

The Ringing World National Youth Competition 8th July 2023

By Elizabeth Cooley

We had an early start to the day - setting off at 7.00am to arrive at York Minster for 10:30am and make sure there was plenty of time to stop at McDonalds for breakfast!

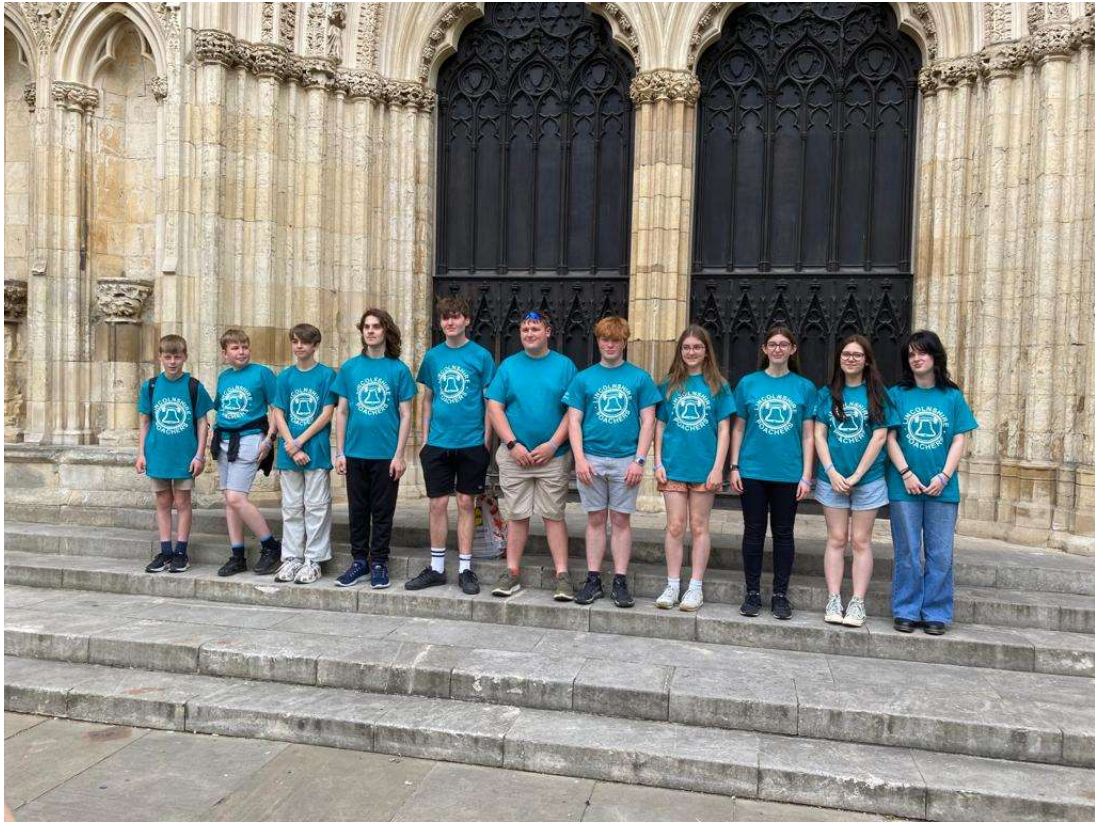
Once at the Minster we took a few photos and we were lucky enough to have the opportunity to ring the bells. We counted 100 steps and we were all grateful for the wonderful experience in the tower.

We then took a wander across the city centre to All Saints North Street, where we got a few called changes in and stopped for lunch before we went to compete at St Lawrence's. Once we rang our test piece, we left the tower with a sigh of relief that the stressful part of the day was over and a sense of pride towards each other for the time and effort that was put in.

Next up, we set off for St Olave Marygate, where we were later able to have a walk through the gardens and the ruins to get to our next tower, St Michael Spurriergate. We were brave after our ring here as we ventured out into the rain to get back to the Minster, where we all agreed it was a lovely touch to the day as we were given the opportunity to try out a mini ring. A few of our younger ringers had not used one before and it really captured the essence of what the youth competition is about; encouraging each other to try new things and supporting our younger ringers as they begin to step out of their comfort zones.

As a team, we had a wonderful day in York and we would like to thank all of the adults, parents and guardians for allowing our day to be possible. We would also like to put out a thank you to the Guild for paying for the t-shirts and contributing to travel expenses; they are a really nice touch and leave us all with a lovely memento to remember the day.

Elizabeth Cooley



The Poachers outside York Minster



The Poachers ringing at All Saints, North Street