



2022

## Rutland Bell-Ringers Newsletter

# JULY



### Bellringers Social Event

**SUMMER PICNIC /BBQ**

**Saturday 16th July**

at

**ORCHARD HOUSE, LYNDON ROAD, HAMBLETON LE15 8TJ**

*The home of Celia Foulkes*

*There is parking in our adjoining field and there will be a sign*

with ringing from 1.00pm.

**Picnic from 2pm. Bring your own food/drinks/cutlery etc.**

**BBQ available to cook your own.**

**Experienced ringers....New Ringers**

**All are welcome**



### Striking Competitions

Dates for later in the year - Saturday 17th September, when we have our own Rutland Branch 6 bell striking competition. I'm hoping that as many towers as possible will take part.

The following weekend, on Saturday 24th September, the branch is hosting the Guild Summer Festival and 8 bell striking competition at Uppingham. As we are the hosts I believe we should enter a team.

I do have one or two who have kindly agreed to be part of the team but we still need more to come forward so that the branch can be represented. We can then have the bells at Uppingham to practice on.

*Brian Newman, Ringing Master*

Items for the August newsletter to Sue Webster  
by Sunday 31st July  
suevw@sky.com

[www.rutlandbellringing.org](http://www.rutlandbellringing.org)  
Webmaster: Ted Phillips  
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## WOMBEL

### A Saxilby Ringing Simulator mounted on a Tower Frame

June 19th was Uppingham Feast Day. To co-incide with the events of the day we thought we would have a bellringing promotional event and, hopefully, generate some interest in learning to ring church bells.

The Peterborough Guild now has a 'Wombel' and it was offered for us to use for the occasion, to let visitors to the church have a try.

It is a sizeable piece of kit. It needs a space 2m wide x 6m long for assembly. Once assembled the floor space needed to operate the unit is about 2m x 2m, with a minimum ceiling height of 3.5m.

After a slow start people began to come in to take a look. Children were quite interested, adults a little more cautious. Time will tell if any of that curiosity will bear fruit in recruiting new ringers.

The ringing simulator is a resource that could play an important role in promoting ringing. If interested and would like more information, contact Cathy Dixon. Guild PRO.



Thomas Saunders,  
ringing the Wombel

## PAST RINGERS

We report the death of David Thorne, the former Tower Captain of Seaton.

David had been living in a care home for some time and died on June 17th. He is survived by his wife, Angela, who still lives in Seaton.

The funeral will take place in Seaton at 1.30 on Monday July 11th, when it is hoped that a Quarter Peal will be rung.

## St PETER, BROOKE, 30 years since the restoration of the bells

On Sunday 19th June a special service of Evensong was held, to celebrate 30 years since the bells of Brooke church were restored and augmented to a ring of six. There was ringing before the service and ringers old and new attended. There were approximately 60 in the congregation, including Cath and Ian McKelvey. Cath was the inspiration behind the restoration project and raised £25,000 in a year.

About 20 years ago Cath wrote a poem about the bells. This, and another by Tennyson, were included in the order of service. *John and Connie Beadman*

### The 6 Bells of Brooke

He's the tenor,  
he's the fifth,  
the fourth and the third  
He's the second there's only one more  
Where is it ? What is it ?  
Well – it's him And he's the little treble.

We ring out on a Sunday  
We tell it loud and clear  
A service is about to start  
We make sure all can hear.  
For you would be so welcome  
Please neighbours hear our call.  
This place is warm and friendly,  
You're wanted one and all.

They come here to be married  
Their wedding vows to say  
We love to peal so joyfully  
A great part of their day.  
For we tell of love and tenderness  
Between a woman and a man  
We watch their lives across the years  
We say when it all began.

We ring in muffled sadness  
Our tolling fills the air  
We tell of the pain of parting  
Heartache beyond compare.  
But we also sing our praises  
Of a life we loved so well  
For what can speak more volumes  
Than the solemn sound of a bell ?

We sound again at the end of the year  
We gently say goodbye  
To all the old and jaded dreams  
Which now in dust may lie.  
But on the stroke of midnight  
We sing a brand new song  
For we speak of a brand new era  
And hope for a future strong.

We ring for special occasions  
Part of history, we are  
We celebrate or commiserate  
For events both near and far  
We reflect whoever is happening  
As we have across the years  
We are part of you and you're part of us  
All the laughter and the tears.

I'm only the little treble  
I know I'm very small.  
But we all have our place  
Important one and all.  
I know there's nowhere  
I would choose to be  
Than where I'm fixed.  
Right here with you  
In this Brooke tower.  
As part of a ring of 6.

### Ring out, wild bells

*by Alfred Lord Tennyson*

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.  
Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.  
Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be

### A footnote from John & Connie Beadman

A copy of the service sheet for the celebration is available as a pdf on request.

“One of our granddaughters, Tessa Simpson nee Beadman, was part of the team of ringers at Westminster Abbey for the Queen's Pageant Day at the beginning of the month.”

## GUILD NEWS

There's been lots of opportunities for listening to quality ringing the last 2 weeks. Firstly, a Guild band took part in the Ridgman Trophy contest in King's Lynn last Saturday. The piece was Erin Cater and it's fair to say that the bells were not the easiest. The team did improve on their practice piece, which is always satisfying. They finished in 6<sup>th</sup>. The Guild has offered to host this for next year, and helpers to make the day go well will be appreciated. More details sometime next year! <https://ridgmantrophy.elyda.org.uk/>

This weekend saw the National 12 bell striking contest. Held in Guildford this year, the rail strike didn't help the transport logistics. For those who went, it was a good day out with some excellent ringing to be heard all day. Birmingham ran out winners. The day was broadcast, so you can listen again to some very good ringing. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qi8sCqnS5cc>

Not everyone will ring on 12 bells, even those who do don't necessarily ring in competitions at this level. But every ringer can listen to ringing this good and take inspiration from it. Ask yourself what can you do to improve your ringing, even if just a little bit.

### Dates for the Diary

**Guild 10 bell Practice** - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 10:30 – 12:30. Rothwell

**Guild Intermediate 8 bell practice** - Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August, 6:30 pm . Whilton

**Peterborough** Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 7:30 pm Castor

**Guilborough** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 3:30 pm West Haddon, 6:30 pm Long Buckby

### Central Council

The President's latest blog. <https://cccbr.org.uk/2022/06/21/presidents-blog-62/>

There is more information about the crowdfunding for the mobile belfry here: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/mobile-belfry>

Although it appears you need to be a male robot to ring them, so I'm off the hook.

The PR workgroup needs some new members to help with exciting challenges ahead. If you, or anyone you know has an interest in promoting bellringing, copywriting, general publicity, event planning and delivery, we'd be please to hear from you. Please contact me at [PRO@cccbr.org.uk](mailto:PRO@cccbr.org.uk) or see <https://cccbr.org.uk/about/workgroups/public-relations-workgroup>

### And finally

Many members will remember Mary Kinchin. There will be a Memorial Service for Mary, on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 4.00pm at St Peter's Whetstone. This will include the dedication of the two new bells that have been cast in her memory for the same tower.

Secretary: Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

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