

- 1. Quarter Peal Week
- 2. 27th November AGM at Thornbury
- 3. Association Training Day in October details sent out
- 4. Report on the visit to the Wills Tower

Published on the 4th  
Saturday each month

**Bristol Rural**  
Association of Churches  
**October**  
2010  
1010  
No 164  
**News**

Information for the next news letter the  
Tuesday prior to the 4th Saturday

### Farcited Ringing

1st Thursday  
Weston Super Mere  
Worle

### Branch Ringing October

23-31 October Quarter Peal Week  
23rd Branch Practice 14.30 - 16.30



### October 9th G & B Training Day Association Activities

Association training day in October  
Information circulated to all tower con-  
tacts and email contacts. The informa-  
tion can also be found on the branch  
website under 'Branch Affairs'

### Chipping Sodbury Ringing

3rd Friday 19.00 - 21.00

### November Ringing

27th November

Thornbury

Branch Practice Service and AGM

Evans join us for the afternoon. you can see from the the picture opposite taken by our guide for the afternoon Dave Skelhorne who is one of the official guides for the tower, there were just twenty five present. If you were not able to make the tour on the 21st see the end of this article to arrange a a guided tour. Dave Skelhorne arrived dead on time and we were escorted in to the great entrance hall .The group were given the option of ascending the tower there and then or having a potted history of the tower and the Wills family which was the preferred option by the group. The history lesson over Matthew Johnson was delegat- ed group rearguard and we set off to climb the tower. I am sorry but I have forgotten how many steps we had too climb but it was a lot. As we climbed we stopped at various points and were given further potted history les- sons. We eventually arrived at Big George just before 4.00 PM and were issued with ear plugs. Exactly on time( this did give rise to some discussion) the bell struck four me- chanically although Dave Skelhorne pointed out the rope which went to a lower chamber so it could be rung by many hands. The bell has to be start- ed by swinging the bell itself before the ringers in the chamber below can manually get it going. The hut which contains the striking hammer appara-

tus was opened up for all to see. Four o'clock having been rung most of the party went up to the roof of the building for extensive views around Bristol. Some of these views can be seen on the branch website under branch events. Time soon passed and it was time to descend the the tower, and were shown into the Great Hall which was laid out Dave said, for retake examinations. He explained that during the last war a bomb went through the roof of the hall and it was destroyed. The Wills family paid for the repairs and provided the oak which was then growing on their estate with which the hammer beams and the panelling was replaced. At this point it was 5.00 o'clock and people were having to leave. Unfortu- nately no one in the rush to leave to catch trains, buses and put money in parking meters had time to thank Dave Skelhorne properly although we did leave our donations .

PTO

### Quarter Peal Week October 23rd -31st

If you do ring a quarter (s) during the week make sure you inform our ringing master Rosemary Morgan It is the tradition that the Ringing Mas- ter collates the branches efforts and forwards them to the Association Secretary to send on to the Ringing World.

### The Branch Goes to Bristol

On the 21st of August the branch had a combined practice with Bristol Branch. The afternoon started with a visit to the Wills tower at the top of Park Street, the numbers were limited to twenty five and all the places were taken. We even had the Association Chairman Hugh



I contacted Dave after the event and thanked him for a great afternoon, you can see his response below. I am sure that many of the twenty five then stayed on to ring during the evening, I understand that a problem was experienced at St Stephens. They could not find the tower key as it had been moved from its usual place but ringing did take place at Christ Church City an anticlockwise 10, I think Gary Crisp said about 50 people attended the practice.

Email from Dave Skelhorne.

Your comments are very much appreciated particularly as you folks know so much about bells, belfries etc In the rush at the end, I forgot to let people know that I do tours for the public on the first Wednesday of each month from 12.30 - 2.00. Perhaps you would be kind enough to pass that on to anyone who may be interested.

Regards  
Dave  
07770 265108

**Association Training Day  
9th October**

If you are going on the training day you should by now have submitted your entry form. If you can be a helper on the day contact Chris and Gill Greef

**Branch AGM November 27th  
Thornbury**

Just an early notice to put this date in your diary. If you have issues or items to raise at the meeting we do like them in writing prior to the meeting, However in recent years our chairman has accepted items from the floor on the day.

**See opposite**

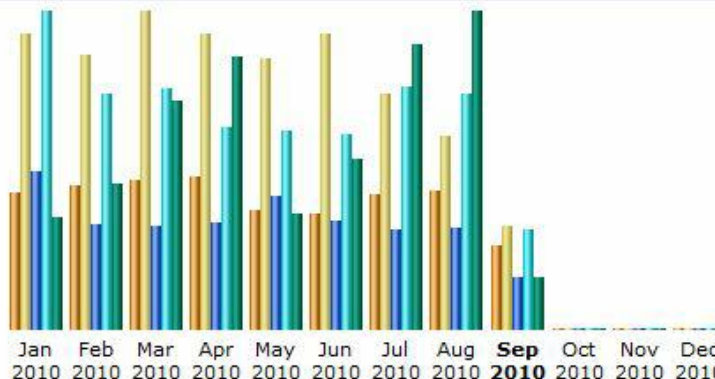
**The Annual Report 2010**

Just a reminder for you all to check the 2009 annual report for any errors. I am currently making the changes which came in on the annual return forms earlier in the year.

**The Year of Biodiversity**

Not sure if you are collecting numbers for this event to report in the next newsletter, but just to let you know that Almondsbury rang in support of the Year of Biodiversity (as requested by CoE). We rang for 30 mins around midday on Wed 23rd Sep.

Monthly history



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2010	269	578	3657	7354	127.47 MB
Feb 2010	281	538	2437	5469	166.49 MB
Mar 2010	292	622	2395	5580	259.83 MB
Apr 2010	298	578	2466	4679	310.11 MB
May 2010	232	530	3067	4594	131.55 MB
Jun 2010	225	579	2506	4528	193.54 MB
Jul 2010	263	460	2316	5620	324.87 MB
Aug 2010	271	379	2359	5436	362.29 MB
<b>Sep 2010</b>	163	202	1189	2301	58.89 MB
Oct 2010	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 2010	0	0	0	0	0

Here's the CoE link  
<http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pr6910.html>

I am sorry I was unable to give you any information about this activity as I had absolutely no idea it was happening. Perhaps I missed it in the Ringing World, whilst we were in Australia for two months but I certainly had no information from the Association or any body as secretary that it was taking place. So sorry to you all for the lack of information.

**Branch Web Site Statistics**

Above I have displayed the branch web site statistics for the current year to-date for the number of people accessing the site this is for your information.

**Bristol Rural Branch  
Management Team**

At the AGM in November there will be a requirement for replacing retiring team members

**Are you up to the challenge?**  
If you feel you have the time and the expertise to carry out branch tasks let one of the current branch team know