

The Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers



St Mary Bletsoe

Annual Report 2014

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Cover picture – St Mary Bletsoe

With no regular ringing since 2000, some villagers got together in 2010 to learn under the guidance of Sara and Paul Wheeler from Milton Keynes. It was soon apparent why there had been little ringing in recent years: the go of the bells was poor and they were very loud in the ringing chamber, which wasn't an inviting place to spend a winter's evening!

The ringers got estimates for a complete overhaul and set about applying for grants. With the assistance of the Central Council's Bell Restoration Committee, a successful bid was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund, netting 89% of the required amount. The bells went to Taylor's in August 2014 for retuning and were returned with new fittings in February 2015. A crack in the crown of the fourth was repaired by Soundweld.

With the bells away, the local ringers cleaned and painted all the tower ironwork, treated the timber and fitted a new floor beneath the bells to reduce the sound level in the ringing chamber. The ringing chamber walls were repainted and a new floor made.

The final result is a transformed ring of bells which are a credit to the local ringers, particularly Trish and Paul Vine who led the project.

Information on the Association's Website: www.bacr.co.uk

- Association and District events – diary and details.
- Association rules.
- Association Bell Restoration Fund information.
- Details of the Association's insurance cover.
- Association officers from 1882.
- Up to date tower contact information.
- Association 6 bell inter-district striking competition for the St Peter's cup – rules and results.
- Association safeguarding guidance and 'permission to ring' form.
- Jim's Jug raise and lower in peal challenge – rules and results.

 Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/240759242723040/

 Follow us on Twitter @bedsbellringers

Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers

Established 13 March 1882

Registered Charity 263781

Patrons

Right Reverend Dr Alan Smith, Lord Bishop of St Albans
Right Reverend Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford

Association Officers 2014

President

Susan M Silver, 16 Orchard Way, Luton LU4 9LT
01582 491936 president@bacr.co.uk

Vice-President

Patrick J S Albon, 27 Home Close, Sharnbrook MK44 1PQ
01234 782251 vicepresident@bacr.co.uk

Honorary Life Members

Robert R Churchill, Derek A Hammond, Clifford W Izzard,
John R Pemble, Anthony H Smith

Honorary Secretary

Teresa J Brown, 10 Arnhem Place, Shefford SG17 5UJ
01462 631057 secretary@bacr.co.uk

Honorary Treasurer

Barbara Fraser, 18 Bedford Avenue, Silsoe MK45 4ER
01525 861709 treasurer@bacr.co.uk

Honorary Peal Secretary

Anthony H Smith, 58 Cambridge Road, Langford SG18 9PS
01462 700676 pealsecretary@bacr.co.uk

Honorary Librarian

Patrick J S Albon, 27 Home Close, Sharnbrook MK44 1PQ
01234 782251 librarian@bacr.co.uk

Central Council Representatives

Patrick J S Albon, Richard A Horne, Susan M Silver

Honorary Independent Examiner

Richard J Hillson, 17 Mortimer Road, Kempston, Bedford MK42 8RE
01234 857828 rhillson@virginmedia.com

Bank Trustees

Susan M Silver, Robert Jones

Technical Advisor

Roger I Kendrick, 86 Colin Road, Luton LU2 7RX
01582 413564 techadvisor@bacr.co.uk

Safeguarding Coordinator

Rosemary Drewery
07792 926004 safeguarding@bacr.co.uk

Web Master

Christine A Williams
01767 601551 webmaster@bacr.co.uk

District Secretaries and Treasurers 2015

Bedford District

Secretary: Robert Jones
St Monica, Norfolk Road, Turvey
MK43 8DU
01234 881741
bedford@bacr.co.uk

Treasurer: Jenny Thompson
16 Langdale, Bedford
MK41 9EG
01234 216571
thompbarr@aol.com

Biggleswade District

Secretary: Linda Garton
5 Riverside, Shefford
SG17 5DW
01462 850180
biggleswade@bacr.co.uk

Treasurer: Peter Overfield
10 Peartree Close, Shefford
SG17 5JG
01462 815672
peter.overfield@waitrose.com

Luton District

Secretary: Richard Horne
48 Burr Street, Dunstable
LU6 3AG
01582 600073
luton@bacr.co.uk

Treasurer: Christopher Catlin
12 Millards Close, Flitwick
MK45 1AS
01525 752347
chris.catlin@ntlworld.com

District Officers 2014

Bedford District

Chairman: Alex Nash
Secretary: Robert Jones
Treasurer: Jenny Thompson
District BRF Treasurer: Andrew Dennison
Ringing Master: James Saunders
Committee: Barbara Woplin, Roger Framp,
Adrienne Sharp, David Heaslip

Striking Contest Organiser: Roger Framp
District Outing Organiser: Adrienne Sharp
RJ Sharp Bell Fund Rep: Andrew Dennison
Association BRF Rep: Andrew Dennison
Ind. Examiner BRF: Richard Hillson
Ind. Examiner District Accounts: Tim Blunt

Biggleswade District

Chairman: Susan Silver
Secretary: Linda Garton
Treasurer: Peter Overfield
Ringing Master: Christine Williams
Committee: Teresa Brown, Linda Bryant,
James Eggleston, Alice Scott

District BRF Treasurer: Kate Scott
RJ Sharp Bell Fund Rep: Linda Garton
Association BRF Rep: John Loveless
Ind. Examiner- BRF & Membership
Accounts: Mary Mann

Luton District

Chairman: Barry Eglesfield
Secretary: Richard Horne
Treasurer: Christopher Catlin
Ringing Master: Alan Shepherd
Training Officer & Asst. Ringing Master:
Lyndsey Brett
Committee: Elizabeth Churchill,
Robert Churchill

Striking Contest Organiser: Peter Phillips
District BRF Treasurer: Simon Stranks
RJ Sharp Bell Fund Rep: Sally Creveul
Association BRF Rep: Simon Stranks
Ind. Examiner BRF: Susan Silver
Ind. Examiner District Accounts:
David Adams

Association Rules

1. Name and Objects

The Association shall be called 'The Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers'. It shall have for its objects:

- The promotion of ringing for divine service.
- The cultivation of scientific change ringing.
- The preservation of proper belfry conduct.
- The encouragement of ringers to take part in the worshipping life of the church.
- To promote and support the care, maintenance, improvement and restoration of bells within the area of the Association.

There shall be three districts within the Association, namely the Bedford, Biggleswade and Luton Districts.

2. Membership

Register of Members

A register of members shall be kept. The contents and control of the register shall be responsibility of the General Committee. Personal information will be held in accordance with the Data Protection legislation.

Definition of Criteria for membership

Ringling: Be able to ring rounds competently.

Residency: Either ring for Sunday Service at a tower within the Association boundary or reside within the Association boundary. The Association boundary is defined as those parishes which lie within the geographical county of Bedfordshire including the parish of Eaton Socon in Cambridgeshire.

Definition of membership categories

(a) Ringing Member (Resident)

A Ringing Member (Resident) must satisfy the criteria for ringing and residency.

A Ringing Member (Resident) may be elected at any public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts provided the proposer and seconder hold the status of Voting Member. A Ringing Member (Resident) may be elected prior to a peal attempt, provided the proposer and seconder hold the status of Voting Member and the election is ratified at a public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts within three months of the peal attempt.

(b) Ringing Member (Resident, Life) - This membership category is closed as from 18 May 2013.

(c) Ringing Member (Non-Resident)

A Ringing Member (Resident) who no longer fulfils the criteria for residency may transfer to Ringing Member (Non-Resident) upon application to the Honorary Secretary. A Ringing Member (Non-Resident) who fulfils the criteria for Ringing Member (Resident) must automatically return to Ringing Member (Resident).

(d) Ringing Member (Non-Resident, Life)

A Ringing Member (Resident, Life) who no longer fulfils the criteria for residency will automatically transfer to Ringing Member (Non-Resident, Life). A Ringing Member (Non-Resident, Life) who fulfils the criteria for Ringing Member (Resident, Life) shall automatically return to Ringing Member (Resident, Life).

(e) Honorary Life Member

The Honorary Life Member category is reserved for any person who has given outstanding service to the Association. An Honorary Life Member may only be elected at an Association Annual General Meeting, provided that notice of such nomination shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The nomination must be proposed and seconded by members holding the status of Voting Member.

(f) Associate Member (Ringing)

An Associate Member (Ringing) must fulfil the criteria for ringing and must not fulfil the criteria for residency.

An Associate Member (Ringing) may be elected at any public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts provided the proposer and seconder hold the status of Voting Member.

An Associate Member (Ringing) may also be elected prior to a peal attempt, provided that the proposer and seconder hold the status of Voting Member and they are taking part in the attempt. The election must be ratified at a public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts within three months of the peal attempt.

(g) Associate Member (Non-Ringing)

An Associate Member (Non-Ringing) must not fulfil the criteria for ringing. The criterion for residency does not apply. An Associate Member (Non-Ringing) may be elected at any public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts, provided the proposer and seconder hold the status of Voting Member.

General

In order for a member to change between Ringing Member, Associate Member or Honorary Life Member an election must take place.

It is the responsibility of members to notify the appropriate Association officer of any alteration to their entry in the Register of Members.

3. Election and Voting

Only Ringing Members (Resident), Ringing Members (Resident, Life) and Honorary Life Members shall have power of voting on matters connected with the Association or one of its Districts. Such members shall be referred to as Voting Members.

A Voting Member is entitled to speak and vote at any public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts. Only Voting Members shall be eligible for election to any official position (as defined in Rule 4 and Rule 6).

Voting will take place by show of hands or secret ballot as directed by the chairman of the meeting.

Voting on the following Association matters shall be approved by an absolute majority: rule changes, finance, charitable status, election to Association office, membership and other items at the discretion of the chairman of the meeting (Association or District). All other proposals shall be approved by a working majority.

An 'Absolute Majority' is defined as a majority of all Voting Members who are present and eligible to vote at a public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts.

A 'Working Majority' is defined as a majority of those Voting Members who are present, eligible and cast a vote at a public meeting of the Association or one of its Districts.

4. Management

The management of the Association shall be vested in a General Committee consisting of a President, a Vice-President, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, an Honorary Librarian, an Honorary Peal Secretary, the Central Council Representatives, the three District Secretaries, two members of each District Committee and those Honorary Life Members elected. The President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Librarian, Honorary Peal Secretary and Honorary Life Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and serve for one year. The number of Central Council Representatives permitted by the Central Council shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and serve for three years. The General Committee may appoint specialists, as required, to carry out certain roles, for example Technical Advisor, Safeguarding Co-ordinator and Web Master. In their roles, specialists will not be members of the General Committee. Any officer or Honorary Life Member shall be eligible for re-election. Each year the General Committee must appoint two of its members to be Bank Trustees. The General Committee shall have the power to co-opt if a position becomes vacant during the year. To form a quorum, there shall be a minimum of six General Committee members. A quorum must have at least one of the following officers: President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

The Honorary Secretary shall be responsible for recording the activities of the Association as a whole, the preparation of the Annual Report and membership records. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the recording of finances of the Association. The Honorary Peal Secretary shall record details of all peals rung by the Association and shall ensure that the rules of the Association and of the Central Council have been observed. The Technical Adviser shall assist and advise in all matters concerning bells and their fittings at churches within the Association boundary. The Safeguarding Co-ordinator shall be the focal point for all complaints, shall take the complaint seriously and pass it on in accordance with Diocesan guidelines. The Central Council Representatives shall attend meetings of the Council on instructions of the General Committee and represent the declared views of the Association.

6. Districts

Each District shall elect a District Committee, consisting of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and at least four other members, with other officers as they may find necessary. Each Treasurer shall collect the subscriptions of members and other monies payable to the Association's funds. Each District shall report annually on its activities and membership.

7. Subscription

The subscription of each member (who is liable to pay an annual subscription) shall be due on January 1st and shall be paid before the Association Annual General Meeting in each year. Membership shall cease as from 1st January, if the subscription is not paid within the specified time period. The appropriate subscription for a new member shall be payable upon election.

The subscription level for each membership category and its effective date (as defined below) shall be recommended by the General Committee and approved at an Association Annual General Meeting. If the Association Annual General Meeting rejects the recommended subscription levels, the existing subscription levels will then remain in force until such time as the General Committee make further recommendations which are accepted by the Annual General Meeting.

Definition of Subscription Levels for Each Membership Category

(a) Ringing Member (Resident)

There shall be three classes of Ringing Member (Resident):- Under 19, 19 to 64 and 65 and over.

The age requirement shall be determined by the age of the member at the 1st January in each year. Each member shall pay an annual subscription.

(b) Ringing Member (Resident, Life)

This membership category is closed as from 18 May 2013.

(c) Ringing Member (Non-Resident)

A Ringing Member (Resident) who has paid five or more consecutive annual subscriptions may transfer to Ringing Member (Non-Resident) without further payment; otherwise the transfer may be made by payment of a single fee. Such transfers shall be deemed to begin on 1st January after the date of transfer.

(d) Ringing Member (Non-Resident, Life)

Such transfers shall be deemed to begin on 1st January after the date of transfer. No payment is required.

(e) Honorary Life Member

Exempt from subscription payments.

(f) Associate Member (Ringing)

Each member shall pay a single payment upon election.

(g) Associate Member (Non-Ringing)

Each member shall pay an annual payment.

A table giving subscription rates for each membership category shall be published in the Annual Report.

8. Peals

All peals rung by the Association shall be recorded in the Annual Report, provided that all those taking part are Ringing Members, Honorary Life Members or Associate Members (Ringing). Full details of the peal including the composition, together with the peal fee shall be given to the Honorary Peal Secretary by the conductor within four weeks or not later than the 14th January in the following year, whichever date is earlier. It is the responsibility of the conductor to ensure compliance with these rules. The peal fee and its effective date shall be set by the General Committee and published in the Annual Report.

9. Annual Report

A report shall be published annually before the Association Annual General Meeting, containing a list of officers, the Association rules, the Committee's reports, statements of accounts, peals rung during the year, other announcements as the General Committee shall find necessary and a list of members.

The list of members shall be compiled as follows:

- a) Honorary Life Members, Ringing Members (Resident), Ringing Members (Resident, Life) and Associate Members (Non-Ringing) annually;
- b) Ringing Members (Non-Resident) and Ringing Members (Non-Resident, Life) in the year of transfer;
- c) Associate Members (Ringing) in the year of election.

Each member listed in the Annual Report shall be entitled to a copy of the Annual Report; others may purchase copies if available. The fee shall be set by the General Committee and published in the Annual Report.

10. Meetings

The time and date of the Association Annual General Meeting together with the District in which it is to be held shall be fixed by the previous Association Annual General Meeting. The General Committee shall have power to arrange other meetings of the Association when required. Each District shall hold an Annual District Meeting in January and monthly meetings when possible.

11. Accounts

The General Committee must:

- Authorise opening and closing all Association bank accounts, and
- Review all bank accounts regularly to make sure that charges and/or interest rates are competitive.

The Honorary Treasurer and Bank Trustees must be signatories and any two of these three must authorise payments and/or withdrawals

An Independent Examiner shall be appointed at the Association Annual General Meeting to examine the accounts of the Association at the end of each financial year.

12. Rule Alteration

All alterations or additions to the Rules shall be made at the Association Annual General Meeting and notice of any alterations or additions shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary in full, at least 14 days previous to such a meeting.

13. Affiliation

The Association shall be affiliated to the Central Council and shall abide by the Rules and Decisions thereof.

14. Interpretation of Rules

The interpretation of these Rules, and matters not covered by them, shall be finally decided by the General Committee.

15. Dissolution of the Association

If the Trustees decide that it is necessary, or advisable, to dissolve the Association, they must present a

resolution to a General Meeting called for this purpose. The resolution must be agreed by at least a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. The resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets remaining after satisfying any outstanding debts and liabilities. The assets must not be distributed to Association members; they shall be given, or transferred to, a charitable institution(s) that have objects similar to all, or some, of the Association's objects, as the Association may agree. If this is not possible, the assets may be given or transferred to some other charitable purpose.

The Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund Code of Practice

1. The fund shall be known as the Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund.
2. Objectives. The objective of the fund shall be to advance the Christian Religion by:
 - (a) Providing financial assistance in the form of loans to churches within the territory covered by the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers for the following purposes:-
 - (i) Augmentation, recasting, or any other work on bells, frames and fittings
 - (ii) Major work in ringing rooms, e.g. floors
 - (iii) Work to the fabric of towers, e.g. sound control
 - (iv) Provision of and hanging of new peals.
 - (b) Providing grants to the Association General Committee and the District Committees for the following educational purposes:-
 - (i) Training courses on bell ringing
 - (ii) Educational materials relating to bells and bell ringing
 - (iii) Promotion of bell ringing.
3. Administration. The administrators of the fund shall be known as the 'Fund Committee'. The Fund Committee shall comprise one member from each of the three Districts of the Association, together with the President and the Honorary Secretary of the Association. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to co-opt from the Districts to fill vacancies as necessary. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to approve or reject applications for loans and grants. Applications for loans and grants shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary. Having received an application for a loan or grant, the Honorary Secretary shall call a meeting of the Fund Committee within twenty one days. The Honorary Treasurer and the Trustees of the Association shall be the trustees of the fund, any two of whom shall be cheque signatories.
4. Income and Investment. The responsibility for fund raising and investment shall be that of the General Committee of the Association. The General Committee of the Association shall have the power to borrow money for the purposes of the Fund.
5. Applications. Applications for a loan shall include all relevant details as follows: - An estimate of the proposed work, a specification of the proposed work and details of the financing scheme. Duration of the loan shall be twelve months. An extension of the loan may be applied for. Interest rates on loans shall be decided by the General Committee. A 'Form of Agreement' shall accompany all loans. No loan shall be for less than £250 or such a sum as shall be decided by the General Committee. Applications for a grant shall include a brief description of the proposal, estimated expenditure and financing available. A grant shall only be paid to defray actual expenses and proof of expenditure must be supplied.
6. Reports and accounts. The General Treasurer shall prepare accounts for the fund each year ending 31st December. The accounts shall be included within the body of the Association accounts. A report of the activities of the fund shall be presented to the Association AGM by the Fund Committee.
7. Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the fund the accrued assets of the fund shall be paid into the General Fund of the Association.
8. Provision for changes to the code of practice. No amendment of; addition to; or deletion from this code of practice shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law. Propositions for changes shall be made at the Association's AGM.

Decisions of the General Committee

20th May 2000: Rule 5. The interest rate for loans is nil for the first twelve months. Should the loan period be extended, interest will be charged at the rate that would have applied had the loan not been made.

Subscription rates and other charges 2015		
Membership Category	Rate	Details
Associate Ringing	£5.00	Payable on election
Associate Non-ringing	£2.50	Payable on election / annual
Resident Ringing – under 19s	£2.50	Payable on election / annual
Resident Ringing – 19 and over	£10.00	Payable on election / annual of which £5 is passed to the Association Bell Restoration Fund
Transfer between categories		
From Resident Ringing to Non-resident Ringing	£10.00 (final payment)	Only after paying up to four consecutive annual subscriptions
From Resident Ringing to Non-resident Ringing	£0	Only after paying five or more consecutive annual subscriptions
From Non-resident Ringing to Resident Ringing	£10	Payable on 1st January the following year
From Non-resident Ringing Life to Resident Ringing Life	£0	
Other fees and charges		
Peal Fee	£0.50	Per ringer per peal
Annual report	£5.00	Charge for non-members
Badge	£2.00	Available from District Secretaries

BEDFORD DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

‘HEADSTOCK’

Editor: Maureen Hall

Email: maureensgpost@gmail.com

Association Officer Reports

President's Report

2014 was another busy year for the Association. It started with the usual round of Annual District Meetings, soon followed by the General Committee Meeting. Each District has held full programmes, including monthly meetings, outings, training sessions, quarter-peal days and various social events. The Association AGM was held in May hosted by the Biggleswade District at Biggleswade.

On 15 March we arranged a very successful Bell Maintenance Course under the direction of Adrian Semken and George Dawson, two members of the Central Council's Towers and Belfries Committee. This was hosted by Biggleswade with the use of both Biggleswade and Henlow towers. Refreshments including lunch were provided by members of the Biggleswade band.

2014 was also another very successful year for the Association as was witnessed on 5 July in Worcester when the young ringers representing the Association retained The Ringing World National Youth Contest trophy. The Bedfordshire Team were: Alice and Clarrie Scott, Sian Harris (all Biggleswade), Melissa Nash (St Andrew's Bedford), Sammi Brett, Lizzie Pawley, Becca Smith (all Linslade) and Cameron White-Spunner (Houghton Regis) under the expert guidance of Linda Garton and Lyndsey Brett. It was a fantastic 'team' effort and I am still not sure if it was the participants or the supporters who were more excited when the result was announced. Another wonderful effort! We also had two travelling reserves, Dean De-Matteis (Husborne Crawley) and Thomas Monks (Eaton Bray), and they were able to take part in all the activities laid on for the competitors. We will be entering a team in the 2015 competition in Oxford on 11 July, when, as defending champions we will be hoping to win the trophy for a third successive year.

The competition provided very good PR for the Association as the test piece was broadcast on BBC Radio 4 'Bells on Sunday,' it has also been listened to a great many times through the links on the Ringing World website.

I cannot praise our young ringers highly enough for their efforts and commitment to the Association. We now run a monthly 'get together' on the 4th Sunday afternoon which is regularly attended by 15 to 20 young ringers and the sessions are structured for them. This has given them all the opportunity of meeting ringers of a similar age across the Association. I would also like to thank all the ringers and parents who give up their Sunday afternoon to transport these youngsters to the relevant tower and to Linda Garton and Lyndsey Brett for running them.

The Association Striking Contests took place in September hosted by the Bedford District at Elstow. This year all three Districts plus a team from Dunstable were able to raise bands to enter the Young Ringers' Competition for the 'Melville Cup'. This was won by Luton District with an excellent exhibition of rounds ringing. The St Peter's Cup was a very closely fought contest with the winners being Dunstable. Congratulations go to both of these teams and thanks go to the Elstow ringers for the excellent tea.

In November an outing was arranged for the Young Ringers to London to ring at four 12 bell towers: St Martin in the Fields, St Sepulchre, St Mary le Bow and St Magnus. 20 young ringers came along with about the same number of helpers so there were some crowded ringing rooms! There is no doubt about the highlight of the day and that was witnessing 12 ringers from this Association, between the ages of 12 and 18, ringing perfect rounds on the difficult 41 cwt 12 at St Mary le Bow. Thanks go to John Loveless for suggesting and arranging the outing.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has suggested, arranged, assisted and supported Association events and activities this year, and I look forward to 2015 being an equally active and successful year.

Sue Silver, President

Treasurer's Report

Unfortunately our adult membership has gone down by 25. Bedford district's membership went down by 28, Biggleswade and Luton's remaining constant. We think Bedford's loss of members was due to the increase in subs for this year. This increase of £5 goes directly into the newly formed Association Bell Restoration Fund. £5 equates to only 42p per month, a very small price to pay for our use of very expensive equipment that needs to be regularly maintained. The balance of the Association BRF now stands at £6,292.

The cost of printing the annual report went up by £44 and our insurance premium also increased by £63 because we have included cover for items of Association property including the President's badge and the striking competition cups. We have supported our Young Ringers more this year financially, £277, with £90 of it coming out of the Ron Sharp Fund, but I think that due to their success again this year you will all agree that it is worth it, and a positive sign for the future. Congratulations.

Barbara Fraser, Honorary Treasurer

Peal Secretary's Report

Twenty-one peals were rung in 2014; they were rung in thirteen towers, three of which are outside the Association boundary. Sixty-eight ringers took part, ten sharing the conducting. The number of peals follows the downward trend of the last few years and was the lowest since 1999. This can be partly explained by some of the regular peal organisers moving out of the county or suffering ill-health thus curtailing their activities.

Our congratulations go to Robert Gornall who rang his first peal and to Russell Brown who completed his first thousand.

As was to be expected, several peals were rung in memory of Robert Wood, who died on 31 December 2013. I for one still think of Robert when selecting a band. There were also two peals commemorating the outbreak of WWI, these being in addition to several quarters.

Anthony Smith, Honorary Peal Secretary

Points from the peals and details of peals rung for the Association in 2014 are on pages 47 to 49.

Librarian's Report

2014 was a quiet year as regards loans with, not surprisingly, the Ringing World DVD, purchased in 2013, being the only item borrowed.

In line with the Association's policy, the new Ringing World DVD, covering the period 1941 – 1970 was purchased with Association funds. This now gives us access to all the Bell News and Ringing Worlds to 1970 in machine-readable format.

Following the death of Shelagh Melville early in the year, the Association was offered her collection of ringing literature. This included bound Ringing Worlds for the years 1925 – 1995. Since these require significant storage space, discussions were held with the General Committee members and Alan Shepherd, and the consensus was

that we should retain the Association's existing bound copies covering the period 1951 – 2000 and add Shelagh's volumes for the period 1925 – 1950. A small number of other books and pamphlets were also added to the library.

The library database on the Association's website is somewhat out of date and I will be updating it in the following months as time permits.

I continue to be grateful to Dunstable Church authorities for providing a home for the library at Chews House and Alan Shepherd for acting as its custodian.

Patrick Albon, Honorary Librarian

Technical Advisor's Report

One visit was carried out this year.

Clophill

The western tower contains a chime of three bells which are chimed from a gallery. The bells are mounted in a lowside wooden frame which was probably transferred from the previous church. The frame has been strengthened at some time with pieces of steel. The treble and second bells are hung from fixed wooden headstocks fastened to the frame headers. The tenor bell also hangs from a wooden headstock but this is still mounted on its original plain bearings. All the bells are fitted with independent crown stapled clappers with the chiming ropes attached to the clapper flights to enable the bells to be sounded by a means known as clocking. This is not a good practice as it is frequently the cause of a bell becoming cracked.

It was recommended that when funds permit the existing chiming arrangement should be replaced with an arrangement using Ellacombe hammers. In addition, it was suggested that the frame be checked for any recent woodworm attack and, if any is found, treated accordingly.

Roger Kendrick, Technical Advisor

Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund Committee Report

This year's Committee were Andrew Dennison (Bedford District), Linda Garton (Biggleswade District), Sally Creveul (Luton District), Sue Silver and Teresa Brown. We had a comparatively busy year with seven grant applications and a review to consider. The following grants were awarded:

- 1. Bedford District, Integrated Teacher Training Course March 2014:** a grant of £115 to cover the hire of Bedford St Andrew's Hall for the training event.
- 2. Bedford District, River Festival July 2014:** grants totalling £620 to cover the costs of Charmborough Ring hire (£305) and pitch (£315). Due to problems with our pitch at the July event, representations were made to the Council who subsequently reduced our pitch cost to £165; making a total expenditure of £470.
- 3. Biggleswade District (on behalf of the Association), tower donation costs for Bedfordshire Young Ringers training sessions throughout the year:** a grant of up to £100 to provide 10 x £10 donations.
- 4. Biggleswade District (on behalf of the Association) for the Association bell and belfry maintenance training day March 2014:** a grant of up to £50 to cover any income shortfall on the day. In the event £40 was needed because of unexpected delegate 'no shows' and the cost of providing lunch was a little more than expected.
- 5. St Peter and St Paul, Cranfield, simulator equipment:** a grant of £765 (maximum). In August 2009 a grant of £540 for the simulator had been agreed but for various reasons wasn't taken up. Cranfield ringers are now in a position to get the

simulator and, at the Committee's suggestion, provided current costs which had increased to £765.

6. All Saints, Campton, model bell: a grant of £160 for a professionally made, model bell for training purposes. This bell is available for others to borrow.

7. St Andrew Biggleswade: a grant of £4000 for the costs of simulators, teaching aids and the attributable cost of setting up a ringing centre was agreed in 2012 (see page 10, 2012 annual report). Further information was received to enable us to consider the eligibility of a further grant towards the costs of a sound management system and a grant of £9000 was awarded subject to:

- Formal accreditation as a recognised Central Council Ringing Centre which would be available for use by the Association;
- A permanent acknowledgment in the tower of the contribution made by the R J Sharp Bell Fund and to be a lasting memorial to Ron Sharp.
- The grant being taken up by 31 December 2015.

Review of the R J Sharp Fund

At its meeting in February, the General Committee asked the R J Sharp Fund Committee to review the Fund and assess whether it is being used to best effect. We noted that, now the Association Bell Restoration Fund was set up and Districts still had their own BRFs, the R J Sharp Fund would probably continue to be used mainly for training, education and promotion grants rather than for 'bell work'. This is borne out by the fact that no loans had been requested for at least five years. We also noted that, without any active fund raising, when all the money was used up, the Fund would have to be wound up. Having looked at the Code of Practice, we agreed unanimously to recommend that there's no need to make changes at the present time.

Teresa Brown, Honorary Secretary

Association Bell Restoration Fund Report

2014 was the first full operational year for the Association Bell Restoration Fund (BRF). The Fund has increased from £432.24 at 31/12/2013 to £6317.11 at 31/12/2014. There was a one-off transfer of £1254.00 from the ring fenced, life membership subscription 'Reserve Fund'. The General Committee agreed that it was no longer necessary to keep this money as a separate pot. The Reserve Fund had been previously ring fenced to cover the annual report production costs for these life members. However annual report production costs are now affordable within current annual subscription income. There was also a transfer of the £2610.54 surplus from the Association's General Fund.

This year's District Representatives were Andrew Dennison (Bedford District), John Loveless (Biggleswade District) and Simon Stranks (Luton District).

Information about the BRF is on page 17 and on the website.

Thanks to those who made personal donations and to all members who supported the BRF by paying a subscription this year. It is gratifying to see the BRF get off to such a good start.

Teresa Brown, Honorary Secretary

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Accounts

The Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers Charity Registration 263781

Summary of District Accounts For the year ending 31 December 2014

			Bedford		Biggleswade		Luton		TOTAL 2014		2013
			£	No	£	No	£	No	£	£	£
Ringing Member (Resident)	@	10.00	88	880.00	89	890.00	118	1180.00	295	2950.00	1600.00
Ringing Member (Resident) Under 19s	@	2.50	6	15.00	12	30.00	16	40.00	34	85.00	97.50
Assoc Member (Ringing)	@	5.00	2	10.00	5	25.00			7	35.00	30.00
Assoc Member (Non Ring)	@	5.00									10.00
Assoc Member (Non Ring)	@	2.50	5	12.50					5	12.50	
Arrears	@	5.00					2	10.00	2	10.00	35.00
Arrears	@	2.50									2.50
Sale of Badges	@	2.00									20.00
Sale of Report	@	5.00	1	5.00					1	5.00	
Total Receipts				922.50		945.00		1230.00		3097.50	1795.00
Less Admin Expenses				-12.49						-12.49	-16.35
Net Receipts (To Receipts & Payments A/c)				910.01		945.00		1230.00		3085.01	1778.65
Notes											
Cash balance retained b/f				12.58		8.48		0.00		21.06	49.41
Income for Year				922.50		945.00		1230.00		3097.50	1795.00
Total				935.08		953.48		1230.00		3118.56	1844.41
Less amount paid to Assoc. Lloyds A/c				-867.50		-670.00		-1220.00		-2757.50	-1807.00
Less direct payments into Assoc. Lloyds A/c				-35.00		-270.00		-10.00		-315.00	
Less expenses				-12.49		-5.95				-12.49	-16.35
Net cash balance c/f				20.09		13.48		0.00		33.57	21.06

Receipts and Payments

For the year ending 31 December 2014

<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		2014	2013		2014	2013
		£	£		£	£
Receipts				Payments		
Income				Charity Expenditure		
Subscriptions				Central Council Affiliation Fees	90.00	75.00
Annual Membership	3035.00	1697.50		Printing of Annual Report	456.00	412.00
Assoc Member (Ringing)	10.00	30.00		Other Expenditure		
Assoc Member (Non Ringing)	37.50	10.00		Districts Admin Expenses	12.49	16.35
Arrears	10.00	37.50		Insurance for Tech. Adviser		
Trading				& Public Liability	410.23	347.16
Sale of Association Badges		20.00		Ringing World Notices		200.00
Sale of Reports	16.00	11.00		Committee Meeting Room Hire		25.00
Income from Report Adverts	95.00	110.00		Young Ringers Subs - for comp	25.00	16.00
Other				Young Ringers Events Expenses	77.77	7.62
Compensation – Lloyds Bank	25.00			Young Ringers T-Shirts	120.00	
Peal Fees	86.00	124.50		Engraving Ridgman Trophy		12.50
Gift Aid - HMRC	250.55	75.04		Gifts for Striking Comp Judges	27.19	19.96
Donation from AGM Tea	25.00			Domain Name Renewal		9.00
Donation from River Festival	25.40			50% Annual Adult Subs to BRF	1475.00	
Donation Biggleswade Ringers	33.50			Non-Res Ringing Life Member Subs to BRF	35.00	
Donation Mike Matthews	50.00	50.00		Peal Fees to BRF	86.00	124.50
Donation Kempston Ringers		30.01		Surplus from Previous years to BRF	2610.54	
Donation Rambling Ringers		90.00		Donations to BRF	138.90	214.62
Donation Sue Silver		44.61		Gift Aid to BRF	250.55	75.04
Donation Scotts	5.00			Investment Interest to BRF	22.42	18.08
Interest from Reserve Fund		7.41		Expenses - President	20.99	20.99
Investment Income				Expenses - Secretary	22.60	16.95
Interest		10.67		Expenses - Treasurer	6.22	3.00
Total Receipts		3726.37	2348.24	Total Payments	5886.90	1613.77
				Balances		
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2013	5079.23	4344.76
				Net Receipts for the Year 2014	-2160.53	734.47
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2014	2918.70	5079.23
<u>DESIGNATED FUNDS</u>						
THE RONALD J SHARP FUND	2014	2013		Payments	2014	2013
Receipts	£	£			£	£
Investment Income				Hire Charnborough Ring – River Festival	305.00	
Interest	140.51	113.82		Expenses - Bell Maintenance Course	40.00	
				Model Bell for Campton	160.00	
				Young Ringers – use of bells for practices	90.00	
				Hall Hire & Ringing St Andrew Bedford - Training	115.00	
Total Receipts	140.51	113.82		Total Payments	710.00	0.00
				Balances		
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2013	19037.38	18923.56
				Net Receipts for the Year 2014	-569.49	113.82
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2014	18467.89	19037.38
RESERVE FUND		2014	2013	Payments	2014	2013
Receipts	£	£			£	£
Investment Income				To General Funds		
Interest	0.00	7.41		Interest		7.41
				A/c closed, balance t'f'd to BRF	1254.00	
Total Receipts	0.00	7.41		Total Payments	1254.00	7.41
				Balances		
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2013	1254.00	1254.00
				Net Receipts for the Year 2014	-1254.00	0.00
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2014	0.00	1254.00
BELL RESTORATION FUND		2014	2013	Payments	2014	2013
Receipts	£	£			£	£
Balance of Reserve A/c	1254.00					
50% Adult Ringing Member Subs	1475.00					
Associate Ringing Member Subs	35.00					
Peal Fees	86.00	124.50				
Surplus from Previous Years	2610.54					
Donations	138.90	214.62				
HMRC Gift Aid	250.55	75.04				
Interest General A/c	22.42	18.08				
Interest	12.46					
Total Receipts	5884.87	432.24		Total Payments	0.00	0.00
				Balances		
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2013	432.24	0.00
				Net Receipts for the Year 2014	5884.87	432.24
				Cash Funds at 31.12.2014	6317.11	432.24

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

At 31 December 2014

	2014	2013
	£	£
Cash and Bank Deposits		
1. General Fund		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	2148.27	2429.10
Lloyds Bank Bond	724.55	2610.54
Cash held by Association Officers	45.88	39.59
Total	2918.70	5079.23
2. The Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund		
Lloyds Bank Bond	18467.89	19037.38
Total	18467.89	19037.38
3. Reserve Fund		
Lloyds Bank Bond – A/c closed, balance transferred to BRF	0.00	1254.00
Total	0.00	1254.00
4. Bell Restoration Fund		
Lloyds Bank Bond	6317.11	432.24
Total	6317.11	432.24
Other Monetary Assets		
Debtors		
Ringing World Balance	71.99	205.39
Investment Assets		
None		
Liabilities (Money owed by the Charity)		
Current Liabilities		NIL
Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund – re River Festival	165.00	
Fixed Assets - Estimated Value		
Library - Books, Periodicals and DVD's	775.00	775.00
President's Badge	145.00	145.00
St Peter's Cup	120.00	120.00
St Giles' Cup	30.00	30.00
The Melville Cup	500.00	500.00
C Edward Jeffries Trophy (Bedford District)	250.00	250.00
Gavel	10.00	10.00
Reading Glass	10.00	10.00
Note		
Stock of badges - 92	147.20	147.20

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011, and
- (b) to prepare accounts which accord to the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Richard J Hillson

5 March

2015

District Bell Funds

For the year ending 31 December 2014

	Bedford	Biggleswade	Luton	TOTAL 2014	2013
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward	10602.85	11725.29	7869.36	30197.50	36370.05
Income	6045.86	794.62	722.00	7562.48	2645.60
Interest	70.88	4.53	35.33	110.74	113.65
Less Grants		-1300.00		-1300.00	-8776.80
Less Luton BRF 50 Club			-170.00	-170.00	-155.00
Administration			-6.36	-6.36	
Total	16719.59	11224.44	8450.33	36394.36	30197.50

Notes to the Accounts

Future Liabilities including grants approved:

Biggleswade	8500.00	
Luton 50 Club Prizes Jan-Apr		115.00

District Bell Fund Grants 2014

Biggleswade District: £1300 to Eaton Socon towards work to refurbish the clappers, rehang all bells on new bearings, a new wheel for the treble, a new headstock for the 5th and other small alterations to various fittings.

Luton District: £2000 to Leighton Buzzard towards work to strengthen the bell frame

Contacts for District Bell Fund grant applications in 2014

Bedford District Bell Restoration Fund, Registered Charity 284250

Robert Jones, St Monica, Norfolk Road, Turvey, MK43 8DU
01234 881741 r.jones1@mypostoffice.co.uk

Biggleswade District Belfry Repair Fund, Registered Charity 280785

Clare Francis, 32 Gravenhurst Road, Campton, SG17 5NY
07977 442179 clarefrancis32@gmail.com

Luton District Belfry Repair Fund, Registered Charity 280164

Simon Stranks, 43 High Road, Shillington, SG5 3LL
01462 713036

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Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers Bell Restoration Fund

The Association BRF was set up to give grants to church authorities within our area towards work to provide, restore, maintain and improve bells and bell installations. The Fund's income is supported by a proportion of every adult member's annual subscription.

After the first full year of operation there is approximately £6300 in the Fund. This isn't a large amount, compared with the high cost of most bell projects, and we wish to build the Fund up over the coming years so that significant grants can be given. However, the General Committee is keen to promote the Fund and would like to encourage churches embarking on bell projects, which are within the Fund's scope, to consider making an application.

Full details and an application form are available on the website or from the Association Secretary: Teresa Brown, 10 Arnhem Place, Sheffield, SG17 5UJ. secretary@bacr.co.uk

If you, or your tower, would like to make a donation to the Fund or have any fundraising ideas please get in touch with any Association Officer who will be delighted to hear from you.

District Reports

Bedford District

The first District event of the year was the Annual Meeting held at St Andrew's Bedford, chaired by Alex Nash. Sarah Ward was not willing to stand again as a committee member, but offered to assist with organising a return visit of The Charnborough Ring to Bedford River Festival in July. Alex thanked Sarah for her service to the District and the Association. David Heaslip was duly appointed to the committee.

Generally, attendance at meetings has been reasonable, although without six visitors at Stagsden the special method would not have been possible, and at Little Staughton a total of only nine ringers were kept busy. The monthly practice at St Paul's Bedford has been poorly attended, although it has been useful to the fledgling local band.

Those who attended the meeting at Bletsoe in August were surprised to find that the event was being recorded for posterity, as it was to be the last ringing before the bells were taken out for refurbishment. The tower was awarded a substantial grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund to perform major work on the bells, which were becoming difficult to ring.

The District Outing was once again organised by Adrienne Sharp and provided an excellent day of ringing, with no shortage of refreshments, which was enjoyed by many of our members. We visited seven towers in Northamptonshire, and rounded off the day with a meal at The Three Cranes in Turvey.

An Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTS) Module 1 course was held at St Andrew's Bedford, in the expectation of new ringers being recruited at The Bedford River Festival. Fourteen ringers representing ten District towers attended the training day, presented by Geoff Horritt, and much was learnt about how to teach bell handling. Sadly, the expected rush of enthusiastic learners has not materialised. Biggleswade hosted a Belfry Maintenance Course which was attended by delegates from four Bedford District towers. After a theory session, and an excellent hot lunch, visits to Henlow and Biggleswade demonstrated bell hanging technology from different centuries.

The District Striking Contest was held at Carlton, with bands from six towers competing. St Andrew's and St Peter's came first and second, and then progressed to the Association contest at Elstow in September, where in a very close finish they were just beaten into second and third places by Dunstable. The District Rounds Cup was won by Goldington. Young Ringers practices during the summer holidays were organised by Andrew Dennison. Young ringers were encouraged to attend weekly practices at various towers in the District, with the dual purposes of providing a means for isolated youngsters to ring together, and also to form a team of young ringers for the Melville Cup Young Ringers Striking Contest. Bedford District competed at Elstow and came second to Luton.

Bedford District Bell Restoration Fund has not been called upon this year for financial help with any projects. A generous bequest has been received from Shelagh Melville, for which we are very grateful. Some members participated in the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust sponsored Bike n' Hike Day. Eleven towers were visited in nine hours on a pleasant autumn day, and half the money raised was donated to the District BRF.

Once again, we are grateful to the church authorities for use of many facilities throughout the year, those who supplied teas, ringing masters and tower captains

who encouraged and led us, and the members for participating. There will be many opportunities in 2015 for ringing for national events, and it is hoped that every opportunity is used to alert the media, so our activities receive as wide an audience as possible.

Robert Jones, District Secretary

Biggleswade District

It has been another busy year of meetings and events for the District, some of which are detailed below.

Over the weekend of 7-9 February our District Ringing Master Chris Williams, ably assisted by Linda Garton, organised 11 quarter peal attempts with the aim that someone in the band could achieve a first. Be it a first quarter, first in method or first as conductor. 9 of the attempts were successful with 4 first in method, 2 first quarters at first attempt, 3 first on eight, 1 first conductor and 1 first spliced plain minor. Congratulations and an outstanding achievement. Thank you Chris and Linda for the organisation. Also thanks to all of you who took part to ensure that the weekend was such a great success.

The District Striking Competition was held at Campton in March and there were 4 teams in the main competition and 2 in the rounds/call changes competition. Biggleswade were the winners in the change ringing competition and Campton 'youngsters' the rounds competition. Biggleswade together with Campton 'grown ups' represented the District at the Association Competition in September at Elstow. My thanks go to Linda Garton for organising the day and to the judges Simon Rudd and Ros Keech.

The Annual Outing took place in May with 6 towers in the Nene Valley visited. It was a very enjoyable day and excellently organised by Alice Scott. Thank you Alice. On 5 July the National Young Ringers Competition took place in Worcester and what a day it turned out to be as Bedfordshire Young Ringers followed up their triumph in York the previous year by retaining the trophy. Words cannot describe the elated feeling of the team and supporters alike. This District was represented by Alice and Clarrie Scott and Sian Harris.

The Association Competition in September was hosted by the Bedford District. The afternoon started with the Melville Cup Competition for the young ringers. The Biggleswade District band was relatively inexperienced compared to the Luton District but nevertheless they gave a very good account of themselves and came third. The St Peter's Cup was again a very close competition and was won by the Dunstable band with Biggleswade and Campton 4th and 6th.

The December meeting was, as always, devoted to the Christmas Social, and was the 25th dinner organised by the Biggleswade ringers. Thank you to all those who helped out, too numerous to mention by name, who, as always, made it such a good occasion.

Finally thank you to the Committee for their hard work and support throughout the year.

Sue Silver, District Chairman

Luton District

As many of you know I was elected chairman at the last ADM. My thanks go to Peter Phillips, who held this post for the last few years. The last year has seen an increase in attendance at District meetings averaging 24 and an average of 21 District members. This is an improvement on previous years possibly due to the earlier times of meetings during the winter.

I am pleased to welcome Lindsey Brett and Chris Catlin to the Committee as District Officers.

At this point I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Incumbents and Tower contacts.

We elected 22 new members during the past year plus 2 previous ones who were re-elected. Eaton Bray provided 12 of the new members, this resurgence of interest being encouraged by the Linslade and Marsworth towers.

The District striking contest held in March at Studham was judged by Brian and Deirdre Watson from Apsley End. Two teams entered the Method section, as in the previous year and the results were: Dunstable first and Linslade second. Five teams entered the Rounds and Call changes section which Eaton Bray won with Silsoe second, Linslade third, Flitwick fourth and Houghton Regis fifth. It would be nice to see more teams taking part in this.

The Association competition was held at Elstow in September and the results were as follows: St. Peter's cup - Dunstable first, Linslade fifth. This was a close contest with only 5% between all the teams.

The Luton District also won the Melville cup, which is for the young ringers, and a team from Dunstable came 4th. This was also very close with only 5% between teams.

On 5th July young ringers from this District were part of the winning team in The National Young Ringers Striking competition held at Old St Martin's Worcester. This was the second time running they have won this prestigious event and my congratulations go to all involved in this.

The last notable event of 2014 was the Young Ringers outing to London on November 29th with ringing at four of the famous peals of twelves; St Martin in the Fields, St Sepulchre, St Mary le Bow and St Magnus the Martyr.

Our young ringers also attend the monthly Sunday afternoon meetings at Campton and various other towers in the County.

Thank you all for your support during the past year and best wishes for 2015.

Barry Eglesfield, District Chairman

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- Use your name as the reference

Please let your District Treasurer know if you've set this up.

Association 2015 Diary – see www.bacr.co.uk for current details			
Association AGM	Sat 16 May	Leighton Buzzard	See website
Ridgman Trophy	Sat 6 June	St Peter and St Paul, Wisbech	
Ringing World National Youth Contest	Sat 11 July	Oxford	
Melville Cup Striking Competition for Young Ringers	Sat 19 September	Haynes	Draw 3.30pm
St Peter's Cup Six Bell Striking Competition	Sat 19 September	Haynes	Draw 5.00pm
2016 Forward Look			
Biggleswade District ADM	Sat 9 January	Campton	Service 4.30pm Tea 5.15pm Meeting 6.00pm
Bedford District ADM	Sat 16 January	Biddenham	4.00 – 9.00pm
Luton District ADM	Sat 23 January	Linslade	Ringing 3.30pm Service 4.30pm Tea 5.00pm Meeting 6.00pm
Association AGM	Sat 21 May	Bedford District	Bedford St Paul
Association Striking Competitions	Sat 17 September	Luton District	Eaton Bray

Member and Tower Listing Notes

Ringing times are 24-hour clock

The Sunday service times shown are when ringing starts, **not** the time of the service.

PN – Practice night

GF – Ground floor ring

AC – Anti-clockwise ring

* denotes Life Member † denotes Honorary Life Member

Tenor weights are given as hundredweights-quarters-pounds.

An Ordnance Survey grid reference is given for each tower.

Corrections and Amendments

Please send corrections or changes of tower/contact details to Association Secretary, Teresa Brown.

10 Arnhem Place, Shefford, SG17 5UJ

secretary@bacr.co.uk

List of Members and Towers

Honorary Life Members

Robert R Churchill, Derek A Hammond (elected 2014),
Clifford W Izzard (elected 2014), John Pemble, Anthony H Smith

Non-Resident Life Members

James Buckenham, Geoffrey Dann, Keith H Fleming, Avril Ivin, David Lazzerini,
Lynda Lazzerini, Brian Makeham, Martyn J Marriott, Clive G Smith

Associate Non-Ringing Members

Emily Entwistle and Teresa Kirchner - Bedford St Peter; Miriam Clark - Elstow;
Nicholas Fowler and Hazel Spencer - Goldington

Associate Ringing Members elected in 2014

Colin Aked (1657), Nicholas Allsopp (1148), Craig Homewood (1654), Benjamin
Kipling (1656), Robert Lewis-Skeath (1149), Mark Lloyd (1661), Peter Waterfield
(1655)

Resident Members transferred to Non-Resident Membership

Margaret Whiteley, Martin Whiteley

Resident Ringing Members Elected in 2014

Name	No.	Tower	Date
Fiona Day	741	Biggleswade	12 January
Viki Evans	1146	Bedford St Andrew	18 January
James Hills	1147	Keysoe	18 January
Barrie Huggins	2206	Kensworth	25 January
Sally Cload	2207	Studham	25 January
Charlotte Charman	2208	Houghton Regis	25 January
Ellen Kinnear	2209	Houghton Regis	25 January
Sam Pearce	2210	Linslade	25 January
Rhys Dale-Peerman	2211	Linslade	25 January
Lily Sharpe	2212	Linslade	25 January
Gaye Soule	2213	Eaton Bray	25 January
Bob Stilliard	2214	Eaton Bray	25 January
Sharon Stilliard	2215	Eaton Bray	25 January
Jenny Jeffs	2216	Eaton Bray	25 January
Rose Nightingale	2217	Eaton Bray	25 January
Richard Booth	2218	Eaton Bray	25 January
Ruth Monks	2219	Eaton Bray	25 January
Thomas Monks	2220	Eaton Bray	25 January
Gordon Gray	2221	Eaton Bray	25 January
Barbara Morton	2222	Eaton Bray	25 January
Bob Deeley	2223	Eaton Bray	25 January
David Pegg	1658	Northill	8 March
Jenny Davison	1659	Campton	8 March
Henry Francis	1660	Campton	8 March
Adrian Roberts	2224	Eaton Bray	22 March

Jane Lawton	849	Silsoe	22 March
Karl Osborn	2073	Dunstable	22 March
Peter Luff	2225	Westoning	22 March
Tom Luff	2226	Westoning	22 March
Jemma Till	2227	Flitwick	22 March
Timothy Eltringham	1662	Potton	14 June

Bedford District

Unattached Members

Rosemary Buckle, Owen Davis

BEDFORD St Andrew (8) 5-2-22 in B TL057509

Sunday: 09.30 PN: Thursday 19.45-21.00

Barbara Woplin, 3 Windsor Gardens, Bedford, MK40 3BU

01234 346852 barbara.jean1@btinternet.com

Lisa Adams, Gareth Burrows, Viki Evans, Richard Gallivan, David Heaslip,
Philip Kino, Alex Nash, Melissa Nash, Barbara Woplin

BEDFORD St Paul (12) 28-3-6 in D TL049496

Sunday: 09.30 PN: Monday 19.30-21.00

Sunday evening by arrangement

James Saunders, 40 The Grove, Bedford, MK40 3JN

07885 316443 jrbsaunders@yahoo.com

Matthew Barnard, John Long*, James Saunders

BEDFORD St Peter de Merton (8) 12-1-0 in F# TL051501

Sunday: 09.40 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00

Mrs Margaret Cowley, 12 Ennerdale Close, Kempston, MK42 8HE

01234 854294

Lorraine Andrews*, David Cowley, Margaret Cowley, Ann Desics,
Richard Entwistle, Susan Entwistle, Lynn Goodwin, Martin Goodwin,
Sylvia MacDowell, Sheila Richardson, Pat Staite, Colin Stuart

BIDDENHAM St James (8) 12-3-18 in G TL014499

Sunday: 08.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
phone to check

Brian Toyn, 30 Days Lane, Biddenham, MK40 4AE

01234 211716 bdtoyn30@talktalk.net

Peter Culverwell, Brian Toyn

BLETSGOE St Mary (6) 11-2-11 in F# TL023583

Sunday: 09.00 3rd PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00

Paul Vine, 50 The Avenue, Bletsoe, MK44 1QF

01234 782875 trishvine@btinternet.com

Andrew Fyvie, Trish Vine, Paul Vine

BOLNHURST St Dunstan (4) 8-0-0 in Bb (GF) TL081588

Sunday: None

PN: None

Rex Whitmore, Silver Birches, Kimbolton Road, Bolnhurst, MK44 2EL

01234 376233 rex.mar@tesco.net

BROMHAM St Owen (8) 22-3-18 in Eb TL013512

Sunday: 09.45, check 4th

PN: Tuesday 19.45-21.15

Robert Jones, St Monica, Norfolk Road, Turvey, MK43 8DU

01234 881741 r.jones1@mypostoffice.co.uk

Mike Cassell*, Robert Gornall, Derek Hammond†, Steve Hare, Mary Harle,
Andrew Heyman, George Ilett, Robert Jones, Adrienne Sharp, Elizabeth Walshe

CARDINGTON St Mary (8) 19-1-1 in F TL086479

Sunday: 10.30

PN: 3rd Thursday
phone to check

Mrs Julie Eddy, 141 Bamford Road, Bedford, MK42 0NH

01234 353489 julieannarose@btinternet.com

Rev'd Stephen Smith

CARLTON St Mary (6) 9-2-7 in Ab SP952549

Sunday: 09.00 3rd and 10.30 4th & 5th

PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Harrold

Mrs Lin Barratt, 10 Beeby Way, Carlton, MK43 7LW

01234 720756 lin.barratt@btinternet.com

Ann Boyle

CLAPHAM St Thomas of Canterbury (6) 5-3-20 in Bb TL034525

Sunday: None

PN: Tuesday 19.45 prompt-21.00

Jeff Henson, 77 Bents Close, Clapham, MK41 6DY

01234 343198 jeffhenson@btinternet.com

COLMWORTH St Denys (6) 9-3-18 in G (GF) TL109586

Sunday: 10.30 1st & 3rd

PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Renhold, Tuesday

Felicity Evans, Sunrise Cottage, Channel's End Road, Colmworth, MK44 2NS

01234 376887 stephenandfelicity@btinternet.com

Humphrey Chetwynd-Talbot, Felicity Evans

ELSTOW St Mary and St Helena (6) 8-2-0 in G TL049474

Sunday: 10.50 and 18.00

PN: Friday 20.00-21.00

Mrs Miriam Clark, 1 Garnith Close, Kempston, MK42 8DX

01234 853135

Don MacFarlane, Richard Marshall, Barbara Routledge, Stephen Stanford*,
Sarah Ward*

FELMERSHAM St Mary (8) 20-2-18 in Eb **SP991578**

Sunday: 10.30 PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00

Mike Benson, 8 Marriotts Close, Felmersham, MK43 7HD

01234 781649 mail@mikebenson08.plus.com

Lisa Beales, Mike Benson, Jane Brunetti, Wendy Freegard, Katie Henman,
Caroline Jones, Elizabeth Nicholls, Rev'd Thomas Sander, Rebecca Sharp,
Karen Yasseen

GOLDINGTON St Mary (6) 10-2-7 in F# **TL076510**

Sunday: 09.00 and 16.30 2nd PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00

Mrs Jenny Thompson, 16 Langdale, Bedford, MK41 9EG

01234 216571 thompbarr@aol.com

Gale Bevan, Peter Blunt, Timothy Blunt, Andrew Dennison, Roger Framp,
Jean Heaslip, James Howlett, Dorothy Kirby, Doug Taylor, Jenny Thompson

HARROLD St Peter and All Saints (6) 13-0-6 in F# **SP954567**

Sunday: 09.00 1st, 2nd & 5th and 10.30 3rd PN: Friday 19.30-21.00

alternate with Carlton

Martin Barratt, 10 Beeby Way, Carlton, MK43 7LW

01234 720756 martin.d.barratt@btinternet.com

KEMPSTON All Saints (10) 17-2-4 in E **TL015480**

Sunday: 09.45 PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00

Dr Nicola Darwood, 113 High Street, Kempston, MK42 7BP

01234 855167 the.darwoods@ntlworld.com

Rebecca Bentley, Nicola Darwood, Rachel Darwood, Stephen Darwood,
Glynda Easterbrook, Chris Grundy, Richard Hillson, Cliff Izzard†, Andrew Keech,
Ros Keech*, Thomas Keech*, Melvyn Potts

KEYSOE St Mary (5) 14-1-19 in E (GF) **TL073624**

Sunday: 09.30 3rd PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00

Mrs Penny Heming, Pump Cottage, Keysoe Row East, Keysoe, MK44 2JB

01234 378878 penny.heming@btinternet.com

Carol Burge, Ro Heming, James Hills, Katie Madison, Joy Mooring,
Richard Thurmott, Marion Turner

LITTLE STAUGHTON All Saints (5) 10-2-20 in G# (AC) **TL107630**

Sunday: 09.30 PN: Friday 19.30-21.00

Bernard Hopperton, Cherry Blossom, Staughton Moor Road, Great Staughton,

St Neots, PE19 5BW

01234 376292 hazelhopperton@btinternet.com

Marion Bastin

MELCHBOURNE St Mary Magdalene (4) 12-1-12 in F# **TL028654**

Sunday: Phone to check PN: None

Mrs Audrey Lovell, 13 Park Road, Melchbourne, MK44 1BB

01234 708728

- MILTON ERNEST** All Saints (6) 9-1-1 in G TL020561
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Mrs Valerie Lincoln, 9 Huntsman's Way, Milton Ernest, MK44 1SA
 01234 824923
 Lesley Hattersley
- OAKLEY** St Mary (6) 12-0-2 in G TL011530
 Sunday: 10.00 except 9.00 1st PN: Friday 20.00-21.15
 Bill Sellars, 2 Parsonage Close, Oakley, MK43 7TG
 01234 823473 / 07980 745292 thesellars@btinternet.com
 Martin Heaslip, Graham Ridgway, Bill Sellars
- ODELL** All Saints (6) 13-1-8 in F# SP966580
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Dr Martin Eshelby, 16a Avenue Road, Rushden, Northants, NN10 0SJ
 01933 410959 martin@eshelby.co.uk
- PAVENHAM** St Peter (5) 8-0-0 in A SP992560
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Mrs Vivien Holt, Meadowcroft, High Street, Pavenham, MK43 7NP
 01234 825479 vivienholt@hotmail.com
- RENHOLD** All Saints (6) 13-0-15 in F# TL089528
 Sunday: 10.30 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
 Alternate with Colmworth, Thursday
 Mrs Yvonne Potter, 8 Brook Lane, Salph End, Renhold, MK41 0LD
 01234 771495 yvonnepotter@onetel.com
 Eddie Keightley
- RISELEY** All Saints (6) 13-1-26 in F TL039631
 Sunday: 10.30 1st PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
 phone to check
 David Shaw, 5 Dodds Close, Riseley, MK44 1PQ
 01234 708204 d.r.shaw@btinternet.com
- SHARNBROOK** St Peter (8) 9-3-5 in F# SP993596
 Sunday: 09.00 and 17.15 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
 Patrick Albon, 27 Home Close, Sharnbrook, MK44 1PQ
 01234 782251 pat.albon@btinternet.com
 Jacquie Albon, Patrick Albon, Tom Anderson*, Rosemary Drewery,
 Helen Horn, Kathryn Stenton
- STAGSDEN** St Leonard (6) 10-2-18 in G (GF) SP982491
 Sunday: Check PN: Alternate Thursdays, 20.00-21.00
 Richard Brown, Manor Farm, High Street, Stagsden, MK42 8SQ
 01234 822330 rjrichardbrown@btoopenworld.com

STEVINGTON St Mary (5) 10-2-14 in F# (GF) SP990536
 Sunday: 09.00, except 4th, check 5th PN: Tuesday 19.30-20.30
 Peter Bishop, 4 Church Road, Stevington, MK43 7QB
 01234 825158 sueandpeterb@btinternet.com

Peter Bishop, Jean Edwards, Rosemary Maclaine

SWINESHEAD St Nicholas (5) 2-2-7 in F TL058659
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Mrs Carolyn Long, Lilac Cottage, High Street, Swineshead, MK44 2AA
 01234 709947 stuartlong209@btinternet.com

THURLEIGH St Peter (6) 14-0-0 in F# (GF) TL051584
 Sunday: None PN: Tuesday 19.30-20.30
 John Mustoe, Blackthorn Cottage, 20 Cross End, Thurleigh, MK44 2EE
 01234 771667 nigelmustoe@msn.com

TURVEY All Saints (8) 19-0-20 in E SP940525
 Sunday: 10.30 and 17.30 1st, 2nd & 3rd PN: Friday 19.00-20.00
 David Nightingale, 10 Barncroft, Turvey, MK43 8DN
 01234 881453 david@bats-in-the-belfry.co.uk

UPPER DEAN All Hallows (5) 9-3-20 in G (GF) TL046676
 Sunday: 09.45 check PN: Thursday 20.00-21.00
 phone to check
 Mrs Lindsay Langley, Te Aroha, 6 Aylott Close, Upper Dean PE28 0NA
 01234 708165 alangley35@btinternet.com

WILDEN St Nicholas (5) 11-2-0 in F# TL093552
 Sundays: None PN: None
 Mrs Carolyn Walker, 49, High Street, Wilden, MK44 2QD
 01234 771102

WOOTTON St Mary (6) 14-3-26 in F TL003451
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Richard Reeves, 102 Bedford Road, Wootton, MK43 9JB
 01234 767726 mail@richardreeves.net

Richard Reeves

Unringable

MARSTON MORETAINE St Mary the Virgin (5) 13-2-0 in F SP996412
PODINGTON St Mary (4) 9-0-0 in G SP942627
WYMINGTON St Lawrence (5) 13-1-22 in F# SP955644
YELDEN St Mary (4) 8-0-0 in Bb TL011672

Biggleswade District

Unattached Members

Barbara Beard

AMPTHILL St Andrew (8) 13-3-6 in Ab TL037383

Sunday: 09.00 except 1st PN: Thursday 19.45-21.00

John Hele, 45 Alameda Road, Ampthill, MK45 2LA

01525 840278 john.s.hele@gmail.com

Theresa Barnard, Robert Butcher, Margaret Coleman, John Hele, Elizabeth Hele,
Rae Marshall, Hilary Nellist, Christopher Shrimpton, Yvonne Young

ARLESEY St Peter (6) 10-3-15 in G TL192375

Sunday: 09.00 except 9.30 2nd PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Meppershall

Peter Overfield, 10 Peartree Close, Shefford, SG17 5JG

01462 815672 peter.overfield@waitrose.com

Don Brace, Brian Juffs, Katie Juffs, Elizabeth Overfield*, Peter Overfield*,
Heather Waters

BIGGLESWADE St Andrew (8) 13-1-18 in F TL188446

Sunday: 9.30 and 17.30 PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.00

Anthony Smith, 58 Cambridge Road, Langford, SG18 9PS

01462 700676 biggleswadebellringers@gmail.com

Sarah Asque, David Carr*, Fiona Day, James Eggleston, Sian Harris,
Roy Haynes, Yvonne Humberstone*, Prudence Moore, Rev'd Guy Scott,
Kate Scott, Alice Scott, Clarrie Scott, Alan Smith*, Anthony Smith†,
Charlotte Smith*, Sheila Smith*, Elaine Taylor*, Christine Williams,
Beryl Worsley*, John E Worsley*, Martyn Worsley*

BLUNHAM St Edmund (6) 18-2-0 in Eb TL153512

Sunday: Check PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Tempsford and Sandy,
phone to check

Jeff Cloughton, 58a Barford Road, Blunham, MK44 3ND

01767 640624 jeff@acorn-woodworking.co.uk

CAMPTON All Saints (8) 6-2-10 in B (GF) TL130381

Sunday: 10.30 except 5th PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00

John Loveless, 5 Riverside, Shefford, SG17 5DW

07803 206161 john@jplmanagementservices.co.uk

Linda Bryant, Jenny Davison, Kirsty Davison, Charlotte Francis, Clare Francis,
Henry Francis, Linda Garton, Barrie Glenn, John Loveless, Susan Silver

CLIFTON All Saints (8) 10-0-6 in G TL166393
Sunday: 10.00 and 18.00 PN: Friday 19.45 – 21.00
Learners 19.00-19.45
Mrs Sheila Ashton, Vic's Orchard, 15a Pedley Lane, Clifton, SG17 5EH
01462 813340 sheila.stanashton@btinternet.com

Sheila Ashton*, Stanley Ashton*, Peter Blackmore, Nicholas Brown,
Russell Brown, Teresa Brown, Clive Moncrieff, Harriet Moncrieff,
Jim Peacock, Keith Pledger, Mary Pledger, Frank Rivett, Philippa Whittington

COPLE All Saints (6) 8-1-0 in G# (AC) TL103485
Sunday: None PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Mike Vacher, 91 Willington Road, Cople, MK44 3TN
01234 831207 vacher309@btinternet.com

EATON SOCON St Mary (8) 13-2-24 in F TL170588
Sunday: 10.00 except 8.30 1st PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Sue Matthews, 28 Burwell Road, Eaton Ford, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 7QQ
01480 476068 sue.spencer1959@ntlworld.com

D Graham Hall, Maureen Hall, Michael Matthews*, Sue Matthews, Mary Parnham,
Wendy Piercy*, Christopher Spencer

GREAT BARFORD All Saints (5) 15-3-16 in F (GF) TL134517
Sunday: 09.00 PN: None
Christopher Branch, 107 Chapel Field, Great Barford, MK44 3JT
01234 870982 cjbranch@btinternet.com

HAYNES St Mary (6) 6-3-5 in B (GF) TL081412
Sunday: 09.00 1st PN: Monday 19.00-21.00
Brian Oertel, 13 Howard Close, Haynes, MK45 3QH
01234 381428 brianvalerieoertel@btinternet.com

Amy Johnston, Brian Oertel, Jason Pillar, James Plummer, Emily Welham,
George Welham

HENLOW St Mary (8) 14-2-0 in F# TL178387
Sunday: 10.30, check 5th PN: Tuesday 20.00-21.00
Mrs Carol Donnelly, 4 Oak Drive, Henlow, SG16 6BX
01462 811960 carol.j.donnelly@sky.com

James Burgess, Carol Donnelly, Heather Jewell, Philip Jewell, Martin Major*,
Randall Perrey, Jessica Sawyers

MAULDEN St Mary (8) 10-2-0 in F# TL058381
Sunday: 08.45 PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00
Mrs Mary Mann, 60 The Grove, Houghton Conquest, MK45 3JU
01234 740348 maryl.mann@btinternet.com

Elizabeth Edwards, Steven Edwards, Mark Garner*, Colin Gunns,
Christel Gunns, Mary Mann*, Yvonne Tomkins*

MEPPERSHALL St Mary (6) 12-2-0 in G# (GF) TL134359
 Sunday: None PN: Friday 20.00-21.00
 alternate with Arlesey
 John Parsons, 17 Shillington Road, Meppershall, SG17 5ND
 01462 813333 Jparsons55555@gmail.com
 David Bartlett, Anne Parsons*, John Parsons*, Elizabeth Wade*

NORTHILL St Mary Virgin (6) 18-2-12 in Eb TL149466
 Sunday: 10.30, check 5th PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
 Chris Morris, The Barracks, Northill, SG18 9AH
 01767 627476
 Andrew Bryans, Valerie Bryans, Mike Cowell, Simon Melvin, Susan Melvin,
 Chris Morris, Cathy Olphin, George Olphin, David Pegg, Roy Thrower

OLD WARDEN St Leonard (6) 9-1-0 in G (GF) TL136443
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Rev'd Frank Coleman, The Vicarage, 2a Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote,
 Biggleswade SG18 9BL
 01767 315578 dr.frankcoleman@googlemail.com

POTTON St Mary (6) 8-0-0 in A TL229495
 Sunday: 09.45 PN: Tuesday 19.45-21.00
 Mrs Rosemary Kimber, Spencer Farm, 28 King Street, Potton, SG19 2QT
 01767 261206 rosemary.kimber@yahoo.co.uk
 Timothy Eltringham, Rosanna Jackson, Rosemary Kimber, Mary Oliver-Barratt,
 Tony Sharp

ROXTON St Mary Magdalene (5) 10-1-3 in G TL153545
 Sunday: 10.30 PN: None
 Walter Jennings, The Lilacs, Chawston Lane, Chawston, MK44 3BH
 01480 213155
 David Bradley, Anne Cattnach, Walter Jennings, Bernard Hooker,
 Norman Keightley

SANDY St Swithun (6) 12-0-8 in F TL174491
 Sunday: 09.30 PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
 alternate with Blunham and Tempsford
 phone to check
 Steven Akhurst, 13 Abbey Grove, Sandy, SG19 1QP
 01767 835039 / 07984 860108 sakhurst21@gmail.com
 Carly Akhurst, Phillip Akhurst, Steven Akhurst, Ann Eaton, Viv Smith,
 Christopher Wagstaff, Kevin Wood

SOUTHILL All Saints (6) 11-3-3 in F# TL146422
Sunday: 08.30 3rd PN: Thursday before 3rd Sunday
19.30-20.30

Colin McCartney, 29 Birch Close, Broom, Biggleswade, SG18 9NR
01767 314669 colin.mccartney@virgin.net

Colin McCartney, Elizabeth McCartney, Alan Dover*

STOTFOLD St Mary (8) 11-0-2 in G TL220367
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.20

Roy Webb, Amber Lodge, Hatley Road, Wrestlingworth, SG19 2EH
01767 631285

Eileen Castledine, J Richard Castledine, Roy Webb

TEMPSFORD St Peter (6) 9-1-0 in Ab (GF) TL162531
Sunday: Check PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00

alternate with Blunham and Sandy
Phone to check

Jeff Cloughton, 58a Barford Road, Blunham, MK44 3ND
01767 640624 jeff@acorn-woodworking.co.uk

Jeff Cloughton, Sandra Cloughton

WILLINGTON St Lawrence (6) 9-0-1 in A TL106498
Sunday: None PN: Tuesday (check first)

Steven Watson, 18 Chapel Lane, Willington, MK44 3QG
01234 831201 steve.watson27@btinternet.com

Unringable

HOUGHTON CONQUEST All Saints (6) 12-1-02 TL043414

LITTLE BARFORD St Denys (4) 6-0-0 TL178570

STEPPINGLEY St Lawrence (4) 5-0-0 TL012355

SUTTON All Saints (4) 7-0-0 TL218475

Luton District

Unattached Members

Keith Lewin, Maureen Oakley, John Pemble†, Robert Tregillus

ASPLEY GUISE St Botolph (6) 10-0-11 in G# SP943363
Sunday: 09.00 PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00

alternate with Husborne Crawley

Ron Battams, 37 Mount Pleasant, Aspley Guise, MK17 8JZ
01908 582673

Ron Battams, Richard Lanyon-Hogg, Patricia Woolhead

BARTON-LE-CLAY St Nicholas (8) 16-1-14 in E TL085304
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Jennifer Archer, 1 Old School Gardens, Barton-Le-Clay, MK45 4LS
01582 881497 jenny.archer@hotmail.co.uk

CADDINGTON All Saints (6) 8-0-0 in G TL064198
Sunday: 9.00 PN: Thursday 20.00-21.00
Rob Jones, 72 Mancroft Road, Caddington, LU1 4EL
01582 452663 belfry72@orange.net

CRANFIELD St Peter and St Paul (6) 17-1-14 in E SP956420
Sunday: 09.45 PN: Thursday 19.30 -21.00
Mary Hartley, 102a Bedford Road, Cranfield, MK43 0HA
01234 750153 mary.hartley56@gmail.com

Jonathan Billington, Nicky Billington, Thomas Billington, Cara Butterworth,
Jim Ewen, Jonathan Foster, Christopher Hartley, Mary Hartley, Jane Leslie,
John Peat, Susan Webster

DUNSTABLE St Peter (8) 23-2-15 in Eb TL021219
Sunday: 08.40 and 18.00 PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.15
Alan Shepherd, 19 Totternhoe Road, Dunstable, LU6 2AF
01582 603238 secretary@dunstablebells.org.uk

Emily Cooper, Lui Faulkner, Robert Hornby, Richard Horne*,
Andrew Jeffs, David Jeffs, Jackie Jeffs, Paul Jeffs, Matthew Johnson,
Karl Osborn, Graham Proctor, Alan Shepherd*

EATON BRAY St Mary the Virgin (6) 9-2-0 in A SP969207
Sunday: 09.30 PN: 2nd Wednesday 19.30-21.00
John Plater, 41 Church Lane, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DJ
01525 221095

Richard Booth, Bob Deeley, Gordon Gray, Jenny Jeffs, Ruth Monks,
Thomas Monks, Barbara Morton, Rose Nightingale, Adrian Roberts,
Gaye Soule, Bob Stilliard, Sharon Stilliard, Richard Stroud

EVERSHOLT St John the Baptist (6) 17-1-16 in F SP983325
Sunday: None PN: None
Robert Churchill, 11 Tingrith Road, Eversholt, MK17 9EF
01525 280632 r.churchill883@btinternet.com

FLITTON St John the Baptist (6) 6-0-6 in Bb (GF) TL059358
Sunday: 09.00 2nd, 10.30 3rd PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Vernon Green, 47 Mill Lane, Flitton, MK45 5DG
01525 712916 greenv1@sky.com

Sally Creveul, Vernon Green, Maureen Morey

FLITWICK St Peter and St Paul (6) 9-1-9 in G TL029342

Sunday: 10.00 PN: Friday 19.45-21.15
Ian Holman, 33 Station Road, Flitwick, MK45 1JT
01525 716258 i.holman@cranfield.ac.uk

Michael Catlin, Simon Daw, Imogen Diver, Ian Holman, Matthew Holman,
Rebekah Holman, Jackie Lawrence, Paul Swannell, Jemma Till,
Michael Trimm, David Watson

HOUGHTON REGIS All Saints (6) 13-1-3 in F TL018239

Sunday: 09.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Delroy Grey, 36 Kent Road, Houghton Regis, LU5 5NZ
01582 868644 delroy_grey@live.com

Carl Anthony, Eloise Catling, Charlotte Charman, Peter Goode, Delroy Grey,
John Pratt, Peter Pratt, Cecilia Pymont, Cameron White-Spunner

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY St James (8) 18-2-12 in D SP955362

Sunday: 10.45 1st and 4th, April - October PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
and 15.00 2nd only alternate with Aspley Guise
Robert Churchill, 11 Tingrith Road, Eversholt, MK17 9EF
01525 280632 r.churchill883@btinternet.com

Elizabeth Churchill, Robert Churchill†, Dean De-Matteis, Helen De-Matteis

KENSWORTH St Mary (6) 3-3-15 in D# TL031190

Sunday: 10.00 PN: Phone to check
Mrs Polly Frazer, 10 Poplar Road, Kensworth, LU6 3RS
01582 873143 pollyfrazer7@gmail.com

Peter Culley, Barrie Huggins, Margaret Putterill, Elisabeth Shelley

LEIGHTON BUZZARD All Saints (12) 35-1-14 in C# SP918248

Sunday: 08.45 PN: Monday 19.45-21.30
Evensong QPs by arrangement
Kevin Pughe, 10 Church Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AE
0740 2233022 kevin.pughe@btinternet.com
Barry Eglesfield, 07967 755148

Margaret Birtles, Gwenda Burley, Hannah Dobbie, Gemma Dolton,
Barry Eglesfield, Jonathan Pawley, Kevin Pughe

LINSLADE St Barnabas (8) 9-3-3 in A SP912249

Sunday: 09.30 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.15
Thursday 17.30-19.00 for young ringers
Mrs Lyndsey Brett 01525 790241
Mrs Heather Darvill, 428 Bideford Green, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2TY
01525 371836 ddarvil100@tiscali.co.uk

Lyndsey Brett, Natalie Brett, Nicholas Brett, Samantha Brett, Janesse Cornfoot,
Heather Darvill, Graham Gill, Simon Head, Anne Hoxey, Peter Phillips,
Dale Rhys-Pearman, Janice Robinson, Lily Sharpe, Rebecca Smith

LUTON St Mary (12) 25-0-24 in D TL095212
 Sunday: 09.15 PN: Tuesday 18.30-20.00
 by arrangement
 Mrs Dee Vanner, 13 Elmwood Crescent, Luton, LU2 7HX
 01582 619738 deanna.vanner@hotmail.co.uk
 Ian Brown, Beryl Gardner, Pat Limanni, Santo Limanni

MILTON BRYAN St Peter (3) 8-2-16 in A (GF) SP972308
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Kelvin White, 4 Church End, Milton Bryan, MK17 9HR
 01525 210337 kb.ss.white@gmail.com

SHILLINGTON All Saints (5) 18-2-0 in E TL123339
 Sunday: 9.00 PN: Monday 20.00-21.00
 Ian Harvey, 77 Church Road, Shillington, SG5 3LJ
 07976 705871 ian-harvey@tiscali.co.uk

SILSOE St James (6) 6-1-9 in B TL082356
 Sunday: 9.10, 1st phone to check PN: Monday 19.45-21.00
 Mrs Barbara Fraser, 18 Bedford Avenue, Silsoe, MK45 4ER
 01525 861709
 David Adams, Paul Biscoe, Christopher Catlin, Julia Catlin, Barbara Fraser,
 Jane Lawton, Simon Stranks

STANBRIDGE St John the Baptist (6) 9-0-15 in F# SP966242
 Sunday: 10.00 1st and 08.30 last PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.00
 Laurence Cooper, 10 Carlton Grove, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3BR
 01525 377291 laurence@peanutwood.net

STUDHAM St Mary the Virgin (6) 10-0-22 in Ab (GF) TL016159
 Sunday: 10.00 PN: Monday 20.00-21.00
 Miss Angela Blackburn, 7 Knotts Close, Dunstable, LU6 3NY
 01582 663756 angela@ablackburn.co.uk
 Angela Blackburn, David Cload, Sally Cload, Margaret Maddox, Graham Magor,
 Peter Sanders, Andrew Wheeler

TILSWORTH All Saints (6) 8-3-17 in A (GF) SP975243
 Sunday: 08.30 2nd and 3rd PN: Monday 20.00-21.00
 Phone to check
 John Wilkins, 9 Lords Close, Stanbridge, LU7 9JB
 01525 210961 jf.wilkins@btinternet.com
 John Wilkins

TODDINGTON St George of England (8) 22-2-0 in E TL010289
 Sunday: 10.30 PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
 Peter Boon, 33 Vicarage Street, Woburn Sands, MK17 8RE
 01908 584181
 Ruth Betts, Peter Boon, Vicki Holton, Anne Kiss, John Pask

TOTTERNHOE St Giles (8) 9-2-0 in F

SP988208

Sunday: 10.15

PN: None

Mrs Jacqui Hunt, 35 Totternhoe Road, Dunstable, LU6 2AF
01582 602266

WESTONING St Mary Magdalene (6) 11-1-18 in F#

TL027327

Sunday: 10.30

PN: Monday 19.30-20.45

Sarah Sharp, 48 Townfield Road, Flitwick, MK45 1JF
01525 630961

Alan Davies, Mervyn Gulliver, Peter Little, Peter Luff, Tom Luff, Geraldine Moore,
David Moorhouse, Joy Moorhouse, Alun Sharp, Janice Sharp, Sarah Sharp

WHIPSNAD E St Mary Magdalene (6) 3-1-24 in E (GF)

TL012179

Sunday: 08.30, except 5th

PN: None

Mrs Pam Ward, Chapel Farm, Whipsnade, LU6 2LL
01582 872406 pamelaj.ward@outlook.com

Sarah Ayres, John Kendrick, Roger Kendrick, Sylvia Kendrick, Pam Ward

WOBBURN St Mary the Virgin (8) 24-1-16 in D

SP950333

Sunday: 09.30 2nd only, 17.15 1st only

PN: Thursday 1st only

Raymond Watkin, 6 Quadrans Close, Pennyland, Milton Keynes, MK15 8AU
01908 675764 raymondwatkin@yahoo.co.uk

Raymond Watkin

Unringable**HARLINGTON St Mary the Virgin (5) 13-2-0**

TL038305

HOCKLIFFE St Nicholas (4) 6-2-12

SP966270

HULCOTE St Nicholas (4) 8-0-0

SP944389

TINGRITH St Nicholas (3) 6-2-0

TL006324

UPPER GRAVENHURST St Giles (5) 10-0-11 in G#

TL113360

Our Technical Advisor can help you with:

- Advice on maintenance of bells and fittings
- Advice on bell frame care
- An inspection of your bell installation (by appointment)

Contact Roger Kendrick

01582 413564

techadvisor@bacr.co.uk

Association Events and Reports

Melville Cup Striking Competition for Young Ringers

It was Bedford District's turn to host the Melville Cup inter-district striking competition for young ringers held on 20 September at the Abbey Church of St Mary and St Helen, Elstow.

Teams and supporters gathered in the adjoining tea garden, which proved to be an excellent venue to sit and listen to the ringing. As in recent years, quite a few ringers taking part in the main competition arrived in time to have tea and hear the results.

Four teams took part this year, with two from the Luton District. The very close competition was judged by Alan Marchbank and his son, John, from Buckinghamshire. Everyone who took part was congratulated.

Place	Team	Judge's Comments	Score	Rang
1	Luton 1	Pleasant ringing which got better with a very good last section. Very enjoyable to listen to.	93.75%	4
2	Bedford	Very positive with good sense of rhythm; good tenor beat, very clean with few faults.	93.54%	2
3	Biggleswade	Tenor set a good rhythm from the start; some good patches of settled ringing; striking improved throughout the piece.	91.81%	3
4	Luton 2 (Dunstable)	The tenor set a good rhythm; positive ringing which got better as the piece went along.	88.82%	1



Winners – Luton District Young Ringers. Photo: Terry Brown

St Peter's Cup - Association Six Bell Striking Competition

Six teams took part in this year's six bell striking competition for the St Peter's Cup held on 20 September at the Abbey Church of St Mary and St Helena, Elstow. The judges were Alan Marchbank and his son, John, from Buckinghamshire.

Alan said that, with less than 5% difference between the first and last teams, all the ringing had been good. He went on to say that if all bells were rung to the standard he'd heard during the competition we would have no worries about the future of good ringing.

Dunstable were declared winners and St Peter's Bedford the runners up.

Thanks to the Elstow ringers for organising the event and arranging use of the tea garden and the bells.

Place	Team	Judge's Comments	Score	Rang
1	Dunstable	A pretty good piece of ringing overall	93.68%	4
2	St Peter's Bedford	Found the right speed for the bells, nice to listen to	93.06%	6
3	St Andrew's Bedford	Steady ringing which improved throughout the piece.	92.87%	2
4	Biggleswade	Nice steady ringing; no major errors	92.64%	1
5	Linslade	Fastest ringing of the afternoon	90.00%	3
6	Campton	Determination to get over method mistake; striking improved all the time	88.50%	5



The winning team - Dunstable. From left to right: Karl Osborn, Matthew Johnson, Robert Hornby, Alan Shepherd, Graham Proctor, Richard Horne.
Photo: Terry Brown

Ringling World National Youth Striking Competition, Worcester

On 5 July, we headed 100 miles away to Worcester Cathedral for the fourth Ringing World National Youth Contest. Despite the rain on the way there, we held our spirits high. When we got there we were issued with our wristbands, orange for contestants and green for helpers and supporters. We found out we were the 14th team to ring. The first thing we did when we got there was ringing on the simulator. After a very long climb we got there and we all had a go at ringing on the dumbbells. It was a lot of fun.

After that we got on the bus, which was very posh with tinted windows and leather seats, and went to St John-in-Bedwardine. We rang a half course of Cambridge Major and a touch of Grandsire Triples. When we had finished we went to catch the bus, which had left before it was meant to so we walked slowly back towards the Cathedral, looking for somewhere to eat. After looking in several places we decided to go to a café.

Once we had eaten we headed towards Old St Martin's and waited outside for the rest of our team to arrive. While we waited we listened to the other teams ringing. We also wondered why they were ringing a bell down after every team had finished. When the team had all arrived we had our team photo taken and headed up the tower. We loved the fact that all the sallies were different colours. We were told that once we had rung our test piece we would need to ring the sixth down again. This was because in the non-contestant ringing over the lunch time the stay had broken meaning the stay had been replaced with one from a lighter bell. When we came out everyone was clapping.

We had more photos taken and then headed back to the Cathedral (for an even longer climb) to have a ring on the twelve. You really had to pull the hand-stroke to get the bell to stay up at back-stroke. When you're sat down and people are ringing you can feel the tower and the frame move. While the service band were ringing I went and took some photos of the Cathedral. The ringing sounded really good, especially as some of the members picked probably hadn't rung on twelve that much.

The results

After the service ringing everyone assembled in the college hall. Everyone was speaking excitedly wondering where they had come. We were enjoying what could have been our last moments as the national champions. After a technical difficulty with the microphones we were given the comments, in the order that the teams rang in. Everyone's comments were really good and we weren't sure who would win. The results for the method category were read out first, which six teams had entered this time. They started to announce the results for the called change competition. As they got closer to who had come first we wondered if we were going to win again. We knew we had done well but we weren't really expecting to win for two years running. It turned out we had, although all the other teams had done really well. Final results are below.

After a marvellous day we enjoyed a lovely hog roast outside the Cathedral. The day had been long but it was worth it. Well done to all the teams that took part and we hope to see everyone again next year for another great day.

Rebecca Smith, Linslade



The winning Bedfordshire Young Ringers Team at Worcester. From left to right:
 Back row: Sian Harris (tenor), Dean DeMatties (reserve), Becca Smith (4),
 Cameron White-Spunner (6), Lizzie Pawley (7), Clarrie Scott (2),
 Sammi Brett (5), Alice Scott (treble), Melissa Nash (3), Thomas Monks (reserve)
 Photo: Linda Garton

Young ringers outing to London

Usually the Bedfordshire Young Ringers monthly Sunday afternoon practices are at one of the lighter eights in the county. For most, opportunities to ring on more than 8 are limited, meaning that a number of the regular Sunday practice attendees have had no experience of ringing on 12. So some optimist decided a 'stretch' was required – we would go to London on the train (the easy bit) and ring at Central London twelves, St Martin in the Fields, St Sepulchre, St Mary le Bow and St Magnus the Martyr.

The result was a truly inspirational day full of individual and collective achievement as the 20 or so young ringers, assisted by their mentors/supporters, made a great job of tackling what to many experienced ringers are four pretty challenging twelves. The highlight of the day was a band of 12-17 year olds ringing rounds at Bow, and very creditably too.

John Loveless, Campton



Bedfordshire young ringers and friends at St Mary Le Bow, London.
Photo: Linda Garton

Here's what the Francis family, from Campton, and Clarrie Scott, from Biggleswade, thought about the day

On Saturday 29 November 2014 a group of 20 young ringers, mainly from Bedfordshire, set off to London with a challenge to ring at four twelve bell towers. These towers included three of the towers mentioned in the song, Oranges and Lemons (St Martin in the Fields, Old Bailey and Bow Bells).

Two of Campton's young ringers attended and fought with the mighty bells to make what turned out to be a magical sound.

When ringing on a light ring of eight you forget how heavy a bell can be. The trip to London reminded the Campton ringers of how lucky we are to have such lovely sounding, light and easy to ring bells.

A great day was had by all with lots of friendships made and stairs climbed. If there's one thing for sure, whatever cake and goodies were consumed they were quickly burnt off throughout the day.

Well done to all 20 young ringers that attended, from beginners to experienced. A tough challenge was set and you all exceeded the goal!

Clare, Charlotte and Henry Francis, Campton

On 29 November, between 40 and 50 ringers, young and old, were seen hopping from one tower to another through the streets of London. What could possibly go wrong? Ringers from Bedfordshire (plus some visiting ringers) met together to enjoy a fun packed day exploring four twelve-bell towers around Central London. Our day started in St Martin in the Fields, in the heart of London, off Trafalgar Square. After a quick coffee in the crypt we headed up to the ringing chamber. As many of us had never (or rarely) rung on twelve before, a quick briefing was given by Linda Garton. We were told numerous times throughout the day "big pull at handstroke and hold up at backstroke..." (You get the picture) The ringing consisted mainly of rounds so that

all the youngsters could have a feel of ringing twelve. Some more complicated methods were also rung to give some of the older generation a quick chance to brush up on twelve bell ringing!

After St Martin's, we headed to St Sepulchre without Newgate on a bus literally taken over by bell ringers! The same sort of system at St Martin's was used again at St Sepulchre. The bells had a lovely sound to them but were very different to St Martin's and therefore we took a little time to adapt. Everyone, now starting to get a little hungry, was very happy to find out it was lunchtime! After what seemed a long journey (for someone who is very hungry, that is) we finally arrived at the Crosse Keys Wetherspoon's. There we enjoyed a quick but very tasty lunch before heading back to St Mary le Bow. We were all warned about the weight of the bells, as it was the heaviest tower we were visiting, but we did not quite realise how heavy. We all needed to pull at least three times more to be able to get the bell up to where it needed to be! Many of us were also given the chance to go on top of the roof where a great view of London greeted you. You could see all the great landmarks and it was the perfect day to see as far as the horizon went. However, the higher you went, the more swaying there was, which made a few of us feel a little queasy (not just the youngsters!). Another great highlight of ringing at St Mary le Bow was the fact that a band was put together to ring rounds, but as we did not know at the time, the band had been placed so that every bell was being rung by an under 17 year old. This was a great highlight for many because it showed how talented the Bedfordshire Young Ringers are!

Leaving St Mary le Bow behind, we headed to our final tower, St Magnus the Martyr. After waiting a little while, we headed up the tower, trying to fit everyone in the small ringing chamber. It certainly kept us all warm though! The bells were very new and the sound was glorious, however, we were all not expecting the amount of sway that would be produced from the bells and that took many of us by surprise, but unfortunately made a few people feel a little unwell. However, as soon as you started to ring, you could not feel the sway at all and once you were used to it, everyone enjoyed a very pleasant final ring on twelve.

As that was the last tower, it was time for everyone to depart their own ways, although I'm sure many stayed to try some of London's fine beverages, but for some it was a quick pasty at King's Cross Station and a train home. On behalf of everyone, I would quickly like to thank Linda Garton, Jake Loveless, Chris Williams and Sue Silver for organising this day that I'm sure we will not forget for a long time. It has certainly helped my bell handling and my listening skills, which are useful however many bells you are ringing on. Thank you!

Clarrie Scott, Biggleswade

The James W Yates Raise and Lower in Peal Challenge Trophy

By popular demand we include information about the challenge competition for 'Jim's Jug' in the annual report again.

In 1977 James W Yates, an Ampthill ringer at the time, gave the Association a large pottery jug as the trophy for a 'Raising and Lowering in Peal' challenge competition. The trophy was made at the Wenfordbridge Pottery in Cornwall and is known as 'Jim's Jug'; it is a splendid three handled jug with a 7 pint capacity!

Jim's challenge was to encourage bands to raise and lower six or eight bells in peal and be judged for good striking throughout.

The current holders are Biggleswade. They successfully defended two challenges

from the Goldington band in 2010 and 2011.

The full challenge rules are on the website but, in summary, Biggleswade remain trophy holders until another band (or two), of resident members who are also Sunday service ringers, challenge them to a contest to raise, stand and lower 6 or 8 bells in peal.

Defenders and challengers between them:

- agree on a venue for the contest and are their own umpires.
- appoint a judge who will judge teams solely on their striking; the team with the least faults and best overall performance being the winner.

The contest must be held no later than 4 months after the challenge has been accepted. The holders are bound to accept a challenge or, if unable to do so, must concede to allow a contest between other challengers to a maximum of three teams per contest.

There must be least 4 months after a contest before a challenge can be made so another challenge is long overdue! The Biggleswade band looks forward to defending a challenge soon.



Jim's Jug. Photos: Anthony Smith

Association Belfry Maintenance Course

On Saturday 15 March the Association hosted a practical belfry maintenance course led by Adrian Semken and George Dawson from the Central Council's Towers and Belfries Committee.

The day was based at Biggleswade church hall for the theory sessions and lunch with Biggleswade and Henlow belfries for the practical sessions.

15 people attended and we had very good feedback about how useful it had been.

Thanks to the Biggleswade band, especially Anthony and Charlotte Smith, for organising the use of the hall, providing a delicious lunch and for access to Biggleswade belfry. Thanks also to Carol Donnelly for arranging use of the belfry at Henlow.



The belfry maintenance course. Photos: Peter Overfield

Bedford River Festival

Bedford District's Sarah Ward agreed, once more, to organise an Association stand and Peter Blight's Charnborough mini ring at the biennial Bedford River Festival which was held over the weekend of 18, 19 and 20 July. The objective was to demonstrate bell ringing and give people the chance to have a go.

Eventually enough volunteers came forward to erect the mini ring on Friday afternoon, look after it through Friday and Saturday night, have it well manned over the weekend, and dismantled at the end of Sunday afternoon.

As in 2012, the mini ring proved popular and we were able to introduce our art to a great number of festival visitors. Unfortunately we haven't had many people come

forward to learn to ring as a result but we can't underestimate the importance of bringing 'bells out of the tower', perhaps sowing some seeds and being able to promote our Association.

Many thanks, in particular, to Sarah Ward and everyone else who helped organise the event or on the weekend itself.



On-lookers at the Bedford River Festival. Photo: Peter Blight

The following report by Martin and Lynn Goodwin, ringers at St Peter's Bedford, appeared in the October 2014 edition of Headstock. Martin and Lynn took the Saturday night shift to 'guard' the Charmborough Ring.

This year we took a turn guarding the bells overnight on Saturday. After our evening session it was lovely to sit at the barbeque with a beer and hamburger as the sun went down, watch the fireworks and get ready for a night under canvas! As we hadn't camped for years this was quite an experience for us! Eventually a nearby party subsided, so we got a quiet night and slept quite well. It was nice to sit over an early cuppa and welcome the morning helpers, ringing while the litter crew tidied up the site.

The weekend weather was kind to us. Rain held off until Sunday afternoon and we managed to get the Charmborough bells packed away between the showers – just! Many people had a go on the bells from toddlers just chiming to others moving on to full circle ringing. Maybe many of these would never have the chance to ring church bells. Hopefully it has given some of them a taste which they could follow up sometime soon ... or even later in life.

Martin and Lynn Goodwin, Bedford

‘Celebrate 100’ – St Albans Diocese centenary event, Keysoe

2014 was the centenary of the St Albans Diocese in its current form. To mark the occasion, the Diocese organised the ‘Celebrate 100’ event on August 25, bank holiday Monday, at Keysoe Equestrian Centre. Because the event would be attended mainly by church goers, it was thought that this would provide a good opportunity to promote bell ringing and our Association together with the possibility of getting some new recruits. The Charmborough ring was booked and the arrangements were master minded by Linda Garton.

Despite intercessions from Bishops and clergy the weather was very unkind, with rain for pretty much the whole day. The wet weather meant that plans had to be changed. The Charmborough Ring was moved to a less prominent position and our information stand was relocated inside the main arena away from the bells. However, everyone who came to help showed great determination in difficult circumstances to make sure we did the best we could. Bishops and some clergy took the opportunity to have a go on the mini ring as well as other visitors, young and old.

The Clifton ringers held their usual August bank holiday ringing outing in north Bedfordshire so that ringers and friends could attend ‘Celebrate 100’ at lunch time. St Mary’s, Keysoe was the first tower after lunch and the bells were rung to mark the centenary; the church being within sight and sound of the Equestrian Centre just across the fields.

Many thanks to Linda for organising and to everyone who braved the appalling weather to set up and take down the mini ring and help people have a go.



Very damp ringers and on-lookers at Celebrate 100. Photo: Peter Blight

Bedfordshire bell ringing and ringers lost in World War I

The subject of a Roll of Honour for Bedfordshire Bell Ringers lost in World War I was raised at the AGM in 2013. I thought there may be something relevant in the Association Annual Reports, which had been archived by Chris Pickford in the County Records Library.

The first mention of the War is in the Report published at Easter 1915, where it is stated "performing members who enlist shall be retained without payment of subscription during their time of service". Also there would be no peal ringing during the War, although a few peals were rung.

There was no report in 1916 and in 1917 only a balance sheet and a short Report explaining that normal life had been severely disrupted.

The next Annual Report appeared at Easter 1919, where specific mention is made of only one Bedfordshire ringer, J W Barker of St Paul's Bedford. "The Committee record with most genuine regret the great loss that the Association has sustained in the death of Mr J W Barker, who for many years had been a very energetic worker for the good of the Association".

This Report also includes a peal rung at Dunstable on 2 August 1915, conducted by Sergeant-Major H Wakley. There is a footnote which regrets that the Conductor has since been killed in action. He appears in the list of non-resident members for the first time, and comes from Burton-on-Trent. His name appears in the Roll of Honour on the Central Council's website, where he is listed as a member of the Midland Counties Association.

The next Report, from Easter 1920 states "most members serving with H M Forces have been demobilised, and we look forward to next year with expectations of increased activity and usefulness of our Society".

Several peals were rung to mark the end of hostilities, including one at Clapham, June 21 1920, the first in the County and for the Association rung entirely by ex-Service men, giving their military Units.

The suggestion to look around your tower for war memorials produced an interesting response from Goldington, where a memorial at the foot of the tower lists four ringers. Andrew Dennison was able to find the regiments in which they served from the general church memorial.

- Private Harold R Allen, 9th W Yorks
- Sapper Charles E Bennett, Royal Engineers
- Private James Johnson, 5th Beds
- Sergeant George Laughton, 7th Beds

The sparsity of information found in the Annual Reports is partly due to the fact that in 1913 many ringers did not belong to the Bedfordshire Association, so some Towers were not recognised, e.g. Goldington, and partly because normal life was clearly very difficult during the War, which meant for three significant years no reports were published.

Other facts emerged whilst perusing these documents, and questions raised, such as What provoked the Rule Change in 1912 to introduce a peal fee of One Penny for the cost of scribing Peals in the Association Peal Book, a cost previously borne by the Association? What became of this Peal Book?

Should you wish to see who were the members listed for your Tower in 1913, please let me know. Thanks to Andrew Dennison, and The Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service.

Robert Jones

Points from the Peals

Congratulations to the following member who rang his first peal in 2014

Robert Gornall of Bromham rang Grandsire Triples at Bromham on 31 December

Members who rang 10 or more peals

Anthony H Smith	13	Frank W Rivett	13
Charlotte M Smith	12	Philippa M Whittington	11

Members who conducted more than one peal

Richard I Allton	6	John P Loveless	4
Anthony H Smith	3	Michael Chester	2

Towers where more than one peal was rung			
Campton	4	Clifton	4
Easton Neston	2	Henlow	2

Methods rung			
Triples	3	Major	16
Grandsire	2	10 Spliced Surprise	2
Plain Bob	1	9 Spliced Surprise	2
		Dereham	2
		Lessness	2
		London	2
		11 Spliced Surprise	1
		12 Spliced Surprise	1
		6 Spliced Surprise	1
		Bedfordshire	1
		Rutland	1
		Yorkshire	1
		Caters	1
		Grandsire	1
		Royal	1
		Cambridge	1

Peals 2014

Peal no. 4119 including 66 on handbells

CAMPTON, All Saints

Sat Jan 11, 2h40

5040 Plain Bob Triples

Comp: James Clatworthy

- 1 Clare Francis
- 2 Christine A Williams
- 3 Martin Major
- 4 John P Loveless (C)
- 5 Vernon Green
- 6 Linda M Garton
- 7 Anthony H Smith
- 8 Charlotte M Smith

Remembering our friend Robert P (Bob) Wood, who rang his last peal on these bells on 28th December 2013.
First peal on eight bells: 1.

4120

CLIFTON, All Saints

Sat Jan 11, 2h47

5056 London Surprise Major

Comp: Stephen Ivin

- 1 D Graham Hall
- 2 Martyn J Marriott
- 3 Mary E Hall
- 4 Philippa M Whittington
- 5 Trevor W Groom
- 6 Stephen H Stanford
- 7 Russell A Brown
- 8 Frank W Rivett (C)

Rung in memory of Anne Izzard and Robert P Wood. RIP.

4121

HENLOW, St Mary

Mon Jan 20, 2h53

5088 Lessness Surprise Major

Comp: S Jenner

- 1 Christine A Williams
- 2 Charlotte M Smith
- 3 Anthony H Smith (C)
- 4 Martin Major
- 5 D Graham Hall
- 6 Peter V Rogers
- 7 Philip R Jewell
- 8 Richard A Horne

Rung in memory of Robert P Wood, who rang several peals in this tower, and Florence Emery who was a long time Sunday School Teacher and servant of this Church.

4122

**SHERBORNE, Dorset, Abbey
Church of St Mary the Virgin**

Sat Jan 25, 4h6 (46cwt)

5088 London Surprise Major

Comp: Stephen J Ivin (No.14)

- 1 Linda M Garton
- 2 Paul J Pascoe
- 3 Russell A Brown
- 4 Peter J Waterfield
- 5 Frank W Rivett
- 6 Daniel Jones
- 7 John P Loveless (C)
- 8 Nicholas D Brown

Remembering Robert P Wood who
was very much looking forward to
ringing in this peal.

4123

**EATON SOCON, Cambridgeshire,
St Mary**

Sun Jan 26, 2h47

5024 Spliced Surprise Major

(9 methods: 640 Adelaide; 608
Superlative; 576 London; 544 each
Bristol, Lindum, Pudsey, Rutland; 512
each Brighton, Cambridge; 141 com,
atw)

Comp: Richard G Crosland

- 1 Anthony H Smith
- 2 Rosemary H Buckle
- 3 Charlotte M Smith
- 4 Philippa M Whittington
- 5 Margaret Whiteley
- 6 Martin J Whiteley
- 7 Frank W Rivett
- 8 Richard I Allton (C)

In memory of
Robert P Wood.

4124

CLIFTON, All Saints

Mon Jan 27, 2h45

5024 Spliced Surprise Major

(9 methods: 640 Adelaide; 608
Superlative; 576 London; 544 each
Bristol, Lindum, Pudsey, Rutland; 512
each Brighton, Cambridge; 141 com,
atw)

Comp: Richard G Crosland

- 1 Rosemary H Buckle
- 2 Anthony H Smith
- 3 Charlotte M Smith
- 4 Richard I Allton (C)
- 5 Philippa M Whittington
- 6 Margaret Whiteley
- 7 Martin J Whiteley
- 8 Frank W Rivett

4125

STOTFOLD, St Mary the Virgin

Sat Feb 22, 2h57

5088 Spliced Surprise Major

(6 methods: 1152 Rutland; 1056
Cambridge; 864 each Lincolnshire,
Yorkshire; 576 each Pudsey,
Superlative; 140 com)

Comp: Murray Coleman

- 1 Roy V Webb
- 2 D Graham Hall
- 3 J Richard Hough
- 4 Jane K A Hough
- 5 James R B Saunders
- 6 Vernon Green
- 7 Mark G Lloyd
- 8 Richard Castledine (C)

4126

CAMPTON, All Saints

Sun Feb 23, 2h35

5024 Spliced Surprise Major

(10 methods: 576 Rutland; 544 each
Chesterfield, Pudsey; 512 each
Adelaide, Cambridge, Lindum; 480
each Brighton, London; 448
Superlative; 416 Bristol; 135 com, atw)

Comp: Richard G Crosland

- 1 Rosemary H Buckle
- 2 Charlotte M Smith
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Philippa M Whittington
- 5 Martin J Whiteley
- 6 Margaret Whiteley
- 7 Richard I Allton (C)
- 8 Frank W Rivett

750th peal as conductor.

4127

BEDFORD, St Paul

Sun Feb 23, 3h20

5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal

Comp: Peter Border

- 1 Susan E Marsden
- 2 Peter V Rogers
- 3 Craig P Homewood
- 4 James K Eggleston
- 5 Colin Aked
- 6 James R B Saunders
- 7 James M Hills
- 8 Jeremy Piron
- 9 Stephen H Stanford
- 10 Michael G Purday (C)

Arranged and rung in thanksgiving for
the life of Robert P Wood.

4128

CLIFTON, All Saints

Mon Feb 24, 2h49

5024 Spliced Surprise Major

(10 methods: 576 Rutland; 544 each
Chesterfield, Pudsey; 512 Adelaide,
Cambridge, Lindum; 480 each
Brighton, London; 448 Superlative; 416
Bristol; 135 com, atw)

Comp: Richard G Crosland

- 1 Rosemary H Buckle
- 2 Charlotte M Smith
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Martin J Whiteley
- 5 Philippa M Whittington
- 6 Frank W Rivett
- 7 Margaret Whiteley
- 8 Richard I Allton (C)

A 90th birthday compliment to Tony
Tobitt of this parish.

4129

CLIFTON, All Saints

Sun Mar 2, 2h52

5080 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Comp: B E Whiting/SABRE

- 1 Linda M Garton
- 2 Simon A Rudd (C)
- 3 Philippa M Whittington
- 4 Vernon Green
- 5 J Richard Castledine
- 6 Russell A Brown
- 7 Rosalind J Keech
- 8 Frank W Rivett

Rung to celebrate the 80th birthday of
Stanley Ashton, Tower Captain at this
tower for 23 years.

1,000th peal: 6.

Circled the tower: 7.

4130

CAMPTON, All Saints

Fri Mar 14, 2h39

5024 Lessness Surprise Major

Comp: Anthony J Cox

- 1 Trevor W Groom
- 2 Christine A Williams
- 3 Linda M Garton
- 4 Charlotte M Smith
- 5 John P Loveless (C)
- 6 Anthony H Smith
- 7 Frank W Rivett
- 8 Phillip S George

First in method: 2.

4131
EASTON NESTON,
Northamptonshire, St Mary
 Mon Mar 24, 2h44 (9cwt)
5024 Spliced Surprise Major
 (11 methods: 640 Rutland; 576
 Superlative; 480 Cambridge; 448 each
 Chesterfield, Eccleston, Lindum,
 Pudsey; 416 each Adelaide, London;
 384 Brighton; 320 Bristol; 146 com,
 atw)
 Comp: Richard G Crosland
 1 Murray A Coleman
 2 Anthony H Smith
 3 Charlotte M Smith
 4 Margaret Whiteley
 5 Philippa M Whittington
 6 Frank W Rivett
 7 Martin J Whiteley
 8 Richard I Allton (C)

4132
TURVEY, All Saints
 Sat May 3, 3h1
5088 Dereham Surprise Major
 Comp: Gen. BYROC
 1 Jonathan P Tallis
 2 Robert W Jones
 3 Rosemary K Hemmings
 4 Robert Tregillus
 5 Nicholas K Allsopp
 6 Ian N Robinson
 7 L Roy Woodruff
 8 Michael Chester (C)
 1,000th peal of Major: 8.

4133
CASTOR, Cambridgeshire,
St Kyneburgha
 Thurs May 8, 2h44 (10cwt)
5024 Rutland Surprise Major
 Comp: N Smith
 1 Judith M Rogers
 2 Charlotte M Smith
 3 Anthony H Smith (C)
 4 Susan J Melvin
 5 Philippa M Whittington
 6 Robin H Rogers
 7 Richard A Horne
 8 Frank W Rivett
 Rung as part of Sue's 50th birthday
 celebrations.
 First peal in the method: 4.

4134
KEMPSTON, All Saints
 Sat May 10, 3h9
5003 Grandsire Caters
 Comp: John S Warboys
 1 Melvyn Potts
 2 David A Potts
 3 Anthony H Smith
 4 Charlotte M Smith
 5 David I Stanford
 6 Timothy M D Stanford
 7 Richard A Horne
 8 Jonathan R Pawley
 9 Andrew M Keech (C)
 10 Stephen H Stanford
 First on 10: 6.
 Dedicated to the memory of Anne
 Izzard and Robert Wood, ringers at this
 tower. Also in memory of Canon
 Kenneth Habermehl, Vicar here 1965-
 1987.

4135
HENLOW, St Mary
 Fri Aug 1, 2h52
5040 Grandsire Triples
 Comp: J J Parker (12-part)
 1 Carol J Donnelly
 2 Roy V Webb
 3 Martin Major
 4 Charlotte M Smith
 5 Anthony H Smith (C)
 6 Phillip S George
 7 Philip R Jewell
 8 J Richard Castledine
 Rung to commemorate the occasion
 on 1st August 1814, when these bells
 were rung and a street feast
 consumed, to celebrate the exile of
 Napoleon.

4136
MAULDEN, St Mary
 Sat Aug 2, 2h47
5088 Bedfordshire Surprise Major
 Comp: R D S Brown
 1 John E Hearn
 2 L Roy Woodruff
 3 Richard Lewis-Skeath
 4 Robert W Jones
 5 Robert Tregillus
 6 Ian N Robinson
 7 Roderic K Bickerton
 8 Michael Chester (C)
 Rung to mark the centenary of the
 outbreak of World War I.

4137
EASTON NESTON,
Northamptonshire, St Mary
 Mon Aug 4, 2h50 (9cwt)
5152 Spliced Surprise Major
 (12 methods: 544 Rutland; 512 Lindum;
 480 Chesterfield, London; 448
 Superlative; 416 Eccleston, Pudsey,
 Uppingham; 384 Brighton, Cambridge;
 352 Adelaide; 320 Bristol: 153 com,
 atw)
 Comp: Richard G Crosland
 1 Charlotte M Smith
 2 Anthony H Smith
 3 Martin J Whiteley
 4 Margaret Whiteley
 5 Philippa M Whittington
 6 John P Loveless
 7 Richard I Allton (C)
 8 Frank W Rivett
 On the 100th anniversary of the
 outbreak of World War 1, remembering
 especially Charles S Faulkner, a
 member of this tower, who lost his life
 at the Battle of Loos.

4138
CAMPTON, All Saints
 Mon Oct 6, 2h44
5056 Dereham Surprise Major
 Comp: Richard I Allton (No.884)
 1 Martin Major
 2 Christine A Williams
 3 Philippa M Whittington
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 John P Loveless (C)
 6 Peter J Blight
 7 Phillip S George
 8 Frank W Rivett

4139
BROMHAM, St Owen
 Wed Dec 31, 3h12
5040 Grandsire Triples
 Comp: J J Parker (6part)
 1 Philippa M Whittington
 2 Robert W Jones
 3 Frank W Rivett
 4 Derek A Hammond
 5 David I Stanford
 6 Richard A Horne
 7 Stephen H Stanford
 8 Robert Gornall
 Specially arranged to congratulate
 Derek Hammond on his 80th birthday
 (30 June). Also a birthday compliment
 to Robert Gornall (today)
 First peal: 8

General Information for members

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults - Association guidelines, revised February 2012

These guidelines are for Tower Captains, Association Officers and those who teach, or help, children and vulnerable adults to ring. They're based on guidance issued by the St Albans Diocese and Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR). Child Protection rules define a 'child' as a person under the age of 18 (or anyone who has been assessed as having a mental age of under 18). At present there isn't a definition of 'vulnerable adult'. Until we have a definition, everyone should use their own judgement.

Sunday service ringing and individual tower practices are the responsibility of that church/parish; we strongly advise all ringers to check local arrangements and comply with them.

Everyone should take safeguarding matters seriously. This will ensure that:

- Children and vulnerable adults are protected from abuse.
- Adults working with children and vulnerable adults don't put themselves in compromising situations.
- The good name of the Association, and ringing in general, is protected.

We recommend that everyone involved with children and vulnerable adults in ringing (whether they're members or not) should:

- Always have at least two adults present (preferably a male and female) when children/vulnerable adults are present at tower, District or Association practices.
- Make parents/guardians responsible for taking children/vulnerable adults to and from the church.
- Keep an attendance register or record.
- Be aware of the insurance position for children/vulnerable adults.
- Never allow children/vulnerable adults up amongst the bells apart from an initial demonstration visit if it is safe to have one.
- Get written permission from parents/guardians before children/vulnerable adults are taken without them to Tower, District and Association meetings, training, outings and social functions or other towers' practices.
- Make sure parents/guardians have agreed transport arrangements for children/vulnerable adults travelling to and from ringing, meeting, or social activities away from the home tower.
- Never travel alone in a car with a child/vulnerable adult.
- Only hold child/vulnerable adult personal contact information with the permission of parents/guardians.

If you are a Tower Captain, or someone who works with children or vulnerable adults, you should also:

- Know the child protection/safeguarding policy of your church and the 'named person' to whom you should report concerns.

- Invite parents/guardians to a training session before teaching begins so that they're fully aware of what's involved.
- Ask parents/guardians to sign a registration form which gives their permission for the child/vulnerable adult to learn to ring (downloadable from our website www.bacr.co.uk).

The Association's Safeguarding Coordinator may contact parents/guardians to make sure they understand the Association's guidelines and their own responsibilities. For more information see the child protection notes on the CCCBR website: www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship and guidance on the St Albans Diocese website: www.stalbans.anglican.org.

If you have any queries contact our Safeguarding Coordinator, Rosemary Drewery, email: safeguarding@bacr.co.uk, telephone: 07792 926004.

Data protection

The Data Protection Act 1998 provisions came into force on the 1st March 2000. The Association is exempt from registration under the Act but must still follow the principles of good data handling.

As an Association member, a parent/guardian of a member under 18 years old or a Tower Contact who is a non-member, you should be aware that personal information (including name, address, telephone number, email address, subscription payment record and peals rung for the Association) is held and maintained electronically and on paper records for use by nominated Association Officers (including District Officers).

Association and District Officers also hold email addresses, where members give specific permission, to communicate about Association and District events and activities.

Your personal data is only used for the legitimate purposes of the Association; we do not allow personal data to be used by others. You have the right to see the data we hold about you.

By joining the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers you agree to your name appearing in the Annual Report and, where relevant, on the Association's website, Association and District newsletter and other communications.

We do ask members and tower contacts (whether members or not), to give specific permission before other personal data, such as phone number, address and email address, is used in the Annual Report or on the Association's website.

Please help us to keep our records up to date by informing the Honorary Secretary and relevant District Secretary of any changes to your personal information.

Association and member insurance cover – reviewed 2014

The Association has an insurance policy with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. Ringing Associations generally have public liability cover and some may also have property and/or personal injury cover. Some Associations don't provide any insurance cover at all, because they believe it is too expensive with little benefit.

We decided against providing personal insurance for every member because it is expensive and these policies may give a false sense of security as they have small pay-outs. For example, a typical pay-out is unlikely to cover your loss of earnings if you were unable to work due to a ringing accident.

We believe our cover is a good membership benefit which accounts for about £1.00 of your annual subscription. You can view our policy document on the website.

Cover includes:

- £2,000,000 public and products liability for third party claims on the Association and individual members;
- 'Member to Member' liability, if one member should sue another member;
- Property damage and unspecified risks, for our valuable assets including the striking competition trophies, President's badge and library contents.
- A very modest personal accident insurance, **only** for our named Technical Advisor.

The liability cover only applies if a member isn't entitled to indemnity under any other policy and it won't apply if the member isn't complying with the terms and conditions of our policy, such as:

It is a condition of this insurance that the inspection, adjustment and repair of bells will be undertaken only by persons technically competent relating to engineering or church structures or if, in the view of such qualified persons, they are competent to perform the tasks allotted to them.

It is very difficult to give definitive advice here because 'technical competence' or 'qualified persons' aren't defined and because there are so many different circumstances.

The following may help you decide how this affects you:

- You should check the insurance position of your own church. Every church must have its own insurance cover. If you're teaching learners in your own tower then you're likely to be covered by your church policy, but upper and lower age limits may apply. If you are teaching outside your own tower then you'll need to check your insurance position at that tower.
- If you are doing more than 'routine maintenance' then you may not be covered by your church policy. You should seek specific advice for any work that could be considered as more than routine maintenance.
- If you are a volunteer worker for any bell or tower work project being carried out by recognised, professional bell engineers, you may be able to get some cover under their policy but check beforehand, is it for liability or accidents?
- Members of the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) should check how they are covered through ART's insurance policy for teaching at towers within and outside the Association's area.

See also the Central Council's guidance note on insurance and ringing
<http://www.cccbr.org.uk/towerstewardship/notes/GN1v8.pdf>

Practice Nights

It is always advisable to check before visiting a tower on practice night; see the 'Towers and Members' section for details. Some towers practice only on certain weeks of the month and some towers alternate their practice with one or more other towers.

Only those towers who indicate that they hold a regular practice are listed here. Many towers don't have a practice at all and some are by arrangement only.

	District		
	Bedford	Biggleswade	Luton
Monday	Bedford St Paul Riseley	Haynes Northill	Barton Le Clay Leighton Buzzard Shillington Silsoe Studham Tilsworth Westoning
Tuesday	Bromham Clapham Renhold Sharnbrook Stevington Thurleigh	Campton Cople Henlow Potton Willington	Linslade Luton
Wednesday	Felmersham Goldington Kempston Keysoe	Biggleswade Blunham Eaton Socon Maulden Sandy Tempsford	Aspley Guise Dunstable Eaton Bray Flitton Husborne Crawley Stanbridge
Thursday	Bedford St Andrew Bedford St Peter Biddenham Bletsoe Cardington Colmworth Stagsden Upper Dean	Amphill Southill Stotfold	Caddington Cranfield Houghton Regis Woburn
Friday	Carlton Elstow Harrold Little Staughton Oakley Turvey	Arlesey Clifton Meppershall	Flitwick Toddington



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