



Bristol Rural News

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bellringers

The Newsletter of Bristol Rural Branch Bellringers

No 252

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Headlines

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|----------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1 Far-cited Outing | 1st March | Mendip |
| 1 Association Training Day | 10th March | Cirencester area |
| 2 Branch Striking Competition | 17th March | Queen Charlton |
| 3 No Branch practice - Holy Week | | |

March 2018

Editor's Note

I put a list of Branch achievements in the newsletter each month. I get the list from Bellboard, looking at anything that has been rung in one of our Branch towers. Not all achievements get recorded on Bellboard so if you have achieved something at your tower (handled a bell alone for the first time, first course of Plain Bob, first touch as conductor – anything in fact) let me know and I'll record it in the newsletter.

I've noticed that the Bellboard list tends to be about 50% Surprise methods, but Surprise ringers form only a small minority of our members. So where are all you Plain Bob and Grandsire etc. ringers? Ringing a quarter peal of one of these methods is just as much an achievement as something more exotic. Get on to it!

Chris Greef

Quiz Night

Another successful quiz evening. We had about 60 people turn up to be challenged by the usual wide range of questions and also something new, a Campanology Countdown exercise put together by our Branch secretary. The food was excellent too. At the end of the evening the team from Chipping Sodbury had the highest score but on the roll of the dice Winterbourne won (!) the privilege of being question masters next year. Thanks go to this year's question masters from Chipping Sodbury, to Mary York and the catering team, to all those towers that supplied one of the many desserts on offer, to anyone else that helped and to you for coming. Oh, and we made about £150 for Branch funds too.

We've already booked the hall for next year, so put the date in your diary – Saturday 9th February 2019.



Quiz master Alison doing her stuff!

Bristol Rural Branch Six Bell Striking Competition

Just a reminder. If you haven't got your team together for a practice yet, there's still time to do so. The competition is at Queen Charlton on Saturday March 17th, 2 till 4.30pm. The hall will be open for refreshments and if the weather is kind you'll be able to sit in a lovely rural churchyard listening to the bells.

Chris Greef

May Day Outing

This year's outing, arranged by Sue Elliott, is on the Hereford- Gloucester border. With a beautiful spring day expected and attractive countryside to enjoy the spring flowers in, put the date in your diary now – Monday 7th May. Details of the towers are on the attached poster.

An Invitation from the Neighbours

Sunday 11th March 2018 sees the Horton Bellringers Annual Spring Lunch at Horton Village Hall. Tickets are £15 per head and proceeds are in aid of Horton Church. There will also be the usual raffle during the event and funds from this are in aid of the Wotton Branch. The lunch is a two course 'knife and fork' buffet with a bar also provided. You are asked to be at the venue for 12.30 and seats to be taken by 13.00.

Tickets are available from Anita Matthews telephone 01454 416680.

Ringling Remembers

Here's an example of what some ringers are doing for the campaign to recruit an extra 1400 ringers across the country in commemoration of the 1400 ringers who lost their lives in World War I:

Huntingdon and Godmanchester bell-ringers want to recruit 22 new members to enable them to ring the bells in their three towers on November 11 as they do not have enough to go around at present.

Frances Smith, deputy tower captain, said: "The sound of English-style bell-ringing has been a special part of our heritage for over four centuries and our towers need some more people to help us keep the traditions going for the future, especially in 2018, as this is the year that marks 100 years since the end of the First World War.

"Although I haven't found any of the 1,400 were directly linked to one of our towers, between Huntingdon and Godmanchester we will need 22 bell-ringers to be able to ring the bells in all three towers on Remembrance Sunday.

"Bell-ringing involves control, like riding a bike, where you have to anticipate what the bell is doing and guide it to do what you want. Timing and rhythm are needed along with mental skills in following predetermined patterns."

Perhaps you have an idea for your tower to commemorate this important centenary. Give it a go and then put something in this newsletter about it.

Chris Greef

Flyers and Ideas for Engaging with the Public

New ringing resources for you to download from the CCCBR website:

Engaging with the Public Leaflet - Ideas and tips to successfully engage the public with your ringing and associated activities: Easy to use 'mix-and-match' format to help you to put together the ideas which will work for you locally.

Bell Ringing Flyer - Flyers for you to give to members of the public with a section for your tower or association/guild/society details (contacts, ringing times, website, Facebook, etc).

Both can be downloaded from the CCCBR website: <https://ccabr.org.uk/services/pr/publicity/>

Branch Practices

January's Branch practice was held at Winterbourne after a late change because of the unavailability of Pucklechurch's bells. In spite of the alteration, 15 ringers turned up, and we rang Call Changes, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Reverse Canterbury, St. Simon's, Winchendon Place, St. Clement's and Cambridge.

In February, we had 13 ringers at Filton, ringing most of the same methods as in January with the addition of several touches of Single Oxford Bob Minor and some specific training to get one ringer familiar with the double dodging work at the front in St. Simon's. It was a cold day so the tea, coffee and biscuits on offer were greatly appreciated.

Branch Ringing Achievements

Tytherington – 1260 Doubles – to commemorate the death of Fred Williams in WWI, relative of Val (2) and Matt (5) Johnson, and Andrew Williams (3).

Filton – 1260 Grandsire Doubles – for Candlemas.

Olveston – 1280 Spliced Surprise Major (5 methods) – most spliced for Hilda Shipp and Philip Joynson.

Almondsbury – 1260 Plain Bob Triples – in memory of Freda Gearing – first inside in method for Dan Gearing and first as conductor in method for Marcus Booth.

Frampton Cotterell – 1272 Chester Surprise Minor.

Wapley – 1272 Norwich Surprise Minor – for Shrove Tuesday and a birthday compliment to Val Johnson (2).

Thornbury – 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major – first in method for Alistair and Ben White-Horne.

Notice Board

Bristol Rural Branch

**March
2018**

What's on this month in the
Branch

FarCited Ringing

1-3-18 **Note the March FarCited is cancelled due to possible bad weather.**

10.30-11.15	Burrington	Holy Trinity	6.11cwt	GF	BS40 7AD	ST478593
11.30-12.15	Rowberrow	St.Michael & All Angels	6 7cwt	GF	BS25 1QL	ST449586
12.30-2.30	Lunch	The Penscott Inn Shipham. The Square, Shipham	BS25 1TW	Phone: 01934 842659		
2.30-3.15	Shipam	St.Leonard	6 6cwt.	(T)	BS25 1TW	ST443574

March 10th Association Training Day Cirencester
Information on the G & B website

<http://www.bellsgandb.org.uk/>

Branch Ringing

March 17th Striking Competition 14.00 - 16.30 (Branch) Queen Charlton

Poster <http://www.bristolrural.co.uk/Posters/2018/striking%20comp%20poster%202018.pdf>

Chipping Sodbury Ringing

Third Friday 19.15 - 21.00 Unless notified differently.

BRISTOL RURAL STRIKING COMPETITION



Come along to

QUEEN CHARLTON

on

SATURDAY 17th MARCH 2018

2.00p.m. TIL 4.30p.m.

BRING A TEAM FROM YOUR TOWER

OR

COME AND JOIN A TEAM



LISTEN TO SOME GOOD RINGING

RECEIVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK FROM THE JUDGES

Tea



Coffee



Provided

EACH TOWER TO BRING A CAKE



RINGING REMEMBERS



1,400 bell ringers died during the First World War.

Honour their memory by becoming one of 1,400 new bell ringers this year and be part of a nationwide moment by ringing on the centenary of the Armistice on 11 November 2018.

Find out how to take part by emailing bells@big-ideas.org.



www.big-ideas.org | [#ringingremembers](https://twitter.com/ringingremembers)



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BELL RINGERS

BRISTOL RURAL BRANCH - MAYDAY OUTING

MONDAY 7th MAY 2018



10.00 NEWENT St. Mary's GL18 1AA 16cwt. 8

Allow time to walk from the car park! (Toilets in the town)



11.00 LINTON St. Mary's HR9 7AX 8cwt. 6



12.00 BRIDSTOW St. Bridget's HR9 6AG 8 1/4 cwt. 8

LUNCH



14.15 ROSS-ON-WYE St Mary's HR9 5HT 20cwt. 8



15.30 ENGLISH BICKNOR St. Mary's GL16 7PG 7cwt. 6

Anti Clockwise (Toilet at the Church)



16.45 ST. BRIAVELS St. Mary's GL 15 6RG 10 1/4 cwt. 8

(Toilets at the Church)