

## Photo Album

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Checking out a prospective location.



**March 2007**

A hardy group of ringers go up Gerberding tower and try to imagine what it might look like with bells. The high ceiling conjures up the prospect of a long draught, but in the end the space was divided into a belfry and a ringing room.

*Photo credits: Harry Stern*

The bells [arrive in crates](#), [go on display](#) in Red Square and are [hoisted up into the tower](#).



**Monday, April 28th, 2008**

The eight bells traveled by sea and land all the way from Eijsbouts foundry in the Netherlands where they were cast. Here you can see them making the final, vertical stage of their journey into the tower of Gerberding Hall. Seattle lived up to its rainy reputation and the bells started the day with a shower, but the sun was out by the time the project representatives and friends came to see the bells proudly lined up.

*Photo credits: Susan Burris, Sarah Paliulis*

The bells settle into their new home.



**Monday, April 28th, 2008**

We have been meeting regularly on Mondays to ring handbells, but this was a special day so we took some time out to go and take a look at the progress so far. At this point the wheels and ropes had not yet been fitted.

The bells are arranged radially, with access to the belfry through the center. This is somewhat rare; bell pits are normally rectangular and aligned parallel to the walls to use all the available space.

*Photo credits: Rachel Pusey*

The opening ceremony.



**Friday, May 30th - Sunday, June 1st, 2008**

With the construction work finished and [the bells ready](#), we rushed to get the tower ready for our visitors. At 11am on Saturday invited guests braved the rain to hear [speeches](#) from President Emmert, Gordon Peek (the donor), and Rebecca Woodgate (our tower captain). Key figures from the project rang the bells in turn as each dedication was announced for the audience in the square by Vancouver ringer Peter Munns. After the official [ringing](#), we continued the socializing over [dinner](#).

*Photo credits: Rachel Pusey, John Pusey*

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[Home](#)

# In the beginning ...

Our ringers try to imagine Gerberding Hall tower with bells

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# Lifting the bells out of the crates

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# The bells on display in Red Square

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# Up, up and away

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#)

# Bells in place but without wheels or ropes

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# Beautiful bells and splendid views

The wheels and ropes are on, the bells are ready, the sun is shining. Ready for the grand opening!

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# Guests gather for the official opening ceremony in Red Square

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# The local band opens its doors and welcomes visitors from far and wide

Visitors joined us from Olympia, Portland, Blaine, Atlanta, Victoria, Vancouver, and the UK

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#) | [Next set](#)

# Thirsty work!

After all that ringing it's time to refuel

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[Home](#) | [Main photo page](#)