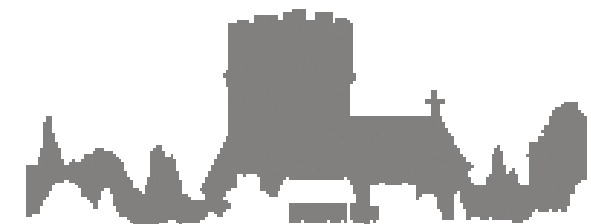


Ringling Round Devon



THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS Newsletter 126 June 2022

Breakages – and repairs



St Andrew's, Plymouth

There seems to have been a glut of equipment failures recently. At the Minster church in Plymouth, a slider broke while the ninth was being set at backstroke, causing it to go over the balance. This caused an injury to the youngster ringing it. He was rescued by emergency services using specialist equipment to lower him to the ground and then taken to hospital to treat a broken arm; the incident made the newspapers! On investigation it turned out that the slider was the only one in the tower that had not been painted and it was infested with woodworm. A check by the independent Diocesan advisors showed no other problems.

A visit by the bell advisors to Broadhembury identified a similar problem with woodworm on the slider to the third. Before anything

could be done about it this had also broken but resulted only in a couple of sore hands. It is unusual for sliders to break, and especially two within a short period of each other.

No sooner than the slider at Broadhembury had been replaced when the clapper on the treble failed. This was rather more expensive to fix!



The broken clapper at
Broadhembury

Other places have had problem with bearings. At Crediton two of the bells were found to be shifting sideways in their bearings, causing one end of the headstock to rub against the bearing housing. These were sorted out and tightened up by local experts. However the clapper on the tenth has not fared so well.

Following yet another failure of the supporting crown staple attempts are being made to replace the staples on the back bells with a different design. It is unlikely that this will be sorted out before the Guild AGM.

The tenth at Exeter Cathedral had been going badly for several months. On investigation the headstock and bell had also shifted and the headstock was rubbing against the bearing housing as at Crediton. It was suggested that it would be like 'ringing with the handbrake on'. The bell-hangers responded quickly and were able to lift each side of the bell

in turn from the H-frame to reposition the headstock. On examination the bearings were fairly badly worn, so the opportunity was taken to replace them both at the same time. Although the gudgeons that the bearings fit on are made to Imperial measurements (inches), a sleeve which converts this to the metric measurements used by the bearings and housings was reused.



The bearing before being removed



The removed bearing – cleaned up a bit!



10th bearing opened up showing double row of balls.
You can just see the wear at the back of the casing

The very next day, the bellhangers attended to the ninth bearing at St Mark's, Exeter. This bell had also been going badly for some time, and occasionally dropping for no apparent reason. In this case there was no suitable beam to lift from, and one bearing was very close to the wall; the bell was gently lowered from the headstock onto some bearers so that the headstock could then be turned 90 degrees to examine and remove the bearings. Both were found to be completely worn out – one was jamming where the 'cage' that holds the balls in place was broken and some balls were loose within it, and the other had completely disintegrated so that there was very little sign of the cage and some of the balls! Both were replaced as soon as suitable Imperial bearings could be sourced.



St Mark's 9th with headstock turned 90 degrees and bearings removed



All that was left of the St Mark's bearings

Finally, five leads into a quarter peal at Exeter Cathedral on Ascension Day, the tenth clapper sheared off just above the ball, where it is drilled to attach to the wooden shaft, in the same way that the eleventh clapper had failed a few months ago. However the old clapper had been kept and was replaced in the bell, so that ringing could continue as planned, especially for the Jubilee.

Ian Campbell

Guild AGM

The Guild AGM, hosted this year by the Exeter Branch, will take place at church of the Holy Cross, Crediton on 18 June between 13:00 and 17:00 to including ringing, service, tea and meeting. There will be ringing at a couple of nearby towers in the morning and the day will also include a fun quiz/scavenger hunt around the church.

Exeter Cathedral also has its open practice in the evening (18:00 to 20:00) and any ringers wanting to go on to that should email Matt Hilling (matt.hilling@gmail.com) as there is unlikely to be room for those who have not confirmed in advance.

The AGM is a great opportunity to meet up with other ringers from around the county. It is vital for the functioning of the Guild that sufficient members attend for the meeting to be quorate and is also an opportunity for the members to have their say in Guild matters.

John Martin, Guild Secretary

Devon Ringers' Council – Call Change competition

I am pleased to inform you that the Devon Ringers Council event held recently was a great success. Here is a brief précis of the results.

10 bell competition - not held, but a very successful open ringing event held at Axminster during the morning, giving several ringers their first ring there, with call changes rung on 6, 8 and 10 bells. Most importantly this gave a huge boost to the recently formed (and relatively inexperienced) local band, who currently have insufficient ringers to ring all 10 bells regularly without help.

8 bell completion at Honiton - won by The Wednesday Ringers

6 bell completion at Clyst St George - won by Kingsteignton 'A'

A total of £200 was raised for the DCBRF, a fantastic effort!

Nigel Birt



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Devon Young Ringers

Devon Young Ringers has continued to grow in strength. Our February practice was fantastic, with reinforcements called in from the Modern Society of Plymouth Youths and the opportunity for our young ringers to have a go at ringing handbells with Ian. The practice was lively and exciting, with many firsts being achieved - from firsts in calling call changes and firsts in ringing method inside. Excitingly, we have a call change band in this year's RWNVY contest! We are looking forward to a great day out on 2 July. Thank you to all the Guild members who have contributed to the growth of the project.

I'd like to remind everyone that these practices take place on the second Sunday of each month from 2 to 4pm at Pinhoe and ALL young ringers under 18 are invited to join us. We welcome young ringers who are just starting bell handling right up to those who are ringing complex methods independently. We welcome both Guild members and Association members. The practices are a chance for young ringers to meet one another and push their skills in a fun and relaxing environment and we have had some fantastic successes already.

Please pass the message on to young ringers in your branch, we would love to see them. Here are some photos from our February practice at Pinhoe, taken by James Wray.



A busy Young Ringers practice at Pinhoe



Great opportunity for our young ringers to try handbells with Ian



Thomas and Fergus

Elena Brake

Safeguarding

I took over as Guild Safeguarding Officer at last year's AGM. Since then, my main task has been to update the Guild safeguarding policy. I have also set up a dialogue with Charlie Pitman who is the Diocesan Safeguarding Lead. I have recently had a couple of questions from Guild members which I outline below. Please contact me if you have any queries I can help with: safeguardingofficer@devonringers.org

Recent Safeguarding queries:

- Q:** Has there been any agreement or decision between the Diocese and the Guild regarding whether bell captains are required to do the Leadership Course?
- A:** We would not expect tower captains to complete the Leadership module although, if they felt they were a significant contributor to steering the life of their church/PCC, they would be more than welcome. This perhaps could be a conversation with the local Incumbent.
- Q:** I have an Enhanced DBS Certificate for my role as vice tower captain, and am someone who may be teaching young/vulnerable people to ring. When it was issued, I applied for a subscription to the annual update service, thinking this would make life easier in future. Each year I receive an email telling me the certificate will be updated unless I cancel the subscription. I have now had an email from the local parish safeguarding representative stating that the C of E will not allow automatic updates to be used, and that I must complete a new application every three years. This appears to be in contradiction to the statements in the C of E Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment (2016). Is there more up-to-date guidance?
- A:** There is a new Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance document 2021 which replaces the 2016 version. It doesn't specifically state that the 'update' service cannot be used but, as it stands, the Exeter Diocese does not recognise the 'update' service, for a variety of reasons. Therefore, if a DBS is required for the purposes of Diocesan work, they would ask that you take the three year renewal approach for consistency.

Rowena (Wenna) Mansley, Safeguarding Officer

Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund

A fairly quiet start to the year allowed our new Chairman and Secretary to get to grips with their roles. In my case this was with the support of all my fellow trustees, in particular the outgoing secretary, Ian Smith. Many thanks to you all.

As usual we held our first meeting of the year on the Monday of Holy Week. We had only one new request for a grant to discuss, this time from Huntshaw. A grant of £3,700 was agreed towards rehangng the three bells, one for swing chiming and all three to have electromagnetic hammers. Also, for the creation of trapdoors to allow access to the bells. Despite this I still came away from the meeting with twelve sizeable actions, making me realise just how much of my time was going to be needed if I was to make a success of my new role.

I am also delighted to confirm that two grants are likely to be paid out in the next few weeks for the rehangng and tuning of the bells at Cadbury and Milton Abbot, as both projects are now complete. This will see the fund paying out £15,000 of its committed funds in one month, almost as much as we paid out in the previous two years combined. I hope this shows that the effects of the Covid pandemic on bell restoration, and ringing, has finally come to an end.

I have also heard from Butterleigh who have confirmed the work required on the tower is now complete. They are now just waiting for a window in Taylor's schedule, where the bells have been stored whilst the work was underway, to return and rehang their three bells. Currently the earliest this will happen is mid-September but they are hopeful of an earlier completion.

It's been an interesting few weeks as secretary, with the need to revisit the amount of a grant offered due to a major change in the amount of work now planned at one tower. Another requesting a grant to work on the church tower itself rather than the bells was refused as it falls outside of our rules. Also, a new application being sent which will hopefully be back with me in time for our next meeting in November.

As you can see there is plenty happening in the world of bell maintenance and restoration so the need to keep raising funds remains. As ever, thank you to everyone who gives both time and money to help the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund continue its work.

Janet Deem

Obituaries

Fr Christopher Delaney, Buckfast Abbey, 1932-2022



Fr Christopher passed away in the early hours of Sunday 8 May 2022, aged 89. He was born on 26 September 1932 in Bristol and had three sisters. He became a monk of Buckfast in 1950, when aged just 18, and was ordained priest six years later. He spent his time in parish work, firstly in Liverpool, then in Cardiff for 43 years.

A keen cyclist, he took several parties on cycling holidays to Lourdes and Switzerland, and cycled from Lands End to John O' Groats three times!

In the local Welsh press, Monsignor Joseph Boardman, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Cardiff described Fr Christopher as 'quite a character and a wonderful priest, who was much loved across the community'.

Fr Christopher was not a member of the Guild, but was a great supporter of ringing at Buckfast Abbey and although he was unable to climb the tower any longer he always showed an interest in the ringing and visiting bands. He thoroughly enjoyed the bellringing festival organised by Geoff Pring held there a couple of years ago, and featured by being interviewed by the BBC for their *Spotlight* programme. He also took part in the Devon Ringers' carol service the last time it was held at Buckfast Abbey. Another television appearance saw him interviewed by Fiona Bruce on *The Antiques Roadshow*.

Fr Christopher's body was received into the Abbey prior to Vespers on Thursday 19 May and his Requiem Mass was held on Friday 20 May. Large numbers of people attended, including many from his former parishes in Liverpool and Cardiff.

May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers
Huntsham, Devon, All Saints
Thursday, 12 May 2022 in 2h 46
5024 New Cambridge Surprise Major
Composed by Robert D S Brown

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Michael Hatchett | 5 Lesley A Knipe |
| 2 David Hird | 6 Revd Christopher Renyard |
| 3 Raymond Haines | 7 James Kirkcaldy |
| 4 Richard H Johnston | 8 Robert D S Brown (C) |

Rung in thanksgiving for the life and Ministry of Fr Christopher Delaney OSB, Monk of Buckfast Abbey, bellringer and formerly parish priest at St Mary of the Angels, Canton, Cardiff. Loved by all, may he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Nigel Birt, Mid-Devon Branch Secretary and Geoff Pring, Warden, Buckfast Abbey

Alan Furse, Teignmouth



Alan Furse of Teignmouth sadly passed away on Tuesday 17 May following a long illness, which he faced with much fortitude. He was 83 years old.

Alan and his wife Gill had many ringing friends and those who knew Alan will understand how much he was sustained and felt blessed by the love of his family and friends, his faith and his ringing. Alan faced illness in recent months unafraid and surrounded by his loving family and church community.

Alan and Gill both learnt to ring in Teignmouth for the Millennium, taught by Martin Dodd, and soon became members of the Guild. It became a passion he was to enjoy for the rest of his life. Alan was a founder member of the Teignmouth Bells Project (TBP). He, together with Gill raised a great deal of awareness, not to mention funds for ringing in Teignmouth and the Mid-Devon Branch. Alan was the current TBP Secretary and was working with other committee members until a recent operation in March. We all hoped for a return to health, which, sadly, was not to be.

Following an emergency hip operation during the Covid pandemic, Alan had stuck to ringing hand bells. He did not just ring hand bells, he led his own hand bell team. His and the band's performances were always the highlight of the Teignmouth Christmas Fayre. Light, bright, musical and fun. Always filled with the joy of Christmas.

His enthusiasm for all things ringing was passionate and supportive. Few can forget his ringing outings, which were always interesting mini adventures. Just what outings should be! He served on the Mid-Devon Branch committee and brought his very considerable intelligence and thoughtfulness to branch matters.

First and foremost Alan was a committed Sunday Service ringer. As far as we're aware he never rang a peal but a quick look on BellBoard reveals he rang the occasional quarter peal, the last of which was in 2014, alongside his friend and mentor Martin Dodd who was celebrating fifty years of ringing.

The Teignmouth band, like his many church bell ringing friends, will miss his gentle encouragement and calm positivity. He mentored many, and the Teignmouth band have benefitted greatly from his long years of support. It was always a pleasure ringing with Alan and we will all miss him very much.

It is understood there will be a private family cremation, followed by a thanksgiving service at a later date.

Nigel Birt, Mid-Devon Branch Secretary and Julia Brett, Secretary, Teignmouth ringers



East Devon Branch

A new team at Broadhembury

Many of you will know St Andrew's at Broadhembury and will have rung here with Pauline McKenzie – who featured in last month's issue of *Ringing Round Devon*. However, the bells have remained mostly silent for a few years. Through lockdown, a small team decided to bring them back into life – even though most of us had never rung a bell before. Now, six months after starting out we are prepared to call ourselves a team – albeit a novice one. The tower is affiliated to the Guild and three of us are members.

The Guild have been extremely helpful. Derek Ballard and Brenda Eastell have shown endless patience with training, while Ian Campbell and Ian Smith have inspected the tower and provided much sought after technical knowledge. Help, support, and encouragement from the teams of neighbouring towers has also been greatly appreciated.

The last few months have been busy: We've not only learnt a basic standard of ringing, but have also battled against the inevitable clearing of jackdaw debris, with about five cubic metres being shifted down the seventy steps of the spiral stair well. We've suffered a broken slider due to woodworm damage (causing a few minor rope burns), and a broken clapper on the treble (no injuries, but expensive). All is clean and up and working now, but there are still plenty of nuts to unseize and tighten, ropes to splice, and pulley blocks to free up.



The five cubic metres of jackdaw debris removed from the bell chamber – all bagged up and ready for the compost heap

On 7 May Broadhembury church held an open day. We, with the help of guest ringers, opened and closed the event. There were tower tours to let the villagers enjoy the view from the top in extremely good weather



and to, in some small way, show thanks to them for putting up with the untuneful racket that we'd been making through the winter months.

Probably, though, the biggest honour has been to host the quarterly meeting of the East Devon Branch of the Guild on 14 May. It was another day of good weather which allowed the twenty-two visitors to enjoy tea, cake, and savouries (all homemade) sat in the churchyard while taking a break from ringing. It was, all in all, a great day for bell ringing in Broadhembury.

The Guild demonstration bell was a great attraction at the open day. Possibly harder to ring than a full sized bell?

Next up – ring for the Platinum Jubilee. The team (* = has never rung before):

Edwina Bradshaw *
John Cole *
Jane Penn
Adam Powell *
Rob Phillips *
Paul Rawlings
Jo Symonds *

Rob Phillips

East Devon Branch Meeting at Broadhembury



Some of the 22 visitors enjoying a well-earned break from ringing at the East Devon quarterly Guild meeting.

It was wonderful for Broadhembury to host the meeting of the East Devon Branch on Saturday 14 May.

As a new band of ringers we have received a lot of help from the Guild since joining in February; encouragement for the ringers and an inspection and advice on the bells and tower. So it was good to be able to welcome members of the Guild to our tower.

We started with a couple of hours of ringing, with Edwina, Jo and myself joining in for a few rounds before listening to the more experienced members ringing methods. It was lovely to hear the bells being rung well, but also good to hear that we are not the only ones who find them a little challenging!

The weather was beautiful, so the tables and chairs were moved outside for the refreshments. Reverend Jane Penn said two prayers before the tea, savouries and cake in the afternoon sunshine. All homemade and much enjoyed by everyone. This was followed by a short meeting before another session of ringing to close the afternoon.

All in all, it was a great day for bell ringing in Broadhembury

Paul Rawlings

East Devon Ladies Outing 1st March 2022

A warm welcome

As a new member of the Guild, having been elected at the recent branch AGM and keen to meet other members of the Branch, I was delighted to be invited to join the East Devon ladies at their occasional, informal ringing morning held on 1 March. The formula is simple but successful, with ringing at two local towers, not too far apart, in the course of a morning, and time for coffee and socialising between them. This time we met at Seaton to ring the light and enjoyable eight at St Gregory's. Here we concentrated on Grandsire Triples, with some simple Doubles methods for the less experienced ringers.

Our coffee break was at the Garden Shop in a hidden corner of Colyton where the temptation to linger too long over coffee, cakes and scones was strong. However, we made it to Kilmington with only a slight delay and enjoyed ringing the six bells at St Giles'. These felt a little heavier, but went well, once we had negotiated the ladder and trap door access! Here we began with Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. Cambridge Minor eluded us here - unfinished business for next time



Kathie, Maureen, Lisa, Sally

Lesley, Trish, Judith, Delie, Sue

perhaps – but a well-struck touch of Plain Bob Minor provided some compensation.

We all had good chances to ring what we wanted within our individual capabilities and parted at around 12.30 already looking forward to the next ringing morning, sometime after Easter

Margaret Peirce

On the Radio

Lesley Houghton, East Branch Treasurer and the tower secretary at Sidmouth, contacted Radio Devon about Sidmouth's (and East Devon towers') ringing for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Jon Rose was interviewed on 19 May about it at 7.25am on Radio Devon's Breakfast Show.

Well done Lesley for getting the publicity and good luck to Jon for the interview!

Judith Reynolds

Ringling for Refugees at St Peter and St Paul, Uplyme

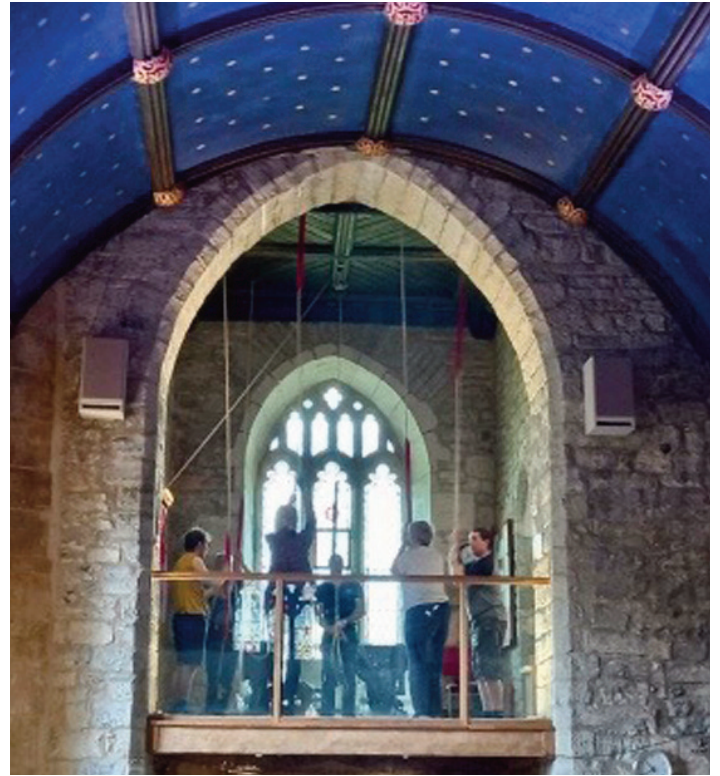


Band from several towers including Andy Jarvis 2nd from right (organiser)

30 April was a remarkable day at Uplyme church. Devon Guild, Association and unattached ringers joined together for a day's ringing for Ukraine. This was the brainchild of Andy Jarvis, who has been instrumental in reviving ringing at the church, and bands including ringers from Axminster, Honiton, Combe Raleigh, Colyton, Branscombe, Exminster, Shute, Kingsteignton, Musbury, Ottery St Mary and Membury rung both method and call changes throughout the day. First up was a quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor conducted by Peter Simpson (Axminster), his first as conductor. This was followed by a 720 of Plain Bob Minor conducted by Ian Rees (Honiton). At lunchtime Exminster took over, then bands from Shute and Kingsteignton (Mark Pring conducting), rang some beautiful call changes.

Lisa Clarke (Combe Raleigh) reported that this inspirational idea was supported by villagers and ringers alike, who generously gave over £800 to this humanitarian appeal. Apparently there were so many visitors that it was at times difficult to concentrate on the method being rung over the buzz in the main body of the church.

Maureen Davey (Shute) said that in addition to some great ringing the church provided tea, coffee and 'a delicious array of tempting cakes and sandwiches'. She observed many visitors came just to sit in the sunshine, listen to the bells and enjoy the day.



The quarter peal band: Kathie, Lisa, Theo, Jonathan, Mark and Peter

Uplyme, Devon, St Peter and St Paul

Saturday, 30 April 2022 in 48m

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Kathie Matthews | 4 Jonathan Godfrey |
| 2 Lisa Clarke | 5 Mark Symonds |
| 3 Theo Millard | 6 Peter Simpson (C) |

Rung in support of the people of Ukraine

First of Surprise as conductor



720 Plain Bob Minor: Judith, Delie, Ian, Kathie, Lisa, Theo

Uplyme, Devon

St Peter and St Paul

Saturday, 30 April 2022 in 24m

720 Plain Bob Minor

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 Lisa Clarke | 4 Delie Perry |
| 2 Judith Reynolds | 5 Theo Millard |
| 3 Kathie Matthews | 6 Ian Rees (C) |

Rung as part of Uplyme church's 'Ringing for Refugees' fund-raising day in support of Ukraine.

Anne Burn, Axminster

Sue's '5.5.5.' QP at Dalwood

A beautiful sunny day in Dalwood on 5 May, and a really happy occasion for me as I completed my Level 5 on the LTR scheme with ART, by ringing my final quarter peal as required in the LTR beginner's book of Plain Bob Minor inside. Hence the '5.5.5.' Level 5 achieved on the 5th day of the 5th month. It has a certain 'ring' to it, doesn't it? It was also my 10th quarter, in the 10th year of ART.

With my fantastic band of friends and conductor Keith (who came down especially from Wiveliscombe) keeping me right, the whole thing went by in what seemed like a flash - after the first 15 minutes, at any rate, when I fatally looked up at the clock at that point. For the most part the striking seemed pretty good, and I only 'lost it completely' once. However, Keith soon put me back on track.

Happily, I even managed a grin at one point as I successfully manoeuvred my bell through the single, where I made 3rds and went back out. That was the work that I had found most challenging in practice.

Luckily I not only had lots practice at various East Devon towers, and on my simulator at my home tower, but I had recently been to the Hereford Ringing Course, where I managed to ring Minor at several different towers too. Good fun.

Dalwood was a lovely setting for my quarter, and the bells were beautiful to ring and hear, too. Perfect for rope-sight, as well. It is the second quarter I have rung there.

After it was all over we settled down in the churchyard to polish off the last of my birthday cake (May Day birthday) and all in all, despite my apprehension beforehand, it was a really enjoyable experience.



Thank you so much to my team (clockwise from top left) of Keith, Clare, Jon, Kathie and Anne. Thank you especially to Anne, who has been my teacher and tutor throughout my ringing journey.

Sue King

Exeter Branch

BRANCH TRAIN OUTING

It was lovely to be able to restart the traditional Bank Holiday train outing on 2 May. It was well attended by at least twenty ringers and hangers-on of all ages. The trains ran more or less to time, although they were a little crowded later in the day. It was nice to meet up with Lester Yeo, previous Guild President, who is now living at Chew Magna. We started with ringing on the wonderful heavy eight at Yatton, where the bells reminded me of Heavitree.

Lunch was taken in Weston-Super-Mare, with most opting for the Wetherspoons, followed by ringing on the eight bells afterwards.

The ringing concluded on the new twelve at Bridgwater and, following a cup of tea on the station, we caught a train back to Exeter. The service that our tickets were valid for was cancelled, but we persuaded the train manager on the previous train to turn a blind eye so we all got home on time, if rather tired from all of the walking.



The unusual spire at Yatton



Ringing at Yatton





Weston-Super-Mare



Walking to Bridgwater tower



Waiting for a train home – with Lester in full flow

Ian Campbell

Fundraising at Hatherleigh



Hatherleigh church from the top of the churchyard (©Isabella Whitworth)

Hatherleigh ringers have recently embarked on a major fundraising appeal to restore their eight bells. The architectural features of the church tower and spire (1300s to 1400s) coincide with economic prosperity from wool in the Middle Ages but there is no known written record of actual bells until 1553, when the Inventory, or Survey of Church Goods, lists three. It is possible these were the work of the Exeter Foundry as Exeter bells are still found in neighbouring churches. Little more is known until 1813, when Thomas Bilbie III of Cullompton recast any existing bells to make a ring of six. Two trebles were added by Taylor's of Loughborough in 1883 when a new frame was installed. This was made either by Stokes, or Hooper, of Woodbury. No signature has as yet been found on the frame.

The *Bell News and Ringers Record* published an article on the dedication of bells and the opening peal on 9 October 1883 when a party of Devonshire Guild members assembled to ring. The writer remarks that Bilbie 'seems to have had a mania for turning out maiden peals, utterly regardless of tune. This peal is no exception, for the musicians of the party declared that there was very little difference between the 4th and the 5th, and the same might have been said of the 7th and tenor.'

Unless tone deaf, this sad state of affairs must have been all too obvious to sisters Elizabeth and Heroine Churchward, who lived in a house overlooking the churchyard. In 1929 they funded the recasting of all eight bells, as well as a chiming clock, in memory of their late brother, George Gould Churchward. The eight bells were recast by

Exeter Cathedral team qualifies for the National Final



The final of the 2022 National 12-bell competition is being held at Guildford Cathedral in June, but the important eliminators took place on 26 March. We are pleased to say that we qualified and so will be able to ring in the final.

The competition has not been held since Exeter hosted the event in 2019 (due to Covid-19), where we won the competition and became only the seventh different team to win the competition in its 48-year history.

The eliminator was a close fought battle as we made the 500 mile round trip to attend the Saturday competition venue at Chester. We had to make several changes to the team since the last competition, and due to Covid-19 also had to make many last minute changes due to several positive results in the previous few days. It was a chance for our younger talented ringers to shine, and they did... Many congratulations go to Charlotte, Steph, Becky and Jo who all had their first 12-bell ring in the competition with the Exeter band.

At the final at Exeter we were believed to be the first band to have five ladies in a winning band, and now we have six – no further comment required!

Paul Pascoe



Bells down for Whitechapel recasting, 1929. Reverend J Rossiter flanked by churchwardens, with Captain of Bells, Emanuel Palmer, on right. (By permission of Hatherleigh History Society)

Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Foundry. The bells are tuned to F major, with a tenor weight of 13cwt 2qr 6lb.

For the last one hundred years ringers and townspeople of Hatherleigh have enjoyed the sound of greatly improved bells, widely-known for good tuning and beautiful tone. However, they have had a reputation for being difficult to ring except, as *The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette* reported at the 1929 rehang, 'to their regular ringers who had become accustomed to their 'go' through habitual usage'. Nowadays their 'go' is a challenge even to regular ringers. The frame was steel-braced in 1929 and was probably already causing problems. Today it flexes, making ringing unpredictable, so bolts must be tightened regularly; ropes are long, and after the addition of the church clock they do not all hang vertically.



Tower captain Mark Wonnacott and ringer Garry Bater tackle the awkward task of adjusting frame bolts in the tower (©Isabella Whitworth)

Bellhangers were consulted in 2019 and reports concluded that the frame could not be repaired. A new steel one is required, along with general restoration of the bells. The need for this work coincides with the church's separate fundraising campaign for repairs and modernisation. To accommodate some of the church's alterations, the ringing floor will be raised one level, so reducing the length of the ropes.

The project must raise a total of £75,000 and recently secured the cash deposit to book the services of bellhanger Matthew Higby. Bells are likely to come down at the end of 2022, or early 2023.

Donations to the fund will be very welcome. There is a GoFundMe page listed as Hatherleigh Bellringers Restoration Project. Any questions can be emailed to Isabella Whitworth (Publicity Officer) on imswhit@gmail.com.

You can follow the project on Instagram @eightbells8 and the Hatherleigh Bellringers' Facebook page.

Many thanks for help with information for this article supplied by Ian Smith (Trustee, Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund), Monica Jones (Hatherleigh History Society), Roger Stokes (great-grandson of Harry Stokes I) and Pete Embling (former Hatherleigh ringer).



The current band of Hatherleigh ringers

Isabella Whitworth

A Couple of Hours Well Spent

Cathedrals at Night

A mini-ring, handbells and simulator set up in Exeter Cathedral for the evening, and the curious general public wandering in through the wide-open west end doors... what could all this be about?

Cathedrals at Night is a nationwide campaign inviting everyone to experience the historic and sacred spaces of cathedrals in a new light, and members of the Exeter Cathedral Society were pleased to be part of it on 14 May. 'At Night' is something of a misnomer, as it finished before nightfall, and children were among the visitors, but you get the idea.

A steady stream of interested people came over to us to have a go at the various bells and ask questions. We were there to engage and inform, to give people a good time, so an added bonus was the discovery of some potential recruits and lapsed ringers to point in the direction of local towers.

Other activities on offer were 'secret space' and tower tours, brass rubbing, and the chance to see ancient books from the archives.

An enjoyable evening for the volunteers, and a nice touch was 50p coffees from the mobile coffee van!



The Frank Mack mini-ring



A simulator from the Devon Association

Lynne Hughes

Mid-Devon Branch Jubilee Ringing

Here is a picture of the Dawlish ringers getting ready for the Platinum Jubilee ringing, which we'll do on 3 June: 70 minutes for 70 years is our theme.



Left to right: Hannah Pullen, Ria Pullen, John Stern, Anne Heywood, Cath Chappell, Kevin Feaviour, Wendy Godden, Lynne Hughes, Amrik Tumani, Nicola Twibill, Carolyn Hartley, Phil Hughes

Hannah is a new recruit, learning ringing for her Duke of Edinburgh award, and her mum has started with her. Amrik recently joined us from Cornwall, where he was already on the Learning the Ropes scheme - hurrah! And Phil is waving an old family Union Flag, thought to be nearly 100 years old.

Lynne Hughes

Teignmouth Peal Board Dedication

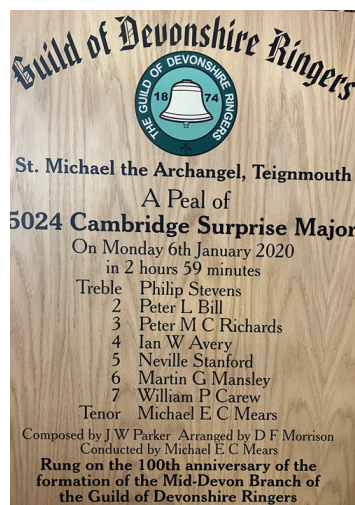
6 January 1920 saw the formation of the Mid-Devon Branch and to celebrate our Centenary the branch committee had a series of events planned to run throughout the year. Sadly, due to Covid lockdown restrictions being put in place in March 2020, only the first two of these came to fruition – a celebratory lunch held at The Drum in Cockington, Torquay and a peal rung at St Michael's, Teignmouth. These venues were chosen as Cockington and Teignmouth were both founder member towers.

The 100th anniversary date, 6 January 2020 was therefore set for a peal attempt and Teignmouth tower captain Martin Dodd happily made the bells available. The band was specially chosen to represent several towers within the Branch. A fine peal of 5024 Cambridge Surprise Major was duly rung, conducted by Mike Mears. Then lockdown came. During this period, the Teignmouth ringers decided they would like to have a peal board made to record the event and the idea was welcomed by the Branch. Sadly, Martin Dodd died in April 2021 and so didn't get to see the finished board, but I'm sure he would have been thrilled to see it hung in the ringing room.

Now, after more than two years, the peal board has been manufactured and as part of the branch practice held at St Michael's on 17 May 2022, arrangements were made to hold a short dedication ceremony. Thus, the board was dedicated by the Rector, Revd Carol Green, in front of a 'congregation' of around 25 branch members. She spoke briefly and knowledgeably about the effort required to ring a peal and said how thrilled she was that Teignmouth had been chosen to mark this significant milestone in the history of the Branch. Following prayers, she dedicated the board to the Glory of God.

The assembled group then moved up the tower to see where the board would hang and during the remainder of the evening enjoyed ringing a variety of methods, including a well struck half course of Yorkshire S Major and a splendid touch of Stedman Triples.

Many thanks to all those involved, especially Revd Carol Green for the dedication, Mike Mears for calling the peal and tower secretary Julia Brett for making all the arrangements.



The new peal board



Revd Carol Green with the peal board



Members of the band who were present

Nigel Birt, Mid-Devon Branch Secretary

Extracts from Mid Devon Tower Talk

Branch practice Ugborough

Those who have rung on these bells in the past may remember them as a ring that were seriously out of tune and went badly. A few years ago a major project saw a completely new set of bells cast and hung by Taylor's. Just before lockdown we had booked a visit but that had to be cancelled at the last minute. So, it was great to finally ring on these bells. What a contrast!! The new bells are an absolute joy to ring and listen to. With a tenor weighing approximately one ton they are quite big but go superbly and sound magnificent – a real credit to the local ringers for raising the money and acting as volunteers and to Taylors' for a superb modern ring. We were a little short on numbers, but we managed to keep the eight ringing to a variety of methods and call changes.

A Quarter Peal for Martin Dodd at last

It seems hard to believe that it is now over one year since we heard the shock news that Martin Dodd had died suddenly on Good Friday. Since then attempts to commemorate his life have been dogged by cancellations, mainly due to Covid. We have previously recorded the memorial day/tower grab in his memory and are now pleased to be able to report that a quarter peal has been rung to commemorate his life.

After several attempts to arrange a date it seemed appropriate that the successful quarter peal was rung a year and a day after he died. The band was mainly Teignmouth ringers, and we congratulate John Stern on his first quarter peal.

East Teignmouth, Devon, St Michael

Sunday, 3 April 2022 in 53m

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Trevor Pearce-Jones | 5 Martin Mansley (C) |
| 2 Julia Brett | 6 John Stern |
| 3 Fiona Rock-Evans | 7 Jason Dowling |
| 4 Richard Barter | 8 Roger Treweek |

Rung with 768 cover. First quarter - 6

Rung in memory of Martin Dodd who died a year ago yesterday. Tower captain of Teignmouth towers for very many years.



L to R: 1 to 4 front row, 5 to 8 back row

Mini-Ring Outing

This was a new venture for the Branch and attracted a good turnout. We started at the Bowerdon Peal at Buckfastleigh. The first problem was 'find the farm'. Once we had negotiated the narrow lanes and found parking spaces the next issue was learning to ring bells many times smaller than we are used to. This took a little time but all seemed to relish the challenge. Many thanks to Paul Hext for the warm welcome.

Next on the agenda was the part of the proceedings that seemed to be the most popular – the cream tea! The Grange at Buckfast Abbey was the venue and the outside terrace was filled with the chatter of ringers catching up with each other. We had allowed plenty of time for this.

There was then a small change of plan and the next ring were not really mini bells. Rattery are a ring of 5 (quite rare in Devon) and they take a bit of getting used to. However, good use was made of them, and the ringing included a very good touch of Stedman Doubles.

The final ring of the day was King's-Ting-Tong. This mini-ring is at present housed in Ian Avery's garage. What a superb place to end the day! The bells go well and are housed in a pleasant room above the garage, surrounded by Ian's collection of beer bottles. Outside this is a veranda, an ideal spot to enjoy the sun on a very pleasant spring evening. We even found that the bells knew Cambridge! By now the practice at Bowerdon was reaping rewards as most people found these bells very much to their liking and several people did not want to go home!

Very many thanks to all who made us welcome and to branch members for enthusiastic support. Looks like this may well be worth a repeat!



The assembled company at the Bowerdon mini-ring



Ringling at Ting-Tong surround by beer bottles

A Lockdown project

During lockdown several attempts were made to maintain our skills and enthusiasm whilst we were unable to ring as usual. These included Ringing Room and the use of programs such as Abel. The sale of simulator handbells rocketed as well. Mike Tompsett decided to concentrate on improving his handbell skills, especially on higher numbers from Major upwards. A trip to Lundy at the end of lockdown with some very experienced handbell ringers gave him the chance to put his new skills to the test and a quarter peal of Cambridge Major was the result. Since then, regular online Ringing Room practices have resulted in quarter peals in the standard eight Surprise Major methods. The goal was achieved with London Surprise Major:

Ringing Room, UK
Great Hockham, Wickford, Oldham, Paignton
Thursday, 5 May 2022

1280 London Surprise Major

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 1-2 | Simon A Rudd |
| 3-4 | Paul A Cammiade |
| 5-6 | Peter C Randall (C) |
| 7-8 | Michael H Tompsett |

Completes the standard 8 in hand, 7-8.

This performance was rung using simulated sound. Performed on a virtual ringing platform.

Many congratulations to him. Handbell change ringing is a very different skill from tower bell ringing and couple that with the many difficulties of online ringing and this makes a fantastic achievement – what next, Mike? 8 spliced??

Quarter Peal at St James', Teignmouth

We are delighted to report that the Teignmouth ringers rang a quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles to celebrate the lives of the three Teignmouth ringers who have died in the last twelve months. This included a first as conductor for Richard. Very well done to them, although we are sorry that it is to mark such sad occurrences. It does really show their determination to continue and expand on the work that these three people were so passionate about:

West Teignmouth, Devon, St James the Less

Sunday, 22 May 2022

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Trevor Pierce-Jones | 4 Roger Treweek |
| 2 Julia Brett | 5 Richard Barter (C) |
| 3 Fiona Rock-Evans | 6 Jason Dowling |

Rung in memory of three founder members of the Teignmouth Bells Project who have all died recently: Martin Dodd (Chairman, died April 2021), Jean Wilson (Treasurer, died January 2022) and Alan Furse (died 17 May 2022).



News from Dawlish

Thanks to Lynne Hughes for:

Hannah Pullen passed her Learning the Ropes level 1 (bell handling) and was presented with her certificate. Her Mum, Ria, is hot on her heels!

Amrik Tumani has joined us, having started to learn at Altarnun, and was already registered on the Learning the Ropes scheme from there. This is a first for us to acquire someone already on the scheme, and he can pick up where he left off. He has nearly completed level 2 (ringing with others), with just the Kaleidoscope exercises to do. Then it will be on to Level 3 (change ringing). Anne Heywood, Kevin Feaviour and John Stern are also working on this structured approach.

New branch initiative

At our recent branch committee meeting there was a discussion about our plans for recruitment. It was felt that a good place to publicise ringing was at the Brixham Steam Rally held on the first weekend in August. Preliminary enquiries had been made and the response was very encouraging. The Frank Mack ring has been booked and we are going ahead to plan our stand. The most important thing now is to find willing helpers from the Branch or further afield to help man the stand. The dates are Friday 5, Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August 2022. We hope to have a rota so that it does not fall too heavily on those who volunteer. The Rally attracts large crowds so it could be an ideal place to advertise what we do and look for new recruits. Please let me know if you can help, even for a short time: plainbobminor.mm@gmail.com.

Martin Mansley

North-East Branch

What youngsters do when waiting to ring for a wedding



Thanks to Jack and Simon!

Sheila Scofield

South-West Branch

Modern Society of Plymouth Youths - The Year Ahead

The Modern Society of Plymouth Youths held their AGM on 27 February following a practice at Emmanuel church. We were excited to plan the year ahead. Re-elections were made of myself as Chair, Daniel Calvert as Ringing Master and Ben Routley as secretary. We also introduced a new post of Publicity Officer and elected Scarlett Atherton, who has joined us this year to attend university.

This year we plan to run our in-person outings again and have plans for a weekend away in Bridgwater. Practices will continue on the last Sunday of the month at Emmanuel, and run from 5 to 6:30pm, adjourning to the Rising Sun afterwards for games and refreshments.



Hot chocolate and whipped cream for the more adventurous soft drinker

Elena Brake

Ringing Bells for the Queen

We rang the first quarter in over two years on the bells at Emmanuel on Sunday 6 February in recognition of the Queen's Jubilee. Attached is our new style of band photo... we are still hoping that this trend catches on!

Plymouth, Devon, Emmanuel, Compton Gifford
Sunday, 6 February 2022 in 44m
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 Elena L Brake | 4 Alena J Wardle |
| 2 James H Wray | 5 Daniel T Calvert (C) |
| 3 Ben D Routley | 6 Paul M Johnson |

Rung for the 70th Anniversary of the accession to the throne of HRH Queen Elizabeth



In ringing order, anti-clockwise from top left: Elena, James, Ben, Alena, Daniel, Paul

Elena Brake

Branch Practice at Lifton



Lifton Church

On 9 April we held a branch practice at Lifton, and it was my turn to run the practice under the watchful guidance of Alena. The practice was well attended with varying levels of ability and at first I admit I was very nervous, wanting to make sure that everyone had a chance to ring something they were proud of.

It became easier as the practice went along, and this was helped by keeping the ringing fairly straightforward, ringing from rounds to Plain Bob Triples at our most adventurous. This allowed several of our band members to try new things, and was especially good for our less experienced ringers to have the chance to ring on different bells. A highlight of the practice was giving one of the local ringers a chance to ring his first blows of Plain Hunt on 7, having only had the chance to ring Plain Hunt on 6 in the past.

After the practice we had some time to socialise in the church and were treated to tea, coffee and pasties which was a really lovely touch. I felt pleased with how the practice had gone and what we had managed to achieve between us. Running practices is something I am still learning how to do, and opportunities like this have been really helpful in building my confidence.

Elena Brake

My First Outing with the South-West Branch

On 14 May I went on my first ever outing, where we went to five churches in Cornwall. It was a nice sunny day with beautiful churches, and I enjoyed ringing lots of different bells. There were around 30 ringers who joined us and most of them I didn't know, so it was nice to meet new people.

The first church was St Gorran with ten bells, and the church was very fancy looking inside. Outside there was a Cornish Celtic designed cross which was a War Memorial. I rang the fourth in rounds and it was very nice to ring.

Next was the six bell church at St Ewe. The churchyard was stunning because it was full of palm trees and plants and I walked around it admiring the nature. The ringing chamber was quite small and all the bells were cramped together. I found ringing more difficult because I didn't have much space to stand.

Next was lunch, with people going to different pubs and restaurants but I went to the Hewas Inn. The food was very nice and I'd definitely go there again!

After lunch we went to St Mewan which has six bells. The churchyard was like a forest with lots of trees and plants and I had fun exploring. I

found the bells very nice and easy to ring but the ropes were quite long. On the right side there were four bells in a row and on the left side there were two which felt a bit confusing.

The next church was St Stephen-in-Brannel with its eight bells and this was my favourite tower of the day because I am used to ringing on this number of bells. When I wasn't ringing I spent some time painting a picture of a tree in watercolours with Elena. After that I went foraging with Jonathan for edible plant life and ate pennywort for the first time.

The final church was St Columba which also had eight bells. I was surrounded by nine butterflies that had got trapped in the tower. The bells were very different to the last church but I still really enjoyed them. My favourite part about the ringing chamber was that there was a window looking down into the church.

The outing was a really great day out and I had the chance to ring in a lot of different churches. When I went back to Emmanuel it felt a bit weird to be in the church I normally ring at!



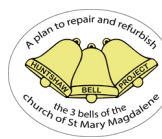
Group photo at St Ewe

Emil Ledins

Other News around the County

Bells ring again at Huntshaw

A taste of things to come!



Huntshaw church



On Saturday 14 May Ian Campbell gave a brilliant talk on 'bells and the art of ringing' at Huntshaw church in North Devon which was attended by 65 people. Ian explained right from the basics of what a bell is made of, through to the mechanics of how it rings, gave examples on his laptop with loudspeakers of different rings, of changes and peals in towers across Devon – and ended with some lapping on handbells, where volunteers from the audience demonstrated how the end bell (with tinsel tied round it) moved up the line and back down again, to show how changes work.

The weather was kind and people spilled out with their chairs and cream teas onto the grass outside to enjoy the sunshine after the talk whilst Ian showed many who wanted to try the big bell on its stand how to ring it, and to leave it in the 'up' position.

The Bideford Town Crier called us to order at various stages to make it a memorable event and the 600-year-old 'Huntshaw Nail' found aloft in the belfry woodwork went for £50 in the informal auction. Overall £1000 was made on the day, bringing our total raised so far to £22k out of the £30k needed.

The reason for all this of course is that Huntshaw's bells need restoring as they are sinking under their own weight in the medieval oak frame, plus the second bell is cracked. The tower was added to the church in 1439 with three bells and the earliest (tenor) dates from



Lapping on handbells – with the Guild Demo bell in the background

1505, with the others from 1634 and 1665. All three haven't been rung in 60 years and swing chiming of the treble was stopped about 20 years ago, because it was thought to be unsafe.

As soon as our faculty was granted in January 2021, we started applying for grants, but it wasn't until August 2021 that Covid allowed us to start holding fundraising events such as an open day, then a dowsing workshop and archaeological talks.

One thing we did start in August was a 'Friend of Huntshaw Bells' group, inviting people to be sponsors for £10 (or more!). Lord Clinton

agreed to be our Patron and the plan is to produce a souvenir pamphlet of the bell restoration, with photos of removal, some information and history on them, and of their rehangng. Sponsors are to get a copy, with a list of their names and brief location at the end for those contributing.



Richard Sears with one of the bells which have all been removed for refurbishment

Our next event is a walking treasure hunt on Sunday 17 July, to which all readers here are invited. It will consist of a 5-mile circular walk around the parish ending in a Beer 'n' Burger Barbecue.

We can only hope that it will be as popular and as well received as Ian's talk – for which we thank him so much.

For further info on events, or becoming a sponsor, please contact: rsears2017@gmail.com

Note from Editor: It was good to meet with ringers from Frithelstock, Torrington and Fremington on the day.

Richard Sears



Bideford's Town Crier with a very shiny bell!

An 'April Day' Outing for the Monday Ringers



The Monday ringers at Pinhoe

L to R: Maggie Berndt, Cicily Ballard, Clare Stagg, Lynette Costello, Brenda 'Tosh' Arscott, Phil Hughes, Derek Ballard, Bob Sanders, Nick White, Dee White, Lynne Hughes, David Hammonds, Rod Elway, Kathie Matthews, Harry Grange

A happy group of ringers from all over Devon got together for their second outing of the year on 25 April, moved back by one week to accommodate Easter. The bells at Silverton, Thorverton, Pinhoe and Stoke Canon were all enjoyed, and the conducting of touches was shared out as widely as possible. Methods included Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Yorkshire, Double Norwich, Original, Little Bob (including Royal), London Minor, Cambridge, Double Oxford and St Clement's, and maybe some more I can't remember! As always, there was an emphasis on good striking, such as you would hope to do for service ringing.

A good lunch was eaten at the Heart of Oak in Pinhoe, and the handbells came out, several knocking the rust off Plain Bob, and even Oxford Treble Bob.

The outings are open to anyone who can competently treble or cover, on the third Monday of each month, from March to November. Details are put out on the Guild Facebook group, and on BellBoard. And yes, we did ring April Day Doubles (Plain Bob with Grandsire singles)!

Lynne Hughes

Bell Advisors get out again

Following a lull in all ringing-related activities due to Covid, the Guild Bell Advisors have been working hard to make up for lost time. So far this year inspections have been done and full reports produced for Broadhembury, Holcombe Burnell, Romansleigh, Tiverton St Peter's and Walkhampton. Follow-up reports have been produced for Cadeleigh, Clayhiden and Plympton St Mary.

Ian Campbell and Ian Smith

Training Guild Demonstration Bell gets out and about

Having languished in my garage for the last couple of years, it was pleasing to receive requests for the bell on three consecutive Saturdays. On 30 May it was borrowed by the Devon Association for use at an open day.

A week later it was setup for the open day at Broadhembury, as reported elsewhere in this issue. It was initially installed on the grass but following a potentially serious incident where it fell over while being rung particularly vigorously it was moved to a location where it could be better fixed.

Then on 14 May it was installed in the church at Huntshaw as a part of my bell ringing talk (also reported elsewhere).



The demo bell at Broadhembury – before it fell over!

The bell is available to borrow by any Guild tower. It demonstrates full-circle ringing, complete with rope and stay, and can just about be rung properly by a gentle, competent ringer although children enjoy just chiming it!

Ian Campbell

Northwest Residential Ringing Course

Thursday 11 to Sunday 14 August 2022.

This new course, held in the North West of England, welcomes ringers from all over the UK and is now open for bookings.

The course will provide classroom-based theory as well as practical sessions in local towers. It will end with an optional ring at the world's heaviest set of bells.

Accommodation is on campus at Myerscough College, near Preston, which also features a bar and loads of local facilities. The course offers a packed extra-curricular program covering many areas of ringing including and an opportunity to learn handbells, tower maintenance, rope splicing, etc.

There are five subjects on offer, plus many extracurricular events. Each subject has a theory component in classroom and a practical component in a tower. The subjects are: Moving on with Minor, From Six to Eight, Stedman, Basic, and Advanced Conducting.

Further details about the course and how to apply are available from <https://nwringingcourse.uk/>.

John Lacy, Secretary, North West Residential Ringing Course

Notable Ringing Events

Peals

John Martin rings his 2000th peal

Congratulations to John Martin on ringing his 2000th peal. John is a former Mid Devon Branch secretary and present Guild secretary. The peal was rung at Tiverton with a band of very prolific peal ringers that made his total the second lowest of the band. The whole band peal total was over 30,000. In the evening following the peal John and Charlotte hosted a party to celebrate and mark his significant birthday (obviously can't divulge which one!) on the same day. The Brewery Tap in Exeter saw a large gathering of ringers who enjoyed a very convivial evening that included a sumptuous buffet and a superb cake made, we understand, by Charlotte's mother. Altogether this was a very pleasant chance to meet up with ringers from far and wide – particularly after not being able to meet in person for so long.



L to R: Colin Turner, Nicola Turner, Mike Mears, Charlotte Boyce, Pete Ellis, Ian Smith, ringaholic (John Martin), Tim Pett

Guild of Devonshire Ringers

Tiverton, Devon, St Peter

Saturday, 2 April 2022 in 3h 38

5024 Bristol Surprise Major by J S Warboys

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Timothy G Pett | 5 Colin M Turner |
| 2 Ian V J Smith | 6 Michael E C Mears |
| 3 Charlotte A Boyce | 7 Peter G C Ellis (C) |
| 4 Nicola J Turner | 8 John R Martin |

2,000th peal – 8

Martin Mansley



Quarter Peals

First Surprise

Exeter, Devon, St Mark

Sunday, 15 May 2022 in 45m

1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1 Wendy Campbell	4 Graham Tucker
2 James Selley-Steer	5 Ian Campbell
3 Lesley Tucker	6 David Hird (C)

1st Surprise inside - 2.

First Quarter Peal

Exeter, Devon, St Michael and All Angels, Pinhoe

Tuesday, 8 March 2022 in 42m

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Simon Steer	4 Ian Campbell
2 Wendy Gill	5 David Hird (C)
3 Wendy Campbell	6 Thomas Selley-Steer

1st quarter peal - 1.

Good to see Simon (Dad) keeping up with the rest of the family (reported last issue)

First on Eight

Exeter, Devon, St Michael and All Angels, Pinhoe

Tuesday, 19 April 2022 in 45m

1264 Plain Bob Major

1 Wendy Gill	5 Thomas Selley-Steer
2 Wendy Campbell	6 Richard Shere
3 Sue Sawyer	7 Andrew Digby
4 Ian Campbell	8 David Hird (C)

1st on 8 - 5

First of Surprise Major

Luppitt, Devon, St Mary

Friday, 20 May 2022 in 45m

1250 Cambridge Surprise Major

1 Wendy Campbell	5 Richard Shere
2 Lesley Tucker	6 Ian Campbell
3 Lisa Clarke	7 Graham Tucker
4 Theo Millard	8 Tim Bayton (C)

1st of Surprise Major: 4

Method with the silliest name

Kingsteignton, Devon, Kings-Ting-Tong

Tuesday, 5 April 2022 in 31m

1272 Why Are There No Aspirins In The Jungle? Because The Paracetamol Treble Place Minor

1 Ian Avery	4 Graham Tucker
2 James Grant	5 Sue Sawyer
3 Lesley Tucker	6 Donald Carter (C)

First in the method by all except 5

Calendar of Events

June

Sat 4		Platinum Jubilee ringing. All Towers	Mid Devon
Tue 7	19:30	Triples & Major practice. St Peter, Tiverton	North East
Thu 9	19:30	Plain Hunt etc. Sidbury	East
Fri 10	19:30	Yorkshire Surprise Major practice. Uffculme	North East
Sat 11	10:00	Branch open practice. Rackenford	North East
Sat 11	15:00	Guild Library opens. St Petrock, Exeter	Guild
Mon 13	19:30	Surprise Minor branch practice. Offwell	East
Thu 16	19:30	6-bell practice. Ideford	Mid Devon
Sat 18		Annual General Meeting. Crediton	Guild

July

Fri 1	19:00	8-bell Practice. Bovey Tracey	Mid Devon
Sat 2	10:00	Ringling World National Youth Contest. Exeter	Guild

Tue 5	19:30	Triples & Major practice. St Peter, Tiverton	North East
Sat 9	10:00	Branch training: Triples to Major week. tba	South West
Sat 9	10:00	Branch open practice. tbc	North
Sat 9	14:00	Branch striking competition. Combe Raleigh	East
Mon 11	19:30	Surprise Minor branch practice. Offwell	East
Thu 14	19:30	Plain Hunt etc. Sidbury	East
Sat 16	10:00	Branch Training: Triples to Major week 2. tba	South West
Sat 16	TBC	Car outing. Torrington Area	Mid Devon
Sat 23		Branch summer social - barbecue. Broadclyst	Exeter
Sat 23	10:00	Branch training: Triples to Major week 3. TBA	South West

August

Tue 2	19:30	Triples & Major practice. St Peter, Tiverton	North East
Sat 6		Joint branch practice with Mid-Devon. TBA	South West
Sat 6	10:00	Branch open practice with Dunster Branch. tbc	North East
Sat 6	19:00	10-bell practice with SW Branch. St Marychurch	Mid Devon
Thu 11	19:30	Plain Hunt etc. Sidbury	East
Mon 15	19:30	Surprise Minor branch practice. Offwell	East
Thu 18	19:30	Surprise Minor practice. Bickington	Mid Devon

David Hird in contemplative mood



Editorial

I hope that this issue comes out in a reasonable time. I am very grateful to John Foster who has offered to do the page makeup on his laptop computer while he is away on holiday in a caravan in France. I hope that the site Wi-Fi is up to it!

You may think that this production is rather biased in favour of a few branches (notably East Devon and Exeter!). The solution is in your hands - I am happy to publish (almost) anything that I am sent so please get the articles and pictures coming in.

Having had a chance to look over the three bells at Huntshaw in North Devon back in March 2017 I was pleased to be asked to give one of my talks to help raise money for the bell restoration. To my amazement the church was packed (I don't expect that happens very often these days!) and by selling cream teas and with three auctions they raised over £1000. It is a shame that they can't raise enough to do a complete rehang - preferably with three more bells - and that two will be hung dead, but the possibility of some more work later has not been discounted.

By the time this is published the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations will be over - four days of partying and ringing. If I am sent details and photos these can be included in the next issue

The Guild AGM will also have happened by the next production. I hope to have a report of the meeting for next time.

RINGING ROUND DEVON is the newsletter of The Guild of Devonshire Ringers and is circulated free to all affiliated towers. Any individual members who wish to subscribe should contact Ian Campbell (01392 469695). The cost is £10.00 for four issues (cheques made payable to Guild of Devonshire Ringers). RRD is also available on-line on the Guild's website, which holds back-issues.

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Items for inclusion may be sent by post to Ringing Round Devon, 84 Whipton Village Road, Exeter EX4 8AL or by e-mail to newsletter@devonringers.org.uk