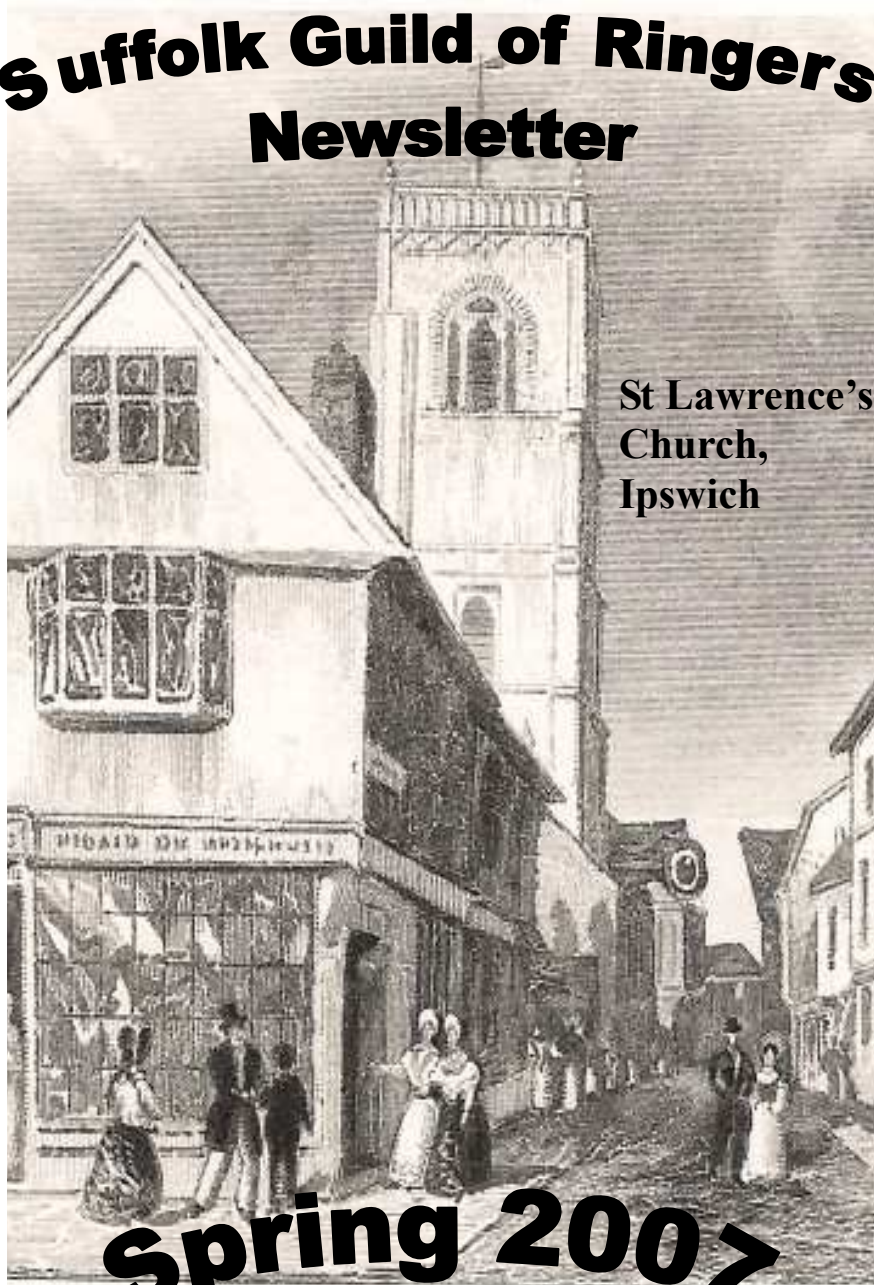


Suffolk Guild of Ringers Newsletter



**St Lawrence's
Church,
Ipswich**

Spring 2007

Editorial

Carl Melville, 12 Stowmarket Road, Old Newton,
Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4EE
Tel: 01449 677168 or mobile: 07951491211
Email: carlmelville@hotmail.com

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Thought for Spring

Lord, as we enter a new year,
A season of new beginnings and fresh starts,
Help us, O Lord, to move on,
To be brave to face new challenges,
To have strength to start afresh.
Keep us attentive to the message of hope:
Coming to earth as a baby,
The fullness of Your death on the cross,
The power of Your resurrection in the garden,
And the joy of Your everlasting life on earth
with us.
With all things bright and beautiful, we praise
You, Amen.

Carl Melville, 2005



Letter from the Editor

Dear ringers and readers,

Spring is here! It is a time for new beginnings and fresh starts, and we can see this in the creation around us. How can we use the 'message' that Spring brings in our ringing?

Richard's peal week was a great way for ringers to try *new* things, and for others ringers to help them and urge them on. A number of open towers in the past few months has been a time for towers to increase ringing. A few examples include Stowmarket in December, and Haughley in January. The R&C held a meeting in December and all are encouraged by what was discussed.

That's how the message that Spring brings relates to our ringing! (I knew I'd find a link!)

But for the Church as a whole, the message of Easter moves us to increase our mission in whatever area we serve: ringing, singing, preaching, visiting etc. It's good to think that the Suffolk Guild can move forward with restoring and augmenting, not wrestling and arguing, recruiting new ringers to keep all our bells ringing, working together as a Guild Team.

Carl Melville

Monk Week 2007

As you may have heard already, last year, Carl Melville lived in St Peter & St Mary's Church, Stowmarket, to raise money for the extensive restoration project, that will eventually include the bells.

This year he plans to do the same for one week: **16th-22nd July**, coinciding with Suffolk's Open Churches Week. There will be plenty of ringing activities at Stowmarket over this week so please do book the date and come along!

Have you planned your activities for Open Churches Week yet?

CM

Guild Clothing

Children's fleeces are available now in size 36 chest. One in Royal Blue, one in Red @ only £15 each.. Please contact Sally Munnings on 01473 743596 for more details.

**WELL DONE AND
CONGRATULATIONS**

Ruth Suggett who rang her first quarter as conductor on 20th December at Ixworth for the Carol Service: 1260 Gransire Doubles.
Well Done Ruth!

Becky Munford who rang her first peal at Pakenham on 26th November 5040 Surprise Minor. Cambridge, Norwich and Ipswich

David Steed who rang his first quarter of Single Oxford Bob Minor.

To the Gislingham band for progressing so well and re hanging, augmenting and restoring the bells that are now being rung again!

Peal Week

Well done to all those who took part in the Ringing Master's Peal Week this year!!

North West District Quarter Peal Day
September 9th 2006

The theme of the day was decisively the challenge of quarter peal ringing. Thus, the quarters which were scored represented excellent achievements, particularly for some younger members of the District, and the attempts which didn't come round also gave those of us inexperienced in more difficult methods (namely Stedman) valuable practice. Successful or not, however, all bands enjoyed the day, and several ringers combined their ringing with some heroic cycling in the Suffolk Historic Churches sponsored bike ride. Thanks to all those who took part and to the churches in the Stowmarket Deanery which welcomed us.

9 September, Old Newton, 1260 Doubles (5m)

1. Carl Melville
2. Mary Allum
3. Ken Brown
4. Maurice Rose
5. Louis Suggett (c) 1st as conductor

9 September, Bacton, 1260 Double Court Bob Minor

1. Becky Munford*
 2. Ruth Young
 3. Mary Allum
 4. Carl Melville*
 5. Steve Munford
 6. Brian Whiting (c)
- *1st in method

11 September, Wickham Skeith, 1440 Norwich Surprise Minor

1. Maurice Rose (c)
 2. Ruth Suggett*
 3. Sue Munford*
 4. Louis Suggett*
 5. Ken Brown
 6. Steve Munford*
- *1st in method

North West Ringing Master Writes...

It's been an enthusiastic start to the New Year in the North West District. I am hoping our programme of events will continue in this vein throughout the year. The Quarterly meeting at the Norman Tower attracted plenty of local ringers and also several others from other parts of Suffolk and Norfolk. The shared tea was really successful and sociable, the meeting was short and the ringing was of a good and encouraging standard. It was great to see some of our newer members ringing confidently on 10. There'll be a Guild 10 bell practice there on March 10th, so please support that if you enjoyed the experience in January! (see the What's On, or check the website).

I was pleased to organise an additional practice in January on the Norman Tower simulator. Again, another well supported practice and I hope it gave members a good opportunity to practise some serious method ringing on 8 with the help of the many experienced ringers who also came along. The simulator is a terrific tool for learning and we are so lucky to have this in our district. The next simulator practice will be on Wednesday April 4 at 7.30pm. Details will be in the What's On.

In February we went to Barrow and aimed this practice at those plain hunters who could ring so many more methods on the treble if only they had the confidence or the opportunity! An introductory talk by Ian Holland was followed by some excellent practice in the tower.

I'd like to remind everyone, but in particular Tower Captains, in the District about the QUARTER PEAL WEEK from 15-22 April. Please see if you can organise a quarter at your tower and let me know what's been organised. Of course, not every band can do one by themselves but if you let us know we can do our best to help out with extra ringers, conductors or whatever. Also if you would like to ring a quarter of something, just email or phone. I would be really pleased to hear from you!

Ruth

nwmaster@suffokbells.org.uk

01359 251896

Guild Peal Week 2007

The week before the first Suffolk Guild Peal Week in years didn't bode well. Heavy snow brought large parts of the county to a standstill and bird-flu loomed as other parts of the county were restricted. However, as the beginning of the peal week arrived, the snow had disappeared and with few members carrying poultry to peals we were free to commence. If everything had gone to plan, 56 members would've rung fourteen peals at twelve different venues, lead by eight different conductors, with a number of firsts. Although peals were lost at Kempston in Bedfordshire, Orford, Monewden, Grundisburgh, Rendham and the mini-ring at Claydon, Ann Quilton scored her first peal in accomplished style at Monewden, Barry Dixon got his first Cambridge and Lincolnshire Major and three rang their first on 12. Also, the peal at Stowmarket was unable to go ahead due to an injury to a band member in the week leading up to it. This was a particular shame as it was to be Louis Suggett's first as conductor at the age of fifteen. As well as all this, the peal week inspired the Halesworth band to ring a local band peal at Rumburgh, due to be rung on the 28th, February due to other commitments during peal week itself. Thanks must go to all those who turned out to ring and conduct and to those who allowed their bells to be used (especially Horringer at less than 24 hours notice!) and I look forward to even more successes and better luck in Peal Week 2008! Also best wishes must go to our Peal Secretary Christine Knight, we all hope to see her back ringing soon.

RJM

Suffolk Guild

Sunday, 11th, February, 2007

Aldeburgh, SS Peter & Paul, Suffolk (11cwt)

2hrs40mins

5088 Unthank Surprise Major

Comp. BYROC

1. Michael J Edwards
2. Mary S Garner
3. Katharine J Salter
4. Roger L K Whittell
5. Katherine J Eagle
6. Mary E Dunbavin
7. Richard T L Rapior
8. Alan P Mayle (C)

First peal in the method by all and for the guild

Sunday, 11th, February, 2007

Reydon, St Margaret, Suffolk (10cwt)

2hrs28mins

5040 Cambridge Surprise Minor

Comp. S D Pettman

1. Julia J Johnson
2. Stephen D Pettman (C)
3. Helen Y Price
4. Peter W Harper
5. Ruth Eagle
6. Richard J Munnings

First of Minor; 1

Rung on the tenth anniversary of the first peal on the bells.

Monday, 12th, February, 2007

Grundisburgh, St Mary-the-Virgin, Suffolk (8cwt)

2hrs54mins

5015 Grandsire Cinques

Comp. S D Pettman

1. Stephen D Pettman (C)
2. Brian E Whiting
3. Mary S Garner

4. Winston S Girling
 5. Katherine J Eagle
 6. Louis Suggett
 7. Revd Geoffrey P Clement
 8. Barry J Dixon
 9. Roger L K Whittell
 10. Richard J Munnings
 11. Ruth Eagle
 12. Jonathan J Stevens
- First on 12; 6, 7 & 8

Tuesday, 13th, February, 2007
Dalham, St Mary, Suffolk (14cwt)
2hrs56mins
5186 Cambridge Surprise Major
Comp. J M Goldthorpe & J S Warboys

1. Stephen D Pettman (C)
2. Mary Allum
3. Mary E Dunbavin
4. Louis Suggett
5. Michael G Clements
6. Barry J Dixon
7. Simon A Rudd
8. Richard J Munnings

First Surprise Major; 4
First Cambridge Major; 5

Wednesday, 14th, February, 2007
Old Stoke, Ipswich, The Wolery, Suffolk (9lb)
1hr38mins
5040 Netherseale Surprise Minor
Comp. David G Salter

1. Michael J Edwards
2. Mary E Dunbavin
3. Katharine J Salter
4. Anne Carpenter
5. George E Thoday
6. David G Salter (C)

First in the method by all except 5 and for the guild.
In memory of Agnes Price on the day of her funeral.

Friday, 16th, February, 2007
Horringer, St Leonard of Limoges, Suffolk (9cwt)
2hrs27mins
5152 Lincolnshire Surprise Major
Comp. S Humphrey (re-arranged)
1. James A Smith
2. Stephen D Pettman (C)
3. Mary S Garner
4. David A Potts
5. Ruth Eagle
6. Barry J Dixon
7. Winston S Girling
8. Richard J Munnings
First Lincolnshire; 6

Saturday, 17th, February, 2007
Monewden, St Mary, Suffolk (5cwt)
2hrs25mins
5040 4 Doubles Methods
(Morris' 240 & 10 extents Grandsire, 12 extents Reverse Canterbury, 17 Plain Bob, 1 St Simons)
1. Ann Quilton
2. Katherine J Eagle
3. Richard J Munnings
4. James A Smith (C)
5. David I Stanford
6. Ruth Eagle
First peal; 1
Remembering Henry Stanford who died 17th, February, 2006, father of the fifth ringer

Report of GMC meeting 21st October 2006

Matters Arising

Barsham PCC has accepted the resignation of the tower captain. A new vicar is to be appointed at the beginning of December and it hoped that the situation will be resolved then.

Correspondence

The Lenny Sharpe bequest was discussed further. It was appreciated that guild views were split over this. The secretary has received a letter of thanks following the grant and it was decided to wait and see if Ixworth come back to the GMC with more figures in the future.

Financial Report

General Fund. The projected income for 2006 is £300-£400 less than 2005, made up from subscriptions and peal fees. Expenditure too is projected to be about £350 less than 2005. Overall the General Fund balance is projected to be between £400 and £500 down on the 1st January 2006 balance of £3486.

Restoration Fund. The income is up £1,700 from last year, as a result of increased interest, donations and affiliation fees. At present £39,000 has been allocated in grants, but not yet paid. The unallocated balance stands at £30,890

The treasurer was asked to reassure the committee that costs could be covered. It was also pointed out that a decrease in subscription income was in part due to a greater percentage of members being over 65 than previously, rather than in reduced membership.

WG told the GMC that KAJ he wishes to stand down at next AGM and suitable candidates for Treasurer need to be sought.

Ringling Master's Report

Guild Training Day. Although a success, it seemed to clash with many other events, so a different time of year will be considered.

Ten Bell Ringing The possibility of a fun 10 bell striking competition coupled with a social event was being considered. It would enable more people to practice and take part in ringing on higher numbers and as a stepping stone to 12.

Practices for **National Twelve Bell** competition are going well with ringers from across the county taking part.

The Ringing Master has enjoyed young ringers' practices at Tostock and their outing.

Questions were asked about the possibility of forming a movable company of ringers to help cover ringing in more towers and about the reinstatement of the Recruitment and Training Committee.

Applications for Grants

Felsham was awarded a grant of £6000 and Rattlesden £4000.

AOB

i) Central Council reps need to be elected at next AGM

ii) All Saints' Sudbury. Following the position explained from Richard Knight about there being little happening at present. WG said that he would make contact with the parish to try and get and get things moving.

Mary Garner

The minutes will be posted in full on the website once they have been approved by the GMC.

The Bells of Paradise
St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Terry Mann's music has been described as 'haunting' and 'beautiful' and he is creating something very special for Bury St Edmunds Festival. He has spent the autumn of 2006 recording the bells at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and at St Mary's Church as well as bells in Spitalfields, Norwich and Lichfield. From these recordings he has created a piece of music which can be heard in the Cathedral during the first week of the Festival. Feel free to sit and listen to the whole work or to dip in and out of it at will.

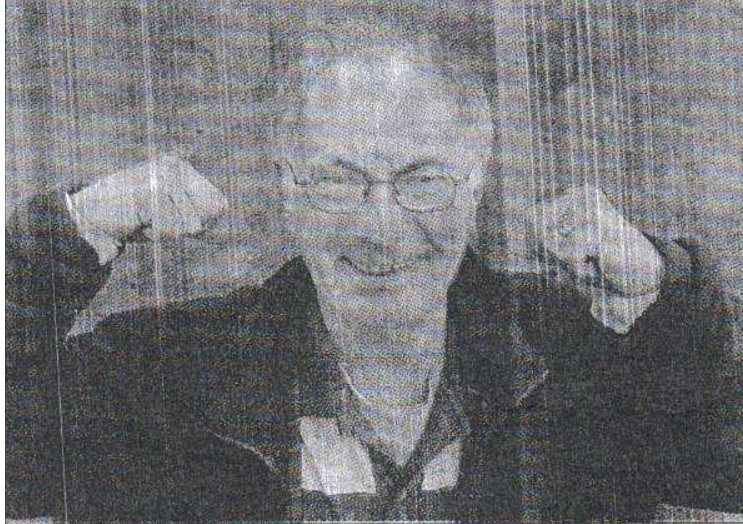
Monday 14th at 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm
Tuesday 15th at 9.00 am and 1.00 pm
Wednesday 16th at 2.30 pm
Thursday 17th at 11.00 am and 4.00 pm
Friday 18th at 10.00 am and 2.30 pm and
5.30pm

Ten good reasons to attend your district meetings and practices

1. Ring on different bells
2. Ring with different people
3. Try a new method
4. Improve your technique
5. Help others who don't have the same opportunities as you to ring
6. Share your knowledge and experience
7. Get help with something your struggling with
8. Support your district
9. Catch up with old friends
10. Take time out to enjoy the beauty and history of each different church

North West District
Forthcoming Dates and Events 2007

March 10 th	Pakenham 10.30am
April 15 th -22 nd	Quarter Peal Week
May 12 th	DQM Wickham Skeith
June 9 th	Hunston (Handling)
July 14 th	DQM Newmarket All Saints
August	NW/SW Joint Outing
September 8 th	Ixworth 10.30am-12.30
October 13 th	ADM Rougham 4pm
November 10 th	Brandon 10.30am-12.30
December 8 th	Walsham L W (Xmas Social
January 08	DQM Norman Tower
February	Mildenhall 10.30am
March	Whepstead 10.30am



FIGHTING FIT AGAIN: Barry Gould of Campsea Ashe, who has just had a heart transplant at Papworth Hospital. Picture: JERRY TURNER

Ringer's new heart for joy

Just 24 hours after being placed on the transplant register, Barry Gould had a new heart pumping in his body.

The 64-year-old had not even had time to properly consider his prognosis, of only a year without the operation, when a heart became available.

He was taken by ambulance car to Papworth Hospital, and by 3pm on Jan 4th he was on the critical care ward after having the four-hour life-saving operation.

Mr Gould said: "I can't quite take it in. it's an unreal

Feeling. I could be dead if I hadn't had this heart."

His wife, Brenda, 62, who he has been married to for 37 years added: "The transplant has given us a chance or at least a hope of a longer life together. We weren't prepared to give up on Barry."

Mr Gould feel ill at Christmas 2005, when he thought initially he had a chest infection.

There is still a possibility that his body will reject the heart

www.eveningstar.co.uk