

# Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Central Branch Newsletter (number 68) November 2009



**Harold Gibson** has been a member of the Cathedral Company of Ringers since 1964. In October, a peal was arranged at the Cathedral for him to ring for his 80th birthday. Unfortunately this was lost when a group of tourists entered the belfry, but the quarter of Cambridge Surprise Maximus rung there for Evensong the following afternoon was also rung to congratulate him. Here he tells us of his introduction to ringing :

“The church of St Helen West Keal stands on the southern edge of the Wolds overlooking the fens, Boston and the Wash. This was the church where I learned to ring. I remember as a boy before the war, on going to church on a Sunday evening I used to watch the ringers in action. I took in all the actions from taking coils in pulling the bell up, then taking coils in and pulling the bell down. The wartime ban lasted from 1939 until April 1943. The ringers only ever practiced from November to Christmas, most of them being farm workers.

I was invited to learn, and the second week in November 1943, full of nerves, I went up. Ringers from Old Bolingbroke and Halton Hologate would come to our practice.

My one and only lesson

Mr George Parker taught me. He pulled the Treble down, then ‘Which hand afore are you?’ I held the rope left hand above right. ‘Take your laps in and pull the bell up.’ All of what I had seen I now put into practice. I got the bell up and then was helped to set it. I then pulled the bell down and up again after which I was left to my own devices. I would have two or three goes on practice nights. In early December I could ring rounds. Sunday ringing was from 6 to 6.30 pm. My bell was the third. Straight away pull up in rounds. This would take 10 minutes, 10 minutes ringing, then down 10 minutes. To this day I always think of the slow rise and fall. ‘Oh how I wish’. (I think we could have competed with the Devon bands). I never knew what method ringing was until 1946.

The only piece of advice I got was when pulling up or down; ‘If you are catching up with the bell in front pull, if you are getting behind check’. I had already worked this out.”

## **Guild Committee Meeting 7 November**

- \* **Guild Striking Contest** Next year ED Branch Moulton and Whaplode proposed. The Central branch team were runners-up in the inter-branch 8 bell contest in which there were **only 4 teams** Was this because it fell in half term and a lot of ringers were away? Care next year. Eastern Branch to host.
- \* **Fund Raising Committee**  
Badges still available.  
**Raffle** to be done again. 50p a ticket. Raised over £700 last year.  
**Christmas cards** this year £3 per pack of 10.  
A few **Sweatshirts** etc still available.
- \* **Accounts.**  
Proposed same subs next time with the same split. Adverts in RW encouraged again.  
**Simulator. Publicity value.** Can you use it for local functions celebrations etc? Transport could be made easier if we had some sort of **trailer**. Does anyone know of a horse trailer going begging?! **Insurance elements** of its expenses be paid by the Guild on Guild insurance.  
Ian reported the existence of the **ringing foundation** that could be asked for funds towards projects to get ringing publicity into schools.
- \* **BRF**  
All 100 Club numbers taken  
Affiliation Scheme needs boost  
A lot of grants paid out last year. Some in pipe-line for this.
- \* **2010 AGM April 24**
- \* **Child Protection**  
Meeting at Deeping clear and useful. Each Branch needs to appoint a Rep to be a contact point for any concerns in the first instance, to give **advice or refer to someone else.** We must all be mindful of guidelines at Branch events - CRB, permission form for children on outings etc.  
**Website**  
Sandra the webmaster to stand down up at AGM, and is prepared to provide help to anyone taking over.
- \* **Guild Newsletter**  
Do we still want one? No-one is providing news. Thanks to Ben
- \* **Bishops Achievement Awards.**  
No news . Sue asked how we action it but has heard nothing.
- \*

## AOB

- \* Sue asked what wedding fees do towers get?
- \* **Subs.** When does membership cease? Peals Insurance cover etc. **Anyone not paid by Guild AGM, no longer a member.**

## Proposed Ringing Programme 2010

These are the suggestions to be discussed and ratified at the **AGM.**

Jan 9	<b>Ewerby</b>	<b>Branch AGM</b>	
	Ringing, Service, Tea & Meeting		3pm start
Feb 13	North Rauceby		14.30 - 16.00
Mar 13	Scothern		14.30 - 16.00
Apr 10	Waddington		19.00 - 21.00
Apr 24	<b>Guild AGM</b>		
May 8	Branston	<b>Striking Contest</b>	Draw at 5.00 pm
May 31	Nettleham	<b>Rabbits</b>	Draw at 3pm
Jun 12	Welbourn		19.00 - 21.00
Jul 10	Nocton	Full meeting Ring, Service, Barbecue	
Aug 13	Boothby/Navenby/Wellingore	<b>Ring for your supper.</b>	
Sep 11	Training morning	Do we want one? If not what?	
	<b>Guild 6-bell Striking contest Final,</b>	Whaplode and	
	Moulton in ED Branch		

### OCTOBER IS QUARTER PEAL MONTH

Oct 9	Bassingham		19.00 - 21.00
Oct ?	<b>Guild inter-Branch 8-bell Striking Contest</b>		
Nov 13	Hackthorn	<b>Quiz night</b>	7.30 pm
Dec 11	Potterhanworth	<b>Carol Service</b>	15.00 pm
2011			
Jan 8	St Giles (hopefully)	<b>Branch AGM</b>	
Feb 12	Martin		14.30 - 16.00
Mar 12	Dunholme		14.30 - 16.00

We are grateful to Sue Waterfall for arranging **Surprise Major Practices at Washingborough** . Although these are not Guild or Branch practices, anyone wishing to ring Surprise Major are most welcome. They are held from 10.30 - 12, on Saturdays 23 Jan, 27 Feb, 27 Mar, 17 Apr (to avoid Guild AGM) 22 May, 26 Jun, 24 Jul, 28 Aug, 25 Sep, 23 Oct, 27 Nov, 18 Dec (avoids Christmas Day !)

**Put these dates in your diary!** Any queries to Sue Waterfall 07925 149104.

Another Surprise Major practice will be held on the first Saturday of each month, from 19.00 to 21.00 at either Heydour or Caythorpe.

**These meetings are subject to change during the year. Do check.**

## **Hackthorn Bellringers . . .**

The second annual outing for Hackthorn Bellringers was kindly arranged by Val and David Fox on Saturday 22 August. Four churches in the Trent Valley were selected along the B1241, namely : Saxilby, Stow, Willingham and Lea. Each tower was very different to Hackthorn and so provided a varied ringing experience for all.

All arrived on time at St Botolph's Church, Saxilby, where the church was decorated ready for an afternoon wedding and the six bells were already up, waiting for our first 45 minute ring of the day. Without hesitation, Brian nominated suitable ringers to each bell and rounds, call changes and Bob Doubles began, interrupted by short pauses in order for another band to take their turn. Very soon all eleven 'ringers on tour' had made a contribution. After a refreshing cold drink, the thank you's were made to the host tower and it was time to leave.

Passing through Stow, the next six bell ring was at St Helen's, Willingham. A ground level, small ringing chamber with ringing mats, a polar bear 'cuddly toy' sitting on the rope spider and bells that needed raising and lowering. A smooth ring enjoyed by all. Partners arrived during the ringing and general comment from outside was that these bells were very kind on the ear. The allocated time soon went and it was a short drive outside the village for lunch at the Fox and Hounds.

After a leisurely lunch, it was back to the village of Stow to ring at St Mary's. This fine church has a ring of eight bells - the large ringing chamber with a low ceiling is reached by climbing a long series of uneven steps, high into the tower. It was an opportunity for some to have their first ring on eight bells. Like Saxilby the bells were ready to ring and did not need lowering. With some careful mentoring and patience, more call changes were made. The time went quickly by and after signing the visitor's book it was ready to move on to the last tower of the day.

The church of St Helen's, Lea sits on the hill. Up a few, small, stone steps there is a small ringing chamber with a glass panel overlooking the congregation - so the bell ropes may be viewed

from the ground floor. Like Willingham, the bells needed to be raised and lowered and they were clear and even to the sound. The day finished with some Bob Minor. As the bells were being lowered, Val was busy setting up afternoon tea in the churchyard. Well done to Val and David for the tower and hospitality management - much appreciated by all and so pleased that you selected such a glorious sunny, summer day.

Brian should be proud to record the second successful outing for Hackthorn Bellringers.

**Helen McGurk**

## **Training Morning**

On Saturday the 12 September the Branch held a training morning for those learning Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Doubles and Minor. There were a couple of young ringers who took advantage of the opportunity to hone their skills but unfortunately they were heavily out-numbered by more experienced ringers. This would have been a good occasion for anyone, young or old, who wished to advance their ringing on six bells with plenty of accomplished helpers, but as the response was so poor the Branch is unlikely to repeat the event next year.

**John Nicholson**

[At the Branch Committee meeting on November 11 it was decided to review whether it is worth running Training Mornings in the present format - or even at all? If you have any views on this contact Mick or Dot or any committee member.]

At the same event the competition for the onion trophy was judged.

## **'Onion' Photo Competition September 12 2009**

Onion comp runs its course - time to 'ring' the changes. This being a new venture, the number of entries was quite surprising. As a member of a camera club - all the gear no idea! -I was chosen to judge.

Judging as always is a personal affair - I was looking for clear, sharp images with an unusual perspective and unfortunately many pictures were fuzzy and out of focus. There was one very good image which could have easily won but the author came clean and did not submit it as it was outwith the criteria - Ecclesiastical stonework sourced within the Central Branch.

Results :-

3rd - entered by Phil (taken by Dot). **Figurine on the wall above new staircase in Cathedral lavatory.** This could have had first place but it was taken at a strange angle when a more square approach was required in this case. I now understand that the author needed to stand on a chair to get anywhere near the subject.

2nd - entered by Cathy of Nettleham. **Freestanding gargoye in Nettleham Church.** Cathy entered two images - one had an interesting aspect where blue coloured background set off the open mouth to good effect.

1st - **Gargoye in Lincoln Cathedral.** Taken by Dot. This was a close up and thus subject to a limited depth of field yet all was sharp - particularly the eyes.

**Philip Dawson** ARPS (only joking - just a keen amateur)

## **Ringers on holiday in Dorset 18 - 25 September**

On a sunny Friday a group of ringers set off to enjoy a holiday with a difference, a holiday with ringing in it! We made our way to the south coast to stay in a 7 bedroom cottage in a little village near Swanage.

The Saturday was a ringing day, taking in five towers. One particular tower, a 17 cwt six went much better than I thought they would and I wanted to take the tenor home with me! We decided this might be tricky so left it there. There weren't many volunteers to ring the tenor at the next tower, as the ropes were 'a touch' on the stretchy side so were a challenge for everyone. Isn't it funny how some of us suddenly found the urge to nip off to enjoy a cream tea nearby during our visit!

On the Sunday we made ourselves useful and rang for service at some local towers in the morning. After all, that's what being a bell-ringer is all about. We had the rest of the day to please ourselves. Some of us went for a walk down a hill to Dancing Ledge where we could sit and look out to sea but we realised we had to walk back up the hill. Oh well!

Monday was a train and bus day. We boarded the steam train from Swanage to Corfe Castle village where we rang and enjoyed a meal, then took a bus ride to Wareham for more ringing before catching another bus to get back to the steam train to what we were now calling our home. Some of us (over a certain age) got the bus ride for free.

Tuesday was a mixture of general ringing and four quarter peals which were cleverly planned so people weren't hanging around

waiting for a ring. Some of us went to see the giant at Cerne Abbas. Let's say he didn't leave much to the imagination!

Wednesday was a day to do other things, a break from ringing. At some point during the day we all got chance to learn about the railway we used on Monday. One lucky person got a ride on the 'footplate' of the steam engine, with the stoker and driver, while the rest of us had the cleaner option of operating levers in the signal box at Swanage.

On Thursday we went to Brownsea Island. We had a picnic and a ring on the bells, before enjoying a walk around the island, whilst a quarter peal was rung. As we wandered away from the church, the sound of the bells faded and we had the delight of spotting some red squirrels. The cunning little creatures didn't make it easy for us though!

The final day of our hol 'came round' all too soon and we vacated the lovely cottage with the intention of returning one day. Leaving the house didn't mean the holiday was over yet. We rang at two more towers and enjoyed one more last tasty pub meal before going our separate ways.

For me, the holiday meant fun, friendship and good food. Many thanks to our friend Sandra for the hard work she put into organising such a good holiday. Well done.

**Sue Waterfall**

**Lincolnshire Day** (1st October) in 2007 was celebrated with a quarter peal of (what else?) Lincolnshire Surprise Major at Welbourn, arranged with very little notice. 2008, with a bit more planning, saw Lincolnshire Surprise Royal rung at Ewerby in the morning, and Major at Welbourn in the afternoon, and the day was rounded off with quarters of Lincoln Surprise Minor and Lincolnshire Major at the Woodside Campanile and another of Lincolnshire Major at Chedburgh Campanile in the evening.

So it came to 2009 and the Master Planner started his new spread sheet. The idea was to ring Lincolnshire Royal at Ewerby and Lincolnshire Major at Caythorpe at the same time. This obviously needed 18 ringers and as  $3 \times 6 = 18$  as well as  $10 + 8$ , the M.P. divided the group into three bands of six for the afternoon. Unfortunately the four letter word (W.O.R.K) reared its ugly head and two of the band could only ring in the morning. Fortunately their other halves were able to take their places in the afternoon and quarters of Cambridge

Surprise Minor were rung at Branston and Navenby and, to complete the Lincolnshire theme, a quarter of Bourne Surprise Minor was rung at Eagle, with two firsts in the method. Although we were mainly adopted COLINS (Citizens of Lincolnshire) we were all pleased to be part of the celebrations and we have to thank our two friends from Nottinghamshire who made up our numbers to eighteen ringers at Caythorpe and Branston.

**Betty Stracey**

[A flying start to quarter peal week!. What of next year?!! Ed]

Other Lincolnshire Day ringing in the Branch was the quarter at Bardney, and ringing at St Mary-le-Wigford.

## **Welcome**

- - - - to **Richard Thornton** of Nettleham who was elected a member at the Quiz night at Hackthorn in November.

## **How are the mighty fallen**

While holidaying on Jersey, a St Helier ringer offered to give me a lift across the island to ring on the light ring of 8 there. When asked to ring I grabbed the treble for a course of Cambridge Major. Now I regard myself as something of an expert on light bells but it took me rather a long time to tame this one! Eventually I managed it but it was all rather embarrassing in front of a large number of strangers.

**John**

**Ketteringham**

## **Branch Meeting - 10 October**

It was a beautiful warm English autumn evening - a pleasant surprise given the vagaries of the previous week's weather. A little over twenty members attended the Branch gathering at Leadenham and Fulbeck on 10 October, one or two of us attracted by the 'all abilities catered for' billing! For those unfamiliar with St Swithun at Leadenham, the interior of the church can only be described as breathtaking. It always seems to me so much more intimidating when the belfry is accessed via the nave - no creeping in the tower back-door tradesman's entrance; it was as if St Swithun was saying - 'come here to ring again have you? You'd better put on a good show. 'And a good show I believe we had - rounds and call changes for us



beginners and Plain Bob Minor for the experienced ringers. One of our members described St Swithun's bells as the finest sound of the cliff villages and who would disagree? An interesting curiosity of the ringing chamber was a wealth of insect life - possibly the largest colonies of ladybirds I have ever seen, all getting ready for a cosy St Swithun's winter. After a good ring by everyone, there followed the short trip along the cliff to St Nicholas at Fulbeck (tradesman's entrance) and a slightly lighter ring. Additions to the programme included, appropriately, Fulbeck Bob Minor (much scratching of heads) and St Nicholas.

Of course, many members are unable to attend these meetings due to all sorts of other commitments. I suspect, however, that many beginners think that it might just not be for them - strange towers - mixing with experienced ringers etc. To these I would say that every opportunity to try a new tower is valuable. The meetings really are for everyone and everyone is made to feel very welcome.

**Roy Chapman**

## **Overheard**

'Look to the Treble'; the rope was twisted so as she untwisted it the next line came out as 'She's getting ready'. 'That's a new one' exclaimed her husband.

'Look to; Trebles going'; then, unable to pull it off, 'Help me Margaret!!'

They were holding their ropes ready to ring but were (as usual) all talking.

The Treble ringers turned to her mentor and asked 'Shall 'I look to' them?'

The ringer of the second said, 'Look to, Treble's going.'

The Treble ringer said, 'Hey! That's my line!'

The first ringer rang the Treble next time, and turned to the Ringing Master saying, 'Can I say it now?'

## **Young Ringers Day 26 October**

During the October half term we young ringers again got together to ring at 3 different towers. Our first tower was Branston where the first ringing took place. From there we moved on to Potterhanworth. Here we rung and called quits for lunch. We then had a standing competition (upon a silenced bell) where we had to stand the bell at handstroke, then handstroke and backstroke. Our third and final tower was Nocton which we rang at until 3pm. It was another good day and we look forward to the next one.

**Helen Burberry**

My impressions were how well we rang (with the exception of the lower at Potterhanworth where we were a bit over ambitious in lowering all six in peal. What a pity that a visitor to the church who happens to be a ringer heard the tail-end of that and none of our good ringing!). As we had fewer numbers than before we made good use of the time and everyone had a go at successfully calling call changes - not as easy as it sounds for those who have never tried it! Thanks to Sylvia and John for their hard work and to Christopher who kept up the momentum by challenging them while the rest of the adults relaxed at lunch time. The amount of laughter coming from the belfry bears witness to the fun they had! I will say my passengers were very quiet on the way home. I think they probably slept well that night!

If there are any other young ringers out there in the Branch who would like to join us (we plan to go ten-pin bowling next time as well as ring), please let me know. Your tower captain will tell you how.

**Margaret Parker**

On an outing : 'I didn't like those plain dark sallies. I couldn't pick them out against the roof.'

'Then you weren't looking in the right place. You are supposed to look level with your eyes!'

'You'd expect these bells to be really loud and deep like a real butch man, but they sound sort of soft like a lot of poofs.'

‘What are you looking at?’ ‘I’m trying to learn this blooming Yorkshire.’

‘Let’s ring it then. ... Go blooming Yorkshire.’

They had settled into good rounds but as soon as the method started they lost the rhythm completely. The conductor said in exasperation, ‘I said ‘Go Plain Bob’, not ‘Go to pieces!’”

## Quiz Night November 14

I often have to cajole someone to report on our activities for the Newsletter, but this time I had two submitted immediately after the event. Here is what happened seen by different people who were there.

I joined St Giles band about a year ago and was invited to the 2008 quiz night at Hackthorn. I couldn’t make it due to a prior commitment but it sounded good and I made a note to make sure that I could attend this year’s one. So, come 14th Nov I herded the family team of 6 to the hall on time - only to find that it appeared to be full! More tables were rushed into place eventually making eleven by the time Washingborough’s (Jonathan’s always late) team arrived. [They **had** been in the tower, ringing.]

Mick explained the rules and off we went into round one .... The questions in all the rounds contained a good mix, ranging from straightforward through hard - just as a quiz should be in my view. After 4 rounds we paused for supper. I’d wondered how the ‘have faith’ part was going to work - but need not have worried as it worked in practice - just like I was told it would. The raffle was held, I actually won a prize, Christmas cards were sold and entry fees collected.

A first background activity saw us trying to name the male, female, baby and plural of various animals followed by translating everyday phrases from English into American. Two countries divided by a common language as Sir Winston said. An interesting twist here was that one of the questions had a ‘transcription error’ between Betty and Mick - which raised a laugh all round.

So back to the final 4 rounds with Jokers played and more interesting questions.

Betty then announced the results, Nettleham won with there being quite a spread of results between the teams. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I was pleasantly surprised at how many people I recognised around the hall.

Many thanks to Betty and Mick for the organisation, I'm also advised that the 2010 quiz will be held at Hackthorn on 13 November -so see you there then.

**Robert Hardy**

On Saturday 14th November a ringers from the branch and further afield gathered together for the annual quiz night. The venue was Hackthorn Village Hall. A good number of ringers and non-ringers turned out in teams of between 4 and 6 to attempt to answer the range of question which had been prepared by Betty Stracey. Mid way through the evening a 'Faith Supper' was shared by all, which was followed by a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' to Margaret Parker. The winning team '3+2+1 scored a whopping 149 points. An enjoyable evening was had by all, including the 'knickerfull' of ferrets!

**Amanda Pues**

## **We wonder**

---- who was the ringer who was cutting back the clematis and cut her phone line by mistake, leaving herself dependant on her mobile to organise the visitors?

## **Congratulations**

---- to **John Bundy** on ringing his first quarter as Conductor. This was Bob Doubles at Hackthorn on 12 July and recorded in the last issue and I forgot to include him in this column. Sorry John!

---- to **John Ketteringham** and **Harold Gibson**, both of whom have just celebrated their 80th birthday.

---- to **Louis Frith** on ringing his first quarter, the tenor to Bob Doubles at Waddington on 11 Oct.

---- to **Bridget Jones-Crabtree** on ringing her first quarter, the treble to Bob Doubles at Washingborough on 1 November.

---- to **Jean Williams** on ringing her first peal, the Treble to Bob Minor at Waddington. This was rung on the 50th anniversary of the first peal on the 6 bells.

---- to **Colin Watson** who rang his first quarter as conductor, Bob Doubles at Martin in July.

---- to **the Martin band** on ringing two quarters in the summer. They were a completely new band and they have worked towards being able to accomplish this without any input from outside. A great encouragement to Judith who started them off, and to Christopher and the rest who helped them on the way.

- - - - to **Christopher Woodcock** on ringing two tower bells double handed to a quarter at Potterhanworth in October.

## **Front Page Feature.**

In August 2002 Phil Pitchford reminisced about his learning years at Brant Broughton. This inspired Harold to do the same, and here for the edition where we celebrate his 80th birthday he has written about how he learned to ring. It may be that a lot more of you (especially, but not necessarily our more senior members) have an interesting tale to tell about your early ringing. If so let me have it, if possible with a drawing of the tower where you learnt or where you now ring. I am sure we would find it interesting to compare how we all began.

## **News from the towers**

Earlier in the year there was an article in the Ringing World about the use of pieces of motorcycle tyre to silence the bells when learners are being taught on a single bell. (It seems to have been put forward as a new idea, but I remember talk of Charlie Cade using them in the pre-war years, perhaps he was well ahead of his time!) Roy Chapman tried it out at Thorpe-on-the-Hill with great success. The Nettleham ringers begged the spare part of the tyre and now use the same system, and John Bundy has done the same for Dunholme with the rest of it. This makes silencing quick and easy, and the bell handles normally for the clapper swings as in open ringing. I am sure Roy, Ian Douglas or John would be more than happy to share their discoveries as to how the method is best implemented with anyone who would like to hear.

**Lincoln, St Giles.** On 12 November there was the opening ceremony for the new Chad Varah Primary School in the parish, and the main event was held in the church. The bells were rung to two courses of Lincolnshire Surprise Major and some Grandsire Triples before the ceremony. The church was absolutely packed - oh that it were every Sunday!

All ringing has been at **Blankney** suspended until further notice as one of the tower buttresses is coming away from the tower. This small parish needs to find £180,000 which may take some time.

**Potterhanworth** bells now sound beautifully mellow from outside when the shutters are closed. Perhaps some other towers whose bells are a bit harsh outside could follow this example in the interests of the neighbourhood?

It is good to see **new Conductors** of quarters coming up. I thought there would be one more, making three this Newsletter when James Stevenson called Bob Doubles at Dunholme, only to be told he had called Grandsire a few years ago with most of the band at Dunholme. Even he had forgotten about it as well as all of us but one ringer!

After the ringers' service  
I'm perplexed and in despair.  
The parson rambled on and on  
His theme the power of prayer.  
Strange - for I had prayed most fervently  
He'd keep it short this year.

## October quarter Peals

**Bardney, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : John Fry 1, Janet Risdale 2, Jim Sutherland 3, Yvonne Woodcock 4, Christine Jackson 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. Rung to celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Branston, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Heather Grover 1, Sandra Stallibrass 2, Fiona Dawson 3, John Underwood 4, Philip Dawson 5, Phil Mason (C) 6. Rung to celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Branston, Woodside Campanile. Lincs.** 21 Oct, 1320 Bourne Surprise Minor ; Phil Mason 1, Dot Mason 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Betty Stracey 4, John Underwood 5, Mick Stracey (C) 6. For the Central Branch quarter peal month.

**Branston, Lincs.** 31 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Christopher Woodcock (C) 1, Sue Waterfall 2, Ron Applewhite 3, Yvonne Woodcock 4, Colin Ward 5, Ray Cucksey 6. Rung on All Saints Eve to celebrate the Patronal festival, on the tenth Anniversary of the Treble ringer's first quarter peal also on this bell.

**Caythorpe, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Mary Riglar 1, Christine Jackson 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Geoff Riglar 4, Betty Stracey 5, John Nicholson 6, Phil Grover 7, Mick Stracey (C) 8. To celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Dunholme, Lincs.** 19 Oct, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor : John Ketteringham 1, Kate Morgan 2, John Nicholson 3, Betty Stracey 4, Christopher Woodcock 5, Michael Stracey (C) 6.

**Dunholme, Lincs.** 28 Oct, 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor : James Stevenson 1, Margaret Parker 2, Dave Burkitt 3, John Bundy 4, Fiona Dawson (C) 5. Philip Dawson 6.

**Eagle, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1272 Bourne Surprise Minor : Mary Riglar 1, Christine Jackson 2, Geoff Riglar 3, Betty Stracey 4, John Nicholson 5, Mick Stracey (C) 6. First in method - 3 & 5. Rung to celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Eagle, Lincs.** 11 Oct, 1260 Doubles (1v/4m : April Day, Plain Bob, St Simons, St Martins and Grandsire) : Willy Turner 1, Soo Pendleton 2, Mick Stracey (C) 3, Betty Stracey 4, Sue Waterfall 5, Robert Harvey 6. For Evensong at Harvest Festival time.

**Ewerby, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1282 Lincolnshire Surprise Royal : Margaret Parker 1, Sylvia Taylor 2, Dot Mason 3, Sandra Stallibrass 4, John Underwood 5, Les Townsend 6, David Fox 7, Harold Gibson 8, Peter Wakefield 9, Phil Mason (C) 10. To celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Ewerby, Lincs.** 18 Oct, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Dot Mason 2, Sandra Stallibrass 3, Mary Faircloth 4, Jonathan Clark 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, John Underwood 7, Phil Mason (C) 8. For Evensong.

**Hackthorn, Lincs.** 18 Oct, 1320 Plain Bob Minor : Val Fox 1, Margaret Parker 2, Helen McGurk 3, John Bundy 4, Brian Smith 5, David Fox (C) 6. For Harvest Festival celebration.

**Hackthorn, Lincs.** 28 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : Helen McGurk 1, Margaret Parker 2, Sally Turnbull 3, John Bundy 4, Brian Smith 5, David Fox (C) 6. Rung to welcome Troy, first great grandchild for Brian. First Minor - 3.

**Lincoln Cathedral.** 11 Oct, 1320 Grandsire Cinques : Harold Gibson 1, Sandra Stallibrass 2, Dot Mason 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Delia Heppenstall 5, John Underwood 6, David Fox (C) 7, Sylvia Taylor 8, Les Townsend 9, Robin Heppenstall 10, Mick Stracey 11, Phil Mason 12. For Evensong. First Grandsire Cinques inside - 6. First Grandsire Cinques as Conductor.

**Lincoln Cathedral.** 25 Oct, 1346 Cambridge Surprise Maximus : Robin Heppenstall 1, Grahame Colborne 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Dot Mason 4, Fiona Dawson 5, Delia Heppenstall 6, Les Townsend 7, Sandra Stallibrass 8, John Underwood 9, David Fox 10, Phil Mason 11, Michael Stracey (C) 12. First Maximus as Conductor. Rung for Evensong and as an 80th birthday compliment to Cathedral ringer, Harold Gibson.

**Lincoln, St Mary.** 18 Oct, 1272 Single Court and Plain Bob Minimus : Sue Waterfall 1, Jean Williams 2, Yvonne Woodcock 3, Christopher Woodcock (C) 4. Rung prior to the annual Civic Service for the Guild of Freemen of Lincoln. First blows in Single Court, and more than one method - 2.

**Metheringham, Lincs.** 24 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles : Jayne Palmer 1, John Fry 2, Christopher Woodcock (C) 3, Yvonne Woodcock 4, John Nicholson 5, Ray Cucksey 6. Rung for the opening of Metheringham feast and the Patronal Festival of St Wilfrid.

**Navenby, Lincs.** 1 Oct, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Kate Morgan 1, Dot Mason 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Les Townsend 4, David Fox 5, Matthew Jeffery (C) 6. Rung to celebrate Lincolnshire Day.

**Newark, Notts.** 25 Oct, 1282 Lincolnshire Surprise Royal : Philip Dawson 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Dot Mason 3, Philip Grover 4, Sandra Stallibrass 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, John Underwood 7, Mick Stracey 8, Phil Mason (C) 9, Paul Mason 10. A Gopha quarter.

**Nocton, Lincs.** 14 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : John Fry 1, Jayne Palmer 2, Yvonne Woodcock 3, John Nicholson 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5, Christine Jackson 6. Rung half muffled prior to the funeral service of Rev Terence Stokes.

**Potterhanworth, Lincs.** 4 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Christopher Woodcock (C) 1-2, John Fry 3, Jayne Palmer 4, Yvonne Woodcock 5, Ray Cucksey 6. Rung prior to the Harvest Festival. First double handed quarter for 1 - 2.

**Potterhanworth, Lincs.** 28 Oct, 1260 Minor (Cambridge Surprise & Plain Bob) : David Burkitt 1, Fiona Dawson 2, John Ketteringham 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, John Collett 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. Best wishes to John Ketteringham on his 80th birthday.

**Ruskington, Lincs.** 14 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles consisting of 10 different extents : Mary Riglar 1, Yvonne Hubbard 2, Geoff Wilkins 3, Richard Short 4, Geoff Riglar (C) 5, Cecil Hall 6. First of Grandsire Doubles - 3.



**Scothern, Lincs.** 13 Oct, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Margaret Parker 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Michael Stracey (C) 3, David Fox 4, John Bundy 5, Philip Dawson 6. Rung before the concert given by Scothern Chorale in memory of Elsie and Mary Finlay.

**Scothern, Lincs.** 28 Oct, 1272 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Kate Morgan 1, Mick Stracey (C) 2, Barry Peachey 3, John Nicholson 4, Heather Peachey 5, Robert Jordan 6. Best wishes to John Ketteringham on his 80th birthday. 150th bell in the Central Branch rung as Conductor for a quarter peal.

**Sleaford, Lincs.** 11 Oct, 1264 Plain Bob Major : Mary Riglar 1, Jean Kay 2, Yvonne Hubbard 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, Geoffrey Wilkins 5, Geoffrey Riglar 6, Richard Short 7, Richard Spencer (C) 8. First on 8 and inside - 2. For St Denys Patronal Festival.

**Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Lincs.** 22 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Derek Phillipson 1, Annie Houghton 2, Margaret Parker (C) 3, Stan Underwood 4, Roger Asher 5, Roy Chapman 6. First inside 2. Rung in memory of Sydney Francis Glozier, father of 2, on what would have been his 91st birthday, and on the first birthday of Oscar, Victoria's grandson. Also to welcome John and Tina Carr who moved into Thorpe today.

**Waddington, Lincs.** 11 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Robert Harvey 1, Amanda Pues 2, Colin Ward (C) 3, Sue Waterfall 4, Wendy Jeins 5, Louis Frith 6. Rung for Harvest Festival. First quarter - 1.

**Waddington, Lincs.** 31 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Jean Williams 1, Amanda Pues 2, Angela Holt 3, Graham Whittaker 4, Jonathan Clark (C) 5, Wendy Jeins 6. Rung for quarter peal month.

**Washingborough, Lincs.** 32 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Bridget Jones-Crabtree 1, Amanda Pues 2, Colin Ward 3, Christopher Woodcock 4, Jonathan Clark (C) 5, Graham Whittaker 6. Rung for All Souls evening service. First quarter (aged 11) - 1.

**Welbourn, Lincs.** 2 Oct, 1280 Spliced Surprise Major : Dot Mason 1, Christine Jackson 2, David Fox 3, John Underwood 4, Betty Stracey 5, Sandra Stallibrass 6, Phil Mason 7, Mick Stracey (C) 8. Rung before Harvest Festival Service.

**Welton, Lincs.** 26 Oct, 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor : David Fox 1, Dot Mason 2, Fiona Dawson 3, John Bundy 4, Philip Dawson 5, Phil Mason (C) 6. David has now circled the tower to quarters.

## Quarter Peals in the Newsletter.

Again I have been given a backlog of quarters rung in the Branch. It has been agreed that from now on, any that have been rung more than 4 weeks before the publication of the previous edition cannot be included except in special circumstances. People are asked to give 20p per rope towards the cost of printing the Newsletter, and in fairness to all those who do, I must ask for the donations you have collected to be paid up front. At least half the band in quarters rung outside the Branch must be members of the Branch.

For the last time late quarters are published here.

**Blankney.** 1 June. 1260 Plain Bob Minor : John Ketteringham 1, Pamela Bohling-Brown 2, Kate Morgan 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Sylvia Taylor 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. In memory of David Collis.

**Nocton.** 2 June. 1260 Southrepps Doubles : Christopher Woodcock (C) 1, Janet Risdale 2, Ron Applewhite 3, John Nicholson 4, Clive Brooke 5, Ray Cucksey 6.

**Branston.** 6 June. 1260 Southrepps Doubles : Sam Palmer 1, Jayne Palmer 2, Ron Applewhite 3, Yvonne Woodcock 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5, Ray Cucksey 6

**Hackthorn.** 8 June. 1272 London Surprise Minor. John Ketteringham 1, Sylvia Taylor 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Geoffrey Bryant 4, Robert Jordan 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6.

**Norton Disney** 6 July. 1440 Double Oxford Bob Minor : John Ketteringham 1, Kate Morgan 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, Neville Sharpe 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. First in method 2 & 5.

**Nocton.** 12 July. 1560 Plain Bob Doubles : Sam Palmer 1, Yvonne Woodcock 2, Clive Brooke 3, John Nicholson 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5, Ray Cucksey 6.

Conductor, 'I've got a frog in my throat'.  
'It's all those tadpoles you've been swallowing!'

And if you go wrong....  
You'll give me a quiet (loud) word!

I liked it when we had all those learners.  
They used to think I was clever!

## Branch Quarter Peals

MARTIN 22 Jun  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. Janet Chafer  
2. Janet Risdale  
3. Karen Brooke  
4. Clive Brooke  
5. Colin Watson (C)  
6. Gerald Audis  
First quarter by an all resident band.  
First quarter as conductor.  
Rung on practice night by local band  
to celebrate the 65th birthday of Colin  
Watson.

MARTIN 13 Jul  
1272 Plain Bob Minimus  
1. Karen Brooke  
2. Gerald Audis  
3. Clive Brooke  
4. Colin Watson  
First in method - 1, 2 & 3.  
All joint conductors.  
Rung on the front 4 on practice night.

SCOTTER 10 Aug  
1440 London Surprise Minor  
1. John Ketteringham  
2. Fiona Dawson  
3. Barry Peachey  
4. Janet Clarke  
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
6. Robert Jordan  
In thanksgiving for the life of Paul  
Cattermole.

POTTERHANWORTH 26 Aug  
1320 Potterhanworth Treble Place  
Minor  
1. John Nicholson  
2. Fiona Dawson  
3. Sylvia Taylor  
4. Betty Stracey  
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
6. Mick Stracey  
First blows in the method  
x34x14x12x1236x1456x56 -12  
425th quarter as Conductor.

NOCTON 26 Aug  
1320 Nocton Treble Place Minor  
1. John Nicholson  
2. Fiona Dawson  
3. Betty Stracey  
4. Sylvia Taylor  
5. Mick Stracey (C)  
First blows in the method.  
x34x14x12x16x1236x56-16  
70th birthday compliment to  
MickStracey.

DUNHOLME 26 Aug  
1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor  
1. James Stevenson  
2. Margaret Parker  
3. John Bundy  
4. Mick Stracey  
5. Philip Dawson  
6. David Fox (C)  
First Treble Bob - 1  
To congratulate Mick on his 70th  
birthday.

BRANSTON, Woodside 29 Aug  
1344 Plain Bob Major  
1. Margaret Parker  
2. John Underwood  
3. Betty Stracey  
4. Sandra Stallibrass  
5. Phil Mason  
6. John Nicholson  
7. Sylvia Taylor  
8. Mick Stracey (C)  
First on a working bell on a mini-ring  
- 6

BRANSTON, Woodside 29 Aug  
1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major  
1. Dot Mason  
2. Margaret Parker  
3. Fiona Dawson  
4. Philip Grover  
5. Phil Mason  
6. Heather Grover  
7. Philip Dawson  
8. Sylvia Taylor (C)

WELBOURN 30 Aug

1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major

1. John Underwood
  2. Sandra Stallibrass
  3. Caitlin Meyer
  4. Daniel Mayer
  5. Betty Stracey
  6. Paul Jackman
  7. Phil Mason
  8. Mick Stracey (C)
- First touch of Lincolnshire - 4.  
For Evening Service.

POTTERHANWORTH 4 Sept

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Christopher Woodcock (C)
  2. Janet Risdale
  3. Yvonne Woodcock
  4. Ron Applewhite
  5. Clive Brooke
  6. Colin Watson
- To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the rehang and augmentation of the bells.

EWERBY 5 Sept

1259 Grandsire Caters

1. Sylvia Taylor
2. John Underwood
3. Dot Mason
4. Christopher Woodcock
5. Betty Stracey
6. John Nicholson
7. Mick Stracey (C)
8. Philip Dawson
9. Phil Mason
10. Paul Mason

First quarter on the bells following refurbishment.  
50th quarter this year 7.

EAGLE 13 Sept

1260 4 Doubles Methods, Grandsire, St Martins, St Simons and Plain Bob.

1. Derek Phillips
  2. Soo Pendleton
  3. Mick Stracey (C)
  4. Betty Stracey
  5. Sue Waterfall
  6. Robert Harvey
- For Evensong.

BOSTON 14 Sept

On the Guild Simulator

1. John Collett
  2. John Ketteringham
  3. Tom Freeston
  4. Betty Stracey
  5. John Turner
  6. Mick Stracey (C)
- By former RAF, WAAF and Air Ministry members during Battle of Britain Week and as part of Boston Stump 700th anniversary celebrations.

KINGSTON, Dorset 22 Sept

1282 Yorkshire Surprise Royal

1. Margaret Parker
2. Grahame Colborne
3. Sandra Stallibrass
4. Dot Mason
5. Heather Grover
6. David Fox
7. John Underwood
8. Philip Grover
9. Paul Mason
10. Phil Mason (C)

DORCHESTER, Dorset 22 Sept

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Dot Mason
2. Peta Steadman
3. Kathy Marshall
4. Philip Grover
5. Keith Marshall
6. Phil Mason
7. David Fox (C)
8. David Bee

CERNE ABBAS, Dorset 22 Sept

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Margaret Parker
2. Heather Grover
3. Betty Stracey
4. Mary Riglar
5. Geoff Riglar (C)
6. Sue Waterfall

CHARMINSTER, Dorset 22 Sept  
1259 Grandsire Caters  
1. Grahame Colborne (C)  
2. Dot Mason  
3. Sandra Stallibrass  
4. Peta Steadman  
5. Judy Williamson  
6. Phil Mason  
7. John Underwood  
8. Paul Mason  
9. Mick Stracey  
10. David Bee

BROWNSEA ISLAND, Dorset  
24 Sept  
1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major  
1. Margaret Parker  
2. John Underwood  
3. Sandra Rhodes  
4. Mick Stracey  
5. David Fox  
6. Paul Grover  
7. Paul Mason  
8. Phil Mason (C)

LINCOLN, Cathedral 27 Sept  
1402 Rutland Surprise Royal  
1. Les Townsend  
2. Sylvia Taylor  
3. Dot Mason  
4. Mary Faircloth  
5. Fiona Dawson  
6. Matthew Jeffery (C)  
7. Harold Gibson  
8. Mick Stracey  
9. Grahame Colborne  
10. Phil Mason  
First in method 3, 6, 8 & 10 For  
Evensong

WELBOURN 27 Sept  
1280 Rutland Surprise Major  
1. Les Townsend  
2. Dot Mason  
3. Sylvia Taylor  
4. Paul Jackman  
5. Betty Stracey  
6. John Nicholson  
7. Phil Mason  
8. Mick Stracey (C)  
First in method 6.  
For Evening Communion Service.

DUNSTON 27 Sep  
1260 Grandsire Doubles  
1. Clive Brooke  
2. John Fry  
3. Aanda Pues  
4. Graham Whittaker  
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
Rung prior to special choral evensong  
led by Lincoln Cathedral choir to  
mark the end of scarecrow week.

MARTIN 28 Sep  
1260 Minor (720 Oxford TB and 540  
Plain Bob.)  
1. John Ketteringham  
2. Kate Morgan  
3. Sylvia Taylor  
4. Christine Jackson  
5. Dave Burkitt  
6. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
First Oxford TB - 2

NOCTON 1 Nov  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. Janet Risdale  
2. John Fry  
3. Yvonne Woodcock  
4. Gerald Audis  
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
6. Ray Cucksey  
On All Saints Day to celebrate the  
Patronal Festival.

LINCOLN, St Mary 7 Nov  
1272 Single Court Place Minimus  
1. John Fry  
2. Jean Williams  
3. Yvonne Woodcock  
4. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
Rung half muffled prior to the British  
Legion Service of Remembrance at  
the War Memorial on High Street,  
especially remembering the 5  
Lincolnshire men who were killed on  
active service in Afghanistan in 2009.

WELBOURN 8 Nov  
1250 Superlative Surprise Major  
1. John Underwood  
2. Sandra Stallibrass  
3. Fiona Dawson  
4. Paul Jackman  
5. Betty Stracey  
6. Phil Mason  
7. Philip Dawson  
8. Mick Stracey (C)  
For Remembrance Evening Service.

POTTERHANWORTH 8 Nov  
1260 Southrepps Doubles  
1. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
3. Ron Applewhite  
4. Yvonne Woodcock  
5.. John Nicholson  
6. Clive Brooke  
Rung half muffled on the evening of  
Remembrance Sunday.

NOCTON 8 Nov  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. Ray Cucksey  
2. John Fry  
3. Jayne Palmer  
4. John Nicholson  
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)  
6. Yvonne Woodcock  
Rung half muffled prior to the  
Remembrance Sunday Service.  
Specially remembering Kenneth  
Dykes, a ringer at Nocton, who was  
killed in 1917, aged 19.

CATHEDRAL 8 Nov  
1254 Grandsire Cinques  
1. Harold Gibson  
2. Delia Heppenstall  
3. Sue Faulf  
4. Fiona Dawson  
5. Dot Mason  
6. Robin Heppenstall (C)  
7. Sandra Stallibrass  
8. John Nicholson  
9. Les Townsend  
10. Mick Stracey  
11. Phil Mason  
12. John Underwood  
For Remembrance Sunday.

BRANSTON, Woodside 12 Nov  
1250 Cambridge Surprise Minor  
1. Mick Stracey  
2. Dot Mason  
3. Phil Mason  
4. Betty Stracey  
5. Sylvia Taylor  
6. Martin Turner (C)

STOW 12 Nov  
1280 Pudsey Surprise Major  
1. Sylvia Taylor  
2. Fiona Dawson  
3. Dot Mason  
4. Mick Stracey  
5. Betty Stracey  
6. David Fox  
7. John Underwood  
8. Phil Mason (C)

CATHEDRAL 14 Nov  
1344 Lincolnshire Surprise Major  
1. Delia Heppenstall  
2. Robin Heppenstall  
3. Fiona Dawson  
4. Dot Mason  
5. Les Townsend  
6. David Fox  
7. Mick Stracey  
8. Phil Mason (C)  
To mark the installation of the new  
Chancellor of Lincoln, The Rev Dr  
Mark Hocknell at Evensong.

NETTLEHAM 22 Nov  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. Ian Douglas  
2. Margaret Parker (C)  
3. Lewis Douglas  
4. James Stevenson  
5. John Bundy  
6. Jerry Truscott  
First inside - 3. Rung to celebrate  
Margaret's 75th birthday.

DUNHOLME 25 Nov  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. David Fox  
2. Margaret Parker  
3. Fiona Dawson  
4. James Stevenson (C)  
5. John Bundy  
6. Helen McGurk  
Circled tower - 1