



# *Parish Church News Minety*

Rev Thomas Ludlow-Hewitt

The Lord Bishop has instituted the Rev Thomas Arthur Ludlow-Hewitt, M A, to the vicarage of Minety, Wilts.

*Western Daily Press 21 November 1901*

## Muffled Peals on Innocent's Day

Sunday was Holy Innocent's Day, and many people remember how the late Dean Stanley used to gather some thousands of London children each December 28 into Westminster Abbey and discourse to them on the sacred associations of the day and draw out its lessons.

In some parts of the country, muffled peals are rung on Innocent's Day. It is the custom at Churchdown, Maisemore, Wick, and Risington, Gloucestershire; Minety St Leonards, Wilts; and Norton, near Evesham, and Pattingham, Staffordshire.

The evening of the day is generally selected for the peal. Half the clapper of each bell is muffled, so that every other chime has the effect of an echo.

*Evening Telegraph 30 December 1902*

## Din Outside Church

### Protest Against Bell Ringing

Morning Service at Minety Parish Church, near Swindon, on Sunday, was interfered with by the din of motor horns, the shrieking of whistles, and the blowing of tin trumpets.

The noise distracted the congregation, and the service could be heard only with great difficulty.

Mrs Atkinson, whose property is situated near the church, stated afterwards that she and her husband and some friends were responsible for the noise.

"We did this as a protest," she said, "Ever since October the church bells, being rung for unreasonably long periods, have been a source of annoyance to us."

*Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette 7 January 1933*

## Police on Duty at Church

### Vicar's Moves in Bells Dispute

Crowds gathered at Minety, near Swindon, Wiltshire, yesterday in anticipation of further protests against the ringing of the church bells.

On the previous Sunday, the morning service at the church was interfered with by the din of motor horns, whistles, and hunting horns. Mrs Atkinson, wife of Major Atkinson, whose property adjoins the churchyard, said that she, her husband, and friends organised the demonstration as a protest against the church bells being rung for an hour at the dead of night to usher in the New Year.

There was no disturbance yesterday, but a police officer was on duty near the church entrance while the bells pealed. His presence was explained to a reporter by the 84 years old vicar, the Rev T A Ludlow-Hewitt, who has been at Minety for 31 years.

### "Profanation"

Mr Ludlow-Hewitt said that he had been advised by the Church authorities at Bristol to ask the police "to proceed against persons committing profanation." "The church council will meet within the next few days to decide on the next move," he added.

Major Atkinson stated that there will not be any more noisy protests.

"We shall wait for a week or two," he said, "and if we are still being annoyed by the bells we shall put the matter into legal hands."

Gloucester Citizen 9 January 1933

### Induction of Vicar of Minety

The new vicar of Minety, the Rev Stanley William Emberson, was instituted and inducted at St Leonard's Church on Wednesday by the Bishop of Malmesbury (Dr R E Ramsey), who was assisted by the rural dean (the Rev H Milnes-Walker). There was a large congregation.

The robed clergymen present were Canon D Angus Willis (rector of Long Newton), Canon F H Mapely (rector of Great Somerford), who presented the new incumbent, and the Rev Edgar Packer (the vicar of Hankerton), the Rev E I J Phillips (rector of Easton Grey), the Rev W H Tozer (rector of Dauntsey), the Rev W Cardwell (rector of Little Somerford), the Rev F Hudson (Charlton), and the Rev W R Ford (Ubley). Miss Dorinda Ludlow-Hewitt was at the organ, and Sir David Gamble and Mr C S Stratford were in attendance as churchwardens.

Referring to the fact that the day marked the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the church, the Bishop said that they would remember in their prayers with thankfulness and joy the ministry, which ended in the passing of Thomas Arthur Ludlow-Hewitt.

Western Daily Press 2 October 1936

### Bier

A Bier has been presented to St Leonard's Church, Minety, as a memorial to her late husband, Mr Job Simpkins, by Mrs J Simpkins, of Wellfield Farm.

Western Daily Press 24 August 1938