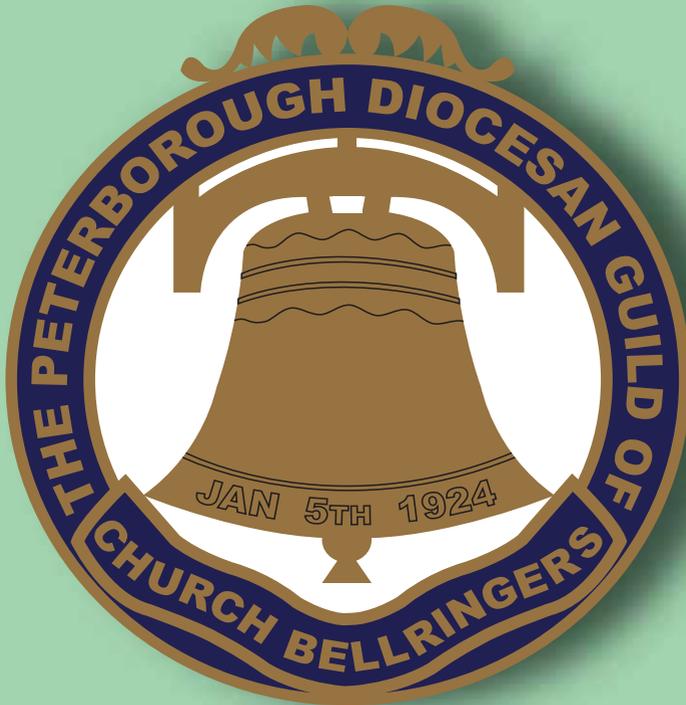


PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD
OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS



Newsletter
September 2015

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*It's nice to see reports from so many contributors this time.
Please keep this going by keeping notes of activities in your branch.*

*The deadline for the next Newsletter is : **28th February 2016**
Please make a note of this date in your diary*

Please send your contribution either through your
Branch Press Correspondent or direct to :
e-mail : christopherpearson@btinternet.com or Tel : 01536 420822

THE PRESIDENT'S PREAMBLE

Fellow members of the Guild Executive have saved you from a long preamble from me by each making a contribution themselves! A report of our annual general meeting appears later in the newsletter. The highlight for me was the elections of Brenda Dixon and Janet Bowers as Life Honorary Members. I was able to present them with the first two certificates recording their outstanding service to the Guild and look forward to making sure all the other 20 Life Honorary Members receive a belated certificate. Similarly I was happy to present 50 years membership certificates to Sue Jones, Richard Yates and since the meeting to Dorothy Stopps and Janet Wilkins.

These are small tokens from the whole membership recognising many years of voluntary support and promotion of bellringing in the diocese. Let's all enlist new members to keep the Guild developing and the bells ringing for the next 50 years!

Geoff Pullin

MASTER'S MISSIVE

I recently attended a meeting with Geoff Pullin, Sue Jones, Nick Churchman and Alan Marks to discuss various Guild Issues. The Meeting was interesting as it gave me a deeper insight into the work that goes on behind the scenes. I enjoyed listening to and interacting with the more established members of the committee. In each of their respective positions it is clear that they care about what they do. They work very hard on behalf of the Guild and I hope that I can do that as well.

During the meeting I was asked if I would produce something for the next Newsletter. I thought for a moment and said 'well as Ringing Master I haven't actually done anything yet so what can I write about'. But I guess there are a few things I can mention...

One item discussed at the meeting was the Recruitment and Training Fund. The Fund has existed for a while but we now have a document which details how it is managed and utilised. Please be



aware that this fund exists and money is available to help with many aspects of Recruitment and Training. This is the Guilds money and therefore yours so keep it in mind and get in touch with me if you think you could legitimately spend some of it. I can't promise we can provide 100% of the funding of something as resources are finite but I am sure we can provide some useful help. At the time of writing this I have already allocated 3 grants from the R & T Fund.

Recruitment is something I would like to discuss with the Branch Ringing Masters when time allows. I have had some mad ideas about doing some small road shows but I need to get advice from others about the feasibility of this and other recruitment events and aids. I am keen to make use of the increasing number of simulators being built and installed. Daventry Branch recently completed the construction of a mobile simulator based on the Saxilby Simulator. If anyone would like to know how we went about it then please ask me and I will tell all. At its first outing we broke both the 'Stays' supplied with it. I have purchased 6 x 1m lengths of Ash Dowelling so we now have 24 replacement stays (if my maths is correct). They should last a week or two!

I notice from the Events section on the Guild Website that most Saturdays are taken up with Branch Events so it is difficult to arrange training on these Saturdays. However, in four months of the year there is a fifth Saturday which apart from an 8 bell practice in the Culworth Branch (which is in the evening) means these days tend to be free. I hope to be able to organise some training events on these days. This very much depends on the members. I can choose a method for a particular date but there may be nobody who needs that training so it may be better for the members to approach me or their Branch

Ringling Master with suggestions. It doesn't matter at which level this training is pitched, if you want an intense training day on any method from Bob Doubles to something Maximus I will try and arrange it. It doesn't mean that I can't arrange training on days other than the fifth Saturday so have a think and let me know. My email address is at the end, please contact me.

The feedback I have received from members who have attended the Guild Ten Bell Practice has been very positive. My intention is to take over the organising of this practice when we get to the end of the first year which has been well organised by The President

and run so competently by Richard Allton. Many thanks to them and one or two others who have helped. I have noticed an improvement in ringing standards and would recommend this practice to anyone who thinks they could benefit from it. The practice concentrates mainly on Grandsire Caters, Yorkshire Royal and Bristol Royal. It is essential that you can at least ring touches of Grandsire Caters as this is the 'entry level' for the practice. I would like to set up something to help get people to the 'entry level' but as mentioned above available days for more training is limited. Maybe we could organise something on one of the fifth Saturdays, so again please contact me if this is something you would like to try.

At the time of writing we are approaching September and the Summer Festival and by the time you read this it will have taken place. This festival includes the Inter-Branch 8 Bell Striking Competition which is great fun but none the less keenly fought for. My dream and that of previous Ringing Masters, I am sure, is to have a team from all ten branches in a future competition. I know it is difficult to find ringers who are willing to have their efforts judged but think about having a go. These comments also apply to the Spring Festival and 6 Bell Striking Competition although if all the eligible teams entered I may have a rather large logistical problem! These meetings are a great chance to meet with and ring with people from across the Guild.

My intention if elected was to visit as many Branch Meetings as possible as soon as possible so I could get to know more of you. I enjoy going to other Branches but unfortunately at the time of writing this I am 'un-ringable' due to a Shoulder Impingement (look it up on the internet). I went to a couple of meetings but it is miserable not being able to ring so I will postpone my visits until I am fit. I hope by the time you read this I will be back in action, if not, then I will probably have gone mad!

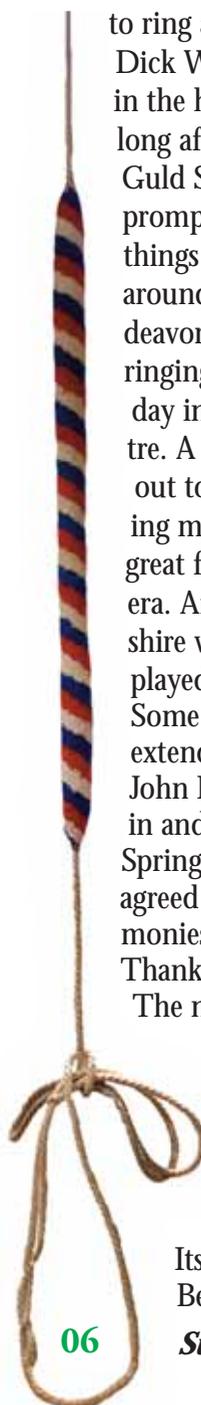
Best Regards, Andy Timms

e: andytimms66@gmail.com mobile: 07717 130145

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

This is a new venture for me contributing to the Guild Newsletter under this heading, but our President felt it would be a good thing if the entire executive wrote a piece so here goes.





Receiving my fifty year membership certificate of the Guild at the last AGM has made me realise just how long ringing has been part of my life. I learned to ring at Weldon along with three others under the guidance of the late Dick Webster when I was 12 years old. He told me to hold the tail end in the hand I felt most comfortable with which was my right hand. Not long afterwards I rang at Moulton where I met Eric Billings (a past Guild Secretary) who asked me 'Who taught you to ring that way?' and promptly launched into an attack on bell handing the correct way! Do things ever change? I have a lot to thank Dick for he took us teenagers around the country on outings and to many branch meetings and endeavored to teach us with varying degrees of success the art of change ringing. At the age of 18 I went to college in York and on my first Sunday in the city I met Derek on the end of a bell rope at the Arts Centre. A certain David Potter had gone round to Derek's flat to drag him out to ringing and the rest as they say is history! I was very lucky during my time in York as the college guild of ringers were very active and great fun to be with. Friendships have been formed for life from this era. After four years away Derek and I moved back to Northamptonshire where we have been ever since and the Peterborough Guild has played a very active part in our lives for the past 41 years.

Some of you already know that Derek and I will be away for an extended time at the beginning of next years. I am very grateful to John Pardoe (Towcester Branch Secretary) for kindly agreeing to step in and act as minute secretary for the GMC meeting and the Guild Spring Meeting. From the end of the year Alan Marks has kindly agreed to look after the Guild 100 Club during our absence so all monies should be sent to him via your branch 100 club rep.

Thank you Alan.

The next Guild Paper Quiz is well under way and will be available in your branches after the Summer Festival. Pam Baily has kindly agreed to mark the quizzes. We are also holding a **Guild Quiz at Bozeat Village Hall on Saturday October 31st** Starting at 7.30 with Hilary Aslett acting as quiz master and the Wellingborough Branch providing the refreshment. Please come and support this event. ideally teams of 4 but we are flexible!!!

Its always a fun evening so do come along and support the Guild Bell Fund.

STEWARDS' SPIEL

Safety – It a word that gets banded around a lot these days. How many times have we heard of an event being cancelled due to ‘health and safety?’

Bell ringing in our case is a hobby, which we generally don't get paid for it, except the occasional wedding perhaps. However, just because it is a hobby does not mean that we can ignore safety in towers and especially that of those those who undertake work within them on behalf of the Guild.

At the Restoration and Maintenance meeting in February a discussion took place between those present about how as Stewards we can ensure that when inspecting towers and bells, areas that could impact on our safety are considered. The actual question was - “how do I know it's safe to go up a tower?”

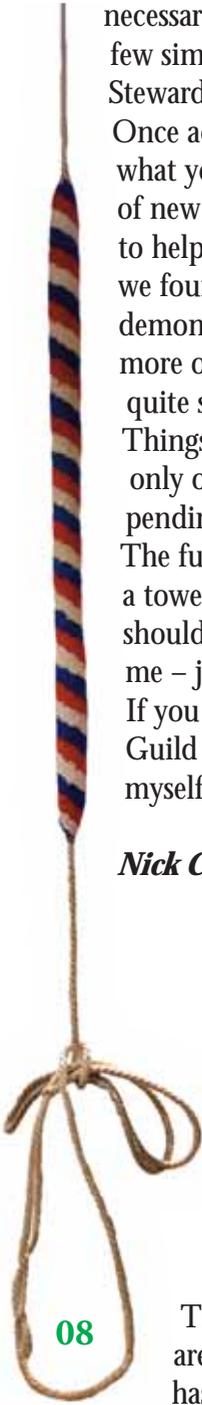
Whilst many churches have regular bands, which generally ensures a good level of care and attention on the towers they care for, both in the ringing chambers and the bell installation itself, this unfortunately is not always the case.

There are churches with no regular bands that we have all visited in the past where the belfry is used for the storage of chairs, lawn mowers and flowers vases all of which have all to be moved before any form of ringing can take place. Unfortunately the lack of a band can also result in the condition of things “up top” also being neglected. This can be due to a number of reasons, such as clergy and church wardens having a lack of knowledge of what lies above or simply concentrating on other church issues as the bells can be very much “out of sight, out of mind” Therefore there are occasions where towers may only get investigated during a quinquennial inspection, or when some, such as a Branch Steward visits. In such cases people could be stepping in to areas rarely visited, with the condition of ladders and stairs being of an unknown condition.

Currently I am looking at how as Stewards we can ensure that when visiting a tower we undertake reasonable steps to ensure what we are going to inspect is safe to do so. It is hoped that some form of guidelines will be put together to help Stewards make such judgements in the future ensuring that reasonable consideration is given to the risks of inspecting a ring.

Health and safety, as they say, is everyone's problem, so it is





important that any areas of concern noted as part of this work are fed back to the church authorities where these can be further investigated and if necessary work carried out. It is therefore hoped that by carrying out a few simple steps any information gathered could not only benefit Stewards, but other people as well.

Once access in to the bells has been gained it is important to know what you are looking at and what you are looking for. With a number of new Stewards recently taking office, a training session was arranged to help them settle in the role. This took place at Ravesnthorpe, where we found a ring and tower in good condition and generally demonstrated how things should be done. It is hoped to hold some more of these during the year, when it is hoped to visit a ring in not quite such good condition!

Things are currently very quiet when it comes to bell fund grants with only one grant outstanding for payment and no other applications pending.

The fund is available to all towers across the Guild, so if your tower or a tower you know is contemplating some work on their bells this should be applicable for a grant. Application forms are available from me – just give me a call or send me an e-mail to request a set.

If you want to know more about the bell fund, take a look at the Guild website at <http://www.pdg.btck.co.uk/BellFund> or contact myself or your Branch Steward.

Nick Churchman

News from the Branches

CULWORTH BRANCH

The Branch had an enjoyable outing in March to the Tewkesbury area thanks to ringing master Ian Chapple's good organisation. Ian has also organised several courses on Saturdays including ringing

up and down and some methods. Attendance at branch practices has been varied due to member's other summer activities, but overall evening practices in summer seem to be successful.

Three octogenarians answered the call to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of V.E. Day on Saturday 9th May 2015 by ringing the bells of St. Michael's Church Aynho. They are from left to right Sybil Stevens, Marlene Philips and Peter Philips.



We congratulated Derek Thornton of Eydon on reaching his 90th birthday on 9th August.

Sadly Arthur Howes of Lois Weedon passed away his funeral was on 27th August at Lois Weedon.

It is proposed to re cut the Bagley gravestone at Chacombe. The latest estimate is £700 and we will be grateful for any help available for funding. If any towers in the Dioceses have Bagley Bells we would appreciate them getting in touch with us.

Chris Skermer -Branch Secretary

DAVENTRY BRANCH

MEMBERS

Ian Charters of Byfield succumbed to cancer aged 57 in April. Ian learned to ring enthusiastically at Byfield from November 2010, was elected a member in February 2011, rang his first quarter peal in April 2012. A branch quarter peal of Stedman Doubles at Bugbrooke on April 17 conducted by Gwynneth remembered him



and was the first of Stedman for Brian Clark. There was a commemoration service of Ian's life on May 21. In June, Alison Buck, entered the sponsored Cancer Research UK Race for Life Pretty Muddy 5k in his memory. Peter Wenham, an enthusiastic ringer since 1943, weakened swiftly from June and entered Danetre Hospital on July 16 until he died on August 6, aged 87 years. Peter restarted ringing on arriving in Daventry around 1979 and rang there until this July. Since 1992 he had additionally been Tower Captain at Braunston, where he trained a new team, hosted a simulator installation, set up the still extant Monday Club for Millennium ringers and initiated at Staverton the first-Wednesday group in 1989 until Pam Bailey took over in 2000. He was awarded Life Honorary Membership of the Guild in recognition of outstanding service in 2004. I will report his funeral on August 24 next time.

In happier mode, on April 6 Life Honorary Member Hilda Collins' 90th birthday was celebrated at Heyford after the traditional Bank Holiday outing had been specially curtailed to two towers. The April branch Sunday quarter peal of Little Bob Royal at Daventry commemorated the birthday and was conducted by son-in-law Ian Willgress.



Hilda Collins on her 90th birthday.

At the Daventry tower AGM in March, we discovered Mara's mysterious absence was due to her expecting a happy event in the autumn. The Rector told us that from Easter Sunday, Sunday services will change to 10am with ringing from 9.20am. Most village ringers thought that they would still have time to get back to ring for their 11am services and be able to get up 30 minutes later!

At the Byfield annual meeting in March, Barry Thompson was elected as tower captain.

In July, Hilary gave us an entertaining report of the Guild AGM when Life Honorary Membership was bestowed on Brenda Dixon and our Janet Bowers. Janet brought her certificate along and said that she was “chuffed” at receiving the award. Then the exciting paper election for Master in which Andy Timms was duly elected after presenting his candidate profile and policy.

OUTINGS

Alison Buck, was a late starter for the Guild Rutland Water walk but completed it, gaining £160 sponsorship.

Badby entered the Guild six-bell striking competition at Stanion and were judged to be fifth.

Badby rally on May 4 visited Leicestershire. At Kimcote, my new car was reported as having its alarm sounding. Although unaware that it had one, I duly found the lights flashing and Graham White securely locked in!



Left to right: Geoff, Carole (held in place), Barry, Graham, Ken, Eleanor, Andy, Jackie, Alison, Richard, Kim. (Missing the FitzGerald)

The traditional branch May coach outing baton was successfully picked up by Alison Buck. Fifteen ringers set off in a very comfortable 16 seater minicoach, escorted by two MX5s, with three more ringers including Ed who had contrived for his narrow boat to be at Braunston. Our driver, James Yates, was successfully encouraged to ring. There were some startlingly odd-struck bells in some interesting churches. A good lunch was had at the Noel Arms, Chipping Camden. Fred's ghost was assuaged by an hour-long refreshment after the last tower.





L to r: *George, Barry, Nikki, Andy, Simon, Alison, Alison, Shirley, Geoff, Jane, Michael, Jackie, Ed and three hiding*

Starting with a ring at Yelvertoft, two dogs and 21 people. including well spruced up Alison B after her Pretty Muddy 5km in the morning, took part in our ring and walk in June. After ringing at Crick, a picnic was eaten at the Millennium Wood with a very high pollen level. Everyone then collected cars and met up at Lilbourne where Rob Palmer met us and afterwards led us to the ***Head of Steam.***



Picnic tea at the Millennium Wood near Crack's Hill, Crick

MEETINGS

There was a warm welcome to Braunston in February from Revd Sarah Brown. The new chairman and secretary operated with their 'P' plates on and got safely to the end of the meeting! The Revd Jan Collins was re-elected as a member for Heyford, after over 15 years away. Evening ringing was at Whilton where 6 visitors enabled ringing to extend to Bristol. Our whole waterborne division assembled at Barby in March with a few landlubbers. The Revd Liz Cowley took our service. At Crick in the evening, Bella the dog and 12 ringers managed the ladder. In April we were pleased to see Grandma Maureen at our

Newnham meeting. Phoebe Grace Sinclair, daughter of Dominic and Shannon was born 5 days earlier. Another 30 attended at some time during the afternoon and 21 rang at Daventry in the evening.

Heyford had five fit bells in July. The treble headstock was awaiting a gudgeon repair. The Revd Stephen Burrow, only five weeks as Rector, took our service. Jim White presented Chris Lunn with his first quarter peal certificate. Colin met us at Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, in the evening, where only seven branch ringers assembled and were gratefully assisted by visitors from three branches and visitors from Burnham and Co. Cork.

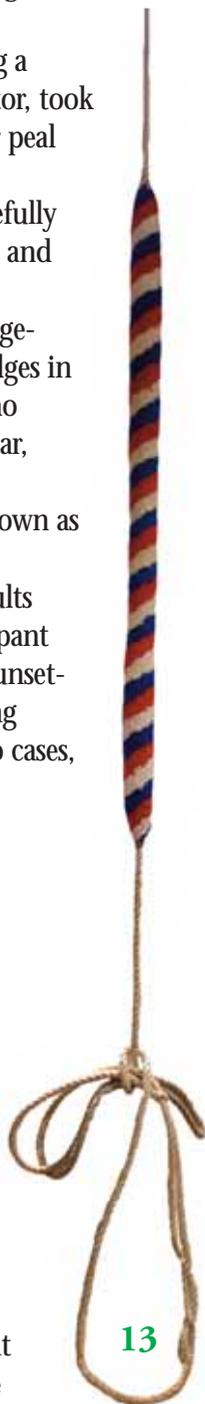
Jim White had a busy day on August 8, preparing the lottery arrangements for the five-bell striking competition at Hellidon . With judges in place five appointed team leaders drew their teams from people who arrived at differing times. The Revd. Roy Kilford, another new vicar, developed a theme around St Dominic and we remembered Peter Wenham. After a fine Hellidon ladies' tea, we elected Margaret Brown as a member for Hellidon.

Judges Spike and Jenny Thorne from Southam announced the results with Team 3 (Leader Carole) winning with 31 faults. Every participant received a certificate and the Ron Woodward Trophy will have an unsettled year visiting five homes! Jim hoped that those ringers who rang twice liked to have two chances of coming first or last, or, as in two cases, coming first and last!



Carole and her drawn team

We got to Willoughby in good time. With the keen local band at the centre of a joint evening practice with Rugby Deanery, some



40 people took part in the ringing, with ample refreshments and chatting until 8.30pm. We regret that one neighbour didn't fully appreciate our efforts, but many others in the village certainly did.

MAKING PROGRESS

We have continued branch monthly ten-bell practices on the second Tuesday, although not well attended, they provide concentrated opportunities to practise ten-bell rhythm.

Seeking regular opportunities for eight-bell ringing led to agreement that members be encouraged to join the three 8-bell tower practices in turn on their practice night in the last week of the month. With attendances since April of around 22 including a goodly number of 'locals' at each, they seem to have been well received.

Peter would have been happy to know that the Braunston Monday Club met as usual on August 10 and had four new faces amongst the total of 16. Our weekly daytime ringing sessions at Staverton, Braunston and Hellidon, together with Badby tied-clapper practices from 6.45pm on Wednesdays have helped provide several newer branch recruits to make reasonable progress.

NATIONAL RINGING EVENTS

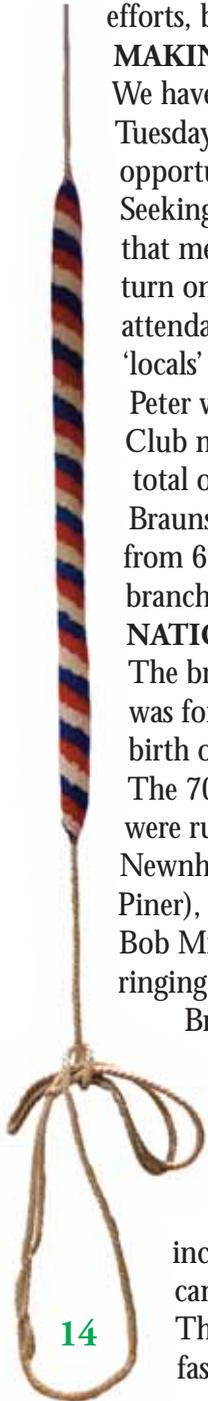
The branch quarter peal of Pudsey S Major, conducted by Jim White was for the 300th anniversary of the first peal and coincided with the birth of Princess Charlotte.

The 70th anniversary of VE Day was well supported. Quarter peals were rung at Weedon (Yorkshire S Major, conducted by Brian Foley), Newnham (Plain Bob Minor, first of minor as conductor for Richard Piner), Daventry (Plain Bob Triples - Jim White) and Badby (Plain Bob Minor - second of minor as conductor for Richard Piner!). Special ringing also took place at Harpole, Bugbrooke, Heyford, Hellidon,

Braunston, Whilton (in conjunction with tea, cakes and an invitation to have a try to ring), Everdon, Fawsley, Byfield and Litchborough.

For the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta on June 14 specific ringing was widespread.

The Guild's team for the Ridgman Trophy at Wisbech in June included four from our branch. After two intensive practices, we came 5th out of 8 ringing a half-course of Cambridge S Royal. The print out of our actual striking at Towcester made for fascinating and scary reading but didn't move us up the table!



MORE QUARTER PEALS

Plain Bob Royal, was rung for the 80th birthday of John Neale of Daventry on January 18 – first on ten for Alison Buck. Also on 8 February, Plain Bob Royal - 850th for Hilary, both conducted by Ian Willgress.

James Grennan conducted his first quarter peal on February 27, Plain Bob Doubles at Flore. The March Sunday afternoon quarter was Lincolnshire S Major at Whilton, conducted by Jim White.

On April 14, Plain Bob Doubles at Braunston was rung as a bon voyage to Ed Mortimer leaving on NB Wandering Canuck and birthday compliments to Sally and Vicar Sarah and with thanks to Peter Wenham who taught Sally and Ed to ring. Ed rang the treble to this his first quarter peal. Jim White presented Ed with his certificate that evening at the branch practice at Daventry.

Chris Lunn rang his first quarter peal, age 11, at Nether Heyford on June 10 - the treble to Bob Doubles conducted by Ian to welcome the Revd Stephen Burrow as incumbent of the united benefice. It was rung on the back five, as a result of a defective gudgeon.

Alison Buck rang her first of Grandsire ringing the second at Rothersthorpe, conducted by Gwynneth on Friday, June 12. A month later she rang the 2nd to Grandsire Triples at Long Buckby, conducted by Ian Willgress.

Nine Doubles methods were rung at Litchborough on June 17 - most methods for Christine, Richard and Davina, 375th as conductor for Phil Saunders on weekday loan from Springfield.

An all-villagers band rang a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor at Harpole on July 19 with Andrew Brighty ringing the treble for his first QP and Michael Sawle ringing the fourth for his first inside to minor, conducted by Graham Paul.

The August monthly Sunday afternoon branch quarter peal was Plain Bob Royal at Daventry - as a celebration of the life of Peter Wenham.

UP THE TOWERS

In February six stalwarts began to remove Daventry clappers, pulleys and a wheel for return to Taylors. Steve Westerman brought them back on March 9 to start refitting them. The bells rang for service on March 15 with a brighter sound. The wooden shafted tenor clapper was fitted on June 5, supervised by Simon



Adams, who rang the first peal on the clapper on August 1. Peter Clifton raised funds for the work, including grants from Waitrose and Cummins.

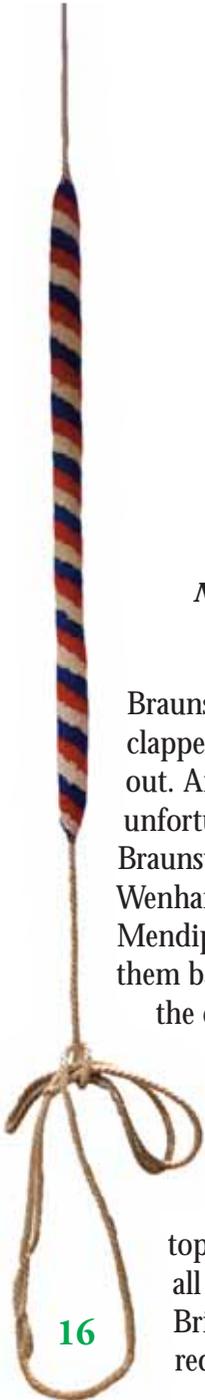


New wooden-shafted clapper and all steel one held by Leanne alongside the old tune barrel.

Braunston 4th lost its clapper in April. The roll-pin holding the clapper pin into the crown staple sheared allowing the pin to work out. An emergency repair made it ready for the next ringing, but unfortunately that failed on August 11. A parted tail end also at Braunston on May 25, dusted the light fittings and prompted Peter Wenham to look for a cure. In June he came across a bargain at Mendip Ropes. He sent away the old set of six on Monday and had them back complete with new tail-ends and blue sallies spliced on to the old polyester tops ready for ringing on the following Sunday!

An untoward incident at Byfield in June happened after the lower when the 6th wouldn't chime slowly enough. On investigation, the bottom bolt of the stay had dropped out and the top of the stay had swung outwards such that it was now constrained between the uprights of the H frame! The top bolt had bent under the extra strain but was straightened and all went back together again on Saturday morning!

Brian Foley reported in August that he had produced, at local request, a full report of his inspection of Preston Capes. He also



had some repairs in hand to the 3rd wheel at Dodford as a result of a request from Simon. The PCC at Dodford are supportive of a complete rehang of these bells in the fullness of time.

WOMBEL

Our Saxilby bell simulator was collected on Maundy Thursday. Kim Gibbard kindly housed the frame in his barn where it was painted by volunteers. The Wombel was fully assembled for the first time on June



7. The gang bolted the frame together, assembled the bell simulator to it and swung the whole tower upright, taking photos and making notes. After proving that it rang very well, it was dismantled. Its first outing was to Byfield fête on Saturday, June 20. Seeing the weather forecast, on the prior Thursday, Gwynneth and Jim installed a plastic cover over the top of it, which was just as well as the fête was subjected to much drizzle and a good storm. Gwynneth will be the booking agent for any events at which it would be useful for use.

Jim tries the Wombel after its first assembly!

Geoff Pullin - Daventry Correspondent

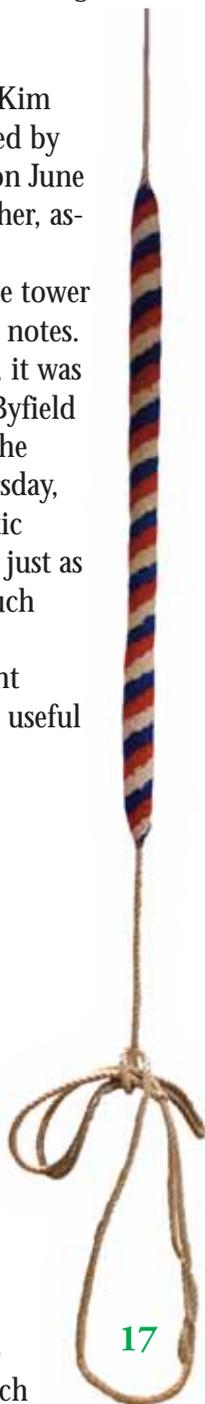
GUILSBOROUGH BRANCH

The branch has had some well attended meetings bolstered by visitors from other branches and guilds. We have been able to support towers with few or no ringers always for services but certainly for weddings and special occasions.

Yelvertoft ringers are ringing for all services and assisting at Crick and Lilbourne to keep the benefice ringing going.

Crick

In May Nick Hiams took over as Tower Captain at Crick. There are now regular monthly practices on the second Thursday of each



month from 7:15. At the moment these are to practice 8-bell ringing and so far the majority of the ringing has been focused on plain triples with a few forays into Stedman Triples and Bob Major. There is also a weekly Saturday morning practice from 10:00. This is aimed at developing new learners. Helpers and new learners from other towers are encouraged to join us. Yelvertoft still practice every month on the 4th Friday.

Sunday service ringing has taken place every week (usually at 9:15) since May. This has been with help from visiting ringers from Yelvertoft, Lilbourne, Welford, Shawell, Lutterworth and Hilmorton. Since attending the excellent Association of Ringing Teachers course (Part 1), Nick has been teaching 4 new ringers. They have all followed and now passed the "Learning the Ropes Level 1" course. They can now ring rounds and call changes on 6 and very soon they will be encouraged to ring on Sundays. The support from other local towers has been invaluable with this first group and after a few weeks break from the intensive first stages a second group is being actively recruited.

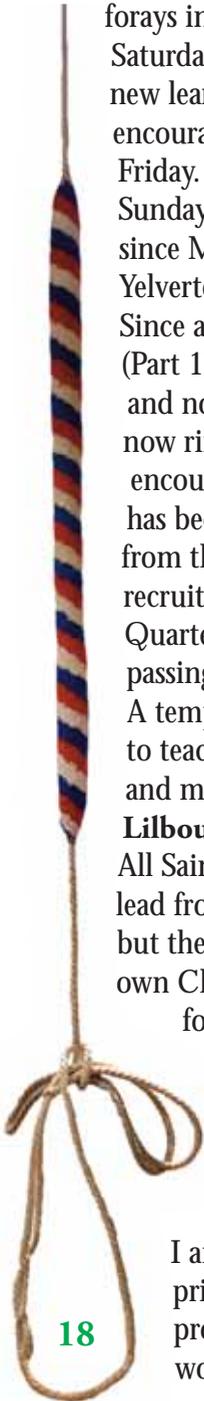
Quarter peals have been rung to celebrate VJ day and to mark the passing of Peter Wenham of Braunston who inspired so many of us. A temporary simulator has been installed and is being used as an aid to teaching progressing ringers. It is hoped that this will be extended and made permanent in the coming months. Exciting times!

Lilbourne.

All Saints' Church is now lead free ! Regrettably true, as thieves stole lead from the nave roof in August. Hindsight is a wonderful science but the message that All Saints' sends out is quite simply, review your own Church security systems regarding lead on the roof. Shop around for optimum solutions for your particular requirements and

pockets. Beware, some of the systems on offer can cost more to install and maintain than the actual cost of the lead to be replaced.

In August, following in his father's footsteps, resident ringer Ian Alexander was appointed to All Saints' as bell-ringing tutor. I am particularly pleased to welcome Ian aboard as his family were primarily instrumental for organising the bell refurbishment project.. If it wasn't for this involvement, Lilbourne's 5 bells would have been labelled as "un-ringable".



Our bells are sounded not only for Sunday Services but for traditional occasions as well, including St. George's Day & VE Day. Unfortunately, due to the lack of ringers, our 10.45am 2nd Sunday Family Service ringing clashes with many other Churches locally so only the treble calls out to Churchgoers.

Old.

Still an un-ringable tower but a slightly unusual request has been made by the vicar :- Does anybody know of, or has heard mention of, the tower door key? So the story goes, after a Sunday Service, 3 people expressed an interest & requested to look at the bell installation but so far have "forgotten" to return the key ! Whatever the reason for the key loss, the tower door remains locked despite the attentions of a professional locksmith. Is there anyone amongst you, that have extraordinary skills of "unlocking" this door ?

Scaldwell.

The practice times have now been increased to all Wednesday evenings each month. 7.00pm. to 8.30pm. Limited sound control measures have been applied to the upper window openings.

Thornby.

Bellringing has been temporarily suspended pending repairs to the fixtures and fittings associated with the 3rd, 4th and tenor bells.

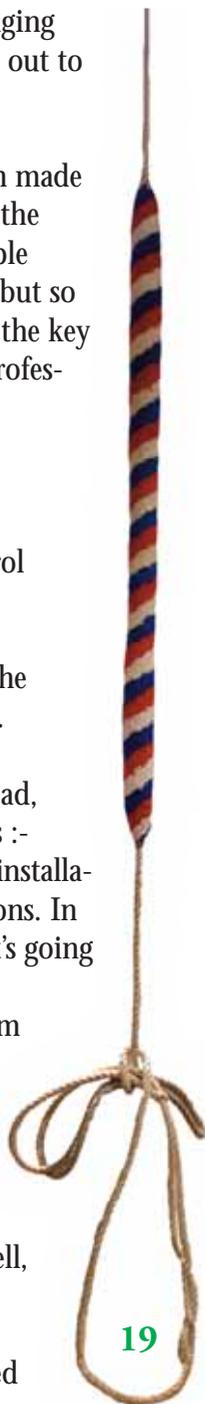
The Branch Steward's Report.

Carry On Ringing. Sounds like the title of a comedy film. Instead, what it really draws attention to, for the bell-ringing fraternity is :- "When was the last time that you reviewed your Church's bell installation ?" The answer can be quite variable for a multitude of reasons. In order to carry on ringing it is necessary to regularly inspect what's going on at the other end of the ropes.

Since taking on the post of Branch Steward, members of the team & myself have started to infiltrate some of the towers in order to acquaint ourselves with their individual characteristics.

So far, we have officially visited & submitted reports for : Great Oxendon, Lilbourne, Sibbertoft, Thornby, Welford & Winwick with unofficial visitations to Crick, East Haddon, Haselbech, Maidwell, Ravensthorpe, Scaldwell, Marston Trussell, Walgrave & Watford. Next on our list of official visits are East Farndon, Guilsborough and West Haddon.

The detailed reports widely represent a cross section of associated



aspects of the tower, interactive with correct housekeeping of the bells. What is written hopefully will serve as a suggestion or prompt.

At either end of the rope, overall, our aim is to maintain this historic apparatus for the common good & for as long as possible by preventative means as well as cure.

Many thanks for the valuable knowledge & assistance of Robin Wilson, Alistair Donaldson, Nick Hiams, David Westerman & Geoff Armitage.

Rob Palmer. Tel: 07926 15 18 11 towersandbells@gmail.com

KETTERING BRANCH

Here is our report about what we have been doing since the last newsletter.

In March we held our Striking Competition with a Difference at Geddington. The competition actually had two differences. The first was that entrants were not asked to come as a team. This meant everyone had the chance to take part, even if they were the only one from their tower, and also meant that no-one needed to feel disadvantaged if they came from a less experienced band. We began the afternoon by drawing names out of a hat and formed four teams from the people present, with a number getting the opportunity to ring twice. We made sure each team contained one of our most experienced ringers to look after them. The second difference was that everyone had the opportunity to act as a judge. We had a talk and a demonstration piece of ringing to show us what we were listening for and then after each test piece everybody gave a score out of twenty. These scores were averaged and then added to the scores of the official judge in order to arrive at the final result. The winning team consisted of Nick Churchman, Shane Ward, Mo Easton, Simon Pearce, Brian Austin and Michael Britton. We would like to thank everyone for giving this unusual event a try – most people seemed to think it was fun and successful enough to be worth repeating. We would also like to thank former Desborough ringer Robert Wallis who acted as the official judge and by and large agreed with the verdict of the contestants as to the scores!

In April we returned to Ashley where last year we visited their completely new band. It was really good to see how they are getting on and we thank them for their hospitality.

In May we planned a training event on ringing up and down which was to be held at Brampton Ash – chosen because it is an



isolated church and our efforts would not disturb many residents. However we found that a mix up between different people taking bookings for church activities meant that the church was already in use by a group of people having a 'quiet day'. We certainly couldn't ring up and down repeatedly while they were there so we retreated to Desborough for some general ringing. We are sorry that a number of people were disappointed and we will need to think about putting this event on again in next year's programme.

In June the Guild AGM was held in our branch on our usual meeting date so we concentrated our activities on making sandwiches and cakes for the tea and we hear you all enjoyed them. It was good to have so many people visiting our branch to try out the two new bells at Rothwell. We will look forward to a branch practice on them later in the year.

July was our summer social event – ringing at Brigstock, followed by a Treasure Hunt round the village and a picnic in the country park and a game of rounders. Unfortunately the ringing did not go well as a number of members were delayed by wedding ringing and then when we did get started we broke a rope! The Treasure Hunt, however, was most enjoyable. Despite there being four teams taking part, almost everyone was from Desborough so there was no danger that the trophy would not return there and the eventual winners were declared as the Adcock family. It was a great shame that more people were not present but we all had a good time and thank Pat Edkins for organising it for us. It was a lovely evening for a picnic but we all agreed to forgo the rounders as that had been planned for younger participants and most of us did not fit that category!

We don't meet in August so we are now looking forward to our autumn/winter programme and we hope to see lots of branch members and visitors at those events.

If you want to be kept fully up to date with our activities you can ask to receive our monthly newsletter – just email thewallisfamily@hotmail.com

We have also started using an online noticeboard on which you can post images, post-it notes, files and videos to share with each other. If you would like to become a member you will need to create an account at www.linoit.com and then email nick@firedout.co.uk for an invitation to view the Kettering Branch Board.

Deb Wallis - Kettering Correspondent



NORTHAMPTON BRANCH

Unfortunately some how my report got missed out of the last newsletter.

The general attendance at Branch Practices has dwindled until the last practice at Abington (which had to be swapped to Holy Sepulchre) due to "Macbeth" being performed in the park. There was a good turnout and some good ringing was achieved on the lovely 8. Geoff Pullin presented Dorothy Stopps with hers and her late husband Colin's belated 50 years Guild Membership certificates.

The Abington meeting that was re located, has now been changed to November 28th. Thanks to Barbara and Colin for the quick change of venues.



This years Beer and Skittles evening had to change venues due to the Ekyn Arms being put up for sale. We went to the Plume of Feathers, in Weedon. They were holding a beer festival the same night, which was good for those who like their real ale. It was unfortunate that the

room was up stairs and a couple of teams couldn't make it up the stairs to play. Despite the poor attendance a good time was had by all, and congratulations to Nick and David (Trevor's stand in) who some how managed to win again.

Several branch members of the Grand Union Benefice once again welcomed the Trafford Mini Ring to the Blisworth Canal Festival. Unfortunately this is the last time that it will be touring, as it is as it is to have a new permanent home. We are grateful to Chris for the support given to the festival over the last 5 years.



Events staged over the weekend were ringing of the mini ring, ringing the tower bells a mini outing and a quarter peal, which included 3 GUB ringers and 3 of the Bobbing ringers, for the canal festival and as a farewell to the mini tower. Thank you to all the Guild members that have supported this event.

A quarter peal was rung at Milton Malsor to welcome Sue Cooper the new

Assistant Curate to the Benefice. The Benefice includes towers in both Northampton and Towcester Branches and this was a joint venture.

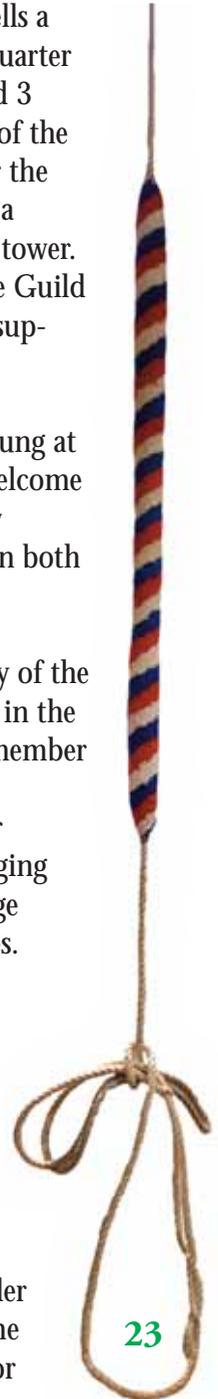
Quarter peals were rung in the Branch for the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the “Magna Carta”. Thank you to all ringers who put in the hard work of trying to ring on as many towers as possible to remember the 100th anniversary of the ending of the WWI and VE day. Our committee would like to thank all the incumbents for their support with ringing times and services and the many other ringing occasions through out this year. We would also like to encourage Branch members to take a more active roll with Branch activities.

Mark Rogers - Branch Chairman

PETERBOROUGH BRANCH - No news this time

RUTLAND BRANCH

Ringling for Evensong at Peterborough Cathedral
Graduating from ringing on 6 bells to ringing on 12 is a tall order – like driving a mini and then an HGV, as one ringer said. Some disappeared behind pillars as Louis called us to grab the ropes for



the first session of 'Rounds and Calls', but then emerged for the next go, because they saw how well even the inexperienced ringers adjusted. It was a great help to have some experienced ringers to give support, and a big 'Thank you' must go to them and to Louis Totaro who led us so clearly and confidently.

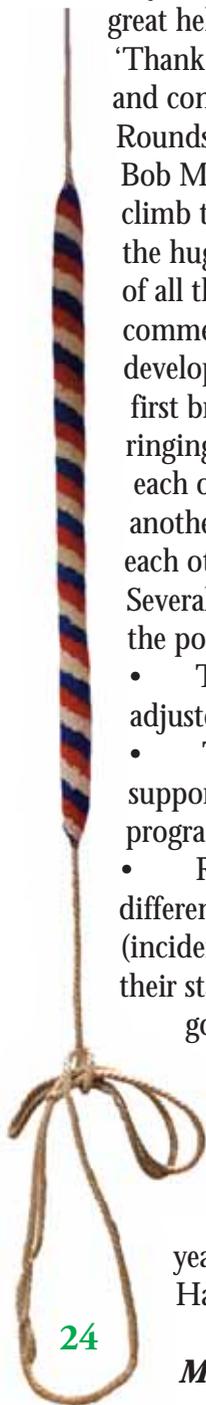
Rounds and Calls were alternated with a course and a touch of Plain Bob Major, and the 50 minutes passed in no time. It is inspiring to climb to the top of the West Tower, emerge from semi darkness into the huge and airy ringing chamber, and then hear the wonderful sound of all those bells, one of which you are ringing. Several ringers commented afterwards on how it had given them confidence to develop their ringing and to visit other towers. For some, it was their first branch activity, and first sight of the wider world of church bell ringing. Repairing to Cafe Nero gave us the chance to get to know each other, and I hope the Branch Ringing Tour in September will be another opportunity for ringers around the branch to get to know each other even better.

Several ringers emailed with really useful feedback. Here are some of the points made:

- Those who came to the practices at Oakham undoubtedly adjusted more easily to the 12 bells;
- The presence of experienced ringers was crucial both for supporting inexperienced ones and for making it possible to vary the programme;
- Ringers need to widen their experience of bells by visiting different towers to develop their skills and see how others ring (incidentally, ringers have a tradition of welcoming visitors whatever their standard, and you can always phone the tower captain before going to explain you'd like to visit);
 - It would have been better if there had been more experienced ringers not only to support, but also so that a range of methods could have been rung; this goes for all branch meetings, of course – it would be great if we could enter a Rutland team for the Guild 8-bell Competition next

year.

Happy ringing



Rutland Branch Autumn Tour.

On Saturday 3 October the Rutland Branch Tour will commence at 12 noon in Thurlby, and complete at 7.00 pm in Ryhall. If you look at the route on a map or google; you will note the tight loop circuit, with lunch at a very nice pub in Thurlby and tea in Bourne.

This tour is for the whole Branch and I will cater at each tower for all standards and ages of ringer. Please do not think this is not for you. IT IS!!!!!!

The eagle eyed amongst you will notice the overlap between ringing and eating at Thurlby. There is a morning of meditation in the church and hence we will start to ring at 12 noon. The plan is to order food at 11.50 am before the ringing, and then to ring until 12.45pm, ready to eat immediately and complete lunch by 1.30pm

Those wanting to miss the first tower and start eating can do so from 12.30pm (earlier if you want). I attach the menu and because it caters for variety (and has excellent meat pies that take 20 minutes to cook). I will book a table for 12 persons but really do need to know how many will eat lunch as the pub can get full and by Sunday 20 September we will need to advise The Horseshoe if we require more than 12 seats. Monica Spence has kindly agreed to act as social secretary so please email Monica if you want a seat for lunch in The Horseshoe at Thurlby. Friends and relatives are welcome as usual.

Monica's email: monica.spence06@gmail.com

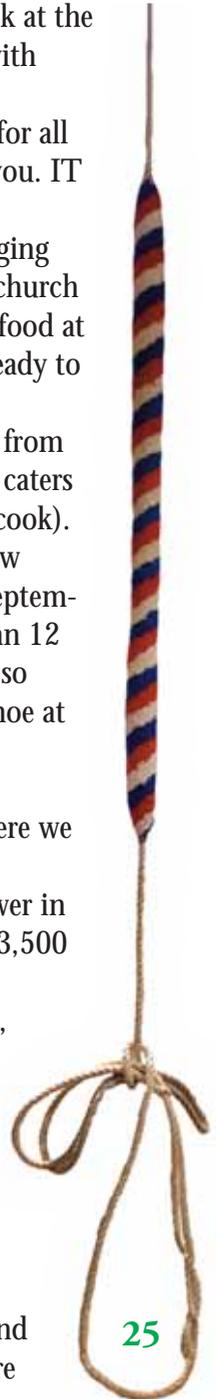
There are 5 towers with 6 bells and Edenham with 10 bells (where we will ring on 8 and 10), all set in a wonderful rural landscape.

Jim Lilley will join us, and Edenham is the last 10 or 12 bell tower in Lincolnshire he requires for his collection. I think he has about 3,500 towers now including some on the tour!

The date is chosen not to clash with any Stamford ringing tours, and the start point is not too difficult from both north and south of Rutland Water. I do hope this will encourage you to join us.

Please advise Monica if attending. As in the past it is not mandatory to ring at all towers and people come and go during the day which works well. There will be a small collection for contributions to the towers we visit.

I hope you will enjoy the tour. I had fun visiting these villages and the small town of Bourne. I have noted on the programme where



churches (or adjacent pubs) have wcs, and hope that helps.

Parking is generally easy and straight forward. Access to Bourne Abbey Church is the only one that would benefit from searching on Google/Map.

Finally, those wishing to close the day with a beer or some food, we can decide at tea time where to go.....Ryhall or Stamford perhaps.

Any questions please ask

Caldecott

Please note that the steeple requires repairs and the steeplejacks are due to start work on Monday 24th August and it is expected to last for 5 weeks, so basically no ringing there during the last week of August and all of September.

Monica Spence - Rutland Correspondent

THRAPSTON BRANCH

2015 has, so far, proved to be an eventful year with many enjoyable highlights.

Our year started with a very successful A.G.M at Thrapston when a busy and varied ringing programme was organised. There were slight changes to the Officers and Committee with Chris Jenkins becoming Ringing Master [or is it Mistress?] We were pleased to be able to have representatives from nearly all the Towers within the branch.

The Branch also decided to continue our very successful 8-bell advanced practices at Woodford to which Guild Members and Friends are very welcome to attend. We have slowly mastered Cambridge

Major, Yorkshire, Double Norwich and the intriguingly named Duffield as well as consolidating our knowledge of Stedman and Grandsire with Bobs and Singles so we are generally very pleased with our progress.

We have also introduced a monthly 6-bell practice at Wadenhoe to enable the newer ringers to develop their method ringing. It has also provided an opportunity for quarter-peal ringing. Our thanks go to Iain Hayden for organising these. Congratulations go to Sue Groome, George Potter, Sylvia Prestwich Lesley Hallifax and Dennis Thrift for obtaining their first quarters both inside

and out on 6 bells, for Frank Jenkins ringing his first quarter to Cambridge and to Rachel Goodband for her first quarter to Triples.

Some of the Branch Members have also enjoyed participating in the Guild 10- bell practice. Thanks again to Geoff Pullen, Richard Alton and Andy for organising these. We like to think we have made progress with 10-bell ringing and have been pleased to have the opportunity to ring on some delightful bells.

We have continued to hold regular monthly Branch Meetings with an increasing number of new and returning Ringers joining us. We were delighted to host the Guild 6-bell Spring Festival at Stanion and hope everyone who came enjoyed a lovely afternoon of ringing and refreshments in the spring sunshine.

May-time brought a very successful Ringing Outing with Towers skirting around the edge of Cambridge including Over, Feltwell and Cherry Hinton [what a lovely name]. No outing would be complete without a visit to one of the local hostelryes and The Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell served us very well with a lovely meal to complete a very successful day

In June with longer daylight hours, we were able to ring at Deene. It is always a pleasure to ring at 'The Church in the Park', with its timeless picturesque setting on a lovely Summer Evening

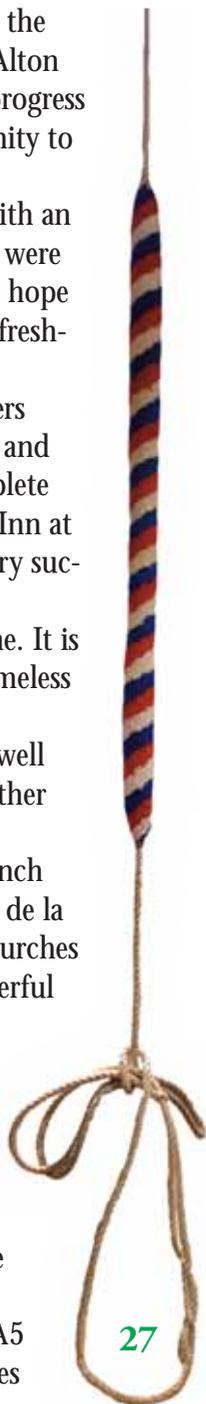
We also had a very successful barbecue following ringing at Twywell wonderfully hosted by Richard and Rachel Goodband. The weather was very kind to us and a good time was had by all.

During the early days of August several members from both Branch and Guild undertook a very successful outing around the Ashby de la

Zouch Area. The Churches and Bells were wonderful and the surrounding Countryside really reflected the lines of William Blake "England's green and pleasant land."

It was hard to believe that just a few miles

away the Midlands Motorways complex of M1, M69, M6 and A5 were thundering away and we were ringing in Country Churches





surrounded by pastoral fields. Our thanks to our Ringing Master, Chris Jenkins for organising the outing to such a delightful group of Towers. We have many events to look forward to during the next few months including taking part in the Guild Summer Festival at Castor, Celebrating the Queen's Accession and ringing at The Cathedral for Evensong – always a very special event in our Ringing Calendar. We are very pleased to welcome new and old ringers and visitors to our meetings and look forward to another very successful Year of Ringing. We would also like to thank all our branch members for their continuing support in helping to keep our Branch so lively and active. As a footnote, we were recently visiting a delightful tower in Leicestershire when we came across an interesting document entitled 'Ten Commandments for The Bell ringer' containing some very 'useful' but possibly not very politically correct advice! Commandment Number 4 made us smile : 'THOU SHALT NOT bump the stay of the bell lest it break and thou shalt be carried up to heaven'. Happy Ringing!

Alison Byrnes : Assistant Ringing Master.

TOWCESTER BRANCH - No news this time

WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH

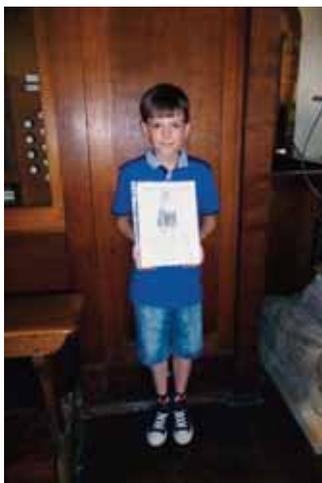
Hello again.

Since the last newsletter, well supported surprise practices have been held at Stanwick, Ecton, Grendon, Bozeat and Orlingbury-ringing has covered a variety of methods, from Cambridge to Bourne, Westminster and London. General practices have also been well attended. Higham Ferrers has been a very popular venue with around 25 people ringing, many on 10 bells for the first time. Thanks to Yardley Hastings for hosting the Young Person's Training, where 11 young and 14 young at heart people were provided with magnificent refreshments and were given the opportunity to ring rounds to Cambridge Minor. Many thanks also to Ivor for bringing along his wonderful simulator.

Pam's midweek group has gone from strength to strength with 40 people attending the recent practice at Higham Ferrers-there were only just enough cakes to go round!! In May the branch outing visited 4 towers in Lincolnshire on a lovely warm, sunny day with 26 people and 2 dogs taking the trip. Thanks to Pam for her smooth organisation.

In June on another warmish evening the branch striking competition took place at Ecton-I'm not sure whether people enjoyed the ringing or the cakes more!! Seven teams participated-it would be great if we could increase the number of entrants next year. Ringing consisted of call changes, Bob Doubles and Grand-sire. Finedon came 3rd followed by Orthingbury in 2nd place and Rushden won again, pipping Orthingbury to the post by just half a point. Thanks go to Nick and Helen Churchman for judging the competition so patiently. At the Guild Spring Festival in April, Rushden came a very close second to Rothwell, beaten by only one point, and Orthingbury came a very creditable fourth.

Charlotte Carter of Rushden rang her first quarter peel of Plain Bob Minor. Jacob Haseldine also of Rushden has rung another quarter peel. He is shown below with his certificate. A "Surprise" visitor, Geoff Pullin, recently attended



Earls Barton's practice night to present Janet Wilkins with her 50 years of guild membership certificate. Congratulations to Janet on this remarkable achievement.

Wollaston have been unable to ring at St Mary's for a while due to works being carried out in the nave. Further delays have been incurred due to the discovery of 20 graves under the floor; however at 300 years old they were considered to be fairly modern! Wollaston are hoping to be have access to the bells again just before Christmas and are joining Yardley Hastings practices until then.

Tim Samson has kindly agreed to rejoin the committee in his role of branch steward.

Finally on a sad note many of you will remember George Whiting of Higham Ferrers who passed away suddenly in May. He regularly organised the Farmers Market quarter peals and had been mayor of Higham Ferrers. In June a peal was rung at Irchester to celebrate George's life.

Wellingborough branch welcomes all visitors to any of its events-see the



website for further details www.wellingboroughbranch.org.uk and I would be most grateful for any news items which can be sent to me at jude.coulter59@virgin.net

Jude Coulter-Wellingborough Correspondent

PRO's PIECE

At a recent count, the Guild website had 32,931 hits over the last 12 months, with the Branch Officers' page tying with the Towers' page for the most hits followed by the Latest Guild News' page. Please help swell the numbers regularly checking <http://www.pdg.btck.co.uk/LatestGuildNews> for Latest Guild News which also includes the increasing activities of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers' Public Relations Committee, of which our Nick Elks is now a member.

Thanks for all the special ringing that was put in for the St George's Day, VE + 70 years, 300th anniversary of the first peal, birth of Princess Charlotte, 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and yet to come - 600th anniversary of Agincourt in October and the Queen's 90th birthday next year.

I hope you remembered to tell your parish magazine, local paper, regional newspaper, radio station (and me?) in advance of any special ringing that you did and to report how it went afterwards. It all helps to give bellringing an active public image and lets people relate to our performances.

The Guild pop-up displays 'All about Bells' and 'All about Change Ringing' are available to loan from me for your tower events. Guild shirts with your tower or branch name are still available at 2013 prices.

I am still seeking a Guild Facebook operator and Twitterer!

GHP

SPRING FESTIVAL

The Guild Spring Meeting was held at Stanion in the Thrapston Branch on Saturday April 25th 2015. It began with the 6 bell striking competition open for towers and benefice ringers. Ringing began just after 3.15pm with the judges, Joy Pluckrose and Michael Chester from the Coventry Guild trying out the bells prior to establishing themselves in their van behind the church ready to mark the ringing. Everything rang smoothly with the Guild Master acting as steward and ringing was completed by 6pm. Several people took the opportunity to

stand outside and listen to the ringing in the sunshine and enjoy the buffet tea prepared by the Thrapston Branch in the old school next to the church.

Geoff Pullin, the Guild President welcomed everyone to the meeting which began with the hundred club draw. The winning numbers came from the Peterborough and Guilsborough Branches.

A vote of thanks was given by Alison Buck, secretary of the Daventry Branch to the incumbents of Stanion and Weldon for allowing us the use of their bells, all the local arrangements especially Chris and Frank Jenkins, Ted & Diane Buckby, Alison Byrnes, Dennis Thrift, Rachel Goodband and Len & Lesley Halifax for the superb tea.

The President then introduced the judges and Mike gave some general comments to begin with. He said how much he and Joy had enjoyed listening to the ringing and all bands were to be congratulated on the standard produced. He also remarked on the friendliness of the local inhabitants who were very interested to know what they were doing sitting in a van all afternoon outside their bungalows! The results were as follows:-

Pattishall	36 faults	7th
Thrapston	34	6th
Badby	27	5th
Orlisbury	25½	4th
Rothwell B	13	3rd
Rushden	12½	2nd
Rothwell A	10	1st

The judges presented certificates and the John Weaver Shield to Murray Coleman of the winning team.

Afterwards about two dozen people made their way to Weldon to ring a variety of methods on the 8 bells before retiring to the Shoulder of Mutton to enjoy the beer from the pub's micro brewery before making their way home.

Sue Jones



Mike Chester; Murray Coleman and Joy Pluckrose at Stanion 25th April 2015.



GUILD AGM

The opportunity to sample the two new bells which form a new eight with a tenor of 9cwt within the existing fine ten-bell ring at Rothwell on Saturday, June 13 was followed by the Guild Service. Revd Canon John Westwood led a well prepared service incorporating the festival of St Barnabas, who is appropriately the patron saint of encouragement. Those members who had passed away since the last meeting were remembered by name in the service.

After a fine buffet tea provided by the Kettering Branch under Helen Churchman's leadership and eaten not only at the tables laid out in the north aisle but picnic-style in other areas of this large church, the Annual General Meeting convened in the south aisle. Some 60 members were present including 14 from the Daventry Branch in support of two of their members.

The President opened the meeting and Alison Byrnes for the Thrapston Branch proposed a readily accepted vote of thanks for the arrangements.

Outstanding service was recognised when Secretary Sue Jones proposed Brenda Dixon for Life Honorary Membership, which was carried with acclamation. Brenda was presented with the first special Certificate for a Life Honorary Member.



Brenda Dixon LHM

Ian Willgress then proposed that Janet Bowers be elected a Life Honorary Member. This was also accepted with acclamation.



Janet Bower LHM

Next came the presentation of 50 year membership certificates to

Sue Jones (Guild Secretary)



and Richard Yates (Chairman Towcester Branch).



Others will go to John Beadman, John Mitchell, Dorothy and Colin (dec.) Stopps and Janet Wilkins.



The previous minutes were signed without any need for amendment. After a couple of explanations for uneven cash flows due to late receipt of some branch returns over the last couple of years and delays in the despatch of affiliation letters, the accounts were adopted. There were no comments on the GMC Report nor the Annual Report and no changes to membership subscriptions nor peel fees. The Secretary reminded us that the next Guild event was a Quiz in Bozeat village hall on October 31 starting at 7.30pm. Host branches were invited to suggest additions or amendments to events to attract more members.

The President then thanked all Guild Officers, Guild Committees for their time and work during the year and the meeting agreed.

The usual run of elections started with Master Phil Curtis taking the chair resulting in Geoff being re-elected as President. This year there were two candidates nominated as Master. After Phil and Andy Timms had an opportunity to speak, a paper ballot took place and two former Presidents were despatched to count. During this time the remainder of the Officers were re-elected and Nick Elks appointment by the GMC as the fourth CCCBR representative to replace Hilary Aslett who retired earlier in the year was approved. The meeting was then advised that the Master was Andy Timms. Phil was thanked for his commendable action in filling the post, left vacant in 2012, and Phil passed the Master's badge of office to Andy.



Geoff, as PRO and Webmaster reviewed the large amount of national ringing during the year, urged special ringing should be advertised in advance, stated that 41,000 hits on the Guild website had been made in the year and mentioned that 40 towers remain without a tower correspondent on the website as no consent forms have been received [No change by August!]. Updates for meeting and contact details will be welcomed at any time and can then be shown on the website and incorporated in readiness for the next Annual Report.

David Westerman on behalf of our four CCCBR representatives read a report prepared by Alan Chantler about the meeting held in Hull in May. There was no feedback (but has now been received from CCCBR) from the break-out groups who discussed the Change Ringing for the Future paper.

The 100-Club draw was made with £44.40 going to no. 33 (Wellingborough Branch) and £11 to no. 114 (Daventry Branch). The Treasurer announced that the collection for the Bell Fund came to £101.85.

The meeting was closed after 70 minutes with thanks again for the local arrangements. The new Master then exercised his powers in the belfry, at first sparsely occupied, but later full, until 8.45pm when a good number filed out to take liquid refreshment, some until 11pm.

Geoff Pullin PRO

More excuses for not attending practice nights.

X won't be coming tonight as he overdid it gathering leaves from the garden.

I can't come tonight as I hurt my neck picking a piece of jigsaw up off the floor.

X has hurt his knee getting something from the cupboard under the stairs, so we won't be there tonight.

I won't be there as my daughter was trying to type with her toe and it hurts. I have to take her to the doctors and she may have to go to the hospital for an x-ray.

(Doctors verdict)

Try typing with your fingers in future. No treatment required.

I'm nursing my back as it aches.

100 club

Month	1st	Branch	Prize	2nd	Branch	Prize
Feb	109	R	44.80	25	W	11.20
Mar	44	Th	46.00	75	Th	11.50
Apr	79	P	44.80	08	G	11.20
May	75	Th	44.80	29	K	11.20
Jun	33	W	44.40	114	K	11.10
Jul	16	D	44.00	41	N	11.00
Aug	53	C	44.40	20	N	11.10

In a year, the Club raises around £600 for the Bell Fund. A big thanks to all who subscribe to it.

Prizes are based on monthly membership, with half the subscriptions going to the bell fund. There are three prizes in September to bring the total prizes to below 50% (47.1%) as required by the gaming licence.

The varying amounts show the changing monthly membership, September being a busy month for renewals.

Subscription is £12 per year, applications to go via the branch representatives

Derek Jones.

Guild paper quiz

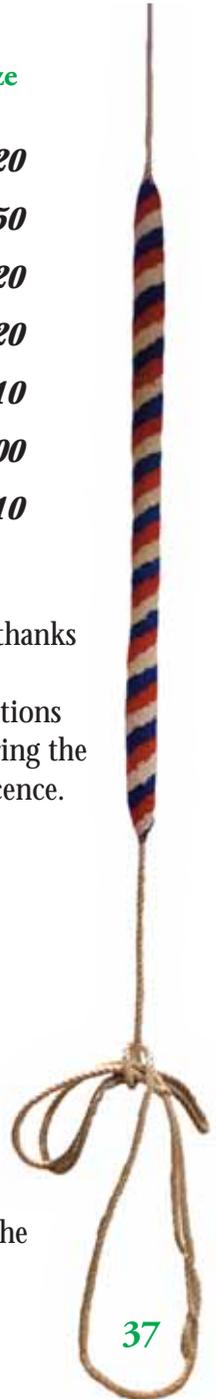
This year English places with a railway connection.

This raised over £300 last year with a record entry of 130.

This time entries need to go via branch secretaries, or direct to the named person on the sheet, and not to me.

Thanks,

Derek Jones.



The Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers New Website



Welcome!



Bell Ringing



Learning to Ring



About This Guild



Latest Guild News



Guild Officers



Branch Officers



Tower Information



Events



Competitions



Guild Newsletters



Guild Shirts



Bell Maintenance



Bell Fund



Bits & Bobs



History



New Website Address <http://www.pdg.btck.co.uk/>.

(btck is BT Community Kit and comes free!)

GUILD EVENTS 2015

19th Sept

Guild Summer Festival - *Peterborough Branch*

The festival and eight-bell inter-branch striking competition
Ringing : 2.45pm Thornaugh; 3.30pm Wansford;
4.30pm 8-bell inter-branch striking competition at Castor.
6pm Meeting and draw; 6.30pm completion of competition
and open ringing.

31st Oct

Guild Quiz - *Wellingborough Branch*

Bozeat Hall

Starting at 7.30 with Hilary Aslett acting as quiz master
and the Wellingborough Branch providing the
refreshment. Please come and support this event.

ideally teams of 4 but we are flexible!!!

Its is always a fun evening so do come along and support
the Guild Bell Fund.

See Guild Website/Posters for more details



