

Case Study – Christ Church, Longford, Tasmania

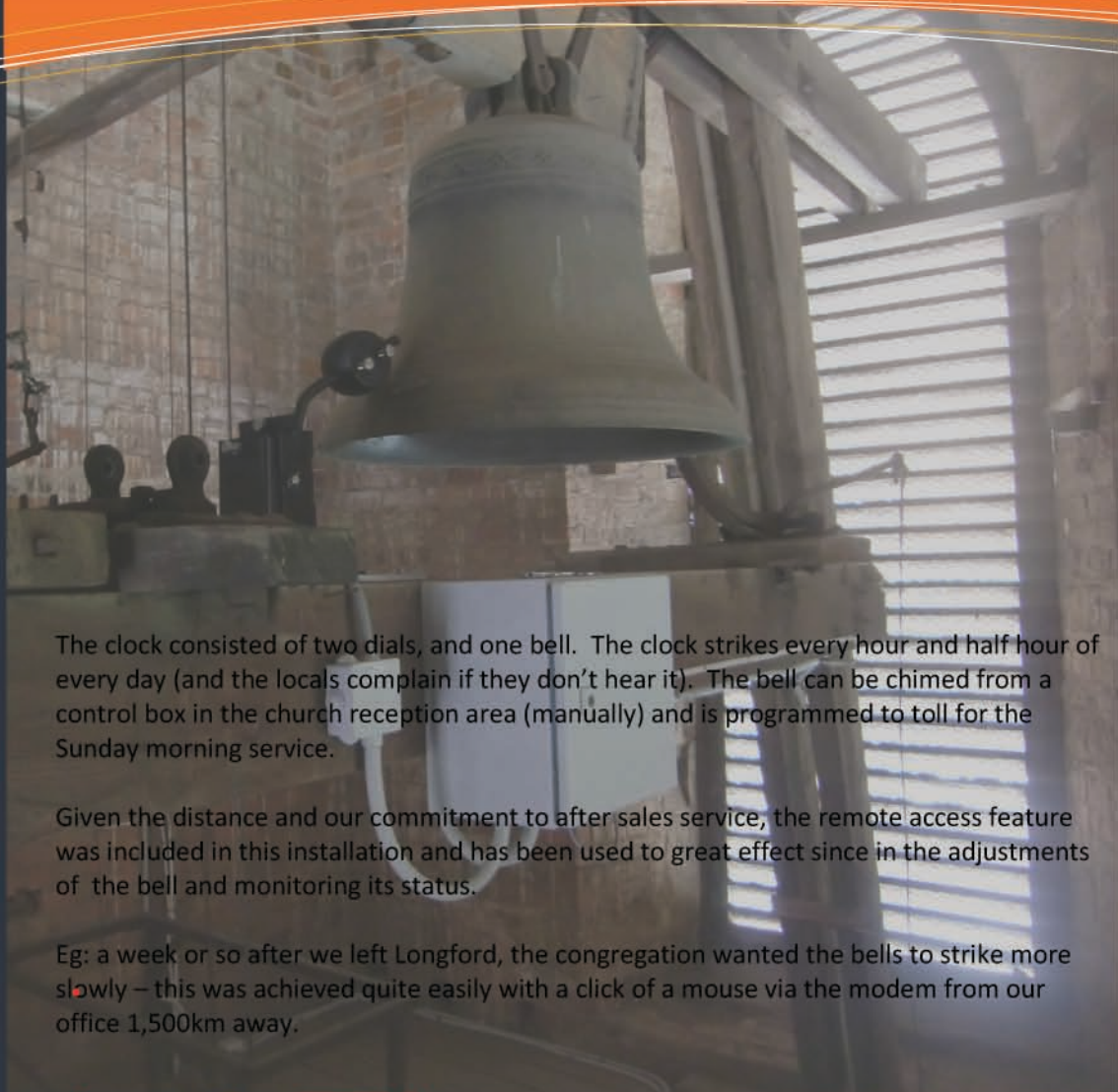


Three times a week since 1840 A member of the congregation at Christchurch, Longford, Tasmania (near Launceston) climbed the tower to wind the clock and attend to the mechanism and it's time-keeping.

In 2011 we commenced the replacement of the manual turret clock mechanism (donated by King George IV) in the tower. The decision to replace the manual mechanism with two GPS intelligent dial mechanisms and a bell striker, was undertaken with a strong emphasis on the safety and access to the tower for the future. The original mechanism has been retained in the tower and will be placed on display at a future date.

Access to the original mechanism was via three vertical ladders inside the tower. Making adjustments to the clock and descending the tower was considered by the ageing congregation to be an unacceptable OH&S risk.

Since the clock had been working continuously since the 1840's. Those parishioners involved with the clocks upkeep in recent years, gathered together to propose a tribute to the Lord and King George IV, as the pendulum was stopped for the last time!



The clock consisted of two dials, and one bell. The clock strikes every hour and half hour of every day (and the locals complain if they don't hear it). The bell can be chimed from a control box in the church reception area (manually) and is programmed to toll for the Sunday morning service.

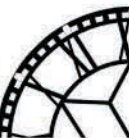
Given the distance and our commitment to after sales service, the remote access feature was included in this installation and has been used to great effect since in the adjustments of the bell and monitoring its status.

Eg: a week or so after we left Longford, the congregation wanted the bells to strike more slowly – this was achieved quite easily with a click of a mouse via the modem from our office 1,500km away.



Thanks to Trevor Bunning for the front cover photo of the church, all other photos owner by Tower Clock Services.

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