



# The Carlisle Diocesan Guild

## Bell Ringers' Newsletter

February 2011

### Issue 19

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](mailto:aeast65sr@btinternet.com)

### Dates

Western Branch AGM  
5 March, St Bees  
3pm to 6pm

Eastern Branch AGM  
15 March, Penrith  
7.20 for 7.30pm

Guild AGM  
9 April, Penrith  
from 2.30pm

Striking Competition  
11th June, Hensingham  
from 2.15pm

Surprise Practices  
Monthly on 4th Saturday

Ringing Centre Sessions  
See inside for dates

### Branch Practices

Do you go to your monthly Branch Practice? Please check your tower notice board for the dates. Go along! Have fun! You will be amongst friends!

All dates can be found in the Website diary at

[www.carlisle-dgcb.org.uk](http://www.carlisle-dgcb.org.uk)

## Birthday Quarter Peal

Nathaniel Green, of Cockermonth tower, is the Carlisle DG Young Ringer for 2010/11. The occasion of his 18th birthday in October was the perfect chance for a family quarter peal. This was a first quarter peal for Nathaniel and his mother, Diana, and a first on an inside bell for Nathaniel's dad Richard. Also ringing were Cockermonth tower captain Mark Cubey and Duncan and Sally Walker. The conductor was very pleased with the effort the Green family had put in to learn the method and said the ringing was of a high standard for a quarter with so many 'firsts'.

Wigton, Sunday 3rd October 2010  
1260 Plain Bob Minor

1. Sally Walker
2. Diana Green
3. Nathaniel Green
4. Richard Green
5. Mark Cubey
6. Duncan Walker (C)

First quarter: 2 and 3  
First away from cover: 4  
An 18th birthday compliment to 3



Sally, Nathaniel, Mark, Duncan, Diana, Richard

## Guild Training Day

Around 60 people turned out for the Training Day on February 5<sup>th</sup>. On the day, helpers and learners from all over the Guild assembled in Whitehaven for an early start before splitting into 4 groups and heading out to nearby Towers. Each group focused on a different aspect of ringing - call changes, plain hunting and Plain Bob Doubles. All the feedback we have had so far shows that not only did people enjoy the day but that all the Learners made real progress.



Christine and Owen at Egremont

Of course the day isn't just about ringing but also meeting old friends and making new ones. For some learners it was the first time they had rung outside their home tower for others it was an opportunity to meet other learners and exchange experiences. There is satisfaction at an individual level, but everyone benefits in the long run. The local band is strengthened, the standard of service ringing improves and, hopefully, the listening public is appreciative.

Thanks to all who participated whether as tutor, helper or learner. Also thanks to Ed Matthews for organising the pub lunches and the towers, and Duncan Walker for putting the learning materials together. Finally, planning has already started for the 2012 Training Day so put the date in your diary - February 4th!!

Sue Smith,  
(with thanks to Susan Sewell)

## 50/50 Draw

Once again, a big THANKYOU to all who continue to support this fundraiser. As with all organisations, people come and go. We need to encourage our new members to join us. YOU know who is new in your tower, I may never meet them. Please tell them about the 50/50 Draw, and encourage them to ring me on 01768 483361. Thanks, I'll do the rest!

*Chris Ellison*

*Chris herself deserves a very big THANK YOU from all members of the CDG. The 50/50 Draw provides a regular income for the Guild Bell Restoration Fund, which has a very healthy sum invested for the benefit of all our bells.*

**Winners' names will be published in the July edition of the Newsletter.**

## Guild dinner

The Guild annual dinner was held on 9<sup>th</sup> October at a new venue, Middle Ruddings Country Inn, near Keswick. The 36 diners agreed that the food and the welcome were both excellent, while the hotel staff were impressed by the amount of real ale they sold!



Gareth and Gail discuss Ringing Centres

Our President, the Venerable Richard Pratt, said grace and also introduced the speaker, Gail Cater, who told us about the development of Ringing Centres and amused us by relating unplanned and unexpected incidents which occurred during a ringing tour of U.S.A. Gareth Evans, who runs the Carlisle Guild Ringing Centre, proposed a vote of thanks, then Gail, Pat Evans and Martin Snape entertained the company on handbells.

It was good to have Gail and Bob Cater come all the way from York to be with us but a pity no-one from the Eastern Branch were able to make it to the dinner. You missed a very enjoyable evening!

*Wendy Graham*

Fancy an evening out with good food, real ale and good friends?  
Then keep **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> October** free and come to the Guild Annual Dinner.  
To be held at Middle Ruddings Country Inn, Braithwaite, near Keswick.  
Speaker: Ron Warford.  
Full details and menus available in August.

## Ringing Centre Training Sessions

Following the success of the training events in 2010 a similar programme is proposed for 2011. Once again most events will last two hours and where possible be on the same day as another ringing event (branch meeting in the west or surprise practice in the east). Provisional dates and topics are:

- |            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 07 May 11  | Kent               |
| 18 June 11 | Plain Hunt         |
| 23 July 11 | Grandsire          |
| 03 Sept 11 | Raising & Lowering |
| 01 Oct 11  | Stedman            |
| 22 Oct 11  | Plain Bob          |
| 26 Nov 11  | 'Running a tower'  |

Venues and times will be announced later. Places will be limited to 5 or 6 students. Several topics have been suggested for 'Running a tower' including; teaching bell-handling, essential bell maintenance, running a practice etc. At least a day will be needed to cover all three.

Do make use of the simulator to develop your listening skills. I hope to take the Workington simulator to some of the training events to make it easier for more ringers to have a go.

*Gareth Evans*

## News in Brief

### Odd-Struckness Meter

The Guild has acquired an 'odd struckness' meter that will enable the hand and back stroke of a bell to be accurately measured and so adjusted. The meter, which has just arrived from the manufacturer, is presently in the charge of Ron East but has not been trialled yet.

Contact Ron on 01228 513633

### Cathedral Simulator

The Guild has contributed to the cost of the installation of a simulator to be fitted to the twelve bells. It is planned that the bells could be rung more often than at present, particularly for teaching, practice and even, perhaps, an occasional quarter peal. The work is in hand at this moment with John Proudfoot and Ron East but it will take some time to install and commission and for the clapper ties to be made. Once the work is completed it will be of benefit to the whole Guild.

### Ringling World Centenary

Those who are subscribers to The Ringing World will realise that this year is the Centenary year of its first publication. Great celebrations are being held in London on 26th March. Ringing Societies were asked if they would like to become a 'Centenary Patron'. A souvenir programme brochure will be published and Patrons will be listed. The Guild Committee agreed to contribute £40 for the Guild to be recognised as a Centenary Patron.

### Thursby

As part of the church restoration after the fire in November 2009, Thursby ringing room has a new electricity supply, lighting circuit and heater - and a new spider. The room will be decorated shortly following repairs to the tower roof and, it is planned, the installation of a false floor below the bells that will significantly lower the sound levels in the ringing room.

### Guild Archives

The cabinet containing the Guild Archives is located in the Cathedral ringing room. A recent addition to the collection have been the past Annual Reports for the Carlisle Diocesan Guild, founded in 1975. Until recently the only copies of past reports have been held by the Guild Secretary. Sue Smith has undertaken the lengthy task of scanning them to produce digital copies, easily maintained on disc or computer, allowing the paper copies to be safely stored in the cabinet. It was found that no Report exists for 1975 ..... unless you know better!

### Subscriptions for 2011

The treasurer has already received Guild membership subscriptions from some towers. Please note all subscriptions for 2011 are now due. Send the subs and a list of your tower members to:

Pat Evans, 69 High Brigham, Cockermouth, CA13 0TG

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held this year at Penrith on 9th April with ringing from 2.30pm, followed by a Service, the Meeting and Tea. Penrith is a good central meeting place so we hope for a good attendance. Come and meet your ringing friends, be sociable, do some ringing and do your bit for bells and ringing in the Carlisle Diocese.

Nominations for Officers and Committee members must be made before the AGM to the Guild Secretary, Sue Smith. No nominations can be taken from the floor at the meeting.

## Are we getting through to you?

We do our very best to let everyone know about Guild events and publications. We always send notices to each tower. We also often send information to everyone for whom we have an email address. If you don't think your tower gets a notice, or if you don't find out about events then please send your email address to any of the following:

Sue Smith      General Secretary  
Val Bowen      Eastern Branch Secretary  
Diana Green    Western Branch Secretary  
Anne East      Newsletter and Report editor

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