



Rutland Bell-Ringers Newsletter

February 2021

Thank you to all ringers who joined the online AGM on January 16th and made it such a success. The minutes of the Branch meeting are being as a separate attachment to this newsletter. The Officers and committee were re-elected -

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS for 2021

Chairman	Alan Wordie	alan.wordie@enduranceproperty.com
Ringling Master	Alan Ellis	alan.ellis.h11@gmail.com
Deputy Ringling Masters	Roger Scholes	roger.scholes@tiscali.co.uk
	& Brian Newman	brianjasie@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary	Helen Pollard	helen@pollardweb.me.uk
Treasurer	Simon Forster	forster.ketton@talktalk.net
Membership Secretary	Sue Baker	susanbaker144@gmail.com
Steward	Ted Phillips	ted_uk@outlook.com
Website manager	Peter Furness	pnf@pathology.plus.com
Press Correspondent & Newsletter Editor	Sue Webster	suevw@sky.com
Guild Management	John Tomalin	John.Tomalin1943@btinternet.com
Committee members	Tim Holt	timholt218@gmail.com
	David Rippin	twink@twink.go-plus.net

Items for the next newsletter to Sue Webster
by Sunday 28th February
suevw@sky.com

www.rutlandbellringing.org
Webmaster: Peter Furness
webmaster@rutlandbellringing.org

Rutland Bellringers AGM 2021

Ever since the start of the 17th Century, the art of ringing church bells and ringing the changes to tell the towns and villages of a new event (such as a wedding or baptism) or maybe tolling at a funeral, has relied upon standing in close proximity to others and face to face communication (often in a local hostelry to allow lengthier discussion).

Is this a first in Rutland?

On Saturday 16th January the Peterborough Diocese (Rutland Branch) held their annual meeting (AGM) "virtually" - meaning those attending, to undertake the annual business, were not all meeting in a church, hall or local hostelry, but were meeting together "on line". With visual and audio settings allowing all to hear and contribute to the business of the meeting, Rutland ensured history was maintained and the AGM held properly and according to constitution.

The Branch meeting attracted 24 members and two visiting Guild committee members, the Guild President, Alistair Donaldson and Treasurer, Chris FitzGerald. Business was conducted in a polite and constructive fashion. Votes, reports and questions were taken in the usual way and the (draft) minutes are attached to show the outcomes.

The committee was re-elected. This is so helpful as each appointee knows the ropes (oops sorry for the pun), and it means when we are allowed to ring in confined towers and teach (which involves being in close proximity to others) again, then we can start to advertise for recruits and most importantly arrange gentle re-introduction meetings to help those who feel they may have forgotten how to handle a bell or ring a method.

With that said, thank you to all ringers who joined the meeting and made it such a success. The minutes of the Branch meeting are being as a separate attachment to this newsletter.

Alan Wordie, Chairman



The sound of bells ringing is deeply rooted in British culture. Almost everyone in Britain lives within hearing range of bells. They provide the grand soundtrack to our historic moments, call out for our celebrations and toll sadly in empathy with our grief. The bitter-sweet sound of just one bell or the majesty of a whole peal, has become part of the English heritage and much of the country's history can be traced through the history of its bells. They call us to wake, to pray, to work, to arms, to feast and, in times of crisis, to come together. Above all, bells are the sound of freedom and peace as in World War II they hung silently until the day they could ring in the peace. We now await the opportunity to reawaken the bells in England when we are allowed to stand close enough to each other to ring out the changes and make a joyous sound over the valleys and hills. The single bells tolled last November to mark Remembrance Sunday were recognised after a summer of silence. After a year we can make a big impact when allowed and do our part to thank all those who have combatted or sat through the period of pandemic. Be ready for a "call to arms" soon.

Alan Wordie, Chairman

From our Guild Secretary, Helen Allton

Guild Updates

Do you want to shape the future of ringing? The Guild is looking for people to get involved in ringing for our youth members. If you are interested in a range of activities - organising, helping, guiding or being available to call on for youth ringing sessions and activities, please get contact the secretary, secretary@pdg.org.uk It'll be a team effort and all sorts of skills will be useful.

Training corner

If you are worried that you won't be able to use Ringing Room and will mess it up, why not download Mobil so you can practice using an online ringing resource on your own first.

<http://www.abelsim.co.uk/MobilNews.htm>

Plain Bob Doubles is usually one of the first methods that you learn after you have mastered Plain Hunt.

<https://www.facebook.com/PDGCBR/posts/191537279118337>

Plain Bob Minor is the next stepping stone from Plain Bob Doubles. It shares a lot of common features.

Now we are in lockdown again how about starting a new project?!

<http://ringingteachers.org/.../arti.../50-virtual-ringing-things>

Puzzle spot

If methods are all the right notes, just not necessarily in the right order, then maybe anagrams are the wordy equivalent. Can you unscramble these to give the methods this band would like to ring? <https://www.facebook.com/PDGCBR/posts/237386874533377>

There's a lot of different methods named after castles to fit into the grid. Can you fight your way to a successful conclusion? <https://www.facebook.com/PDGCBR/posts/237381431200588>

A group of ringers were asked to describe various ringing terms. What are they on about in this cloud of words? <https://www.facebook.com/PDGCBR/posts/234490588156339>

It's a missing number hunt again, what are the missing rows in these number sequences.

<https://www.facebook.com/PDGCBR/posts/233307134941351>

For your entertainment

A Blue Peter episode from 1974. Is learning to ring always this stretching? Someone get her a box! <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3455220244584813>

This technical construction might just be the project you're looking for. What would you try and teach it next? <https://youtu.be/ABf1uld1c10>

Central Council Updates

The president's latest blog. <https://cccb.org.uk/2021/01/27/presidents-blog-26/>

Helen Allton

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Dear fellow Rutland branch bellringer,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

Following a terrible 2020 and hardships for many people, it is really important that we keep our bell ringing community together and are ready to spring back into life when we can. The Rutland branch committee understand how important ringing is for many people as a healthy pastime, a social event and for intellectual stimulation. We will continue to work hard to keep the wonderful tradition alive in whatever way possible. As an example the Chairman, Alan Wordie, is working on some focussed theory "discussion sessions" via Zoom.

As membership secretary my role is to try and keep the number of ringers at the level needed to sustain bands in all towers. The committee we will make sure that people feel safe to ring and are informed and supported in their experience. In this the tower captains also play a vital role. I would like to focus on recruitment this year and any suggestions you may have will be very welcome.

We have to register all ringers with the Guild and the small subscription we all pay is divided between the Guild and Rutland Branch. The Guild has been incredibly active during the Covid-19 crisis. It has made sure that bell ringing is not overlooked and produced guidance for ringing, following discussions with the various church and bell ringing governing bodies.

Subscriptions for 2021 are due on the First of January and I urge you to make your payment as soon as possible. Please also consider rounding up your payment by including a donation. Despite not currently being able to ring there is much work going on in the background and we need to be prepared to restart as soon as we get the green light.

Please make sure your contact details are up to date. If your details have changed please submit a new form (attached) by e-mail to susanbaker144@gmail.com or by post to 14 Forth Close, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6JW and indicate whether you are happy to receive information such as the monthly newsletter by email (or post).

Payment details are as follows

Membership type :-

1. Adult under state retirement age Subscription £7.00 + Donation
2. Full time education Subscription £3.50 + Donation
3. Adult over state retirement age Donation (Suggest £7.00 as per normal subscription)

PLEASE pay by BACS transfer wherever possible in order to reduce human contact with cheques etc.

Sort code 40-43-05 Account Number 31507540

Please use your surname and tower as the reference, and inform Simon Forster that you have paid online. (forster.ketton@talktalk.net tel: 01780 720802).

Cheques should be made payable to PDGCBR-Rutland Branch.

Take care of yourselves and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Kind regards

Sue

Sue Baker, Membership Secretary