

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Northern Branch

Newsletter – May 2008

Welcome to the May edition of the Northern Branch newsletter. The deadline for the next newsletter is 10th August so if you do anything between now and then and want it reported, please let Joy or Lorraine know. Also please let us know of anything being planned for next September, October, November or December.

Branch Officers

Ringling Master: Matthew Jeffery ☎ 01472 690460, mob: 07843 227681
jefferymatthew@yahoo.co.uk

Secretary: Lorraine Bateman ☎ 01472 690460
lorrainejaynebateman@hotmail.com

Treasurer: David Hibbert ☎ 01652 639158

Newsletter editor: Joy Lord ☎ 01652 635337
mjoylord@aol.com

BRANCH STRIKING COMPETITION

Goxhill, (6)
Monday 9th June
7:00-9pm prompt

Please get your teams entered for the Branch striking competition. We will be following the usual rules. If there are any members of the branch who do not have a team, but would like to take part, please let me know as often some teams require an extra person. As in previous year's these should be an enjoyable event for all.

Also please bring some money as we will have a Branch raffle at 50p per ticket for the Branch BRF.

BARTON ON HUMBER SOCIAL EVENING

On Friday 27th June at 7-30 in St Mary's Church Hall, Barton on Humber. You are all invited to a social evening promoted by St Mary's Church Bell Ringing Team. The evening will consist of a short lecture on the history and art of church bell ringing given by Geoff Bryant, followed by a delicious supper and the evening will conclude with a performance by the Holy Trinity Handbell Ringers conducted by Roger Lord. Tickets £5 include supper with hot and soft drinks (please feel free to bring your own bottles of wine etc. as long as the vicar gets a glass. Preferably red !)

Tickets are available from Roger or Joy. The Lincoln Diocesan Guild portable simulator, which has been used all over the county to promote bell ringing, will be available from 27/06/08 to 03/07/08 in the church for anyone to have a go and all non ringers can see how real bells work. All the local primary schools have already booked sessions on the simulator and hand bells so if you know anyone who is interested, please bring them to have a go at the social evening or contact Roger or Joy.

NEXT BRANCH PRACTICE

Stallingborough (4)

Friday 19th July

7:30-8.30pm prompt

Please note there will be four special methods:

Double Bob Minimus (x14x34x14x12)

Double Court Minimus (34.14.12.14.12.14.34.14)

Double Canterbury Minimus (34.14.12.34.12.14.34.12)

Stedman Singles (3.1.3.3.1.3.1.3.3.1.3.1)

Remember to bring some money for the Branch raffle at 50p per ticket for the Branch BRF. And refreshments.

Sadly in April we had to say goodbye to Geoff Bromfield....1945 - 2008

For many decades Geoff Bromfield was the leading light of bell-ringing in the two Churches, St. Peter's and St. Mary's, at Barton on Humber, Lincolnshire. He was born and educated in the town and after leaving school was employed as an industrial chemist, first at Lysaght's Steel Works in Scunthorpe, and latterly at the Lindsey Oil Refinery on the Humberbank.

In 1958 he was taught to ring at St. Peter's Church and in 1973 he took over as Tower Captain at both towers, a post he continued to hold until just before he died. He rang the first of his 126 peals in 1960 and in total rang 113 peals on tower bells and 13 in hand.

He was a loyal member of. The Lincoln Diocesan Guild which he joined in 1959 and he served on numerous committees as well as being Ringing Master for the Northern Branch of the Guild.

In 1999 – 2000 he worked hard to restore ringing on the eight bells at his favourite St. Peter's Church following that Churches closure in the 1970's. The resumption of ringing at mid – night on 31 December 1999 brought him great pleasure.

When Handbell ringing was revived in Barton in the 1990's Geoff became a keen member of the band - a solid and reliable performer on his favourite trebles. His delight at the completion of a peal in hand reflected his enjoyment of a newly – found skill.

When not ringing Geoff's interests over the years had included finishing the *Daily Telegraph* Crossword, keeping chickens, geese and bees or racing around the countryside on either his bicycle or his motorbike.

During his ringing career and his last illness he received the constant support of Linda and he was delighted when his son, Stephen, recently began his degree course in Chemistry at York University.

He would be happy to know that as he left St. Mary's Church for the last time, it was his band of ringers that rang the bells half muffled for him.

Quarter Peals rung in memory of Geoff Bromfield

Walgrave on Sowe, W. Mids. (St. Mary) 14 April, 1279 Grandsire Doubles : Hannah Tyler 1, Graham Hayward (C) 2, Paul Kibblewhite 3, Gerald Trevor 4, Stephen Colley 5, Sarah Tomkins 6. *Remembering Geoff Bromfield of Barton on Humber*

Kirton Linsey, Lincs 15th April. 1250 Cambridge Surprise Major : John Kettringham 1, Kate Morgan 2, Dot Mason 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Betty Stracey 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, Micheal Stracey 7, Phil Mason (C) 8. *Rung by members of the Lincolnshire Midweek Ringing Group. Geoff was a supporter of the Group and will be sadly missed.*

Barton on Humber , (St. Mary) 21st April, 1260 Grandsire Triples : Sue Faull 1, Sally Hewitt 2, John Underwood 3, Andrew Lord 4, Frank Kennington 5, Roger Lord 6, Robin Heppinstall (C) 7, Chris Potts 8. *Rung half – muffled following the funeral service of Geoff Bromfield, Tower Captain here for many years.*

Middle Rasen , Lincs. 21st April, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : David Morris 1, Linda Patrick 2, Stef Dodds 3, Frank Kennington (C) 4, Charles Cade 5, Colin Pitman 6. *Steven Wright and Maureen Kennington also wish to be associated with this quarter.in memory of Geoff Bromfield.*

Barton on Humber, Lincs. (St. Mary) 27th April, 1264 Plain Bob Major : Melvyn Rose 1, Sue Faull 2, Geoff Bryant 3, Linda Howden 4, Roger Lord 5, Andrew Lord 6, Matthew Jeffery, 7, Ian Till (C) 8. *Remembering Geoff Bromfield.*

Barton on Humber Lincs (St. Mary) 4th May, 1320 Plain Bob Minor : Joy Lord 1, Geoff Bryant 2, Andrew Lord 3, Roger Lord 4, Linda Howden 5, Richard Hopper (C) 6. *Rung by the local band for Choral Evensong and with special memories of Geoff Bromfield by 1 and 6.*

Peal rung in memory of Geoff Bromfield

Barton on Humber, Lincs. (St. Peter) 10th May, 5088 Gainsborough Surprise Major : Tom L Blythe 1, Ruth Curtis 2, A. Debbie Scarf 3, Peter L R Heyward 4, Martin F Mitchell 5, Andrew B Mills 6, Christopher P Turner (C) 7, Paul F. Curtis 8. *Dedicated to Geoff Bromfield, Tower Captain at Barton who died last month after a long illness.*

Branch Practice at Waltham

For our First Branch Practice of 2008 we were warmly welcomed to Waltham. The turnout was good and ringing catered for all. Guild BRF and Branch BRF raffle tickets were on sale. During a refreshment break the raffle was drawn. After ringing a drink or two in The Tilted Barrel was most welcomed. We thank the ringers at Waltham for a lovely evening.

Oxfordshire Delight Maximus

For most, the day started before 7am as we set off in our cars in the direction of Middleton Stoney, the first port of call on the tour of Oxfordshire. All went well at the first tower until a

certain Matthew Jeffery managed to break the rope on the third. Luckily, Frank came to the rescue and managed to splice the rope back together (thanks, Frank!), but by this time most people had disappeared off to the next tower, Islip. Here, two local ringers, who stayed with us for the rest of the day, joined us. Islip was a very nice ring of eight and near the Swan Inn, which did a lovely three-course meal for £10, along with a pint or two. Then it was on to Charlton-on-Otmoor, then Kirtlington and then Bletchington. At the last tower, after tea/coffee and cakes, Simon Cole was presented with a bottle of wine as a token of appreciation for organising such a wonderful tour to a very nice part of the country. It was a shame that it rained a little towards the end, but that didn't dampen our spirits.



OXFORD OUTING GANG

The Guild AGM 2008

For those of you who didn't get there, here's what went on. The day began with ringing and the communion service followed by a very enjoyable meeting where: It was mentioned that the gift Aid had now been retrieved which amounted to £900 for the BRF. The next job will be to claim for 2006 onwards. Philip Green and Judith Williamson were made Honorary life members of the guild. The Christmas cards raised £840 and the 100 club £868. And the raffle had taken £780 and after costs at least £570 when to the Guild BRF. The Guild positions are: President the Dean, Master Sue Faull, Sectary Les Townsend, Treasurer Roger Lord, Peal Secretary Emma Southerington, Librarian Delia Heppenstall, Report Secretary Trevor Hardcastle. It was agreed that the subs will remain at £10 for adults, £3 for juniors and full time education and associate / NRL £5. Peal fees will remain at 25p per rope. The division of 2008 subscriptions will be general fund down to 50%, GBRF up to 35% and branches retain 15%. The attention was drawn to the Ringing World Road show on 5 & 6th

September at Stoneleigh. The Guild 6 bell striking competition will be on 13th September at Welton and Dunholme. The guild 6 bell simulator will be at the Cathedral during Church School Festivals June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19 during the mornings, so anyone who is free to help will be very welcome. On the 28th June the Cathedral Company host national 12 bell finals, anyone who is free to help should contact Dot Mason. There will be a Guild Barn Dance on Saturday 18th October at 7:30pm to raise money to the Guild BRF.

During the afternoon The Guild 8 bell striking competition had 4 entries this year for the set piece Yorkshire. The Central Branch came 1st with 35 faults, 2nd Southern with 52 faults, 3rd Eastern with 67 faults and 4th West Lindsey with 88 faults. There was also the opportunity to ring at Waddington and Navenby during the afternoon.

Branch Committee meeting

At our recent committee meeting on 3rd May we decided that after the damage caused by visiting ringers at Walesby, we should look into the feasibility of having a Branch Policy for Damage caused by visiting ringers. The idea is that tower with a non-ringing tower contact can use this policy to send out when arranging visits and towers with ringing tower contacts can decide whether to use the policy or not.

We then looked at arrangements for our Social Events at Barton 27th June and the Quiz at Branch Quiz for the BRF in October. We also hope to organise a Young ringers' day for the younger members from our branch and a few from West Lindsey. The format of the day will be to arrange some ringing at Dunholme or Hackthorne and then go on to Lincoln for something to eat.

Apologies...

...from Lorraine for any incorrect information in the Northern Branch section of the guild report. This year I updated the information from last year's report to the information for this year's report. As you may have noticed this year the information is in a new format, therefore after I had updated the information I received my template for the new format. I'm afraid, due to a lack of time that I had to attend to the new format, I assumed the template was made from last year's information and therefore just repeated the changes that I had already made. However I now see the template was made up from information from 2 years ago. So unfortunately some of the information in this year's report is very out of date. So please accept my apologies if your information is wrong, and during this year, I intend to update the information and in addition all names will appear in full as you would see in a quarter peal report. So fingers crossed the information in the 2008 will be well at least more update.

Branch Scandal

It has been reported that the Branch Ringing Master proposed on a high mountain in Exmoor with a sparkly ring to the Branch Secretary and she accepted!

Lincoln Guild Clothing

You may have seen a few branch members wearing their Lincoln Guild Bellringers tops. You too can have one of your own. The range includes Polo shirts £15, Sweat shirts £16, Rugby shirts £22.50 and Hooded tops in various colours and sizes. And a small donation goes to the Guild Bell repair fund. If you are interested in finding out more/placing an order, please contact Sue Faull sue.faul@btopenworld.com

CAPTION PICTURE

We have decided to put in a 'Caption Picture' for every Newsletter. Here is one from Simon followed by one from Joy ! I cannot use pictures unless they are emailed as the quality deteriorates too much with scanning.



COMPO, CLEGGY AND FOGGY COME TO MARKET RASEN!



WHO ON EARTH IS THIS HUNK WITH THE TEETH?



A HAPPY BAND AT THE WALESBY MEETING

Northern Branch Programme 2008

Date	Location	Event
Mon 9 th June	Goxhill	Striking Competition
Fri 27 th June	Barton Church Hall	Barton Ringers Social Evening
Fri 19 th July	Stallinborough (4)	7.30-8.30 pm Branch Practise
Sun 17 th August	Lincoln Cathedral (12)	meet at 2.15pm
5 th / 6 th Sept	Stoneleigh	Ringing Roadshow
Sat 13 th Sept	Guild Striking Completion	PM Welton and Dunholme
Tues 16 th Sept	Louth (8)	7.00 - 9.00pm Branch Practise
Sat Oct 18 th	Guild Barn Dance	Upton cum Kexby Village Hall 7.30 - 11.30 pm
Sat Oct ?	Grasby	PM ringing + Quiz & Supper
Sat 13 th Dec	Walesby	Ringing 6pm Carol Service 7.30pm

2009

Sat 24 Jan	Barton St Mary (8)	AGM
Tues 10 March	Laceby (5)	7.00 - 8.30 Branch Practise

1st Wed of month Ladies Practise 1.30 to 3 pm Contact Dorothy Robinson 01673 843400

for details of locations

2nd Wed of month Simulator practise at Wragby 10.30 to 12 noon Contact Jim Sutherland on 01673 858492

Last Friday of month simulator practise at Louth 10.30 to 12 noon by arrangement only

Contact Mick Day 01507 603998