

Lincolnshire Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers 125th Centenary Guild Festival

Saturday 29 June 2024

The well attended event took place at St Laurence's Church Surfleet, whose tower is 1.9 m out of perpendicular and holds a round of 12 bells. Rev Henry Law James, founder of the LDGCBR in 1899 and the Guild's first Master, is buried in the churchyard along with Rupert Richardson, Churchwarden of St Laurence's Church, who succeeded Henry Law James as Guild Master following his death in 1932. An outdoor service was held at the graveside with handbells being rung in commemoration.

The Church held displays of various Guild memorabilia and old peal books which were decorated by hand; not only historically interesting but beautiful too. The 12 bells were rung throughout the afternoon. An exceptional ringing tea was provided, along with refreshments throughout the event.

The Guild 6 bell striking competitions were also held at Gosberton (Cup - method ringing) and Quadring (Plate - call changes) and following the ringers' tea the results were given out as follows:



Plate - St Margaret of Antioch, Quadring: Judges Sylvia and Alan Bird:

Five teams entered the competition including a Young Ringers' Team. The judges described the bells as 'not easy' and they were very impressed with the standard of ringing. All teams used the practice time to their advantage. Scoring was by half and full fault method.

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|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1 st | Bolingbroke Deanery Cluster (E) | 6.5 faults | 97% correct ringing |
| 2 nd | Stow (WL) | 8.5 faults | 96% correct ringing |
| 3 RD | Barrowby (S) | 23 faults | 90% correct ringing |
| 4 th | Youth Team | 42.5 faults | 82% correct ringing |
| 5 th | Ruskington (C) | 96.5 faults | 59% correct ringing |

Comments for the Eastern Branch Team were: Practice time (5 mins) used to full advantage being 4 minutes and 49 seconds. Rounds settled smoothly, changes were crisp, quickest ring of the competition. Good tenoring.

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|---|-----------------|---|---------------|
| 1 | Isabel Barker | 2 | Tracy Robson |
| 3 | Josie Trewin | 4 | Tess Rowland |
| 5 | Tony Barker (C) | 6 | Colin Simpson |

Cup - St Peter and St Pauls, Gosberton: Judges Dan Meyer and Rebecca Ridley:

The judges rang all the bells themselves before the competition and although they were heavy, commented that they went well. Six teams entered and it was stated that it was a hard competition to judge with only 6 points separating the 2nd - 4th placed teams.



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|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1 st | Market Deeping (S) | 14 faults | Plain Bob Minor |
| 2 nd | Messingham/Scotter (WL) | 20 faults | Plain Bob Doubles |
| 3 rd | Belton (WL) | 21 faults | Plain Bob Doubles |
| 4 th | Bourne (S) | 24 faults | Plain Bob Minor |
| 5 th | Boston Group (E) | 26 faults | Plain Bob Doubles |
| 6 th | Grimsby/Tealby (N) | 44 faults | Plain Bob Doubles |

Comments for the Eastern Team were: Fastest ring of the day. Test piece set off quickly then settled nicely. Slight method error and a really beautiful final 20 changes. Leading had some faults but overall a very good ring.

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| 1 | David Reynolds | 2 | Sam Napper |
| 3 | Jo French | 4 | David Collin |
| 5 | Greg Harrison (C) | 6 | Robert J Ingamells |

Congratulations go to all the teams who took part in the 2 competitions and to the judges and stewards. Thanks are extended to the organizers of all displays and events, the team who hosted it, especially the catering team.