



Rutland Bell-Ringers Newsletter

May 2019

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 18th May 4.00pm - 7.00pm Branch 6 Bell Striking Competition Gt Casterton

The striking competition this year will be hosted by Gt Casterton.

**Last year we had 6 teams entering.
Can we do better this year with more teams?**

Let Alan Ellis and Louis Totaro know if you are considering entering a team. As soon as possible before the day, please.

Louis Totaro totarolouis@gmail.com
Alan Ellis alan.ellis.h11@gmail.com

This is an invitation to all towers, especially those who have not taken part before.
If you are uncertain about what to ring.... rounds and call changes are more than acceptable. Past competitions have been won by ringing good rounds and call changes - so no excuses!
It is also a good social opportunity for members to meet up, have a tea/coffee, cake and share experiences, or just to have a chat with ringing friends!
Louis Totaro

Help with refreshments will be needed.

It would be helpful for catering if we have a rough Idea of numbers attending please contact-
Gt Casterton Tower Captain Ann Archer
ann.m.archer@gmail.com
Hui-yen Bloodworth Social Secretary
bloodworthan@gmail.com

- 1 That you will be attending
2. What contribution to tea you can provide.

Saturday June 8th 2019 2.30pm - 9pm. Guild AGM

The Rutland Branch are the hosts this year.

**2.30pm ringing at Belton
3.30pm ringing at Uppingham
4.00pm ringing at Seaton
4.30pm Service
5.30pm Tea, Seaton Village Hall.
6.00pm AGM
Followed by ringing at Seaton**



Saturday 18th May 8.30 – 12md. Uppingham Bell Fund Cake Stall Market Place



Saturday 22nd June 10.00am - 1.00pm Workshop Good Bell Maintenance & Steeple Keeping Glaston

Branch Major & Triples Practices

**Tuesday 4th June 7.30pm. Oakham
Thursday 4th July Uppingham**



**Uppingham *intermediate* 8 bell practice
Every 3rd Thursday. 7.30pm.
The next practice is on 16th May
All are welcome**

Items for the June newsletter by

Friday 31st May

please, to Sue Webster suevw@sky.com

Oakham Ringing Practices

Ringling at All Saints, Oakham, has recommenced. The tower has recently undergone some remedial work, but the scaffolding is now down. Normal practices have resumed on Tuesday evenings.

Congratulations

To Peggy Jennings, who, this month, will have been a member of the Rutland branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers for 50 years.

QUARTER PEALS

Peterborough Diocesan Guild

Braunston, Rutland

All Saints

Thursday, 25th April 2019 (10-0-25 in G)

1320 Norwich Surprise Minor

- 1) Richard Beadman (C)
- 2) Val Kellett
- 3) Peggy Jennings
- 4) Thomas Saunders
- 5) Rob Morris
- 6) Alan Ellis

Rung as a farewell compliment to Rob Morris who is moving to Norfolk in May.

Also to mark Peggy's 50 years as a member of the branch.

St George's Day

This year, because the day fell in Easter week, the Church of England transferred St George's Day to April 29th.

But in true tradition, the bells of St Mary the Virgin, Ketton, were rung on Monday April 23rd, in honour of St George. The date most of us recognise as the day to commemorate the saint.

Ringling for Notre Dame

Following the devastating fire at the Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris on 15th April, the Archbishops of Canterbury & York and Prime Minister Teresa May asked for bells at churches and cathedrals across the UK to ring out in solidarity on Thursday 18th April, Maundy Thursday 2019.

Eleven towers across Rutland responded to the call for action and rang or tolled at 7pm in support.

Caldecott (St John the Evangelist), Tolling.

Cottesmore (St Nicholas), Rounds and Call Changes.

Great Casterton (St Peter and St Paul), Call Changes.

Ketton (St Mary the Virgin), Rounds & Calls.

Langham (St Peter & St Paul) Call Changes.

Lyddington (St Andrew), Tolling.

Oakham (All Saints), Rounds, Call Changes & Tolling

Ryhall (St John the Evangelist) Tolling.

Seaton (All Hallows), Tolling.

Uppingham (St Peter and St Paul), Tolling.

Whissendine (St Andrew), Call Changes half-muffled.



Picture from www.archbishopofcanterbury.org

ccbr.org.uk

The President's Easter Blog 2019

Posted on 19th April 2019

I write this note on Palm Sunday morning. It's bright and sunny, but still with a nip in the April air. As I walk to Sunday service, with lambs gambolling in a nearby field and blooms of flowers at every turn, signs of new life abound.

For Sunday service this morning we had 12 ringers for 10 bells. Of those 12, four have newly come to ringing over the past year – marvellous! Once again, signs of new life abound. With Easter falling in Spring in the northern hemisphere (and apologies to southern hemisphere readers), thoughts naturally turn to new life, new beginnings and the promise of summer.

Perhaps not in every single corner of our exercise, but in so many places we seem to be experiencing a “ringing spring”. Whether it be the very welcome influx of Ringing Remembers learners, the dedication of ringing teachers up and down the country, the pinnacles of “black zone” 12-bell competitions, the increasingly positive portrayal of ringing in the media, one could be forgiven for making a quip about “green shoots”.

But perhaps, in the midst of current political and economic uncertainty, it's nice to have something to be cheerful about. Will these green shoots bring a rich harvest? Let's work and pray for that!

Bells call communities together, especially at Easter. And in a way, we too are called to give service through ringing. The Oxford English Dictionary defines “vocation” as “a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation”. It derives from the Latin “to call”. By implication, those who are “called” love what they do, and can't help but ring. Sir John Betjeman published a collection of poems entitled “Summoned by Bells”, and some of us have copies of Frank Foden's compendium of ringing verse “Inspired by Bells”. Inspired, summoned, called – do these words give an insight into our “vocation”?

As we gather this Sunday to give external expression to the Easter message, we remember those words from the Ringers Hymn: “We call, from tower and steeple, Upon the day of days.” And further in the third verse, we're reminded of the good fellowship that ringing brings: “... Befriending one another, A strong and steadfast band”.

My hope in this season of Easter is that we are inspired to nurture this renewed appetite for ringing, cherish all ringers for their contribution to the whole, and work together with solidarity, humility and purpose to justify our calling.

A very happy Easter to all!

Christopher

Posted on ccbr.org.uk on 23rd April 2019

Westley Award for Church Bell Maintenance

A new award for belfry maintenance

All ringers, including new ringers such as those recruited through the Ringing Remembers campaign, depend on the bells and towers that they ring being in usable condition. Good bells usually mean that it is easier to develop ringers' skills and, in particular, help retain new recruits. So are you or one of your band getting involved in belfry maintenance? If so, then a new award for people involved in maintenance of tower bells is for you! The Stewardship & Management Workgroup of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers is launching an award for people who have recently become involved in belfry maintenance, are developing their own skills and those of others.

The first award will be made at the September 2019 CCCBR annual conference to be held in London.

The winner will receive £100 and a certificate. For more information and to download an application form, go to www.cccbr.org.uk

The closing date for nominations is **noon on 28th June 2019**.