



RINGING ROUND DEVON

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Newsletter 93 March 2014

New Guild Website goes Live

On 27th February the new format Guild website went live. The old website was originally designed as a college project by Jenny Campbell in 2001 and has held up well since then. However it was starting to look dated and did not take advantage of the technology changes since then and, as a result, was becoming difficult to keep up to date. But the map she created for the home page still lives on under the “Branches” information!



The new layout has been designed by Matthew Hilling and is hosted on a commercial site which enables Guild and Branch officers to update their own information. Once any changes have been made they are automatically collected together to create pages such as lists of officers, tower contact details and forthcoming events. Also, anyone is able to add content such as news stories if they first create an account.

In addition the new site offers generic email accounts that are all now active. You are requested to use these for ringing matters rather than emailing the individual's private email address. These names are hopefully self-explanatory – all are

"@devonringers.org.uk", so, for example, contributions for this newsletter should be sent to:

newsletter@devonringers.org.uk

The Guild officers can be contacted using the names: *president, secretary, treasurer, bellsadvisor, educationofficer, librarian, newsletter, pealsec, publicityofficer, quarterpealsec, reportsec*. All of the branch secretaries also have similar email addresses: *aylesbearesec, eastdevonsec, exetersec, middevonsec, northeastsec, northwestsec, southwestsec*. Please use these names when you can – and Guild and Branch officers should ensure that these email addresses are regularly monitored.

You are invited to take a look at the new web pages – the old link will redirect but the correct address is now:

<http://www.devonringers.org.uk>

If you notice any inaccuracies with tower information please contact your branch secretary. Any technical problems should be passed to Matt – *webmaster@devonringers.co.uk* of course!

Ian Campbell and Matt Hilling

Central Council 'Have Your Say' seminar - July 19th 2014

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) is seeking to reach out to ringers everywhere - from the newest recruit through to those with 50 or more years of experience under their belt - and exchange views on a number of topics that should be of concern to us all if the art of ringing is to continue and flourish in the years to come.

This promises to be an interesting and informative day, with speakers drawn from the various committees that make up the CCCBR, so do come along and 'Have Your Say'! If you need any other information, or want to let us know that you will be attending, please do get in touch directly with the Guild Secretary, Clare Griffiths - *secretary@devonringers.org.uk* or 01395 597227.

The poster below is available from the web site.

Clare Griffiths



Central Council of Church Bell Ringers 'Have Your Say'

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers invite you to attend this seminar on

SATURDAY 19 JULY 2014
CARDINAL NEWMAN HOUSE
Wonford Road, Exeter EX2 4PF
10.00am – 4.30pm

A number of regional seminars are being organised by Chris Mew, Central Council Vice-President, in order to reach out to ringers across the country. These will provide a forum to:

Have your say – your vision for the future of ringing

Hear about current initiatives

Identify what is working well, what needs improving and agreeing actions

Speakers will include:

Elva Ainsworth on Ringing Trends

Chris Mew on CCCBR activities

Tim Davies on the Ringing Foundation

Les Boyce on ITTS/ART

Guest speaker on new initiatives countrywide

There is ample parking at Cardinal Newman House

Refreshments will be available

There will be a small charge to cover the day, which includes a buffet lunch
For further details please contact the Guild of Devonshire Ringers General Secretary:

Clare Griffiths: email: secretary@devonringers.org.uk

Devon Ringers' Council

Old Bell Recordings Sought

The Devon Ringers' Council met on Sunday 23rd February to discuss items which concern both the Guild and the Devon Association. It was agreed to produce a new CD of bell recordings to sell at the Ringing Roadshow in September. The theme is *old* and *new* but there is a shortage of old recordings! David Trist or Tim King would welcome any recordings of Devon bells, especially any that have been lost or re-tuned. Tim is at tim@gaspipe58.freemove.co.uk.

Tim King

10-bell Call-change Competition

The John Scott Guild/Association 10-bell competition was planned to be at Brixham on 16th February. Unfortunately this date seemed to clash with several other events so it is hoped to reschedule it to the late May bank holiday – MONDAY 26th MAY. The competition is open to any group, band, society, deanery or branch to enter. Full details are available on the web. Ian Avery has asked if you could let him know if you are planning to enter a team so that he can confirm the venue and sort out the timings.

Ian Avery

Aylesbeare Branch

Early Spring

Had spring come early on Thursday 20th February? It certainly had at Broadclyst, when the ringing chamber was given a thorough and much needed cleaning from top to bottom. An "enjoyable" time was had by all with the added bonus of home cooked pizza for lunch in the meeting area of the church. Thanks to all who helped - Dick (especially for the pizza), Edna, Glenis, Harry, Jack, Laurie, Lin, Rob and Trish.



Hard at Work

The next round of improvements occurred on Sunday 23rd February with laying of yet another new carpet in the ringing chamber (the third in under a year).

The final upgrade should occur before this article is published, when the new ropes are put on.



The team relax after finishing work

James Kirkcaldy

South West Branch

St Budeaux Bells removed to Loughborough

The bells of St Budeaux in Plymouth were installed in their steel frame in 1931. Since then the elements have taken their toll and an inspection last September showed that the foundation beams had rusted so badly that the whole installation was likely to come crashing down.



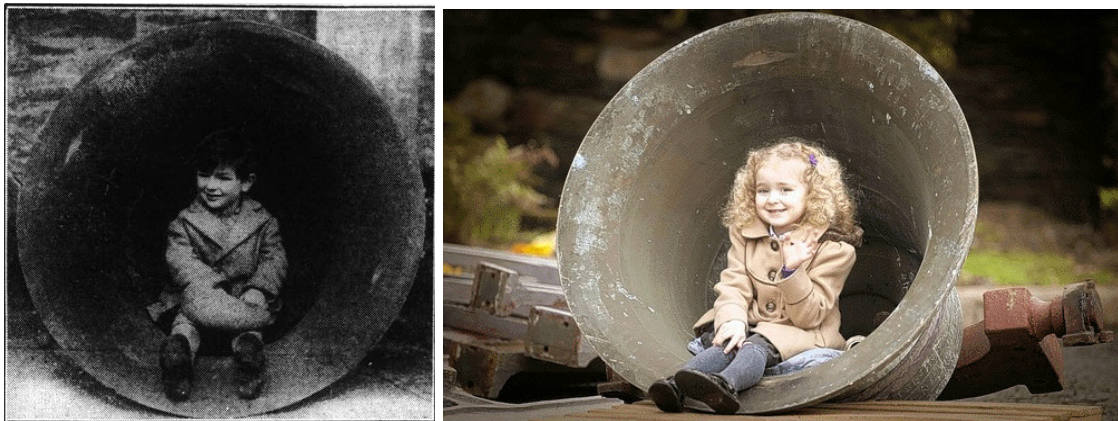
What is left of the beam that was supporting the tenor!

Peter Sparkes and a small team of volunteers from the church helped raise the £40,000 needed for the restoration. The bells have been taken to the Loughborough Bell Foundry for attention and a new, galvanised frame, which, according to Taylor's, should last twice as long as the previous one. The bells are likely to be away for four months. During the week when the bells were being lowered there were a number of groups around:-

Plaistow Hill infants school
St Budeaux Foundation CofE
Marine Academy
St Budeaux Rainbows, Brownies & Guides
Plympton History Group
plus a number of casual visitors

The bells are of special historical importance as they rang out to mark the wedding of Sir Francis Drake and Mary Newman at the church on July 4, 1569.

When the bells were last restored in 1931 a boy, thought to be the then vicar's son, perched inside the largest bell for a photograph for the *Western Morning News*. Eighty-three years later, the present vicar's granddaughter, four-year-old Lottie Sweet, recreated the image:



Peter Sparkes would welcome any stories related to the bells, church and local area for a display when the bells return in May. He says "It's our responsibility to keep the bells in good working condition for future generations."



Bells leaving the belfry



Bells all loaded up and ready to go

Peter Sparkes

Simulator news from Tavistock

Some work has been carried out on the Tavistock simulator in recent months such that the sensors on all ten bells are now functional, though that on one of the dumb-bells is still faulty. While Sampford Spiney bells are unavailable due to current building work there have been occasional practices at Tavistock using the simulator on the front six bells.

Ian Smith

Mid-Devon Branch

MARTIN DODD – FIFTY YEARS A RINGER

Martin is very well known in the branch so it was a pleasure to attend ringing and a service to mark his attainment of fifty years as a ringer. Sadly the quarter peal of Stedman was not successful despite a couple of valiant attempts. Many thanks to Alan Furse for permission to use the article he wrote for the Teignmouth parish magazine.

FIFTY OF THE BEST

‘To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven - Ecclesiastes 3:1

In January, 1964, there was what turned out to be a very significant time in the life of Martin Dodd. For reasons which, given enough encouragement, he will probably be willing to share with you if you ask nicely, Martin was induced to learn to ring church bells. The original motivation for this did not last but the learning did, in the course of time turning to teaching and Tower Captaincy.

Fifty years on we in Teignmouth are privileged to benefit from this half-century of involvement with the bells.

Who could forget the tales of rubber bands around his right and left wrists to teach learners to keep their hands together or putting numbered baseball caps on the heads of ringers to facilitate call changes.

So, in January 2014 it was entirely fitting that we joined together at the Rector’s suggestion for a ringers’ evensong, preceded by a quarter-peal attempt. Reluctantly it has to be admitted that the QP band played Stedman at his own game and turned out second best after almost a half hour but vowed revenge in the future.

Madeleine read from Ecclesiastes and Patrick from 1 Peter; Graham pulled together the various threads of scripture, bell-ringing and Martin together into a thought-provoking unity.

We sang the familiar ringers’ hymn and another, not previously known to me which begins: *Set then nobly in the steeple, let our bells be rung on high.*

The final hymn, ‘The day thou gavest’ reminded us about life and faith going on and a verse later on in Ecclesiastes says:

‘....there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his own works...’

One hopes that Martin feels this way so that we may say, as (almost) in 1 Peter:

‘.....wherein we greatly rejoice....’

With Martin and his fifty years of bell-ringing, we do indeed !

Alan Furse

Don Roberts – Lifetime Achievement Award

Many will know that Don’s other passion outside ringing is swimming. Don was a little annoyed that a local award ceremony clashed with Upton practice night and took a lot of persuading to attend the ceremony. When he got there he discovered that he was a guest of honour and received a Lifetime Achievement award for his dedicated service to swimming – in particular water polo which he still coaches at Torquay Boys’ Grammar School. Many congratulations Don – your enthusiasm for both ringing and swimming is an example to us all!

The article in the *Herald Express* gave good publicity to ringing, mentioning that Don had called in to open the tower on the way to the ceremony.

Martin Mansley

Newton Abbot Victorian Evening

There was a good attendance for the ringing at Newton Abbot's St Leonard's Clock Tower on Wednesday 4th December. It was appreciated by members of the public who stood outside to listen and there was a lovely thank you from Newton Abbot in the form of sherry and mince pies for the ringers (which appeared to help the ringing!): Lots of good call changes were rung and it was lovely to meet up with ringers who hadn't met for a while, and indeed, new ringers. It was a lively opening to the Newton Abbot Victorian Evening - even though you could hear the bells in Asda!

Catherine Saunders

East Ogwell Bells

Plans to refurbish the bells at East Ogwell parish church have received a boost thanks to a generous grant from Viridor, the landfill company. It was decided that work was needed to the bells about three years ago. The ring had been augmented to a six in 2000 with the addition of a treble from the Keltek bell trust but the work in adding this bell was poorly carried out and proved very unsatisfactory.

The scheme, which is to be carried out by Whites of Appleton, will rearrange the bells by re-hanging the front four and improving the rope circle, together with the construction of a new ringing room higher in the tower which will halve the rope draught. With the Viridor grant the tenor bell, which has a “thin tone”, will now be replaced by a new bell to be cast at the Whitechapel Bellfoundry. The old tenor bell has to be retained for historical reasons and will be hung dead in the tower as a service bell.

Our hope is to complete the project in the middle of 2014.

Watch this space!

Russell Chamberlain

Quarter Peal in memory of Nelson Mandela

Dawlish rang a quarter peal of Stedman Triples on Sunday (8th December) in celebration of Mr Mandela's life

Dawlish, Devon, St Gregory the Great

Sunday, 8 December 2013 in 41 (11)

1260 Stedman Triples

Composed by T Thurstans

1 Jasper Hughes

5 Susan M Sawyer

2 Timothy M Bayton

6 Martin Dodd

3 Fiona Rock-Evans

7 John R Martin (C)

4 Lynne P Hughes

8 Phil Hughes

First in the principal: 1.

For Evensong

Also rung in celebration of the life of Nelson Mandela

Congratulations to Jasper Hughes on his first of Stedman Triples, making six Dawlish ringers who have achieved their first quarter peal in this challenging principal. Well done!

Peals of Yorkshire Surprise Major

Congratulations to Hannah Martin who rang her first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Dawlish just before Christmas and her second one less than a week later! She then went on to ring Cambridge a week later, A busy Christmas break!

Christmas ringing

At St Marychurch we were delighted to have all ten bells ringing to call changes for the midnight and Christmas Day services – we also managed a course of Stedman Triples on each occasion as well. This was partly due to our visitors Helen and Matt from Bristol and Matt's mum, Sue from West Bridgford in Nottinghamshire.

Teignmouth outing

'Ringing in the rain; just ringing in the rain. What a glorious feeling...!'

The idea was fairly 'hard-sell' to begin with. A ringers' outing on New Year's Day? And to North Somerset? Won't it be icy...roads blocked with snow... trees down? Will we ever get there? Will we feel fragile after a New Year party?

Eventually fifteen ringers signed up, including two visitors who were expected to be staying with one of the regulars. So, the decision was: 'Yes, come on, let's do it!'

By the evening of 31st December, two had cried off through illness and the two 'extras' had not even come to stay. At 11pm on that evening, a ringer from St Marychurch made the late decision to come.

Only twelve, when one of the towers on our list has ten bells... too late to cancel so, off we went.

No snow; no trees down but, despite the promise of the previous day, it rained. And how it rained...incessant, insistent... and very wet!

We had a warm welcome at Brompton Regis and an enjoyable ring of six bells to raise the spirits but a head-count revealed only ten ringers present.

On we went to Minehead for an early lunch, in the case of four of us at the unpromisingly named 'Hairy Dog'. The food was good, though.

Up through the maze of streets to St Michael's church and its ten bells. There followed some very clever and sympathetic choice of ringing. Six bells to start with, then eight, leading to all ten bells in action with something achieved especially by the least experienced.

Back along the road to Dunster. Two drivers found parking spaces in the centre of town, others had to use the more distant car-park. The rain re-doubled its efforts.

St George's eight bells took a little getting used to but everyone managed something even given our host's warning that bells 1 and 2 were difficult.

Another St George's at Morebath; six light bells requiring surprising effort to keep them going – 'You have to show them who's boss', as someone remarked.

Perversely, we did enjoy our day!

Oh, and did I mention that it rained?

Alan Furse (Teignmouth Tower Secretary)

Kingskerswell Quarter Peal

We rang a family quarter peal on 28th December at Kingskerswell:

Kingskerswell, Devon

Saturday, 28 December 2013 in 41 minutes (7¾ cwt)

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Andrew Stevens	4 Carole Chant
2 Simon Chant	5 Philip Stevens (C)
3 Reuben Chant	6 Mo Stevens

First quarter peal 'inside' 3.

Family quarter peal rung with Philip's wife(6),
brother(1), daughter(4), son-in-law(2) and grandson(3).

Philip Stevens

55 Year Record

With a peal at Pinhoe on Saturday 4th January, Philip Stevens has now rung a peal in 55 consecutive years. Many congratulations, Philip.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers

Pinhoe, Devon, St Michael & All Angels

Saturday, 4 January 2014 in 2h44 (10)

5090 Cambridge Surprise Major

Composed by B D Price

1 Philip Stevens	5 Richard H Johnston
2 Hannah R Martin	6 Michael E C Mears
3 Pauline Champion	7 John R Martin (C)
4 Charlotte A Boyce	8 David Hird

Specially arranged and rung as a 90th birthday compliment to the Revd J R Harewood (Hannah's grandfather), ex-Vicar at Kenton.

The treble ringer has now rung at least one peal in 55 consecutive years.

Martin Mansley

Anniversary at Kingskerswell and Coffinswell

Tuesday 14th January was the 25th anniversary of John Leonard's Institution and Induction as vicar of Kingskerswell and Coffinswell, and he celebrated this with a reception in Kingskerswell church. To mark the occasion, I arranged for a cathedral band to ring peals at Coffinswell in the morning and Kingskerswell in the afternoon. We attended the reception afterwards and John publicly announced our successes and thanked us for ringing.



The peal band at Kingskerswell

Philip Stevens

Guild Committee meeting held on Saturday 18th January

Some items of special interest:

Subscription Review: Subscription remains £6 pp for 2015.

Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund: Ian Smith reported that a ringer from Petrockstowe who died in 1991 left his entire estate to the Fund, payable after the deaths of his two dependents. The last of these died in July 2013. The Fund has benefited to the extent of roughly £300,000. This sum has been invested and the committee of the Fund has decided that the proceeds of the investment, of the order of £8000 - £10,000 pa will be used to support bell restoration projects. The principal will not be spent and there will continue to be a top limit to each grant so that as many projects as possible can be supported.

Guild Website Update: Matthew Hilling and others have developed a completely new Guild Website which, when fully released, be updateable by Branch Secretaries and individual towers. Full instructions will follow and a briefing session is planned. (*Ed – this is now live – see earlier article*)

The Denmisch 10 bell simulator: A possible site to house this equipment, a gift to the Guild, has been identified. The site is in Exeter and should provide good access for users. Negotiations are at an early stage.

Central Council: A series of seminars called ‘Have Your Say’ has been organised during 2014. The one for our part of the country is in Exeter on 19th July. Lester Yeo, Guild President, wants a big turn-out to support this with every Branch and as far as possible every tower to be represented.

Ringing Roadshow: Several other Branches, like ourselves, are planning coach trips to Newbury on 6th September.

Guild Shirts: Clare Griffiths will be sending out an order form shortly.

Guild Festival: Will be based in Tiverton. Plans include ringing at NE Branch towers, quarter peals and tower grabbing, in the morning, Guild Service and AGM in the afternoon and a BBQ event in the evening.

Striking Competitions: Rodney and I announced the towers and timings, as instructed. There was some discussion of the 8-bell methods. Finally the decision was for a plain course of Oxford TB (advanced) and a touch of PB Major (basic).

Quarter Peal Week: This will be 31st October – 9th November.

Alan Furse
Thanks, Alan, for this useful report - Ed

Babbacombe Practice meeting

A variety of methods was rung on these quite challenging bells – they go well but are difficult to hear and strike well. We did manage our “method of the season” – Double Norwich and we hope to progress to touches at the next 8 bell practice. During the evening a quick item of business was held when Mike and Hilary Tompsett were elected members. Mike and Hilary have been regular visitors to St Marychurch over a number of years and they have now moved to Paignton – we are delighted to welcome them as branch members.

Martin Mansley

East Devon Branch

On Reaching 75

No, no, not peals, not even quarters, just years!

Way back in history, before the Second World War, my father rang at Thelbridge and Meshaw; alas, both are now unringable. Shortly after the war he had to give up ringing due to health problems and so I never learnt. Missed opportunity number one!

One of my early memories is seeing my father and Ambrose Harding of Buckland Brewer sitting across the kitchen table, lit with a Tilley lantern, and Ambrose writing down the changes as my father called them; it seemed to go on for a long time. I was considered too small to ring and so we passed missed opportunity number two. At school a number of boys began to learn to ring at Shebbear, at a time when I was far too busy studying for O-levels to spare any time for ringing. Missed opportunity number three!

Fifty-five years later, now a pensioner, older and wiser, the opportunity to learn was taken. It has been a struggle, but from my perspective a worthwhile struggle. It took almost three years before ringing my first quarter on the treble, egged on by our lovely lady tower captain. Early this year she said, 'it's time you moved on. Your challenge is to ring a quarter inside, before your birthday.' In the back of my mind there was always the option of moving the goalposts slightly, to the end of the year! Seasoned ringers of many years standing probably wonder what the fuss is about. But in case they have forgotten, it's not easy. Even getting the practice is not always easy. Just a month ago I still felt the objective was impossible. Thanks to several people, from many different towers, I was dragged, screaming and kicking, from ignorance and doubt to where I believed I might be able to ring inside to Bob Doubles. The problem was proving it. The deadline was looming, the tower had been booked and a band assembled.

On the eve of my 75th birthday, exactly two years after my first quarter on the treble, full of foreboding, shaking in my shoes, praying that I wouldn't screw it up and waste everyone's time, the moment came, 'Go Bob Doubles'. The emotion was one of sick terror, the first 'bob' was called and we were past it, the world had not come to an end. Eventually the quarter did though and that was the important bit. I'm not going to pretend that it was all perfection, it wasn't, there were more than a few moments of panic, but when the branch chairman, ringing the fourth, says 'congratulations' then I am more than happy to accept it.

So, what next? 'Your next challenge is to master Reverse Canterbury, or to give it the full name, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob Doubles.' Based on my first attempt, 'shambles' would be more appropriate than 'Pleasure', but maybe I should have more faith, with the lovely lady tower captain prodding me in the back, I guess we will get there – eventually; at least it must be worth trying.

My thanks are due to all those who have helped me along the way, thank you all so very much. I couldn't have done it without your help, guidance and encouragement. To anyone just starting their ringing career, wondering if they will ever get it, take heart, you can do it!

Trevor Hitchcock

North East Branch

Making History at Cruwys Morchard.

A DELAYED REPORT FROM CHRISTMAS EVE, AS WE MISSED THE LAST DEADLINE.

I believe that last night we made a little bit of history in the tower at Cruwys Morchard. It was the first time, as far as we know, that Plain Bob Doubles has been rung here by an all Cruwys Morchard band! Admittedly we only just scraped through one plain course, but it was fun to try and we'd like to register our thanks to Charlotte for helping to make it possible.

We've been working towards this for sometime, but with only one person who can do a bit of method ringing, it's jolly difficult. We had managed to get reasonably good at plain hunting; some of us can do it on any bell and others have just begun on the treble. We've done lots of Kaleidoscope works – long places, short places and dodging, so we have got all the component parts tucked under our belts. A few of us have even been having a go at Bob Minimus. But to make the breakthrough into doubles, I felt we needed a bit of help.

I'd been trying to get a few concentrated sessions organised but everyone had been so busy, it didn't seem possible. Then an occasion presented itself. Charlotte was ringing a quarter peal at Cruwys Morchard. With hindsight, perhaps a good time to approach someone to ask a favour of them is when they have been duly offered and have accepted some very sticky flapjack...it's difficult to say 'No' when chewing! (In truth it was difficult to say anything with flapjack that was this gooey.) Charlotte very kindly agreed not only to come to our next four Monday practice nights, but to bring along helpers...and she did. We enjoyed different helpers who each brought with them their skills and expertise. We are so grateful to all the people who gave up their time and shared their knowledge so generously. One or two have kept coming to us, and it is so lovely to be able to welcome all these different ringers to our practices - it's normally very rare indeed that visitors venture out here.

By the end of four weeks we were making good progress, and two or three helpers said that they would continue to come for the next few weeks, which was marvellous.

Well, here we were; it was Christmas, and our first attempt at putting six Cruwys Morchard ringers all in together!

Our adventure into Plain Bob will continue into the New Year. We have a long way to go, and of course, the excitement of 'bobs'!

So if there is anyone out there who'd like a little trip out here to give us a hand on a Monday evening, you would be made most welcome. We're not as far off the beaten track as some people seem to think – just off the main Tiverton to Witheridge road...look forward to seeing you.

Nellie Croft

Snowdrops at Combe Raleigh

Around 150 people flocked to St Nicolas' church in Combe Raleigh to admire the snowdrops in the churchyard and enjoy some delicious tea and cake to the sound of organ music. More than 1400 snowdrops were sold on the day and will be brightening up many gardens in the area.

A number of fund-raising events are in the pipeline to help boost funds for the bell restoration project, which will augment the current three bells to six. £16,000 has already been raised. An afternoon ceilidh is being planned for Sunday 15th June in the village hall.



Thank you to everyone who came along to support us. Sales of snowdrops continued for a full week and the final profit figure can now be revealed as £675 (to be shared between church funds and the Bells Project). The result has exceeded all our expectations.

Lisa Clarke

Exeter Branch

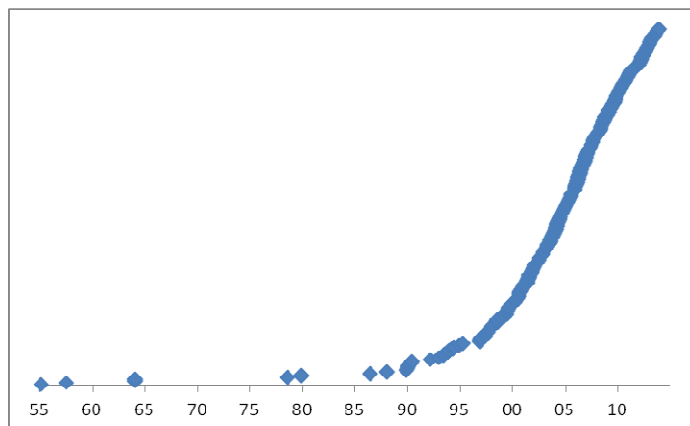
Two Hundred Peals at Pinhoe

On 23rd December 2013 Pinhoe became the sixth tower in Devon, and the 329th in the world to achieve 200 peals when the first peal of Pinhoe Delight Major was rung.

Tower	First Peal	200th Peal	Elapsed time	Current Position	Current Total
Thorverton	16 January 1896	9 March 1995	99.1	9	934
Huntsham	28 November 1868	11 August 2009	140.7	105	360
Withycombe	30 April 1893	17 August 2000	107.3	121	334
Exeter St Mark	29 May 1968	18 February 2006	37.7	192	261
Lundy	23 August 1905	12 September 2013	108.1	312	206
Pinhoe	25 February 1955	23 December 2013	58.8	325	201

The final two columns are from the Felstead database, as at 18 January 2013.

The first 24 peals (4 of Doubles and 20 of Minor), rung prior to the 1995 augmentation, spanned 40 years - in fact the longest gap between peals was during this period, 14.5 years. The remaining 176 (8 of Triples and 168 of Major) were achieved in just over 18 years at an average of a peal every 35 days. The augmentation is clearly seen in the following, by the gap after 95.



242 individual ringers have participated; the leaders being Michael Mears (125), Mervyn Way (101, his 100th being the 199th on the bells) and Paul Pascoe (98). 13 ringers have rung their first peal.

There have been 33 different conductors; the leaders being Michael Mears (117) followed by Matthew Hilling (14).

Peals have been rung by 9 separate Guilds; the leaders being Devonshire (157), Bath & Wells (17) and Kent (11).

124 different methods have been rung; the leaders being 8-Spliced Surprise Major (15, including 12 by the same composer) and Yorkshire Surprise Major (13).

The slowest peal was Grandsire Triples in 3 hours 3 minutes (27.5 changes per minute) and the quickest 5-methods Minor in 2 hours 27 minutes (34.3 changes per minute). The average speed is 2 hours 46 minutes (30.7 changes per minute).

James Kirkcaldy

Harry Rings his First Peal



Harry Grange, pictured here relaxing with sister Emily's 'Winston', has rung his first peal, which was at Salford, Manchester. Harry learnt to ring in Exeter and rang his first quarter peal at St Mark's before moving to America fifteen years ago. He is now back in England, living and working in Manchester. He has taken up ringing again and is a regular at the Cathedral where he has recently been appointed steeple keeper. Encouraged by the Manchester University Guild he rang nearly fifty quarters last year, one as conductor.

Robert Grange

Handbell Quarter Peal Day in Exeter

In consideration of the winter weather, the usual first-Saturday quarter peal day for January was organised as a handbell day in Exeter. With something to stretch everyone, the day was tiring but rewarding. Although one of the two simultaneous quarter peals of Minor was unsuccessful, we were pleased to score the remaining six of the seven attempts planned.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1320 Little B Maximus: Lynne Hughes 1-2, Sue Sparling 3-4, Matthew Hilling 5-6, Tim Bayton (C) 7-8, Andrew Digby 9-10, Sue Sawyer 11-12.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1282 Cambridge S Royal: Andrew Digby 1-2, Sue Sparling 3-4, Matthew Hilling (C) 5-6, Tim Bayton 7-8, Ian Campbell 9-10. 1st Royal in the method in hand: 3-4, 7-8, 9-10.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1272 Bourne S Minor: Sue Sparling 1-2, Lynne Hughes 3-4, Tim Bayton (C) 5-6.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1440 Norwich S Royal: Lynne Hughes 1-2, Sue Sawyer 3-4, Tim Bayton (C) 5-6, Sue Sparling 7-8, Ian Campbell 9-10.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1440 Kent TB Royal: Sue Sparling 1-2, Lynne Hughes 3-4, Tim Bayton (C) 5-6, Ian Campbell 7-8, Sue Sawyer 9-10.

Exeter, Devon (64 Mount Pleasant Road). 4 Jan, 1296 Little B Royal: Lynne Hughes 1-2, Sue Sparling 3-4, Tim Bayton (C) 5-6, Sue Sawyer 7-8, Ian Campbell 9-10. 400th in hand: 5-6.

Tim Bayton

First Quarter Peal by all in a Railway Station

As part of a drive to raise money for two local charities Rusty Hartley arranged for the Frank Mack Garage Ring to be installed in the foyer of Exeter Central Station for a couple of weekends before Christmas. The aim was to attract people riding on the Santa Special trains to and from Exmouth. One quarter peal was rung on Sunday 8th December and two more a week later. A peal attempt on 10th was lost after ringing several extents, partly because of the distraction caused by large numbers of people walking out of the station after each train had arrived.



The mini-ring inside the station with Mrs Christmas



The Guild President in Christmas Disguise



One of Santa's elves came for a ring



All money collected in a bucket by the bells (largely a few coppers!) was added to the amount raised by the railway staff, who ran charity stalls, sold refreshments and ran a raffle. It was donated to The Exeter Gateway Centre (which helps disabled adults) and the Exeter Leukaemia Fund which helps those with life changing illnesses and their families and friends.

Many thanks go to those who gave up their time to ring, but especially to Ian Avery who delivered and setup the mini-ring, and collected it afterwards.

Ian Campbell

Training

Guild Education Officer – an interview with Lynne Hughes

Lynne has been in post as our energetic and resourceful Education Officer now for nearly five years, and your scribe caught up recently with her to find out more about what this challenging role entails.



Q: Hello, Lynne – you’ve been in Devon for a few years now, but could you let us know how you came to live here?

A: Yes, we moved here in 2003 when my husband’s job with the Met Office was relocated to Exeter.

Q: And it would be interesting to hear more about your ringing career. When and where and why did you learn to ring?

A: I started in 1981 at the age of 17, at Sandbach, Cheshire, when it was announced in church that more ringers were needed. I didn’t know anyone who rang, but thought it sounded interesting. Within a year I was off to college in Durham, ringing with DUSCR and at other local towers, which was a great opportunity to progress quickly (and to meet my ringing husband!). Early openings into peal bands in Cheshire and Durham helped a lot too. I carried on in Farnborough for a few years, but then went into ringing retirement soon after starting a family, until we came to Dawlish.

Q: Tower bells v. handbells! You are also an enthusiastic handbell ringer, including regular peals and quarter peals with various groups. Do you regard handbells as a separate activity or are they different sides of the same coin? Dare we ask which you prefer?

A: The physical action is obviously different, but the pleasure in good striking is the same. With handbell ringing you have to be much more aware of how a method fits together – perhaps some dodging occurs at the same time as places being made elsewhere – and knowing the half-leads (when the treble lies at the back) as well as the lead ends is pretty useful in keeping yourself right. This knowledge helps me keep myself (and on occasions other people) right in tower bell ringing. So yes, they are different sides of the same coin. As to which I prefer, I think I like them both equally, though I get more of a sense of challenge and development out of handbells, which I only really get out of 12-bell ringing in towers.

Q: I think that being Education Officer is one of the tougher roles to fulfil within the Guild because there are so many different requirements to meet: a typical year might include training days ranging from Plain Bob Doubles through to advanced Surprise Major (and everything in between). How do you work out the calendar of events and decide where the most pressing need is?

A: I have established an open meeting every autumn, to which anyone can come, to discuss and suggest training needs for the following year, so this is the starting point. Other considerations are to provide what might not be available at branch level, and to have lots of different things. If something is well attended or over-subscribed one year, it is likely to be offered the next as well.

Q: Much has been written about pros and cons of teaching older learners as well as young/younger people. How do you feel we measure up as a Guild to make education as exciting and inclusive an activity as possible?

A: Young ringers' events have an age restriction, but this is because they are more about meeting other young ringers for encouragement, with a bit of ringing mixed into the socialising, and not about training. All the actual training events are open to all ages, so we are certainly inclusive. I don't know about exciting, but the education trip a couple of years ago to Worcester, to experience the unique teaching centre there, was certainly different and inspiring.

Q: You have worked very hard to establish a Devon young ringers' group that meets at least three times a year and enjoys a mixture of ringing and social activities. Does the future continue to look rosy for the group?

A: Yes, Amy Gill is running this now, and being a young ringer herself she is ideally placed to come up with appealing activities. But we need as a Guild to make sure this role is always filled, and we rely on local contacts to encourage their new young ringers to come along, with parents and sometimes tower captains coming too.

Q: What do you think might be the major challenges in education that lie ahead for the Guild and how can we address them?

A: Nationally, there has been a move in the last few years, to address the increasing age demographic of ringers everywhere, and to look afresh at the way things have 'always' been done - the Victorian structure of guilds, and the tradition of being taught to ring by one of the old boys in the tower (who may or may not be any good at teaching), and taking months to handle a bell at the rate of a few minutes a week. We're not doing too badly as a Guild, as the Integrated Teacher Training Scheme is starting, albeit slowly, to train new teachers in Devon, and curricula such as Learning the Ropes (LtR) or the Sherbourne teaching aids are being used by many to ensure the building blocks of a good ringer are all included. I think we could make better use of teaching centres to bring together good teachers for intensive early tuition, and give learners what people expect when they take up a new hobby – a nationally recognised programme backed up by internet resources (LtR).

Q: Obviously you will not want to remain in post as Education Officer for ever, so what would you say to anyone who was thinking they might like to take over from you in the future? Could you outline a brief job description (without making it sound too terrifying)?

A: I am encouraging those who kindly volunteer to tutor a training day, to also sort out the towers, helpers and publicity as far as possible. This is starting to reduce the Education Officer's workload, and make the role more one of co-ordination, once the planning meeting has been held, and the dates juggled round to put a programme together. Of course I am still running some of the days myself, and I keep in contact with the other organisers to ensure things run smoothly. There will also be other requests coming in which I try to meet, such as when a tower wanted a couple of sessions on how to teach (before ITTS came in), and another wanted help with demonstrating handbells in a school; there was a national conference on the future of ringing to attend, and a meeting to accredit the guild for 'children's university' status. The role is always interesting, and can be as large as you have time for.

Q: And, finally, do you have any other interests or hobbies apart from ringing to fill your non-existent spare time?

A: Ringing is certainly my main one. I like to be active, swimming every week, and sometimes cycling, walking on Dartmoor, horse riding, or skiing at Torquay. But not all in one week! My piano playing is rather neglected, and I like to read a good novel when there's time. I also have a day job, being a supply teacher for a number of primary schools.

Thank you, Lynne, for agreeing to be interviewed, and I'm sure that everyone will continue to look forward to your interesting training programmes for a few more years yet!

Wendy Campbell

Cadbury Bellringers learn the Ropes

The new band of ringers at St Michael's and All Angels' church in Cadbury was formed in March 2013. Tower captain Gordon Leigh has led the campaign to get the historic bells ringing again, with enthusiastic support from the local community.



(L to R): Gordon, Jacqui, Roger, Alice, Andrew, John, Libby, Malcolm

A survey of the bells by the Devon bell advisors concluded that they were fit for limited use in their current condition, but would need re-hanging within five years. The bearings have been cleaned of decades of dirt and oiled, making the bells much easier to ring. £850 was raised to buy new ropes. Fundraising has already started to rehang the bells (approx £45,000), with a churchyard tea in September raising £528.

Cadbury are the first completely new band in Devon to learn to ring with the *Learning the Ropes* scheme, with tutors from the ITTS course. Trainee teacher Lyn Costello and mentor Lynne Hughes taught the learners with a rota of helpers, including Matt Webb, Mark Bertram, Richard Shere, Fiona Rock-Evans, David Trist, the Cadbury Deanery Association, and many others. ITTS co-ordinator Les Boyce has been a constant source of advice and encouragement. Special thanks go to the Thorverton ringers; for the first three months the bellhandling sessions were held on their ten easy-going bells. Gradually the new ringers have learned to ring their own more challenging bells.

There are now ten ringers in the band, and eight have passed *Learning the Ropes* Level 1. All have good bell control and can ring six bells up and down in peal. They are now learning simple call-changes, and place-making. For the first time in many years, the village will hear the bells ringing on Christmas morning.

Learning the Ropes Level 1 – Bell Handling: Alice Channon, Jacqui Channon, Roger Gowing, Andrew Green, Sheila Jefferies, Gordon Leigh, Libby Price, John Waite.

Lynette Costello

Handbell Plain Hunt Day

Ringers who wished to try or improve plain hunt on handbells met in Dawlish on 22nd February for three hours of tuition. Three separate groups rang in different rooms, and there was a laptop with simulator sensors in the hall! The morning rounded off with soup and sandwiches for thirteen people.



A group learning in the bedroom



Lunch

Lynne Hughes

Advanced Surprise Major Practice - Sunday 6th April

As part of the Guild education programme this year, there will be an Advanced Surprise Major practice on Sunday 6th April, in the afternoon, in Exeter. It will focus on London, Bristol, Glasgow and Belfast. The tutor is Tim Bayton.

Ian Campbell

Other News

A LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO THE DCBRF

Dear Mrs Mears,

Thank you very much for the cheque for £4000 which arrived today. Please pass my thanks on to all the members of your committee. Without organisations like yours it would be impossible for many of us to keep our bells ringing. It was the grants that we received that made the whole project possible. Raising £40,000 in a small village was a huge undertaking and it is with a huge sigh of relief that I can say "we have done it!" What it means is that our bell frame and the tower are now fit for purpose for the next hundred years or so, which is a fantastic legacy to leave for future generations. I can assure you that your money was very well used! With many grateful thanks.

Jean Ransford, Captain of ringers, Hawkchurch

Calendar for 2014 – from the website

March				
Mon 17	19:30	Stedman and Doubles Methods	Offwell	East
Thu 20	19:00	8-bell practice	Newton Abbot, Clock Tower	Mid Devon
Fri 21	19:30	8 Bell Branch Practice	Broadclyst	Exeter
Sat 22		Joint practice with East Devon Branch	Honiton details later	North East
Tue 25	19:30	General Practice	Sidmouth	East
Wed 26	19:30	Branch Practice (Method)	Pinhoe	North East
April				
Wed 2	19:30	10 Bell Advanced Practice	Exeter St Mark	Exeter
Sat 5	PM	Quarterly Meeting	tbc	North East
Sat 5	19:00	Branch Practice	Black Torrington	North/North West
Sat 5	19:00	Practice Meeting	Teignmouth, St James	Mid Devon
Sat 5	19:30	Supper & Skittles Evening	Royal Oak, Exminster	Exeter
Sun 6		Advanced Surprise Major		Guild
Mon 7	19:30	Triples Practice*	Ottery St. Mary	East
Tue 8	19:30	Branch Practice	Luppitt	East
Wed 9	19:30	Branch Practice	Lympstone	Aylesbeare
Thu 10	19:30	Plain Hunt Practice	Sidbury	East
Fri 11	19:30	Surprise Minor Practice*	Buckerell	East
Sat 12	10:30	12 Bell Branch Practice	Crediton	Exeter
Wed 23	19:30	Branch Practice (Method)	Huntsham	North East

Mon 28	19:30	8-bell practice	Wolborough	Mid Devon
Mon 28	19:30	Stedman and Doubles Methods	Offwell	East
Tue 29	19:30	General Practice	Sidmouth	East
May				
Sat 3	19:00	Branch Practice	Braunton	North/North West
Mon 5	19:30	Triples Practice*	Ottery St. Mary	East
Mon 5		Branch Train Outing		Exeter
Wed 7	19:30	10 Bell Advanced Practice	Exeter St Mark	Exeter
Thu 8	19:30	Plain Hunt Practice	Sidbury	East
Fri 9	19:30	Surprise Minor Practice*	Buckerell	East
Fri 9	19:30	Branch Practice	Withycombe Raleigh, Exmouth	Aylesbeare
Sat 10	15:00	Spring Business Meeting	Cotleigh	East
Sat 10	19:00	Practice meeting	Widcombe-in-the-Moor	Mid Devon
Mon 19	19:30	Stedman and Doubles Methods	Offwell	East
Thu 22	19:30	8-bell practice	Teignmouth, St Michael	Mid Devon
Tue 27	19:30	General practice	Sidmouth	East
Tue 27	19:30	8 Bell Branch Practice	Pinhoe	Exeter
Wed 28	19:30	Branch Practice (Method)	Huntsham	North East
Sat 31		Branch Outing	Details later	North East

* You are advised to contact the branch secretary to confirm these events

Buckfast Abbey: A Millennium Project



Exterior view of the newly 'spruced up' Abbey with ongoing work outside the west front.

The bells of Buckfast Abbey have been out of action since the tenor clapper came out with a bang during a peal attempt almost three years ago. Unfortunately the repair to the clapper has coincided with the commencement of a major refurbishment scheme which is being carried out on the building in time to mark one thousand years since the arrival of Benedictines in the Dart Valley at Buckfastleigh.

The Abbey was originally founded as a Benedictine Order, probably from the community at Winchester, during the reign of King Cnut in 1018 at a time of great expansion of Monasticism, and became a Cistercian Abbey in 1147 when the simplicity of this new regime was spreading across Europe. The Abbey thrived for the next three centuries, although by the later medieval period it had declined in numbers even though it had become a pillar of the local community. The monks were involved with farming and trading in wool but also did not lose sight of their social responsibilities such as providing guest houses, schools and maintaining their manors and parishes. By the time the Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1539 only ten ordained monks remained. The Abbey plate and treasure was taken to London, the land disposed of by the King's Commissioners and the five bells in the tower sold to the parish of Buckfastleigh. The bells of Buckfastleigh have undergone considerable recasting over the years so it is not really known how much (if any) of

the old bells are incorporated into the modern ring by the time they were recast and augmented to eight by Taylors in 1934.

By the mid nineteenth century the ruins of most of the Abbey buildings had disappeared and a mansion had been built on the site. The only part of the former buildings which had been incorporated into this was the Abbot's Tower and part of the 12th century undercroft. A community of monks who had been exiled from their monastery in France in the 1860s eventually purchased the site and Benedictines returned in 1882. It was decided to build a new Abbey in the 12th century Cistercian style after the foundations of the former Abbey had been discovered by one of the monks digging in the vegetable garden. The Abbey was built by the monks themselves mostly out of local limestone but also incorporating yellow Ham Stone from Somerset. The work was led by Bro. Peter Schrode, who had been sent to a monastery in France to learn the art of masonry, with a team of between four and six monks. Although it was carried on piecemeal as and when funds were available, at no time over the period of construction between 1907 until 1938 was the work ever halted.

A peal of bells was ordered in 1910 and cast by Warners. They were donated by Sir Robert Harvey of Totnes in memory of his wife. He was an interesting character, a native Cornishman born in 1847 who had made his fortune in South America mining copper and saltpetre. He became embroiled in the War of the Pacific between Chile and Peru but after being captured in 1879 he went to work for the Chilean Government and returned to Britain in 1882 a wealthy man. He bought property in Cornwall and around South Devon and continued his business career whilst living a few miles from Totnes. He was High Sherriff of Devon in 1897, of Cornwall a year later and knighted in 1901, the same year his wife died. By 1905 he had already made a generous donation to defray the cost of rehanging the ring of eight bells at his native Kenwyn near Truro in memory of his parents, and previously had provided a new clock for the church in the Devon village of Harberton, close to his home at Dundridge Park. He also planned to pay for a new, heavier, ring of eight for this church but because he wished to attach conditions that would mean the bells would not be under the control of the incumbent or churchwardens this was declined. He then offered the bells to Buckfast Abbey and it was this 27 cwt ring, augmented to twelve including two semitones, that was eventually hung at the level of the present ringing chamber as the tower at that time had not been fully completed. They first pealed out in 1921 but had to be rung from a gallery below the interior ceiling of the tower.

The *Buckfast Chronicle* of 1921 records the details;

“January 22nd was a red letter day being the solemn inauguration of the bells in the presence of Sir Robert Harvey. The Abbey Choir sang two or three Motetts from the tower gallery, and after a short prayer read by the Abbot, two sets of ringers from Newton Abbot set the bells ringing, much to the delight of those present. Subsequently tea was provided for those who attended the ceremony. Our Brothers have already made considerable progress in the art of bell-ringing and the Dart valley re-echoes with gladness on festive days.”



The bells being rung from the gallery sometime between 1921 and 1936.
© Buckfast Abbey.

When the bells were rung by members of the Community, because they were then a silent order and the gallery was open to the Abbey church, a system was designed using a board with movable numbers which would be changed by a non ringing brother to indicate the call changes. This is still in existence in the ringing chamber. One peal only was rung on the old ring, of Stedman Cinques conducted by Bill Pye from the tenor in 1930. The writer of the *Buckfast Chronicle* again records the event:

“This was the first time such a peal has been rung on the Abbey bells, and it was fascinating to hear the changes progress rhythmically for three hours and fifty minutes without interruption. We must congratulate the composer of the peal, John Carter, and the sturdy ringers who maintained such skilful precision under the strain of such a long effort.”

The final stone was not placed on the tower until 1937, even though the church had been consecrated in 1932. Three years later in 1935 the bells were recast by Taylors' with additional metal so that the tenor now weighs just over 41 cwt. They were installed in the tower the following year together with a seven and a half ton bourdon bell, Hosanna, with the ringing chamber now being at the level of the previous bell chamber and the new belfry at some 20 feet higher. The architect designed a series of iron stanchions with a steel framework to transfer the forces of the bell movement through the ringing chamber back to the lower level where the bells were previously hung. In subsequent years the bell-ringing members of the community progressed their skills to 'scientific' change ringing under the tuition of some well know members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, including J E Lilley, E M Atkins, W G Lavers and A L Bennett who was the local Postmaster at Buckfastleigh and had rung in the first touch on the bells at Christmas 1921.



The bells waiting to be hoisted into the tower in 1920. They were installed in an oak frame by the local bellhangers, Aggett's of Chagford. Mr Aggett can be seen at the back amongst some of the brothers and Brother Peter is in the foreground leaning against the tenor.

© Buckfast Abbey

Over the next seventy years the stonework, both inside and outside the Abbey has become quite discoloured and a decision was made to initiate a huge cleaning process. At the same time the flooring within the Abbey, which had never been completed to the architect's plans, would be replaced with the Purbeck limestone that had originally been specified. This first necessitated scaffold to be erected on the outside of the building and covered in sheeting so that the stonework could be cleaned and repointed. At least that was a convenient way of bringing the repaired tenor clapper back into the tower using the crane. That was completed last year and work commenced on the inside but unfortunately the internal scaffold blocked the entrance door to the tower in the south transept. This stage of work is coming to an end and the new flooring and cleaned stonework has lightened up the interior of the Abbey, making it an even more spectacular space. At the same time the opportunity is being taken to clean and conserve much of the Abbey's artworks and treasures, including the lantern ceiling just above the gallery from where the bells were initially rung and below the present ringing chamber. The ceiling panels were painted using an egg-tempera technique between 1938 and 1945 by Father Charles Norris, who also created the wonderful stained glass window in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the east end of the Abbey Church. These ceiling panels were installed after the war and like much of the interior of the Abbey had become dirty, principally due to candle smoke. The cleaning process is very time consuming but is already showing beneficial results as the intensity of the original colour can now be seen on the restored panels. Unfortunately this has created further difficulty with access for ringing because the scaffold used by the conservators is built onto boards across the gallery, which is part of the route up the tower to the ringing chamber.

This phase of the work has now been completed. Taylors have inspected the bells and the work necessary to get the bells back in shape has been put in hand. It is hoped to complete this within the next few months. The Exeter Colleges Guild have already made use of the middle eight on their recent outing and it is hoped to institute some limited service ringing in the near future. The refurbishment work in the Abbey will be ongoing leading up to the Millennium celebrations in 2018 but it is hoped to mark the completion of this phase of the work with a service of thanksgiving in 2015.



Hosanna proving a tight fit coming through the west door in 1936
© Buckfast Abbey.

My thanks go to the Trustees of Buckfast Abbey for allowing me to quote from their archives and use some of their photographs and I also acknowledge the work of the late Preb John Scott whose book *Towers and Bells of Devon* has provided much information on both the original and current ring.

Peter Bill

STOP PRESS

Denmisch Simulated Bells

Following a very productive meeting at Exeter Cathedral School, attended by Lester Yeo, Oliver Coldrick and Ian Campbell from the Guild, and Stephen Yeo (no relation to Lester!) and Sharon Groves representing the school (Headmaster and Bursar) it was agreed that the old workshop at the school would be converted by the school into a cloakroom area for the year 8 pupils and that the work would include the installation of a floor suitable for the bells. The Guild would be responsible for the installation of the simulated bells and would retain ownership of them. Access to this

workshop is possible directly from the road without having to go into the school and ringing would be possible any evening, weekend or during the school holidays. A lot of work needs to be done to make the area suitable as can be seen from the photographs; it is hoped to have everything completed and the bells installed by the beginning of the autumn term.



Exterior of location for Denmisch bells
The top of the stairs opens directly into Bear Street by Exeter Cathedral
The door under the arch gives access to the room



The interior of the old workshop, showing Lester Yeo, Stephen Yeo, Sharon Groves and Oliver Coldrick

Ian Campbell

Editorial

We need to congratulate Matthew Hilling who has designed and set up the new Guild web pages. The content of these is largely dependent on the local branch secretaries, so if anything incorrect or missing is found, please contact them. This includes the calendar printed here which was lifted directly from the website.

The new edition of the Bells of Devon Directory displays an enormous commitment by Tim Bayton to keep this invaluable reference up to date – and raise money for the bell fund! Please support him by obtaining your own copy and help him by letting him know as changes occur in your area.

The Guild AGM is to be held on June 21st in the North East branch at Tiverton. This branch certainly knows how to arrange events – every member is expected to attend, both to have some say in how the Guild is run and to enjoy the ringing and fellowship of other Devon ringers. Please book this date in your diaries and come if you possibly can.

Please also book July 19th for the Central Council run seminar in Exeter. Ringers are often not aware how much ringing at their local tower is affected by decisions made locally and nationally. Please support this event and have your say in this matter. Presentations should be of interest to all ringers in the area.

Finally I am glad to announce that we collected £592 for the Children's Hospice at the Carol Service in the Cathedral. I think that this is the best amount ever collected at this event.

As always, I am indebted to all those who have provided articles for this edition. Please keep them coming in – you can now email them directly to:

newsletter@devonringers.org.uk

Ian Campbell

GUILD FESTIVAL & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY 21 JUNE 2014 - TIVERTON

This year hosted by the North East Branch
and celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers

‘140 Bells for 140 Years’

Morning quarter peals to celebrate

Two routes of general ringing

Early afternoon service at St Peter's, Tiverton

Commemorative photograph at Tiverton Rugby Club

Annual General Meeting

followed by

Social events and BBQ

– The Bells of Devon – 3rd Edition –

The comprehensive directory of all Devon towers with 3 or more bells

Includes: Contacts for all towers with 3 or more ringable bells
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 Chimes of 3 or more bells
 1-bell towers

A MUST HAVE for any ringer exploring Devon!

All proceeds donated to Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund

The Bells of Devon is available at £6.00 (plus £1.00 p&p) per copy from:
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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
