

GREAT GRANSDEN BELLRINGERS REPORT 2015

Look to!

The tower continues to be a very active area of our church, with the bells being rung on Sundays and Thursdays and silently on other occasions during the week. The Ely Diocesan Association of Bellringers has a new Education Centre at Stretham where bellringers can go to be taught the basics or improve their skills, but our own tower is being used in much the same way.

Phillip and Sheila have passed Module 2 of the Integrated Teacher Training Scheme and become full members of the Association of Ringing Teachers. The tower facilities have been improved with the addition of new CCTV camera in the belfry, improved ringing simulator with new laptop connection to a second bell. More recently a new handrail rope has been installed on the staircase.

Training has included weekly additional 1:1 practices for learners, plus learners from other local towers have also used the training facility. Five new local ringers are being trained and all have signed up to the national Learning the Ropes (LTR) teaching scheme. LTR Level 1 certificates have been presented to Megan George, Jonathan Corrigan.

Andrew Lawrence and Jonathan Corrigan used Bellringing in their D of E skills section to achieve the Bronze Awards. This involved them setting and achieving certain goals, one of these for Andrew was to ring his first quarter peal.

We are always keen to welcome visitors to the tower, this year being visited by worldwide representatives of Johnson Matthey, a tower tour for 1st Gransdens Guides and visits from 4 groups of ringers.

Special events have included:

- 🔔 Ringing skills morning in February
- 🔔 Ringing for England (UK event) on 23rd April
- 🔔 Ringing for the village event commemorating the end of WWII
- 🔔 Annual outing with Swavesey ringers to Suffolk in September
- 🔔 Hosting the Association Young Ringers meeting in September
- 🔔 Annual ringers Christmas dinner again kindly hosted by David and Sheila Prest
- 🔔 12 quarter peals and 1 peal rung during the year

Practices continue to be busy and fun-packed, catering for all abilities. We value the support and loyalty of all our ringers especially for Sunday service ringing. Training is a continuous process with all ringers achieving intermediate targets as part of the national training schemes.

Have a look at <http://gransdenbells.btck.co.uk> or on the church Facebook page to see what we are getting up to.

That's all.

Sheila & Phillip George