

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Central Branch Newsletter (number 60) February 2008

Places in Lincolnshire

Forget about the fact that Navenby means 'Nafni's Village' or Stamford refers to an old stone ford. Here are the **true** meanings of place names and their ringing history.

Addlethorpe - a person who rings Kent while the rest of the band are ringing Oxford.

Benniworth - the shortest possible touch of a method to fill in time before the service starts

Bicker - discussion about who made the last Bob.

Blankney - ringer who takes hold for Oxford Bob and hears 'Go Oxford Treble Bob'.

Brattleby - ring too fast on a light eight.

Butterwick - a damp sally.

Goltho - an ancient ringers' game in which white balls are propelled into small holes in the ground by hitting them with old stays.

Guinness - as drunk by Irish ringers.

Helpringham - a person who rings at four towers on a Sunday.

Legsby - ringers who leaves the tower so fast when 'Band to lower' is called that he isn't actually seen to. leave.

Partney - one who has only learned the first three leads of a method but will not say so because we never get further than that.

Pickworth - one who only rings for weddings where the fee is more than £15 a rope.

Rippingale - that which blows under belfry doors even on still nights.

Ruckland - Surprise Major method where there are no dodges in 5-6.

Uffington - person alleged guilty by a Bicker.

Utterby - conductor who calls 'Brp', 'Bnn' or 'Ubb' instead of 'Bob'.

Whaplode - ringer who rings tenors by brute force and ignorance.

Withcall - Plain course with Bobs.

Withern - look directed at a ringer who has just missed a dodge, and should know better.

Originally produced by Colin some years ago.

At the Branch AGM at Harmston on 12 January Branch Officers elected were:

Secretary/Treasurer	Dot Mason, 25 Woodside, Branston, Lincoln. LN 4 1 TJ 01522 796079
Ringling Master	Mick Stracey
CB Rep to Guild BRF	Chris Jackson
CB Rep to Guild Committee	Margaret Parker
CB Committee Members	Richard Spencer, Jane Smith, Sandra Rhodes, Philip Dawson
Hon Accounts Examiners	John Carr, Alan Haines

Our Branch will be hosting the **Guild Striking Contest Finals** in September. The towers will be Dunholme and Welton.

The Guild Master, Sue Faull, is taking orders for **Polo Shirts** (£15-00), **Sweatshirts** (£16-50), **Rugby Shirts** (£22-50) and **Hooded Sweatshirts** (£18-50) displaying the Guild logo. There is a choice of colours. Various members of the Guild already have them and are happy to model them. Proceeds will go to the Guild BRF.

More information here:

<http://www.ldgcb.org.uk/admin/brf/adverts/clothing.php>

Notes from the Branch Committee

- * The Central Branch is hosting the **Guild Sringing Contest Final** this year. It is planned that the Cup will be held at Welton, the Plate at Dunholme and Scothern tower will be open. Light refreshments will be available and the results given at Scothern.
- * The **rabbits competition** is to be at Bassingham on May 26. There will be no evening activity this year as there seemed to be no call for one. Please encourage **everyone** to come to the afternoon - the more less experienced ringers we have the merrier.
- * The **ring for your supper** on August 9 looks like being a great social occasion. There will be three towers open. As well as ringing, at the first there will be a starter (probably something like soup) provided; at the second a main course and the third a sweet. The timing will be 4.00 - 5.00 at the first, 5.30 - 6.30 and then 7.00 - 8.00. We expect the charge will be in the region of £6 for the whole event, and of course names for supper **MUST** be sent .Put the date in your diary now!
- * The **training morning** on September 13 will focus on raising and lowering, with basic ringing in between, and the onion competition will be judged - I have a few onion sets left if anyone still wants some.
- * Ringing books will be for sale at Branch meetings.

Notes from Guild Committee meeting

- * A group of young people in the Southern Branch have taken on production of the **Guild Newsletter**. They appealed for information for the diary and any special branch news items.
- * Tickets for the **Roadshow** are available for £6 (young ringers free). The charge at the gate will be £8, so if you are going get a ticket!
- * The **BRF Fund Raising Committee** as well as selling the sweatshirts etc. are planning a Barn Dance later in the year, a new Guild lapel badge, a limited edition calendar for 2009 as well as Christmas cards. (The 2007 cards raised around £900 thanks to the generosity of Philip Green for producing them without charge!) Tickets for a Grand Draw at the AGM, with a prize of £100, will be sent to every tower. There have been a lot of requests for grants so it is important to keep our funds topped up so that we are able to give significant help to towers.
- * The Archdeacon, the Guild Master and the Guild's Faculty's Adviser are drawing up **Guidelines about the use of bells**, who has ultimate control, who appoints tower captains, when bells should be rung and by whom etc. The resulting document will be made available Guildwide.
- * The title of the Guild sometimes refers to Bellringers and sometimes Bell Ringers. For the sake of consistency in future we will be referred to as the **L.D.G.C.B.R.**, which was used at the formation of the Guild.
- * At the AGM the Guild will be looking for a **new Treasurer** and **Librarian** as Nicola and Judith are not available for re-election.

Welcome

- - - to **Ron Everett, Martin Bull** and **Kay Bull** from Bassingham and **Eileen Barton-Smith** and **Anthony Kerry** from Hackthorn who were elected members at the AGM at Harmston.

Congratulations

- - - **Nick Jeins** on ringing his first quarter - Tenor to Bob Doubles at Waddington.

- - - **Siobhan Rattigan** on ringing her first quarter - Treble to Bob Doubles at Washingborough.

News from the Towers

Nettleham ringers spent a profitable tower maintenance morning and the bells are far more evenly struck as a result. We are grateful to Tom Blyth for coming and showing us how to deal with the 'twiddle pins' and for general help and advice. Five of our ringers were there, so we hope the new knowledge will be passed on.

NB. While one of the ringers was downstairs making a cup of tea for the workers, the meter reader came and asked where the meters were. When she said, 'There's someone upstairs who knows,' he asked, looking Heavenwards, 'Do you mean Him?' She said, 'No we won't bother Him, just one of us!'

The Sunday Service band of **Hackthorn** rang on Saturday 13 January to congratulate Mrs Bridget Cracroft-Eley, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, on being appointed a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. Bridget was very involved in the installation of Hackthorn's bells from the beginning of the project in 1997 to its completion last year. She has been an enthusiastic ringing member of the new band until ill health has recently curtailed this. A quarter of Bob Doubles was rung, followed by 20 minutes of Call Changes so that all of the Sunday Service band who rang with Bridget could be involved in paying tribute to this greatly respected lady. The following weekend the Order was presented to her by the Lord Chancellor on behalf of HM the Queen in a private ceremony at her home.

Nettleham's new ropes are terribly stiff and haven't softened at all. We have lost one new ringer who was badly frightened by them. Our secretary wrote to Ellis's enclosing a photo of the band holding the tails vertically upwards by at least 2 feet asking for advice. He wrote, 'We may not be able to ring, but as you can see we are all experts at the Indian rope trick.' The result is that they have asked us to take them off and they will collect them on a Friday and return them with new bottoms at the beginning of the following week - we don't even have to get them there and back. How's that for public relations!

We are all sorry to say goodbye to **Judith Williamson** who has moved from the area to be near her family. She has given many years' service to the Branch and to the Guild. Not only has she been tower captain for the Navenby/Wellingore/Boothby group but she also taught the band at Martin. For many years she was Central Branch Secretary, and it was during this time that this Newsletter was started. She represented the Branch on the Guild BRF Fund Raising Committee and has been for some years the Guild Librarian. She will be very much missed in all these areas and we can only hope that our loss will be another Guild's gain. The Branch has proposed that she should be put forward for Honorary Life Membership of the Guild.

Lincoln Cathedral will be hosting the National Twelve Bell Striking Contest Final on 28 June this year. Although this is a tower rather than Guild matter, any offers of help with the catering for over 400 people on that day will be most warmly welcomed. If you can help, see Dot or Les.

Thank you

- - - - to Sleaford tower for their generous donation of £5 towards the cost of the Newsletters.

Reminder

2008 subs are now due. The Treasurer reports that a large number of members have already paid. Thank you! If you are not one of them, now is the time - £10 for adults, £3 for Junior members.

Proposed Ringing Programme 2008/2009

8 Mar	Thorpe-on-the-Hill	Ringing	2.30 - 4.00	
12 Apr	Swinderby & Eagle		7.00 - 9.00	
26 Apr	GUILD AGM			
10 May	Striking Competition at Norton Disney 5.00 draw			
26 May	Rabbits at Bassingham		2,30 start	
14 Jun	Heckington	Ringing	7.00 - 9.00	
12 Jul	Bardney Ringing, Service etc 3.00, then BBQ at Apley			
9 Aug	Ring for your supper based on Sleaford area			
5 & 6 Sept	RINGING ROADSHOW at Stoneleigh			
13 Sept	Waddington	Training morning and onion competition		
			10.00 - 12 00	
Sept 13	Guild Striking finals at Dunholme & Welton			
11 Oct	Lincoln St Mary & St Botolph		2.30 - 4.00	
8 Nov	Hackthorn	Quiz night	7.30	
13 Dec	Quarrington	Carol Service	3.00	
10 Jan	Washingborough	AGM	3.00	
4 Feb	Nettleham	Ringing	2.30 - 4.00	
14 Mar	Timberland	Ringing	2.30 - 4.00	

Washingborough/Waddington/Harmston practices for this year. :

Washingborough 1st & 3rd Wednesday, Waddington 2nd & 4th Wednesday and Harmston 5th Wednesday.

Washingborough : Jan 2 & 16, Feb 6 & 20, Mar 5 (not 19), Apr 2 & 16, May 7 & 21, Jun 4 & 18, Jul 2 & 16, Aug 6 & 20, Sep 3 & 17, Oct 1 & 15, Nov 5 & 19, Dec 3 & 17.

Waddington : Jan 9 & 23, Feb 13 & 27, Mar 12 & 26, Apr 9 & 23, May 14 & 28, Jun 11 & 25, Jul 9 & 23, Aug 13 & 27, Sep 10 & 24, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 12 & 26, Dec 10 (not 24)

Harmston : Jan 30, Apr 30, Jul 30, Oct 29 (not Dec 31)

Branch Surprise Major Practices at Washingborough will be on the 4th Saturday in the month from 10.30 - 12, (26 January, 23 February, **15** March, 19 April, 24 May, **20** June, 26 July, 23 August, 20 September, 18 October, 22 November and 20 December 2008.) Put these dates in your new diary!
Any queries to Sue Waterfall 07925 149104.

These are all subject to change during the year. It is wise to check.

October will again be our **quarter peal month**.

From John Ketteringham

There is now a page on the Guild web site on which all Quarter Peals rung by a majority of Central Branch members are recorded. The relevant web page is:

<http://www.ldgcb.org.uk/cb/qp/20080224.pdf>

It would be a great help if Quarter Peal arrangers/conductors could arrange for successful QPs to be entered on Campanophile. If you cannot do this yourself most towers these days will have a ringer who can do this for you. If not, if you let me have details I will be pleased to do this for you. There is a facility on Campanophile for QPs to be sent directly to the *Ringling World* for publication so let me know if you want me to do this for you, my email address is john.ketteringham27@ntlworld.com.

Guild AGM 26 April

10.00 Holy Communion at the Cathedral

11.00 Meeting at Bailgate Methodist hall
followed by Lunch (Names are essential)

Afternoon Inter Branch 8 bell Strking Contest at Harmston
Waddington and Washingborough towers open

6.30 Ringing at the Cathedral

Overheard

It was cold in the belfry and she put on her coat. A (male) ringer said, 'I'll join her in her coat - no, not the same one. I'll put my own on.'

When asked if she would ring down, this normally reserved lady replied: "I can drop them quickly." After some thought and embarrassment added, "the bells I mean."

The TC who had the reputation for pushing the ringers to advance said, 'Rome wasn't built in a day.'
'You weren't on the job then or it would have been!' came the reply.

One or two ringers were on the side-lines keeping an eye on those learning a method. At the end someone was heard to remark, 'It was a bit like a football match. When it got exciting everyone stood up!'

A non-ringing visitor to the tower was fascinated by what she saw. After we had rung the bells down she said with enthusiasm, 'That sounded lovely - the way they got quicker and quicker and then that cacophonous bit in the middle which resolved itself back down the scale at the end.'

'Can I ring Double Bob?'
'You must be joking -
I haven't got Single Bob yet!'

At the end of her first quarter peal the band were asked, 'Can I say I've rung a quarter peal because I did need some help?' If no helpful word was occasionally allowed, I think there would be very few quarters (and even fewer peals) rung!

If you your lips
Would keep from trips
Five things observe with care
Of whom you speak
To whom you speak
And how and when and where.

'I thought my legs had gone trembly but then realised this box is wobbly!'