



The Carlisle Diocesan Guild

Bell Ringers' Newsletter

February 2005

Issue 7

If you or your tower have any items of news for the July issue they can be posted or emailed to Anne East, 65 Scotby Road Scotby, Carlisle CA4 8BG aeast65sr@btinternet.com



Young Ringer's Award

A Young Ringer's Award will be presented annually by the Guild in memory of Leslie Bounphrey, General Secretary 1975-1995 and President 1998-2000.

The first presentation of the Award will be at the Guild AGM on 23rd April 2005. Open to any Guild member under the age of 21, young ringers should be nominated by their own tower. Nomination forms have been sent out to tower correspondents but if you still need a form please contact Anne East (01228 513633). Nominations should be with Anne East by the 4th April to give the committee time to consider the award before the AGM.



Guild Archive

The display case at the Cathedral now has acquired the peal and membership books from the old Cumberland Association of Bell Ringers. These books were held by Stanley Richardson, who was an official of the Cumberland Association, and who in turn gave them to Doug Sim for safekeeping about 25 years ago. Doug and his wife rang at the Cathedral in December and after seeing the case, Doug sent the books to Carlisle for storage and display.

The Cumberland Association was founded in 1889 and after WW2 became the Cumberland and North Westmorland Association, which in turn became the Carlisle Diocesan Guild. The peal book contains peals from the Cumberland and CANWACR days (the CR stands for "Change Ringers"), showing that the Cumberland Association just changed its name to include a wider area when ringing resumed after the War. We can therefore confidently trace the pedigree of the present Guild back to 1889. The books have also been scanned in and computerised to CD for easy reference.
D. Sim

Dates

W Branch AGM
5 March 2005
St Bees

E Branch AGM
15 March 2005
Penrith

Guild AGM
23 April 2005
Brampton

Need a Book?

Remember there's a very large selection of bell ringing books for ringers of every ability. The Guild bookstall is set out at all Guild events. Take a look, it could be just what you need!



WW II 60th Anniversary Commemoration

Notice of a special, national day of Commemoration to mark the end of the Second World War appeared in the Ringing World recently. The date is **10th July 2005**.

Letters from the Ministry of Defence and the President of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers both suggest that it would be fitting to mark the day with the sound of church bells throughout the land. They would like to encourage as many ringers as possible to take part by ringing **from 5.00pm** on Sunday 10th July 2005.

The sound of the bells will have a special significance to many people with memories of the war as well as those born into the peacetime which was fought for. If you plan to have some special ringing for this commemoration why not let the local people know about it beforehand so they will understand the meaning of the ringing.



Ringing Centre News

Forthcoming events at the Ringing Centre, or arranged at other towers, will include:

- *A course for those interested in learning conducting, with an instructor from outside the Guild.
- *Another 'raising and lowering' course. Very popular last time it was run.
- *Another meeting for young ringers, possibly at Cockermouth.

Look out for the dates and do try to come! Helpers and/or guinea pigs are always needed. Remember you can always arrange a visit to the Ringing Centre. Contact Gareth Evans (01900 824647)

50 /50 Draw Winners!

The 50/50 Draw has already raised a considerable sum for the Guild Bell Restoration Fund, as well as providing a bit of fun at Guild meetings. The prize winners are drawn three times a year and represent winners for each month of the year. Annual subscriptions are only £12 a year and are usually collected at the AGM in April for the following twelve months. Better still they can be paid by standing order with the collection in May. For more details ring Chris Ellison (01768483361). The final draw for 2004/5 will be at the AGM.

PRIZE WINNERS

If possible the prize winners are paid in cash immediately after each draw, or sometimes it is given to someone from the same tower to pass on. If you haven't had your money yet please let Chris know! All members are given a different draw number each year.

TRAINING DAY - DRAW No.2 (2004/5)

£12.50 Eric Martin (W); Jack McTear (Wh); Allan Ellison (G); Lesley Coan (Wh)

£10 Ron East (C); Alma Gray (As); Hazel Challands (G); Sue Baldam (S)

£8 Pat Evans (W); Simon Jackson (Co); Morag Montgomery (G); Paul Lillington (G)

£7 Wendy & Tony (G); Howard Quinn (P); Alison Last (Wh); Richard Green (Co)

Key: Appleby(A); Aspatria(As); Cathedral(C); Cockermouth(Co); Greystoke(G); Harraby(H); Hensingham(He); Irton(I); Keswick(K); Lazonby & Gt. Salkeld(L); Penrith(P); Shap(S); Whitehaven(Wh); Wigton(Wi); Workington(W).

Mobile phone masts on churches

Many of you will have heard about the serious problems caused at Egremont by mobile phone mast installers. The effect was that two bells became unringable and another was threatened by further work. The bell frame was also compromised. The situation could have been avoided if the DAC had consulted with the Bell Advisor about the proposals beforehand. Fortunately the problems have now been rectified and the bells are ringing again.

A phone mast can be a valuable source of income for PCCs who may not realise the impact on the bells and ringers. The DAC has assured us they will always send such proposals to the Diocesan Bell Advisor in future, but ringers at all towers should be alert to the possibility of an installation. The mast designers and installers have no idea how bells work, like most people they assume bells remain in the mouth down position. The installers work very quickly and may take unauthorised short cuts. An example of this at Egremont was a metal conduit, installed by the phone engineers, across the groove in the tower wall which was carved to allow the tenor clapper to swing. Serious damage to the bell was only just avoided.

The Diocesan Bell Advisor, Ron East, is willing to be involved, even at the planning stage, with such proposals. You can contact him on 01228 513633.

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers has a helpful leaflet about mast installations available on their website (www.cccbr.org.uk) or by post.

In Brief

Guild Christmas Cards and Clocks

We still hope to produce some cards for sale this year. If you have, or are able to take a good photo, which would be suitable for a card please let Anne East or Wendy Theakston know. Unfortunately we are still waiting for some snow to make a Christmassy scene!

Also look out for special Guild clocks for sale at the AGM. These will have a bell ringing background and, again, suitable photos are needed. With these you need to bear in mind that the centre will be obscured by the clock hands.

Reminder!

The deadline for items for the Annual Report is fast approaching. Please send all amendments and reports you wish to be included in the Annual Report for 2004 to Anne East without delay.

Thanks

Since I will not be standing again for election as General Secretary at the AGM in April, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has made life easier for me over the past ten years. Anne

Website Website Website Website Website Website Website

The new address for the Guild website is: www.carlisle-dgcbbr.org.uk Take a look!