



GUILD NEWS



March 2002

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From The Editor

From my observations, as a fairly frequent judge, the Winchester District Striking League in its first year has been very successful. The participating teams seem to have enjoyed their experiences greatly and ringers seem to have visited towers that they might not have done otherwise. The more mature

league in the Portsmouth District would appear to be having a few problems as indicated by Stuart Heath's article below. Would anyone like to reply in the September Newsletter?

My thanks to all the contributors. Please keep the copy coming.

Has the Striking League Lost Its Way?

The Portsmouth District Striking League is now 5 years old, but will it survive for another 5 years? It was originally established with mixed objectives, including:

- the improvement of striking within the District
- the involvement of more ringers, particularly less able ones
- encouraging ringers to visit other towers more often
- providing an opportunity for less able ringers and towers to experience a higher standard of ringing

Has it achieved these objectives? I don't believe that striking within the District has improved to any great extent and it is questionable what improvement is down to the Striking League. More ringers are participating in striking competitions than before the League was formed, but how many towers are giving their less able ringers a chance to participate? On a more positive front, it appears that more ringers are visiting other towers and some less able ringers have an opportunity to hear a little ringing of a higher standard every couple of months. However, the splitting of the League into upper and lower divisions has tended to reduce the opportunities for this.

So, if the Striking League has not achieved its original objectives, what has it achieved? In my opinion, very little. Over the years it has gradually become more and more competitive. With the benefit of hindsight, the introduction of upper and lower divisions in 2001 has almost certainly made matters worse, particularly in the upper division. Winning matches appears to have become the only thing that matters. Towers

have preferred to re-arrange matches to accommodate their best ringers, rather than taking the opportunity to develop their less able ringers.

Worse still, some bands have deliberately bent or even broken the competition rules in order to maximise their chances of victory. At the same time, other bands have stuck rigorously to the letter of the rules and have been forced to forfeit matches as a result. This situation must not be allowed to continue. All bands must adhere to the rules, whether they agree with them or not, and there must be no exceptions. Any band found to have broken the rules must be penalised to make it fair for everyone else. I would have hoped that we could rely on the District's towers to police themselves but, in the current competitive atmosphere, I feel that this is unrealistic. I would also have hoped that we could rely on the District committee to deal firmly with any transgressors, but recent events have shown that this is also unrealistic.

Is there an alternative to the trends of the last 5 years? To increasing competitiveness? To more towers leaving the League because they are unhappy with it? I'm sure there is, but to achieve it I believe that we need a thorough review of the League. Tinkering with the rules, as I understand the committee proposes to do at the ADM, will achieve nothing. We need to go back to our original objectives and then re-design the League and its rules in a way that stands a chance of surviving another 10 years.

Stuart Heath - 'Portsmouth Chimes'

Jemma's First Peal as Conductor

On Monday 21st January Jemma Rhodes became the first Selborne Ringer to ever call a Peal. Aged just 16, this achievement is just a further step in what continues to be a remarkable ringing career.

Jemma learnt to ring at Selborne (6, 9cwt) a little before her 9th birthday. After an eighteen month gap a year or so after learning, she progressed well with renewed enthusiasm. Her first Peal was at Selborne in April 1999, when she rang inside to Plain Bob Minor, aged only 13. She obviously enjoyed it, as to date Jemma has rung 30 Peals, ranging from Doubles to Surprise Royal. Despite being more than capable of calling on higher numbers, Jemma wanted to conduct her first Peal at her home tower, where she turned in the Tenor to Plain Bob Minor in 2hrs 34 min. Jemma has also rung 65 Quarter Peals, including some of Cinques and Maximus, five of which she has conducted. However, knowing her well, I was not surprised that she views ringing Winchester Cathedral's Tenor (35 cwt) and St Mary le Bow's Tenor (42 cwt) as the things she's most pleased to have done!

But above all her personal ringing achievements, Jemma has brought something else to the tower and the area in which she rings. In January, Jemma was elected as Assistant Ringing Master of the Alton & Petersfield District and also Vice-Captain at Selborne, in recognition for her enthusiasm to help others. She has barely missed an opportunity to attend District Practices to help and to learn. She is regularly involved with teaching bell handling, standing behind and likes to go as a helper on the Sparsholt Ringing Course. More recently she has given her time to work on the restoration of Privett Bells.

Jemma, I believe, is an inspiration to other young ringers across the country, because she has shown that young ringers are not just capable of personal achievements, but can make a very real difference to the standard of ringing in their local area. I'm sure there are many other young ringers out there who show the same commitment as Jemma, but Selborne tower, in particular, is very proud of her.

Rachael Seamons



SELBORNE, Hants, St Mary.
Monday 21st January 2002. 2h 34 (9)
5040 Plain Bob Minor
Comp. Roger Bailey
1 Chas W Seamons
2 Rachael A Seamons
3 Roger A Barber
4 Oliver R Hall
5 Jonathan C Hetherington
6 Jemma V Rhodes (C)
First Peal as Conductor

Update On Privett

Back in July several members of the A & P started work on Privett bells. All the ironwork had been lubricated some weeks before so as to make the removal easier. This has now been removed along with all the rest of the fittings except headstocks and gudgeons, as we had to wait until the lifting gear was available. On the weekend of 15 & 16 September, we were able to resume work. Wooden beams were placed across the bottom frame sections in each bell's pit and with the aid of a portable framework and chain block we were able to lift each bell out of its bearings and lower it on to the beams below. This took most of the time that weekend. The next task was to remove all the headstocks and lower them down to the ringing room.

With this completed all the fittings were then taken down the spiral staircase to the church floor. The wheels on 1 and 2 are in good condition as these were repaired in the early eighties.

As for the back six these need repair and will cost £180 each. Most of the soloing and shrouding needs replacing. All the fittings including wheels have been collected and the repair and modification work will start soon. All this work should cost around £4,500. However, I don't want to go into figures here too much. This is the cost of new parts, all the labour is free. As for the time scale, I would say that if the bells are ringing again for Easter or perhaps a couple of weeks earlier then we will have done quite well as all this work will have been carried out in our spare time. Whilst the bells are out of action a good clean out of the belfry ringing room is planned, perhaps a new coat of the appropriate paint on the walls etc. If anyone is able to lend a hand with this please give me a call.

Roger Barber. - 'Changes'

Bishopstoke Ringing Centre Opened

The new ringing centre at St Mary's Bishopstoke was inaugurated on Sunday 27 January when Guild and district officers were invited to hear about the new facilities, to view them and try them out.

Twenty five guests heard Mike Winterbourne, W&P Guild Education Officer, invite Gail Cater to give an account of the work of the Central Council's Ringing Centres Committee, of which she is Chairman. Gail said the Committee's aim was to improve the quality of ringing and the teaching of ringing through the promotion of Ringing Centres. Ringing Centres were well managed teaching towers, accessible to a large number of ringers, where there were good teaching facilities, good sound control and good teachers available. The Committee's aim was to have at least one Ringing Centre in every Guild and Association in the country. Gail was very pleased that Bishopstoke had become the first Ringing Centre in the W&P area and she hoped to see more of them in other parts of the Guild. Bishopstoke had successfully applied for a grant from the Worshipful Company of Founders which they had spent on teaching equipment. Gail said that other towers wishing to apply for a Founders Company grant to help set up a Ringing Centre should contact her as soon as possible since there are a limited number of grants remaining.

Mike then detailed the equipment and arrangements that make up the Bishopstoke Ringing Centre. The Centre has a bell ringing simulator set up for all ten bells, the necessary consents from the parish, support locally for running the centre, and teaching equipment in the form of an overhead projector and screen. He made use of these to set out the basis for making use of the Centre.

Though not a Guild operation, the Centre is valued and will be supported by the Guild. For example, Mike as Education Officer will advise on the possibilities for training and act as a clearing house for training materials that users are prepared to share with other bands. He stressed that there is no intention to be restrictive about the purposes that the facilities are used for; rather, he looked forward to hearing about new ways that users have succeeded in training projects and making them widely known.

Quoting from Mike's OHP slides of initial suggestions.

Individuals can receive one to one practice of bell handling or method with a teacher or at a more advanced stage, practice methods solo with the simulator.

Towers might arrange extended practical sessions, replacing cancelled practices or hold a group handling practice. The facilities are well adapted to give 1 or 2 learners a concentrated session with only a few helpers, all the while avoiding noise complaints

For the Districts and the Guild, the Centre can be used for special method practices and for intensive help for bands where they need help to progress. Groups of learners can be helped in their next steps in theory and practice following up on Guild Education Committee Events.

He hoped that the Centre will become a place to get together and practise with the present and future trainers, and stressed its value as somewhere to run special courses with only a few students.

There were questions about the practical details of bookings and arrangements for sessions. Mike explained that he will

act as first contact for requests, and will contact the necessary people at Bishopstoke.

Guests then eagerly took the opportunity to see and try out the simulator facilities. Bob Cater risked being the first to try ringing a single bell with only the simulator sounds to relate to - no ropesight, of course. The quality of his first efforts were shown afterwards on the computer screen. Some bell-handling trials followed, with the "learner" sandwiched between two ringers, the remainder of the circle being completed by the simulator. Then full bands rang touches - all without having to worry about the noise effects on neighbours, or even the proceedings in the church below.

We now have very useful local resource to help get our learners through the initial stages into more rewarding ringing activities. Also to develop more advanced skills when a complete band of suitably experienced ringers is difficult to assemble. We shall all benefit if it is well used.

Ringling Anniversaries in the New Century

The past year, 2001, has been marked by some notable ringling anniversaries. The 100th anniversary of the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major, achieved at St. Peter's, Brighton, on 22nd March 1901, was reported over several pages of "The Ringling World" No. 4698. The 250th anniversary of the first performance of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, scored at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on 7th July 1751 (Using the Julian Calendar), was marked by identical peals, but fewer than those of Bristol, in issue 4710. I suppose that the 250th anniversary of this peal, conducted by a participating ringer on 22nd August 1752, will not now be celebrated in 2002. More recently the 250th anniversary of the first peal of Plain Bob Caters, scored at St. Nicholas, Leeds, Kent on 2nd November 1751 (Using the Julian Calendar), was marked by only one identical peal, featured on page 1212 of issue 4728. I may have missed our Handbell ringers marking the 50th anniversary of Kent Treble Bob 14 and the 150th of Stedman Caters. Three peals marked the centenary of the first of Superlative Major in hand. On pages 733 and 734 and 1070 they also marked this as the first peal of Surprise in hand. The date, 26th June 1901, led the Records Committee to admit that the one in the Diary, 23rd September 1901, and the venue, were both incorrect, so Diary 2003 should contain the correction. While closely consulting my Christmas present I see that in year 2003 many of us can mark the 100th anniversary of Yorkshire Major on tower bells, in February, and the Handbell ringers, in December, the 150th anniversary of Stedman Triples. The following year sees the 100th anniversary of London Major and the 150th of Stedman Cinques on handbells, while we, in the Winchester and Portsmouth, can celebrate the 250th anniversary of the first peal at Basingstoke (BUT not, of course, on the infamous 9 !)

I would comment further upon the peal of Bob Caters, and not only because the band contained two ex-resident members of the W. & P.! The original performance was just as noteworthy as those of Bristol Major and Holt's Original. In October 1751, Leeds was augmented from 4 to 10. Hence the band had little opportunity to practice ten bell ringling

before 2nd November, since there would be little chance of travelling as far as Greenwich or to the 22 other rings of 10 in Britain. Few bands in Kent could even ring changes on eight bells, probably only those at Wye, Lenham, Harrietsham, and Deptford. One month after that peal the ringers formed themselves into "The Society of Leeds Youths", with one of the famous 18th century conductors, James Barham. The peak of their achievements was, of course, the unique ringing of the extent of major on church bells, 40 320 Bob Major in 27 hours, from 7th to 8th April 1761. Alas this achievement does not appear in the list of record lengths within the R.W. Diary. Only the magnificent achievement by Bob Smith's band of 40 320 Bob Major on the lighter bells of Loughborough Bell Foundry, from 6.52 a.m. on 27th to 12.05 a.m. on 28th July 1963. A photograph of the band appears on page 751 of R.W. 3256, after they rang a modest 10 080 of Bristol Major in 1973, and again on page 657 of R.W. 3772 after a sedate 5088 of Glasgow Major in 1983. Equally commendable was the completion of 40 320 Bob Major on handbells at Farnham on 27th December 1977. Reported on page 97 of R.W. 3484, the three Croft brothers and Eddie Fitcher sat on chairs for 15 hours 59 minutes, unable to consume nuts and raisins, scratch their armpits or blow noses, unlike the Loughborough band! Most ringers will know that a relay of 14 men participated in the 1761 peal, while James Barham alone conducted for 27 hours. I would, at this stage make a plea that the 1761 performance be included in lists of record lengths, even though it does not conform to the specifications now listed in the Diary. It does appear as Peal No. 20 in the Felstead data base. Secondly, now is the opportunity for all those who will react with horror to this suggestion to start planning for April 2011. No team of 8 ringers has yet scored the extent of Major on church bells of any weight (Leeds, Kent has a tenor of 171/2 cwt.). So will armchair critics just object to my suggestion, and take no further action? For those of lesser physique, can I point out that 13th January 2003 marks another anniversary? In 1753 The Leeds Youths scored the first ever half of "The Complete Peal", ringing the 20 160 changes in 13 hours and 34 minutes, but again used more than 8 ringers. Have we eight "men" to better this on the 250th anniversary? I should point out that this length has already been achieved with Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Major, Bristol Major, and Surprise Minor. 27/28th April 2003 will mark the 40th anniversary of "The Complete Peal" at Loughborough, and 27th December 2002 the 25th anniversary of the extent in hand.

It has to be remembered that, in the 18th century, Big Brother, in the form of Peal Compositions committee, Peals Analysis committee, Records committee and Methods committee had not been invented. Indeed the first meeting of The Central Council was not until 31st March 1891, almost 130 years after the extent was scored, when one of its three aims was "drawing up rules governing true peals". [I note, in R.W. 4704, that Master Cooper, of the newly formed "Ancient Society of Esquire Leeds Youths", embraces the Central Council and implores it to banish Bob Quators etc. on odd numbers, and rule in favour of the "peal" achieved by the 16 ringers at Birmingham.] Thus the few change ringers in the 1700's rang mainly for their enjoyment, and so John Holt sat at a table in the middle of the ringing room at St. Margaret's in 1751 and called his original peal from a manuscript. The first ever peal of Grandsire Triples, scored at St. Peter Mancroft on 26th August 1718 (Using the Julian Calendar) employed a fifths place Bob (called a Hic) and a Bob-Single (2nds, long 3rds, 4ths and 5ths). The half-peal of Grandsire printed in

"Campanalogia Improved" (1702, old style) was doubled many times to produce false 5040's Peals of Cambridge Major, 5088 in 1780 and 5152 in 1783, were enjoyed by John Reeves and Thomas Blakemore, who published "Clavis Campanalogia" in 1788. The Peals Analysis Committee classify both as false, along with others scored before 1873. Will Willans reminds us [R.W. 4704,] that three lead course Triples methods were popularised by Benjamin Annable, and were regularly pealed by him until the publication of the broadsheet in 1754 containing Holt's Original and Holt's Ten-Part compositions. It was Annable who, on joining The College Youths in 1721, introduced the idea of using 5000+ changes on eight or more bells as an achievement to be recorded. The notebooks of 18th century ringers, such as that of the Holy Rood, Southampton ringers, dated 1818, and recently discovered in the library of Yale University, contain pages of "The Complete Peal" in many Doubles methods. Methods such as Snodsbury, Buttercup, Dedworth etc. resurfaced when W. & P.'s own Geoffrey K. Dodd delved into musty pages. The first, recorded 42 "complete peals" is at St. Mary the Virgin, East Haddon (Northamptonshire) on 31st December 1756, where, according to Cyril Wratten, the 5040 was scored in 3 hours 10 minutes by 5 members of "a Society of Old Ringers, each Man upwards of 50 Years of Age". The first of Doubles with a cover bell was in 1845 at St. Mary the Blessed Virgin, Gloucestershire. Hence the 250th anniversary on the 31st December 2006 should be marked by Doubles ringers, or perhaps the 160th anniversary in 2005.

During the 18th century, the extent on seven bells (5040), or one eighth "The Complete Peal" of major, was used as competition pieces when bands, such as "The College Youths" or "The Leeds Youths", opened a new octave. The 5040 composition of Bob Major was frequently used on such occasions. Thus, at the opening of Rye bells on 7th August 1775, the tower where Ruth and I learned to handle, the College Youths attempted, and lost, 5040 Bob Major after an hour. The Leeds Youths, ringing second, as the junior team, started for their second ever 5088 of "The Kentish Men's variation of Treble Bob", but after three hours ringing broke down, with one course to go. The use of Kent places in 3-4 had been introduced by James Barham in 1773, and so impressed the London band that it became popular in the city, and appeared as "Kent Treble Bob" in the "Universal Instructor in the Art of Ringing" by William Shipway, published in 1813. The 5th June 2024 marks the 250th anniversary of the first peal of this method, called "New Oxford Treble Bob" by the Leeds Youths. According to Barham's peal book, on 15th May 1784 they scored the first of several peals of "New Oxford Treble Bob Royal". Alas, the R.W. Diary records this as 5th January 1778, but this is the date for one of their peals of "Oxford Treble Bob Royal"! The band is also believed to have scored the first ever peal of "Quadruple and tripple Changes called Morning Pleasure". This, 6720 changes of a variation of Oxford Treble Bob, was scored in 4 hours 21 minutes on 10th February 1757.

The many clashes between the Leeds Youths (originally the Lenham Society) and the Wye Company (founded in 1734) was commemorated during 1972 by the Kent County Association, in period costume. Each ringer could, in the 18th century, wager three weeks wages on the outcome, as described in detail by our expert researcher Cyril Wratten, in R.W. 3249. The first of these, in 1750, was believed to be the earliest of all 8-bell competitions. The new octave at St. Mary's, Faversham, had been opened by The Leeds Youths with one eighth "The Complete Peal" of Bob Major during May 1749,

and then a 5040 of Bob Triples in October. The Wye Company “...rung nothing to speak of at all...” Hence, in 1750 the latter failed to appear for the competition, while The Leeds Youths recorded a “peal” of 5334 in Bob Major, Bob Major Double, Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major Triples, Fulham Triples and Bob Triples, winning the prize of eight velvet caps. I doubt if the methods were spliced, and I am sure that the modern peal analysis committee would despair! In R.W. 3518, Cyril suggests that the Reading area appears to be the hot spot for such competitions, arranged by local inn keepers, and the possible originator of the current competitions in Cornwall. In 1745, Henry Grace of the Rose, in Basingstoke, offered hats as prizes. In 1755 the landlord of the Crown at Kingsclere sponsored a competition, to be followed in the same month by another sponsored by the landlord of the Falcon. Of the many teams only “The Reading Youths” practised change ringing, opening the octave at Basingstoke on 22nd July 1754 with a 5040 of Bob Major.

Feats of physical prowess and endurance were commonplace during the 18th century, recorded on the back pages of early newspapers such as “Bell’s Life” and “Era”. They were of widespread interest to gentry and plebs alike, with considerable sums of money wagered. Change ringers participated and, unfettered by guidance from Central Council committees, bands would enjoy ringing for the longest possible time. Over 340 long lengths were scored among the 1900+ peals that century. Hence I believe that James Barham’s band participated in lengths of 7200, 8100, 10080, 13440, 14500, 20160, 24000, and ten of 6000+. We do not know how many of these contained extra ringers, but it is likely that James Barham, as conductor, rarely handed over his rope. Ringing the “Complete Peal” was obviously an attractive challenge to a society of young, fit ringers, as I hope it will be in April 2011. It is probably not realised that the April 1761 achievement was not the first attempt. In 1755, on 31st March, the first attempt ended after 14 hours and 44 minutes when the clapper of the sixth broke. It is recorded that James Barham rang for all the 24 800 changes, with two glasses of wine as his only sustenance. The second attempt, on 23rd March 1761, ended after 17,000 changes, when one of the band “.. overturned his bell...” I wonder if he had to pay the fine specified on so many Ringers’ Rules of that period. The late Frank Lufkin would have experienced similar disappointment in 1963 when his band’s attempt at the extent collapsed after 16 hours and ten minutes.

Unfortunately, in issue 4728, the photograph of James Barham’s tombstone is rather dark so that the inscription is difficult to read. It does however indicate that he was one of our great leaders in the field of change ringing :-

“In Memory of

JAMES BARHAM of this Parifith who departed this life Jany. the 14th 1818, Aged 93 years.

Who from the Year 1744 to the Year 1804 Rung in Kent and elfwhere 112 Peals not lefs than 5040 Changes in each Peal and call’d Bobs &c for moft of the Peals. And April the 7th & 8th 1761 Affifted in Ringing 40320 Bob Major on Leeds Bells in 27 Hours.”

The remainder of the headstone commemorates his wife who died in 1799, and the tragedy of the earlier deaths of his son and three daughters. I have copied the inscription from the photograph in issue 3160, in which Teddy Barnett wrote about the restoration of the tombstone by the Kent County Association.

Derek Jackson

Insurance

There have been numerous requests for an explanation of the insurance that the guild has purchased.

We pay for three insurances:-

- 1) Hand Bells
- 2) All Risks
- 3) Public Liability

Numbers one and two are self explanatory and cover the Guilds hand bells, cups, trophies, library etc. for theft.

Public Liability Insurance

This covers Guild members only of all classes except compounding members. It is important to note that you must be a Guild member.

There are three areas that our insurance covers.

- 1) Ringing Bells for Divine Service etc.
 - a) Cover for Sunday Service Ringing - at home tower, at a tower within the Guild and at a tower outside of the Guild
 - b) Cover is also available for (within the Guild area) - Weddings, funerals, civic services, quarter peals and peals not for divine service, practice nights and outings within the Guild area.
- 2) Instructing
 - a) Learners
 - i) If the pupil damages the bell (including fitments) or causes third party injury the pupil is not covered unless they are a Guild member.
 - ii) If the instructor causes damage to the bell or pupil (unless they are negligent) and the instructor is a Guild member then they are covered.
 - b) Education days as for i) and ii) above.
- 3) Maintenance (and in respect of inspection)
 - a) General maintenance at your home tower is covered.
 - b) General maintenance at a tower within the Guild area - covered .
 - c) Provision of local labour during rehangng etc. - covered.

It is important that detailed written records are kept of any maintenance carried out at a tower

Open days in the Guild area are not covered unless a Guild member causes damage.

Procedures should be in force at the tower should an incident occur for adequate recording and notification. Not only could it affect the Guild insurance but the Church’s insurance as well. It is very important that should an incident occur which could give rise to a claim you should at the time make a full written report of what has happened. As well as the Church authorities you should notify the Guild Secretary and the Guild Treasurer who will notify the Insurers accordingly

The Guild expects that all members take adequate precautions to prevent accidents happening both to the bells and to third parties. The latter is especially important with ground floor rings of bells.

You must remember that the Guild does not provide Personal Accident Insurance. There may be PA cover under your Church’s insurance but experience shows this can be fairly low. It is recommended therefore that you have your own PA insurance. Experience also tells us that to benefit from any Churches insurance you must be a member of the band attached to that church. Whilst unattached members are covered by the Guild’s insurance they may not be covered by the Church’s insurance.

Mike Bubb - Guild Treasurer

Lockerley And East Tytherley.

What a year to remember for the Lockerley and East Tytherley ringers! Bell hangers have come and gone, estimates have been submitted, huffed puffed over and rejected and earnest fund-raising has gone on with cream teas in Jen and Rob Churchill's garden, where plant and flower sales were encouraged to boost the coffers. In all, the bell ringers managed to raise £2000 themselves and popped it in a Building Society account "just in case".

Finally the St. John's P.C.C. decided to go ahead with the restoration of the Dalgety bells. More bell hangers came and went, but finally Hayward Mills were approached for a definite date for commencement of work. Fund-raising started in earnest in October, when John & Delia Dutton of Awbridge, offered their Railway Garden Open afternoon as the lift off for the Bells Up Appeal. It was a tremendous success despite the rather inclement weather. Five hundred passengers entered the railway garden, big and small young and old, all delighting in the rides around the beautiful garden and enjoying sumptuous teas provided by the bell ringers and members of the P.C.C. An astounding £1023 was made in an afternoon! We were on our way.

There have been several events since then, bringing the village together, with the restoration of the bells in time for the Jubilee celebrations in the forefront of everyone's mind.

A leaflet was designed by Rosemary Oakeshott telling the history of the bells and the need for the expensive restoration that needed to be done, inviting anyone who wished to sponsor bells, buy various bell parts or make direct donations. To date we have raised a magnificent £16,000 with several events pending. We have been delighted to see bell ringers from other towers in the district enjoying themselves at the events and supporting the Lockerley bells. Thank you all.

An Open Day at the Tower will be held on February 2nd when there will be sessions of ringing that 'small' groups of public can watch in the ringing room, or for others to see on a live video in the church where refreshments and various displays and demonstrations will be available for everyone's enjoyment. People will be invited to chime a bell and perhaps have their photo' taken whilst doing so.

With a great deal of help and patience from our Hursley visitors to Lockerley we are now a Bob Doubles band for



Sunday Services.

We look forward, with great excitement to our newly restored Bells in June 2002!

Ringling Personalities Of Fifty Or More Years Ago - Who I Have Rung With

This Ringing Profile must start with George Williams Master of The Guild for many years, he chaired my first Annual Meeting at Newport Isle of Wight in 1946, the first time I met him when he was well in his eighties and the Guild's first thousand pealer.

As a keen cyclist I cycled over there, hoping to ring at a lot of the towers that were open but got only Ryde with three leads of Grandsire Triples the whole weekend, having not done my homework on the Portsmouth towers going to Portsea in the morning instead of the Cathedral and Winchester Cathedral at night instead of in the afternoon, but it did enable me to meet a lot of those early ringers, Bill Tucker, Walter Rose, Fred Rogers and Charles Kippin, both of whom I rang peals with when I progressed in the next ten years, also Fred Burnett and John Hunt who were in the three leads of Grandsire at Ryde before Alresford where I had my photograph taken in the Belfry there with George and Les Tremeeer, ringing with George there and later at New Alresford before cycling home.

I wish I could say that I rung in the London Major on the back eight at Winchester Cathedral with George on the fourth and Charlie Kippin on the tenor - I can't, I just watched, George shouted at someone who went wrong, Charlie laughed and the person in default got himself right after spoiling what would have been a perfect course.

I was proud to be at the rededication Service in the bombed Church of St Mary's Southampton when the new ten were rededicated. No roof on the Church, George as Master led the parade from St Mary's Hall supported by George Pullinger, Fred Rogers who was Guild Secretary and Frank Bennet of Brighton who I was to ring with later, I was able to ring Grandsire Caters then and probably the highlight was a touch of Stedman Caters, no Cambridge Royal although there was probably a band capable of it.

Yet in those days Cambridge Royal was something only rung by a few, the first peal on the new bells was Kent Royal in nearly four hours, another ringer of the old school present was John Hunt of Fareham ringing at Titchfield in those days, happily still with us but then an up and coming youngster, probably Tom Page his bosom pal was also there but I did not know him in those days.

The other George who I came in contact with a lot in later years, he was often at Highclere visiting his old chum Frank Knapp but it was at Bishopstoke his home tower where I first met him when two of us cycled from Highclere to a Saturday evening practice hoping to ring our first course of Superlative.

We were not disappointed, when we asked for it George raked together a band, we rung it without making a mistake, George was known to shout, we rung some Grandsire Triples as well before cycling home highly elated, some fifty five years later Roy laid on Superlative S Royal to enable me to complete the family as Conductor, I am sure that if George was looking down on us he would have got as much pleasure as he did all those many years before when we rung that first course of Superlative with George Pullinger taking part.

To name a few of the others who helped me with my early

ringing, household names at the time, their names live on in the peal boards all over Hampshire they are, Bill Melville, father of Jessie Kippin and grandfather to Chris, Dick Smith, both were at Wonston when I rung with them, Oscar G end Oscar J Smart father and son of Andover, Jack Chesterman of Sherborne St John, he invited me to call the first peal on his bells, Charles Munday known as Jack and his brother Fred from Basingstoke, I rung peals with both, John Faithful another one armed ringer, like George Pullinger and Harry Baalam of Basingstoke he lost it in the first world war.

Reg Rex who originated at Highclere before my time also ended up as a one armed

ringer, he probably did more for me than anyone knowing all the right people, but it was after seeing me ring my first course of London Royal after an Executive Meeting at St Michaels Southampton that Charles Kippin and Reg Reed followed me down the tower and invites me to ring in what was my first peal of Cambridge Royal at North Stoneham by members of the Executive Committee prior to the dedication of the George Williams bookcase at St Mary's Southampton which was then sited in St Mary's belfry housing the Guild Library.

There are many others too numerous to mention but I cannot omit Arthur Davis who also rung his first peal of Cambridge Royal with me at North Stoneham and also called numerous peals of Grandsire Cinques and Grandsire Caters at Christchurch Priory and Poole and did a great deal of spade work in that part of the Guild.

We salute these old ringers and remember them with affection.

Geoff Dodd

Beware Letting Visitors Into The Tower

At the beginning of July some visitors from the Oxford area came to ring a peal at St Peters and have a grab at Torteval, I was taking that day off in final preparation for the Island Games. The plan was to let them in at St Peters and go off for a long training session on the bike and back to the church to lock up after them. Fine, until I met the organiser, Bobbie May, who was looking rather poorly and didn't feel she'd be up to ringing in the peal of London Royal that was planned and for which Peter Routier had flown over. Anyway two hours and 50 minutes later and I'd rung my first Yorkshire Royal albeit from the treble, standing in for Bobbie who rested in the shade outside!

So - beware of letting visitors into the tower it can seriously muck up your day!

Helen Tucker - 'Les Cloches des Îles'

News from Winchester Cathedral

In the last three months, Cathedral ringers have commemorated two important anniversaries. In November, it was eighty years since the Memorial to the Guild's bell ringers lost in the two World Wars (featured in the last issue), had first been erected in the ringing chamber, in 1921. A short service was conducted by band member, Canon Keith Walker, on Remembrance Sunday, and a wreath of poppies laid.

On 6 February 2002, in a return to an old tradition, the city was awoken at 7.00am to the sound of all fourteen bells celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Queen's accession. Considerable interest was shown by the local media, and in addition to a live outside broadcast by Radio Solent from the Close, both BBC South Today and Meridian News featured the event in their news bulletins during the day. Having been previously, 'trailed' on WinFM and in the Hampshire Chronicle, it was nevertheless agreeably surprising that among the local people interviewed around the Cathedral that morning as the bells were ringing, there were those who had made a special effort to come and hear the celebratory ringing.

Looking through the archives there is evidence that the monarch's 'Accession day' was commemorated up to 1960 (and the Cathedral's stipendiary ringers remunerated for this). Subsequently it became the practice to ring at 7.00am for the Queen's official birthday in June each year.

According to Cressy in *Bonfires and Bells* (1989), there is ample evidence that ever since Elizabeth I's accession on 17 November 1558, church bells were rung across the nation on the annual anniversary of the current king or queen's accession. In fact so important was Queen Elizabeth I's accession, which firmly established the English Church under a Protestant monarch, that bell ringers celebrated this event right into the eighteenth century, alongside 'Oak Apple Day' (29 May), which was the anniversary of King Charles II's Restoration in 1660. There are records at Winchester Cathedral, and Winchester College, of the local ringers being remunerated for such commemorative events throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Only once before since the bells were hung in full-circle, has Winchester been able to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of a monarch's accession. The sound of bells stirred loyal Victorian hearts, and such an occasion allowed the city's many bell ringers to give vent to patriotic feelings, on 28 June 1887, when their Queen's Golden Jubilee was celebrated. Even the intense heat of midsummer which had resulted in 'just a trifle of her larger subjects' enthusiasm ...oozing out beneath the influence of the noon-tide sun', did not halt 'the joyous peals from the cathedral tower, which were answered by others from parish churches' in the city. (*Hampshire Chronicle* 2 July 1887).

In those days, it was customary to ring the Cathedral's eight bells at 6.00am, but the ringers were pre-empted by the blacksmith apprentices, who, according to the local newspaper, dragged their anvils up St Giles' Hill to wake the city as dawn broke at 5.00am. In those days the captain of the ringers, William Masters, was the publican of the Kings Arms in Chesil Street, and most of his band lived nearby. The apprentices 'plot' was no doubt hatched after they heard the ringers planning their early morning ring over

a pint or two of ale with their tower captain!

Turning to Queen' Elizabeth II's Proclamation, which was announced in the city on 8 February 1952 by the Lord Lieutenant, the Duke of Wellington, the belfry book records that Cathedral bells rang, and the 'Royal Salute' was sounded. This involved 'firing' the bells all together, for 21 blows three times, much to the annoyance apparently of Dean Selwyn (known as 'the gloomy dean' and not a great lover of bells), who told them to stop!

Only two days before, the funeral knell had been rung for King George VI on the Cathedral tenor by tower captain, William Lampard assisted by his brother Ernest. His entry states, 'News reached Winchester at 11.00am and the tenor was tolled at 11.30am, 56 times' (one blow for each year in the life of the late King). At 7.00pm the bells were rung half muffled, 'whole pull and stand 56 times - the age of the late King - and a short touch of Grandsire Cinques'.

Chiming with a more unfortunate resonance of history therefore, the unexpected death of Princess Margaret on Saturday 9 February, brought the Cathedral's current tower captain, Charles Lidbury, to the belfry, and the tenor clapper was lashed so it could be raised silently, and, assisted by tower secretary, Bob Cater, at 11.00am, with BBC local radio and TV news teams in attendance, the traditional knell was rung, 71 times. On the Sunday, like many other towers in the Guild, the Cathedral bells were rung half muffled in memory of the Queen's sister.

In looking at Winchester's rich history of the relationship between the bell ringers, the clergy, and the city, there are fascinating insights to be found within its archives, as well as elsewhere in and around the Cathedral, which could be the subject of further articles.

Colin Cook



*Winchester Cathedral ringing chamber - Wednesday 6 February 2002 Accession Day ringing for the Queen's Golden Jubilee
A touch on the 1937 twelve, featuring -
Treble - Christine Govier, 2 - Carrie Eisenhauer, 3 - Charles Lidbury, 4 - Gail Cater, 5 (hidden) - Philip Carter, 6 - John Collis, 7 - Andrew Townsend, 8 - Joe Kidd, 9 - Jack Walters, 10 - Graham Grant, not shown 11 - Alan Hutchinson, tenor - Bob Cater.*

Lymington Centenary

The centenary of the dedication of St. Thomas', Lymington newly augmented and rehung bells in 1901 was celebrated on November 7th last year. A Half Peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in the evening, followed by a toast and cutting of the Anniversary Cake. The Ringing World Editor kindly gave a full page to the report of this event in the December 14th issue.

A Peal of Grandsire Triples on December 27th was rung on the 100th anniversary of the first peal. Congratulations to Brigit and Christopher on ringing their first peal at their first attempt. Details of both peals are as follows:-



The 2001 Band

LYMINGTON, St. Thomas of Canterbury
1901 Friday 27th December (As recorded in the 1901 Guild Report)

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS
At the Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury (sic), Lymington, Hampshire

On Friday 27th December 1901

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

5040 Different Changes Taking 3 hours and 17 minutes

Weight of Tenor bell 20 cwt. 1 qt. 3 lbs.

Isaac George Colborn	Treble
Edwin Tom Green	2
Charles Robert Forfitt	3
James George Bennett	4
Eli Waters	5
John J. Bristow	6
Charles William Goodenough	7
Tom Belben	Tenor

Composed by J. Holt (Ten Part)

Conducted by Charles William Goodenough

First peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight, and rehung by Messrs. Taylor

2001. Thursday 27th December.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

At the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Lymington, Hampshire

On Thursdayday 27th December 2001

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

5040 Different Changes Taking 2 hours and 58 minutes

Weight of Tenor bell 20 cwt. 1 qt. 3 lbs. in E.

Christopher Blaney *	Treble
Brigit R. Lyne *	2
Julia D. Wood	3
Charles T. Richard	4
David A.H. Bennett	5
Dennis A. Chapman	6
Derek C. Jackson	7
Alan D. Elsmore	Tenor

Composed by E Taylor Conducted by Dennis A. Chapman

Rung on the 100th anniversary of the first peal on the bells.

* First peal.

100 Peals - 43 Years

On 24th July Bill rang his 100th peal; the 103rd actually, but three were false! From the first one in 1953 it has taken 48 years.

The 100th was Erin Caters at East Meon. This method is notoriously difficult to call and in the peal there were 195 bobs and singles. Roy le Marechal did not waver and called the lot perfectly. Of the 100 peals, 25 were on ten, 57 on eight and 18 on six.

I have not counted all the peals lost, but there have been many, including several of Stedman caters, even when being called by such eminent conductors as the great Charles Kippin and Roger Bailey. These people are human after all. Indeed, much to my regret, Molly and my silver wedding peal at Portsmouth Cathedral was lost when a bob was missed.

After one peal of Stedman Caters the conductor said, "Don't put it in your books yet, as I misplaced a bob half way through and had to recompose the last half of the peal as I went along. I'll have to check it out." Sod's law said that it had to be false. One other interesting false peal I rang was down in Dorset. It was various minor methods and came round smoothly in the right time without any fracas. When the bells were stood, a local who had been ringing started to berate the conductor for calling a false extent. He said "We're not having you bloody foreigners coming down here calling false peals." He was so worked up about it that the peal was never counted. To this day I don't know whether it was false or not.

Perhaps the most enjoyable peal was Grandsire Caters at Portsmouth Cathedral in 1977 for the Queen's visit to commemorate the golden jubilee of the Diocese of Portsmouth. I felt privileged to have been asked into the peal on such a prestigious occasion and it was what one might call a perfect peal with superb striking all the way through and very memorable.

So what of the next hundred? I think not, as if it were to take another 48 years, I would then be 116 years old!!

Bill Harris - 'Changes'

The Narnia Campanile

The idea to have a mini ring started back in 1999, shortly after Ben learnt to ring. He started the ball rolling by installing a ring of bells in the garage. The bells were traditional flower pots and the wheels were old hose reels that he managed to acquire from various sources. Gradually the number of bells that he had built up to the current six. For Christmas 1999 he had a modified Peter Minchin light pull rope which quickly got installed on the treble bell. Subsequent ropes for the remainder of the bells were made for him by his Grandma. Although difficult to ring, Ben soon mastered the technique and took great pride in 'advising' many an experienced ringer on their sloppy style as the bells were prone to slip wheel all too frequently.



Although fun to ring, the 'Midways

Campanile' (as they became known) were not particularly tuneful and during the winter it was cold ringing them from the garage. The bungalow in which we lived had a roof extension and Ben soon noticed that there was the possibility of having a small ring of bells installed there with the bells being rung from the downstairs front spare bedroom. Rather than have the prospect of Ben drilling holes in the bedroom ceiling the idea to have a proper mini ring was born and in December 2000 an order was placed with Matthew Higby to commission a ring of 10.

Matthew visited us in January 2001 and confirmed that the project was feasible. At that point in time the loft was black and dirty and covered in cobwebs. Access to the loft space is via a small door at the back of the wardrobe in Ben's bedroom. Whilst we were awaiting the delivery of the bells much debate took place amongst us as to what we would call the new mini ring. Ben was reluctant for them to be named 'The Midways Campanile' as the garage bells were still in place and this was the name that they had originally been given. It was decided therefore to call them 'The Narnia Campanile' on the basis that the bells were behind the wardrobe from C.S. Lewis's 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'

Matthew had indicated that he would be able to complete the project in about six months and as we reached June 2001 the excitement mounted. During the intervening six months many an hour had been spent cleaning the loft space and laying loft boards onto which the frames would be mounted. Eventually we got the call to say the bells were ready and on Monday 18th June 2001, Matthew arrived in his van with David Godwin, who was to ably assist with the installation.

The bells were removed from the back of Matthews van and initially laid out in the front bedroom before gradually over the next two days being moved upstairs and installed into

their frames. The 10 bells are installed in 3 separate frames, bells 3,4,5 and 8,9,10 are in the main frame whilst the two trebles and bells 6 and 7 are installed in their own small frames at either end of the main frame. The installation went remarkably smoothly and it was fortunate that the weather over the two days was not too hot. By the end of the first days several of the bells had been installed and the first rope was attached just before Ben arrived home from school.

Day 2 saw the remaining bells installed into their frames and by early afternoon everything was completed. It is fortunate that Steve and Moira Hough who are both experienced mini bell ringers live quite close and with the further assistance of Robert and Anita Sherriff and Charlotte Edmond the initial 'try out' was arranged. All agreed that Matthew had completed another excellent project.

The bells have been rung on several occasions since and much fun and enjoyment has been had by all those who have visited. A total of 6 quarters have now been rung on the bells and the first peal attempt will be made in early 2002. The bells are barely audible from outside of the house so there are no concerns over local complaints.



How Privett Nearly Lost Its Bells

Not another dressing down for not removing the Froxfield Green Treble from under the Vestry table! It had been there for 28 years before I had arrived in the Village! But, instead, our seriously senior churchwarden thumped a dusty file into my hand. "Found it in an old filing cabinet. Privett bells. Might interest you," he said, with admirable precision and conciseness.

1967 was a disastrous year for Privett. Its beautiful Church had been made redundant. But what would become of its beloved bells? Originally provided in 1877 at a cost of £680, the Reverend F E Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, had described them in his Book 'Amongst the Bells' as "The best bells of their weight I have ever heard."

In November 1967, the Privett PCC took the hard decision to sell them. The anguish of the Privett Band can only be imagined. The arrangements were placed in the hands of Mr T K Makins, a Portsmouth Chartered Architect. His plan was to sell the bells in America, as the cost of casting bells there was so expensive. But American experts advised him that the chances of selling a ring of eight bells in America would be extremely slim. Very few churches in America went in for that type of ringing. Mr Makins then wrote to the Loughborough Bell Foundry, John Taylor and Co, as they did a great deal of export business. They never replied!

By early 1968, there was no sign of progress. In some desperation, Mr Makins wrote to a Mr Sharpe, the Convenor of the Central Council of Church Ringers. He kindly put an advertisement for the Privett bells in 'The Ringing World'. Only one response was received from a Rev J.J. Parsley of Blackpool. Mr Makins sent him drawings and photographs of the Privett bells, and mentioned that the recommended selling price was in the order of £2,000. Nothing more was heard from him either!

In June 1968, Mr Makins commissioned a short report from Mears & Stainbank Ltd, undertaken by a Mr WA. Hughes. The report estimated that installing the Privett bells in another tower would cost £1750 for foundry work alone, and a further £350 on top of that. As a new peal of similar bells would only have cost £3024, the report concluded that it was unlikely that anyone would pay £2000 for the Privett bells.

Moreover, the report noted that the scrap value of the Privett bells had increased from £1,240 to £1458 within the previous 8 months. Therefore, it recommended that it was more sensible to leave the bells where they were, to appreciate as a growth asset, rather than favouring another Tower with them at a cost of around £1500 at the very best. It looked as if Privett might keep its bells after all!

No sooner had this report been completed in November 1968, than Mr Makins received a letter from a Mr Gillies of Habrough, near Grimsby, Lincolnshire. Mr Gillies said that the Habrough Band was very interested in the Privett bells. Habrough was planning the installation of a detached Campanile, which, if constructed, would be unique throughout the world, as the bells would be hung radially on a steel tower or frame. But, because the proposed tower would be all steel, Habrough would not want any wooden components, such as the Privett frame, headstocks, wheels or fittings. When he was sent the drawings and photographs of the Privett bells, he commented that the bells were in a detrimental state, although the ropes appeared quite sound!

Nevertheless, he asked for a quote, covering just the bells and the ropes. But, in recompense for leaving Privett bell-less, he offered to dismantle the Privett wooden frame himself. This was provided that arrangements were made for its local disposal, and the final price was reduced accordingly!

Over the next six months, the correspondence raged to and fro between Habrough and Privett, as the sale of the bells was slowly finalized. Morale amongst the Privett ringers must have reached an all-time low! But, just as the contract was about to be signed, there was another dramatic change! On 28 July 1968, Mr Makins received a letter from Mr Gillies, saying that the Lincoln Diocesan Advisory Committee had informed the Habrough PCC that 59 churches were to be made immediately redundant within the Lincoln Diocese. This would make 205 bells instantly available, and Habrough would be obliged to use these.. Therefore, the purchase of the Privett bells was off!

No further attempts were made to sell the Privett bells. So they stayed in the Privett tower and were rung happily ever after.

Martin Lance - Froxfield - 'Changes'

Guild Diary 2002

Date	Event	Venue
January 5 Sat	A&P Special Practice	
January 5 Sat	POR 10 Bell Practice	Portsmouth Cathedral
January 12 Sat	A&P Annual District Meeting	Petersfield
January 12 Sat	AND Annual District Meeting	Highclere
January 12 Sat	POR Surprise Major Practice	Curdrige (TBC)
January 18 Fri	POR District Practice	Swanmore
January 26 Sat	A&P Surprise Practice	Alton 7.00-8.30
January 26 Sat	BAS Annual District Meeting	Basingstoke, S. Michael
January 26 Sat	C&S Annual District Meeting	
February 2 Sat	A&P Special Practice	Special Practice
February 2 Sat	POR Annual District Meeting	Portsmouth Cathedral
February 9 Sat	WIN Annual District Meeting	New Alresford
February 16 Sat	IOW Annual District Meeting	Ryde
February 21 Thu	WIN District Practice	Easton
February 23 Sat	A&P Surprise Practice	Petersfield 7.00-8.30
February 23 Sat	C&S District Dinner	
March 2 Sat	A&P Surprise Minor Practice	
March 2 Sat	C&S Tower Captains Meeting	
March 2 Sat	C&S Quarterly Meeting	Ringwood
March 2 Sat	Guild Executive Committee Meeting	St Barnabas Church Hall 10.15
March 7 Thu	AND 10 Bell Practice	Whitchurch 7.30 - 9.00
March 9 Sat	A&P General 10-Bell Practice	East Meon 7.00-8.30
March 9 Sat	Guild Education Day	IoW District

March 12	Tue	WIN	District Practice	North Stoneham
March 13	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
March 16	Sat	BAS	Practice meeting	Laverstoke
March 23	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	Liss 7.00-8.30
March 23	Sat	POR	Surprise Major	Alverstoke
March 27	Wed	POR	Beer & Skittles	7.30pm Mill House, Netley
April 1	Mon	A&P	Easter Chime	Selborne 2.30-4.30
April 1	Mon	POR	District Outing	Abingdon Area
April 6	Sat	Guild	Dinner	Cathedral Refectory
April 11	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Tangley 7.30 - 9.00
April 13	Sat	A&P	Quarterly Meeting	Steep/Froxfield
April 13	Sat	BAS	Quarterly meeting	Silchester + Bramley
April 13	Sat	C&S	District Striking Competition, Hartless Shield	
April 13	Sat	POR	Quarterly Meeting	Botley
April 16	Tue	WIN	District Practice	Sherfield English
April 17	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
April 20	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
April 20	Sat	AND	Education Afternoon + Meeting	
April 25	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
April 27	Sat	Guild	Education Day	Basingstoke District
May 2	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Abbotts Ann 7.30 - 9.00
May 6	Mon	A&P	Alton Outing	
May 6	Mon	IOW	Tower Open day	
May 11	Sat	A&P	Special Practice	
May 11	Sat	WIN	Quarterly Meeting and Striking Competitions	Micheldever and Wonston
May 15	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
May 18	Sat	BAS	Practice meeting	Sherfield-on-Loddon (TBC)
May 18	Sat	Guild	6 & 8 Bell Tower Competitions	
May 23	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
May 25	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
May 25	Sat	IOW	Quarterly Meeting	Brading
May 27	Mon	POR	District Practice	Curdridge
June 1	Sat	A&P	Special Practice	
June 1	Sat	C&S	Quarterly Meeting and Social Event	
June 1	Sat	WIN	Peal Fortnight	
June 6	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Kingsclere 7.30 - 9.00
June 8	Sat	POR	District 10 Bell	Bishopstoke
June 12	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
June 15	Sat	A&P	General 10-Bell Practice	East Meon 7.00-8.30
June 15	Sat	AND	Striking Contest	Amport 7.30 - 9.00
June 15	Sat	BAS	Practice meeting	Venue TBA
June 15	Sat	IOW	District Striking Competition	Arreton
June 15	Sat	POR	Surprise Major Practice	Bishops Waltham
June 17	Mon	WIN	District Practice	Kings Somborne
June 26	Wed	POR	District Practice	Titchfield
June 27	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
June 29	Sat	A&P	Quarterly Meeting	Liss/West Liss
July 4	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Hurstbourne Priors 7.30 - 9.00
July 6	Sat	Guild	Annual General Meeting	Basingstoke District
July 6	Sat	Guild	8-bell Inter-District Competition	
July 10	Wed	POR	District Practice	Wickham
July 13	Sat	A&P	District Barbecue	East Meon
July 13	Sat	POR	Quarterly Meeting, District 6 bell Striking Comp & BBQ	Catherington
July 17	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	A&P Hosting
July 20	Sat	A&P	District Outing	
July 20	Sat	BAS	Quarterly meeting	Upton Grey
July 25	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
July 27	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
August 3	Sat	A&P	Special Practice	
August 7	Wed	AND	Monthly Practice	Winchester Cathedral 7.30
August 10	Sat	WIN	Quarterly Meeting and Picnic	East Tytherley
August 14	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	

August 14	Wed	POR	District Practice	Winchester
August 17	Sat	IOW	Quarterly Meeting	Niton
August 21	Wed	A&P	District Practice	Winchester Cathedral 7.30
August 22	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
August 28	Wed	WIN	District Practice	Winchester Cathedral
August 31	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
September 5	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Goodworth Clatford 7.30
September 7	Sat	C&S	Tower Captains Meeting	
September 7	Sat	C&S	Quarterly Business Meeting	
September 7	Sat	Guild	10-bell Inter-District Competition	
September 12	Thu	POR	District Practice	Netley
September 14	Sat	A&P	Special Practice	
September 14	Sat	POR	Junior Janglers Mk 3	tba
September 18	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
September 21	Sat	A&P	General 10-Bell Practice	East Meon 7.00-8.30
September 21	Sat	BAS	Outing	
September 21	Sat	CI	Annual District Meeting	
September 21	Sat	IOW	District Outing	Oxfordshire
September 26	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
September 26	Thu	WIN	District Practice	Ropley
September 28	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
September 28	Sat	C&S	District Outing	
September 28	Sat	POR	District Dinner	tba
October 1	Tue	AND	Monthly Practice	Andover 7.30
October 5	Sat	POR	Surprise Major Practice	Soberton TBC
October 10	Thu	POR	District Practice	Botley
October 12	Sat	A&P	Quarterly Meeting & Striking Competition	Binsted/Bentley
October 12	Sat	AND	District Outing	Redditch Area
October 12	Sat	C&S	Striking Competition, Hinton Trophy	
October 12	Sat	POR	Quarterly Meeting	Shedfield
October 16	Wed	Guild	Mid-Monthly Meeting	
October 19	Sat	A&P	Skittles Evening	
October 19	Sat	BAS	Striking Competitions & Quarterly Meeting	Wolverton
October 19	Sat	BAS	Social event (Skittles)	Wolverton, The George & Dragon
October 19	Sat	C&S	District 10 Bell Practice	St. Mary's, Southampton
October 19	Sat	Guild	Education Day	Andover District
October 24	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
October 24	Thu	WIN	District Practice	Bishopstoke
October 28	Mon	A&P	Surprise Practice	
November 2	Sat	A&P	Party Chime	Bentworth
November 7	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice + Meeting	Whitchurch 7.30 - 9.00
November 9	Sat	A&P	Quarter Peal Week	
November 9	Sat	POR	Surprise Major Practice	Upham TBC
November 9	Sat	WIN	Quarterly Meeting and Education Day	
November 16	Sat	C&S	District Officers Meeting	
November 16	Sat	C&S	District Training Day	
November 16	Sat	C&S	Beer and Skittles Evening	
November 16	Sat	Guild	Executive Committee Meeting	St Barnabas Church Hall 10.15
November 16	Sat	IOW	Quarterly Meeting	Brighstone
November 20	Wed	POR	District Practice	Purbrook
November 23	Sat	A&P	Surprise Practice	
November 28	Thu	A&P	Daytime Ringing	
November 30	Sat	Guild	Education Day	Portsmouth District
December 1	Sun	POR	Calendar Meeting	Wickham 8pm
December 5	Thu	AND	Monthly Practice	Burghclere 7.30
December 7	Sat	A&P	General 10-Bell Practice	East Meon 7.00-8.30
December 7	Sat	C&S	District Carol Service	Eling
December 7	Sat	POR	10-Bell Practice	Portsmouth Cath
December 7	Sat	WIN	District Carol Service	Easton
December 9	Mon	WIN	District Practice	Sparsholt
December 13	Fri	POR	District Practice	Swanmore
December 14	Sat	A&P	Special Practice	
December 27	Fri	A&P	Daytime Ringing	

Guild Officers

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Monthly Practice Meetings

Alton and Petersfield

There are special practices on the first Saturday of each month, please contact the District Secretary for location. Please also check with either Roger Barber (01730) 827474 or Terry Collins (01420) 472598 to confirm the A&P practices listed.

Basingstoke

There will normally be a district practice in the months when there is no other district event - contact one of the ringing masters, Barbara Foster (01256 819570) or Ben Constant (0118 9816016).

Christchurch and Southampton

1st Wednesday, Surprise Major at Ringwood
2nd Wednesday, Call Changes to Doubles at Lymington
2nd Friday, Surprise Royal at St. Michael's
3rd Tuesday, Triples and Major at Eling
3rd Wednesday, advanced Minor at Sopley

Isle of Wight

3rd Thursday, 10 bell practice at Newport.

Hampshire Bells CD

Recorded over a period of 6 years, the CD includes some of the best bells in the county. There are also recordings of 4 sets of bells that will never be heard live again due to subsequent removal or re-tuning. The CD contains over 70 minutes of recordings of change-ringing from 15 locations within the County:-

Alton - Andover - Basingstoke All Saints - Bentley
Bishopstoke - Brown Candover - Curdrige - East Meon
Hillbrow Campanile - Hurstbourne Priors - Lymington
Nether Wallop - Southampton St. Michael
Upton Grey - Winchester Cathedral

Copies are available direct from me and from kind people who have volunteered to distribute them at District Meetings etc.

The cover price for each CD is just £10. What excellent value! Add on £2 if I have to post it.

Cheques should be made payable to:- ROY LE MARECHAL (HAMPSHIRE BELLS CD)

All profits from the sale of the CDs will go towards the W&P bell restoration fund.

Roy Le Marechal, 9 Buckland Close, Eastleigh, Hants., SO50 4RD Tel: 023 8061 5559

Guild News is published approximately twice a year. Its aim is to improve communication between ringers in all parts of our widespread Guild and to communicate the fun of ringing generally. It is distributed free via District Secretaries to all towers in the Guild. Additional copies are available from the editor for £1.

Editor:

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Please send material for publication to the editor. Most articles will cover recent ringing and social activities in the Guild which might be of general appeal to all ringers, accompanying photographs are most welcome and will be returned.

The editor may cut some contributions and add explanations to others.

Material for publication in the next issue of Guild News should reach the editor by 1st September 2002

Guild Web Site www.wp-ringers.org.uk