

The Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers



St Mary the Virgin Eaton Bray

Annual Report 2016

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Cover picture – St Mary the Virgin Eaton Bray

Over recent years the bells at Eaton Bray had become increasingly difficult to ring. With the revival of ringing at Eaton Bray, and the enthusiasm of the local ringers, it was decided to raise the necessary funds to overhaul the installation. In 2015 John Taylor & Co were contracted to strengthen the timber frame, rehang bells and fit a false ceiling to ringing chamber at a cost of £11,500. This work was completed in the same year and to the satisfaction of all.

Information on the Association's Website - www.bacbr.org.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 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
- BellBoard feed of Bedfordshire peals and other performances



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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 2016

President

Susan M Silver, 3 Heronslee, Shefford, SG17 5FQ
01462 817530 president@bacbr.org.uk

Vice-President

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

Honorary Life Members

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

Honorary Secretary

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

Honorary Treasurer

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

Honorary Peal Secretary

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

Honorary Librarian

Patrick J S Albon, 27 Home Close, Sharnbrook MK44 1PQ
01234 782251 librarian@bacbr.org.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 examiner@bacbr.org.uk

Bank Trustees

Susan M Silver, Robert Jones

Technical Advisor

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

Safeguarding Coordinator

Rosemary Drewery
07792 926004 safeguarding@bacbr.org.uk

Web Master

Tony Sharp
01767 262361 webmaster@bacbr.org.uk

District Secretaries and Treasurers 2017

Bedford District

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

Treasurer: Jenny Thompson
16 Langdale, Bedford
MK41 9EG
01234 216571
bedfordtreasurer@bacbr.org.uk

Biggleswade District

Secretary: Lucy Croucher
9, Brambling Close, Sandy
SG19 2UJ
07896 325081
biggleswade@bacbr.org.uk

Treasurer: Peter Overfield
10 Peartree Close, Shefford
SG17 5JG
01462 815672
biggleswadetreasurer@bacbr.org.uk

Luton District

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

Treasurer: Christopher Catlin
12 Millards Close, Flitwick
MK45 1AS
01525 752347
lutontreasurer@bacbr.org.uk

District Officers 2016

Bedford District

Chairman: Alex Nash
Secretary: Robert Jones
Treasurer: Jenny Thompson
District BRF Treasurer: Martin Goodwin
Ringing Master: James Saunders
Committee: Ann Desics, Anna Townsend,
Sarah Ward, Barbara Woplin

Striking Contest Organisers: Sarah Ward,
Anna Townsend
District Outing Organiser: Adrienne Sharp
RJ Sharp Bell Fund Rep: Martin Goodwin
Association BRF Rep: Martin Goodwin
Ind. Examiner BRF: Richard Hillson
Ind. Examiner District Accounts: Tim Blunt

Biggleswade District

Chairman: Susan Silver
Secretary: Lucy Croucher
Treasurer: Peter Overfield
Ringing Master: Christine Williams
Committee: Teresa Brown, Linda Garton,
Clarrie Scott

District BRF Treasurer: Clare Francis
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, Barbara Fraser

Striking Contest Organiser: Mary Hartley
District BRF Treasurer: Simon Stranks
RJ Sharp Bell Fund Rep: Simon Stranks
Association BRF Rep: Simon Stranks
Ind. Examiner BRF: Susan Silver
Ind. Examiner District Accounts:
David Adams

Association 2017 Diary – see www.bacbr.org.uk for current details			
Association AGM	Sat 20 May	Biggleswade	See website
Ridgman Trophy	Sat 17 June	Great St Mary, Cambridge	
Ringing World National Youth Contest	Sat 1 July	Birmingham – details at http://rwnyc.ringingworld.co.uk	
St Peter's Cup Six Bell Striking Competition	Sat 16 September	Colmworth	Draw 5.00pm
Melville Cup Striking Competition for Young Ringers	Sun 24 September	Clifton	2.00 - 4.00pm
2018 Forward look			
Biggleswade District ADM	Sat 13 January	Henlow	Service 4.30pm Tea 5.15pm Meeting 6.00pm
Bedford District ADM	Sat 21 January	Bromham	3.30 – 9.00pm
Luton District ADM	Sat 27 January	Dunstable	Ringing 3.30pm Service 4.30pm Tea 5.00pm Meeting 6.00pm
Association AGM	Sat 19 May 2018	St Mary, Luton	Timings to be confirmed
Association 6 bell Striking Competition	Sat 15 September 2018	Biggleswade District	Details to be confirmed

2017 Subscription rates and other charges		
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

Association Officer Reports

President's Report

2016 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 Bedford District at St Pauls Bedford. On the 4 June the Association competed in the Ridgman Trophy contest at Daventry. This is a 10 bell striking competition for Eastern Region Associations and the test piece was a touch of Erin Caters. It was good, for the second year running, to see two of our RWNYC team taking part. The draw takes place in advance of the competition and we were drawn first out of seven teams, this gave us no time to arrange a practice on the day on route to Daventry, and we were placed seventh in the Competition. Thanks go to John Loveless for making the arrangements.

2016 was also another very successful year for our young ringers as was witnessed on the 2 July in London at the Ringing World National Youth Contest, when those representing the Association retained The Whitechapel Trophy for the fourth year running. The Bedfordshire Team were, Clarrie Scott, (Biggleswade), Melissa Nash (St Andrew's Bedford), Sammi Brett (Linslade), Lizzie and Caroline Pawley (Leighton Buzzard), Cameron White-Spunner (Houghton Regis), Dean De-Matteis (Husborne Crawley) and Becca Smith (Linslade) and were under the expert guidance of Linda Garton. It was a fantastic 'team' effort as, for the first time in the competition, they had to ring their test piece, 168 Plain Bob Triples twice! Once in the eliminator at St James Church Garlickhythe and in the final at St Olave's Church Hart Street. 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, Jonathan Nash (St Andrew's Bedford) and Becky Gordon (Dunstable) and they were able to take part in all the activities laid on for the competitors. We will be entering a team in the 2017 competition in Birmingham on the 1 July, when, as defending champions we will be hoping to win the trophy for a fifth successive year. The 2016 competition was the last for Lizzie Pawley and Sammi Brett as they have now exceeded the age limit but they leave as having won all four of the competitions that they have taken part in. Congratulations and thank you.

I cannot praise our young ringers highly enough for their efforts and commitment to the Association. We continue to run a monthly 'get together' on the 4th Sunday afternoon which is regularly attended by 15/20 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 for running them.

The Association Striking Contests took place in September hosted by the Luton District at Eaton Bray. This year two Districts plus a team from Dunstable and a scratch team entered the Young Ringers Competition for the 'Melville Cup'. The Biggleswade District was unable to raise a band this year. The cup was won by the Bedford Band 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 Eaton Bray ringers for the excellent tea. 2016 saw the completion of the Biggleswade project with the augmentation to 10, making a second 10 in the Association, and refurbishment of the bells and creation of

the Ronald J Sharp Ringing Centre. There was a service of Hallowing of the bells in May when the bells were lined up in the centre aisle of the church, and then on the 25 September the Bishop of St Albans led a service of dedication. There was open ringing after the dedication service and undoubtedly the highlight was the Bishop ringing with a Bedfordshire Band of teenagers. Both services were wonderful occasions. This project has given the Association a first class facility that will serve it well for future generations of ringers.

In November an outing was arranged for the Young Ringers to St Albans to ring at four towers including the 12 at the Abbey and the 10 at St Peter's. 16 young ringers came along with 22 helpers so there were some crowded ringing rooms! It was not lost on those attending that Guy Scott rang with a band of teenagers at St Peter's possibly trying to emulate his boss from a couple of months earlier! 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 2017 being an equally active and successful year.

Sue Silver, President

Treasurer's Report

This year we have gone from having a surplus of £153.62 to a deficit of £305.99. We did not receive any monies in Gift Aid, last year we received £290.11. The Government has changed the dates that we can claim; hopefully next year we will receive Gift Aid for two years. Of the £300 claimed for T-shirts for the young ringers, £120 was for the 2015 T-shirts. This year we have set up a new website, the cost of setting this up was £167.99 plus a gift of £250 to the designer as a thank you for all his hard work. Donations have gone down this year by £124. The insurance has gone up by £46 but peal fees were up by £59. This year we were able to transfer £1827.47 into the Associations Bell Restoration Fund, £1505 coming from subscriptions. The fund now stands at £10344.38. Eversholt have been the first tower to apply for a grant and it was agreed that we would grant them £5000 when the work is completed. The membership has increased by seven, two extra for Biggleswade and five extra for Luton.

It would be very helpful for the new Treasurer if when paying your subscription either by standing order or direct payment if you would put the name of your tower as the reference.

Barbara Fraser, Honorary Treasurer

Peal Secretary's Report

This year saw 44 peals being rung, which is a marked increase over recent years and approaching the numbers of six or seven years ago; these were rung by 95 members in 34 towers, six of which were outside our geographical boundary. One peal of particular merit is that at Campton on 10 December which was the first by a Campton Sunday band, we look forward to reading more from them in the future.

After last year's surge of members ringing their first peal, things got back to normal this year with three new peal ringers, all of whom deserve our congratulations. It is interesting that two of them come from different ends of the age spectrum; Henry Francis is one of our younger members whereas John Coles learnt to ring at St

Mary's Walthamstow in 1955 and rang his first quarter peal in 1956. He stopped ringing after that, but following encouragement from David R Smith, Ian G Campbell and Alan Regin, he started again on 29th October 2015 at St Mary the Virgin Stotfold, ringing his 2nd quarter peal in June 2016. John is now actively ringing at a number of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire towers. His first peal is a result of help and encouragement from many local ringers. He has a very good peal ringing pedigree - his grandfather, Charles T Coles, rang 1,014 peals!

Seven of last year's fifteen first pealers, added to their totals this year all of them using the opportunity to expand their repertoire either by ringing 'inside' or on more bells. We congratulate them all.

As usual many local and national events were marked. Of special interest are: birthday peals for our President and several other members reaching their 90th anniversary along with the Queen and several connected with commemoration of World War I.

Anthony Smith, Honorary Peal Secretary

Points from the peals and details of peals rung for the Association in 2016 are on pages 42 to 48.

Librarian's Report

As far as loans were concerned, 2016 was again a quiet year with only one item going out on loan.

During the year Alan Shepherd informed me that there had been a water leak in Chews House and that this had necessitated an emergency move of the library to his house for safekeeping. As the repairs to Chews House were likely to take some considerable time, and Alan did not have the space to store the library long term, I collected it and brought it to Sharnbrook.

This gave me the opportunity to carry out a thorough stock take of the collection and ensure that all was in good order. This I did and am pleased to report that all accessions are present and have been well cared for.

Since then, Stephen Stanford has offered to provide a temporary home for the library until such time as the work on Chews House is completed and the bulk of it has now been moved to Stephen's in Kempston.

The update of the library database on the Association's website promised last year was also carried out during the stock take.

The process for accessing items from the library remains as it has in the past.

Requests should come to me in the first instance and I will authorise Stephen to issue the item to the requester.

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, and thanks to Stephen Stanford for providing a temporary home and being interim custodian.

Patrick Albon, Honorary Librarian

Technical Advisor's Report

No visits were carried out this year.

Roger Kendrick, Technical Advisor

Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund Committee Report

This year's Committee were Martin Goodwin (Bedford District) Linda Garton (Biggleswade District), Simon Stranks (Luton District), Sue Silver (President) and Teresa Brown (Honorary Secretary).

We awarded one new grant:

Biggleswade District (on behalf of the Association) – tower donation costs for Bedfordshire Young Ringers monthly, structured training sessions: a grant of up to £150 to provide a tower donation for 12 practices throughout the year.

Updates on previously awarded grants:

1. St Peter and St Paul, Cranfield: No progress in 2016 but an order has been placed for the simulator equipment which should be delivered during 2017.

2. St Andrews Biggleswade: Ringing Centre equipment and sound control grants were paid during the year.

The Committee also met, as agreed at the Annual General Meeting in May, to discuss points raised by Richard Hillson about recent grant awards made from the Fund. The General Committee accepted our proposal to amend Code of Practice 2b in order to clarify who could be awarded a grant. The amendment will be presented to members at the 2017 AGM.

Teresa Brown, Honorary Secretary

Association Bell Restoration Fund Report

2016 was the third operational year for the Association's Bell Restoration Fund (BRF). The Fund has increased by £1901.46 from £8442.92 at 31/12/2015 to £10344.38 at 31/12/2016.

This year's District BRF representatives were Martin Goodwin (Bedford District), John Loveless (Biggleswade District) and Simon Stranks (Luton District).

The BRF Committee met on 18 April to discuss an application from Eversholt PCC for a grant towards the complete removal of the bells and frame, bell tuning and complete re-hang in a new steel frame with new fittings. Eversholt PCC has accepted a quote of £65737 (with £11687 reduction for voluntary help) from Nicholson Engineering Ltd and is actively fundraising. The BRF Committee recommended a BRF grant of £5000 to the Association's General Committee which agreed by a majority vote at a meeting prior to the AGM in May.

Information about the BRF is on the website and I encourage applications from church authorities for bell projects that are within the scope of the Fund.

Thanks to those who made personal donations and to all members who supported the BRF by paying a subscription this year.

Teresa Brown, Honorary Secretary

Association Bell Restoration Fund

The BRF was set up in 2013, its aim is to give grants to church authorities within our area towards work to provide, restore, maintain and improve bells and bell installations. Full details and an application form are available on our website www.bacbr.org.uk

If you, or your tower, would like to make a donation to the Fund or have any fundraising ideas please contact the Association Secretary:

Teresa Brown, 10 Arnhem Place, Shefford, SG17 5UJ. secretary@bacbr.org.uk

2016 Accounts

Receipts and Payments

<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	2016 £	2015 £		2016 £	2015 £
Receipts			Payments		
Income			Charity Expenditure		
Subscriptions			Central Council Affiliation Fees	90.00	90.00
Annual Membership - Adults	2980.00	2910.00	Printing of Annual Report	464.00	466.00
Annual Membership - Under 19	82.50	90.00	Other Expenditure		
Associate Member (Ringing)	60.00	15.00	Districts Administration Expenses	33.49	19.37
Assoc Member (Non Ringing)	10.00	10.00	Insurance for Tech. Adviser & Public Liability	446.10	399.80
Arrears	20.00	20.00	Ringing World Notices		200.00
Advance subscriptions	10.00		Committee Meeting - Room Hire 2014		25.00
Trading			Committee Meeting - Room Hire	50.00	25.00
Sale of Association Badges	8.00	14.00	Young Ringers Subs - for competition	35.00	25.00
Sale of Reports	5.00		Young Ringers Events Expenses	113.44	146.05
Income from Report Adverts	109.00	95.00	Young Ringers T-Shirts 2015 & 2016	300.00	
Other			Ringing World DVDs		70.00
Peal Fees	154.00	95.50	Gifts for Striking Competition Judges	20.00	30.00
Gift Aid - HMRC		290.11	Website	167.99	
Donation from AGM Tea	31.65	74.00	Gift for Web Designer	250.00	
Donation Mike Matthews	50.00	50.00	50% Annual Adult Subs to BRF	1505.00	1455.00
Donation Richard Reeves		10.00	Associate Ringing Member Subs to BRF	60.00	15.00
Donation Sue Silver		10.00	Peal Fees to BRF	154.00	95.50
Donation T A Woodhams	10.00		Donations to BRF	91.65	215.00
Donation Scott family		5.00	Gift Aid to BRF		290.11
Donation striking comp teas		66.00	Investment Interest to BRF	16.82	11.74
Investment income			Expenses - President	30.47	
Interest	16.82	11.74	Expenses - Secretary	25.00	27.37
			Expenses - Association Treasurer		6.79
Total Receipts	3546.97	3766.35	Total Payments	3852.96	3612.73
			Balances		
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2015	3072.32	2918.70
			Net Receipts/Payments for the Year 2016	-305.99	153.62
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2016	2766.33	3072.32
DESIGNATED FUNDS					
THE RONALD J SHARP FUND	2016	2015		2016	2015
Receipts	£	£	Payments	£	£
Investment Income			River Festival Pitch 2014		165.00
Interest	67.93	127.06	Young Ringers - use of bells for practices	100.00	100.00
			Donation to Biggleswade - Training centre	13000.00	
Total Receipts	67.93	127.06	Total Payments	13100.00	265.00
			Balances		
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2015	18329.95	18467.89
			Net Receipts for the Year 2016	-13032.07	-137.94
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2016	5297.88	18329.95
BELL RESTORATION FUND	2016	2015		2016	2015
Receipts	£	£	Payments	£	£
50% Adult Ringing Member Subs	1505.00	1455.00			
Associate Ringing Member Subs	60.00	15.00			
Peal Fees	154.00	95.50			
Donations	91.65	215.00			
HMRC Gift Aid		290.11			
Interest General A/c	16.82	11.74			
Interest	73.99	43.46			
Total Receipts	1901.46	2125.81	Total Payments	0.00	0.00
			Balances		
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2015	8442.92	6317.11
			Net Receipts for the Year 2016	1901.46	2125.81
			Cash Funds at 31.12.2016	10344.38	8442.92

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2016	2015
	£	£
Cash and Bank Deposits		
1. General Fund		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	1302.42	1124.25
Lloyds Bank Bond – General A/C	1408.29	1918.94
Cash held by Association Officers	55.62	29.13
Total	2766.33	3072.32
2. The Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund		
Lloyds Bank Bond	5297.88	18329.95
Total	5297.88	18239.95
3. Bell Restoration Fund		
Lloyds Bank Bond	10344.38	8442.92
Total	10344.38	8442.92
Other Monetary Assets		
Debtors		
Ringing World Balance	74.03	165.75
Investment Assets		
None		
Liabilities (items owed by the Charity)		
Current Liabilities		
Fixed Assets - Estimated Value		
Library - Books, Periodicals and DVDs	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 - 85	136.00	136.00

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

11 February 2017

Summary of District Accounts

		Bedford		Biggl'wade		Luton		TOTAL 2015		2014
		£	No	£	No	£	No	£	No	£
Ringling Member (Resident)	@	10.00	87	870.00	89	890.00	122	1220.00	298	2980.00
Ringling Member (Resident) Under 19s	@	2.50	6	15.00	7	17.50	20	50.00	36	90.00
Associate Member (Ringling)	@	5.00	3	15.00	9	45.00			12	60.00
Associate Member (Non Ring)	@	2.50	4	10.00					4	10.00
Arrears	@	10.00			1	10.00	1	10.00	2	20.00
Advance Subscription	@	10.00			1	10.00			1	10.00
Sale of Badges	@	2.00			3	6.00	1	2.00	4	8.00
Sale of Reports	@	5.00								14.00
Total Receipts				910.00		978.50		1282.00		3170.50
Less Admin Expenses				-33.49						-33.49
Net Receipts (To Receipts & Payments A/c)				876.51		978.50		1282.00		3137.01
Notes										
Cash balance retained b/f				21.61		2.00				23.61
Income for Year				910.00		978.50		1282.00		3170.50
Total				931.61		980.50		1282.00		3194.11
Less amount paid to Assoc. Lloyds A/c				-797.50		-580.50		-1197.00		-2575.00
Less direct payments into Assoc. Lloyds A/c				-70.00		-375.00		-85.00		-530.00
Less expenses				-33.49						-33.49
Net cash balance c/f				30.62		25.00		0.00		55.62

District Bell Funds

	Bedford	Biggleswade	Luton	TOTAL 2016	2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward	17373.61	11836.32	8731.88	37941.81	36394.36
Income	436.90	1683.88	868.00	2988.78	1733.41
Interest	124.45	1.66	64.29	190.40	141.76
Less Grants		-8591.00	-2000.00	-10591.00	-200.00
Less Luton BRF 50 Club			-170.00	-170.00	-115.00
Administration					-12.72
Total	17934.96	4930.86	7494.17	30359.99	37941.81

Notes to the Accounts

Future Liabilities including grants approved:

Luton 50 Club Prizes 160.00

District Bell Fund Grants made in 2016

Biggleswade District: £8500 to Biggleswade church towards the restoration and augmentation to 10 bells project. £91.00 to Maulden church for work on two clappers.

Luton District: £2000 (approved in 2015, work carried out 2016) to Leighton Buzzard church for work to strengthen the bell frame.

Contacts for District Bell Fund grant applications

Bedford District Bell Restoration Fund, Registered Charity 284250

Robert Jones, St Monica, Norfolk Road, Turvey, MK43 8DU
01234 881741 bedforddistrictbrf@bacbr.org.uk

Biggleswade District Belfry Repair Fund, Registered Charity 280785

Clare Francis, 32 Gravenhurst Road, Campton, SG17 5NY
07977 442179 biggleswadedistrictbrf@bacbr.org.uk

Luton District Belfry Repair Fund, Registered Charity 280164

Simon Stranks, 43 High Road, Shillington, SG5 3LL
01462 713036 lutondistrictbrf@bacbr.org.uk

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- online banking. You can set up a recurring, annual payment at any time.
- Completing a standing order mandate to send to your bank. Download the form from our website www.bacbr.org.uk

Our account details are:

- Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers,
- Account number 01418488
- Sort Code 30-94-47

Use your name as the reference

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

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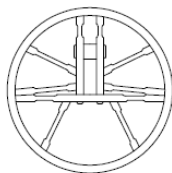
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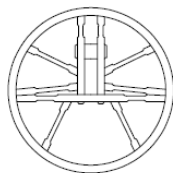
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District Reports

Bedford District

At the Annual District Meeting at Biddenham, new committee members Anna Townsend and Sarah Ward were welcomed, as Adrienne Sharp and Jim Framp wished to resign. Andrew Dennison had also expressed his intention for 2015 to be his last year as Treasurer, but as no one present was willing to take on this role, Andrew agreed to act as caretaker for a short time. Alex thanked all three for the work they had done. Subsequently Martin Goodwin was duly appointed as BRF Treasurer and as the District Representative for both the RJ Sharp and Association Bell Fund, for which we are very grateful.

Melissa Nash was presented with the C Edward Jeffries Memorial Trophy, for her reliability, considerable progress and achievements in the year, including her first peal, several quarters and her continuing role in Bedfordshire Young Ringers activities.

There was no great effort made to organise towers during District QP Week, but seven were rung, five for religious reasons, and included no less than seven 'Firsts'. Adrienne Sharp once again mobilised an enthusiastic group for the District Outing to Suffolk. The weather was fine and sunny, the towers were good, and as usual the hostelries were well chosen, with excellent food. Great Barton, Bardwell, Ixworth, Woolpit, Rougham and finally, the 12 at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral.

Oakley was the location for the District Striking Contest with seven teams entering, although Bromham were two ringers short, and included guest ringers to make up the band. The home team won the Rounds Cup, narrowly beating a Young Ringers Band. Kempston won the methods contest, over Bromham, St Andrews, Goldington and St Paul's, the first time for several years St Paul's have rung other than rounds. Kempston and St Andrews duly rang in September at Eaton Bray, where Dunstable were the winners. The District Young Ringers had been meeting during the Summer holidays, at weekly practices organised by Barbara Woplin. This was worthwhile, as they had the edge over Luton, and won the Melville Cup.

The Sponsored Bike n' Hike plan to ring every bell in Bedford and walk between Churches was thwarted by certain wedding obligations, so we resorted to cycling. The weather was very wet, but some of us visited 30 Churches, ringing at most towers including some with one bell, and raise some funds.

Attendance at meetings has not been particularly impressive, but in August the visit to the four at Melchbourne, and then Stanwick attracted a surprisingly large number, including visitors from far afield.

Bedford Tailenders continue to visit towers in the area every month, and although it is becoming more difficult to find volunteers to make the arrangements, the details are regularly published in Headstock. Thanks are due to Lin and Martin Barratt for keeping the group going, and to Maureen Hall, who does an excellent job as Editor, keeping towers informed. The latest District news is now available on the new Bedford District Facebook site, thanks to Anna Townsend for this innovation.

Bob Jones, District Secretary

Biggleswade bells restoration and augmentation project



The restored and augmented bells of St Andrew's Biggleswade lined up in the church prior to the Hallowing service on 29 May 2016. The bells were dedicated by the Bishop of St Albans at a service on 25 September 2016. Plans are well underway for the tower to be set up as the 'Ronald J Sharp Ringing Centre', accredited by the Central Council.

Biggleswade District

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

On the 13 February we rang four quarter peals, which included a total of four first quarter pealers.

The District Striking Competition was held at Southill in March. Biggleswade were the winners in the change ringing competition and Campton the rounds competition. Biggleswade together with Clifton represented the District at the Association Competition in September at Eaton Bray. My thanks go to the judges Phillip and Sheila George.

The Annual Outing took place on the 14 May with six towers in East Hertfordshire area visited. It was, as always, a very enjoyable day.

On the 2 July the National Young Ringers Competition took place in London and what a day it turned out to be as Bedfordshire Young Ringers followed up their previous triumphs in York, Worcester and Oxford by retaining the trophy for a fourth successive year. Words cannot describe the elated feeling of the team and supporters alike. This District was represented by Clarrie Scott who very ably conducted the test piece of Plain Bob Triples.

The Association Striking Competitions in September were hosted by the Luton District at Eaton Bray. Unfortunately we were unable to raise a team to represent the District in the Melville Cup Competition. The St Peter's Cup was again a very close competition and was won by Dunstable, with Biggleswade 2nd and Clifton 3rd. The undoubted highlight of the year has been the refurbishment and augmentation of the bells at Biggleswade. The District can now boast a fine ring of 10 bells and a 'state of the art' Ringing Centre. Two fabulous services were held in celebration of the bells. A service for the Hallowing of them took place in May when the bells were lined up along the centre aisle of the church. The bells were dedicated on the 25 September by the Bishop of St Albans. Open ringing took place after the service in which the Bishop took part in a touch with a band of teenagers. The party was good as well!

The December meeting was, as always, devoted to the Christmas Social 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

The past year has been typical in terms of events and meetings in the Luton District. Eleven meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 18. This includes some visitors from other Districts and from further afield. The average attendance is slightly lower than last year, however meeting attendance numbers ranged from 13 for the February meeting at Caddington to 59 for the striking contest at Westoning in March. The arrangement of having late afternoon meetings during the winter months and evening meetings in summer continues to be well supported. At the District AGM, in January, the existing officers were re-elected for a further year. It would be good to see some new faces on the Committee and so if you are able to give some time please don't hesitate to come forward. My thanks go to the Linslade ringers for the arrangements on the day and to the incumbents of Linslade

and Leighton Buzzard for the use of the bells.

Over the past year we have elected fourteen new members and two previous members were re-elected. The membership within our District is 142, of which there are 20 young ringers. This represents a slight increase on the previous year when the membership total stood at 140.

It was pleasing to see a total of nine teams taking part in the District Striking Competition, with six towers represented. The competition was judged by Stephen Stanford and Sarah-Louise Ward from Elstow. Special mention should be made of Westoning who entered a team in the competition for the first time in many years. Eaton Bray were winners of the Rounds and Call Change competition, with Houghton Regis second, Dunstable (2) third and Linslade (2) fourth. In the method competition Dunstable were placed first, with Husborne Crawley second, Linslade (1) third and Westoning and Linslade (3) placed equal fourth.

The Association Striking Competitions were held at Eaton Bray in September. In the St. Peters cup competition Dunstable were placed first and Linslade sixth; Husborne Crawley unfortunately being unable to enter a team. In the Melville cup competition, which is for the young ringers, the Luton District band was placed a close second, while a team from Dunstable was placed fourth. Our thanks go to the Eaton Bray ringers for hosting the competition and for providing refreshments on the day.

As some of you may know the church at Upper Gravenhurst has been closed for some time. In January 2016 there was a test ring of the bells to check that the installation and tower were still safe. Following this inspection a final peal was rung on the bells in June. Owing to bats in the belfry, at present the bells are still awaiting removal.

On the 2nd July six young ringers from this District were part of the winning team in The National Young Ringers Striking competition held, this time, in London. Our team not only won their heat at Garlickhythe but also went on to win the final at St Olave, Hart Street. This is the fourth time they have won this prestigious event and my congratulations go to all involved in this. It is also good to see that our young ringers are keen to attend the monthly Sunday afternoon practices and had an enjoyable outing to St Albans in November. We should not forget the support and organisation provided by the adult 'helpers' without whom these events would not happen.

I would like to conclude by extending my sincere thanks to Incumbents and Tower contacts for the use of the bells and to all of you for your support during the past year.

Barry Eglesfield, District Chairman

BEDFORD DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

'HEADSTOCK'

Editor: Maureen Hall

Email: maureensgpost@gmail.com

List of Members and Towers

Honorary Life Members

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

Non-Resident Life Members

James Buckenham, Mike Cassell, 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 - Bedford St Peter, Miriam Clark - Elstow,
Nicholas Fowler, Hazel Spencer - Goldington

Associate Ringing Members elected in 2016

Mathew J Bailey (1681), Adam Crocker (1688), Alistair Donaldson (1684),
Ashley C Fortey (1685), Andrew Haseldine (1157), Julie Haseldine (1158),
B Douglas Hird (1159), John Peverett (1687), Darren Ricks (1686),
George J Vant (1676)

Resident Members transferred to Non-Resident Membership

Clive Moncrieff, Doug Taylor

Resident Ringing Members Elected in 2016

Name	No.	Tower	Date
David Prior	1674	Cople	9 January
Judy Prior	1675	Cople	9 January
Karen Cracknell	1677	Henlow	9 January
Stuart Cracknell	1678	Henlow	9 January
Martin Teh	2243	Cranfield	23 January
Heather Holman	2244	Cranfield	23 January
Luke Meanwell	2245	Houghton Regis	23 January
Matthew Bareham	2246	Husborne Crawley	23 January
Mark Cluett	2247	Linslade	23 January
Christopher Hewett	2248	Linslade	23 January
Harry Roberts	2249	Linslade	23 January
Debbie Thrower	2250	Toddington	23 January
Wendy Whaley	2251	Toddington	23 January
John Coles	1679	Stotfold	12 March
Felicity Goss	2252	Linslade	23 April
Margaret Harris	2253	Silsoe	23 April
Isobel Monks	2254	Eaton Bray	23 April
David Carter	1160	Felmersham	21 May
Jessica Richards	1680	Potton	21 May
Richard Bray	1161	Turvey	1 July
Michael Buckingham	2255	Westoning	23 July
John Luckman	2256	Westoning	23 July
Julie Luckman	2257	Westoning	23 July
Marina Torselli	2258	Westoning	23 July
Kaitlin Woodland	1682	Campton	10 September
Paul Carrington	1683	Eaton Socon	28 November

Member and Tower Listing Notes

Ringin times are 24-hour clock

Sunday service times are **when ringin starts**, not the time of the service.

PN – Practice night, GF – Ground floor ring

AC – Anti-clockwise ring

Tenor weights are given as hundredweights-quarters-pounds.

An Ordnance Survey grid reference is given for each tower.

★ denotes Life Member

◇ denotes Honorary Life Member

Corrections and Amendments

Please send corrections or changes of tower/contact details to
Association Secretary, email secretary@bacbr.org.uk

Bedford District

Unattached Members

Rosemary Buckle, Owen Davis, Rebecca Sharp

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, Caroline Nash, Jonathan 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

Christopher Wagstaff, 25 Goodrich Avenue, Bedford, MK41 0DE

07513 418517 stpaulsbedfordrangers@bacbr.org.uk

Matthew Barnard, John Long*, George Saunders, James Saunders,
Christopher Wagstaff

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

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, Bletsgoe, MK44 1QF
 01234 782875 bletsgoebells@btinternet.com
 Andrew Fyvie, Trish Vine, Paul Vine

BOLNHURST St Dunstan (4) 8-0-0 in Bb (GF) TL081588
 Sunday: None PN: None
 James Hills, Corner View, School Lane, Bolnhurst, MK44 2EN
 01234 376024 jameshills2@sky.com

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 bromham@bacbr.org.uk
 Robert Gornall, Derek Hammond ♦, Steve Hare, 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: 10.30 1st & 4th PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
 alternate with Harrold
 Mrs Lin Barratt, 86 The Moor, Carlton, MK43 7JS
 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 clapham@bacbr.org.uk

COLMWORTH St Denys (6) 9-3-18 in G (GF) TL109586
Sunday: 10.00 4th 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
Stephen Stanford, 34 Wood End Road, Kempston, MK43 9BB
01234 856778 steve.h.stanford@gmail.com
Don MacFarlane, Richard Marshall, 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
Mike Benson, Jane Brunetti, David Carter, Wendy Freegard, Caroline Jones,
Elizabeth Nicholls

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, Jenny Thompson

HARROLD St Peter and All Saints (6) 13-0-6 in F# SP954567
Sunday: 09.00 2nd, 3rd & 4th PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Carlton
Martin Barratt, 86 The Moor, Carlton, MK43 7JS
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
Anna Townsend, 7 Clover Way, Kempston, MK42 7FZ
07816 969066 kempston@bacbr.org.uk
Rebecca Bentley, Nicola Darwood, Rachel Darwood, Stephen Darwood,
Glynda Easterbrook, Chris Grundy, Richard Hillson, Cliff Izzard ♦, Andrew Keech,
Ros Keech*, Thomas Keech*, Melvyn Potts, Anna Townsend, Ian Townsend

KEYSOE St Mary (5) 14-1-19 in E (GF) TL073624
Sunday: 09.45 3rd PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00
Mrs Penny Heming, Pump Cottage, Keysoe Row East, Keysoe, MK44 2JB
01234 378878 penny.heming@btinternet.com
Carol Burge, Ro Heming, James Hills, 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

Rev'd Stephen Holroyd, The Rectory, High Street, Upper Dean, PE28 0ND

01234 709740 stephenholroyd@btinternet.com

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) 10-0-2 in G TL011530

Sunday: 9.00 1st & 5th; 10.00 2nd, 3rd & 4th 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 allsaintsodell@bacbr.org.uk

PAVENHAM St Peter (5) 8-0-0 in A SP992560

Sunday: 10.45 2nd

PN: None

Martin Barratt, 86 The Moor, Carlton, MK43 7JS

01234 720756 martin.d.barratt@btinternet.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

RISELEY All Saints (6) 13-1-26 in F TL039631

Sunday: 10.15 1st and 3rd

PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00

phone to check

David Shaw, 5 Dodds Close, Riseley, MK44 1DH

01234 708204 d.r.shaw@btinternet.com

David Shaw

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@albon1.plus.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: Thursday, 20.00-21.00
 Richard Brown, Manor Farm, High Street, Stagsden, MK42 8SQ
 01234 822330 rjrichardbrown@btopenworld.com

STEVINGTON St Mary (5) 10-2-14 in F# (GF) SP990536
 Sunday: Check PN: Tuesday 19.30-20.30
 phone to check
 Peter Bishop, 4 Church Road, Stevington, MK43 7QB
 01234 630247 peterbishop656@supanet.com
 Peter Bishop, 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: 09.00 1st, 10.30 2nd, 3rd & 4th PN: Friday 19.30-20.30
 David Nightingale, 10 Barncroft, Turvey, MK43 8DN
 01234 881453 turvey@bacbr.org.uk
 Richard Bray

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

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 ampthill@bacbr.org.uk

Robert Butcher, Margaret Coleman, John Hele, Rae Marshall, Hilary Nellist,
Christopher Shrimpton,

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 arlesey@bacbr.org.uk

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

BIGGLESWADE St Andrew (10) 13-1-3 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

www.biggleswadebells.org.uk

Sarah Asque, David Carr*, Paul Chandler, Fiona Day, James Eggleston,
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 19.00-20.30
alternate with Tempsford and Sandy,
phone to check

David Collins, 2 The Barns, Blunham, MK44 3LY

01767 641569 enginehouse13@btinternet.com

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 campton@bacbr.org.uk

Darrelle Buckel, Linda Bryant, Jenny Davison, Charlotte Francis, Clare Francis,
Henry Francis, Linda Garton, Barrie Glenn, John Loveless, Susan Silver,
Kaitlin Woodland

CLIFTON All Saints (8) 10-0-6 in G TL166393

Sunday: 10.00 and 18.00 1st, 2nd & 3rd 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, Jim Peacock, Keith Pledger, Mary Pledger, Frank Rivett,
Shaun Somerville, 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

Patricia Briscoe, Lucy Croucher, Phillipa Ebbs, Susan Hillyard, David Prior,
Judy Prior, Alex Sturgeon, Mike Vacher

EATON SOCON St Mary (8) 13-2-24 in F TL170588

Sunday: 10.00 except 8.30 1st PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
(19.45 start in winter months)

Sue Matthews suejmatthews@outlook.com

Paul Carrington, 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 1st, 2nd and 4th PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00

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 phone to check

Brian Oertel, 13 Howard Close, Haynes, MK45 3QH
01234 381428 brianvalerioertel@btinternet.com

Amy Johnston, Brian Oertel, Emily 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, Karen Cracknell, Stuart Cracknell, 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, phone to check PN: Wednesday phone to check

Mrs Mary Mann, 60 The Grove, Houghton Conquest, MK45 3JU
01234 740348 maryl.mann@btinternet.com

Mark Garner*, 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 northill@bacbr.org.uk
 Andrew Bryans, Valerie Bryans, Mike Cowell, Simon Melvin, Susan Melvin,
 Chris Morris, Cathy Olphin, Roy Thrower

OLD WARDEN St Leonard (6) 9-1-0 in G (GF) TL136443
 Sunday: None PN: None
 Rev'd Dr Frank Coleman, The Vicarage, 2A Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote,
 Biggleswade SG18 9BL
 01767 220365 dr.frankcoleman@gmail.com

POTTON St Mary (6) 8-0-0 in A TL229495
 Sunday: 09.45 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
 Mrs Rosemary Kimber, Spencer Farm, 28 King Street, Potton, SG19 2QT
 01767 261206 rosemarykimber@yahoo.co.uk
 Timothy Eltringham, Rosanna Jackson, Rosemary Kimber, Mary Oliver-Barratt,
 Jessica Richards, Tony Sharp

ROXTON St Mary Magdalene (5) 10-1-3 in G TL153545
 Sunday: 10.30, phone to check PN: None
 Norman Keightley, Brooklands, Chawston Lane, Chawston, MK44 3BH
 01480 472268 normankeightley@hotmail.com
 David Bradley, Walter Jennings, 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, 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.mccartney03@talktalk.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, John Coles, 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

David Collins, 2 The Barns, Blunham, MK44 3LY
01767 641569 enginehouse13@btinternet.com

Jeff Cloughton, Sandra Cloughton

WILLINGTON St Lawrence (6) 9-0-1 in A TL106498
Sunday: None PN: Tuesday phone to check
Mike Vacher, 91 Willington Road, Cople, MK44 3TN
01234 831207 vacher309@btinternet.com

Luton District

Unattached Members

Keith Lewin, Caroline Pawley, Jonathan Pawley, Lizzie Pawley, 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, Anne Clarke, Richard Lanyon-Hogg

BARTON-LE-CLAY St Nicholas (8) 16-1-14 in E TL085304
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
phone to check

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, Rosie Billington, Thomas Billington,
Steve Capper, Jim Ewen, Christopher Hartley, Mary Hartley, Garth Holman,
Heather Holman, Jane Leslie, Alan Morfee, Catherine Morfee, Andrew Pearson,
John Peat, Martin Teh, 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

Rebecca Gordon, Richard Gordon, Jessica Harper, Robert Hornby, Richard Horne*,
Andrew Jeffs, David Jeffs, Jackie Jeffs, Paul Jeffs, Matthew Johnson, Karl Osborn,
Graham Proctor, Lauren Reay, Alan Shepherd*, Charlotte Simpson

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, Gordon Gray, Isobel Monks, Ruth Monks, Thomas Monks,
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: 10.30 1st, 09.00 2nd PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Maureen Morey, Kenilworth House, High Street, Flitton, MK45 5DU
01525 860422 mefs1@hotmail.co.uk

Sally Creveul, Jennifer Fisher, 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,
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, Delroy Grey, Luke Meanwell, John Pratt, Peter Pratt, Celia Pymont,
Cameron White-Spunner

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

Sunday: 15.00 2nd only PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
alternate with Aspley Guise

Robert Churchill, 11 Tingrith Road, Eversholt, MK17 9EF
01525 280632 r.churchill883@btinternet.com

Matthew Bareham, 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

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@talktalk.net

Margaret Birtles, Gwenda Burley, Hannah Dobbie, Barry Eglesfield, 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

Louisa Smith
07852 554704 linsladeringing@gmail.com

Lyndsey Brett, Natalie Brett, Nicholas Brett, Samantha Brett, Mark Cluett,
Janesse Cornfoot, Rhys Dale-Pearman, Heather Darvill, Felicity Goss, Simon Head,
Chris Hewitt, Anne Hoxey, Sam Pearce, Peter Phillips, Harry Roberts,
Janice Robinson, Nicola Shepherd, Louisa Smith, Rebecca Smith

LUTON St Mary (12) 25-0-24 in D TL095212

Sunday: 09.45 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: 09.00 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: 09.00, 2nd phone to check PN: Monday 19.45-21.00
Mrs Barbara Fraser, 18 Bedford Avenue, Silsoe, MK45 4ER
01525 861709 silsoe@bacbr.org.uk

David Adams, Paul Biscoe, Christopher Catlin, Julia Catlin, Barbara Fraser,
Margaret Harris, Jane Lawton, Simon Stranks

STANBRIDGE St John the Baptist (6) 9-0-15 in F# SP966242
Sunday: 9.30 1st, 3rd & 4th PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.00
Phone to check
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, Sally Cload, Margaret Maddox, Peter Sanders, Andrew Wheeler

TILSWORTH All Saints (6) 8-3-17 in A (GF) SP975243
Sunday: 09.30 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, John Pask, Fran Smith, Debbie Thrower,
Wendy Waley

TOTTERNHOE St Giles (8) 9-2-0 in F SP988208
Sunday: 09.30 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

Michael Buckingham, Peter Little, John Luckman, Julie Luckman, Peter Luff,
Tom Luff, Geraldine Moore, David Moorhouse, Joy Moorhouse, Alun Sharp,
Janice Sharp, Sarah Sharp, Marina Torselli

WHIPSNADE 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

WOBURN 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

Association Events and Activities

Melville Cup Striking Competition for Young Ringers

Luton District hosted this year's Melville Cup inter-district striking competition for young ringers on 17 September at St Mary the Virgin, Eaton Bray.

Biggleswade District couldn't raise a team this year but teams from Luton and Bedford District were joined by Dunstable young ringers and a 'scratch team' to accommodate everyone who turned up. The judge, David Stanford, said he was very pleased to judge this, his first, young ringers competition and that it was great to see so many taking part. He remembered with fondness being coached and encouraged by Shelagh Melville when he was a young ringer at St Paul's Bedford. David said that all the competition ringing was of a good standard, with consistent row lengths and a good speed for the bells. The number of 'clean rows' were scored and converted to a percentage. David judged Bedford District as the winning team.

Place	Team	Judge's Comments	Score	Rang
1	Bedford District	There was a good 'compass' and quality ring throughout the test piece.	83%	3
2	Luton District	Striking got better through the test piece, The treble, 2 and 3 provided stability. Very good piece of ringing.	80%	2
3	Scratch team	The first third was sporadic but settled down and improved throughout with some good ringing.	73%	4
4	Dunstable	Consistent treble and tenor gave stability. Blocks of good ringing throughout. Good effort.	63%	1



The winning Bedford District team. 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 17 September, hosted by the Luton District at St Mary the Virgin, Eaton Bray.

Well known to Bedfordshire ringers, the judge was David Stanford who now rings at Burgh in Suffolk. David said he had expected a high standard and wasn't disappointed. It was all very good ringing and the casual listener would have struggled to separate the teams! He scored this competition on the number of faults and judged Dunstable to be the winners.

Place	Team	Judge's Comments	Score	Rang
1	Dunstable	Good solid start which was maintained throughout apart from a method mistake towards the end.	19	6
2	Biggleswade	Good run into the ringing with this good standard maintained. The bells were rung at a good speed.	20	4
3	Clifton	Improved through the piece and finished quite nicely. The ringing slowed down slightly in the last part.	24	2
4	Kempston	Unsettled at the start, but got better as the piece progressed. Most faults were due to bells coming off the front too fast.	36	3
5	Bedford St Andrews	Didn't settle down into a consistent speed or rhythm. Most faults were due to bells coming off the front too fast.	40	1
6	Linslade	Good ringing but most leads had a bad patch, nothing specific just lots of little problems.	42	5



Rebecca Gordon receiving the St Peter's cup, on behalf of the winning Dunstable band, from David Stanford. Photo: Terry Brown

Ringling World National Youth Striking Competition - Success Again!

On 2 July our young ringers went to London to take part in the Ringing World Young Ringers Striking Competition (RWNYC) and won the Whitechapel Trophy for a fourth successive year! This time the team, of Caroline Pawley, Clarrie Scott, Sammi Brett, Rebecca Smith, Melissa Nash, Cameron White-Spunner, Lizzie Pawley and Dean DeMatteis rang Plain Bob Triples rather than call changes. Reserves Jonathan Nash and Becky Gordon joined in the day's activities but didn't need to ring.

Because of the popularity of the competition this year, three qualifiers were held during the morning with the top call change band and method ringing bands from each going on to the final at St Olave Hart Street. Our team qualified at St James Garlickhythe with an A* grade, the only team to achieve this grading in the qualifiers, and were judged 'A*, gold medal' winners for the method ringing category and overall winners of the Trophy. Thanks to everyone who took part and helped on the day. Thanks also to all the other young ringers, helpers and parents who make our young ringers practices so enjoyable and successful and who have given such tremendous support throughout the year. Special thanks to Linda Garton for her inspiring leadership.



The winning Bedfordshire team with the Whitechapel Trophy and medals.

Front, left to right: Caroline Pawley (treble), Clarrie Scott (2nd and conductor), Sammi Brett (3rd) Rebecca Smith (4th)

Back, left to right: Melissa Nash, (5th) Cameron White-Spunner (6th) Lizzie Pawley (7th), Dean De-Matteis (tenor). Photo: Adrian Udal

Ridgman Trophy Ten Bell Striking Competition – 4 June, Holy Cross Daventry

This year's competition was hosted by the Peterborough Diocesan Guild at Holy Cross Church, Daventry. It was judged by Jeremy and Anne Pratt. The test piece was 212 Erin Caters. The Bedfordshire team were placed 7th.

Place	Team	Rang	Marks %
1	Ely Diocesan Guild	5	21
2	Hertford County Association	7	32
3	Essex Association	4	40
4	Lincoln Diocesan Guild	6	42
5	Peterborough Diocesan Guild	3	62
6	Suffolk Diocesan Guild	2	64
7	Bedfordshire Association	1	68



The Bedfordshire band, clockwise from front right, Lyndsey Brett, John Loveless, Sammi Brett, Anthony Smith, Lizzie Pawley, Jonathon Pawley, Richard Horne, Steven Stanford. Alex Nash rang but not in the picture. Photo: Ely Association

A rewarding day at 'BBC Countryfile live'

"John, Phil Gay here. BBC Countryfile Live is at Blenheim, 4 -7 August. Lichfield Mobile Belfry is there. Wondered if you could you fix for some of your people to cover the Saturday?"

A few negatives come to mind, this means WORK, we're in the holiday period, and what about existing commitments? On the other hand this is a major BBC brand inviting bells/ringing to be featured at their flagship event and the event management company had commissioned the Lichfield Mobile Belfry. Need to support, want to support, "OK we're in".

We took 15 people, which gave us two shifts - we were kept busy all day. Our team included a young lady of 7 who has just learned to handle a bell (we fully expect the exercise to hear more about her in future) three more young teenagers who ring Bob Doubles, and an assortment of adults.

Running a stand requires a variety of skills. Inevitably there is lots of one-to-one bell handling, the name of the game I guess! Doing this well is a skilled business and it was interesting to observe the different techniques used, given that you only have a short time (about 3 mins) before the visitors are off elsewhere. In that time most had a go at backstokes and perhaps rang a few rounds. If they're keen and well coordinated you want to get them to sign them up for further contact about learning to ring – you may have to ask them though!



Doing a good job at these events is about getting a good age and ability mix on the stand who will connect with the visitors, work as a team and work hard all day. We knew there would be a lot of young people at the event so it made sense to have youngsters on the stand. This helps get the right message across to the visitors to the show. Demonstrating an enthusiasm for ringing is infectious – we had that! All our team had a great time.



Getting visitors onto any stand usually involves a smile/greeting followed by an invitation. Visitors will tend to look, consider and then move on elsewhere rather than come on the stand – not unreasonably; they see it as our territory, not theirs. Conversion to stand visitor status at Blenheim was achieved largely through the sterling efforts of our two ‘shushers’, Neil and Neil (“Go on, you’ll probably like it”) and our 7 year old when not on ringing duties! Another delightful touch was her self-appointment as small-person chiming instructor (“How old are you? - Four - you need to come with me!”) for the very young ones coming on the stand – well, making us relevant to them! Clare was a highly professional ‘welcomer’ who channeled the visitors to the relevant one-to-one bell handling ‘expert’ on the stand. We then had to live up to the billing!

Most important of all, though, several hundred people were exposed to ringing hands-on during the day, we secured some decent leads and as always there were plenty of lapsed ringers about, some of whom may come back. It was a great experience, particularly for those who had not experienced manning a stand before. For me, a veteran of too many mediocre exhibition stand experiences, best stand yet!

John Loveless

The James W Yates Raise and Lower in Peal Challenge Trophy

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. Photo: Anthony Smith

Upper Gravenhurst

The last peal on the bells at Upper Gravenhurst was rung by members of the Association on Monday 27 June 2016 – see peal number 4188, page 46.

The church, which has been redundant for several years, has been sold for residential conversion and the 5 bells have been bought by the Keltek Trust. There was some interest in ringing a final peal before they were removed but because the bells hadn't been rung for some while, a 'try out' and inspection by Alan Frost, Diocesan Bell Advisor, was arranged for 3 January. For this occasion about 10 ringers were present and quite a number of people from the village came to watch.

The bells were rung individually and all together in rounds while Alan inspected them, the frame and the tower parapets. Alan declared everything to be in good order with no discernible problems. Rounds and Grandsire Doubles were rung and everyone agreed that the bells seemed to 'go' well.

The locals who lived near the church were appreciative of the ringing and said there would be no objection to having a peal rung later in the year.

The peal, arranged by Chris Pickford and Nick Brown, was rung to commemorate the nine men from Gravenhurst who lost their lives in World War 1. This was only the 4th peal on the bells.

Bell removal was put on hold because of breeding bats in the belfry.



Left to right: Nick Brown (5), Chris Pickford (4 and conductor), Anthony Smith (3), Andrew Keech (2), Martin Major (1)

Obituaries

Doris Thacker (1926 - 2015)

This obituary was unfortunately missed out of the 2015 report.

Doris Thacker, a long-serving member of the Luton band, died on January 15, 2015, at the age of 88 after a period of increasing infirmity. Doris was born in Billingborough, Lincolnshire, in 1926. She proved to be a clever girl and at the age of eleven she won a place to the local grammar school where she thrived. The village church was also very important in her life and it was here that she decided to learn to ring. She was involved in several village activities and, with an extensive family in the area; she continued her visits to Lincolnshire throughout her life.

After grammar school, Doris trained in social care and undertook a series of appointments during which she met a fellow professional, Jim, whom she later married. They took an appointment in Luton running a home for lads of working age. This involved living over the shop and always being on call, but Doris nevertheless found time to join St Mary's in Luton and to become a member of the local band. This also was the time when they adopted Nigel. Doris was liked and respected by the residents of the home, several of whom kept contact with her in later years. She was outwardly very quiet, but had inner strength and a strong personality. Her son, in his address, described her as "never one to back down" and she provided a loving, disciplined environment for young men who often needed help and guidance.

Doris quickly established herself at St Mary's. She had a strong faith and was a regular communicant. She continued this support for her church throughout her life despite disliking many of the recent excesses of this increasingly evangelical church. She was also prominent in the Mothers' Union and the Townswomen's Guild.

For over 50 years, Doris was a regular member of the Luton ringers. She mostly rang simple standard methods, but as the band declined in numbers in recent years she learnt a number of methods on five and six bells. For a few years she was vice-captain. She was a most valued member of the band because she was regular, positive and always to be relied on.

Doris retired in 1986 and became more active in church and ringing affairs. She was not one to remain idle: she enrolled for courses in French and Spanish and she travelled to Australia and New Zealand, Israel and various parts of Europe.

Increasing difficulty with the stairs and a loss of bell control led to her reluctantly giving up ringing after more than fifty years service. She became very frustrated by the lack of mobility of her last years, but she continued to delight in her son and grandchildren and in the support of her many friends. Doris was buried in the cemetery at Billingborough, among other family graves, on a very cold but beautifully sunny morning in February. A memorial service was also held in Luton later in February. A quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung in her memory at Kimpton with her son, Nigel, ringing the t

tenor.

She was a good and faithful servant to the church and to ringing. Nigel summed her up well in his eulogy as “a giver, not a taker”. She will be remembered with a great deal of affection and respect. May she rest in peace.

Keith Lewin

James W Yates (1931 - 2016)

James William Yates (known as Jim), was born on 21 July 1931 in Nottingham into a fairly well to do family. His father Roger Yates was an organ builder having served his apprenticeship with the great Father Willis. Roger was also a keen photographer, artist and interested in anything mechanical. The family moved to The Old Rectory at Michaelstow in Cornwall when Roger needed larger premises to house all his equipment and his organ shed in the extensive grounds. His marriage to Jim's mother



Jessie ended in divorce after the war and Roger remarried. Jessie also remarried and Jim and his younger brother Thomas were sent out to work. Jim joined the Royal Navy. During his naval career Jim served on several ships including HMS Diana, his last ship.

Jim married his childhood sweetheart, Rosemary at Little Malvern Priory in 1956. They had met while at separate boarding schools in Malvern, Worcestershire and sent love letters to each other in snow balls thrown over the fence! Married life started in a small house in Luton, Bedfordshire where their first two children Judith and Richard were born. Jim worked in the printing works at the bottom of the road and rode around on a motorbike and sidecar. Whilst living in Luton, the family acquired the first in a long line of rescue dogs. In 1962 the family moved to a large detached house in Flitwick, Bedfordshire. The house needed much work but over the years Jim built a large extension over the stable block and greatly improved the house. The stable was to be his workshop where he made many things for the house. It was in Flitwick that his youngest daughters Rosalind and Diana were born. The family kept chickens in a huge run at the bottom of the garden and grew all their own vegetables. Several pets joined the family. Rosemary was a teacher by profession and taught several illustrious pupils but gave this up to bring up her family.

The family attended Ampthill church and it was here that Jim learnt to ring. He had a strong faith and became very involved in the life of the church and was churchwarden as well as tower captain. He was a very good teacher and his pupils were known affectionately as ‘Jim's boys’. One of them, Mark Regan, recalls that Jim was always good company and generous to all who knew him. Jim and Rosemary and the family hosted occasional parties for

bellringers at their home in Flitwick. Jim wanted to share his enthusiasm for ringing with his family but his patience although good with others was never strong with his children.

It was quite a shock to the family when the marriage broke up in 1984. Jim was working in the print room at British Hydro-Mechanics Research Association by this time. He met Jan through ringing and they moved together to Advent in Cornwall where they eventually married. Jim had spent many family holidays at his father's home at Michaelstow and yearned to get back to Cornwall. He was able to run a small printing business from home, and as an artist, was commissioned to draw and illustrate maps of the North Cornwall coastal path among other projects. During his time in Cornwall, he continued to ring and spearheaded the augmentation project at Advent, with just as much enthusiasm as he had done many years before when involved in the Ampthill augmentation. His practicality and experience in renovating his own home and skills picked up as a child stood him in good stead and he was able to turn his hand to most things. His last move to South Lopham in Norfolk proved to be very timely as an upper aortic aneurism could have proved fatal if he had still been living in that remote part of North Cornwall. He and Jan had another 8 happy years together before his sudden death in March.

Jim was proud to be a College Youth, although he never actually rang a peal for the society. He rang 122 peals mainly in Bedfordshire and the county was well represented at his funeral. The bells were rung during the burial in the churchyard by ringers from Cornwall, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire. Jim was a man of many talents and interests and his upbringing gave him a love of music and anything mechanical. He enjoyed visiting local traction engine rallies with his family. As Chris Pickford mentioned in his College Youths tribute, "Jim was a stalwart in local ringing wherever he lived and contributed a great deal more socially. He will be sadly missed but remembered with affection."

Catherina Griffiths

Whilst living at Ampthill, Jim looked after the ringing. He taught a young band, several of who became very competent ringers, and he made sure that they had plenty of opportunities to progress. He was the driving force behind the Ampthill augmentation from 6 to 8 bells in 1981.

Jim held various offices within the Biggleswade District and was Association Honorary Secretary from 1975 to 1980. During this time he introduced many improvements, including updating the Annual Report whilst keeping costs down. He donated a large three handled pottery beer mug, known as 'Jims Jug', to be used as a trophy for an Association raising and lowering in peal challenge competition (see more on page 36).

Of Jims 122 peals, 85 were rung for the Association. 13 of his peals were peoples 1st peals. In 1980 he rang in a peal of 14 extents of surprise minor on the 6 at Ampthill which was sponsored to raise money for the

augmentation fund.

I remember Jim as a genial chap who was always very good company and who had the best interests of ringing at heart. The last time I saw him was at Stan and Sheila Ashton's house and he was his usual jovial self. To sum up he was a 'great guy'.

Anthony Smith

A peal was specially arranged by Mark Regan to celebrate Jim's life. Jim's daughter, Judith Andrews, came to listen.

Monday 8 August 2016 in 2h59m

St Andrew Ampthill

5088 London Surprise Major. Composed by Stephen Ivin

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Rosilind J Keech | 5 David Dearnley |
| 2 Paul N Mounsey | 6 Simon A Rudd |
| 3 James Clatworthy | 7 Christopher J Pickford |
| 4 Mark Regan (C) | 8 Thomas W Griffiths |

Rung to celebrate the life of James W Yates, former churchwarden and tower captain.



Left to right: Tom Griffiths, Paul Mounsey, Judith Andrews (Jim Yates' daughter), David Dearnley, Mark Regan, Simon Rudd, Ros Keech, Chris Pickford and Jim Clatworthy.

See also Bedfordshire Association peal 4178, rung on 1st April at All Saints Campton, on page 45.

Reverend Canon John Tibbs (1929 - 2016)

Taken from the transcript of a tribute given by Fr Jay MacLeod at John's funeral service at All Saints Bedford on 24 November 2016, with minor additions by Stephen Stanford.

John was born in Lynchmere, West Sussex where his father Geoffrey (a WW1 naval chaplain, part of a long line of Church of Ireland clergy and deeply affected by the troubles there) served as Vicar at St Peters from 1932-1957. One of three children, John was a sickly child. He attended boarding school early (a not entirely successful or happy experience) and fell in love with the gospels at the young age of 14. His faith never wavered – it was to become his life.



John went on to fail his university course but followed his heart, serving as an ordinand at St Boniface, Warminster, and trained for the priesthood as an associate of Kings College London. His curacy was served at St Mary's Eastbourne where her first learned to ring and where the incumbent's final report to the Bishop read "I never know where John is but I am sure he is doing the Lord's work". (Early signs of his engaging character and often unconventional approach that those who knew him will surely recognise and relate to!)

Inspired by the book and film *Cry the beloved country*, John went to South Africa, as Chaplain of St Martin's school, Johannesburg. Bishop Ambrose Reeves, whose daughter Margaret Anne he proposed to after only three weeks of courtship, and later married, gave him two other jobs, as Chaplain of the Hospital and Parish Priest of St Mary's Jeppe, the latter necessitating a crash course in Anglo Catholic ritual! He was also involved in anti-apartheid work. Every summer he took the white pupils from St Martin's school on work camps in Swaziland and Botswana. Despite considerable resistance and resentment John simply ploughed on, not relying on the disapproving teachers, but on the support staff and cleaners to accompany him and the pupils.

John later moved to Swaziland to become Rector of All Saints Mbabane where a rectory was built for him and his family (Margaret Anne and Bridget). On discovering that the neighbouring curate and his wife were living in a shack, John organised the building of a vicarage for them, supervising its construction, and refusing to move into his own home until the curate's house was finished. (Clearly a matter of principle and practising as you preach. In my own experience, this is what John always did).

Writing about his time in Swaziland in the early 60's John filled four pages about the needs of children and the schools that were built and improved in his years there. Teachers were trained and funded, a hostel for girls opened, and roofs were raised, including one with solar heating. He wrote only four lines about the church! Over the years, twenty or so African children moved in and lived with the Tibbs' and became part of their family. Following his return to England, in 2008 he established and led the Swaziland Schools

Projects charity to fund and continue the work.

From Swaziland John and the family returned to England and the village of Ifield, West Sussex. Ifield was a thriving parish with huge demands. In addition to parish ministry, John and Margaret Anne were politically engaged, especially in the struggle to topple apartheid. John was also a proud organiser for the Labour party (until the Iraq war), and additionally he was a vocal and early supporter of women's ministry, gay rights, and AIDs awareness.

From Ifield in 1983 John and Margaret Anne came to Elstow. This they considered something of a respite compared with Ifield, although one would never have guessed – John's energy and enthusiasm was infectious! John especially enjoyed his ministry with young people and the pilgrimages to Taize, and he also became chaplain of Bedford Hospital, firstly on a part time basis, and then on leaving Elstow in 1990, full time.

It was during John's time at Elstow that he took up ringing again, along with his son Simon. (There are no bells at Ifield and it is unlikely he rang while in South Africa). He was listed as a member of the Elstow band from 1984 through to 1989 and, encouraged by Roy Spencer, he served as Bedford District Chairman between 1986 and 1989. (One can only speculate about the banter that would surely have occurred and the schemes that would have been hatched between the two of them!). Needless to say, John was a great supporter of the Elstow and Bedford District ringers during his relatively short ringing career and incumbency at Elstow, often being persuaded to have a quick ring when called back to officiate at services there, and occasionally making up bands for wedding ringing.

During his time at Bedford Hospital John additionally served as Honorary Assistant Priest at St Paul's Bedford, also later regularly assisting at All Saints Queens Park, where the church was packed to capacity and beyond, for his funeral service.

John was diagnosed with malignant brain tumours in August and given only months to live. Even then he continued working on saving the planet! He had researched the ocean's tremendous potential to generate energy, from waves and also from slow tidal movements. He identified Portland Bill as the best location for a prototype and enlisting support from the Archbishop of Canterbury and Richard Branson he set about convincing the Department of Energy to install the first sea turbines that would supply Weymouth with power. This was typical Cannon Tibbs!

Fr Jay concludes, "John had an amazing capacity to connect with people. It is hard to account for and could happen in an instant. His sparkling eyes, mischievous smile, uncanny empathy and genuine warmth, meant that people could spend a few moments with John and find it transformative. They came away with hearts warmed. What accounts for that?"

Stephen Stanford (from Fr Jay MacLeod's tribute)

Points from the Peals

Congratulations to the following members who rang their first peal in 2016

Date	Ringer	Bell rung, number of changes and method	Tower
9 Nov	John Coles	Treble, 5040 Bob Triples	Stotfold
13 Nov	Paul Carrington	Tenor, 5040 Grandsire Triples	Eaton Socon
10 Dec	Henry Francis	Treble, 5040 Bob Doubles	Campton

Members who rang ten or more peals

Russell A Brown	25
Anthony H Smith	23
Nicholas D Brown	22
John P Loveless	17
Charlotte M Smith	13
Frank W Rivett	12
Martin Major	10

Members who conducted more than one peal

Nicholas D Brown	14
John P Loveless	8
Stephen H Stanford	7
Anthony H Smith	3
Ashley C Fortey	2
Frank W Rivett	2
Robert J Crocker	2

Towers where more than one peal was rung

Campton	4	Clifton	2
Kempston	4	Stotfold	2
Meldreth	3		

Methods rung

Doubles 4	Minor 21	Triples 3	Major 12	Caters 3	Royal 1
7 Methods 2	7 Surprise 13	Plain Bob 2	Cambridge 2	Grandsire 3	Yorkshire 1
8 Methods 1	12 Surprise 1	Grandsire 1	Cornwall 1		
Plain Bob 1	13 Surprise 1		Ealing 1		
	14 Surprise 1		Frodsham 1		
	2 Methods 1		Lincolnshire 1		
	20 Spliced S 1		London 1		
	27 Spliced S 1		Medway 1		
	7 Methods 1		Plain Bob 1		
	8 Surprise 1		Pudsey 1		
			Superlative 1		
			Fountains		
			Abbey 1		

2016 Peals

Peal no. 4168 including 67on handbells

HAYNES, St Mary

Monday Jan 11, 2h37

5040 Surprise Minor

(An extent each: Norwich, London, Westminster, Surfleet, Bourne, Ipswich, Cambridge)

- 1 Alice T Scott
- 2 Martin Major
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 John J Ford
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

100th together for Browns' Snr & Jnr.

4169

OLD WARDEN, St Leonard

Tuesday Jan 12, 2h56

5040 Surprise Minor

(13 methods in 7 extents: (1) Cambridge, Primrose, Ipswich, Norfolk, Bourne, Hull (2) London, Wells (3) Surfleet (4) Chester (5) York (6) Lightfoot (7) Norwich)

- 1 Charlotte M Smith
- 2 John P Loveless
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Robert J Crocker
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4170

WILLINGTON, St Lawrence

Tuesday Jan 12, 2h46

5040 Surprise Minor

(An extent each: London, Bourne, Durham, Westminster, Beverley, Norwich, Cambridge)

- 1 Frank W Rivett
- 2 George J Vant
- 3 Russell A Brown
- 4 John P Loveless
- 5 Nicholas D Brown
- 6 Robert J Crocker (C)

2,000th different peal tower: 6.

4171

STOTFOLD, St Mary the Virgin

Saturday Jan 16, 2h52

5088 Lincolnshire Surprise Major

Comp: W Barton

- 1 D Graham Hall (C)
- 2 Jane K A Hough
- 3 J Richard Hough
- 4 Simon P A Wilmot
- 5 James R B Saunders
- 6 James M Hills
- 7 Roy V Webb
- 8 J Richard Castledine

4172

CAMPTON, All Saints

Monday Jan 18, 2h46

5088 Ealing Surprise Major

Comp: B D Constant

- 1 Martin Major
- 2 Christine A Williams
- 3 Nicholas D Brown
- 4 Philippa M Whittington
- 5 John P Loveless (C)
- 6 Anthony H Smith
- 7 Russell A Brown
- 8 Frank W Rivett

4173

SOUTHILL, All Saints

Thursday Jan 21, 3h3

5040 Spiced Surprise Minor

(20 methods in 7 extents: (1) Lightfoot, Stamford, Rossendale, Wearmouth (2) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose, Bourne (3) Chester, Munden (4) London, Wells (5) Beverley, Surfleet (6) York, Durham (7) Westminster, Allendale)

- 1 John J Ford
- 2 Russell A Brown
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Richard B Pullin
- 5 Phillip S George
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

Most methods: 5.

4174

POTTON, St Mary

Monday Jan 25, 2h37

5040 Surprise Minor

(12 methods in 7 extents: (1) Warkworth (2) Cunecastle (3) York (4) Netherseale (5) Surfleet (6) London (7) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose, Bourne)

- 1 Charlotte M Smith
- 2 Peter J Waterfield
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Frank W Rivett
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4175

BIGGLESWADE, St Andrew

Saturday Jan 30, 2h48

5040 Plain Bob Triples

Comp: C Ravenscroft (reversed)

- 1 Charlotte M Smith
- 2 Kate J Scott
- 3 Susan M Silver
- 4 Alan S Smith
- 5 Peter G Smith
- 6 Anthony H Smith (C)
- 7 Paul J Chandler
- 8 James K Eggleston

With birthday wishes to Clarrie Scott.

Last peal on the bells prior to re-hanging and augmentation.

4176

KEMPSTON, All Saints

Saturday Feb 27, 3h12

5021 Grandsire Caters

Comp: Stephen Ivin

- 1 Lyndsey B Brett
- 2 Alexander J Nash
- 3 Melvyn J Potts
- 4 Melissa F Nash
- 5 Margaret Feneley
- 6 Anthony H Smith
- 7 Stephen H Stanford (C)
- 8 Nicholas H Brett
- 9 John P Loveless
- 10 David A Potts

Specially arranged as a farewell to the Vicar, Revd Stephen Huckle, and his wife Elaine, retiring to Lincolnshire after ten years of ministry in the parishes of Kempston and Biddenham. First on 10 and of Grandsire: 4.

4177

CLIFTON, All Saints

Saturday Mar 5, 2h53

5088 Pudsey Surprise Major

Comp: Donald F Morrison (No.6108)

- 1 Christine A Williams
- 2 Linda M Garton
- 3 Rosalind J Keech
- 4 Philippa M Whittington
- 5 Susan M Silver
- 6 Richard A Horne
- 7 Frank W Rivett (C)
- 8 David Kemp

65th birthday compliment to Sue Silver and 82nd birthday compliment to Stan Ashton.

Completes the standard eight: 5.

4178

CAMPTON, All Saints

Friday Apr 1, 2h43

5056 London Surprise Major

Comp: Stephen Ivin (No.11)

- 1 Christine A Williams
- 2 Martin Major
- 3 John P Loveless (C)
- 4 Charlotte M Smith
- 5 Anthony H Smith
- 6 Phillip S George
- 7 Frank W Rivett
- 8 Philippa M Whittington

In memory of James W Yates. Jim was General Secretary of this Association from 1975 to 1980.

Circled the tower: 8.

4179
HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, St James
 Sunday Apr 3, 3h13
5090 Cambridge Surprise Major
 Comp: Robert D S Brown
 1 Stephen H Stanford (C)
 2 Martin Major
 3 Charlotte M Smith
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 Dean De-Matteis
 6 Patrick J S Albon
 7 Richard A Horne
 8 John P Loveless
 Specially arranged to congratulate Bob Churchill on his 90th Birthday (26 March) and rung following a service held here this morning to thank Bob following his retirement as Churchwarden after 55 years.

4180
CLAPHAM, St Thomas of Canterbury
 Thursday Apr 7, 2h31
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: London, York, Surfleet, Norwich, Westminster, Bourne, Cambridge)
 1 Ashley C Fortey
 2 Colin M Turner
 3 Nicola J Turner
 4 Darran Ricks
 5 Russell A Brown
 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4181
CARLTON, St Mary
 Thursday Apr 7, 2h43
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Chester, Warkworth, Lightfoot, Durham, Wells, Ipswich, Cambridge)
 1 Darran Ricks
 2 Nicola J Turner
 3 Russell A Brown
 4 Ashley C Fortey
 5 Colin M Turner
 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4182
WHIPSNAD, St Mary Magdalene
 Friday Apr 8, 2h13
5040 Spiced Surprise Minor
 (14 methods in 7 extents: (1) Lincoln, Coldstream (2) Chester, Munden (3) London, Wells (4) Westminster, Allendale (5) York, Durham (6) Cambridge, Ipswich (7) Beverley, Surfleet)
 1 Robert J Crocker
 2 Nicholas D Brown
 3 Frank W Rivett
 4 Russell A Brown
 5 Darran Ricks
 6 Ashley C Fortey (C)

4183
KENSWORTH, St Mary
 Friday Apr 8, 2h16
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Cunecastre, Carlisle, London, Bourne, Surfleet, Norwich, Cambridge)
 1 Nicholas D Brown
 2 Darran Ricks
 3 Andrew M Keech
 4 Ashley C Fortey
 5 Russell A Brown
 6 Robert J Crocker (C)

4184
LITTLE WYMONDLEY, Hertfordshire, St Mary
 Friday Apr 8, 2h5 (3cwt)
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Norwich, London, York, Surfleet, Bourne, Ipswich, Cambridge)
 1 Russell A Brown
 2 Robert J Crocker
 3 Darran Ricks
 4 Craig P Homewood
 5 Ashley C Fortey
 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4185
NORTHILL, St Mary the Virgin
 Saturday Apr 9, 2h53
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Carlisle, Wells, York, Bourne, Surfleet, Norwich, Cambridge)
 1 Susan J Melvin
 2 Nicholas D Brown
 3 John J Ford
 4 Craig P Homewood
 5 Darran Ricks (C)
 6 Ashley C Fortey
 For the 90th birthdays of Her Majesty the Queen on 21st April 2016 and P Brian Lodge (father in law of 1) the day afterwards.

4186
SANDY, St Swithun
 Saturday Apr 9, 2h51
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Lightfoot, London, York, Surfleet, Norwich, Bourne, Cambridge)
 1 Charlotte M Smith
 2 Ashley C Fortey
 3 Darran Ricks
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 Russell A Brown
 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4187
LITTLE GADDESSEN, Hertfordshire, SS Peter & Paul
 Friday Jun 3, 2h47 (6cwt)
5040 Minor
 (2 methods: 4 extents Plain B; 3 extents St Clements B)
 1 Charlotte M Smith
 2 Thomas Monks
 3 Ruth Monks
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 Matthew J Bayley
 6 John P Loveless (C)
 First inside: 2.

4188
UPPER GRAVENHURST, St Giles
 Monday Jun 27, 2h47
5040 Doubles
 (8 methods: 7x240 Grandsire; 480 each Stedman, St Nicholas, Winchendon P, Rev Canterbury P, St Martin's, St Simon's, Plain B)
 1 Martin Major
 2 Andrew M Keech
 3 Anthony H Smith
 4 Christopher J Pickford (C)
 5 Nicholas D Brown
 To commemorate the nine men from Gravenhurst who lost their lives in the Great War - 2Lt Evelyn Collisson, Pte Wilfred Fisher, Gunner William Jordan, Pte Lionel Miller, Cpl Charles Redman, L/Cpl Stephen Redman, Pte Walter Redman, Pte George Smith and F W Turner. Of these, three died in Northern France as a result of action before or after the battle of the Somme (1 July - 18 November 1916) - Evelyn Collisson (d. 23/2/1916), Charles Redman (d. 5/12/1916) and Stephen Redman (d.8/2/1917).
 Last peal on the bells which are due to be removed shortly. The church is closed and the building is being sold for residential conversion.

4189
ELSTOW, St Mary & St Helena
 Sunday July 10, 2h37
5040 Minor
 (An extent each: St Clements B, Single Oxford B, Oxford TB, Norwich S, Ipswich S, Cambridge S, Plain B)
 1 Rosemary A Maddocks
 2 David I Stanford
 3 Martyn J Marriott
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 Frank W Rivett
 6 Stephen H Stanford (C)
 Arranged to congratulate Miriam Clark on her 90th birthday (15 June), with the best wishes of the band. Miriam has been a member of the band here for 60 years, 50 of them as Tower Captain.

4190
KEMPSTON, All Saints
 Saturday July 30, 3h17
5003 Grandsire Caters
 Comp: Stephen Ivlin
 1 Rosemary H Buckle
 2 Helen J Manktelow
 3 Jonathan J Nash
 4 Alexander J Nash
 5 Cameron White-Spunner
 6 Alan M Shepherd
 7 Stephen H Stanford (C)
 8 Nicholas H Brett
 9 John P Loveless
 10 James R B Saunders
 For The Queen's official 90th birthday
 (rearranged following the indisposition
 of a member of the band during the
 first attempt).
 2nd peal and first on 10: 3, 5.
 350th for the Association: 7.

4191
CLIFTON, All Saints
 Friday Aug 5, 2h43
5056 Cambridge Surprise Major
 Comp: C Middleton
 1 Susan M Silver
 2 Christine A Williams
 3 Martin Major
 4 Trevor W Groom
 5 Patrick J S Albon
 6 Philippa M Whittington
 7 Stephen H Stanford
 8 Frank W Rivett (C)
 To celebrate the Golden Wedding
 anniversaries of Pauline and Barry
 Livesey (16th July) and Ken and Alyda
 Smith (6th August).

4192
THURLEIGH, St Peter
 Friday Aug 12, 3h15
5040 Surprise Minor
 (8 methods in 7 extents: (1) Chester
 (2) London (3) York (4) Surfleet,
 Beverley (5) Bourne (6) Ipswich (7)
 Cambridge)
 1 David J Dearnley
 2 Ashley C Fortey
 3 Darran Ricks
 4 Peter J Waterfield
 5 Paul N Mounsey
 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4193
RISELEY, All Saints
 Friday Aug 12, 2h50
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Carlisle, Wells,
 Warkworth, Westminster, Norwich,
 Bourne, Cambridge)
 1 Paul N Mounsey
 2 David J Dearnley
 3 Peter J Waterfield
 4 Nicholas D Brown
 5 Darran Ricks
 6 Ashley C Fortey (C)

4194
MELDRETH, Cambridgeshire,
Holy Trinity
 Wednesday Aug 24, 2h49 (10cwt)
5056 Fountains Abbey Surprise
Major
 Comp: David G Hull
 1 Charlotte M Smith
 2 John P Loveless (C)
 3 Philippa M Whittington
 4 Anthony H Smith
 5 J Richard Castledine
 6 Alistair M Donaldson
 7 Russell A Brown
 8 Frank W Rivett
 With best wishes to John Gipson on
 his 93rd birthday tomorrow.

4195
GREAT BARFORD, All Saints
 Sunday Sept 11, 3h3
5040 Doubles
 (7 methods: 1x240 Grandsire; 10x120
 Plain B; 6x120 each St Nicholas,
 Winchendon P, Rev Canterbury, St
 Simons, St Martins)
 1 Stephen H Stanford
 2 Russell A Brown
 3 Andrew M Keech
 4 Peter J Waterfield
 5 Nicholas D Brown (C)
 Remembering the victims of 9/11.
 In the Queen's 90th birthday year.

4196
MELDRETH, Cambridgeshire,
Holy Trinity
 Wednesday Sept 21, 2h54 (10cwt)
5120 Frodsham Surprise Major
 Comp: Anthony J Cox
 1 Charlotte M Smith
 2 John P Loveless (C)
 3 J Richard Castledine
 4 Philippa M Whittington
 5 Anthony H Smith
 6 Peter J Waterfield
 7 Russell A Brown
 8 Paul S Seaman

4197
MAULDEN, St Mary
 Sunday Oct 16, 2h39
5088 Medway Surprise Major
 Comp: N D Brown
 1 Martin Major
 2 Paul N Mounsey
 3 Craig P Homewood
 4 Philippa M Whittington
 5 Richard B Pullin
 6 John R Peverett
 7 Russell A Brown
 8 Nicholas D Brown (C)
 Belated 'significant' birthday
 compliments to Mary Mann.

4198
MELDRETH, Cambridgeshire,
Holy Trinity
 Wednesday Oct 19, 2h43 (10cwt)
5088 Cornwall Surprise Major
 Comp: J W Griffiths
 1 David J Hawkins
 2 Charlotte M Smith
 3 Anthony H Smith (C)
 4 J Richard Castledine
 5 Philippa M Whittington
 6 Frank W Rivett
 7 Phillip S George
 8 Russell A Brown
 With best wishes to John Loveless for
 a speedy recovery.

4199
KEMPSTON, All Saints
 Saturday Oct 29, 3h14
5003 Grandsire Caters
 Comp: Stephen Ivlin (No.6596)
 1 Julie A Haseldine
 2 Lesley J Belcher
 3 Cameron White-Spunner
 4 Alexander J Nash
 5 Elizabeth A Pawley
 6 Jonathan R Pawley
 7 Stephen H Stanford (C)
 8 Christopher C Stokes
 9 Richard A Horne
 10 Andrew Haseldine
 For All Saints.

4200
GOLDINGTON, St Mary the Virgin
 Friday November 4, 2h58
5040 Surprise Minor
 (An extent each: Warkworth, Carlisle,
 London, York, Surfleet, Bourne,
 Cambridge)
 1 Craig P Homewood
 2 John P Loveless
 3 Nicholas D Brown
 4 Russell A Brown
 5 Alan Regin
 6 Adam R Crocker (C)
 Farewell compliment to Revd Richard
 Hewlett, Katherine, Elizabeth and
 James. Richard has been vicar here
 since 2005 - now appointed Team
 Vicar in the Langelei Team in Hemel
 Hempstead.

4201

**LITTLE HADHAM, Hertfordshire,
St Cecilia**

Tuesday November 8, 2h50 (11cwt)

5040 Spiced Surprise Minor

(27 methods in 7 extents: (1) Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Rossendale, Stamford, Netherseale, Annable's London (2) Chester, Munden, Carlisle (3) London, Wells (4) Lincoln, Coldstream (5) Cambridge, Primrose, Ipswich, Norfolk, Bourne, Hull (6) Westminster, Allendale (7) Beverley, Berwick, Surfleet, Hexham, Durham, York)

- 1 Philippa M Whittington
- 2 John P Loveless
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Frank W Rivett
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Peter J Waterfield (C)

4202

**BRENT PELHAM, Hertfordshire,
St Mary**

Tuesday November 8, 2h46 (8cwt)

5040 Surprise Minor

(An extent each: Carlisle, Bamfborough, Bourne, York, Ipswich, Norwich, Cambridge)

- 1 Charlotte M Smith
- 2 John P Loveless (C)
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Peter J Waterfield
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Frank W Rivett

4203

STOTFOLD, St Mary the Virgin

Wednesday November 9, 3h2

5040 Plain Bob Triples

Comp: Charles Ravenscroft

- 1 John Coles
- 2 Alan Regin
- 3 J Richard Castledine
- 4 Martin Major
- 5 Anthony H Smith
- 6 Ian G Campbell
- 7 John P Loveless (C)
- 8 Russell A Brown

First peal: 1.

4204

EATON SOCON, St Mary

Sunday Nov 13, 3h6

5040 Grandsire Triples

Comp: J J Parker (6-part)

- 1 Jane K A Hough
- 2 Mary Parnham
- 3 Susan J Matthews
- 4 Michael J Matthews
- 5 D Graham Hall
- 6 Alistair M Donaldson
- 7 Stephen H Stanford (C)
- 8 Paul Carrington

Half-muffled in remembrance prior to the ceremony at the village war memorial.

First peal: 8.

4205

CAMPTON, All Saints

Friday Nov 25, 2h44

5056 Plain Bob Major

Comp: C Kenneth Lewis

- 1 Charlotte M Smith
- 2 Ruth Monks
- 3 John P Loveless (C)
- 4 Thomas Monks
- 5 Anthony H Smith
- 6 Christine A Williams
- 7 Matthew J Bayley
- 8 Russell A Brown

In memory of the men of Campton who gave their lives during the First World War: Albert A Devereux, Arthur W Devereux, Ernest Devereux, Joseph S Godfrey, Frederick G Harris, J Henry Heathfield, Horace Lincoln, Harry Newman, George Odell, Charles W Whittemore and Frederick A Whittemore. We will remember them. First on 8 bells: 2, 4.

4206

EATON BRAY, St Mary the Virgin

Friday Dec 9, 2h39

5040 Surprise Minor

(An extent each of: Chester, London, Surfleet, Norwich, Bourne, Ipswich, Cambridge)

- 1 Martin Major
- 2 John P Loveless
- 3 Russell A Brown
- 4 Peter J Waterfield
- 5 Alan Regin
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

4207

CAMPTON, All Saints

Saturday Dec 10, 2h46

5040 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Henry Francis
- 2 Charlotte Francis
- 3 Clare Francis
- 4 Linda M Garton (C)
- 5 John P Loveless
- 6 Susan M Silver

1st peal at 1st attempt (aged 12): 1.

1st peal inside: 2.

1st peal by a Campton Sunday Service band.

4208

HENLOW, St Mary

Thursday Dec 22, 2h52

5088 Superlative Surprise Major

Comp: Sir A P Heywood

- 1 Martin Major
- 2 Charlotte M Smith
- 3 J Richard Castledine
- 4 Rosalind J Keech
- 5 Anthony H Smith (C)
- 6 Clive G Smith
- 7 Philip R Jewell
- 8 Richard A Horne

For Christmas.

4209

LEMSFORD, Hertfordshire,

St John the Evangelist

Saturday Dec 24, 2h19 (4cwt)

5040 Surprise Minor

(An extent each of: Carlisle, London, York, Lightfoot, Surfleet, Bourne, Cambridge)

- 1 Elizabeth J Cranfield
- 2 Russell A Brown
- 3 Stephen W Penney
- 4 Anthony H Smith
- 5 Clive G Smith
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

For Christmas.

4210

ROXTON, St Mary Magdalene

Tuesday Dec 27, 2h45

5040 Doubles

(7 methods: 720 each Grandsire, St

Nicholas, Winchendon P, Rev Canterbury, St Simons, St Martins, Plain B)

- 1 Craig P Homewood
- 2 Nicholas D Brown (C)
- 3 Anthony H Smith
- 4 Andrew M Keech
- 5 Russell A Brown

Happy 19th birthday to Alex and Tom Keech. Happy 20th birthday to Alice Scott.

First peal on the bells for nearly 25 years.

4211/67

KEMPSTON, All Saints

Wednesday Dec 28, 3h15

5040 Yorkshire Surprise Royal

Comp: Daniel Brady

- 1 Ruth Stokes
- 2 Ryan S Noble
- 3 Alexander J Nash
- 4 Melissa F Nash
- 5 Simon L Edwards
- 6 Nicholas H Brett
- 7 Andrew Haseldine
- 8 A John Stanworth
- 9 Christopher C Stokes
- 10 Stephen H Stanford (C)

For Christmas.

First of Surprise: 4.

First Yorkshire S Royal: 3.

Association Rules

Rule 6 was amended at the 2016 AGM, removed text shown in bold, strike-through.

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

Ringing: 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: 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.

Other General Information for Members

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults - Association guidelines, revised March 2016

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 each 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:

- Have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) 'enhanced check' if teaching children/vulnerable adults face to face, even where supervised.
- 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.bacbr.org.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@bacbr.org.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 newsletters 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 2015

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.
- Trustee indemnity cover

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 only practice on certain weeks of the month, alternate their practice with one or more other towers or are only by special arrangement. Many towers don't hold a regular practice at all.

Only towers that indicate that they may hold or arrange a practice are listed here.

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



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