



# The Carlisle Diocesan Guild

# Bell Ringers' Newsletter

July 2007

## Issue 12

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

## Dates

**Guild Dinner**, Derwent Lodge Hotel  
13 October

**Training Day**  
17 November

### Surprise Practices

8 September  
27 October  
24 November  
8 December  
26 January 2008  
23 February

Check tower notices or contact Nick for details (01931 715438)

## Changes

Please note the change of date for the Guild Dinner!

At the AGM in April Mary Snape retired as General Secretary and Sue Smith (Penrith) was elected in her place. We thank Mary for her hard work and wish Sue well as she takes on the task.

## Young Ringer's Award

Fi Telford was presented with the annual Young Ringer's Award at the AGM. This trophy, a beautifully mounted handbell, together with a book token, is awarded to the ringer under 21 who is deemed to have made the most progress and given the greatest encouragement to other ringers. The award is a memorial to Leslie Boumphrey, a former President and Secretary of the Guild, and the presentation was made by Margaret Boumphrey, his widow.

Fi, who rings at St Mary's, Wigton, has made excellent progress this last year, having broken into surprise ringing as well as being a steady member of many

quarter peal bands. Her attendance on Sundays, at tower practices and Guild events has been outstanding, she is always willing to help and her quirky humour keeps her companions cheerful. Nevertheless, the committee had an exceedingly hard task choosing one out of the three nominations.

Unusually, all three ring at Wigton and any one of them would have been a worthy winner. The runners-up were Fi's twin sister, Claire, and James Peacock. St Mary's is very lucky to have these three, high quality ambassadors of the Exercise. *W Graham*



## Guild Striking Competition

The Guild annual six bell striking competition was held this year on 16<sup>th</sup> June at Arlecdon. Seven bands entered including a scratch band of young ringers (and one youngish ringer!) Some teams rang the front six while others chose the more musical back six and methods ranged from Call Changes to Cambridge. The only misfortune of the day occurred when Brampton were unfortunate enough to break a stay in their practice time. This was quickly dealt with and, while subsequent teams had to re-arrange themselves, it did not appear to

affect the competition

Ringing took place in an atmosphere of friendly competition and was followed by an excellent tea, after which the judge, Simon Woof from Nelson in Lancashire, made some detailed, constructive and helpful comments on each team. He explained his marking system and the main things he was looking for – even speed, consistent leading and good striking in 2<sup>nd</sup> place after leading. He said he'd enjoyed listening to a fair amount of accurate ringing and was also pleased that teams had apparently rung up to their abilities;

while good Call Changes are preferable to bad method ringing, it is not in the spirit of such events for experienced ringers to choose Call Changes in the hope of winning. Simon then presented the trophy to a delighted John Wilkinson, Tower Captain of Arlecdon.

### Results:

Arlecdon	18.2
Whitehaven	19.2
Wigton A	22.7
Wigton W	25.7
Derwent Vale	26.6
Young Ringers	36.9
Brampton	54.1

## 50/50 Draw Winners!

The 50/50 Draw raises a considerable amount each year for the Guild Bell Restoration Fund. Any of our member towers could benefit from a BRF grant and we thank Chris Ellison very much for organising the Draw.

New subscriptions are due on 1st May each year. Ring Chris on 01768 483361 if you would like to join the Draw or have any questions.

### PRIZEWINNERS

There are 3 Draws per year and Chris tries to pay winners in cash immediately after each draw, or sometimes gives it to someone from the same tower to pass on to them. Please let Chris know if you haven't had your money.

\*All members are given a different Draw number each year.\*

#### AGM Draw (3rd of 2006/7)

- £20 Shap Ringers; Andy Smith (W)  
£12 David Gray (As); Ann Cooper (G); Peter Shingler (Wi); Trevor Gear (As)  
£10 Eric Martin (W); Elaine Hastewell (As); Chris Reay (Wh); Ron East (C)  
£8 Kate Telford (Wi); Anne East (C); Lesley Ellen (Wh); Owen Northwood (C)  
£7 Helen Speight (W); Henderson Dodd (I); Mary Snape (Wi); Jack McTear (Wh)

#### July Draw (1st of 2007/8)

- £12 Evan Lawley (K); Harry Whitaker (C); Roger Peacock (Wi); Mary Huntingdon (Wi)  
£10 Robin Humphrey (K); Jack McTear (Wh); Lesley Ellen (Wh); Irton Ringers  
£8 Helen Speight (W); Pat Evans (W); Mary Snape (Wi); Henderson Dodd (I)  
£7 Raymond Coan (K); Phyllis James (C); Mary Dodd (I); Alison Wannop (Wi)

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).

## Ringling Centre News

On March 31 Gareth Evans attended the "Moving Forward" conference organised by the Central Council. The four presentations looked at; ways to inform the general public about ringing with the aim of recruiting more ringers; improvements to the way ringers are trained; and two examples of thriving groups of young ringers.

More information on the training initiatives is available on the internet: **Learn 2 Ring** still in draft can be

found at <http://cccbr.v.servecity.net/learn2ring/> and the **Framework for ringing Training** is at <http://www.cccbr.org.uk/edc/fwkw.php>.

On June 9 the simulator had a day trip to Greystoke, although its not quite as difficult as this to transport!



Ringers tested their skill in a huge range of methods from Surprise Maximus to Plain Hunt and the session generated great enthusiasm in those present.

Visits and away fixtures using the simulator can be arranged for you, if you express an interest.

Please let Gareth know if you have any other ideas for training events.

### Provisional Ringing Centre Programme - all to be confirmed

- Sept 22 10.00 – 4.00 Listening course - Workington; up to a maximum of 15 places, all standards  
Oct 13 10.00 – 12.00 Raising and lowering - Wigton; 6 learners (max) and at least 6 helpers needed  
Dec 8 10.00 – 12.00 Beginning Kent & Cambridge minor - Greystoke; 6 learners (max) and 6 at least helpers needed

Please book your place in advance with Gareth by email/phone/post at least 1 week before the event. Both helpers & students need to book in advance to ensure that events are not cancelled. 01900 824647

## Gone – like a clapper?

During ringing on Friday, June 22 the clapper of the Cathedral tenor bell broke just above the ball. Taylors sent a replacement on the following Wednesday to reach us in time for Friday ringing. Excellent service! Unfortunately the carrier, DHL, has somehow managed to lose it in Birmingham. As a result, ringing at the Cathedral is on the light eight for the next few weeks.

# Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

*Our elected representatives, Mary Snape and John Proudfoot attended the meeting on our behalf. Mary reports:*

Cheltenham – Cotswold Country – lovely area – when you get there! Drawback – traffic on the M6!! – took us 6 hours down and 7 hours back!

However – to the meeting - this had its' highs and lows as usual; some controversy and some incomprehensible motions, one of which was voted to 'be not put' (a sensible decision). A highlight was Philip Earis vs Jane Wilkinson – Jane won on points – just. The issue was whether there are too many Committees on the CC with overlapping remits. This discussion was focussed on the Bell Restoration and Redundant Bells committees with the decision going in favour of retaining the latter. There was an unsuccessful move to regulate Quarter Peals in a similar way to Peals but the motion was

unclear with feeling divided between those who thought regulation would raise the status of quarters and those who felt flexibility was more important (especially where quarters are used as a learning exercise).

The most significant decision made was that to establish a 'Ringing Foundation'. This will be a body able to raise and distribute funds to projects designed to promote all aspects of bells and bell ringing including training. More publicity will be forthcoming soon.

Also on the agenda was the AGM of the Ringing World. Here, the need to maintain and if possible increase circulation figures was emphasised. Much has been done to make the paper relevant to ordinary ringers and the content entertaining as well as informative – so get subscribing!

Finally – the newest Committee

(Tower Stewardship) reported that their work in compiling a collection of informative leaflets of particular interest to Tower Captains is now complete and will be circulated soon via Associations and Guilds so watch this space!

Really finally – a plug for the Central Council and its' Committees! These are the backbone of the Central Council. These are where peals are regulated and advice on such matters as bell restoration, training, complaints, radio equipment in towers and many other matters, is generated. Information on all this work will be found in Central Council publications and in the Ringing World. No Towers these days can afford to exist in isolation, so as ringers we must keep ourselves aware of changes which affect our ringing and the sources of help and advice on which we can call.

*Mary Snape (retiring CC Rep)*

## In Brief

### Harraby

Ringing at St Elisabeth's, Harraby will be suspended for an indefinite period from July. The PCC need to use the base of the tower to store things from their soon-to-be-demolished church hall. As there is no regular ringing at Harraby the PCC understandably put their need for storage first!

### Orton

Ringing has been suspended at Orton for some time while the wet conditions in the tower were addressed. The good news is that the tower is now refurbished and David Aspden, a parishioner and former ringer, has volunteered to be in charge of the bells. It is planned to add a new ringing floor to the tower as part of the renovation so it may be some time before there is ringing in Orton but in the meantime the Guild will be providing support, training and encouragement.

### Insurance

The Guild is intending to get a Public Liability insurance policy. Guild members are normally covered by the church insurance while ringing at their own towers. The policy we (and other Guilds) have been advised to get would cover Guild members visiting other towers, for example on a ringing outing.

### Coffee Morning, St Mary's Wigton.

There will be a coffee morning and open ringing on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September in aid of the St Mary's Roof Appeal. All ringers welcome!

Ringing will be from 10.00 to 11.00 and 11.30 to 12.30 with a break for coffee.



### Training Day

The Guild Training Day will be on Saturday 17 November at towers around Whitehaven. We know this is a long way from home for half our members but the close grouping of towers makes this area more practical on the day. The day is always popular and successful and this depends on everyone, both learners and helpers! Please make every effort to attend. Look out for the details in your tower and sign up to learn or help.

### Christmas cards

Guild Christmas Cards have continued to sell; the latest sales were at the Central Council Meeting to ringers from other areas.

There are still some cards available, Pat and Gareth Evans hold the remaining stocks. Having covered costs some time ago, all sales are now profit for the BRF.