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On the cover

The ringers of Christ Church, Dore, South Yorkshire, are delighted to wish a very Happy Christmas to readers of *The Ringing World*. At the time of writing, the snow had thawed, but on the morning of 2nd December the ringers were greeted by the scene on the front cover, as much of the country woke up to a winter wonderland.

Our cover photo was taken by **Rod Ismay**, on his way to ring for Sunday service. He has been tracking the seasons in the churchyard in a series of photos. Almost every week he has found a different flower or colour amongst the graves, and recently some astonishing autumnal mushrooms.

Dore has a keen local band and its bells ring out to some much-loved figures of UK sporting life. Jessica Ennis-Hill fittingly lives just up the hill; Chris Waddle sometimes vies with the ringers at the bar in the Devonshire Arms and tower captain Richard Knights has tales of his wife Sue feeding



a young Joe Root and their son fish fingers at their home – hearty meals which no doubt laid the foundations for Joe’s record breaking innings for England. Joe and Carrie’s wedding was at Dore. Yes, they had bells and, yes, the band very much enjoyed ringing that day.

Dore has eight bells (11-0-24 in G). The band is blessed with several new members, a ‘Ring for the King’ recruit, a local ‘transfer’ and one who moved into the area; all have quickly settled into solid Sunday ringing and Friday practice with a pint or a Pinot at either of the two pubs within earshot of the bells.



There are also a couple of attempts a month by a regular peal band; this year Dore has crept into the top 50 in the Felstead all-time peal list.

Dore village is on the southwest edge of Sheffield. The parish includes an area of the Peak District National Park. The village has Anglo-Saxon foundations and its recorded history pre-dates the city. In the year 829 “Ecgbert led an army to Dore against the Northumbrians and they offered him obedience and concord and thereupon they separated” with Ecgbert becoming “Our Lord of the whole English speaking race, from the Channel to the Firth of Forth”. More recently Dore was in the county of Derbyshire, but was incorporated into its “new home” under the Sheffield Extension Act of 1933, which came into effect on 1 April 1934.

The current church was consecrated in 1829 by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in whose diocese it then lay; subsequently residing in three other dioceses before, since 1974, the Diocese of Sheffield. The original patron of the living was Earl Fitzwilliam and the land was given by the Lord of the Manor, the Duke of

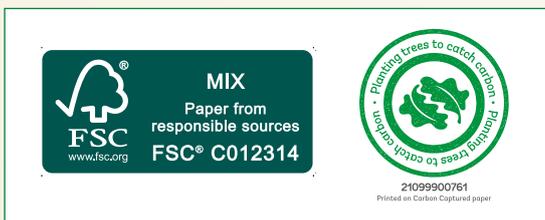


Devonshire. The peal of bells was first proposed at the Easter Vestry Meeting in 1907. They were cast and installed by Taylors in 1908 and dedicated on 1st January 1909.

For the first nine months of 2024 there will be no ringing, because of a long-planned church redevelopment, which will include a much-needed new kitchen and welcoming area. If you have ever rung at Dore, you may remember the ladder in the entrance and the trapdoor into the ringing chamber. These will be replaced by a new staircase and the ringing chamber will become more visible with a window into the nave. While the building work is carried out, the neighbouring tower at Norton will welcome Dore ringers to use their bells for practice, a *quid pro quo* for Norton’s reordering several years ago. The band may also have the occasional trip further afield as a two-or-three-tower mini-trip might be possible on a Sunday morning among the churches not too far away. Dore ringers generally walk or cycle, but may have to resort to motorised transport for such a venture.

And so, Dore ringers send you their very best wishes for 2024 and hope to see you in their new ringing chamber later in the year. In the meantime, here are a couple of other photos of the changing seasons in the churchyard.

ROD ISMAY





Seasons greetings from these six charming little chimers! It's the band from Builth Wells, mid-Wales knitted by Linda, Wendy and Jane for a Christmas Tree Festival and now on display in the tower. Photo by Claire Alexander

Ringling for Public Events – 2024 update

The Central Council introduced 'Things to Ring For' in 2011 to help ringers link their ringing to events of possible wider interest, so they could plan ahead and maybe use it to engage with the general public. Since ringing for events is entirely discretionary the list has always aimed to be eclectic, with something for everyone.

After recent years with lots of high-profile public ringing – for the Platinum Jubilee, the Queen's death and the King's Coronation – we are probably back to more normal times, but that still includes the opportunity to ring for public events, and to make publicity for ringing on the back of it. So what does 2024 have in store?

Continuing the Royal flavour of recent years, and with a new King who during his life has supported innovation, this year sees the centenary of the first broadcast by a British Monarch (23 April 1924). The King's great grandfather George V made the broadcast to mark the opening of the British Empire Exhibition in Wembley. That day is of course St George's Day, when many people ring anyway, but it would be good to emphasise the centenary as well.

Other public service anniversaries are: the 200th anniversaries of the foundation of the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) (16 June), the founding of the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) (4 Mar) and the opening of the National Gallery to the public (19 May), plus the 100th anniversary of broadcasting 'the pips', the hourly time signal from Greenwich Observatory (5 February).

Two heroic achievements have 25th anniversaries: Tori Murden became the first woman to row the Atlantic alone (3 December) and Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones completed the first circumnavigation of the world in a hot air balloon (21 March).

There are two political anniversaries: the 25th anniversaries of the opening in Cardiff of the Welsh Assembly (26 May) and of the Scottish Executive receiving devolved powers (1 July).

For those who like ringing related anniversaries there is the 250th anniversary of the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5 June), the 100th anniversaries of the birth of Brian Price, an innovative composer who introduced singles into Surprise Major, as

well as being a famous caver and art collector (9 May), and the birth of Wilfrid Moreton, founder of the Hereford Course (31 July), plus the 50th anniversary of the death of George Fearn, a prominent Birmingham ringer (20 May). Information about the lives of all three of them is on the CC history website at:

history.cccbr.org.uk/person_result.php?recid=668

history.cccbr.org.uk/person_result.php?recid=318

history.cccbr.org.uk/person_result.php?recid=11135

Looking beyond next year, 2025 has a good mix of anniversaries of different flavours. For details of these and much more, see: cccbr.org.uk/things-to-ring-for, which has both one-off anniversaries and lists of regular events, church and secular.

So there are lots of opportunities for public ringing, each of which has a story that you could exploit in your publicity. If you think other significant events should be added to the lists then please contact: ttrf@cccbr.org.uk

JOHN HARRISON
on behalf of CC PR workgroup

Editorial

Merry Christmas! For this year's special issue we've tried to pack eighty pages with articles on any and all subjects to do with ringing. We always appreciate the challenge of the bumper issue, but also enjoy the chance to go a little off-piste, including with a few longer articles and with some of our design elements. (Speaking of which, look out for a few changes in *The Ringing World* in the new year ...) Thanks to all our contributors, regular and new, for answering the call and sharing their wisdom and enthusiasm.

Whatever your feelings about the British Royal Family, for many of us 2023 will probably be remembered as 'Ring for the King Year'. And whether or not you were following that campaign, wherever you were, you were probably still trying to rebuild your band after the struggles of the previous few years. We had a busy year

at the RW with some very special issues: not just the bumper Coronation material, but also around the RWNVC (it already looks like we'll have a record attendance in London in 2024) and a Suffolk special issue. It's been quite a year.

Editorially, as well as news and feature articles, we make an effort to provide something every week to entertain or inform the newer learner, and we have appreciated feedback on the Doubles and Trio of the Month. This week's Trio is a physical handling challenge to give your brains a rest. Do try it and let us know how you get on! Editorial assistant Trisha had been with us less than a month when Queen Elizabeth II died in 2022, throwing all routine into disarray. At the end of this coronation year, she says, "My favourite part of the job is building relationships with authors and photographers, seeing how they get more prolific with confidence that their work will

be appreciated. If you are sitting on a story, please don't be shy, send it in!"

We also try to put the 'world' in 'Ringing World' – amongst others we've managed to feature bells from South Georgia, Japan and Orkney this year!

Our 'Eyes on 2030' survey about the RW in March gave us a fascinating glimpse into what you all think of 'the Comic'. In the face of ever-declining subscriptions, we feel we still have a unique and valued place in this world of ringing. For the moment, all the RW team find it an honour to continue to bring a weekly magazine to you all about the quirky delights and wonderful community sharing this hobby.

Enjoy all your Christmas and New Year ringing, stay warm, raise a glass together, and here's to 2024.

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All night Christmas Bells at Kirby Bellars, Leicestershire ... more than 100 years ago

Handbell ringing was certainly in its heyday in Kirby Bellars in the years just before the outbreak of the First World War, when the ringers would make a tour of the village on Christmas morning. As their minute book for 1911 tells us, they rang “several times on the bells, finishing with singing at each place”. As soon as the village round was complete, the ringers would head off to the church to complete the festivities with a merry peal on the great church bells.

So far, so very decorous. But if we take a closer look at that little purple minute book, we find that what was actually involved in that “usual” round of Christmas morning handbell ringing, was in fact a circuit starting at Manor House at midnight on Christmas Eve that lasted all night long, as 11 or 12 stalwart chaps wound their way all round the village at dead of night, taking in Park Farm and other out-lying places. On Christmas morning in 1912 and 1913, the ringers finally reached the end of their round “at about 4am”, leaving just enough time to make their way back to the church for the ringing of a merry peal from 5:30 to 6:30am. Not that they had finished then, because they left the bells “up-set ready for service at 11:30, when another peal was rung”! It seems not entirely unreasonable to suppose that these Herculean labours may have been fuelled by ample supplies of Christmas spirit and good cheer at every place the 12 stalwart chaps called, but this, alas, is not recorded in the minutes.

Then, as now, Christmas was seen as a good opportunity for fund raising for good causes and, as that little minute book attests, the favourite good cause of the Kirby Bellars bellringers was their annual outing to Skegness. So generous were the donations of the villagers (each donor being ranked in the records according to the exact amount given), that the ringers were treated to a grand day out, with train fares, taxis, dinners and slap-up teas, all provided for the princely sum total of £4.0s.8d (£4.03).

PENELOPE DAVIES.



*The church of St Mary in Ross on Wye has a Christmas Tree Festival at the end of November on alternate years. This year the bell ringers were given the font to decorate. The font really lent itself to the bell themed baubles and bellropes and the arrangement was centre stage.
(photo Elizabeth Walker)*



The tower was illuminated for the Christmas light switch-on in Trowbridge

The twelve bells of Trowbridge

See the festive Christmas lights on the tower of St James Trowbridge, Wiltshire, with its 160ft spire. It was modelled on Salisbury Cathedral, but unlike the cathedral, it holds a ring of twelve bells, plus a small Sanctus bell for chiming. You may ask how so small a tower can hold twelve bells? The answer is: with a squeeze. The bells are housed behind the louvres in a two-tier metal frame beneath the clock.

St James has not always had twelve bells. In the Terumbersere deed

dated 1483 four bells were mentioned, and the inventory of Church Goods under Edward VI (1537-1553) records five bells and a Sanctus bell. By 1800 there was a heavy ring of six bells, which in that year was re-cast into a lighter ring of eight by the famous Wiltshire bell founder, James Wells of Aldbourne.

The bells were rung from the ground floor until 1847 when the present ringing chamber was provided above the vaulted ceiling.

In 1870 the tenor was re-cast by William Blews and Sons of Birmingham and again in 1912 together with the treble and second bells by Llewellyn and James of Bristol, and all eight bells hung a new metal frame at a cost of £360. Two bells were added in 1923, as memorials to the Great War, making a ring of ten. Trowbridge was the first town in Wiltshire to have a peal of 10 bells but these fell silent in 1933.

Today’s fine ring of twelve bells was recast from the ring of ten plus two new bells, by the John Taylor Bell Foundry of Loughborough in 1934. Soon after the appeal was launched Mr T C Usher of Ushers Brewery offered at his own expense to install an electric clock if the £1,100 for the new peal was raised. This was quickly achieved by a remarkable fundraising effort by the people of Trowbridge, who became Friends of the Bells, in a campaign generously supported by the Wiltshire Times. The bells, clock and chiming apparatus were dedicated by the Bishop of Salisbury on St James’s Day, 25th July 1934. The clock is still marking the hours and quarters today with a chime, especially composed by Sir Walter Alcock, organist at Salisbury Cathedral.

St James’s peal of bells, the only twelve in Wiltshire, are a pleasure to ring and provide a service to the church and community, ringing for services and civic occasions and importantly acting as a form of outreach for the church.

Visitors are welcome to join the Wednesday practice from 7-9pm.

VERONICA NEWMAN





Members of the Romsey Abbey band rang carols on handbells at the Abbey Christmas Fair. They were joined by the Mayor and his wife and also the Town Crier. (photo Philip Clewer)

Old Year, New Year

Where silence lay, and the midnight cold
spread like a silver tide across the night
ran glistening rims round thatch and tile
and set the starstruck window panes alight
From up on high the laboured echoes rang

the muffled tones of solemn bells
their slow and sober measures playing out
an old years requiem the last farewells
They told a vocal elegy

an end, a muted, final sigh
the abacus of time's enigma moved
and gone forever, rest in peace, goodbye
But, like the dawn that comes each day

the joy of life springs ever flesh and dear
revitalised and eager now the bells
Flood out on peals precise and clear

From trebles chime to tenor's blow
hear out our rounds all ye below
they bring you tidings of good cheer
a midnight song, New Year, New Year

Their stone walls trembled with the pulse
and promise of their floating symphony
and all the waiting shadows joining hands
danced with the moonbeams lest they flee

It touched the fading embers in the hearth
and caught the circling strains
of Auld Lang Syne
an incantation's spell, that,
raising glass and bell
then slowly whispered down in soft decline

At last the sallies fall, and toasts
to this and that are mooted from the floor
bed calls the weary, one by one
they slip from sight
gone where the night
holds all within her velvet hand once more

ROY BANKS
Kersey, Ipswich

Christmas cheer at Bramcote

This is the season of goodwill, and for many years the ringers at St Michael and All Angels in Bramcote, Nottinghamshire, have been inviting the congregation and the neighbours to come in for mulled wine and mince pies in early December. The invitation is extended for a few weeks in church and volunteers distribute it through letter boxes in the surrounding streets.

Everyone who comes can have a go if they want to and there's plenty of space in the church for mingling and chat. The free event attracts a few dozen people each year. The guests are generous with the donation pot and it has even gained the band some new ringers over the years.

Bramcote has a light ring of six (5-1-14) on the ground floor in the southwest corner of the main body of the church, with step free access from the street and car park. St Michael's is an active teaching tower where it is important that learners develop good handling skills to ring safely with the long draught.

Unlawfully wedded

Bramcote has a quirky historical story. The present church was consecrated in 1861, replacing a small chapel that the village had outgrown. Sixty-seven years later, in 1928, it was discovered that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had not published an 'instrument' declaring the new church to be a substitute for the old. This meant that, although the building had been consecrated, it was not automatically regarded as a place where marriages could be conducted. Consternation ensued. The matter was promptly rectified, but it



Richard received his ART Level 5 certificate from tower captain Christine during the event

took a special Act of Parliament a year later, in May 1929, to ensure that "all banns and marriages" solemnised in the church in those 67 years were considered lawful.

The old church is known locally as The Sunken Church, as only the original tower remains. It is a few hundred yards from the current church and the rope holes from the old ring of three can still be seen in the tower. Its churchyard has several interesting graves and has had a Green Flag Community Award for several years.

ANNE SLADEN



You've heard of hot chocolate thick enough to stand a spoon up in... this was a snowy day in Surrey a few years ago, taken at Banstead by Neil Thomas



Our Canadian Correspondent goes Dutch

by Yolande Hasselo

In the first week of September I found myself back in The Netherlands for a short but unforeseen family visit. My overnight flight landed at eight o'clock in the morning, and just before ten I walked into the historic centre of 's Hertogenbosch. This town, named after *the Duke's Forest*, is colloquially known as Den Bosch. Whilst the tower bells kept ringing over the Cathedral square, I sat down at one of the many cafés contemplating how best to nurse my jet lag. What better way for a Calgary ringer to do so than an exploration of the Cathedral's bell tower? I booked myself on a belfry tour, and a couple of days later I was able to join the Bossche ringers to ring one of the seven huge Cathedral bells.

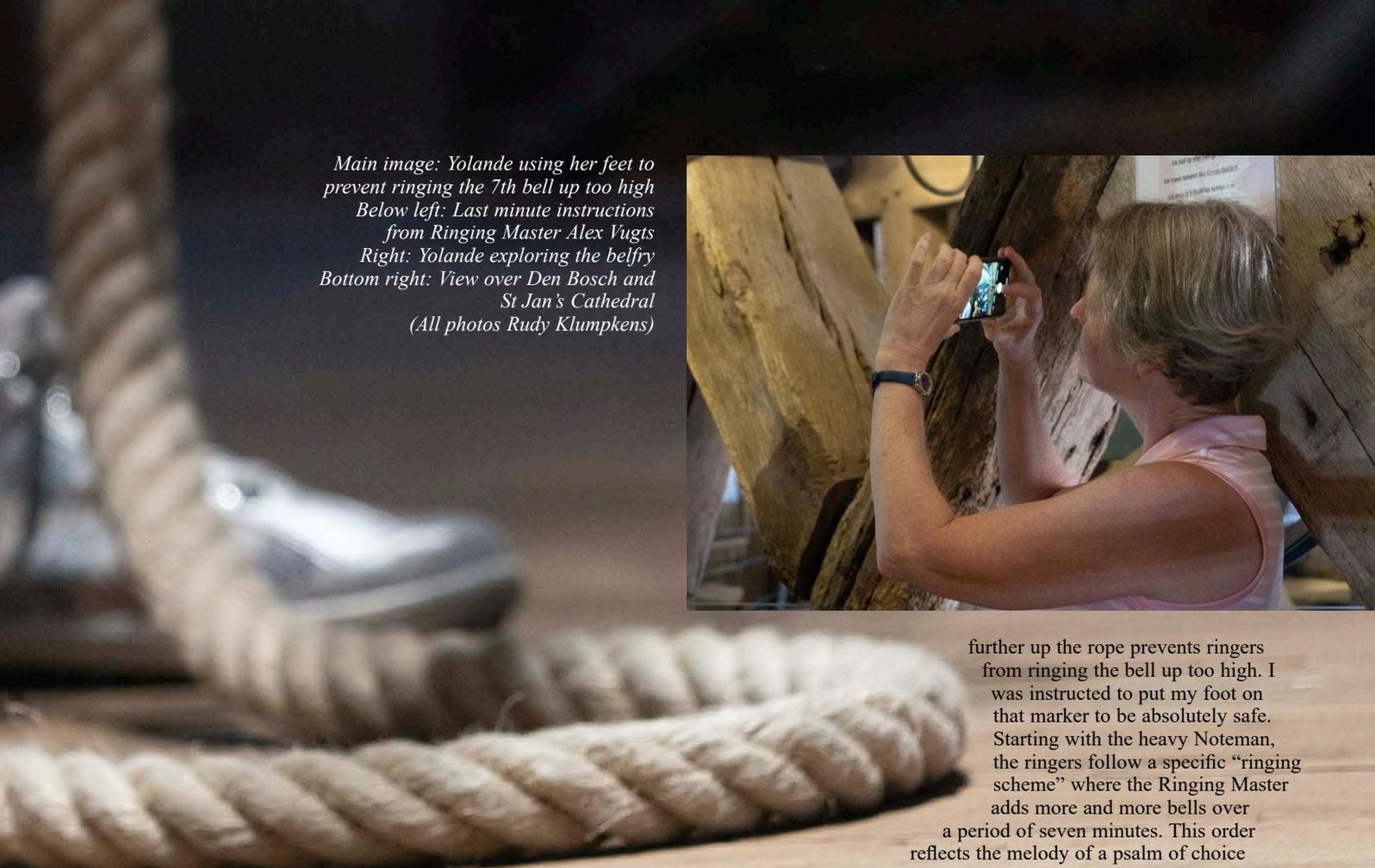
From the fourteenth century to this day, a fixed pattern of bell sounds has provided the citizens of Den Bosch with anchor points to organise their lives. A distinct, recognisable timbre for each bell is necessary to distinguish between events. Two of the largest tower

bells each indicate the whole hour and the half hour. To warn busy people that the whole hour is fast approaching, seven minutes before the hour, nine smaller bells (the "fore-strike bells") play a short simple melody. The high-pitched Angelus bell, located at the very top of the tower, rings at 9am, noon and 7pm. Last but not least, at each quarter of the hour, the fifty bells of the carillon sprinkle their musical delight. One can only imagine how many bell ringers must have been engaged in keeping this city ticking throughout the centuries. The heaviest bell, named "the Noteman" after its founder Jacob Noteman, was cast in 1641 with a weight of 5,750 kilos (113cwt); this bell required 10 ringers to make it swing. In 1954, motors were installed and bell ringers became temporarily obsolete in Den Bosch.

Bell ringing is deeply rooted in European culture. While full-rotation bells enjoyed great popularity in England, Flemish and Dutch towns were in rivalry with each other in hopes



*Main image: Yolande using her feet to prevent ringing the 7th bell up too high
 Below left: Last minute instructions from Ringing Master Alex Vugts
 Right: Yolande exploring the belfry
 Bottom right: View over Den Bosch and St Jan's Cathedral
 (All photos Rudy Klumpkens)*



further up the rope prevents ringers from ringing the bell up too high. I was instructed to put my foot on that marker to be absolutely safe. Starting with the heavy Noteman, the ringers follow a specific “ringing scheme” where the Ringing Master adds more and more bells over a period of seven minutes. This order reflects the melody of a psalm of choice for the service. To be honest, for a ringer accustomed to English change ringing, it was quite the experience to be free to ring my bell up at my own pace, to feel the bell swinging but being unable to hear how it contributed to the soundscape.’

That first week of September in my home country was filled with the deep sadness at having to say my final farewells to a beloved family member, but also with the immense joy of ringing with my fellow compatriots. Many, many thanks to the ringers of the St Jan's Cathedral, one of whom took the awesome pictures.

of possessing the most imposing carillons. The intense interest in bells in the 1600s spawned an incentive to experiment with bell profiles and systems of tuning. Born c1589/90 just outside Den Bosch, the blind Jacob van Eijck was the first musician ever to isolate five ‘partials’ in one bell. He also discovered how the sound is influenced by the shape of the bell. In consultation with van Eijck, Francois and Pieter Hemony were the first bell founders to cast bells in Europe that were so extremely fine-tuned, they could be used for musical sounds. Of the fifty-one Hemony carillons, some twenty continue to be played in Dutch towns. The city-hall carillon in Den Bosch, installed in 1649, is one of these. Some single Hemony bells, saved from fire, theft or acts

of war, are still around: two (cast in 1644 and 1663) have been added to the St Jan's Cathedral belfry; another two (cast in 1661) can be found within 20 miles of each other in Ayrshire, Scotland. Unfortunately the art of fine-tuning bells was lost after the Hemony brothers died. It took another two centuries for the John Taylor and Company foundry in Loughborough to rediscover the tuning process in the 1890s.

Over the centuries many changes, additions and refurbishments have left their mark on the St Jan's Cathedral bells. In 2016, the Bossche Guild of Bellringers set the wheels in motion for the return of manual bell ringing. Steel wheels were fitted to the seven lowest hanging bells in the tower, which allow for an easy transition between automatic and manual ringing. Since 2021, a small group of volunteers gathers once a month in the ringing room and for special occasions such as Open Historic Monuments Day, which fell on 9th September 2023, during my visit.

Without aiming to ring in perfect rhythm, the belfry seemed to have a rather haphazard organization of bells and thick ropes without sallies. The number of black rings taped at the end of each rope indicates the bell number. The bells are numbered from heaviest to lightest. A single black ring taped a bit

A group of about 350 volunteers, the “Kring Vrienden van 's Hertogenbosch”, dedicate themselves to preserve, share and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of their city. Some of them ring the St Jan's Cathedral bells. To read more about historic tours and activities in Den Bosch: <https://dagjedenbosch.com/en/activities/1840/>



“And I get paid to do it!”

My first six months as Manager of St Clement’s Ringing Centre, Cambridge

By Lynne Hughes



Lynne outside St Clement's

You may recall seeing an advert in *The Ringing World* last October, for a Manager at St Clement’s Ringing Centre in Cambridge – one of the few paid positions in ringing. It certainly caught my attention. “This is the job I’ve been waiting for all my life,” I thought, and as we were looking to move from Devon anyway, Cambridge seemed a very good choice.

I was accepted for the role, and started work in March 2023. The following is my personal perspective on the first six or seven months. Working alongside project manager Barry Johnson, much has been achieved in this ‘setting-up’ phase, but there is still more to do.

The aims of the centre are both to recruit and teach more (and better skilled) ringers, and to increase public awareness of change ringing.

Teaching ringers

Barry was already teaching a few regulars when I arrived, and the numbers soon increased to teaching a couple of hours most days. Learners come as individuals, or in twos and threes to share the hour, paying £5 each for a shared lesson or £10 for a one-to-one. Children and young people are half price. Most clients are already learning to handle at nearby towers, and come for the luxury of an hour’s private tuition

every week. Others have never touched a rope, and work towards their ART Level 1 before finding a local tower. The ART personal progress log-books are invaluable in helping us, and the teachers in their tower, keep track of what learners are working on. It’s a privilege to see the progress, and to get to know the regulars very well.

Others are further on, and come to ring one bell with the simulator putting in the other bell sounds, to practise rounds, plain hunt etc, with rhythm and listening skills. Looking at the striking review on Abel is always useful feedback, and trying to get more green and yellow rows! We have also started a weekly ‘Ringing Together’ session for those who’ve passed L1, or it could be seen as ‘Ring for the King plus.’ Experienced helpers are there to fill in, it’s on a drop-in (no booking) basis, and we tailor the session for those who come.

The small ringing chamber best suits no more than six beginners having a go, and we have delivered a few one-off ringing experiences for such groups: a birthday experience, a works’ team-building, and friends having a day out in Cambridge. They receive a short demonstration, a go at both strokes, and sometimes handbells too. They always seem to go away happy, and amazed – bellringing was nothing like they’d imagined!

Our latest addition to teaching is an after-school Bell Club for children from the nearby primary school; and this is one of our main aims – to get more young people into ringing. Chiming for the coronation in May, and another session at the end of summer term, was an excellent way to get the school involved and whet some appetites before finalising plans, getting DBS checks seen, and safeguarding sorted. Finding out that the Year 5 teacher is a lapsed ringer, and the head is married to another lapsed ringer, was an unforeseen bonus. Sessions start with orange squash and biscuits, then an hour in the ringing chamber for bell handling and a bit of theory sandwiched in. And who’d have thought nine and 10 year olds would have been so fascinated with a paper copy of Dove’s Guide which was lying around?

The centre hosts a young ringers’ session once a month, which is ably run by Lesley Boyle; and the Cambridge district is offering twice monthly sessions for Call Changes and Plain Hunt. The student guild (CUG) are planning to use St Clement’s more often, alongside the teaching they already do elsewhere. We’re also keen to help new teachers gain their ART qualifications by helping to teach here. This hasn’t been taken up yet, so do get in touch if you’re near enough and would like to do this.



Dave Richards helping young ringers



Ring for the King! Primary school children with handbells

Public demonstrations

The second part of the vision is to be open to the public for two hours every afternoon, Monday to Friday, and we have been doing this since late August. St Clement's was chosen for its position in the centre of Cambridge, a city which has over five million visitors a year. We offer half-hour demonstrations, have-a-go sessions, or a hybrid mix (£8 each, and half price for young people). Interested visitors are given a card with links for towers near them, or for finding a teacher, so some recruits may come of this as well, though many are overseas visitors. The public can book via our website, or turn up on the day. So far, numbers haven't built up to where we eventually need to be for long term financial stability; occasionally no-one comes, but on good days we've had five or six people paying for the experience. A series of display banners will soon be available as a permanent exhibition, giving information about change ringing, a little history, and towers in the area, amongst other things.

Part of the point is also to extend the church's opening hours to four hours a day, which we now do. Several local people have commented on how St Clement's was always a locked-up church, but now has its doors open wide every day. Locals and visitors drop in to pray, light a candle, or enjoy the interesting interior of the building, even if they don't all want to hear about ringing.

Publicity

All this has involved many strands of publicity. Firstly, getting our message out to local ringers: 'we're here for you!' utilising the district email list, our Facebook page (with posts shared to the district one), posters in local towers, the website updated with news blogs, and of course going ringing round Cambridge and to the post-practice pub, and talking about what's going on... with a ready supply of 'business' cards always to hand with contact details. Word of mouth is building awareness of the possibilities on offer.

Outward-facing publicity to non-ringers includes some of the above, an A-frame and permanent posters outside church, 5,000 fliers, a google business profile and an entry on Trip Advisor. Unfortunately there's not a physical Tourist Information office in Cambridge any more, but some of the local tour guides are aware of what we offer, and there's much more we can do when time allows.



Have-a-go group, chiming, with Tom Ridgman

Behind the scenes

Our logo was professionally designed, incorporating our own ideas of a swinging bell, the 'oranges and lemons' of the nursery rhyme; and continuing the branding already done for St Clement's church in the colour scheme and the anchor of St Clement. The logo is on all our publicity, and will soon be on T-shirts and other clothing. St Clement's became registered as an ART hub, and we have applied for ART funding which, if successful, would enable us to offer free sessions to children and young people.

The bells are tied most of the time, but rung open (still with some sound control) by visiting bands or for quarter peals and

occasional peals. Clapper ties made from rope and stretchy bike inner tubes are very swift to put on and off. The bells sound excellent, and the only sound problem is echoing voices in the ringing chamber when two or three people are being taught. Sound-absorbing panels have been bought to be fitted on one interior wall.

We are extremely grateful to our willing volunteers, without whom we couldn't deliver all we do. A couple are needed every weekday, and more for 'Ringing Together' sessions. A google spreadsheet seems to be working well, sent out once a month for them to fill in their names where available. Lessons were initially booked on a spreadsheet too, but a google calendar, merged with the church one but with different colours, is proving much easier to manage and avoiding clashes with church bookings.

Final thoughts

I can still sometimes hardly believe I'm lucky enough to be involved in this unique project, doing what I love, with a great bunch of people ... and I get paid to do it! While I wait for a permanent house move to complete, I live, work and socialise with Cambridge ringers. Ringing for service and pleasure one Sunday morning at Great St Mary's, soon after I started in Cambridge, it struck me I was ringing alongside Barry my colleague and Frank King ('The University Bellringer') who is my landlord, as well as many new friends. An integrated life indeed.

Previous articles on the project can be found in *The Ringing World*: 2019 p.1003; 2010 p.838; 2022 p.1011–1013.

Website: bells-of-stclements.scy.org.uk

Email: bells@stclements.cambridge.co.uk

Facebook: Bells of St Clement's, Cambridge



Barry Johnson demonstrating how to tie a rope up



Lynne showing how to hold the rope



Six – a perfect or imperfect number?

With these seasonal articles, I usually try to introduce the topic with some reference to Christmas. In terms of religious symbolism, the number SIX is perhaps best known for the six-pointed Star of David, associated with Judaism and appearing on the Israeli flag. However, this same symbol is found in many other contexts, as the images below show. The print at the right, from an alchemic text of 1749, purports to show the philosopher pursuing enlightenment, though it looks as though his mind may be on other things!



The six-pointed star in various contexts: Israeli, Islamic and alchemic

Initial research about the number six in Christianity did not produce very encouraging results. The Old Testament describes the world as being created in seven days. According to some biblical scholars, just as the number seven therefore typically signifies completion or perfection, the number six, being one short of that, signifies *imperfection*.

Mathematicians have the exact opposite view of the number six: it is a *perfect number*, meaning that it is the sum of its divisors (1+2+3 = 6). The next one is 28 (1+2+4+7+14 = 28). The ancient Greek mathematicians were aware of these, and also knew the third and fourth (496 and 8128). However, perfect numbers are few and far between – the fifth is 33,550,336. Only about fifty perfect numbers are known; the most recently discovered (in 2018) has 49,724,095 digits; printing it would fill a whole year's worth of *Ringings Worlds!* As far as I know it is still not determined whether there are infinitely many of these perfect numbers.

Six as 'three factorial'

For the purposes of this article, the number six is significant because it is 'three factorial' (written as 3! and meaning 1x2x3, which equals 6). These factorial numbers tell us the number of different rows that exist with a given number of bells, and *ringing an extent* means ringing each of these rows exactly once. We frequently ring extents on five (5! = 120 rows) and six (6! = 720 rows), but we don't so often think of an extent on three, which is just *six rows*.

Sixes in Stedman

In this article I will be suggesting that anyone who rings Stedman can benefit from *thinking in sixes*. Stedman is widely rung, yet it can present difficulties at various stages: getting the feel for how a plain course of Doubles works; dealing with Singles in Stedman Doubles; progressing to ringing on higher numbers; understanding how calls work in Triples and beyond.

We will explore how *thinking in sixes* can help overcome these difficulties. Let's start by thinking about ringing an extent on three. There are only two ways to achieve this, shown in Diagram 1.

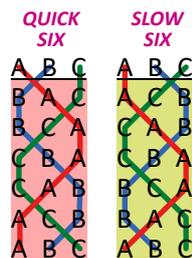


Diagram 1 There are just two ways to ring an extent on three

Stedman consists of blocks of six rows, in which the front three bells ring an extent. These extents alternate between the two possible patterns shown in Diagram 1, and which in Stedman are called a 'quick six' and a 'slow six'. Diagram 1 refers to the three bells as A, B and C rather than 1, 2, 3 because in Stedman the bells ringing these extents change from each set of six to the next.

This pattern of alternating extents on the front three bells occurs in Stedman on any number of bells, and remains true even when calls are made. But let's start by looking at how it works in Stedman Doubles.

Plain courses of Stedman Doubles

Diagram 2 shows that, after the first two rows (which are the end of a quick six), Stedman Doubles does indeed consist of sets of six rows in which the front three bells ring an extent. Check how these sixes alternate between the slow (green) and the quick (pink) patterns shown in Diagram 1.

Not everyone agrees about where the names 'quick' and 'slow' come from but it's worth noting that if you enter the front at a *slow six*, you have a lengthy or *slow visit* to the front (you stay in the front for five sets of six), and this is called *slow frontwork*. The treble (red line) does this near the middle of Diagram 2. But if you enter the front at a *quick six*, you have a *quick visit* to the front (staying there for just one set of six), and this is called *quick frontwork*. This is what bell 2 (blue line) does further on in Diagram 2.

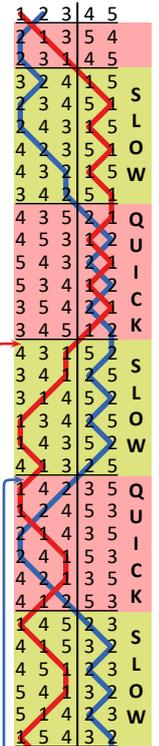


Diagram 2 Slow and quick sixes always alternate in Stedman

Counting the dodges

There's a lot of dodging in Stedman. For example, when we leave the frontwork, we dodge in 4-5; how do we describe or count these blows? One approach is to think of it as a double dodge. In our upwards progression, we dodge from 5 back to 4 twice before we then either turn around to dodge 4-5 down (in Doubles) or head further out to 6-7 (in Triples or above). So it's a double dodge.

Here's a different approach to counting these blows in 4-5: it involves *thinking in sixes*. Instead of counting the dodges, think of *six blows* spent dodging 4-5 up (454545). During these six blows, the front three bells ring an extent. Then, in Stedman Doubles, we spend *six blows* dodging in 4-5 down (545454), or in Triples we move on to *six blows* dodging 6-7 up (676767). Many ringers find this a more helpful approach, and it also makes it easier to cope with touches.

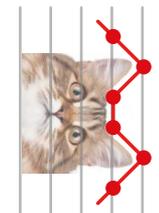


Diagram 3 This work at a Single in Stedman Doubles is called 'cat's ears'

Singles in Stedman Doubles

In Stedman Doubles, the two bells dodging in 4-5 are affected by a Single. If the call is made just after you leave frontwork, your work is called 'cat's ears', shown in Diagram 3. You spend just *six blows* away from the front (so once again it helps to *think in sixes*!) It's in the middle of the six that you do something different – you ring two blows in fourth place (454454).

The other affected bell spends 18 blows away from the front. There's nothing wrong with learning this as a chunk of work, shown in Diagram 4 – but an easier approach, shown in Diagram 5, is to *think in sixes*. The first six has the normal unaffected dodging (454545). A Single is called for the next six, and in the middle of this six you ring two blows in fifths (545545). This complements the cat's ears of the other bell involved in the Single, which is shown in red in Diagram 5. Then there's a normal unaffected six, dodging 4-5 down.

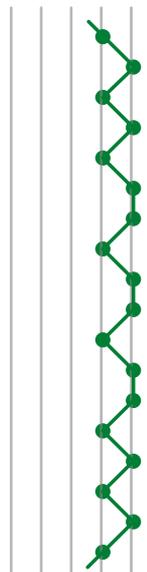


Diagram 4 The work at a Single as a chunk

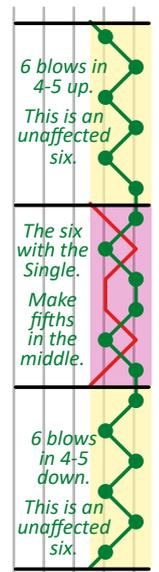


Diagram 5 The work at a Single, in sixes

Bobs and Singles in Stedman Triples and above

Bobs and Singles in Stedman on seven or more bells affect the *back three bells*. So a Bob in Stedman Triples affects bells in positions 5, 6 and 7: a bell makes fifths, and the back pair of bells (dodging in 6-7) stay there and continue dodging. In Caters, a bell would make sevenths while the back pair continue dodging in 8-9. In either case, these two bells at the back need a way of keeping track of all these dodges.

If you adopt the ‘double dodge’ mindset, your double dodge becomes a quintuple dodge (if there’s just one Bob) or perhaps even an octuple dodge (if, as often happens, there are two Bobs in succession). If this seems obvious to you, that’s fine! You may for example think of it as a double dodge, then a dodge for the Bob, then another double dodge. But I suggest that you may find it easier if you are a *think in sixes* person. In Triples, if you are doing your six blows dodging 6-7 up and a Bob is called, you ring *another six blows* dodging 6-7 up; and if after that there’s a further Bob, you just do *another six blows* dodging 6-7 up. It’s the same for the other bell at the back, doing its 6-7 down dodges – at a Bob, continue dodging 6-7 down for *another six blows*.

Many ringers find Singles somewhat daunting. But again, if you *think in sixes*, it becomes comparatively simple. At a Single, all three of the back bells make places. So in Triples a bell makes fifths (exactly as it would at a Bob), and the two back bells also make places (in sixth and seventh positions). The bell making sixths starts the next six in sixth place so spends *six blows* dodging 6-7 up (676767). The bell making sevenths starts the next six in seventh place so turns around and spends the next *six blows* dodging 6-7 down (and is therefore unaffected by the call).

Quick or slow frontwork?

Many Stedman ringers rely heavily on remembering whether their last frontwork was quick or slow, and knowing that in a plain course the next frontwork will be the other sort. So after finishing quick frontwork your next frontwork will, if there are no calls, be slow. If that’s how you keep track, you need to know that this pattern may be flipped at a call, making your next frontwork the SAME as your previous frontwork. This ‘flipping’ occurs (a) in Stedman Doubles when you are affected by a call, and (b) on higher numbers when you are affected by a call *and it makes you continue dodging* (but not if you make places as a result of the call).

Here’s a different approach. Remember that the sixes ALWAYS alternate in Stedman, **however many bells are involved, and even if there are calls**. So you could count the sixes in your head (once those first two blows are out of the way) by saying: “SLOW, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; QUICK, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; SLOW, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6...” When you arrive at the front, you will be saying either QUICK or SLOW, and this tells you what your frontwork is.

You may well choose not to adopt this approach while ringing – it’s a real pain if you lose track! But it’s worth thinking about as a mental exercise to improve your understanding of how sixes always alternate in Stedman.

What if you forget?

Whatever method you use to tell you whether your next frontwork is quick or slow, sometimes you may forget and need a backup. The box at the right shows a rule to determine whether the six you are currently ringing is quick or slow.

In a QUICK six,
the LEADING is RIGHT,
the THIRDS are WRONG.

In a SLOW six,
the LEADING is WRONG,
the THIRDS are RIGHT.

If necessary, apply this rule as you dodge 4-5 down. Whichever type of six you are ringing in *this six*, the *next six*, when you enter the frontwork, will be the other type. If you have a good ear, listen to the leads; if you prefer ropesight (and especially if you are dodging 4-5 down), observe what the bells ringing in third place are doing.

A good way to gain practice with this rule is to watch or listen when not ringing. Wait for the start of a new six (so there’s a change in which bells are in the front three), and work out if it is a quick six or a slow six.

When to make calls

Exactly when should the conductor make calls? In Stedman Doubles, it’s the *fourth* row of a six where bells do something different at a Single (see Diagrams 3 and 5). So, to give the usual two blows warning, make the call at the start of the *second* row of a six. Some conductors prefer to give a bit more warning and call at the first row. Whichever you choose, this is yet another reason for keeping track of the sixes.

To call a 120 unaffected, you can call the Single at the start of *any* six of your frontwork. The simplest is when you start your quick frontwork (or, just as easy, when you start your slow frontwork). Then, wherever you make the call, do it once again at exactly the same spot – which will be 60 rows later.

In Triples and above, bells affected at a call do ‘something different’ when they leave one six and start the next. For example, at a Bob in Triples, the bell dodging 6-7 down expects to move down to 4-5 dodging at the next six – but if there’s a Bob it will instead carry on dodging in 6-7 for another six blows. So, to give the usual two blows notice, you should make calls at the start of the *fifth* row of any six, to take effect at the transition from that six to the next.

The easiest touches of Triples involve pairs of Bobs called in successive sixes. The letter S (for Slow) is used to denote calling a Bob just before you enter your Slow frontwork, and *another* Bob in the following six. Diagram 6 shows a plain course of Triples but indicates where, if you are ringing the 4, you could choose to call Bobs.

To call an S, call Bobs at the two places marked S in Diagram 6. If you repeat this with another S the next time you come up to your slow frontwork, it will come round. This touch is twice the length of a plain course, and has a total of four Bobs – two at each S.

Q works pretty much the same way – call a pair of Bobs in successive sixes, starting just before you begin your Qick frontwork. Two lots of Q also give a touch with four Bobs in all, twice the length of a plain course.

For a touch with more calls, try QSQS (or SQSQ, depending on which comes first for your bell) – these have a total of eight calls.

If you want to call a quarter peal using pairs of Bobs, you will need at least one further calling pattern besides Q and S. You could use one or both of H and L. Like Q and S, these stand for a pair of Bobs, as shown in Diagram 6. For H, the first Bob is called just before your first Half turn, and for L the first Bob is at your Last whole turn.

I’ll leave it to you to look up a quarter peal that uses the Q, S, H and L calling patterns!

Learning Erin frontwork

A final bonus of thinking in sixes comes if you ring Erin. This is a Stedman-like principle, but Erin is rather simpler than Stedman; for one thing, it has just one type of frontwork, unlike the slow and quick frontwork in Stedman.

So what is this Erin frontwork? Well, it’s shown on the left of Diagram 7, and there are all sorts of mnemonics designed to help you learn it. But if you are a *think in sixes* person, you may find it easiest to remember it as the three slow sixes of Stedman slow frontwork. Have a look at the pattern of the blue lines in Diagram 7 to check how this works.

I particularly recommend Erin if you want to try ringing Caters or Cinques. You will find it much easier in Erin than in Stedman to work out the order in which you meet bells and cross or dodge with them.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year...

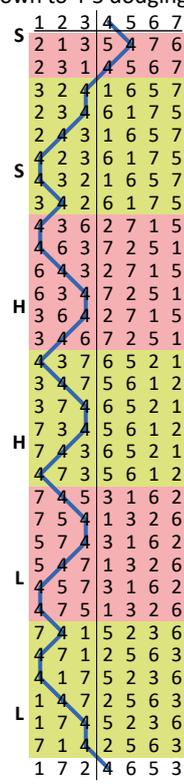
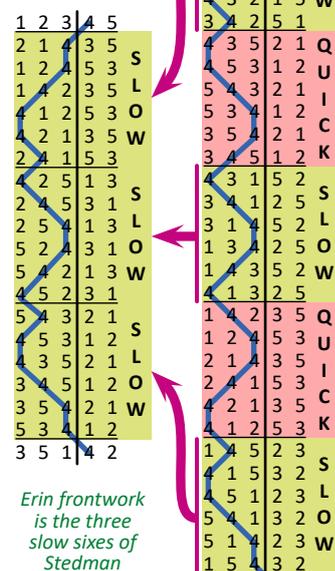


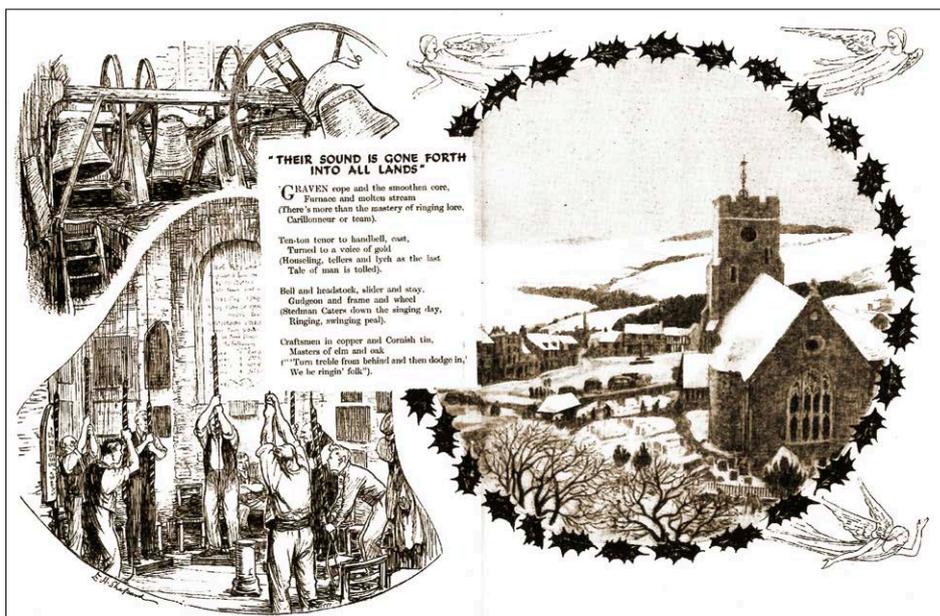
Diagram 6
Calling pairs of Bobs in Stedman Triples

Diagram 7
The slow frontwork of Stedman (right) and the Erin frontwork (below)



Erin frontwork is the three slow sixes of Stedman

DAVID SMITH



The Central Council Library is moving... and this picture is moving with it. See facing page. Lots of the archive is now searchable online – see p. 1240.



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ART Awards

Last call for the ART Awards

The Christmas period is a good time to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of 2023. Why not use the holiday to make sure that those who have really made a difference for you and your ringing are recognised and send me a nomination for an ART Award?

The teaching awards are open to everyone – not just ART Members or those using the Learning the Ropes scheme – and the aim is to encourage and recognise the people and groups leading best practice and innovation in the teaching and development of ringing. The Individual Achievement ringing awards are open to those who have completed one of the Learning the Ropes programmes (on tower or hand bells) or participated in the Learning the Ropes Plus scheme.

It can take a long time and a huge amount of work to achieve something worthwhile and the judges are particularly looking to recognise sustained good practice, those who make things happen, with ideas, commitment, and results.

ART Awards 2023

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

The **Sarah Beacham Youth Award**
Prize of £800 – sponsored by the Sarah Beacham Memorial Trust

The **Len Roberts Award for the Promotion of Ringing**
Prize of £250 – sponsored by Len Roberts

The ART Award for Band or Cluster of the Year

Prize of £400 – sponsored by John Taylor & Co.

The ART Award for Excellence in Recruitment and Retention

Prize of £400 – sponsored by AbelSim

The ART Award for Inspiring Leadership in Ringing

Prize of £400 – sponsored by Talent Innovations

The ART Learning the Ropes Individual Achievement Awards

Two prizes of £250 – sponsored by the Ancient Society of College Youths

Further information and application forms are available at www.bellringing.org/art-awards-2024 If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below. The closing date for applications is **31 December 2023** – so now is the time to make sure that those doing great work don't miss out!

STEPHANIE WARBOYS
ART Awards Leader



SECOND-HAND BELLS WANTED

We have a large number of enquiries for single bells for augmentations, for complete rings of bells and small bells for chiming

Please contact:

The Secretary, Keltok Trust, The Kloof, Lower Kingsdown Road, Kingsdown, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 8BG

email: bells@keltoktrust.org.uk
web site: <http://www.keltoktrust.org.uk>

Registered Charity No. 1154107

CCCBR Library and Archives

Final agreement has now been reached with the Trustees of the Loughborough Bell Foundry Trust (LBT) to cover the terms and conditions of the move of the Library Collection there. This is likely to take place around the middle of 2024 once the building work at the site has been completed.

The move will involve the transfer of around 4,500 items consisting of:

- Archival material including sets of society annual reports;
- Unique books (including important books such as the Library's copy of *Tintinnalogia* and books with relevant provenance);
- Other printed books.

At present the Rolls of Honour are not part of the Library Collection in this context and would continue to be held and administered by the CCCBR Rolls of Honour Steward.

New facilities

Extensive restoration work on the buildings is being undertaken by the LBT include creating storage facilities consisting of roller bookcases to maximise storage capacity. In addition, there is to be a separate reading room that individuals wishing to consult the Library Collection will be able to visit personally to undertake their research, although the Library Steward role will continue to assist those who wish to make enquiries. Access to these facilities will be managed by a new reception area; although it is not envisaged visitors will be supervised throughout their stay they will need to book in and out when attending. Access generally will be weekdays 9am to 5pm and weekends by arrangement.

Certain valuable books (i.e. falling within the unique book section of the Library Collection) will be held in a large secure walk-in fire-proof safe and will require permission from the Library Steward prior to a visit to consult them. These additional security measures will only apply to a small number of items.

The restoration work will further create other facilities at the site including a replacement for the former Bell Museum that was there. The Carter Ringing Machine would be a suitable candidate to be exhibited there.

Friends Funds and future acquisitions

The Friends' Funds will continue to be held and administered by the Historical & Archive

Workgroup to ensure maintenance work (e.g. binding) and the purchase of new acquisitions for the Library Collection continues, given the CCCBR retains ownership for the Collection.

Online resources

Most items which make up a large proportion of other printed books are readily available either in digital format (e.g. periodicals, county bell and standard reference books). These together with other historical information on bells and bellringing can be consulted online through the new history website at www.history.cccb.org.uk.

The website includes a wealth of information on biographies, peal boards, society badges and membership certificates, historical ringing prints and other material including the Library Collection catalogue. So please look at this resource initially as it may be able to answer your enquiry directly.

By kind permission of John Eisel, we are also in the process of making the newspaper extracts to the middle of the nineteenth century available online. Further research has added to the material previously published in the five volumes of *Order and Disorder* so should provide a valuable resource for ringing historians to search. We will provide further information as material is added to the new history website. See John Eisel's article on page 1240 of this issue.

Digital copies of back issues of *The Ringing World* are now administered by them directly.

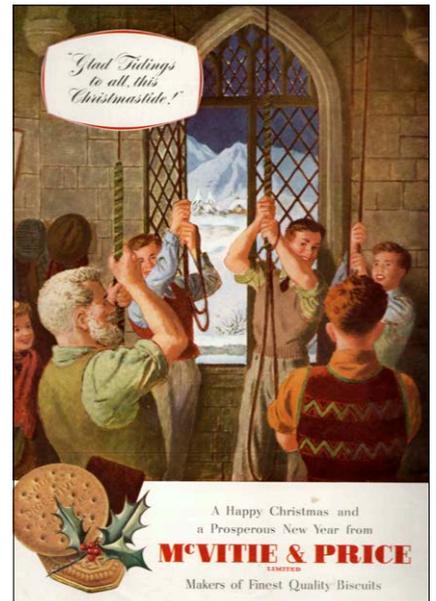
Additional volunteers sought

Making historic ringing information easily accessible is being taken through a series of projects within the Historical & Archive Workgroup. We will be looking for a new Library Steward(s) from September 2024 (ideally one of the posts to be located within easy access to Loughborough) and other volunteers to help deliver these initiatives. Please see the CCCBR website for further information on H&AWG activities and contact chris.ridley@ccb.org.uk if you have an interest in any of these areas.

Meanwhile the H&AWG would like to thank the Friends of the CCCBR Library for their continued support and wish all ringing historians a happy Christmas and illuminating New Year.

CHRIS RIDLEY

Lead, Historical & Archive WG, CCCBR



Weather Lore

The world is full of strife and woe.

All kinds of trouble on the go.
The outlook's anything but bright
And all seems wrong and nothing right.
Far deep in red my bank account
I don't know the exact amount.

But now, upon this Christmastide
Let's push the gloomy world aside,
And though the cloud is thick and blue
Forget it for an hour or two.
The most important thing for you
Is, What's the weather going to do?

An aunt of mine, aged ninety three
Foretells the weather by her knee.
It may be stiff or pliable
It's really most reliable.
The weather man is often known
To ask her on the telephone.

She e-mailed me last night to say
T'would be alright on Christmas Day.
Her knee was loose and free from pain,
It didn't feel a bit like rain.
Her shoulder, though, was on the go
So she believes we'll get some snow.

My uncle, though, at ninety four,
Is more well versed in weather lore..
He's hung some seaweed on his shed,
And feels it ere he goes to bed.
When damp, t'will rain or snow or hail
He says it's never known to fail.

He laughed at wife's idea of snow.
'You come with me,' he said, 'I know
'The seaweed's dry, just come and see'.
He led the way outside, with glee. (but)
The shed was gone. Felled by a branch
Brought down in last night's avalanche.

ANGELA NEWING



1000 Bells Pub Crawl Update – 2023

This is an update on the pub crawl which my wife and I started in 1999 in an attempt to celebrate the Millennium by drinking in a thousand “Bell” public houses. It later morphed into an attempt to visit all such pubs in the UK, and any we found abroad.

We have about 750 such pubs on our list and started 2023 with about 50 still to do. Following examinations of the list over the past 12 months I have deleted 20 or so which have closed in recent years and look unlikely to open again. Having said that, there have been a number of re-openings and renamings which we have added to the list.

It has also been nice this year to visit some “bells” which we ticked off a decade or more ago but which we have been near and have still been in business. We had decided from the outset that pubs with names like “Liberty Belle”, “Blue Belle” and “Kentish Belle” would be excluded from the list but the owners of such pubs can get confused and, indeed, the year started with our attention being drawn to the fact that on Tottenham Court Road in London the “Fitzrovia Belle” had hung two bells outside the building so we added it to our list and visited it on 22nd April.

We found ourselves in Ibiza in January so we visited the Ring o’ Bells pub in Santa Eulalia but it was closed. The landlord, Haydon, was there. He said it would be open later in the year. Until about 1996 he was landlord of the Ring o’ Bells, Coalpit Heath near Bristol, which we visited in 2006.

Last year we went up to Lancashire to visit a clutch of “Bell” pubs between there and Stafford. It was a successful expedition but it looked like “Ye Olde Bell” in Preston had closed. However, in January we found it had reopened so in April we made a 484 mile round trip by train (plus car to and from our nearest station, Farnborough Main, and the underground across London) to visit just this one pub.

In February we had a family gathering in The Bell, Wylve, Wilts (first visited 2002). We noted that the nearby Bell at Winterbourne Stoke (visited 2000) which was renamed “The Solstice Rest” in 2016 had reverted to its original name (it might be the nearest pub to Stonehenge).

In May a number of family members ran in the Leeds Marathon so we went up to cheer them on, grabbing nine “bells” on the way up and back. This included a number of hotels in the Campanile chain. The most interesting pub was probably the Ring o’ Bells, Middleton, situated in seemingly rural Manchester, opposite a church with some strange writings on it.

On this trip we also visited “The Bell Foundry” pub in Loughborough. We were frequent visitors to Loughborough in the noughties when our son studied

Top: Ruth and Chris succeed at their second attempt, Ring ‘o Bells, St Eulalia, Ibiza;

Left: Ye Olde Blue Belle, Preston, Lancs - reversed to make it easier to read the window;

Right: The Bell at Wylve, first visited in 2002, Ruth and Chris being photo-bombed by a family member





Alexander Graham Bell, Edinburgh



*Bell Foundry, Loughborough,
was The Saracens Head*



Ye Olde Bell, Hurley, Berks

there but in those days the pub was called “The Saracen’s Head” so we never visited it.

A few days later we took a train up to Newcastle to visit our last remaining “bell” in the Northeast, the Blue Bell, Sunderland. We thought we’d also ride the lines on the Tyne and Wear Metro that we hadn’t already travelled over. Everything went so well that we had a day spare. We decided to take a train up to Edinburgh to visit friends, the Old Bell Causewayside and the Alexander Graham Bell in the New Town.

The Old Bell had an interesting collection of “bell” themed artefacts including a display of whisky mats (see *RW* p.635). There was also a print of a painting of The Bell, Stilton, Cambridgeshire by Cecil Aldin.

Within days of returning we heard that the Edinburgh Tram had been extended. We could have ridden this if we had known.

A few days later still someone asked us if we knew that The Blue Bell, Embleton, Northumberland was in business again. The answer was “No” but when we looked into it, the “Sambuca Blue Bell”, which must have closed 25 years or more ago, looked like it had been trading for five or so years. Okay, another trip to Newcastle. However, suspecting a conspiracy, I also checked up on the Blue Bell in Alnwick. In about 1995 it changed its name to “The Falcon”. We visited it in 2003 but didn’t go in. You’re right, it’s now called “The Blue Bell” again.

The last “bell” we visited this year was in when we went back to Ibiza in September. While attending a family wedding there we finally got to drink in the Ring o’ Bells, Santa Eulelia. Gracias, Haydon.

Out of interest I’ve now visited 722 “bell” pubs and Ruth has visited 716. We’ve been unable to do 153 “pubs” on our original list

because they have closed, no fewer than 75 were duplicate entries (ie: in the days of manually compiled directories they could, for example, be listed as being in a village but also the nearest town), 11 were “Bluebells”, five have been closed at the time of our visit, one was a “Belle”, three were called “Bel and the Dragon and 28 have been renamed.

If a pub has become a restaurant but keeps its name and still serves alcohol, we’ll keep it on the list – we’ve got three Indian restaurants to do!

The remaining “bells” on our list are quite remote – West Wales, the Scilly Isles, Glasgow and the Scottish lowlands mainly. The one remaining pub in East Anglia (at Hessett) seems to have closed permanently.

What will 2024 bring?

CHRIS HUTCHINSON

The other thing that caught my eye in The Old Bell pub, Causewayside, Edinburgh in May was this signed, numbered print of the Bell Inn, 320 miles away in Stilton, Cambs.

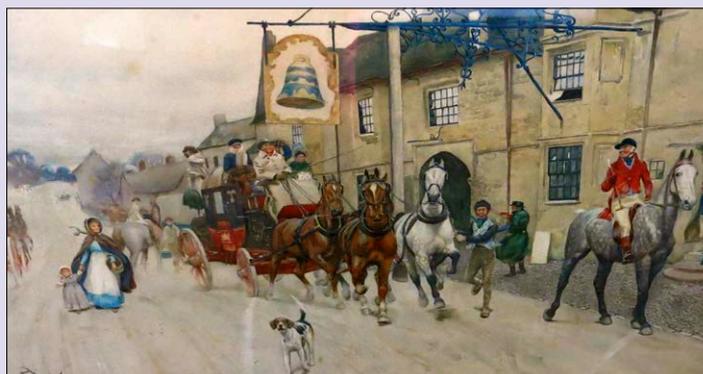
Many thanks to Anne, Ted, Keith and Chris (*RW* p.659, 676) for filling in details about bell “beer”. or should I say, “whisky” mats that I found displayed in the Old Bell pub, Causewayside, Edinburgh recently. The “1,000 Bell Tour” has always been educational as well as entertaining. I grew up in a mainly beer drinking area of the south of England and gaps in my knowledge have been filled in.

Having said that, I visited Bells Distillery in Pitlochry in April 2019 – pity they didn’t have any of the whisky mats on display there then.

As I mentioned, however, something else caught my eye in the pub – a signed, numbered print by the artist Cecil Aldin (1870-1935). Aldin had a precise style of painting. He illustrated the life of coaching inns in the Regency era, concentrating on the more pleasant, jolly, wealthy and comfortable aspects of such travel and hospitality. He also painted hunting scenes.

As a result, in my youth, his illustrations were very common in pubs which thought themselves clean, modern and superior. They’d be on display in the saloon bars and dining rooms.

Back in Edinburgh my eye rested on Aldin’s picture which was of a stagecoach pulling away from a coaching inn. The inn was called “The Bell” but, more than that, it was a



specific inn that I recognised. Aldin had chosen The Bell, Stilton, Cambridgeshire for his illustration. I hadn’t been there since July 2003 but it was instantly recognisable.

The Bell Inn, Stilton is 320 miles south of Edinburgh and, until bypassed, it was on the A1. It is conceivable; therefore, that stagecoaches on their way to London may have passed the Old Bell in Edinburgh one day and called in at the Bell in Stilton a few days later.

The Bell in Stilton is said to be one of the best examples of a coaching inn in the UK. I remember it as being solidly built in stone with a very large sign hanging over the road. Through an archway is a courtyard. The place was so well built that the bars that led off the courtyard felt very small inside.

More than that, however, the Bell in Stilton became the warehouse for a certain sort of cheese produced all over Leicestershire. When there was enough of it in store, it would be loaded up and taken to London as one consignment, hence the cheese became known as “Stilton”.

The image was very difficult to photograph as it was mounted under glass which caused very strong reflections. I suspect that quite a few of these pictures still hang in saloon bars in pubs round the UK.

I’ve also found online a pencil illustration which Aldin did of The Bell, Waltham St Lawrence, Berks. I don’t think the original is in a pub though.

Three wise men from the east: Reminiscences of Bedfordshire ringing

by Chris Pickford

Many of us, myself included, have good intentions of recording reminiscences from the older generations of ringers before they are lost. All too often, though, those memories are left to be handed on from the personal recollections of younger ringers of what they had once heard – the opportunity to capture the stories as told by people closer to the actual events having been missed.

What better season is there than Christmas to sit down in the warm with a glass in hand and delight in tales of old. The stories recounted in this article were captured on tape one evening back in August 1980 when three elders from the Bedfordshire Association – our three wise men – were invited to supper to chat about things they remembered from their own ringing life and tales they were eager to pass on.

The occasion took place a couple of years before the Association Centenary in 1982. I had been tasked with preparing an exhibition for the Centenary Dinner and writing about the history for *The Ringing World*. With that in mind I was collecting material and hit on the idea of getting Eddie Jeffries (E), Bryan Sims (B) and Percy Bonnett (P) to come and record their reminiscences.

It was done in a very amateurish sort of way – just a cassette tape recorder running the background as a decidedly ‘free-range’ conversation took place. Nevertheless, it proved to be invaluable. Once the chaos of everyone talking at the same time had subsided the individual storytellers found their voices. The informality and the banter made it an entertaining and unforgettable evening and I hope that this will come across as some of the stories are retold.

Three bedfordshire elders – The wise men

The senior member of the trio was Percy Bonnett, born in 1907. He rang all his life at Stagsden, a village a few miles west of Bedford, where his father had been parish clerk. Percy was responsible for getting the old five going again after many years’ of unringability. Later, he led a full-scale restoration project in 1932. He worked in the motor trade. Quietly spoken and unassuming, he was indeed a wise man with a delightful sense of humour – crafty, too! He was very much a local ringer but highly respected in the area and beyond. Of his 24 peals, rung between 1928 and 1953, all but two were rung close to home.

Bryan Sims (born 1921) learned to ring at Wilden, north-east of Bedford. He rang his first peal on the five bells there in 1936. Later he lived at Biggleswade. A carpenter by trade, he was a capable ringer often to be found ringing round the back end. In all he rang 178 peals of which he conducted 28. Short and stocky with a broad grin, he had a wry wit and enjoyed telling a tale.

Eddie Jeffries (born 1914) was in every sense both a ‘character’ and a great ringer. Egged on by Percy and Brian, his voice was dominant in the recording. He undoubtedly excelled as a story-teller with a wickedly mischievous sense of humour – a true entertainer. His first peal was in 1936, as recounted later, and his final total was 455 (conducted 194). It might be said of him that he brought Surprise Major ringing to Bedfordshire, with a steady stream of peals in different methods – mainly at Maulden – in the 1950s. He was also a major influence on Stephen Ivin who was later to bring Bedfordshire peal ringing to its highest peak.

Percy and Bryan both died in 1983, just shortly after the Association Centenary. Eddie, who served as President in 1979-1981, outlived them by over twenty years and continued to entertain us with his stories until his death in 2006.

Some stories

So we come to the substance of this article – the stories. It’s Christmas time, and time for some entertainment. There’s nothing too serious here. We are just listening to a group of close ringing friends enjoying a yarn or two about things that made them laugh – things that encapsulate that closeness and the shared memory that makes the camaraderie of ringing so special.

For this article I’ve made a selection, re-telling the stories as far as possible in the words of the tellers. Interjections are included where they help to give additional colour. With all the cross-chat and chaos it couldn’t be a *verbatim* transcript and so some light editing has been unavoidable. If it doesn’t quite flow smoothly in places it’s because I’ve tried to keep the dynamics of the conversation as well as what was said.

There are two main themes here. First are the stories handed down and retold – perhaps with embellishment – by the trio, each of them eager to add a bit to the version told by the main teller. Second are the tales from their own experiences and recollections.

Stories handed down

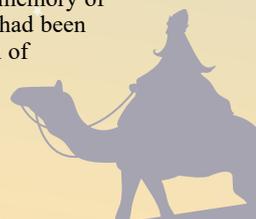
The Association was founded in 1882 and its first peal was rung at Biddenham on 26th April 1884. The conductor was Charles W Clarke, originally from Oundle (Northamptonshire), and it was the first peal for all the band. Charlie Clarke (1864-1942) was the leading conductor in the area for over five decades. He is thought to have conducted over 430 of his peals, which numbered 720 in all – rather apt for a dedicated six-bell ringer.

Charlie was still active when Percy, Bryan and Eddie were in the early stages of their ringing so they had a fund of stories about him – some from personal experience and others from hearsay. Although he was quite a serious man and something of a martinet in the belfry, they all held him in great respect – albeit with a fair bit of youthful irreverence. In later years telling Charlie Clarke stories was one way they handed on the memories passed on to them.

For this short story, I shall have to rely on my memory of what Eddie said he had been told – a recollection of a recollection. I wanted to



The Three Wise Men
Left: Percy Bonnett
(*Bedfordshire Times* 1983)
Right: Bryan Sims and Eddie
Jeffries in Bromham tower,
c.1980 (BACBR Library)



include it as it offers an informative insight on the early days of the Association when great strides were being made in ringing more advanced methods. I thought this story was on the tape. Sadly it isn't, but it is a little tale that I heard told a few times.

Eddie's memory was that they had several attempts for a peal of Double Norwich on the old eight at Bedford St Paul, moving on from Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob. They lost it no end of times, eventually scoring the peal on 14th February 1895. **E:** The night they rung the peal, they were all ready to start. Charlie shouted "wait a minute", jumped off the box, took his hat off the peg and put it over the face of the belfry clock. That's when the peal was scored.

That's an interesting little bit of belfry management. By taking away the distraction of the clock, especially towards the end of the peal, concentration was maintained to the end. In my time in Bedford we used to joke about – and sometimes suffer from fire-ups at quarter to nine on a Monday night. Charlie Clarke's ringing records, quite recently donated to the Association Library by the Worcestershire Association, confirm that progress towards the Double Norwich peal was slow. The first touch in the method was rung in February 1892 and Charlie's book lists four lost peals before the eventual triumph. Eddie's story adds a nice little detail and his background account is confirmed as correct.

Rivalry between Luton and Woburn

Only briefly touched on in the recording, the trio referred to the great achievements of the rival bands at Luton and Woburn even though the events in question were just before their time. The activities of Charles Herbert's Woburn Company led to the formation of the Association in 1882 and a band led by Herbert and his sons rang numerous pioneering peals both on tower bells and in hand. Especially important was the handbell peal of Bob Maximus accomplished in 1903. Woburn continued to maintain a strong band into the 1930s. On 21st February 1927, the Woburn company scored the first peal of London Major in the county, conducted by Edmund J Hobbs. This was followed by a peal of Bristol on 30th January 1928,, also conducted by Hobbs, but it was not the first in the method in the county.

From the time of the rehang of the bells in 1900, Luton also had a strong band. Under Lewis Goodenough, they secured the first of Bristol back in 1925 and later equalised with Woburn by ringing one of London in 1931. These performances are commemorated by peal boards in the tower, that for the London making a point of the fact that the peal was "the first in the method in the County by an entirely local band of Sunday service ringers".

Mention of these peals prompted some interesting insights and observations on jealousy and rivalry among ringers and between bands. As an aside, someone mentioned that Eddie Hobbs didn't get on with Arthur Sharman [another good ringer, and later Mayor of Dunstable 1940-43] so they didn't very often ring together. They were jealous of one another. **E:** I don't know why people should be jealous of one another. **P:** There seemed a lot of jealousy in those days. **E:** There was, yes. **B:** A lot of rivalry.

Of the Luton band, Eddie remembered Lewis Goodenough, the conductor: **E:** He was a huge man, about 6ft 6in tall but well proportioned. He had a brother, Horace Goodenough, who rang at St Albans. **B:** He used to come to Biggleswade at one time. He had a sister there. **P:** Then [at Luton] there was Alf King, one of the Vice Presidents of the Association. **B:** Thomas Blackburn, he was



*The Luton band, 1919-20
(Photo Bob Piron, from original in the belfry)*

a bellhanger Salisbury way, **[P]** then he retired to Luton and ran a bicycle business. **E:** When I went up there, when they rang London they'd always ring the six leads, you know three bobs on the second. A course of Bristol, then London Major. **P:** They had a good eight-bell band there

Charlie Clarke on the bus

E: I must tell you this first before I tell you about Charlie Clarke. It's about the time when they had the old open deck buses. When we used to go to Ampthill, you pass under two bridges. If you went on the top deck, just before you got to a bridge, up would come the conductor and he'd say "Lower your heads please". That is true. You had to lower your heads to pass under these bridges when you sat on the top deck. And then, it's been known, if you'd got a full load on the bus, it would turn round at the bottom of Ampthill Hill and go up in reverse! So it used to go all the way up that hill in reverse. **P:** Yes, because it was a lower gear.

To get back to the Charlie Clarke story. **B:** Of course, he had to go on the bus anywhere. **E:** On this journey, he'd got somebody travelling with him who wasn't quite certain what happened at a single. They was going for a peal of Stedman Triples. Charlie, who had this steel-pointed umbrella with him, was trying to demonstrate and tell this fellow how to make the single, and while he was telling – he was all arms and legs – he'd got this umbrella and (*Eddie demonstrating - tap, tap, tap ...*) he was jabbing it on the floor to the blue line, ... you double dodge, make sixths, then you double dodge again behind, and so on. By the time they'd got to Biggleswade, he'd knocked a hole in the bottom of the bus!

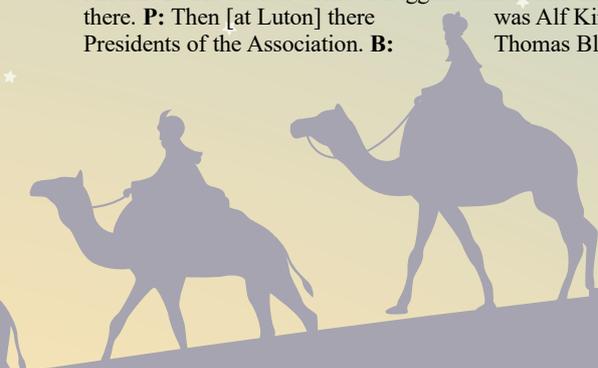
E: Another time they were going to Turvey for Bob Major. He'd got his umbrella the other way up this time and the bus had a roof. **B:** Some woman on the bus listening to the conversation started asking questions. **E:** "Look Missus, all it boils down to, missus, when you turn the treble from behind you dodge 3-4 down ...". Of course she hadn't the faintest idea what he was on about. It could have been a school bell, bicycle bell or whatever it was. "Do you understand?" bellows Charlie. By the time they got to Turvey there was a hole in the ceiling! **B** (laughing) Hole in the floor one trip, hole in the ceiling on another!

This is as told on the tape, although I'm sure I heard this one – and several versions of it – on other occasions too. It's apocryphal no doubt, but it tells us something about Charlie Clarke's personality and manner. It was a story the old boys loved to hear and loved to repeat.

If ever you see prod-marks in the roof or floor of a bus, perhaps you should wonder if you've missed a training experience of a kind that ART could never deliver!

First-hand experiences – After the R101 disaster, 1930

Dominating the open landscape south of Bedford are the two great airship hangars at Shortstown. This is where the ill-fated R101 airship was built in 1929. On 4th October 1930, just twelve months after its



launch it crashed and burnt out near Beauvais on its maiden overseas voyage with the loss of 48 lives. There were only six survivors. Among the dead were the Air Minister, senior government officials and almost all of the design team. After a memorial service at St Paul's Cathedral the bodies were brought to Cardington for burial in a common grave in the church cemetery on 11th October.

Triggered by a mention of a memorial peal rung at Kempston recorded in his peal book, Percy – who was District Secretary at the time – recalled the occasion:

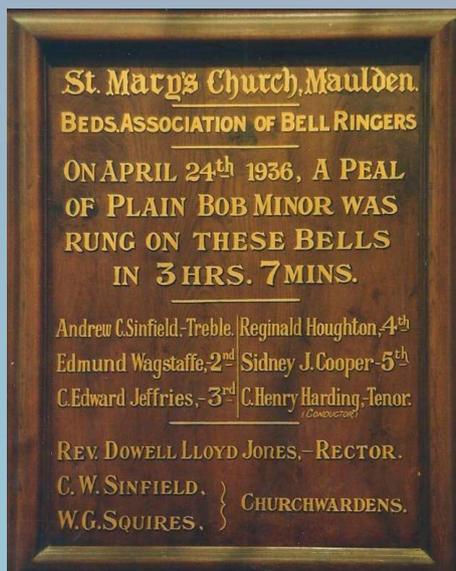
I had to go to the County Police Station, in Gadsby Street then. Harry Tingey was the superintendent in charge, and Edgar Tingey was a ringer at St Paul's, Bedford. The Vicar of Cardington had written to me as the Secretary and asked if the Association – as they'd got no ringers at Cardington – could go there and ring the bells half-muffled while the cortege was approaching the village. All the bodies were brought to St John's station and taken on gun carriages to Cardington. Of course there were crowds of people – thousands – along the route. I went to Harry Tingey at the Police Station and he wanted to know who was going to ring so I reeled off the names, Charlie Clarke, Len Harlow, Miss Steel, Ernie Freeman from Bromham, Bill Stapleton, myself, etc. His brother, being a ringer, knew a lot of the names. We had to get a permit and Harry said "of course, you'll have to walk from Bedford. You can't go on bicycles." So he dished me out with this permit. We all had to assemble at Fenlake and met Bill Stapleton at the bottom of the railway bridge there. The police let us through the cordon and we got to Cardington. We rang with a chap posted on the top of the tower and told him to come down and warn us when he could see the cortege approaching along Harrowden Road. It was quite an experience.

The day the zoo opened

P: I can tell you a story about Tilsworth bells. We went there the day Whipsnade Zoo was opened, in '31. Whit Monday. We got on the bus at Bedford, all unwittingly. Plenty of buses going from Bedford in the morning, taking the crowds to Whipsnade. Well, there were Charlie Clarke, Pearl Inskip, Len Harlow and myself – the gang, you know. We got off at Dunstable at the foot of the downs, walked to Tilsworth and started for our peal. Taylors had just done the bells, although there had been a tremendous shemozzle about it because they hadn't abided by the rules of the faculty and they were hauled before a consistory court. Anyway, we were in the fifth 720 when there came a loud banging on the door. Charles Clarke was ringing the tenor and calling it and we kept on for some time but this banging on the door persisted. Finally it was just too much for us and we had to set up. Charlie started raving away. He was no gentleman! He was ranting on like he used to do, "You can't go on like that, Muster", "you can't ring a peal under them conditions". [interjections, **E:** He always used to fling his arms and legs about. **P:** If he was ringing the tenor and you were to clip on him, he'd say "keep orf my heels, Muster, you're cutting my tail orf" every time. "Why don't you keep orf"; **E:** He'd got to keep on to somebody all the time, even if the ringing was alright. **P:** If he picked on you, woe betide. Oh my word. **B:** I know that (*chuckles*). "Go and see who it was", said Charlie. So we



The ill-fated R101 airship and mast at Shortstown where it was built



First peal for Eddie Jeffries and Andrew Sinfield, 22nd April 1936, not 24th as the peal board says! (Photo BACBR Library)

went and unlocked the door and looked outside and there wasn't a soul to be seen! Whoever it was had disappeared. So that was the end of Tilsworth.

We went to the pub. The landlady got us some very nice bread and cheese and pickles. We had a glass of beer. After we'd regaled ourselves we walked to Totternhoe across the downs. Totternhoe bells had just been done by Mears & Stainbank who added a treble. [**E:** Made five to six, didn't they]. You know, I don't know whether the morning peal unsettled us but we could not settle down at Totternhoe. They seemed a much slower peal, heavy and sluggish. That was the end of our day, except, of course, it wasn't.

Having failed in this peal attempt at Totternhoe we had to walk back to Dunstable. Every wretched bus that came along was crowded with people. We stood there for hours, and I began to despair whether we'd get on a bus at all or whether we'd have to walk from Dunstable. Anyway, we finally got on one and got home after a memorable day. But all we'd had all day was this cheese and pickles at the pub at Tilsworth at midday.

Eddie's first peal

Eddie, who learned to ring at Tempsford with his boyhood friend C Henry Harding in the early 1930s, rang his first peal at Maulden on Wednesday 22nd April 1936 (not 24th April as it says on the board in the tower). Henry was in it and called it, and it was also the first peal for Andrew Sinfield. Eddie told the story of the peal itself:

E: It was a peal of Plain Bob Minor, which finished at 20 minutes past ten at night. We were so keen in those days that Andrew Sinfield knocked off work early and went about ten miles across country to Ickwell to pick up Edmund Wagstaffe and Sid Cooper. He brought them to Maulden. We got going just after six and after two and a half extents it broke down. So we started again about quarter past seven. It was about three hours and ten minutes. Afterwards, having spent four and a half hours in that tower for the peal, Andrew went right back to Ickwell again to take Sid Cooper and Edmund home. When he got back it was gone eleven and he had a bust-up with his wife over it. But Andrew [the first Maulden ringer to ring a peal] was pleased as anything about it until he got home!

The Association had been worried in the 1930s that ringing was in danger of dying out, and Eddie himself said (on the tape) "When I started, ringing in Bedfordshire was virtually non-existent. The old generation had almost died out." From that low spot he and his companions went on to spur something of a revival in the county before and after the war. In a way, this peal laid the foundations for that revival.

Cyril Prindville's trousers

This story concerns a peal of Surprise Minor rung at Stagsden in 1947. Cyril rang the tenor. Eddie and Bryan were in it. Not surprisingly, they remembered it vividly.

P: He (Eddie) can tell you a story about Cyril Prindville at Stagsden. **E:** When his trousers come down. **B:** It were like a man standing in a bath! **P:** That wasn't all, was it. His glasses fell off. **E:** His rope come untucked. Never seen a man in a pickle like it in all my life. Stuck to his guns to the bitter end.

After a 'trailer' like that, the full story has to be told. **E:** Well I'll tell you the story. It was a warm evening in late June (*sic*). Cyril was a huge man. Colossal. **P:** He was a big man. **E:** If he were to lift up that table you wouldn't see it. **P:** Without his glasses as he was virtually blind. **E:** He was, yes. Well, anyway, the first thing his rope started to come undone. It was in the third 720, ringing Surprise Minor. His rope was gradually slipping through, coming untucked, and as it got longer and longer it got quicker and quicker you see. He put all these coils

round his hand. Handful he had. Due to the trouble he was having with his bell about the fifth 720 he knocked his glasses off and they sailed across the belfry. It was double summer-time and the church door from the belfry was open. All of a sudden the door to the church outside was open. Well, we carried on with him flummoxing about there. We were getting to the easy methods and half-way through Cambridge with about 360 to go his trousers were gradually getting lower and lower and lower. All at once straight down they went. We'd got about 240 to ring and some people looked in and said "how much longer are you going to be?" There was poor old Cyril, sweating like a bull, as it was still warm, glasses over there, hands full of loose rope, trousers round his ankles, and so we finished the peal. **B:** Yes, trousers round his ankles like a man stood in a bath.

E (*looking at his peal book*): Here it is. I said the end of June, well I was just a few days out. It was Thursday July the third, 1947, in two hours and thirty six minutes. **P:** You rattled 'em along, Eddie. **E:** Being the extent each of Norwich, London, Durham, York, Surfleet, Beverley and Cambridge, and I called it from the second. Bryan Sims, you was there, me (on the second), Ronald J Sharp, Andrew C Sinfield, C Henry Harding, and Cyril, and we are the sole survivors. **P:** Tip-top band then, no wonder you spun them along. **E:** Hardly any trips. Well, I wouldn't tolerate it.

Miss Steel, President Nasser and the Suez crisis

This incident must have happened around 1956. By way of an introduction it should be explained that Evelyn Steel (1879-1973) was an accomplished ringer who moved to Bedfordshire with family in about 1907 and learned to ring on the five at Oakley. She and her sister, Dorothy, lived in a very nice Arts and Crafts house in Biddenham, built for them in 1909, and had private means. Dorothy was an able but somewhat reluctant ringer. Evelyn, although she had many other interests including croquet and golf, found time to ring some 260 peals – most notably in the first 'all-ladies' peal at Cubitt Town in 1912 – and gave loyal service to both Biddenham tower and the Association. She was, of course, of a different social class to most ringers and in office she had a somewhat authoritarian manner. She was Association president from 1946 to 1960.

As a ringer and as President she was held in respect by all – outwardly, at least. **E:** Evelyn Steel was an old battle-axe. **P:** Yes, she was. Harry Tysoe, who had the nursery up Clapham Road and rang at St Paul's, he had a soft spot for her. He was cantankerous though. **Chorus:** Cantankerous, yes he was. **E:** Do you know what she left? £209 thousand. When she died she was 93. She was champion of all England – croquet – wasn't she? **P:** She and her sister they both ran Austin Sevens and we used to look after the cars for them. She came to me at the beginning of the war, when tyres were getting a bit scarce, and said "Percy, I don't know what we're going to do. We're doing this war work and our tyres are getting very thin, both mine and my sister's". Anyway, I always remember, you know, tyres were that scarce. We couldn't get any her size, so we put a pair of oversize tyres on the back wheels on their Austin Sevens. Of course, being oversize they didn't wear out and she ran those tyres until she wrote the poor old car off. **E:** Of course she was the world's worst driver. **P:** Oh my giddy aunt. **E:** Terrible she was. You took your life in your hands. She revved the engine up full, put it in gear and... whoomph. Frank Tysoe went with her one day. Never rode with her again, did he. Come out of Biddenham turn there, went straight out, car went into the side of them. It put Frank in hospital.

Bryan had been silent through all that, but his turn came. **B:** Talking about Miss Steel, when she was Madam President and Chairman of the Bedford District, we had a meeting at Turvey. It was about the time of the Soo-ez business [in 1956], all that trouble in Egypt. We got there about tea time and round come the [attendance] book, and when it got back to her



An Association meeting in Bedford 1950, including third from left at the back, Michael Stephens, still writing Thought for the week columns (Photo Beds. Times, BACBR collection)

[Miss Steel] there were King Farouk, President Nasser and names like that. All in the book. Anyway, she were livid. She took the book round and counted the names off to see who it was and then, when she got to who it was, she shut the book up and went back and sat down. **P:** She did carry on. "Not funny at all". **E:** It was Henry [Harding], I'd be sure.

The chat continued with further tales about the Association annual meetings, often dominated by Arthur Sharman. Miss Steel strongly disapproved of some – Len Harlow, Pearl Inskip, Bill Stapleton and Charlie Clarke – who went peal ringing on meeting days. Worse were those who went to the meetings of other Guilds. "It ought to be forbidden". Percy thought the Steel sisters might have been involved with the Suffragettes, "they were both those sort of people". Dorothy, he mentioned, used to ride to hounds side-saddle.

A false peal at Bedford

Another story not on tape, but worth re-telling from my own memory, is of a Bank Holiday peal at Bedford on 26th May 1947. **Eddie** remembers having to take his wife, Kath, into Bedford. Arriving at the Corn Exchange opposite the church, he heard the bells ringing and knew that it must be a peal attempt – Grandsire Caters. Peal attempts were quite infrequent as the bells were so noisy outside until sound control was installed in 1966. "They was loud", said Eddie (wildly exaggerating), "you could hear 'em in Luton!"

He listened for a bit and then drove home. For the next couple of hours he could catch the sound of the bells from his garden in Bromham, and when he set off back to Bedford to fetch Kath they were still ringing. Must be well over 3½ hours, he thought. He got to Bedford and waited and *still* the ringing went on. The peal eventually came round after the best part of 4½ hours. It was a mixed band from various parts of the county, conducted by Joe Arnold of Leighton Buzzard using one of his own compositions. 5039 changes in 3 hrs 31 mins. They'd had a false start and re-started.

E: Well, after all that time, you know what? The composition turned out to be false!

Characters and incidents

At one point, **Percy** mentioned Amos Smart. I'd seen his name and was curious to know more about him. **P:** He was a coal merchant from Wollaston. **B:** He used to ring with Walter Perkins and Miss Steel in the week and he run his coal business away. **E:** He did. **P:** Walter Perkins, Andy Tyler, Miss Steel, Amos Smart and Bill Stock had a weekday band [in the 1930s]. Charlie Clarke used to take part too



The formidable Miss Evelyn Steel

after he retired. They used to ring all these Surprise methods, you see. Instead of his coal, Amos Smart went ringing and his business collapsed.

Coincidence of names led us to Percy Amos, from Northampton, who was a regular attender at Association meetings from the 1930s. Much later he wrote letters to *The Ringing World* about towers or on historical subjects but was frequently slapped down or forcefully corrected by other correspondents. All three had something to say about him.

Bryan started it – “what about Percy Amos?”. The very first meeting I ever went to as a lad was at Stagsden. **P:** I shall never forget that meeting. The tea in the Church Room, opposite the church. My dear old mother got the tea, and she treated all these ringers – and there were thirty odd – and when it came to paying, Miss Steel said “and how much is the tea, Mrs Bonnett?”. My mother said “nothing”. “Oh, but you must have something” replied Miss Steel. “No”, said Percy’s mother, “I’ll entertain the ringers”. I shall always remember that, but Percy Amos was there, wasn’t he Bryan?

B: The very first meeting I ever went to as a boy. Percy had been recently thrown out of the Peterborough Guild for some scandal, I don’t know quite what [*The topic came up again later and details emerged, but I shan’t tell the story here*]. **P:** Yes, he had. He came on a motorbike and got his cap the wrong way round. Anyway, something came up in the meeting and he was swearing. **E:** He was an objectionable man, and another thing that was objectionable was he never used to wash and he used to smell. **B:** Pearl [Inskip] was holding forth on something. Percy wanted to join the discussion and got up to say something. Up popped Pearl before Percy had said anything and says “You can shut up and sit down, you’ve said enough already” (*hoots of laughter*). **E:** The very last time I saw Percy Amos was years and years ago. He was on the roof of St Paul’s with Sid Foskett, and they were fighting. Sid threatened to throw him over the side. **B:** He was a cantankerous man.

E: Percy Amos’s other love was poultry. **B:** We went to the opening at Rushden [1953], and Percy was there. We hadn’t seen him for some time. We got talking to him, and I said “Do you still keep poultry, Perce?”. You know he’d got a deep booming voice, and he says “No, I don’t keep poultry, but I write for the professional Poultry World and I have a cheque every week or so from there”, flashing this cheque about. Well Henry was a crafty old boy, and he had a peek round the side of it – Percy telling us all about this big cheque for what he wrote – and it was only for bloody ten bob! When Jabez Trollope was *Ringing World* editor he wouldn’t publish Percy’s letters and he never got one in for years until old Tim White took over. **E:** His own house was a hen-house. You’d call and knock the door. “Come in”, in his very, very deep voice, and then he’d swipe the hens off the table before you could sit down. You’d look under the table before you sat down to make sure there weren’t any eggs there. **Observer:** Was he any good as a ringer? **Chorus:** NO!

Bryan again – “What about Harry Parkes, when the steam come orf ‘is head, we rung the Yorkshire. **P:** Harry Parkes. He was Mears’ Whitechapel bellhanger. **B:** We rung the Yorkshire one Monday night [11th January 1954 on the back eight at St Paul’s]. **E** (looking at his peal book): Yes, you rang the seventh and it was 3h11. I rang the 5th. **B:** Harry was scrumpin’ and the steam, the sweat was rolling off his head... **E:** “Steady on. It’s too fast”. We had to slow up. **B:** He was built like a gorilla. **P:** That must have been when he was doing

Goldington bells. **E:** Harry Parkes was quite a character, a big man, a powerful man, partly bald and he always had his shirt open all the way down. He hadn’t got a roof to his mouth, had he, the poor man. He was genuine. A sincere man. And he was a man that was despised by a lot, by virtue of his dress. But he’d do anything for you.

I can’t resist a mention of another ringer, whose name I shan’t disclose, from the Ely Guild. Suffice it to say he was the signalman at Fenstanton and rang at various towers nearby in Huntingdonshire. At the mention of his name, **Eddie** reacted “He used to be a railwayman, and he’d got two loves - I’m not sure which order – one was bells and the other was women!” Every time he used to come for a peal at Maulden there was always another woman sitting in his car. **Interruption:** What, a different one every time? **E:** Mostly, yes. There was one he used to bring who was very shy. When you’d done ringing you’d walk down the steps and she was just outside. When she saw you coming she’d rapidly sit down on a seat so you could just see the top of her head.

Looking back

What a mix there is here – the treasured stories, the snippets that tell us about ringers of old, the glimpses of past life, the links with local and national events that characterise our ringing lives. There’s the comic, too – and I’m hoping you laughed out loud, chuckled, or at least smiled at some of these tales. Admittedly, that’s easier if you listen to the tapes – the accents, the emphasis, the back-chat and the giggles.

For me, listening to the tape again was like spending time with old friends. It was also like watching a familiar movie or comedy show. You know the jokes, you can remember many of the lines, yet every time you listen you pick up some new nugget of information and laugh at something you’ve previously missed.

This recording perhaps shows what can be preserved by taking the effort to talk to older ringers and listen to their stories. If you need guidance then visit the Oral History Society website <https://www.ohs.org.uk/> where information and advice is available. Oral history undoubtedly brings the past to life in a unique and very special way.

Acknowledgments: As well as being grateful to the three ‘wise men’ for participating in the first place, I should also like to thank Steve Stanford for his help with the illustrations for this article, mainly drawn from the Bedfordshire Association Library collection. Many of these were taken by the late Bob Piron specially for the centenary exhibition in 1982. Indirectly, thanks are also due to Andrew Craddock, whose PealBase records make it so much easier to check facts and dates, likewise to Richard Hillson who has uploaded all Association peals to BellBoard, and to the compilers of the cumulative indexes of ringers’ obituaries.

Further reading

For the early history of the Bedfordshire Association, see *Ringing World* 12 March 1982 pp.207-11. Percy Bonnett’s obituary is in *Ringing World* 15 April 1983 p.294, and the “What’s up that tower?” article on Stagsden in *Ringing World* 30 July 2021 pp.692-3 tells the story of his activities there. Bryan Sims had a brief obituary in the Association report for 1984 but none in the *Ringing World*. For Eddie, there is a wonderfully detailed and respectful obituary by Stephen Ivin in *Ringing World* 24 November 2006 pp.1136 and 1139, but one should also see the “Personalities of the Exercise” article in *Ringing World* 3 November 1961 p.734. Evelyn Steel featured in the “Servants of the Exercise” series, in *Ringing World* 8 April 1961 p.249 and her obituary in the issue for 29 June 1973 p.512. For the other people and bands mentioned in passing, good starting points are the *Ringing World* “complete index 1911-2004” downloadable from <https://tinyurl.com/5cs6ckcc> and the indexes of obituaries at <https://tinyurl.com/4c8t5czm> and <https://tinyurl.com/yc7mjvh4>.



Percy Amos (far left) at Corby, Northants, 1950s
(Photo: *Evening Telegraph*, from a private collection)



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Truro Cathedral Bells

all twelve, audible inside and out!



Looking sideways on at the curved section of ducting above the treble, positioned to catch the two o'clock strike

Truro Cathedral is home to a glorious 33cwt ring of twelve, the only one in Cornwall. In early 2021, alongside other work to make the bells more easily rung, we were also thinking about how to equalise the sound in the ringing chamber to be able to hear all the bells. During the augmentation project from ten to twelve in 2011, the lead capping which was on the floor of the bell chamber had been removed, and the big oak beams that we had slotted into the bottom of the frame were also no longer in position. These had previously helped to soften and equalise the sound. The augmentation project had given us a glorious ring of twelve, but they were only fully audible from outside, and they were loud but uneven within. I have heard stories about conductors losing their voices during the first ringing on the twelve due to shouting so much in an effort to be heard over the sound of the bells, and when setting off to attempt a peal for the 125th anniversary of the Truro Diocesan Guild in 2022, Chris Kippin (conducting from the treble) called “look to, this is the last time you’ll hear the treble, she’s gone”!

After 2011, in the bell chamber, a small working party did manage to replicate the lead with several layers of *Acoustilay* applied to the bell chamber floor. They also surrounded the ropes with chutes and insulated these with fibreglass in an effort to reduce the sound. As the tenors are on the bottom level of the frame, with trebles above, the result was that it was very difficult to hear the trebles above the sound of the tenors.

We sought advice from John Taylor and Co. Andrew Mills came to ring with us at one of our practice nights and imparted advice. Andrew advised boarding in the tenor pits, both on the floors of their pits and their sides, removing the chutes that surrounded the ropes and ‘piping down’ the trebles. I had never heard of piping down before and on a visit to York Minster got to see an example. In effect it looked like a cooker hood had been

placed over the bell pit and then a pipe came off the centre of this and down to the ringing chamber. I had wondered what all the orange pipes were for when watching the National 12 Bell Contest at Exeter. David Hird told me that to soften the sound in some of the pipes at Exeter they had used whatever came to hand, for example, old sponges and pairs of pants!

We set about planning what materials we could use; we found some planks of wood in the cathedral roof space which we promptly fitted into the tenor pits in early 2022. We have also re-used some of the bell chamber floor insulation panels for this purpose, which are foam and easy to cut round rope holes and other frame furniture, (having had to remove a large quantity of this material for access to repair the eighth gudgeon in late 2022).

Andrew Hoddinott sourced some ducting pipe, and we bought some joining sections. I’ll be forever grateful to Andrew Hoddinott and Owen Borlase who took holiday days off work and to Richard ‘The Carpenter’ Sailsbury who helped with “measure twice, cut once”!

The aim is to capture the sound where the bell strikes at 10 and 2 o’clock using ducting directly above the bell. We didn’t have any old cooker hoods going spare, so we cut one piece of ducting pipe at 45 degrees and used a short, curved piece for the other side, we then inserted their straight ends into a ‘T’ piece which sits over the centre of the treble. The T is joined to long sections of ducting pipe which run vertically through the second pit against the wall and ends just above the old Ellacombe chime slot in the ringing chamber ceiling.

The result is truly remarkable! Just by turning over the treble a few times on the



The new ducting seen from the second pit

day we installed the ducting, we could tell that in the ringing chamber the sound of the treble was at least 10 decibels higher than previously. We can now ring all twelve and actually hear our striking around the treble. Hearing the treble also helps establish a good rhythm, the front four bells set the speed, spacing, and are in effect the first ‘bar’ of music which set the pace for 5 – 8 and 9 to tenor. We now have a majestic set of twelve bells audible inside and out. I am truly over the moon with the results and ever thankful to all those involved who made this possible!

HAYLEY YOUNG
Truro Cathedral Ringing Master



Suspending the newly constructed ducting from a wooden baton placed diagonally above the treble pit



Metal cooker hood and boarding out the sides of the pits clearly visible to visitors at York Minster

Ringing and Money

by Steve Coleman

Tower Funds, Ringing Societies and Tax

I'm seriously worried that our tower fund has been breaking tax law for years and we're liable for penalties. On the Government website it says:

1. Tower funds must register with HMRC;
2. If they don't register they'll be liable to penalties;
3. They must pay Corporation Tax if their liability is more than £100 per year;
4. If it's less than £100 per year they can be "deemed dormant" but only as long as they've notified HMRC of their "deemed dormancy;"
5. If they don't spend their money exclusively on their members, they can't be "deemed dormant" no matter how small their income.

We've never registered, and we spend our money on the bells and not ourselves, so we seem to be well and truly caught. Please help.

WORRIED OF WILTSHIRE

P.S. And what's our taxable income anyway?

Good question. And since the great majority of tower funds are in exactly your position, I'll start with a spoiler alert – *don't worry*. Or at least, don't worry unless your tower fund has a great deal more income than most tower funds. But as to why ...

The rules

First, your summary of the HMRC rules is absolutely correct. They don't say it very clearly and they don't say it very simply but they certainly say it. And of course, those rules apply to all other small clubs and societies including all those ringing societies that aren't registered as charities.

But from a common sense point of view they don't seem very sensible, so I've spent the last three months trying to convince HMRC that it's got them wrong. And splendidly, at least as regards tower funds, I've succeeded.

The helpline

But it hasn't been easy. I started by contacting the HMRC's companies helpline because tower funds are, in law, unincorporated associations and so deemed to be companies. I explained that tower funds commonly spend most or all of their money on bell maintenance rather than on their members, so they couldn't pass the HMRC's deemed dormancy test. As *Worried of Wiltshire* says, that test requires the money to be spent *exclusively* on the ringers.

The helpline lady replied that I was saying that tower funds were charities and so I should speak to the charities helpline. I repeatedly explained that I wasn't saying that, but she repeatedly said that I was, and then declined to help further.

The Press Office

So since I write financial articles for a weekly magazine – *The Ringing World* – I contacted the HMRC Press Office. They're very nice and very sensible people but they don't answer questions themselves. Instead, they pass them on to the relevant HMRC experts – who they engagingly refer to as *Officials*.

Surprisingly, *Officials* spent three weeks thinking about this – ostensibly because no one had ever raised it before – and then replied that there was, "... no benefit to a tower fund registering."



A good start, I suppose, but not actually an answer since I'd already told *them* that there was no benefit. Our problem was that the rules said that tower funds must register *even though there was no benefit*. Moreover, they said tower funds couldn't be "deemed dormant" if their money wasn't spent *exclusively* on the ringers. So I explained the problem again.

Exclusively

Three more weeks went by, and the reply this time was that "exclusively" as *Officials* think of it doesn't mean "exclusively" as the rest of the world thinks of it. I was given a couple of paragraphs setting out alternative ways of interpreting the word, neither of which would have won a plain English award even if either of them had conformed with common sense.

But here the Press Office ladies stepped in and gave me an **official HMRC statement**. Here it is in full:

"An HMRC spokesperson said:

'Tower funds do not need to register as they will be treated as dormant under the de minimis rule, provided its limit is not exceeded and there is no economic benefit outside the membership having regard to the object of the association.

If minor assistance was given to the church, we would not view that as economic benefit to a non-member as it would be related to the object of the association.'

Minor

That was definite progress and I was duly grateful because it provided the required confirmation that most tower funds needn't register. What's more, it's confirmation that is 100% binding on HMRC until they categorically and publicly state otherwise. And by implication it's also confirmation that most ringing societies needn't register either.

But it still wasn't clear that it covered large tower funds because it used the word "minor" without defining what "minor" meant. So naturally I asked for clarification. I pointed out that tower fund donations to the church regularly exceed £1,000, are often over £5,000 and are sometimes very considerably more.

To my surprise, *Officials* at first refused to say. Even more surprising, they refused to carry on speaking to me. But of course I didn't accept that, and I persisted. They still refused to define "minor," but they did at least give this explanation of why they were refusing,

"A distribution to the wider 'family', the church within which the society operates, of a minor amount should not be challenged.

If substantial amounts were being abusively shifted to third parties, that would be a different matter, hence 'minor'.

The use of the word 'minor' supports the policy of not expending disproportionate effort in context. 'Minor' is an accepted means of expressing a proportionate approach in context.

The term just has to be applied in a reasonable way in its context, and it is by no means unusual for imprecise terms to appear in tax law."

For a number of reasons I think that's nonsense in this context, not least because we're not concerned with tax law here but with what's called an *extra-statutory concession*. All the same, HMRC are essentially saying that as long as your tower fund isn't part of an avoidance scheme, you don't have to register no matter how much you give to the church or – most probably – anyone else.

Changing the guidance

That was definitely good, but it wasn't good *enough* because only readers of this article would know that the HMRC's published rules



The HMRC Charter

But even if they *are* right, that’s no excuse. The primary role of HMRC is to give accurate information to the great body of taxpayers who simply want to do the right thing. Indeed, that primary role is embodied in the **HMRC Charter** which says:

“We’ll give you accurate, consistent and clear information. This will help you meet your obligations, and understand your rights.”

So I’m disappointed that *Officials* here are refusing both to fulfil their primary role and to obey the HMRC Charter. And this matters because all those ringers who don’t take *The Ringing World* or who don’t read this article, won’t know that HMRC is misleading them.

Going Further

Naturally I’ll be taking this further – although I’m not anticipating a quick, or indeed successful, outcome. Still, ringers can at least rest easy that the spokesperson’s binding statement coupled with the *Officials’* definition of *minor*, means that they **don’t** have to register their fund or pay tax.

Or at least, they can rest easy unless their tower fund’s or ringing society’s tax bill would be over £100. And that would be because its **taxable profits** were greater than £526. And what constitutes **taxable profits** is what we’ll be looking at next time.

Steve is happy to answer all Ringing and Money questions individually and entirely confidentially. His email is steve@ringingbooks.co.uk

are wrong. So I suggested they should change them, and I also suggested that they should explain that *exclusively* doesn’t mean *exclusively*.

Sadly, they flatly refused. They claimed that their published Rules and the spokesperson’s statement on tower funds *aren’t* contradictory even though they clearly are. Obviously, if the Rules say that tower funds *must* register but the spokesperson’s statement says they needn’t, there’s a clear contradiction.

To give *Officials* their due, they appear to be concerned that giving accurate rules might encourage unacceptable avoidance schemes, and certainly none of us would want that.

But speaking as formerly one of the Inland Revenue’s leading anti-avoidance experts, I’m not at all sure they’re right.

A rocking good fundraiser

Earlier this month, Bentley’s Antique & Fine Art Auctioneers sold the ‘Bethersden Belle’ — a fabulous and unique hand-crafted rocking horse by the world renowned Stevenson Brothers, raising £6,500 towards the restoration of the bells and frame at St Margaret’s Church, Bethersden, Kent (6, 15½cwt).

This unique work of art was made by Tony Stevenson himself, a member of the band at St Margaret’s, especially for this cause. Each of the Stevenson rocking horses has a unique number on a brass plaque – this is number 9669. In a break from their traditionally shaped rocking horses, she is based on the last horse they made for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Bethersden Belle has a closed mouth, making her look more friendly, and the detailing in the face and body adds to her realistic appearance. Her bridle is made from flax and her tack is made out of a sally from St Margaret’s; her frame even features bell shapes carved into the wood.

The funds raised are going towards the wooden bell frame, which has fallen victim to wood rot and insect infestation. The wooden frame was originally installed in 1759. It contains one of the oldest bells in Kent, the fourth, cast around 1335, possibly by Peter de Weston. The bells were overhauled in 1953 by Mears & Stainbank, but the crumbling wooden frame makes them difficult to ring and is increasingly concerning from both a conservation and safety point of view.

You may have read more about the history of the bells and the campaign in Richard Offen’s article ‘Bethersden Bells’ in the 13 Oct 2023 *Ringing World*. The band has launched a fundraising campaign to finance the restoration costs of around £89,000. They have already raised about half the money but clearly a lot more is required.



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Campana – an ‘A-Level’ new ringing app

Over the last seven months, I have been designing and programming a mobile app called Campana for browsing and learning methods as part of my A-Level Computer Science coursework.

Around the time I started ringing the treble to Plain Bob Doubles, I became fascinated by the mathematics behind methods. Meanwhile, in college we were brainstorming ideas for our coursework so I decided to make a change-ringing app. By doing this I could read more into the theory behind methods while getting my college work done! I had experience making video games before embarking on this project, but this was my first non-game app and the structure we had to follow for the coursework was much more rigid than I was used to in my previous projects. For example, I needed to have stakeholders provide feedback and ideas throughout the entire process, leading me to enlist the help of two experienced ringers from my local tower. Doing it this way was certainly more work, but the constant feedback and testing throughout certainly ended up shaping the final product for the better.

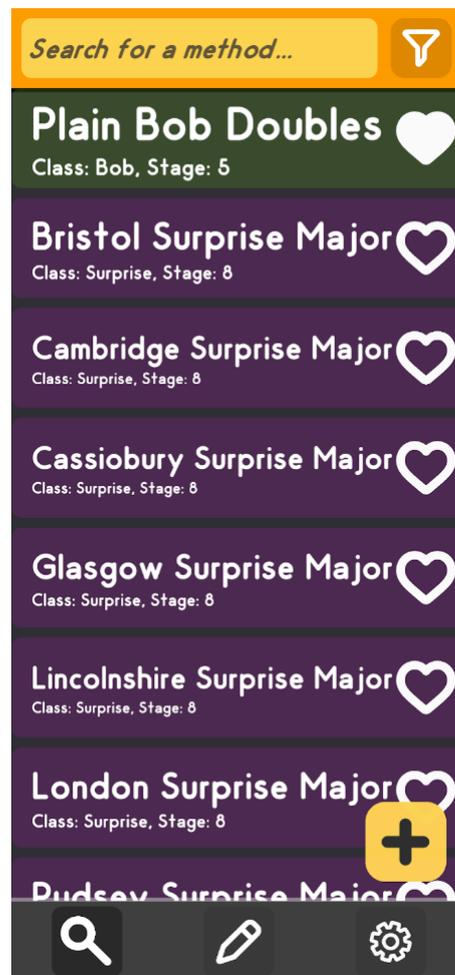
As all great things do, the development process started with research, looking at existing apps on the market and deciding which features I wanted and how I could make my app unique. The main thing I

took away was the fact that there wasn't a single app on the market that had all the features of the other apps in an easy-to-use and understand package. From there, working off of my stakeholders' feedback and ideas, I sketched out early designs for the user interface and the overall flow of the user experience, as well as prototyping small sections. I started coding in early July, focusing first on importing the methods from the CCCBR database into a format I could work with and load onto phones. I then did all of the place notation processing (which went fine except for overcoming the curve ball of jump methods!) and composition notation. A key part of the coursework was the testing requirement, which meant that throughout the project I used lots of automated tests, for example generating every single method and checking that the generated length was the same as the length in the database (exposing a couple of errors in the reference I was using)! The majority of errors I found arose from the option to add custom methods and custom compositions, especially with splicing. One of the most complicated sections was generating all of the details about a method (such as its symmetries, classification and lead head code), throughout which I had to stick to the framework word for word!

The interface design was pretty simple; I went for a rounded friendly aesthetic with lots of colours to differentiate sections. However, this did mean that further down the line I had to create a high contrast mode to make text easier to distinguish. On a whim, I decided to colour the search results depending on their stage, which ended up giving the search menu a lot more life. I had the idea of compositions almost being bolt-ons to a method, meaning that with a composition selected, you could still use all of the other modes. I added a way to view the method and calls, as well as a text description of the work of a single bell, a mode that lets you follow the path of a bell (to make sure you know a blueline off by heart) and a mode that simulates ringing (with either a circle visualiser, or one that simulates sallies).

Sourcing bell sounds was difficult, mainly because my local tower only had eight bells. Despite my original plans to source more sounds from a tower with more bells, I asked a friend to try pitch-shifting the bell sounds from my local tower, which ended up sounding far better than I expected. One of the final things I added, as per a stakeholder request, was the ability to share and print methods and compositions as images.

It took me a while to decide on the app name. After rejecting a lot of titles, I stumbled across the Latin word for church bell, ‘Campana’, and I thought it fit very nicely. The final product consisted of 3,600 lines of code and a 40,000-word writeup and was released on 12th November 2023. I decided to price it at £2.99 in response to stakeholder feedback, market research and to prevent the user experience from being interrupted by adverts.

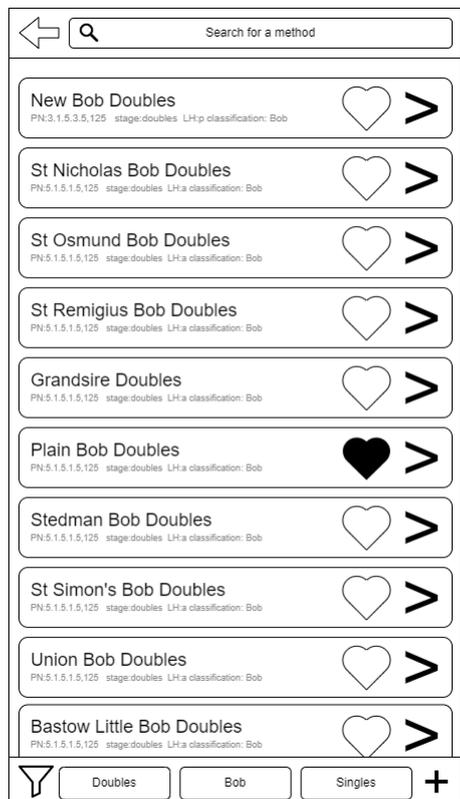


This image shows the stages (Doubles, Major) in different colours

Overall this whole project has been incredibly fulfilling; I've learnt way more about the structure and details of methods and compositions than I would ever have otherwise, and it's been great fun to dig into all the intricacies of change-ringing and its amazingly dedicated technical community, gaining a multitude of knowledge that I can't wait to utilise throughout my bell ringing journey.

If you would like to check out the app, please search ‘Campana’ on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store!

MATTHEW COLLIER



This is how the original user interface looked, with information but no colour

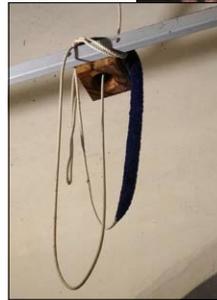
Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers
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 The new edition of DIAGRAMS is now available from John Mitchell, Cobblers House, Roecliffe, Boroughbridge, York, YO51 9LY.
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The Accidental Band

A new article series about ringing and insurance, from Mary Jones, Ecclesiastical Insurance and the Central Council

I admit to being a member of an Accidental Band. We are inexperienced but also ambitious – a sometimes dangerous combination because we are happy to agree to ring at unfamiliar towers or to organise Summer jollies, despite not always being fully aware of what we are letting ourselves in for. We always try to lure a local, more experienced ringer, to meet us with the key but also to stay on alongside us and help out because sometimes we choose bells with “character”, which usually translates as “tricky to handle”.

On our last Summer outing, the rope slipped a wheel at two towers. One caused no damage other than a startled shriek but the other resulted in a broken stay. A repair needed to be organised by us because there is no resident band. It probably was not our fault – the bells had not been checked or rung for a long time



What can possibly go wrong? A rope gone astray and a ringer on his knees

This series of articles has come about as a result of a seemingly widespread uncertainty over what an insurance policy paid for by a ringing association actually covers, and what the insurance cover held by the owners of the buildings in which we ring, usually a policy put in place by the PCC, may include.

Each year, the Stewardship and Management Workgroup (SMWG) of the Central Council has been holding a meeting with Ecclesiastical Insurance, which provides the cover for the majority of churches in the UK, as well as many ringing societies. The meeting is an opportunity to discuss any issues emerging concerning ringing and insurance as well as seeing whether claims in progress point to any guidance that should be given to the ringing community. (Ecclesiastical is not the only insurer, but we have determined that the approach of other insurers is the same).

Ringing is fortunate in that the lead underwriter for Ecclesiastical’s church business is a ringer, Marcus Booth, and he is now assisted at Ecclesiastical by another ringer, Becca Ridley. So they both understand the balance between the needs of churches, ringers and ringing societies with best practice for insurance requirements and risk management.

Although there is already guidance on the Central Council website on insurance and ringing (ccbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SM_Insurance_2022_v4.pdf) we felt that this was probably still quite difficult to apply to practical situations, and that a series of insurance scenarios to which ringers could relate would help. And so, with thanks to Mary Jones, “The Accidental Band” is born.

ALISON HODGE, SMWG Workgroup Leader
SIMON LINFORD, former President CCCBR

Guilds and Associations pay significant sums on insurance.

Most have personal liability insurance and some also pay for personal accident policies. Ringers are increasingly being asked for evidence of public liability insurance when asking for towers on outings.

The Council’s new “Three Pillars” strategy is going to look at the whole area of ringing finance, including the amount we collectively pay for insurance. It will therefore be interesting to see as the activities of The Accidental Band unfold over the next weeks and months, how often it is the insurance policy of the association that is picking up the bill, and how often the risk is actually covered by the Church.

TINA STOECKLIN, President CCCBR

because of lockdown – but as good guests we took responsibility for it anyway.

In our relatively short ringing history, we have had our share of dramas. A broken finger here, a bad rope burn there, a wrenched arm: and that is only **my** personal catalogue. We try not to complain and we tend not to claim. Accidents happen and minor injuries are chalked up to experience – **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO STAND BELL WITH COILS IN HAND** is one of our favourite learnings.

However, insurance does exist and it is possible to claim for some bell-related mishaps, although sometimes it is not clear what exactly is covered by what. Over the coming weeks, I will attempt to present a number of fictitious scenarios where damage has been done, and ask the experts to explain the legal situation as to when and where and from whom one might seek redress. Why not join me in following the adventures of The Accidental Band as they leave their trail of bloodied ropes and accidental damage across the country?

You may have an insurance query of your own on which you would like advice. If so you only have to ask.

Now if only there was a claim for Hurt Pride, I would be quids in....

MARY JONES
(aka The Accidental Ringer)

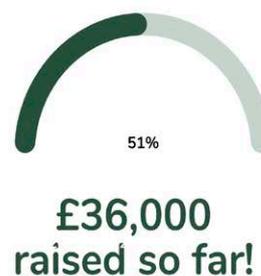


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Learning how to make bobs and singles Part 1

by Phil Ramsbottom

In anything I write, I always try to break down whatever needs to be learnt into the smallest possible manageable bite-sized chunks. This two-part article on demystifying bobs and singles is no different.

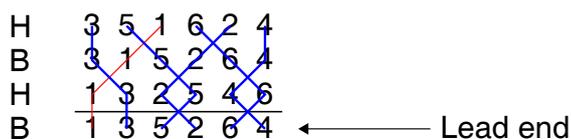
I feel that it's safe to say that possibly all learners who have reached the point in their ringing career of attempting bobs and singles will be doing so in either Plain Bob Doubles/Minor or Grandsire Doubles. I have focused on these methods here by giving the learner guidance on how to ring bobs and singles and by giving the teacher some ways of providing the learner with practice. Within these exercises, I have provided notes to the learner that aim to help navigate the touches.

Plain Bob

Learners, more often than not, first encounter a bob while attempting to ring a 120 touch of Plain Bob Doubles. They are expected to perform the various manoeuvres required at a bob (i.e. run in, run out and make the bob) all in the same touch. Often a learner is not only told what to do when each bob is called, but also the order in which each manoeuvre will occur. All of this requires far too much memory for many, so in the following I suggest ways of learning each manoeuvre separately to make things easier.

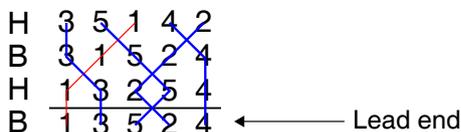
I regularly find myself talking to ringers about a particular method that they're either learning or keen to ring. The first question I ask so that I get a feel of what they already know about that method is 'what happens at the lead end?' All too frequently I find myself confronted with a totally blank stare. However, knowing where lead ends are is important – knowing what happens there is even more so. I'll start by explaining a bit about lead ends and then describe what bobs actually are.

There are different ways to use the term lead end, but here I mean specifically the row of the treble's backstroke lead. What is really important though is the change to it from the previous row, the treble's handstroke lead. In the example below you can see a lead end, and the three rows preceding it, of a 2nd's place plain minor method. A vast number of methods, from the simplest plain methods to the most complex surprise methods, contain 2nd's place lead ends, so it's worth getting to know and understand them. I've annotated the rows 'H' for handstroke and 'B' for backstroke to make it easier to see which stroke you are ringing at a particular row.



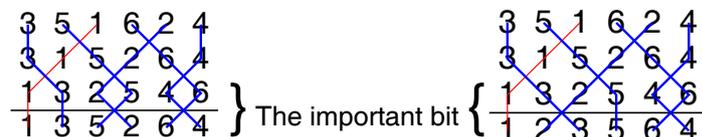
The lead end I've illustrated here is called a '2nd's place lead end' simply because that is precisely what is happening there. As the treble is leading at handstroke and backstroke, the bell in 2nd's place (bell four in this example) strikes two blows in 2nd's place – we say that it 'makes 2nd's'. While there are exceptions, as a general rule the bell making 2nd's causes the remaining four bells in the row to dodge in 3-4 and 5-6, up and down.

I've used minor as an example here because the theory is easier to see, but the same principle applies to 2nd's place doubles methods. The next illustration shows the effect of the 2nd's place on the back bells in Plain Bob Doubles (i.e. the bells in 3-4 dodge and the bell in 5th's place stays at the back effectively replacing the 5-6 up and down dodges you'd ring in minor).



What happens at a bob?

Quite simply, when a bob is called, the 2nd's place lead end is replaced with a 4th's place lead end – a bob lead end. Here are these two lead end types for comparison.



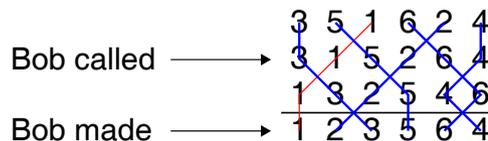
Note, it is only the lead end rows that differ – the three preceding rows are identical. The bob affects only one row, so after that point it's straight back to whatever method is being rung, but with three of the bells starting at a different point to where they otherwise would have. This is where it really pays off to know where each place bell starts for a particular method. All too often at this stage ringers manage the work of the bob perfectly well, but then go wrong shortly afterwards because they then don't know where they are in the method. In short though:

- If you've run in at a bob, you are now 2nd's place bell. This should be obvious as you will find yourself following the treble that is leading at backstroke;
- If you've run out at a bob, you are now 3rd's place bell;
- If you've made 4th's at a bob, you are now 4th's place bell.

Notice that the bell in 5th's place and the bell in 6th's place are unaffected by the bob and carry on as normal.

Putting this into practice

Once ringing has started, the conductor will, or certainly should, call any bobs at the backstroke before the treble lead. As I've already mentioned, these bobs are 'made' (i.e. they take effect) at the following backstroke, one whole pull later. These two points are illustrated below.



While two rows (the whole pull) between the call being made and the bob taking effect might not seem to give much warning, it actually gives you roughly four seconds – ample time for you to navigate the necessary manoeuvres needed to strike your bell in the correct place. I find ringers at the early stages of learning this process tend to go into a blind panic as soon as the bob is called. They either freeze on the spot or suddenly take off at high speed, striking their bell in totally the wrong place at handstroke before the bob even takes effect. The trick is to stay calm, strike the bell at handstroke in the place you would ring regardless of whether or not a bob has been called, and then do one of the following:

- If in 2nd's place at handstroke, hunt out one blow to become 3rd's place bell at backstroke;
- If in 3rd's place at handstroke, hunt in one blow to become 2nd's place bell at backstroke;
- If in 4th's place at handstroke, make another blow in 4th's to become 4th's place bell at backstroke;
- If in 5th's place or higher, simply ignore the bob and carry on unaffected.

Some ringers find it easier and simpler to think of this process as:

- If in the front four places when the bob is called, simply plain hunt to the next backstroke.

If you look at the previous illustration, you'll see this is exactly what is happening.

Teaching exercises to practise Plain Bob bobs

Here are some suggestions of exercises that the teacher might use to give the learner practice in mastering the three distinct manoeuvres that result from the theory described above. They allow the learner to practise these one at a time. The techniques work for both Plain Bob Doubles and Plain Bob Minor.

Hunting out

Start by asking the learner to ring the third bell. Call a bob at every lead end. The touch will come round at the second lead end (when ringing Plain Bob Doubles) or the third lead end (when ringing Plain Bob Minor), so, to consolidate the learning, I suggest ringing this several times over, without stopping when it comes round.

Learner note

At the bob, instead of making 2nd's, you will hunt out to 3rd's place at every lead end.

Hunting in

Call a bob at every lead end, exactly the same as above, but with the learner ringing the second bell. Again, repeat this a few times.

Learner note

At the bob, instead of dodging 3-4 down, you will hunt in to 2nd's place at every lead end.

Making the bob (4th's)

Now ask the learner to ring the fourth bell to Plain Bob Doubles. Call a bob at the second lead end – that is, ring a plain lead (no call) at the first lead end – and then repeat the sequence twice more (i.e. alternating plain leads and bob leads as PBPBPB). The touch will come round at the sixth lead end, but, again, there's no harm in repeating the sequence a few times if necessary.

Learner note

You will make long 5th's at the first, third and fifth lead ends and make 4th's (for the bob) at the second, fourth and sixth lead ends.

To give a learner practice in making 4th's in Plain Bob Minor, you will need to call a bob at the third lead end and the sixth lead end (i.e. PPBPBP). This touch is also six leads long.

Learner note

You will dodge 5-6 down at the first and fourth lead ends, 5-6 up at the second and fifth lead ends, and make 4th's (for the bob) at the third and sixth lead ends.

There might be some instances where ringing the fourth might be a bit beyond your learner's ringing ability (e.g. at a heavy six bell tower). You can easily overcome this obstacle in one of two ways.

Firstly, with the learner ringing the second bell, call a bob at the third lead end of Plain Bob Doubles or the fourth lead end of Plain Bob Minor, and then repeat the relevant sequence of calls as described above until 'making 4th's' has been learnt. Call rounds or stand to finish.

Learner notes

- If you are ringing Plain Bob Doubles, you will dodge 3-4 down at the first lead end, make long 5th's at the second lead end, and then make 4th's (for the bob) at the third lead end. You will then alternate between making long 5th's and making 4th's (for the bobs) until the conductor calls rounds or stand.
- If you are ringing Plain Bob Minor, there are no calls at the first three lead ends, so you will ring 3-4 down, 5-6 down and then 5-6 up. The first bob is called at the fourth lead end so you will make 4th's, instead of dodging 3-4 up. You will then ring the sequence 5-6 down–5-6 up–4th's until the conductor calls rounds or stand.

Secondly, with the learner ringing the second bell, ask the band to pull off with the second in 4th's place (i.e. 13425 for doubles, 134256 for minor). You can then ring the calling sequences I have described as if the learner was on the fourth bell.

Learner notes

Whether you are ringing Plain Bob Doubles or Plain Bob Minor, you are starting in the position of bell four from rounds – you are 4th's place bell (having effectively just finished a 3-4 down dodge).

- If you are ringing Plain Bob Doubles, there is no call at the first lead end, so you ring long 5th's. The first bob is called at the second lead end, so make 4th's. You will then alternate between making long 5th's and making 4th's (for the bobs) until the conductor calls rounds or stand.
- If you are ringing Plain Bob Minor, there are no calls at the first two lead ends, so you will ring 5-6 down and then 5-6 up. The first bob is called at the third lead end, so make 4th's. You will then ring the sequence 5-6 down – 5-6 up – 4th's until the conductor calls rounds or stand.

Teaching exercises to practise Plain Bob singles

(See next page for more details about singles)

Ask the learner to ring the second bell. Call a touch with a single every other lead, starting with a single. This sequence of calls produces a (false) touch of Plain Bob Doubles that is four leads long or a touch of Plain Bob Minor that is eight leads long.

You can achieve a similar effect with the learner ringing the third bell to a touch with a single every other lead, but this time starting with a plain lead.

Learner note

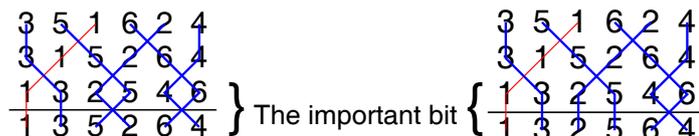
The conductor will call the singles when you are about to dodge 3-4 down, so ring two blows in 3rd's place (i.e. make 3rd's and hunt out) instead. Make 2nd's at the plain lead ends (i.e. when there is no call).

Also worth trying is simply to call a single at every lead end. This produces a (false) touch of Plain Bob Doubles that is two leads long or a six lead touch of Plain Bob Minor.

What happens at a single?

Normal singles are not used in touches of Plain Bob Doubles due to the falseness they create – they produce two consecutive identical rows – but that’s not to say that Plain Bob Doubles can’t be used to learn how to ring them. Singles are, however, used in minor methods, but generally much less so than bobs. It’s quite common to ring a quarter peal of minor and never have to ring a single (and even more common on higher numbers). I feel it’s for this reason that they are never as well learnt as bobs, even to the point of being avoided by some ringers.

I’ve shown above how bobs affect the bells in 2nd’s, 3rd’s and 4th’s place in Bob Minor. However, the singles used in Bob Minor and higher stages only affect the bells in 3rd’s and 4th’s place, as can be seen below:



When a single is called, a bell makes 2nd’s exactly as if no call was made (it is unaffected by the single) and another bell makes 4th’s (exactly the same as when a bob is called).

The only new manoeuvre to learn is for the bell that makes 3rd’s (instead of dodging 3-4 down).

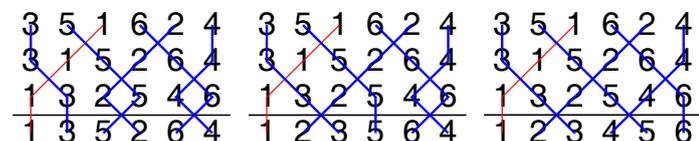
Far place lead ends

So far I’ve looked at Plain Bob, which along with many other methods (e.g. Little Bob, Single Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, to name a few) has a 2nd’s place lead end. However, some methods have what is called a far place lead end (i.e. a place is made at the back, instead of making 2nd’s, when the treble leads).

Learners are unlikely to meet far place bobs or singles early on in a ringing journey, but as this is an article on learning how to make bobs and singles, I feel it would be wrong of me not to include at least an introduction to far place lead ends. I really wouldn’t worry too much about putting the theory into practice. By the time I needed to ring touches of far places methods, I already had enough ringing experience to simply carry them out as required and I’m sure this will be the case for you also. Quite often, the first far place method you might learn is Kent Treble Bob.

Rung as minor, a far place method can also be called a 6th’s place method. As the name implies, at a far place lead end, a 6th’s place is made instead of a 2nd’s place. In my experience, I often find that this alternative lead end arrangement is not adequately explained. This leads to questions about what happens at a bob.

Have a look below at the two lead end types and also the bob lead end for both.



You can see that the bob is the same for both the 2nd’s and 6th’s place methods. However, although 4th’s is made at a bob in both cases, the effect on the paths of the other bells differs. If you look carefully and follow the bell paths in the example diagrams, you will see that, although the bob lead ends are the same, how they are rung is different.

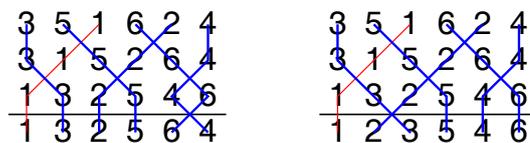
I explained earlier that in a 2nd’s place method, the bells in 2nd’s, 3rd’s and 4th’s place are affected, but in a far place method, the bells in 4th’s, 5th’s and 6th’s place are affected:

For a minor method with a 2nd’s place lead end, at the bob, bell four runs out (instead of making 2nd’s over the treble), bell six runs in (instead of dodging 3-4 down) and bell two makes 4th’s (instead of dodging 3-4 up). The bells above 4th’s place, in this case bells three and five, are unaffected and dodge 5-6 up and 5-6 down, respectively.

For a minor method with a 6th’s place lead end, at the bob, bells four and six run out and in, respectively, which is what they are doing

anyway. They are unaffected by the call. Bell two makes 4th’s, causing the bells at the back to dodge in 5-6.

While the single described earlier for a 2nd’s place method can be used for a 6th’s place method, it is more usual for the bells in 4th’s, 5th’s and 6th’s to make a place at the single in the latter.



In this first part of my article on learning bobs and singles I’ve concentrated on Plain Bob. I’ve broken down the work required by the calls into simple terms and then given the learner and teacher some easy ‘one-step-at-a-time’ exercises to practise. I’ve aimed to give enough theory and practice to allow the ringer to transfer the skills they’ve learned to other 2nd’s place methods to which the ‘run in–run out–make it’ rule applies.

At the end of the article, I’ve briefly touched upon far place methods, primarily aiming to demystify the term for those who are meeting them for the first time and are reluctant to ask what they are!

In the second part of this article I will turn my attention to bobs and singles in Grandsire, again explaining them in step-by-step terms and then providing some simple practice touches.

Bobs and Singles in Grandsire will be discussed next time...

Raising the voice of the church

Young ringers have been training since September 2021 and regularly attend Monday practice nights at St Catherine’s Church, Litlington, Cambridgeshire. Tower Captain Paul Newman and Iain Hayden have taken them through the ART’s Level 1 training scheme and we are so proud of what they have achieved that we wanted to show the local clergy what they could do.

We invited the Revd Helen Orr from St Peter and St Paul Church, Bassingbourn, the Revd Ann Bol from Shingay Group Churches and Kirsty Carter, Churchwarden at St Catherine’s Church, Litlington and also Parish Councillor in Bassingbourn to come up the tower on Monday 4th December, to meet the young learners. Our visitors also took hold of a rope for a first lesson in ringing, and we presented them with copies of *The Voice of the Church*, a guide to the relationship between ringers and the Church of England, published earlier this year by *The Ringing World*.

The inside cover of this book gives 10 Top Tips for things the clergy can do to engage with bellringers and number one is to visit a ringing practice night, so that is now ticked off for our local church leaders.

We are delighted to have new ringers as we have three parish churches to ring for.

DIANE DONNELLY



The local church leaders meeting some of the youngsters, L-R: Georgina, Jake, Harry, Rosie, and Oscar.

Breadsall Bells and Elisabeth Bowden

When her Majesty Queen Elizabeth died in September 2022 so soon after the Platinum Jubilee celebrations for her 70 years of loyal duty and service to the country, the ringers at All Saints' Church, Breadsall in Derbyshire felt moved to commemorate her reign, and the forthcoming coronation of King Charles III. Many ideas were considered but ultimately augmenting the present ring of eight to ten to create a 'royal' ring became the ambition. The addition of two new trebles will not only provide opportunities for the resident ringers and others to develop change ringing on higher numbers but it will create a light front six for the teaching of youngsters, ideally from the village school, whilst the refurbishing of the present ring of eight will ensure their continued use for the next generation of ringers.

Mrs Elisabeth Bowden

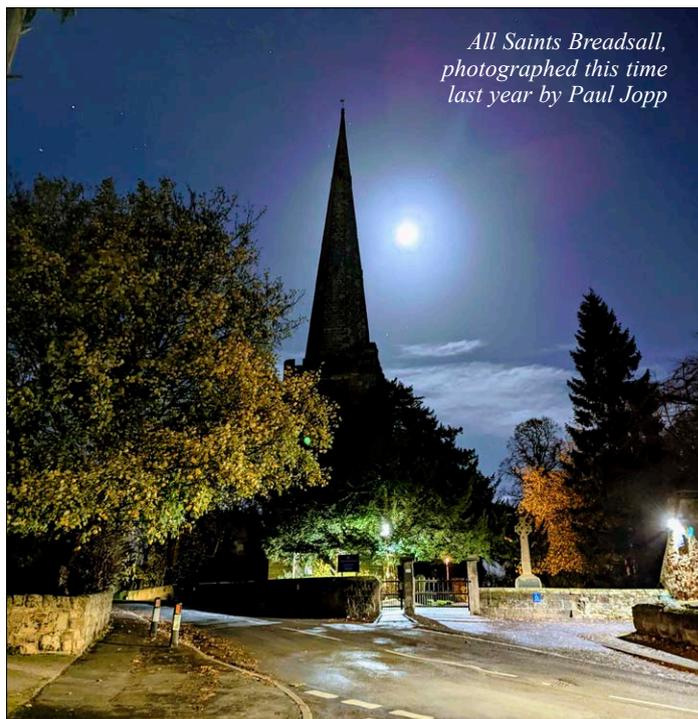
An integral part of the Breadsall Ringers' project is the chronicling of important events in the history of Breadsall Village and noteworthy residents in the life of the All Saints' Church. We are proud to lay claim to one of the country's most prolific female peal ringers, known to most these days as Lis Bowden.

Elisabeth Grime, aged about 10 years old, came to Breadsall in 1946 when her father, the Reverend Allan Godfrey Grime, was appointed Rector to the Parish. In her teens she was encouraged to join the local unit of Girl Guides and several of them learned to ring the bells under the tutelage of Mr Fred Mather, the Captain of the Bells, assisted by his adopted son, Alfred. A photograph appeared in the local newspaper of the time as female ringers were something of a novelty. In a recent conversation with Lis, she remarked that one of her friends, Vivienne Horton (later Rigby) was a proficient heavier bell ringer, which was not well received by some of the older ringers at nearby Derby Cathedral. However these young ladies were undaunted and, as records now show, they proved themselves worthy pioneers of their time. Lis rang her first peal at Breadsall in 1953 when there were just six bells in the tower, ringing the tenor behind to Grandsire and Bob Doubles, the average age of the band just 15 years and nine months.

On leaving school she spent two years studying at Bath Domestic Science College followed by a final year at Bristol University and returned to Breadsall in 1958 for her wedding to Richard Bowden, who was himself a respected ringer from Tiverton. Given away by her father who was still the Rector of All Saints', the service was conducted by the Bishop of Derby, the Right Revd A E J Rawlinson. Their wedding was reported in *The Ringing World*, March 7 1958, page 157. It was noted that "Most of the village attended, showing the esteem in which the bride was held in the village".

A peal for their wedding was sadly not scored but Lis and Richard returned to ring peals to mark special milestones over the years. In total Lis rang 14 peals at Breadsall. Each of these was of some pertinence. They rang together to mark their 28th wedding anniversary in 1986. She returned in 1978 and 2003 for the 25th and 50th anniversaries of her first peal. She rang in 1976 for the memorial service of her parents and in 2002 in memory of Gordon Halls, who had been instrumental in the augmentation of the bells from six to eight in 1973. She rang for the visit of the Central Council to Derby in 1977 and the Derby D A Dinner Day in 1990. She also circled the tower to peals, achieving this in 1979.

Lis and Richard settled in the Bristol area and were very active in the Gloucester & Bristol Association and the Bath & Wells D A. Lis is a prolific peal ringer and was the first lady ringer to ring 2,000 (28th January 1989), 3,000 (9th August 1996) and 4,000 peals. Her 4,000th peal on 23rd December 2010 at Easthamstead



All Saints Breadsall, photographed this time last year by Paul Jopp

was also her 1,000th peal for the Gloucester & Bristol Association. Lis was also a member of the SRCY and rang 200 peals for them between 1973 and 2009. Lis was the leading lady peal ringer from 1984 until 2014 when her peal total was overtaken by Ruth Curtis. Her final ambition to ring a peal in all the towers in the city and county of Bristol was accomplished in June 2015 at Stoke Bishop, Bristol. Lis has rung peals with 1,851 ringers and her leading peal ringers are Anthony Cox (1,007) and John Pladdys (915).

Lis continued to ring locally at Westbury-on-Trym for as long as she could, but with declining health she moved to Heythrop, near Chipping Norton in 2021 to live with her elder son. She still enjoys reminiscing about her many ringing achievements and the people she has rung with and who have helped her through her ringing career.

The Ringers' Bell

The Breadsall Bell project has been well received by the village and the two new bells have already been pledged by the generous support of a member of the congregation in memory of her husband and by a large local company in the parish to mark the 60th anniversary of their business activities.

We are now turning to the ringing community to seek donations for the re-casting of the existing treble, the only bell not from Taylor's, which we are nominating as The Ringers' Bell ~ Ringing for the Future ~ Remembering the Past. We would like to honour Lis's connection with Breadsall bells through this idea and would be delighted to receive any donations from ringers who have shared ringing experiences with her over the years. If you are able to support our project and are interested to know more details please contact the project team

– towerproject@breadsallchurch.org.uk or go directly to our fund raising website at www.crowdfunder.co.uk, click on Explore and search for Breadsall.

GILL PEARSON



Local newspaper picture of the Girl Guides who were learning to ring at Breadsall. L-R: Fred Mather (Bell Major), Pat Stafford, Hazel Mills, Alfred Mather (Asst Bell Major), Joan Robinson, Gillian Robinson, Elisabeth Grime, Margaret Smith

Sir Clifford Clifton

and why the early College Youths history may be wrong

By Richard A Smith

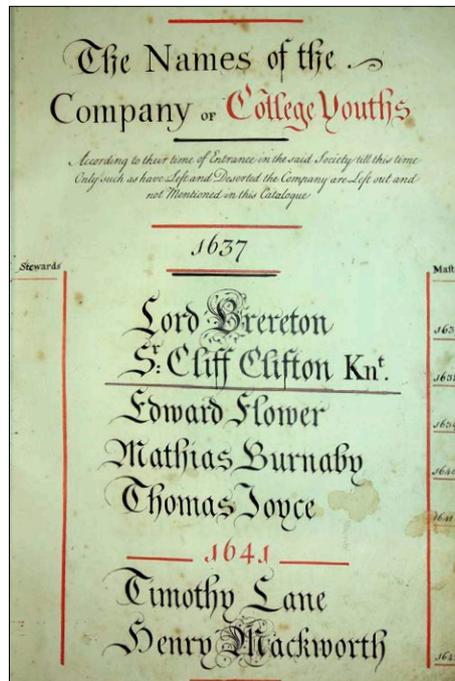
The name Sir Clifford Clifton may be familiar to some readers, particularly those who are College Youths, as he is generally reckoned to be one of the founders of the society. Nothing is known of his ringing career; but the unusual name coupled with a knighthood make him an easy man to trace in the wider world. In this article, I review what is known about him and consider the implications for our understanding of the earliest years of the College Youths.

The first page of the College Youths' name book starts with Lord Brereton, meaning William Brereton (1611–64), the Cheshire aristocrat commonly considered to have founded the society. Immediately below him is the name 'S^r Cliff Clifton Kn^t'. They, together with Edward Flower, Mathias Burnaby and Thomas Joyce, are the only people shown joining the society in 1637, the year it is said to have been founded. These five men were the first five masters of the society, with Clifton shown succeeding Brereton as master in 1638.

Trollope's research

Much of our present knowledge of Sir Clifford Clifton comes from the research of J Armiger Trollope nearly a century ago, and recorded at length in his unpublished manuscript on London ringers and ringing in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (vol 2, pp. 95–99), now in the Central Council library. As much of this material has not been published before, it seems worth printing in full, despite it running to five handwritten pages, together with many additional notes citing sources (not reproduced here):

The second Master of the College Youths was the equal of Lord Brereton in birth and social position, except that he was the cadet of his family not the head. Clifford Clifton came of an old



The first page of the Name Book

Nottinghamshire family which was settled at Clifton.

His father Gervase Clifton was a remarkable man, who was only four months old when his grandfather died and left him owner of very large estates. In Elizabeth's reign he was one of the young men attached to the Earl of Essex; at James's coronation he was created Knight of the Bath; and when the order of baronets was instituted he was among the first given that rank. He was a graduate of Cambridge, the MA degree being conferred on him on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of

Wales in 1612. He sat in nine Parliaments and was reckoned among the wealthiest landowners of the time. His income was said to be more than £3,000 a year. In the Civil War he was a royalist, lent the King money, and had as security Sherwood Forest. He married no fewer than seven times, which is probably a record for an English gentleman. Henry VIII managed to get six wives but he divorced two and beheaded two others.

Clifford was the son of Gervase's second wife and was born about 1615. He derived his Christian name from his maternal grandfather George Clifford, third Earl of Cumberland, KG, an adventurous man who took part in several foreign expeditions, commanded a ship at the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and was one of the founders of the East India Company. Clifford Clifton was twenty-two years old when the Society of College Youths was founded. He was, we may assume, one of the young men attached to the royal court, and when the Civil War broke out no doubt he served in the King's army.

When the royal cause was finally lost and Charles's head had fallen on the scaffold, he returned to London intending to make a career as a lawyer. He entered Gray's Inn as a student on March 1st, 1647, and no doubt renewed his connection with the College Youths. After the Restoration he became an important man in the royal court. On December 27th, 1661, he was knighted by Charles II at Whitehall, and that he was a man of considerably intellectual attainments is shown by the fact that he was elected one of the earliest Fellows of the Royal Society.

He married into a family which supplied many lawyers at the end of the seventeenth century. His wife was the daughter of Sir Heneage Finch, the Recorder of London; his brother-in-law, Sir Heneage Finch, was Attorney General, and afterwards Lord Keeper of the Great Seal and Earl of Nottingham. Griffiths Finch, a ringer and a member of the Society of Esquire Youths, was probably his nephew. He died in 1669 and was buried on June 22nd leaving one son William who, on the death of his uncle, old Sir Gervase's eldest son, succeeded to the baronetcy and estates.

The accounts of Clifton found in Trollope's book, *The College Youths: A History of the Society* (1937), and Bill Cook's *The Society of College Youths: A New History of the Society* (1987, updated 2005) are heavily abridged versions of this account with no additional information. His name has rarely featured in



Boy and Roundhead propaganda pamphlet 1643

The Ringing World, and I am aware of no other significant research into his life by the ringing community.

Members of Parliament

One thing Trollope’s account does not mention, and perhaps he did not know, is that, like his father, Clifton sat in Parliament representing the Nottinghamshire borough of East Retford. This is an important discovery as there is an on-going project to write professionally researched biographies of everyone who has sat in the Commons or Lords. 46 thick volumes of *The History of Parliament* have been produced so far, and they include biographies of Sir Clifford and Sir Gervase Clifton.

History of Parliament substantiates much of Trollope’s research, though without mentioning the College Youths. Sir Gervase’s seven wives are carefully listed with dates and family backgrounds. Penelope, his first wife, died on 26 October 1613, and in c1614, he married Clifford’s mother, Lady Frances Clifford. She was the daughter of Francis Clifford, the fourth Earl of Cumberland, not his rather more interesting brother, the third earl, as Trollope said. Lady Frances died on 22 November 1627, making this Gervase’s second longest marriage. (The sixth lasted seventeen years.)

However, *History of Parliament* does not say that Clifford was born in c1615, as Trollope says: instead, it gives the date of Clifford’s baptism as 22 June 1626. The source cited is a Clifton family pedigree in an 1860 book, *The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Blyth*, which adds that Clifford was baptised in Blyth, Nottinghamshire. The parish register confirms this. Under the heading ‘Anno Domini 1626’, squeezed between two lines perhaps as an afterthought, is the entry ‘Clifford Clifton sonne of Sr Gervas Clifton baptized June 22’. No date of birth is given.

Clifton’s age

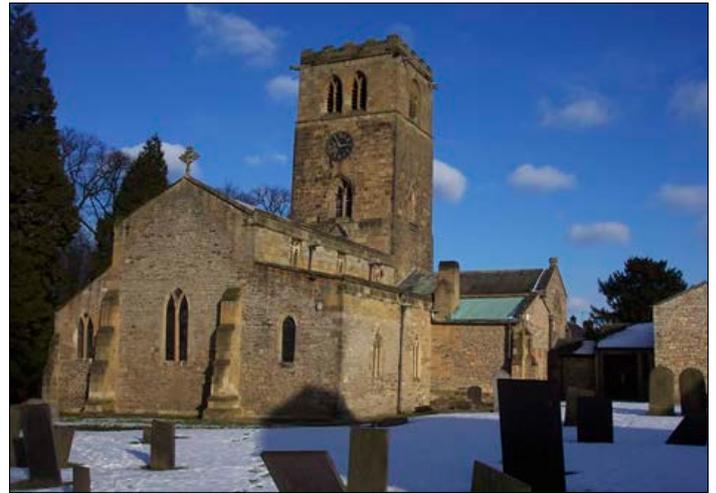
If he was baptised as a young baby, Clifton would have entered Gray’s Inn aged 20, an entirely plausible age, especially as there is no record of him having first attended Oxford or Cambridge; and aged 24 when he married Frances Finch on 4 July 1650 at St Stephen, Walbrook, in the City of London. Trollope’s estimated date of birth in c1615 would have added eleven to these ages – that’s not implausible, especially with the disruption of the Civil War, but a 1626 birth is a better fit.

A 1626 birth would make Clifton sixteen in 1642 when the Civil War broke out, and it’s possible that Trollope’s suggestion that he served in the King’s army is still correct. However, he would have been a only eleven on 5 November 1637, the date the Society of College Youths is said to have been founded, and just a year older when he supposedly became master. Is it likely that the society’s second master was a twelve-year-old boy? This problem would vanish if Clifton was not baptised as an infant, so we must question that.

Memorials at Clifton

The Clifton family were mostly buried in the Nottinghamshire village of Clifton, now a suburb of Nottingham. Sir Clifford’s entry in the burial register has a heavy black border and reads ‘Sr Clifford Clifton was buried the two and twentieth day of June in ye yeare of our Lord 1670.’ No age is given.

St Mary’s church contains several impressive Clifton family memorials,



including a bust of Sir Gervase above a tablet listing all seven wives, and a huge monument to his first three wives. Both memorials mention Clifford, but it is the text about his mother on the latter monument which is of interest.

FRANCISCAE, FRANCISCO ET GRISILDA COMITE ET COMITISSA CVM BRIA GENITAE NOBILISSIMAE, PRVDENTISSIMAE, PIENTISSINAE, FEMINAE, QVAE RELICTA

PROLE MARGARETA, FRANCISCA, ANNA, CLIFFORDO ET LAETITIA MIGRAVIT EX HAC VITA XXII DIE NOVEM: ANNO DO MDCXXVII AETATIS SVA XXXIII ET EODEM CONDITVR

[*Frances, born to Francis and Grisell, Earl and Countess of Cumberland, a most noble, most prudent, most pious woman, who left issue Margaret, Frances, Anne, Clifford and Letitia, departed this life the 22nd day of November in the year of our Lord 1627, at the age of 33, also buried here.*]

Clifford is listed as the fourth of five children, and it seems reasonable to suppose they are given in the order of their births. I have not found baptisms for Margaret or Frances, but Anne, Clifford and Letitia were baptised in Blyth in 1624, 1626 and 1627, respectively. This is consistent with the children being born in the sequence listed on the memorial and baptised as infants. Margaret and Frances were presumably baptised elsewhere. Allowing for a period of mourning after Gervase’s first wife died in late 1613, followed by a marriage and (at least) four pregnancies, it is hard to see how Clifford could have been born before 1620.

One final piece of evidence that Clifford Clifton was born much nearer 1626 than 1615 can be found in the published *Eton College Register, 1441–1698* which lists a Clifton as a student between 1638 and 1640, saying it is ‘possibly Clifford 2nd s[on] of Sir Gervase’. The entry does not explain why this is only ‘possibly’. Is a record



Top: A mural monument to Sir Gervase the Gentle (d.1666), and is fixed over the doorway leading to the Clifton family vault in St Mary’s Church, Clifton (photo: Geoff Buxton)
 Above: Against the west wall is a large monument to the memory of the first three wives of Sir Gervase Clifton (1587-1666), the first Baronet. The wives were Penelope (d.1613), Frances (d.1627) and Mary (d.1630) (photo: Geoff Buxton)

badly damaged? Is it inferred from circumstantial evidence? However, if this is indeed Sir Clifford Clifton, he can hardly have been born as early as 1615 if he was still at Eton in 1640. A 1626 birth makes him a very plausible twelve when he went to Eton.

Two Cliffords?

These difficulties would vanish if there were two men called Clifford Clifton – Sir Gervase's son born in 1626, and an older man who was Master of the College Youths. Even seemingly rare names can run in families, but Gervase's son was presumably named Clifford after his mother's maiden name, the surname of the Earls of Cumberland. For this reason, it is likely that any Clifford Clifton was descended from Gervase's marriage to Frances Clifford, so it is unlikely there was a man with the same name in an earlier generation, or a cousin.

However, there is a more serious problem. The College Youths records and the memorials in Clifton church both describe the man as *Sir* Clifford Clifton, so not only do we need two men with the same name, we also need them both to be knights or baronets. This is simply not plausible.

There are fairly complete published lists of both, and they contain only one Sir Clifford Clifton.

Were the College Youths youths?

If we accept that Sir Gervase Clifton's son was born in about 1626 and reject the idea that the founding member of the College Youths was a different man with the same name, could it really be the case that society's second master was a twelve-year-old boy?

I have searched the published *Eton College Register* for other early members of the society and not found any, so we can dismiss the idea that the College Youths began as a student society at Eton.

Moreover, William Brereton, the second Baron Brereton of Leighlin and first Master of the College Youths, was born on 28 February 1611, presumably on the family's Cheshire estate; and Trollope suggested that Thomas Joyce, another founding member and the fifth master, matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1633, aged 17. They would have been 26 and 22, respectively, in 1637 when the society was formed – young men, perhaps even 'youths', but much older than Clifton, and certainly not still attending school.

Many of the next members are hard to identify with certainty, however Trollope believed that the Henry Mackworth who joined the society in 1641, and became the sixth master the next year, was the son of Sir Henry Mackworth of Empingham, Rutland, born in 1627. If correct, Mackworth became master aged fifteen.

The Mackworth family

Trollope does not give a source for Mackworth's year of birth, though it was likely it came from the herald's visitation of Rutland in 1681. This was when officers of the College of Arms visited the county to check the gentry were not using coats of arms they were not entitled to. Their records include a Mackworth family pedigree showing Henry, 'now living unmarried' aged 54, so born c1627. In any case, he cannot have been much older as History of Parliament says his brother Thomas was born on 1 May 1624. Thomas must have been the oldest brother as he inherited the baronetcy on their father's death in 1640. Another brother, Robert, was baptised on 20 April 1625 at North Luffenham, Rutland. Assuming Trollope has identified the correct family, Robert also joined the College Youths in 1641 and succeed Henry as master, meaning he became master aged eighteen.

The records of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers show that on 4 April 1645, Henry was apprenticed to a Simon Edmonds, a citizen, haberdasher and alderman of London. He was identified as the son of Henry Mackworth of Normanton, Rutland, baronet, deceased.



Arms of the Mackworth baronets of Normanton (Charles Matthews)
Arms of Clifton of Clifton, Nottinghamshire by (Lobsterthermidor CC BY-SA 3.0)



It was normal to start an apprenticeship aged about fourteen or a little older, though in this case Henry was apparently seventeen or eighteen. Importantly, this record places him in London in the 1640s.

An eighteen-year-old master seems plausible, while fifteen feels a stretch, though still possible. Mackworth is quite a rare surname, and it is likely the earliest College Youths had a similar social standing as Brereton and Clifton, which this Mackworth family was. Perhaps the sixth master was actually an older relative, though I cannot find another Henry in this family at the time, so Trollope was likely correct in saying these two early masters were Sir Henry's sons.

Reviewing the options

The discovery that two other early masters of the College Youths were apparently teenagers might support the idea at Clifton was master when aged twelve. Alternatively, it could be a further indication that there is something wrong in the name book: if there is a problem with Clifton's entry, it raises the likelihood that there is also a problem with the Mackworth brothers' entries, and *vice versa*. Realistically, I think there are three possible explanations of this evidence:

1. Clifton really was one of the founders of the society in 1637, aged just eleven;
2. the society was founded in 1637, but Clifton was not one of the founders; or
3. the society was founded by Brereton, Clifton and others, but some years after 1637.

None of these possibilities seem especially palatable, but the first seems the least likely to me. In recent years the society has elected members shortly after their fourteenth birthday, and it is easy to believe some may have been elected younger had

the rules allowed it. But ringing in the seventeenth century was a much more physical activity as bells were harder and heavier, and less an intellectual or mental challenge as this was around the time that Plain Bob Doubles was invented.

Perhaps a burly fifteen-year-old could have fitted in well, but I struggle to believe that one of founders was only eleven. Would Brereton and Joyce, who were both in their twenties, have wanted to socialise with a young boy? It seems even less likely that a twelve-year-old schoolboy away at Eton – if that was the same person – would have been chosen as the society's second master, even allowing for the influence a man of his father's wealth and position could have exerted.

If we reject that explanation, we are forced to the conclusion that, one way or another, the first page of the name book is wrong, and with it our understand of the first years of the society's history. The first name book is not a contemporary record: it was written up a century after the society was founded, so it may contain mistakes. I have been unable to reach a conclusion on what exactly is wrong, but I think we must give serious consideration to the possibility that the society is not as old as it believes – though only by a few years – and was not founded on 5 November 1637.

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank Dickon Love and Chris Pickford for providing access to the early College Youths records, including the name book, Austin Bryan for assisting with some queries about St Mary's, Clifton, and Vivian Nutton for checking my Latin translation.

Trollope's manuscript on London ringers can be found in the library publications area of the Central Council website: <https://cccbr.org.uk/resources/library/online-publications/>

The College Youths' first name book is now available on the society's new online archive: <https://archive.ascy.org.uk/page/name-book-vol1>

Minor jottings – Get the handbells out

My heart gave a little skip of joy when I spotted that one of the Trio of the Month, as recommended in last week's *Ringing World*, is "Get the handbells out". It is almost Christmas and many towers have a neglected set of handbells lurking in a cupboard or in a dusty box. They are rarely used but if there is one month of the year when they should be, it is during Advent.

We first "got the handbells out" during lockdown, when towers were closed. The rector found 2½ octaves languishing under a bed in the rectory and lent them to us, since our set had melted in a church fire in 1981. We started using them for weddings, when social distancing only allowed the ringing of 2 bells at a local church where the bells are squeezed into a small round tower. Only 20 people were allowed at the ceremony and bell ringers "counted" in the number, so we rang in the churchyard as the happy couple emerged. The bride was so grateful and our rounds and jump changes were far slicker than anything we could achieve on tower bells at the time. They even paid us the going rate for weddings, but per ringer not per bell! Later we rang simple patterns for special services and learned a repertoire of carols in three part harmonies for carol services – most of which were held outside in churchyards and school playgrounds (one featured a local donkey and a diminutive Mary in a tea towel and wellies), or in churches that lack bells and were so cold that it might have been warmer outside.

I "got the handbells out" with the local primary school. Their 2020 virtual lockdown nativity production included sections where they rang carols in Ringing Room on handbells. The following 2 years they rang in person on my diddy set. Now they have four sets of child friendly bells and a teacher has taken over the responsibility for teaching handbells to the children as part of their music lessons.

I also "got the handbells out" a few months into lockdown because I wanted to continue to learn and develop as a ringer. Tower bells were locked away but Abel allowed me to get to grips with methods in hand, and online Ringing Room soon provided opportunities to ring handbells with other people. By the summer of 2020, I was able to ring my first QP of Plain Bob Minor in my back garden, which was something I have still not yet achieved in a tower. Together with a small group of ringing friends, I have gone on to ring quarters of Kent and Oxford Minor and Major, Double Norwich, a few surprise minors and majors and even Stedman Triples. I have learned to put the calls in correctly, although my conducting skills only go so far as to complain "that sounds funny, are we all sure ...". Getting the handbells out opened up avenues of ringing that I may never explore in the tower and has retained me as a ringer through difficult patches when tower bells made me so anxious that I preferred not to ring.

So, if you have some, do "get the handbells out". Ask the vicar to check under the beds if your tower is a handbell desert. I recommend that as well as Rounds to Queens you try Tittums, on as many bell as you can muster.

The pattern as it zigzags across the circle is marvellous and will bring a smile to everyone's face.

Happy handbell ringing this Christmas!

MARY JONES

* * * * *

Handbells lead carol singing

Every year the Winchester District of The Winchester & Portsmouth Guild meet at a different District church for their carol service. This year's host church was St Michael & All Angels, Cheriton – a delightful light six attracting plenty of ringers before and after the service.

The Ringers' Carol Service was a new concept to Upper Itchen Benefice Rector Revd Christopher Durrant, who had recently taken up his post and who ensured the church Christmas tree was topped not with a star or a fairy, but with bells!

Lockerley Tower Captain Gary Davies, who has another life as a church organist, played beautifully and a joint band of Winchester District Hand Bell Ringers enthusiastically led the congregation in three carols.

The surge in tune handbell ringing has followed a workshop, led by Sandra Winter of the South Eastern Region of the Hand Bell ringers of Great Britain in September, as a fund-raiser to re-install the bells in St Peter's, Ropley. The newly formed North Stoneham Park Hand Bell Ringers have subsequently been offered a set of 2½ chromatic octaves of Whitechapel bells, courtesy of The Olive Branch Hand Bell Ringers, sadly now disbanded.

This was a joyful service, combining tower ringers with tower-and-handbell ringers and handbell-only ringers.

One thing is sure, they all came hungry and with their designated drivers, as a huge quantity of mince pies were eaten and a record number of bottles of mulled wine were cracked open post-service.

MICKI NADAL





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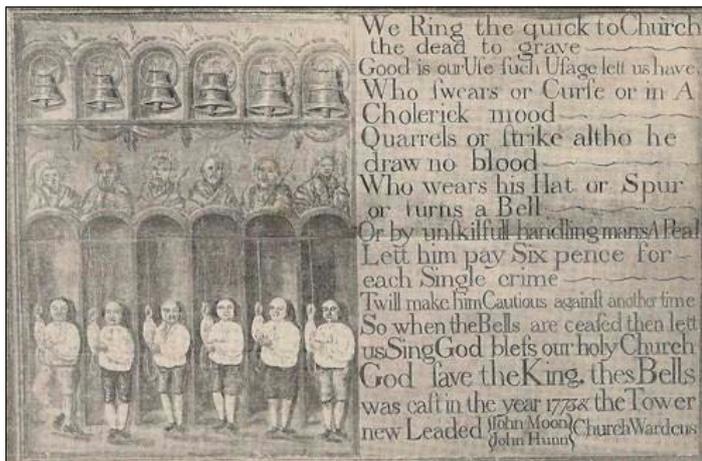
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Order and Disorder in the Eighteenth Century goes digital

by John Eisel



Tommy Thumb's Pretty Song Book (Vol 2) 1744

Newspaper reports of an event have an immediacy that a bare record, such as in a peal book, cannot match. In addition, in a wider context, adverts and reports of ringing matches give a feel of the contemporary culture, and announcements of openings of bells tell us of work that has been carried out, and enable us to identify the hangers of the bells. Occasionally ringers got into trouble, and reports of court proceedings often tell us something of the background. All this enables us to see ringing in a much wider context, and gain a better understanding of our history. As such I find it is a fascinating area of research, and in the last twelve years or more I have been able to devote much time in following it up.

Research in newspapers is not new. So, for instance, Sam Slater of Glemsford, Suffolk, who died in 1910, had a substantial collection of newspaper reports of ringing in East Anglia. In the 1950s the late David Cubitt systematically searched newspapers from the West Riding of Yorkshire, and used these to write articles for *The Ringing World*. Work on the Norwich papers followed his subsequent move to Norwich. In about 1971 Cyril Wratten, such a distinguished historian of the Exercise, began to make a comprehensive collection of eighteenth-century newspaper reports as he could. Research in those days was not so easy, and runs of newspapers were often still in the offices of the publisher, and so had to be located, and then permission obtained to search the back files. As well as doing much of this work himself, Cyril made contact with local historians, who searched the papers available to them, and communicated the results to Cyril. He also identified reports that had been previously published in *The Ringing World*, and also those in collections of personal papers, building up a large collection of reports.

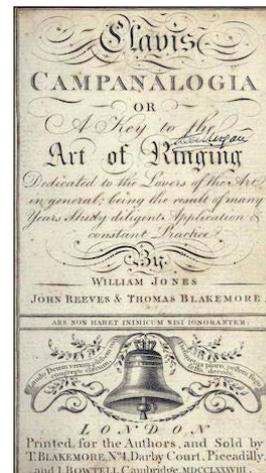
I was one of those who helped in this work. I began my research on newspapers soon after we moved back to Hereford in 1972. I discovered that the local reference library had bound copies of the *Hereford Journal* (founded 1770) and *Hereford Times* (founded 1832), and when I had a long lunch-hour I managed to spend some time working through these, beginning in 1770, and working on

through most of the nineteenth century. Of course I was looking for ringing items, but also made notes about other subjects in which I am interested, which formed the basis of a number of books and papers on local history. When the Central Council visited Hereford in 1976 I made some reference to this work in a speech I gave, and this was picked up by Cyril Wratten, then secretary of the Central Council, and as a consequence I passed on my results to Cyril, as well as other reports I subsequently found.

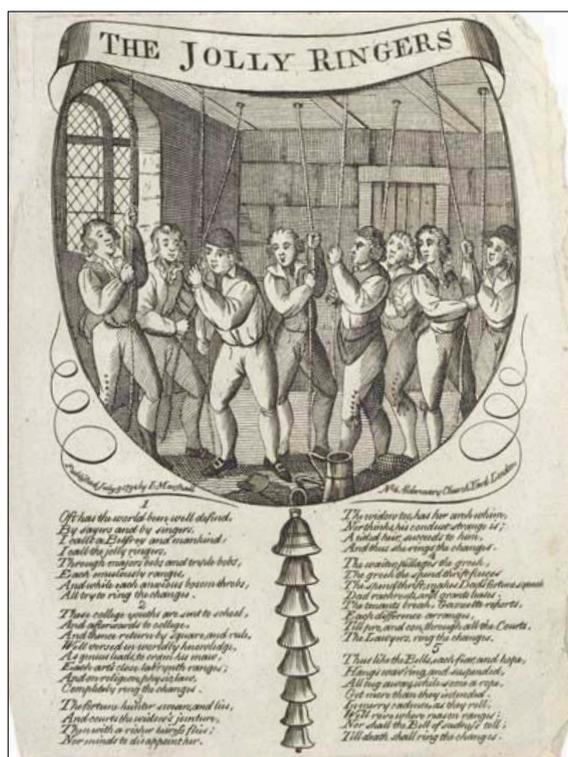
Over the years I talked to Cyril about his collection, and he told me that when he had the time he intended to publish the collection of eighteenth-century reports and adverts as a source book for historians. Alas, this never happened as when Cyril retired he was unable to do so because of developing dementia and so, because he could not use the material, Margery Wratten passed on his files to me, for the Central Council Library. Subsequently we (that is the Library Committee – no such thing these days!) decided that the material should be published, and I input it into my computer. Cyril always typed up his material, and initially I used OCR, but in the end found it easier just to type up the material, and then lay it out and get it printed at a local printers. One of the problems was identifying those researchers who had helped in the compilation of the book, so their work could be acknowledged, and I hope that I managed to identify all of these. At least, no-one contacted me afterward to say that they had been overlooked.

A published book is a statement of knowledge at that time, and one of the points discussed by the Library Committee was what to do about any further material that was discovered. It was intended to continue this series of source books, using material from the early nineteenth century which had been collected by Cyril, and at my suggestion it was decided to add that in as an appendix of recently-discovered material to subsequent volumes. However, after the publication of the first volume in 2010, I was given access to an academic database of eighteenth-century newspapers (the Burney Collection) which could be searched electronically. Cyril's collection was mostly of provincial newspaper reports while this collection was mainly of London newspapers, and so complementary to Cyril's collection. I quickly produced a supplement to the initial volume.

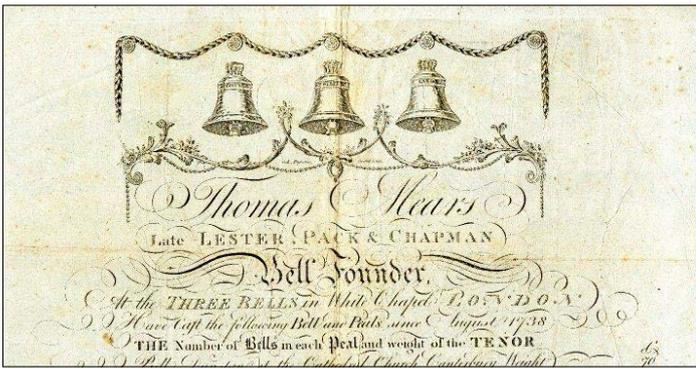
At about this time the British Newspaper Archive became available online. This was essentially designed to cover the nineteenth century, but it includes some eighteenth-century newspapers, and has been extended to cover many twentieth-century newspapers. Newspapers are being constantly added to this database, so it needs checking on a regular basis to see if anything relevant has been added. Cyril's collection for the early part of the nineteenth century was not comprehensive and my researches using



Campanalogia Improved 1680 edition



Jolly Ringers broadsheet: song by Charles Dibdin from his Opera 'Castles in Air' first published in 1793



Mears and Son Bell Founders heading taken from advertising broadsheet.



The beautiful Nutbells, owned by Philip & Shiela George (see RW p.320)

the BNA helped to fill out the volume, together with help from other researchers who provided information from newspapers not available in digital form. For the 1800-1829 volume the appendix of earlier material was short, but for later volumes these increased and became quite substantial. Further material has been communicated to me by other researchers for inclusion in this series of books, and I have always noted the person who provided it, to give credit where it is due.

Fortunately I have kept master files, so that when extra material is found or communicated, it is integrated into those master files, which thus represent my up-to-date state of knowledge. While it is certain that more material will be found, it is very unlikely that there will be very many more reports or adverts, but as these are discovered, they will easily be integrated into the master files.

When Chris Pickford reviewed this first volume in the Order and Disorder series (RW2010, pp.963-4), he commented that it might be better if the material was available in searchable form. Well, here it is! <https://history.cccbr.org.uk/disorder.php>

However, with additions from subsequent research, there is about a 40 per cent increase in the volume of material that was originally published, covering the period up to and including 1799. The collection is divided into nine files, which can be digitally searched, remembering, of course, that spelling in the eighteenth century was not consistent, and so a few variants might have to be tried. There is also an introduction, which I recommend reading before trying a search, as it lays out the conventions used.

Here it should be noted that the collection is composed of information relating to change ringing, bell-founding and hanging of bells, and aspects such as prize ringing. There are literally millions of reports of bells being rung, and unless a report contains information that is considered significant, then it has not been transcribed. On a number of occasions there are reports of bells not being rung when it would have been expected, and this is of much more interest as perhaps there was a dispute.

Good luck with your searching!

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The history of bellringers & bellringing - Order & Disorder

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Newspaper extracts about Church Bells and Bellringing, completed, edited and prepared for publication by John Eisel. These provide a great insight into the development of English change ringing.

This series of publications has been available in print for some time. Issues covering the years 1700 to 1845 were in paper format and copies of some editions are still available on the Council [Central Council](http://www.cccbr.org.uk) web site. The content on this page is the first of the series to appear in digital form.

This page provides links to pdf copies. When a bit of extra processing has been done, a full search facility will be created. A later development will include the issues previously published in paper format.

Decade
1647-1719
1720-1729
1730-1739
1740-1749
1750-1759
1760-1769
1770-1779
1780-1789
1790-1799

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*The nine searchable categories are here:
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The tuning features of long-waisted bells

by Bill Hibbert

The oldest bells in the UK have an unusual shape, known as long-waisted, as can be seen in the picture of the circa 1150 bell at Heacham, Norfolk. The waist is the middle vertical section of the bell – these bells are taller and thinner than modern bells.

A bell's sound is made up of many different frequencies, called partials. Their characteristic shape gives long-waisted bells a sound and partial frequencies quite unlike a modern bell. There are links to recordings of four examples below.

The unusual intervals between the individual partial frequencies make the partials difficult to identify. Published figures for partial frequencies for these bells are often wrong. This article explains a technique for identifying partial frequencies in these bells based on their patterns of vibration. Traditionally, this has required specialist equipment to stimulate the bell and detect the vibrations. I have devised a way to identify the partials, using only tools found in the garden shed, which appears to give good and repeatable results.

Very few long-waisted bells have an inscription, but research by bell historians shows that they were generally cast prior to 1300. Some have dateable inscriptions: the bell at Caversfield, Oxfordshire was cast between 1215 and 1218, that at Lissett, East Yorkshire has a date of 1254, and that at Claughton, Lancashire has a date of 1296, though its shape is relatively modern. George Elphick, who made a special study of the dates of very old bells, suggested that the older bell at Hardham Sussex was cast in 1050, i.e. pre-Conquest. Almost two hundred of these ancient bells have now been identified. They are often older than the churches in which they hang and are a precious part of our campanalogical heritage.

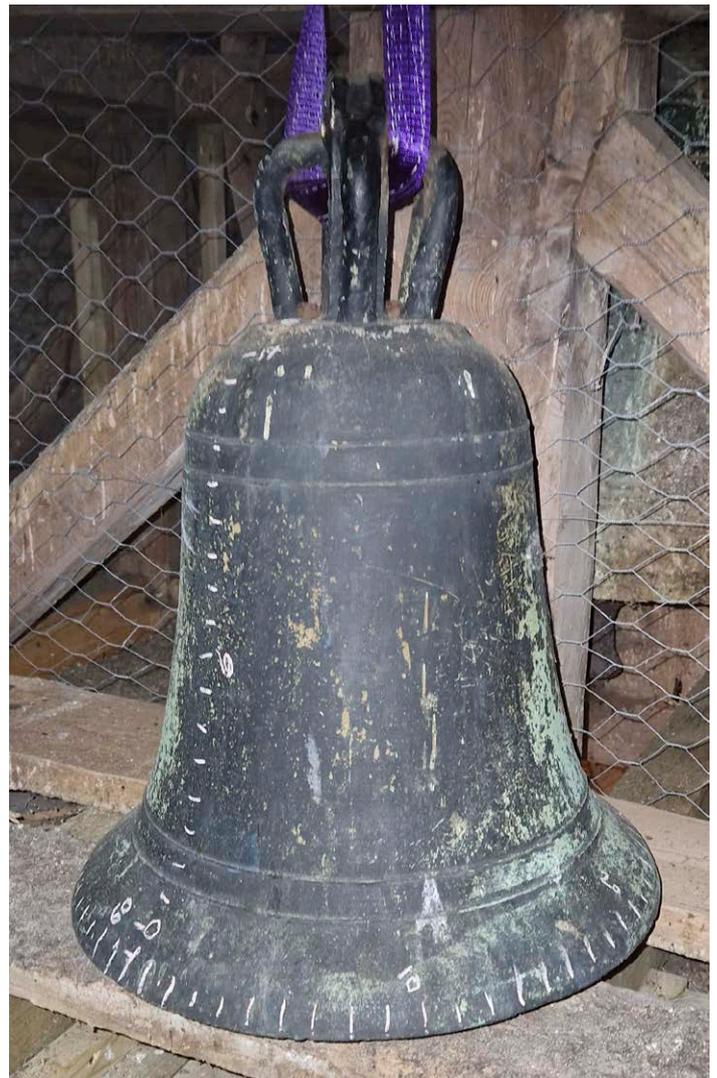
In bells of a modern shape, the hum, prime and nominal are in octaves, the tierce is a minor third above the strike note or half-nominal, and the quint is a fifth above the strike note. The superquint and octave nominal, which tell us much about the design of the bell, are roughly a fifth and an octave above the nominal. In a long waisted bell, the hum and tierce are much flatter than in a modern bell, and the prime ranges from much flatter to much sharper. Other partials do not have the normal intervals, and may not even be in the conventional order of frequency.

Vibration patterns in bells

When a bell vibrates, it emits multiple frequencies - the partials – and each one has a different pattern of vibration, both around the rim, and up the waist from soundbow to shoulder. *The diagram below shows the patterns for a bell's tierce.*



Listen to this bell! Heacham, Norfolk, circa 1150: <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/heacham.mp3>

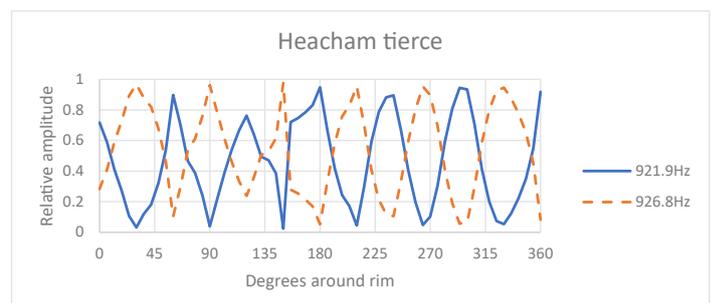
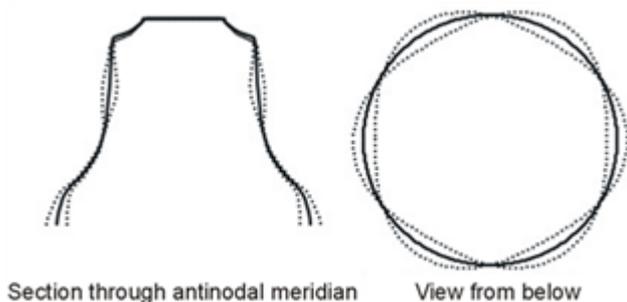


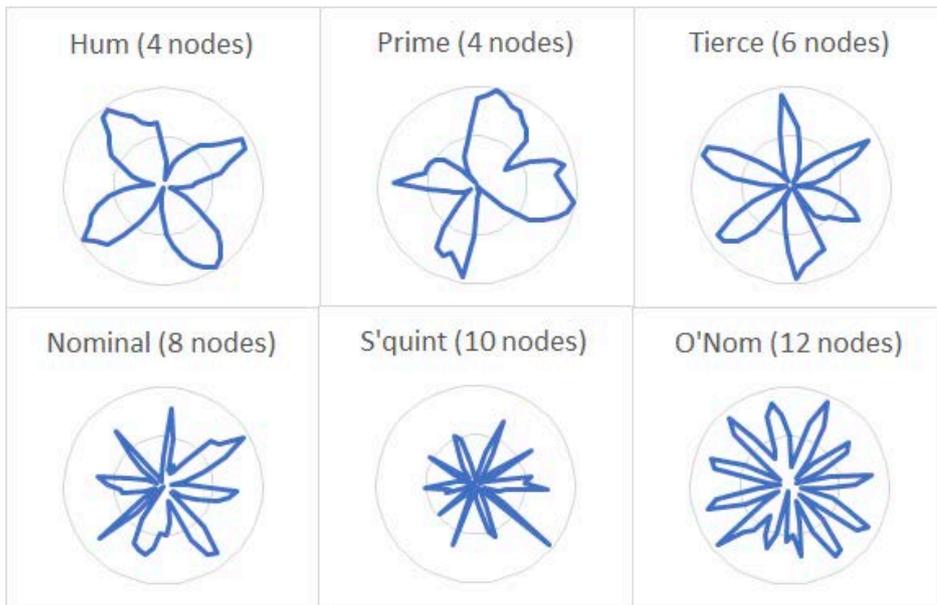
The tierce has six stationary points or nodes around the rim, and two nodes from lip to shoulder. The points of maximum vibration are called antinodes.

If the bell is not symmetrical, then each partial frequency splits into two frequencies close together, called a doublet. Gross lack of symmetry, leading to a widely split doublet, can be due to lack of alignment between the outer and inner moulds when the bell was cast, so the bell is thicker on one side than the other. Even bells cast to modern standards and carefully machined during tuning are never truly symmetrical due to machining tolerances, and all bells have doublets to some degree. Doublets allow us to identify patterns of vibration, because around the bell, the nodes of one half of the doublet for a particular partial coincide with the antinodes of the other half.

If we tap around the rim of the bell and measure the relative strength of each half of the doublet, we can see the pattern of the partials. This technique, using resonators to amplify the sounds, was used by Lord Rayleigh in his investigation of bells in 1890 (ref 1).

As an example of the doublet effect, *here are the two halves of the doublet for the tierce of the Heacham bell, showing how they vary in amplitude around the rim:*





360 degree circumference of the rim. *To the left are the plots for six important partials for the Heacham bell.*

Partials such as the quint which have a node at the rim do not produce a clear polar pattern round the rim, but can be identified using the nodal patterns from rim to shoulder.

So far, I have done this procedure on four bells of modern profile (to prove the technique) and eight long-waisted bells. In every case I have been able to successfully identify all the important partials.

Partial frequencies of long-waisted bells

Having now investigated eight long-waisted bells, a clear pattern emerges for how the partials are arranged. The hums and tierces are very flat, the primes and quints range widely from very flat to very sharp, and the superquints and octave nominals are similar to modern bells. This last was a surprise but must be because these partials are generated by the rim of the bell, and are little influenced

by the waist. *Here are the average intervals in cents of each main partial relative to the nominal for long-waisted bells, compared with the intervals for a modern true-harmonic bell:*

Cents from nominal	Hum	Prime	Tierce	Quint	Superquint	Oct. Nom.
Modern bell average	-2400	-1200	-900	-500	700	1250
Long-waisted average	-2554	-1518	-947	-697	703	1249

The detailed figures for 20 long-waisted bells, including the eight experimented on, are available at <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/long-waisted-bells/>. The average figures for the partial intervals help with analysis and identification of partials in long-waisted bells where it is not possible to carry out the experimental procedure.

Over time, there was a gradual transition in bell shape from long-waisted to the shape we would recognise as a modern bell. Most bells cast in the UK from the 14th century onwards resemble modern bells. There was no sudden change, and the transition appears to be at different rates in different parts of the country. The motivation for the change was possibly both a search for more pleasing tone, and a change in moulding techniques from lathe-turning to the use of strickles. As bells get shorter, the hums get sharper and the other partial intervals come more into line with those of a modern bell. Investigation of the partials of more long-waisted bells would shed more light on the transition and the reasons why it occurred.

Acknowledgements

This work would have been impossible without the work of bell historians identifying historic bells in the UK, including Chris Dalton, George Dawson, John Eisel, George Elphick, Chris Pickford, Fred Sharpe and many others.

I am grateful to everyone who allowed me to experiment on their precious historic bells.

References

1. Lord Rayleigh, On Bells, The London, Edinburgh and Dublin Philosophical Magazine, January 1890, or at <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/on-bells-lord-rayleigh-1890/>
2. Perrin R, Charnley T and De Pont J, Normal Modes of the Modern English Church Bell, Journal of Sound and Vibration (1983) vol 90(1) pp 29-49 or at <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/perrin-chnrnlcy-and-depont/>

This partial has a doublet split by 5Hz. The pattern of six nodes and antinodes around the rim is very clear. Because we are using the ratio of the amplitudes of the two halves of the doublet, how hard the bell is struck at each point (within reason) is immaterial.

Experimental procedure

The procedure requires only chalk, a tape measure, a hammer and a recording device. The rim of the bell is marked up in chalk with 60 to 100 equally spaced points around the rim. About 20 equally-spaced points are marked up the waist between rim and shoulder. Recordings are taken of the bell struck at each of the marked points, being careful not to strike too close to the lip to avoid damage to the bell. 10 seconds is left between each hammer blow to give a recording long enough for accurate analysis. The hammer blows need to be strong enough to stimulate the upper partials, and broadly equal in strength, though this is not critical.

The next step is to analyse the recordings to identify as many partials as possible, and the doublet halves for each. Because doublet halves can be quite close, I use an interval of 0.1Hz in Wavanal to make sure they are separated. Then every recording has to be analysed to get the amplitude of each half of the doublet for each partial. For my initial trials of the technique, on bells of modern shape, I did this using Wavanal. I have now written software to automate the analysis process. Doing the analysis manually does produce good results but is very time consuming!

A detailed examination of modes of vibration of hundreds of partials in a bell was carried out by Perrin, Charnley and De Pont in 1982 (ref 2). This research tells us what pattern of nodes to expect for each partial, and a summary is given at <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/identifying-bell-partial/>.

The easiest way to see the patterns, especially for partials with a large number of nodes, is to use polar plots. These show the peaks and troughs of one half of the doublet for each partial as the bell is struck around the



Dulas, Herefordshire, circa 1225 (now at Matthew Higby's workshop): <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/dulas.mp3>



Sneaton, North Yorkshire, circa 1300: <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/sneaton.mp3>



Werrington, Cambridgeshire, circa 1275 (now in the Taylor Museum): <https://www.hibberts.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/werrington.mp3>

The Tower Captain of St Bibiana, Greater Clattering, was having a sort-out in the intermediate room between the ringing room and the bell chamber. Strictly speaking, he shouldn't have been there on his own, due to the Health and Safety Policy which stated that at least two people should be present at all times, but the person who had been due to help sort out had cried off at the last moment, after the tower captain had arrived at the church, and it seemed a pity to waste the opportunity. After all, he wouldn't be working up among the bells; he would be perfectly safe, and he had his mobile phone with him.

For an hour or so he worked industriously. Half a dozen broken stays were piled into a box to be taken home to use as kindling; a can of incredibly old grease which had solidified was put in another box to go to the tip, along with some pieces of worn-out carpet; some old pulley blocks, riddled with woodworm, also went in the kindling box. An ancient vacuum cleaner, which certainly wouldn't pass an electrical safety test, was put next to the box for the tip. By now the room was showing a distinct improvement. The next thing to tackle was the large number of old ropes. Some had just been tossed in a corner, and others had been more neatly coiled and had been hung on some hooks on the wall. He decided to sort through the ones on the floor first. Some were totally rotten and were added to the tip box, apart from the sallyies which he cut off. They might come in useful sometime as draft excluders. Rope which seemed reasonable he coiled neatly and put in another box to take home to use for splicing practice.

Once the floor was clear he turned his attention to the ropes on the hooks. Two or three were in quite reasonable condition and could be donated to a nearby tower which couldn't afford new ones, with a bit of judicious splicing. Then he noticed a strange-looking rope. It was quite a short length, smoother than a normal bell rope, and the sally was very odd. It appeared to be made up of multiple colours, - at least 10 he thought, in swirling stripes, and as he touched it it felt silky. Intrigued, not realising why, he gave it a tug. Instantly, the room seemed to shimmer and ripple. After only a few seconds, everything cleared, but standing in front of him was a strange woman. She was wearing a long dress in the same colours as the sally, and made from the same silky fabric. Her jacket matched her dress perfectly, and on her head she wore a neat turban made from coiled rope. Her expression was at once sardonic and slightly bored. She spoke, in the same slightly bored, sardonic manner.

"Good afternoon. I am the Genie of the Bell-Rope. I am commanded to give you four wishes. What is your name?" She sounded as if she

had said the same thing many times before (and probably had, which explained the bored voice)

"Er.. my name is Sam," stammered the tower captain, not quite believing his eyes – or his ears, for that matter. "What's yours?"

"My name is 'Sally', of course," said the genie crossly. "Though I prefer to be called just 'Genie'."

This was obviously a sore point for Sally. Sam could understand that. "Well, Sam," continued the Genie, "You are now obliged, by the terms of the enchantment which confined me to that bell-rope, to

make four wishes. Yes, I know it is usually three according to tradition, but this contract is different to the normal one, as Genies got fed up with people trying to get around the three-wish limitation." She was now holding a piece of parchment with the words 'Contract and Agreement' in large swirly letters at the top.

"Basically, you are contracted to making four different wishes, all of which must be related to ringing. You have the right to cancel any wish within 30 days of making it, but you will not be

allowed any additional wishes if you do decide to cancel; you will just move on to the next wish. All wishes must be completed within a year, or sanctions will apply. It's all set out in the Terms and Conditions."

A malevolent glint was now apparent in the genie's eyes, though Sam was so amazed that he failed to notice. The genie held out the contract and a quill pen.

"Sign here. You can read the small print if you want, but it probably won't do you much good. And I don't want to rush you, but I would be grateful if you could make your first wish in the next five minutes. I want to be off- I've got a headache."

Sam realised that his mouth had been open all this time in sheer amazement, so he shut it firmly while he tried to gather his thoughts. He was certain that this wasn't really happening, but even so, he was determined to make the most of his wishes. Fairy stories were riddled with tales of people who had totally wasted their wishes, so he was determined to avoid this. He considered for a full four minutes 50 seconds, and the genie was just starting to tap her foot impatiently when Sam finally spoke. He had been thinking that the bells of St Bibiana's were getting a bit difficult to ring, and they sounded a bit clunky, to be honest. So:

"I wish that the bells of this church were easier to ring - I'd like them to go like tops, and sound incredible. As if they were cast in Heaven," He did wonder whether this might count as two wishes, but the genie didn't raise any objection.

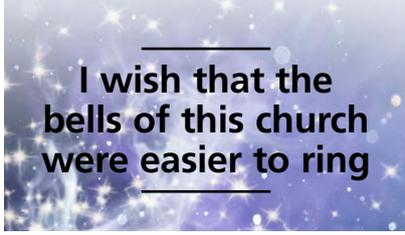
"Are you sure?" was all she said. Sam nodded.

"Done" said the genie. "You will notice the results at practice night tonight."

And she vanished, leaving Sam holding the strange-coloured sally. He hung it carefully back on the hook,

convinced he had dreamt it all, and went off home, carrying the box of kindling.

Sam discovered he had got it wrong when his ringers tried to ring the bells up that night. The bells certainly went like tops. Spinning tops. The result was just indescribable. And the sound was certainly different; ethereal, echoey, distant; it was impossible to describe exactly, but they certainly didn't sound like any bells Sam had ever heard before. His band abandoned ringing up and stood in baffled silence, as if they were under a spell. Perhaps they were. Sam headed for the staircase, shouting "I'll sort it – stay there, everyone".



I wish that the
bells of this church
were easier to ring

Be careful what you wish for

A pantomime story for
Christmas

By Sue Marsden



He almost fell into the intermediate room in his haste, and grabbed the multicoloured sally and pulled it hard. The genie appeared, a wine glass in one hand, and did not look too pleased.

“What is it?” she snarled.

“Please cancel this wish under the 30-day clause,” he gasped.

“Done. And your next wish?”

“I’ll come back tomorrow and tell you that. I’ve got a practice to run now. And he headed downstairs before the genie could object.

The rest of the ringers were still standing around looking stupefied when he re-emerged into the ringing room.

“Er - slight technical problem. Sorry. All sorted now. Let’s ring up”. As if nothing unusual had happened, the ringers obeyed and the practice went as it usually did, with bells that needed a bit of effort, maybe not the most tuneful of rings, but were normal, at least.

After a good night’s sleep, Sam returned to the tower and summoned the genie. He had given his next wish a lot of thought, and this time, he believed he had got it right.

“I wish that I was a first class conductor. You know, one of those ringers who can put you right even before you have gone wrong and can tell who isn’t striking correctly.”

“Your wish is my command. Enjoy.”

Sam discovered he had got it wrong again at the next practice night. He did indeed know when a ringer was about to go wrong. And he seemed unable to keep quiet; every lead he made some comment to someone.

“Joe, you are about to dodge 3/4 down. Liz, it’s three dodges at the back, not two. Bill, hold up more as you come off the lead. Mary, don’t forget the dodge at the end of your places. Gary, push the handstrokes in as you come down to lead.” And so on, incessantly; before anyone had actually made a mistake, they were corrected. By the end of the practice the band were in a state of simmering revolt. They left quickly and went home without going to the pub. Slowly, Sam climbed up to the intermediate room again and tugged at the sally.

“Please cancel Wish Two,” he said when the genie appeared, who was smirking slightly.

“Done. And Wish Three?”

“I wish I might never lose a peal or quarter again,” said Sam, without really thinking this time. He’d lost a peal the night before, near the end, when two bells had gone wrong at the same time. While trying to sort out the muddle, the conductor had missed a bob. Sam was fed up with losing peals, hence this wish.

“Final answer?”

“Yes,”

“On your own head be it,” and she vanished.

This time, Sam was convinced he had got it right, as for a few weeks, everything went well. Peals and quarters which would previously have fallen apart were miraculously resurrected and Sam was delighted. No-one miscalled anything – or if they did, they somehow managed to re-compose it. Then things started to fall apart. Sam was calling a quarter, but the ringing wasn’t good and he opened his mouth to call ‘Stand’. But nothing happened. No words would come out of his mouth, apart from ‘Bob’ or ‘Single’. The ringing got worse, but he was forced to carry on until the end. Peals survived the most awful fire-ups and struggled through until ‘This is all’ was called when rounds suddenly appeared out of nowhere. After a few weeks Sam admitted defeat and decided to summon the genie again. But he simply could not decide on a fourth wish. He kept thinking of the saying: ‘Be careful what you wish for...’ He was sure that the evil nature of the genie would ensure that any wish would go horribly wrong. He read through the contract, including the small print, and as the genie had said, it did him no good whatsoever. He was committed to making a fourth ringing wish, like it or not, or he dreaded to think what might happen. He dropped out of a couple of peals while he thought of what to do. Finally, he came up with a solution. He climbed the tower stairs

and summoned the genie one final time. The genie appeared with the usual shimmery haze, but this time she looked slightly apprehensive.

Sam thought for a few seconds, and then said carefully:

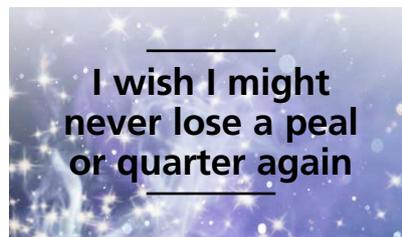
“My final wish is for ringing to carry on at St Bibiana’s exactly as it would have done had I not discovered this enchanted bell-rope.”

A look of disappointment briefly passed across the face of the genie, but all she said was:

“It shall be so.”

The room shimmered and rippled in the usual way as the genie disappeared, to be replaced by the bell-rope on the floor. Sam shut his eyes and when he opened them again, the room had returned to normal. He felt slightly dazed; he couldn’t quite remember why he had come up to this room; something about a bellrope, possibly? Unnoticed by Sam, the bellrope slithered, snake-like, through the door and down the stairs, out of the tower and across the churchyard, heading for who knows where. By the time Sam emerged from the tower door, the sally was two fields away. Sam paused for a moment. He had a vague feeling of disappointment at an opportunity missed. He couldn’t quite remember what, but it soon passed. He sauntered home, thinking through the method for the following night’s peal. He hoped they would score, but if they didn’t, that was all part of bellringing, along with less-than-perfect bells and ringers who occasionally made mistakes ...

So what would YOU have wished for?



50 Team Ringing Things – Our Bronze certificate

Well, it’s that time of year again and another excuse for the All Saints Church, Harrow Weald bell ringers to get together! We came from near and far to join in the festivities of our Christmas lunch party.

After ringing for the mid-week service we piled into a lovely local Italian restaurant, which was filled entirely by members of the church. Most of the bell ringers managed to squeeze onto one table. The drinks flowed, crackers were pulled, Christmas hats were donned and cheesy jokes were exchanged. Food was delivered to the tables and, once we had remembered what we’d ordered, we all tucked in. Another successful event for the bell ringers of All Saints, Harrow Weald! This one ticks off our 15th Team Thing and qualifies us for our Bronze certificate.

ELAINE JACKSON



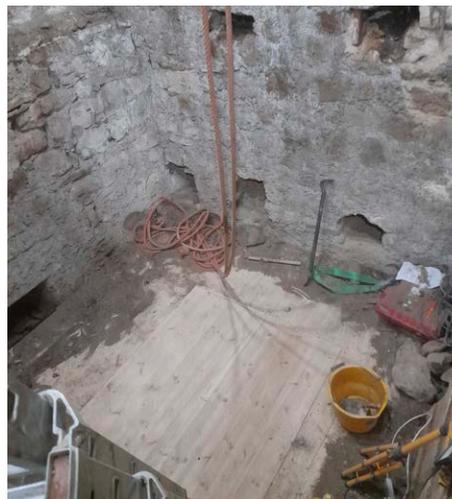
Over Kellet's new bells set to ring for Christmas

The Over Kellet Jubilee Bells Project was launched on Jubilee Day in June 2022 with the aim of replacing the three structurally unsafe bells in St Cuthbert's Church, Over Kellet in North Lancashire with a ring of eight Warner bells from the closed church of St James, Church Kirk, near Accrington. Details of the project and the removal of the bells from Church Kirk in January 2023 featured in *RW*5839 (p.259).

Since then a successful fundraising campaign raised the £112,000 necessary to fully fund the project and work at St Cuthbert's started at the end of the summer with the removal of the existing three bells. Two of these, the 1694 Treble by Abraham Smith and the 1824 Tenor by Thomas Mears of Whitechapel, are going to the Keltek Trust for rehoming and the 1499 second bel, of unknown origin, is to be rehung as a service bell after refurbishment by John Taylor & Co.

Bell	Diameter	Weight	Note	Cast
Treble	28.00"	4½ cwt	G	New
2nd	29.00"	5 cwt	F#	New
3rd	30.13"	5½ cwt	E	1865
4th	31.63"	6 cwt	D	1865
5th	33.00"	6¼ cwt	C	1865
6th	35.00"	6½ cwt	B	New
7th	37.13"	7¾ cwt	A	1867
Tenor	40.00"	9½ cwt	G	1867

The tower at St Cuthbert's is quite a bit smaller than St James and so it has been necessary to remodel the Church Kirk ring to reduce the overall weight and then hang on two frames, one above the other, with 5 bells on one and 4 (including the service bell) on the other. This remodelling has meant only five of the Warner bells are being used with three new ones being cast. The seventh from Church Kirk will be the new tenor bell in the key of G, and the 3 newly cast bells will be B natural, F#, and the new Treble to form the octave G note. The table details the new ring of eight.



*Above: It was cold working in the tower of St Cuthbert's Church in November (photo John Halsey)
Left: Old belfry floor removed and making ready for the new joists and bell frames (photo Nick Ward)
Below left: Removing the wheels (photo Nick Ward)
Below right: And the treble makes three (photos Nick Ward)*



*At Taylor's for the casting
 Right: Our bells waiting
 to be made ready for their
 new home
 Below left: The new bells
 are consecrated by Revd
 Father Martin Daniels
 Below right: The molten
 metal about to be
 poured into the mould for
 the new sixth bell
 Bottom: Fortunately, the
 pew was reserved
 (all photos Nick Ward)*



Some of the volunteers from the village were able to travel to Taylor's in early October to see the new bells being cast and consecrated by the Revd Martin Daniels, President of the Lancashire Association. We are grateful to the Keltek Trust who obtained the Warner bells for us and also donated the scrap bell metal for the casting of the new bells. The new sixth bell was paid for out of parish funds to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee and Accession and is inscribed accordingly.

In order to make room for the two new frames the existing three floors in the tower were removed in October by Paul Mason and a team of volunteers, and two new ones installed. This also gave the opportunity to create a new ringing chamber with wood panelled walls and new lighting and power sockets throughout the tower.

November saw stonemason Chris Venn, assisted by volunteers, creating the pockets in the walls to take the new steel joists on which the bell frames will be secured. A longer job than expected as Chris declared it was the hardest stone he had ever come across in a church tower!

With steel joists and bell frames arriving on 6th December, and the bells the following week the target

of having the first ring at nine o'clock on Christmas morning will be tight but, we hope, achievable.

Assuming all goes to plan the next big occasion will be a quarter peal on 2nd January, rung by the same ringers who rang the last quarter peal on the bells when they were still at Church Kirk, exactly 12 months earlier, on 2nd January 2022. At the time nobody really thought they would be ringing them again only a year later in their new home.

We are grateful to all those who donated time or money to this project and a weekend of celebration and thanksgiving will take place on 17th and 18th February, when there will be an Open Day involving 20 other local churches followed by a ceilidh on the Saturday. A Service of Thanksgiving led by the Rt Revd Philip North, Bishop of Blackburn and the Revd Matt Gilder will take place on the Sunday, followed by the first peal on the bells.

NICK WARD
 Project Chairman



Mobile Belfries – History, Present and Future

In October 2018, Greg Chu discovered bellringing. Intrigued by his first experience, he was taught to handle following ART's Learning the Ropes scheme, and in four years had passed Level 5. He went on the ART Masterclass in Birmingham in October 2023 where he rang Bristol Maximus, Stedman 15, and called a touch of Stedman Cinques.

You would be forgiven for assuming that Greg comes from a ringing family and so was one of the ringing 'nepo babies' referred to in one of my President's Blogs. But no, he is not. He does not have ringing parents, had never seen bellringing before (he didn't actually realise bells were rung by humans!), and did not have bellringing friends. He was not a choirboy, didn't come from a church family, and was not religious in any way.

In fact, Greg saw the Charmborough Ring at Cambridge University Freshers Fair. He was handed a flyer, quickly attended an introductory lesson, was taught well, and was hooked. In terms of success stories for the impact of a mobile belfry as a recruitment tool, Greg is a shining example.

Introduction

The Cambridge University Guild has got the use of the Charmborough Ring down to a fine art – a well-oiled machine for hooking in impressionable freshers and then providing a structure that not only gets them taught to handle quickly and well, but feeds them into a support structure that helps them to progress. This is a utopia which should be the envy of all.



The Charmborough Ring being dismantled following an event for the Platinum Jubilee (photo Roger Booth)



The Charmborough Ring in use at Apple Day 2019, in New Alresford, Hampshire (photo Roger Booth)

There are many other examples though of mobile belfries and mini-rings (I'll differentiate them in a moment) being successful in recruiting. A quick question in the Bellringers Facebook group found plenty of ringers who were attracted to ringing through seeing a mobile belfry or mini-ring. Stuart Box saw the Charmborough Ring at Billingshurst and was intrigued by it, five ringers at Warden Hill started after seeing the Bicycle Ring on Tour at a church event, and the first young ringers at Seal Chart school were recruited by a visit of the Maypole Bells to the school playground. In fact they have said it was definitely having a go on the Maypole Bells that made them want to start ringing!

It is because of success stories such as these that in 2021 the Central Council commissioned a new mobile belfry with a particular focus on getting bellringing in front of new audiences, and particularly into schools. The purpose of this article is to give a progress report on that project, introduce

the new Mobile Belfries Trust, and to appeal for help from the ringing community to maximise the potential of mobile belfries.

Spoiler alert! If you have got a vehicle capable of towing, have got a bit of spare time which you wouldn't mind devoting to promoting ringing, or have access to free storage space in the south Midlands, we'd love to talk to you!

Mini-rings and mobile belfries

There is no set definition of 'mobile belfry' that distinguishes it from a portable 'mini-ring'. The Mini-Ring directory website <http://www.campaniles.co.uk/MiniRingsPortable.html> lists about 30 such rings, with tenors ranging from a few ounces through to around ¾cwt. The three heavier ones listed are the Charmborough Ring, the Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry and Mobile Belfry 2.0 (new name to be revealed below!), all of which are considered by their owners to be 'proper bells', and much closer to the real bell experience than the small rings.

The smaller mini-rings are often rung with just one hand on the sally and one hand on the tail end doing the backstroke. A lack of stays (which might need replacing about every five minutes) enables the bells to swing through as much as 540 degrees, i.e. way over the balance both strokes. Indeed, it is difficult to ring very small bells like this two handed.

One of the features of the larger rings, the so-called mobile belfries, is that they encourage and enable the ringer to use both hands, with the same style as traditional tower bell ringing. There still aren't any stays, and setting the bell does consist of just letting it go right up and over at handstroke, but they can give a relatively realistic ringing experience. The new mobile belfry is realistic enough that you could comfortably teach someone to handle on the bells. The tenor feels as though it is about 3cwt.

It would only be right to note at this point that there are critics of both mini-rings and mobile belfries. Just as there are shining examples of recruitment, there are associations who have taken mobile belfries to events such as county shows with no recruitment success whatsoever, and even some who think that mini-rings give a negative impression of what ringing is really all about. There is definitely a difference between the presence of belfries at large, untargeted events where it is difficult to follow up enquiries or really give the impression of the richness of our



The Charmborough Ring on its trailer (photo Roger Booth)

art, and the use of rings in schools, universities, or for specific tower recruitment events.

However, generally the view of those involved with these portable rings is that if used correctly and with good, quick, follow-up, they can recruit ringers, and the presence of rings at any event is good for ringing public relations and awareness which might spark interest at some point in the future.

The Italian Experience

Mobile belfries are a big feature of ringing in Italy. In the early days of considering the new Mobile Belfry project, we had discussions with the Veronese Association and ringers with contacts in Italy to understand how they are used.

Unlike mini-rings used by our ringing community, Italian mobile belfries are full sized rings of bells delivered on lorries and positioned to form the centrepiece of village and town events, carnivals and celebrations. They are often funded by the bellfounders themselves.

While the new Mobile Belfry is not quite on this scale, it was one of the design considerations that the bells should sound good in the open air, with the overall installation being a positive representation of what ringing is all about. Those who saw it first demonstrated at the Nottingham Roadshow in 2023 agreed it met the brief in this regard, in shiny aluminium with red-painted frame parts and shiny bells. It is a good-looking piece of engineering.

The Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry (LDMB)

The LDMB is one of the forerunners of mobile belfry design. It originally came about in 1989 as a result of the Central Council inviting proposals for projects to celebrate its centenary in 1991. Phil Gay suggested a mobile exhibition centre but his proposal was narrowly defeated.

Phil remained convinced about the merits of a mobile belfry with ‘ringable’ bells, installing a ring in his own house and continuing to pursue mobility. In 1997 a joint project was set up by the three associations in the Lichfield Diocese (Lichfield & Walsall, North Staffs, Shropshire) and in 1999 the LDMB trust was born.

The bells in the LDMB were cast by Whitechapel, and became owned by the LDMB trust when Whitechapel closed in 2017.

Bell	Diameter (inches)	Weight (cwt-qtr-lb)	Note
1	10.9	0-1-15	B
2	11.4	0-1-15	A
3	11.7	0-1-17	G
4	12.3	0-1-23	F#
5	13.3	0-2-05	E
6	14.4	0-2-21	D

The Charmborough Ring

The Charmborough Ring is similar to the LDMB in many ways. The six bell ring was designed and built by Matthew Higby using bells cast by the late Richard Bowditch, and made its first public appearance at the Ringing Roadshow at Newbury Racecourse in 2005.

In 2007 a group of private individuals financed the purchase of the ring, with the intention that it be used primarily in London and the Southeast to publicise ringing at the many community events in the build up to the 2012 Olympics. They established the Charmborough Trust to operate the ring, with all income going to the Trust and the Trust insuring and maintaining the ring. The intention was that the individuals would eventually be repaid, although this has not happened yet!

Coming in pieces, the Charmborough Ring can be erected indoors and has been used at Rugby school and various other schools in Kent, Surrey and Greater London, something the Trustees are keen to continue and build on. Some time in 2024 the Ring is likely to fulfil its 200th engagement.

Bell	Diameter (inches)	Weight (cwt-qtr-lb)	Note
1	10 ¾	0-1-11	B
2	11 ¾	0-1-18	A
3	11 ¾	0-1-18	G
4	12 ¾	0-2-01	F#
5	14 ¼	0-2-26	E
6	15 ½	0-3-10	D+48

Mobile Belfry 2.0 (still not its real name!)

Although the two current mobile belfries are still doing a good job in actively promoting ringing and recruiting new ringers, they have their limitations particularly in terms of portability, and the time needed to set them up. The LDMB comes on a trailer which when complete weighs in at just under 2,000kg, while the Charmborough Ring needs a vehicle capable of towing 2,100kg. This is not your everyday family saloon, and it limits the number of people who can tow them, putting additional pressure on the few who can.

On arriving at the proposed demonstration site, the LDMB takes six people three hours to erect (although it can be quicker in fine weather and omitting the canopy), while the Charmborough takes five people and

one-and-a quarter hours. This has not been a barrier particularly, but it does limit the available demonstration time and requires more volunteers to be coordinated.

Principal design considerations of the new ring were therefore to reduce the overall weight of the ring, and to enable it to be erected within half an hour of arriving on site, without a team of helpers. Indications are that the combined weight of belfry and trailer will be just over 1,600kg, which brings lots of different vehicles into play. This will enable far more people to be able to hire it, tow it, and erect it without specialist knowledge.

The lower weight has been principally achieved by building the frame out of aluminium, while the portability has been achieved by adopting an idea originally proposed by Phil Gay to have the belfry lying on its side on a trailer and then pushed vertical using a hydraulic ram. This element of the design has been entrusted to a company that specialises in bespoke trailers. That company (BSP TEX) has completed its design work and is waiting for delivery of the belfry early in the New Year.

So, the Touring Tower (yes at last, it’s got a name!) is just waiting for the bells to be engraved with names of donors and major contributors before it moves to its final phase of development with the trailer manufacturer.

Coordination of Mobile Belfry Booking - the “Mobile Belfries Trust”

As the project to develop the new belfry progressed, the partners saw the benefit of bringing the three mobile belfries under one ‘banner’ – one single port of call to which a tower or organisation wanting to book a mobile belfry could come. In the peak summer period there can sometimes be conflicting events, and with three mobile belfries positioned around the country there are efficiencies to be gained from being able to send the nearest belfry to an event.

There didn’t seem to be any point creating a new trust for this and the Trustees of the Charmborough Trust agreed to change its name to the more generic ‘Mobile Belfries Trust’. The new ring will be owned by the Mobile Belfries Trust, and the others will fall under a unified management regime.

I became a Trustee of the MBT because I want to see this project through and help the new Touring Tower fulfil its potential. Alison Everett also left the Council Executive last November and became a Trustee of the MBT, as she was looking for a fresh way to contribute to ringing development.

The MBT is now collecting bookings for mobile belfries for 2024. See the calendar chart overleaf.

So can you help?

1. Towers! As in people who can tow!

What we could do with more than anything is more people who have got vehicles capable of towing a caravan or similar who could pick up and tow a mobile belfry to an event. The two existing mobile belfries are on trailers rated at 2,000 and 2,100 kgs. The new Touring Tower is going to be the easiest and lightest,

2024 Dates	Event	Place	Mobile Belfry
13 or 20 April	Recruitment event	Andover, Hants	Charmborough
23-24 May	Ding Dong Schools Project	St Edwards School, Romford, Essex	The Touring Tower
6-9 June	Flamstead Arts Festival	Flamstead, Herts	TBA
18-19 June †	Royal Cheshire County Show	Cheshire	Lichfield DMB
19-21 July	Somerset Steam & Country Show	Low Ham, Nr Langport, Somerset	Charmborough
24-29 July	Cambridge Folk Festival	Cambridge	TBA
4 August	Trout ‘n About	Stockbridge, Hants	Charmborough
1-4 August †	North West Ringing Course	Lancashire	Lichfield DMB
27 July – 2 August †	Scout Jamboree	Chelmsford, Essex	TBA
w/c 16 September †	B’ham City Uni Freshers Fair	Birmingham City University	TBA
w/c 23 September †	Birmingham Uni Freshers Fair	Birmingham University	TBA
3-4 October †	Cambridge Uni Freshers Fair	Parkers Piece, Cambridge	TBA

† denotes a provisional booking

and the towing weight of the trailer rated at 1,620 kg brings it within the reach of many more cars. I am already looking at changing my vehicle so that I can join the towing team!

One of the existing Trustees, Ian Kerwin, says he thinks that taking the Charmborough Ring to events is one of his favourite aspects of being a Trustee. An outing to somewhere new, meeting new ringers, seeing the joy of people experiencing ringing for the first time – it’s a rewarding experience. The MBT pays the tower’s mileage expenses, so this is really an investment of time rather than anything else. If you are also able to teach bell handling that would be an amazing bonus!

2. Bookings

The MBT’s objects are to promote the history and art of change ringing, and that can either be the promotion of ringing as a general PR and awareness activity or as part of a recruitment campaign.

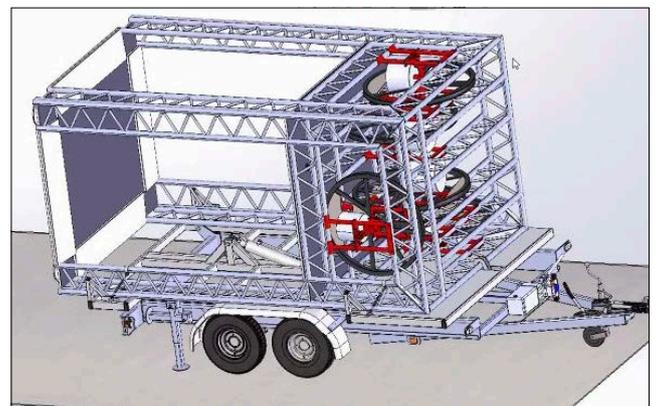
The cost of hiring a mobile belfry is around £250 a day plus transport costs from wherever the most suitable or nearest belfry is located. More details are on our website www.mobilebelfries.org

We are particularly interested in opportunities to take the mobile belfries into schools, especially if / provided that such a visit is linked to a tower or young ringers group that can pick up those who are interested, teach them in a young ringers environment, and nurture their progress.

This article started with references to the Cambridge University Guild’s use of a mobile belfry at their Freshers Fair. We are very interested in finding other universities that would like to have a mobile belfry at a freshers fair or welcome week, and ART currently offers sponsorship for any university that does, which also includes training Modules for students who would like to learn how to teach others to ring.

3. Working trustees or just volunteer helpers

There are currently seven trustees, four of whom have been associated with the Charmborough Ring for many years, plus Alison and me who have joined more recently. Phil Gay has been a Trustee of the LDMB since its formation 24 years ago. So we’re keen to find ringers who would like to become a working Trustee, or just a volunteer that we can call on, and this could



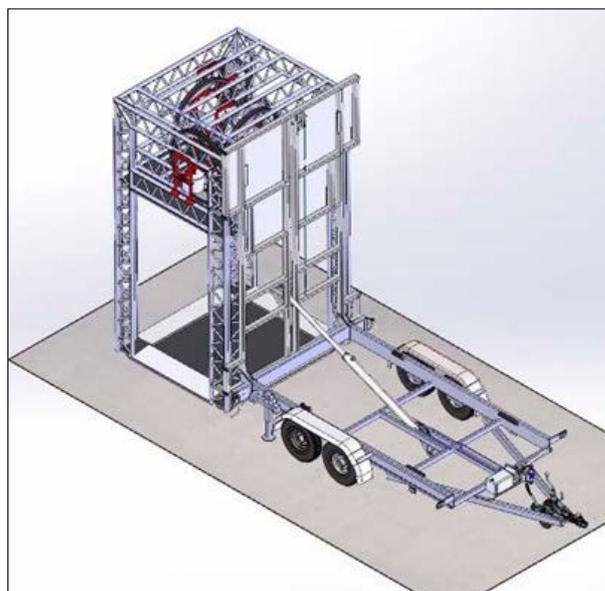
either be a general member of the team or specifically someone to do one of the ‘jobs’ like be Secretary or Treasurer, taking some of the load off Roger Booth. These are not huge jobs by any means – this is not a big Trust like a ringing association – although we are of course hoping to grow it.

Conclusion

2024 is going to be an exciting year for the Mobile Belfries Trust. The Touring Tower will join the fleet, we’re hoping to do a really large Scout Jamboree in Essex, take belfries into a school as part of trialling ringing lesson plans, and fulfil lots of other bookings with all three belfries. With the Central Council also working on the ringing branding and marketing project as part of the Ringing 2030 plans, we are hoping that mobile belfries and mini-rings can leverage that, and all make a valuable contribution to the publicity of ringing and recruitment of ringers.

If you feel you have something to contribute, especially if you can tow over 1,600kg, we will be very pleased to hear from you. You can contact us at trustees@mobilebelfries.org

SIMON LINFORD
Trustee, Mobile Belfries Trust



The Touring Tower having been pushed off the trailer to its upright position for use. Above, it is transported lying down.

The Prehistory of Mobile Mark 2



In the late 1970s I acquired a 76lb bell which had previously been hung in the demolished church at Fenwick, Yorkshire. I had for some time been interested in hanging small bells, and I hung it with scale half-size fittings on the landing at Woodlands. Once I had moved the garter hole downwards by several inches it handled very well. This bell was the prototype for the ring of six hung in the Woodlands garage in 1992.

In 1990, the Central Council invited suggestions for projects to mark the Council's centenary the following year. I suggested a mobile exhibition centre containing a small (6, tenor 1½ cwt) ring of bells. My proposal was supported by a quarter-scale model and a 56lb bell hung for ringing in a portable frame, which was erected in St Cuthbert's Church in Wells. The following year, when the Council meeting was held in London, it was set up in the ground floor of the tower of St Mary-le-Bow. The Council decided by a narrow majority not to proceed with the idea, but I continued to think about the feasibility of such a scheme. My conviction that it could work was reinforced by the Woodlands experience, and evidence that it was a good idea was provided by a Lichfield Diocesan event at which the three ringing societies in the diocese mounted an exhibition which included a mini-ring loaned by Matthew Higby.

In 1998 I took a proposal, supported by outline sketches, to the North Staffs Association Committee for a mobile belfry mounted on a trailer with a ring of six bells with a tenor of about 65lb. The bells I had in mind at this time were fire-engine bells from Taylors, which I thought was all we would be able to afford. It was agreed to put forward the idea as a joint project for the three societies in the diocese, and I made a model to demonstrate the lifting gear and one bell hung for ringing. Marian Owen made the canvas cover, and the model was taken to meetings around the diocese to show people what the mobile belfry would be like. It was agreed to proceed, and a project team was set up. As well as two representatives appointed by each committee, Ray Daw produced detailed

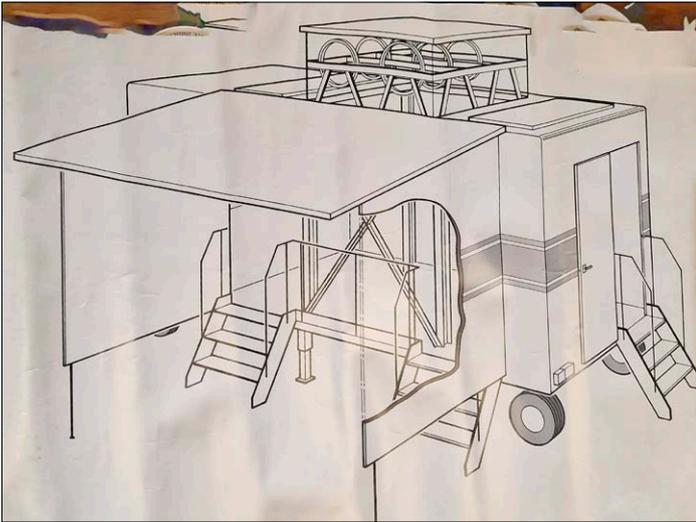
working drawings and Richard Offen acted as fundraiser. In addition to approaching charities, Richard approached Alan Hughes of Whitechapel Bell Foundry, who offered to cast a custom-designed ring of six, with a tenor of 75lb. I made the wheels and headstocks in the second half of 1998, having got my hand in by making the fittings for the two new bells at Woodlands. The Whitechapel bells were offered to us on long term loan, the first example of Alan Hughes's generosity to the belfry.

The Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry (LDMB) was dedicated on Easter Sunday 1999, the Bishop of Lichfield thereby becoming the first bishop to have a mobile belfry. It had its first public outing to the Tewkesbury roadshow soon after. The belfry has been well used ever since, easily justifying the decision to build it. When it was first being discussed, some association members had reservations about getting enough people to tow it, and with hindsight they were right, although to their great credit they never said 'I told you so'. This problem was eased in 2003 when John Daubner made a towing vehicle available for



Above: The Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry frame on a trailer, showing that the bells resemble tower bells – Heave Ho!

Right: The original prototype for the Woodlands ring (photos Phil Gay)



Phil's early mobile belfry design, rejected by the Central Council

dedicated use by the belfry. This was a fairly ancient Mercedes minibus, old enough to be without features such as turbocharger and power steering which are now taken for granted. In spite of this, it performed remarkably well including a trip to Cornwall, but by the summer of 2007 people (including myself) were increasingly unhappy driving it. I was a volunteer driver for a community minibus for six parishes and I proposed to its management committee that we pay for a towbar to be fitted so that it could be used to tow the mobile belfry. This arrangement came into use for the summer of 2008, towing the belfry away from the Staffordshire County Show, and it worked well. When the minibus was replaced, the management committee decided not to renew our arrangement, and I arranged to hire a minibus belonging to Keele University Students' Union. This also worked well for several years until replacement of the fleet by leasehold vehicles with a condition that they be used exclusively for transporting students. Since then we have been dependent on the goodwill of local ringers with suitable towing vehicles.

I've always thought that there should be several mobile belfries strategically located, and I hoped to build another one which would be easier to tow and quicker to put up. The two main drawbacks of the LMDMB were that, weighing almost two tonnes, it needed a specialised towing vehicle, and that it took almost three hours to erect on arrival on site. A significant feature is that the bells all swing the same way to exploit the greater stability of the trailer in the fore-and-aft direction. It occurred to me that this would enable a fabricated metal tower to be kept assembled rather than needing to be dismantled for transport, as long as it was laid on its side during transit. One mechanism capable of achieving this would be a small skip lorry, but this would again involve running a vehicle which would have a shorter life than the belfry. Another possibility was to use the mechanism of a tipper trailer to elevate the tower from travel mode, when it would form the body of the trailer, to active mode for which it would be rotated through ninety degrees by a hydraulic ram. I thought that the light six of the Taylor fire-engine bells, with a 40lb tenor, would be suitable for a prototype, but then, out of the blue, came another development.

Arthur Jopp was famous for his pioneering work hanging small bells. We met in the early 1980s when I began work on the Woodlands bells. Twenty years later, his widow Doreen had to consider the future of the two rings of bells he had installed in their house at Stoulton. Their son Paul was happy to hang the twelve in his garage in Derbyshire, but there was also the ring of six which Arthur himself had cast. Early in 2008 these were sold to Matthew Higby, who asked my advice about a possible future for the bells. We agreed that an Arthur Jopp Memorial Mobile Belfry would be a good way of keeping them in use and accessible to a wide range of ringers. In May of that year Matthew carried out some tuning on them. Exactly how the project would be funded was not yet clear, but the cost would be lower than some alternative schemes because the fittings were all in working order. What was needed was the structure, and I was fairly confident that this could be built at a weight which was within the towing capacity of a medium sized car.

This project was not seen as competitive with the LDMB, but rather as complementary; the management of the two could be co-ordinated in a way which enabled potential users to be pointed to the belfry which was most suitable for their particular event. For shows lasting two or three days, the erecting and dismantling time of the LDMB is an acceptable overhead, but for half-day events the smaller belfry would be more attractive.

In November 2008 I visited Matthew in Somerset, and brought home the bells and fittings. As with all of Arthur's projects, the workmanship is immaculate – all the clapper pins have grease nipples! In the end the bells were sold on and installed in a house at Huntspill in Somerset, although more recently Paul Jopp has acquired them and is planning to make good use of them.

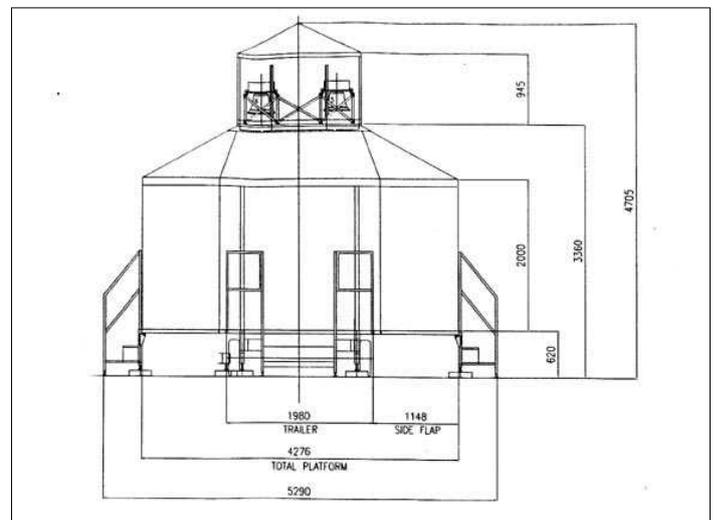
I continued to fancy building a quick erection model, and by the late noughties I had put together a 62lb ring of six Warner bells which I thought could be suitable. The tenor of this ring was not entirely satisfactory, so the front five are currently being remodelled into a 52lb six. I thought that a potential way of getting the belfry built would be to offer it to an engineering company as an apprentice project. A good way of achieving this would be to make yet another quarter-scale demonstration model, a project which is still on my to-do list.

University freshers' fairs are particularly good events for mobile belfries, and the LDMB has been to several. Leeds was the first, followed by several visits to Birmingham. On one occasion at Birmingham an amusing incident occurred. One always has to be on the watch for non-ringers coming onto the belfry and taking hold of a rope, and so anyone doing that has to be asked if they can ring. One person whose competence was questioned turned out to be Jack Page, newly arrived at the university.

Two significant negative features of the Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry have been mentioned above. But what are its positive features? Firstly, it was a path-breaking prototype, and it works pretty well. Only a few modifications have been made to improve it. Secondly, it is not just a belfry, but a mobile exhibition centre with a lot of display space. Thirdly, its canopy makes it fully weather-protected, and on more than one occasion its capacity has been tested to the limit during heavy rain. In spite of what many people believe, the bells are perfectly handleable, even by inexperienced ringers once they realise that they are not a mini-ring and if you handle them like full-size bells they will behave like full-size bells. Anyone who ventures up the ladder to look at the bells will see a perfect half-size replica of what you would see anywhere else, the only difference being the absence of stays. Several of the quarter peals rung on the bells have included fairly inexperienced ringers, and the four peals have included one of 41 Spliced Surprise Minor.

In 2021 these ideas were overtaken by a suggestion from Simon Linford that the Central Council should build a Mark 2 mobile belfry, and I was very pleased to be invited to be a member of the project team.

PHIL GAY



One of Ray Daw's detailed working drawings for the LDMB

Spliced at Last The Wedding of Wayfarers Mark and Karen

Karen Linklater and Mark Murfin had both been ringing for many years by the time they joined the Wayfarers Group Summer tour in 1992 and 1995 respectively. As time went on, they started a relationship and during their 2023 summer visit to Orkney, Mark had popped the question and as you can guess from the title of this article, Karen did say 'Yes'.

The build up to the wedding had started the previous month with a quarter scored by the 'Old Duffers' and continued with the bride and groom spending the wedding eve scoring another quarter together with the Bishopthorpe ringers.

The morning of 3rd November dawned with hardly a cloud in the sky bathed in Yorkshire warmth. As the ringers assembled prior to the service, we tuned in to Classic FM to hear Alexander Armstrong wishing the happy couple well, with his usual razor-sharp wit, as they were indeed to be, well, er, 'Linked... later'.

Mark and members of the Wayfarers, (Karen was unavailable for some reason!) then rang another quarter, with the local ringers joining to continue the ringing as the bride arrived looking radiant in a Chesca silk sleeveless bluebird floral print Devoree wedding dress and pixie coat.

The service opened with a resounding rendition of *Unchanging God who livest*, the bellringers' hymn, and then in an interesting twist the signing of the register was not accompanied by a soloist or the organ but by a 120 of Grandsire Doubles on Bishopthorpe's lovely ring of six, which was again rung by members of the Wayfarers group.

As Orkney has been a large part of Karen's life with several of her family making the trip down from the Island to be at the service, the wedding ring was 'River Ripples' made by Orkney jeweller Sheila Fleet, while Karen's gift to Mark was a stunning pair of cufflinks also by Sheila Fleet, which were beautifully enamelled by one of Karen's relatives, with an inscription written in stylized Orkney Runes, depicting 'True Love'.

With a church so full of ringers, it was hardly surprising they also did both readings and the prayers, then even helped to officiate at the communion. So as the last few lines of *Love Divine* ebbed away, the happy couple recessed down the aisle to Stedman Doubles... and, I should mention, Widor's *Toccata* on the organ.

As the weather was now a little chilly, the photos were taken inside the church and military precision ensued as all the ringers had to be in the right place for their group photos.

We headed a little further into York for the reception where the ringing motif continued with suitably named tables; the bride and groom being on Yorkshire Wedding Delight! Although there was a slight diversion as the couple decided against a nip of 'Bells' with the main course, choosing instead a very



Mark and Karen, taken by the official wedding photographer, Charlotte Atkinson

warming shot of 'Highland Park' whisky which had also travelled very well from Orkney. Normal service was then restored with a touch of Plain & Little on the handbells to lead into the speeches.

The generosity of the happy couple continued as we were refuelled for the evening entertainment, which included practice night now in the hotel and not in the church, allowing for those wanting to have a go on handbells. We thought that bacon butties and chips had topped it all, but we then found that the happy couple had kindly put a sum of money behind the bar so most of us didn't even need to buy ourselves a drink all evening.

As the cake was cut and the first dance began, we continued to all enjoy such a glorious day in the presence of a truly happy and generous couple, to whom we all wish all the happiness in the world as they embark on their new life as Mr & Mrs.

IAN STONEHOUSE
for The Wayfarers



*Cake made locally by Fred's Home Bakery
(photo Mark Murfin)*

Boroughbridge, N Yorks. 31 Oct, 1260 (2m) Minor: John T Burnup 1, Penelope J Thorley 2, Julia Thornely 3, Rosamund J Moss 4, Robert D C Richards 5, John S Leech (C) 6. A pre-wedding compliment from the Old Duffers to Mark Murfin & Karen Linklater to be married at Bishopthorpe on Friday 3rd November.

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 2 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Karen M Linklater 1, Martin D Sutton 2, Tom A Sutton 3, Martin T Hardgrave 4, Mark R Murfin (C) 5, Steve P Clack 6. Rung on the eve of the wedding of Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin (ringers 1 & 5), at this church. Congratulations Mark & Karen! £6

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 3 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Mark R Murfin 1, Rhona I H McEune 2, Eliza I Lewis-Skeath 3, R Ian Stonehouse 4, Robert D C Richards 5, Simon N Stranks (C) 6. Rung before the wedding service for Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin at this church. £6

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 3 Nov, 240 PB Minor: Martin D Sutton 1, Alison L Edmonds 2, Martin T Hardgrave 3, Brendan J Keely 4, Robert D C Richards 5, David G Hull (C) 6. Rung as the Service Touch for the wedding of Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin.

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 3 Nov, 240 Stedman Doubles: Alison L Edmonds 1, Martin T Hardgrave 2, Tom A Sutton 3, Robert D C Richards 4, David G Hull (C) 5, Brendan J Keely 6. Rung as the Recessional Touch following the wedding of Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin.

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 3 Nov, General Ringing: Aileen M Bloomer, Alison L Edmonds, Brendan J Keely, David C Godfrey, David G Hull, Eliza I Lewis-Skeath, Kathryn M Godfrey, Martin D Sutton, Martin T Hardgrave, Meg R Stewart, R Ian Stonehouse, Rhona I H McEune, Robert D C Richards, Sandra A Stewart, Sophia A M Stonehouse, Stephen P Clack, Tom A Sutton. Various pieces rung before the wedding service for Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin at this church.

Bishopthorpe, N Yorks. 3 Nov, 120 Grandsire Doubles: Tom A Sutton 1, Sophia A M Stonehouse 2, Eliza I Lewis Skeath 3, Rhona I H McEune 4, Simon N Stranks (C) 5, R Ian Stonehouse 6. Rung whilst the signing of the Register took place during the marriage service of Karen Linklater & Mark Murfin with best wishes from all the Wayfarers. £6

York. (The Classic Suite, Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road) 3 Nov, 64 Spl Plain and Little Bob Minor: Alison L Edmonds 1-2, David G Hull (C) 3-4, Tom A Sutton 5-6. Rung immediately prior to the toasts at the wedding of Mark Murfin & Karen Linklater, with our congratulations.

Swansea and Brecon Guild Centenary 1923 – 2023



*Photo taken at the inaugural meeting of the Guild in 1923.
The father and grandfather of the conductor of the Grandsire Triples at Sketty are present. (Image: Andrew C John)*

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon was created in 1923 from within the ancient and vast Diocese of St David's. It comprises the old counties of Brecknock and Radnorshire (except for a few border parishes) together with the county borough of Swansea and the neck of land which connects Brecknock with the Gower Peninsula.

It was on the 31st March 1920, under the Welsh Church Act of 1914 that the four ancient Welsh Dioceses of Bangor, St Asaph, Llandaff and St David's were separated from the Province of Canterbury. It soon became evident that the new Province of Wales would have to be further subdivided; many of the old dioceses had become too large and their efficiency had often been criticised because of this. The Church of England had considered the idea of new bishoprics in Wales in the late 19th century; it was not, however, until disestablishment that further division was discussed in detail. Originally, four new dioceses were to have been established: Monmouth; Swansea; Montgomery and Cardigan; and Brecon and Radnor. The financial resources of the new Welsh Province had been depleted somewhat following disestablishment and it was, therefore, found necessary to restrict division to just two new dioceses. It was decided in 1921 to create the Diocese of Monmouth from within the Diocese of Llandaff and on the 4th April 1923, the governing body decided to create the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. This new diocesan area was to comprise the Archdeaconry of Brecon, together with the two Rural Deaneries of East and West Gower; these officially separated from the Diocese of St David's on 24th June 1923.

Formation of a Ringing Guild

On the 28th October 1923, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Right Reverend Latham Bevan (previously Archdeacon of Brecon, and suffragan Bishop of Swansea) presided over

a meeting of ringers which he had convened for the purpose of forming a "Diocesan Guild of Ringers". It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that the Guild be duly formed; several officers were then appointed and were requested to set about their tasks forthwith. Prior to the forming of a Diocesan Guild, ringers in Brecknock and Radnorshire were affiliated to the Hereford Diocesan Guild, and ringers in the Gower area to the West Wales Association.

On 1st December 1923, the Lord Bishop accompanied the Guild's Honorary Secretary and Treasurer to a meeting of the "West Wales Ringing Association" held in the vestry of St. Mary's Church, Swansea. In the Lord Bishop's address to the meeting, it was proposed to disband the West Wales Association and to form a Swansea District of the Swansea and Brecon Guild. The Bishop intimated that if disbandment took place, the new Guild would hope to have full support from the towers within the Associations. It was therefore decided to disband the Association forthwith, and the towers outside the boundaries of the new diocese were affiliated to the new Guild. Of these towers, mention must be made of the ringers of St Thomas', Neath; St Cattwg, Cadoxton (Neath); St Mary, Aberavon and St Catherine's, Baglan, whose experience and help was a driving force in the formation of the new Guild.

Indeed, members from these towers continue to provide valuable support to Guild activities and participate in Guild events. Some of the recorded peals and quarter peals rung to commemorate the Centenary have been organised, called and / or supported by members of these towers, for which the Guild is grateful. To find associated events, search for 'Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild – Swansea and Brecon Centenary' on BellBoard.

Looking back to 1923: to mark the inception of the new independent Guild,

a peal of mixed doubles was rung by six members at St Gwendoline, Talgarth on 29th October 1923. Methods comprised Morning Star, Suffolk Delight, April Day, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Old Doubles and Grandsire. A peal attempt to repeat this effort was made exactly 100 years later, on Sunday 29th October 2023 at St Gwendoline by six Guild members prior to a special Centenary service there to mark the occasion. Methods and variations to most closely match those rung in 1923 were carefully researched and chosen by the conductor, Lynn Scales; please see her report produced in last week's *Ringing World* (p.1199) detailing the event.

Cathedral for the new Diocese

It was decided at the St David's Diocesan Conference in 1922 that the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Swansea and Brecon was to be the Priory church of St John the Evangelist in Brecon. The Priory church, which was the parish church of Brecon, was central to the new diocese and, moreover, possessed the necessary architectural dimension and distinction. Indeed, it was considered by many to be one of the finest parish churches in Wales. On the 13th July 1923, St John's assumed its new functions and St Mary's in Brecon town centre, the "Chapel of Ease" became the parish church.

Cathedral bells

A question commonly asked (by ringers unfamiliar with Brecon towers and bells) is 'how many bells does Brecon have?'

We are lucky that for a small, rural town we are blessed with peals of six (St David's, Llanfaes), eight (St Mary's, Brecon) and ten (Brecon Cathedral). However, the ring of ten was only more recently installed; an article produced for the Guild's 60th anniversary in 1983 noted that the tower stood silent. Bells hanging in the Cathedral in 1983 comprised five of the original six cast by Abel Rudhall in 1745. In fact, the dates on the fifth and sixth

(1763 and 1793, respectively) are thought to be the years when these were recast.

Looking back to the year 1093, Bernard de Neufmarche, Lord of Brecknock gave a grant to “the Church of St John the Evangelist, without the walls” to the monks of Battle Abbey. This led to the foundation of the Benedictine Priory and to the origins of the church which has stood in this location for over 900 years. The Cathedral as it currently stands has existed virtually unchanged for the last 600 years, having been constructed in the 13th and 14th century.

In 1537, the Priory was closed during the dissolution of the monasteries and St John’s became the parish church of Brecon. A series of petitions were written to the Crown, pleading to save or even purchase the old Priory’s bells on behalf of the people and parish of Brecon. Unfortunately, these petitions were unsuccessful. It is not known whether the bells were removed from the tower at this point, however, it is unlikely that the dwellers of Brecon would have been content to remain long without the bells ringing out across the town. It is implausible that the bells were removed from the tower between the period 1537 – 1745, particularly with a record dating from 1684 which noted that the Duke of Beaufort (as Lord President of the Council) made his official progress through Wales, and that “the bells of St. John’s repeated the welcome of the town during his stay in Brecon”.

The ring of six that then hung in the Cathedral was diminished to a five at some point in the early 19th century, with the second considered to have been sold for gun metal during the Napoleonic wars. Following creation of the Diocese in 1923, the foundry of Gillett and Johnston was approached in 1925 by the Dean and Chapter of the new Cathedral to garner estimates for the restoration of the bells. Two estimates were provided: the first, a 35cwt ring of ten; the second, a 42cwt ring of twelve. Costs for the installation of either of these rings were too high at the time for the

Dean and Chapter; unfortunately the project was shelved and the bells remained silent.

Jumping forward in time to 1993, wheels were once again put in motion for the restoration of the bells. The tower was in poor condition; amongst other features requiring attention, of particular note were the huge, original oak beams supporting the belfry floor. These were once embedded in the tower walls, but had now rotted away at their ends so that they no longer provided any support. The massive oak bell frame was well weathered and decayed. A full structural assessment was made of the tower, particularly since inside the walls lies an intricate honeycomb of tunnels, passageways and staircases, weakening it. Radar surveys conducted by the structural engineer revealed the strongest point to be the north-west corner of the tower. In place of the previously lofty ideas of a 42cwt ring of twelve, a mellow 16cwt ring of ten stand in this location.

Work started in October of 1994, and commenced with the removal of the five remaining bells. A condition assessment found that the two heaviest bells were cracked, while the other three were sound. All five were transported over to the Eijsbouts foundry in The Netherlands, where the two cracked bells were melted down and the metal re-used; seven new bells were cast, and the three remaining original bells re-tuned to fit into the new peal. These three original bells are the fifth, seventh and eighth of the existing ring of ten.

The old timber bell frame was removed from the tower and laid in the adjacent heritage centre, where it is accompanied by fibreglass bells showing visitors how they would have been originally hung. By March 1995, the new bell frame had been cast and installed in the tower. The original oak beams and belfry floor were then reinstalled in the tower following the hanging of the bells, although they bear no weight – rather, they remain inside the tower as a nod to its history, as well as providing a certain medieval feel to the ringing room!

The test ring took place on 20th April 1995, with the first quarter peal of 1344 Grandsire Triples rung on 14th May 1995 – it is also believed to have been the first quarter peal ever rung in the tower. The first peal, 5039 of Grandsire Caters was rung on Saturday 8th June 1996 in three hours and 10 minutes. The Guild thanked all who contributed to the appeal that helped raise the funds to facilitate the works, or who contributed to the Guild’s sponsored bell. Thanks were also given to the bellhangers and all voluntary workers who undertook the manual labour.

The Cathedral has since been the location for many other milestone events, both ringing and non-ringing. It was therefore fitting, that on Thursday July 20th 2023 the Cathedral’s bells should ring out to welcome the King and Queen on their visit to the Cathedral, to celebrate the centenary of the Diocese.

To the Future

It is appropriate that the Centenary of the Swansea and Brecon Diocese and its Guild of Bellringers should be celebrated by general thanksgiving. Future activities of the Guild will consist of continuing to encourage new ringers to the art of ringing, and supporting development of those already giving their time and enthusiasm. Bells have been used as a way of marking certain milestones in the passage of time, be they joyful or mournful – and have been doing so for much more than 100 years. Today, amidst so much difficulty and hardship, ringing has the potential to bring communities closer together by once again weaving itself into part of the tapestry of local life, as well as being a vector of close and life-long friendships. What will the next 100 years bring?

GRACE DOOLEY, GUILD SECRETARY

Malcolm T Johns, Former Guild Master and Former Tower Captain, Brecon

Sketty, Swansea. 27 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Yvonne R John 1, Rebecca Drysdale 2, Nigel P Doyle 3, Andrew C John 4, Mark H Anderson 5, Hal Drysdale 6, Alwyn R Lewis (C) 7, Andrew J Williams 8. For the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild of Bellringers on 27 October 1923.

Glasbury on Wye, Powys. 10 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Hal Drysdale 1, Jennifer A Ferguson 2, Grace Dooley 3, Becky Drysdale 4, Dylan J Thomas 5, Chris Venn 6, Nicky Aubrey 7, Tim D Hollinghurst (C) 8. To celebrate the centenary year of the Swansea & Brecon Diocese & Swansea & the Brecon Diocesan Guild. 1st S Major: Grace.

Cadoxton juxta Neath, Neath PT. 2 Dec, 1260 Doubles (9m/v): Elizabeth Walters 1, Iwan Cotgreave 2, Alwyn R Lewis (C) 3, Grace Dooley 4, Andrew C John 5, Ian P Hastilow 6. To mark the centenary year of the Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild of Bellringers.

Swansea, Swansea. 9 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Andrew C John 1, Rebecca Drysdale 2, Grace Dooley 3, David G Herbert 4, Ian P Hastilow 5, Iwan Cotgreave 6, Alwyn R Lewis (C) 7, Hal Drysdale 8. To celebrate the centenary year of the Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild of bell ringers.

Glasbury on Wye, Powys. 10 Dec, 1344 PB Major: Tim Joiner 1, Paul Johnson 2, Kath Johnson 3, Rhi Pugh 4, Grace Dooley 5, Ian Hastilow 6, Mark Pugh 7, Hal Drysdale (C) 8. To mark the centenary year of the Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Guild of Bellringers.

Gorseinon Swansea 25 Nov

St Catherine

2520 Grandsire Triples

1 Barbara Fewster, 2 Iwan Cotgreave, 3 Kevin Musty, 4 Grace Dooley, 5 Anne Bunker, 6 Peter Hayward, 7 Nick (D) Jones (C), 8 Ian Hastilow. Rung on Patronal Festival in the 110th & centenary year of the church & Diocese/Guild respectively.

SWANSEA & BRECON D.G.

LLANGASTY TALYLLYN, Powys,

St Gastyn

Fri 6 Oct 2023 2h48 (9)

5040 Oxford TB Minimus

1 Andrew J Williams

2 Grace Dooley

3 David Katz

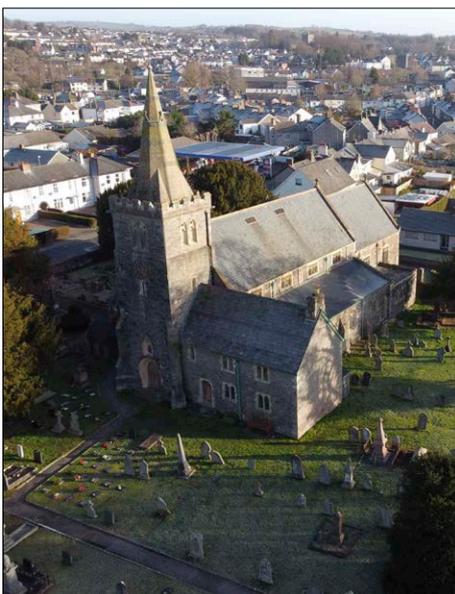
4 Nicholas D Jones (C)

In the Diocesan

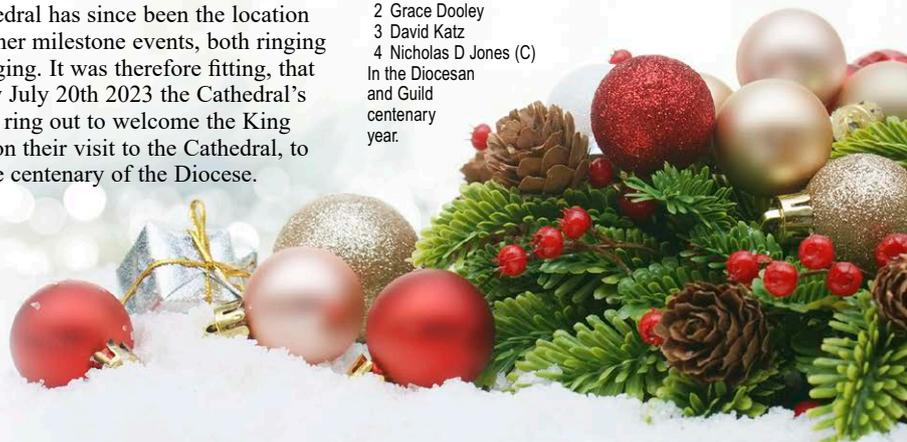
and Guild

centenary

year.



St David, Llanfaes, Brecon
(photo Claire Alexander)





First Peal Congratulations

Rebecca Bullingham
(Kempston, Bedfordshire)
Edward J Angrave
(Darley Dale, Derbyshire)
Katarina Whimsy!
(Christ Church, Boston, Massachusetts)
Owen G Peters
(Radcliffe on Trent, Nottinghamshire)
Philippa Garraway
(Awbridge, Hampshire – p.1279)

1,000th Peal as Conductor

R Philip Graves (Belper, Derbyshire)

ANZAB

BURWOOD, NSW,
St Paul
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h1 (11)
5040 Grandsire Triples
Comp. John Vicars
1 Katherine E Thomson
2 Pam E Brock
3 Katherine M Downs
4 Mariane Merati
5 Mary C Symes
6 Deryn Griffiths (C)
7 Clare E F Dyer
8 Jacqueline N Hoole
Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first women's tower bell peal for ANZAB.
Particular congratulations to Pam Brock who was in the original peal.
We would like to associate Helen Pettet and Enid Roberts with this peal.
First peal of triples: 1, 6. First peal covering and first for ANZAB: 8. £4

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

SOUTHWARK, London,
Cathedral Church of St Saviour
Sat 21 Oct 2023 3h55 (48)
5088 Bristol S Maximus
Comp. D J Pipe and R R Horton
1 Hannah L Taylor
2 Rebecca A Steed
3 D Robert C Sworder
4 Phillip R J Barnes
5 Ryan S Noble
6 Leigh D G Simpson
7 Stephen A Coaker
8 Andrew M Hills (C)
9 Colin G Newman
10 Anthony P Matthews
11 Oliver D Cross
12 James C Marchbank
First with the Society: 2 & 10.

CAMBRIDGE,
University Church of St Mary the Great
Sat 18 Nov 2023 3h29 (24)
5042 Cambridge S Maximus
Comp. C J Poole (3a)
1 Stephanie J Warboys
2 Cecilia E C Pipe
3 Michele Winter
4 David J Pipe (C)
5 Elizabeth A Orme
6 Michael G Clements
7 Graham G Firman
8 Charlotte D Linford
9 David I Bassford
10 Jonathan P Healy
11 Robert C Kippin
12 John S Warboys
Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the re-admission of women to the Society.

CITY OF LONDON,
St James Garlickhythe
Tue 28 Nov 2023 2h57 (9)
5090 Cambridge S Major
Comp. A N Tyler
1 Peter C Randall (C)
2 David J Dearnley
3 David E House
4 Graham A C John
5 Christopher H Rogers
6 Jeremy Piron
7 David G F Chalk
8 Paul N Mounsey
To mark 50 years membership of the Society by the ringers of 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8. Chris Rogers and David House were Master and Junior Steward when they were elected.

WORCESTER,
Cathedral Church of Christ & the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h48 (34)
5040 Cambridge S Royal
Comp. James Clatworthy
1 James Clatworthy
2 Ashley C Fortey
3 Darran Ricks (C)
4 James W Perrins
5 David Jenkins
6 Alex F Byrne
7 Craig P Homewood
8 Bernard H Taylor
9 Christopher J Pickford
10 Tom R Jauncey-Childs
For Advent on the Clare Ten.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Chris Kippin.

EXETER, Devon,
Cathedral Church of St Peter
Sun 3 Dec 2023 4h11 (72)
5007 Stedman Cinques
Comp. Richard B Pullin
1 Richard B Pullin (C)
2 Benjamin J Carey
3 Russell N Scudamore
4 Christopher J Poole
5 Lucy A Warren
6 Ian P Hill
7 Colin G Newman
8 Stephen J Hall
9 James C Marchbank
10 Matthew D Dawson
11 George M Salter
12 Alan G Reading
Rung for the Cathedral Advent Sunday Carol Service.
100th peal: 3.

CITY OF LONDON,
St Michael, Cornhill
Sat 9 Dec 2023 3h27 (32)
5016 Spiced Maximus
(6m: 1056 each Ariel, Phobos, Zanussi S; 880 Maypole A; 792 Deimos A; 176 Slinky DLTP; 110 com; atw)
Comp. D J Pipe
1 John N Hughes-D'Aeth
2 Adam A Brady
3 Lucy A Warren
4 Jonathan A Agg
5 Simon J L Linford
6 Richard B Pullin
7 Oliver C Bates
8 Graham M Bradshaw
9 Alan G Reading (C)
10 Luke T W Smith
11 Oliver D Cross
12 Michael P A Wilby £6

BATH & WELLS D.A.

STON EASTON, Som,
Blessed Virgin Mary
Mon 20 Nov 2023 2h15 (4)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 720 each of London, Wells, Durham, York, Beverley, Surfleet, Cambridge)
Comp. Traditional
1 Nicki J Lang
2 Sam Shead
3 Clifford R Nicholls
4 Robert Perry
5 Josh D P Jones
6 Joseph St J Beaumont (C)
100th for the Association: 2.
250th for the Association: 1.

EAST HUNTSPILL, Som,
Little Orchard Tower
Thu 23 Nov 2023 2h4 (21lb)
5120 Spiced S Major
(3m: 1120 Bristol, 1920 Superlative, 2080 Cambridge. 60 com, atw)
Comp. Brian D Price
1 Lesley A Knipe
2 Nigel R Woodruff
3 Ally Grieveson
4 Donald B Carter
5 Clifford R Nicholls
6 Richard A M Newman
7 Marion Newman
8 Joseph St J Beaumont (C)
1200th peal: 6. 250th peal on November day: 4.
Birthday compliments to Marion Newman.

NORTH CURRY, Som,
St Peter & St Paul
Sat 25 Nov 2023 3h7 (16)
5152 Lincolnshire S Major
Comp. GB Thompson
1 Keith E Beale
2 Barrie Hendry
3 Robert C Beavis
4 Andrea B Beaumont
5 Ally Grieveson
6 Matthew R T Higby
7 Joseph St J Beaumont (C)
8 David Hird

HOLCOMBE, Som,
The Potters Yard Ring
Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h40 (1)
5088 Tavistock S Major
Comp. R D S Brown
1 Josh D P Jones
2 Adrian P Beck
3 Andrea B Beaumont
4 Barrie Hendry
5 Clifford R Nicholls
6 Nigel R Woodruff
7 Alan G Reading
8 Joseph St J Beaumont (C)

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN

KEMPSTON, Beds,
All Saints
Sat 25 Nov 2023 3h19 (21)
5039 Grandsire Caters
Comp. A M Tyler (all the rest)
1 Rebecca Bullingham
2 Shirley Waterhouse
3 Helen J Manktelow
4 Philip M Haslam
5 Margaret Feneley
6 Antony C Manktelow
7 Stephen H Stanford (C)
8 Timothy G Haslam
9 James M Bence
10 Anthony J Davis
First peal: 1.
To welcome Joshua James Brighouse, first grandchild of Tim and Jane Haslam, born 29 July 2023.

BRISTOL SOCIETY

FRENCHAY, Glos,
St John the Baptist
Wed 22 Nov 2023 3h4 (4)
5760 Spiced S Minor
(41m: Contains 240 Cambridge (Cm), Lincoln, Norfolk (NF), Stamford, Warkworth (Wk), Westminster (Ws), Wooler; 120 Allendale (Ad), Alnwick (Ak), Annable's London (Ab), Bacup (Bc), Bamfborough (Bm), Berwick (Bk), Beverley (Bv), Bourne, Canterbury (Ct), Carlisle (Cl), Chester, Coldstream, Cunecastre, Durham, Hexham, Hull, Ipswich, Kelso, Lightfoot (Lf), London, Morpeth, Munden, Netherseale, Newcastle (Nw), Northumberland (Nb), Norwich, Primrose, Rossendale, Sandiacre, Surfleet, Wearmouth (Wm), Wells, Whitley, York; 100 com; atw)
Comp. Alexander E Holroyd
1 Cameron A Waters
2 Alexander E Holroyd
3 Helen C Mansley
4 Philip D Moyses
5 David J Spencer
6 George M Salter (C)
First 41 Spiced Surprise Minor - 5.
Circled the tower in six peals (six different compositions of the 41 called by six different people) - 4.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION

DORDRECHT, Netherlands,
't Kloekhuys
Sun 19 Nov 2023 2h32 (1)
5184 London S Major
Comp. Alan G Reading (No. 2)
1 Paul M de Kok
2 Heather M Powers
3 Thirza R de Kok
4 Harm Jan A de Kok
5 Nicola D Bright
6 Michael J Trimm (C)
7 Clive G Smith
8 Martin J Bright

£8

CHESTER D.G.

STOCKTON HEATH, Ches,
St Thomas
Mon 27 Nov 2023 3h16 (16)
5040 Yorkshire S Royal
Comp. B D Constant
1 Rosalind J Ashton
2 Linda M Garton
3 John P Loveless (C)
4 Malcolm H Joyce
5 Philip R Grover
6 Raymond D Helliwell
7 James E Andrews
8 Martin J Whiteley
9 Peter L Furniss
10 George H Campling
Dedicated to Joanne Ridley, a ringer at this tower and wife of the Vicar of St Thomas' Stockton Heath on the occasion of her 50th birthday.

DERBY D.A.

EASTWOOD, Notts,
St Mary
Sun 26 Nov 2023 3h6 (19)
5024 Glasgow S Major
Comp. R Philip Graves
1 Sue Wolfgang
2 Ruth Jopp
3 Victoria L Halford
4 Richard A Wolfgang
5 Daniel T Meyer
6 Timothy J Peverett
7 Paul Jopp
8 R Philip Graves (C)
50th peal: 1.
First in the method - 3 & 5.

BELPER, Derbys,
St Peter
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h54 (14)
5024 Spiced S Major
(8m: 640 each Bristol, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, Rutland, Superlative; 608 each Cambridge, London, Yorkshire. 156 com, atw)
Comp. Graham A C John
1 Ruth Jopp
2 Simon Humphrey
3 Alison J Molyneux
4 C Frederick C Pearson
5 Simon C Melen
6 Richard A Wolfgang
7 R Philip Graves (C)
8 Paul Jopp
1,000th Peal as Conductor.
Circled the tower twice - 2.

DARLEY DALE, Derbys,
St Helen
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h (15)
5104 Plain Bob Major
Comp. R J Angrave (No.520)
1 Edward J Angrave
2 Andrew W Harvey
3 Ian Duff
4 Helen E Hale
5 Michael Angrave
6 J Edward Dakin
7 Richard L Taylor
8 Richard J Angrave (C)
First peal at first attempt: treble. £8

DORSET C.A.

HUNTSHAM, Devon,
All Saints
Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h46 (8)
5152 Lincolnshire S Major
Comp. Simon Humphrey
1 Michael Hatchett
2 Jane C Spencer
3 Lesley A Knipe
4 Richard H Johnston
5 R Nicholas Lawrence
6 Christopher Renyard
7 James Kirkcaldy
8 Michael R Spencer (C)
50th peal on this tenor - 8.

ELY D.A.

HEMINGFORD GREY, Hunts,
St James
Sat 25 Nov 2023 2h49 (11)
5056 Yorkshire S Major
Comp. A J Cox
1 Marion A Robinson
2 Susan E Marsden
3 Jane K A Hough
4 Nicholas T Smith
5 Kevin J Skillings
6 Clive J Dunbavin
7 Michael G Purday (C)
8 Nicholas A Elks
Rung by a representative band remembering the six Huntingdon District ringers who died this year: Maurice Thurmott (24th March), John Haas (8th June), Brian Bunting (3rd Aug), Eric Lane (9th Aug), James (Jim) Skillings (14th Aug), and Wendy Piercy (20th September).
All the band knew at least one of these ringers.
With thanks to Clive for standing in at very short notice. £4

HISTON, Cambs,
St Andrew
Sun 26 Nov 2023 2h50 (9)
5024 Turramurra S Major
Comp. Stanley Jenner
1 Marion A Robinson
2 Susan E Marsden
3 Alan T Winter
4 Janet C Garnett
5 Daniel J Iliffe
6 Nicholas A Elks
7 Stephen C Wood
8 Adrian C Malton (C)
A Farewell to Janet, with best wishes for her move to Cheddar and with thanks for all her work for the Association as District Secretary, report Editor and Webmaster.
First in m: 3,4,5,7,8.

G. DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

UFFCULME, Devon,
The Piglet Ring
Mon 23 Oct 2023 2h7 (20lb)
5088 Lubcloud S Major
Comp. J R Ridley
1 Nicola J Turner
2 Peter L Bill
3 Andrea B Beaumont
4 Joseph St J Beaumont
5 Charlotte A Boyce
6 P Wendy Campbell
7 John R Martin (C)
8 David Hird
Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Peter Bridle.

BISHOPSTEIGNON, Devon,
Bishops-Ting-Tong
Tue 28 Nov 2023 1h47 (10lb)
5040 Spiced S Minor
(26m: (1) London, Wells, Cunecastre (2) Chester, Carlisle, Munden (3) Westminster, Allendale (4) Netherseale, Lightfoot, Wearmouth (5) Annable's London, Rossendale, Stamford (6,7) Ipswich, Bourne, Cambridge, York, Durham, Hull, Primrose, Norfolk, Beverley, Berwick, Hexham, Surfleet)
Comp. J S Warboys (6,7)
1 Ian W Avery
2 Ian R Fielding
3 Charlotte A Boyce
4 John R Martin
5 Peter L Bill
6 Michael E C Mears (C)
Birthday compliment to Wendy Campbell (21 again on Sunday).

BRADPOLE, Dorset,
Holy Trinity
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h47 (15)
5058 Spiced S Major
(4m: 1312 Superlative, 1280
Yorkshire, 1250 Cambridge, 1216
Lincolnshire; 124 com; atw)
Comp. D F Morrison (No 57)
1 John A Foster
2 Patricia Slade
3 Robert D Crighton
4 Jill M Hansford
5 Michael C Hansford
6 James Kirkcaldy
7 Robert D S Brown
8 Michael E C Mears (C)
To mark the visit of Rt Rev
Stephen Lake, Bishop of
Salisbury, to the Parish of
Bridport at the start of the
season of Advent.

GLOS. & BRISTOL D.A.

AMPNEY CRUCIS, Glos,
Holy Road
Sat 25 Nov 2023 2h46 (6)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each: London,
Annab's London, Norwich, Bourne,
Beverley, Surfleet, Cambridge)
1 Ian D Bucknell
2 Alan M Eyles
3 Hilda C Ridley
4 Mark Edwards
5 Richard L Thumwood
6 Simon W Edwards (C)
Rung to celebrate the birth, on
Wednesday 15th November,
of Pippin Jeremy Vaughan, a
nephew to Alan.

ELMORE, Glos,
St John the Baptist
Sun 26 Nov 2023 2h47 (12)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each: London,
Westminster, Norwich, Bourne,
Beverley, Surfleet, Cambridge)
1 Richard J Clements
2 Hilda C Ridley
3 Kirsty Gifford
4 Christopher J Pickford
5 Simon W Edwards (C)
6 Simon J Ridley
First peal on the bells
since 1996.
100th together: 2 and 5.
145 years ago, a peal was
rung in this tower, in which
the tenor ringer was the
great great uncle of today's
tenor ringer.

BRISTOL,
Cathedral Church of the Holy
& Undivided Trinity
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h6 (21)
5024 Lessness S Major
Comp. A G Reading (No.5)
1 David J Spencer
2 Michael R A Shaw
3 Linnet R C Tutcher
4 Thomas R Sherwood
5 Cameron A Waters
6 Helen C Mansley
7 Ian P Hill
8 Matthew D Dawson (C)
Circled the tower as conductor.

GUILDFORD D.G.

GRAYSHOTT, Hants,
St Luke
Tue 28 Nov 2023 2h50 (8)
5088 Cambridge S Major
Comp. Robert D S Brown
1 Jackie Roberts
2 Beryl R Norris
3 Janet E Menhinick
4 Nigel A L Mellor
5 Martin J Turner
6 K Roger Tompsett
7 Mark E R Gill
8 Nigel C Smith (C)

HEREFORD D.G.

STAUNTON ON WYE, Herefs,
St Mary the Virgin
Fri 1 Dec 2023 2h57 (10)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each of Warkworth,
Lightfoot, London, York, Bourne,
Norwich and Cambridge)
1 Mark Pugh
2 Nicholas J Green
3 Richard J Clements
4 Adam R Crocker
5 Christopher J Pickford
6 David Jenkins (C) **£0.75**

HERTFORD C.A.

ST ALBANS, Herts,
St Stephen
Sat 11 Nov 2023 3h1 (8)
5760 Spiced S Minor
(41m: Norwich, Rossendale,
Annab's London, Warkworth,
Stamford, Bacup, Netherseale,
Westminster, Lightfoot, Bamboorough,
Wearmouth, Allendale, Lincoln,
Coldstream, Cuneceastre,
Northumberland, Sandiacre,
Wooler, Newcastle, Chester, Whitley,
Alnwick, Munden, Carlisle, Morpeth,
Canterbury, London, Wells, Kelso,
Cambridge, Berwick, Bourne, Hull,
Beverley, Surfleet, Durham, Hexham,
York, Norfolk, Primrose, Ipswich; atw)
Comp. John S Warboys
(SU0805)
1 Adrian P Sweeting
2 Michael J Trimm (C)
3 Claire C Nicholson
4 Bjorn E Bradstock
5 Jason R Turnock
6 Alan Regin

ARDELEY, Herts,
St Lawrence
Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h44 (9)
5040 Spiced S Minor
(10m: 720 each Bourne, Norwich,
Warkworth, York; 360 each Beverley,
Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk,
Primrose, Surfleet, 41 com, atw)
Comp. P G C Ellis, arr. P M
Mason (No 194)
1 Robert J Crocker
2 Paul F Curtis
3 Jason R Turnock
4 Ian K Bushell
5 Peter G C Ellis (C)
6 Andrew B Mills
600th together: 2 & 6.

GRAVELEY, Herts,
St Mary
Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h42 (9)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Wells, Carlisle,
Rossendale, Durham, Netherseale,
Hull, Westminster)
1 Ruth Curtis
2 Paul F Curtis
3 Jason R Turnock
4 Ian K Bushell
5 Robert J Crocker
6 Peter G C Ellis (C)

REDBOURN, Herts,
St Mary
Sun 3 Dec 2023 2h58 (15)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Redbourn,
Carlisle, London, Westminster,
Bourne, Norwich and Cambridge)
1 Euan R M Thomas
2 Ian K Bushell
3 Jason R Turnock
4 Alan Regin
5 Michael G Purday (C)
6 Claire F Roulstone

GREAT PARNDON, Essex,
St Mary
Fri 8 Dec 2023 2h42 (9)
5040 Minor
(7m: 720 each Cambridge, Ipswich,
Bourne, Norwich, York, St. Clements
College Bob, Plain Bob)
1 Jadd Virji
2 Nicholas R Wilson
3 Michael J Cowling
4 Alan Regin
5 Brian G Meads
6 Graham R D Lay (C)

KENT C.A.

GOODNESTONE, Kent,
Holy Cross
Sat 20 May 2023 2h35 (11)
5040 Doubles
(14m/vp: 360 each Stedman,
Grandire, Winchendon Place, St
Miles, St Giles, St Martin's Bob,
St Paul, St Leonard, Reverse
Canterbury Pleasure Place,
Southrepps, Clifford's Pleasure, Plain
Bob, Kennington, April Day)
1 Josephine D Horton
2 Cathryn M Hills
3 Andrew M Hills (C)
4 Michael J Little
5 Andrew C Brett
6 Thomas Hooley
Rung to celebrate the
marriage of Susan and
Hamish Lillywhite.
First inside: 5.
First this century: 6.

CANTERBURY, Kent,
St Dunstan
Sun 21 May 2023 2h44 (13)
5040 Minor
(7m: 720 each St Clement's College
Bob, Oxford TB, Writtle TB, Kent TB,
Cambridge S, Single Canterbury
Pleasure Bob, Plain Bob)
1 Malcolm J Smith
2 Cathryn M Hills
3 Dickon R Love
4 Andrew J Corby
5 Mark Chittenden-Pile
6 Andrew M Hills (C)
Rung to celebrate the
wedding of Susan Hills to
Hamish Lillywhite.

MAIDSTONE, Kent,
All Saints
Sat 30 Sep 2023 3h25 (32)
5040 Cambridge S Royal
Comp. John M Goldthorpe
1 Elizabeth A Barnes
2 Phillip R J Barnes (C)
3 Louise G Pink
4 Andrew J Corby
5 Gavin J Neill
6 Martin W Marshall
7 Mark Chittenden-Pile
8 Andrew M Hills
9 Michael A Birkbeck
10 Damien S Smith
First on ten: 5. Circled the
tower to peals: 10. Marking
sixty years of peal ringing at
All Saints by Andrew Corby,
who rang the same bell to a
peal of Cambridge S Royal on
February 23rd 1963, called by
his father Phillip A Corby. **£10**

EAST MALLING, Kent,
St James the Great
Sat 18 Nov 2023 2h45 (10)
5040 Minor
(3m: 3 extents of Cambridge S and 2
each of Single Oxford and Plain Bob)
1 Stephanie K Runting
2 Alexander W Runting
3 Richard W Young
4 Callum J Clark
5 Mark Chittenden-Pile (C)
6 Michael A Birkbeck
Rung to mark the centenary of
the first peal in the tower (17th
February 1923).
25th peal on the bells.
First peal on tower bells: 4. **£6**

PETHAM, Kent,
All Saints
Sun 19 Nov 2023 2h33 (6)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 720 each Petham, London,
Wells, Norwich, Beverley, Surfleet,
Cambridge)
1 Michael J Little
2 Dickon R Love
3 Cathryn M Hills
4 Martin W Marshall
5 Damien S Smith
6 Andrew M Hills (C)
Rung to mark the centenary
of the bells at Petham
remembering Leslie Andrews
(1927-2023), organist at this
church and neighbouring ones
for over 50 years, and his wife
Cythnia Andrews (1928-2010),
parents of 3 and grandparents of 6.

MERSHAM, Kent,
St John the Baptist
Sat 2 Dec 2023 2h50 (12)
5056 Cambridge S Major
Arr. S Jenner
1 Phillip R J Barnes (C)
2 Anne L Rueff
3 Shirley E McGill
4 David Kirkcaldy
5 Stephen R T Pocock
6 Mark Chittenden-Pile
7 Damien S Smith
8 Alan Regin
Rung during the Church
Christmas Tree Festival.

ELTHAM, London,
St John the Baptist
Sun 3 Dec 2023 3h2 (10)
5040 Spiced Major
(23m: 224 each Bristol, Cambridge,
Cornwall, Deva, Double Dublin,
Ealing, Ely, Glasgow, Jovium,
Kenninghall, Lancashire, Lessness,
London, Painswick, Rook and
Gaskill, Superlative, Venusium, York,
Yorkshire, Ytterbium S, Cooctown
Orchid, Mareham D: 112 Double
Norwich CB, 160 com, atw)
Comp. D F Morrison (no.8266)
1 David Holdridge
2 Gwen Rogers
3 Thomas J Hinks (C)
4 David P Macey
5 Ross E Hartley
6 Andrew M Hills
7 Ian G Mills
8 Phillip Rogers
Most methods: 5.
Rung by a resident
Association band.

SHOREHAM, Kent,
St Peter & St Paul
Mon 4 Dec 2023 2h53 (9)
5088 Ilchester Castle S Major
Comp. D F Morrison (No 6627)
1 Anne L Rueff
2 Shirley E McGill
3 Beryl R Norris
4 Gwen Rogers
5 John B Keeler
6 Phillip Rogers
7 Peter G C Ellis (C)
8 Alan Regin

MEOPHAM, Kent,
St John the Baptist
Fri 8 Dec 2023 3h5 (12)
5088 London S Major
Comp. S J Ivin (No 12)
1 Gwen Rogers
2 Beryl R Norris
3 Anne L Rueff
4 Ian Roulstone (C)
5 David Kirkcaldy
6 John B Keeler
7 Phillip Rogers
8 Claire F Roulstone
First peal of London Major on
the bells.

LANCASHIRE ASSN

DENT, Cumbria,
St Andrew
Tue 28 Nov 2023 2h38 (8)
5040 Treble Dodging Minor
(7m: 1 extent each of Woodbine
D, Bourne S, Hull S, Norwich S,
Cambridge S, Primrose S and
Oxford TB)
1 Jane Holland
2 Andrew J Holland
3 Adrian G Roberts
4 L Martin Daniels
5 Kevin M Price (C)
6 Andrew W Gordon
2,500th peal: 5.
Rung by Kevin's leading peal
ringers: Martin (1013), Andrew
H (643), Andrew G (329),
Jane (298), joined by one of
Kevin's many ringing friends,
Adrian (72).
This peal is dedicated to the
memory of Clifford Samuel
Price (1925 to 2022), Father
of the conductor and friend to
many ringers, who died a year
ago this week.

MIDDLETON, Manchester,
St Leonard
Fri 8 Dec 2023 2h50 (11)
5056 Ytterbium S Major
Comp. D F Morrison (no. 6113)
1 Taylor Wright
2 Jane Owen
3 Jeffrey Brannan
4 Gail L Randall
5 Peter C Randall (C)
6 Raymond A Hutchings
7 Brian J Owen
8 Derek J Thomas6 **£2**

LINCOLN D.G.

WIGTOFT, Lincs,
St Peter & St Paul
Thu 14 Sep 2023 2h46 (7)
5040 Treble Dodging Minor
(7m: Primrose S, Norwich, Surfleet,
Bourne, Cambridge, Oxford TB, Kent)
1 Martin F Mitchell
2 Derek J Tysoe
3 Melanie R Newman
4 Graham J N Colborne
5 Philip R Grover
6 Christopher P Turner (C)
750th peal: 4.

WASHINGBOROUGH, Lincs,
St John
Sat 18 Nov 2023 2h48 (12)
5058 Lincolnshire S Major
Comp. Don Morrison no 3560
1 Keith C Butler
2 Alan D H Bird
3 Sylvia M Bird
4 James E Benner
5 Christopher P Turner (C)
6 Graham J N Colborne
7 Christopher J Sharp
8 Anthony D Walker
Circled tower - 5.
Rung to celebrate the
enthronement of Right Rev
Stephen Conway as the 73rd
Bishop of Lincoln.

QUADRING, Lincs,
St Margaret
Tue 21 Nov 2023 2h50 (9)
5040 Surprise Minor
(5m: 1 ext Primrose, Norwich, 2 exts
Bourne, Caithness, 1 ext Cambridge)
1 Brian E Plummer
2 James E Benner
3 Luke Tobin
4 Robert Simpson
5 Anthony D Walker
6 P Barry Jones (C) **£3**

SPROXTON, Leics,
St Bartholomew
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h49 (8)
5120 Spiced S Major
(4m: 1440 Yorkshire, 1280
Cambridge, Lincolnshire, 1120
Rutland; 69 com; atw)
Comp. P G K Davies
1 Christopher J Sharp (C)
2 Alan D H Bird
3 Diane M Faux
4 Joanne French
5 Sylvia M Bird
6 Anthony D Walker
7 James E Benner
8 Judith M Rogers
4 First of Spliced.
7 Circled the tower (at last!).

KIRTON IN LINDSEY, Lincs,
St Andrew
Fri 1 Dec 2023 3h3 (12)
5184 Bovey Tracey S Major
Comp. Robert DS Brown
1 Paul F Curtis
2 Lynda M Lazzzerini
3 Christopher P Turner (C)
4 Ruth Curtis
5 Martin F Mitchell
6 Stephen L Clarke
7 Philip R Grover
8 P Barry Jones
Circled the tower - 1 & 3.
400th together - 3 & 4.

LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH D.A.

BASSALEG, Newport,
St Basil
Sat 25 Nov 2023 2h52 (14)
5088 Bristol S Major
Comp. Alan G Reading
1 Harriet G Moncrieff
2 Helen Phillips
3 Andrew J Phillips
4 Philip D Hopkins
5 Marianne A Elliott
6 Peter R Elliott
7 Mark C Bennett (C)
8 Matthew S Turner
First Bristol: 5.
Rung on St Woolos Dinner Day
with best wishes to Bob Hardy. **£4**

LUNDY ISLAND SOCIETY

LUNDY, Bristol Channel,
St Helen
Sun 26 Nov 2023 3h2 (13)
5056 Bristol S Major
Comp. A G Reading (No.12)
1 Gareth L M Lawson
2 Phillip D Moysie
3 Matthew D Dawson (C)
4 Helen C Mansley
5 David E Giles
6 Cameron A Waters
7 Jonathan D Storey
8 James W Perrins
First of Major: 5.

Submit any corrections to
performances@ringingworld.co.uk

MIDDLESEX C.A. & LONDON D.G.

KILBURN, London,
St Augustine
Sat 4 Nov 2023 2h53 (8)
5056 Stockport S Major
Comp. Stephen J Ivin
1 Stephanie J Pattenden
2 David A Town
3 Jadd Virji
4 Shirley E McGill
5 Peter J Blight
6 Ian G Campbell
7 James W Belshaw (C)
8 Peter W Emery
To mark the forthcoming 75th anniversary of a peal rung in this tower on 15 Nov 1948 to celebrate the birth of HRH Prince Charles of Edinburgh. £4

CITY OF LONDON,
St James Garlickhythe
Sat 9 Dec 2023 2h52 (9)
5152 Jovium S Major
Comp. Anthony J Cox
1 John P Loveless (C)
2 James W Belshaw
3 June Mackay
4 Jadd Virji
5 Thomas F Lawrence
6 Euan R M Thomas
7 David F Perkins
8 Alan Regin

NORTH AMERICAN GUILD

BOSTON, MA,
Christ Church, Old North
Sun 26 Nov 2023 2h55 (13)
5040 Minor
(7m: 1 extent each: Annable's London S, Netherseale S, Beverley S, Berwick S, Primrose S, Cambridge S, and Plain Bob)
1 Phoebe House
2 Katarina Whimsy!
3 Elaine M Hansen
4 Abby Timmel
5 Austin J Paul (C)
6 John E Schreiner
Remembering Janet Rountree, Mother-in-law of 6 who passed two years ago.
For Christ the King Sunday.
First peal: 2. £6

NORWICH D.A.

NORWICH, Norfolk,
All Saints, Westlegate
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h34 (5)
5040 Cambridge S Minor
1 Gillian H Knox
2 Jeremy Warren
3 Kaeko Tozawa
4 David C Brown (C)
5 Faith J Pearce
6 Christopher N McCarthy
For the 60th anniversary of the University of East Anglia and the 50th anniversary of the Norwich Historic Churches Trust. First inside and first of Surprise - 3. £6

OXFORD D.G.

HUNGERFORD, Berks,
St Lawrence
Tue 21 Nov 2023 2h53 (12)
5088 Whalley S Major
Composed by Robert D S Brown
1 Stuart F Gibson
2 Martin J Turner
3 Beryl R Norris
4 Ian G Campbell
5 Robert A Partridge
6 Nigel A L Mellor
7 Timothy G Pett (C)
8 Richard L Thumwood
With the band's best wishes to Colin Turner on the eve of his operation.

PETERBOROUGH D G

CRANFORD ST JOHN,
Northants,
St John the Baptist
Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h47 (9)
5040 Minor
(7m: 1 extent each London S, Wells S, Cambridge S, Beverley S, Bourne S, Double Oxford B, St Clement's CB; 7 callings)
1 Alan J Frost
2 Barrie Hendry
3 Murray A Coleman
4 Simon J Dixon
5 Nicholas R Wilson
6 Paul M Mason (C)
Rung to celebrate the life of David W James who learnt to ring at this tower.
David, Alan, Barrie & Murray were all members of the Kettering Grammar/High School ringing club.

HARRINGWORTH, Northants,
St John the Baptist
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h54 (10)
5040 Surprise Minor
(7m: 1 extent each Wells, York, Allendale, Bourne, Annable's London, Cambridge, Norwich)
1 Nicholas R Wilson
2 Paul M Mason
3 Helena M Thorpe
4 Alistair M Donaldson
5 James F Thorpe
6 Richard I Allton (C)
Peal rung in recognition and celebration of over 800 years of worship and stewardship in St. John the Baptist Church, Harringworth.

GREAT EASTON, Leics,
St Andrew
Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h47 (9)
5040 Movenber D Minor
Arr. Paul M Mason (No.335)
1 Timothy F W Samson
2 Nicholas R Wilson
3 Paul M Mason (C)
4 James M Bence
5 Nicholas A Churchman
6 James F Thorpe
Rung for the Patronal Festival on St Andrew's Day, and for the completion of "Movenber" by all the band.
First peal in the method.
Movenber Delight Minor:
e-36-14-12-16-14-12-36 1h12 (TDMM 5586).

EVERDON, Northants,
St Mary the Blessed Virgin
Sun 3 Dec 2023 3h19 (19)
5040 Doubles
(11m: 240 Grand sire; 4 extents each St Simon's B, St Martin's B, St Osmund B, Eynesbury B, St Nicholas B, Winchendon P, St Remigius B, Huntley P, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure P, Plain B)
1 Simon J Dixon
2 Paul M Mason (C)
3 Robert M Wood
4 Nicholas R Wilson
5 Richard I Allton
250th peal together: 2 & 4.

ROBIN HOOD SOCIETY

BLIDWORTH, Notts,
St Mary of the Purification
Fri 8 Dec 2023 2h29 (4)
5040 Spiced S Minor
(18m: (1) Chester, Munden, Newcastle; (2) Carlisle, Northumberland; (3) London, Wells, (4) Westminster, Allendale; (5) Beverley, Berwick, Surfleet, Hexham; (6) Cambridge, Primrose, Ipswich, Norfolk; (7) Norwich)
1 Alison J Molyneux
2 Sally A Brown
3 J Stuart Brown
4 John D Cooper
5 John P Ottaway
6 R Philip Graves (C)
Birthday compliment to Stuart Brown.

S. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SOC.

LONG BUCKBY, Northants,
St Lawrence
Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h54 (15)
5088 Rutland S Major
Comp. T Hooley
1 Raymon A Sheasby
2 Robert Tregillus
3 Alison T Merryweather-Clarke
4 Richard Sales
5 Steve Bowley
6 Nicholas K Allsopp
7 Ian N Robinson
8 Michael Chester (C)
This peal is dedicated to the memory of Richard and Margaret Waddy. Richard was a regular member of this band and this peal was rung at his local tower.
First in method: 3 and 5.
1,11th peal: 7.
Also marking 40 years since the conductor's first peal as conductor, Plain Bob Minor at Blaydon on Tyne on 26th November 1983. £4

LONG CRENDON, Bucks,
St Mary the Virgin
Sat 9 Dec 2023 3h13 (17)
5000 London No. 3 S Royal
Comp. C H Kippin
1 Simon L Edwards
2 Julie A Haseldine
3 Ruth Stokes
4 Lesley J Belcher
5 Christopher M Mundy
6 Christopher C Stokes
7 Andrew Haseldine (C)
8 Richard A Horne
9 Stephen H Stanford
10 James A Haseldine
Rung during the annual Christmas Tree Festival.
300th peal together - 6 & 10.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

ALLOA, Clackmannanshire,
St John the Evangelist
Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h54 (13)
5120 Xavier S Major
Comp. A G Reading (no 3)
1 Peter J Williamson
2 Anne M Brechin
3 Susan E Bryce
4 Christopher J Frye
5 George Stevens
6 Simon H Aves
7 Edmund G N Smith
8 Michael J Clay (C)
250th peal: 6.
Rung for St Andrew's Day. £6

SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS

EXETER, Devon,
Cathedral Church of St Peter
Mon 1 May 2023 3h48 (72)
5009 Stedman Cinques
Comp. L J Woodward
1 David J Pipe (C)
2 Henry J W Pipe
3 Linda M Garton
4 Jadd Virji
5 Alexander E Holroyd
6 Jonathan J Nash
7 Barry R M Johnson
8 Martin J Bright
9 Jonathan A Agg
10 Luke T W Smith
11 Phillip M Orme
12 Richard A Smith

SOCIETY OF YOUTH CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

CITY OF LONDON,
St James Garlickhythe
Wed 29 Nov 2023 3h3 (9)
5056 London S Major
Comp. Anthony J Cox
1 Peter J Blight
2 Peter W Emery
3 Beryl R Norris
4 Jason R Turnock
5 Douglas J Beaumont
6 John P Loveless
7 Stephen A Wheeler (C)
8 Russell A Brown

SPITALFIELDS, London,
Christ Church
Wed 29 Nov 2023 3h7 (17)
5152 Spiced S Major
(23m: 224 each Yorkshire, Uxbridge, Cornwall, Double Dublin, Bristol, Whalley, Watford, London, Tavistock, Glasgow, Cambridge, Cassiobury, Lindum, Superlative, Wembley, Rutland, Jersey, Preston, Ipswich Cray, Ashted, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, 160 com, atw)
Comp. Norman Smith
1 Julia V Taylor
2 Shirley E McGill
3 Ian G Campbell
4 Paul A Cammiade
5 Alan Regin
6 John E Hawes (C)
7 Ian Roulstone
8 Claire F Roulstone
The 75th peal of Norman Smith's 23 Spiced for the Society, and rung on the 40th anniversary of the first peal of 23 Spiced S Major for the Society, in which ringers of 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6 took part (same composition).

THATCHAM, Berks,
St Mary
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h (13)
5040 Ulverscroft S Royal
Comp. G A C John
1 Michael H D O'Callaghan
2 Ian Roulstone
3 June D Wells
4 Janet E Menhinick
5 Graham A Duke
6 Kenneth J Darvill
7 Ian G Campbell
8 Douglas J Beaumont
9 Mark E R Gill
10 Claire F Roulstone (C)
Completes the Surprise Royal alphabet: 4.

TROWBRIDGE, Wilts,
St James
Sat 9 Dec 2023 3h17 (24)
5088 Spiced TD Maximus
(3m: Contains 1920 Avon D; 1728 Bristol S; 1440 Zanussi S; 17 com; atw)
Comp. B White-Horne
1 Daniel J Page
2 Alison E Leach
3 Penelope J V Sharpe
4 Louisa A Roughley
5 Annabelle F Frost
6 David C Bath
7 David J Spencer
8 Benjamin D Kipling
9 Molly S Waterson
10 Matthew C Frost
11 Jack E Page (C)
12 Luke G Groom
First spliced Maximus: 8.

SOUTHWELL & NOTTINGHAM D.G.

RADCLIFFE ON TRENT,
Notts,
St Mary
Tue 12 Sep 2023 3h5 (14)
5056 Yorkshire S Major
Comp. A B Mills
1 Andrew B Mills (C)
2 Derek J Tyscoe
3 Owen G Peters
4 Paul Sharp
5 John P Ottaway
6 Christopher P Turner
7 Philip R Grover
8 G William Shanks
First Peal 3.

WEST BRIDGFORD, Notts,
St Giles
Tue 5 Dec 2023 2h41 (9)
5152 Scandium S Major
Comp. Ian Butters no 866
1 Lynda M Lazerini
2 Christopher P Turner
3 Martin J Whiteley
4 Ruth Curtis
5 Peter J England
6 Peter S Lacy
7 Paul F Curtis
8 Ian Butters (C)

ST MARTIN'S GUILD

BIRMINGHAM, W Mids,
Cathedral Church of St Philip
Sat 7 Oct 2023 3h18 (31)
5016 Spiced Maximus
(6m: 1056 each Ariel, Phobos, Zanussi S; 880 Maypole A; 792 Deimos A; 176 Slinky DLT; 110 com; atw)
Comp. D J Pipe (cyclic 11 part)
1 Paul E Bibilo
2 David J Pipe (C)
3 Cecilia E C Pipe
4 Lucy A Warren
5 Julia R Cater
6 Christopher J Poole
7 Graham M Bradshaw
8 Alan G Reading
9 John M Thurman
10 John N Hughes-D'Aeth
11 Thomas W Griffiths
12 Michael P A Wilby
Celebrating Michael's half century (not out).

BIRMINGHAM, W Mids,
Cathedral Church of St Philip
Mon 20 Nov 2023 3h24 (31)
5016 Spiced Maximus
(7m: 1008 Bolton; 960 Baratheon; 864 Greyjoy; 816 Tyrell; 528 Stark; 432 Targaryen; 408 Lannister; 143 com; atw)
Comp. D J Pipe (cyclic 12 part)
1 Alistair J Cherry
2 Henry J W Pipe
3 Jimmy L Yeoman
4 Daniel J Page
5 Paul E Bibilo
6 David J Pipe (C)
7 Graham M Bradshaw
8 Oliver C Bates
9 Jack E Page
10 John N Hughes-D'Aeth
11 Colin M Lee
12 Michael P A Wilby
First peal on this plan.
21st birthday treat for Daniel. And now our watch has ended. The following methods are rung for the first time:
Lannister Maximus:
14-14-5T-14-5T-7T-14.7T-7T.58.1T.58.-.
Greyjoy Maximus:
12.3T-14-12.5T.16-34-5T.16.7T.16.7T.16.7T.-.
Baratheon Maximus:
10.9T-18.9T-18ET-9T -18-18-ET.18.9T-9T.-.
Bolton Maximus:
30-58-58-30-167T.58.149T.58.149T.3670.1T .58.30-58-58.-.
Tyrell Maximus: 3T-14-3T-12.5T.14-5T.14.5T.14-5T.-.
Stark Maximus: 167T-1T-1T-30.1T-12.30.-.
Targaryen Maximus:
3670-149T-149T-58-30-1T -58-58-3670.-.

SHIRLEY, W Mids,
St James the Great
Sat 25 Nov 2023 2h44 (6)
5056 Cambridge S Major
Comp. C Middleton (Johnson's variation)
1 Graham Nabb
2 Simon J L Linford (C)
3 Harriet Ward
4 Thomas W Griffiths
5 Catherine R Taylor
6 James P Ramsbottom
7 Casey McLellan
8 Charlotte D Linford
First inside and on 8: 3.
Birthday compliment to Harriet.



BIRMINGHAM, W Mids,
Cathedral Church of St Philip
Mon 27 Nov 2023 3h30 (31)

5040 Avon D Maximus

Comp. A G Reading
1 Simon C Melen
2 Mark R Eccleston
3 Paul E Bibilo
4 M Michael R Parker
5 Alexander P Frye
6 Paul Jopp
7 Oliver C Bates (C)
8 James P Ramsbottom
9 Stephen M Jones
10 Michael P A Wilby
11 Christian M Peckham
12 Andrew J Rawlinson
First in the method: 4, 5.
1,000th peal on twelve or more bells: 10.
Circled the tower: 11.

HONILEY, Warks,
St John the Baptist
Wed 29 Nov 2023 2h33 (6)

5040 Spiced TD Minor

(42m: Balmoral, Belvoir, Bucknall, Cambridge, Castleton, Coventry, Dover, Evening Star, Francis Genius, Kentish, Stirling, Wilmslow Thirds Place D; Abbeyville, Canterbury, Clarence, Combermere, Elston, Fountains, Humber, Kirkstall, Marple, Melrose, Merton, Sherborne Fourth Place D; Allendale, Cambridge, Carlisle, Chester, Kelso, Lincoln, London, Munden, Norwich, Wells, Westminster, York S; Berwyn, Cheviot, Cotswold, Killamarsh, Pennine, Trinity Sunday TB; atw)
Comp. John S Warboys
1 Stephanie J Warboys
2 Simon J Dixon
3 Paul McNutt
4 Luke G Groom
5 Peter G C Ellis
6 John S Warboys (C)

SUFFOLK GUILD

LAVENHAM, Suffolk,
St Peter & St Paul
Wed 22 Nov 2023 3h19 (21)
5008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major

Comp. D F Morrison (no 2730)
1 Michael J Cowling
2 Richard T L Rapior
3 James S Croft
4 Colin F Chapman
5 Andrew R Stone
6 Ian J Culham
7 Brian G Meads
8 Alan P Mayle (C)
250th peal on the bells.
A Suffolk Guild centenary peal.

COGGESHALL, Essex,
St Peter ad Vincula
Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h16 (24)

5040 Yorkshire S Royal

Comp. B E Whiting
1 Brian E Whiting (C)
2 Joan Garrett
3 David L Sparling
4 Jed Flatters
5 Michael J Cowling
6 James S Croft
7 Andrew R Stone
8 Rowan P Wilson
9 Brian G Meads
10 Alan P Mayle
For the annual Christmas Market.
A Guild Centenary Peal.

SUDBURY, Suffolk,
St Gregory
Sun 3 Dec 2023 3h6 (14)
5184 Cambridge S Major

Arr. James Clatworthy
1 Christine A Knight
2 Alan C Moulton
3 Richard A Knight
4 Andrew R Stone
5 Jed Flatters
6 Brian E Whiting
7 Rowan P Wilson
8 Alan P Mayle (C)
First peal on the bells since re-hanging by John Taylor & Co.
A Suffolk Guild centenary peal.

SPALDING, Lincs,
St Mary & St Nicolas
Thu 7 Dec 2023 3h2 (15)

5056 Lincolnshire S Major

Comp. J R Ketteringham
1 Brian E Whiting (C)
2 Michael J Cowling
3 June Mackay
4 Ben F Keating
5 Jed Flatters
6 Andrew R Stone
7 Rowan P Wilson
8 Brian G Meads
A Suffolk Guild centenary peal.

TRENT VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PRITTELEWELL, Essex,
St Mary the Virgin
Sun 26 Nov 2023 3h14 (18)

5000 London No. 3 S Royal

Comp. Christopher J Poole
no 2b
1 Graham M Bradshaw
2 Andrew B Mills
3 Ruth Curtis
4 Brian G Meads
5 Peter S Lacy
6 Christopher N McCarthy
7 Ian Butters (C)
8 Richard I Allton
9 Paul F Curtis
10 Peter G C Ellis

VALE OF EVESHAM SOCIETY

NORTHFIELD, W Mids,
St Laurence
Tue 21 Nov 2023 2h59 (14)

5056 Wales D Major

Comp. Donald F Morrison
1 Geoffrey M Brewin
2 Stephen W Horton
3 Richard J Hurst
4 Hilda C Ridley
5 Stuart P B Talbot
6 Andrew F Aldrick
7 Simon P Rogers
8 David Jenkins (C)

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH D.G.

GUILDFORD, Surrey,
St Nicolas
Sat 28 Oct 2023 3h22 (21)

5040 Scurr A' Chaorachain S Royal

Comp. David R Finch
1 Ian Roulstone
2 Ian J Carey
3 Edward P D Colliss
4 Mike Pidd
5 Michael R A Shaw
6 David P Hilling
7 Benjamin J Carey (C)
8 Adam W Kilgour
9 Matthew D Dawson
10 Peter W J Sheppard
250th peal: 8.

CARISBROOKE, IoW,
St Mary the Virgin
Sat 4 Nov 2023 3h5 (20)

5040 Swindon S Royal

Comp. David G Hull
1 James W G Twiney
2 Ian J Carey
3 Felicity S Warwick
4 Pip Dillstone
5 James A Hodkin
6 Adam W Kilgour
7 Benjamin J Carey (C)
8 David A Warwick
9 Stephen P Noyes
10 Peter W J Sheppard

AWBRIDGE, Hants,
Clock House Bells
Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h16 (3)

5040 Minor

(4m: 2 extents each Cambridge S, Kent TB, Plain Bob, 1 extent St Clement CB)
1 John A Dodd
2 Maureen J Hanney
3 Andrew J Nicol
4 Janet L Morris
5 James W G Twiney
6 Frank R Morton (C)
250th tower bell peal: 2. £3

PORTSMOUTH, Hants,
Cathedral Church of St Thomas of Canterbury
Sat 9 Dec 2023 3h25 (25)

5040 Spiced TD Maximus

(8m: Contains 672 Bristol S, Rigel S; 624 Ariel S (L), Avon D, Phobos S, Strathclyde S, Zanussi S; 576 Orion S; 25 com; atw)
Comp. Jonathan H Potter
Arranged by Robin O Hall
1 Ian J Carey
2 Benjamin J Carey
3 Katharine J Firman
4 Edward P D Colliss
5 Graham G Firman
6 Richard H Burton
7 Peter W J Sheppard (C)
8 Louis P H Suggett
9 Michael R A Shaw
10 George M Salter
11 Colin G Newman
12 Matthew J Hilling

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

WORCESTER,
St Martin in the Cornmarket
Thu 23 Nov 2023 2h49 (6)

5152 Spiced S Major

(23m: 224 each Yorkshire, Uxbridge, Cornwall, Double Dublin, Bristol, Whalley, Watford, London, Tavistock, Glasgow, Cambridge, Cassiobury, Lindum, Superlative, Wembley, Rutland, Jersey, Preston, Ipswich, Cray, Ashtead, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, 160 com, atw)
Comp. N Smith
1 James Clatworthy
2 Darran Ricks
3 David Jenkins
4 Richard J Clements
5 Alex F Byrne
6 Roman E Sadowski
7 Bernard H Taylor (C)
8 Ashley C Forley

MORETON IN MARSH, Glos,
St David
Sat 25 Nov 2023 2h56 (10)

5152 Hockley S Major

Comp. J F Young (no. 2)
1 Nicholas K Allsopp
2 Rachel D Page
3 Rosemary K Hemmings
4 Steve Bowley
5 Robert Tregillus
6 Roger H Hunt
7 Stephen W Horton
8 Michael Chester (C)
Rung for the switching on of the town's Christmas Lights.
The Surprise Major Alphabet has now been rung on these bells. £4

WORCESTER,
St Stephen
Sun 26 Nov 2023 2h46 (10)

5184 Yass S Major

Comp. Donald F Morrison (2013b)
1 Geoffrey M Brewin
2 Stephen W Horton
3 Rachel D Page
4 Cynthia E Howell
5 D Rose W Horton
6 Roger H Hunt
7 Darran Ricks (C)
8 Ashley C Forley

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

LEEDS, W Yorks,
Cathedral Church of St Anne
Tue 5 Dec 2023 2h40 (9)

5088 Lone Star S Major

Comp. DF Morrison No. 7840
1 Philip R Grover
2 Roger S Riley
3 Chris Bostock
4 Neil R Aspland
5 Nicholas D Soanes
6 C Barrie Dove (C)
7 Alan G Futers
8 Paul Brook
1050th peal as Conductor on the bells in this tower. £4

YORKSHIRE ASSN

SKIPTON IN CRAVEN, N Yorks,
Holy Trinity
Sun 19 Nov 2023 3h12 (22)

5024 Spiced S Major

(4m: 1280 each Cambridge, London and Superlative; 1184 Bristol; 110 com, atw)
Comp. A J Pitman
1 David J Dearnley
2 D Annabel Preston
3 Derek J Thomas
4 Stephen N Whittleton
5 Stuart J Heath
6 Alex S Riley (C)
7 Stephen J Hall
8 Paul N Mounsey
A 95th birthday compliment to Digby Burton, tower captain at Skipton from 1964-2011.

SOWERBY JUXTA THIRSK, N Yorks,
St Oswald
Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h31 (7)

5040 Surprise Minor

(13m: (1) Westminster, Allendale (2) Bourne (3) Durham, York (4) Beverley, Berwick, Surfleet, Hexham (5) Norwich (6) Wells, London (7) Cambridge)
1 Paul T Young
2 Derek J Tysoe
3 C Barrie Dove (C)
4 Neil R Aspland
5 Kevin M Price
6 Roger S Riley

£3

DORE, S Yorks,
Christ Church
Wed 6 Dec 2023 2h48 (11)

5024 Dunster S Major

Comp. A G Reading
1 Alison J Molyneux
2 Chris Bostock
3 Edmund H Mottershead
4 Nicholas D Soanes
5 Adrian M Moreton
6 Richard F Knights (C)
7 Simon J Reading
8 Christopher M Bennett

Peals unattributed to a guild, society or association

TOWCESTER, Northants,
St Lawrence
Sun 30 Jul 2023 3h13 (23)

5019 Stedman Cinques

Arr R E J Dennis
1 Stephanie J Warboys
2 Ann White
3 David L Thomas
4 Richard I Allton
5 Lucas J Williams
6 Andrew M Hills (C)
7 Stephen H Stanford
8 A John Stanworth
9 John R Fisher
10 Hannah L Taylor
11 John I White
12 Ryan S Noble
First on 12, and of Stedman - 5.

CITY OF LONDON,
St Sepulchre without Newgate,
Holborn Viaduct
Sat 11 Nov 2023 3h24 (28)

5040 Bristol S Maximus

Comp. John N Hughes-D'Aeth
1 Ian J Carey
2 Graham M Bradshaw
3 Leigh D G Simpson
4 Adam A Brady
5 Pip Dillstone
6 Richard H Burton
7 Benjamin J Carey (C)
8 Ryan S Noble
9 Adam W Kilgour
10 R Mark Esbester
11 Luke T W Smith
12 James C Marchbank

EASTNOR, Herefs,
St John the Baptist
Sat 11 Nov 2023 2h50 (6)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: 720 each London, Beverley, Wells, Surfleet, Westminster, Bourne, Cambridge)
1 Kirsty Gifford
2 Hilda C Ridley
3 Peter G C Ellis
4 Christopher J Pickford
5 Bernard H Taylor (C)
6 Simon J Ridley
Rung half-muffled on Armistice Day in memory of the fallen.

BEVERLEY, ER Yorks,
St Mary
Sat 18 Nov 2023 3h35 (34)

5042 Bristol S Maximus

Comp. D G Hull
1 David G Hull (C)
2 Phillip R J Barnes
3 David C Brown
4 Thomas W Griffiths
5 Simon J L Linford
6 Robin O Hall
7 Paul E Bibilo
8 Eleanor J Linford
9 Ewan G A Hull
10 Samuel M Austin
11 Julia R Cater
12 Paul L Carless
With best wishes to David Brown on his birthday.

KNOTTINGLEY, W Yorks,
St Botolph
Fri 24 Nov 2023 2h58 (12)

5004 Jura Bob Caters

Comp. Peter J Sanderson
1 George H Campling
2 Claire F Roulstone
3 Ian Roulstone
4 Adrian M Moreton
5 Peter J Sanderson (C)
6 Simon J T Smith
7 Martin J Whiteley
8 Alan Regan
9 David Jenkins
10 Andrew J Slade
The first peal in the method.

PONTEFRACHT, W Yorks,
St Giles
Fri 24 Nov 2023 2h53 (18)

5002 Spiced S Royal

(4m: 1360 London No. 3; 1322 Bristol; 1200 Cambridge; 1120 Superlative No. 2. 97 com, atw)
Comp. A S Riley
1 Andrew J Slade
2 Martin J Whiteley
3 Alison J Molyneux
4 Simon J T Smith
5 Adrian M Moreton
6 Alex S Riley (C)
7 Peter G C Ellis
8 Alan Regan
9 George H Campling
10 Stephen J Hall
10: 400th peal.

ECCLESFIELD, S Yorks,
St Mary the Virgin
Sat 25 Nov 2023 3h15 (14)

5040 Treorchy S Royal

Comp. D F Morrison (No 3830)
1 Adrian M Moreton
2 Claire F Roulstone
3 Stephen J Hall
4 Ian Roulstone
5 Simon J T Smith
6 Simon J Reading
7 Peter G C Ellis (C)
8 David R Mitchell
9 Martin J Whiteley
10 Peter J Sanderson

WORKSOP, Notts,
St Anne
Sat 25 Nov 2023 3h14 (15)

5000 London No. 3 S Royal

Comp. A J Cox
1 Alison J Molyneux
2 Simon J T Smith
3 Martin J Whiteley
4 Adrian M Moreton
5 Andrew J Slade
6 Christopher M Bennett
7 Stephen J Hall
8 Peter G C Ellis
9 Ian Roulstone (C)
10 Claire F Roulstone

CITY OF LONDON,
St Magnus the Martyr,
London Bridge
Sun 26 Nov 2023 3h22 (26)

5042 Spiced Cinques and Maximus

(3m: 2882 Stedman Cinques; 1392 Bristol S Maximus; 768 Littleport Little S Maximus; 13 com, atw)
Comp. M R Eccleston
1 George Unsworth
2 David J Dearnley
3 Graham G Firman
4 Katharine J Firman
5 Jadd Virji
6 Michael R A Shaw
7 Christopher P G Rimmer
8 John N Hughes-D'Aeth (C)
9 Adam A Brady
10 Alan Regan
11 Paul N Mounsey
12 Paul J Tiebout

SHEFFIELD, S Yorks,
Cathedral Church of St Peter & St Paul

Sun 26 Nov 2023 3h23 (34)

5015 Stedman Cinques

- Comp. A S Riley
1 Martin J Whiteley
2 Alex S Riley (C)
3 Simon C Melen
4 Simon J T Smith
5 Estella J Haynes
6 Adrian M Moreton
7 Stephen J Hall
8 Margaret Whiteley
9 Jack E Page
10 Ian Roulstone
11 Claire F Roulstone
12 David R Mitchell
1: 100th of Stedman Cinques.
2: 100th 12-bell peal.

WALTHAMSTOW, London,
St Mary

Tue 28 Nov 2023 3h19 (17)

5007 Stedman Caters

- Arr. J W Belshaw
1 Stephanie J Pattenden
2 Elizabeth A Hibbert
3 June Mackay
4 Peter W Emery
5 Andrew R Stone
6 James W Belshaw (C)
7 Thomas F Lawrance
8 Graham R D Lay
9 Alan Regan
10 Adrian P Sweeting
50th peal of
Stedman Caters:2. £5

YORK,

Cathedral & Metropolitan
Church of St Peter

Sat 2 Dec 2023 4h6 (59)

5016 Spiced Maximus

- (6m: 1056 each Ariel S, Phobos S, Zanussi S; 880 Maypole A; 792 Deimos A; 176 Slinky Diff Little T P; 109 com; atw)
Comp. D J Pipe
1 Oliver C Bates
2 Daniel J Page
3 Jimmy L Yeoman
4 Christian M Peckham
5 Jack E Page (C)
6 Alistair J Cherry
7 Julia R Cater
8 Patrick W J Deakin
9 Matthew C Frost
10 Colin M Lee
11 Paul L Carless
12 Ewan G A Hull
After train cancellations prevented the arrival of Michael Crockett, the remaining band is very grateful to Patrick for ringing at short notice, to be sure.
Rung for the opening of the Minster Christmas Tree Festival.

BASINGSTOKE, Hants,
All Saints

Sat 9 Dec 2023 3h3 (11)

5200 Spiced Caters and Royal

- (4m/p: 2400 Stedman Caters; 1040 Bristol S Royal; 920 Sgurr a'Chaorachain S Royal; 840 Goldfinger S Royal; 49 com)
Comp. M R Eccleston
1 Shirley E McGill
2 Adam S Greenley
3 Jack E Page (C)
4 Mike Pidd
5 Douglas J Beaumont
6 Ian Roulstone
7 Claire F Roulstone
8 Graham A C John
9 Daniel J Page
10 Benjamin D Constant
The 200th true peal length on the bells.

BATH & WELLS D.A.

BACKWELL, Som,

7 Farleigh Road

Fri 1 Dec 2023 2h3 (9)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

- Comp. trad
1-2 Jennifer M Taylor
3-4 Barrie Hendry
5-6 Alex Hunt (C) £3

BRISTOL SOCIETY

YATTON, Som,

89 Wheatear Road

Tue 28 Nov 2023 3h18 (12)

5040 Bristol S Maximus

- Comp. J R Fisher
1-2 Andrew J Mitchell
3-4 Lucy A Warren
5-6 Matthew D Dawson
7-8 Alan G Reading (C)
9-10 Julian O Howes
11-12 Colin G Newman
First handbell peal of
Surprise Maximus by a Bristol area band.
First as conductor on
12 handbells.
First on an inside pair on
12: 3-4.

CAMBRIDGE UNIV. GUILD

CAMBRIDGE,

A7 Bishop's Hostel,

Trinity College

Sat 11 Nov 2023 1h36 (11)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

- 1-2 Andrew M Roberts (Gonville & Caius)
3-4 Andrew S Cooke (Pembroke)
5-6 Jadd Virji (Trinity) (C)
For Remembrance.

CHESTER D.G.

WILMSLOW, Ches,

9 Hawthorn Lane

Tue 5 Dec 2023 2h (9)

5040 Treble Dodging Minor

- (3m: 1 extent Cambridge S, 3 extents each Kent TB and Oxford TB)
1-2 Neil D Lomas
3-4 Peter C Randall (C)
5-6 Paul B Hunter £3

G. DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

WHIMPLE, Devon,

17 Bramley Gardens

Mon 20 Nov 2023 2h19 (15)

5088 Kent TB Major

- Comp. J W Holdsworth
1-2 Jill M Wigney
3-4 Matthew J Hilling (C)
5-6 Timothy M Payne
7-8 David Hird
David's annual handbell peal.
Well done David!

GUILD OF ST CUILEÁIN

PIMLICO, London,

St Saviour

Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h57 (15)

5136 Riverhead S Maximus

- Comp. T J Hinks
1-2 Jennifer A Town
3-4 Richard A Pearce
5-6 Thomas J Hinks (C)
7-8 Graham G Firman
9-10 Katharine J Firman
11-12 Paul N Mounsey

READING, Berks,

26 Redlands Road

Tue 5 Dec 2023 2h25 (12)

5152 Spiced S Major

- (5m: 1120 Chertsey, Sonning, Westmorland; 896 Buckfastleigh, Shepperton; 112 com; atw)
Comp. J M Goldthorpe
1-2 Michael J Trimm
3-4 Jack E Page (C)
5-6 Graham A C John
7-8 Daniel J Page
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the trebles.

READING, Berks,

26 Redlands Road

Thu 7 Dec 2023 2h54 (16)

5040 Spiced S Maximus

- (4m: 1296 Barford; 1248 Bristol, Lincolnshire, Rigel; 74 com; atw)
Comp. J S Warboys
1-2 Graham G Firman
3-4 Jack E Page (C)
5-6 David C Brown
7-8 Daniel J Page
9-10 Katharine J Firman
11-12 Graham A C John

LINCOLN D.G.

PETERBOROUGH, Cambs,

5 Woodfield Road

Sun 26 Nov 2023 2h33 (11)

5040 Lincolnshire S Royal

- Comp. E J Southerington
1-2 Paul S Seaman
3-4 David Kemp
5-6 Emma J Southerington (C)
7-8 William S Croft
9-10 Christopher J Sharp

MIDDLESEX C.A. & LONDON D.G.

TWICKENHAM, Middx,

19 Court Way

Sun 12 Nov 2023 2h24 (8)

5056 Spiced S Major

- (4m: 1536 Cambridge; 1440 Superlative; 1280 Bristol; 800 London; 75 com, atw)
Comp. Donald F Morrison (no. 8770 arranged)
1-2 Muffie King
3-4 Peter R King
5-6 Michael J Trimm (C)
7-8 Stephen J F Mitchell £4

NORTH AMERICAN GUILD

NEW YORK, NY,

Trinity Church, Vestry

Thu 7 Dec 2023 2h5 (9)

5040 Surprise Minor

- (3m: (1) Cambridge; (2) Bourne; (3) Ipswich; (4) Cambridge; (5) Bourne; (6) Ipswich; (7) Cambridge)
1-2 Kira R Chase
3-4 Timothy J Barnes
5-6 Myles Louis Dakan (C) £3

OXFORD D.G.

READING, Berks,

26 Redlands Road

Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h37 (12)

5040 Spiced S Royal

- (4m: 1360 London No. 3, Yorkshire; 1200 Bristol; 1120 Sgurr a'Chaorachain; 91 com; atw)
Comp. M B Davies
1-2 Patricia M Newton
3-4 David G Maynard
5-6 Jack E Page (C)
7-8 Oliver D Cross
9-10 Robert H Newton

TILEHURST, Berks,

15, Lytham End

Thu 30 Nov 2023 2h18 (13)

5088 Superlative S Major

- Comp. Donald F Morrison (6098)
1-2 Bernard F L Groves
3-4 June D Wells
5-6 Mike Pidd (C)
7-8 E John Wells
1st in method in hand: 5-6. £2

OXFORD SOCIETY

OXFORD,

Oriel College, Staircase 15

Sat 25 Nov 2023 1h45 (11)

5040 Spiced S Minor

- (41m: Allendale, Alnwick, Annable's London, Bacup, Bamboorough, Berwick, Beverley, Bourne, Cambridge, Canterbury, Carlisle, Chester, Coldstream, Cunecastre, Durham, Hexham, Hull, Ipswich, Kelso, Lightfoot, Lincoln, London, Morpeth, Munden, Netherseale, Newcastle, Norfolk, Northumberland, Norwich, Primrose, Rossendale, Sandiacre, Stamford, Surfleet, Warkworth, Wearmouth, Wells, Westminster, Whitley, Wooler, York; 180 com)
Comp. John S Warboys (SU0309 and SU0403)
1-2 Alex J Parsons
3-4 Craig M Robertson
5-6 David L Thomas (C)
Most methods in hand: 1-2.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION AND ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY, EDINBURGH

EDINBURGH, Midlothian,

27 House O'Hill Crescent

Sun 3 Dec 2023 2h37 (12)

5056 Plain Bob Major

- Comp. James W Holdsworth (no 5)
1-2 Barbara J Bell
3-4 Susannah M Ewens
5-6 Alison N Stevens
7-8 Ian P Bell (C)
To celebrate the 120th anniversary of the first handbell peal rung in Scotland on 20th November 1903 in Edinburgh. £4

SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS

WILLINGHAM, Cambs,

53 Covent Garden

Tue 4 Jul 2023 1h48 (11)

5040 Spiced S Minor

- (41m:)
Comp. John S Warboys
1-2 Alfred G W Pipe
3-4 David J Pipe (C)
5-6 Henry J W Pipe
A welcome back to peal ringing for Alf.

WILLINGHAM, Cambs,

53 Covent Garden

Sun 12 Nov 2023 1h48 (11)

5040 Spiced TD Minor

- (120m: Duke of Norfolk, Rochester, College Exercise, Ockley, Norbury, Drayton, Campanulla, British Scholars' Pleasure, Gladstone, Crofton, Hasley, Hemsworth, Barnsley, Stockbridge, South Kirkby, Havercroft, Berwyn, Felkirk, Westray, Mendip, Vatersay, Zugspitze, Taylor, Ullscarf TB; Old Oxford, Paddock, College Bob IV, Newdigate, Tuxford, Williseden, London, Darton Exercise, Disley, Hadfield, Conisborough, Europium, Staverton, Worcester, Nostell, York, Berrybrow, Queen Bess, Eyam, Burslem, Hoylandswaine, Wilmslow, Tulip, Bogedone, Rostherne, Poynton, Knutsford, Belvoir, Dunedin, Erbiun, Boston, Barham, March, Selby, Rawmarsh, Staveley, Berkeley, Woodgrove, Pembroke, Oystermouth, Deepcar, Oxygen, Fluorine, Glastonbury, Neon, Peveril, Croome d'Abitot, Leasowe, Melandra, Natrium, Beeston, Kingsley, Chelsea, Beauchief, Colmermere, Langsett, Vale Royal, Crowland, Canterbury, St Werburgh D; Luton, Royal Bob, Rhyll, Ripley, Bamboorough, Thorne, Harwood, Linden, Unacceptable, Beighton, Cambridge, Appleby, Redcar, Coverleigh, Hatfield, Surfleet, Eastwood, Beverley, Bangor, Carlisle, Grantham, Sleaford, Osea, Chester-le-Street, Munden, Netherwood, Chester, Bakewell, Cunecastre, Minehead, Retford, Kelso, Spalding, Victoria Street, Brampton, Norwood Tunnel S)
Arr. D J Pipe
1-2 Cecilia E C Pipe
3-4 David J Pipe (C)
5-6 Henry J W Pipe
50th Birthday compliments to Eleanor Linford.

CAMBRIDGE,

102 Mawson Road

Tue 5 Dec 2023 2h17 (14)

5056 Cambridge S Major

- Comp. Johnson's variation of Middleton's
1-2 Alan T Winter
3-4 Lynne P Hughes
5-6 Paul S Seaman
7-8 Michael G Purday (C)

ST MARTIN'S GUILD

WOOTTON WAWEN, Warks,

NB Thistle

Sat 2 Dec 2023 3h42 (8)

9984 TP Minimus

- (26m: 384 each Ancalagon the Black, Barf & Belch, Cloudjumper, Drogon, Errol, Fanghook, Glaurung, Hookfang, Idris, Jörmungandr, Kingstail, Light Fury, Meatlug, Norbert, Orochi, Patience, Q uq umatz, Rhaegal, Stormfly, Toothless, Uwabami, Viserion, Windshear, Xing, Y Ddraig Goch, Zog)
1-2 Elliot J Daniel
3-4 Luke Daniel (C)
The weather outside was frightful, so we rang this rather than going on the young ringers tour of Northampton today. Believed to be the longest peal of minimus rung on handbells £2

ST PETER MANCROFT GUILD OF RINGERS

TROWSE, Norfolk,

42 Devon Way

Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h26 (15)

5024 Spiced S Major

- (5m: 1088 London, 1056 Superlative, 992 Pudsey, 960 Cambridge, 928 Bristol; 109 com; atw)
Comp. Albert J Pitman,
arranged Stanley Jenner
1-2 Michael G Clements
3-4 David C Brown (C)
5-6 Simon A Rudd
7-8 Richard P J Carter
Engagement compliment to Louis Suggett and Lucy Chaldecott. £4

THE WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS CHANGE RINGING ASSOCIATION

MALVERN LINK, Worcs,

The Hermitage

Pickersleigh Rd

Mon 27 Nov 2023 2h12 (8)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

- 1-2 Richard B Pullin (C)
3-4 Clare S Bellis
5-6 William N Evans
First handbell peal at first attempt 3-4 and 5-6.
Rung on the WDCRA "Reeves" handbells. £3

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH D.G.

PORTSMOUTH, Hants,

53 Fearon Road

Mon 13 Nov 2023 2h23 (12)

5088 Kent TB Major

- Comp. John Reeves
1-2 John S Croft
3-4 Katharine J Firman
5-6 Benjamin J Carey (C)
7-8 Ian J Carey

PORTSMOUTH, Hants,

53 Fearon Road

Wed 22 Nov 2023 2h26 (12)

5088 Yorkshire S Major

- Comp. Chris Adams
1-2 Margaret L Sherwood
3-4 John S Croft
5-6 W Nigel G Herriott
7-8 Benjamin J Carey (C)

PORTSMOUTH, Hants,

53 Fearon Road

Wed 6 Dec 2023 2h21 (12)

5088 Kent TB Major

- Comp. John Reeves
1-2 Margaret L Sherwood
3-4 John S Croft
5-6 Ian J Carey
7-8 Benjamin J Carey (C)
First on a fully working pair: 5-6.

Late publication

A N Z A B

BENDIGO, Vic,

Norfolk Ring

Sat 1 Sep 2012 2h48 (76lb)

5040 Plain Bob Minor

- 1 Matthew Young
2 David Smith
3 Andrew Chin
4 Saskia Noorduijn
5 Stephen Young
6 Thomas Perrins (C)
The first peal-length performance on a simulator in Australia. £6





Northampton, MA USA 29 Nov (1h12)

Bixby Court

2880 Surprise Minor

1-2 Leland Paul Reimer, 3-4 Bryn Marie Reimer, 5-6 Myles Louis Dakan (C). **£3**

Writtle Essex 2 Dec (1h40)

All Saints

2520 Plain Bob Major

1 Christina D A Brewster, 2 Mary Bone, 3 Andrew P Brewster, 4 Courtney J A Mandell, 5 Kye L Leaver, 6 Fred Bone (C), 7 Lucas J Owen, 8 Neil M Pasmore. For Christmas Tree Festival. **£2**



Wardy Hill, Cambs. (Toads Acre) 5 Dec, 2023 Minor (3m): Sheila J George 1-2, Naomi A Laredo 3-4, Phillip S George (C) 5-6. 50th Date touch 5-6.



quarters@ringingworld.co.uk

First quarter congratulations

Asthall, Oxon. 2 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Lindsay Powell 1, Craig M Robertson (C) 2, Tracey Cooper 3, Emma J Odell 4, Chris Seers 5, Laura Cooper 6. 1st Q (aged 12): 6. With a band comprising some of those who those who taught her since her first handling in January & her mother. Steve Vickars would like to be associated with this performance. **£6**

Barrow in Furness, Cumbria. 29 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Alison M Bolt 1, Jayden Milby (C) 2, Cameron Pollock 3, Jason W Pollock 4, J Andrew Pollock 5, Owen B Osmotherley 6. 1st at first attempt: 1. **£6**

Broadway, Som. (Ss Aldhelm & Eadburga) 6 Dec, 1260 Doubles (3m/2v): Jean Brading 1, Liz Rendell 2, Chris Cox 3, Patrick Rendell 4, Johan Nash-Smith (C) 5, Mark Drew 6. 1st Q: 1. Well Done. **£6**

Butterwick, Lincs. 10 Oct, 1260 PB Doubles: Kath Hooper 1, Ruth Smith 2, Joanne French 3, David Reynolds 4, Greg Harrison (C) 5, Robert J Ingamells 6. 1st Q: 1. Well done Kath! **£3**

Crondall, Hants. 2 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: David Warner 1, Ros Fox 2, Deb Margason-Baker 3, Rebekah Aspinwall (C) 4, Kevin Fox 5, Paul Smith 6. 1st Q: 1. **£3**

Islington, London. (S James the Apostle) 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Elliott Johnson 1, Peter Blight (C) 2, Janet Drake 3, Freddie Crowley 4, Guy Wells 5, Kate Eden 6. 1st Q: 6. A retirement compliment to Fr John Burniston, Vicar of this church, with all good wishes & thanks from the bell ringers. **£6**

Kidlington, Oxon. 9 Dec, 1260 Doubles (12m/v): Marinu Leccia 1, Ailsa Reid (C) 2, Andrea Rowley (C) 3, Maarit Kivilo (C) 4, Hugh Deam (C) 5, Philip Sampson 6. 1st at first attempt: 1. 1st since 2012: 6. **£6**

Lewes, E Sussex. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Max Cooper 1, Philip Nancarrow 2, Tom Neal 3, Richard C G Neal 4, John Ashcroft (C) 5, Aakesh Aziz 6. 1st Q: 6. 1st on Treble: 1. For evening service. **£6**

Llandegai, Gwynedd. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Carys Normington 1, Sian Shakespear 2, Zoe M Seymour 3, Antony P Diserens 4, Harvey O Plows (C) 5, Rick Keeves 6. 1st Q: 1. Also rung for the North Wales Association. **£6**

Malmesbury, Wilts. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Sarah L Voller 1, Catherine N Sturdy 2, Susan G Bernau 3, Richard Gray (C) 4, Philip R Parkinson 5, Michael D Lewis 6. Rung for the Advent Carol Service at Malmesbury Abbey. 1st at first attempt: 1. **£6**

Middleton, N Yorks. (S Andrew) 9 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Sophie Rogers 1, Anne Deebank 2, Gerry Bacon 3, Kathy Carter 4, Martin G Tubbs (C) 5, Janet Bate 6. 1st Q: 1. **£6**

Northampton, MA, USA. (Bixby Court) 25 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Daniel Lynds 1-2, Leland Paul Reimer 3-4, Bryn Marie Reimer (C) 5-6. 1st Q: 1-2. **£3**

Packington, Leics. 27 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Maya Gammon 1, Lisa Gammon 2, Martin Welch 3, Moira Johnson (C) 4, David Gammon 5, Sam Harding 6. 1st Q: 1.6. 1st inside: 2. A special Birthday mention to two Packington ringers with Birthdays on this day - Adam Baker & Sarah Hale. **£6**

Papanui, New Zealand. 3 Dec, 1320 PB Doubles: Terry Spearing 1, Mandy Spearing (C) 2, Robert N Richards 3, Jacqui Grafton 4, Christian P Westrip 5, Colin Jaquery 6. 1st Q: 6. 1st as C in New Zealand & in 15 years: 2. Rung for Advent Sunday, for the 75th Birthday of HM King Charles & for the installation of the Revd Ben Truman as Dean of Christchurch Cathedral. **£6**

Ranmoor, S Yorks. 27 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Eden Bramhill 1, Carys Hughes Blagden 2, William J Rogers 3, Hana Booth (C) 4, Tam Jones 5, Catherine A Williams 6. 1st Q: 6, having started ringing 7 weeks ago! 1st mixed Doubles: 3,5. Rung by an all undergraduate band. **£3**

Shottesbrooke, Berks. 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (3m): Jack S Francis 1, Jon Boughton 2, Sian Robinson 3, Mick Francis 4, Peter Jasper (C) 5, Vikki E M Bulbeck 6. 1st at first attempt: 1. **£6**

St Annes On The Sea, Lancs. (S Anne) 3 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Ellis Hollows (C) 1, Stuart Newton 2, Ken Jagger 3, Gareth Wilson 4, Monica Hollows 5, Ellen J Eccles 6. Rung prior to the Advent Carol Service. 1st Q: 6. Well done Ellen! **£6**

St Clement, Corn. 9 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Eric Bannister 1, Hayley J Young 2, Christina Ebrey 3, Claire Below 4, Andrew G Smith (C) 5, Giles Smith 6. 1st Q: 6. 1st inside & first for 20 years: 3. **£6**

Sutterton, Lincs. 21 Oct, 1260 Doubles (2m): David Reynolds 1, Brian Plummer 2, Valerie S Wild 3, Joanne French 4, Greg Harrison (C) 5, Philip Walters 6. 1st at first attempt: 6. Well struck Phil!! Wishing Penny Fountain a speedy recovery. **£3**

Tewkesbury, Glos. (Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin) 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Marie Yates 1, Sheila Taylor 2, Sandra Alford 3, Tina Batchelor 4, Malcolm Taylor (C) 5, Steve Yates 6. 1st Q: 6. To celebrate the Tewkesbury Tractor Run for the Food Bank. **£6**

Upper Sheringham, Norfolk. 2 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Laura Parker 1, Mike Hollis 2, Sue Morton 3, Guy W Morton 4, Ollie E P Watson (C) 5, Shaun Purbrick 6. For Advent. 1st Q: 6. Birthday compliments to Mike Hollis. **£3**

In Memoriam

Bath, Som. (S Michael) 28 Nov, 1280 Superlative S Major: William Willans 1, David J Kelly 2, Thomas GA Wareing 3, Matthew Goodship 4, Jody A Wood 5, Matthew J Butler 6, William M Beech 7, Michael J Stubbs (C) 8. Remembering Robin Stubbs on his Birthday. **£6**

Beckenham, Kent. 29 Nov, 1260 Beckenham Bob Minor: Elizabeth Hardy 1, Becca C Hardy 2, Peter V D Swift 3, Mark N Harris 4, Jeremy R Byers 5, James J Hardy (C) 6. Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Brian Stretton, who died on 11 November 2023 & whose funeral was held today. Beloved husband of Rosemary. **£6**

Bidston, Wirral. 5 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: S David Speechley 1, Janet M Jones 2, Gillian S Caulfield-Pleavin 3, Tim Shorman 4, Gavin E Price 5, Randle T J Tinkler (C) 6. Rung in memory of Tommy Morgan, aged 96, who's funeral was today. Tommy was an active member of the Wirral Branch until ill health restricted his ringing. His engineering skills were put to good use with work on many local towers. Bidston was probably the most remarkable, changing an uninviting & difficult ring of bells into an easy & pleasant ring. He will be missed by family & friends, R.I.P. Tommy. **£6**

Bishops Cannings, Wilts. 7 Dec, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Carole Simpson 1, Jane Mann 2, Jenny Hancock 3, Julian N Ferrar 4, Tim Hawkings 5, Sarah J Quintin 6, John A Sealy (C) 7, David Ball 8. In thanksgiving for the life of the Revd Prebendary Nick Taylor, dear brother & best mate of Jane Mann. **£6**

Boston, MA. (Christ Church, Old North) 3 Dec, 1344 Double Beryl Bob Major: Kathryn Lesh 1, Danielle M Morse 2, John E Schreiner 3, Katarina Whimsy! 4, Joshua R Burson 5, Elaine M Hansen 6, John Bihn 7, Austin J Paul (C) 8. In memory of Beryl Nelson, who cross-stitched this method into the Q board commemorating the first Q rung in tower by the MIT Guild of Bellringers. The band would like to name this method Double Beryl Bob Major in her honor (x16x36x38x78,12), believing it to be previously unnamed. The band would also like to associate Laura Dickerson, Phoebe House, Ricky Morse, Cally Perry & Sam Ratliff with this performance. **£8**

Bracepeth, Durham. 26 Nov, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: John M Church 1, Gillian Appleby 2, Steve Halliwell 3, James Morgan 4, Trevor Church 5, John Harpole (C) 6, Andy Sutherland 7, Paul Trueman 8. Remembering Neville Martin, father-in-law of 8, who listened to these bells on Sunday mornings for over 40 years whilst playing golf at Bracepeth. **£8**

Brightwell, Oxon. 4 Dec, 1280 Superlative S Major: Nick Clarke (C) 1, Mary Friskney 2, Robert Partridge 3, Chris Tuckett 4, Josie Irving 5, Robert Friskney 6, Stuart Gibson 7, Keith Anderson 8. On the 60th anniversary of the first peal for 2, remembering Alan Friskney who died on this date on 2007. **£8**

Chilcompton, Som. (S John Bapt) 3 Dec, 1260 PB Royal: Jane Hooker 1, Nicki J Lang 2, Susan A Haines 3, Adrian P Beck 4, Paul Wotton 5, Tom E Mayes 6, Finlay D Totterdell 7, Julian F Back 8, Robert Perry (C) 9, Kevin Spratling 10. In memory of Felicity Marshall who passed away on 1st December, wife of Preb Christopher Marshall, mother of David & grandmother of Luke. 1st on 10: 7. **£8**

Deeping St Nicholas, Lincs. 17 Nov, 1320 Spl S Minor (2m): Valerie S Wild 1, Michael Maughan 2, Anthony D Walker 3, Robert Simpson 4, Luke Tobin 5, P Barry Jones (C) 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of the tragic loss of life of all the innocent victims in Gaza & the West Bank. **£2.50**

Dunham Massey, Manchester. 27 Nov, 1296 PB Caters: Sue Banfield 1, Carole Collins nee Williams 2, Carol A Marchbank 3, Andrew J Darling 4, Martyn Owen 5, Alastair E Roberts 6, Graeme A Littler 7, Nicholas Thomson (C) 8, Trevor W Marchbank 9, R Owen Battye 10. Rung to celebrate the life of Dorothy Patulla (Pat) Stead (1926-2023) who was christened, confirmed & married at St Margaret's church & whose funeral took place there on Wednesday, 22nd November. **£10**

Eye, Herefs. (Ss Peter & Paul) 28 Nov, 1260 Spl Plain Minor (3m): Sue Lewis 1, Tony Fuller 2, Judith Edwards 3, Rhiannon Pugh 4, Mark Pugh (C) 5, Geoff Cowling 6. Rung to celebrate the life of Roy Edwards, husband of Judith, whose Memorial service was held on 25th November. **£6**

Fulney, Lincs. 28 Nov, 1296 Frannyann Treble Pl Minimus: Anthony D Walker 1, Brian E Plummer 2, Robert Simpson 3, Luke Tobin (C) 4. 1st Q in new method: --12-14-1234-12-34,12. Rung & named in memory of Frances Crosby, resident of Southernwood House in Spalding, whose funeral took place today. While it might be tradition to raise up a glass. To those easily loved who have come to depart, For Frances I know this just would not be fitting. As it was well known that in only one sitting. She could gladly devour not one, two or three, But several rounds of bread toasted with gle! And so to toast Frances I shan't raise a glass, But some freshly made toast (topped with cheese for some class!). Rung also for the LDGCBR Elloe Deaneries Minimus Group. **£2**

Goring on Thames, Oxon. 4 Dec, 1260 Stedman Triples: Mary Friskney 1, Josie Irving 2, Chris Tuckett 3, Nick Clarke 4, Stuart Gibson 5, Robert Friskney 6, Robert Partridge (C) 7, Keith Anderson 8. On the 60th anniversary of the first peal for 1, remembering Alan Friskney who died on this date on 2007. **£8**

Hampstead Norreys, Berks. 24 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Tessa Allum 1, Maureen Velvick 2, Angela M Brown 3, Helen M Pratt 4, Marcus Allum (C) 5, George Rabbitts 6. Rung half-muffled to remember the lives of Dave & Celia Barlow, killed in Uganda on 17th October, respected & loved members of the Hampstead Norreys community. Also in respect for local guide Eric Alyai, fellow victim of this terrible deed. **£6**

Harrow Weald, London. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Celia Workman 1, Fiona Clode 2, Rachel Seghers 3, Martin Clode 4, David I Bassford (C) 5, Sonia Field 6. 1st inside: 3. In memory of Mandie Taylor (née Woods), who was assistant Tower Captain at All Saints Harrow Weald during the late 1980s. **£6**

Hessle, ER Yorks. 25 Nov, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Thomas E Healy 1, Susan J Healy 2, Dinah M Donovan 3, Rosina M Baxter 4, Neil Donovan (C) 5, Siân E Austin 6, David J Watson 7, Jonathan P Healy 8. Rung in memory of Edward Watson. **£8**

Hessle, ER Yorks. 25 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Susan J Healy 1, Rosina M Baxter 2, Thomas E Healy 3, David J Watson 4, Barry K Baxter 5, Jonathan P Healy (C) 6. Rung in memory of Edward Watson. **£6**

Hessle, E Yorkshire. 25 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Matthew J Healy 1, Jonathan P Healy 2, Susan J Healy (C) 3, David J Watson 4, Barry K Baxter 5, Samantha Hessey 6. Rung in memory of Edward Watson. **£6**

Lindley, W Yorks. 26 Nov, 1250 Cambridge S Major: J Alison Williams 1, Sue Sheridan 2, Tina Newsome 3, Carole Kirby 4, Lorraine M Trebble 5, Peter C Kirby (C) 6, David Townend 7, Alan Trebble 8. 1st S Major inside: 2. In memory of Ted Thompson, Dad of Lorraine who passed away 17 years ago today. **£4**

Maidstone, Kent. (All Saints) 3 Dec, 1260 PB Royal: Frances James 1, Julie Richardson 2, Graham D Heath 3, Peter Richardson 4, Kath E White 5, John B Keeler 6, Richard W Young 7, Alexander Runting 8, David W Grimwood 9, Michael A Birkbeck (C) 10. Rung for Choral Evensong & in celebration of the life of Jean Young (Mother of Richard) who passed away on 25th November at the age of 101. A lovely lady. **£6**

Maidstone, Kent. (S Michael & All Angels) 1 Dec, 1271 Kelso S Minor: Jacqueline Barlow 1, Janice Byrne 2, Stephen Coaker 3, Mark Elvers 4, Pam Thomas 5, Neil Jones (C) 6. In thanksgiving for the life of Jean Young, R. I. P. **£3**

Milton Regis, Kent. 26 Nov, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Christopher M Trafford 1, Phillip Barnes 2, Rona Joiner 3, Mark Elvers 4, Cathy Hall 5, Elizabeth Barnes 6, David Ridley 7, Neil Jones (C) 8. 150th together: 4.8. In thanksgiving for the life of Jean Young, R. I. P. **£8**

North Leigh, Oxon. (S Mary (Perrott Aisle)) 23 Nov, 1344 PB Major: Alison Felton 1-2, Lorna Curtis 3-4, Peter Felton 5-6, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (C) 7-8. Celebrating the life of Christine Groves, after her funeral in this church. Christine leaves a living legacy in the form of Quicken Copse, which she created & developed for the benefit of the local community & wildlife. Lorna (5-6) rang in a Q at North Leigh 28 years ago, almost to the day, celebrating the birth of Quicken Copse. <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1464264>. **£4**

North Leigh, Oxon. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Louise E Brown 1, Julie Minch 2, Michael Probert 3, Guy Nelson 4, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (C) 5, Robert W Walton 6. Rung on the Feast of Christ the King to celebrate the life & legacy of Christine Groves, who created Quicken Copse as a lasting gift to the local community. 1st Q: 1. **£6**

Penrith, Cumbria. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Jennifer Graham 1, Helen Ruberry 2, Tony Ruberry 3, Nick Tithecott 4, Imogen Carrie (C) 5, Hannah Saudek 6. In memory of Alan Shead, a long serving ringer at Penrith, St Andrews. For advent Sunday. 1st as cover: 6. 10th anniversary of first Q: 5. **£6**

Portsmouth, Hants. (Cathedral) 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Laura Carey 1, Malcolm M Powell 2, Sarah A Carey 3, John P Colliss 4, Edward P D Colliss 5, Ian J Carey (C) 6, Peter W J Sheppard 7, Christopher P Cockett 8. 1st on 8 away from cover: 1. Rung as a tribute to Mavis A Whitehead whose ashes were interred in the Cathedral's Garden of Remembrance earlier today. **£6**

Powick, Worcs. 29 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Geoff Titmuss 1, Mary Ward 2, Roger Gurney 3, Sarah Haynes 4, Paul R Smith (C) 5, Nigel Davis 6. Half-muffled before the funeral of Peter Lewis. 25/8/1934 - 27/10/2023. **£6**

Purton, Wilts. 26 Nov, 1287 Grandsire Triples: Gill Woodward 1, Mary Nettleton 2, Alan R Woodward 3, Malcolm D Barnes 4, Richard P Harris 5, Michael J Woodward (C) 6, Katy A Whitaker 7, Dave Nettleton 8. Rung half-muffled by the local band in memory of Frank Strange, ringer at this tower for over 70 years. Frank was also a member of the choir in the church for the majority of his life as well as being a dedicated member of the congregation in this church until recent years. **£8**

Reepham, Norfolk. (S Michael & All Angels, Whitwell) 1 Dec, 1344 Yorkshire S Major: Richard P J Carter 1, Richard A Turk 2, Stephen J Day 3, Naomi Smith 4, David R Carter 5, Nikki R Thomas 6, David R Smith 7, Simon A Rudd (C) 8. A celebration of the life of June Christine Smith, David's mum, whose Funeral took place here on Monday. **£8**

Ringing Room, UK. 9 Dec, 1261 Gila Bend Treble Pl Minimus: Rosemary J Humphrey (C) 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Joseph A Sharp 4. Rung by The Bellerophons in celebration of the life of Benjamin Zephaniah. 570th Q together: 1.2. 480th virtual: 2.4. 250th this year: 2. 39/70. 180th together this year: 1.3. **£4**

Rushbury, Shrops. 15 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Ali Palmer 1, E Anne Hone 2, Chris Slater 3, Andy Wilson 4, Ken Davis 5, Nicholas J Green (C) 6. 1st Minor: 1. In memory of Daphne Davis, late wife of 5, rung in the week of her Birthday. **£3**

Sidmouth, Devon. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Lesley Houghton 1, Elisabeth Robertson 2, Kathie Matthews 3, Anne E Bailey 4, Paul V M Parkes 5, Jonathan G Rose (C) 6. 1st PB Minor: 1. Rung on the front six. Rung for the Advent Carol Service at Sidmouth Parish Church & for the first anniversary of the death of Sarah Collins, a former & very much missed member of the Sidmouth tower; also, following their recent deaths, in memory of Felicity Marshall, a former local ringer at Milverton Church, Somerset & beloved wife of the Revd Prebendary Christopher Marshall & Jackie Norman, beloved wife of Father Andrew Norman, of the Sid Valley Mission Community. May they all rest in peace & rise in glory. **£6**

Solihull, W Mids. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Jen D Hickman 1, Malcolm J Paulson (C) 2, Sand J Cooper 3, Mike Dodson 4, Richard J Harris 5, Robert D Traves 6. 1st Q: 6. 1st inside for over 50 years: 5. For the Advent carol service. Celebrating the life of John Askin who enjoyed ringing at Solihull. **£6**

Stoke Prior, Herefs. (S Luke) 18 Nov, 1260 Doubles (8m/3v): Tim Hollinghurst 1, Rachel Coates 2, Rhiannon Pugh 3, Mark Pugh (C) 4, Geoff Cowling 5, Ian Smith 6. In memory of Roy Edwards, late husband of Judith Edwards, a ringer with the Leominster team. **£6**

Stow, Lincs. 7 Dec, 1696 Yorkshire S Major: Martin F Mitchell 1, Melanie Newman 2, Amanda M Richmond 3, Nicholas J Parkes 4, Janet M Clarke 5, Stephen L Clarke 6, Philip R Grover 7, P Ian Till (C) 8. Rung in memory of Ilene Judd, whose funeral took place today. **£6**

Thornton in Craven, N Yorks. 27 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Christine McIntyre 1, Stuart Moore 2, Sheila D Bloomfield 3, Dawn R Neville 4, Peter C Kirby (C) 5, Maurice Calvert 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled following the funeral of Richard Procter Greenwood (1936-2023) former tower captain & long-standing servant of this church. Richard was instrumental in getting the formerly unringable 4 restored & augmented into this pleasant ring of 6 for the millennium. **£6**

Washington, DC. (Cathedral) 19 Nov, 1344 PB Triples: Meredith A Morris (C) 1, Mary Clark 2, Callan Ordoyne 3, Susan M O'Neill 4, Robert Bannister 5, Georgina Barratt 6, Robert G Gibson 7, Philip Merrill 8. For Sunday service & in celebration of the life of Jennifer Mickelberg (December 22, 1975 - October 31, 2023). **£8**

Wistaston, Ches. 2 Dec, 1440 S Minor (2m): Philip Bates 1, C Paul Cheshire 2, Craig Chaplow 3, Jacqueline H A Thompson 4, Warren S Oliver 5, Frank R Morton (C) 6. In memory of Helen S Mitchell of Chester. **£6**

Worcester. (All Saints) 13 Nov, 1275 Stedman Caters: Hilda C Ridley 1, Mike Seagrave 2, Di Sheppard 3, Martin Bluck 4, Clive Sheppard 5, Robin J Walker (C) 6, Paul Evans 7, Mark A Wilson 8, Andrew D Evans 9, Paul J Marshall 10. Rung as a 90th Birthday compliment to Louise Hamilton-Glover, former ringer at this church & Worcester Cathedral. Also, remembering Wendy Hogarth, a former ringer at Bromsgrove, who died on October 17th aged 100 & a half. Wendy laid particular importance on the "half". **£5**

first time & named D Bob Minor: x16x36.34.1236, LE 12 (124563). **£6**

Welby, Lincs. (S Bartholomew) 15 Nov, 1296 Sescenti Treble Pl Minimus: Robert Simpson 1, Brian E Plummer (C) 2, Luke Tobin 3, Anthony D Walker 4. Rung & named in celebration of Tony's 600th Peal earlier this day. 100th Q: 2. 1st Q in new method: ---1234-14-1234---34,12. Rung also for the LDGCBR Elloe Deaneries Minimus Group. **£2**

Whaplode, Lincs. 7 Nov, 1296 Clashums Treble Pl Minimus: Valerie S Wild 1, Robert Simpson 2, Anthony D Walker 3, Luke Tobin (C) 4. For our absent friend Brian E. Plummer, celebrating the birth of his granddaughter Eden, with congratulations from the band. 1st Q in new method. -12-14-14-14-34.12.14,14 g 1342. Also rung for the Lincoln Guild Elloe Deaneries Minimus Group & friends. **£2**

Miscellaneous performances

Butterwick, Lincs. 15 Oct, Rounds, Call Changes and PB Doubles: Joanne French, Greg Harrison, Sam Napper, Janice Elley, Judith Quincey, Paul Solari, Tony Ladds, Yvonne Smith, Christine Higginson. 1st service ringing for Tony Ladds. For Harvest Festival. **£6**

Cambridge. (173, Victoria Road) 2 Dec, 60 PB Minor: Greg Chu 1-2, Lynne Hughes (C) 3-4, Barry Johnson 5-6. 1st handbell touch at this address. During Lynne & Phil's housewarming party. **£3**

Eccleshall, Staffs. (Holy Trinity) 2 Dec, 120 Treble Hunt Call Changes: Chris Adams (C) 1, Ruth L Winstanley 2, John R Bradshaw 3, Mark Embrey 4, Rosemary E Wright 5, David J Danby 6. Rung by the local band for the Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival. 1st Call Change performance: 4. **£6**

Great Mytton, Lancashire/Former West Riding. (All Hallows (Gallery)) 20 Sep, Rounds on Eight Handbells. Rung whilst group B of Hurst Green & Mytton Mothers Union were having backstroke lessons. **£6**

Great Mytton, Lancashire/West Riding. (All Hallows) 3 Dec, General Ringing: Pauline Howarth, Elizabeth Travis, Christine Entwistle, Carol Clark, Christopher Oatway, Alan J Birney, Tora Thompson. Bells rung full circle by members of the Mytton band, before morning Service, during which, a couple of members of the band lit the first Advent Candle on the Advent wreath. The ringing was the first time since at least 1970, that the bells have been rung full circle before any Advent Service by a Mytton band. Sadly, not all band members were available to ring, but they would have been there if they could!

Kilburn, London. (S Augustine) 26 Jun, General Ringing, Including Stedman Triples: Sally Morgan, Karl Erickson, Bronagh Coakley, Harry Baulcombe, Catherine Crawley (C), Christopher Rocha Moraes, Pauline Dingley, Mark Harris, Janet Drake, Michael Dickinson, Paul Norman, Lucy Chandhial, Sandra Dennis, Jill Marcum, Guy Wells, Caleb Saunders, Jess Pumphrey. In celebration of Pauline's 80th Birthday on the following day, a special practice with many current & prior Kilburn ringers in attendance. **£6**

Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts. 19 Nov, Rounds: Richard Black, Ray Cosgrove, Rich Doar, Jess Doughty, Tom Doughty, Ali Flint, Annette Harvie, Elliot Harvie, Norman Hodgkin, Paula Jackson, Richard Wolfgang, Sue Wolfgang. Rung by members of the new Mansfield Woodhouse band with a little help from members of the Guild who have been involved in teaching them, after to the Collation of The Revd Andrew Porter by the Bishop of Sherwood & the Induction & Installation by the Archdeacon of Nottingham, as the Vicar of the Benefice of Mansfield Woodhouse with Pleasley Vale. This is the first time members of the new band have rung their bells for a service. **£6**

Tushingham, Ches. 3 Dec, Rounds: Ann Johnson, Claire Snaith, John Snaith, Tadge Szeszak, Roy Walker, Elaine Wright, F Charles Hobson, Peter W H Barker, Simon Christian. For the Christingle Service. This was the first time that the newly trained Tushingham ringers (Ann, Claire, Tadge & John) had rung for a service. **£5**

Methods named

Clunbury, Shrops. 9 Dec, 1296 D Bob Minor: Roger Webb [CIV] 1, Helen Sharpe [CCCLXIII] 2, Tim D Hollinghurst [CVI] 3, Lynn Scales [CCLII] (C) 4, Tony Greatrex [CXCV] 5, Alex Sharpe 6. Dth Q: VI. The band are Alex's top V Q ringers with the number of Qs he's rung with them in brackets. This method is rung for the

General quarters

Aldborough, N Yorks. 28 Nov, 1260 (2m / 2v) Doubles: Penelope J Thorley 1, John T Burnup 2, John S Leech (C) 3, Rosamund J Moss 4, Robert D C Richards 5, Peter Cox 6. Wishing Bill Todd well. **£6**

Allensmore, Herefs. 30 Nov, 1260 St Andrew PI Doubles: Carol Williams 1, Vicky Rees (C) 2, Lesley Meredith 3, Nick Cooper-Tomkins 4, Nick J Chapman 5, Steve Williams 6. Rung on St Andrews day at St Andrews. Believed to be the first Q in Herefordshire in m. 1st in m for all.

Ashbocking, Suffolk. 27 Oct, 1260 PB Doubles: Jenny Scase 1, Tig Sweet 2, Robert Scase 3, Phil Sweet 4, Tom Scase (C) 5, Hilary Stearn 6. **£6**

Bampton, Oxon. (S Mary) 2 Dec, 1260 Stedman Triples: Daniel J Austin 1, Harry S Gibson 2, Sally A Austin 3, Jonathan E Muller 4, Steve Bowley 5, David M Salter 6, Graham J Clifton (C) 7, Mick J Austin 8. Birthday compliments to Harry. 100th together: 1.3. **£4**

Barnes, London. 1 Dec, 1260 Middlesex Bob Triples: Trisha Hawkins 1, Wendy Archibald 2, Jackie Harrison 3, Loretto Puckey 4, Dylan Thomas (C) 5, Malcolm McAlister 6, Dominic Johnson 7, Patricia Murray-Cox 8. 1st in m: 2,3,4,5,7. 1st as C.

Barrow upon Humber, Lincs. 2 Dec, 1260 Doubles (3m/v): Paul D Wilkinson 1, Catherine S Knight 2, William A Lennox 3, Heather L E Peachey 4, Barry F Peachey (C) 5, Howard Kerman 6. Rung after the wedding of Chris & Hannah as a 70th Birthday compliment for tomorrow to church member Val Hebblewhite. Also congratulations to Catherine Knight on her award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester.

Bath, Som. (Blessed Virgin Mary, Bathwick) 26 Nov, 1260 St Simon's Bob Triples: Ines Laidler 1, Molly S Waterson 2, Thomas GA Wareing 3, Michael W Day 4, Ruth Beavin 5, Paul Feast 6, Michael J Stubbs (C) 7, Thomas N Longridge 8. For morning service & to celebrate the marriage of Michael & Suzanne Sumner on November 4th.

Bedford. (S Paul) 26 Nov, 1295 Grandsire Caters: Sarah E Hedgcock 1, Alan M Shepherd 2, Helen J Manktelow 3, Carole J Kendall 4, Simon P A Wilmot 5, Clive J Dunbavin 6, Stephen H Stanford (C) 7, Alexander J Nash 8, Richard A Horne 9, James R B Saunders 10. Inaugurating the new tenor stay (out with the ancient oak & in with the ash!).

Bermondsey, London. 26 Nov, 1260 Rev Canterbury Pleasure PI Doubles: Piers Myers 1, Edward Gormley 2, Bogumila Myers 3, M Louise Booth (C) 4, Colin Friend 5, Steve Johnson 6. Prior to morning service. **£6**

Bisley, Glos. 19 Nov, 1250 Lincolnshire S Major: Peter J Harris 1, Maryl Chambers 2, Katie Poole 3, Carole Bucknell 4, Jenni Judson 5, Andy Smith 6, Chris Poole (C) 7, Peter Holden 8. To welcome Olive Smith, grand-daughter to 6.

Bletchington, Oxon. 19 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Colin P Taylor 1, Ruth Leatherdale 2, Paul C Lucas 3, Gordon Smith 4, Alison T Merryweather-Clark (C) 5, Michael Probert 6. Wishing our friend Hugh Deam a very happy Birthday next week. **£6**

Bodenham, Herefs. 18 Nov, 1260 St Clement's CB Minor: Tony Fuller 1, Sue Hack 2, Rachel Coates 3, Rhiannon Pugh 4, Mark Pugh (C) 5, Tim Hollinghurst 6. 30th Birthday wishes to Ashley Fuller.

Breadsall, Derbys. 26 Nov, 1280 Bristol S Major: Ros Graves 1, Gill Pearson 2, Lynne Newton 3, R Philip Graves 4, Neil Morgan 5, Fred Pearson 6, Luke Heaton 7, Paul Jopp (C) 8. For Evensong. **£4**

Bromborough, Wirral. 2 Dec, 1320 Christmas Tree Doubles: Gillian S Caulfield-Pleavin 1, Steven W Hughes (C) 2, Janet M Jones 3, Randle T J Tinkler 4, Peter W Robson 5, Carl B McCarthy 6. 1st in variation for all. 50th together this year: 2.4. For the Church Christmas Tree Festival & the Village Christmas Fair. **£6**

Bushey, Herts. 28 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Stuart Brant 1, Roger Baldwin (C) 2, Margaret M Horritt 3, Deirdre R Watson 4, Geoffrey T Horritt 5, Andrew M Reeve 6, Brian C Watson 7, Brian D Crawley 8. Rung to celebrate the birth of George Francis Mack, son to Tom & Louise. **£8**

Butterwick, Lincs. 17 Oct, 1296 PB Minor: Caroline E Beach 1, Robert J Ingamells 2, Joanne French 3, Michael Belcher (C) 4, Michael W Slater 5, Greg Harrison 6. 1st PB Minor inside away from observation: 2. Well done Robert! **£3**

Butterwick, Lincs. 22 Oct, 1260 PB Minor: Christine Higginson 1, Caroline E Beach 2, Sam W Napper 3, David Reynolds 4, Joanne French (C) 5, Greg Harrison 6. Rung by the local band before the Revd David Kendrew's final service before his retirement. **£3**

Calgary, AB. 11 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Eliza O C Newton 1, Margaret C Gamble 2, Yolande Hasselo 3, Lindsey Holman 4, Eric W R Bumstead (C) 5, Robyn Williams 6. In honor of the brave soldiers, aircrew & sailors who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces. We must never forget the sacrifices they have made, many with their lives, for our freedom.

Canterbury, Kent. (S Stephen, Hackington) 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (6m/v/p): M R F S 1, Amanda L Hills 2, Jane E Huxley (C) 3, Leonard A Huckstep 4, Paul N Davis 5, Andrew C Brett 6. For Sung Eucharistic.

Carlisle, Cumbria. (Cathedral) 15 Oct, 1274 PB Triples: Anne East 1, Lynne Sydes 2, John Proudfoot 3, Ruth M Gilbert 4, Simon Durrant 5, Peter Gardner 6, Duncan Walker (C) 7, Rachel Jack 8. 1st on 8: 8. **£8**

Chichester, W Sussex. 2 Dec, 1344 Spl S Major (6m): Katharine Firman 1, Ewan Grant-Richardson (C) 2, Colin Spencer 3, Gill Roberts 4, Graham Firman 5, Nick Deadman 6, Mike Smith 7, David Roberts 8. The first Q on the bells since the installation of rope guides. An early 70th Birthday compliment to Mike Smith. **£8**

Chirk, Wrexham. 27 Nov, 1320 Minor (2m): Andy Burgess 1, Beverley J Furniss 2, John A Clark 3, Stuart Holroyd 4, Christopher D Parker 5, Peter L Furniss (C) 6. 1st Minor in more than one method: 3. Rung on the Liverpool simulator. **£6**

Christchurch, Dorset. (Priory Church of the Holy Trinity) 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Elizabeth Davey 1, Peta Steadman Bee 2, Margaret Cobb 3, Rosalind Martin 4, Rosemary Rogers (C) 5, Frank Morton 6, Tim Martin 7, Tony Webster 8. 50th Anniversary of the C ringing & calling her 1st tower bell peal on 24th November 1973 at Ringwood. Holts 10-Part Grandsire Triples. 3 was also in the original peal. **£10**

Cobham, Kent. (S Mary Magd) 19 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Peter Hartley 1, Simon Williamson 2, Byron Aldous 3, Mike Hyde 4, Stuart Edwards (C) 5, Christian Antrobus 6. To celebrate the birth on Wednesday, 8th March 2023 of Phoebe Olive Kitty Edwards, daughter of Corinne & Stuart Edwards, sister of Penelope Edwards & grand-daughter of Mavis & Stuart Edwards. **£6**

Colwich, Staffs. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Simon Pearce 1, Stuart C W Hutchieson (C) 2, Andrew Aspland 3, Elizabeth Hutchieson 4, Martyn G Reed 5, Gilly F Hanson-Giddins 6. Rung for the Colwich Christmas Tree Festival.

Combe, Oxon. 26 Nov, 1260 All Saints PI Doubles: Lisa Ryan 1, Richard E White 2, Michael Probert 3, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke 4, Lorna Curtis (C) 5, Dana Josephson 6. For Evensong. Birthday compliments to Robert Walton. **£5**

Croome D'Abitot, Worcs. 19 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Clive Sheppard 1, Archie Haynes 2, Di Sheppard 3, Nigel Davis 4, Sarah Haynes 5, Paul R Smith (C) 6. To entertain the visitors to Croome Park.

Darley Dale, Derbys. 29 Nov, 1280 PB Major: Edward J Angrave 1, Alec A Hetherington 2, Mike Lilley 3, Giles Lacey 4, Olav Bradstock 5, J Edward Dakin 6, Richard L Taylor 7, Richard J Angrave (C) 8. 1st Major: 1. **£8**

Derby. (S Peter) 1 Dec, 1260 Single Canterbury Pleasure Bob Minor: Jana Pavova 1, Lynne Newton 2, Lynda Greaves 3, Corinne Shelton 4, Mike Redfern 5, Alan Rowe (C) 6. Rung on the front six using the simulator. **£3**

Dunblane, Stirling. 28 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Niki Wildman 1, Magnus Peterson 2, Siobhan Kewley 3, Judith Frye 4, Chris Frye (C) 5, Jenny Dearie 6. 1st Grandsire, completes LTR Level 5: 3. 1st since lockdown (aged 87): 2. **£6**

Dunham Massey, Manchester. 2 Dec, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Andrew J Darling 1, Carol A Marchbank 2, Michael Hopkins 3, Alastair E Roberts 4, Graeme E Littler 5, Trevor W Marchbank (C) 6. 1st Surprise: 3. Rung on silenced bells using simulated sound. **£6**

Durleigh, Som. 26 Nov, 1440 Hempsted Bob Minor: Valerie Stone 1, Keith Beale (C) 2, Mervyn A Arcscott 3, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan 4, Paul D Forbes-Harper 5, Lindsey Reynolds 6. Rung for Holy Communion Service. 1st in m: 6.

Earl Stotham, Suffolk. 3 Nov, 1271 Norwich S Minor: Mike Cowling 1, Jenny Scase 2, Robert Scase 3, Mervyn Scase 4, Stephen Christian 5, Tom Scase (C) 6. **£6**

East Leake, Notts. 27 Nov, 1300 PB Doubles: Luke B Marsden 1, Paul A Reeves 2, Anna M Marsden 3, Jamie Taylor 4, John D Cooper (C) 5, Rodney Swallow 6. 1st on Treble: 1. **£6**

Edgmond, Shrops. 27 Nov, 1280 Morrocosialatydolychachacha S Major: John D Neal 1, D Rose W Horton 2, William S Deason 3, Anthony J Freemont 4, Christopher W Hoare 5, Stephen G Askew 6, Cordelia Warr (C) 7, Stephen W Horton 8. A SOD Q. Thanks to Pete Neil for organising the day. **£8**

Edgware, London. 20 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Matt Peperell 1, Sonia Field (C) 2, Christopher J Field 3, Celia Workman 4, Richard Morgan 5, Cameron White-Spunner 6. Birthday compliments to 3. **£6**

Edinburgh. (Cathedral) 26 Nov, 1272 Kent TB Minor: Elinor Farquharson 1, Matthew D Frye 2, Ian P Bell 3, Susannah M Ewens 4, Alexander Davies 5, Alison N Stevens (C) 6. Welcoming Eli & Geoffrey to Edinburgh & the St Mary's band. **£6**

Eye, Herefs. (Ss Peter & Paul) 18 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Tony Fuller 1, Mark Pugh 2, Geoff Cowling 3, Rhiannon Pugh 4, Rachel Coates 5, Tim Hollinghurst (C) 6.

Felsted, Essex. 27 Nov, 1260 Doubles (1p,5m): John Pearson 1, Patricia Cresshull 2, Vicky LeFevre 3, David Learmonth 4, Ian Cresshull (C) 5, Jon Wallis 6. For EACR Northern District QP month. **£6**

Freiston, Lincs. 25 Oct, 1272 Norwich S Minor: Robert J Ingamells 1, Isabel Barker 2, Joanne French 3, Michael Belcher (C) 4, Tony W Barker 5, Greg Harrison 6. For the refurbishment of the church clock dial - sponsored by Freiston Parish council to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. **£3**

Gloucester. (Cathedral) 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Karen Whyatt 1, Mike Seagrove 2, John E Simms 3, Peter J Harris 4, Rachel Coates 5, Lucas Reade 6, John Gibson (C) 7, Anthony Stick 8. Rung for Evensong.

Grappenhall, Ches. 26 Nov, 1280 Lessness S Major: John F Murfin 1, Iain D Scott 2, Ian M Ward 3, Linda M Thomson 4, Graeme A Littler 5, Simon Taylor 6, Peter Wilkinson 7, Nicholas Thomson (C) 8. For the Celtic Communion service. An 80th Birthday compliment to Mike Thomson, Tower Master at Grappenhall. **£8**

Hackney, London. 26 Nov, 1344 Superlative S Major: Jess Pumphrey 1, Tom Britten 2, Andrew P Barham 3, Guy Wells 4, Lucy Chandhial 5, Elliot J Hughes 6, Colin Cherrett 7, Stephen Jakeman (C) 8. 1st Major: 1. 1st in m: 4. Rung on the Feast of Christ the King. **£8**

Havant, Hants. 2 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Gary Crockford 1, Alison Clark 2, Bev Warrington 3, Sam Sweatman 4, Graham E Brown (C) 5, Michael Townend 6. Rung for the Church coffee morning & Christmas Fayre. **£6**

Haworth, W Yorks. 2 Dec, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Nathan C Cox 1, Jane Lynch 2, Francis J Gilruth 3, Alan G Futers 4, Simon Kemp 5, Andy Sutherland (C) 6. **£8**

Herriard, Hants. 26 Nov, 1271 Ipswich S Minor: Graham A Cane 1, Luca G Greenslade 2, Harry E Cane 3, James M Joynson 4, Francesco P Greenslade 5, Fraser A Storie (C) 6. 1st in m: 3.4. 50th for the Guild: 5.

High Erroll, Shrops. 1 Dec, 1250 Amsterdam S Major: Jennifer A Hoare 1, Nicola J Galton 2, Anthony J Freemont 3, Maurice G Ingram 4, Sue Perry 5, Christopher W Hoare 6, William S Deason 7, Peter Neil (C) 8. **£8**

Hilton, Cambs. (S Mary Magd) 1 Dec, 1272 Ipswich S Minor: Sheila J George 1, Angie Gell 2, Roger A Beamson 3, S Caroline M Stevens 4, Phillip S George 5, Andrew J Stevens (C) 6. **£6**

Hodnet, Shrops. 27 Nov, 1344 Spl S Major (3m): John D Neal 1, D Rose W Horton 2, Cordelia Warr 3, Maurice G Ingram 4, Christopher W Hoare 5, Anthony J Freemont 6, Stephen G Askew 7, Stephen W Horton (C) 8. A SOD Q. The band would like to thank Pete Neil for organising the day. **£8**

Holywell, Cambs. 15 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Alison C Evans 1, Sharon Williams 2, Martin Williams 3, Roger Beamson 4, Janet Garnett (C) 5, Tom Ridgman 6. **£3**

Hornchurch, Essex. 19 Nov, 1250 Cambridge S Major: John M Church 1, Marianne R Hayward 2, Jillian Kingston 3, Helen J Carter 4, James Laken 5, Jonathan R Slack 6, Lucas J Owen 7, Clive J Stephenson (C) 8. For evening service. **£4**

Islington, London. (S Mary V) 17 Dec 2022, 1284 Stedman Triples: Rachel L Mahoney 1, Alexander W Runting 2, Josephine Leggett 3, Euan R M Thomas 4, Andrew Alford 5, Ashley F E Monck 6, Simon W Edwards (C) 7, Alex M Bickley 8. 1st on 8: 8. 1st Stedman: 3.

Keele, Staffs. (Woodlands) 29 Nov, 1440 S Minor (2m): Phil Gay 1, Paul Cheshire 2, Harold Dowler 3, Steve Horton 4, Josie Martin 5, Michael Wilshaw (C) 6. **£6**

Kensington, London. (S Mary Abbots) 26 Nov, 1440 London S Royal: Caleb Saunders 1, Stephanie Pattenden (C) 2, Elizabeth Hibbert 3, James Belshaw 4, Isaac Johnson 5, Peter Oates 6, Andrew Hodgson 7, David Holdridge 8, Laurence Bourton 9, Ian Mills 10. For Evensong. 1st London Royal: 5,6. **£10**

Knaresborough, N Yorks. 26 Nov, 1320 PB Minor: Jeni Dadds 1, Sarah Matlocks 2, Rosamund J Moss 3, Angus Dodds 4, John S Leech (C) 5, Geoff Ward 6. 1st inside this millennium: 2. **£6**

Knowle, W Mids. (S John Bapt, St Lawrence, & St Anne) 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Judith Taylor 1, Stephen Shipley (C) 2, Jill Erskine 3, Rowena Shipley 4, Lucy Wynne 5, Michael Dodson 6, John Gwynne 7, Neil Taylor 8. For the evening service. Also, to welcome Indie Rose Cunningham, born on 24 October 2023, first grandchild for Judith & Neil. **£4**

Lancaster. (Priory Church of St Mary) 26 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Jo Hems 1, Andrew W Kayll 2, Rob A Chapman 3, Sam N O Norman 4, Alex A J Gardner 5, Cate Gardner 6, Nigel J Goodship (C) 7, Robin A Daw 8. 1st on 8: 1. Rung for Evensong. **£8**

Lapley, Staffs. 27 Nov, 1280 Spl S Major (6m): Raymond H Daw 1, Margaret Simpson 2, Selwyn G Jones 3, Matthew D Hardy 4, Timothy C Hine 5, John W Pollard 6, Greg J Pearce 7, Malcolm Quimby (C) 8. **£8**

Leckhampton, Glos. 26 Nov, 1280 Gainsborough S Major: Mike Seagrave 1, Isabel Hitchings 2, Barbara Pettit 3, Mike Hartley 4, Reg Hitchings 5, Harry Stephenson 6, Anthony P Foster 7, Stuart Tomlinson (C) 8. 50th together: 2,4,5,6. **£4**

Leyton, London. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Matthew E Rayner 1, Elizabeth Rayner 2, Colin Cherrett 3, Heather Rayner 4, Ruth Jakeman 5, Keith Barber 6, Stephen Jakeman (C) 7, Tim Mills 8. A ruby wedding compliment to Elizabeth & Peter Rayner to the day. Dennis Ellisdon wishes to be associated with this performance. **£8**

Lifton, Devon. 18 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Barbera M Hocke 1, Sarah Hinton 2, Bill Thirtle 3, Daniel T Calvert 4, Peter Hinton 5, Andrew Clark 6, Phil Dunn (C) 7, David Pike 8. For the North Tamar Community Ringing Day to celebrate the achievements of Colin Kneebone (Tower Captain), who has rung at this tower for over 70 years, including ringing for the death of King George VI, the coronation & death of Queen Elizabeth II & the coronation of King Charles III. **£4**

Liverpool, Mers. (Cathedral Church of Christ) 30 Jul, 1276 Grandsire Cinques: David G Hull (C) 1, Ian Roulstone 2, Carrie L Rawlinson 3, Rachel L Mahoney 4, Matthew D Warburton 5, Adam J Bennett 6, Chris Barr 7, David C J Marshall 8, Luke D Marshall 9, Ewan G A Hull 10, Claire F Roulstone 11, Julia R Cater 12, Alison L Edmonds 12. With best wishes to Jim Hull of Lurgan on his 80th Birthday. **£4**

Llandaff, Cardiff. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Matthew S Turner 1, Debbie J Turner 2, Harriet G Moncrieff 3, Frederick B Jackson 4, Ian R Hartfield 5, Anthony E Davies 6, Julian C Parker (C) 7, Robert C Woodward 8. For Evensong with congratulations to Ian & Caroline Hartfield on their 10th Wedding Anniversary & a welcome to Emrys Elidir-Melen, a son for Owain & Rebecca. The band also sends their good wishes to Bob Hardy, currently in Llandough Hospital. **£4**

Longcot, Oxon. 1 Dec, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Jonathan Wright 1, Cynthia E Howell 2, Lindsay Powell 3, Daniel J Watson 4, Joe Norton 5, David A J Endacott 6, Cheryl A Watson 7, Tony Crabtree (C) 8. Circled tower: 7. 50th on the bells: 4. **£8**

Malmesbury, Wilts. 22 Nov, 1344 PB Major: Michael Probert 1, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke 2, Andrew K Woolley 3, Ruth Plumridge 4, Andrea Falk 5, Kevin J Musty 6, Richard Gray 7, Tony Crabtree (C) 8. Rung as a Birthday compliment for Maisey, granddaughter of Ruth, on this her fourth Birthday. **£8**

Marshfield, Glos. (S Mary V) 22 Nov, 1288 Grandsire Triples: Alison T Merryweather-Clarke 1, Julie Minch 2, Michael Probert 3, Ruth Plumridge 4, Andrea Falk 5, Kevin J Musty (C) 6, Tony Crabtree 7, Anthony Williamson 8. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the first SWinditoney Q (on 21st November 2013, in which five members of the band (1,3,5,6,7) rang the same composition, also conducted by Kevin) & Andrea's return to the UK for the first time since 2019. **£8**

Matlock, Derbys. 29 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Frances E Haynes 1, Gillian Hallas 2, Helen Legood 3, Pam Stone 4, Hugo Lane 5, Roy Meads (C) 6. 1st inside: 2. **£6**

Minsterworth, Glos. 29 Nov, 1260 St Clement's and PB Minor: Jack Long 1, Melanie Gibson 2, Zoe Reade 3, John Simms 4, Lucas Reade 5, John Gibson (C) 6. **£3**

Morville, Shrops. 16 Nov, 1280 Spl S Major (7m): J Denise Fletcher 1, Margaret Oakley 2, Martin Bluck 3, Sue Rees 4, Martin D Scott 5, Ashley Smith 6, Nicholas J Green (C) 7, Stephen W Horton 8. Most Spl: 6. **£6**

Nettleham, Lincs. 2 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Mark Hutchinson 1, Claire Holbrook (C) 2, Jonathan P Clark 3, Dave Burkitt 4, Bill Holbrook 5, Tristan Shaw 6. 1st on Treble: 1. Rung for the village Christmas market. **£6**

Newport, Newport. (Cathedral) 7 Jun, 1344 Spl S Maximus (2m): Kathryn Carter 1, Philip Moyle 2, Alison Leach 3, Annabelle Frost 4, Chris Poole (C) 5, Ian Hill 6, Tony Bulteel 7, Julian Howes 8, George Salter 9, Matt Dawson 10, Matt Frost 11, Tom Waterson 12. **£6**

Newport, Newport. (Cathedral) 22 Oct, 1440 Doubles (3m): Peter S Bennett (C) 1, Wendy Reilly 2, Jane Craddock 3, Rowan Rushton 4, Barry J Hayman 5, Andy Parry 6. Rung for Evensong, which included the Baptism of the new treble bell. **£6**

Northallerton, N Yorks. 27 Oct, 1280 Bristol S Royal: David A Town 1, Jennifer A Town 2, Dorothy J Salmon 3, Francis W F Town 4, Eleanor C Mack 5, Edward R Mack (C) 6, Harry Z Helyer 7, Peter F Town 8, Peter J Sanderson 9, Timothy P Bradley 10. 1st Bristol S Royal: 4,7. **£6**

Northampton, MA, USA. (Bixby Court) 18 Nov, 1440 S Minor (2m): Leland Paul Reimer 1-2, Bryn Marie Reimer 3-4, Myles Louis Dakan (C) 5-6. **£3**

Northfield, W Mids. 11 Nov, 1344 Cornwall S Major: Catherine Taylor 1, Clare McArdle 2, Stephen Horton 3, Simon Linford (C) 4, James Ellis 5, Andrew Ellis 6, Charlie Linford 7, Mike Chester 8. 1st in m: 5 (at least). **£8**

Norwich, Norfolk. (S Giles) 27 Nov, 1260 St Clement's CB Minor: Barbara J Mesney 1, Belinda R Maas 2, Stephen J Day 3, Ian Soe-Wright 4, Catherine Sturgess (C) 5, David R Carter 6. 1st in m: 4. On the front 6 using the simulator. **£6**

Old Marston, Oxon. 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (22m/v): Judith Kirby 1, Jane Hedges 2, Kathy Xu 3, Maarit Kivilo (C) 4, Hugh Deam (C) 5, Michael Haynes 6. Rung prior to morning service. **£6**

Old Woking, Surrey. 12 Nov, 1280 Spl S Major (7m): Ian Cole 1, Rachel E Johnson 2, Eliot P Johnson 3, Caroline L Harvey 4, Simon J Kitchener 5, Ruth Blackwell 6, Doug W Stoneham 7, Richard A Pearce (C) 8. Rung half-muffled by a Sunday service band for the Evening Service on Remembrance Sunday. **£6**

Oxford. (40 Western Road) 10 Oct, 1296 Little Bob Royal: Michele Winter 1-2, Lindsay Powell 3-4, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke 5-6, Craig M Robertson 7-8, Joe Norton (C) 9-10. 1st Royal on this pair: 5-6. Birthday compliment to Nanny Vardy for yesterday. **£6**

Oxford. (40 Western Road) 17 Oct, 1288 Little Bob Major: Lisa Ryan 1-2, John G Pusey 3-4, Joe Norton (C) 5-6, Chris Mundy 7-8. For Our Jon's 50th yesterday. **£6**

Oxford. (Oriol College, Staircase 15) 16 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Peter W Spain 1-2, Alex J Parsons (C) 3-4, David L Thomas 5-6, Craig M Robertson 7-8. 1st as C in hand. **£6**

Oxford. (Oriol College, Staircase 15) 22 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Alex J Parsons 1-2, Jonathan C Mills 3-4, Craig M Robertson (C) 5-6. **£6**

Oxford. (S Thomas M) 23 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Michael Probert 1, Alison Felton 2, J Caroline Flockton 3, Simon L Edwards 4, Andrea Falk 5, Stuart J Flockton 6, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (C) 7, Peter Felton 8. 1st S Major inside: 5. **£8**

Penrith, Cumbria. 19 Nov, 1274 Plan Bob Triples: Chris J Lamb 1, Anne East 2, Helen Rubery 3, Gillian Powell 4, Simon Durrant 5, Tony Rubery 6, Duncan Walker (C) 7, Ron East 8. 1st on 8 away from cover: 1. For the annual Ringing to Remember service in church. **£8**

Pershore, Worcs. (S Andrew's Centre) 27 Nov, 1280 Double Dublin S Major: Roy Williams (C) 1, Nicola J Piper 2, Hilda Ridley 3, Rosie Marshall 4, Mike Seagrave 5, Martin Bluck 6, Andrew D Evans 7, Stuart D Piper 8. 1st blows in m: 2. **£4**

Peterborough, Cambs. (S Mary) 19 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Deborah Bray 1, Diana Street 2, Taliya Braden 3, Stuart Weston 4, Andrew Christie (C) 5, Graham Hill 6. Rung after morning Eucharist. **£6**

Peterborough, Cambs. (S Mary) 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (8m/v): Steve Brown 1, Deborah Bray 2, Diana Street 3, David Banks 4, Andrew Christie (C) 5, Julian Burton 6. Rung for Christ the King. **£6**

Pettistree, Suffolk. 29 Nov, 1320 S Minor (2m): Pippa Moss 1, Mary Garner 2, Mark Ogden 3, Peter Harper 4, Mike Cowling 5, Mike Whitby (C) 6. **£4.50**

Preston Plucknett, Som. 26 Nov, 1250 Kelso S Minor: Martyn R Cave 1, Margaret J Bignell 2, Susan E Cave 3, Beverley Perry 4, Leslie E Perry 5, Lawrence C Bignell (C) 6. 1st in m: 3. For St James @ 4 "Christ the King" Communion Service. **£3**

Rampisham, Dorset. 27 Nov, 1260 Doubles (6m): Sylvia Fowler 1, Roger V Smith 2, Andy Waring 3, Christopher J Kingdon 4, Gareth R Evans (C) 5. Rung to mark the 40th anniversary of the Dorset County Association. **£3**

Ramsey, Cambs. 1 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Emily Partridge 1, Cathy Moulton 2, Elspeth Novice (C) 3, Harry Palmer 4, David S Paynter (C) 5, Joanne Calow 6. Rung to mark 20 years as the church organist & as a Birthday compliment to Neville Palmer. 1st as cover: 6. Jointly conducted by 3,5. **£6**

Rotherham, S Yorks. (Minster Church of All Saints) 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Andy Wood 1, Lynn E Beavers 2, Helen C Turner 3, Andrew C Beavers 4, Malcolm S Turner (C) 5, Julie A Doyle 6. Rung to celebrate the "Museum of the Moon" in this church. **£3**

Sheffield, S Yorks. (Cathedral Church of St Marie, Hallam) 24 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Tam Jones 1, Judith S McCoy 2, Andrea C Haynes 3, Erica J Oram 4, Hana Booth (C) 5, Edward M F Haynes 6. 1st turning in the Tenor: 6. 1st Minor as C. Birthday compliments to 5. **£3**

Shilton, Warks. 30 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Sue Trevor 1, Roy Followell 2, Joy Pluckrose 3, Raymon A Sheasby 4, Janice Sheasby 5, Gerald Trevor (C) 6. Rung for the Patronal Day service. **£5**

Shrewsbury, Shrops. (S Chad) 19 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Dawn V A Offen 1, Gareth B R Jones 2, Amanda R Craig 3, Jad Bienek 4, Nicola J Galton 5, Alan M Glover 6, Nicholas J Green (C) 7, Geoffrey Harding 8. Rung on the light eight & before Choral Evensong. **£5.25**

Speldhurst, Kent. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Peter Richardson 1, Julie Richardson 2, Caroline Levy-Cooper 3, Ray Taylor 4, Louise Nightingale 5, Catherine Heathcote 6, Anthony Leeves (C) 7, Carl Nightingale 8. For Evensong. **£8**

Stanford in the Vale, Oxon. (4 St Denys Close) 3 Nov, 1272 Kent TB Minor: Lindsay Powell 1-2, Zoë Williams 3-4, Joe Norton (C) 5-6. Rung to celebrate the birth of Mr Tumnus. **£6**

Stithians, Corn. 24 Nov, 1680 Cambridge S Minor: Sam Nankervis 1, Kathryn R Arkless 2, Martin Spittle 3, Dave Ralls 4, Andrew G Smith 5, Toby Arkless (C) 6. For Western District Dinner Day (25/11/23). **£6**

Stratford sub Castle, Wilts. 13 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Alan Frost 1, Emily Cooper 2, Alison Clayton 3, Patricia Davidson (C) 4, Christopher Chiplen 5, Tilly Cooper 6. 1st inside at first attempt: 2. Related 50th Birthday Compliment to 3 & 80th to Jim Platt, ringer here. For the Ordination as Deacon of Roberta A Woodward (Bairning with Teston (SSM) daughter of Maureen & Alan Frost (1)). Congratulations to David, husband of Alison, on achieving Bachelor of Engineering, Honours - BENG (HONS) (OPEN). To welcome Hazel Alice Dawn born on November 10th, grandchild for Patricia (4) & Ian. **£6**

Sunningwell, Oxon. 17 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Andrea Rowley 1, Alison Felton 2, Colin P Taylor 3, Hugh Deam 4, Peter Felton 5, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (C) 6. An early Birthday compliment to Hugh on the Feast of Saint Hugh! **£6**

Sutton, Lincs. 5 Oct, 1250 Cambridge S Major: Valerie S Wild 1, Ruth Smith 2, Sylvia M Bird 3, Anthony D Walker 4, Robert Simpson 5, Joanne French 6, Alan D H Bird 7, Greg Harrison (C) 8. 1st S Major for over 20 years: 2,5. To wish Charles Robertson, vicar of Sutton, Wigtoft, Swineshead, Bicker & Donington a happy retirement & to thank him for his support for ringing in these churches. Also for Lincoln Diocesan Guild Eastern branch Q & ringing opportunities month. **£4**

Sutton, Ches. (S James) 26 Nov, 1260 St Simon's Bob Doubles: Tony Greenham 1, Mark Jacot (C) 2, Julia Cazalet 3, Tim Taylor 4, Sarah Jacot 5, Phil Pountain 6. 1st in m: 4. 75th on the bells: 2. Rung for peace in the Middle East & also in the week of the 60th Anniversary of the assassination of John F Kennedy. **£6**

Swavesey, Cambs. 12 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Tricia Rowland 1, Jack Cooper 2, Janet Garnett (C) 3, Edith Robinson 4, Jamie Males 5, Andrew Marshall 6. For Remembrance Sunday service. **£3**

Tanfield, Durham. 27 Nov, 1280 Rutland S Major: Joseph Stewart 1, Kris King (C) 2, Robert Wallace 3, Andrew Wallace 4, Jim Crowther 5, Clive Moon 6, Andreas Schrocksnadel 7, Peter Dawson 8. 1st in m: 3.

Taynton, Oxon. 25 Nov, 1269 Cambridge S Minor: Lynda Hine 1, Simon J O Head 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Lavinia Sullivan 4, Andrea Falk 5, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Blasé Day. 1st for The Bellerophons: 5. 1st S Minor by The Bellerophons Offline. 34/70. **£6**

Teynham, Kent. 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (5m): Jay Ford 1, Tim Ford 2, Graham Cuthbert 3, Scott Pearce 4, Barry Roberts (C) 5, Mike Eldrett 6. For Evensong. **£6**

Tichborne, Hants. 26 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Jessica Hay 1, Susan J Smith 2, Elizabeth Johnson 3, Ian M Redway 4, Roger G Booth (C) 5, Craig Robb 6. For Evensong on the patronal festival. 1st away from cover & completes Level 3 of Learning the Ropes: 1. **£6**

Todmorden, W Yorks. (S Mary) 29 Nov, 1280 Lessness S Major: George H Campling 1, Anne E Mayes 2, Jeffrey Brannan 3, Pauline Campling 4, Nina E Brannan 5, Andrew C D Mayes 6, Carol A Marchbank 7, Trevor W Marchbank (C) 8. **£4**

Todmorden, W Yorks. (Unitarian) 30 Nov, 1320 TB Minor (2m): Debra Holmes 1, Mike Fishwick 2, Helen Rigby 3, Jane Lynch 4, Steve Kershaw 5, Derek Thomas (C) 6. Perseverance crowned with success having eventually permed the right 2 from 4! **£6**

Ufford, Suffolk. (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) 28 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Mike Whitby (C) 1, Pippa Moss 2, Hilary Stearn 3, Mary Garner 4, Geoffrey Clement 5, Kate Eagle 6, Richard Rapor 7, Ruth Munnings 8. To welcome Geoffrey back to Suffolk. **£8**

Waltham Abbey, Essex. 10 Sep, 1260 Doubles (2m): Hilary C Walls 1, Caroline Andrews 2, Ben Gaigher 3, Lucas J Owen 4, Dave Knott (C) 5, Josh Ashley 6. For Evensong. **£6**

Waltham Abbey, Essex. 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Josh Ashley 1, Caroline Andrews 2, Ben Gaigher 3, Jane Walters 4, Rachel Arnold 5, Dave Knott 6, Ian Cresshull (C) 7, Hilary Walls 8. 1st Triples: 1. 1st in m: 3. Rung to celebrate the baptism today of Emma Elizabeth Short into the church family of the Abbey Church. **£10**

Warnham, W Sussex. (S Margaret) 19 Nov, 1280 Cornwall S Major: Isabel C Woodward 1, Abigail C Fairhurst 2, David D Smith 3, David R Finch 4, Vanessa V Mitchell 5, Edward E Woodward 6, Simon M Alford (C) 7, Jonathan M Spencer 8. **£8**

Warnham, W Sussex. (S Margaret) 26 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Isabel C Woodward 1, Susan P Meyer 2, Simon M Alford 3, Simon S Meyer (C) 4, Zach J A Johnston 5, Terry J Madigan 6, Abigail C Fairhurst 7, Edward E Woodward 8. 1st inside on 8: 5. **£8**

Washington, DC. (Old Post Office Tower) 22 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Katharine S Emmons 1, Meredith A Morris 2, Quilla Roth 3, B Haley Barnett (C) 4, Georgina Barratt 5, John Matthews 6. For Thanksgiving. **£6**

Washington, DC. (Cathedral) 26 Nov, 1260 PB Triples: Meredith A Morris 1, Alethea Merelos 2, Beth Sinclair 3, Cecily W Rock 4, Robert Bannister 5, B Haley Barnett (C) 6, Quilla Roth 7, Philip Merrill 8. For Sunday service. 1st PB Triples inside: 2. **£8**

Westminster, London. (S Clement Danes) 19 Nov, 1296 Little Bob Royal: Anthony J Bloomfield 1, Dylan J Thomas 2, Julie A Bloomfield 3, Jillian Kingston 4, William J Stungo 5, Trevor E Church 6, James Laken 7, Andrew P Barham 8, Lucas J Owen 9, Clive J Stephenson (C) 10. For morning service. 1st in m: 3. **£5**

Wethersfield, Essex. 12 Nov, 1344 Kent Treble Place Triples: Nick Holland 1, Cherry Threadgold 2, David Newton 3, Peter G Smith 4, Angela Pannell 5, James Green 6, Roy Threadgold (C) 7, Alfie Holland 8. Half-muffled for Remembrance. 1st in m for all. **£8**

Wigton, Cumbria. 15 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Sally Walker 1, Ruth Gilbert 2, John Proudfoot 3, Lynne Sydes 4, Simon Durrant 5, Norman Brock 6, Duncan Walker (C) 7, Chris J Lamb 8. 1st on 8: 8. 1st Grandsire Triples inside: 4. **£8**

Withyham, E Sussex. 27 Nov, 1280 Spl S Major (4m): Ann Jenner 1, Peter Richardson 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Julie Richardson 4, David Smith 5, Anthony Leaves 6, Ray Taylor 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8. **£8**

Witney, Oxon. 2 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Jonathan E Muller 1, Mick J Austin 2, Steve Bowley 3, Graham J Clifton 4, Harry S Gibson 5, David M Salter 6, Daniel J Austin (C) 7, Sally A Austin 8. **£4**

Wormshill, Kent. 4 Nov, 1260 Doubles (3m): James Pearce 1, Barry Roberts 2, Samuel Ng 3, Isabel Hopper 4, Scott Pearce (C) 5, Mike Eldrett 6. Rung for the wedding of Phil & Sarah.

York. (Cathedral) 28 May, 1276 Grandsire Cinques: David G Hull (C) 1, Helen P Taylor 2, Iain J Anderson 3, Ryan E Mills 4, James D Austin 5, William J Lake 6, Jack Hanlon 7, Simon P Hartley 8, C Mark G Ockelton 9, Euan R M Thomas 10, Alison L Edmonds 11, Simon W Edwards 12. For Choral Evensong. With congratulations & best wishes to Simon Edwards for his Birthday yesterday.

York. (Cathedral) 18 Jun, 1346 Cambridge S Maximus: Alison L Edmonds 1, Joanna M Ainsworth 2, James P Town 3, Francis W F Town 4, Matthew S Pearson 5, Joseph E T Waters 6, Matthew W Thewsey 7, Iain J Anderson 8, Eleanor C Mack 9, David G Hull (C) 10, Patrick W J Deakin 11, Edward R Mack 12. 1st Cambridge Maximus: 4. Well done Francis! For Choral Evensong.

York. (Cathedral) 17 Sep, 1282 Cambridge S Royal: David G Hull (C) 1, Francis W F Town 2, Simon P Hartley 3, James D Austin 4, Joseph E T Waters 5, Harry Z Helyer 6, Simon W Edwards 7, Samuel M Austin 8, Andrew I Blacklock 9, Edward R Mack 10. A welcome to the Revd Canon Timothy Goode, the Minster's new Canon for Congregational Discipleship & Nurture. Also for the commemoration of the Battle of Britain & for Choral Evensong.

York. (Cathedral) 29 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Caters: David G Hull (C) 1, Natasha A Williams 2, Jemima Bleackley 3, Matthew O Hall 4, Iain J Anderson 5, Joseph E T Waters 6, Patrick W J Deakin 7, Alison L Edmonds 8, Simon W Edwards 9, Matthew W Thewsey 10. 1st at the Minster: 2,3,4. For Choral Evensong.

York. (Cathedral) 29 Nov, 1276 Grandsire Cinques: David G Hull (C) 1, Natasha A Williams 2, Simon W Edwards 3, Jemima Bleackley 4, Ewan G A Hull 5, Judith R Moreton 6, Helen P Taylor 7, Matthew W Thewsey 8, Andrew I Blacklock 9, Alison L Edmonds 10, Edward R Mack 11, Eleanor C Mack 12. Rung for the 44th Annual Service of Thanks for the NHS. Also marking 75 years of the National Health Service, with grateful thanks to all those who provide healthcare in the UK & throughout the world. The band included a number of NHS employees & people whose work is related to healthcare.

Aston Rowant, Oxon. (The White House) 1 Dec, 1250 Pudsey S Major: Christopher Tuckett 1-2, Patricia Newton 3-4, Janet Menhinick 5-6, Robert Newton (C) 7-8. **£2**

Beeston, Notts. (41, Haddon Crescent) 30 Nov, 1280 Kent TB Major: Evie Newton 1-2, Roger J Lawson 3-4, Tim Peverett 5-6, Christian J Brown (C) 7-8. **£2**

Dordrecht, Netherlands. (Knolhaven 44) 18 Nov, 1696 Yorkshire S Major: Nicola D Bright 1-2, Paul I Butler 3-4, Martin J Bright 5-6, Michael J Trimm (C) 7-8.

East Burton, Dorset. (Nut Tree Cottage (Summer House)) 26 Nov, 1264 PB Major: Bini Miles 1-2, Jane Wilkins 3-4, Phil Miles (C) 5-6, Jim Holmes 7-8. Rung by the Wool Sunday Service Band to celebrate Bini & Jane's 70th year. 1st Major in hand: 1-2,3-4,7-8 & as C. 1st Major on Phil's handbells, purchased from John Taylor in 2015. **£4**

Edinburgh. (27 House O'Hill Crescent) 21 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Barbara J Bell 1-2, Susannah M Ewens 3-4, Ian P Bell 5-6, Nicholas W Jones (C) 7-8. **£4**

Holmes Chapel, Ches. (10, Selkirk Drive) 27 Nov, 1272 Kent TB Minor: Graeme A Littler 1-2, Nicholas Thomson 3-4, John F Murfin (C) 5-6. **£3**

Hull, Yorks. (33 Westbourne Avenue) 28 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Barry F Peachey 1-2, Karen A Lane 3-4, Neil Turner (C) 5-6. A Hull Handbells Project performance. **£3**

Loughborough, Leics. (80 Leconfield Road) 18 Nov, 1344 Cambridge S Major: Tim Peverett (C) 1-2, Alison Godfrey 3-4, Robert Watson 5-6, Judith Godfrey 7-8. **£3**

Loughborough, Leics. (80 Leconfield Road) 23 Nov, 1344 Superlative S Major: Tim Peverett (C) 1-2, Alison Godfrey 3-4, Robert Watson 5-6, Judith Godfrey 7-8. **£3**

Market Weighton, E Yorkshire. (26 Sancton Road) 1 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Christine M Church 1-2, Karen A Lane 3-4, Neil Turner (C) 5-6. A Hull Handbells Project performance. **£3**

Melton Ross, Lincs. (3, West Holme) 27 Nov, 1360 PB Major: Barry F Peachey 1-2, Heather L E Peachey 3-4, William A Lennox 5-6, Peter Church (C) 7-8. 1st Major on real handbells: 5-6. A Hull Handbells Project performance.

North Leigh, Oxon. (S Mary (Wilcote Chapel)) 16 Nov, 1288 Major (2m): Alison Felton 1-2, Peter Felton 3-4, Lorna Curtis 5-6, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (C) 7-8. 1st Spl Major on real bells as C. **£4**

Oxford. (Oriol College, Staircase 15) 29 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Alex J Parsons 1-2, David L Thomas 3-4, Craig M Robertson (C) 5-6. 75th Q: 1-2.

Paignton, Devon. (65 Winsu Ave) 27 Nov, 1272 Kent TB Minor: Peter Bill 1-2, Michael Tompsett 3-4, Martin Mansley (C) 5-6. "Perseverance crowned by Success" The bells have finally learned the composition! **£3**

Seattle, WA, USA. (Wallingford) 10 Nov, 1440 PB Minor: Eric Stubleby (C) 1-2, Tj Marchello 3-4, David B Wilson 5-6. **£3**

Addingham, W Yorks. 14 Sep, 1260 Stedman Doubles: Charles Pipe-Wolferstan (C) 1, Victoria L Halford 2, Mike Seagrave 3, Daniel T Meyer 4, Emma R Jones 5, David A C Matthews 6.

Alton, Hants. (S Lawrence) 26 Nov, 1274 PB Triples: Andrew D Taylor 1, Michael J Novell 2, Julie Morgan 3, Judy Sparling 4, Jessica A Hornsby 5, Matthew D Watts 6, Andrew P Sparling (C) 7, Ange Bray 8. 1st Triples inside: 3. Rung prior to evening services. **£8**

Alton, Hants. (S Lawrence) 3 Dec, 1274 PB Triples: Julie Morgan 1, Michael J Novell 2, Judy Sparling 3, Ange Bray 4, Matthew D Watts 5, Steven P Marriott 6, Andrew P Sparling (C) 7, Tony Jewell 8. 1st Triples inside: 4. Rung prior to the Advent Carol Service held at St Lawrence, Alton. **£8**

Armitage Bridge, W Yorks. 15 Sep, 1260 Armitage New Bob Doubles: Alan D Pink 1, Louise G Pink 2, Clifford Nicholls 3, Simon D G Webb 4, David A C Matthews (C) 5, Phill A Butler 6.

Ash, Som. (Holy Trinity) 9 Dec, 1296 Spl S Minor (6m): Patricia Tucker 1, Cathy Civill 2, Susan E Cave 3, A C John Davis 4, Penelope I Hooper 5, Patrick C Tucker (C) 6. 1st the London 6: 2,3,5. 75th Q this year: 6. **£3**

Awbridge, Hants. 8 Dec, 1280 Spl S Major (2m): Philippa Garraway 1, Oliver B Chaloner 2, Andrew J Nicol 3, Colin J Butler 4, Mary-Kate Wells 5, John A Dodd 6, Matthew L Dancy 7, Daniel Graham (C) 8. **£4**

Bath, Som. (Abbey Church of St Peter & St Paul) 3 Dec, 1280 Yorkshire S Royal: William Willans 1, William M Beech (C) 2, Michael J Stubbs 3, Phill A Butler 4, Matthew A Skues 5, Matthew J Butler 6, Molly S Waterson 7, Matthew W Goodship 8, Thomas N Longridge 9, James M Joynton 10. Rung before Advent Procession. 1st Yorkshire Royal: 2,8. 1st Royal as C.

Bentley Common, Essex. 9 Dec, 1320 Kent TB Minor: John Harpole 1, Theo Johnson 2, Ryan Faulkner-Hatt 3, Sarah Robbins 4, Mark Robbins 5, Andrew Beech (C) 6. 1st in m: 2,3 & as C. **£6**

Billingsborough, Lincs. 24 Nov, 1344 Yorkshire S Major: Valerie S Wild 1, Luke Tobin 2, P Barry Jones 3, Robert Simpson 4, Brian E Plummer 5, Mark Mumby 6, Michael Maughan (C) 7, Anthony D Walker 8. 1st in m: 5. **£3**

Bradfield, S Yorks. (S Nicholas) 8 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Andrew Kirk 1, Naomi Marples 2, Richard Panniker 3, Rosalind Fox 4, John Marples (C) 5, Aneurin Kennerley 6. 1st as cover: 6. Rung for Advent. **£3**

Bradford, W Yorks. (Cathedral) 10 Sep, 1320 Little Bob Maximus: Molly S Waterson 1, Susan M Sawyer 2, Louise G Pink 3, Bjorn E Bradstock 4, Simon D G Webb (C) 5, Claire C Nicholson 6, Clifford R Nicholls 7, Thomas G A Wareing 8, Mike Seagrave 9, Alan D Pink 10, D Paul Mason 11, Matthew J Jones (tno) 12. For Evensong. 1st Maximus: 8.

Bristol. (S Mark Lord Mayor's Chapel) 22 Nov, 1272 Cunecastre S Minor: David A C Matthews 1, Gareth L M Lawson 2, Jody A Wood 3, Matthew B Johnson 4, Phill J Payne 5, Simon D G Webb (C) 6. Get well compliments to Colin Turner.

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. 20 Nov, 1295 Grandsire Caters: Brian E Whiting (C) 1, Joan Garrett 2, Deborah A J Blumfield 3, Jed Flatters 4, Mark Ingledew 5, Julian Colman 6, Michael J Cowling 7, Barry J Dixon 8, Andrew R Stone 9, Rowan P Wilson 10. For St Edmund's Day service. **£10**

Bushey, Herts. 4 Dec, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Nicky J Smith 1, Carolyn J Crawley 2, Roger Baldwin (C) 3, Stuart Brant 4, Deirdre R Watson 5, Brian C Watson 6, Brian D Crawley 7, Stephen J Crawley 8. Rung to celebrate Roger Baldwin's Birthday. Roger is 85 today. **£8**

Bushey, Herts. 8 Dec, 1280 Superlative S Major: Christine M Carter 1, Ann Evans 2, Roger Baldwin (C) 3, Stuart Brant 4, Deirdre R Watson 5, Andrew M Reeve 6, Brian D Crawley 7, Brian C Watson 8. Rung for the feast of the Immaculate Conception. **£8**

Bushley, Worcs. 7 Dec, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Philip Coward 1, Valerie Johnson 2, Andrew R Williams 3, Ben Gooch 4, David A C Matthews 5, Matthew B Johnson (C) 6. 40th Birthday compliments to David Matthews.

Calverley, W Yorks. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Deborah Clegg 1, Margaret Roundhill 2, Nicola H Goode 3, Andrew Paterson 4, Peter C Kirby (C) 5, David J Townend 6. Rung prior to the evening service for the first Sunday in Advent. 1st for 52 years: 1. **£6**

Canterbury, Kent. (S Stephen, Hackington) 3 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Jane E Huxley 1, Leonard A Huckstep 2, Claire Stay 3, Amanda L Hills 4, Andrew C Brett 5, Paul N Davis (C) 6. For Advent Carol Service.

Chirk, Wrexham. 4 Dec, 1320 Minor (2m): Samantha Bateman-Green 1, Beverley J Furniss 2, Clare Morris 3, Ian Wiltshire 4, Christopher D Parker 5, Peter L Furniss (C) 6. 1st in more than one Minor method: 3. Rung on the Liverpool Simulator. **£6**

Chislehurst, London. (Annunciation the Blessed Virgin Mary) 30 Nov, 1264 Spl Major (23m): Svetlana Sokolova 1, Gwen Rogers 2, Thomas J Hinks (C) 3, David P Macey 4, Ross E Hartley 5, Andrew M Hills 6, Ian G Mills 7, Philip Rogers 8.

Cirencester, Glos. (S John Bapt) 18 Sep, 1282 Swindon S Royal: Ian D Bucknell 1, Jane C Spencer 2, David N James 3, Andrew J Wood 4, Jody A Wood 5, Michael R Spencer 6, Phill J Payne 7, Philip F Pope 8, Simon D G Webb 9, Michael J Woodward (C) 10. 1st on 10 as C. 36th Wedding Anniversary compliments to Ian & Carole Bucknell.

City of London. (S Andrew Holborn) 29 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Stephanie Pattenden 1, Sheila Cheesman 2, Rachel Billings 3, James Ansell 4, Christopher Ridley 5, Isaac Johnson 6, Louise Booth 7, Jeremy Cheesman (C) 8. 1st Yorkshire Major: 4. Prior to the Pontifical High Mass for the Solemnity of St Andrew the Apostle. **£8**

City of London. (S James Garlickhythe) 7 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Peter Payne 1, Dennis Ellisdon 2, Martin B Sutcliffe 3, Bridget Campbell 4, Elizabeth C Rayner (C) 5, J Richard Anthony 6, Linda S Georgiades 7, Paul J R Daybell 8. Rung for St Giles-in-the-Fields annual dinner day. **£8**

City of London. (S Magnus M, London Bridge) 7 Dec, 1274 Cambridge S Minor: E Lesley Barclay 1, Joseph Dillon 2, Timothy G M Jones 3, Fraser A Storie 4, Nicholas Wilkins 5, Thomas F Lawrence (C) 6. For St Giles-in-the-Fields Dinner Day. On the back six. **£6**

Clifton, Notts. (S Mary V) 8 Dec, 1280 Brendon Hills S Major: Corinna England 1, Emma R Jones 2, Denise Harden 3, Peter J England (C) 4, Gary Harden 5, Martyn J Marriott 6, Michael A Varney 7, Edward A S Walker 8. **£4**

Clitheroe, Lancs. 3 Dec, 1344 Bristol S Major: Simon D Woof (C) 1, Pauline Campling 2, Garry D Peel 3, Jane Owen 4, George H Campling 5, Carrie L Rawlinson 6, Brian J Owen 7, Andrew J Rawlinson 8. For Advent Carol Service.

Clodock, Herefs. 4 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Wendy D M Medd 1, Gerda Fewster 2, Libby Davis 3, Andrew J Williams 4, David Katz (C) 5, Claire Alexander 6. A compliment to Wendy, whose Birthday is tomorrow. **£6**

Corsley, Wilts. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (2m): Liz Attenborough 1, John Harrold (C) 2, Karen S Williams 3, Michael Attenborough 4, Jane McKee 5, Thea Mackie-Harrison 6. Rung to congratulate Anthony Harrold (Worcester) & Paige Howard (Canada) on their marriage on the 20th November 2023 & to wish them the very best for the future. **£6**

Cosgrove, Northants. 2 Dec, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Kay Bartholomew 1, Raymond Vickers 2, Julie Haseldine 3, Ruth Stokes 4, Christopher Stokes 5, Andrew Haseldine (C) 6. A belated 89th Birthday compliment to Raymond Vickers.

Derby. (S Peter) 8 Dec, 1296 St Clement's CB Major: Richard Chamberlain 1, Lynne Newton 2, Corinne Shelton 3, Steve Harpham 4, Alec Humphrey 5, Nick Daines 6, John Booth 7, Alan Rowe (C) 8. **£4**

Dilwyn, Herefs. 5 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Andy Mitchell 1, Tony Price 2, Tony Fuller 3, Rhiannon Pugh 4, Mark Pugh (C) 5, Geoff Cowling 6. Rung to mark the 30th anniversary of Mark's first Q.

Downham, Essex. (S Margaret) 8 Dec, 1272 S Minor (2m): Steve Halliwell 1, Julia Taylor 2, Josie Rapley Mende 3, Nigel Taylor 4, Trevor Church 5, John Harpole (C) 6. 1st in methods: 2,3. 125th together: 5,6. **£6**

Dunedin, New Zealand. 9 Dec, 1260 PB Triples: Peter Jaqueiry 1, Jacqui Grafton 2, Christian Westrip 3, Karen Layton 4, Terry Spearing 5, Frank Sluter 6, Mary Sluter (C) 7, Colin Jaqueiry 8. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first ladies band peal for ANZAB. 1st on 8: 8.

Dunedin, New Zealand. 9 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Ronald J Stevens 1, Mary Sluter 2, Peter Jaqueiry 3, Christian Westrip 4, C J R Hext 5, Jacqui Grafton 6, Frank Sluter (C) 7, Colin Jaqueiry 8. For the visit of the Papanui ringers.

Elsham, Lincs. 6 Dec, 1320 Holly Doubles: Zena Robertson 1, Patricia A Donnelly 2, Heather L E Peachey 3, Michael F Peachey 4, Barry F Peachey (C) 5, Paul D Wilkinson 6. 1st in the variation: 4. Rung as Birthday compliments for yesterday to Holly Peachey (7), Zena Robertson (60) & Catherine Knight & for today to Rosina Baxter of Hessle & Natalie Smith, niece of Paul Wilkinson.

Enfield, London. (S Andrew) 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Adam Brett 1, Cathryn Hunt 2, Eleanor Hunt 3, Lucien Laphorn 4, Martin Sutcliffe 5, Hans Rashbrook 6, Stephen Jakeman (C) 7, Christopher Trawin 8. 1st on 8: 1. 1st in m: 3,4. Rung as part of the 12th annual Enfield Christmas Parade of Lights event. **£8**

Epsom, Surrey. (S Martin) 6 Dec, 1260 Stedman Triples: Carole Avis 1, Roger Tompsett 2, William Hibbert 3, Peter Emery (C) 4, Ann Steed 5, David Wallis 6, Michael Bale 7, Christopher Brown 8. **£8**

Exeter, Devon. (S Petrock) 4 Dec, 1272 Callum D Minor: Wendy Campbell 1, Sue Sawyer 2, James Kirkcaldy 3, Graham Tucker 4, Ian Campbell 5, David Hird (C) 6.

Exeter, Devon. (Cathedral) 6 Dec, 1282 Cambridge S Royal: James Kirkcaldy 1, Jo Franklin 2, Peter Bill 3, Sue Sparling 4, Patricia Slade 5, Philip Dunn 6, Ian Smith 7, Andrew Digby 8, Michael Mears 9, David Hird (C) 10. Rung prior to the WI Carol Service. **£5**

Fewston, N Yorks. 13 Sep, 1296 Norwich S Minor: Phill A Butler 1, Bjørn E Bradstock 2, Clifford R Nicholls 3, Claire C Nicholson 4, D Paul Mason 5, David A C Matthews (C) 6.

Freensham, Surrey. (S Mary V) 3 Dec, 1280 Belfast S Major: Jonathan Hetherington 1, Mark Place 2, David Pearson 3, Janet Menhnick 4, Mike Pidd (C) 5, Martin Turner 6, Nigel Smith 7, Oliver Hall 8. For Advent Carol Service. Rung by a resident Farnham District band. **£4**

Frinted, Kent. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (5m): Graham Cuthbert 1, Kate Bispham 2, Richard Bushell 3, Tim Ford 4, Barry Roberts (C) 5, Malcolm Major 6. For Advent Evensong. **£6**

Frinted, Kent. 8 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Richard Bushell 1, Jay Ford 2, Tim Ford 3, Graham Cuthbert 4, Barry Roberts (C) 5, Mike Eldrett 6. For Carol Service. **£6**

Gloucester. (Cathedral) 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Karen Whyatt 1, Anne Stewart 2, David Lord 3, Lucas Reade 4, John Simms 5, Rachel Coates 6, John Gibson (C) 7, Will Ruck 8. Rung for Advent Choral Evensong.

Grappenhall, Ches. 3 Dec, 1272 S Minor (7m): Alison K C Collins 1, Linda M Thomson 2, Ian M Ward 3, David J Pigg 4, Graeme A Littler 5, Nicholas Thomson (C) 6. To mark the 125th anniversary of the first peal of S rung for the Chester Diocesan Guild on 3rd December 1898 in this tower on the old six (prior to augmentation to 8) by a Grappenhall band. Today's Q was also rung by a Grappenhall Sunday Service band. **£6**

Great Dunmow, Essex. 4 Dec, 1280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Mary Bone 1, Fred Bone 2, Patricia Cresshull 3, Vicky LeFèvre 4, Ann Evans 5, Ian Cresshull 6, Alistair Donaldson 7, Richard Sales (C) 8. A 95th Birthday compliment to Frank Warboys with best wishes from all the band. **£8**

Great Haseley, Oxon. 6 Dec, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Patricia Newton 1, Cathy Hughes-D'Aeth 2, Adam Lockwood 3, John Hughes-D'Aeth 4, Edward Hughes-D'Aeth 5, Robert Newton (C) 6. 1st Minor & of S: 3. **£3**

Grosmont, Mon. 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Jane Moggridge 1, Vicky Rees (C) 2, Nick J Chapman 3, Alan Simpson 4, Nick Cooper-Tomkins 5, Martin O Jackson 6. Rung for Sunday Service & in Tribute to Jean Cooper Smith. Musician extraordinary for all. She gave to the music life of the church & Community.

Haddenham, Bucks. (S Mary V) 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Melvyn Rose 1, Sue Belgrove 2, John Whitham 3, John Chandler 4, Phillip Rose (C) 5, Mick Harrison 6. Rung for Advent Sunday.

Halifax, W Yorks. (Minster Church of St John the Baptist) 16 Sep, 1313 Stedman Cinques: Charles Pipe-Wolferstan (C) 1, Bjørn E Bradstock 2, Susan M Sawyer 3, Louise G Pink 4, C Sally Austin 5, Emma R Jones 6, Claire C Nicholson 7, Mike Seagrave 8, Clifford R Nicholls 9, Molly S Waterson 10, Alan D Pink 11, Simon D G Webb 12.

Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex. 4 Dec, 1344 Superlative S Major: Liz Griffith-Jones 1, Patricia Cresshull 2, Bill Griffith-Jones 3, Vicky LeFèvre 4, Ann Evans 5, Richard Sales 6, Alistair Donaldson 7, Ian Cresshull (C) 8. **£8**

Hathern, Leics. 1 Dec, 1280 Pudsey S Major: Liz Watson 1, Sally A Brown 2, Rebecca M Banner 3, Eliza I Lewis-Skeath 4, Robert P Watson 5, Judith Godfrey 6, Mark J Pendery 7, Mark P Banner (C) 8. 1st in m: 3,4,8. **£8**

Haworth, W Yorks. 9 Sep, 1296 Spl S Minor (3m): Simon D G Webb 1, Susan M Sawyer 2, Louise C Palmer 3, Molly S Waterson 4, D Paul Mason 5, David A C Matthews (C) 6.

Heavitree, Devon. 3 Dec, 1280 Bristol S Major: Tim Bayton 1, Wendy Campbell 2, Sue Sawyer 3, Patricia Slade 4, Steph Hills 5, Peter Simpson 6, Ian Campbell 7, David Hird (C) 8. Happy Birthday to Patricia Slade. **£4**

Heptonstall, W Yorks. 3 Dec, 1280 Spl S Major (3m): Christine Silkstone 1, Jane Owen 2, Andrew D Sibson 3, Pauline Campling 4, Brian J Owen 5, George H Campling (C) 6, Matthew D Warburton 7, Simon J Poole 8. For morning service.

Hethersett, Norfolk. 9 Dec, 1250 Cambridge S Major: Debbie Allen 1, Rachel Mallett 2, Teresa Doggett 3, Kenny Frostwick 4, Catherine Sturgess 5, David R Carter (C) 6, David J Ward 7, Hayden J Charles 8. 1st S Major: 7. **£8**

High Ercall, Shrops. 8 Dec, 1320 Spl S Minor (2m): Nicola J Galton 1, Madeline J Harris 2, Jad Bienek 3, Anthony J Freemont 4, Peter Neil 5, Cordelia Warr (C) 6. **£6**

Hollingbourne, Kent. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Major: Amy Wallace 1, Roger Pocock 2, Tim Munt 3, James Pearce 4, Tim Ford 5, Nigel Baker 6, Scott Pearce 7, Stuart Cox (C) 8. For advent Sunday. 1st Major inside: 4. **£8**

Horbury, W Yorks. 11 Sep, 1280 Yorkshire D Major: Claire C Nicholson 1, Wendy Bloom 2, Susan M Sawyer 3, James E Blackburn 4, Molly S Waterson 5, Bjørn E Bradstock 6, D Paul Mason 7, Simon D G Webb (C) 8.

Hornchurch, Essex. 26 Nov, 1320 Minor (2m): Helen J Carter 1, Michelle A Stephenson 2, Simon M Barnes 3, Andrew P Barham 4, Roderic K Bickerton 5, Clive J Stephenson (C) 6. For Confirmation Service celebrating the confirmation of Ellen Hayward. Also to celebrate the 5th Birthday of Millie Slack today. 1st Double Court: 2,4. Most methods: 2. **£3**

Hornchurch, Essex. 3 Dec, 1344 PB Major: Marianne R Hayward 1, Michelle A Stephenson 2, Julie A Bloomfield 3, John M Church 4, James Laken 5, Jonathan R Slack 6, Roderic K Bickerton 7, Clive J Stephenson (C) 8. For Advent Carol Service. 1st Major inside: 2. **£4**

Iffley, Oxon. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (3m): Mary Carroll 1, Susan King 2, Keith Godfrey 3, Martin King 4, Stephen Davies (C) 5, Jonathan Jones 6. For Advent Sunday.

Ilkley, W Yorks. 13 Sep, 1260 St Alkmund Bob Triples: Phill A Butler 1, Susan M Sawyer 2, Thomas G A Wareing 3, Matthew A Skues 4, Daniel T Meyer 5, David A C Matthews 6, Clifford Nicholls (C) 7, Simon D G Webb 8.

Kensington, London. (S Mary Abbots) 3 Dec, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Ines Picchioni 1, Peter Emery (C) 2, James Ansell 3, Tom Britten 4, Andrew Hodgson 5, Christopher Ridley 6, Laurence Bourton 7, Janet Archibald 8. For Evensong.

Kington St Michael, Wilts. 8 Nov, 1296 Spl S Minor (4m): Phill A Butler 1, Jody A Wood 2, Simon D G Webb (C) 3, Matthew B Johnson 4, Phill J Payne 5, David A C Matthews 6.

Kirkheaton, W Yorks. 16 Sep, 1260 St John The Baptist Bob Triples: Simon D G Webb 1, Louise G Pink 2, Susan M Sawyer 3, Thomas G A Wareing 4, Bjørn E Bradstock 5, Claire C Nicholson 6, Clifford R Nicholls (C) 7, Alan D Pink 8.

Knowle, W Mids. (S John Bapt, St Lawrence, & St Anne) 3 Dec, 1296 Bourne S Minor: Rowena Shipley 1, Lucy Gwynne 2, Richard Andrew 3, Jayne Shipley 4, Stephen Shipley 5, John Gwynne (C) 6. For Christingle Service. 1st Bourne: 4. **£3**

Lancaster. (Priory Church of St Mary) 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Merylun Gilldaley 1, Cate Gardner 2, Carolina M Goodship 3, Sam N O Norman 4, Nigel J Goodship (C) 5, Joe Shaw 6. 1st away from cover: 1. **£6**

Leatherhead, Surrey. 3 Dec, 1260 Stedman Triples: Lizzie C M Watts 1, Alan E Brown 2, Ann L Steed 3, Abigail C Fairhurst 4, Anne M Anthony 5, Richard M Truman 6, Jeremy Cheesman (C) 7, Alexander D Lewis 8. 1st in m: 1. 1st as cover to Triples: 8. Thanks to our C, Jeremy, as he edges closer to conducting his 1,000th Q. **£8**

Leyland, Lancs. (S Andrew) 20 Oct, 1259 Grandsire Caters: Craig A Chaplow 1, Joseph E T Waters 2, Caleb R D Saunders 3, Simon A Percy 4, Martin D Mellor 5, Dylan Thomas 6, Robin J Walker (C) 7, Nathan Cox 8, Mark A Wilson 9, Matthew J Butler 10. Rung at the start of the Autumn FODS tour. **£5**

Lindley, W Yorks. 15 Sep, 1296 Double Oxford Bob Major: Claire C Nicholson 1, Bjørn E Bradstock 2, Matthew A Skues 3, Phill A Butler 4, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan (C) 5, Mike Seagrave 6, Molly S Waterson 7, Simon D G Webb 8.

Little Gaddesden, Herts. 9 Dec, 1260 Doubles (5m): Anne McIntyre 1, Richard Booth 2, Bob Tregillus 3, Lucas J Williams 4, Simon J O Head (C) 5, Glynn Stirling 6. Completes Learning the Ropes Level 3: 6. **£3**

Little Hadham, Herts. 6 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Ron Sambridge 1, Mary Bone (C) 2, Fred Bone 3, Nick Hughes 4, Jerry Piron 5, Anne Brolly 6. 1st on Treble: 1. **£10**

Liverpool, Mers. (Cathedral Church of Christ) 3 Dec, 1296 PB Caters: Chris Barr 1, Ray Woods 2, Daniel E Hughes 3, Lillian R Halewood 4, Giles Blundell 5, Tom Nestor 6, Matthew Woods 7, Adam Bennett (C) 8, K George Lee 9, Matthew Warburton 10. For Evensong.

Lodsworth, W Sussex. 3 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Luca G Greenslade 1, Graham A Cane 2, Harry E Cane 3, John A Mayle 4, Ewan Grant-Richardson 5, Francesco P Greenslade (C) 6. Circles the tower: 1. Rung for Evening Carol Service & to mark the beginning of Advent.

Lydney, Glos. 15 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Royal: Tom Bale 1, Andrew D Clark (C) 2, David A C Matthews 3, Quentin S A Jackson 4, William M Beech 5, Phill A Butler 6, Jody A Wood 7, Matthew B Johnson 8, Simon D G Webb 9, Phill J Payne 10. 1st Royal: 1. 1st on 10 as C.

Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts. 19 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Jessica Doughty 1, Richard J E Black 2, Tom Doughty 3, Richard J Doar 4, Sue Wolfgang 5, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 6. Rung by members of the Guild who have been involved in teaching the new band at Mansfield Woodhouse prior to the Collation of The Revd Andrew Porter by the Bishop of Sherwood & the Induction & Installation by the Archdeacon of Nottingham, as the Vicar of the Benefice of Mansfield Woodhouse with Pleasley Vale. **£6**

Meltham, W Yorks. 15 Sep, 1296 Xaintes S Minor: Louise G Pink 1, Susan M Sawyer 2, Alan D Pink 3, Mike Seagrave 4, David A C Matthews 5, Simon D G Webb (C) 6.

Morecambe, Lancs. 3 Dec, 1280 PB Major: Alex A J Gardner 1, Sue Neal 2, Joe Shaw 3, Carolina M Goodship 4, Jamie Ross 5, Cate Gardner 6, Sam N O Norman 7, Nigel J Goodship (C) 8. 1st on 8: 5. **£8**

New Alesford, Hants. (S John Bapt) 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (3m): Jessica Hay 1, Tony Ayres 2, Elizabeth Johnson 3, Frances Warwick 4, Roger G Booth (C) 5, Ian M Redway 6. For Christingle service. **£6**

North Ockendon, Essex. 9 Dec, 1272 Cambridge S Minor: Andrew Beech 1, Ryan Faulkner-Hatt 2, Theo Johnson 3, Sarah Robbins 4, Mark Robbins 5, John Harpole (C) 6. 1st in m: 2. Circled the tower 10 times: 1. **£6**

North Wootton, Som. (Great Orchard Campanile) 30 Nov, 1280 Lincolnshire S Major: Lawrence C Bignell 1, A C John Davis 2, Margaret J Bignell 3, Cathy Civill 4, Penelope I Hooper 5, Beverley Perry 6, Leslie E Perry 7, David P Hammonds (C) 8. Rung National Cyber Security Day. 1st in m as C. 3,125th Q: 6. **£8**

Northchapel, W Sussex. 3 Dec, 1296 Norwich S Minor: Graham A Cane 1, Harry E Cane 2, Luca G Greenslade 3, Ewan Grant-Richardson 4, John A Mayle 5, Francesco P Greenslade (C) 6. Rung to mark the beginning of Advent & as an 18th Birthday compliment to our friend Thomas Ashwin-Siejkowski of Twickenham.

Norton, S Yorks. (S James Gt) 9 Sep, 1280 Oxford TB Major: Alan D Pink 1, Louise G Pink 2, Louise C Palmer 3, Mike Seagrave 4, Phill A Butler 5, David A C Matthews 6, D Paul Mason 7, Simon D G Webb (C) 8.

Norton juxta Malton, N Yorks. 4 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Lynn J Hall 1, Gerry Bacon 2, Alan J Boyd 3, Steve Waterworth 4, Martin G Tubbs 5, Jane I Boyd 6, Anne Deebank (C) 7, Paul Buckle 8. Rung prior to the service of collation of the Revd Jenny Buckler as Vicar of the Benefice of Norton juxta Malton. **£8**

Norwich, Norfolk. (S Giles) 8 Dec, 1260 Stedman Doubles: Anne Tansley Thomas 1, Clare Grant 2, Richard A Turk 3, Catherine Sturgess 4, Nikki Thomas 5, Richard Kennaway 6. Jointly conducted by the band. 1st in principle: 1,2. 1st as cover: 6. Rung on the front 6 using the simulator. Get well wishes to Teasel. **£6**

Nuneaton, Warks. (All Saints, Chilvers Coton) 4 Dec, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: R Joy Pluckrose 1, Michael Chester 2, Audrey M Alldrick 3, Raymon A Sheasby 4, Noah M Poulton 5, Doug Kempton 6, Andrew F Alldrick (C) 7, Jonathon R Chester 8. 1st in m: 5. **£8**

Old Marston, Oxon. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (9m/v): Roy Peach 1, Janice Beale 2, Jonathan Beale 3, Maarit Kivilo (C) 4, Hugh Deam (C) 5, Judith Kirby 6. For Advent Service: Longing for Light. **£6**

Oswestry, Shrops. 18 Nov, 1280 Unrung S Major: Richard Major 1, Brian J Rothera 2, Maurice G Ingram 3, Sue Perry 4, Christopher W Hoare 5, Peter Neil 6, Cordelia Warr (C) 7, Anthony J Freemont 8. Rung to celebrate the promotion of the C to Professor of Medieval & Renaissance Art at the University of Manchester. John D Neal wishes to be associated with this Q. **£8**

Overton, Hants. (S Mary) 3 Dec, 1320 Blunderbus Doubles: Elizabeth A Lewis 1, Alan Stevens 2, Christine Holmes 3, Adrian P Lewis 4, David A Holmes (C) 5, Elaine Whitham 6. For Advent Sunday morning service. 1st in variation for all. **£6**

Overton on Dee, Wrexham. 9 Dec, 1260 PB Doubles: Beverley J Furniss 1, Samantha Bateman-Green 2, Clare Morris (C) 3, Christopher D Parker 4, Peter L Furniss 5, Pauline J D Goring 6. Rung with the best wishes of the band to Tom Miles, former ringer at this tower & Jacqui Avila getting married later today in Guatemala. **£6**

Oxford. (S Giles) 3 Dec, 1280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Katie Lane 1, Alison Felton 2, Craig M Robertson 3, Lindsay Powell 4, John G Pusey 5, Simon L Edwards 6, Peter W Spain 7, Peter Felton (C) 8. **£8**

Pateley Bridge, N Yorks. 14 Sep, 1260 Kent Treble Place Triples: Simon D G Webb 1, Clifford R Nicholls 2, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan (C) 3, D Paul Mason 4, Louise G Pink 5, Molly S Waterson 6, Alan D Pink 7, Matthew A Skues 8.

Phillack, Corn. 4 Dec, 1280 Turramurra S Major: Debbie Spittle 1, Jo Wenborne 2, Carolyn Howell 3, Jane Hitchens 4, Martin Spittle 5, Andrew G Smith 6, Neil Hitchens 7, Sam Nankervis (C) 8. **£8**

Quadding, Lincs. 10 Nov, 1320 Bourne S Minor: Valerie S Wild 1, Joanne French 2, Michael Maughan 3, Robert Simpson 4, Luke Tobin 5, Anthony D Walker (C) 6. Rung to celebrate the birth of Eden, granddaughter to Brian E Plummer, born on Monday 6th November. **£2.50**

Quidenham, Norfolk. 8 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Gillian H Knox 1, Richard A Turk 2, Simon J T Smith 3, Stephen V J Bounds 4, Nikki R Thomas 5, David R Carter (C) 6, Neil M Thomas 7, Kristopher Harper-Allison 8. Rung prior to Quidenham Carol Service. **£6**

Rushden, Northants. (S Mary) 3 Dec, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Harry E Curtis 1, Pam M Bailey 2, Sarah E Hedgcock 3, Catherine E Hemmington 4, Cathy J Dixon 5, Thomas Coulter-Brophy (C) 6. Rung on Advent Sunday. 1st S as C. **£3**

Saltaire, W Yorks. 13 Sep, 1320 Ipswich S Minor: Alan D Pink 1, Clifford R Nicholls 2, Molly S Waterson 3, Susan M Sawyer 4, David A C Matthews 5, Simon D G Webb (C) 6.

Sheffield, S Yorks. (Cathedral Church of St Peter & St Paul) 16 Nov, 1253 Stedman Cinques: Stephen J Hall (C) 1, Andrea C Haynes 2, Clare Rogers 3, Deborah L Blagden 4, David A Jackson 5, Simon J Reading 6, Melanie Newman 7, Natasha Claus 8, Edward A S Walker 9, Edmund H Mottershead 10, William R Haynes 11, Edward M F Haynes 12.

ShIPLEY, W Yorks. (S Paul) 10 Sep, 1344 PB Major: Susan M Sawyer 1, Louise C Palmer 2, Bjørn E Bradstock 3, Phill A Butler 4, Claire C Nicholson 5, Simon D G Webb 6, Clifford R Nicholls 7, David A C Matthews (C) 8. After morning service.

Shottesbrooke, Berks. 3 Dec, 1260 St Martin's Bob Doubles: Martha C Hazell 1, Charley Smith 2, Jacqueline M Hazell 3, Vikki E M Bulbeck 4, Simon D Smith (C) 5, Lesley S Cross 6. For morning service on Advent Sunday. 1st in m: 2. **£6**

South Hackney, London. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (7m): Susan R Crocker 1, Jess Pumphrey 2, Stephen Jakeman 3, Lucy Chandhial 4, Guy Wells (C) 5, Emilia Crocker Griffiths 6. For Advent Service & to Celebrate Emilia's 17th Birthday. Most methods as C. **£6**

South Weald, Essex. 3 Dec, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Alwyn Brock 1, Julia Taylor 2, Nigel Taylor 3, Clare Beech 4, Andrew Beech 5, John Harpole (C) 6, Trevor Church 7, Paul Trueman 8. 1st TB Major: 1. For Advent Sunday. **£8**

South Weald, Essex. 9 Dec, 1250 Cambridge S Major: John Cousins 1, Ryan Faulkner-Hatt 2, Sarah Robbins 3, Theo Johnson 4, Mark Robbins 5, Andrew Beech 6, John Harpole (C) 7, Paul Trueman 8. 1st S Major: 2,3. **£8**

Sowerby, W Yorks. 12 Sep, 1280 St Clement's CB Minor: Mike Seagrave 1, Daniel T Meyer 2, D Paul Mason 3, Victoria L Halford 4, Molly S Waterson 5, James E Blackburn 6, Charles Pipe-Wolferstan (C) 7, Simon D G Webb 8.

Staunton on Wye, Herefs. 4 Dec, 1260 (4m/7v) Doubles: Alison C Alcock 1, Jennifer A Ferguson 2, Christopher J Pickford 3, Colin A Lewis (C) 4, Geoff Cowling 5, Ian Ferguson 6. To congratulate the Swansea & Brecon Guild, which was essentially an outgrowth of the Brecon District of the Hereford DG, for reaching its centenary this year. **£6**

Stoke on Trent, Staffs. (Minster Church of St Peter ad Vincula) 4 Dec, 1296 Grandsire Caters: Margaret Simpson 1, Susan Kingman 2, Greg J Pearce 3, Matthew D Hardy 4, Raymond H Daw 5, Malcolm Quimby (C) 6, John W Pollard 7, Selwyn G Jones 8, Tim Ward 9, Phil H Michie 10. Compliment to Pat Jones of Stafford whose Birthday is today! **£10**

Stretton, Ches. (S Matthew) 4 Dec, 1272 Berwick S Minor: Pauline Taylor 1, Linda M Thomson 2, Ian M Ward 3, Graeme A Littler 4, Simon Taylor 5, Nicholas Thomson (C) 6. **£6**

Swindon, Wilts. (Christ Church) 3 Dec, 1296 Grandsire Caters: Nicky Pullan 1, Daniel Watson 2, Cheryl Watson 3, Ann Eyles 4, Jeremy Samson 5, Tony Pullan (C) 6, Donna Pullan 7, Jason Carter 8, Peter Eyles 9, Gordon Belcher 10. Rung prior to the Welcome Service for the new Bishop of Swindon, The Rt Revd Neil Warwick. **£10**

Taunton, Som. (Holy Trinity) 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (2m): Harry J Thorne-Henderson 1, Michael C Hansford (C) 2, Angela M Henderson 3, Jackie K Henderson 4, Jill M Hansford 5, Debra J Henderson 6. 1st Cover: 6. For Advent Sunday. **£6**

Tewkesbury, Glos. (Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin) 3 Dec, 1344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Lin Border 1, Ruth Bagley 2, Mike Seagrave 3, Sheila Taylor 4, Harry Stephenson 5, Malcolm Taylor 6, David Bagley 7, Greg Jones (C) 8. 1st in m as C. For Advent Carol Service. **£8**

Thriplow, Cambs. 7 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Vanessa E Webster 1, Penelope Bellis 2, Elaine Woolward 3, Janet Garnett 4, Marina Warner (C) 5, Rebecca Glazier 6. Rung to thank Janet for all she has done for the Ladies Guild & wish her well for her move to the West Country. 1st in m: 2. **£3**

Thriplow, Cambs. 7 Dec, 1260 Doubles (4m): Marina Warner 1, Rebecca Glazier (C) 2, Wendy Godden (C) 3, Sandra Murphy 4, Janet Garnett (C) 5, Sarah Coogan 6. Rung in appreciation by members of the Ladies Guild Eastern District for Janet, who has done so much for the LGED & will be sorely missed as she moves to pastures new. Followed by practice & lunch with more members at the Queens Head, Newton. **£3**

Todmorden, W Yorks. (Unitarian) 12 Sep, 1260 Stedman Triples: Charles Pipe-Wolferstan 1, Susan M Sawyer 2, Louise G Pink 3, Mike Seagrave 4, Alan D Pink 5, Simon D G Webb 6, Daniel T Meyer (C) 7, Victoria L Halford 8. 1st Stedman as C. **£3**

Tuxford, Notts. 3 Dec, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Heather Grover 1, Melanie Newman 2, Stephen L Clarke 3, Diana German 4, Janet M Clarke 5, Philip R Grover 6, Nicholas J Parkes (C) 7, Simon Mennie 8. For the switching on of Tuxford Christmas lights. 1st on 8: 8. 1st Grandsire Triples: 4. **£8**

Washingborough, Lincs. 6 Dec, 1280 PB Major: Paul Sharp 1, Sylvia M Bird 2, Heather Grover 3, Heather Shaw 4, Alan D H Bird 5, Philip R Grover 6, Keith C Butter 7, Owen G Peters (C) 8. 1st Major as C. **£4**

Weldon, Northants. 30 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Liz Reading 1, Simon Dixon 2, Pam Bailey 3, Catherine E Hemmington 4, Mark Webb 5, John Beresford 6, Steve Millington 7, Alistair Donaldson (C) 8. 1st S Major: 4. **£6**

West Bridgford, Notts. 8 Dec, 1280 Christmas D Major: Corinna England 1, Martyn J Marriott 2, Clare Ryder 3, Philip R Wild 4, Michael P R H Woolley 5, Duncan Wallace 6, Gary Harden (C) 7, Peter J England 8. Rung to mark the start of the annual St Giles Christmas Tree Festival. **£4**

Wilburton, Cambs. 10 Nov, 1320 Ipswich S Minor: Naomi Laredo 1, Sharon Williams 2, Janet Garnett 3, Marina Warner 4, Edith Robinson 5, Philip D Bailey (C) 6. **£3**

Wilburton, Cambs. 29 Nov, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: John E Mitchell 1, Naomi Laredo 2, JoAnne Rutter 3, Sally Mew 4, Janet Garnett (C) 5, Roger Beaman 6. Rung as a farewell compliment to the C, who is moving to Somerset. **£3**

Winterborne Kingston, Dorset. 8 Dec, 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Andy Waring 1, Sas Watson 2, Richard W Ellis 3, Tim E Rose 4, Ashley F E Monck 5, Phil Miles (C) 6. **£6**

Wokingham, Berks. (All Saints) 26 Nov, 1259 Grandsire Triples: Charlotte N Lee 1, Nicola M Lee 2, Alan K Barsby 3, Becki Shuttleworth 4, David G Maynard (C) 5, John A Harrison 6, Stephen R Smith 7, Stephen C Bates 8. **£8**

Worcester. (S Stephen) 5 Jun, 1344 Cornwall S Major: Robin J Walker (C) 1, Di Sheppard 2, Nicola Piper 3, Clive Sheppard 4, Kathryn Cocks 5, Mike Seagrave 6, Hilda C Ridley 7, Mark A Wilson 8. **£5**

Worcester. (S Swithun) 30 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Mark A Wilson 1, Clive Sheppard 2, Di Sheppard 3, Robin J Walker 4, Ashley C Fortey 5, Paul R Smith (C) 6. Rung during the opening of the Victorian Christmas Fayre. 650th together: 1,4.

Worcester. (S Stephen) 4 Dec, 1280 Spl S Major (7m): Robin J Walker (C) 1, Nicola Piper 2, Kathryn Cocks 3, Hilda Ridley 4, Stuart D Piper 5, Martin Bluck 6, Mike Seagrave 7, Andrew D Evans 8. 200th Q in 2023: 7. Get well wishes to Mark Wilson (who was in the original band for this performance) & James Mort. **£4**

Writtle, Essex. 28 Nov, 1271 Ipswich S Minor: Carol Penfold Martin 1, Courtney Mandell 2, Christina Brewster 3, Adam Sloman 4, Andrew Brewster 5, Neil Pasmore (C) 6. 1st in m: 2,4,5,6. **£6**

Wykeham, N Yorks. 3 Dec, 1260 Doubles (2m): Paul Buckle 1, Lynn J Hall 2, Anne Deebank 3, Steve Waterworth 4, Martin G Tubbs (C) 5. For Advent Carol Service & a retirement compliment to Lynn. 50th as C. **£5**

Wymondham, Norfolk. (Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin & St Thomas a Becket) 3 Dec, 1260 PB Triples: Rachael Mold 1, Catherine Sturgess 2, Deborah Allen 3, Teresa Doggett 4, Anthony Sargent 5, David Ward 6, Hayden Charles (C) 7, Robert Gardner 8. 1st on 8: 1. For Advent Carol Service. **£8**

Attenborough, Notts. (10, Manor Avenue) 2 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Evie Newton 1-2, Christopher J Field 3-4, Tim Peverett 5-6, Tim Poole (C) 7-8. 1st S Major in hand: 1-2. **£4**

Beeston, Notts. (41, Haddon Crescent) 5 Oct, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Roger J Lawson 1-2, Christopher J Field 3-4, Tim Poole (C) 5-6. **£3**

Beeston, Notts. (17, Coniston Road) 12 Oct, 1344 Cambridge S Major: Roger J Lawson 1-2, Christine M Langton 3-4, Ian Vincent 5-6, Tim Poole (C) 7-8. **£4**

Beeston, Notts. (41, Haddon Crescent) 19 Oct, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Esther Brown 1-2, Emily E Hall 3-4, Christian J Brown 5-6, Tim Poole (C) 7-8. **£4**

Beeston, Notts. (17, Coniston Road) 26 Oct, 1296 St Clement's CB Major: Christine M Langton 1-2, Roger J Lawson 3-4, Tom Langton 5-6, Tim Poole (C) 7-8. 5th Birthday compliments to Edward Langton. **£4**

Birmingham, W Mids. (S Paul (The Schoolroom)) 6 Dec, 1280 Bristol S Major: Casey McLellan 1-2, Oliver C Bates (C) 3-4, Richard B Grimmett 5-6, James P Ramsbottom 7-8. **£3**

Congresbury, Som. (Elmwood) 9 Dec, 1260 PB Minor: Peter W Hill 1-2, Thomas J Waterson 3-4, Christine R Hill (C) 5-6. 1st touch at this address. **£3**

Exeter, Devon. (64 Mount Pleasant Road) 5 Dec, 1280 Spl S Major (3m): Jill Wigney 1-2, Sue Sparling 3-4, Tim Bayton (C) 5-6, Sue Sawyer 7-8. **£3**

Kingston upon Hull. (33 Westbourne Avenue) 4 Dec, 1440 Oxford TB Minor: Heather L E Peachey 1-2, William Lennox 3-4, Peter Church (C) 5-6. A Birthday compliment to Christopher L D Munday. A Hull Handbells Project performance. **£3**

Loughborough, Leics. (80 Leconfield Road) 4 Dec, 1344 Bristol S Major: Tim Peverett (C) 1-2, Alison Godfrey 3-4, Robert Watson 5-6, Judith Godfrey 7-8. Forthcoming Birthday compliment to Lynn Goodwin. 1st Bristol on an inside pair: 3-4. **£3**

Loughborough, Leics. (80 Leconfield Road) 4 Dec, 1344 Double Bob Major: Robert Watson 1-2, Tim Peverett (C) 3-4, Judith Godfrey 5-6, Alison Godfrey 7-8. 1st in m for all. **£3**

Portsmouth, Hants. (HMS Victory) 5 Dec, 1376 Kent TB Major: Edward P D Colliss 1-2, David J Mattingly 3-4, Ian J Carey 5-6, Benjamin J Carey (C) 7-8. Rung immediately prior to the annual Carol Service for the commander of Portsmouth Naval Base, aboard HMS Victory, commissioned ship of the Royal Navy & Flagship of the 1st Sea Lord. **£3**

Tilehurst, Berks. (15 Lytham End) 6 Dec, 1312 Oxford TB Major: Marcia Dieppe 1-2, June Wells 3-4, Kenneth Davenport 5-6, John Wells (C) 7-8. Compliments to Ralph & Janet Elmes on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. **£2**

Watford (15 Harford Drive), Herts. 5 Dec, 1260 Minor (2m): Nicky J Smith 1-2, Marc A McDonald 3-4, Roger Baldwin (C) 5-6. Happy Birthday wishes to the C! **£4**

Wokingham, Berks. (2 Murdoch Road) 19 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Marcia L Dieppe 1-2, Janet E Menhinick 3-4, Christopher P Cole 5-6, John A Harrison (C) 7-8. **£4**

Distributed quarters

Ringling Room, UK, USA, Switzerland. 22 Nov, 1344 Bolonium S Major: David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 1, Sara Oakeley (Arlesheim, Switzerland) 2, Sue Marsden (Peterborough) 3, Robin A Daw 4, Samuel M Senior (Southampton) 5, Cara Capewell 6, Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 7, Nick Elks (Peterborough) 8. 1st in m for all. **£8**

Ringling Room. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Wheatley 1, Peter L Furniss 2, Stuart Holroyd 3, Paul Chadwick 4, David R Raggett 5, Wheatley (C) 6. **£6**

Ringling Room, UK. 26 Nov, 1267 Christ's College TB Minimus: Barbara D Murray 1, Joseph A Sharp (C) 2, Rosemary J Humphrey 3, Sue Portsmouth 4. Rung by The Bellerophons for the Feast of Christ the King. 444th together: 2,3. 35/70. **£4**

Ringling Room, UK. 27 Nov, 1272 Norwich S Minor: Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 1, Rosemary J Humphrey 2, Lynda Hine 3, Sue Portsmouth 4, Barbara D Murray 5, Joseph A Sharp (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for Cyber Monday. 900th on Ringling Room: 5. 490th together: 4,5. 50th together: 3,4. 36/70. **£6**

Ringling Room, UK. 28 Nov, 1250 Spond Treble Pl Minimus: Rosemary J Humphrey (C) 1, Joseph A Sharp 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Barbara D Murray 4. 650th for The Bellerophons: 4. Rung by The Bellerophons to mark the election of the first woman, Nancy Astor, to the House of Commons in 1919. Possibly our fastest virtual Q. 37/70. Believed to be the first Q in m, so we have no idea how, or why, it acquired its name. **£4**

Ringling Room, UK. 1 Dec, 1296 Bourne S Minor: Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 1, Rosemary J Humphrey 2, Barbara D Murray 3, Joseph A Sharp 4, Sue Portsmouth 5, Simon J O Head (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for Rosa Parks Day. 1750th Q & 550th online: 1. 560th together tower bell style: 2,3. 440th virtual: 2,4. 430th together: 2,5. 425th virtual: 2,5. 380th virtual: 4,5. 350th together: 1,3. 275th virtual: 1,2. 100th virtual tower bell style: 1,6. 38/70. **£6**

Ringling Room (Hemel Hempstead & Kendal), UK. 8 Dec, 1344 St Clement's CB Major: Nicky J Smith 1-2, Sue Carpenter 3-4, Wheatley 5-6, Stephen J Crawley (C) 7-8. **£4**

Late publication

Calgary, AB. 28 Jun, 1260 PB Doubles: Yolande Hasselo 1, Ann Williams 2, Tom Farthing 3, Margaret Gamble 4, Eric Bumstead (C) 5, Paul Brown 6. 1st Q on treble for Yolande Hasselo.

Catz 550

Wookey, Som. 19 Aug, 1260 PB Doubles: Graham Turnock (St Catharine's) 1, Paul Johnson (St Catharine's) 2, Kevin Spratling 3, Jenny Darke 4, Graham Darke (St Catharine's) (C) 5, Peter Cresswell (St Catharine's) 6. The band included 4 members who matriculated at St Catharine's College Cambridge between 1959 & 1986. 1 - 1st pull on a bell rope after a gap of 25 years, having cycled 144 miles from London. 5 - 300th qtr or longer & 30th as C.

City of London. (S James Garlickhythe) 7 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Oliver Winkless-Clark (St Catharine's) 1, Alison Felton 2, Angela M Darvill 3, Paul C Johnson (St Catharine's) 4, Jenny Darke 5, Peter Felton (C) 6, Kenneth Darvill (St Catharine's) 7, Graham Darke (St Catharine's) 8. Rung to wish Sir John Benger well as he starts his term as the 40th Master of St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Also to acknowledge the centenary of the College Alumni Society, founded on 6th October 1923 in London. The Q included four members of the St Catharine's College community.

Cambridge. (S Andrew the Great) 25 Nov, 1296 Saynt Kateryns Hall Treble Pl Minor: Paul Johnson (St Catharine's) 1, Oliver Winkless-Clark (St Catharine's) 2, Graham Darke (St Catharine's) 3, Alan T Winter (Christ's) 4, Kenneth Darvill (St Catharine's) 5, Jonathan D Shanklin (Magdalene) (C) 6. 1st Q in m. Rung for the 550th anniversary on this day of St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Saynt Kateryns Hall of Cambridge was the name given to the college by its founder Robert Woodlark on 25th November, 1473. Place notation: &-36-14-56-36-456-56,16.

Histon, Cambs. 25 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Paul Johnson (St Catharine's) 1, Barry Johnson (Jesus) 2, John Sherwood (Trinity) 3, Claire Barlow (Newnham) 4, Graham Darke (St Catharine's) 5, Andrew Roberts (Gonville and Caius) 6, Samuel Johnson (St Catharine's) 7, Kenneth Darvill (St Catharine's) (C) 8. Rung to celebrate the 550th anniversary of St Catharine's College, Cambridge founded this day on 25th November 1473.

Cambridge. (S Bene't) 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Peter Cresswell 1, Paul Johnson 2, Kenneth Darvill 3, Oliver Winkless-Clark 4, Graham Darke (C) 5, Graham Turnock 6. Rung for the 550th anniversary of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, founded 25th November 1473. This successful attempt is believed to be the first Q rung solely by members of the St Catharine's College community. The oldest member matriculated in 1959 & the youngest in 2021.

Cambridge. (S Clement) 26 Nov, 550 Grandsire Doubles: Graham Turnock (St Catharine's) 1, Oliver Winkless-Clark (St Catharine's) 2, Graham Darke (St Catharine's) 3, Paul C Johnson (St Catharine's) 4, Kenneth Darvill (St Catharine's) (C) 5, Peter Cresswell (St Catharine's) 6. This special length of 550 Grandsire Doubles ends a long weekend of ringing by 7 members of the St Catharine's College community & friends to commemorate the 550th anniversary of the founding of St Catharine's College Cambridge on 25th November 1473. This is only the 2nd time a college team have successfully made up a complete band - the first time being earlier this afternoon. Also marks 60 years of ringing by the C. With special thanks to Kirsten Hawkins & fellow members of Cambridge University Guild of Change Ringers & friends who helped to make this weekend a success.

Coventry Diocesan Guild Quarter Peal Fortnight

Shipston on Stour, Warks. 11 Nov, 1260 Doubles (3m): Gerald Phillips 1, Annie Holden 2, Jane Gilbert 3, Sarah L Elliott 4, Leonard G A Morley (C) 5, Jess McCarthy 6. Rung for Armistice Day prior to the 2 minutes silence of remembrance.

Leek Wootton, Warks. 12 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Angela Roskelly 1, Claire Kimpton 2, Raymon Sheasby 3, Steven Tibbetts 4, Nathan Gould (C) 5, Janice Sheasby 6. Lest We Forget - Their Name Liveth For Evermore. Rung with the bells half-muffled in the afternoon of Remembrance Sunday. 1st conducting for 5. **£6**

Ullenhall, Warks. 13 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Katie Wheeler 1, Elizabeth M Tennant 2, John Newbold (C) 3, Christopher W Tennant 4, Tracey B Newbold 5, Tess Owen 6. 1st Q for the Arden ringing cluster for the Coventry Guild QP fortnight. 1st for all ringing backwards. 1st at tower for Tess. Thanks to Chris for keeping the bells in ringing order. **£1**

Radway, Warks. 14 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): David Bell 1, Jenny Bell 2, Graham Nabb 3, Lucy Gwynne 4, John Gwynne (C) 5. Rung after meeting short for Bob Doubles.

Salford Priors, Warks. 14 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Tracey B Newbold 1, John Newbold 2, Sandra Parker 3, Katie Wheeler (C) 4, Jon Billington 5, Fran Foster 6. Rung as a thankyou to Roger & Dianne Huggins who have given loyal service to the church. Roger having been Volunteering as Administrator for 15 years. We wish them well in their move to middlesborough area. Also 50 years since Sandra's first ever Q today. First Q Fran on 6. This was a really nice Q very evenly struck. **£1**

Aston Cantlow, Warks. 15 Nov, 1260 St Giles Doubles: Elizabeth M Tennant 1, Christopher W Tennant 2, Tracey B Newbold 3, Katie Wheeler 4, John Newbold (C) 5, Lucy Tennant 6. Rung to celebrate the life of Geoff Sreeves captain of Coughton from 1975 to 2022, also guild subscriptions secretary from 2000 to 2010. He passed away peacefully at the end of October at the age of 89. 1st in variation all band. **£1**

Alcester, Warks. 16 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Tracey B Newbold 1, Tess Owen 2, John Newbold (C) 3, Jon Billington 4, Katie Wheeler 5, Sandra Parker 6. Rung for the Coventry Guild QP fortnight. Also in the hope of peace in Gaza. 1st full Grandsire Q inside for Tess on number two. **£2**

Wolvey, Warks. 16 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Sue Trevor 1, Bob Cosnett 2, Raymon A Sheasby 3, Andrew Aldrick 4, Gerald Trevor (C) 5, Janice Sheasby 6. 1st Q inside for (2). **£3**

Coughton, Warks. 17 Nov, 1440 Doubles (5m/7v): Katie Wheeler 1, Elliot J Daniel 2, Tracey B Newbold 3, Luke Daniel (C) 4, John Newbold 5, James Salmon 6. Arranged & rung for Elliot's ART Level 5. Twelve extents to celebrate his twelfth Birthday this week & his first blows in all the variations rung. **£6**

Lillington, Warks. (S Mary Magd) 17 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: John Nutt 1, Julia Dimambro 2, Barbara Howes 3, Sue Webster 4, Simon Rogers (C) 5, Roger Howes 6. 1st Q inside for 2. **£3**

Allesley, W Mids. 18 Nov, 1296 Beverley S Minor: Douglas Kempton 1, Claire Kimpton 2, Guy Darvill 3, Michael Chester (C) 4, Mark Sayers 5, Benedict Kimpton 6. 1st in M: 2. **£6**

Barford, Warks. 18 Nov, 1260 2m Doubles: Tracey B Newbold 1, John Newbold (C) 2, Christopher W Tennant 3, Elizabeth M Tennant 4, Katie Wheeler 5, Ed Milner 6. Rung for the Coventry guild QP fortnight. 1st Q for Ed on tenor. Well done Ed. We didn't make it easy for him. Most St Simons rung by Lizzy so far, next time whole Q. **£1**

Bilton, Warks. (S Mark) 18 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Barnaby McNeil 1, Lyndsey Brett 2, Nick Brett 3, Gerry Allen 4, David Price (C) 5, Andrew Barker 6. 1st Q: 1. Rung for Coventry Diocesan Guild QP Fortnight.

Coventry, W Mids. (S Michael, Stoke) 18 Nov, 1260 PB Triples: Oliver J Poulton 1, Audrey M Aldrick 2, Zack M Poulton 3, R Joy Pluckrose 4, Noah M Poulton 5, Christopher Foxall 6, Andrew F Aldrick (C) 7, Doug Kempton 8. 1st on 8: 1. **£8**

Sherbourne, Warks. 18 Nov, 1260 Southrepps Doubles: Elizabeth M Tennant 1, Tracey B Newbold 2, Christopher W Tennant 3, Katie Wheeler 4, John Newbold (C) 5, Edward Alexander 6. Rung for Coventry guild QP fortnight, always lovely to ring at this beautiful church. Would have been a first but one of the band was feeling under the weather so pleased just to ring

& play safe. This Q was a landmark Q for Katie on number 4. This was her 100th Q, an amazing total in under two years. Wow. **£1**

Stoneleigh, Warks. 18 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Angela Roskelly 1, Kim Smith 2, Claire Kimpton 3, Doug Kempton 4, Benedict Kimpton (C) 5, Martin Smith 6. 1st as cover: 6. **£6**

Warwick. (S Nicholas) 18 Nov, 1250 Lincolnshire S Major: Ruth Border 1, Sarah Faulkner 2, Jane Rogers 3, Annie Hall 4, Karen French 5, John Keddie 6, Charles Hayward 7, Simon Rogers (C) 8. 1st S Major: 2. Rung to celebrate the 90th Birthday of Ray French, father of Karen, on November 27th. **£4**

Hillmorton, Warks. 19 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Joe H White 1, Alison R Collins 2, Ethan J Smith 3, Christine F Homer (C) 4, Tommy J David 5, Christopher W Scott 6. 1st away from home tower: 1.

Leek Wootton, Warks. 19 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Angela Roskelly 1, Claire Kimpton (C) 2, Richard East 3, Guy Darvill 4, Nathan Gould 5, Richard Turner 6. 1st including All Saints: 3, 4 & 5. With the band's best wishes to Janice Sheasby on her up coming 70th Birthday. **£6**

Priors Marston, Warks. 19 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Lucy Gwynne 1, Jane Rogers 2, John Gwynne 3, Simon Rogers 4, Graham Nabb (C) 5, Nick Gunn 6. To welcome Emrys Elidir-Melen, born on Friday 10th November 2023.

Walsgrave on Sowe, W Mids. 20 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Norris Poon 1, Zack Poulton 2, Audrey M Aldrick 3, Gerald Trevor 4, Andrew F Aldrick 5, Noah M Poulton (C) 6. 1st Minor as C. 25th Q for 2 at age 12. In celebration of Janice Sheasby's 70th Birthday. Rung as part of the Coventry Diocesan Guild QP fortnight. **£6**

Bidford on Avon, Warks. 21 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Tereza Cullum 1, John Newbold (C) 2, Tracey B Newbold 3, Katie Wheeler 4, Luke Daniel 5, Viv Scholes 6, Sandra Parker 7, Alex Hardy 8. Rung for the Coventry Guild QP fortnight. 1st Q number 1 & number 6. An excellent achievement. Well done both. **£5**

Honiley, Warks. 21 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Sarah Faulkner 1, Annie Hall 2, Steven Tibbetts 3, Charles Hayward (C) 4, Christopher D Woodgate 5, Richard Price 6. 1st Q for Richard & Chris. Richard learnt to ring as part of the Ring for the King Campaign. **£6**

Kineton, Warks. 21 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Graham Nabb 1, Becki Johnson 2, Lucy Gwynne 3, Bob Airie 4, John Gwynne (C) 5, Bea Scorer 6.

Aston Cantlow, Warks. 22 Nov, 1260 St Miles Doubles: Elizabeth M Tennant 1, Christopher W Tennant 2, Tracey B Newbold 3, Katie Wheeler 4, John Newbold (C) 5, Lucy Tennant 6. Rung for the Coventry Guild QP fortnight. Well done everyone some concentration was required for that one. 1st in variation for all. **£2**

Alcester, Warks. 23 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Tess Owen 1, Janine Foster 2, Tracey B Newbold 3, John Newbold (C) 4, Jon Billington 5, James Salmon 6. Rung for the Coventry guild QP fortnight. 1st Q inside Janine on number 2. Well done a really nice first Q. Everyone in this Q has a name beginning with J or T. **£1**

Burton Hastings, Warks. 23 Nov, 1320 Beverley S Minor: Gerald Trevor 1, Janice Sheasby 2, Sue Trevor 3, Joy Pluckrose 4, Andrew Aldrick 5, Raymon Sheasby (C) 6. Rung for Guild QP Fortnight. 1st in M: 3. **£3**

Church Lawford, Warks. (The Plantagenet Ring) 24 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Jane Rogers 1, Keith Chambers 2, Mike Dew 3, Janice Sheasby 4, Ray Sheasby 5, Simon Rogers (C) 6. **£4**

Rowington, Warks. 24 Nov, 1392 Surfleet S Minor: Steven Tibbetts 1, Janice Sheasby 2, Ray Sheasby 3, Claire Kimpton 4, Benedict Kimpton 5, John Gwynne (C) 6. 1st in m: 4. **£3**

Alcester, Warks. 25 Nov, 1260 PB Triples: Elizabeth M Tennant 1, Tracey B Newbold 2, Sandra Parker 3, Chris W Tennant 4, Jon Billington 5, Katie Wheeler 6, John Newbold (C) 7, James Salmon 8. Rung for the Coventry guild QP fortnight. With a local band all from our cluster. 1st all local triples Q. **£2**

Allesley, W Mids. 25 Nov, 1260 Stedman Triples: Claire Kimpton 1, Lucy Gwynne 2, Janice Sheasby 3, Guy Darvill 4, Raymon Sheasby 5, John Gwynne 6, Michael Chester (C) 7, Douglas Kempton 8. **£8**

Aston Cantlow, Warks. 25 Nov, 1260 Erin Singles: Tracey B Newbold (C) 1, John Newbold (C) 2, Katie Wheeler (C) 3. Rung for Coventry guild QP fortnight, first in m all. Jointly conducted. **£1**

Berkswell, W Mids. 25 Nov, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Cathy Parry 1, Sarah Thomas 2, Jayne Shipley 3, Richard Turner 4, Steven Tibbetts (C) 5. Rung for the Coventry Diocesan Guild QP Fortnight. 1st for this band without a Cover bell after the ringer was taken ill at the start. **£3**

Coughton, Warks. 25 Nov, 1260 A Small Cure For Melancholy Singles: Tracey B Newbold (C) 1, John Newbold 2, Katie Wheeler 3. Rung for the Coventry guild QP fortnight. We really enjoyed ringing this at Coughton. 1st in m for all. **£2**

Coughton, Warks. 25 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Tracey B Newbold 1, Elizabeth M Tennant 2, James Salmon 3, Katie Wheeler (C) 4, John Newbold 5, Christopher W Tennant 6. Rung for the Coventry guild QP fortnight. 1st inside for James on number 3. Thanks to Katie for calling it. **£1**

Honiley, Warks. 25 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Maxine Browning 1, Sarah Faulkner 2, Charles Hayward (C) 3, Jane Rogers 4, Annie Hall 5, Steven Tibbetts 6. 1st Q on the treble. Rung as part of the Coventry Diocesan Guild QP fortnight. **£6**

Kenilworth, Warks. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Emily Mort 1, Cathy Weir 2, Eden Horwood 3, David Crawley 4, Guy Darvill (C) 5, Paul Reay 6. 1st Inside: 2. Rung for the St Nicholas Christmas Tree Festival. **£6**

Stretton on Dunsmore, Warks. 26 Nov, 1260 PB Minor: Nicholas H Brett 1, David G Seymour 2, Mark J Chaplin 3, Edward W Houghton 4, Paul Kaye 5, Lyndsey B Brett (C) 6. For Spencer Wadsworth. With very best wishes from the Stretton Band.

Tredington, Warks. (S Gregory) 27 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Kathryn McCarthy 1, Isobel Murphy 2, Keith Murphy 3, David Rake 4, Mark Sayers (C) 5, Richard H Budd 6. Rung for the Coventry Diocesan Guild QP Fortnight & dedicated to. Hazel A Davies. Colin Forster. Michael Rees. Allen Turner. All are retired ringers who have collectively rung for 194 years! We thank them for their dedication to St Gregory, Tredington & to ringing communities far & wide. **£6**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (Mayscroft, Mayswood Road) 15 Nov, 1260 Stedman Singles: Elliot J Daniel 1-2, Luke Daniel (C) 3-4. We were too tired to ring our planned minimus this evening. **£2**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (Mayscroft, Mayswood Road) 16 Nov, 1296 Ozymandias Treble PI Minimus: Elliot J Daniel (C) 1-2, Luke Daniel 3-4. 1st in m for both. **£2**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (NB Thistle) 18 Nov, 1287 Ulula Treble PI Minimus: Elliot J Daniel (C) 1-2, Luke Daniel 3-4. 1st in m for both (3/3). We have now rung a Q of all currently named Treble Place methods with a 48-change course & the treble plain hunting. **£2**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (NB Thistle) 18 Nov, 1296 Llangasty Treble PI Minimus: Elliot J Daniel 1-2, Luke Daniel (C) 3-4. 1st in m for both (2/3). **£2**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (NB Thistle) 18 Nov, 1271 Anthony Treble PI Minimus: Elliot J Daniel 1-2, Luke Daniel (C) 3-4. 1st in m for both (1/3). **£2**

Wootton Wawen, Warks. (NB Thistle) 26 Nov, 1296 Singles (5p): Elliot J Daniel 1-2, Luke Daniel (C) 3-4. 1st Carter for both. Most principles in a Q for both. **£2**

Leek Wootton, Warks. 26 Nov, 540 Original Minor: W David Roskelly (C) 1, Annie Hall 2, Ray Sheasby 3, Angela M Roskelly 4, Janice Sheasby 5, Claire Kimpton 6. Rung after losing a Q attempt of same method. **£5**

Guild of Devonshire Ringers – Ringing Festival

Cadbury, Devon. 27 Oct, 1260 St Clement's CB Minor: Lynette Costello 1, Sheila Scofield 2, Leslie Boyce 3, Mark Heritage 4, John Buckley 5, Matthew Weighell (C) 6. For Devon Guild Ringing Festival. Rung as a get well compliment to Jenny Jones.

Huntsham, Devon. 27 Oct, 1260 PB Doubles: Mark Heritage 1, Leslie Boyce 2, Sheila Scofield 3, John Buckley 4, Matthew Weighell (C) 5, Edward Grabke 6. 1st as cover bell (6). For Devon Guild Ringing Festival.

Tiverton, Devon. (S Peter) 29 Oct, 1260 PB Triples: Richard Barker 1, Leslie Boyce 2, Sheila Scofield 3, Richard Shere 4, Richard Johnston 5, John Buckley 6, Matthew Weighell (C) 7, Mark Heritage 8. Rung in fond memory of Pat Hatchett.

Rackenford, Devon. 1 Nov, 1260 Doubles (4m): Tom Mitchell 1, Leslie Boyce 2, Richard Shere 3, Sheila Scofield (C) 4, Mike Ward 5, Mark Heritage 6. 2, 100th Q (3).

Huntsham, Devon. 4 Nov, 1260 Doubles (7m): Eddie Grabke 1, Richard C Shere 2, Charlotte A Boyce 3, Sheila J Scofield 4, John R Martin (C) 5, Mandy Burnett 6. Completes Learn the Ropes Level 3 award - 1.

Cruwys Morchard, Devon. 5 Nov, 1260 St Clement's CB Minor: Richard Barker 1, Simon Trott 2, Richard H Johnston 3, Sheila Scofield 4, Mark Heritage 5, Leslie Boyce (C) 6. Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival & as a get-well compliment to the Revd Robert Gordon. 1st in m (2); 1st Minor as C (6).

Sidmouth, Devon. 5 Nov, 1260 Doubles (6m): Jeff J Bailey 1, Anne E Bailey 2, Jonathan G Rose (C) 3, Elisabeth Robertson 4, Paul V M Parkes 5, Annie Ashton 6. 1st Q: 6. Rung for Marion Baker's 90th Birthday - Janet Deem wishes to be associated with this Q. Rung for Evensong & for the Guild Ringing Festival.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 20 Oct, 60 St Clement's CB Minor: Maureen Davey 1, Lisa Clarke 2, Susan A King 3, Mike Owen 4, Anne E Bailey 5, Derek Ballard (C) 6. 1st in m (4). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 20 Oct, 120 PB Doubles: Mike Owen 1, Lesley Houghton (C) 2, Anne E Bailey 3, Lisa Clarke 4, Charles Boyce 5, Susan A King 6. Calling Plain Bob Doubles for the first time (2). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 20 Oct, 120 PB Doubles: Anne E Bailey 1, Trevor Hitchcock (C) 2, Lisa Clarke 3, Maureen Davey 4, Derek Ballard 5, Lesley Houghton 6. Calling Plain Bob Doubles for the first time (2). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Sidmouth, Devon. 22 Oct, 120 Stedman Doubles: Susan A King 1, Anne E Bailey 2, Clare Griffiths 3, Paul V M Parkes 4, Jeff Bailey (C) 5, Phillip Watson 6. 1st in m: 6 & 1. £3

Sidmouth, Devon. 24 Oct, General Ringing: Annie Ashton 1, Jonathan G Rose 2, Clare Griffiths 3, Phoebe Thomas 4, Peter Cripps 5, Tom Clarke 6. Phoebe's first blows in Kaleidoscope - long places. Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival.

Huntsham, Devon. 25 Oct, 540 PB Minor: Sheila Scofield 1, Jenny Jones 2, Mark Heritage 3, Mike Ward 4, Richard Shere 5, Leslie Boyce (C) 6. For the Devon Guild Ringing Festival.

Woodbury, Devon. 25 Oct, 48 Plain Hunt Minor: Chris Lear 1, Eileen Pye 2, Catherine Barnes 3, Thomas Coldrick 4, Chris Wakefield 5, Oliver Coldrick (C) 6. 1st plain hunt minor: 2, 3 & 4. For Guild Festival.

Woodbury, Devon. 25 Oct, 48 Plain Hunt Minor: Gordon Davis 1, Eileen Pye 2, Catherine Barnes 3, Chris Wakefield 4, Thomas Coldrick 5, Oliver Coldrick (C) 6. 1st plain hunt minor: 1.

Compton Gifford, Devon. 26 Oct, General Ringing: John Bowler, Jonathan Gale, Howard Franklin, Paul Johnson, Sheila Reynolds, Jennifer Lambert, Liza Crewe, Kerry Vaughan, Barbara Hocke, Elena Brake, Glenn Francis, Alena Wardle, Trevor Vercoe, Harry Andrews. £80 raised for Guild of Devonshire Ringers. Annual Ringing Festival.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 27 Oct, 120 St Clement's CB Minor: Charles Boyce 1, Maureen Davey 2, Lisa Clarke 3, Susan A King 4, Anne E Bailey 5, Derek Ballard (C) 6. 1st touch in m (4). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 27 Oct, 120 Grandsire Doubles: John Bass 1, Margaret Peirce 2, Derek Ballard (C) 3, Maureen Davey 4, Richard Coley 5, Sarah Clinton 6. 1st trebling to Grandsire. Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Feniton, Devon. 27 Oct, General Ringing - Special Requests: Colin Gibbins, Daniel Styles, Lesley Oats, Roz Withrington, Sian Barnes, Susie Adams, Tim Bayton. Also present: Barbara Hemsley. For the annual ringing festival of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. £33 raised for Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund.

Tiverton, Devon. (S Peter) 31 Oct, 120 Oxford TB Minor: Mark Heritage 1, Jenny Jones 2, Tom Mitchell 3, Richard Barker 4, Richard Johnston 5, Matthew Weighell (C) 6. 1st in m (2). Request night at St Peter's practice for the Guild Ringing Festival.

Tiverton, Devon. (S Peter) 31 Oct, 120 St Simon's Bob Doubles: Elaine Trump 1, Richard Barker (C) 2, Simon Trott 3, Tom Mitchell 4, Matthew Weighell 5, David Parr 6. 1st as cover to St Simon's (6). Request night at St Peter's practice for Guild Ringing Festival.

Bampton, Devon. (S Michael & All Angels) 2 Nov, General Ringing: Ann Barrow 1, Leslie Boyce (C) 2, Carla Dawes 3, Eddie Grabke (C) 4, Michael Hatchett 5, Jenny Jones 6, Jonah Kettleborough (C) 7, Richard Linton 8, Sheila Scofield 9, Jack Ward 10, Mike Ward (C) 11. For Guild Ringing Festival. Several firsts by band members in touches of Call Changes, St Simon's, Winchendon Place & Plain Bob Doubles, Plain Bob Minor.

Uffculme, Devon. (S Mary V) 2 Nov, Rounds and Call Changes on 6 and 8 Bells, Kaleidoscope Changes and Plain Hunt: Charlotte Boyce (C), Tony Collins, Sofie Emmens (C), Mel Hector, Isabelle (C), Richard Johnston, John Martin (C), Gordon Milne (C), Lesley Salter, Guy Tucker, Jayne Tolliday. Numerous "firsts" were achieved, including a first ever called change, first time ringing a particular bell, calling to Queens & back & "challenge" called changes. Also several of our ringers were able to reacquire themselves with something they haven't attempted for a while. Well done all!

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 80 Rev Canterbury Pleasure PI Doubles: Susan A King 1, Anne E Bailey 2, Lisa Clarke 3, Kathryn Lambert 4, Anne Burn (C) 5, Annie Ashton 6. 1st blows in m (4). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 120 PB Doubles: Sarah Clinton 1, Annie Ashton 2, Lisa Clarke 3, Anne Burn 4, Richard Coley (C) 5, Roger Willis 6. 1st in m (2). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 360 PB Doubles: Anne Burn 1, Sarah Clinton 2, Anne E Bailey 3, Lisa Clarke (C) 4, Richard Coley 5, Annie Ashton 6. Longest touch in m (2). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 120 PB Doubles: Rose Lynn 1, Sarah Clinton 2, Kathryn Lambert 3, Derek Ballard (C) 4, Susan A King 5, Richard Coley 6. 1st trebling to any method. Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 32 Cambridge S Minor and Little Bob Minor: Anne E Bailey 1, Anne Burn 2, Lisa Clarke 3, Derek Ballard (C) 4, Susan A King 5, Richard Coley 6. 1st blows in m (5): one lead of Cambridge followed by one lead of Little Bob to bring it round. Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Combe Raleigh, Devon. 3 Nov, 160 PB Doubles: Trevor Hitchcock 1, Anne E Bailey 2, Anne Burn 3, Roger Willis 4, Richard Coley (C) 5, Susan A King 6. 1st touch on the fourth (4). Rung for the Guild Ringing Festival during the Friday Group practice.

Bampton, Devon. (S Michael & All Angels) 4 Nov, General Ringing: Richard Barker, Charlotte Boyce, Leslie Boyce, Mandy Burnett, Eddie Grabke, Richard Johnston, Jenny Jones, John R Martin, Sheila Scofield, Richard Shere, Mike Ward, Kate Wills, Patrick Wills. For Guild Ringing Festival at North East Branch Open Practice. £42.65 collected for the Bell Restoration Fund.

Bampton, Devon. (S Michael & All Angels) 4 Nov, Call Changes: Elaine Trump, Chris Roe, Mike Shipton, Elizabeth Rose, Jack Ward, Gil Pestaille, Louise Ellis, Janet Gabb, Richard Linton, Django Robinson-Slade. For Guild Ringing Festival at North East Branch Open Practice. £42.65 collected for the Bell Restoration Fund.

Woodbury, Devon. 4 Nov, 64 Plain Hunt Major: Margot Le Vesconte 1, Oliver Coldrick 2, David Wills 3, Margaret Elms 4, Tony Williams 5, Janet Deem (C) 6, Neil Deem 7, Matt Pym 8. 1 & 4: first Plain Hunt Major. Rung at Aylesbeare Branch Practice for the Guild Ringing Festival. Donations to DCBRF.

Woodbury, Devon. 4 Nov, 64 Plain Hunt Major: Janet Deem 1, Chris Wakefield 2, Vicky Brady 3, David Wills 4, Hugh Lodder 5, Matt Pym (C) 6, Neil Deem 7, Oliver Coldrick 8. 2,3 & 5: first Plain Hunt Major. At Aylesbeare Branch Practice for Guild Festival. Donations to DCBRF.

Woodbury, Devon. 4 Nov, 64 Plain Hunt Major: Eileen Pye 1, Debby Mullier 2, Sue Sturdy 3, Matt Pym 4, Tony Williams 5, Janet Deem 6, David Wills 7, Neil Deem (C) 8. 1 & 2: first Plain Hunt Major. At Aylesbeare Branch Practice for Guild Festival. Donations to DCBRF.

Woodbury, Devon. 4 Nov, 60 Plain Hunt Doubles: Bridget Williams 1, Gordon Davis 2, Debby Mullier 3, Thomas Coldrick 4, Janet Deem (C) 5, Tony Williams 6. 1,2 & 3: first plain hunt not starting from rounds. At Aylesbeare Branch Practice for Guild Festival. Donations to DCBRF.

Sidmouth, Devon. 7 Nov, General Ringing: Jonathan Caporn, Mary Parkes, Denise Thomas, Phoebe Thomas, Cheryl Watson, Ian Watson. Well done to these ringers who only started to learn to ring this year & rang rounds on the back 8 during practice night. Rung belatedly for the Guild Ringing Festival.



*Christmas shoppers at Covent Garden
(Phil Hope)*

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Lundy Island in November

On the 6th November a dozen ringers from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire and Essex met at Hartland International Heliport for the short helicopter trip to Lundy Island. After settling in our accommodation, and a good hearty meal, we all retreated by torchlight to our various houses. There are only footpaths and tracks, no street lighting, Wifi (except in the church), or TV. The power is off from midnight to 6am. The sky is really dark. It's a different way of life.

Ringing soon commenced on Tuesday morning. Generally, quarter peals were rung morning and afternoon, with one member learning to ring having her own individual tuition. We had a good 10 bell practice one afternoon for everyone, as we were not up to ringing quarter peals on more than eight bells.

A highlight of the week was the fungi forage led by an expert. This coincided with force-8 winds, hail and sleet which stung our faces. We quickly learnt from the wild ponies, who turned their backs to the wind. A few minutes later it had blown over, but the wind continued. However, it wasn't all bad, later we had a whole day of sunshine with a gentle breeze. Then more wind. On Lundy, one has to be prepared for all weathers.

Returning on Monday 13th, there was another strong wind, but that's no problem to a helicopter! We were soon back at Hartland Point to collect our cars, wash off the salt spray and head off back up the motorway: such busyness a real shock to the system after so much quiet.

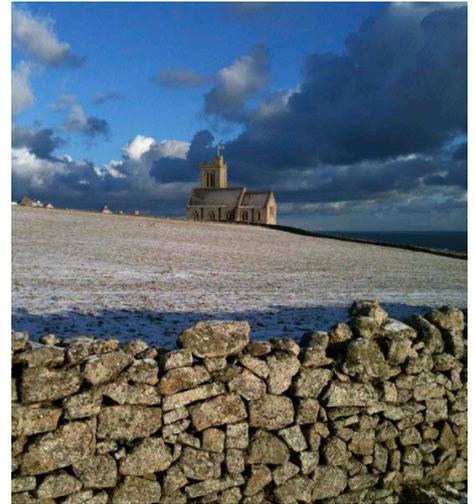
JANET DONALDSON



Lundy, a small island in the Bristol Channel, half a mile wide and three miles long, is a place where ringers can ring to their heart's content. The Church is open all the time. The ring of 10 bells, with very good sound insulation, can be rung between 9am and 6pm every day, and many groups visit for a ringing week. Lundy is also an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). The East coast of Lundy is a "No Take Zone", nothing can be fished, or taken. As a result, above and below the waves the wild life and sea life abounds. In the summer months there are thousands of sea birds, especially puffins (Lundy is Norse for "Puffin Island"), as well as seasonal wild flowers, fungi, and changing colours of bracken and grasses. To the south it is a working sheep farm, to the north a place for wild ponies, longhorn cattle, wild Soay sheep and goats.

Add to this the fascinating history of the place, from the small castle built by King Henry III to the redundant lighthouse known as "Old Light", from the battery cottages and canon placements once fired during foggy weather, the old quarry, the Admiralty lookout, and other places of historic interest all in this small granite island.

The Marisco Tavern is named after a famous pirate who operated in the area, and good filling food is served day and night, as well as a bar later in the day. The two-hour boat trip in summer, or the six-minute helicopter ride to and fro in winter might be off-putting to some, especially if the weather is "interesting", but what more could a keen group of ringers want?



Above left: St Helen's church in the distance (photo Roy LeMarechal)... and right, from a different view, in the snow in 2010 – thanks to Michael Williams for responding to our request for snowy pics!

Lundy Island, Devon. 6 Nov, 1280 Cambridge S Major: Vicky LeFèvre 1, Liz Reading 2, Alistair Donaldson 3, Terry Iliffe 4, Daniel Iliffe 5, Richard Sales 6, John Beresford 7, Andrew C P Gunstone (C) 8. To celebrate the 47th Wedding Anniversary of Alistair & Janet Donaldson today.

Lundy Island, Devon. 7 Nov, 1250 Superlative S Major: Janet Donaldson 1, Vicky LeFèvre 2, Liz Reading 3, Daniel Iliffe 4, Richard Sales 5, John Beresford 6, Andrew C P Gunstone 7, Alistair Donaldson (C) 8. In Remembrance of Jo-Ann Millington, mother of Steve Millington, who died on Sunday. 1st Q in m: 6th.

Lundy Island, Devon. 8 Nov, 1280 Yorkshire S Major: Terry Iliffe 1, Daniel Iliffe 2, Vicky LeFèvre 3, Liz Reading 4, Andrew C P Gunstone 5, John Beresford 6, Alistair Donaldson 7, Richard Sales (C) 8.

Lundy Island, Devon. 9 Nov, 1260 Stedman Triples: Liz Reading 1, Vicky LeFèvre 2, Terry Iliffe 3, John Beresford 4, Andrew C P Gunstone 5, Dan Iliffe 6, Alistair Donaldson (C) 7, Gordon Ball 8. 1st Q on 8: 8. 1st Q in m: 6. 1st Q for all in a force 8: 9 gale.

Lundy Island, Devon. 9 Nov, 1280 Lincolnshire S Major: Janet Donaldson 1, Liz Reading 2, Vicky LeFèvre 3, Terry Iliffe 4, Daniel Iliffe 5, Andrew C P Gunstone 6, Alistair Donaldson 7, Richard Sales (C) 8.

Lundy Island, Devon. 10 Nov, 1250 Vancouver S Major: John Beresford 1, Vicky LeFèvre 2, Terry Iliffe 3, Daniel Iliffe 4, Steve Millington 5, Richard Sales 6, Andrew C P Gunstone 7, Alistair Donaldson (C) 8. Rung to celebrate the life of Jo-Ann Millington, born in Vancouver 5th June 1947, died 5th November 2023. Mother of Steve Millington (5th).

Lundy Island, Devon. 10 Nov, 1320 Puffin Doubles: Janet Donaldson 1, Alistair Donaldson 2, Andrew C P Gunstone 3, Daniel Iliffe 4, Terry Iliffe (C) 5, John Beresford 6. 1st in variation for all.

Lundy Island, Devon. 11 Nov, 1296 Coldstream S Minor: Terry Iliffe 1, Vicky LeFèvre 2, Daniel Iliffe 3, Steve Millington 4, Alistair Donaldson 5, Richard Sales (C) 6. 1st in m: 2,3,4 & 5.

Lundy Island, Devon. 11 Nov, 1320 Beverly S Minor: Janet Donaldson 1, Terry Iliffe 2, Daniel Iliffe 3, John Beresford 4, Steve Millington 5, Andrew C P Gunstone (C) 6.

Lundy Island, Devon. 12 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Steve Millington 1, Vicky LeFèvre 2, Daniel Iliffe 3, John Beresford 4, Andrew C P Gunstone 5, Alistair Donaldson (C) 6. Rung after a Service of Remembrance in St Helen's church.

Lundy Island, Devon. 12 Nov, 1296 Norwich S Minor: Janet Donaldson 1, Terry Iliffe 2, Steve Millington 3, Daniel Iliffe 4, Andrew C P Gunstone 5, Richard Sales (C) 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday. £60

Llandaff Branch Quarter Peal Fortnight 2023

Another year, another quarter peal fortnight, yawn. But how could we make it a little more exciting and get more people involved trying and doing new things – which is the objective of the period? The solution had two strands: our more active towers were keen to organise things for their ringers to try and get some firsts scored with a little extra help drafted in, and Chris Kipling (our branch chairman) set a challenge to organise something at the advanced end, bringing together ringers across the branch for something they couldn't do in their own towers. This resulted in a Surprise QP day, where we attempted to ring four quarters in Project Picked Egg methods as we did a mini-tour across our branch, with some ringers attempting just one and the overachievers ringing in all four.

Whilst a few quarters were lost along the way, with just a little extra effort, we managed twice as many quarters as last year, involved 20% more ringers and rang at 2.5 times more towers. We also managed to match our score for 2019, firmly putting the last few years behind us. On reflection I'm really pleased how people stepped forward and were supportive in doing something different once we'd found a way to deviate from the usual. Thanks to all our ringers, and I'd encourage others to think differently, the results might be a surprise to you too.

PETER GILES



Llanrcarfau (photo Christopher W Kipling)

Cadoxton juxta Neath, Neath PT. 29 Oct, 1260 All Saints PI Doubles: Rebecca E John 1, Elizabeth Walters 2, Yvonne R John 3, Andrew C John 4, Alwyn R Lewis (C) 5, Ian Cole 6. In loving memory of Margaret Evelyn Ferris, 22nd July 1934 - 25th October 2023. Widow of the late Robert Walwin Ferris. Beloved Mother of Heather, Denise & Yvonne(3). Beloved "Mama" of Bronwyn, Amanda, Robert, James, Cameron, Joshua & Rebecca (treble). RIP.

Llanishen, Cardiff. 30 Oct, 1260 PB Minor: Christine S Taylor 1, Lynne Workman 2, Mary E Hardy 3, Timothy N Taylor 4, Roger S Harpole 5, Julian C Parker (C) 6. For QP Fortnight.

Llanrcarfau, Vale of Glam. 2 Nov, 1320 London S Minor: Andrew Lingard 1, Harriet G Moncrieff 2, Joy E Kipling 3, Ellis N Thomas 4, Julian C Parker 5, Christopher W Kipling (C) 6. With the band's best wishes & condolences to the John family following their recent bereavement.

Penarth, Vale of Glam. 3 Nov, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Andrew Lingard 1, Helen C Kerbey 2, Julian C Parker 3, Joy E Kipling 4, Harriet G Moncrieff 5, Kevin J Musty 6, Christopher W Kipling 7, James O Bulleid (C) 8. 1st S as C. For Llandaff Branch QP fortnight.

St Hilary, Vale of Glam. 3 Nov, 1260 PB Doubles: Susan Gorden 1, Andrea S Kane-Akers 2, Joy E Kipling 3, Andrew Lingard 4, Christopher W Kipling (C) 5, David Freeman 6. 1st Q: 6. Rung to welcome Revd Duncan Ballard to the Cowbridge Ministry Area. Rung also to welcome Matilda Esmee Griffiths born on 30th October a first Grandchild for Andrea. Good to get these bells ringing again after repairs to the 6th wheel following weatherproofing works in the tower. A sentiment endorsed by the number of compliments received from the locals at the end of the Q. Rung during Branch QP fortnight.

Llanishen, Cardiff. 6 Nov, 1260 Rev Canterbury Pleasure PI Doubles: Christine S Taylor 1, Heather A Picton 2, Martin Batten 3, Roger S Harpole 4, Julian C Parker (C) 5, Timothy N Taylor 6. 1st in m: 2. For Branch QP Fortnight.

Llanblethian, Vale of Glam. 8 Nov, 1260 Doubles (2m): Elaine John 1, Joy E Kipling 2, Andrea S Kane-Akers 3, Christopher W Kipling 4, Ellis N Thomas (C) 5, David W Jones 6. 1st Q - treble. Rung to welcome Revd Duncan Ballard to the Cowbridge Ministry area.

Llanrcarfau, Vale of Glam. 9 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Andrea S Kane-Akers 1, Andrew Lingard 2, Harriet G Moncrieff 3, Joy E Kipling 4, Julian C Parker 5, Christopher W Kipling (C) 6. 1st S inside: 2.

Ringing Room, S Wales. 10 Nov, 1296 Middlesex Bob Caters: Wheatley 1, Wheatley 2, Wheatley 3, Wheatley 4, Roger Masterman (Coed Ely) 5, Wheatley 6, Wheatley 7, Wheatley 8, Julian C Parker (Sully) (C) 9, Wheatley 10. For Llandaff Branch QP Fortnight.

Aberavon, Neath PT. 11 Nov, 1250 Yorkshire S Major: Julian C Parker 1, Joy E Kipling 2, Peter J Giles 3, Iwan Cotgreave 4, Alwyn R Lewis 5, Matthew D Greenaway 6, Christopher W Kipling 7, Kevin J Musty (C) 8. For Remembrance. For Branch QP fortnight.

Bridgend, Bridgend. 11 Nov, 1344 Turramurra S Major: Alwyn R Lewis 1, Harriet G Moncrieff 2, Joy E Kipling 3, Ellis N Thomas 4, Alex G Saunders 5, Kevin J Musty 6, Christopher W Kipling 7, Julian C Parker (C) 8. For Remembrance & Branch QP fortnight.

Cowbridge, Vale of Glam. 11 Nov, 1280 Bristol S Major: Peter J Giles 1, Harriet G Moncrieff 2, Joy E Kipling 3, Alwyn R Lewis 4, Ellis N Thomas 5, Alex G Saunders 6, Julian C Parker 7, Christopher W Kipling (C) 8. For Remembrance. To welcome the Revd Duncan Ballard to the Cowbridge Ministry Area. For Branch QP fortnight.

Sully, Vale of Glam. 12 Nov, 1260 Doubles (1p/2m): Martin Batten 1, Helen C Kerbey 2, Christopher E Saunders 3, Roger S Harpole 4, Julian C Parker (C) 5, Harriet G Moncrieff 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of the Fallen on Remembrance Sunday. £50



Recently discovered (2008) 500 year old wall paintings in St Cadoc, Llanrcarfau

Charleston confabulation peal weekend

Thirteen North American ringers came to Charleston, South Carolina from New York, Washington, Raleigh, Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, and Marco Island, Florida, for a four-day peal weekend organized by Ed Futcher. Two Charleston ringers, David Porter and Parks Greene, joined the out-of-towners in achieving a success rate of six peals for

six attempts, which made everyone happy. In addition to the peals, the visitors joined evening practices at St Michael's and St Luke's and participated in some of the Sunday service ringing at the Charleston area towers. There are four bell towers in the Charleston vicinity, ranging from a light eight at Stella Maris on nearby Sullivan's Island to two eights with heavier bells — St Michael's and the Cathedral of St Luke and St Paul — to a 10 at Grace Church Cathedral.

Charleston is a city with balmy weather in November, good food, and wonderful hospitality. The Charleston ringers put on a nice dinner on the Saturday evening, complete with candlelight and flowers. Charleston also has a number of sites of antebellum, Civil War, and 20th century historic interest, including Fort Sumter in the Charleston harbor (where the first shots of the Civil War were fired) as well as two World War II ships. Those who were not ringing took advantage of the time to visit some of these. Thanks to Ed for a well-planned and enjoyable outing.

CECILY ROCK

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

CHARLESTON, SC,
Cathedral Church of St Luke & St Paul

Sat 18 Nov 2023 2h55 (14)

5088 Cornwall S Major

Comp. Robert Dennis

- 1 Andrew N Tyler
- 2 Quilla Roth
- 3 Michael R Harrison
- 4 Cecily W Rock
- 5 Beth Sinclair
- 6 Edward J Futcher
- 7 Timothy J Barnes (C)
- 8 Alexander T Taft III

£8

NORTH AMERICAN GUILD

SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SC,

Stella Maris

Thu 16 Nov 2023 2h55 (4)

5088 Bristol S Major

Comp. Donald Morrison

- 1 Beth Sinclair
- 2 Tina Hitchings
- 3 John Hitchings
- 4 John I Mabe
- 5 David L Porter
- 6 Andrew N Tyler
- 7 Alexander T Taft III
- 8 Edward J Futcher (C)

£8

CHARLESTON, SC,

Grace Church Cathedral

Fri 17 Nov 2023 3h14 (16)

5021 Grandsire Caters

Comp. A Colin Banton

- 1 Kira R Chase
- 2 Quilla Roth
- 3 Beth Sinclair
- 4 Andrew N Tyler
- 5 Tina Hitchings
- 6 David L Porter
- 7 John Hitchings
- 8 John Mabe
- 9 Alexander T Taft III (C)
- 10 Edward J Futcher

£10

In loving memory of Eleanor Percy Taft Ethridge (1940-2023), aunt of the 9.

SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SC,

Stella Maris

Fri 17 Nov 2023 2h45 (4)

5088 Superlative S Major

Comp. Oliver M Austin

- 1 John I Mabe
- 2 Andrew N Tyler
- 3 Quilla Roth
- 4 Kira R Chase (C)
- 5 Cecily W Rock
- 6 Michael R Harrison
- 7 Timothy J Barnes
- 8 B Haley Barnett

£8

CHARLESTON, SC,

St Michael

Sat 18 Nov 2023 3h18 (17)

5152 Yorkshire S Major

Comp. Andrew N Tyler

- 1 Andrew N Tyler (C)
- 2 Cecily W Rock
- 3 Kira R Chase
- 4 Parks Greene
- 5 Michael R Harrison
- 6 B Haley Barnett
- 7 John I Mabe
- 8 Timothy J Barnes

£8

CHARLESTON, SC,

Grace Church Cathedral

Sun 19 Nov 2023 3h19 (16)

5067 Stedman Caters

Comp. Timothy J Barnes

- 1 Quilla Roth
- 2 Beth Sinclair
- 3 Cecily W Rock
- 4 John I Mabe
- 5 Tina Hitchings
- 6 Kira R Chase
- 7 Timothy J Barnes (C)
- 8 B Haley Barnett
- 9 John Hitchings
- 10 Michael R Harrison

£10

In memory of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, who died today.



50th Anniversary dinner in Cornwall

Saturday 25th November marked the 50th anniversary of the first dinner celebrating the Western District of the Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers, the first taking place in 1973. The venue in the early days was the Queen’s Hotel in Penzance and in more recent years the dinner has relocated to the Union Hotel in Chapel Street, just a stone’s throw from St. Mary’s Church.

Sixty-six diners representing 16 towers from the Western District attended, in addition to a further group from Truro Cathedral. We sat down to enjoy a traditional Christmas turkey dinner with soup or prawn cocktail to start and a dessert of either fresh fruit salad or a fruit crumble. The Revd Sian Yates of Penzance said Grace. The Loyal Toast to King Charles III was proposed by the Chairman of the Western District, Robert Woods of Helston. Neil Hitchens, Toastmaster for the evening, proposed the toast to HRH Prince William, Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall. During the meal, various other toasts were proposed including to those who were attending the dinner for the first time, those who had taken part in ringing quarter peals for the dinner and those attending the dinner from outside the county. Carolyn Howell was congratulated for being the first Cornish lady to turn in the 37cwt tenor of St Buryan earlier in the day to a quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor. In addition to Carolyn’s quarter peal, there was a quarter peal of Cambridge S Minor at Stithians on the eve of the dinner, and quarter peals of Stedman Triples at Penzance and Plain Bob Doubles at Gwennap on the day.

The Truro Change Ringing Handbell Group then rang three leads of Kent which was well-received.

The Church was proposed by Robert Woods of Helston who thanked people for the continued work that they do to keep bells ringing in the district. He shared some of his personal experiences of learning to ring in Devon before relocating to Cornwall with the police force, continuing his ringing journey at both Helston and Wendron. The reply was given by the Revd Sian Yates, who thanked ringers for the service that they provide to the church.

Our Honoured Guest for the evening was the Editor of *The Ringing World*, Will Bosworth, with his proposal, The Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers. He was accompanied by his mother Sue; neither of them are strangers to Cornwall. Sue and her late husband Philip lived in the county during the 1980s and I have happy memories of ringing with them in the Truro area.

Will recalled coming to the Penzance dinner as a child, being introduced to handstroke homes in Grandsire Caters... and red wine, by Alan Carveth as a teenager, and finally



Guests tuck in to a turkey dinner in the Nelson Room of the Union Hotel

meeting Hayley at a beer tasting over Zoom during lockdown, which resulted in the Cornish special issue of *The Ringing World*.

The reply was given by immediate past Guild President Sam Nankervis who, with typical humour advised that striking competitions will be returning to the district next year. He commented on the point of striking competitions and also went into the mechanics of them along with a few do’s and don’ts. He encouraged people to enter them and hope that they would improve people’s striking.

The raffle concluded the evening’s events and raised in excess of £200 for the Guild Bell Restoration Fund and brought the evening to a close. A most successful and enjoyable evening with many thanks to Miranda Penhaligon of St Buryan for organising the evening.

IAN SELF

St Buryan, Corn. 25 Nov, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Claire Sweetman 1, Jane Hitchens 2, Neil Hitchens 3, William T Bosworth 4, Sam Nankervis (C) 5, Carolyn Howell 6. Congratulations to Carolyn, the first Cornish lady (or any lady) to turn the tenor in to a Q on these bells. Rung on the Truro Diocesan Guild Western District Dinner Day. £6



New Member Sarah Lewis (Towednack), receives her membership certificate from Ringing Master Sam Nankervis

University of East Anglia celebrates 60 years

2023 has been the 60th anniversary of the University of East Anglia. UEA is perhaps not one of the great ringing universities, but during its sixty years of existence there has regularly been an active ringing society and a small number of very capable and notable ringers have passed through and along its famous concrete structures.

Arranging a peal of UEA Alumni had its challenges. Identifying alumni from across the years was the first, and then finding a date suitable for a fairly geographically spread group became the second.

Over the years there have been at least two attempts at scoring a peal with a band made up of solely UEA graduates, but it hasn’t happened yet. Peal ringing UEA graduates are sadly a fairly rare breed and getting enough of us together at one time to attempt a peal ultimately proved too tricky. At different times we did actually have eight UEA Alumni in the band for this latest attempt, but inevitably ill health and family commitments meant that we

had to ask a couple of friends to make up the band.

Those of us that were able to meet managed to ring a fine peal at Hethersett (probably the closest eight to the university campus), not bad for a band largely unfamiliar with one another. And it was fun and interesting catching up in the pub afterwards, reminiscing about student days from different eras and

remembering other members of the UEA Bellingring society, as well as discussing the state of ringing in our respective parts of the country.

I’d still like to ring a peal with UEA graduates, maybe next year, maybe on the augmented All Saints. If there are any peal ringing UEA alumni out there that I managed to miss or overlook, do please get in touch.

NICH WILSON

NORWICH D.A.

HETHERSETT, Norfolk,
St Remigius
Sat 14 Oct 2023 2h50 (9)
5060 Yorkshire S Major
Comp. Donald F Morrison
1 Ollie E P Watson
2 David E House
3 Alison L Brooke
4 Martin D Mellor
5 Nicholas R Wilson
6 Richard A Turk
7 Paul M Mason
8 Neil W Jones (C)

Specially arranged and rung to mark the 60th anniversary of the University of East Anglia. Rung by a band made up of predominantly UEA alumni.



The band, clockwise from front right: Ollie Watson, David House (EUR 64-68), Alison Brooke (EUR 76-80), Martin Mellor (EUR 84-88), Nicholas Wilson (SOC 87-90), Richard Turk (HIS 03-08), Paul Mason, Neil Jones (AHM 86-89). (Image: Martin Mellor)



Peal of Bristol at Sherborne Abbey, 1 September 1948: Leslie Morris, John Worth, Ted Cawser, Eric Gilbert, John Bibby (C), Ralph Edwards, Arthur Firth, Leonard Trevor.



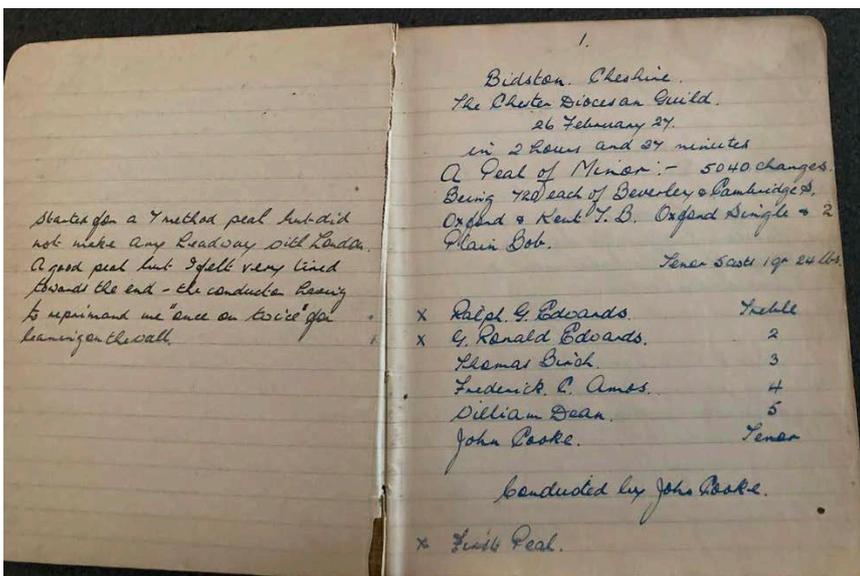
Peal of Pudsey at Middlesbrough, 2 September 1947: Ted Cawser (C), John Bibby, Jack Millhouse, Ralph Edwards, Arthur Firth, Norman Park, Walter Allman, James Simpson

Remembering Ralph Edwards by Peter Hughes

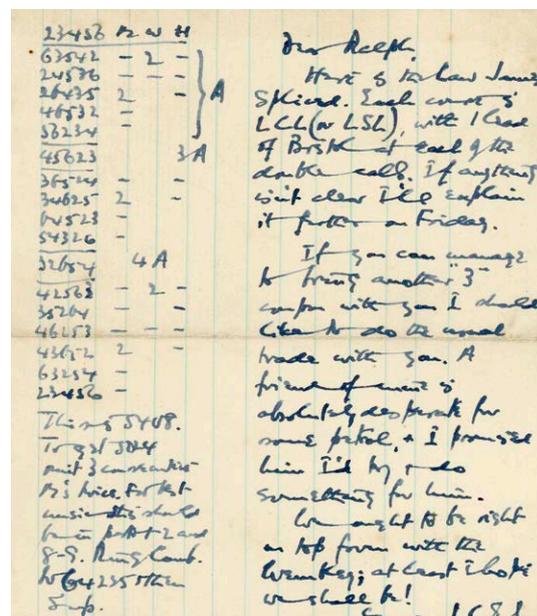
When Ralph Edwards died in 2005, his friend Christine Andrew passed some of his memorabilia to me. I had met Ralph at a practice at Pier Head in 1994, just after his 80th birthday. Ralph was known to, and revered by, a number of the older ringers in Wirral (where I learned to ring). He was taught to ring at Bidston in 1925 by William Wilcox, rang his first peal in 1927 and a further 20 peals between then and 1934, when rugby took over as his main interest. However, by chance he met James Simpson on a Mersey ferry in 1937 and was asked “Would you like to renew your acquaintance with Cambridge Surprise Major?” A peal was duly rung at West Kirby the following day, and Ralph’s ringing career never looked back. He became a very fine tenor ringer and rang 1,135 peals, having lived in Birmingham from 1953 until the early 1960s and then in Bristol for the remainder of his life.

After that practice at Pier Head I sat next to him in the pub and found him fascinating company. Thus began a friendship which lasted until his death. The following year I taught a new band at Bidston, and we invited Ralph to join us at a practice, where the youngest of the ringers was the same age as he had been in 1925. On another occasion we rang a quarter at Heswall, where he had not rung since 1928 (when there were five bells). At 84, Ralph rang the tenor and the quarter was successful. I was mesmerised by watching Ralph’s handling style, which was as impeccable as any I have ever seen.

Christine Andrew has now also passed on, but I kept the memorabilia and will pass it to the Chester Guild archivist shortly. Some photographs are reproduced here.



The memorabilia include Ralph’s handwritten peal books. This is a copy of his first peal with his personal notes. Note the reference to Ralph being reprimanded by Jack Cooke, known as something of a martinet in Wirral, for leaning against the wall.



Above: Note sent by James Simpson to Ralph. The writing is not easy to decipher, but as far as we can tell (with help from Bryan McCahey) it says:

“Here is the Law James spliced. Each course is LCL (or LSL) with 1 lead of Bristol at each of the double calls. If anything isn’t clear I’ll explain on Friday.

If you can manage to bring another ‘3’ coupon with you I should like to do the usual trade with you. A friend of mine is absolutely desperate for some petrol + I promised him I’d try to do something for him. We ought to be right on top form with the Wembley; at least I hope we shall be! Yours, JCES.”

The note is undated, but Ralph and JCES rang a peal of Wembley at Frodsham on Friday 24 March 1950, when petrol rationing was still in place. Tragically, James Simpson was dead within two years. Ralph had the highest admiration for him and said he was “the fittest of all of us”.

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Clicking needles

I first learned to knit as a child, taught by my mother and aunt. I remember

as a Girl Guide being very thankful that there was the alternative of a Knitting badge in the Queen's Guide programme, as I did not then, and still do not, gravitate towards Needlework. I continued knitting into adulthood, but then for a while parenthood and further employment took up my time and attention.

I returned to the activity during a holiday with family in USA. My sister-in-law told me she had wanted to finish a scarf for me to take home, but was running out of time. We solved the problem by sharing the knitting – the simple pattern allowed either one of us to pick it up and work a few rows. That started off my renewed adventure into the updated world of knitting, now also found online in forums such as Ravelry; with new ideas about ways of working (knitting in the round, knitting a sweater top down); new blends of yarn produced using fibre from independent flocks and dyed by independent dyers; and ways of socialising and interacting with other knitters, whilst visiting new places (just like ringing!). I often joke that I stepped out of paid employment so that I could go to the Edinburgh Yarn Festival – then held in March, during school term time and not accessible to me due to school employment and distance. Amusingly, this had the side-effect of anxiety about whether the festival would be held on the same weekend as 12-bell Eliminators, or the same weekend as an eliminator practice slot! The Festival organisers had to wait until the Six Nations Rugby schedule was released before they could confirm their dates.

I've often found that when other ringers learn that I am a keen knitter, they assume that I would want to knit 'blue lines' into a sweater, possibly using a pattern for cables or colourwork. Whilst I enjoy using both of these techniques, I have had no inclination at all to incorporate methods into my knitting. Sorry if that seems to be letting the side down!

However, my main love is lace knitting. Simple knit and purl stitches can be manipulated into varying intricacies of lacework. Sloped columns of stitches can give beautiful botanical effects when bordering eyelets, or an architectural effect when designed into latticework. More formal lines or groups of eyelets (posh word for an intentional hole) give a different, but equally pleasing effect.

I would liken lace knitting in some ways to learning methods or the 'puzzle pieces' that make up a method structure. For example, when we learn Cambridge Surprise we have to learn the structure of what

we know as 'Cambridge places'. Depending on how we learn, we may progress from learning the specific sequence: 'Dodge 3-4, 4ths, 3rds, dodge 3-4 with the treble, 4ths, 3rds, dodge 3-4' to the more generic sequence 'Dodge, place, place, dodge with the treble, place, place, dodge', knowing that we

apply that sequence as required. Eventually, when our brain has thoroughly absorbed

it, we can think of it as just 'Cambridge places', and because we know that we are ringing Cambridge condense that down even further to '3-4 places'.

Similarly in knitting, an activity which requires a technique to be learned, you first of all learn the simple stitches, then how to manipulate them using the wonders of (among others) 'knit two together (k2tog)' = right-leaning decrease; 'slip slip knit (ssk)' = left-leaning decrease; 'knit into front and back (kfb)' = increase one stitch; 'yarn over (yo)' = increase one stitch to make an eyelet.

You also have to learn how to deal with those pointy things called needles, especially when using a set of the double-pointed variety if you are knitting socks, for example. This is akin to having to control all that swinging metal and those yards of rope, whilst at the same time remembering which way you are hunting, or in which position you actually have to make those pesky places.

Lace knitting is structured in groups of stitches along the row – these groups are known as 'repeats'. If the pattern is relatively simple, it is possible to remember the repeat and not have to refer to the pattern all the time – more experienced knitters will manage this more quickly, in the same way that experienced ringers are often able to look at a method and learn it quite quickly because they recognise the structure and how the method relates to the treble etc. Lace patterns are often written in chart form, so that there is a visual 'picture' of how the knitting will look – the design's blue line, if you like.

In the lace border of the small shawl shown in the photo, I could well be working my way along a row muttering to myself "Left, nine, right, over, one, over", which is my way of condensing the repeat 'left-leaning decrease (ssk), knit 9, right leaning decrease (k2tog), yarn over, knit 1, yarn over', commonly written as 'ssk, k9, k2tog, yo, k1, yo'.

On a wrong side row, which is likely to be less complex (although not always!) I may visualise the pattern as 'purl up to and including the first of the pair of yarn overs, knit 1, then repeat'. The pattern repeat could be 'p11, k1'.

In my mind this equates to method ringing where, for example, you know the circle of work or the place bell, but you also know where you pass or dodge with the treble, or where you do a bit of work with your course bell, or which Stedman half-turn is done at which stroke. Counting your stitches is very helpful, but knowing that the k1 sits centrally over the spine of the lacy leaves is a lifesaver if you have somehow managed to miscount, or even worse have dropped a stitch somewhere!

As with ringing, there is simple lace knitting – maybe the addition of eyelets to a piece of plain knitting – and varying levels of complexity, with certain designers pushing the boundaries of stitch manipulation, just like the boundaries of method ringing are tested. The most complex shawl I knit (see photo) had me decreasing during a cable procedure and nearly blew my mind (was that more or less than serious spliced?). This design is inspired by an eighth of a rose window, hence the name and the more architectural look.

However, at this level it is often safest not to think that you have learned the repeat (even if you could!) and to diligently follow the chart. You do have to interpret a variety of more complex symbols, but there is the advantage that you can stop and work out what you are doing; undo and correct a few stitches if you have made a mistake; or in a real 'fire-up' undo a whole section and start off again. No lost peals here!

ANNE ANTHONY
Banstead, Surrey



Above: *Uncia* by Lucy Hague

Below: *Dendrology Shawl* by verybusymonkey



A Tasty Discovery by Richard Pullin

An exciting event has occurred. I've discovered an old book - an original manuscript by an anonymous author, previously unknown to ringing historians. Well actually it isn't that old. Carbon dating shows it was produced in 2006. It's a treatise on ringing catering events and how to plan them - primarily the traditional ringing tea at association meetings, but space is also given for local band dinners, barbeques, and Christmas drinks with the vicar. If some of these chapters sound familiar, that's because they are. The author openly acknowledges that much of the content has been recycled from author Steve Coleman. Indeed, it's probably quicker to establish what isn't pure Coleman.

I found the book lying on the A111 during my morning walk to work. An unlikely place to find a hitherto undocumented ringing manuscript. The A5 pages have no covers and have clearly been torn out of a larger notebook. As such the whole thing is falling to bits. The prose has been written in biro. The green ink used for some sections suggests the pen of an oddball, though we may never know who actually wrote it. But a DNA sample establishes the author was aged twelve when the book was written. Thus it makes for amusing reading, particularly the bits which are written with all seriousness intended (which is most of it.)

Now we will enjoy a reproduction of the first four overall chapters. The child author's original spelling and grammar has been retained - much like in the published editions of The Young Visitors by Daisy Ashford - and with the original illustrations included. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed finding it.

After reading the chapters of Ringing Teas in Steve Coleman's *The Bellringer's Bedside Companion* I took it into my head to write an entire book on the subject. We have our teas for Branch Meetings and A.G.Ms. We have special Bellringers' Dinners, for a particular parish. Some of us have Skittles Night, for a Branch. We have Drinks with the Vicar Evening, for the band and vicar. We have picnic outings, for some of the Band. We have quite a few ringers' meals, midday and beyond. But the main type of tea, the type before Branch Meetings, is the type this book is interested in most. We have all sorts of Teas, though. It is this book's mission to help you go about preparing Ringing Teas and having a jolly good time.

Section 1 - A Buffett Tea Overall Chapter - 1

Branch Meeting Teas come in two kinds: A "Buffett" and A "Sit-Down-And-Served" (SDS). This section Deals with the Buffett and this chapter explains planning a Buffett.

First of all you must ask the Branch Secretary how many people are coming to the meeting. He will tell you how many. Say 40 people are coming. Check the Kitchen of the Church Hall (or wherever the tea will be) to see whether it has the appropriate equipment. Plan what food you are going to make. The basis of ringing teas are Sandwiches and Cake with extras.

Sandwiches need to have normal fillings such as: cheese, Cheese and Ham, Cheese and Mustard, Ham, Ham and Mustard, Fish paste, Lettuce, Ham and Tomatoe, egg, onions and the like. As for what spreads to use: Butter, Margarine and "Sandwich Spread" for special sandwiches. Make little flags to be stuck next to the sandwich so that the ringer who is a vegetarian and hates mustard doesn't eat a ham and Mustard Sandwich.

Cakes can come in all different varieties: chocolate sponge slices, cupcakes, "Rice Krispie" cakes, Tarts, Lemon cake and the like. I don't think you will need any flags by the cake to identify it in any way But you will need to put a flag by it if it has nuts in it. Needless to say, this is so the ringer doesn't eat a nutty flapjack. Pan cakes are not



N.B: Make Little Flags by the the Sandwiches so that the ringer who is a vegetarian and who hates mustard doesn't pick up a Ham and Mustard Sandwich.



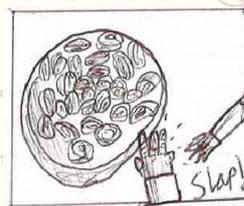
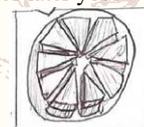
Cake, Cake! Extras are stuff like Sausage rolls. Usually very small ones at Ringing Teas. You will need more than one plate for heaps of Sausage rolls (especially if someone like me is at the tea!) You could also have small sausages on sticks - the kind in the picture.

Some ringers might be vegetarian so be careful. Talking of Sandwiches, the type of ham you use doesn't matter. Die-hard ringers will want thick proper ham but people like me would want wafer ham. I've been to one meeting with thick ham and another with wafer. Well, that's all I can think of when it comes to planning it out.

Section 1 - A Buffett Tea Overall Chapter - 2

The day has come - a lovely sunny day. Just right for the Splendid tea your ringers are going to devour - made by you! All the sandwiches at ringing Teas I've been to have been Triangular quarters of a slice.

When making the sandwiches, do be careful with them. Remember people are expected to eat them. How would you like eating a squashed, torn, stupid sandwich? And when you make the first, you make it delicious, you put effort into it. A few sandwiches later your Gusto's gone because you're board. Put detail and effort into every sandwich you make. If the Tea isn't due to begin yet and is hours away, put cling film over each plate and put them in the fridge. (Each plate should have a big pile of sandwiches). If you have a big cake use your common sense and cut it into Pieces.



Don't forget to provide plates. Paper ones will do. There are usually quite a few plates for Sausage Rolls. At Teas they are usually very small ones as seen below.

Knowing what amount of tea to have is quite daunting. A Gallon would fill about 25 cups (I'm not good at maths!) and refill the teapot once. Have milk and sugar at the ready and coffee. Orange Squash, Fruit

And Bareley, Lemonade, Milk - You don't know what children might be there so be armed. You may want other extras. Keish Quiches is always acceptable and Mince pies can usually be found near Christmas. I should say that you should Charge £1.00 per head. And there you have it (I hope) A ringing Tea that has been traditional for a hundred years. I hope you thoroughly enjoy it.

Section 2 - A S.D.S Tea Overall chapter - 3

When I say "S.D.S" I mean a "Sit-Down-And-Served" Tea, parallel to the Buffett. This chapter explains how to plan it. This is, again, the Kind of tea found at Branch Meetings and AGMs. So first ask the Branch Secretary how many people are coming to the meeting. Say 40 are coming. The food you prepare can basically be exactly the same to the ones in the previous chapters. Make menus so your guests can tick the required food.

Prepare Napkins. For the Buffett kind of tea you use paper plates, but this is a proper former meal. You will need proper china plates for this meal. If the vicar is coming to the tea, don't forget to say grace.

Section 2 - A S.D.S Tea Overall Chapter - 4

If you want to make a ringing tea in Lancashire, these chapters are for you. The ringing Teas in Lancashire are cooked meals. Dishes include pies, stew and the like. Again these are the Church-Hall teas before meetings. The food is either cooked in the Hall-Kitchen or bought from a shop. Snacky things to have can be Sausage Rolls, But, not the kind at normal ringing Teas

But the kind of Bakery Sausage Rolls. You can have the same drinks that you have at a normal ringing tea.



Suggested food

- Chicken pie
- Sausage and Mash
- Cocktail Soup
- Pancakes

Fish pie

Your hot tea may be completely successful. Remember that you are serving a lot of people. Keep the food safe. Viz: Have food that the average person enjoys. And don't forget vegetarians. Enjoy all your ringing teas. Each and every one of them.

Chapter 2 - Making

Chapter 1 - Planning

Chapter 1 - planning

Chapter 2 - A Hot Tea

Date touches for 2024

All compositions can be found on complib.org

Plain Bob Doubles and Minor

For a 'snip', cut out the two lead-end rows. The bell that would have made seconds rings four blows at lead; the treble makes two blows in seconds and then goes back out; the other bells plain hunt and do their next piece of work at the next treble's lead.

For 104 of PB Doubles, call a normal 120 with every plain lead except one (eight) as a snip.

For 2024 of PB Minor, call 2 × 720s, and a 600 with any eight plain leads as snips (584).

104 Grandsire Doubles

Call a three-part 120 of Grandsire (e.g. sbsp × 3), replacing any four singles with 'big snips': a big snip cuts four changes with the treble turning round in 3rds.

Add 16 × 120s for 2024.

584 Plain Bob Minor with Little Bob

D F Morrison

2345	F	I	H
2435	-	-	s
4532	-	-	-
3425	ss	-	s

Repeat twice. No backstroke 65s.

Replace the first three leads by one lead of Little Bob.

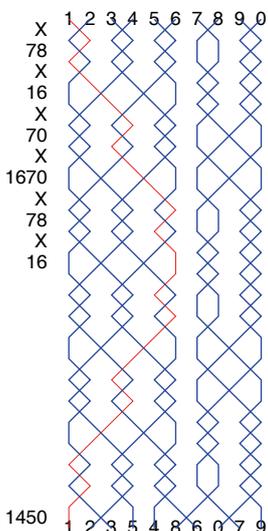
For 2,024 add two extents (or one 1,440) to taste.

584 Plain and Little Bob Minor

Arr. D L Thomas

23456	W	H	Methods
45236	-	-	LL.LLL.
25346	2	-	LL.LLLP.LLL.
35426	2	-	P.LLLP.LLL.
24356	-	s	P.LLL.
35246	-	-	P.PPPP.
25436	2	-	P.PPPPP.PPPP.
45326	2	-	P.PPPPP.PPPP.
23456	-	s	P.PPPP.

Ring with 2 × 720 or 1440 for 2024.



Burley Gate Differential Little Surprise Royal

With thanks to the composers and the Central Council Technical & Taxonomy Workgroup. If you have any specific requests for date touches, please email compositions@ccbr.org.uk. Any feedback welcome to the Editor as well, so we know what to commission next year!

2024 Plain Bob Triples with Baldrick Little Bob

D F Morrison

23456	W	F	M	H
26354	-	-	2*	s
43526	-	s	2	4
52436	-	-	-	-
34256	s	-	-	s
32456	-	-	s	-
24536	s	-	5	A
53246	-	-	-	-
42356	s	-	s	-
23456	-	-	A	-

Start with one lead of Baldrick.

2* = - s; 4 = - - s -; 5 = s - - s -.

2024 Little Bob Major

D F Morrison

23456	W	M	B	H
42356	-	-	-	-
(25643)	s	-	-	-
53642	s	-	4	-
56342	ss	-	s	-

Repeat four times. Omit ss from any one part. 4 = - - s -.

2024 Plain and Little B Major

D J Jones

23456	W	M	H
42635	-	(-)	- P.L.LLL.
34625	-	-	P.LLLL
23645	-	6	P.

LP. (PLP. × 5)

6 = - - s - - s. 5 times repeated.

Call one PLP as PLLLL.

s for (-) in parts 1 and 4.

2024 Yorkshire S Major with Little Bob Major

S A Percy

23456	W	V	M	F	H
64352	-	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-	2
35426	2	-	-	-	2
23456	-	-	-	-	3

Ring all Yorkshire, except any one full course (between 2H) as Little Bob, Yorkshire.

2024 Plain Bob Royal with Burley Gate D L S Royal

R B Pullin

23456	W	M	H
34265	-	-	4
24563	-	-	-
35426	s	-	-
23456	-	-	6

4 = - - s - s. 6 = - - - s - - s

Plain Bob, starting with one lead of Burley Gate Differential Little Surprise Royal (-78-16-70-1670-78-16,1450), giving 1235486079.

2024 Grandsire Triples with Hammerhead L B

R B Pullin

324567	1	2	3
234765	s	-	s
435267	-	-	s
345267	-	-	s
547362	-	-	s
457362	-	-	s
572463	-	-	-
723564	-	-	-
324765	-	-	s
427365	s	-	s
247365	-	-	s
427563	s	-	s
247563	-	-	s
475263	s	-	-
752463	s	-	-
524763	s	-	-
243567	-	-	-

Repeat twice, replacing final bob with a single.

Start with a lead of Hammerhead L B Triples:

1234567
2135476
2314567
3241657
2341567
3214657
3126475
1324657
1324567

2024 Stedman Triples

Arr. L J Woodward from Thurstans' four part

(324165)	S	H	L	Q
145326	-	4.5.6.8	-	-
246315	x	-	-	-
432165	x	x	-	x
342156	-	x	-	-
316452	x	-	x	-
143562	x	x	-	x
413526	-	x	-	-
235416	-	3T	-	-
431256	-	0	-	-
324516	-	T	-	-
356214	x	-	x	-
523164	x	x	-	x
214356	-	2s	-	-

Start at backstroke with the sixth change of a slow six.

Rounds with a single.

2024 Spliced S Major (5m)

D F Morrison

23456	B	M	W	H
43526	-	2	-	RN.XY.R.
32465	-	-	-	YN.CY
42563	-	-	-	R.NR
42635	-	-	-	NY.CC.
42356	-	-	-	[-]YN.CY.
24365	-	A*	-	-
34256	-	A	-	-
43265	-	A*	-	-
23456	-	A	-	-

A* = A, omitting [-].

Yorkshire (Y), Lincolnshire (N), Cambridge (C), Rutland (R), L Bob (X).

2024 Spliced S Major (5-7m)

D F Morrison

23456	B	M	W	H
24365	2	-	-	[-] E(WWC).BS.BCY.C.E.

Repeat five times, omitting [-] from alternate parts.

In one part only, replace (WWC) with one lead of Little Bob.

For six methods, ring Cambridge instead of Superlative, or instead of Yorkshire. For five methods do both.

Cambridge (C), Bristol (B), Cornwall (W), Lessness (E), Superlative (S), Yorkshire (Y).

2024 Stedman Caters

T J Barnes

(324165879)	5	16
512364978	2.4.6.s8.10.12.s13.s16	(16)
214365	-	-
413265	-	2
412365	s	2
213465	-	2
314265	-	2
314265879	2.s4.6.s10.s12.14	(16)
214365879	-	A

Start at backstroke with rounds as the 5th row of a slow six.

2024 Little Bob Maximus

D F Morrison

23456	W	M	H
64352	[ss]	-	-
34265	s	-	ss

Repeat five times.

Omit [ss] from any one part.

Contains all 24 each 56s and 65s.

TOWER GRAB

by Angela Newing

On our annual Christmas outing we visited five towers: two before lunch, at 11.00am and 12.00noon, and three in the afternoon at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.00pm. (We could have done with longer to digest our turkey pub lunch.) A different ringer took charge at each tower. One of our ringers, Bridget, was surprised to notice that one of the towers was dedicated to St Bridget, but she was not in charge there because the bells were very hard going. She had the last tower, St Thomas's instead.

Susan's tower began one hour after the start at Christ Church, which was two hours before St Mary's. I (Angela) took charge two hours after we began at St Peter's, which was later in the day than John's tower.

Can you work out the tower that Daisy ran?



Twist these strands to find the festive connection:

Easy

- Carrot
- Coal
- Scarf
- Twigs

Medium

- Coltrane
- Carson
- Temple
- Tchaikovsky

Hard

- Alastair Sim
- Albert Finney
- Reginald Owen
- Michael Caine

The Pub Quiz

(answers opposite – and across the issue!)



1. How heavy is 'The Noteman' in Den Bosch?
2. Who is the first member in the College Youths name book?
3. Between which two Irish towns was the first steeplechase?
4. In which year was the first circumnavigation of the world in a hot air balloon?
5. In which year was the Suez Crisis?

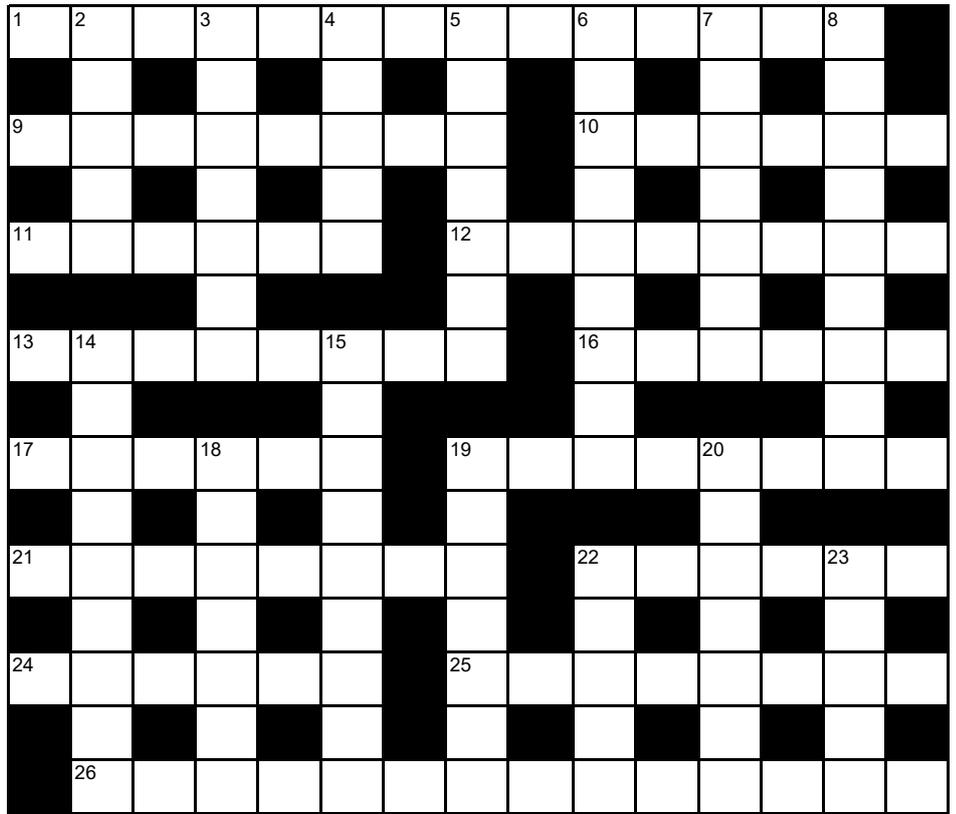
From 75 years ago ... by Kewsett

A CODE. – Read the following message concerning bellringing [still true today]:

sifecoalhtmodaweiebr
rtiepnclgilstlicosi
hhfneggbaaovnioldid
saeectrxcatemilipfas
lnntoieicnnsoweeahord

PRIZE CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

by Anthony Leeves



Across

1. Amazement after bear produces method. (6,8)
9. Fix torn lace around noon at top of tower? (8)
10. Wholly unwell farmers inside. (2,4)
11. Suffolk town to permit ring. (6)
12. Dismiss career as a novelty event. (4,4)
13. A pint after ringing? - a full measure. (8)
16. Concerts include alto, and they are open to the paid and unpaid. (3-3)
17. Someone rowing near Guernsey, encircling. (6)
19. Be subject to or oppressed by part of 3rds place bell in Cambridge! (3,5)
21. "Go into the hunt with these" – song thus composed. (8)
22. As ropes fall and ringers stand. (6)
24. Some lines, but hopefully not blue ones! (6)
25. Horse workers finding rare firs. (8)
26. Strange ringing sequences or maybe just Grandsire and Stedman. (3,4,7)

Down

2. Consolidate reformed New York university (condition included). (5)
3. Calls involving two people at Wimbledon. (7)
4. Church engulfed in rising river - maybe this can rescue people? (5)
5. Implement tunes playing on one lute first. (7)
6. Origin of Stedman. (9)
7. A place of horror and confusion - no finer confusion! (7)
8. Tune playing device Isabella Comber included. (9)
14. Speed for a heavy ring of bells? (9)
15. Lucky to hear an octave with a different melody for each quarter chime. (9)
18. As is a maiden casting.? (7)
19. Attentive, getting first inside full composition. (7)
20. Method maybe Double but not Doubles (except as a variation). (7)
22. Wish a piece of ringing to have nothing omitted. (5)
23. Drawn, but also ruled out. (5)

**The prize will be £25 and a 2024 RW calendar!
See opposite for Terms and Conditions.**

**Christmas Crossword
Terms and Conditions**

To be eligible for the prizes, you must submit by post *or* as a scanned email attachment, a correct puzzle solution [you may photocopy the page if you would prefer not to damage your Christmas issue]. Please be sure to give a full name, postal address, and email address or phone number. Entries must be received by

Monday, 15th January 2024.

Post entries to:

**RW Christmas Crossword Competition,
The Ringing World,
35A High Street,
Andover, Hampshire SP10 1LJ.
or email to editor@ringingworld.co.uk**

1. No purchase is necessary – entry is not limited to subscribers.
2. All entries must be received by the closing date of **Monday, 15th January 2024.**
3. No liability will be accepted for entries lost, damaged or delayed in the post. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of receipt. Winners' names will be published. All winners must agree to future publicity.
4. The draw for the puzzle will be conducted by an independent person.
5. Prize winners will be notified by no later than **1st February 2024.**
6. The winners' names will be printed in the Ringing World.
7. The decision of the judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
8. There is no cash alternative to the prize offered; the prize may not be interchanged or transferred.
9. Employees and Directors of The Ringing World Ltd (and members of its Puzzle Panel) and their immediate families are not eligible to enter the competition.

2023 “Decades” peals

Twenty years ago, for a reason that now escapes me, I arranged a “decades” peal. On 22nd November 2003 we rang Plain Bob Triples at Marston Bigot and it was a birthday compliment to all the ringers. The treble ringer (Andrew Dodd) had recently celebrated his 10th birthday. The ringer of the 2nd, her 20th birthday and so on to the ringer of the 8th celebrating his 80th birthday.

Move on to 2013 and I arranged another “Decades” peal. This time, on 17th November at Milton, Ox, we rang Cambridge Surprise Major. My new 10 year old ringing the treble was Henry Pipe, then from Birmingham. He has now moved onto much greater ringing achievements. On the tenor was my 80 year old, Bill Harris.

Now it’s 2023. About a year ago I started looking for a potential 10 year old kid who might be able to ring the treble to an eight bell peal. I’ve always considered this person to be the hardest to find but so far I’ve been lucky. I was lucky again this year with James Ellis ringing his third peal. The rest of the band more or less fell into place with many familiar faces and a “newbie” on the tenor.

Step back a little. In June, I arranged a peal for Bill Harris, now 10 years older, to celebrate his 90th birthday. A successful peal was scored at Catherington. I was now struck by a wave of guilt. I had axed Bill from this year’s “decades” peal on the grounds that he was too old. How very ageist of me. How could I make amends?

The solution came a few weeks later when I suddenly realised that, not only could I include Bill in a “Decades” peal but also, it made my job easier. The band would consist of ringers celebrating decade birthdays from 20 to 90 so no tricky 10 year olds to find. A request to the Southampton University ringers quickly found a 20 year old who was prepared to ring. With Bill on board, I quickly completed the band.

I needed a light ring of eight so Bill would be able to ring tenor. Clock House Bells in Awbridge (tenor 3-1-2) were ideal.

We met on Sunday 3rd December and, with little difficulty, scored a very good peal of Plain Bob Triples. Congratulations to Bill, ringing his third peal as a 90 year old. Also congratulations to Pippa on the treble ringing her first peal. Score part one of two.

That just left the main event which was the peal to celebrate birthdays 10 – 80. We met at Islip, Oxfordshire on Saturday 9th December and set off for Cambridge Surprise Major. James rang the treble like he had been doing it all his life. The “newbie” on the tenor showed no signs of strain on the mighty 8cwt bell. After a little under three hours the bells ran round for another very good peal. Score part two of two.

After some refreshments in the Red Lion we parted company with a few comments like “see you again in another 10 years”. That just leaves me to ask a question: “have any ringers had a baby this year that they would be happy to train up for a peal in 2033?”

ROY LEMARECHAL

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH D.G.

AWBRIDGE, Hants,
Clock House Bells
Sun 3 Dec 2023 2h36 (3)
5040 Plain Bob Triples
Comp. C Ravenscroft
1 Philippa Garraway (20)
2 Andrew J Dodd (30)
3 Jessica Hornsby (40)
4 Margaret J Smith (50)
5 Janet L Morris (60)
6 Roy LeMarchal (70) (C)
7 Christopher H Rogers (80)
8 William A Harris (90)
First peal: 1.
A “Decades” peal rung as a birthday compliment to the members of the band who each celebrated their birthday as indicated.
Part 1 of 2.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH D.G.

ISLIP, Oxon,
St Nicholas
Sat 9 Dec 2023 2h52 (8)
5056 Cambridge S Major
Comp. C Middleton
1 James T Ellis (10)
2 Henry J W Pipe (20)
3 Andrew J Dodd (30)
4 Matthew D Hetherington (40)
5 Eleanor J Linford (50)
6 Janet L Morris (60)
7 Roy LeMarchal (70) (C)
8 Robert C Kippin (80)
A “Decades” peal rung as a birthday compliment to the members of the band who, this year, each celebrated their birthday as indicated.
Part 2 of 2.

Answers to Twisted Strands

Easy: “Snowman”. All things used to decorate a snowman.
Medium: “Cracker”. Robbie Coltrane played the lead in the TV series Cracker. One of comedian Frank Carson’s catchphrases was “It’s a cracker”. Shirley Temple sang about animal crackers in her song. Tehtakovskiy wrote the score for the ballet “The Nutcracker”.
Hard: “Scrooge”. All four actors have played Scrooge in a feature film, most notably Michael Caine in “A Muppet Christmas Carol”.

1. 113wt.
2. Lord Breton.
3. Buttvant and Donrale.
4. 1998 (21 March).
5. 1956.

Answers to The Pub Quiz



Left: The ‘Part 1’ band in order, clockwise from front right.
Right: No distance, just 70 years between them. I wonder how many other ringers had a 90 year old in their first peal! (Images: Roy LeMarchal)

A Tale of Two Steeples

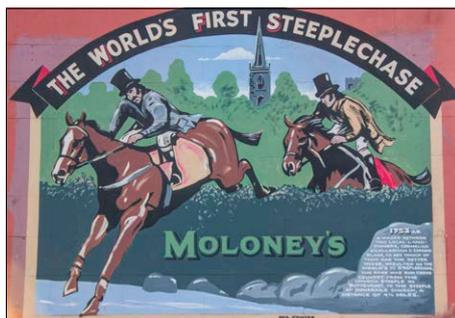


St. John Buttevant

Buttevant is a small town in north County Cork, Ireland with a rich history in horses. It is said that Napoleon Bonaparte’s horse Marengo was bought at the annual Cahirmee horse fair.

Back in 1752 two local gentlemen, Cornelius O’Callaghan and Edmund Blake, had a wager over who had the fastest horse. The race began at St John’s church in the town. The pretty church itself is typical of the area but sadly has no bells, unless you count the one we found on the church floor, moved here from another closed church in nearby Charleville. It was cast by C & G Mears in 1845 with a diameter of 28¾ inches.

From here the two gentlemen raced their horses the four miles (6.4km) cross country,



The mural on the end wall of Moloney’s bar celebrating the event

over hedges, over streams to arrive at the church of St Mary in Doneraile.

At the time Doneraile had a much older church, dating from 1663. It possessed a steeple, which was blown down in 1825. This is believed to be the first ever “steeple” chase, and the origin of the term, as the church towers were landmarks visible at a distance.

Sadly, Doneraile church was demolished around the 1880s and no image of the old church exists. It is interesting to note that the original church was built with money given by the Rt Hon Sir William St Ledger, also of horseracing fame.

The current church was built in the 1880s with a western tower that houses a ring of six bells cast by Taylors in 1889 (9-1-27 in G). The tenor had been cast in 1888 as the sixth bell for Swanage St Mary but it came out too light and was passed onto Doneraile, its inscription having been removed. On close inspection, and looking at the inscription on the replacement Swanage bell, I’m sure it only included the Taylor shield and the date, so I don’t understand why it was felt necessary to remove it.

The tower is small, and the four larger bells hang in a composite swastika H frame with the two lighter bells in low sided A frames

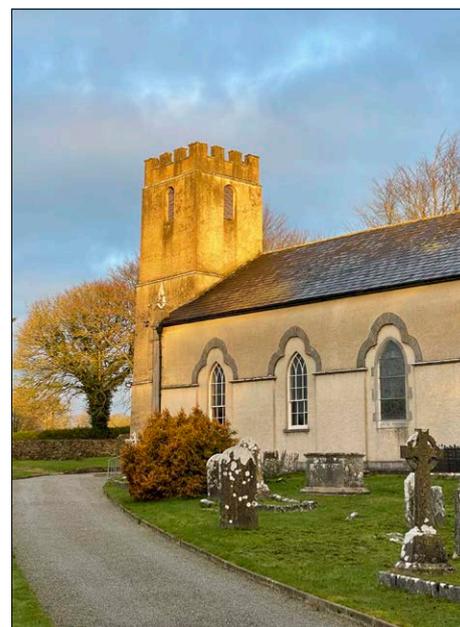
above. The original fittings and bearings were worn out and the bells not easy to ring and so it was decided that the bells be tuned and rehung with all new fittings, which work was completed in September 2023 by Matthew Higby & Co.

The parishioners of the church are very proud of their bells; an enormous amount of publicity went into their return and whilst still on the floor, during six opens sessions at the church over 500 folk came to see the bells. The local school brought all the children to see the bells and hear the history of them.

On the evening of the try-out, despite pouring rain after what had been a totally dry couple of weeks, the church was packed with over 200 people to hear them ring again.

New friends were made and the local ringers were great hosts, making the team so welcome, and for that we thank you.

NEIL THOMAS



St. Mary Doneraile

Plain Bob Doubles – and total exhaustion

Tulloch Improver’s Week

Helen McGregor, Peter Bevis and a band of loyal helpers run an Improvers Week at the Tulloch Ringing Centre in Scotland every November for ringers who can ring their own bell safely in rounds.

Progressing through call changes by place to kaleidoscope ringing to changing place at backstroke we prepare the ground well for hunting. We have sessions on being a good tenor cover, what is the handstroke gap, ropesight exercises, listening exercises, raising and lowering. We walk bob doubles & ‘ring’ it on playing cards. Handbells and the simulator are woven into the Tulloch experience. The Tulloch Ringing Centre is available to any individual, tower, Branch, District or Guild for their own week of 24/7 ropetime on two peals of bells.



We set the bells at backstroke after every touch to increase an awareness of what is going on upstairs – one of the many ways we broaden the experience of our novice ringers during an Improvers Week @ Tulloch

John Harrison's 80th birthday

It's not every day of the week that one turns 80 so I wanted to make the weekend special, which of course meant appropriate ringing. I wanted to get '80' into it, and I have always felt that tacking two digits on the end of 5000 (or 1200) seemed a bit peripheral. On my 75th birthday we rang 75 leads of Yorkshire so 80 leads was the obvious choice this time.

Eighty leads is 2,560 so it just creeps over the line to count as a half peal (unlike 75, which was a bit short). It's a more awkward length to compose but David Maynard came up with a nice composition for us to ring.

As well as the half peal I also rang a peal, which was my first of Surprise in hand, and a quarter peal – one of the regular Sunday afternoon quarters that I organise. All three performances were of Yorkshire, but that's not unreasonable since as well as it being a good method, my grandfather was Yorkshireman.

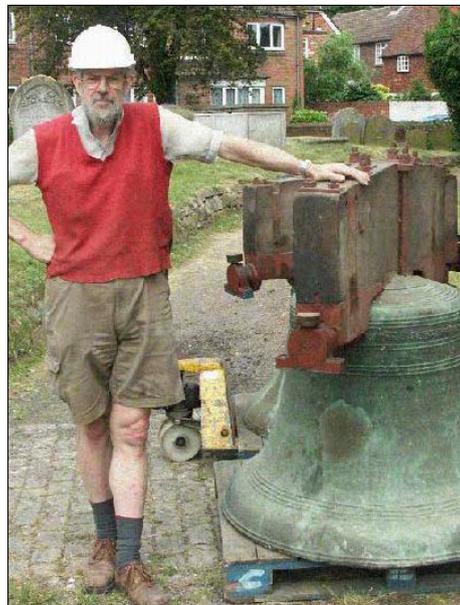
Then on the Monday evening when I was feeling 'back to normal' birthday cakes and



Above: The band for the half peal, clockwise from front right (Image: Nigel A L Mellor)
Left: You've heard of the Two Tenors?

drinks appeared in the middle of practice. I would like to thank all the ringers who helped me to celebrate.

JOHN HARRISON



OXFORD D.G.

WOKINGHAM, Berks,
2 Murdoch Road
Sat 2 Dec 2023 2h17 (11)
5056 Yorkshire S Major
Comp. R W Lee (No 4)
1-2 Nigel A L Mellor
3-4 W John Couperthwaite
5-6 David G Maynard (C)
7-8 John A Harrison
80th birthday compliment to 7-8. First
peal of Surprise in hand: 7-8. £4

Wokingham Berks 3 Dec (1h28)

All Saints
2560 Yorkshire S Major
1 James H Moynihan, 2 Jane A Mellor, 3 Christopher P Cole, 4 Tom Blomley, 5 Alan K Barsby, 6 Nigel A L Mellor (C), 7 Stephen R Smith, 8 John A Harrison.
80 leads as an 80th Birthday compliment to the Tenor ringer. £8

Wokingham, Berks. (2 Murdoch Road) 3 Dec, 1280
Yorkshire S Major: Marcia L Dieppe 1-2, Nigel A L Mellor 3-4, Christopher P Cole 5-6, John A Harrison (C) 7-8. 80th Birthday compliment to the C. £4

The Ringing World wishes John a very happy birthday, and many more. Robert Lewis, then editor, paid tribute to John when they came to the end of the remarkable Learning Curve project in 2007, saying: "His contributions have always landed on my desk on time and ready for immediate publication. It is easy to underestimate the time, effort and dedication that has to go into sustaining a regular feature in *The Ringing World*, especially one as ambitious as The Learning Curve. John has met that challenge in a most impressive way and we owe him a real debt of gratitude."

Happy birthday John, a remarkable servant to the Exercise.

This comes from Frank Cranmer, a student on our most recent week:

Very much in a spirit of kill or cure, my wife Helen and I spent November 13th to 17th at the Tulloch Ringing Centre with the aim of making some serious progress in method ringing. Were we ever going to be able to cope with basic methods or should we limit our ambitions to competence in call changes and plain hunt? Fortunately, the experience didn't prove fatal, and a week of intensive tuition and masses of rope-time has pushed us considerably further on than we had dared hope.

Much of the focus of the early part of the week was on handling, listening and counting, with quite a lot of theory and preparatory exercises. We then moved on to Plain Bob, and I had my first

lightbulb moment when I realised that I was counting my places automatically without having first reminded myself to count. My second was when I was trebling to a touch

Were we ever going to be able to cope with basic methods or should we limit our ambitions? ...

of Plain Bob Doubles and discovered after the first bob that I could see which rope was falling after me as I hunted up: my first-ever glimmerings of ropesight. By the end of the week we had rung so much that we were just about asleep on our feet, but I would not have missed it for anything.

So thanks to Helen and Peter for their hospitality, thanks to the helpers for their patience – and for giving up a week of their time to make the whole thing happen – and thanks to our fellow-students for being such a good-natured and friendly bunch. The only downside is that a week of

ringing easy-going bells, during which I began to think "Hey, I could ring tenor to a quarter peal on these", lulled me into a false sense of security that immediately evaporated once I was back in my home tower.

Finally, some comments from others. "I was so blown away by the week. The helpers' commitment and support and encouragement were incredible." "Extremely well-planned sessions. Theory, incredible rope-time. Repetition. The patience and encouragement from everyone were brilliant." "I arrived feeling I was never going to crack my nervousness when asked to ring anything other than my usual bell. After five days of amazing support and lots of rope-time I left with a degree of confidence I never thought that I would feel. What an incredible – and fun – experience."

And perhaps most important of all, Peter's lunches were excellent!

FRANK CRANMER

Doubles of the month December – St Nicholas

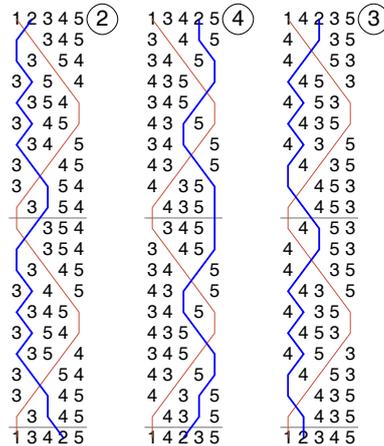
Happy Christmas! For a festive special, try our December Doubles of the Month.

St Nicholas Bob Doubles is one of the St Simon's group of methods. It combines the Reverse Canterbury backwork and the St Simon's frontwork. The bobs are Reverse Canterbury Bobs, shown below right. See the last two weeks' issues for a few more hints.

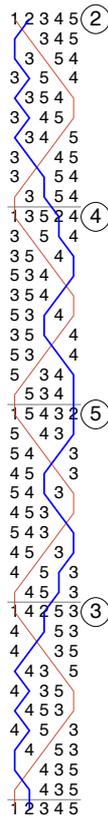
Touch plans

There are only a few basic callings that are true for St Nicholas with Reverse Canterbury Bobs. For 60, call pbbpbp or bpbpbp, and for 120 call any bell to make fifths unaffected three times: pppb × 2 (5 observation), or any rotation. You can also ring 100: call pbbpb × 2 or any rotation.

Left: A 60 of St Nicholas, called **bpbpbp**, following the 2. In the middle of each of the three columns, a bob is called: 2 runs in, then makes long fifths



unaffected, then runs out. At the end of each column is a plain lead (no bob) so 2 makes 3-4 places up, 3-4 places down and seconds. Above: A bob, called at the end of the first lead. 2 runs in 3 runs out 5 makes long fourths 4 makes long fifths unaffected



Trio of the month

Three exercises, simple methods, or other things to try on a practice night

The December Trio is
Get the handbells out
Advanced kaleidoscope
Two-and-two and Three-and-two

Two-and-two and Three-and-two

These two exercises have the treble ringing steadily throughout. Everyone else rings two or three rows of rounds, stops while the treble rings two blows alone, and then joins in again. In the three-and-two exercise, you alternately set at handstroke and backstroke – an extra challenge on heavier bells. You can have the tenor ringing regularly instead of the treble, though this makes it a little harder for the treble to know when to pull off.

The first series of The Education Column articles by David Smith had a whole article on these two exercises, from which the diagram below is extracted. (You can buy the whole series pack, or the single issue that it appeared in – see below.) He suggested three-and-two was a useful exercise when learners are only able to correct their bell dropping in rounds by letting it rise at handstroke, or if beginner method ringers are struggling to accurately strike the 3-4 down dodge in Plain Bob Doubles. In both cases, they can likely pull their backstrokes firmly to let their handstrokes rise, but have not gained the same control at backstroke. He concluded: "Be prepared for lots of errors. If your band has huge problems with this, try having just one or two bells doing the exercise with the rest ringing rounds all the time, as the treble does. You may find some ringers can never get their bell high enough at backstroke, and may need vigorous encouragement to hold the tail-end lower. They may even need a box, or a bigger box, or to have the rope lengthened. If they can succeed at this exercise only with a box, tactfully suggest that maybe they should always use a box for that bell!"

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Thought for the week

Come and celebrate

It seemed as if we had wandered through the doors of a magical wardrobe into a mysterious land. No, it wasn't Narnia. But memories of the Covid lockdown have flooded back with the present news coverage of the UK Covid Enquiry into the handling of the pandemic. The silent streets, closed public buildings, and faces covered by masks now look like some bad dream from which we have awoken, unless you are still sadly suffering a living nightmare resulting from this global disaster.

C S Lewis, the Christian thinker and writer who died 60 years ago last month, author of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', told the story for children – and adults! – of the Land of Narnia, ruled by the white witch, where it was always winter but never Christmas. When four children stumble into this fantasy land through the back of a wardrobe the spell is finally broken, and the great lion Aslan is to return to defeat the witch, and usher in Christmas and Spring.

Winter, but never Christmas. It can seem like this today in our wonderful but troubled world.

The coronavirus is so called because under the microscope it visibly resembles a crown, a corona in Latin. A crown is a symbol of authority, and certainly this virus had colossal power over us in what it did to millions of people throughout the world. It reminded us of our vulnerability.

But the coronavirus will not have the last word. Hope is to be found in another corona, for it is Jesus Christ who wears the true crown. He is the real, though often unrecognised, world authority.

As we ring for our carol and crib services, and the midnight and Christmas Day services, we are proclaiming loudly and clearly that though winter, it is Christmas. We are inviting people to come and celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, the One who wears the true crown, and who indeed can break the power of sin and darkness, who alone can offer us peace with our personal God and upholder of the universe.

REVD DAVID WITCHELL
Ringer at St Mary's Wolborough,
Newton Abbot

37
Ringing
Titles

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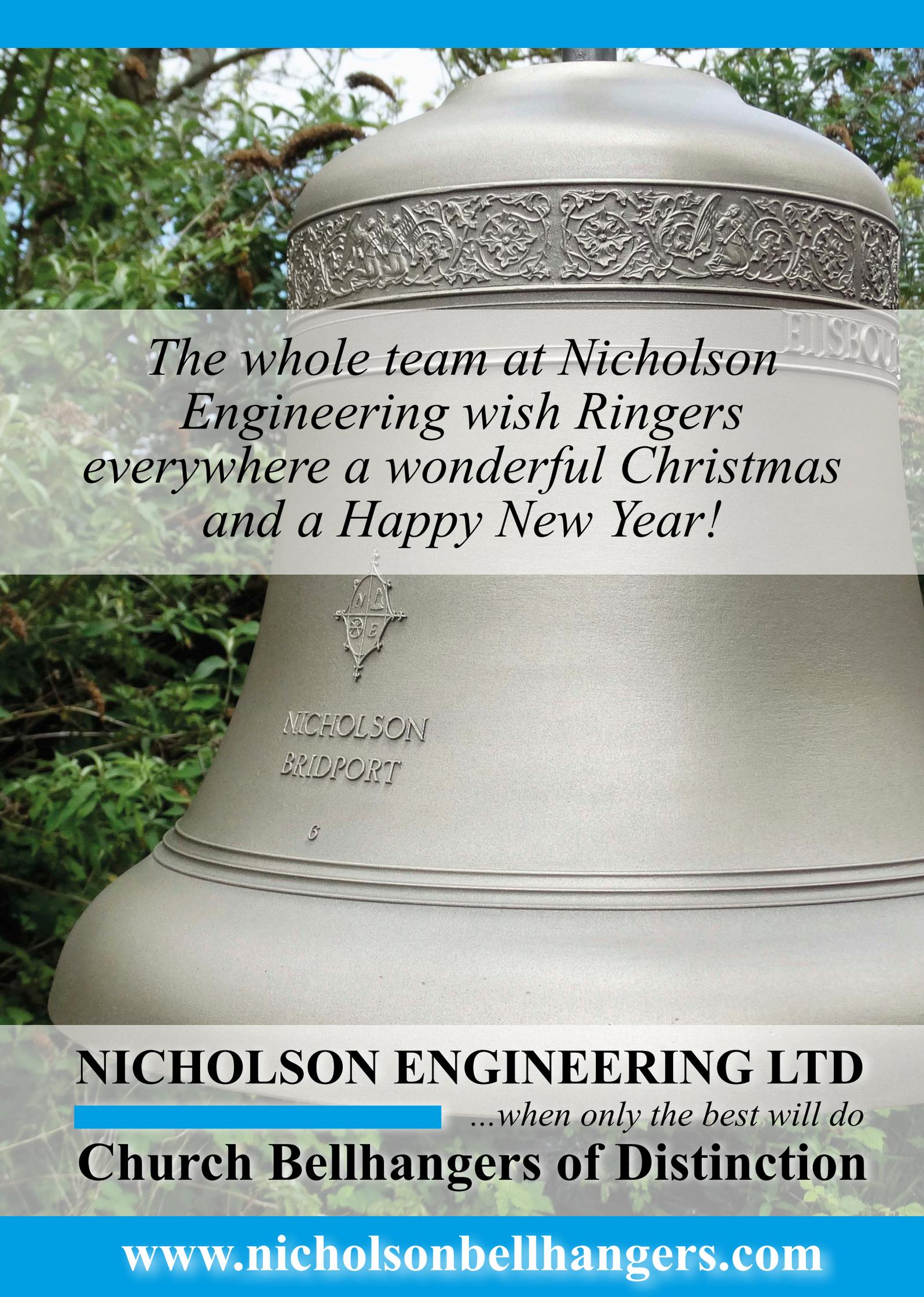
*Beginners - Ropesight, Listening,
Plain Hunt, Plain Bob*

*Advanced - Methods, Compositions,
Asymmetric Methods, Splicing*

*Bell History - Bells, Bellfounders, Ringers
and more..*

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A large, ornate metal bell, likely made of brass or bronze, is the central focus. The bell features a wide band of intricate carvings near the top, depicting various figures and symbols. Below this band, the name 'EISSBOU' is partially visible. Further down, there is a small, diamond-shaped emblem with a cross and other symbols. Below the emblem, the words 'NICHOLSON' and 'BRIDPORT' are inscribed in a serif font. At the bottom of the bell, the number '6' is visible. The background shows green foliage, suggesting the bell is outdoors.

*The whole team at Nicholson
Engineering wish Ringers
everywhere a wonderful Christmas
and a Happy New Year!*

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