

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Northern Branch

Newsletter – December 2009

Welcome to the December edition of the Northern Branch newsletter. The deadline for the next newsletter is February 28th 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 January, February or March.

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NEW YEAR SOCIAL

Grasby (6)

Saturday 9th January 2010

Ringling 3-4pm, Service 4-4:30pm

Followed by fun and frolics at the village hall

Remember to bring a plate of food for the faith supper and your own drinks

Also a raffle will be held to go towards the cost of the hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Market Rasen (8)

Saturday 23rd January

Ringling 11:30am-12:30 pm, followed by lunch in Market Rasen in one of the nearby pubs

Ringling 2:30-4:30pm followed by service

4:30pm tea & cakes, business meeting 5pm

BRANCH PRACTICE

Immingham (6)

Monday 8th March – 7:30-9pm

Evensong Ringling at Lincoln Cathedral

As usual, Les Townsend made us welcome at the Cathedral in August for our annual visit. With help from the West Lindsey and Southern Branches we had a good turn-out. It was particularly encouraging to see plenty of learners wishing to gain an insight into what it is like to ring at the Cathedral, and for some it was certainly an eye opener! It is worth noting

that about half the people in the branch are only used to ringing on six, so ringing on ten and twelve proved a big step. Therefore I would like to congratulate those ringers, particularly the learners, on their valiant efforts. For the more advanced ringers in the branch, Grandsire Cinques and Little Bob Maximus were rung to a good standard. Les will look forward to seeing us all next year.

Guild 6-bell Striking Competition, Tealby/Middle Rasen

This year it was our branch's turn to host this competition. The cup competition was held at Tealby, and the plate at Middle Rasen. Market and Middle Rasen took part in the cup, they rang their best but sadly came last and penultimate. Barton took part in the plate and...

In the end, Messingham (West Lindsey) won the cup, second were Market Deeping (Southern) and Bourne (Southern) won the plate, with the runners up being Stow (West Lindsey).

The branch were thanked by the Guild for providing an excellent tea, so thanks to all in the branch for donating cakes, also thanks to Joy, Roger and Andrew Lord, Linda Bromfield and Lorraine Jeffery who manned the catering for the whole event, although for future reference perhaps a few more hands wouldn't have gone home completely worn out!

Guild 8-bell Striking Competition, Market Deeping

In October, eight branch members made the long trip down to Market Deeping in the Southern Branch for this competition. Unfortunately one of the ringers could not make it due to a car breakdown so Lorraine very kindly stepped in. The set piece was two courses of Plain Bob Major, and there was a bit of messing about in the tower trying to decide which was the treble and which the tenor, but once that was over the branch made their contribution. The idea was not to keep up the Northern Branch tradition of coming last, and afterwards people were saying how good it sounded.

There were only four teams in it this year (Northern, Southern, West Lindsey and Central Branches), and when the judge, Judith Williamson, gave her verdict, she was very critical about all the teams and did not really have anything positive to say about any of them. With ours, she said the practice piece over-ran by about thirty seconds, and with the test piece, we rang "steadily", the rounds beforehand "never really settled" and "there was clipping throughout which rather spoilt it". Hmm.

The Southern Branch won, followed by Central, then Northern, and then West Lindsey (who blamed a rope slipping off the wheel). Joy Lord then duly kept her promise of buying us all a drink if we beat West Lindsey for once ! Thanks to Barry and Heather Peachey, David and James Hibbert, Roger and Andrew Lord, and especially Lorraine for stepping in at such short notice to ring under pressure, and hopefully next year the competition will be a bit closer to home!

Market Rasen Visit

On Saturday November 21st several of us who went to Don and Dorothy Robinson's home for an enjoyable evening with our Oxfordshire friends, who had been visiting our area on a ringing tour. It was lovely to see them in our neck of the woods, as we are always made so welcome on Simon's trips to their towers. There was lovely food, great entertainment on the lovely Wurlitzer Organ played by Simon. Thank you so much for such a pleasant evening.



November practice at North Killingholme

Sadly, this practice was not well supported. In fact, the only people who turned up were the local ringers plus Matthew & Lorraine Jeffery. Supposedly the reason it was so poorly attended was the fact that it was only a four-bell tower, but it is surprising how much can be rung on four bells. The fact that it was a wet night would have been an unacceptable excuse as bellringing is an indoor activity. It must have been somewhat disheartening for those who went all out to put on a nice spread of cakes and biscuits, with tea and coffee, But despite the low attendance, methods like Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury, Double Canterbury, Single Court and Double Court were rung. So next time there is a practice at a four-bell tower, please consider giving it your support. Thanks to all at North Killingholme for being good hosts.

Candlelit Carol Service, Walesby

It was that time of year again when the branch walked up the muddy hill to Walesby Old Church for this wonderful service. It was great to see such a good turn-out. Ringing went up to Cambridge Minor at one point, which was particularly good, and we all had mince pies and coffee during the service. The Salvation Army band were there once again, and sadly, Rev. John Carr was unable to conduct the service due to illness, so we all missed his magic light-sabre wand. Elaine, our president, took it in his place and tried her very best to match the wand, but just somehow didn't quite make the grade with hers!

Thanks to West Lindsey and Central Branches for their support, and if you haven't managed to go yourself yet, please try and find the time to go one year as it really is worth the walk. Don't forget your walking boots!



Summary of Guild Committee Meeting

During the meeting Sue Faull passed on the Thanks of the Guild to the Northern Branch for hosting the 6 Bell striking competition, and the hard work done, by those who prepared a very good tea. The event was a good turn out. Next year, Elloe Deaneries possibly at Whaplode and Moulton, will host this event on the 2nd Saturday in September. The 8 bell striking competition was another great day with a very good tea, but it was a shame that we only had 4 teams. Perhaps half term had meant members of the Eastern branch were not around to enter. The event will remain in October; Eastern Branch will look into hosting it next year at Ingoldmells.

The fund raising committee has been busy. The Quiz organized by the Southern branch was very popular and raised £271 profit. Badges have made £41 profit and £86 has been paid out for a new supply, so the sale of these at £3 each will be profit. West Lindsey branch had a barn dance, profit of £136 from their raffle went to the Bell repair fund. An AGM raffle will be held again. Tickets, 50p a go, last year we raised £700.

The Guild Simulator and Womble has been out and about, But we all need to think of ways that they can be used more. We need to get to community events. Sue Faull and Ian are looking to see if a double axle trailer that the simulator will fit on, to make it easier to move around. So if anybody knows of any Trailers or horseboxes for sale at a reasonable price.

We also need to ensure Guild subs are paid promptly, so subs that are always due on 1st January, must be paid by the Guild AGM in April.

Please ensure that any peals or quarters you may ring are on www.campanophile.com, otherwise they may not be accounted for. If this cannot be done, please inform the Ringing Master who will sort it out.

St. Mary's Barton upon Humber

I am enclosing a picture of St Mary's ringers as we are feeling very proud of ourselves, having fulfilled our primary duty and rung all 8 bells for all Sunday morning Services for the whole year, even in the holiday period.



Lincoln Guild Clothing

You may have seen a few branch members wearing their Lincoln Guild Bell Ringers 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 master@ldgcb.org.uk

Northern Branch Programme

2010

Sat 23 rd Jan	Market Rasen (8)	AGM
WC Mon 8 th Mar	Immingham (6) tbc	7:30 - 9:00pm branch practice

1 st Wed of month	Ladies Practice	1.30 – 3.00pm. Contact Dorothy Robinson 01673 843400 for details of locations
2 nd Wed of Month	Simulator Practice at Wragby	10.30am – 12.00pm. Contact Jim Sutherland 01673 858492
Last Fri of Month	Simulator Practice at Louth	10.30am – 12.00pm by arrangement only contract Mick Day 01507 603998