



OCTOBER

Friday 24th October

Safari Ring for your Supper



- **Brooke 7pm - 7.45pm. Canapes will be served.**
- **Ashwell 7.30pm - 8.30 pm**
- **Ringling at Cottesmore 8.15pm 9.00pm. Followed by Fish 'n' Chip Supper**



It's time to check your diary and buy a ticket for the Ring for your Supper mini tour.

Revisit an old favourite or come to a new tower - all ringers are most welcome.

The canapes are not to be missed, and the fish and chips from Cottesmore are the best in Rutland!"

(please note there is NOT a gluten free option on the fish batter)

***Final numbers needed by Friday 17th October ***

Let me know if coming suevw@sky.com.

Payment will secure your place - send £18 to PDGCBR Rutland Branch

Code: 30-99-50 Account: 58639962

October Practices All commence at 7.30pm. Unless otherwise stated.

Mon 6th Gt Easton. 13th Seaton. 20th Gretton. 27th Harringworth

Mon 6th, 13th, 20th, Edith Weston. 27th Empingham. All 7pm start.

Wed 8th Braunston. 15th Brooke. 22nd Braunston. 29th Brooke.

**Thurs 2nd Uppingham. 9th North Luffenham. 16th Uppingham. 23rd Lyddington.
30th Seaton**

Mon 3rd November Gt Easton. (7.30pm) Edith Weston. (7pm)

Wed 5th November Braunston.

Thurs 6th November Uppingham.

**Items for the next newsletter by
Friday 31st October
to suevw@sky.com**

**www.rutlandbellringing.org
Webmaster: Nigel Barrett
webmaster@rutlandbellringing.org**

Plain Hunt and Plain Bob Doubles Workshops

We have two more dates for Plain Hunt and PBD workshops.

Saturday 8 November at Greetham. 2- 4pm. Plain Hunt

Saturday 6 December at 10.15am at Seaton. Plain Bob Doubles.

This will be plain courses, but will also include touches if that is what is required/requested.

Please let me know if you are interested in either of these. suevw@sky.com

These workshops provide the opportunity to ring with experienced ringers around you, with a helper to support. Theory sessions may be included by zoom.

Rutland Branch Secretary

Advance notice that from January 2026 we will need someone to fill the role of Branch Secretary.

As yet there has not been a volunteer to take this on. Do consider if you can help with this.

The skills needed are taking of notes and writing up minutes of meetings. There is a full committee who can help guide and support you in what is needed.

If interested please let me know. *Sue Webster, Newsletter Editor*

Display Boards

The photo below was taken at the 2025 AGM. I have included it here to show the size of the display boards in the background. They are owned by the Rutland Branch and are available to any tower wanting to do an open tower event or bellringing related exhibition. Just let me know if you would like to use them.

Sue Webster



QUARTER PEALS & PEALS

Market Overton, Rutland

St Peter & St Paul

Friday, 5 September 2025 in 3h 2 (14–2–18 in F2)

5040 Doubles (11m)

2 extents Grandsire; 4 extents each St Nicholas, Winchendon, St Remigius, Huntley, St Simon's, St Martin's, St Osmund, Eynesbury, Reverse Canterbury, Plain.

1. Sally A. Brown
2. Adam R. Crocker
3. Robert J. Crocker
4. Christopher J. Pickford
5. Peter G. C. Ellis (C)

Rung in support of The Lodge Community Trust, and all who have been a part of it.

Peterborough Diocesan Guild

Greetham, Rutland

St Mary the Virgin

Sunday, 14 September 2025

General ringing

John Courtney
Stephen Gullick
Kerry Nimmons
Chris Rigby
Glynis Sellars
Lindsey Wilkinson

General ringing prior to, and during, morning service when the bells were re-dedicated by the Bishop of Peterborough following a £50k total refurbishment carried by Taylors of Loughborough



Greetham St Mary the Virgin

Dedication of the refurbished bells.

A service was held at Greetham on 14th September to celebrate the return of the bells



GREETHAM BELLS

For several years prior to 2022 Greetham bells had not been run regularly. A new band of Greetham ringers were recruited in 2023, once we started ringing the inevitable happened a broken stay or two! Ted took a look and discovered the poor state of the bells and frame, urgent action was needed to repair, restore and ultimately make them safe! Fundraising for the removal of the bell frame and restoration of the bells commenced with a village Ceilidh in January 2024. At this point the target of £50k seemed a long way off. Most of 2024 was spent applying for grants, organising and hosting events and general fundraising. Grants were received from the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust, Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, The Benefact Trust, Jack Patston Charitable Trust, The War Memorials Trust, The Sharpe Trust, The Helen Jean Cope Charity and Tesco Stronger Starts (Blue Token) and the Church Fabric Fund. We successfully achieved our base fundraising target to refurbish the bells and replace the steel frame within 10 months.

January 2025 saw the bells lowered and the frame dismantled. The weekend prior to the bells being transported to Loughborough they were on view in the church. More than one hundred people visited the church to see the bells before they left for Taylors. On their return a viewing of the newly refurbished bells attracted a similar number.

A new bespoke steel bell frame was manufactured, some of the original cast iron parts were reused. The bells were overhauled and restored to their former glory. No project is without its glitches, on foundry testing the treble bell was found to be flat, the only solution being to retune the set. This bell was added in 1949 to the 1923 peel of five. Woodworm and rot was found in both the clock chamber and belfry floors, these are in the process of being replaced. Construction of the bell frame and re installation of the bells commenced in July.

We held a village celebration on the 12th September to welcome back the bells and to hear them ring in their retuned state. On the 14th September the bells were rededicated by the Bishop of Peterborough, both events were well attended by villagers and Rutland Dignitaries, the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff to name just two. The bell ringers have returned to practice on a Friday and ring for Sunday services. There has been much publicity e.g. on local radio and in the local papers as well as on social media. Many villagers have expressed their pleasure at hearing the bells ring out once more. We recently held a recruitment drive for new bell ringers and hope to increase our band. The significance of the bells as our war memorial was portrayed by one of villagers who wrote and delivered a short account at our village celebration 'The Story of the Bells' emphasising that although the men that died as a result of war did not hear the bells we can remember them every time that we do! A very thought provoking and poignant reminder for everyone.

Obtaining the faculty for the project was onerous, whilst appreciating boxes must be ticked, months of waiting for a decision could have derailed the project, especially as some grants are time limited. Finally, a big thankyou to Kerry, Stephen and Alan for their time in teaching us and of course to all those who readily donated to the cause be they individuals or charities, your generosity enabled us to meet our target so quickly. Preserving the tradition of bell ringing is important as is honouring the legacy of those who gave their lives for their country.



John Courtney, Greetham Bell Ringer

GUILD EVENTS

Summer Festival

Saturday's Summer Festival went off really well. Peterborough branch organised everything, even the weather stayed dry for the afternoon. Teams from Daventry, Guilsborough, Kettering, Peterborough, Towcester & Wellingborough entered and were marked by Keith & Marilyn Brown. Towcester were judged the winners. A report is here: <https://pdg.org.uk/latest-news/summer-festival-2025> and team photos are available on the website. <https://pdg.org.uk/latest-news/summer-festival-2025-team-photos>. Let me know if you want a copy for your local news, parish mag etc.

Guild Newsletter

The Guild newsletter will be coming round shortly. It has been held up at the printers. Expect to see it soon!

Guild Quiz

The Guild's paper quiz is now available. Set by Simon & Cathy Dixon, it features a variety of question styles. Loads of entertainment for a whole £1. Not ringing related, so suitable for sale to friends, relatives, random strangers etc etc etc. Paper copies are being distributed to branches, electronic ones can be bought from the Secretary.

Recruitment & Training Officer

At the Summer Festival meeting, the role of Recruitment & Training Officer was filled. Liz Reading & Nich Wilson had both been nominated. They, their proposers & seconders addressed the meeting before a vote was taken. In a very tight vote, Nich was elected. Thank you to both candidates for standing.

The Guild remains in need of a PRO to make a full compliment. The Secretary would welcome the help!

CCCBR news

The CCCBR Annual meeting took place last weekend. The membership was increased to £1 per Guild member from next year, up from 40p this year. At the Summer Festival Nick Elks spoke about a couple of projects, Ringing 2023, the Publications and the Library. You can contact any of the reps for a fuller update. on cc_reps@pdg.org.uk.

Dates for the Diary

Guild 10 Bell Practice Saturday 8th November. 10:30 – 12:30 Daventry

Guild 10 Bell Practice Saturday 10th January. 10:30 – 12:30 Rothwell

Branch Events

Thrapston Branch Practice Wednesday 1st October 7:00 Titchmarsh

Guilsborough Branch Practice Saturday 4th October 3:00 Maidwell, 6:00 Creaton

Peterborough Minor practice Sunday 5th October 2:30 Wansford

Peterborough 8 bell practice Sunday 12th October 2:00 Peterborough St Mary

Thrapston Branch Practice Thursday 16th October 2:30 Wadenhoe

Wellingborough Surprise Practice Saturday 18th October 10:30 Mears Ashby

Wellingborough Branch Practice Saturday 18th October 7:00 Irchester

Daventry Branch Practice Saturday 18th October 3:00 Badby, 7:00 Upper Boddington

Culworth Branch Practice Saturday 18th October 3:00 Badby, 7:00 Upper Boddington

Helen Allton

Secretary: Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PDGCBBR

Website: www.pdg.org.uk e-mail: secretary@pdg.org.uk Telephone: 01832 735 266

