

2023

Rutland Bell-Ringers Newsletter



MAY



Monday 15th May 7.00pm - 8.30pm.

Branch Practice at Ryhall

Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles Practice

For all who wish to concentrate on those methods. All are welcome.

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME

Thursday 18th May 7.30pm

Triples and Major practice at UPPINGHAM

For all who would like to ring on 8 bells. Plain Hunt to triples and major methods.

All welcome

RINGING TOUR

(Arranged by Kettering Branch - Rutland ringers invited)

Saturday 27th May

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| St Peter & St Paul | UPPINGHAM | 1.30pm - 2.45pm. |
| St Peter & St Paul | PRESTON | 3.00pm - 4.15pm. |
| St John the Evangelist | CALDECOTT | 4.30pm - 5.45pm. |

This is a Kettering Branch tour, but Rutland Branch ringers are welcome to join in at all or any of the venues, and at all levels of ringing.

They have some members with them who have just graduated to rounds, so all levels of ability welcome.

Ringling Practice Times

Where towers share their practice nights with others on a rotational basis.

May Practices All commence at 7.30pm.

1st Caldecott 8th Gretton. 15th Gretton. 22nd Caldecott. 29th. Gretton.

3rd Brooke. 10th Braunston. 17th Brooke. 24th. Braunston. 31st. Brooke.

4th. No general practice at Uppingham. 11th. Seaton. 18th. Uppingham. 27th Lyddington.

**Deadline for the next newsletter to Sue Webster
by Sunday 31st May
suevw@sky.com**

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

EVENTS COMING UP IN JUNE

Wednesday 7th Branch 6 bell practice at Cottesmore. Plain Bob Minor and Stedman
Tuesday 20th 8 bell practice at Oakham. Triples and Major

QUARTER PEALS

None to report for April

Central Council Church Bell Ringers

BELL SUNDAY 14th MAY 2023

Why is St. Dunstan the patron saint of bell ringers?

Dunstan took a keen interest in the physical trappings of the church. A noted musician, who not only played the harp but also composed several hymns, Dunstan recognized the power of music to call people to worship. Together with his know-how in metalworking, he experimented with the design and forging of church bells, now interwoven into the very fabric of life in towns and villages across England.



Beloved for centuries, Saint Dunstan (formally canonized in 1029 CE) became patron saint of bell ringers. His other patronages include blacksmiths, goldsmiths, locksmiths, musicians, and silversmiths. He is buried at Canterbury Cathedral and is celebrated with a Feast Day on May 19 of each year.

It is this reason we have chosen the nearest Sunday to his feast day (19th May) to introduce Bell Sunday; a day where the contribution of bells and Bellringers to the life of the Church is recognised.

“It is hoped the day will raise awareness, emphasise the importance of the sound of bells in our communities and how it can help bring Church and Community together, strengthening relationships between Clergy and Bellringers. “

CCCBR are putting together a series of resources to assist with the arrangements - suggestions on how to take an active part in Services or using it as an opportunity to demonstrate bellringing and show people the bells, even use it for a bit of cheeky recruitment.

They ask to let CCCBR know if you will be taking part so you can add you to their map. Use the contact form on the Bell Sunday web page.

<https://cccbr.org.uk/news/>

<https://bellsunday.org/>



PLANNED RINGING IN RUTLAND

In celebration of the Coronation Of King Charles 111



| | |
|------------------------|--|
| AYSTON | <i>tbc</i> |
| BARROWDEN | Friday 5th 5.30pm Saturday 6th 9.00am |
| BELTON | Sunday 7th 8.30am prior to Sunday service. |
| BRAUNSTON | Saturday 6th 4.30pm. |
| BROOKE | Sunday 7th. Evensong Service |
| CALDECOTT | Saturday 6th 9.45am |
| COTTESMORE | Saturday 6th 9.40am |
| EMPINGHAM | Saturday 6th 9.30am. |
| EXTON | Saturday 6th 8.30am |
| GLASTON | <i>tbc</i> |
| GT CASTERTON | <i>tbc</i> |
| GREETHAM | Saturday 6th 9.05am. |
| GRETTON | Saturday 6th 12 midday |
| HAMBLETON | Saturday 6th 9.00am |
| HARRINGWORTH | Saturday 6th 9.00am |
| KETTON | Saturday 6th 10.00am. |
| LANGHAM | Saturday 6th 1.00pm. |
| LYNDON | <i>tbc</i> |
| LYDDINGTON | Saturday 6th 4.00pm. Sunday 7th 12.30pm |
| MARKET OVERTON | Saturday 6th 10.15am |
| MORCOTT | <i>tbc</i> |
| NORTH LUFFENHAM | Saturday 6th 9.00am |
| OAKHAM | Saturday 6th 3.00pm. |
| PRESTON | Friday 5th 7.00pm |
| RIDLINGTON | <i>tbc</i> |
| RYHALL | Sunday 7th 12midday. |
| SEATON | Saturday 6th 3.00pm. |
| SOUTH LUFFENHAM | <i>tbc</i> |
| TINWELL | Saturday 6th 9.00pm. |
| UPPINGHAM | Saturday 6th 10.00am. Sunday 7th 10am. |
| WHISSENDINE | Saturday 6th 3.00pm. |
| WING | Saturday 6th 10.00am |

David "Twink" Rippin
14th October 1943 - 13th April 2023
Bell Captain, St Mary's Church, Ketton



Twink, in Ketton tower, chiming from his favourite stool.
February 2023.
The boxes can be seen in background.

Many of you will have heard the bells of St Mary's ringing out before services, to mark weddings and, more recently, for the jubilee, and funeral of Queen Elizabeth and the proclamation of our new King. You may have seen a small group climbing up or down the stairs above the pulpit in Church. These are our Ketton bellringers, chief amongst these for many years was Twink.

Twink was Ketton born and bred, getting involved in church life as a choir boy and chimer of the Ketton bells. He continued chiming and bell ringing throughout his life, in Ketton and Rutland. He later trained to bell ring for full bells in the late 1990s.

Twink led both our hand bell ringing group, who have performed in various locations (care home visits, church service and Jubilee concert) and our church bell ringers. A number of the Ketton church bell ringers also rang with him in surrounding villages, including Hambleton and Wing.

Ketton bellringers ages range from 7 - Septuagenarians, Twink was a great mentor to all, and supported in many ways, including making some boxes of varying heights for younger ringers to stand on so they could reach the ropes (these can be found in Ketton, Hambleton, and Wing - all churches where Twink rang the bells regularly). He was also skilled at chiming 2 bells at the same time, when the need arose.

When muffling the bells following the death of Queen Elizabeth, he took a bit of convincing to agree that he was not climbing the vertical ladder up to the top of the belfry to the bells.

Thank you Captain Twink for your advice, friendship and dry wit. We are going to miss you enormously.

The Ketton Chimers and Bell ringers

Handbell ringing at
Chater Lodge, Ketton.
Christmas 2018



GUILD NEWS

Lovely to see everyone at the Guild's Spring Meeting, thanks to Wellingborough branch for laying on a great event and an excellent tea. Thank you to all those towers that did enter. It takes courage to put yourself forward for that sort of scrutiny. The Judges reported that they listened to nothing but good ringing all afternoon and you should all be proud of yourselves. Congratulations to Towcester, who disturbed the judges' pencils the least in their piece and won the trophy. Thanks to Sue & Garry Mason for judging.

At the meeting the 100 club draw was made, the raffle raised £94 for the BRF and a BRF grant was awarded to Harrington to rehang their 6 bells and repair their frame.

The day concluded with a busy evening ringing at Orlingbury before a sizeable contingent finished up in a local hostelry.

CCCBR news

The President's latest blog <https://cccb.org.uk/2023/04/21/presidents-blog-78/>

While we are in contest mode, there is a National Call Change competition, to be held on 3rd June. This is in the style of a Devon Call Change contest, with raise, ring 60 on thirds and lower all being part of the test piece. This is not in Devon, but on the front six at St Mary's Mosley, with other ringing in the area planned for the day. More details can be found here: <https://nccc.cccb.org.uk/>

Guild News

The Guild's 2022 Annual report is now available, with a fetching sunshine yellow cover. These are being distributed to branches for sending to officers and towers. If you want one, they are available from me at £2, including postage.

The Guild newsletter is also available in hardcopy. These will be distributed to towers. If there is a location in your town/village that would appreciate a copy, as positive publicity and outreach, please let me know and we can factor that into the print numbers. It has been added to the Guild website, and is available to read here: https://pdg.org.uk/newsletters/newsletter_202304.pdf

Coronation Ringing

Towers should have received a pack of promotional materials. There are 2 posters, one a general information poster and one to advertise any specific ringing at each tower. There are some additional posters available, or you can print one from here: <https://pdg.org.uk/latest-news/coronation-ringing-posters>

PLEASE make sure that you add your ringing to Bellboard and that you link it to the Guild event. <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=16512> That way we'll be able to find them all to save for posterity.

Dates for the Diary

Guild 10 bell practice Saturday 13th May 10:30 Towcester

Guild AGM. Saturday 10th June. Culworth branch. Open Ringing at towers in the afternoon to be confirmed very shortly. Ringing and Service at Marston St Lawrence at 15:30. Tea and Meeting (at 17:30) in Marston St Lawrence Village Hall. Evening ringing at Greatworth.

Culworth Branch 8 bell Practice Saturday 29th April 7:30 Brackley

Peterborough Branch 8 bell Practice Friday 5th May 7:30 Castor

Rutland Branch 6 bell practice Monday 15th May **7:00** Ryhall. Focus Plain bob & Grandsire.

Rutland Branch 8 bell Practice Thursday 18th May 7:30 Uppingham

Wellingborough Surprise Practice Saturday 20th May 10:30 Mears Ashby.

Wellingborough Branch Practice Saturday 20th May 2:30 Bozeat

Culworth Branch Practice Saturday 20th May 7:30 Sulgrave

Helen Allton

Secretary: Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

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