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# NOTES ON RINGERS' PITCHERS, JACKS AND JUGS

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Since the restoration of the Dorchester (Dorset) Ringers' Pewter Flagon through the efforts of the late Mr. H. H. Cotterell,<sup>1</sup> and the subsequent article on "Bellringers' Pitchers and Jugs," by the present writers, there have come to light several other ancient ringers' vessels, hitherto practically forgotten.

Thus, following the appearance of Mr. Cotterell's article, another pewter flagon has been discovered at Salisbury, St. Paul's Church (previously called Fisherton Anger), which is undoubtedly a ringers' vessel, as in no case does a Holy Communion vessel appear mentioned as a "pot," as in this instance. This "pot" holds four pints, and is 12 in. high. It bears the following inscription:

THE . POT . OF . FISHARTONANGER . CHVRCH :  
 GEORGE . HEELY : CHVRCH . WARDENS  
 JOHN . MARCHANT  
 1660 :

This pot was made by Robert Marten of London, who was made a Free Pewterer, *circa* 1640, and who died in 1674.

Hitherto only two examples of ringers' leathern jacks were known to exist, those of Lincoln and Stafford illustrated in the article mentioned above, but we have now "discovered" another at Crowle, Worcestershire, and this is dated 1786, and is 13½ in. high, 7 in. diameter at base, and 5½ in. diameter at top.

At Hornchurch, Essex, two pitchers are preserved which were formerly used by the ringers when taking refreshment at the Hall, on which occasions they were filled with "home-brewed."

In later years these pitchers were used for supplying refreshment to the tenants when they came to pay their tithes at Hornchurch Hall. They were later seized from the King's Head Inn by Messrs. B. & H. Holmes, of the Hornchurch Brewery in distraint for rent, and afterwards placed in the hall at Grey Towers. After the death of Colonel Holmes, and at an auction sale at the Towers, the family *bought* in these pitchers, and presented them to the vicar and churchwardens, to be preserved thereafter in the church. The smaller of the two is brown earthenware of a dull glaze, and inscribed in a cursive hand:

1731  
 HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.  
 RINGERS.  
 John Bader. Benjn. Malin. W. Randall. Church  
 Thomas White. William Carter. Fran. Sumpner. Wardens  
 Thos. Wooton. Thomas Sanger.

This pitcher is 13 in. high and 40 in. in girth at its widest part. The larger pitcher is of very dark burnt umber coloured earthenware, thickly and highly glazed and inscribed:

May 24th. 1815.  
 This Pitcher was made by Rt. Aungier.  
 — Oxley. Js. Fry.  
 W. —rison. Js. Nokes.  
 John Oxley. Frnc. Oxley.  
 Jerg. Evrett. Saml. Cooper.  
 George Hills. Peter Smith.

<sup>1</sup> See "Apollo," Vol. XVII, No. 99, pp. 68-71.  
<sup>2</sup> See "Apollo," Vol. XVII, No. 102, pp. 265-268.

Hornchurch Ringers, 1815.  
 Gift of Mr. C. Cove.  
 Church Wardens: John Thompson, James Bearblock.  
 TOM. LINCOLN.

This pitcher is 20½ in. high and 50 in. in girth at widest part. Preserved at Tamworth Parish Church is a pitcher inscribed

TAMWORTH RINGERS  
 1805.

It has besides the carrying handle a steadying lip on the front, and is 12½ in. high and 11½ in. wide.

At Tawstock, North Devon, is a curious double-handled ringers' jug made of local "cloam," glazed a bright yellow, while on the front is the crude outline of a bell, within which appears the following:

1812  
 Success to the hearty  
 Ringers of Tawstock

(then the drawing of five bells in a row

The youngest ringers shall carry the Jug.

On the reverse "E. Fishley, Fremington, 1850." It is stated locally that the latter refers to the repairing of the jug. In height it is 15½ in., circumference 38½ in., base 8½ in., mouth 4½ in.

At Bungay, Suffolk, is a large three-handled jug of rather coarse brown earthenware, about 15 in. in height, and 41½ in. in circumference at widest part. It holds 34 pints, and bears an incised inscription:

1827 A GIFT TO THE SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS  
 OF Saint Mary's BUNGAY by Thos. HURRY Norwich.

Thomas Hurry was a famous Norwich ringer, and also a bell-hanger.

A more recent example is at Oxford, and kept at the headquarters of the Society of Change Ringers, and is a double-handled loving cup of white china, beautifully made, with a design of pink roses, and in letters of gold:

Presented to the Oxford Society of Change Ringers.  
 By and with the compliments of George A. Smith.  
 Tunstall, Staffs.  
 August 1905.

On its reverse is a picture of a Dutch couple. Its capacity is 7 pints.



HORNCHURCH RINGERS' PITCHERS  
 1815 1731

A P O L L O



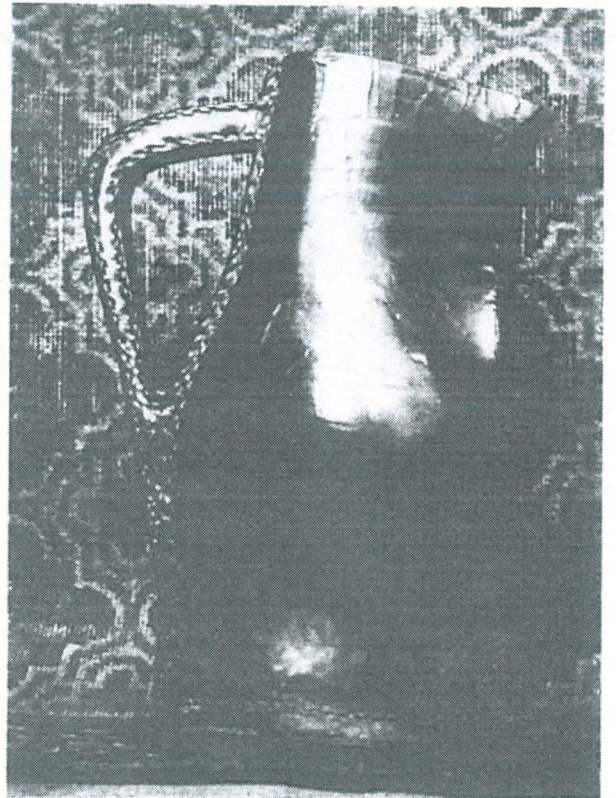
TAWSTOCK, DEVON. RINGERS' JUG (1812)



TAMWORTH RINGERS' PITCHER (1805)



SALISBURY, S. PAUL, RINGERS' PEWTER POT  
1660



CROWLE, WORCS. RINGERS' LEATHER  
JACK (1786)