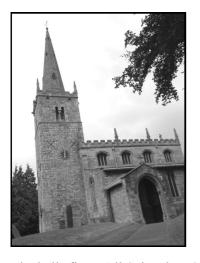
<u>Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers</u> <u>Central Branch Newsletter No 87 November 2014</u>



Central Branch Meeting, July 12th

or

Strawberry Tea Meeting?

Having driven through heavy rain, we arrived at Branston, All Saints Church in fine weather.

The bells first: All Saints has 6 bells with a 9cwt tenor. In 1595, 3 bells were cast incorporating a fourth "old bell" to make a peal of 4. Between 1893 and 1895, John Taylor & Co of Loughborough, cast 2 new bells and rehung the rest making the present peal of 6 bells. In 1962, the bells and tower escaped unharmed when the rest of the Church was severely damaged by fire. Next the Strawberry Tea: Strawberry cheesecake, Victoria sandwich with strawberry filling, scones with cream and strawberry jam, strawberries and cream. This was lovely. Our stalwart Ringing Master, Richard battled and on some occasions, won, to encourage ringers to come and ring the bells. Jonathon held up the hymns numbers as if he was scoring the cakes. 10 out of 10! What had we come for? About 23 ringers were present, with ringing ranging from Rounds, Call Changes, Bob Doubles, Bob Minor to Norwich. took umbrage when asked what we were ringing when she was on the tenor box! "Do you think I cannot ring in the Tenor!!" I just wanted to know what we were ringing. I enjoyed the ringing and meeting other ringers with their stories, one of which is retold later. We had a short meeting which included the election of 2 new members, the announcement of the half yearly meeting at Ewerby and a vote of thanks to those who made the tea. Thank you Yvonne, Sue and other ringers. The money raised from the tea, will go to new ropes at Blankney. The day started wet and dreary - it finished on a high! G. G.

Proposed Ringing Meetings for 2014

4 .	0 0 0	,			
Nov 8 th	Brant Broughton	QUIZ			
Dec 13 th	Norton Disney	Carol S	ervice	Ringing	2.30pm
				Service	3pm
Jan 10 th	Washingborough	AGM	Ringi	ng	3pm
			Servi	ce	4.30pm
	Tea and Meeting				5pm
Feb 7 th	Ruskington				2.30 - 4pm
Mar 7 th	Lincoln, St Botolp	h			2.30 - 4pm

Heckington needs help on a practice night -

The ringers can ring triples but need help to progress onto other methods.

They need help and a "push" and to give others a rest.

Helpers experienced in ringing 8 bells are needed.

Please contact Audrey Harrison on 01529 460 316 Email address: audrey.harrison376@btinternet.com

Nightmare in the making!

The rope won't move - and the bell is ringing??

See later for the answer.



Washingborough Surprise Practices 10.30-12am

Oct 25th, Nov 22nd, Dec 20th.

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

Seen on a Notice Board outside a Lincolnshire Church:

Quotes were required for painting the outside of the Chapel. One local painter was notorious for thinning his paint, but as his quote was by far the cheapest, he was given the job.

He got on well with the work, but before he had finished there was a violent thunderstorm, which knocked him of his ladder. As he lay on the ground watching the paint being washed off the walls he cried "What shall I do?" On which he heard a voice from above saying "Repaint, repaint and thin no more." Thanks to Jim for this.

I didn't know whether to dodge or not, but the music was right, so I did ---

Obituary

Helen (Jo) Watts 1969 - 2014

Jo, as she wanted to be known, started to ring handbells at school. She then learnt to ring at Lincoln St Giles and became an important member of the Sunday Service ringing team. Jo had a quiet demeanour but was always ready with her dry sense of humour. When she moved to Loughborough in 1990, her ringing continued at Wymeswold and in 2013 she became the Loughborough District Secretary. While visiting her relations in Lincoln, she would take the opportunity to visit St Giles where she was warmly welcomed.

Jo became unwell in May this year and after a short illness passed away. She was supported locally by her ringing friends.

Jo will be sadly missed.

Martin and Timberland Tower Captain Janet Crafer needs help from the Branch - so that ringers can progress.

If you can be of any use, please contact a Branch Committee Member or contact Janet.

Afternoon Sunday Service ringing at Lincoln Cathedral August 10th On an annual basis, ringers from the Central Branch are invited to ring for the afternoon Sunday Service at Lincoln Cathedral.

Ringing varied from rounds, call changes to Yorkshire Royal.

Views of some of the ringers who rang there:

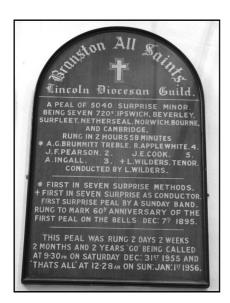
Excited and nervous. I enjoyed the ringing apart for the bits which terrified me - I managed to ring, breath and smile!

I enjoyed the ringing and would like to come again.

What was special for you? - Having a private tour of that part of the Cathedral tea and cakes in the coffee shop! It was a privilege to ring for Evensong. From myself, G.G. Ringing on 12 is always hard. But as is always the case, on either 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 one needs the help of the many teachers/Tower Captains to enable us to ring that number of bells. Thank you to all.

A long peal or a long story?

At the Branston Meeting, Ron Applewhite told how he was part of a band which rang over 2 years, 2 months, 2 weeks and 2 days. There is a Peal board hanging up in Branston Church, to prove this. A long peal or a long story? - See below and work it out yourselves.



The wording is reproduced below:

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR, BEING SEVEN 720^S IPSWICH, BEVERLEY, SURFLEET, NETHERSEAL, NORWICH, BOURNE AND CAMBRIDGE. RUNG IN 2 HOURS 58 MINUTES.

- * A. G. BRUMMITT TREBLE
 - J. F. PEARSON. 2.
 - A. INGALL. 3.
 - R. APPLEWHITE, 4.
 - J. E. COOK. 5.
- + L. WILDERS TENOR
 CONDUCTED BY L. WILDERS
- * FIRST IN SEVEN SURPRISE METHODS.
- + FIRST IN SEVEN SURPRISE AS CONDUCTOR. FIRST SURPRISE PEAL BY A SUNDAY BAND. FIRST PEAL ON THE BELLS DEC 7TH 1895

THIS PEAL WAS RUNG 2 DAYS 2 WEEKS 2 MONTHS AND 2 YEARS "GO" BEING CALLED AT 9.30PM ON SATURDAY DEC 31ST 1955 AND "THATS ALL" ON SUN JAN 1ST 1956.

With thanks to Ron for pointing this out.

Ringing World National Youth Competition

On Saturday 5th July, young bell ringers from all over England met at Worcester for the Ringing World National Youth Competition. The day was very exciting for all the people in the 16 county teams who participated in the competition, and for all those who came to support them. Each team consisted of 8 ringers, everyone rang at the same church during the day, and their performance was judged. Our team - The Lincolnshire Poachers - rang really well and were pleased to come joint 4th.

We rang at a number of different churches in Worcester during the day, and also at the ringing centre, where ringers can develop their skills with the aid of a computer. I thought that this was brilliant because each ringer could practice all they wanted with a perfectly struck band around them, hearing what they rang through a set of headphones. It would be fantastic if we could have something similar in Lincoln!

Most of the teams were also lucky enough to ring at Worcester Cathedral - it was an amazing experience and tremendous privilege. Some - including us - got to climb right up to the top of the Cathedral bell tower and out onto the roof. This was really cool because you could see for miles. One of the team members even managed to get her guitar up right to the top, although others struggled to even climb the tower! Some people were rather unnerved when they realised that the Cathedral tower rocked a bit. But when we got to one of the other towers around Worcester we realised just how much church towers could sway! Not something that I wanted to think about when I was ringing!

•	in Worcester was a fantastic experience, I am already looking year's competition in Oxford.
Hannah Watt	
Heard at a Brand	ch Meeting: Please will those sitting out, make a noise quietly!
There's no wate	r in the church. They've mended the roof!

Central Half Yearly Meeting at Ewerby August 9th

Ewerby, St Andrew has ten bells and a story about visiting ringers who, seeing ropes hung at ground floor, try to ring from there but do not have much success. Some years ago, the ringing chamber was moved to the first floor to aid ringing, but the parishioners missed seeing the ropes and asked (and was granted) that false ropes be left to hang down where they used to be. I, not having rung on the bells since that change, was sufficiently quick witted enough to notice that ringers were ascending the stairs. (My nightmare in the making?)

After ringing, we attended the service which was taken by Liz with Les

Towsend playing the organ. Thank you to Liz and Les. The half-yearly meeting followed. Some of the following points raised are as follows:

- Training sessions: Ringers encouraged to attend
- Location of a Training Workshop discussed: maybe Wragby but t.b.c.
- Next year's "Onion Competition" any ideas? Suggestion "Sausages"!
- Guild Calendar: Photos to be given to Sue Faull and need to be interesting to be selected and included.
- Codicil to a Will: suggested to ringing members to consider including a codicil benefitting the Bells of a local church or Guild.
- Restoration of simulator at Wragby: This is in progress. (*The Ringing Simulator has now been restored*)
- PR Officer and Training Officer at Guild Level: Suggestion that training
 be done at Guild Level when not catered for at Branch Level. Maybe coordinate training, liaising and help ringers at Branch Level.
 P.R.Officer: This would encourage good networking and enthusiasm with
 members of the public and within branch also would help and provide
 knowledge in case there are complaints.
- Branch boundaries: The Guild asks if the Branches are happy with the boundaries. The meeting showed that they were happy with the boundaries. One comment made: Boundaries not to become barriers in communication with others.
- Heckington: more help needed on a practice night to help local ringers to progress with methods. *See page 2 for details*.
- Timberland and Martin: more help needed. See page 4 for details.
- Mike Stracey: has rope to sell. *See later for more details*.

The meeting closed and we carried on ringing until it was time to go home.

Refreshments were being served in the Church with a ground floor belfry. The Ringing Master called him to come and man a rope. As he walked in, she turned from the Treble rope to get her hanky, so he quickly grabbed the Treble rope.

Then he said, "That look you gave me! You ought to bottle it and sell it. You'll make a fortune" He then caught hold of the vacant rope, put the rest of his biscuit in his mouth, ready to ring.

She said "You couldn't have said "Look to" till you'd eaten your biscuit!

Guild 6 Bell Final in Central Branch September 13th



Photo by Sue Faull

Saturday heralded a fine day for ringers in the finals of the John Freeman Cup which was held at Nettleham and the Ted Colley Plate in Dunholme. There were 8 teams for the cup which was judged by Tim Peverett from Derbyshire. The judge said of the striking, that the 3rd bell seemed to cause the most problems due to odd struckness. He also said "I parked my car in a good place where I could hear

everything – except when a double decker bus came past!" Each of the District Branches were represented and ringing included Call Changes, Plain Bob Doubles and Minor, Grandsire Doubles and Cambridge Surprise Minor. The winner of the cup was Scotter (West Lindsey Branch) with Plain Bob Doubles which had a good start, good structure and the Tenor rung well. Lincoln Cathedral came in joint 4th place.

5 teams were entered into the plate which was judged by Mary Fairclough from Bottesford, Leicestershire. The judge gave individual comments on each of the teams and the winner of the plate was Grantham (Southern Branch) with 9½ faults, ringing Call Changes. In second place, came Welton with 10½ faults, ringing Plain Bob Doubles. Only 1 fault difference! Comments heard from the visiting ringers at Dunholme: the bells rang well; sallies were lovely - wanted to take them and put them on their own bells; the fitted carpet - it feels like home. Wished that they had something similar in their own chamber!

Congratulations to all who took part, including those who entered into the Branch competitions. Next year, entries will be direct into Guild Level and there will be no "heats" at Branch Level.

The all important tea and food was appreciated by all – lots of food and refreshments served by Dot's team. Also, thank you to those who manned the towers. More importantly - thank you to the judges.

Central Branch invited to the Northern Branch meeting Saturday 27th September

The last Saturday in September saw Central Branch members joining the Northern Branch meeting at Louth. The town and church are imposing and well worth a visit. There had been a wedding earlier in the day so the bells were up and some ringers had stayed behind. The climb to the ringing chamber was long and the stairs were narrow. As the staircase continued up to the roof, we were not alone in our church, two way traffic causing difficulty with no passing places. If you did climb onto the roof, the view was magnificent. Louth bells are a lovely heavy ring of eight which require careful handling. Unfortunately this deterred many people, so the turnout was poor. We did manage rounds and call changes on the eight. An attempt at Plain Bob Major found the tenor man ditching himself in the sea. The rest of the meeting was confined to ringing minor on the front 6 which proved more successful. By the time the meeting finished, the church was closed. A choir was practising for a concert that evening. Refreshments were all set up and could put ringers to shame. As we left, we found it hard not to help ourselves and wondered whether anyone would notice! We had to walk around the town to find a teashop but they were all closing. Instead the afternoon was rounded off with ice-cream and a picnic at Hubbard's Hill

Fiona Dawson

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.



Branch Meeting Waddington 18 October

Owing to a bit of confusion leading to mixed messages, this meeting was very poorly attended. Eight ringers turned up and they made good use of this nice little six for an hour and a half - and went home early! In some ways there were some advantages in the situation, for rather than having to fit in with a crowd, everyone had a good ring and had plenty of opportunities to practice what they were learning. This does **not** mean that we don't want to see more of you next time!!

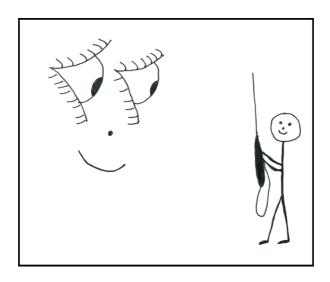
Those who didn't know the history of St Michael's were a little surprised at how new the church is. The picture on the belfry wall showed the church as it was before being destroyed by a direct hit by a landmine in 1941. This picture from the local paper at the time shows the bells and broken frame sitting on top of the piles of rubble. Amazingly none of the five bells was damaged in any way and they were re-hung in the tower of the new church in 1954 and a new treble was added five years later.

We shall rise again! Margaret Parker

Ringer: I waited - the bell didn't - it has a mind of it's own! Tower Captain retorts: Are you the boss! Imagine your wife telling you!!!

Little Gems which help the bells go round --

When ringing a method with dodges in it --- remember to look at the eyes of the person who you are dodging with -- they will confirm that you are dodging with the correct person.



While visiting a village, the evangelist wanted to post a letter, so he asked a small boy where the Post Office was. The boy told him. As he thanked the boy, he said "If you come to my meeting tonight, I'll show you the way to Heaven." The boy cried - "You? You don't even know the way to the Post Office!" Thanks to Jim for this one.

From the Editor: Thank you for the articles, news and funny comments and to those who allow me access to their pictures and news. Also, thank you to those who send information on quarter peals and contributions. Without all these I would not be able to prepare a Central Branch Newsletter.

Contributions relevant to the Newsletter can be handed via Margaret Parker or Fiona Dawson (Central Branch Secretary) or email: gillianglad-man@hotmail.co.uk starting the subject/title with "Ringing". Please note: the Editor reserves the right to edit articles to allow their inclusion in the Newsletter. PS Thank you to all the readers!!

Gill Gladman

Lincoln St Mary-le-Wigford 16 June 1272 Minimus (3m)

- 1. Susan Faull
- 2. Fiona Dawson
- Sandra Underwood
- 4. Colin Ward

In memory of Walter Froggat, former tower captain at St Mary le Wigford. Over many years Walter taught numerous youngsters to ring including all four hand members

Lincoln St Giles 17 June 1288 Grandsire Triples

- 1. Sandra Underwood
- 2. John Underwood
- 3. Heather Grover
- 4. David Fox
- 5. Christopher Woodcock
- 6. Graham Colbourne (C)
- 7. Philip Grover
- 8 Andrew Blakelock

For the 90th birthday of Ray Stallibrass who rang the peal on the bells at St Giles on 27 February 1940. Ray is the Uncle of Sandra (nee Stallibrass).

Ewerby St Andrew 5 July 1260 Grandsire Triples

- 1. Dot Mason
- 2. Betty Stracey
- 3. Sylvia Taylor
- 4. Alan Bird
- 5 Phil Mason
- 6. Richard Spencer
- 7. David Fox (C)
- 8. John Nicholson

Rung at the Vicar's request, during the Church garden Fete.

Dunholme 15 July 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1. John Bundy
- 2. Hannah Watt
- 3. William Dawson
- 4. Jeremy Wheeldon
- 5. Philip Dawson (C)
- 6. Robin Lee

1st inside (2) aged 13. Rung to celebrate Ordination of Rev. Carol Jones at Lincoln Cathedral on June 27th. Also to celebrate the installation of Father Richard Crossland at Nettleham on July 8th after guiding this benefice through our interregnum.

Washingborough 20 July 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1. Bridget Jones-Crabtree
- 2. Christopher C. P. Woodcock
- 3. Robert H. Harvey
- 4. Sue L. Waterfall
- 5. Jonathan P. Clark (C)
- 6. Helen Brewer

Rung to celebrate the last service at St. John's to be conducted by our Rector, the Revd. Stephen Crabtree. Stephen has been the Rector at St. John's for 12 years, but is moving to pastures new. We wish him well. Mr. Graham F. Whittaker and Mr. Chris Taylor would like to be associated with this quarter peal.

What do you call	l a man with earplu	gs anything y	ou like becaus	e he can't
hear you.				

Dunholme 26 July 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

- 1. John Bundy
- 2. Margaret Neate
- 3. Fiona Dawson
- 4. Jeremy Wheeldon
- 5. David Fox (C)
- 6. Philip Dawson

Following the marriage of Hannah Marie Wilkinson to Steven Alan Haywood.

Washingborough 27 July 1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1. Claire J. Howard
- 2. Dot Mason
- 3. Philip Mason
- 4. Graham F. Whitaker
- 5. Jonathan P. Clark (C)
- 6. Sue L. Waterfall

Rung to celebrate the marriage of Stephen Crabtree and Christine King which took place the day before. Stephen has been the Rector at St. John's, Washingborough for 12 years but is moving to pastures new.

Lincoln Cathedral 27 July 1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

- 1. Dot Mason
- 2. Harold Gibson
- 3. Jeremy Wheeldon
- 4. Les Townsend
- Phil Mason
- 6. John Nicholson
- 7. David Braunton
- 8. David Fox (C)

For evensong during which the Rt Rev David Court was installed as the Bishop of Grimsby.

Welton 28 July

1260 Plain Bob Minor

- Sally Turnbull
- 2. Margaret Parker
- 3. Fiona Dawson
- 4. John Bundy
- 5. David Fox (C)
- 6. Philip Dawson

Rang for the installation of Rev. Adam Stewart Watson as Vicar of Welton, Dunholme & Scothern Benefice

Great Hale 22 Aug 1260 Plain Bob Minor

- 1. Sylvia Taylor
- 2. Kate Morgan
- 3. Geoffrey Wilkins
- 4. Richard Spencer
- 5. David Fox (C)
- 6 Alan Bird

Lincoln St Giles 29 Aug 1275 Stedman Triples

- 1. Fiona Dawson
- 2. Michael Stracey
- 3. David Fox
- 4. Betty Stracey
- 5. Graham Colborne
- 6. Michael Lawton
- 7. Jeremy Wheeldon (C)
- 8 John Nicholson

To celebrate the 75th birthday earlier this week of Michael Stracey and the 50th anniversary of Betty Stracey's first Quarter today.

Heard more than once in a local belfry - Go - - - ???? Whatever I said, ------ it's All Saints we're ringing!

Silk Willougby 13 Sept 1500 Grandsire & Plain Bob Doubles

- Honorine Ball
- 2. Richard Short
- 3. Alan Bird (C)
- Richard Rogers
- 5. Bryan Ward
- 6. Ron Ball

For Heritage Weekend. 1st Quarter peal (6). 1st quarter on these bells (1). Best wishes to Tower Captain Sally Caunter wishing her a speedy recovery and return to ringing. We wish Joan & Alan Paine to be associated with this Quarter and with (1) & (6) thank them for their assistance and dedication in the repair of these bells along with reestablishing the practice evening and Sunday Service ringing.

Lincoln Cathedral

14 Sept

1296 Stedman Triples

- 1. Alistair Cherry
- 2. Michael Stracey
- 3. Janet Clarke
- 4. Heather Blacklock
- 5. Stephen Clarke
- 6. David Braunton
- 7. Jeremy Wheeldon (C)
- 8. John Nicholson

On the back eight. For Evensong.

Welton 17 Sept 1260 Double Oxford Bob Minor

Les Townsend

- 1. Michael Stracey (C)
- Richard Short
- 3. Betty Stracey
- 4. John F Underwood
- Richard Spencer

Rung by members of the RAF Guild of Bellringers to mark the planting of a tree in the churchyard to commemorate the men and women of Welton, who served in the Great War 1914 to 1918.

Welbourn

26 Sept

1273 Grandsire Triples

- Dot Mason
- 2. John Nicholson
- Paul Jackman
- 4. Michael Lawton
- 5. Sylvia Taylor
- 6. Michael Stracey (C)
- 7. Philip Dawson
- 8. Tony Branson

For Harvest Festival Service

Lincoln Cathedral 28 Sep 1280 Spliced Surprise Major 480 Rutland & 800 Cambridge

- 1. Les Townsend
- 2. Michael Lawton
- 3. Dot Mason
- 4. Graham Colborne
- 5. Michael Stracey
- 6. Jeremy Wheeldon
- 7. John Nicholson
- 8. Andrew Blacklock (C)

On the light eight. Rung for Evensong.

Caythorpe 1 Oct

1264 Plain Bob Major

- 1. Rose Hancock
- 2. Jean Kay
- 3. Bob Hancock
- 4. Kate Morgan
- 5. Betty Stracey
- 6. Michael Stracey (C)
- 7. Alan Bird
- Brian Ward

To celebrate Lincolnshire Day

Silk Willoughby 1 Oct 1260 Single Oxford Bob Minor

- 1. Kate Morgan
- 2. Richard Short
- 3. Jean Kay
- 4. Betty Stracey
- 5. Michael Stracey (C)
- 6. Richard Spencer

1st in method 3. To celebrate Lincolnshire Day

Ewerby 1 Oct 1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major

- 1. Rose Hancock
- Dot Mason
- 3. Les Townsend
- 4. Sylvia Taylor
- 5. Christine Jackson
- 6. John Nicholson
- 7. Alan Bird
- 8. Bob Hancock (C)

For Lincolnshire Day

Branston Woodside Campanile 2 Oct 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

- 1. Sylvia Taylor (C)
- Dot Mason
- 3. Betty Stracey
- 4. Michael Stracey
- 5 Phil Mason
- 6. Michael Lawton

Remembering Helen (Jo) Watts whose funeral was on Monday. She learned to ring at St Giles in Lincoln, and was always most welcome when she returned from Leicestershire to visit her father. Gill Gladman wishes to be associated with this quarter.

Washingborough 6 Oct 1260 Plain Bob Minor

- 1. Keith Gladman
- 2 Eleanor H Maude
- 3. Yvonne A. Woodcock
- 4. Graham F. Whittaker
- 5. Christopher C. P. Woodcock
- 6. Jonathan P. Clark (C)

Rung prior to the Guild Office (a meeting of the Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary). Also rung in memory of Victor Rush, a part time verger at Lincoln Cathedral and latterly a steward, who's funeral was on Friday 3rd Oct.

Lincoln Cathedral 12 Oct 1260 Grandsire Caters

- 1. Sandra Underwood
- 2. Dot Mason
- 3. Harold Gibson
- 4. Anita Blundell
- 5. John Nicholson
- 6. Michael Stracey (C)
- 7. John Underwood
- 8. Jeremy Wheeldon
- 9. Graham Colborne
- 10. Phil Mason

For Evensong. In memory of Mary Freeman, widow of former Cathedral Company master John Freeman. Les Townsend wishes to be associated with this quarter.

Sempringham 14 Oct 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

- 1. Alan Bird (C)
- 2. Richard Short
- 3. Jean Kay
- 4. Geoffrey Wilkins
- 5. Sylvia Taylor
- 6. Richard Spencer 1st of Surprise 4.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers

Central Branch

Quiz Night

And

Faith Supper

at

Brant Broughton Village Hall On Saturday 8th November 2014

Quiz in Village Hall at 7.00 prompt Compete for the "Sylvia Taylor" Trophy

For the faith supper please bring refreshments for all to share There is no bar but tea and coffee will be provided

The Village Hall is on the west side of the village. From Lincoln take the third turning on the right

There will be a raffle
Any donations would be much appreciated
All Welcome

Please Note Well! Access to the Hall will be from 6.30pm for a prompt start at 7.00pm