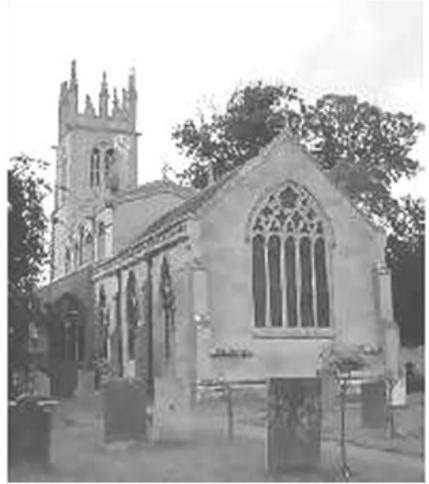


**Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers**  
**Central Branch Newsletter No 85 April 2014**

***Central Branch Meeting February 8<sup>th</sup>***



The afternoon meeting was held at two different towers. North Rauceby for the first hour and then a quick trip down the road to Fulbeck for the second hour. Thankfully the rain held off and the wind blew away any cobwebs. Thank you to Martin Clarke, a Southern branch member but we won't hold it against him, for opening up at Rauceby and putting the heating on and to our ringing master Richard for running the practices and managing to cater for all abilities. Attendance was good with 19 ringers at the first tower and 21 at the second.

At Rauceby 17 of us managed to squeeze into the tower and Jonathan nearly had to be pulled through the door with all his riding gear on. Margaret and Fiona stayed downstairs putting the world to rights. We had some good and some not so good ringing and striking. A number of doubles methods were rung ranging from Plain Bob to Stedman. In addition a plain course of North Rauceby Pleasure Bob, a new method for most, was completed with no restarts. After finishing at Rauceby, one or two members left and were replaced by newcomers at Fulbeck.

Fulbeck saw 21 people crammed into the tower sitting or standing wherever they could. Sandra nearly missed the ringing chamber but was caught in time climbing higher up the stairs. Once again a number of methods were rung from Plain Bob to Surprise. It was noted that Dot had trouble ringing even when

standing on a box, perhaps a small ladder would be helpful. For those who hadn't been to the tower before, the 5<sup>th</sup> caused one or two problems as it was hidden from view by the sheer number of people.

A most enjoyable afternoon and thank you again to all those involved in running the meeting.

Richard Short

Ruskington Tower Captain

### ***Proposed Ringing Meetings for 2014***

Apr 12 <sup>th</sup>	Bassingham		2.30 – 4pm
Apr 26 <sup>th</sup>	GUILD AGM		
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Wellingore	Striking Contest	5pm
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Thorp	Rabbits	3pm
Jun 14 <sup>th</sup>	Hackthorn		6 – 8pm
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Branston	Strawberry Tea	6 – 8pm
Aug 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ewerby	Half yearly	3 – 8pm
	Ringing, Service, Picnic, Meeting, Ringing		
Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>	Cathedral	Service ringing	2.30– 3.45pm
Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Guild 6 Bell Final in Central Branch		
	Cup at Nettleham		
	Plate at Dunholme		
	Tea at Dunholme Village Hall		
Sept 27 <sup>th</sup>	Louth/Wragby	Joint meeting with Northern Branch	
Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Washingborough	Guild 8 Bell Final	
Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>	Waddington		5 – 8pm
Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Brant Broughton	QUIZ	
Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Norton Disney	Carol Service	2.30pm
		Service	3pm
Jan 10 <sup>th</sup>	Washingborough	AGM	3pm
		Service	4.30pm
	Tea and Meeting	5pm	
Feb 7 <sup>th</sup>	Ruskington		2.30 – 4pm
Mar 7 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln, St Botolph		2.30 – 4pm

## ***Guild AGM, Sat 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014***

9.30 – 10.00 am	Ringing at the Cathedral
10.00 am	Communion in Ringers' Chapel
11.00 am	Meeting Bailgate Methodist Chapel
	Own lunch arrangements
2.00 – 3.00 pm	Ring at St Botolph and St Peter at Gowts, Lincoln
3.15 – 4.15 pm	Ringing St Giles, Lincoln
4.30 – 5.30 pm	Ringing Lincoln Cathedral
5.30 pm	Evensong in Cathedral

---

## ***Washingborough Surprise Practices 10.30-12am***

April 12<sup>th</sup>?, May 24<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, July 26<sup>th</sup>, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>? Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>.

**All of these are subject to change.** Check nearer the time.

---

## ***Congratulation***

- Laura Martin on ringing her first quarter, the Treble to Plain Bob Doubles at Nettleham.
  - Michael Lawton for achieving 4 spliced on 8 bells
  - Ron Everett for his first quarter in Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles
  - to Cathy Andrews and Fiona Dawson for becoming Grandmas
  - to John Bundy for becoming a Great Granddad
- 

*Look to*

*Treble's going (someone was still not ready, so)*

*She's not gone yet.*

**Obituary**  
**John B. Carr**

**1946-2014**

Nettleham Church was full of people come to pay their respects at the funeral of John Carr, a local businessman and bell ringer. The Tenor was tolled as he entered the Church, and local and branch ringers rang half muffled as his sons carried him to the churchyard. Tina was touched by the fact that the ringing restarted just as the coffin was being lowered into the grave.

In 1991 the ringers recruited seven children from Nettleham junior school. Tina provided the transport for her son Christopher. She too tried her hand and John was soon drawn in by their enthusiasm. Since then he has been a valuable member of the band, soon becoming Secretary/Treasurer and Tower Correspondent, as well as regular support and service ringer. He also became Examiner of Accounts for the Branch and the Guild. He rang his first quarter for Candlemas in 1992, and within the year all three members of the family had rung one together. He trebled to the local peal of Bob Minor in 1995, and regularly rang for Nettleham in the branch Striking Contests.

When they moved to Thorpe-on-the-Hill, their heart was still in Nettleham, and they drove across to ring for morning service at Nettleham until his health made that no longer possible. He was always cheerful and reliable. A great asset to the tower. In his personal life he was always noted for his friendship and willingness to help others. Like so many people, I personally owe him a great debt of gratitude. Men like John are hard to find. Our thoughts are with Tina and their family.

May he rest in peace.



## **Obituary**

### **Janice Bones**

We are sorry to hear that Janice Bones has died. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

Full obituary to follow.

---

## **News from the Guild Committee Meeting February 2014**

- \* **Ringing Foundation** request contribution to costs. To show our intent we will make a small donation.
- \* **Numbers** of full members are down, but Junior members are up.
- \* **Subs for 2015** unchanged (at the moment). 50% General Fund, 35% BRF, 15% Branches.
- \* Discussion about establishing a **Training Fund**. Guild subs to be split 4 ways?- but this would reduce the contribution to the BRF. How are projects to be funded?
- \* Need for **new auditors**.
- \* **Request for photos** for next year's calendar.
- \* Master thanked Dot for her work on BRF.  
Robin Heppenstall to replace Dot as **BRF Administrator**. Dot to continue with the 100 club.
- \* Discussion of **Honorary Life Members**. HLM's should be people who have made significant contribution to the Guild. Long serving members should be recognised in the form of a roll of honour. They will be presented with a certificate signed by our Patron. Guidelines will be produced.
- \* **Guild Striking Competition**. Nettleham - Cup, Dunholme - Plate.
- \* **Ridgeman Trophy** - 7 June
- \* **National Youth** - 5 July at Worcester
- \* **Website** - Hosting to be revised. Sub domains to be provided so each branch has its own site; webmaster to have overall control, but each domain to have its own password. Members of the Web Committee to review. As we have paid up for this year, we will proceed with this new arrangement until it needs to be renewed.
- \* The master felt members had found the **Guild Review** process overwhelming. He has had a good response and has now produced a simpler version to be put forward at the AGM. He needs membership approval to proceed.
- \* Importance of establishing a **Training Officer** and to decide how an education fund can be supported.
- \* Discussion about **re-thinking Striking Contests**. Graham Colborne to give a presentation on the new proposals at the AGM.

## *Notes from the Branch Committee Meeting Feb 2014*

- \* Geoff Wilkins is the new Inspector of Accounts in place of John Carr.
- \* **Grant** of £75 proposed towards ropes at St Mary-le-Wigford. (*Note this was ratified at the next meeting - Wragby*)
- \* **Grand Draw** tickets are now available. Please look out for them and support the Guild BRF.
- \* Celebrations of the Anniversary of the **signing of the Magna Carta** on June 15th. Stephen Langton of Langton-by Wragby which is in our branch, was the Archbishop at the signing. Any ideas on using this link? Do we have a fun day &/or open towers? Suggestions to Branch Representatives.
- \* Our branch is holding the **Guild Striking Contests**.  
13 Sept      The 6 bell    Cup              Nettleham  
   Plate              Dunholme.  
Other towers will be open for supporters to have a ring and refreshments and presentations will be in Dunholme Village Hall. Come and have a good evening out and listen to some good ringing!  
11 Oct: The Guild 8 bell Final              Washingborough
- \* Refreshments at Washingborough Methodist Hall.
- \* **N.B. Our October Branch Meeting has been put back to**
- \* **18 Oct      Waddington              5 - 8.00pm**
- \* 10 May      Branch Striking Contest              Wellingore
- \* **Please, please tell the Secretary a week before at the very latest** if you are entering a team so that the Branch can plan for a judge if we have enough teams!! [It is an opportunity to mix with other people and encourage ringers to their skills.]
- \* 26 May:      Rabbits at Thorpe on the Hill.      *See separate advert.*
- \* Workshop for Tower Captains.              *See separate advert.*
- \* Are there enough young members to warrant running a young peoples' day in the school holidays?

---

*We heard the Church Door open and lifted the trap door to let the ringer in, but there was no-one there.*

*1st ringer: It must be the invisible man.*

*2nd ringer: Oh, I haven't seen the invisible man for ages!*

---



***Rabbits 2014  
At Thorpe on the Hill  
May 26 at 3pm***



*All ringers, especially the less experienced do come and have a pleasant afternoon of ringing and fun. The Onion Competition will be held at the same time. This year you are invited to bring a PORK PIE from your favourite butcher (or your kitchen!) The refreshments will be the usual cake etc. But for the savoury part you will be invited to taste the pies and vote for your favourite. The person who brought the winning pie will hold the onion trophy for the year!*

The Branch Secretary decided to celebrate her significant birthday by providing a lovely spread of food including a large Pork Pie which was thought to be a very tasty morsel. Please note your editor but not the editor's husband, missed the sampling of the Pork Pie so welcomes the opportunity to try the said Pork Pie but hopes to bring another to compete with it!

**Rope for Sale**

The Branch has a quantity of top quality bell rope suitable for use on the top ends of ropes.

The rope is made from modern non-stretch materials and is easy to splice.

Rope suitable for use on bells up to 15 cwt is available from Mick Stracey at £1.20 a metre and for heavier bells at £1.50 a metre.

A full set of ropes has been fitted at Branston giving superb results if you wish to see for yourself.

***Confusion reigns?***

*The ringer started off doing the wrong work— twice. On the 3rd attempt, he was told “You’re thirds place bell”.*

*He said “Oh I’m sorry. I was ringing fourths place bell”, then turning to the ringer of the second he said “It’s all your fault!” Did he count her twice? Was he seeing double?*

## ***Wragby meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014***

The weather was quite good with some sun so there was a good turn out with people overfilling the ringing chamber and others encouraged by the refreshments and snacks to wait downstairs and take turns. Thank you to Janet and Richard Lenton for the refreshments.

Margaret P who was there before the start time, apparently was unruffled when asked to hurry up by others who were there even earlier and caught the rope to ring in the first ring which was Bob Doubles. Other methods were Grandsire, Cambridge, Bob minor and others to cater for all levels.

When Jim asked for Bourne, not enough people knew it so a comment was made "Some people don't know they're Bourne". Please note this is a pun or double-entendre and could be considered witty or funny.

From the writer's perspective many of the methods were well struck, but could not possibly comment on the ones he rang in. A lovely cake was supplied by Joan Ketteringham which was enjoyed by all that indulged, with a comment that it was the only way to get a minutes silence, by feeding people cake.

Then the meeting followed with Mrs Parker and Mrs Dawson covering business such as donating money to new ropes for St Mary Le Wigford. Mrs Parker informed the meeting that she would no longer be compiling the Newsletter and Mrs Gladman consented to take over. The Ringing Master, Mr Spencer thanked Mrs Parker for all the work she has done and everyone agreed to this. With no other business the meeting closed.

Keith Gladman



### ***Sat 10th May Meeting at Wellingore.***

#### ***Branch striking competition.***

*This is a great opportunity to come along, meet other ringers and have some fun.*

*The only rule that will apply is that 240 changes will be rung. Any team going forward to the Guild competition will have to abide by the rules of the Guild.*

*However at Branch level, teams can be made up on the date from those who find themselves without a rope to hold?!*

## *Margaret, How Did The Newsletter Start?*

In the Spring of 1990, when Judy Williamson was Branch Secretary, in the days before everyone (well, nearly everyone) had e-mail, sharing news and information was causing a headache. Thus the idea of producing a Branch Newsletter first came into being. One Sunday morning, going up the stairs to ring at the Cathedral, we paused to catch our breath (well, who wouldn't?) I showed Judy a newsletter from another organisation and said, "If we do a newsletter, this might be a good format." Judy immediately replied, "Are you volunteering?" "Not really," I replied, but too late – I had already put my head above the parapet and learnt (temporarily) to keep my mouth shut! I borrowed an old portable typewriter and started to put ideas onto paper, giving the untidy results to Judy who had them typed up properly for photocopying and we were off! Since then I have edited 84 editions, and now it's time for someone with computer skills to take over. I am grateful to Gill Gladman from Nettleham for taking on this enjoyable (?) task.

It has been a learning curve all the way. Firstly I started to number the editions to counter the complaint that a certain gentleman had not received his previous edition and he took some convincing that the one he claimed to have missed was never produced! This practice came back to haunt me recently when you had two edition 81's and no 82 – in the days before word processors, forgetting to update the heading could not have happened (every technical advance has its drawback!) I have still not mastered the technology. Trevor tells me how much work I cause myself by physically cutting out the articles and pictures and sticking them together with glue (isn't that what cutting and pasting means?!)

As for the mistakes – every edition has a least one! – and some of you delight in pointing them out to me as soon as they have their copy in their hands! – but this does assure me that you have read it, unlike the man who on receiving his folds it and puts it into his pocket, then complains that no-one has told him about some event or other. Telling him it was in his Newsletter if he actually got round to reading it doesn't go down very well!

You are all aware of how we fund printing costs. Originally charging 10p per ringer for including each quarter covered it. This had to go up to 20p and then 30p. Finally, with increase in costs and reduction in number of quarters being rung, we could no longer pay our way. We had become aware that many were left in the tower as people were reading it on-line, so we agreed to charge everyone who wanted their own copy £2 a year, the quarter peal contributions paying for a free copy for each tower. Having put that into action, I have found a much cheaper printer, and more quarters are being rung again, so once again

you get them free. We have the list of those wanting their own; if you want your name adding let us know.

I am eternally grateful to everyone over the last years who have played their part by sending articles, reports and 'funnies' (it would be dry indeed without the one-liners; you do say such funny things; I don't make them up!) Please keep them coming in. The Newsletter is only as good as the stuff you send to put in it --- and like a travel brochure, you can only experience the wonderful things it advertises by actually joining in! Do take part in the activities it tells you of!

You can contact Gill by sending your contribution to Fiona (you have her email address) who will pass it on.

I am also willing to give Gill any written copy. Good luck, Gill.

Thank you.

I hope you enjoy it as much as I have!!

[Thank you Margaret for your dedication in producing these Newsletters! Thank you to Trevor Hardcastle for helping to keep the computer going and help publish the newsletter.]

From the Branch Committee Meeting:

### **Tower Captain Workshop**

There will be a workshop for Tower Captains (and those who fear they may get lumbered with the job!) **to share ideas** on how to run an exciting practice to enthuse your members. Let Sandra (the Guild Secretary) know which of the following dates you can come:

21 June

5 July

20 September

10.30am - 4.00pm

Bring your own lunch.

It will be useful to come to all dates, but each will stand on it's own if you cannot come to everyone.

Let Sandra know.

Numbers are limited so it is essential to book.

## **Branch Quarter Peals**

WELBOURN                      7 Feb  
1280 Sliced Surprise Major (4m)  
Rutland, Cambridge, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire  
1. Rose Hancock  
2. Dot Mason  
3. Heather Blacklock  
4. Christopher C. P. Woodcock  
5. Michael Lawton  
6. Phil Mason  
7. Bob Hancock  
8. Andrew Blacklock (C)  
Most spliced - 5

EAGLE                              9 Feb  
1320 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure  
Place Doubles  
1. Derek Phillips  
2. Ron Everett  
3. Soo Pendleton  
4. Michael Stracey (C)  
5. Michael Lawton  
6. Betty Stracey  
First quarter in the method - 2  
For Evensong and remembering John Carr, a ringer from this group of parishes.

NETTLEHAM                      18 Feb  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles  
1. Laura Martin  
2. Richard Thornton  
3. Margaret Parker (C)  
4. John Bundy  
5. Dave Burkitt  
6. Trevor Hardcastle  
First quarter - treble  
Rung half muffled in memory of John Carr whose funeral took place here earlier in the day.

WELTON                              22 Feb  
1260 Minor  
720 Cambridge, 540 Plain Bob Minor  
1. Graham Colborne  
2. Fiona Dawson  
3. Barry Peachey  
4. David Fox  
5. Philip Dawson  
6. Christopher Woodcock (C)

CATHEDRAL                      23 Feb  
1259 Grandsire Caters  
1. Heather Blacklock  
2. Dot Mason  
3. Jeremy Wheeldon  
4. David Fox  
5. John Underwood  
6. John Nicholson  
7. Michael Stracey (C)  
8. Phil Mason  
9. Andrew Blacklock  
10. Philip Dawson  
For Evensong and 60th birthday compliment to Fiona Dawson

NETTLEHAM                      1 Mar  
1260 Doubles (400 Grandsire, 800 Plain Bob)  
1. John Dent  
2. Richard Thornton  
3. Margaret Parker (C)  
4. James Stevenson  
5. Keith Gladman  
6. Graham Moule  
Rung to celebrate Keith Gladman's 60th birthday.

## **Branch Quarter Peals**

HACKTHORN

3 Mar

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1. Cathy Andrews
2. Margaret Parker (C)
3. Sally Turnbull
4. Fiona Dawson
5. John Bundy
6. Brian Smith

Rung to celebrate the births of Harry grandson for Cathy, Harry grandson for Fiona and Emilia great granddaughter for John.

THORPE ON THE HILL 18 Mar

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. Margaret Parker
2. Roger Asher
3. Soo Pendleton
4. Betty Stracey
5. Michael Stracey (C)
6. Roy Chapman

In loving memory of John Barry Carr, local ringer, by his friends.

# RR

NEWBURY2014

6 SEPTEMBER 2014

RINGING

ROADSHOW

A meeting place, a market place, a great day out.

For more information use the links on this poster or contact:

[jackie.roberts@ringingroadshow.co.uk](mailto:jackie.roberts@ringingroadshow.co.uk)

Newbury Racecourse

The biggest event for ringers in 2014

Mini-rings

Handbells

Everything for the ringer you are and the ringer you want to be

Organised by the CCCBR  
[www.ringingroadshow.co.uk](http://www.ringingroadshow.co.uk)

Follow us on Facebook  
If you tweet about us use  
#RRNewbury14

### ***Problems with hearing.***

*I didn't hear what you said ..... well actually I did, but I wasn't listening.*

*And then it was going all right until ..... then it didn't.*