

The Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers



St Mary's, Henlow

Annual Report 2025

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Cover picture – St Mary's, Henlow

The original footprint of the church dates back to the 12th century. The current building dates mostly from the 15th century and is mostly in a Perpendicular style . Originally a ring of 5 bells was housed in the tower with a treble being added in the 1930's to make 6 and a further two trebles added in the 1980's to make the current ring of eight. The bells were overhauled in 2025 and the tenor weighed.

Information on the Association's Website - www.bacbr.org.uk

- Association events calendar
- Association rules
- Association Bell Restoration Fund rules and information
- R J Sharp Bell Fund Code of Practice and information
- Details of the Association's insurance cover
- Association Officers from 1882
- Membership, subscription and gift aid information
- Tower map and up to date tower contact information
- Association safeguarding guidance and 'permission to ring' form
- Personal data privacy information
- Jim's Jug raise and lower in peal challenge - rules and results
- Bell Board feed of Bedfordshire peals and other performances

www.facebook.com/groups/240759242723040/

Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers

Established 13 March 1882

Registered Charity 263781

Patrons

Right Reverend Dr Alan Smith, Lord Bishop of St Albans (retired May 2025)

Right Reverend Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford

Honorary Life Members

John R Pemble, Anthony H Smith

Association Management Group and Trustees 2025

President

Linda M Garton, 17 Gravenhurst Road, Campton, SG17 5DW
president@bacbr.org.uk

Ringing Master

Angela Blackburn, 7 Knotts Close, Dunstable, LU6 3NY
01582 663756 trainingofficer@bacbr.org.uk

Honorary Secretary

Marc Kasfiner, 13 New Street, Shefford, SG17 5BW
secretary@bacbr.org.uk

Honorary Treasurer

Sue Silver, 3 Heronslee, Shefford, SG17 5FQ
treasurer@bacbr.org.uk

PR and Comms Officer

Teresa Brown 07932 627476
pr-comms@bacbr.org.uk

Bells and Towers Officer

Patrick Albon (interim)

Management Group Appointments and other roles

Honorary Peal Secretary

Richard A Horne, 48 Burr Street, Dunstable, LU6 3AG
01582 600073 pealsecretary@bacbr.org.uk

Honorary Librarian

Patrick J S Albon, Chapel Cottage, Higham Road,
Chelveston, NN9 6AH
01933 626238 librarian@bacbr.org.uk

Central Council Representatives

Patrick J S Albon, Richard A Horne, Linda M Garton

Honorary Independent Examiner

Trevor W Groom, 6 Bell Close, Hitchin, SG4 9NJ
01462 622497 examiner@bacbr.org.uk

Safeguarding Coordinator

Rosemary Drewery 07792 926004 safeguarding@bacbr.org.uk

Honorary Technical Advisor

Pat Albon, Chapel Cottage, Higham Road, Chelveston,
Wellingborough, NN9 6AH
01933 626238 techadvisor@bacbr.org.uk

Web Master

Teresa Brown 01462 631057 webmaster@bacbr.org.uk

Association Bell Restoration Fund Committee elected at AGM

Stephen Stanford (Chair), Alex Nash, Ian Steward, Simon Stranks

R J Sharp Fund Committee elected at AGM

John Loveless, Alex Nash, Simon Stranks

Membership and Subscriptions

We now use a secure online system called MemberMojo to:

- Manage annual subscriptions and payments
- Enable members to keep their preferences and details up to date, including subscription payment options and to receive a printed annual report
- Send out communications
- Collect any donations members may wish to make to the Association and its grant giving funds, and to sign up to Gift Aid.

More information about MemberMojo, and how to use it, is available at <https://membermojo.co.uk/bacbr>

2025 Subscription rates and other charges		
Membership Category	Rate	Details
Resident Member – under 19s	£2.50	Payable on election / annual
Resident Member – 19 and over	£10.00	Payable on election / annual of which £5 is passed to the Association Bell Restoration Fund
Non-Resident	£0.00	
Associate Member	£2.50	Payable on election / annual
Transfer between categories		
From Resident Member to Non-Resident Member	£10.00 (final payment)	If after paying up to four consecutive annual subscriptions
	£0	If after paying five or more consecutive annual subscriptions
From Non-Resident Member to Resident Member	£10	Payable on transfer
Other fees and charges		
Peal Fee	£1.00	Per ringer per peal (to BRF)
Badge	£2.00	Available from Association Treasurer

Reports from the Management Group

President's Report

2025 has been another year of transition for the Association. In January 2025 the Districts were dissolved, with remaining monies in the District Bell Funds being transferred to the Association Bell Fund. From February 2025 a new calendar of events was implemented. At AGM in May 2025 the new management structure was implemented, with a new Management Group replacing the former General Committee. A major change has been the creation of two new offices, Ringing Master/Training Officer and PR/Comms Officer.

As with all large-scale changes, there have inevitably been a few teething problems. In particular the new ringing programme has been kept under review and changes were made by the Management Group as some events were better supported than others. It is likely that this will continue to evolve further. One of the issues has been the reluctance of members to sign up to events in advance and as a result it has regrettably been necessary to cancel some events. We do need to know that events are viable and have made the sign-up system as straightforward as possible, so please do let us know that you are coming.

There have been a number of very successful ringing events, where good progress has been made and which have been very much enjoyed by those who have attended. These include:

- Another good response to the *Ring a First in February* initiative, with 46 pieces of ringing recorded on BellBoard. Well done to everyone who achieved a First.
- The Second Saturday Training Sessions at the R J Sharp Ringing Centre, Biggleswade, continue to be very popular, and are often oversubscribed. A big thank you to all the regular helpers, without whom these valuable sessions could not take place.
- We have been delighted to welcome new Young Ringers to the monthly practices. In July, we had a great day out at the Ringing World National Youth Contest in Birmingham, including an opportunity to ring on 16 bells. This year we were able to enter the Basic Call Changes category and were delighted to come 2nd. Well done to our team and thank you parents and helpers for your support!
- There were 36 Bedfordshire ringing performances linked in the Ringing World's Bell Board to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of

VE Day. They included tolling, rounds, call changes, general ringing, various touches, two quarter peals and a peal. Well done to everyone who rang to commemorate this remarkable occasion.

Our Patron, The Right Reverend Dr Alan Smith, Lord Bishop of St Albans, retired in May; we thank him for his support and interest in our Association. Many of you will have rung with him on his visits to churches around the County. We wish him a long and happy retirement with, perhaps, more time for more bellringing now!

Sadly, we lost an exceptional ringing member this year, Vernon Green from Flitton passed away in September having been unwell for some time. He will be sorely missed by all. His obituary appears later in this report.

Unfortunately, for personal reasons, I had to step back significantly from my role as President towards the end of 2025 and regrettably haven't been able to be involved in the Association as much as I would have liked. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the other Association officers who took on most of the tasks that fell into my remit. I will be stepping down at the AGM in May 2026.

To ensure the success of the Association going forward, we do ask for the continued support of the membership and a willingness to engage. Thank you to everyone, for all that you do to keep the bells at your towers ringing. I look forward to meeting and ringing with members old and new at Association events during the course of the coming year.

Linda Garton, President

Treasurer's Report

I have presented the year end accounts for 2025 in a slightly different way and in line with the recommendations of the Charity Commissioners. As a result of the rule changes agreed at the AGM in May to move the year end to 30th November this has resulted in this accounting period being 11 months and this does require being taken into account when comparing 2024 and 2025 figures.

This was a year of change for the Association finances, the introduction of Member Mojo and the demise of the Districts resulted in a loss of some 40 members. On the plus side the introduction of the ability to accept card payments resulted in increased donations to both the BRF and RJ Sharp Funds

Following the changes within the Association both the former Bedford and Biggleswade Districts have closed their BRFs and transferred their funds to

the Association BRF, both funds are being accounted for separately within the fund and an undertaking has been given to only allocate the monies to projects for towers within the former districts. (See the sheet attached to the accounts). Applications for grants will be very welcome.

The extra funds which have been welcomed into the accounts has resulted in generating £859.20 in bank interest which has been distributed between the three funds

The year ended with a surplus of £133.50 in the General Fund which left us with a healthy £4485.07 at the end of November 2025.

The RJ Sharp Fund stands at £4612.15 and the Association BRF at £55903.97.

Sue Silver, Honorary Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers

I report on the Accounts of the church for the year ended 30th November 2025 which are set out on the attached page.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures

undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act: or
- The accounts did not comply with the accounting period: or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Trevor Groom

Dated 23 February 2026

Association Bell Restoration Fund

The BRF was set up in 2013 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:
secretary@bacbr.org.uk

Accounts

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 30 November 2025		
Cash and Bank Deposits	2025	2024
General Fund		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	4485.07	2803.22
Lloyds Bank Savings Account		1525.14
Cash held by Association Officers		23.18
Total	4485.07	4351.54
Ronald J Sharp Fund		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	285.31	
Lloyds Bank Savings Account	4326.84	4064.66
Total	4612.15	4064.66
Association Bell Restoration Fund		
Lloyds Bank Savings Account	903.97	1228.45
Lloyds Bank 6 month fixed deposit	55000.00	25000.00
Total	55903.97	26228.45
Total	65001.19	34644.65
Investment Assets		
None		
Current Liabilities		
None		
Fixed Assets - Estimated Value		
Library Books & Periodicals & DVD's	775.00	
Presidents Badge	145.00	
St Peters Cup	120.00	
St Giles Cup	30.00	
The Melville Cup	500.00	
C Edward Jeffries Trophy	250.00	
Gavel	10.00	
Reading Glass	10.00	
Biggleswade District Trophy	60.00	
Note		
Stock of Badges - 46	73.60	

Receipts & Payments Account
For the period from 01 January 2025 To 30 November 2025

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund Bell Fund	Designated Fund RJ Sharp Fund	Total Funds	2024
Subscription	1262.50	1262.50		2525.00	3142.50
Sale of Association Badges	26.00			26.00	4.00
Income from Sale of Reports	40.00			40.00	40.00
Peal Fees		82.00		82.00	161.00
Gift Aid - HMRC		437.14		437.14	354.22
Donations		270.64		270.64	
Donations to BRF		28090.54		28090.54	10316.65
Donations to the RJ Sharp Fund			384.24	384.24	
Bank Interest	163.25	532.70	163.25	859.20	338.95
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1491.75	30675.52	547.49	32714.76	14357.32
Payments					
Central Council Affiliation Fees	137.20			137.20	63.60
Printing of Annual Report	307.12			307.12	550.00
Insurance for Public Liability	688.21			688.21	611.80
Website Costs	42.00			42.00	42.00
Member Mojo Subscription				0.00	95.00
Expenses - Trophy Engraving	16.50			16.50	
Expenses - Ridgman Trophy Competition	20.00			20.00	
Expenses - Secretary				0.00	
Expenses - Young Ringers	71.28			71.28	30.00
Young Ringers	50.00			50.00	
Committee Meetings -Room Hire					50.00
BRF Grants		1000.00		1000.00	
Bank Charges	25.91			25.91	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1358.22	1000.00	0.00	2358.22	1442.40
Net Receipts	133.53	29675.52	547.49	30356.54	12914.92
Cash Funds as at 31.12.2024	4351.54	26228.45	4064.66	34644.65	21729.73
Cash Funds as at 30.11.2025	4485.07	55903.97	4612.15	65001.19	34644.65

Bell Restoration Fund

Date	Main Account	Old Bedford District BRF	Old Biggleswade BRF
01/01/2025	Balance B/F	26228.45	29/04/2025 Balance Received 24547.71
30/11/2025	Net Income to date	29675.52	29/04/2025 Balance Received 0.23
	Total	55903.97	
	Restricted Bedford District	24547.94	Total 24547.94
	Restricted Biggleswade District	3812.37	Total 3812.37
	Balance Available	27543.66	
	Pledged		Pledged
			Bedford St Paul's Clapham 10000.00
			Blunham 2000.00
	Total Pledged	0.00	Total Pledged 12000.00
	Balance Available	27543.66	Balance Available 12547.94
			Balance Available 0.00

Ronald J Sharp Bell Fund Committee Report

The committee did not meet in 2025.

Sue Silver Hon Treasurer

Association Bell Restoration Fund Report.

The fund stood at £55,903.97 on 30/11/25 at the accounting period close (£26,228.45 on 31/12/24) with an income of £29,675.52 (£12,646.10 in 2024) and expenditure of £1,000. The increase in income over 2024 is attributable to £28,360.31 of restricted funds transferred from the former Bedford and Biggleswade Districts. There is an outstanding grant commitment of £12,000 from the former Bedford District fund and £3,812.37 from the former Biggleswade District Fund. Available funds currently stand at £31,356.03.

The committee convened on 10/8/24 by Zoom, to consider an application relating to refurbishment of the installation at St Thomas Clapham comprising strengthening of the frame and a general overhaul of the fittings. They voted unanimously to recommend that the Trustees award a grant of £2,000.00 (~13% of the project cost excluding VAT that was recoverable at that time, and ~5.3% of the total uncommitted bell funds at the time the grant was recommended). It was further recommended that this be made from the restricted former Bedford District fund to preserve the greater flexibility of the Association Bell Fund.

The committee chair is currently aware of active projects with possible grant applications from, Blunham, Roxton, Turvey, St Mary's Luton, Meppershall, Pavenham, and Arlesey. (This is possibly not an exhaustive list.)

Stephen Stanford, Chair

Peal Secretary's Report

During 2025 a total of 14 peals were rung. This is a slightly lower total than the previous year (19 peals) but broadly in line with the annual totals of the last few years. All the peals rung this year were tower bell peals, of which three were rung outside of the Association boundary.

A total of 44 people took part in one or more peals, however the majority were non-resident members. This is reflected somewhat in the list of leading ringers and conductors. There were no members ringing their first peal this year, which is always a little disappointing, but perhaps understandable given the number of peals rung and the number of ringers taking part.

The method stages for peals were all Minor and Major, with nine of Surprise Minor and five of Surprise Major.

The most popular tower within the Association boundary for peals remains as Campton (4 peals). Peals were rung at a further six Association towers, which included two peals at Haynes and peals at five other towers.

A number of peals were rung to mark events or occasions. The peal at Campton on 15th August marked the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. The peal at Maulden on 27th November marked the 75th anniversary of the augmentation of the bells from six to eight and also the first peal of Maulden S. Major, which was the method rung for the first time as the opening peal on 30th December 1950. In terms of personal milestones Anthony and Charlotte Smith marked 65 and 60 years respectively of peal ringing with a peal at Lemsford on 24th December.

Richard Horne, Honorary Peal Secretary

Points from the peals and details of peals rung for the Association in 2025 are on pages 40-44.

Librarian's Report

2025 was again a quiet year with only the odd loan of an Annual Report volume.

There was only one new acquisitions to the library, Richard Hillson kindly donated a USB Flash Drive, created by the Ringing World, containing copies of the Ringing World from 1911 to 2011, in machine-readable format.

Additionally, I have added to the library collection, single copies of the Association Annual Reports from 2000 to 2024, as individual items. Originally, these were held back for binding into volumes as the earlier ones were. However, due to the high cost of binding, and the fact that they are so little used, the General Committee decided not to go ahead with this. It is hoped that, in the not too distant future, all the Annual Reports will be scanned and made available in machine-readable format, like the Ringing Worlds.

Both Richard Hillson and I have continued to enter details of performances, in Bedford towers and by notable Bedfordshire ringers, into Bellboard. If anyone is interested in helping in this, please contact one of us.

My thanks continue to go to Stephen Stanford for providing a home for the bulk of the library and for acting as its custodian.

P J S Albon, Honorary Librarian

Ronald J Sharp Ringing Centre Report

Again in 2025 the Ringing Centre was used for the well established monthly learner practices.

These are held on the second Saturday in each month and comprise two sessions. The first is to teach bell handling on a one-to-one basis. The students here range from people having a very first try at ringing a bell, to those who can already ring and wish to improve their ringing "style", and students wishing to develop further skills such as ringing a bell up and down.

The later session is for progression to ringing with other people/bells (rounds, call changes and plain hunt).

These sessions are very popular, and a booking system is run to ensure that those attending get maximum benefit.

As always, I thank the helpers for their incredible support of this project, St Andrew's Church for use of the facility, and especially the Mothers Union for the excellent refreshments in the Chapter House.

Chris Williams

Safeguarding Report

The Diocese of St Albans has designed various levels of high, quality targeted safeguarding training for any members of the church working with children and vulnerable adults across the Diocese and this has to be refreshed every three years.

Previous levels of training will be more enhanced and there will be further training on domestic abuse, mental health and modern slavery.

Regular newsletters from the Diocese Safeguarding Training Team are sent out with any updates on safeguarding with links to the online training.

The guidance in these newsletters comes from the House of Bishops Safeguarding Training and Development Practice Guidance.

All national policies and practice guidance, the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service guidance and the newsletter can be found at www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/safeguarding-documents
Safeguarding Hubs are a suite of tools to help a parish with safeguarding.

The first three tools:

- Keep track of DBS checks and safeguarding training.
- Create role descriptions and person specifications.
- Track the safer recruitment of new volunteers.

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers has produced a guide for clergy, PCCs and Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers which explains how ringing 'works', through individual towers, territorial and non-territorial bell ringing associations, and the work of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

The guide, 'From Practice to Perfect' focuses particularly on how church bell ringers are trained, safeguarded and organised.

Tower Captains & Ringing Teachers

1. Basic Safeguarding Awareness
2. Safeguarding Foundations – renewal every three years.

Bellringers must complete:

1. Basic Safeguarding Awareness – renewal every three years

All training is now accessible via the National Safeguarding Training Portal. Any technical issues with the portal please contact:

elarning@mail.safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org

The following courses are available as on-line courses on the Portal:

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

- Basic Awareness (C0)
- Foundations (C1)

No safeguarding issues have been raised in the last year.

Rosemary Drewery – Safeguarding Officer

Technical Adviser's Report

Another busy year this:

Bletsoe – Two visits here this year. Initially to give them a general check over, no significant issues being found. Subsequently a further visit was requested to assist with identifying and resolving a problem with an electric clock winder.

Biddenham – A request from the local Tower Captain (TC) to give the installation a general check over. No significant issues were found.

Clapham – Multiple visits here. Initially, a visit, with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) Advisor, Stephen Stanford, to assess quotations from Bell Hanging firms to overhaul the installation. Advice was given to the Local TC and PCC member on the way forward. Further visits were carried out to assist Taylors to carry out the overhaul. The bells were returned to service in November and the ‘go’ of them is much improved.

Goldington – A further visit here, following on from last year’s inspection, to assist with tighten up of bell and gudgeon plate bolts. The long, dry summer had caused the headstocks to dry out and shrink, leading to loose bolts. This has been a common occurrence this year. Subsequently, a further help was requested when a clapper started to strike very quietly on one stroke. Advice was given on clapper pivot lubrication. This was an unusual situation, as the clappers were relatively recently refurbished with supposedly maintenance-free pivot bushes.

Henlow – Multiple visits here to assist Whites with an overhaul of this installation. It is good to see the local ringers being proactive in keeping their bell in good order.

Odell – Help was requested with replacing three cracked stays. These were of the Hastings variety and Taylors supplied new ones, however, inevitably, some alteration was required to get them to fit accurately; often a problem with Hasting stays.

Old Warden – Visits were required following an Association meeting here when a stay was broken. Initially a visit was made to remove the stay to provide a pattern (Hastings stay again!) and a blank was obtained and fettled, to match the old one. A return visit was made to fit the new stay and check that it worked correctly.

Keysoe – A visit was requested as the go of these bells had deteriorated considerably. A full inspection was carried out and, although nothing was found that would prevent the bells being rung, a report was produced, highlighting a number of issues that require attention. One particular area was, again, loose bearing bolts as a result of the shrinking of the headstocks.

Stevington – a request here, by the local T C, to have a look at the 3rd which had developed a ‘knock’ and the ‘go’ had deteriorated. It was determined that the coach screws which fix the bearing housings to the frame head were loose on one side and the ‘knock’ was the bearing shunting backward and

forwards slightly as the bell was rung. The screws could not be tightened as the threads had stripped, so a return visit was made with new, longer screws which cured the problem.

Great Barford – A full inspection was requested here by the local TC. Nothing was found that would prevent the bells from continuing to ring, however issues including beetle and fungal infestation in the frame, loose clappers and stays, worn rollers and weather ingress were highlighted in the report.

DAC Adviser Activity – Steve Stanford, the DAC Adviser, and I communicate regularly and he has shared the following information regarding his dealings with Bedfordshire towers:

St Mary, Luton - Further advice and support was provided in arranging inspection visits and obtaining quotations from the bell firms for work that was recommended following a visit / report by Pat Albon and I in January 2024.

Meppershall - Advice was provided relating to a proposal for general refurbishment and replacement of the 2nd headstock; also, possible sources of grant funding.

Arlesey - Advice was provided relating to general maintenance proposals that had been received from the bell firms; also, in relation to work that was recommended following a visit / report by Pat Albon and I in June 2022.

Blunham - Advice was provided relating to the work recently undertaken by Blythe & Co, and in relation to the scope and funding of the 2nd phase of the planned work to rehang the bells on modern fittings.

Roxton - Further to details provided in the 2024 report, I met with the PCC and architect in my capacity as DAC bells advisor in February 2025 to explain the work required and the recommendations and proposals made by the bell firm and structural engineer. Advice was also given on sources of grant funding and the faculty application process.

General – I seem to be getting a significant number of requests for just a general check over of an installation, or maintenance visit, with no specific problems indicated. Whilst I want to, and will, provide assistance whenever I

can, it is just not practical for me to provide routine inspections and maintenance.

At a tower where there are no ringers, I am happy to give the installation a check over every three or four years. However I do expect that any issues reported are acted upon.

For towers where there are ringers, the locals do have a responsibility to ensure that their bells are safe to ring. To that end, each tower should have at least one person (a Steeple Keeper), with an understanding of the operation of the bells and the skills to carry out basic checks to ensure that the installation is in good order. Of course, if there are potential problems, I am happy to get involved.

Additionally, to enable towers to appoint a Steeple Keeper with an appropriate understanding of their installation I am prepared to run sessions in a tower near to you where I can brief a group of around ten people, from towers in the local area, on what to look for when carrying out basic checks.

I hope that between us we can maintain our bells in a good, safe working order.

Pat Albon Honorary Technical Advisor

The Ronald J Sharp Ringing Centre, St Andrews, Biggleswade

The Ringing Centre has fully adjustable sound control, a dumb bell, a set of hand bells, multi view CCTV, white boards, a multi and single bell, simulator equipped with Abel, Virtual Belfry and Beltower ringing software and other training aids. The ringing chamber is a large, pleasant and comfortable space and an excellent environment for training and teaching activities.

The Ringing Centre's Operating Guidelines are available on the website at <http://www.bacbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Operating-Guidelines-May-2018.pdf>

The Ringing Centre is available for anyone to book for one-off sessions, regular practices or courses, subject to availability. Suggested Ringing Centre event times are Saturday mornings 10.00 – 12.00 with the option of using Monday evenings, when the bells must be down by 9.00pm.

Enquiries can be made by email to Biggleswadebellringers@gmail.com

Membership

Honorary Life Members

John Pemble, Anthony H Smith

Non-Resident Life Members

James Buckenham, Mike Cassell, Geoffrey Dann, Keith H Fleming, David Lazzarini, Brian Makeham, Martyn J Marriott, Clive G Smith,

Non-Resident Members elected in 2025 prior to a peal

Catherine E Morley

Resident Members transferred to Associate Members in 2025

None

Resident Members transferred to Non-Resident Members in 2025

Sue Melvin, Simon Melvin

Resident Ringing Members elected in 2025

Name	Tower	Date elected
Susan Hall	Colmworth	11 January
Becky Wharton	Colmworth	11 January
Dorcas Gordan	Northill	11 January
Jon Mayles	Northill	11 January
Dr Merlin Fox	Sandy	11 January
Auguste Beal	Bedford St Peter	18 January
Becky Coe	Elstow	18 January
Ollie Coe	Elstow	18 January
Steven Donaldson	Bedford St Peter	18 January
David Pointon	Cranfield	18 January

Alana Khokher	Luton	25 January
Caroline Doherty	Totternhoe	5 April
David Collins	Flitwick	5 April
Toby Bence	Unattached	3 May
David Hewison	Steppingley	17 May
Jasmine Rowland	Sandy	17 May
Josh Kelechukwv	Luton	17 May

Member and Tower Listing

Notes

We keep the tower details up to date on our website but this relies on towers letting us know.

Ringling times are 24-hour clock.

Sunday service times are when ringling 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

Resident, Non-ringling Associate Members are shown under their affiliated tower.

Unattached Members

Barbara Beard, Toby Bence, Rosemary Buckle, Thomas Keech*,
Jonathan Pawley, John Pemble◊, Rebecca Sharp, Sue Silver, Simon Tibbs,
Robert Tregillus

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

Sunday: 9.00 Ring to check

TL037383

PN: Thursday 19.15-20.30
phone to check

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

07768 252461

ampthill@bacbr.org.uk

Robert Butcher, Steve Harvey, John Hele, Nichola Hele, Timothy Hele,
Colin Lickorish, Rae Marshall, Hilary Nellist, Angela Newberry,
Chris Shrimpton

ARLESEY St Peter (6) 10-3-15 in G TL192375
Sunday: 09.10 except 2nd 9.40 PN: Friday 19.00-18.00
Phone to confirm
Peter Overfield, 10 Peartree Close, Shefford, SG17 5JG
01462 815672 arlesey@bacbr.org.uk

Don Brace, Elizabeth Overfield*, Peter Overfield*

ASPLEY GUISE St Botolph (6) 10-0-11 in G# SP943363
Sunday: 09.30 PN: None
Elizabeth Churchill, 11 Tingrith Road, Eversholt, MK17 9EF
01525 280632 aspleyguise@bacbr.org.uk

BARTON-LE-CLAY St Nicholas (8) 16-1-14 in E TL085304
Sunday: 10.15 PN: Monday 19.30-20.30
phone to check
Mrs Jennifer Archer, 1 Old School Gardens, Barton-Le-Clay, MK45 4LS
01582 881497 bartonleclay@bacbr.org.uk

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 standrewsbedford@bacbr.org.uk

Philip Kino, Alex Nash, Caroline Nash, Barbara Woplin

BEDFORD St Paul (12) 28-3-6 in D TL049496
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
Sunday evening by arrangement
James Saunders stpaulsbedford@bacbr.org.uk

James Saunders

BEDFORD St Peter de Merton (8) 12-1-0 in F# TL051501
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Sylvia MacDowell
07704980141 stpetersbedford@bacbr.org.uk

Lorraine Andrews*, Andrew Beal, Auguste Beal, Angela Brown,
David Cowley, Margaret Cowley (deceased), Stephen Donaldson,
Emily Entwistle, Richard Entwistle, Susan Entwistle, Lyn Goodwin,
Martin Goodwin, Sylvia MacDowell

BIDDENHAM St James (8) 12-3-18 in G TL014499
Sunday: 9.30am please check PN: First Thursday 19.45-20.00
Simon Smith, 7 Franklyn Gardens, Biddenham, MK40 4QB
07831507733 biddenham@bacbr.org.uk

Simon Smith

BIGGLESWADE St Andrew (10) 13-1-3 in F TL188446
Sunday: 9.30 PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.00
Charlotte Smith, 58 Cambridge Road, Langford, SG18 9PS
01462 700676 biggleswadebellringers@gmail.com

Caroline Broadbent, David Carr*, Paul Chandler, Trevor Chandler, Fiona Day, Yvonne Humberstone*, Oscar Matthews, Shelia Richardson, Charlotte Smith*, Johannes Strauss, Leah Strauss, Elaine Taylor*, Christine Williams, Beryl Worsley*, John E Worsley*, Martyn Worsley*, Laura Wren

BLETSOE St Mary (6) 11-2-11 in F# TL023583
Sunday: 09.00 1st PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Paul and Trish Vine, 50 The Avenue, Bletsoe, MK44 1QF
01234 782875 bletsoe@bacbr.org.uk

Andrew Fyvie

BLUNHAM St Edmund or St James (6) 18-2-0 in Eb TL153512
Sunday: 10.30 3rd Sunday PN: 2nd Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Davina Buckle, The Rectory, Park Lane, Blunham, MK44 3NJ
01767 640412 blunham@bacbr.org.uk

Nicholas Brown, Davina Buckle, Vicky Ewen, Amanda Harvey-Wade, Sarah Harvey-Wade

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 bolnhurst@bacbr.org.uk

James Hills

BROMHAM St Owen (8) 22-3-18 in Eb TL013512
Sunday: 09.45, check 1st, 3rd and 5th PN: Tuesday 19.45-21.15
Robert Jones, St Monica, Norfolk Road, Turvey, MK43 8DU
01234 881741 bromham@bacbr.org.uk

Steve Hare, Andrew Heyman, Robert Jones, Adrienne Sharp, Revd. Catherine Wilson

CADDINGTON All Saints (6) 8-0-0 in G TL064198
Sunday: 9.00 PN: Thursday 19.30-20.30
Basil Seymour, 20 Millfield Way, Caddington, LU1 4EH
07504 988420 caddington@bacbr.org.uk

CAMPTON All Saints (8) 6-2-10 in B (GF) TL130381
Sunday: 10.30 except 5th PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
John Loveless, 17 Gravenhurst Road, Campton, Shefford, SG17 5NY
07803 206161 campton@bacbr.org.uk

Sue Booton, Linda Bryant, Darrelle Buckel, Charlotte Francis, Clare Francis,
Henry Francis, Linda Garton, Barrie Glenn, John Loveless, Kaitlin Woodland

CARDINGTON St Mary (8) 19-1-1 in F TL086479
Sunday: 10.30 PN: 3rd Thursday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Julie Eddy, 141 Bamford Road, Bedford, MK42 0NH
01234 353489 cardington@bacbr.org.uk

CARLTON St Mary (6) 9-2-7 in Ab SP952549
Sunday: 10.30 1st & 3rd PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Lin Barratt, 86 The Moor, Carlton, MK43 7JS
01234 720756 carlton@bacbr.org.uk

Ann Boyle

CLAPHAM St Thomas of Canterbury (6) 5-3-20 in Bb TL034525
Sunday: None PN: Tuesday 19.45-21.00
Alternate with Milton Ernest
Jeff Henson, 77 Bents Close, Clapham, MK41 6DY
07583 591785 clapham@bacbr.org.uk

Jeffrey Henson

CLIFTON All Saints (8) 10-0-6 in Ab TL166393
Sunday: 10.30; 18.00 3rd only PN: Friday 19.30 - 21.00
Teresa Brown, 01462 631057 clifton@bacbr.org.uk

Ros Ashton*, Penny Bellis, Peter Blackmore, Russell Brown, Teresa Brown,
Marc Kasfiner, Keith Pledger, Mary Pledger, Mia Revell, Marguerite Smith,
Shaun Somerville, Nicola Temple, Revd Caren Topley

COLMWORTH St Denys (6) 9-3-18 in G (GF) TL109586
Sunday: 10.00 confirm with contact PN: 2nd & 4th Fridays 18.00 - 19.00
confirm with contact
Kate Abrahams, Woodfield, Honeydon Road, Colmworth MK44 2LZ
colmworth@bacbr.org.uk

Kate Abrahams, Susan Hall, Becky Wharton

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

Philippa Ebbs, Susan Hillyard, David Prior, Alex Sturgeon, Mike Vacher

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
07545 296728 cranfield@bacbr.org.uk

Hector Arriba Gutierrez, Jonathan Billington, Nicky Billington, Jim Ewen,
Chris Hartley, Mary Hartley, Garth Holman, Richard Lanyon-Hogg,
Jane Leslie, Andrew Pearson, David Pointon

DUNSTABLE St Peter (8) 23-2-15 in Eb TL021219
Sunday: 08.50 PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.15
Alan Shepherd, 19 Totternhoe Road, Dunstable, LU6 2AF
01582 603238 secretary@dunstablebells.org.uk

Richard Gordon, Richard Horne*, Andrew Jeffs, Graham Proctor,
Alan Shepherd*

EATON BRAY St Mary the Virgin (6) 9-2-0 in A SP969207
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Phone to check
Gaye Soule, Blanche Cottage, 210 Castle Hill Road, Totternhoe, LU6 2BW
07807924218 eatonbray@bacbr.org.uk

Rose Nightingale, Gaye Soule, Richard Stroud

EATON SOCON St Mary (8) 13-2-24 in F TL170588
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00
Trish Appleton 07976 206250 eatonsocon@bacbr.org.uk

Trish Appleton, Owen Davis, Michael Matthews*, Sue Matthews,
Mary Parnham, Christopher Spencer

ELSTOW St Mary and St Helena (6) 8-2-0 in G TL049474
Sunday: 9.30 PN: Thursday 18.00-19.00

Stephen Stanford, 34 Wood End Road, Kempston, MK43 9BB
01234 856778 elstow@bacbr.org.uk

Becky Coe, Ollie Coe, Clive Dunbavin, Richard Marshall, Stephen Stanford*

EVERSHOLT St John the Baptist (6) 16-2-14 in E SP983325
Sunday: 9.30 1st only PN: Monday 18.30-20.00
Elizabeth Churchill, 11 Tingrith Road, Eversholt, MK17 9EF
01525 280632 eversholt@bacbr.org.uk

Susan Ashman, David Bottle, Elizabeth Churchill, John Clarkson, Paul Collin,
Elizabeth Friend, John Logan

FELMERSHAM St Mary (8) 20-2-18 in Eb SP991578
Sunday: Alternates with Sharnbrook – check
PN: None

Pat Albon, Chapel Cottage, Higham Road, Chelveston, Wellingborough, NN9
6AH 01933 626238 felmersham@bacbr.org.uk

FLITTON St John the Baptist (6) 6-0-6 in Bb (GF) TL059358
Sunday: 10.00 2nd Sunday PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Louise Mackie flitton@bacbr.co.uk

Steve Goodenough, Vernon Green (deceased), Louise Mackie

FLITWICK St Peter and St Paul (6) 9-1-9 in G TL029342
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Friday 19.45-21.00
Ian Holman, 33 Station Road, Flitwick, MK45 1JT
01525 716258 flitwick@bacbr.org.uk

David Collins, Richard Fullbrook, Ian Holman, Rebekah Holman,
Paul Swannell, David Watson

GOLDINGTON St Mary (6) 10-2-7 in F# TL076510
Sunday: 09.00 PN: Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Jenny Thompson, 16 Langdale, Bedford, MK41 9EG
01234 216571 goldington@bacbr.org.uk

Gale Bevan, Peter Blunt, Andrew Dennison, Revd. Simon Dommett,
Nicholas Fowler, Roger Framp, Jean Heaslip (deceased), Ash Kathuria,
Dorothy Kirby, Hazel Spencer, Jenny Thompson

GREAT BARFORD All Saints (5) 15-3-16 in F (GF) TL134517
Sunday: 9.00 1st and 10.30 3rd PN: Tuesday 1st 19.30-21.00
Vivienne Johnson, 28 Silver Street, Great Barford, MK44 3HX
01234 871590 greatbarford@bacbr.org.uk

Lexia Allman, Joan Brass, Sue Chandler, Neil Goodwin, Karen Humphreys,
Vivienne Johnson, Richard Radwell, David White

HARROLD St Peter and All Saints (6) 13-0-6 in F# SP954567
Sunday: 09.00 2nd & 4th PN: Friday at Carlton
Martin Barratt, 86 The Moor, Carlton, MK43 7JS
01234 720756 harrold@bacbr.org.uk

HAYNES St Mary (6) 6-3-5 in B (GF) TL081412
Sunday: None PN: Monday 19:00-21:00 phone to
check
Brian Oertel, 13 Howard Close, Haynes, MK45 3QH
01234 381428 haynes@bacbr.org.uk

Amy Johnston, Brian Oertel,

HENLOW St Mary (8) 14-2-0 in F# TL178387
Sunday: 10.30, check 5th PN: Tuesday 20.00-21.00
henlow@bacbr.org.uk

John Coles, Stuart Cracknell, Ben Davies, Carol Donnelly, Heather Jewell,
Philip Jewell, Martin Major* (deceased), Hilary Plummer, Jess Sawyer,
Anthony Smith◊

HOUGHTON REGIS All Saints (6) 13-1-3 in F TL018239
Sunday: 10.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Delroy Grey, 36 Kent Road, Houghton Regis, LU5 5NZ
01582 868644 houghtonregis@bacbr.org.uk

Carl Anthony, Delroy Grey, Anne Jones, Celia Pymont,
Kristian White-Spinner

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY St James (8) 18-2-12 in D SP955362
Sunday: None PN: 19.30 2nd Thursday
Peter Woodhall (church warden) 95 School Lane, Husborne Crawley, MK43
OUY
07702 032621 husbornecrawley@bacbr.org.uk

Peter George, Matthew Hirst

KEMPSTON All Saints (10) 21-1-17 in E TL015480
Sunday: 10.25 PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00
Sarah Ward, 34 Wood End Road, Kempston, MK43 9BB
01234 856778 kempston@bacbr.org.uk

Nicola Darwood, Stephen Darwood, Glynda Easterbrook, Jane Edis,
Richard Hillson, Andrew Keech, Melvyn Potts

KENSWORTH St Mary (6) 3-3-15 in D# TL031190
Sunday: 10.00 PN: please check
Angela Blackburn, 7 Knotts Close, Dunstable, LU6 3NY
01582 663756 kensworth@bacbr.org.uk

Barrie Huggins

KEYSOE St Mary (5) 14-1-19 in E (GF) TL073624
Sunday: 1st 9.30 3rd 11.00 - check PN: Wednesday 19.45-21.00
Penny Heming, Pump Cottage, Keysoe Row East, MK44 2JB
01234 378878 keysoe@bacbr.org.uk

Carol Burge, Ro Heming, James Hills, Richard Thurmott, Marion Turner

LEIGHTON BUZZARD All Saints (12) 35-1-14 in C# SP918248
Sunday: 09:00 PN: Monday 19.45-21.30
Evensong QPs by arrangement
Kevin Pughe, 7 Dudley Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1SE
07402 233022 leightonbuzzard@bacbr.org.uk

Janice Nixon

LINSLADE St Barnabas (8) 9-3-3 in A SP912249
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.15
Louisa Hewett
linsladeringing@gmail.com

Mark Cluet, Janesse Cornfoot, Simon Head, Chris Hewett, Louisa Hewett,
Janet Miller, Janice Robinson, Lizzie Pawley

LITTLE STAUGHTON All Saints (5) 10-2-20 in G# (AC) TL107630
Sunday: 08.30 PN: Friday 19.30-21.00
Bernard Hopperton, Cherry Blossom, Staughton Moor Road, Great
Staughton, St Neots, PE19 5BW
01234 376292 littlestaughton@bacbr.org.uk

LUTON St Mary (12) 25-0-24 in D TL095212
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Tuesday 19.00-20.30
by arrangement

Mrs Beryl Gardner
01582 523850 stmaryluton@bacbr.org.uk

Angela Andrews, Clare Fitzpatrick, Niamh Fitzpatrick, Beryl Gardner,
Jason Hunt, Ulrike Hunt, Josh Kelechukwv, Alana Khokher, Soneeta Khokher,
Santo Limanni, Pat Limanni, Brendon Owen

MAULDEN St Mary (8) 10-2-0 in F# TL058381
Sunday: 09.00 1st and 3rd PN Tuesday 19:30-21.00
Dean De-Matteis 07473317259 maulden@bacbr.org.uk

Dean De-Matteis, Giorgio De-Matteis, Helen De-Matteis, Mark Garner*,
Mary Mann*, Amy Warner, Daniel Warner, Joseph Warner, Samuel Warner

MELCHBOURNE St Mary Magdalene (4) 12-1-12 in F# TL028654
Sunday: None PN: None
Rev'd Simon Aley, The Rectory, High Street, Upper Dean, PE28 0ND

MEPPERSHALL St Mary (6) 12-2-0 in G# (GF) TL134359
Sunday: 10.30 4th Sunday only PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Gillian Marshall-Davies
07778 449051 meppershall@bacbr.org.uk

David Bartlett, Melinda Gladding, Gillian Marshall-Davies,
Yvonne Mountcastle, Anne Parsons*, John Parsons*, Ann Rowland,
Elizabeth Wade*

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

MILTON ERNEST All Saints (6) 9-1-1 in G TL020561
Sunday: None PN: Tuesday 19.00-20.00
Alternate with Clapham
Richard Newman, 3 Church Close, Milton Ernest, MK44 1RD
01234 961440 miltonernest@bacbr.org.uk

Jacque Blows, Richard Newman,

NORTHILL St Mary Virgin (6) 18-2-12 in Eb TL149466
Sunday: 10.30, check 5th PN: Monday 20.00-21.00
Nicola (Nicki) Horsford
07846958188 northill@bacbr.org.uk

Mike Cowell, Barbara Dunn, Dorcas Gordan, Nicola Horsford,
Christopher Lowdon, Tracy Lowdon, Jon Mayles, Angela Norris, Paul Watler

OAKLEY St Mary (6) 10-0-2 in G TL011530
Sunday: None PN: Friday 20.00-21.15
Bill Sellars, 2 Parsonage Close, Oakley, MK43 7TG
01234 823473 / 07980 745292 oakley@bacbr.org.uk

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

OLD WARDEN St Leonard (6) 9-1-0 in G (GF) TL136443
Sunday: None PN: None
Robert Diggle oldwarden@bacbr.org.uk

PAVENHAM St Peter (5) 8-0-0 in A SP992560
Sunday: None PN: None
Please contact Vicar pavenham@bacbr.org.uk

POTTON St Mary (6) 8-0-0 in A TL229495
Sunday: 09.50 PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Rosemary Kimber, Spencer Farm, 28 King Street, Potton, SG19 2QT
01767 261206 potton@bacbr.org.uk

Val Cooper, Helen Davis, Phil Haddow, Andrew Inkersole,
Rosanna Jackson, Rosemary Kimber, Jessica Richards, Tony Sharp,
Christopher Surridge, Carol-Ann Tucker

RENHOLD All Saints (6) 13-0-15 in F# TL089528
Sunday: 10.30 PN: 5th Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Mrs Yvonne Potter, 8 Brook Lane, Salph End, Renhold, MK41 0LD
01234 771495 renhold@bacbr.org.uk

RISELEY All Saints (6) 13-1-26 in F TL039631
Sunday: 10.15 1st and 3rd phone to check PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
David Shaw, 5 Dodds Close, Riseley, MK44 1DH
01234 708204 riseley@bacbr.org.uk

David Shaw

ROXTON St Mary Magdalene (5) 10-1-3 in G TL153545
Sunday: 10.30, phone to check PN: 4th Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Norman Keightley, Brooklands, Chawston Lane, Chawston, MK44 3BH
01480 472268 roxton@bacbr.org.uk

David Bradley, Norman Keightley

SANDY St Swithun (6) 12-0-8 in F TL174491
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Wednesday 19.00-20.30
Steven Akhurst, 13 Abbey Grove, Sandy, SG19 1QP
01767 835039 / 07984 860108 sandy@bacbr.org.uk

Carly Akhurst, Phillip Akhurst, Steven Akhurst, Emily Bushby, Terri Creed,
Ann Eaton, Dr Merlin Fox, Andrew Holford, Jessica Ramsey,
Jasmine Rowland, Matthew Shaw, Jessica Watts

SHARNBROOK St Peter (8) 9-3-5 in F# SP993596
Sunday: 10.00 Alternate with Felmersham. PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
Phone to check
Pat Albon, Chapel Cottage, Higham Road, Chelveston, Wellingborough, NN9
6AH
01933 626238 sharnbrook@bacbr.org.uk

Jacquie Albon, Pat Albon, Tom Anderson*, Rosemary Drewery,
Rebecca Norton

SHILLINGTON All Saints (5) 18-2-0 in E TL123339
Sunday: 09.00 PN: Monday 20.00-21.00
Emma Lodge shillington@bacbr.org.uk

SILSOE St James (6) 6-1-9 in B TL082356
Sunday: 09.00, except 5th PN: Monday 19.30-21.00
Godfrey Foat silsoe@bacbr.org.uk

David Adams, Paul Biscoe, Christopher Catlin, Julia Catlin, Godfrey Foat,
Barbara Fraser, Margaret Jeeves, Les Miller, Anita Nancollas, Peter Philips,
Judy Rawlings, Simon Stranks, Yvonne Tomkins*

SOUTHILL All Saints (6) 11-3-3 in F# TL146422
Sunday: None PN: None
Colin McCartney, 29 Birch Close, Broom, Biggleswade, SG18 9NR
01767 314669 southill@bacbr.org.uk

Alan Dover*, Colin McCartney, Elizabeth McCartney,

STAGSDEN St Leonard (6) 10-2-18 in G (GF) SP982491
Sunday: None PN: Wednesday 20.00-21.00
Richard Brown, Manor Farm, High St, Stagsden, MK44 8SQ 01234 822330

STANBRIDGE St John the Baptist (6) 9-0-15 in F# SP966242
Sunday: 10.30 Phone to Check PN: None
Annette Brooks, 07792 374703 stanbridge@bacbr.org.uk

STEPPINGLEY St Lawrence (6) 6-0-11 in Bb TL011354
Sunday: 10.15 Phone to check PN: Thursday 19.15-20.30
Phone to check

John Hele, 45 Alameda Road, Ampthill, MK45 2LA
07768 252461 steppingley@bacbr.org.uk

Ruth England, David Hewison, Lorna Staples, Claire Wright

STEVINGTON St Mary (5) 10-2-14 in F# (GF) SP990536
Sunday: None PN: Last Wednesday 19.30-21.00
Ian Steward 07974 827098 stevington@bacbr.org.uk

Peter Bishop, Ann Steward, Ian Steward

STOTFOLD St Mary (8) 11-0-2 in G TL220367
Sunday: 09.30 PN: Thursday 19.30-21.00
Richard and Eileen Castledine, 7 Hazel Grove, Stotfold, SG5 4JJ
01462 629075 stotfold@bacbr.org.uk

Eileen Castledine, J Richard Castledine, David Ribbans

STUDHAM St Mary the Virgin (6) 10-0-22 in Ab (GF) TL016159
Sunday: 10.00 PN: Monday 20-00-21.00
Angela Blackburn, 7 Knotts Close, Dunstable, LU6 3NY
01582 663756 studham@bacbr.org.uk

Angela Blackburn, Paul Hassan, Margaret Maddox, Andrew Wheeler

TEMPSFORD St Peter (6) 9-1-0 in Ab (GF) TL162531
Sunday: 10.30 2nd & 09.00 4th PN: 3rd Tuesday 19.30-21.00

Davina Buckle, The Rectory, Park Lane, Blunham, MK44 3NJ
01767 640412 tempsford@bacbr.org.uk

Maureen Goddard, Penny Joshi

THURLEIGH St Peter (6) 14-0-0 in F# (GF) TL051584
Sunday: None PN: No Practice
Richard Singleton 01234 771952 thurleigh@bacbr.org.uk

TILSWORTH All Saints (6) 8-3-17 in A (GF) SP975243
Sunday: Phone to check PN: None
Annette Brooks, 07792 374703 tilsworth@bacbr.org.uk

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 toddington@bacbr.org.uk

Peter Boon, Vicki Holton, John Pask, Debbie Thrower, Wendy Whaley

TOTTERNHOE St Giles (8) 9-2-0 in F SP988208
Sunday: Phone to check PN: Tuesday 19.30-21.00
phone to check
Annette Brooks, 13 Weatherby, Dunstable, LU61TP
07792 374703 totternhoe@bacbr.org.uk

Annette Brooks, Michael Brooks, Alex Buckledee. Caroline Doherty,
Debbie Gilbey, Stephen Parslow, Michael Pearson

TURVEY All Saints (8) 19-0-20 in E SP940525
Sunday: 09.30 email to check PN: Friday 19.30-20.30
Ed Whittle/David Wood
07968 353209/07765 772434 turvey@bacbr.org.uk

Richard Bray, Helen Clarkson, Paul Clarkson, Tabitha Cobb, Ed Whittle,
Cynthia Woods, David Wood

UPPER DEAN All Hallows (5) 9-3-20 in G (GF) TL046676
Sunday: 09.45 check PN: None
Mrs Lindsay Langley, Te Aroha, 6 Aylott Close, Upper Dean, PE28 0NA
01234 708165 upperdean@bacbr.org.uk

WESTONING St Mary Magdalene (6) 11-1-18 in F# TL027327
Sunday: 10.30 PN: Monday 19.30-20.45
Gavin Churchman westoning@bacbr.org.uk

Declan Newton

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 whipsnade@bacbr.org.uk

Pam Ward

WILDEN St Nicholas (5) 11-2-0 in F#
Sunday: None

TL093552
PN: None

Mrs Carolyn Walker, 49, High Street, Wilden, MK44 2QD 01234 771102

WILLINGTON St Lawrence (6) 9-0-1 in A
Sunday: None

TL106498
PN: Tuesday 19.30 – 21.00
phone to check

Mike Vacher, 91 Willington Road, Cople, MK44 3TN
01234 831207 vacher309@btinternet.com

WOBURN St Mary the Virgin (8) 24-1-16 in D
Sunday: 10.00, Phone to check
Bob Tregillus, 01525 379973 woburn@bacbr.org.uk

SP950333
PN: Thurs 1st & 3rd, 19.30-21.00

WOOTTON St Mary (6) 14-3-26 in F
Sunday: None

TL003451
PN: None

Hazel Sanders (PCC Secretary)
Tel: 07753 303 437 wootton@bacbr.org.uk

Obituaries

Vernon Green (1938 – 2025)

Ringling was a major part of Vernon's life and gave rise to some of his closest friendships. He learned to ring as a child of 11 in his home village of Okeford Fitzpane in Dorset and was taught by one of his uncles. By the time he was 15 Vernon was a competent 6 bell ringer, ringing Plain Bob, Grandsire and Treble Bob.

Vernon left Okeford in 1954, aged 15, to start a five-year "pupillage" with John Laing Construction. Vernon would continue to work for John Laing until he retired in 1998. Throughout his pupillage Vernon would move fairly frequently to work on successive building sites. His first posting was to a house building site in Oxford where his job was to measure up the work of the tradesmen to determine the level of bonus (if any) they should be paid.

As Vernon left his home village, the vicar of Okeford Fitzpane wrote to the vicar of Headington, Oxford, asking him to look out for Vernon. The Headington vicar and ringling master, Tom Smith, visited Vernon on his first Monday away from home. This led to Vernon becoming part of the Headington band, although he rang most nights at different practices around the city – cycling to the towers from his digs. Vernon's ringling developed during his two years in Oxford, with him now ringling surprise minor and major,

as well as plain methods on 10 and 12. He rang his first peas in 1955 with the band mainly formed of Headington ringers.

Vernon recently told me he considered himself very lucky to have rung in some of the leading centres of 12 bell ringing – notably Leicester and later in Birmingham.

Vernon's work with John Laing took him to Leicester – another housebuilding site at Mowmacre Hill. He rang in Leicester from September 1956 to August 1958. In notes I have found since his death, Vernon comments on how friendly and welcoming he found the Leicester ringers. During the first week in Leicester he rang at Ansty on the Wednesday and was invited to the Cathedral the following night (ultimately becoming part of the Cathedral band). There he met another young apprentice, Dick Prime, who would become a lifelong friend and my godfather. On the Friday evening he rang at St Margaret's "the gate" where he met the lady he would fall in love with and who would become his wife and my mother.

As well as significant friendships, Vernon's ringing continued to develop whilst at Leicester. He rang his first peal of Surprise Maximus in his second month there. This peal was followed by a number of others before Vernon moved to John Laing's North London head office in late 1958 and joined the band at Bushey.

In 1967 Vernon took up a management role within the commercial side of John Laing's central region. He moved to Solihull and rang at Birmingham and Solihull from 1967 through to 1981, becoming a regular member of the weekly peal band at the Cathedral. He was part of the Birmingham bands that won the 1979 National 12-Bell Striking competition, and came second the following year. He was also secretary and treasurer of the St Martin's Guild of Church Bell Ringers between 1974 and 1977. During that time, he organized a number of half day training sessions on Saturdays to help develop skills within the Guild such as plain hunt, plain bob and grandsire, and how to conduct.

At the same time, Vernon was a member of the ringing band at St Alphege, Solihull. Tom Warner was Tower Master through my earliest memories and Vernon became his deputy from December 1973. He became Tower Master himself when Tom stood down in October 1976 and continued in that role until July 1980. The Solihull band at that time benefited from a number of experienced ringers moving into the area to build on an already strong band, I know Vernon was immensely proud of what the Solihull band achieved, including first peals on the 12 by a local band, and development of a large number of young learners – many of whom still ring.

In 1981 Vernon's final move was to Bedfordshire to take up a role within John Laing's Eastern division – ultimately becoming the regional Commercial Director. He stayed in Bedfordshire for 44 years. His home tower became Flitton, where he also served as Church Warden for 11 years. The move meant a switch to mainly six and eight bell ringing, although in the early years he also rang with the band at Bedford St Pauls, which again took him to the National 12-bell competition, being part of the Bedford band that came sixth in 1982.

Vernon continued to ring until he was 85, and was proud to have rung for the coronations of both Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III.

Pealbase kindly sent me a printout of all of Vernon's peals. This shows 655 peals, with notable events being his first peal in April 1955 on the Oxford area, first inside to Surprise Major in 1956, also in the Oxford area and first inside to Surprise Maximus in October 1956 in Leicester. His final peal was at Meldrith, Cambridgeshire in 2014, conducted by Richard Castledine, a longstanding friend who Vernon met when he lived in North London and first rang a peal with in 1961.

Vernon is survived by his wife, two children, five grandchildren and one great granddaughter

Alistair Green

Cliff Izzard, (1931 – 2024)

Cliff was the only child of Kathleen & Walter Izzard and was born in Bedford but by 1933 was living in a new family home at Box End Kempston. He was educated at local Kempston schools, followed by Luton Technical College and an apprenticeship with a local engineering company. After National Service he returned to work at WHA Robertson's in Bedford, achieving his professional qualifications in mechanical engineering.

Cliff learnt to ring at Kempston in 1945, at the time a ring of six, with a strong band, including Cliff's Father, Walter and Uncle Ernest. Cliff met his future wife, Anne Smith, in the tower where she regularly passed through the ringing room to play the organ and she was soon recruited to the band. Cliff & Anne were part of a group of youngsters, including Michael (later Revd.), Mary & Richard Stephens, Phyllis Grey, and Alan & Sheila Smith who together with other ringers from the Bedford & Biggleswade areas became the core of the Bedfordshire Young Ringers touring annually on bikes & staying in Youth Hostels. Anne and Cliff were married at All Saints in 1956.

Cliff's name first appears in the Bedfordshire Association Annual Report of 1946. He served as Technical Advisor for a number of years, was elected an Honorary Life member and was the Association's longest serving resident member at the time of his death. He was also proud to be a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Cliff rang his first peal in January 1947 on the treble of the original 6 bells at Kempston. He went on to ring a total of 264 peals, 238 of them for the Bedfordshire Association with 54 at Kempston including a local band peal on the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. He was a key participant in Stephen Ivin's 1975 London Major peal week, ringing in 8 of the 10 peals and rang in a number of peals at St Paul's Bedford in complex methods but he most enjoyed ringing the tenor behind to some decent Grandsire. His last peal was to mark the Diamond jubilee of the late Queen, and he took part in ringing at Kempston for her Platinum jubilee.

Cliff succeeded George Hutchings as Tower Captain at Kempston in 1974, a post he held for 36 years. Cliff maintained an able and loyal local band well supported by regular visitors attracted by the high standard of striking and the quality of the post-ringing entertainment at the Three Horseshoes. Kempston ringers coach outings of the 1970s and 80s were well attended by ringers and members of the church congregation, all in good voice by the end of the day. In the late 1970s, he led the campaign to have the bells at Kempston rehung in a new ten-bell frame. Cliff designed the entire installation, then with local ringers and friends assembled it at the premises of J Hobkirk and Sons, a local engineering firm, and installed it in the tower. In 1981 he completed the project with the addition of two trebles. Cliff was never entirely happy with the retention of the old tenor at Kempston during the 1970s restoration and had the foresight to design the new frame to incorporate a larger more modern tenor bell in case funds ever permitted. Cliff therefore enthusiastically embraced Stephen Stanford's scheme to acquire two suitable bells from the Keltek Trust which culminated in the entire ring being remodeled in 2019. Cliff, by then in his late 80s, greatly enjoyed being actively involved in removing and transporting the bells, painting the frame, and then the rehung.

Cliff's funeral was held at Kempston on 29th January 2025 when well over 100 members of his family and friends, including many ringers, came to celebrate his life and bid him farewell. Immediately before the service the local band rang rounds and the former tenor that he rang so many times was tolled as the coffin entered the Church. Cliff was laid to rest in the nearby cemetery to the sound of two excellent touches of Grandsire Caters, rung at an appropriate speed, as he had requested.

Gill Moore, Helen Manktelow & Stephen Stanford

Dr. Bryan Pattison OBE (1936 – 2024)

John Bryan Maxwell Pattison (known as Bryan) was born in February 1936 near Penrith in Cumberland to John and Evelyn Pattison, and before 1949 the family had moved south to Bedford.

Although I never had the pleasure of knowing Bryan personally, I was aware that he made an exceptional contribution to ringing in Bedfordshire some 6/7 decades ago and that he is still fondly remembered. This obituary has been compiled from research into his peals and from the various tributes and memories of others.

Bryan was a well-respected and very popular ringer who rang 223 peals (Conducted 120) from Doubles to Surprise Maximus between 1952 and 1967. His peal total includes 98 (Conducted 59) for the Bedfordshire Association and 6 (Conducted 4) handbell peals. He is first listed in the Bedfordshire Association's Annual Report in 1951 as a member at Cardington. He was clearly a ringer of considerable potential from the start and his first peal was the first on the newly augmented six at neighbouring Cople (8th April 1952, 4th to 7 Minor methods) along with the Bedfordshire stalwarts of the day (Ron Sharp, Pat Chapman, Henry Harding, Eddie Jeffries, and Bryan Sims) so, in such august company, very high standards would have been expected of him. Also in 1952, at the age of 16, he became Tower Captain at Cardington and on 29th November 1952 he rang a peal of Plain Bob Major at Cardington on the 19cwt tenor – this was his first peal of Major and also his first peal as Conductor.

Many of the peals conducted by Bryan enabled members of the band to achieve "firsts". On 20th February 1954 Bryan conducted a peal of Plain Bob Doubles on the six at Stagsden with five first pealers – this was the first peal by a band from Bedford Modern School and, at the time, this was the youngest band to ring a peal for the Bedfordshire Association with an average age of approximately 16. Later in 1954, Bryan conducted further peals by pupils of the Harpur Trust schools in Bedford (Oakley 27th March 1954, Sharnbrook 30th March 1954, and Old Warden 13th September 1954). On 12th July 1954, Bryan conducted a peal of Plain Bob Royal at Bedford (St Paul's) – this was not only his first 10 bell peal but also Stephen Ivin's first 10 bell peal. On 22nd September 1958 the first peal by a Sunday service band at Bedford (St Paul's) was conducted by Bryan (Grandsire Caters). His party piece was to play Grandsire Caters on the piano!

Bryan's move to University was put on hold for two years in 1956 for National Service in the RAF based at Padgate (Warrington), Bridgnorth, and Brampton (Huntingdonshire). Bryan attended Durham University where he was a

founder member and the first President of the Durham University Society of Change Ringers – he conducted the first peal for that Society on 22nd October 1959 at Benfieldside. On leaving University after completing his doctorate in nuclear science, Bryan stayed in the North East to work until 1966 when he took a post at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (known as CERN) based at Geneva in Switzerland studying cosmic rays and high energy particle interactions, becoming a renowned astrophysicist. He remained in Switzerland for the rest of his life.

Bryan's move abroad was a great loss to ringing in the UK. After moving to Switzerland in 1966, over the following 3/4 decades he would very occasionally join service ringing and practices at Bedford (St Paul's) when making fleeting visits to his parents in Bedford. Despite not ringing regularly, he would ring complex methods effortlessly and faultlessly as if he had never been away!

During the 1960s, Bryan met Maxine who became his wife. Outside work and family, Bryan had a long-standing involvement with the RAF Association and he was made a Life Vice President in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the Association and its Swiss Branch. Bryan was also a keen cricketer and was awarded the prestigious "Services to Cricket" award by Cricket Switzerland (formerly the Swiss Cricket Association). In the 2003 New Year Honours list, he was awarded the OBE for services to British interests in Switzerland. In 2017, he had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the RAF Association at the National Service of Remembrance at the London Cenotaph in Whitehall.

Bryan died peacefully in his sleep in Switzerland on 16th November 2024 at the age of 88 – he was remembered in a Peal at Tanfield (6th December 2025) and in Quarter Peals at Islington (24th March 2025) and Bedford (28th December 2025). Rest in Peace.

Compiled by Richard Hillson

(Acknowledgements: Stephen Stanford, Phyllis Jones [nee Gray], Jennie Taylor [nee Davies], Anthony Smith, Clive Smith, Phil Rogers, Chris Pickford, James Saunders, Ann Fletcher, BellBoard, and PealBase)

Randall R Perrey (1942 – 2024)

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Randall Perrey of Henlow, Bedfordshire, ringer and chorister at St Mary's church for almost 50 years.

Randall was born in a nursing home in Hanslope Bucks, and grew up in Leighton Linlade, where his parents, Randall and Jenny had been evacuated to from London. Randall was the youngest of six children and the character we came to know emerged early. A snappy dresser, he embraced the fashions of the 1950's and loved to dance the Jive. His dancing caused problems on the top deck of the school bus when he broke a window and was thrown off. Randall's lateness became legendary at Henlow where ringers began to think that Clifton Road was on a different time zone to the rest of the village, so it came as no surprise that he often missed the school bus. He became expert at thumbing lifts and on one occasion was dropped off at school in a Rolls Royce, just as his friends were getting off the bus he had missed. He was in a school pantomime playing Widow Twanky, a part he played many times with the Henlow Drama Group.

On leaving school he joined Hepworths, working up from shop boy to manager, learning about tailoring, fashion whilst studying hairdressing at night school. These were all skills he used later to make costumes for his pantomime dames. He married Jackie in 1963 and in 1967 Karen was born, followed by Little Randall in 1968. He left Hepworths to join his brother-in-law's fencing firm and spent many years fitting motorway crash barriers up and down the country. A change of office brought Randal back to Bedfordshire and the family settled in Henlow in 1978.

Little Randall was the first to learn to ring, but Randall himself was soon drumming the tenor with such a steady rhythm that Henlow won the District Striking Competition 17 times and the County Final 4 times. He was less successful at setting his bell and a tenor solo was always accompanied by gales of laughter. Randall loved the annual Henlow Outing and he rang from Canterbury to Carlisle and Penzance to Berwick. In the early days most people camped and on one evening Randall was laughing so much that a man came across from a nearby caravan to complain as he'd been trying to get his children to sleep for hours. Likewise after ringing on a Tuesday, people at nearby tables in the 5 Bells would move to the other side of the pub to get away from the laughter. As mentioned earlier Randall dressed very smartly but when his trousers fell down whilst ringing we learnt that the colour co-ordination didn't extend to his underpants!

Randall rang 7 peals and 105 quarters, all on the Henlow tenor, and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him. May he Rest In Peace.
Philip Jewell, St. Mary's Henlow

Points from the Peals

Leading peal ringers:

Dean R G De-Matteis	9
Russell A Brown	8
John P Loveless	6
Paul M Mason	6
Adrian P Sweeting	6
Benjamin J Willetts	6
Nicholas R Wilson	5

Leading conductors:

Paul M Mason	4
John P Loveless	3
Nicholas D Brown	2

First Peal:

None

Personal landmarks

50th peal of London S. Major	Paul M Mason	Campton	30th January
100th peal	Malcolm H Joyce	Haynes	28th March
600th peal	Rosalind J Ashton	Haynes	28th March
250th peal	Benjamin J Willetts	Campton	3rd November

Places

Bedfordshire (11 peals in 7 towers)

Campton	4
Haynes	2
Eversholt	1
Maulden	1
Potton	1
Steppingley	1
Tilsworth	1

Peals rung elsewhere (3 peals in 3 towers)

Lemsford, Herts	1
Milton Keynes Village, Bucks	1
St Ippolyts, Herts	1

Handbell (0 peals)

Methods

Minor (9)

Surprise Minor (3m)	1
Surprise Minor (7m)	5
Surprise Minor (9m)	1
Spliced Surprise Minor (12m)	2

Major (5)

Bristol Surprise	1
Lessness Surprise	1
London Surprise	2
Maulden Surprise	1

Conductors should send full details (names, method, composition) to the Peal Secretary, pealsecretary@bacbr.org.uk, and pay the peal fee within 4 weeks (or by 14th January if rung in the preceding December).

Peal fees, currently £1.00 per ringer, should ideally be paid directly by online banking to the Association's account - sort code 30-94-47, account number 01418488

All peal ringers must be members of the Association. Non-members can be elected before the peal attempt provided that the proposer and seconder are Voting Members who are also taking part in the peal. Their election must be ratified at any BACBR meeting within 3 months of the peal. The proposer should make sure that the new member completes a membership form (available on the website), which should be passed to the relevant District Secretary.

Peals can be viewed on our website home page through a 'live feed' from the Ringing World's Bell Board. Peal fees are transferred to the Association's Bell Restoration Fund.

Peals 2025

Peal 4359

STEPPINGLEY, Beds. St Lawrence

Wed. 15th January 2025 in 2hr 46m (6)

5040 Spliced Surprise Minor

(12m: 720 each Norwich, Warkworth; 360 each Allendale, Annable's London, Bacup, Bamborough, Lightfoot, Netherseale, Rossendale, Stamford, Wearmouth, Westminster; 41 com, atw, no 65's at backstroke)

Arr. Paul M Mason (No.354)

- 1 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 2 Paul M Mason (C)
- 3 Nicholas R Wilson
- 4 Benjamin J Willetts
- 5 Adrian P Sweeting
- 6 John P Loveless

Peal 4360

EVERSHOLT, Beds. St John the Baptist

Wed. 29th January 2025 in 3hr 9m (16)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: 1 extent each Wells, London, Annable's London, Norwich, Cambridge, Ipswich, Bourne)

- 1 Ian K Bushell
- 2 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 3 Paul M Mason (C)
- 4 Nicholas R Wilson
- 5 Benjamin J Willetts
- 6 Adrian P Sweeting

Most methods to a peal: 2

Peal 4361

CAMPTON, Beds. All Saints

Thu. 30th January 2025 in 2hr 46m (6)

5056 London Surprise Major

Comp.: Roger Baldwin

- 1 Linda M Garton
- 2 John P Loveless (C)
- 3 Paul M Mason
- 4 Russell A Brown
- 5 Stephen H Stanford
- 6 Anthony H Smith
- 7 David Kemp
- 8 Nicholas R Wilson

50th peal of London Surprise Major: 3

Peal 4362

MILTON KEYNES VILLAGE, Bucks. All Saints

Wed. 19th March 2025 in 3hr 3m (9)

5040 Surprise Minor

(9m: (1) London, Wells; (2) Beverley; (3) Cambridge, Ipswich; (4) Hull; (5) Netherseale; (6) Primrose; (7) Norwich; 7 callings)

- 1 Benjamin J Willetts
- 2 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 3 Jonathan R Pawley
- 4 Guy R Wells
- 5 Adrian P Sweeting
- 6 Paul M Mason (C)

First peal including Spliced: 2

Peal 4363

HAYNES, Beds. St Mary

Fri. 28th March 2025 in 2hr 44m (7)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: 1 extent each of Carlisle, London, Beverley, Norwich, Bourne, Ipswich and Cambridge)

- 1 John P Loveless (C)
- 2 Malcolm H Joyce
- 3 Rosalind J Ashton
- 4 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 5 Stephen H Stanford
- 6 Russell A Brown

100th peal: 2

600th peal: 3

Peal 4364

TILSWORTH, Beds. All Saints

Mon. 31st March 2025 in 2hr 52m (9)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: 1 extent each; London, Carlisle, Warkworth, Surfleet, Bourne, Norwich and Cambridge)

- 1 Angela Blackburn
- 2 Colin M Turner
- 3 Nicola J Turner
- 4 John P Loveless
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

First peal on the bells since 1999.

Peal 4365

HAYNES, Beds. St Mary

Tue. 29th April 2025 in 2hr 39m (7)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: (1) Cambridge, Primrose, Ipswich, Norfolk; (2) Surfleet; (3) Bourne, Ipswich, Cambridge; (4) Westminster; (5) Cambridge; (6) Bourne; (7) Ipswich)

- 1 Ruth Stokes
- 2 Benjamin J Willetts
- 3 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 4 Guy R Wells
- 5 Christopher C Stokes
- 6 Adrian P Sweeting (C)

Peal 4366

ST IPPOLYTS, Herts. St Hippolytus

Wed. 30th July 2025 in 2hr 52m (13)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: (1) London; (2) Allendale; (3) Bamborough; (4) Warkworth; (5) Cambridge; (6) Ipswich; (7) York)

- 1 Emma J Southerington (C)
- 2 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 3 Adrian P Sweeting
- 4 Ian K Bushell
- 5 Alan Regin
- 6 Peter G C Ellis

Peal 4367

CAMPTON, Beds. All Saints

Fri. 15th August 2025 in 2hr 52m (6)

5088 Lessness Surprise Major

Comp.: Stanley Jenner

- 1 Linda M Garton
- 2 Judith M Rogers
- 3 Christine A Knight
- 4 John P Loveless (C)
- 5 James E Benner
- 6 Richard A Knight
- 7 P Barry Jones
- 8 Russell A Brown

For the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

Peal 4368

POTTON, Beds. St Mary the Virgin

Thu. 25th September 2025 2hr 52m (7)

5040 Spliced Surprise Minor

(12m: 720 each Durham, York; 360 each Berwick, Beverley, Bourne, Cambridge, Hexham, Hull, Ipswich, Norfolk, Primrose, Surfleet; 41 com, atw, no 65's at backstroke)

Arr. Paul M Mason (No.355)

- 1 Adrian P Sweeting
- 2 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 3 Guy R Wells
- 4 Simon J Dixon
- 5 Paul M Mason (C)
- 6 Benjamin J Willetts

Most spliced methods: 2

Peal 4369

CAMPTON, Beds. All Saints

Thu. 9th October 2025 2hr 43m (6)

5056 London Surprise Major

Comp.: Anthony J Cox

- 1 Linda M Garton
- 2 Stephen H Stanford
- 3 Rosalind J Ashton
- 4 Carole J Kendall
- 5 Richard Sales
- 6 Russell A Brown
- 7 Stephen A Wheeler (C)
- 8 Ian G Campbell

Completes the Standard 8 to peals (after 48 years): 4

Peal 4370

CAMPTON, Beds. All Saints

Mon. 3rd November 2025 3hr 1m (6)

5088 Bristol Surprise Major

Comp.: Stephen Ivlin

- 1 Nicholas R Wilson
- 2 Julie A Haseldine
- 3 Benjamin J Willetts
- 4 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 5 John P Loveless
- 6 Paul M Mason
- 7 Andrew Haseldine (C)
- 8 Russell A Brown

First in method: 4

250th peal: 3

Circled tower: 1

Peal 4371

MAULDEN, Beds. St Mary

Thu. 27th November 2025 2hr 43m (10)

5056 Maulden Surprise Major

Comp.: Richard I Allton (No. 2906)

- 1 Susan E Marsden
- 2 Julie A Tarling
- 3 Robert M Wood
- 4 Dean R G De-Matteis
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas R Wilson
- 7 Nicholas D Brown
- 8 Richard I Allton (C)

Marking the 75th anniversary of the augmentation of these bells, and the 75th anniversary of the first peal in this method.

Other General Information for Members

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults guidelines

For more information see the St Albans Diocesan safeguarding web pages at <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/safeguarding/> or refer to the Safeguarding Coordinator, contact details on page 4

In addition we strongly recommend that Tower Captains / ringing teachers should also:

- Invite parents/guardians to a training session before teaching begins so that they're fully aware of what's involved.
- Ask parents/guardians to complete and sign a registration form giving their permission to learn to ring and provide important contact and medical information - downloadable from our website at <http://www.bacbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/BACBR-young-ringers-registration-form-March-2012.pdf>
- Keep an attendance register or record.
- Make parents/guardians responsible for taking children/vulnerable adults to and from the church.
- Get written permission from parents/guardians and agree transport arrangements, before children/vulnerable adults are taken without them to Tower, District and Association meetings, training, outings and social functions or other tower's practices.
- Be aware of the insurance position at your church for children/vulnerable adults.

Peal 4372

Lemsford, Herts. St John the Evangelist

Wed. 24th December 2025 in 2hr 31m (3)

5040 Surprise Minor

(3m: 720 London, 1440 Norwich, 2880 Cambridge)

- 1 Teresa J Brown
- 2 Charlotte M Smith
- 3 Clive G Smith
- 4 Anthony H Smith
- 5 Russell A Brown
- 6 Nicholas D Brown (C)

Celebrating 65 years of peal ringing for Anthony H Smith and 60 years for Charlotte M Smith.

- Always have at least two adults present (preferable a male and female) when children/vulnerable adults are present at Tower, District or Association practices.
- Never allow children/vulnerable adults up amongst the bells apart from an initial demonstration visit if it is safe to have one.

Guidance for everyone:

- Never hold child/vulnerable adult personal contact information without permission of parents/guardians.
- Never travel alone in a car with a child/vulnerable adult.

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 about safeguarding for bell ringers see the child protection notes on the CCCBR website: www.cccbr.org.uk/safeguarding/

If you have any queries contact our Safeguarding Coordinator, Rosemary Drewery,

Data protection and privacy information

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) cover how the Association, holds and uses personal information.

Personal information is anything that can be used to identify individuals, including full name, date of birth, email and postal address, telephone numbers and photographs. People give us their personal information, for example, when they ask about our activities, join as members, take part in one of our activities/events, are a named Tower Contact, or who ring a peal for the Association.

We respect the privacy of everyone who gives us personal information as a member, website user, Tower Contact, participant in our events and activities and anyone else who may be involved in the Association's day to day operation.

We only use personal information for legitimate purposes to:

- Manage and administer the Association
- Communicate with members and others about activities and events
- Produce and send the Annual Report, other newsletters and updates
- Improve our website

- Fulfil our legal obligations

We don't sell personal information and won't transfer your personal information to any third party without your permission. We make all reasonable efforts to protect everyone's privacy and maintain the security of all personal information we hold. Under the GDPR you have certain rights about data the Association holds about you; the most relevant of these being the right to be informed, to have access, to rectify mistakes, to erase and to object. Please note that the protection of personal information kept by Church authorities on their ringers and visitors falls outside the scope of the Association's data protection responsibility.

Specifically, as an Association member, a parent/guardian of any young ringers (under19) who participate in our organised events, a non-member who is a Tower Contact or an adult who is learning to ring, 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 and Officers .

The Association uses MemberMojo as the data processor for our membership management, for information see <http://membermojo.co.uk/mm/help/gdpr> and Officers also hold email addresses which are used, where members give specific permission, to communicate about Association events and activities.

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 web-site, 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 information, 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

Our Association insurance policy is with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. We don't provide personal insurance for members because it's expensive and these policies generally have small pay-outs. For example, a typical pay-out is unlikely to cover loss of earnings if you were unable to work due to a ringing accident.

We believe our cover is a good membership benefit and accounts for about £1.00 of your subscription. The current policy documents are on the website. Cover includes:

- £5,000,000 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.
- Trustee indemnity cover

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. You should be aware of the following points:

- You should always check the insurance position of your own church which 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're a volunteer worker for any bell or tower work project being carried out by recognized, professional bell engineers, you may be able to get some cover under their policy but check beforehand whether it is for liability and 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:
https://cccbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SM_Insurance_2022_v4.pdf

Practices

Always check before visiting a tower for a practice. Some towers only practice on certain weeks of the month, alternate their practice with one or more other towers or are just by special arrangement. Only towers that indicate that they may hold or arrange a practice are listed here.

Tower practice nights

Monday	Bedford St Paul, Barton Le Clay, Eversholt, Haynes, Leighton Buzzard, Northill, Shillington, Silsoe, Studham, Westoning
Tuesday	Blunham, Bromham, Gt Barford / Roxton / Tempsford, Clapham, Campton, Cople, Henlow, Linslade, Luton, Maulden, Milton Earnest, Potton, Renhold, Riseley, Sharnbrook, Totternhoe, Willington
Wednesday	Biggleswade, Dunstable, Goldington, Eaton Socon, Flitton, Kempston; Keysoe, Milton Ernest/ Thurleigh, Stagsden, Sandy, Stevington
Thursday	Amphill, Bedford St Andrew, Bedford St Peter, Biddenham, Bletsoe, Caddington, Cardington, Cranfield, Elstow, Houghton Regis, Husborne Crawley, Meppershall, Steppingley, Stotfold, Upper Dean, Woburn
Friday	Arlesey, Carlton/Harrold, Clifton, Colmworth, Flitwick, Little Staughton, Oakley, Toddington, Turvey