
St Albans District Newsletter

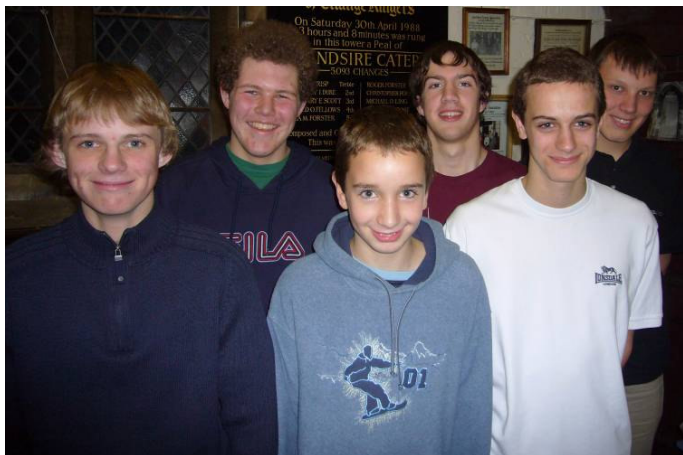
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Ringling Changes for Children



Earlier this year I was made aware of a Quarter Peal (1260 changes) that had been rung at St Peters back in 1981 by a young band with an average age of 17 who believed themselves to be the youngest band to do this on St Peters' Bells and possibly in the St Albans District of the Hertfordshire County Association of Change Ringers. Two of these ringers, Rosemary Sales (nee Scott) and Jennifer Johnson are still members of our band and Jennifer challenged our younger members to get a group together to beat this record.

When the Children's Society launched a 'Peal Appeal' as part of its 125th Anniversary celebrations to raise funds it seemed appropriate for the two occasions to be combined and a sponsored Quarter Peal rung.

On Saturday 18th November Roy Scivyer, Owen Woods, Edward and Thomas Mack (all from St Peters) along with Adam Crocker (Kimpton) and Edward Hughes-D'Aeth (St Michael's St Albans), having an average age of 15 years and 8 months, rang a sponsored Quarter Peal, see details on page 2. This was the first time they had all rung together and they gave a very creditable performance at the same time raising £586 for the Children's Society. Thanks to the many members of the District that sponsored them.

- Judith Mack

St Peter's, St Albans

Saturday 18 November 2006

1260 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

1. Roy S Scivyer
2. Edward R Mack
3. Thomas B Mack
4. Adam R Crocker
5. Edward N Hughes-D'Aeth (C)
7. Owen F Woods

Sponsored QP rung for the 125th Anniversary of The Children's Society. Average age of band 15y8m - youngest band to ring a QP at St Peter's and possibly the District.

**Hertford County Association
St Albans, Herts**

Cathedral & Abbey of St Alban

Saturday, 7 October 2006 in 3h18 (23-2-11)

5060 STEDMAN CINQUES

Composed by: D G Hull (arr JNHD)

1. Rosemary J Duke
2. Christine M Carter
3. Roger Baldwin
4. Catherine E Hughes-D'Aeth
5. Geoffrey Dodds
6. Edward N Hughes-D'Aeth
7. Stephen W Penney
8. S Kathleen M Baldwin
9. Richard J W Tibbetts
10. Graham A Duke
11. John N Hughes-D'Aeth (C)
12. Charles F Pocock

200th peal: 1.

Birthday compliment to Chris Carter.

**Society of Royal Cumberland Youths
St Peter's, St Albans**

Sunday, 22 October 2006 in 3:15 (24 cwt)

5040 ROYAL JUBILEE SURPRISE ROYAL

Generated by BYROC

1. Geoffrey Dodds
2. Rosemary J Duke
3. Christine M Carter
4. John J Ford
5. Barry D Mack
6. Richard Sales
7. Graham A Duke (C)
8. Russell A Brown
9. Brian C Watson
10. Jason R Turnock

Specially arranged to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the election of Geoff Dodds to the Society (19/10/1946)

At the end of the December 2006 District meeting at Harpenden under AOB I was somewhat taken aback to be presented with a large parcel. This turned out to be a very elegant glass vase in recognition of my being the District's Auditor/Independent Examiner for some time. On research I realised that I had held this position for 26 years and no doubt irritated 4 District and 2 Interim Secretaries with my questions in the process! It just goes to show that time passes quickly when you are enjoying yourself!

Thank you all for this very kind gesture and also for your friendship and support since Eric's death. It was lovely to see so many ringers at his funeral and was very comforting to Simon, Edward and myself. We have such a great fellowship amongst ringers and this was a time that it was particularly appreciated.

As those of you who were present at the Harpenden meeting will know, it was not uneventful as there was a power failure in Harpenden at 5 o'clock just as we were about to start the service so this was abandoned and tea taken early. We plan to use the 2006 Order of Service for the December 2007 service and we look forward to seeing you all then. We hope you enjoyed the Christmas Tree Festival - there were 78 trees in total.

The one 'bright' spot in the above episode was the efficient working of the emergency lighting in the Ringing Chamber. The Church itself does not have emergency lighting, a fact that was drawn to the attention of the PCC by the Church's Health and Safety Officer (Simon) when he conducted his Safety Assessment several months ago.

Happy Ringing
Sheila

Newsletter by email

This district newsletter is now available electronically! If you would like to receive a personal copy of this newsletter by email, please let the editor know and he'll add you to the distribution list. The email will be sent in PDF format, and will be about 250Kb (A couple of minutes to download on a dial-up modem).

Ramble and Ring



Kittens, biofuel and deer do not often feature in the schedule of a ringing outing, but did all belong on the District's Ringing Ramble on Saturday 14th Oct.

We walked 7 miles, through fields and along country lanes of the Essex/Cambridgeshire border, and the autumn day was warm and free of rain. A sighting of deer followed our picnic lunch - although in fairness some ringers had begun their lunch shortly after disembarking from their cars in Heydon!

The challenge of finding four towers on a circular walking route had not daunted Ann Evans, who led the event with her characteristic thorough organisation. In addition, the route included a brief visit to an animal rescue sanctuary for some - where curled kittens hidden in a quilt were the definite highlight in cage six!

After our second tower we enjoyed an impromptu visit to the farmhouse of the local lady who had met us. The eleven of us tripped lightly, in our walking boots, over sheets of the Financial Times, reaching shortbread and mugs of coffee. As we continued on our ramble, we trod a path across the crops. The local ringer and her husband grow crops chiefly for biofuel.

Favourite tower award of the day hovered between the 6-bell towers of Chrishall (a peal

with a fine tone) and Elmdon (despite swaying rather worryingly at times!), but the 5-bell towers of Heydon and Great Chishill were also enjoyed. Ringing included call changes with our newer ringers and a selection of standard methods to involve everyone else.

This Ringing Ramble was, then, a ringing outing with a difference - and was much enjoyed by all who took part.

- Laura Duncan

Conducting Milestone

On 30th November 2006 John Mayne completed his 1500th handbell peal as conductor, and became the first ever to achieve this record. Our congratulations to him.

Hertford County Association St Albans, Herts, 46 Orchard Drive

Thu Nov 30 1006 1h69 (13)

5040 SPLICED S MINOR

(41M: (1-2) 1440 ALNWICK, BERWICK, BEVERLEY, BOURNE, CAMBRIDGE, CANTERBURY, CARLISLE, CHESTER, DURHAM, HEXHAM, HULL, IPSWICH, MORPETH, MUNDEN, NEWCASTLE, NORFOLK, NORTHUMBERLAND, PRIMROSE, SANDIACRE, SURFLEET, WHITLEY, WOOLER, YORK (J S WARBOYS) (3-5) 2160 ALLENDALE, BACUP, BAMBOROUGH, COLDSTREAM, CUNECASTRE, KELSO, LIGHTFOOT, LINCOLN, LONDON, NETHERSEALE, NORWICH, ROSSENDALE, STAMFORD, WEARMOUTH, WELLS, WESTMINSTER (P A B SADDLETON) (6-7) 1440 ANNABLE'S LONDON, BACUP, BERWICK, BEVERLEY, BOURNE, HEXHAM, HULL, IPSWICH, NORFOLK, SURFLEET, WARKWORTH (J S WARBOYS))

1-2 Richard J W Tibbetts

3-4 John R Mayne (C)

5-6 Dorothea M Mayne

1500th handbell peal as conductor

St Albans District Tower Outing 4th November 2006



This year's District Outing was centred on the Thames-side town of Wallingford and its surrounding villages. The day began at Drayton St Leonard, a friendly 6-bell tower rung from the ground floor. The most challenging feature was to find the access to the village, which was almost entirely surrounded by water, with two strategically placed bridges. The second tower, St Laurence, Warborough, with eight bells, allowed a more adventurous range of methods, and was enjoyed by all standards of ringer. By contrast, the final tower of the morning, St Helen's, Benson, also an eight bell tower, was less responsive and was generally agreed to be hard work. However, Benson did have the advantage of working up both thirst and appetite, and then providing a pub to satisfy both requirements. This was the 'Three Horseshoes', just a short distance from the church.



The morning had run very smoothly, thanks partly to immaculate staff-work by Ann Evans, and partly to impeccable weather (wall to wall

sunshine). The afternoon began with a visit to St Mary le Bone; the parish church of Wallingford, with its 10 bells. This was a treat for at least one member of the party, who had not rung on ten bells before, and gave the experts an opportunity to demonstrate their skills. St Mary's was generally agreed to be an excellent tower, and the team, with morale high, set off for Brightwell cum Sotwell, and then to Cholsey to round off the programme of ringing.



Both of these eight bells towers were enjoyable to ring. The experts were feeling ambitious, splicing Rutland, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Bristol, with some success after a couple of false starts; but even the professionals were undone when asked to try their hand at Original on eight, which will give them all something to practice before the next District Outing!

The journey home was cheered from time to time by fireworks displays, and by a welcome diversion to the 'Leathern Bottle' at Lewknor. Our thanks go to Ann for organising an excellent day, and to Barry Mack for co-ordinating the ringing.

Roger Gedye
(St Helen's, Wheathampstead)

Bell Restoration Fund

So far no requests have been made for funds to be provided from the County Bell Restoration Fund for any work in 2007. As well as funds being available for contribution towards any major restoration work, please bear in mind that small grants can be made for minor repairs such as stays, new ropes etc. Indeed requests for grants up to £250 can be dealt with relatively quickly. The Debenham Fund is also available for small requests. Why don't you apply to both?! Please contact Judith Mack on 01707 371671 or judith.mack@ntlworld.com for further details.

Request a Quarter Peal

Would you like to ring a quarter peal but need help either raising a band or finding a conductor? Cathy Hughes-D'Aeth is happy to help find ringers (and a tower if necessary) to help you. E-mail cathy.hd@btinternet.com

Thank you from John Nicholson

I should like to say thank you to all those members that contributed to the glass tankard presented to me at the ADM and for everyone's support during my time as a District Secretary. I am sure that Judith will continue to receive the member's full cooperation as their new Secretary.

John Nicholson

St Peter's, St Albans

Sunday, 21 January 2007 in 0:49 (24 cwt)

1260 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

1. Roy S Scivyer (1st of Royal)
2. Judith A Mack
3. Jennifer V Johnson
4. Edward R Mack
5. Cynthia Warrilow
6. Ann Evans
7. Thomas B Mack
8. Graham A Duke (C)
9. Barry D Mack
10. Richard Sales

A compliment to the treble ringer on his 18th birthday this day.

More Quarters & Peals

Hertford County Association St Peter's, St Albans

Saturday, 30 December 2006 in 3:03 (24 cwt)

5040 SPLICED SURPRISE ROYAL

4m: 1320 each Cambridge, Yorkshire; 1200 each London No.3, Superlative No.2; 105 com.

Composed by: Graham A Duke

1. Geoffrey Dodds
2. Claire C Nicholson
3. Christine M Carter
4. Richard A Horne
5. Gerald Penney
6. James M Hills
7. Graham A Duke (C)
8. Richard Sales
9. Brian C Watson
10. John N Hughes-D'Aeth

First of Spliced Surprise Royal: 2, 4

St Albans, Herts St Peter

Sunday, 7 January 2007 in 0:51 (24 cwt)

1259 GRANDSIRE CATERS

1. Alison Evans
2. Rosemary J Duke
3. Cynthia Warrilow
4. Alan G G Smith
5. Ann Evans
6. Thomas B Mack
7. Graham A Duke (C)
8. Richard Sales
9. Barry D Mack
10. Roy S Scivyer

Rung open as a thanksgiving for the life of Richard Rouse, a past churchwarden and church treasurer.

Harpenden, Herts St Nicholas

Sunday, 28 January 2007

1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

1. Diana Parrott
2. Sarah Taylow
3. Sheila Edmondson
4. Andrew Agg
5. Rev'd John Orme
6. Andrew Cripps
7. David Darby (C)
8. John Harper

For Evensong by the members of the local band and as a compliment to Amy Coburn who was Tower Secretary for 44 years on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

St Albans District Ringing Programme 2007/8

Month	Date	Bells	Ringing Time			Notes
			10:00 - 12:00	15:30 - 17:00	19:00 - 20:30	
February	17	6	Radlett		-	
February	24	10			Hitchin	
March	17	8	-		Hemel Hempstead 6pm Start (P)	Non- St Albans District
April	21	8	Essendon		-	
May	19	6	-		South Mymms	Woolford Cup
May	26	10	-	-	St Albans, St Peter	Association 10 bell
June	2	8	Northchurch 09:50	-	-	Coburn Trophy
June	16	8	North Mymms		-	
June	16					Ridgeman Trophy Rothwell Peterborough Diocesan Guild
July	21	6	Lemsford		-	
August	18	8	-		Kimpton	
August	25	10	-	-	Rickmansworth	Association 10 bell
September	15	10	St Albans, St Peter		-	
September	29	8	Kimpton 09:50		-	
October	20	6	-		St Albans, St Michael	
November	17	8	Sandridge		-	
December	15	8	-	Harpenden	Harpenden	Nominations
January	19	6	-	Kimpton	Kimpton	ADM

P = Provisional

District Officers 2007/8

Ringing Master:	Claire Nicholson 020 7944 3518 ccnicholson@fsmail.net	Deputy Ringing Master:	Barry Mack 01707 371671 barry.mack@ntlworld.com
District Secretary:	Judith Mack 01707 371671 judith.mack@ntlworld.com	Committee Member:	Ann Evans 01727 824313 ann@ev43.wanadoo.co.uk
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General Committee Rep:	Ben Duke 01727 768336 ben.duke1@ntlworld.com		