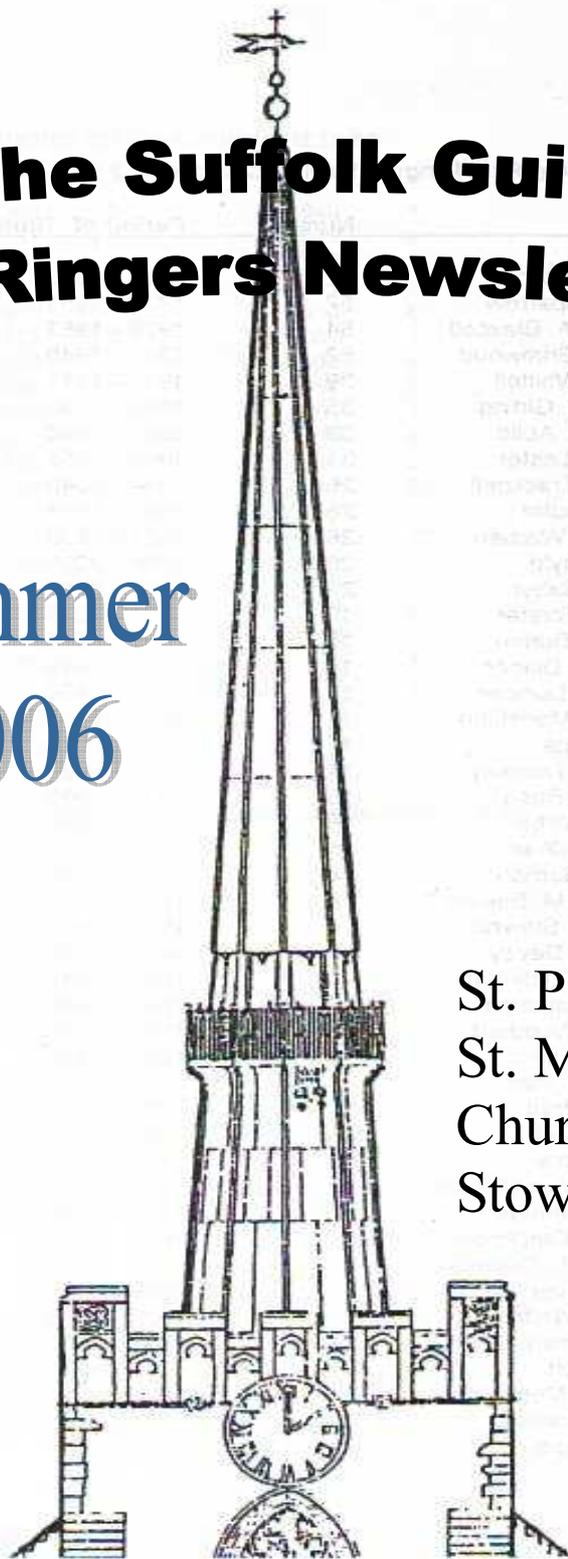


The Suffolk Guild of Ringers Newsletter

Summer
2006



St. Peter &
St. Mary's
Church,
Stowmarket

Editorial:

**Carl Melville, 12 Stowmarket Road, Old Newton,
Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4EE**

Tel: 01449 677168 or

email: carlmelville@hotmail.com

Thought for the Season

O God, the source of all goodness,
Bless us as we take time out to ring these bells,
Strengthen us as we call the faithful to the table,
And guide us as we live and work with one another to bring
about your glory in your world
Amen.

**Deadline for next issue August
14th by the latest please.**

Letter from the Editor

It has been one year since I took on the Newsletter,
and I have to thank everyone for all the news they have
sent over the past year!

Please keep sending me pictures of your churches
so I can place them on the front cover of each issue.

There are lots of activities going on all over Suffolk
at the moment for bell and church restoration which is
always encouraging to see!

Have a great summer and enjoy your ringing.

Carl

Advertise with us!

It has been a year since I looked at advertising to help fund the newsletter. So far we have only had a few responses. If you know of anyone or any company that would like a slot in this newsletter, which reaches out to most of Suffolk, then please get in contact with me.

The prices and costs are as follows:

- Full page=£60 for four issues
- Half page= £30 for four issues
- Quarter page= £15 for four issues.

These are good, low prices and will help the Guild cover costs of producing the newsletter.

Please use the editorial contact details if you are interested in advertising in here.

Carl Melville

Editor's Outing

This year my outing will be to Norfolk– visiting Swaffham, Castle Acre, Litcham, Whissonsett, East Raynham and Fakenham. The outing will take place **on Saturday 24th June, by car.** There are talks of a mini-bus, but nothing confirmed yet!

For now I need names and numbers please ASAP, as we don't want to over crowd the towers. Limited spaces. First come first serve.

carlmelville@hotmail.com

NORTH WEST DISTRICT RINGING NEWS

Ruth Suggett

The North West has had a good start to 2006, with three successful practices: a beginners' practice at Wetherden, which was well attended by ringers from all over the District, of all ages, a practice with the Breckland Ringers at Lakenheath and our Quarterly Meeting at Hinderclay. Thank you to all the towers and ringers who hosted these practices.

We are trying out a few ideas for some different kinds of practices, in the hope that we will be able to offer something for everyone in our District. These will be in addition to our regular '2nd Saturday in the month' practices.

We have had occasional practices for 'Novice Conductors' to give those people who can ring methods well but lack the confidence a chance to try conducting. Every tower needs a competent conductor and while we greatly appreciate, and indeed rely on, the skills of our established conductors, it is important that conducting is shared among all those ringers who can. It is very daunting to call your first touch, but let's remember even our most experienced conductors had to learn once and if you don't try, you won't learn!! So if you feel this kind of practice would help, look out for the notices. Depending on the turnout, we will ring everything from call changes to Surprise minor.

We have also tried out day's course on Plain Bob Doubles. Please understand that this was not widely publicised as it was a 'trial run', but it seemed very successful and so we will definitely do another one perhaps in the autumn, which will be widely publicised. If this is something which interests you, please let me know. Thanks to Ian Holland for teaching the course, to Pakenham for hosting it and to the helpers Claire and Sarah Monk, Sam Maynard, Matt Cracknell and Louis Suggett. And of course well done to the learners!

We have got a Quarter Peal Day arranged for 9th September in the Stowmarket area, so please put this date in your diary and start practising! It would be nice to get lots of 'firsts' (first quarters, firsts in method, first as conductor etc) for as many people as possible, so please do let me know if you can participate and what you would like to ring. We will do our utmost to ensure that you get the chances you want.

If you want to contact me my email address is bardwell.ruth@btopenworld.com or my phone number is 01359 251896.

Monk Week

Tuesday 27th June– Sunday
2nd July

St. Peter's and St. Mary's
Church, Stowmarket



Church open daily from 6am-10pm

Services at 6am, 8am, 12noon, 3.30pm,
7pm and 9pm (Sat 10pm)

All welcome
Donations for the Church's restoration fund

What a tough lot we are!!

Last February we had a light flurry of snow and on the local radio we heard of lunch clubs closed, afternoon and evening activities abandoned because of the bad weather. In most cases we are told, it's because a lot of the members are elderly and would be reluctant to turn out to these venues.

But we ringers battle through rain, blow, hail and snow to attend our practise nights and more important, Sunday ringing. I believe the snow would have to be half way up the church tower before it prevented us from getting into our churches. And yes, many of our ringers are elderly but they have no fear fighting their way through the storms to fulfil their obligation to ring.

God bless you all

David Moyse, St. Margaret's Tower, Reydon.

For Sale

8 new A4 narrow black picture/photo frames. Just the thing to display those peal details. £3 each or £20 for all 8. Half proceeds to new ropes for Rougham Bells

Lost

One Pair of pink fleece gloves, left at St. Mary's Rougham. Please contact:
Elizabeth Teverson on 01284 701403

Chairman's Chatter

As I write, another Belfry Advisory Committee Meeting and Guild Management Meeting are both rapidly approaching. Both meetings will involve discussion over bell restorations and grants. Although we have dealt with many restorations and subsequent grant applications over the last few years, there always seems to be more and more to follow, and this is always wonderful news. These times of tighter and tighter financial restraint on our churches create continual problems with looking after very expensive buildings, and yet the bell installations are nevertheless still being considered for restoration. Of course it always requires somebody with drive and determination to spearhead each restoration through, but I believe that it says much for our Suffolk Churches that they are prepared to embark on restoring the bells. Suffolk has not been helped by our vast amount of flint rubble towers which seem to develop cracks as a matter of course and which then lead to expensive repairs. Nevertheless the bell restoration projects keep cropping up and long may they do so. Please do keep it up.

This is also the time of the Striking Competitions once again. I was privileged to be asked to assist with judging the South East District Competition and the quality of the ringing at this competition was excellent. It was good to witness a competition where methods were rung and where the ringers were clearly making a huge effort to strike properly. The so called 'Fun' competitions have their place, but do not in general create the same drive to strike your bell really well, something which can only be achieved at a proper Competition. Good striking requires hard work and a great deal of care and attention to bell handling, control and listening. The Suffolk Guild of Ringers, with its District and Guild Competitions, is ideally placed to energetically work at improving the overall standard of our ringing, and should make every effort to do so. It is very unfortunate that a minority of ringers see themselves as somewhat parochial as groups, and this will not help things at all. As Suffolk ringers we must do all we can to improve our efforts and avoid any public censure.

All Good wishes to you all,

Winston Girling

The South East District Striking Competition

On Saturday the 6th of May seven bands and supporters assembled in the churchyard at Holbrook for the South East District six bell striking competition. With the judges, Winston Girling and Maurice Rose, suitably located and the ringing order duly established the competition was underway.

The level of experience and capability of the bands ranged from beginners to experts and the chosen test pieces generally reflected this spread. All the bands made effective use of the five minute practice allowed, and completed their test pieces successfully.

The competitive part of the afternoon concluded at about four o'clock and was followed by some open ringing before a short drive to Holbrook bowls club for tea and results. The local hosts provided an excellent tea and so it was with appetites sated and thirsts quenched Winston and Maurice were called upon to announce the results.

In his introduction Winston said the ringing had been a good standard and pleasant to listen to. He gave feedback on the performance of each band giving sufficient information that would enable constructive post competition analysis. Maurice then took the floor to reveal the results and final order. Owen Claxton collected the trophy for the winning band, Ipswich St Mary-Le-Tower and congratulations were expressed in the normal way. The afternoon ended with thanks to the judges and local hosts and bands returning to their respective towers armed with sufficient information to establish the practice and coaching necessary to turn out an even better performance next time.

Well done all those who took part.

David Stanford

February in Australia

It was minus 4 degrees when we left Suffolk on February 1st 2006. So looking forward to our trip to Australia the next day, we thought it could only get warmer and we were not to be disappointed.

When we arrived at Perth airport it was 30 degrees; it was hot! The next day, Saturday, we set off to the first bells of our holiday, Swan Bells in Swan tower. I think that most ringers know the background of these bells but I will quickly fill in for those that don't. Commemorating Australia's bicentenary in 1988, the twelve bells of St Martin-in-the-Fields as well as five especially cast bells were presented to the University of Western Australia, the City of Perth and to the people of Western Australia. Leith Reynolds, a well known ringer from Perth, had searched for a peal of bells and discovered that St Martin - in - the - Fields in London were looking for a complete new peal of bells. At the end of the 1990's Perth council decided it needed a notable feature for their city. An architect was assigned to design the tower, which in our opinion is very attractive having the appearance of a sailing barge from one side, and the whole structure finished off with a striking spire, which can be seen from many parts of Perth. In 1999 the WA Government began building the Swan Tower to house the bells and a bell was cast to mark the second millennium.

The peal comprises 16 bells, plus 2 semi tones, with a 29 cwt tenor; these form the Swan bells as they are today. The city is very proud of these bells that rang for Royal weddings etc., down the centuries, certainly the oldest artefacts in Perth other than aboriginal ones.

The public have access to the tower every day via the gift shop which sells all manner of souvenirs of the tower; it is certainly the first tower I have rung on that appears on nearly all the gifts of the city!

All river trips leave from the Swan Tower, and the coach drivers bring all the passengers up to speed on its history; so it's a real P.R. exercise for ringing.

Once in the tower the visitors pass the level the ringers are on, being able to view the ringing via one way black glass, the belfry being in an interior central area with sound absorbent walls. Further up the tower the visitors can view the bells safely from behind a glass screen, however, one American visitor tried to convince me it was a recording,

as she couldn't see the hammers moving. The ringers are now thinking about putting a mirror under one bell.

To one side of the belfry is an area where the ringers can make themselves drinks and meals, there being a microwave, kettle and so forth in the kitchen. There are also the very important facilities. All these facilities are very important, as ringing takes place on most days of the week for at least one hour. Once in the tower, visitors can climb past the ringing chamber viewing the exhibits about ringing, and the history of the tower with the final delight being the beautiful views down the Swan River. Of course it goes without saying that the whole building has a lift. Oh for that to catch on in England!

Alan and I were made very welcome here. We soon met a range of ringers who knew ringers that we knew from all over Britain.

Sadly the air conditioning wasn't working at the time we were there, there were several fans fixed around the room but they were not really enough to cool us down at 29 degrees! This was especially the case when we went for a Quarter Peal of Erin Cinques after the District Practice, which just wouldn't go in the heat.

We really enjoyed our ringing here and found ringing the sixteen very pleasant, although we didn't have enough ringers to ring changes on all sixteen. After our ringing there, over the lunch hour on both Saturday and Sunday, we went to the local favourite café for the ringers. There was an advantage to this, because ringers got a discount here.

Sunday we overslept. All this changing the clocks I think! However we made it to the Swan Tower for

11am ringing. After a while here we went to the riverside café for another discounted meal.

After lunch we were kindly given a lift by Mary to St Hilda's in Mossman Park.

This is a very nice area in the suburbs of Perth. Here we attempted a Quarter Peal of Superlative Major which never really went very well. Again I think the heat beat us and we lost it. So in typical ringers' style, it was off to Mary's for a cuppa and biscuits to fill in some time before we attempted a Quarter peal at St George's Cathedral in Perth city.

We succeeded in getting this Quarter of Cambridge Major, the bells were fine but the tower did sway rather a lot. Good job we didn't suffer with sea sickness.

Monday, after typical sightseeing, saw us head off on a public bus to practice night at Rockingham, a light set of six bells south of Perth. This town was very spread about and we wondered when we were ever going to get to the centre. This we did after about an hour, and just in time for practice. These bells are in fact in the local Town Hall at the top of a very tall tower. The top of the tower was designed to look Mediterranean which is all very well, but it does mean they have a lot of trouble keeping birds from fouling the bells and fittings.

Several ringers we had already met, they and others made us very welcome and invited us to their practices, and even to stay. A regular feature we were to find here was a fridge in the belfry, to provide a good supply of cold water.

We made our way back, to Perth, after riding by bus, then train from Fremantle (all for \$7, about £3.50). The

bus drove through quite a violent thunderstorm, the only rain we saw in Western Australia.

On Tuesday after a lovely morning in the older town of Fremantle we set off on the buses again to Mandura where we met up again with Roger and Pat Lubbock, (past ringers in Norfolk). We had a nice meal with them in a local restaurant before they took us for a ride around the sights and wildlife areas before practice. These were delightful bells which used to be in Oxford St Magdalene. We had to look up a few methods here. After an enjoyable evening Roger and Pat kindly took us back to Perth.

On Wednesday evening we caught a local bus to Claremont. This church looking very English had a 6 cwt ring of bells in it. These were originally from Canonbury in London. Quite a bit of challenging ringing here considering we'd been on a wine tour all day!

After Wednesday we did lots more touring and sight-seeing before flying out to Adelaide on the Friday.

Whilst in Perth Roger had advised us who to contact in Adelaide and we did this as soon as we arrived. However Roger had already emailed them so they were pre-armed.

When I rang the lady she said she would pick us up at 7.15pm outside the hotel and take us to Prospect in the outskirts. This was a very unusual tower detached from the church. However strange it looks now it is much improved from how it was to start with, with the main

structure being wood and sheet metal. As is so usual in ringing circles we were made very welcome and enjoyed ringing and chatting to these ringers many of whom knew ringers we did, including the usual one "Do you know George Pipe?". We met a marvellous gentleman here Fred Smeeton who was 96 year old and still ringing although he can no longer pull the Cathedral treble off (we found out why on the Sunday), whatever he gladly rang Stedman Doubles and Cambridge Minor on this evening. He had moved from Brighton England in the 1950's and now lives in the Brighton area of Adelaide.

After a pleasant practice here another local lady offered us a lift back to our Hotel and one for the Sunday morning to Walkerville, very kind of her.

And so it was that first thing Sunday morning Stephanie picked us up and took us to a very nice peal of six at Walkerville, which had been there since the late 1880's quite old by their standards. There was a lot of evidence of history here with old photos, peal boards etc the church was also typically English in appearance.

After our ring here we made our way, still with Stephanie, to St Peter's Cathedral, here we discovered why Fred couldn't pull off the treble. These bells are the second heaviest peal of eight in the world the tenor being 41cwt, these are certainly no picnic to ring, I also struggled to pull the treble off, but they are fine once you get settled in. Several well known Suffolk ringers had rung peals here. We certainly were not going to follow in their footsteps! Not daunted by the climb, Fred was there even if he didn't ring. After St Peter's it

was onto

St. Xaviers which is a very fine Roman Catholic Cathedral, these bells were fitted in the 1990's and are a very fine 28 cwt peal of twelve. Sadly, as so often happens when on a trip as a couple as opposed to being with a group, there were only 11 ringers including us, disappointing especially as we would be out of the city when it was their practice night. Never mind it will be somewhere to look forward to next time, maybe?

This was the end of our Sunday morning ringing trip, so after our farewell and thanks to Stephanie we went on our sightseeing way.

There is another peal of bells in Adelaide, at the Town Hall, these I believe are a bit of a challenge, they are rarely rang. Sadly during our week there they were rung for a special service but needless to say, that was one of our away days!

After a long, long railway trip to Melbourne we arrived at 10.30pm, bit late for any practice nights - So we had to wait until Sunday to meet up with local ringers.

Sunday morning saw us up quite early striding up the long, long King Street to Old St James Cathedral, 13cwt eight bells.

Chatting with the local church people and looking at paintings etc of the church it transpired that the whole church was moved brick by brick in the 20th Century. Why? I am afraid we didn't find out. The tower was foreshortened when it was moved. The reason for not demolishing it was, one assumes, that it is the oldest church in the whole of Australia. Wandering around in the church we mused at the ranks of fans above all the

pews to keep the place cool. Not a problem at home of course, no sign of heating at all! Whatever, after a while another visitor from Berkhamstead joined us waiting for the locals. Luckily before too long passed one of us went outside and found 4 locals thinking of going home!

Linking up and joined by a few others we started ringing. The noise upstairs was rather a shock as the bells are hung in a metal frame totally independent from the tower so there was a lot of reverberation. Whatever we had a nice ring here and met a new set of ringing friends, including one who invited us to his tower practice during the week and invited us to tea at his home which was very nice of him.

At this point I will point out that most city practice nights run from 6pm to 8pm which is followed by a visit to a bar or café, not only for beer but for a meal. Some of course go home for a meal. One assumes this saves those working in the city having to trail back in again for practice. A local ringer also told us that as late as I believe the 1960's all bars closed at 6pm, so going for a meal after ringing or snacks in the belfry maybe stemmed from that time.

The rest of Sunday we drifted about doing all the usual visitor things before making our way to St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne, a ring of 12+1 with a29 cwt Tenor. At present these are undergoing a lot of restoration, luckily we had enough ringers to ring all 12 of these bells. George and Diana Pipe's names are up on peal boards here and photos of them as a young couple. After a lovely trip down the Great Ocean road on the Monday we didn't ring again until Tuesday. We

arrived at Gardenvale, in the outskirts by train and Ian our new found Melbourne friend picked us up and took us to the church. At St James there is a nice peal of 6 bells, 5 cwt tenor, rung from downstairs. It is an attractive church with a beautiful mosaic back wall to the altar. Yet again there was the strange feature of fans and air-conditioning units on the outside of the church. Another friendly bunch of ringers gathered from other local towers, as well as home ringers. One ringer was getting extra practice in for her forthcoming first Quarter Peal, she has since written to me giving full details and a photo. After practice it was off to Ian's where his wife had cooked us a lovely meal, then it was back on the train.

On Wednesday we went to St Pauls practice and met still more of their ringers and rang the usual variety of methods before moving on at 8pm to an Italian restaurant where we took up a full length table. A visiting backpacking ringer transpired to be from Guildford and had lived near Jenny and Simon Christian. So the jungle telegraph (now known as email I suppose) soon had our visit recorded back in Ipswich! Another young lad (from London), backpacking around Australia became so interested by ringing at Perth that when he got a part time job at the Swan Tower, He asked to be taught to ring, which he was at Claremont. Now he is keenly ringing himself across Australia and is determined to continue in England!

Sadly this was our last ringing day at Melbourne but at least by flying into Sydney we got there in time to ring at a practice night, Qantas managed to temporarily loose my luggage here but gladly I had it back by evening!

St Phillips Sydney practised on Friday evening so off we set on a bus to that end of Sydney. These were a very nice 18cwt peal of eight bells and a nice group of ringers. After a very reasonable practice we headed off to the local pub where some of the ringers had their tea - remember practice finished at 8pm.

Saturday was free of ringing, so off to the Zoo, around the Opera House and so forth.

Sunday, it was up early to catch a train to Bondi Junction, then a bus to Darling Point a very exclusive area of Sydney seemingly. Darling Point St. Marks was a typical English looking church with a very nice 8cwt peal of eight. Managed to get up to date with the Ipswich Town F.C. results as one of the local ringers James Bunn had been a ringer at Wetheringsett 20 years earlier and keeps himself well informed of their progress!

Very kindly one of the ringers gave us a lift to St Andrews Cathedral. These are a very nice 29cwt peal of twelve. Sadly we didn't have enough ringers for all twelve but had some good ringing on 10 bells. Their ringers were getting keyed into going to the District Striking Contest that dinner time. How about that for a new timing!

After ringing there we dashed across the city in the hopes of getting a ring at St James. Unfortunately the service time had been changed just for that week. This church has a very unusual appearance. It was built as the law courts but then had it's purpose changed.

Underneath the church is a large amount of crypt like rooms which had been designed to be cells etc, now they are put to good use as meeting rooms, kitchen, dining areas and so on. Whatever, our ringing there had to wait to another day.

Our next ringing experience was at St Andrews practice on Monday night. This was after spending a lovely day with friends up by the Hawksbury River. Here we experienced a tremendous thunderstorm; however all had dried up by the time we got back to Sydney.

Back at St Andrews, this time we were able to experience all of the twelve bells, only marred by competing with the tremendous noise of building work taking place outside. After a good ring there it was off to the pub again for some food. This ringing really is tough going!

On Tuesday, after Manly beach and viewing Sydney from the high tower, we made our way to St James practice, the one we had missed on Sunday. This time we were in luck and got to ring on the 10cwt 8 bells although they were a bit short of locals as they had a pancake supper in the crypt. At this point we realised we had missed Pancake Day !

After a while here we went to Clarence where we had promised to go on the Sunday. Sadly we only had enough ringers to ring on 6 of the 10 bells, 10cwt tenor. Whatever the usual welcome and some good Cambridge Minor and one of the locals rang her first solo Stedman Doubles (yes I rang in it). After practice ,yes it was off to a pub for a drink and some food.

Wednesday we went on a coach trip to the Blue Mountains but got back in time to catch the train to Parramatta practise.

Following the very useful Sydney Bell ringing guide to their towers we headed off from the station, however their minutes are either longer or they walk quicker, 10 minutes walk !! Whatever we had a good ring here on their 10cwt 8, with a lively band, with several youngsters in the band. Kindly a local gave us a lift back to the station, and we had an interesting chat on the train with Billy from Dublin, at present living in Australia who told us of his ringing experiences in Australia.

All too soon it was our last full day in Sydney and Australia, there was Bondi Beach to visit, the mono rail to ride, a last trip on a ferry and view the harbour from the Botanical gardens.

By evening it was starting to drizzle a little so we were really glad when a local ringer came down the stairs and let us in St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral before we got too wet. It was a long climb up but we were rewarded by the lovely views off the roof platform which lead into the belfry. The belfry was huge with a large refectory table all down one side fridge and other eating supplies available. These are a very fine 34cwt peal of 12 bells+2 however I found rope sight quite difficult with them being spread out, a very good practice with again a nice bunch of ringers from a mixture of ages.

So this was it, the end of our time in Australia, which we thoroughly enjoyed with many thanks for all who made us welcome. Also thanks to all our ringing friends in Suffolk who had wished us a bon voyage, and sadly yes it was still cold in England when we returned.

Sally and Alan Munnings

Suffolk Guild – NE District Quarter Peal Fortnight

What makes a good quarter peal week? Most would agree that these intensive periods should provide as many ringers as possible with the opportunity to score a first of some sort, even if only a “first for a long time”. They might also achieve some good ringing on bells which are rung infrequently. And in a large rural district a quarter peal week (or in this case fortnight) can bring ringers together when otherwise they might be sat in front of the telly. Despite choosing a period when the District Ringing Master (Trevor Hughes) was having his hand shredded by a surgeon, this quarter peal fortnight successfully achieved all this with 60 different ringers (including Trevor!) taking part in 23 quarters, mostly of uncomplicated stuff (Plain Bob accounted for 15 out of the 23). Worlingham took the honours with three first quarter pealers: other lesser triumphs were enjoyed across a wide area. What was particularly pleasing for me was the number of quarters I rang in where the standard of ringing was well in excess of my expectations (e.g. Metfield), or maybe I’m just a pessimist!

To round the fortnight off a barn dance was held at Halesworth. 70 ringers and friends crammed into the church hall to obey the instructions of the caller, TV star Neil Thomas, who was backed by England’s premier (and possibly only) ringers’ barn dance band, the Stedman Stompers. Most dances came round without too much firing although “Stand” had to be called once or twice where blue lines had not been followed properly. Julie Troupe and her team provided some magnificent refreshments at half time, but the respite was short-lived, and anyone not exhausted by the ringing would have been finished off by the dancing. Actually, Kate Eagle was finished off by the dancing and spent some of the next day in A&E – she’s blaming Alan McBurnie’s twinkle-toed style: he says she fell over!

PJG

Brief details of the quarter peals:

Benhall 16 Apr, 1260 Rev Canterbury Doubles
Yoxford 16 Apr, 1260 Doubles (St Martin & St Simon) - Jonathan Stevens' 100th as conductor
Metfield 18 Apr, 1260 PB Doubles - Jenny Beckwith's first inside
Theberton 18 Apr, 1260 PB Doubles - Sally Mason's first of Bob Doubles
Worlingham 18 Apr, 1260 PB Doubles – FIRST QUARTER for both Kerry Day and David Ellis
Sweffling 21 Apr, 1260 Grandsire Doubles
Leiston 23 Apr, 1260 Doubles (3methods)
Reydon 23 Apr, 1260 PB Doubles
Aldeburgh 23 Apr, 1320 PB Minor - Julie Troupe's first of Minor
Rendham 24 Apr, 1260 PB Triples - Half-muffled in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Michael Bredin, a willing helper in the tower's restoration.
Rumburgh 24 Apr, 1260 PB Minor
Worlingham 25 Apr, 1260 PB Doubles - FIRST QUARTER for Rogan Day
Mendham 26 Apr, 1260 PB Minor - Graham Downing's first away from cover
Rumburgh 26 Apr, 1260 Doubles (6 methods/variations)
Halesworth 27 Apr, 1260 PB Triples - Maggie Wolverson's and Philip Gorrod's 100th together (aaaah!)
Beccles 27 Apr, 1260 PB Minor in hand
Wenhaston 28 Apr, 1260 PB Minor
Wilby 29 Apr, 1274 PB Triples - Tim Shaw's first on 8
Horham 29 Apr, 1260 PB Triples - Naomi (Poo) Shaw's first on 8
Wingfield 29 Apr, 1260 PB Minor - Jason Busby's first inside
Tannington 29 Apr, 1260 Grandsire Doubles
Bramfield 29 Apr, 1260 Doubles (11 methods)
Southwold 30 Apr, 1344 Grandsire Triples - Thomas Britten's first of Grandsire

Leading ringers:

Philip Gorrod (10), Maggie Wolverson (8), Richard Rapior and Jonathan Stevens (7), Suzanne Stevens (6), Sally Mason (5)

Leading conductors:

Philip Gorrod (6), Jonathan Stevens (5), Richard Rapior (3), Maggie Wolverson (2)

Leading methods:

Plain Bob Doubles (7), Plain Bob Minor and Triples (4), Grandsire Doubles (2)

Leading towers:

Rumburgh and Worlingham (2)

Fastest quarters:

Beccles in hand (29 min), Sweffling and Horham (38 min)

Slowest quarter:

Wenhaston (47 min)

Coolest tenor ringer:

Sally Mason (Wingfield and Horham one after the other)

Hottest tenor ringer:

Maggie Wolverson (Mendham – thought these were rehung recently, or did we ring too fast?)

Oddest composition:

The 1274 Bob Triples at Wilby had only one single.

Most unusual way of losing an attempt:

Halesworth – organist and soloist for forthcoming concert decided to have an impromptu rehearsal halfway through and completely drowned out bells/conductor/all hope of getting to the end. (We scored second time round)

Award for best overall performance:

Worlingham, for three first quarter pealers in two quarter peals

Barbecue Riblets

You will need...

1 large breast of lamb, cut into riblets

2 table spoons of malt vinegar.

Sauce— 4 tbsp seedless red jam, 2 tbsp clear honey, 4 tbsp tomato ketchup, 2 tbsp dry mustard, 2 tbsp Worcester sauce, squeeze of lemon juice.

Pre-heat the oven to gas 5/190oC. Bring a large pan of water to the boil and add the vinegar. Simmer riblets in a small roasting tin.

Place all the ingredients for the sauce together in a saucepan and heat until melted and blended. Pour over the riblets, making certain they are all coated.

Place the riblets in a pre heated oven for 35-40 minutes, until browned and crispy. Serve with boiled rice or mashed potatoes.

Carol Girling

Please send in your ringing recipes for publication.
You'll be surprised how many people use them!

NORTH EAST DISTRICT STRIKING COMPETITION

This year the competition was held at Worlingham on May 13th. The judges were our new ringing master, Richard Munnings and his brother, Chris.

Change Ringing

	Faults	
1st Rendham	17 1/2	Awarded the 'Pat Bailey' Trophy
2nd Sweffling	18	'Harry Archer' Trophy
3rd Aldeburgh	20	
4th Southwold	20 1/2	
5th Halesworth	23	

Call Changes

1st Worlingham	23 1/2	Award: the Call Change Trophy
2nd Reydon	27 1/2	
3rd Rumburgh	32	

Well done to all those who entered the striking competition and set some good standards for the district, and even further– for the Guild too.

HP
CM

Congratulations

...it's a girl!

To Louise Whitehead of Ixworth on the birth of her daughter Lucy on 2nd May. Congratulations!

Wedding Anniversary

George and Diana Pipe who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on 12th May. Probably George, with the support of Diana, has done more than anyone to encourage and establish ringing world wide notably in Australia and U.S.A. in Suffolk particularly innumerable ringing causes and occasions have been enlivened by this gifted lecturer. We continues to benefit! Thank you George and Di.

HP

Ringing Milestones...

To Louis Suggett on his **1st peal** on March 12th

To Bert Boardman on his **first quarter** peal at Rougham 26th April.

Carl Melville who became the first person to **circle Tostock** Tower on April 21st.

Can this be the last appearance of the 'G' word?

At Southwold there are two challenges.

First. Visit Tim Hunkins 'Under the Pier' show, (after admiring his water clock which 'performs' every half hour on the pier.) The newest of his quirky, interactive amusements challenges the participant to cross the Motorway with a Zimmerframe.

Second. Mount the 50 steps to the ringing chamber in St. Edmund's Tower without pausing for breath and ring before you sit down!

Service and Friday Practice times can be checked on (01502) 722222 or 722562

All Welcome!

HP

Bells of East Raynham, Norfolk

Those of you who missed, or would like to see again, the excellent programme featuring the restoration and augmentation of the bells at East Raynham, Norfolk, which was shown on BBC2 on Wednesday March 1st, may like to know that there is now a copy in the Guild Library. If you would like to borrow the video, please contact Gillian Wakefield (Guild Librarian) on 01394 385203.

Old Time Farming Day

15th July
Bridge Farm, Chediston

Heavy horses
Vintage Farm Machinery
Working demonstrations
Bygones, Farm Teas
Country Crafts, Farm walks,
Terrier Racing

Gates open at 10.00
£5 adults, £2 children
Free Car Parking
In aid of Chediston Bell Restoration

**The Bells of St. Peter and
St. Mary's, Stowmarket**

Treble– 6-0-10
“William Dobson Downham,
Norfolk Founder 1810”

Second– 7-1-0
“the Osborn Fecit 1791”
(Recast in 1966)

Third– 7-1-4
“John Darbie made me 1669,
Mr. John Keeble: Richard
Osburnd Thomas: God.ARD”

Fourth– 8-0-25
“+Sit Nomen Domini
Benidictum”
(Recast in 1966)

**Cover
Feature**

Fifth– 10-0-22
“Newman made mee
1699”
(Recast in 1966)

Sixth– 13-0-24
“T. Mears of London, Fecit
1823”

Seventh– 17-1-23
“John Darbie made me,
1672”
(Recast in 1966)

Tenor– 20-0-27
“Miles Graye made me,
1622”
(Diameter 51 1/2 inches,
tone D)

**Deadline for next issue August 14th
by the latest please.**