



Bristol Rural News

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bellringers

The Newsletter of Bristol Rural Branch Bellringers

No 298

Website: www.bristolrural.co.uk email: bristolrural@bristolrural.co.uk

Headlines

- 1 Branch Practice and BBQ - Syston - 22nd June, 1500-1800
NUMBERS PLEASE TO BRYAN HARDWICK (bryan.wingreen@gmail.com)
- 2 Branch Practice - Wapley - 27th July, 1430-1630

June-July 2024

Katy Murdoch-Davis

It is with deep sadness that we have to report the sudden death of Catherine 'Katy' Murdoch-Davis from a suspected heart attack whilst on holiday in the Canary Islands. Katy ran the ringing at Horfield for many years until, after a house move, she joined the Frenchay band last year becoming a reliable Sunday Service ringer. During the last year she has regularly supported Branch meetings and days out with both Farcited and Dodgers, and also visited a number of other local practices. She will be greatly missed in local ringing. As soon as I receive information about her funeral, I will forward it.

Bill Liebow

G&B AGM

The AGM this year was held in the Stroud Branch. Reports on the striking competitions are included below. At the meeting it was agreed to increase the Senior membership fee from £15 to £20, of which £12 will go to BRF, £4 to General Fund and £4 to the Branch.

The remainder of the membership fees remain unchanged: Junior - £2.50 of which £1.50 goes to BRF, 50p to General Fund and 50p to the Branch; Associate (non Ringing) Members - £10 of which £9 goes to the BRF, 50p to the General Fund and 50p to the Branch; Non Resident Life Members (NRLM) - £10. The subscriptions were last raised from 1/11/2016. These changes to the senior rate will come into effect from the 2025 membership year (starting the 1st November 2024).

The Croome Trophy - 6 Bell Competition

On behalf of the judge Isaac O'Shea, the chairman Roger Haynes gave a short and complimentary report of the

ringing at Minchinhampton. The bands were placed as follows:

1. Tewkesbury Abbey, Tewkesbury. Awarded the Croome Trophy
2. Cirencester, Cirencester. Awarded the Great Peter Trophy
3. Purton, Swindon
4. Minster, Cheltenham
5. Coalpit Heath, Bristol Rural
6. Dursley, Wotton under Edge
7. Colerne, Chippenham. Awarded The Ringing master's Scudamore Clapper
8. Barnwood, Gloucester
9. Woodchester, Stroud
10. Longborough, North Cotswold. Awarded The Ringing Master's Sabin Clapper.

Penn Trophy - 8 Bell Competition

13th April. Unlucky for some perhaps but not for the eight ringers from around the Branch who had assembled in the sunny churchyard at All Saint's Bisley to represent Bristol Rural in the Penn Trophy G&B striking competition.

Eight teams took part from across the G&B with four branches not represented. We rang 224 changes of plain bob major for our test piece conducted by Russell Scudamore. All the while the sun was shining and, as it turns out, the judge was being offered a rock cake.

The judge in question was Robin Walker and here's how he placed the teams with their corresponding number of faults:

Swindon	9
Tewkesbury	21

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Stroud	24
Cirencester	25
Bristol Rural	28
Chippenham	32
Cheltenham	43
Wotton-under-Edge	59

Robin had encouraging words for all the teams as well as the necessary constructive criticisms. For our team he offered the following gems: "The tenor set a good rhythm. There were some quick blows at the beginning of the piece which diminished as the ringing continued and settled down well." (I managed to take notes on my very small piece of paper with my rather blunt and chewed pencil whilst admiring the range of cakes on offer, so this is not verbatim.)

We are very pleased with our result and feel that we've

earned a place amongst the ringing grown-ups within the G&B (although tie-dye and lucky garments will continue to be featured so rest assured; we're not planning to be toooooo grown-up in the foreseeable future).

With a view to improving our scores this year we organised and rang more than ten quarter peals together with our reserves during the preceding 12 months. This has enabled us to improve our striking more consistently as a band which I think has resulted in our promotion to 5th from around 8th (aka last) place in previous years.

If anyone would like to join our merry band next year as we strive to maintain and (hopefully!) improve on our performance this year, please do get in touch with Bill Liebow at secbrsural@btinternet.com who will be glad to forward your details.

Catherine White-Horne, Thornbury



The team called to order, treble to tenor, clockwise from front right: Catherine White-Horne, Linda Pick, Elaine Scudamore, Geoff Pick, Marcus Booth, Matt Johnson, Alistair White-Horne and Russell Scudamore.

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Branch Annual May Day Outing

This year's outing was to South Wales on a rare sunny day for this spring and 18 ringers took part. We rang at Michaelston-y-Fedw (7cwt 8), Machen (12cwt 8), Caerphilly (13cwt 8), Llanishen (3cwt 6) and St.Mellons (9cwt 6). All were good easy going bells and as usual we rang methods to suit all abilities. Thanks to Geoff Pick for organising a successful day out.

Chris Greef

Ringling Books Available

Bill Liebow has some books and badges available at cost as below. Please contact him if you are interested:

The One per Learner Book (the little yellow book, ideal for learners for logging progress in early stages) - £1 each.

Ringling Circles (gives the blue line and details of what happens at calls for some standard methods) - some left at £3.50 each.

Branch Ringling Achievements

(This list is compiled by searching Bellboard under the G&B Association. If you don't put your ringling on Bellboard and attribute it to the G&B I won't find it. Ed)

Nothing this time!