



BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Update

Latest news and information for all
towers and ringers in Bedfordshire



December 2022

Please forward to other ringers in your tower and print off a copy for your tower notice board.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas!

Forthcoming Training Sessions and Meetings

Association of Ringing Teachers Module 1 - Teaching Bellhandling

at the R J Sharp Ringing Centre
at St Andrews Biggleswade
on Saturday 7 January 09:30-17:00



Module 1
Bell Handling

Suitable for those who already teach bell handling and want to update their skills AND for those who have never taught anyone to handle a bell, this course provides you with the skills and techniques necessary to take a ringer from their first lesson to having competent bell control.

It is really important for the future of Bedfordshire ringing that we have more people able to teach ringing. You don't need to be an "expert" ringer to do so! If you have good bell control and can comfortably raise and lower a bell, you could be one of the teachers of bellhandling we really need!

For further details and to register, please go to:

<https://events.bellringing.org/>

You will need to sign up for an ART Events username, and then follow the instructions!

The usual cost of this course is £25 per person, but a grant of £10 per person is available from the R J Sharp Fund to subsidise BACBR members. The admin of this is a bit complex, so you will need to pay the full amount to ART please, and BACBR members will then be refunded £10 when you attend.

There are only 12 places available (possibly can stretch to 15), which are being reserved for BACBR members until Monday 5 Dec. To reserve one of these you will need to input PIN code 2016. (Please do not forward this code to anyone else!)

After 5 Dec, the course will be opened to all. I know that there will be interest from further afield. I've organised this with the intention that Bedfordshire is the main beneficiary so I do hope that we can fill up all the places, so please do sign up quickly!

District Events

Bedford District

3 December Bedford, St Peter de Merton (8) Morning ringing 10:00 – 11:30

ADM: 21 January Kempston (10) Service, tea, ADM and evening ringing 15:30 - 20:30

Biggleswade District

10 December Biggleswade (10) Afternoon ringing 15:30 - 17:30 An opportunity to ring on higher numbers, whatever your level of experience! From rounds and call changes to Cambridge S Royal.

ADM: 14 January Ampthill Service 3.30, tea 4.00, meeting 5.00 followed by ringing until 8.15

Luton District

31 December Totternhoe (8) Morning ringing 10:00

ADM: 28 January Dunstable (8) Afternoon Ringing: 3.30pm; Service: 4.30pm; Tea: 5pm; Meeting: 6pm; Evening Ringing

Please do support these events. They are a great opportunity for

- less experienced ringers to progress and to consolidate what they may have learned at training sessions.
- more experienced ringers to support those who are learning - we were all learners once! - and ring something with other experienced ringers too!
- having a sociable time!

Don't forget - **you are always very welcome to go along to events anywhere in the Association**, not just in your own area! For details of all forthcoming events please see: <https://www.bacbr.org.uk/districts/>

Second Saturday Training

at the R J Sharp Ringing Centre
at St Andrews Biggleswade

Next session: **10 December 10:00-12:00**



Open to all Bedfordshire ringers. The sessions are aimed at less experienced ringers who can handle a bell but want to improve technique, confidence and progress.

For more details, please contact Philippa Whittington, pw48@btinternet.com or Sue Silver, vicepresident@bacbr.org.uk

Association Surprise Major Practice

Sunday 4 December, 14:30 - 16:30
at St Mary's, Cardington

Please let us know in advance that you are coming via Eventbrite:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/surprise-major-practice-tickets-459954575517>

Please also note the

10 Bell Practice at Biggleswade
Saturday 10 December, 15:30 - 17:30

This is a Biggleswade District Meeting but as always, **EVERYONE** is very welcome. It would be **particularly appreciated if experienced ringers could make it a priority to come along**, not only to support those with less experience on higher numbers, but also as an opportunity to ring some enjoyable changes on 10 bells, up to Cambridge S Royal.

Dates for your Diary

Dates for 2023 Surprise Major Practices

All 3rd Sundays (apart from December) on alternate months, as follows: 19 February, 16 April, 18 June, 20 August, 15 October, 3 December. 14:30 - 16:30 Venues tbc.



"Ring a First in February" will be back (in February!)

Be thinking about what "First" you or your band would like to ring! Maybe a Quarter peal? ...



Ring any "First" any time in February will be great. However, there will be a particular focus on Quarter Peal "Firsts" from Sunday 12 - Saturday 18 February. Help will be needed from experienced ringers during the week to help achieve as many Quarters containing Firsts as possible. Please put the dates in your diaries. Details to follow.

Other News and Events

Review of the Association: Progress Report

As mentioned in the last Update, it is widely felt that the objects of the Association need to be brought up to date to reflect the priorities of the Association in the 21st Century. Proposed rewording will be circulated to members in advance for discussion at the ADMs in January, with a view to then sending proposals to the Charities Commission for approval and voting on changes at the AGM in May.



Ring for the King!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the bells of every tower in Bedfordshire could be rung for the Coronation of King Charles III !

In order to make this dream anything close to a reality it is clear from the recent survey that we need to teach more ringers, and that to do this we need more teachers of bellhandling. So ...

An ART (Association of Ringing Teachers) Module 1 course is being organised early in the New Year to train new teachers of ringing. (See details above) This will be followed by a recruitment campaign, together with a plan of where and when any new ringers can be taught if towers do not have anyone to train them.

In the meantime please put the date of the Coronation in your diaries (if you haven't already) so that you are available to ring at your own tower and to assist at others!

Updates from the Central Council of Church Bellringers



Do keep an eye on the Central Council website for wider ringing news, including the very readable weekly President's Blog (that's the CC President, not Linda!), resources and helpful information!
<https://cccbr.org.uk>

BOOKING FOR EVENTS

We often ask you to commit to events in advance via Eventbrite so that we know that they are viable and to assist planning. If you have registered, we can then also easily communicate any changes or additional information to you.

We do realise that Eventbrite is not everyone's cup of tea! However, using it to register for events makes admin for the organisers SO much easier ... saving us time and effort which we can then put into organising more and better events!! It also enables us to find out other information from you to assist with organisation.

Eventbrite does not cost us anything and is quick and easy for you to use.
We will only ever use your data for the purpose which it was given and will never pass on to third parties.



Linda Garton
President, BACBR
president@bacbr.org.uk

www.bacbr.org.uk

You have received this because you are an Association member, a past member who wishes to remain in touch or a Tower Contact for the Association

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