

The History



The tower of St. Nicholas' church has been a local landmark for over 300 years. When the current church (replacing an earlier structure) was rebuilt in 1614 however, there was no tower. This was not added until a century later during the tenure of the Rev. Lewis Atterbury. He was a chaplain to Queen Anne and it is said that she commented on the lack of a tower, whereupon the hapless Rector felt obliged to build one, largely out of his own pocket. To save money he clearly built the brick tower as small as possible, to the extent that the stairs to the gallery and ringing chamber had to be built outside. A clock was added to the tower in 1769, and a peal of five bells replaced a single bell in 1877. These were augmented by a sixth bell 'Little Nicholas' in 1980, when the bell frame was replaced.

