



2022

Rutland Bell-Ringers Newsletter

November

DATES for DIARIES

**Friday 19th November - BBC Children in Need
Ring a Quarter Peal for Pudsey**

Sunday 1st January - Quarter Peal Day

Saturday 14th January - Branch AGM

Teaching Materials

I hold a supply of booklets for the Branch-

“Ringing Circles”, Sherbourne Teaching Aids : The yellow “Learning to ring, one per learner” and the blue Follow On booklet. These have been purchased by the Branch and are available to anyone who needs one. Contact me if you wish for any of those books.

Also, I hold a set of display boards for bellringing promotional events. Again purchased by the branch for use in our Rutland towers. Get in touch if you wish to borrow them at any time.

Sue Webster suevw@sky.com

Ringing Practice Times

Some towers do not have a home practice every week, but share their practice nights with other towers on a rotational basis.

November Practices All commence at 7.30pm.

3rd Seaton, 10th Lyddington. 17th Uppingham, 24th Uppingham

7th Harringworth, 14th Caldecott, 21st Gretton, 28th Harringworth.

2nd Braunston, 9th Brooke, 16th Braunston, 23rd Brooke, 30th Braunston.

November 24th at Uppingham will be a Branch practice. All are welcome.

**Items for the September newsletter to Sue Webster
by Monday 30th November.
suevw@sky.com**

**www.rutlandbellringing.org
Webmaster: Ted Phillips
webmaster@rutlandbellringing.org**

QUARTER PEALS

Peterborough Diocesan Guild

Caldecott, Rutland

St John the Evangelist

Tuesday, 11 October 2022 (8–0–15 in G)

1260 Doubles (3m)

480 St. Simons, 480 St Martins, 300 Plain Bob

- 1) Sue Kingston
- 2) Alan Ellis
- 3) Thomas Saunders
- 4) Brian Newman
- 5) Steve Millington (C)
- 6) Sally Watts

Rung to celebrate the life of local ringer John Nicholls who sadly passed away in August.

First Quarter Peal - 6

In Memoriam

Paul Loxton 1949 - 2022

We are sorry to report that Paul Loxton passed away on Monday 24th October in Kettering Hospital.

Paul was very active in Rutland ringing during the 70's and early 80's at which time he and Jenny moved to Sutton in Ashfield. On retirement they moved back to live near Corby but ill health has restricted Paul's ringing activities so we have seen very little of him recently in Rutland.

Paul was the son of the vicar of Brigstock, ringing brought him to Rutland where he met his future wife, Jennifer Panton, whose father managed Smalls clothing shop in the high street. Jennifer was tower captain of Uppingham and branch secretary, Paul became ringing master of the branch until they re-located to Nottinghamshire. Paul and Jenny returned to the Peterborough Guild in 2017.

Paul will be remembered as a great character, always wanting to try adventurous quarter peals, not so keen on steeple keeping, we had to ring more than one quarter at Uppingham with a stay missing. Also for the wonderful ringers Christmas parties held in their house on Firs avenue.

Richard Beadman

David Wilson

The death of David Wilson was announced earlier in October. He was a respected member of the Gt Casterton band for a number of years and a welcome addition to the team. His funeral was held on 31st October.

Ann Archer

May they rest in peace.

Tower Captains Meeting 4th Nov 2022 (via zoom)

Present

Alan Wordie, Ann Archer, Brian Newman, David Rippin, Simon Forster, Ted Phillips, Sue Webster, Sally Watts, Sharon Bromilow.

Training

During the discussion the following ideas came up.

Start Saturday training, for those who would find it easier at the weekend. To try and get enough helpers to support the event.

To target the teaching at different levels of learning, supporting new ringers in achieving the level they feel comfortable with. i.e. rounds, call changes or plain hunt, and on to method ringing if they wish to.

That we approach the local senior schools with a presentation on bell ringing as a project to consider for DojE award courses.

Other Business

Wedding fees - a quick survey of those present felt that the current level of £20 per rope was satisfactory, but it was also suggested that if the incumbent wished to, a sum could be added, eg £20 - 50 pounds, to put into the tower bell fund for maintenance work.

Grants - Ted advised on the availability of grants from the guild to support towers for necessary work and repairs. He is willing to help if assistance with the application process is required.

Subscriptions - A plea to encourage members to pay membership fees. it is only £7.00 per year for those under 75 years of age. To avoid the annual raffle ticket sales we have suggested adding an extra £3 to as a donation rounding it up to £10 for the year.

There was also the suggestion for our learners to complete a modified version of the guild membership form. This would provide their consent to receive email communications and the newsletter. It was felt that by including them they would see what was happening around the branch and notice of future events that they may like to join.

*Brian Newman
Rutland Branch Ringing master*

Tinwell Bells Update

November 2022

As Tower Captain of Tinwell (Tinwell is in the same benefice as Ketton where I live and ring) , I was contacted by Tim Jackson of Dove's Guide who wanted to update the Tinwell entry in the Guide, as he was on a small tour of a number of towers in Rutland.

Tinwell is currently tagged as Unringable as they are quite difficult on plain bearings and old pulleys, and , up to 2018 when I wanted to ring them for the WW1 centenary, they hadn't been rung for over 10 years.

With the help of Ted Phillips, the Rutland Steward , and more recently John Beresford , the Guild Steward, we had reached a conclusion that the heavy number 4 bell needed significant attention : the pins resting on the bearings were thought to be out of line. A few months ago a noticeable bump had developed as the bell was rung, which seemed to support this view.

When Tim Jackson arrived, knowing the history of our work to bring the bells back into use, he examined the bells very carefully, with a very knowledgeable young assistant, Lewis Benfield, who rings in Leicester.

Their view, after ringing the tenor with no sign of "the bump", was that a noticeable gap at the base of the wooden headstock, during the heat of the summer could have allowed the headstock to shift a fraction. They recommended a set of small oak wedges hammered in and sawn flush.

They recommended a few other minor pieces of work to the bells, but they, and the other members of the visiting band of experienced ringers, were happy with the general state of the bells and mechanisms. A few perfect cycles of Bob Minimus seemed to support their view.

Tim took a recording of each bell to update Dove's Guide with the notes of each bell, and we agreed to amend the Tinwell entry (after the few minor pieces of work are complete) as Ringable but restricted to experienced ringers, mainly due to the close proximity of the bell ropes.

So a pleasing result for Tinwell, and another effect of the summer heat waves to note, along with sticking clappers at Wing !

Simon Forster



Simon was also requested to send Tim recordings of Ketton bells so he could work out their notes, and a photo of the mechanisms that work the chiming with out the wheels.

GUILD NEWS

Ringling article in The Times

There was an article in the Times at the weekend. It is usually hidden behind a paywall, so I've not included a link; screenshots were made available and are attached. The alliteration of ring and King was clearly too hard to avoid. With the Coronation having been announced for 6th May next year, towers may like to use this as a focus to raise awareness of ringing or as a recruitment drive. Get in touch with Cathy Dixon, the Guild's PRO for materials that will be available to support you. pro@pdg.org.uk

Guild news

Just a reminder that the Guild Quiz is available. For the sum of £1 there are hours of fun to be had. These are available through your branch, or through your Guild Secretary, who can provide these electronically or on paper. Entries to the PRO by the end of February for a chance for a cash prize.

Guild Newsletters were distributed at the Summer Festival. It is also available on the Guild website. https://pdg.org.uk/newsletters/newsletter_202207.pdf The next print deadline is the end of October. Items of news and articles of interest can be sent to newsletter@pdg.org.uk for inclusion in the next edition.

Thank you to all branches and towers that sent me information about their ringing for the death and funeral of the Queen and the proclamation of the King, This information has been collated and sent to the Palace. It will also be included in the next newsletter.

Central Council

The President's latest blog. <https://cccbr.org.uk/2022/10/12/presidents-blog-69/>

At the Central Council meeting in September a new Secretary and two new trustees were elected. You can find more out about them here: <https://cccbr.org.uk/2022/10/14/introducing-our-new-secretary-and-trustees/>

The Central Council is launching a plan for the future of ringing. <https://cccbr.org.uk/2022/10/07/ringing-2030-planning-for-the-future-of-ringing/> Have a read and maybe express an opinion to the Guild's Central Council representatives, cc_reps@pdg.org.uk

It's the time of year when events for 2023 are being planned, if there is anything you want to see happen in your branch next year, now's the time to talk to the committee. They'd be more than pleased to hear any ideas you have. The same applies at Guild level, we'd love to hear from you.

Dates for the Diary

Guild 10 Bell Saturday 12th November, 10:30 – 12:30. Higham Ferrers

Guild 10 Bell Saturday 14th January, 2023. 10:30 – 12:30 location tbc.

Peterborough Friday 4th November, 8 bell practice 7:30 Castor

Guiltsborough: Saturday 5th November 15:30 Lilbourne, 18:30 Yelvertoft

Wellingborough Saturday 19th November Car outing.

Towcester Saturday 19th November Branch Practice 10:30 Weedon Bec

Daventry: Saturday 19th November Branch Practice 15:00 Kislingbury, 18:30 Bugbrooke

Helen Allton

Secretary: Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

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