

## Headlines <http://www.bristolrural.co.uk>

1. Filton bells
2. Gift Aid
3. Branch 10 bell practice at Berkeley in August
4. Member of the Association for 40 Years

### Farcited Ringing 1st Thursday

**July 2nd**

11.00. - 12.00 Eastington 6 bells 11cwt  
Map reference 783058

12.00 noon - 2.00p.m. lunch TBA

14.00 - 15.00 Berkeley 10 bells 23 cwt  
Map reference 685991

Please note : No Far-cited in August,  
back again in September (unless  
someone else is available and willing  
to organise August's day out)

**No information to date**

### Branch Ringing July

#### **Branch Practice**

**July 18th**

**Tytherington 19.00 - 21.00**



### Chipping Sodbury Ringing

3rd Friday 19.30 - 21.00

#### **The Branch Web Site**

I wonder if you would be kind enough  
to have a look at the branch web site  
and give me any comments you might  
have on the tower photo pages rele-  
vant to you please.

*Branch Secretary and Webmaster*

### Farcited News

I have had a card from Marion Herbert  
(Ruth Welch) which reads as follows:



Marion and Arthur

I have just re-  
ceived a list of  
the many kind  
friends who  
contributed to  
the British  
Heart Founda-  
tion in memory  
of Arthur, I  
would like to  
thank all the

members of the Far-Cited Ringers who  
contributed. Please give my kind regards to  
all those who remember me!!

May thanks and best wishes  
Marion.

To those who didn't know Arthur, he was  
the founder of the Far-cited, and our dona-  
tion of £25.00, out of funds, was a very  
small token of appreciation for the pleas-  
ure his idea has given us over the years.

a particular tower photo page.

Most of the photo's on these pages  
have been in the branch newsletter at  
sometime but not all.

It would be interesting too hear from  
other towers to see what their views  
on its branch photo-pages might be,  
and if you might have similar con-  
cerns.

This is the first time since 1998 I  
have had any worries about data on  
the web site, so your opinions would  
be welcome if constructive.

Tony York

Web master and Branch Secretary

### **Gift Aid Once Again**

**Can I once again ask those of you  
who pay tax but do not donate to  
Gift Aid to consider again by read-  
ing the article below.**

*From an article by Steve Coleman in  
the Ringing World on February 9th  
2007.*

Of course, if you don't pay your sub-  
scription yourself, you haven't made a  
donation. So if your tower fund or  
PCC pays it, the Association loses  
out. So if that's your traditional way of  
paying your sub, why not change it?  
Keep more of your wedding fees  
back, for example, and pay your sub  
out of that. Everyone will win in the  
long run.

And if you're still at school and so not  
paying tax yet, get your mum or dad  
to pay your subscription for you. Then  
they can sign a Gift Aid declaration in  
respect of you.

To read the full article you can find it  
on the branch website at the web  
address below

<http://www.bristolrural.co.uk/abson/Giftaidringingworld.pdf>

I have been perusing the annual re-  
ports for 1968 and 1969 looking for  
those members who have completed  
40 years as members of the Associa-  
tion. I have only found one this year  
Steve Holmes of Winterbourne. If you  
know different please let me know  
and I will again look in the relevant  
report. I also looked at the annual  
report for Rural Branch for 1969 and  
thought you might be interested in  
what was in it, not unlike the 2008  
report!



### **BRANCH REPORT for 1969 from the report of that year.**

The Bristol Rural Branch has maintained  
an average of approximately 40 members  
including visitors, to our 3 quarterly and 8  
evening practice meetings, held at 14 tow-  
ers. We welcome Doynton back in the As-  
sociation, and hope that our members will  
give them their continued support. The  
Branch Striking Competition held at Abson  
during August, was not as well attended  
as last year. Five teams took part giving  
an overall good standard of striking. A  
good effort was made by a very young  
learner band from Warmley and we wish  
them every success in the coming years.  
Thornbury once again won and went to  
represent the Rural Branch at the Final at  
South Cerney. Three separately organised  
ringing trips were held during the year,  
when members and friends enjoyed good  
ringing and nice scenery in visiting places  
as far away as Hereford to the North, East  
Brent to the South, and Burford to the  
West. Many thanks to the organisers for  
their very good efforts on these well  
planned trips.

I would like to thank the officers and mem-  
bers of the Branch for their support and  
help they have given me during this suc-  
cessful year. On behalf of the Branch, we  
are very grateful to the Incumbents for tak-  
ing the services and for the use of the  
bells, the Tower Secretaries and especial-  
ly the ladies for their excellent arrange-  
ments for tea at our meetings.

Mrs. Sheila Drew of Frampton Cotterell is  
your new Secretary, so please give her  
your continued excellent support and  
make 1970 a  
stepping stone to  
even greater suc-  
cess

N. J. SMART.

**P.S.** Nigel Smart  
at the Abson tre-  
ble dedication  
service in 2008.



Nigel Smart

### AGM 2009

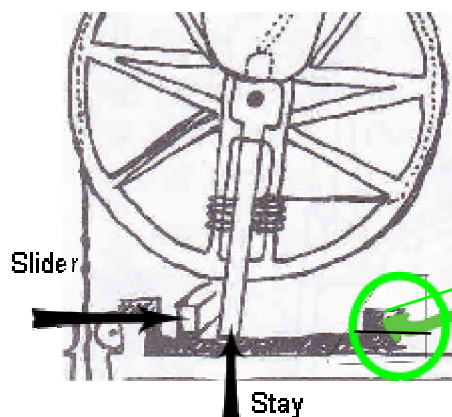
Mary York would like to thank all the towers and the individuals who contributed to the Association Tea at Coalpit Heath. What a magnificent tea it was as well, many of the ringers who were at the meeting commented on the splendid spread. However Mary would like to tell you that although we only charged £1.50 per head she has been able to give the branch treasurer £150.00 for branch funds.

Thank you all once again.

### Branch Training

Saturday 13th June Wapley

Fifteen ringers we would be anyway met at Wapley for a morning of listening too and striking our bells more in tune with the other ringers in the band. Steve Coleman was our tutor and mentor for the morning, after a brief chat about ringers not being machines so we could never ring like a metronome and other anecdotes we started to ring. After the bells were up the first band were put through their paces, unfortunately as the ringing commenced the tenor rope disappeared up through the roof, and we all thought a stay had broken. Unfortunately we did not have the key to the tower so could not at the time check this was the case. We continued to ring on five, we did lots of rounds, whole pull and stand, dodging, tune ringing when we only had to ring one stroke, or even two or three and stand. We then rang rounds with our backs to the middle putting our bell in the correct place just by listening. Guess what, it was now 12.00 and time to finish, We also had time for coffee and warm bread pudding thanks to Mary York to keep our strength up. By this time Martin Blanchard, Gary Crisp and Allan Pidgeon had access to the tower and had been able to ascertain the stay had not broken, but the end of the slider board had broken off. See below, the piece of wood shown is what had broken off and the diagram shows



where it fitted. As I said it was now 12.00 and time to finish, Many Thanks to Steve Coleman for an interesting morning enjoyed by all.

Just to finish, Alan Pidgeon and Martin Blanchard took the slider board off, took it home and repaired it, Martin Blanchard replaced it during the afternoon. Gary Crisp purchased new bits for the tower lock and repaired that, so it was all back together for ringing on the Sunday. Thanks to everybody for their interest and prompt actions.

Below ringers on the course being put through their paces by Steve.

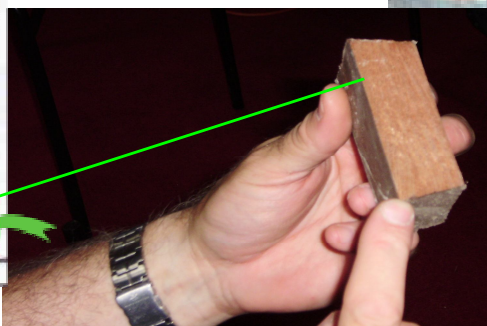


Now another story about quite seriously broken bits.

A report from Chris Gooding on the the current situation at Filton  
Filton Tower Correspondent.

During one of our usual Thursday practice evenings at Filton in June, it was noted that the third bell 'felt' different and so it was decided to carry out an inspection during which a crack was discovered in the headstock through 50% of its core and looking close to failure.

Fig. 1 showing crack on



third bell headstock ('in situ') Taylor's the Bellfounders were contacted and by co-incidence happened to be working in Bristol inspecting a repair to 'Great George' at the University so were able to arrive 'on site' with minimal delay. After confirming the crack in the third headstock they carried out a detailed inspection of all bells and found several very small cracks in the fourth bell headstock. Both the third and fourth bell headstocks were then removed and taken back to Loughborough for further examination and to determine the repairs required.

Fig. 2 showing extent of crack on third bell headstock (after removal). We have since heard from Taylor's who have told us: -

- Repairs to the hangers are possible but not recommended and would not be guaranteed - new ones should be fabricated.
- Multitudinous small cracks on the fourth bell hanger would have soon led to failure.

A quote from Taylor's for the required work has been verbally communicated and in the meantime - it's Minimus on 1, 2, 5 & 6!

Chris Gooding

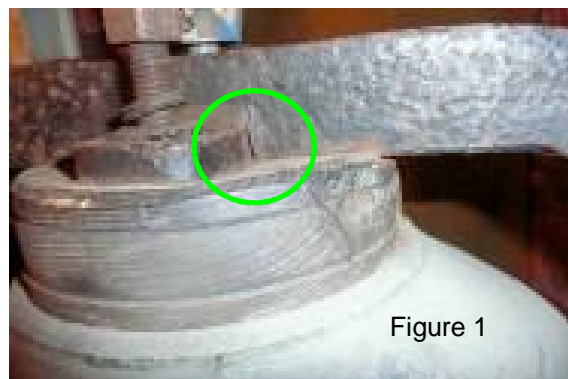


Figure 1

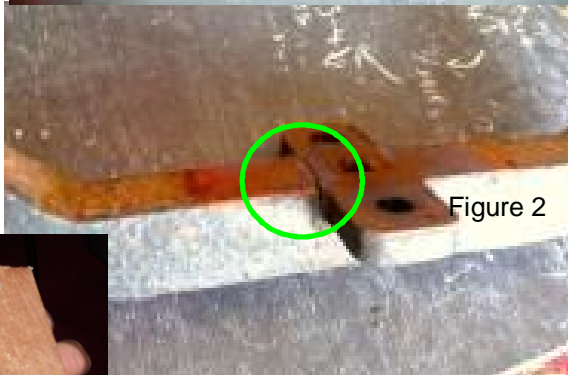


Figure 2