

LDG NEWS

NEWSLETTER - THIRTY NINTH / MARCH 2018 / www.leicesterldg.org

EDITORIAL

The Guild Committee have revamped the Guild Striking Competition from an eight- bell competition to a six bell competition. (Details appear further on). The idea is to persuade more teams to enter and can I stress that it is for individual tower bands as well as districts. So, give it a try, and give the judge a busy afternoon.

CONTENTS

- 2 :- Snippets, BRF 100 Club Draw Results, Obituary – John Sutton
- 3 :- Obituary- John Sutton continued, Radio Leicester 50th Anniversary, Church Bells to be Protected in Planning Rules from Noise Complaints.
- 4 :- Church Bells to be Protected in Planning Rules from Noise Complaints continued, Rising Ringers, Ringing Course, Booze and the Belfry
- 5 :- Booze and the Belfry continued, Central Council Publications
- 6 :- First Quarter Peals, Payment of Subscriptions
- 7 :- Payment of Subscriptions continued,
- 8 :- Bell Restoration Fund.
- 9 :- Around the Districts.
- 10 :- Around the Districts continued, Date for your Diary, Guild Dinner Report. Striking Competition for the Taylor Trophy,
- 11 :- Guild Dinner, Notes from the Guild Secretary,
- 12 :- Notes from the Guild Secretary continued, Ringing Remembers, Progressing Ringers. Ringing World National Youth Contest
- 13 :- New Logo,
- 14 :- Six Bell Striking Competition and Half Yearly Meeting Poster for you Belfry

SNIPPETS

John Dalby and **William Steward** celebrated their 75th and 80th birthdays respectively with a quarter peal of Doubles at Enderby on the 13th January 2018. The 1260 changes were conducted by Philip Staples.

Charnwood Borough Councillors have agreed the Council should pay for a £282,000 Loughborough Carillon Tower Restoration Project if funding cannot be secured from elsewhere.

A report presented to the full Council on 6th November 2017 said ‘A number of surveys, including a drone inspection, revealed parts of the building have deteriorated over the years’. Councillors heard the Carillon Tower, which will celebrate its centenary in 2023, is in need of repairs and cleaning, and a £282,000 refurbishment package is proposed.

The proposed works include:- stone and brickwork repairs and cleaning, minor repairs to the copper roof and the bronze memorial plaques would get a spruce.

£103,000 refurbishment of the 47 bells and clavier by John Taylor Bell Foundry is also included in the price.

On Sunday 11th February the good people of Hinckley heard the Parish Church bells ringing for the first time since Christmas eve when some damage was caused to some of the bell wheels. Many thanks to Mick Angrave for all his work in removing, repairing and replacing the damaged wheels.

David Swift, a ringer at Hathern for 68 years, celebrated his eightieth birthday recently. A quarter peal of Surprise Minor was rung on the 12th February whilst David sat inside Hathern Church listening to it.

DAVID M. BROWN of Sapcote celebrated his 60th Birthday with a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Minor at his home tower on 18th February.

J. MICHAEL FOSTER, a Thurstaston ringer for many years has sadly died. He previously rang at Markfield and joined the Guild in 1972.

OWEN HOMEWOOD, of Melton Mowbray has sadly died. Owen was a long-standing member of the Leicester D.G. and also the Rambling Ringers.

TERRY ASTILL has retired as Hinckley District Ringing Master after 37years. That is a long time by any standard. Well done Terry.

BRF 100 CLUB DRAW RESULTS

January

1st Prize Nos 151 2nd Prize Nos 132 3rd Prize Nos 48

February

1st Prize Nos 58 2nd Prize Nos 51 3rd Prize Nos 107

March

1st Prize Nos 168 2nd Prize Nos 40 3RD Prize Nos 54

OBITUARY – JOHN SUTTON

John Sutton 15.06.1934 - 27.09.17

John will probably be best remembered in St Mary's, Melton Mowbray for his love of bell ringing, where he was Tower captain for 14 years and spent a total of 30 years ringing the bells. His love of bell ringing happened by chance. He was persuaded by wife Marian to volunteer to take people up the church tower on Melton Day one Spring Bank Holiday in 1986. While he was there he got talking to then Tower Captain Liz Carter and she showed him the church bells. She invited him along to a practice night and the rest, as they say, is history. John enjoyed bell ringing so much that three years later, when Liz left, he became Tower Captain, a role he cherished for 14 years before handing over to present incumbent William Saywell. He then took on the role of deputy Tower Captain before ill health forced him to give up the hobby he loved so much.

John carried out his duties in a quiet, unassuming manner, teaching new recruits how to ring and creating the right atmosphere at all times. In addition, he maintained the bells and fittings in very good working order, spending several hours in the belfry, often alone. Everyone who knew and worked with John had the greatest respect for him. A true gentleman who will be missed for years to come.

John's name is inscribed on bell number four in the church. When the bell cracked in 1994 it was recast and John's name, as Tower Captain at the time, along with the names of two church wardens, was added to it.

John was a former leading ambulance man and at one time was acting station officer at both Stapleford and the central office in Beechwood. He died peacefully at his home on September 27th 2017.

Due to the church closure at St. Mary's, his funeral was held at Thorpe Arnold and an additional service of remembrance was held for him in St. Mary's once the church re-opened. His ashes were interred in the grounds of the church after which local ringers rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles (John's favourite method) after the service to celebrate his life.

William Saywell

RADIO LEICESTER'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY



CHURCH BELLS TO BE PROTECTED IN PLANNING RULES FROM NOISE COMPLAINTS.

According to media reports on the 19th January 2018 church bells are to win protection under new planning rules to stop people who move into towns and villages forcing councils to silence them. Government ministers said official planning guidance in England would be changed for new homes to show that the Government is now “standing up for churches”.

Churches have repeatedly had to comply with noise abatement orders to silence church bells after complaints, from often only a handful of home owners, despite the fact that they have been ringing for years. Ministers have now decided that churches should not have “unreasonable restrictions put on them

because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established” because new homes are built near them.

Developers will be responsible for identifying and solving any sound problems, if granted permission to build, and avoid music venues, community and sports clubs and churches running into expensive issues as a result of complaints from new neighbours.

The proposed law change came after Craig Mackinlay M.P. raised concerns in parliament about a ban by Dover Council in respect of the bells at St. Peter’s Sandwich. Dover Council had served an abatement notice after receiving a single formal complaint about the night time chimes of the clock, despite it having chimed through the night since 1979.

RISING RINGERS

Since the last Newsletter two meetings have taken place on Saturday 27th January at Loughborough and Saturday 17th February at Gaddesby. A wide variety of methods were rung including Plain Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor. After the meeting at Loughborough we went to Pizza Express for a social gathering. Many thanks to Laura and Sidney for organising this.

The rising ringers will be entering a team in this year’s Ringing World National Youth competition in London. This will be on Saturday 7th July 2018. There will be a coach organised to transport the team and supporters. There will be plenty of seats so if you fancy a day out in London look out for the invite nearer the time.

RINGING COURSE

This year’s course will take place 7th, 8th and 9th of September. Please look at the guild website for application forms. Further details will be available later. Mark Pendery

BOOZE AND THE BELFRY

Some time ago I wrote about the ringers at Tydd St Mary whose Rector banned them from ringing as "they were in the habit of taking beer into the ringing chamber". Without detailed research I am not sure when this occurred, but I guess around or about 1875. The ringers "went on strike" and so James R Jerram of Fleet installed an Ellacombe chiming apparatus which allowed the bells to be chimed by hopefully one sober man or woman.

The inventor of this apparatus, the Reverent H.T. Ellacombe was born on May 15, 1790, studied engineering at Chatham Dockyard under Marc Brunel, the father of the famous Isambard Kingdom Brunel, but later in 1812, gained a BA degree from Oriel College Oxford. He was ordained in 1817 and was curate at St Marys, Bitton, Gloucestershire, where in 1835 he became vicar, a position he held until 1850. He was an accomplished man of varied interests but his book "Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers" published in 1849 is of particular interest. He says, "In a well ordered belfry where scientific change ringing is the practice the following rules apply.

Ears Open, Eyes Wide, Feet Steady, Tongue Tied."

I couldn't agree more, though at Bitton it would not have been easily accomplished as he tells us that; “as a body, a more drunken set of fellows could not be found, and goes on to say " such things as I remember to have seen and heard would hardly be tolerated in a village alehouse.

"Furthermore the ringers on Sundays would wait around the churchyard until the service had ended and only then enter the tower and "ring a merry peal." Eventually, by friendly persuasion he endeavoured to wean them from their wicked ways.

Ringling church bells, readers, can be rather thirsty work, and in this context I recall an incident where the exhortations of a local vicar had the opposite result, when in the late 1950's a young married couple, friends of mine, set up house near the village of Cosby, Leicestershire. Both keen ringers, they had trained a band of young lads and girls to ring Cosby bells and on a particularly warm summer evening had walked the mile or so to the church, and then rung a quarter peal for evening service. The vicar's unfortunate choice of sermon on that long gone evening was "the evils of drink", and as he reached the height of his peroration the tongues of our couple were virtually hanging out and the service being ended, they were out of St Michaels and into the adjacent New Inn, where I cannot tell a lie and say they drank lemonade.

As for the bells of Bitton I note that four of them (there are eight now) were there at the time of Reverent Ellacombe and so he would have been able to hear those same bells ringing out those perhaps rather inebriated "merry peals" of which he rightly did not approve.

In writing this I was reminded of the late Sydney Harrison, ringing master at St John the Divine. He was a master on the Ellacombe and sometimes after their Wednesday evening practice he would wind up the hammers and put on a recital of tunes which were pleasant to hear though I particularly recall at Easter him chiming "Christ Our Lord is Risen Today". St John's bells sounding like a miniature carillon. If you use this article in the Newsletter you might add this note to his memory. As for the Ellacombe at Tydd St Mary, its dismantled remains are still to be seen in the ringing room, a reminder of former "merry" times.

John Bennett

CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

New ringing resources for you to download:

'Engaging with the Public' Leaflet

Ideas and tips to successfully engage the public with your ringing and associated activities: Easy to use 'mix-and-match' format to help you to put together the ideas which will work for you locally.

Produced by The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) Public Relations Committee.

Bell Ringing Flyer

Flyers for you to give to members of the public with a section for your tower or association/guild/society details (contacts, ringing times, website, Facebook, etc).

Originally produced for Peak 2015 International Scout & Guide Camp and the Derby Diocesan Association, now approved by CCCBR.

Both can be downloaded from the CCCBR website: <https://ccabr.org.uk/services/pr/publicity/>

FIRST QUARTER PEALS

Billesdon, Leicestershire

St John the Baptist

Tuesday, 20 February 2018 (11–2–22 in F)

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Amy M Cook

2 Rose Parker

3 Carole Ratcliffe

4 Joseph Booker

5 Roland H Cook (C)

6 Arthur A Rees

1st Q :4

Kegworth, Leicestershire

St Andrew

Sunday, 18 February 2018 in 50mins (17–0–3 in F#)

1280 Plain Bob Major

1 F Alan Wright

2 Katharine M Rayns

3 Karen Dayman

4 Cara E Tatterton

5 Roy E Simpson

6 Graham Knight

7 Edward Faragher

8 Peter J Rayns (C)

First quarter 3, first major 4, for evensong.

PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Most members will know that the Guild would like to encourage as many members as possible to pay their annual subscription by bank standing order. What may not have been explained is why we are making that change. It may seem a big change for something that only takes a minute or so each year, but completing the form would not take much longer, and can then be forgotten. The standing order is completely within your control. If you want to cancel it at any time, just tell your bank, and no more payments will be made.

Why change?

Changing to this system will have a big impact on the work being done behind the scenes by District and Guild officers. As you may be aware, finding people willing to take on the role of District Secretary or Treasurer, Guild General Secretary, Guild Treasurer or Independent Examiner is not easy. People have busy lives, and tend to join the Guild to ring bells, not because they want to do admin tasks! By easing some of the burden, we hope more people will be encouraged to come forward and take on the officer roles, on which we all depend.

You might wonder why, if your District Secretary is at a District meeting, it is a burden for them to collect your subscription while they are there. The answer is that it's not the handing over of your cash or a cheque which is the burden, but that much more time is spent behind the scenes processing and reconciling each subscription. Some of that time will be saved by the new system, and some can be spent at a time which may be more convenient to the District or Guild officer concerned.

What happens behind the scenes?

You can skip this bit if you are not interested! Receipts are issued whenever a subscription is paid by cash or cheque. You might be happy not to be given one, but the Guild is required by law to account for all money received, and also needs to maintain membership records, so you don't get chased to pay twice. At the end of each year, the receipts are added up by the District Secretary/Treasurer, reconciled to the total amount collected, and an account produced. They are then sent to the Guild Treasurer, who also has to add them all up, reconcile them to the amounts received, make them available to the Guild's General Secretary for the membership records and produce the Guild

accounts. Everything is then delivered to the Independent Examiners, who carry out a final reconciliation. The timescale is very tight, so accounts can be included in the Guild report printed in March, and then made available to members and to the Charity Commission. The Guild Treasurer also matches the receipts to our Gift Aid records, notes the date of payment and submits a Gift Aid claim where we hold the necessary declaration.

Not everyone pays their subscription promptly. Each of our District Secretaries/Treasurers sends subscription money to the Guild Treasurer, or pays into the Guild bank account, around six or eight times during the year. As more and more bank branches close, the District officer or Guild Treasurer may have to travel further to a branch, and because there are fewer branches, the queues are getting longer. Instead of a ten-minute detour while in town, paying in cheques and cash may now involve 20 or 30 minutes in a queue. After factoring in the time to get to the branch, this can be difficult in a working day. Coins seem to be particularly unpopular with banks today, and are no longer weighed in bulk when paying in, which takes more time. With subscription rates of £7 and £3, not to mention the proceeds of BRF collections, raffles and peal fees, coins are an everyday part of the cash the Guild receives almost every week of the year.

How this will change

Payment by standing order means the fiddly job of going through the receipt books, currently done by five different people (District officer, Guild Treasurer, General Secretary and two Independent Examiners), no longer has to be done. Time spent on reconciliation at each level will be saved. The number of trips made to banks will be substantially reduced, which will be a major time saving. The postage costs of sending cheques to the Treasurer throughout the year, and receipt books in December, will be reduced. Because information on bank statements can be shared between the Treasurer and General Secretary when standing orders are received, records can be updated when that officer has some spare time, and not in a rush in December/January, when year-end accounts also have to be prepared. Gift Aid claims can also be made much sooner – Gift Aid on cash paid in January 2018 cannot be collected until mid 2019 at the earliest, because the Treasurer will not have the receipt until December 2018, but Gift Aid on standing orders paid in January 2018 can be collected in mid-2018.

How do I set up a standing order?

If you have not yet paid your subscription for 2018, we would ask that you do two things: (1) sign a standing order to start in January 2019, and (2) pay your subscription for 2018 either by cash/cheque to your District Secretary, or by internet/telephone banking to the Guild bank account, quoting your district code and your name on the payment, and telling your District Secretary that you have done that. The district codes are HI for Hinckley, LE for Leicester, LO for Loughborough, MH for Market Harborough, MM for Melton Mowbray and SY for Syston. This should be followed by your surname and initials. Your District Secretary has a supply of Standing Order forms. After completion, please send the form to your bank, and tell your District Secretary that you have done this.

When are standing orders paid?

We are requesting payment by standing order annually on 10th January. It is much easier for both the Guild Treasurer and the General Secretary if all standing orders come in on the same day. This date has been selected because it comes near the start of the year (when payment is due), but crucially is also after the year-end bank statements are produced on 6 January, as those statements will be with the Independent Examiners for the first quarter of the year.

Do I have to pay this way?

No, you can carry on paying cash as before, if you wish to do so, but we hope as many people as possible will have switched to payment by standing order by January 2019.

Gift Aid

We are also encouraging as many people as possible to complete a Gift Aid form. We can only claim Gift Aid on subscriptions you pay yourself, so if your tower pays for you, you should not complete a form, and if you pay the subscriptions for your whole family, we can only claim Gift Aid on your own subscription. You also have to pay enough Income or Capital Gains Tax in the year to cover all your Gift Aid claims (in the case of our adult subscription, it will be covered by £1.75 of Income Tax). If you are eligible, please ask your District Secretary for a form, and return it to them, or to the Guild Treasurer when completed. Claiming Gift Aid when possible helps us to keep down the cost of the subscription. Pam Fisher

BELL RESTORATION FUND

On preparing the Guild Accounts for 2017 I couldn't help but notice that donations to the BRF from members have reduced almost across the board. They are lower from Districts (down £130 on 2016), from Guild meetings (down £100) and from the affiliation scheme (standing orders) from individuals (down £110). I therefore thought it would be a good time to remind people about the wonderful work the BRF has done over the years, why it is important, and how you can contribute.

We are very fortunate in Leicestershire to have few unringable bells, but that is no accident. We have a bells committee who volunteer their time to look at bell installations and to offer advice, a BRF committee which organises fund-raising activities, a 100-club administrator who collects subscriptions and arranges the monthly draws, several skilled people who, over the years, have produced items for sale including Christmas cards and shopping bags, and of course the Restoration Fund itself, administered by a committee, which provides money for restoration projects.

The most recent project providing an example of the value of the fund is the recent rehang of the six bells at Ibstock in a new frame. The tenor may have been cast in the 16th century, and invokes St Helen (the original patron of this church) to pray for us. The bells were last restored and rehung in December 1905 (when the treble was added). They were becoming increasingly difficult to ring, and Taylors recommended that they were rehung in an entirely new frame, at a cost (in 2015) of £52,866 plus VAT. Work was also needed on the fabric of the tower (which our BRF cannot contribute towards), so a major fundraising effort was required. The Guild was pleased to offer £4,500 from the BRF towards the rehang, and with a major grant secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund, smaller grants from elsewhere, and numerous events and activities organised locally, the bells were removed from the tower in November 2017, and the new frame installed and the reconditioned bells rehung in February this year.

Projects such as this bring the whole community together. Exhibitions were held in the church, for example of Ibstock weddings through the years, and of the bell project itself. Open days, while the bells were standing on the floor of the church, enabled local people to see and touch part of the village heritage that they may have heard many times, but had never really understood. A local nursery and the schools came to see the bells while they were on the floor, and the children made 'brass rubbings' of the inscriptions and marks. They were also taken round the church, and learnt more about religion and their local heritage.

Sometimes people ask why the fund needs donations, as we seem to hold plenty of money. The answer is that projects like this are important to local people, local churches and to ringers. Although work on this scale is required infrequently, when it is needed, it is very expensive. In 2017 we were pleased to be able to offer a grant of £2,000 to Blaby, for a project which is not quite as large, but which will make these bells much easier to ring. We are also aware of other projects which are being considered and are of a similar magnitude, and wish to be able to assist as and when they proceed. We are also not just there for the big projects, but can assist with a grant for more modest changes. To the best of my knowledge, the fund has never turned down an application that meets its criteria when funds are required.

You can help this work by contributing to a BRF collection at Guild or District meetings, by joining the 100 Club (with a monthly chance to win some cash back), by making an annual bank standing order to the BRF (details available on request), by using your talents to make things to sell, or by organising an event for us. Contact your local BRF committee member or the Guild Treasurer for more information.

Pam Fisher



AROUND THE DISTRICTS

HINCKLEY :-

At the AGM in December all the District Officers were re-appointed with the exception of Terry Astill who stood down as one of our ringing masters after some considerable time in the post. Our thanks go to Terry for his astounding work over many years. Luke Groom has joined the District Team.

The bells at Hinckley suffered some damage on Christmas Eve when the automatic carillon hammers lowered themselves into the bells. This resulted in damage to the 3rd and 5th wheels. (Now repaired and functioning as normal). With Hinckley temporarily out of action our January meeting was held at Burbage. A tea of hot soup and bread was well received by all. With work being carried out on the clappers and pulleys at Witherley we swapped our February and March meetings, visiting Sheepy Magna in February and Witherley in March. After ringing on the five, and tea at Witherley we ventured out of district for evening ringing at Polesworth Abbey. Although not particularly well attended we rang various doubles methods in the afternoon and managed surprise major at Polesworth. A good start to the year, hopefully it will continue as planned, with no future disruption to the programme. The annual outing will be visiting Worcestershire on June 9th, further details later. If anyone would like to join us on the coach please contact me.
Mick Angrave, District Chairman.

LOUGHBOROUGH :-

On Friday 26th January, the Loughborough District monthly meeting was at Loughborough Bell Foundry. The likely turnout was unknown, and we didn't have access to taps etc so had to guess how many flasks of water/pack of biscuits we'd need to bring. Fortunately - or unfortunately for those who might have been thirsty - the numbers attending were far in excess of our expectations so coffee and

biscuits were hidden from all to avoid disappointment. The attendance was around 40, so we had to take shifts in the belfry in order to comply with the Foundry's belfry floor limit! Ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Surprise Maximus, with everyone being given a chance to try their hand at things they'd not done before. Many thanks to all those who represented a wide range of districts and other guilds, ages and abilities for making this practice so worthwhile. Afterwards, many people expressed how rewarding they've found it to have the opportunity to ring at such a unique place.

Sally Brown
Assistant Ringing Master

SYSTON :-

Swithland Bell Restoration Launch

Saturday 12th May 10am-1pm at St Leonard's Swithland

The 1760 ring of 6 by Joseph Eayre (3rd recast by Edward Arnold in 1793) is due to be rehung in entirely new fittings in early 2019.

Join us for an open morning with tea, cake, information on the project and the history of the bells, and video link to the belfry.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

THE 2019 GUILD DINNER WILL TAKE PLACE AT LEICESTERSHIRE CRICKET CLUB ON SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY.

Guild Annual Report

Includes a full tower directory, reports from guild and district officers – a permanent record of the Guild's activities and achievements in 2017.

Available at the Half-Yearly Meeting and thereafter from your District Secretary. £1.50 per copy.

STRIKING COMPETITION FOR THE TAYLOR TROPHY

The competition will be held at Wanlip on Saturday 28th April 2018 and, this year, will take the form of a **SIX BELL** competition.

The rules will be circulated by the District Secretaries and are also available on the Leicester Guild webpage.

Can we stress that the competition is for **individual** towers as well as **districts**.

GUILD DINNER

Okay, I must admit I was a little nervous about the guild dinner. I was first told it was a formal gathering and that there would be people I didn't know, which for me is a big deal. I didn't like the idea of being sat at a table all evening with people I didn't know, unable to talk about anything. Then

on top of that I was to wear a dress? Just trying to picture any of the ringers I see on a regular basis in formal clothing seemed wrong, because all I'd seen any ringers wear were things like jeans and hoodies, or in my case anyway.

However much to my amazement, and I must admit I don't say this very often, I was wrong. It wasn't like what I'd imagined at all. Yes, at first it was shocking to see everyone so formally dressed and I most certainly hung back for a while especially when I saw Mark Pendery walking away from the building, but I soon eased into the idea of the dinner. In fact, it was a pleasant surprise to see us all dressed in formal attire, especially with the youth ringers because there was something distinctive and expressive about each, whether that be socks or ties.

The meal itself was nice and the staff were extremely polite and just added to the experience. I learnt what order you use the cutlery (From the outside and work inwards), all whilst having pleasant conversations with the youth team I was sat with, which doesn't normally happen due to a lack of opportunities at our practices.

But I have to say my favourite highlight of the evening wasn't the food, or the speeches that again I was surprised I understood, it was the rolling my pound coins at the whisky bottle. A couple of fellow ringers had convinced me this was the reason to go, so I can proudly say I donated a whole seven pounds into the competition, all of which I know went to the bell restoration fund. I miraculously won the bottle and spent the rest of the evening getting pleasant advice from fellow ringers on how to drink it, though I did reiterate that it was for my dad (and he enjoys it very much). This experience gave me a chance to talk to people I didn't know about a subject all Bellringers have in common after their wide range of outings and pub dinners.

I personally enjoyed everything about the evening despite my initial worries and am certainly looking forward to the one next year. I could also tell I wasn't the only youth ringer that enjoyed it, because everyone had a smile and chatted. I hope to see everyone there again too, and rolling pound coins to the prize I've brought in, maybe a bottle of lemonade? I'd also like to say a thank you for the opportunity of writing this because I can first hand say that it is an enjoyable evening for all ages and a good laugh.

Sidney Wareing

NOTES FROM THE GUILD SECRETARY

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The new General Data Protection Regulations come into force on 25th May 2018. They are the first update since the 1998 Act. I attended the training day for PCC's and clergy at St Martin's House. The same guidelines apply to the Guild as to PCC's as we are all regarded as charities. We do not have to implement the regulations by 25th May but we need to have a plan about how we are moving forward. The Guild Officers will be working on developing our Data Collection form, Data Privacy Notice, plan and strategies from templates given. However, there are some actions which we can all take now particularly if you hold and circulate information on behalf of the Guild on a personal PC:

- Password Protect your PC and documents. Have individual passwords for each user of the PC.
- Do not use a shared email address. (eg jandmblogs@...)
- When sending emails to a group do not list the addresses in the 'to' box. Put them as 'bcc' so that they are not shared with the other recipients. If you are forwarding (ie cascading out) an email delete the trail of previous recipients.
- Check that you have permission to use any personal data in advertising (eg names for tea to...)

I was disappointed to hear one delegate say they were a bellringer who received information from three Guilds; they were often sent with a list of email addresses showing. I hope we are not guilty!

CNJF

Ringling Remembers

This is a campaign funded by a substantial grant from the Big Ideas Company on behalf of the government to help recruit 1400 ringers to ring for Remembrance Day 2018. This is equivalent to the number of ringers lost in WW1. This campaign has featured on a national advertising programme for several months.

Anyone who has started to ring since August 2017 can be registered as a recruit. There are updates and more information on the project on The Big Ideas Company, the CCCBR and .gov.uk websites. Sign up on www.bigideascompany.org/project/ringingremembers/

There are now posters and leaflets to distribute to help with this recruitment.

I will bring the posters and leaflets to display in public places to as many meetings as possible over the next few weeks and distribute some to the Districts.

CNJF

PROGRESSING RINGERS

"The Progressing Ringers' practices continue to support ringers learning their first change-ringing methods and our many regular attendees have made steady progress. We have also welcomed learners who have dropped in for one or two sessions. It would be great to see some more new faces, both learners and helpers. An hour of your time would be gratefully received and we are very glad of our loyal group of regular helpers without whom the practices could not go ahead.

Last month we were at Hathern where Tony Croft had set up the simulator to enable us to test our striking and many of us bravely had a go. It took a few moments to get the hang of ringing using the screen as a visual aid but everyone swiftly improved as they got into the rhythm. We were presented with print-outs at the end detailing how accurate our striking had been, such as what percentage of blows had been early or late, for example. It is clear that regular practice with the simulator would enable anyone to markedly improve their striking accuracy quickly and I look forward to having another go - don't miss it if you get the chance to visit Hathern. It's definitely the steadiest band you'll ever ring with! Star of the show was Richard Brown who hit the ground running and completed his test piece with barely a blip.

The April practice will be held on the 28th at Barwell and the May practice will be on the 26th at Kibworth."

Heather Morris

RINGING WORLD NATIONAL YOUTH CONTEST (RWNYC)

The Leicester Guild Rising Ringers have once again secured a place in the RWNYC. The contest will take place on Saturday July 7th, based this year in London at Southwark Cathedral. The competition ringing will be at towers within the area, the final being at St James, Garlickhythe.

The Guild will be sponsoring a coach to take the team and it's supporters to London. There will be several spare seats available on the coach, which are being offered to Guild members. The cost will be £10-00 per person (all categories). Whilst the arranged ringing will only be for the teams, I have agreed with Linda Garton, the RWNYC organiser, that, should there be sufficient interest, I will organise a tower(s) for those ringers not involved with the competition. We are only expecting to use one driver so the coach will need to be parked in London for 9 hours so anyone wanting to visit museums, galleries or

even take in a West End matinee should have plenty of time. Tickets are being offered on a 'First come, first served' basis.

New logo

At the recent Guild Dinner the Guild launched its new logo (right). It is intended that the bell is in bronze on paper items and yellow on other goods. The BRF fund-raising committee would now like to develop a range of merchandise featuring the logo. If you have any ideas of what would sell or would like to help develop this work please contact president@leicesterddg.org.uk or secretary@leicesterddg.org.uk.



RINGING WORLD NATIONAL YOUTH CONTEST (RWNYC)

The Leicester Guild Rising Ringers have once again secured a place in the RWNYC. The contest will take place on Saturday July 7th, based this year in London at Southwark Cathedral. The competition ringing will be at towers within the area, the final being at St James, Garlickhythe. The Guild will be sponsoring a coach to take the team and it's supporters to London. There will be several spare seats available on the coach, which are being offered to Guild members. The cost will be £10-00 per person (all categories). Whilst the arranged ringing will only be for the teams, I have agreed with Linda Garton, the RWNYC organiser, that, should there be sufficient interest, I will organise a tower(s) for those ringers not involved with the competition. We are only expecting to use one driver so the coach will need to be parked in London for 9 hours so anyone wanting to visit museums, galleries or even take in a West End matinee should have plenty of time. Tickets are being offered on a 'First come, first served' basis. Please e-mail me to add your name to the list. mick.angrave@tiscali.co.uk



6-bell Striking Competition & Half Yearly Meeting Saturday 28th April 2018

W A N L I P

2.00 – 4.00 Competition Ringing

4.00 - 4.30 Service Ringing

4.30 Service

5.00 Tea

6.00 Results & Business Meeting

Arrangements for the evening to follow.

Names for tea to secretary@leicesterdg.org.uk by Wednesday 25th April. Entry information for the striking competition has been sent to districts secretaries.

LOUGHBOROUGH BELLFOUNDRY TRUST

As you may already be aware Loughborough Bell Foundry Trust has recently submitted a £8.4 million Bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to help secure the long-term future of the John Taylor Bell Foundry.

Show your support for the Taylor's Bell Foundry project. Help us make a noise in April and ring your bells! The more noise we make the better our chances of securing much need funding! For details see below.

<https://www.facebook.com/lborobelltrust/photos/a.493904267645285.1073741830.493528897682822/565928427109535/?type=3&theater>