



## ASSOCIATION & GUILD NEWS

### Sussex County Association of Change Ringers AGM

One-hundred and twenty-five years ago the ringers of Sussex were getting ready for what was then a unique experience, the first AGM of their infant association. The location for that meeting was Brighton which was to become a popular venue over the years.

This year however the AGM was held at Southover, Lewes, which was one of the 25 foundation towers. The day was combined with our inter-Divisional eight bell striking competitions, and these were held during the morning at nearby Ringmer. It is good to report that this year each of the four Divisions entered a team in both sections, method and call-changes. The draw was at 10am followed by the competition, with John Hawes from Bletchingley as judge. The first part was the method ringing consisting of a test piece of Grandsire Triples, then the call-changes. Just after mid-day the results were announced. The Western Division was particularly delighted as it won both categories. The scores were as follows:

<i>Call Changes</i>	
Western	97 faults
Eastern	110 faults
Southern	116 faults
Northern	184 faults
<i>Method Ringing</i>	
Western	108 faults
Southern	134 faults
Eastern	147 faults
Northern	149 faults



*Jonathan Franklin (left) congratulating David Kirkcaldy (right) on becoming the new Master*

There was little spare time afterwards as we had to move on to Lewes where the Southover ringers had prepared lunch prior to the business meeting. The Association Master, Jonathan Franklin, made a well deserved vote of thanks for all the hard work put in to catering for us. The business meeting included the important matter of electing our first 'Safeguarding Officer', Sue Elrick from Hurstpierpoint. She will take forward the challenges raised by legislation on protecting vulnerable adults and children. Having completed three years as Master Jonathan was not eligible to stand again, and so was replaced by David Kirkcaldy in this role.

There are now also a number of other new faces serving as Association Officers. The full details are as follows: Margaret Oram is Secretary, Val Burgess is Treasurer, Anne Franklin is Education Officer, Kathy Howard is Publicity Officer, and Graham Hills is BRF Secretary. Michael Wake was appointed as a Trustee.

The details of forthcoming events to celebrate our 125th year were announced, and there was the opportunity to order



*Molly Elphick*

various mementoes of this year's significant milestone in the history of the SCACR.

The business meeting was swiftly completed in time for us to meet a 3pm deadline to start our church service. This was taken by the Revd Jeremy Bamber with the address given by the curate, the Revd David Garrett. He used as his theme the role bells play in advertising the church. We were pleased to be joined at the service by Molly Elphick a member of the local band. She is also one of the longest serving members of our Association. As she has not been enjoying the best of health recently it was particularly good to see her. After the service there was the choice between ringing or enjoying a chat and cup of tea.

KATHY HOWARD



*Some of the Western Division ringers from both of the winning bands: Michael Wake, Mike Etherington, Ruth Brown, Angie Hastilow & Charlie, David Kirkcaldy, Ken Knight, Peter Wilkinson, Ian Hastilow and Jack Burton*

### St Martin's, Worcester

We are delighted to hear from Mark Regan that the £150,000 required to install a new ring of bells at St Martin's Church in Worcester has now been raised. The project team is still awaiting the outcome of a faculty application before work can commence.

First: the old bells will be receive a gentle restoration and hung stationary in their existing fittings with new clock hammers. They will be used for clock chimes, to strike the Angelus and as service bells using a modern chiming apparatus supplied by the Cumbria Clock Company. Second: Taylor's will cast a ring of eight bells (to hang in a frame where augmentation to ten will be easy). The weight of the tenor will be approximately six to seven cwt. A sister ring for Campton Bedfordshire and the Bellfoundry.

The scheme is focused on working with local schools to teach ringing, thereby attracting teachers and pupils into the building. The Cathedral Teaching Centre is already working with Christopher Whitehead High School, Bishop Perowne College, the King's School and Red Hill Primary School. The new bells will also be suitable for teaching older primary school pupils.

See: [www.oldstmartinsbells.co.uk](http://www.oldstmartinsbells.co.uk)



snippets@ringingworld.co.uk

## National 12 bell contest results

Crediton, Devon

Saturday 3rd July 2010

Test Piece: 6 leads Cambridge 5 Maximus

Judges: Margaret (Maggie) Whiteley (Chief),  
Claire Roulstone, Chris Kippin  
and Paul Mounsey

Congratulations to Birmingham who have won this year's final.

### Results

Team	Rang	Speed	Mark
1 Birmingham	8th	3h29	88%
2 SRCY	9th	3h42	84%
3 ASCY	5th	3h31	79%
4 York	1st	3h25	78%
5 Exeter	6th	3h30	77%
6 Melbourne	3rd	3h19	74%
7 St Martin's*	7th	3h53	68%
8 Cambridge	2nd	3h31	67%
9 Leeds	4th	3h15	60%

\* St Martin-in-the-Fields, London



Birmingham's Richard Grimmitt holds the Taylor Trophy aloft

## JOHN TAYLOR & CO., BELLFOUNDERS BELLHANGERS CARILLON BUILDERS

Tower Bells Chimes Handbells  
Design service Building work Access systems  
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## Jonathan Hughes memorial

A few months ago, I received a phone call from Mike Homans. He asked if the Worcester Cathedral Teaching Centre would like some bells and a set of twelve dumbbells? They had belonged to Jonathan Hughes, and his family would like to find a suitable home for it all, and please could it be a memorial? Jonathan was an enthusiastic and talented young ringer. His untimely death in 2005 was a shock to all and a great loss to bellringing. Jonathan had the talent to achieve great things and he was committed to teaching ringing. Just before Jonathan died I'd invited him into a peal at Worcester Cathedral. They were his favourite bells, and, he told me, Peter Border's too. Impeccable taste.

I talked to my colleagues about this astonishing gift. We are delighted to accept it and we are honoured to be chosen as the home for Jonathan's bells. The twelve ringing dumbbells will be installed in Christopher Whitehead School in Worcester; one of our partner schools. The eight Eijsbouts bells will become a carillon in the Teaching Centre linked to our dumbbells, Abel and a keyboard. They will be installed during the summer.

A few days ago some of the Worcester team travelled to Jonathan's home to meet his parents Kevin and Annette. The bells are now in Worcester and the dumbbells will soon follow.

MARK REGAN

## A message from his family

We would like to take this opportunity to formally thank all those who have given so generously to Jonathan's memorial fund. It was very important to us that the money should be used in a project that was close to his heart. Jonathan was passionate about bell ringing and was very keen that the tradition be taken forward, by encouraging new ringers at every opportunity. Jonathan was just nine years old when he started ringing. In those early years many experienced bell ringers shared their time and knowledge with Jonathan, enabling him to reach a very high standard. During his years as tower captain at Stoke St Michael's in Coventry he trained many ringers and encouraged his bands to enter ringing competitions. He erected a mini-ring in the garden at his home in Binley Woods, Warwickshire. The mini ring was particularly helpful when learning new methods and brought on new ringers very quickly. Most week day evenings Jonathan would be ringing at a variety of towers, as well as organising outings throughout the country – bell ringing was in his blood.

We therefore wanted the fund to be used to promote bell ringing so that Jonathan's inspiration may live on. Towards the end of 2009 we became aware, through the bell ringing community, of a teaching project centred on Worcester Cathedral led by Mark Regan. The Cathedral is connected with a number of schools in the area, which have bell ringing on the curriculum. Jonathan's mini-ring is to be transferred to Christopher



In memory of Jonathan Phillip Hughes  
11th February 1983 - 20th December 2005

Whitehead School, which will continue to inspire and teach young ringers as Jonathan sought to do in his lifetime. Jonathan also had a 1½cwt ring of 8, which was cast by Petit & Fritsen in Holland. He had an inscription on the tenor bell to commemorate his maternal grandparents (Harry & Phyllis Fisher). These bells are being donated in Jonathan's memory to Worcester Cathedral and will be used as a carillon which will be connected to a keyboard, Abel and the simulator bells.

The £3000 memorial fund will contribute to this project to promote Worcester Cathedral as a centre of excellence for bell ringing. Those who were closest to Jonathan agree this is a fitting memorial and perhaps it is no coincidence that Worcester Cathedral was Jonathan's favourite ring of bells.

We knew if we waited, the right project would come along ... our thanks to all who are making this tribute possible.

For a very special son and brother, loved and remembered every day.

ANNETTE & KEVIN HUGHES  
(Jonathan's parents)  
& SISTER, NINA

## Worcester Cathedral's Teaching Centre

- Monday evening
- Eight people learning to ring
- At the same time
- In one tower
- On eight dumbbells
- In one hour
- 40 minutes of 'rope time' each
- With perfect ringers
- And one tutor
- Easy

It's a great place to learn to ring  
Or practise anything  
Come and use it  
Talk to: [bhtaylor@bloomberg.net](mailto:bhtaylor@bloomberg.net)



**AROUND & ABOUT**

snippets@ringingworld.co.uk

**Jonathan Hughes' memorial bells**

The Petit and Fritsen bells given by Jonathan Hughes' family to Worcester Cathedral as a memorial, make their journey to their new home. The photograph shows (left to right): Mike Homans, Mark Regan, Annette Hughes (Jonathan's mother), Bernard Taylor, Jeremy Lowe, James Mort and Neil Sparey.



**PHOTO CAPTIONS**

If you are sending in a group photograph please be sure to include the names (left to right) of the people pictured. We are unlikely to publish group pictures without this information.

**Wetherspoon comes to Newbury**

I had waited ten years for this to happen, seen them time after time, refused entry, wrote letters to the Newbury Weekly News urging a change with the Council, Liberal first then Conservative, but both followed the same policy.

Now they are here with the opening of the Diamond Tap on July 9th. I was there at 9.10, about the sixth table served, it had to be Abbot.

A quarter peal on the following Sunday, July 11th, was arranged of Wetherspoon Surprise Royal on the Newbury ten bells, details as follows:

GEOFFREY DODD

Newbury, Berks. 11 Jul, 1362 Wetherspoon S Royal: Angela Brown 1, Helen Piper 2, Gemma Hirst 3, Michael Hirst 4, Martin Rice 5, Michael Till 6, Lucy Walpole 7, Geoffrey Dodd (C) 8, Mark Robbins 9, Timothy Pett 10. A welcome to Wetherspoon's Diamond Tap after ten long years. The method was pealed in Newbury but not quarter pealed.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS**  
**BIGGLESWADE St Andrew**  
 Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 1994  
**5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**  
 Peals 12 part Conducted by Anthony H Smith  
 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday compliment to Clive G Smith

1 Elaine R Taylor	5 Alan S Smith	6 Yvonne E Humberstone	2 Dawn E Humberstone	5 Peter G Smith
2 Yvonne E Humberstone	6 Anthony H Smith	3 Charlotte M Smith	3 Anthony H Smith	6 Charlotte M Smith
3 Charlotte M Smith	7 Clive G Smith	4 Sheila I Smith	4 Sheila I Smith	7 Clive G Smith
4 Sheila I Smith	8 Peter G Smith			8 Alan S Smith

Composed by JWBarker Conducted by Anthony H Smith  
 \* First peal

To welcome the Rev William Thackray & his family to the Parish  
 Believed to be the first family peals of Triples and Major in the County.

**SMITH**

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    graph TD
      SMITH --> Alan_S_Smith[Alan · m · Sheila Duffin]
      SMITH --> Peter_Smith[Peter]
      SMITH --> Anthony_m_Smith[Anthony · m · Charlotte Harris]
      Alan_S_Smith --> Yvonne_m_Smith[Yvonne · m · Martin Humberstone]
      Alan_S_Smith --> Elaine_m_Smith[Elaine · m · Ian Taylor]
      Yvonne_m_Smith --> Dawn[Dawn]
      Anthony_m_Smith --> Clive[Clive]
    
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**Keeping it in the family**

I have been following recent correspondence concerning ringing generations and thought your readers might be interested in the attached photograph. This shows a peal board, at Biggleswade, with details of two of the peals rung by members of our family, the second of which included three generations. All of us except Peter, were members of the local band when the peals were rung.

ANTHONY SMITH

Langford, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire

## Chester D.G. Young Ringers visit Worcester

by Jane Davies, Secretary, C.D.G.



Mark Regan introduces us to the Teaching Centre

On Saturday, 4th September, Chester Young Ringers and friends enjoyed a great day visiting Worcester.

For the past couple of years Mark Regan has repeated an invitation for the Guild to come and use the Teaching Centre at the Cathedral. Making the journey from Cheshire, always seemed quite a challenge, but it was incredibly rewarding and worthwhile.

The main purpose of the trip was for young ringers to visit the Cathedral Teaching Centre. In all, 17 young people under the age of 19 took part and they represented all five Branches of the Chester Guild. The accompanying adults had free time to explore the city or to ring at St Swithun's if they wanted to.

We had two hours at the Teaching Centre and the time flew by. Mark Regan gave the

whole group an introduction, and any adults had the chance to quickly try the simulators. The young people then took over and it was a joy to see them quickly get to grips with the dumbbells and help each other work out how to get what they needed from *Abel*.

The day concluded with a visit to the 12 at All Saints where we had a number of all young ringer hands before the 'oldies' were finally allowed to ring.

As it was primarily their day, I thought the young people were the best placed to say what they had thought of it. These are some of their comments:

"The man at the Cathedral [Mark] was informative about the bells and seemed very passionate about what he was doing. This made you feel more confident as you started ringing as you understood more about the bells."

"I liked the way you could sort yourself out so everyone of any ringing level could do something. I'm really glad we went"

"The view from the tower was awesome"

"It was easier to concentrate because you weren't worrying about where the other bells were."

"Listening to the recording of the minor ten made me think how different and musical the bells can sound. It made me realise that we [bell ringers] are performers even though the public can't see us"

Many thanks to Pam Thomson, with help from Stefan Zientek and Mary Stanwell, for planning and organising the day and for motivating us to get there. Our thanks also to Mark Regan and the Cathedral Ringers for welcoming us to their inspiring centre and sharing it with us.



Ringing at All Saints



Getting to grips with striking on the simulator