

Scrap Iron Clock

The church clock dedicated on Sunday at Wootton Rivers, a Wiltshire village near Marlborough, as a Coronation memorial, is probably without equal in the country.

It was made by a villager named Spratt who, hearing that local funds were insufficient for the proposed addition of a clock to the church tower, offered to make one provided assistance was given with the heavier work, and the necessary metal and other material were supplied to him. All manner of material - including parts of old bicycles, perambulators, reaping, mowing and threshing machines, and a chaff cutter - was brought to Spratt, whose cottage resembled a scrap-iron store.

On one of the dials are the words "Glory be to God", instead of the usual Roman numerals.

Dundee Chronicle, Thursday, 7 July 1911

A Scrap Iron Clock

Mr. J. Spratt, an inhabitant of the Wiltshire village of Wootton Rivers, who gained fame last year for having designed and executed a clock for the church tower as a Coronation memorial in the village, has received tangible recognition for his work and has been presented with an address setting forth his accomplishment.

Mr. Spratt has also designed and executed a set of chimes, which he hopes to put in the tower in the course of a few days.

Sheffield Evening Telegraph, Saturday, 4 May 1912

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