

# Bells ring again with Lotto grant

A BURTON church is celebrating a Lottery cash boost as it works towards a £40,000 fund-raising target for new bells.

Six new bells have been installed at the Church of St John the Divine, Horninglow, with parishioners working hard to foot the bill.

**BY ANDY PARKER**

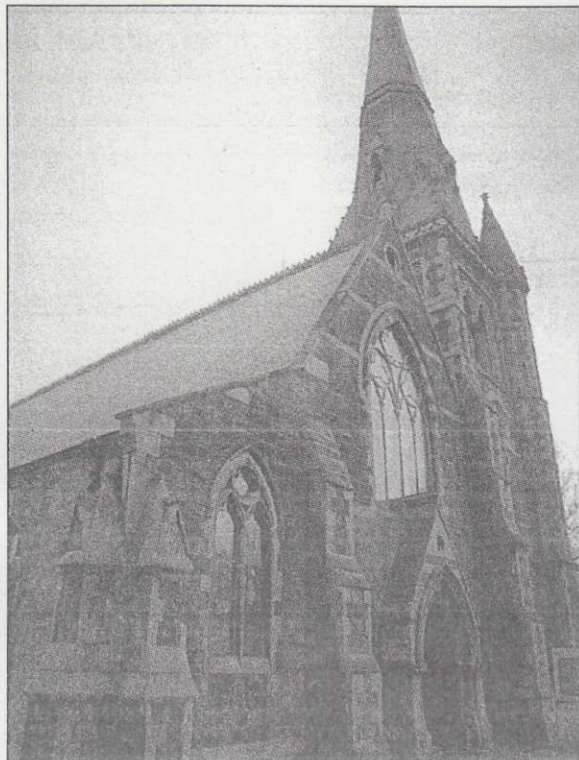
Now vicar the Rev Phillip Jefferies has hailed the £3,300 boost from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts — a national body formed to dole out Lottery cash — as “a significant contribution” to the fund-raising campaign.

Said Father Jefferies: “This is a valuable contribution, but there has been some very hard work by the congregation over three years to raise the money.”

The six new bells, made of bell-metal for a church in Yorkshire in Victorian times, replace St John’s steel bells, which dated from the same era but had become pitted.

Before being hung at the church by Melbourne firm Eayre and Smith the bells were retuned by Taylors of Loughborough and were given a trial run last year following blessing by the Archdeacon of Stoke, Rev Dennis Ede.

Soon the bells will be ringing out regularly from the church thanks to St John’s “enthusiastic young team of bellringers,” all of them local. First, though, says Father Jefferies, work remains to be done in the belfry.



● Church of St John the Divine rings out a thank-you for the six new bells.



● Ringing in the new bells . . . Rev Phillip Jefferies praises congregation who helped reach the fund-raising target.