

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Central Branch Newsletter (Number 72)
December 2010

I started to ring in 1932 when I was 12. I was in the choir at Washingborough and one practice night they came and asked if anyone wanted to learn to ring. Me and Arthur Croft decided we would. A driving force behind me was my Uncle, Arthur Dixon, a ringer from Heckington. When I started he was delighted; then later when I got in the peal gang he said to my mother, 'He's left me behind now.'

Walter Clark taught me to ring. We went two weeks on a Saturday morning on a tied bell and we went up on Sundays to watch. One Sunday they were short and they told me to have a ring, Plain Hunting the second to a course of Grandsire Triples. They'd not told me beforehand what to do, but they just shouted and I did it. (They shouted but they weren't nasty at all with it). Then on practice nights I started to ring the treble. Walter wrote it out for me. I'd been looking at the work of the fourth at home and this Sunday they were short and I rang it. They couldn't believe it - neither could I!. Then they got me covering and all sorts. They insisted I rang by counting my places, not numbers. Then one April Fair Saturday Walter took me up the Cathedral - the meeting was in the Tithe Barn - and I think they made me a member then. All that was before the war. When that came it stopped everything. I started up again in Newcastle where I'd settled when I was demobbed (my wife came from up there). I rang on a Sunday at St John's, then we'd go across the road to the Cathedral. We went practice nights to Fenham. It was near the football ground. They hawked me round a bit up there. I rang five peals for the Newcastle Guild - one at the Watchtower in Morpeth.

Then we came back down here into Potterhanworth. On a Tuesday night I was in the garden and heard the bells ringing at Nocton. I told Molly and she said, 'Get on your bike then and go,' so I did. Then I got nobbled with them lot (the Branston band). My first peal was at Branston. We rang a lot of Surprise Minor peals - we were going for the 42 but Amos died and that shut the band up. We used to practice a method at Friday practice and ring a peal of it on the Saturday. Crazy!

I used to bike all over! One August Bank Holiday Monday we biked to Horbling and rang a peal, had our lunch in a pub there and then rang a peal at Billingborough. Half way along that long straight into Sleaford there was a the heck of a thunderstorm. It absolutely chucked it down! We were soaked and by we got to Ruskington Cookie said 'I'm off in here,' and we went in the pub and had a rum. I got into the heck of a row when I got home because I was wearing a brand new sports jacket, and by the next morning it had shrunk! 'Blow bellringing,' said Molly. 'It's even costing us clothes now!'

We biked all the way to a tower beyond Gainsborough. We was in the last 100 and the rope broke on the fourth so we lost that. We didn't think much to that when we'd biked all that way! When the parson left Branston and went to Mablethorpe we biked over and rang a peal there for his induction. fancy biking all the way to Mablethorpe - we were fit then! I rang the seventh to a peal of Bob Major at Heckington - my first of Major - and Jimmy Musson rang the tenor. It was supposed to be the fastest peal on the bells - Jimmy was a real speed merchant, he liked ringing fast. The peal was true but the time was disputed. It about creased

me! But the following week I still rang the fourth to a peal of Kent Treble Bob at St Giles. I rang a lot with Jimmy at Silk Willoughby - he was a good ringer. I was in the peal at Branston being rung in two years, two weeks and two days. We rang half muffled It was a cracking peal. The conductor kept saying 'Keep the rhythm going. There's folks out there listening!' Mo Billings was the brains behind it; him and Cookie. The band was Cookie, Jack Pearson, Amos Ingall, Bertie Bee (from Tattershall) Mo Billings and me. We started about twenty to ten on 31 December 1955 and finished at half past twelve the first of January 1956, and then we were back in church in the morning for Sunday ringing. We'd ring in the morning, go home, then back again in the evening then stay to service. We never missed. I remember there was a confirmation service at Branston and a rope broke just as we were finishing. Two of us climbed the ladder with a rope and we put it on during the service, shushing each other as we did. I was coming down the ladder again as the Bishop was giving his sermon. He said something about someone coming down from Heaven and added 'Just like that man coming down the ladder.!' I've done some miles bellringing and enjoyed it all. Mollie never learnt. I taught Audrey, my daughter, and she rang a quarter peal, but when she got married she didn't ring any more. Now she wishes she hadn't stopped. I've had some good times.

Ron Applewhite

Suggested Ringing Programme for 2011 -2012

Jan 8	St Giles	Branch AGM	
Feb 12	Martin		2.30 - 4.00
Mar 12	Dunholme		2.30 - 4.00
Mar 26-	Ringing World Centenary Celebrations in London		
Apr 9	Ruskington	+Maintenance in afternoon	7.00 - 9.00
Apr 30	Guild AGM		
May 7	Nocton	Branch Striking Competition	Draw 5.00
May 30	Sleaford (front 6)	Rabbits	Draw 3.00
Jun 11	Caythorpe		7.00 - 9.0
Jul 9	Navenby Full meeting; ringing, service, barbecue		
Aug 13	Nettleham area	Ring for your supper.	
Sep 10	Training morning?		
Oct 8	Great Hale		7.00 - 9.00
Nov 12	Hackthorn	QUIZ NIGHT	7.30 start
Dec 10	Brant Broughton	CAROL SERVICE	Ringing 3.00
			Service...3.30
Jan 14	Heckington	BRANCH AGM	
Feb 11	Lincoln High Street towers		2.30 - 4.00
Mar 10	Norton Disney		2.30 - 4.00

It is suggested **ALL TOWERS** try to ring a quarter peal for their Patronal Festival, rather than have a set month. And the Royal Wedding? If help is needed to raise a band or conductor speak to any Branch Committee member.

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, 18 Dec (avoids Christmas Day !) 22 Jan, 26 Feb, 26 Mar, 30 Apr (avoids Holy Week) 28 May, 18 Jun, 23 Jul, 27 Aug, 24 Sept, 22 Oct, 26 Nov, 17 Dec (to avoid Christmas and New Year)
Any queries to Sue Waterfall 07925 149104.

Put these dates in your diary!

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.

Notes from Guild Committee 6 November

*Next year's **Striking Contest** in West Lindsey branch 10 Sept
Guild 8 Bell Contest in Northern Branch 15 Oct.

***Fund Raising** : Regretted **No Christmas cards** this year.

Raffle for AGM : Tickets £1 a book of 4; Prizes of £100, £75 and £25 plus vouchers from High Street Stores.

Clothing and Guild Badges still available.

***Treasurer** reported healthy finance. Question about the **Simulator Fund**. Static at moment. Donations from users?

2011 Subs as before; £10 adult, £3 Junior; £5 non res.

2012 quota split; General Fund 45%, BRF 40 % Branch £15.

***BRF Fund. Affiliation fees** down from £2,612 to £1600. Encourage towers & PCC's, (especially if they have received grants!)

Don't forget 'Everyclick' instead of Google, BRF as your charity.

***2011 AGM** as before. Ringing Cathedral 9.30; HC 10; Meeting & Lunch Bailgate Methodist Hall; 2 towers in afternoon, (Washingborough & Branston with tea at Washinborough?); Ringing Cathedral 4.30 - 5.30.

*Ringing World centenary celebrations in London 26 March includes **National Youth Striking Contest**, for under 19's, ringing Call Changes, Grandsire Triples or Bob Major. Anyone interested contact the Master or Sue Faull. Backup support available.

*Robin to write in Report on what work on bells needs a **Faculty**.

***Master's Survey of the Guild.**

Membership fairly static.

Bells not rung on Sundays: 46% in Guild; 30% in our Branch.

Social activities maintain interest.

How can we improve?

a) **Make ringing more widely known** through

i) **recruitment** wider than just the church;

ii) use of **local radio, TV** etc.;

iii) latch on to **big events**, nationally & like the London event.

b) **Training** both teaching and maintaining interest by fostering the desire to help and setting down a simple programme.

c) **Teaching teachers course.** Sue Faull has been recruited on such a course and has agreed to help us. Each person will go with a mentor, to help follow through, and pass on expertise gained.

News from the Towers

Thorpe-on-the-Hill had the unusual pleasure on Armistice day of ringing in celebration of a brand new War Memorial. It might be 90 years late but it was nevertheless warmly welcomed by the villagers and very many visitors. On the preceding practice evening there had been other visitors to the tower. Towards the end of the evening there had been a knock on the door from a small group who had been on an evening stroll in nearby Whisby and had heard the bells. Being determined to find out where they were being rung this group of non ringers had sought out the tower. They were of course warmly welcomed and given a tour of the basics of bell ringing. After almost everyone had left, with just the clearing up to be done, there was a further knock on the door. It was one of the visitors returning with a sum of money which they insisted on donating towards the mulled wine and mince pie evening they had heard us discussing. To the ringers such small acts of kindness were every bit as warming as any mulled wine!

Roy Chapman

How often have you been on your tower roof? After recent heavy rain **Nettleham** ringers found water running down the wall and the tenor rope very wet. On investigation it was found that debris on the roof ('a whole football pitch worth!') had blocked the drains so water couldn't get away. A far less expensive problem than we had feared!

A group rang a quarter of Pudsey Surprise Major at **St Giles** on Children in Need Friday, and have a certificate of thanks to prove it.

This true incident could have come from any tower. One week a ringer received complaint from a lady on the bus about the previous day's ringing. On leaving the tower the following week after practice a passing lady asked if we had been ringing the bells. When we admitted it, she said, 'Oh thank you. I do love to hear the bells. I live nearby and every time I hear the bells my spirits lift and I think 'How lovely!'

When lowering half muffled bells, when the backstroke ceases to sound, they end up ringing 'open', the joyous finish making me think of Resurrection. When on Remembrance Sunday the muffles were accidentally put on wrong side leaving only the muffled ringing they seemed to just fade away into the distance Which is more emotive?

Notes from the Branch Committee 10 November

*The **Secretary** reported **meetings** where something was attached (especially with food!) were well attended, but others less so. **There is always something for everyone at whatever stage so do come!**

*Agreed to send a **donation to the Guild BRF** from the quiz night.

*the **Master** looking for **readers at the Carol Service**. Volunteers please! Carols at 3.30 at Potterhanworth.

*the **proposed programme for 2011** discussed.

Instead of **Quarter peal** month all ring one for Patronal Festival

***Questions** asked :

i) is there a future for the **Striking Competition?**

ii) What about a **Training Day?**

These to be for discussion on the agenda at the AGM.

Do come, and air your views on these matters and you have your chance to choose your officers for the coming year.

Thank you

to **Sleaford Tower** for their donation of £10 towards the cost of printing this Newsletter.

Congratulations

to **Amanda Pues** and **Matthew Crombie** on their engagement.

to **Richard Thornton** on ringing his first quarter, the Treble to Bob Doubles, at Nettleham on 21 November.

Holiday! We wonder;

which ringer decided to test Archimedes principal. Unlike Archimedes, she did wrap herself in a bath towel while rushing down to see what she'd done! (In fairness I have to say that there was no water on the bathroom floor, but that didn't prevent a large quantity of water from flowing through the light fitting downstairs, as the bath overflow was not connected up!)

was it the same person who heaved the sash window out of its frame while trying to open it?

Will we let her come next year?

Talking about the murder mystery someone said 'We will need a corpse,' to be told 'We need a dead ringer for that!' (Thankfully the action started after the deed had been done so there was no corpse).

Ringers on Holiday 17 - 24 September

The holidaying bellringers are at it again! We had such good time last year we wanted to go back, so off we went down to Dorset again, staying at the same seven bedroom cottage.

We rang at a pleasant little six on the way, having time for a cuppa and cake before ringing at a converted water mill nearby. As we raised the bells we heard a banging and bumping from above so decided to raise the bells singly, and found the treble's stay was broken. Good job Mick didn't let it go over as we couldn't get up to the bells to sort it out! A good start to the holiday!

Saturday we rang at six towers, one being a heavy six with stretchy ropes, but we didn't let them defeat us. As we arrived at the last tower, there was a wedding finishing, so we rang for it. The bride had wanted bells but couldn't have them as the ringers were on an outing. Then we turned up and she was in tears as we made her day!

On the Sunday we split up and rang for service at various local towers. In the afternoon all but Sue went on a trip on The Waverley, the last ocean going paddle steamer left. We weren't allowed to dock at Weymouth as the sea was rough so went to the Isle of Wight instead. Sue saw us from the coast path and waved. The

other passengers thought we had gone mad as we all waved back to her, but needless to say, we none of saw each other!

Monday we attempted quarter peals in the morning. We got two out of the four. You can't win them all! The rest of the day was free for us to enjoy as we wanted. Margaret and I went walking I nearly trod on an Adder. Glad I didn't! Then after, another ringing day (seven towers) on Tuesday we enacted a murder mystery in the evening, providing much amusement!

Wednesday was another free day where we went our separate ways sampling the attractions of the area; to castles or cathedrals, to gardens or the seaside. One took her husband to Monkey World, but they wouldn't keep him! We were then refreshed ready for visiting five towers on Thursday, starting at a rather modern church which had all the facilities any church could wish for. The final one was a lovely, very little six with short sallies and sprung stays. A certain lady confused us all by ringing the tenor. Guess who!

Friday we left our cottage, rang at two towers, a final pub lunch and headed home. Our final tower didn't look very well cared for outside but inside was different. The local ringers had re-decorated their ringing room and had been challenged to buy items for less than a pound to cheer the place up. They certainly succeeded. I specially liked the rubber turkey in a Santa outfit which hung from the rope spider!

Thank you Sandra for organising another good holiday with ringing in it, and to Dot, our 'catering manager!' Suffolk next year.

Sue Waterfall

A Normal November Day! (13 November)

The day started with yet more rain so Phil and I decided that due to the fact that we were due to go to Hackthorn for the quiz night and parking was on the field next to the lake we should exhume the Land Rover for the winter. After a busy day we started off in plenty of time only to turn round as the food had been forgotten and we could not turn up empty handed. After a frantic drive across country stopping for diesel we arrived to find we were on time, quite a surprise really as neither of us had a watch and the Land Rover is not advanced enough to sport a clock. The hall was set out for the quiz and those hardy folk who had turned up for the ringing were settled down for more exercise of the little grey cells. Team names were chosen and the fun began. Competition was fierce until tea time, when everyone filled up on the superb food provided by all. After tea a less competitive atmosphere briefly reigned as people digested, however this was short lived and soon the hall was buzzing with cogs whirling as brains tried to retrieve that elusive fact from school or even before. The final outcome was that an illegal team won, 7 not 6, but very generously no one contested the outcome. It was then time to polish off a little more tea and then go home. Unfortunately no one needed to be pulled out of the mud, so Phil and I could not have fun using our Land Rover for the greater good. Never mind maybe next year!

Jane Smith

A tribute to all who teach and help ringers at whatever level.

I was distressed recently to be told that 'Nobody teaches ringing any more'! I can't help thinking he was unaware of all those who:

- i) organise and support the monthly learners' practice at Wragby;
- ii). arrange quarters to help people grow in confidence in what they are learning at whatever level they have reached;
- iii) organise and support the twice a month practice, as well as the monthly Surprise Major practice at Washingborough, where more experienced ringers can increase their expertise;
- iv) Dot and Phil who have helped ringers from all our 6 and 8 bell towers to gain experience ringing on 10 at their monthly 10 bell practice and the quarters at Ewerby.

All these initiatives are open to anyone who wishes and is able to benefit. They have certainly raised the standard of method ringing in the Branch considerably over the last 10 years.

Above all this and **most important of all** are all those **individual tower captains and members who work week in and week out in their own towers**, as well as **the many who, in addition, regularly attend neighbouring practices** to help other towers. There are a lot of them throughout the Branch and their contribution is incalculable. Without them their presence would be sorely missed. They don't make a song and dance about it, and the rest of us often don't realise who they are, how many there are, how much they do, or appreciate how their efforts have helped the Central Branch to have the highest percentage of towers in the Guild where the bells are rung regularly on Sundays.

At the Guild Committee meeting the need for teaching was discussed at length and suggestions were made as to how the Guild can help to teach ringers and train new teachers so this tradition can carry on. This is good news, but it is at the local level, week in week out (sometimes exhilarating, sometimes soul destroying!) and through encouragement and good fellowship that we shall increase the aim of the Guild to 'promote the ringing of bells for worship'.

Thank you all of you. You know who you are!!

At the second attempt he got off to a wrong start. When told he said, 'But I did the same last time.' A fellow ringer said, 'But I covered for you then.'

I knew where I was going but went wrong completely.

Check your changes. Mistakes cannot be remedied afterwards

The purpose of your declining years is that you can decline to do anything you don't want to. Oh, the joys of growing old disgracefully!

They also serve

Ringers come, like many things,
In every shape and kind;
A mixture which together brings
All sorts, including one who rings
The tenor bell behind.

With clapper tied, each starts the same:
On open bells they find
The basic changes much too tame,
Except for one, content to claim
The tenor bell behind.

The expert, learning quickly, will
Soon see his bell's course wind
Its way through all the rest, but still
He needs someone to ring with skill
The tenor bell behind.

He may not cut much of a dash,
Some think he is a bind,
But he will not his friends abash
If he can ring without a clash
The tenor bell behind.

C.W.G.B. (RW 11 Oct 1974)

'Ron the Builder'

Ron Applewhite is not only a good ringer, but also a great carpenter. When the ringers put in the new floor at Wragby, Ron took on the role of Foreman. What he said went! Only once did disaster nearly strike. He was delayed one morning and arrived to find an enthusiastic but impatient ringer cutting out the hole in the balcony floor for the new staircase to go through, without first putting in the props that were there ready. To add insult to injury, he was using a chain saw!.I remember Ron telling me how, in his working days, they had a big job in a church some distance away. One of the workforce who lived nearer than the rest arrived sooner, and was in the habit of putting the kettle on so they could have a cup of tea before they started. One windy morning they arrived to find him still sitting outside, ashen faced. 'I'm not going in there!' he exclaimed. 'The organ's playing and there's no-one sitting on the bench.' Wind in the pipes!

Obituary

Fred Derry

1928 - 2010

The name 'Fred Derry' has been associated with 'Brant Broughton' and 'Grandsire Doubles' for the past 50 years. He was tower captain at Brant Broughton for over 50 years and has ensured that there is a local band to keep these heavy bells ringing on regular basis. He was still attending practices there each week till earlier this year, when ill health meant he was no longer able, and was ringing the 23 cwt tenor until only a few years ago. He conducted the first peal on the bells after they were re-hung in 1957, being the first by a local band and his first as conductor. He arranged a peal for Armistice day for 40 years (usually Grandsire Doubles), calling more than half of them, his last being in 2000. He was proud to be presented to Prince Charles on his visit to Brant Broughton in 2009. In total he rang over 200 peals, and around 450 quarter peals and over the years he taught many ringers to ring, not only at Brant Broughton, but at many towers in the area. He also attended practices regularly at many of these local towers, and his support has been greatly appreciated. He was much loved and will be greatly missed. His memory lives on with the continued ringing of the bells at Brant Broughton. The church was full at the service of thanksgiving in his memory. The bells were rung half muffled both before and after the service, of course including Grandsire Doubles; what else!

The 2010 **Quarter Peal month** got off to a good start, with six quarters being rung on 1st October for Lincolnshire Day (one being named Yellowbelly!), with a further one at Louth the following day. October 1st had been chosen by the Council to celebrate Lincolnshire Day because the 1536 Lincolnshire Rising started in Louth on that date. We were pleased to be sponsored by the Co-op in their wish to encourage people to celebrate Lincolnshire, providing the wherewithal to buy refreshments to help us on our way! A total of only twenty quarters were rung this year, five of them on mini-rings; five quarters were rung for a Service; one celebrated 25 years' ringing; one was in the octave of the Patronal Festival; one celebrated an engagement and one was in memory of a faithful former member of the band.

October Quarter Peal Month

Bardney, Lincs. 2 Oct, 1260 Doubles (720 Grandsire & 540 Plain Bob) : Sue Waterfall 1, Yvonne Woodcock 2, Christine Jackson 3, Phil Wild 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5. For Lincolnshire Day.

Branston, Lincs; Woodside Campanile. 7 Oct, 1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Mick Stracey 2, Dot Mason 3, Fiona Dawson 4, John Underwood 5, Betty Stracey 6, Sylvia Taylor 7, Phil Mason (C) 8.

Branston, Lincs; Woodside Campanile. 7 Oct, 1440 London Surprise Minor : Dot Mason 1, Sylvia Taylor 2, Betty Stracey 3, John Underwood 4, Phil Mason 5, Mick Stracey (C) 6.

Branston, Lincs; Woodside Campanile. 23 Oct, 1334 Purbeck Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Sandra Underwood 2, Dot Mason 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, John

Underwood 5, Margaret Chapman 6, Phil Mason 7, Christopher Woodcock (C) 8. To celebrate the engagement of Amanda Pues and Matt Crombie.

Dunholme, Lincs. 27 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : Val Fox 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Sandra Underwood 3, John Underwood 4, Philip Dawson 5, David Fox (C) 6.

Eagle, Lincs. 10 Oct, 1260 St Martins Bob Doubles : Willie Turner 1, Derek Phillips 2, Betty Stracey 3, Mick Stracey (C) 4, Sue Waterfall 5, Des Underwood 6. For Evening Service .

Ewerby, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1282 Yorkshire Surprise Royal : Sylvia Taylor 1, Les Townsend 2, Christine Jackson 3, Betty Stracey 4, Mick Stracey (C) 5, David Fox 6, Philip Dawson 7, John Nicholson 8, Phil Grover 9, Peter Wakefield 10. Rung for Lincolnshire Day.

Fulbeck, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Phil Mason 1, Beryl Reed 2, Colin Reed 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, John Nicholson 5, David Fox (C) 6. Rung for Lincolnshire Day

Heckington, Lincs. 21 Oct, 1280 Rutland Surprise Royal : John Nicholson 1, Dot Mason 2, Bety Stracey 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, John Underwood 5, Mick Stracey 6, Philip Grover 7, Phil Mason (C) 8.

Lincoln Cathedral. 10 Oct, 1440 Yorkshire Surprise Royal : Dot Mason 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Sue Faull 3, Sandra Underwood 4, John Underwood 5, Philip Dawson 6, Les Townsend 7, David Fox 8, Mick Stracey 9, Phil Mason (C) 10. For Evensong.

Lincoln, Chedburgh Campanile. 19 Oct, 1272 Norwich Surprise Minor : Dot Mason 1, Phil Grover 2, Heather Grover 3, Betty Stracey 4, Phil Mason 5, Mick Stracey (C) 6.

Lincoln, Chedburgh Campanile. 23 Oct, 1334 Superlative Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Phil Mason 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Sandra Underwood 4, Dot Mason 5, John Underwood 6, Margaret Chapman 7, Christopher Woodcock (C) 8.

Lincoln, St Giles. 1 Oct, 1344 Yellowbelly Delight Major : Sue Waterfall 1, Janet Clarke 2, Geoff Bryant 3, Matthew Jeffery 4, Phil Wild 5, Stephen Clarke 6, Robert Jordan 7, Christopher Woodcock (C) 8. Rung for Lincolnshire Day (x36x1458x56x18x14x58x36x78 -12)

Louth, Lincs. 2 Oct, 1280 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Geoff Bryant 1, Sue Waterfall 2, Mick Stracey 3, David Fox 4, Jonathan Clark 5, Matthew Jeffery 6, Phil Grover 7, Christopher Woodcock (C) 8. To celebrate Lincolnshire Day. (The 1536 Lincolnshire Rising started here).

Navenby, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Rose Hancock 1, Dot Mason 2, Les Townsend 3, Sandra Underwood 4, Bob Hancock (C) 5, John Underwood 6. Rung for Lincolnshire Day.

Potterhanworth, Lincs. 18 Oct, 1320 Woodbine Delight Minor : John Ketteringham 1, Janet Clarke 2, Mick Stracey 3, David Fox 4, Christine Jackson 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. First in method for all except 5.

Sleaford, Lincs. 17 Oct, 1260 Single Oxford and Plain Bob Minor : Mary Riglar 1, Jean Kay 2, Geoff Riglar 3, Yvonne Harby 4, Bryan Ward 5, Richard Spencer (C) 6, For the octave of St Denys.

Swinderby, Lincs. 17 Oct, 1260 Doubles (St Martins, St Simons, Plain Bob, Grandsire) : Des Underwood 1, Sue Waterfall 2, Betty Stracey 3, John Nicholson 4, Mick Stracey (C) 5. For Evensong. In memory of Nigel Pendleton who would normally have been ringing with us.

Welbourn, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1344 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Heather Grover 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Phil Mason 4, Dot Mason 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, Mick Stracey 7, Phil Grover (C) 8. Rung before the Harvest Festival Service for Lincolnshire Day.

Welbourn, Lincs. 16 Oct, 1280 Plain Bob Major : John Ketteringham 1, Margaret Parker 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Colin Ward (C) 4, Sandra Underwood 5, Sue Waterfall 6, John Underwood 7, Mick Stracey 8. Rung to celebrate 25 years of ringing for 6, who learnt to ring on these bells.

The plaque on a seat in Brampton churchyard.

Ring out St Mary's bells
Strike well your Bobs and Singles
Now I've called stand
 with this earthly band
Sit here with me and listen.

'I couldn't find my bell.'

'Never mind who you are following, just listen to the rhythm.'

'O.K. We'll try again, with listening this time.'

After Remembrance Day the steeple keeper was asked, 'When do we take the muffles off?' He replied, "Just before next practice. I want the bells down. I don't fancy crawling under a raised bell - apart from the fact that I'm in my Sunday best." Tower captain said, "We want you safe, not clean; although we'd prefer you to be clean as well!"

Branch Quarter Peals

NORTON DISNEY 6 Sept
1260 Grandsire Doubles
1. John Ketteringham
2. Neville Sharpe
3. David Fox
4. John Collett
5. Christopher Woodcok (C)
In memory of Fred Derry, ringing his favourite method.

WELTON 8 Sept
1260 Plain Bob Doubles
1. Jean Sims
2. Fiona Dawson
3. Margaret Neate (C)
4. Brian Smith
5. Philip Dawson
6. Stephen Neate
Rung for Patronal Festival Service.

WELBOURN 12 Sept

1344 Havant Surprise Major

1. John Ketteringham
 2. John Nicholson
 3. Graham Colborne
 4. John Collett
 5. David Burkitt
 6. Sue Waterfall
 7. Philip Wild
 8. Christopher Woodcock (C)
- For Evensong. First in method for all but 1 & 8.

EAGLE 12 Sept

1320 Plain Bob Minor

1. Derek Phillips
 2. Ian Hasman
 3. Christine Hasman
 4. Martin Pearson
 5. Betty Stracey
 6. Mick Stracey (C)
- For Evensong. Derek's first following a hip replacement.

THORPE-on-the-HILL 13 Sept

1320 Wragby Delight Minor

1. John Ketteringham
 2. Fiona Dawson
 3. Betty Stracey
 4. David Whetton
 5. Mick Stracey
 6. Christopher Woodcock (C)
- First in method for all the band.

WAREHAM, Dorset 20 Sept

1282 Cambridge Surprise Royal

1. Dot Mason
 2. Beryl Reed
 - 3..John Underwood
 4. Heather Grover
 5. Betty Stracey
 6. Mick Stracey
 7. Colin Reed
 8. David Fox
 9. Phil Mason
 10. Philip Grover (C)
- To celebrate Betty's birthday.

CORFE CASTLE, Dorset 20 Sept

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Sue Waterfall
 2. Mary Riglar
 3. Sandra Underwood
 4. Judy Williamson
 5. Graham Colborne
 6. Geoff Riglar (C)
- To celebrate Betty Stracey's birthday.

HACKTHORN 29 Sept

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Cathy Andrews
 2. Margaret Parker
 3. Sally Turnbull
 4. Brian Smith
 5. David Fox (C)
 6. Helen McGurk
- Ring half-muffled to celebrate the life of Peter Bell, organist here for many years, whose funeral took place on Monday.
- Also for the Patronal Festival of St Michael and All Angels.

NEWARK 31 Oct

1282 Southwell Surprise Royal

1. Sylvia Taylor
 2. Sandra Underwood
 3. Heather Grover
 4. Mick Stracey
 5. John Underwood
 6. Jonathan Clark
 7. Graham Colborne
 8. Philip Grover
 9. Phil Mason (C)
 10. D. Paul Mason
- For Gopher quarter peal month, and for Evensong.

EAGLE 1 Nov
1260 St Clements Bob Minor

1. John Ketteringham
2. Mick Stracey
3. Christine Hasman
4. Ian Hasman
5. Betty Stracey
6. David Fox (C)

For the Patronal Festival. With best wishes to Les Townsend for a steady recovery following his operation. First in method as Conductor.

NETTLEHAM 1 Nov
1320 All Saints Doubles

1. Amy Burkitt
2. Tina Carr
3. Margaret Parker (C)
4. James Stevenson
5. Dave Burkitt
6. Ian Douglas

Rung on All Saints Day prior to the Eucharist celebrating the Patronal Festival.

EAGLE 15 Nov
1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor

1. John Ketteringham
2. David Whetton
3. Kate Morgan
4. David Hibbert
5. Betty Stracey
6. Michael Stracey

BRANSTON, Woodside 9 Nov
1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Phil Mason
2. John Underwood
3. Dot Mason
4. Betty Stracey
5. John Nicholson
6. Mick Stracey (C)

POTTERHANWORTH 11 Nov
1250 Norwich Surprise Minor

1. Dot Mason
2. Sylvia Taylor
3. Phil Mason
4. Betty Stracey
5. John Underwood
6. Mick Stracey (C)

With bells open for Remembrance Day, ringing immediately after the two minutes silence.

KIRTON in LINDSEY 11 Nov
1376 Southwell Surprise Major

1. John Ketteringham
2. Kate Morgan
3. Fiona Dawson
4. Geoff Bryant
5. Janet Clarke
6. David Fox
7. Philip Dawson
8. Robert Jordan

Rung open on Remembrance Day. The quarter ended at exactly two minutes to eleven, followed by two minutes silence and eleven o'clock was struck on the tenor.

LINCOLN, St Giles 19 Nov
1280 Pudsey Surprise Major

1. John Nicholson
2. Fiona Dawson
3. Dot Mason
4. Betty Stracey
5. Sylvia Taylor
6. John Underwood
7. Mick Stracey
8. Phil Mason (C)

For BBC Children in Need.

HACKTHORN 21 Nov

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1. Jenny Porter
 2. Margaret Parker (C)
 3. Helen McGurk
 4. Brian Smith
 5. David Fox
 6. Cathy Andrews
- Rung before Morning Service, for the installation of the Vicar, Rev Peter Godden, as a Canon in Lincoln Cathedral on St Hugh's Day.

NETTLEHAM 21 Nov

1320 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Richard Thornton
 2. Tina Carr
 3. John Carr (C)
 4. Margaret Parker
 5. Keith Gladman
 6. Trevor Hardcastle
- First quarter - 1. Rung for the Confirmation Service.

SWINDERBY 21 Nov

1320 Six Doubles (Reverse Canterbury, St Nicholas, Plain Bob, St Simons, St Martins and Grandsire)

1. Des Underwood
2. John Nicholson
3. Betty Stracey
4. Mick Stracey (C)
5. Tony Branson