

# LDG NEWS

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## EDITORIAL

I love this time of the year. Belfries where one normally freezes suddenly become comfortable. We are probably more inclined to get out and about and, let's face it, there are plenty of opportunities with Practice nights and District meetings available for us to enjoy, meet up with old friends and make new ones.

Such an occasion is available next Saturday; the Loughborough District have arranged a varied afternoon in the Ashby area where there will be something to suit all tastes. ( full details appear in this Newsletter )

The future of our newspaper, the Ringing World, is being debated (see Central Council report further on). In common with many newspapers and magazines the Ringing World is struggling to sell its product and attract new customers. Technology is arguably making the traditional `newspaper` redundant as many of us read so much `on line`. Do you have an opinion or suggestion for its future? The Ringing World Committee would be pleased to hear from you.

The Guild Ringing Course will take place between 4th - 6th September ( full details appear on page 9 of this Newsletter). The course takes a lot of arranging and hard work so please give it your full support. If you went last year, in whatever capacity, go again this year. The closing date is upon us so don't delay.

## CONTENTS

- 2 :- No Longer With us continued, Congratulations, Guild Social, BRF 100 Club Draw Results, Guild Striking Competition
- 3 :- Guild Striking Competition continued, Snippets
- 4 :- Tewkesbury Shield Striking Competition, 70th Anniversary of V.E.Day, St Edith Church, Orton on the Hill
- 5 :- St Edith Church, Orton on the Hill continued, Basic Method Construction,
- 6 :- Basic Method Construction continued,
- 7 :- Around the Districts
- 8 :- Around the Districts continued
- 9 :- Around the Districts continued
- 10 :- First Quarter Peals, Rising Ringers, Progressing Ringers, Ringing Course, Central Council Meeting
- 11 :- Central Council Meeting continued, The Ringing World AGM
- 12 :- The Ringing World AGM continued, Handbell Group
- 13 :- Handbell Group continued.

## NO LONGER WITH US

**A Maxwell Lindsey** died at home on 24th April 2015. Max learnt to ring at Stony Stanton during 1955. He rang his first peal, the 4th to Plain Bob Minor, at Whetstone on 10th November 1956 aged 14 yrs and he became quite a prolific peal ringer in his youth.

His peal total began to steadily climb. Max was quite keen to travel within and outside the county and he became a regular member of the Foundry `Monday' Band. He also rang a great number of his peals with Roland Cook, Martin Faulkes and Kingsley Mason amongst others.



- 2nd                    Loughborough District                    34 faults
- 3rd                    Hinckley District A team                    50 faults
- 4th                    Hinckley District B team                    failed to complete

Our thanks are extended to Michael Angrave for making the necessary arrangements. Can we make a greater effort in 2016 to increase the number of competing teams.

### SNIPPETS

**Barkby** Angela Dilkes has informed us that, from 5th April Barkby bells are now in full working order again."It's been a very long time but well worth the wait ".

**Tilton on the Hill** Amanda Adams has told us that the first Quarter Peal rung on the augmented 6 at Tilton was successfully completed on the 25th April. The new treble is the Wheelwright Memorial Bell donated by Mr. G. S. May. ( full details of the Quarter Peal can be found on <http://www.campanophile.co.uk>

**East Norton** The bells were returned to the church at the beginning of May and were rededicated following a short service or Morning Prayer on Saturday 6th June.

**Fund Raising for the Elderly** An item appeared in the Leicester Mercury of 28th April last referring to John Adcock's plans to spend a week living in a cramped Belfry to highlight the loneliness suffered by many elderly people. John, Ringing Master at St Remigius Church Long Clawson will eat and sleep in a space which is just 12 foot square leaving only to use the toilet in the main building. Planning for this event the Belfry has been given a good clean up to get rid of dust and bird's nests accumulated over many years.

John will undertake his fund raising challenge in June and hopes to raise £2000 for Age UK Leicestershire and Rutland. His only contact with the outside world will be with daughter Jackie who will bring him two meals each day.

( June 19th )

We are pleased to announce that John successfully completed his seclusion. He received good publicity from both BBC East Midlands Television and Radio Leicester.

After spending the first few hours getting to know the other residents; he was quickly on first name terms with most of the spiders, John decided to put his time to practical use and painted the metal part of the frame.(if you wish to support John and donate please visit :-<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/johnadcock1> )

**V.E.Day** 70 years ago former Leicester St. Margaret's Ringer, Mavis Whitehead, rang at several Leicester Churches to celebrate V.E.Day. At the age of 81 Mavis, a former Wren who has resided in Portsmouth and rung at Portsmouth Cathedral for many years, joined her Cathedral colleagues to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of that occasion. She was the subject of much interest and was interviewed by several local media. (Her younger sister Joy also still rings at Mandurah, West Australia). To view Mavis ringing download :-  
<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/defence/veteran-bell-ringer-will-sound-the-bells-for-ve-day-again-1-6734013>

**Congratulations** to Ann and Barry Brown of Anstey who have celebrated their Golden Wedding. A peal of Painswick Surprise Major was rung at Anstey on 13th June 2015 to commemorate the happy occasion.

#### 5120 Painswick Surprise Major

##### Composed: - Trad

- 1 John Cook
- 2 Clive J. Mobbs
- 3 Roland H. Cook
- 4 Francis W. Fisher
- 5 Richard C.L. Brown
- 6 Mark J. Pendery
- 7 Paul M. Atkins (C)
- 8 G. Barry Brown

## TEWKESBURY SHIELD RINGING COMPETITION 2015

Saturday 2nd May saw a band of ringers from the Leicester Diocesan Guild compete with 8 other bands for the Tewkesbury Shield held at the town's extremely impressive Abbey. Prior to the draw we were informed that it is always over subscribed, entries are decided by ballot.

Despite plans to have regular practices before the event it was never possible to assemble the full band before the date of the competition; the best we managed was nine of the band at Sapcote plus reserves the night before the competition.

At least nine of the band were familiar with the composition, which was 3 courses of Stedman Caters. Not so Angela Preston who was ringing the piece for the first time. You would never have known; not a blow out of place.

Under the guidance of conductor, Dave Carling, the piece was rung minus any method mistakes and with consistent leading. Having entered with unknown expectations we were delighted to be placed 3rd behind the winners, Kent County Association and St. Martin's Guild.

The Leicester Band was as follows; Nicky Carling 1, Angela Preston 2, Stephen Harvey 3, David Carling 4(C), Ian Mellor 5, Garry Mason 6, Andrew Preston 7, Andrew Higson 8, Terry Astill 9, Stephen Aldridge Tenor.

## SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF V.E. DAY

**From John Davies at Gilmorton;** - "We rang for the seventieth anniversary of V.E. Day at 11.00am at Gilmorton this morning (9th May). We met with only seven. After we had rung for a few minutes Neville Robbins, who retired from ringing here years ago, turned up to ring. It turned out he had rung at Gilmorton on the actual V.E. day when he was 15. Made my day! "

**From Liz Wright;** " Just back from V.E.Day ringing at Enderby ( 9th May ). Charlie, Heather, Paul, Bill, Christine and I rang Double Dunkirk for our dear friend Max ( Lindsey ), who on his last practice night before he passed away said; " We MUST ring for V.E.Day, it is very important". So Max that was for you, **we got it right in the end, hope you enjoyed it."**

**From Andrew Giles at Whetstone;** - Russ Morris had his wish ringing for the V.E.Day commemoration at Whetstone this morning, ringing two lots of Stedman Triples, Cambridge and Bristol Surprise Major. Included in the band was his wife Pat". ( a video of the ringing is available on <https://www.utube.com/watch?v=PgNEMRNOvHk>

## ST EDITH'S CHURCH, ORTON ON THE HILL

The Grade 1 listed church of St Edith in the small village of Orton on the Hill had four bells dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, but towards the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the condition of the frame and tower was such that Garry Mason advised that we should remove them to the vestry floor.

Fortunately in 1998 a new and dynamic incumbent, Revd Annette Reed, saw the potential of a bell-restoration project to galvanise the village and included it in successful grant applications to secure the tower and to install kitchen and toilet facilities in the tower base.

English Heritage required us to retain the original oak frame and bells, so Taylors installed a new steel frame designed for six bells lower in the tower. The 1595 bell proved to be unsuitable and has been retained for chiming as a service bell, but the other three were re-hung on new headstocks and re-tuned, and a new 3<sup>rd</sup> bell cast.

Clearly, the bells would now require ringers , so Mick Angrave and his colleagues from the Hinckley district took on the daunting task of training a completely new band from scratch using the four bells in the neighbouring tower of St Botolph's, Sibson.

Around eight volunteers from the area took up this challenge , and thanks to the efforts and encouragement of our teachers we were able to ring unaided for the Christmas service in 2003 , albeit from trestle tables resting on hay bales on the excavated tower floor !!

Subsequently, our enthusiasm and interest continued to grow and in 2006 we raised the money within the village to fund a new treble which we had inscribed " *To celebrate the ministry of Rev Annette Reed*" in recognition

of just how much the church at Orton owed to her efforts ; and in 2007 George Dawson advised us that Whitechapel had a spare new bell that would suit our ring , which we purchased and installed with the help of a Diocesan loan.

So within five years we had gone from no bells or ringers to a thriving six-bell tower, but we soon realised the need for mutual support within the other local village bands, and formed a cluster (Fenn Lane Ringers) to co-ordinate regular viable practices in the various towers. In a modified form, we presently offer a weekly Monday practice at Polesworth, and a rotating Thursday practice at Fenny Drayton, Witherley, Atherstone and Grendon, together with monthly method practices at Orton and Sibson.

In addition, we also have charge of Sibson tower, where in 2007 we were able to augment the bells to a fine-sounding six, with a bell donated by the Keltec Trust and one obtained after much bureaucratic aggravation from the redundant church of St Paul, Leicester, and salvaged and installed by Mick Angrave and Neil Harvey. Annette Reed is now a Rural Dean in Cambridgeshire and has repeated her “Orton Model” in her present parish of Little Paxton, which also now boasts six bells and modern facilities.

And for the future ? Well, no more augmentations, but like most towers we struggle to attract the younger generation. However the adults we do retain enable us to provide regular service ringing within the local area. Visitors are always most welcome, but do please telephone (01827 880168) to confirm the correct tower.

Graham Titley

### BASIC METHOD CONSTRUCTION

In this article I hope to show how to produce a method that will be acceptable to the exercise. One can have a lot of fun with this, since you can produce your own method by following a few simple rules. You will have to check that the method you have produced is new—that is, it hasn’t been officially rung or named before—and you can do this by checking the Central Council’s method archive. I will limit the construction to treble dominated methods i.e. methods where the treble has a fixed path and, for this exercise, only methods where the treble either plain hunts (*Plain methods*) or treble bobs (*Treble Dodging methods*) are considered. I will also limit the construction to Major although the principles apply to Minor, Royal, Maximus, and beyond. All methods (well nearly all) have a lead head which corresponds to a lead end of Plain Bob Major.

And these are:

12345678  
13527486  
15738264  
17856342  
18674523  
16482735  
14263857

1. For most methods (not all) the Place Notation for the second half of the lead is the inverse of the first (i.e. the first half rung backwards). For reasons that will become clear later **the only permitted place notations for the half lead, HL, are** (in methods where the treble goes right to the back) :

**For Minor 16, 36, 56, for Major 18, 38, 58, 78,**

(Where the treble goes only to fourths, **the permitted HL would be 14 or 34.**)

2. The only permitted lead end notations are: **for Minor 12, 16, for Major 12, 18,**

Aesthetically methods with an 18 lead end should not allow a bell to make 4 blows in one place at the lead end, but this is not really a rule and methods have been produced that do this e.g. Water Surprise Major.

3. No rows may repeat within the lead.

It is frowned upon if a bell makes more than two blows in one place other than at a bob or single (Minor and above).

One also needs to have in mind the possible last rows of the lead, (the lead end) which are, in the light of requirement 2 above:

12436587  
 13254768  
 15372846  
 17583624  
 18765432  
 16847253  
 14628375

To produce Plain Bob lead ends, the bell making the place at the half lead determines the pairs that need to cross over at the half lead. This is easier to show that explain e.g. let's examine

Plain Bob Major

12345678  
 21436587 X  
 24163857 18  
 42618375 X  
 46281735 18  
 64827153 X  
 68472513 18  
 86745231 X  
 87654321 18  
 78563412 X  
 75836142 18  
 57381624 X  
 53718264 18  
 35172846 X  
 31527486 18  
 13254768 X  
 13527486 12

Perhaps I should say that the **half lead is when the treble makes a place half way through its journey.** Plain Bob Major fits the criteria for a regular method (a method that conforms to the rules just described as opposed to one that does not, which is outside the scope of this article).

Now you can see that **bell 8 is the bell making a place at the half lead.** Since the method is symmetrical about the half-lead (rule 1 above) bell **8 must then end where it began.** The only possible last row of the lead (the lead end) is therefore **13254768.** Comparing this with the first row of the lead, the other bells that **MUST** cross at the half lead (because of the method symmetry) are 67, 45, 23, putting it simply if bell 8 makes a place (any allowed place) at the half lead, 2 must cross with 3, 4 must cross with 5, and 6 must cross with 7. This will ensure that the row 13254768 is produced and hence a plain bob lead end. In the present case a 18 lead-head change is not possible since this would produce rounds (lead of plain hunting in fact). As will be apparent later, some methods may have either of the two available lead-head changes.

The bell making the place at the half lead is more commonly known as the **Pivot bell** as from this point the blue line should you write it out will be a mirror image.

It is worth noticing that if the bells are written in the order. 2468753 i.e. with the bell making the place at the half lead in the middle of the row. (This being the natural coursing order of the bells in Plain Bob Major )

2468753

one can see that the crossing pairs are symmetrically placed about that bell. (The pivot bell)

Paul Atkins

## AROUND THE DISTRICTS

### Hinckley District

Meetings have been held in every month this quarter. In April we visited Thurlaston and Earl Shilton, making good use of the new kitchen facilities at Earl Shilton. There was a good turn out at both towers.

The last name in the book that day (as at most meetings) was Max Lindsey. Little did we realise that this would be the last meeting Max would attend as he died, suddenly and unexpectedly, at home on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### Enderby

Saturday, 9 May 2015

#### 60 Double Dunkirk Bob Minor

- 1 Heather Mann
- 2 Paul Standley
- 3 Charlie Worger
- 4 Christine Hurst (C)
- 5 Elizabeth Wright
- 6 William Steward

Rung to mark the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

Fulfilling the wishes of our dear friend Max Lindsey, tower captain at Enderby, who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> April. Rung by members of the Enderby Monday Night Band and Max's midweek ringing friends from Aylestone St Andrews.

First in method for most of the band.

#### Enderby

Saturday, 6 June 2015 in 46 minutes

#### 1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 William Steward
  - 2 Helen Staples
  - 3 Christine Hurst
  - 4 Paul Standley
  - 5 Philip Staples (C)
  - 6 Ishmael Bradford
  - 7 Charlie Worger
  - 8 Cecil Grimes
- 7, 6, 8 Covering.

Rang by the 'Enderby Monday Night Band' to mark the recent passing away of Max, Tower Captain at Enderby, teacher of 6 and 7, mentor to everyone, dear friend of the band and missed by all.

First quarter peal 6.

First quarter peal of doubles away from treble 3.

First quarter peal away from home tower 4.

Traditionally May is the District Picnic and this year we went out of the district. Afternoon ringing was at Nether Whitaker with the picnic at the Ridge Lane Brewery and the opportunity of a brewery tour for those who wanted it. Evening ringing was at Ansley. Strangely it did not rain on picnic day this year!

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June was a very special day for Bill Newton of Earl Shilton as he celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### Earl Shilton

Sunday, 7 June 2015

#### 1260 Grandsire Triples

- 1 John Vernon
- 2 Max Chowanietz
- 3 Jennifer M Hawkins
- 4 Michael Vernon
- 5 Robert J Hawkins
- 6 Terry M Astill (C)
- 7 Christopher M Sturgess
- 8 Kristian Dewis

Rung prior to morning service as a mark of respect and affection for Bill Newton, a ringer at this church for over 80 years, whose 100<sup>th</sup> birthday was yesterday.

First quarter peal: 8

June is our annual outing and this year Bedfordshire was the destination. With over 30 ringers on the coach the Ringing Masters had to work hard all day. We were rewarded with some excellent bells and some very good ringing, which is just as well as it rained all day! The planned lunch stop in the Country Park at Harrold had to be quickly rearranged to lunch in the church. It didn't really matter, though as everyone had a good day out in very good company to say nothing of good community singing!

**Chris Sansome**

### **Market Harborough :-**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June Alison Iliffe from Kibworth joined 8 other ordinands at Leicester cathedral to be ordained as a deacon in the Church of England. The cathedral was full of friends and family all supporting them on the start of their ordained ministry and it was a moving experience. Afterwards members of Kibworth's church family as well as a number of Harborough district members joined in a buffet lunch to celebrate her ordination and to wish Alison, Terry, Matt and Dan well in their move to N Kilworth where she will be the Assistant Curate in the Avon Swift Team. Much to her surprise she arrived in Kibworth from the cathedral to the sound of the bells ringing out in celebration. I'm sure the whole Guild would like to congratulate Alison and wish her all the best for the future.

Diana Young

University ringing. Although there are only three ringers at the University at the moment (as far as we know), they have contributed greatly to ringing at Oadby and in the Harborough District during the year. Their support for Sunday service ringing and at practice nights throughout the year has been much appreciated. Kate, Suzannah and Will have progressed very well during the year, and we achieved some notable quarter peals during the year:

Sunday 22 March 2015 . **Oadby**, Leics., St Peter. **1260 Plain Bob Triples**, in 47 min

Suzannah Cobb, 1; Kate Hollins,2; Diana Young,3; John Thompson, 4; Steve Peverett, 5; Will Johnston, 6; Andrew Young (Conductor), 7; Will Norton, 8

1,6 - First on 8. 3 & 7 - 600th together. Rung half-muffled commemorate the journey of the remains of King Richard III from the University of Leicester to their final resting place at the Cathedral: the ringing was timed to coincide with the departure of the procession from the University.

Rung by a band comprising past and present staff and students of University of Leicester, to mark the role of the University in the recovery and identification of the King's remains.

Sunday 14 June 2015 , **Oadby**, Leics., St Peter. **1250 Cambridge Surprise Major** in 44 min

Kate Hollins, 1; John Thompson, 2; Jane Farrelly, 3; Paul Atkins, 4; Diana Young, 5; Will Johnson, 6; Steve Millington, 7; Andrew Young (Conductor)

1, 6 - First surprise major. Rung (at 3 p.m.) to mark the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta.

Thursday 18 June 2015. **Gaulby**, Leics., St. Peter. **1260 Plain Bob Doubles**, in 45 min

Terry Iliffe, 1; Suzannah Cobb, 2; Kate Hollins, 3; Will Johnson, 4; Andrew Young (Conductor), 5; Diana Young, 6

2 - First inside. To celebrate the end of University exams for 2, 3 and 4.

We look forward to Suzannah and Will joining us again next year, and wish Kate all the best for her year abroad, to be spent in Italy.

### Ringing for Richard III at Oadby

As well as the half muffled quarter peal rung by a University band on the day of the cortege procession from the University to the Cathedral (see above), we also rang a quarter peal the next week to celebrate the reinterment of the remains

Saturday 28 March 2015, **Oadby**, Leics., St Peter. **1288 Plantagenet Alliance Major**, in 44 minutes  
Will Norton, 1; Diana Young, 2; Steve Millington, 3; Des Jones, 4; Richard Holyland, 5; Terry Iliffe; 6; Roland Cook, 7; Andrew Young (Conductor), 8.  
First blows in the method for all. Rung in celebration of the re-interment of King Richard III at Leicester Cathedral on Thursday.

I also attach a summary of the ringing for special occasions in the District. We asked people to tell us about the special ringing, and these are the ones who did - there may have been more, but if they do not respond to our request for information .....

### Ringing for the reinterment of Richard III

Gilmorton:	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. Bells rung half-muffled for morning service
Great Easton:	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. Bells rung half-muffled for morning service
Kibworth:	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April. Several courses of Plantagenet Doubles rung Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April. Quarter peal, 1260 Doubles (3m)
Mkt Harborough:	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March, Quarter peal, 1320 Cambridge S Minor
Medbourne:	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March, Quarter peal, 1296 Cambridge S Minor, half-muffled
Oadby:	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, Quarter peal, 1260 Plain Bob Triples, half-muffled by a University band Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> March, Quarter peal, 1288 Plantagenet Alliance Major

### Ringing for St George's Day

Lubenham Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Quarter peal, 1260 St George Minor & The Dragon Minor

### Ringing for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day

Gilmorton	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May. General ringing
Oadby	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May. 10 minutes of call changes starting at 11:00
Peatling Parva	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May. General ringing
Andrew young	

### **Syston :-**

I am pleased to say that Scraftoft will now be returning to a weekly practice night, every Thursday, from 7.30 to 9pm.

They are keen to welcome other ringers which will really help them to continue to move forward. Please arrive by 7.30 as the church is then locked.

Due to the low number of ringers attending district practice nights, it is unlikely we will hold monthly meetings next year. We continue to ask what is wanted within the district, please do pass your suggestions on by email, [syston@leicesterdg.org.uk](mailto:syston@leicesterdg.org.uk).

**Amanda Adams**

## FIRST QUARTER PEALS

On Saturday 16th May Matthew Craig rang his first quarter peal at his home tower of Kirby Muxloe; he rang the treble to 1260 Plain Bob Minor. The quarter peal, which was rung for the opening of the Church following refurbishment, was conducted by Mark Pendery.

On 11th November 2014 Julie Herbert and David Sulley rang their first quarter peal at Great Bowden. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles rung half muffled for Armistice Day.

## RISING RINGERS

Since the last Newsletter two meetings have taken place Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May both at Sapcote. A wide variety of methods were rung including Plain Bob, London Surprise Minor Cambridge Surprise Minor and Plain Hunt 9.

The next meetings are as follows: -

25<sup>th</sup> July 2015

26<sup>th</sup> September 2015

28<sup>th</sup> November 2015

## PROGRESSING RINGERS

Unfortunately there is nothing to report from *Progressing Ringers*. The last meeting we held was in March as we were unable to secure a tower to use for either April or May.

Nil desperandum! Plans are already afoot to get things back on track.

We will be meeting at Gaddesby and Ashby Folville on 25<sup>th</sup> July – splitting the meeting between two towers. Awaiting news of August but we already got two towers for September and had an offer for October – so things are looking up!

*Chris Sansome*

## Ringling Course

Preparations continue for the Ringling Course (4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September).

The tutors for the groups are all arranged.

Letters are going out to ask towers to host one (or more) of the four ringling sessions (Friday, Saturday X 2 and Sunday).

There are still student places available – but you need to be quick!

Now the plea – we need helpers – and that means **you**!

Don't look round to see if someone else is there – it is **you** we need.

Without helpers on the end of a rope, the tutors cannot give the students the practice they need. So put the dates in your diary, volunteer for as many sessions as you can manage, see lots of old faces and meet some new friends. You know it makes sense!



## CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING 2015

The Council meeting takes place over the 3 days of the late May Bank Holiday. In 2015 the Council was hosted by Beverley and District Society in Hull. Hull is the European City of Culture 2017 and we were all given a pack of information from the City along with our pre-ordered tickets on our arrival at the hotel help desk.

For those who arrive early there are practice nights on Friday and ringing tours on Saturday. This year there was a quiz evening with homemade pie and peas on the Saturday evening. This enabled the visitors to meet with local ringers in a social setting.

Sunday is the start of the 'business'. There are committee meetings for those who are on these and the main meeting room was set up for the meeting. The Ringing Foundation AGM which is normally on Sunday had been postponed and will now be held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2-4pm in Central London. The Songs of Praise Service was held at Holy Trinity, Hull.

Stephen and I had been invited to the pre-dinner reception with the Lord Mayor of Hull in the Guildhall. We were shown the Mayor's parlour, introduced to the Mayor and heard some of the history of Hull and the building. The newly restored carillon was played to welcome the guests. The dinner was also held in the majestic setting of the Guildhall.

Monday is meeting day. Reps were asked to be seated by 9.20 so that the meeting could start promptly. The first hour was spent welcoming, apologising for and remembering people, adopting minutes, reports and accounts and re-electing additional members the Robert Lewis and Jane Wilkinson. Kate Flavell was declared elected as Public Relations Officer. She is also Chairman of the public relations committee and would welcome the support of an additional person to help with these important roles.

The first motion, changing terms of reference for the biographies committee was a passed quickly. The second – to change the date of the meeting - was not. The aim of this was to simplify the meeting weekend to 2 days away from a bank holiday and make it more welcoming to everyone by making it shorter, more welcoming and thus cheaper. This provoked discussion and was lost.

The meeting then broke into regional groups to discuss 'Change Ringing for the Future'. We were invited to put things that work well and things that do not on 'post it' notes to look at how we do/could with other Guilds in our region. The results of this have been circulated separately for comment and a request of how it can go forward. There will be another survey to map the progress of ringing and to compare this with the 1988 one. It is hoped to do this electronically so please help by responding to questions asked of ringers/clergy/tower captains.

The committee reports were all accepted with little comment on the documents circulated at the end of April. The admin committee introduced plans to do away with annual elections during the next triennium. In fact there were no committee elections this year because there were insufficient candidates.

The meeting also heard reports on the Carter Ringing Machine, the Rolls of Honour, the Dove database and the Rescue Fund for Redundant Bells. We received information on the meeting in Portsmouth next year and in Scotland in 2017. The meeting finished at 4.45pm.

This article appears to indicate that the annual CC meeting is a long process of adopting reports. As an Officer for the past year I have learned that a lot of work/meetings go in all year round to produce these summaries. Full details of the Council's work are on the website [www.cccbr.org.uk](http://www.cccbr.org.uk). A more detailed report has been published in the RW of 19 June.

Carol Franklin

## **THE RINGING WORLD AGM 2015**

At 1.45pm the Council meeting breaks for the AGM of a limited company, The Ringing World. All Council reps are members of the RW.

The meeting started with a report on the company's finances. There was an overall loss of £8k in 2014 which was greater than the 2013 loss. This was due to a number of reasons – decline in advertising, subscribers, increased postage and printing costs which was reflected in the 2015 revised budget.

The Chairman then floated ideas to transform the RW including the expansion of BellBoard, charging for publication of performances, tablet specific edition, fortnightly publication and greater automation. The reserves have been recalculated. The Chairman explained the costs/benefits of the ideas. He also outlined some volunteering opportunities and future costs and the possible effect of a subscription increase. One success has been the Youth Striking competition.

New Directors were elected; the Independent Examiners were re-appointed. Linda Garton was elected a Director to move the Youth striking competition forward. More Directors are needed to give fresh ideas. The meeting gave the new directors a mandate to carry out these ideas and give the paper a long term secure future.

A full report has been published in The Ringing World of 19<sup>th</sup> June. Many letters expressing views on the future have also been printed. Everyone is invited to join the debate about this future.

Carol Franklin

## HANDBELL GROUP

Several years ago a group of us got together to 'do a bit' on handbells. As the majority of us were novices, infiltrating an established and 'grown up' band was not an option so we decided to meet once a month to see where we ended up.

To say we have had a laugh is an understatement (Barry Brown trying to fit himself into a hammock chair to ring was great fun!) and some may argue there is more tea drinking than ringing but regardless of that, nobody can argue with our successes. From the humble beginnings of Plain Bob Minor some of the group are now working on Cambridge, having moved through Stedman and Oxford, and we have also seen the early shoots of a Diddy band with Isobel and Rachael Rudge showing interest and promise in between games, stories and feeding the rabbit. Having now been joined by Ian Hayward and Harry Cook the future looks rosy.

Earlier this year some of us reached a pinnacle previously thought as laughable in that we rang our first quarter peal in hand. Ably assisted by John Adcock, Garry Mason and particularly Emma Southerington (who I'm convinced only needs to ring with others because she lacks the number of arms to hold all of the bells herself) everyone managed to score on the day. Although on the face of it, this has taken some time, through meeting in the relaxed way that we do this marks a great achievement and something on which we can build.

If you would like to join us you would be most welcome. Just get in touch for details of the next Saturday morning practice.

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 35minutes  
**1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1 - 2 Elizabeth Rudge  
3 - 4 John Adcock  
5 - 6 Emma Southerington (C)

First in Hand 1 - 2  
First in Method in Hand 1 - 2

**Leicester Diocesan Guild,**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent,  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 40 minutes  
**1320 Cambridge S Minor**

1 - 2 Terry Astill  
3 - 4 Emma Southerington (C)  
5 - 6 Andrew Higson

First Surprise in Hand 5 - 6

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 44 minutes  
**1344 Plain Bob Major**

1 - 2 Garry Mason  
3 - 4 Emma Southerington  
5 - 6 John Adcock (C)  
7 - 8 Nicky Carling

First in Hand 7 - 8

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 42 minutes  
**1344 Plain Bob Major**

1 - 2 Andrew Young  
3 - 4 Terry Astill  
5 - 6 Emma Southerington (C)  
7 - 8 Stephen Aldridge

First on a working pair 7 - 8

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday 2nd April 2015 in 44 minutes  
**1344 Plain Bob Major**

1 - 2 Garry Mason  
3 - 4 John Adcock  
5 - 6 Emma Southerington (C)  
7 - 8 Francis Fisher

First on 8 in Hand 7 - 8

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 45 minutes  
**1344 Plain Bob Major**

1 - 2 Garry Mason  
3 - 4 David Carling  
5 - 6 John Adcock (C)  
7 - 8 Brenda Parr

First in Hand 7 - 8

**Leicester Diocesan Guild**  
**Leicester, Leicestershire**  
24, Deanery Crescent  
Thursday, 2nd April 2015 in 43 minutes  
**Plain Bob Major**

1 - 2 Garry Mason  
3 - 4 Andrew Young  
5 - 6 Emma Southerington (C)  
7 - 8 Nicholas Parr

First on 8 and on an inside pair 7 - 8

Nicky Carling