

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

Northern Branch

Newsletter - January 2008

Happy new year! Welcome to the January edition of the Northern Branch newsletter. The deadline for the next newsletter is 16th February 2008 so if you do anything between now and then and want it reported please let Lorraine know. Also let me know of anything being planned for next March, April, May or June.

Branch Committee Members

Ringing Master	Frank Kennington	01472 399772
Secretary	Lorraine Bateman	01472 690460
Treasurer	David Hibbert	01652 639158
Newsletter Editor	to be confirmed	

If any Branch member needs any help please contact anyone of the above.

NEXT BRANCH MEETING AGM

Grimsby, St. James

Saturday 26th January 2007

2:30pm-3:45pm ringing

3:45pm service

4pm coffee and cakes followed by meeting

Due to a wedding earlier in the day in the church, this year's AGM will be shorter.

Newsletter Editor

Sadly, David Sykes wished to stand down as newsletter editor. He has held this position for a number of years and he has now decided that it is time for him to unplug his PC. We all appreciate how much of his time has been put into producing the newsletters and sending out reminders etc. He has done a superb job and we wish him well. Of course, this means at the next AGM we will need a new newsletter editor and we could also do with some more faces on the committee.

AGM Agenda

To help the AGM move along smoothly, please could you get your thoughts together as to whether the branch should buy any promotional posters, such as those which go with the simulator, as a resource for towers in the branch for days when they wish to promote bell ringing in their area. These posters cost £250 each.

Guild simulator at St. James' church, Grimsby

The Northern Branch has been fortunate in obtaining the use of the guild simulator for a fortnight in February.

The simulator is to be erected in the South Transept of St. James' church and will be available from Monday 18th February.

A programme of visits by schoolchildren from local schools has been arranged. We also hope to use the event to publicise ringing opportunities in the branch through both the local press and in local TV and radio broadcasts.

Of course there is one slight problem. The school visits and TV and radio recordings will take place during the daytime and most of St. James' ringers are at work during the day.

I should be very grateful if any guild member could offer a few hours' assistance at St. James' during this fortnight. We shall need ringers to assist with the schoolchildren and to demonstrate how all bells are rung at the same time.

This is a big event for the branch so **COME ON ALL YOU RETIRED FROM WORK RINGERS – WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!!!** I can promise a good supply of tea and coffee (we also now have excellent toilet facilities!).

I would be very grateful if you could let me know when and for how long you can be at St. James' during this fortnight so that I can draw up some kind of rota of helpers.

Frank Kennington

Autumn in the branch

We had a nice evening in Tealby in September – we were warmly welcomed by the tower with a hot drink and a biscuit or two. The ringing ranged from call changes to Cambridge Minor, so all who attended had a chance to demonstrate their ability and even improve.

In November we went to Middle Rasen, where the ringing was mainly centred around Kent Minor, and again some lovely refreshments were provided by the local band. Also this month this branch hosted the Surprise Major practice in Caistor. There were only just enough of us to begin with, but after the course of Cambridge a coach load of West Lindsey ringers turned up, so we are grateful for their support and for making it an excellent practice. As usual, Ted and Nan enthusiastically welcomed us all to their tower.

Our branch ringing year was rounded off with another fantastic candle-lit carol service at Walesby, which, once again, didn't disappoint. And the light in the ringing chamber actually lasted all the way through! We started off at 6pm when we had just enough ringers to get the bells up, and then the reinforcements arrived within the next half hour from both the Northern and West Lindsey Branches. All enjoyed a coffee and mince pie during the service.

Guild website <http://ldgcb.org.uk>

Over the past year, John Ketteringham has got the new guild website up and running. Now Aidan Hopkins and the Guild Website Committee oversee it. As the website is now kept up to date, it is your responsibility as guild members to use it, provided you have internet access, of course. Should any member wish to submit anything to be considered to go on it, they should e-mail webmaster@ldgcb.org.uk and if the committee approve it, you will find your contribution right there on the site. This can be a diary date, an event report, a logging of a peal or quarter peal, or a great big article about the history of a tower, for example.

Guild committee meeting

The last GCM in November discussed how the simulator is progressing in the guild and attracting potential ringers. As towers, you should be looking at events where you could have the simulator or the Womble and find out if it is available. The guild requires you to book the simulator when you need it. There is now a new guild newsletter team and they invite you to send in photos and reports of events. The next guild AGM will be on Saturday 26th April, visiting Washingborough and Waddington during the day.

Tour to North Oxfordshire

I am in the early stages of organising an Outing for the branch. It will be by car to North Oxfordshire and the date of the outing will be **Saturday 19th April 2008**.

Some of you already know that I moved to Market Rasen from Bicester in Oxfordshire just over a year ago, and I thought it would be nice if the Branch could have an outing to ring at some of the towers I used to regularly ring at.

Although North Oxfordshire is a fair distance away, (Bicester is approximately 2½ hours from Market Rasen), by car sharing transport costs can be kept to a minimum. There are some delightful villages in this area as well as many interesting churches.

With regard to the format for the day, I am hoping to arrange ringing at 5 towers with ringing commencing at the first at around 10.15am and finishing at the last tower at around 5.30pm.

I am also hoping to arrange lunch at a local pub and tea after ringing at the last tower.

If you are interested in coming on the outing then please contact me, by e-mail: simonjcole@helloworldband.co.uk or by telephone 01673 844166 with your name(s) and contact details. Nearer the time, I will need a firm commitment as lunch will need to be pre-ordered (A £5 deposit per person for lunch will be requested).

I hope you are able to support this event.

Simon Cole
St. Thomas, Market Rasen

Subscriptions

This year subs are £10 for all normal members and £3 for children and students. The subs for this year are due in January, so please have them ready for the AGM. Please make cheques payable to LDG Northern Branch.

The Books

Lorraine Bateman has the branch stock of books which are for sale. They include:

Triples / Major for beginners £2.50, Bell Restoration £2.00, DIY Project £1.50, Place Notation £1.00, Maintenance Handbook £1.25, Collection of Plain Minor Methods £3.00, Major Compositions £3.20, Doubles Collection £2.00, Doubles & Minor for beginners £2.50, Ringing Skills £2.00, Minor Methods £2.00, Ringing Jargon £0.20, Raising / Lowering £2.00, Service Touch £1.00, Posters £0.20, Follow on Book £0.72, Dove £13.00, One per Learner £0.72, Learning Curve £3.00, Sherbourne Exercise Book £0.65, Notices £0.20.

*The prices quoted are the prices of the current stock, should a re-order need to be made the price may vary.