to do

• called '**The Exercise**' - ringers invented exercising!

Silent 'dumb' bells were invented to 'ring' for exercise  $\,\diamondsuit\,$ 

• now **dumb bells** are used in gyms everywhere!

Ringing has **continued to grow** through the centuries, even spreading to other countries, and is enjoyed by young and old alike The future - **would you like to become a ringer** and continue this ancient tradition?

