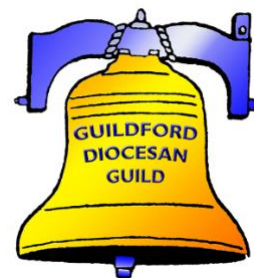


RINGING CIRCLES

FARNHAM DISTRICT

December 2023



Ringling Ramble, London, August

Editors: Clare Le Marie, Kevin Fox, Cathie Fitzgerald, Stu Aitken

WORDS FROM THE DISTRICT MASTER, OLIVER HALL

Welcome everyone to another edition of Ringing Circles, updating you all on the goings-on in the Farnham District. The first news is that we have a new Ringing Master: me!

I learnt to ring while a student at university in Southampton in 1998, and very soon joined the local band at Frensham. Before too long, I was ringing lots of peals and quarter peals, and this is actually my second time as District Master, having previously held the position in 2004. I didn't do the role for long, because I moved to Cambridge for teacher training and then found a job in a school up there. My ringing rather dropped off after that, as I threw myself into my career. Fast forward almost 20 years: I decided to take a break from the classroom and I returned to Frensham. This has given me some more free time, so when I saw that the Farnham District needed a new master, I was happy to volunteer my services again (but it has been a bit of challenge to remember how to ring again!).



It's great to see so much enthusiasm for bell ringing in the District; several towers are doing very well with recruitment following the 'Ring for the King' initiative, and the monthly Surprise Major practices and regular quarter peals are stretching those at the more experienced stage of their ringing journey. I was particularly impressed with the 'Meet and Greet' in Yorktown in September, and the subsequent 'Foundation Skills' sessions which now run on the first Friday of each month. All too often, we can focus on getting learners into the tower, but don't think about what comes next and how to develop their energy and drive; these sessions aim to address this.

I would like to welcome the new members elected at the Nomination Meeting at Worplesdon. They are Claire Henry, Clare Button, Sam Falconer, Chris Strangwood, Debs Morris, Carol Turberfield all from Hawley. In addition, Eileen Raggett of Hawley and Lizzie Billington of Pirbright were re-elected.

Congratulations are due to two of our ringers who have rung their first quarter peal recently: Owen Le Page from Aldershot rang the tenor behind to Doubles in August, and Steve Wingent from Frensham rang the treble to Doubles in October. I'm very keen on quarter peals: a great way to get some decent practice in a method, long enough to be a challenge, a sense of achievement once finished, and a chance to get some really good ringing as the band settles down. Do get in touch if you would like to ring one.

We have a full and varied programme coming up in 2024, aiming to cover most of the spectrum of ringing abilities – see later in this edition. I hope to see you at a practice soon!

Oliver Hall

Each district has a Google email group that anyone can join in order to receive news and information straight to your inbox. Once subscribed you can also post a message to everyone in the group

To **subscribe** to the Farnham District group, send a blank email to:

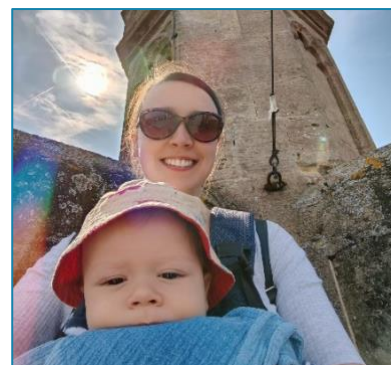
farnham-district-ringers+subscribe@googlegroups.com

DISTRICT RINGING PROGRAMME

Date	Time	Event	Tower
Friday 1 st Dec	7.00pm	Foundation Skills Training	Crondall
Friday 8 th Dec	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Crondall
Saturday 9 th Dec	3.00pm 4.00pm	General Ringing Carol Service	Seale
Wednesday 13 th Dec	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	Puttenham
Friday 5 th Jan	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 12 th Jan	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Frensham
Tuesday 16 th Jan	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	Pirbright
Saturday 27th Jan	3.30pm 5.30pm	General Ringing Annual District Meeting	Aldershot
Friday 2 nd Feb	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 9 th Feb	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Hawley
Wednesday 21 st Feb	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	tbc
Saturday 24th Feb	10.30am	District 12 bell practice	Guildford Cathedral
Friday 1 st Mar	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 8 th Mar	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Yorktown
<i>Saturday 9th Mar</i>	<i>2.00pm 3.00pm</i>	<i>Guild 6 bell competition Guild AGM</i>	<i>Compton</i>
Tuesday 19 th Mar	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	tbc
Saturday 23 rd Mar	10.00am	Beyond Bob Doubles Training	Farnborough
Friday 5 th Apr	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 12 th Apr	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Crondall
Wednesday 17 th Apr	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	tbc
Saturday 27 th Apr	10.00am	Beyond Bob Doubles Training	Ash
Friday 3 rd May	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 10 th May	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Frensham
Tuesday 21 st May	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	tbc
Saturday 25 th May	10.00am	Beyond Bob Doubles Training	Puttenham
Friday 7 th Jun	7.30pm	Foundation Skills Training	tbc
Friday 14 th Jun	7.30pm	Surprise Major Practice	Grayshott
Wednesday 19 th Jun	7.30pm	Surprise Minor Practice	tbc
Saturday 22nd Jun	10.00am	District 10 bell practice	Guildford, St Nicolas
Saturday 27 th July		Half-yearly district meeting	
Saturday 3 rd August	All day	District ramble & ring in Oxford	Oxford
Saturday 28 th September		District striking competition, fish & chips and quiz	

Welcome: Christopher Sutch

Edd and Lizzie Sutch, ringers at Farnham, welcomed their son Christopher into the world in April this year. Christopher enjoys going ringing and watching the ropes but was startled by a bell when exploring further up the tower for the Heritage open day.



NOMINATION MEETING, SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

The district nomination meeting was held at Worplesdon with 29 ringers attending including Guild Master, Secretary and Treasurer. Some found the bells tricky to ring, perhaps rather heavier than some of our newer ringers had tried before, but all managed to get control and ring rounds. Three leads of Bristol and a touch of Stedman Triples were also rung.

Six new members were elected and two re-elected as listed in the District Ringing Master's introduction.



There was some discussion about donations for towers used for practices and training events as the use of cash, and particularly coins, is an issue. It was proposed and agreed that donations are put into a 'pool' for distribution on a pro rata basis at the end of the year. Individuals have the option of a 'block' donation to cover several events.

The following were nominated for the various positions.

Position	Nominees
Master	Oliver Hall
Secretary	Clare Le Marie
Treasurer	Anne Daniels
Executive Committee Member	John Couperthwaite
Chairman	John Couperthwaite
Independent Examiner	Helen Prescott
Assistant Ringing Masters	Vernon Bedford, Ros Fox
Training Officer	Nigel Smith
Newsletter Editors	Kevin Fox, Stu Aitken, Cathie Fitzgerald and Clare Le Marie
Belfry Inspection Coordinator	Mike Le Marie

The District Master thanked Steve Reeds for hosting the meeting at Worplesdon and Clare Le Marie for supplying the refreshments.



FARNHAM DISTRICT MONTHLY SURPRISE PRACTICES

Surprise Minor

Start your journey treble bobbing the treble...
Then expand into Cambridge...
Develop into Norwich and other Cambridge above methods...
Challenge yourself with London and spliced...

Wednesday 13th December 7.30pm at Puttenham

Tuesday 16th January 7.30pm (tower tbc)

Wednesday 21st February 7.30pm (tower tbc)

Tuesday 19th March 7.30pm (tower tbc)

Surprise Major

Plenty of practice of Cambridge for those starting out.
Any methods from the Standard 8 or Core 7.
Try your hand at some of these in spliced, or aim for the dizzying heights of
Glasgow and Belfast.

Friday 8th December 7.30pm at Crondall

Friday 12th January 7.30pm at Frensham

Friday 9th February 7.30pm at Hawley

Friday 8th March 7.30pm at Yorktown

Farnham Annual District Meeting, Aldershot

Saturday 27th January

3.30pm Ringing

4.30pm Service followed by tea

5.30pm Meeting

MEET AND GREET AT YORKTOWN

Ring for the King was a great slogan and resulted in an amazing number of recruits in the Farnham District. They were slotted into appropriate towers, duly taught, and most managed to Ring for the King. Of course, as was expected, they have stayed and continued to learn and most are now ringing for Sunday service and general tower practices. So how to help them go out of their own towers and learn about the wider ringing community? So the Meet and Greet idea was born, to be held at Yorktown, organised by Clare Le Marie and Nigel Smith.

For this session in September, 21 of the newer ringers came, plus 14 experienced ringers. All were given name badges and the ringers were split into 2 groups. One to ring the tower bells, under the guidance of the Training Officer, Nigel Smith, and ART teacher Hazel Metcalfe, the other group had a chance to look over a model bell, books and magazines, chat to some of the District Officers and try their hand at ringing handbells. This was guided by John Couperthwaite and new district master Oliver Hall so that rounds and call changes were soon sounding out. At half time the groups changed places.



There was a short summary of the work of the district officers, Guild subscriptions and the BRF (bell restoration fund). There was a continuous supply of cakes, scones and biscuits washed down by tea or coffee. There were also many conversations, and mixing of ringers from the different towers, as they all got to know each other. Our thanks to Yorktown for the use of their bells, and the provision of refreshments.

Clare Le Marie

ART ACHIEVEMENTS

The district has many ringers who have been awarded ART level 1 or level 2.



Shirley Partridge and Mahsa Riasi of Aldershot, ART level 1, presented by Revd Alwyn Pereira



Juliana Baxter of Puttenham, and Sean Downey & Bruno Costa of Seale, ART level 1.



John Mullins of Seale, ART level 1.



Linda Barrow of Seale, ART level 1.



Donna Randall of Seale, ART level 1.



Claire Darling, Barbara Meyer & Julie Alexander of Crondall, ART level 1, being photo-bombed by ART tutor Deb.



Philippa Taylor of Crondall, ART level 2






David Warner of Crondall, ART level 1


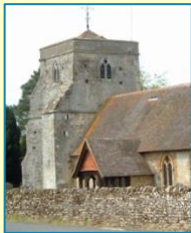




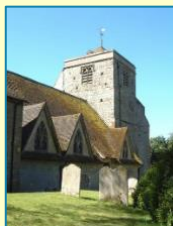


ART level 1 certificate has also been awarded to Crondall ringer Jo Jillings.
Our congratulations to all.

TOWERS IN THE FARNHAM DISTRICT

A summary of the answers from the questionnaire sent to all towers.

<p>Aldershot 8 bells (9 cwt)</p> 	<p>Practice night and time Thursday 7.30pm-9.00pm</p> <p>Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds and Call Changes. Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles. Occasionally Grandsire Triples. Also Plain Bob Minor.</p> <p>Bells in one sentence Light 8, fairly long draught, back 6 easy to ring, 1 and 2 a bit tricky.</p> <p>Most interesting feature The clapper hanging on the wall is from a 14th century bell that was once in the tower.</p>		
<p>Practice night and time Wednesday 8.00pm-9.00pm</p> <p>Usual repertoire on a practice night Plain Bob, Grandsire, St Simon's/Martin's Doubles.</p> <p>Bells in one sentence Lovely and easy to ring.</p> <p>Most interesting feature The ringers!</p>			<p>Ash 6 bells (9 cwt)</p> 
<p>Bagshot 8 bells (17 cwt)</p> 	<p>Practice night and time</p> <p>Thursday 7.30pm-9.00pm</p>	<p>Worplesdon 8 bells (18 cwt)</p> 	<p>There is currently no regular practice at Worplesdon.</p>
<p>Practice night and time Monday 7.30pm-9.00pm</p> <p>Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds, Call Changes, Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles, Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Cambridge Minor, Cambridge Major.</p> <p>Bells in one sentence Good going, rehung and augmented in 2000.</p> <p>Most interesting feature The simulator plus the TV showing the bells. And that three of the bells are older than the ringing room and tower.</p>			<p>Crondall 8 bells (14 cwt)</p> 

<p>Elstead 3 bells (4 cwt)</p> 	<p>There is no practice at Elstead, as the bells are not permitted to be rung full-circle.</p>	<p>Farnham 10 bells (19 cwt)</p> 	<p>There is currently no ringing allowed at Farnham due to structural problems with the tower. There is, however, an exciting project to augment the bells to 15, to be carried out alongside the tower repairs.</p>
<p>Practice night and time Monday 7.45-9.00pm Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds & Call Changes and Bob Doubles. Bells in one sentence Nice light eight, but some people find them challenging to ring well. Most interesting feature Ringing chamber made of wood.</p>			<p>Farnborough 8 bells (6 cwt)</p> 
<p>Frensham 8 bells (10 cwt)</p> 	<p>Practice night and time Monday 7.30pm-9.00pm Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds, Call Changes, Plain Bob Doubles, Grandsire Triples, Surprise Minor, and Handbells. Bells in one sentence A recently refurbished 8, easy-going ground floor ring of medium weight. Most interesting feature Peal boards and historic references to WW1 ringers.</p>		
<p>Practice night and time Thursday 7.30pm-9.00pm (not currently practising, by arrangement only) Usual repertoire on a practice night Up to Plain Bob Doubles, maybe Plain Bob Minor. Bells in one sentence 1930s Whitechapel music box. Most interesting feature The waiting area below ringing room.</p>			<p>Grayshott 8 bells (8 cwt)</p> 

<p>Hawley 8 bells (11 cwt)</p> 	<p>Practice night and time Tuesday 7.30pm-9.00pm Usual repertoire on a practice night Call Changes, Stedman, Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles. Bells in one sentence Reasonable standard with no major issues. Most interesting feature The ringing chamber gives a wonderful view through the black metal screen into the church. The congregation are able to see the ringers performing if they so wish.</p>	
<p>Practice night and time Thursday 7.30pm-9.00pm Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds & Call Changes, Bob Doubles, Plain Hunt, Grandsire, very occasionally Stedman Bells in one sentence Easy, long draught. Most interesting feature Warning to the bellringers from the churchwardens.</p>	<p>Pirbright 6 bells (9 cwt)</p> 	
<p>Puttenham 6 bells (8 cwt)</p> 	<p>Practice night and time Tuesday 7.30pm-9.00pm (alternates between the two towers) Usual repertoire on a practice night Rounds & Call Changes, learner exercises Bells in one sentence They require good technique and are not easy for learners. Most interesting feature The very short draught, particularly at Seale.</p>	<p>Seale 6 bells (7 cwt)</p> 
<p>Practice night and time Wednesday 7.45pm-9.00pm Usual repertoire on a practice night Bob Doubles up to Surprise Major Bells in one sentence A recently installed 8 which are lovely to ring. Most interesting feature We ring in a balcony which overlooks the church.</p>	<p>Yorktown 8 bells (11 cwt)</p> 	

GUILD YOUNG RINGERS

The Guild Young Ringers continue to meet each month under the excellent and watchful eye of Hazel. We provide help with handling on unfamiliar bells to those that need it, and the opportunity for the more experienced ringers to ring what they are learning and to conduct if they want to! The list of practice dates for 2024 through to the summer has been circulated through the District email groups, so please encourage any young ringer to come along and join. Contact David Pearson (unclebp.pearson@gmail.com) with any questions.

Aldershot

In July I was contacted by Colin Smith with an unusual request. He was looking for a ground floor ring so that he could bring a disabled friends to watch the ringing. He is a ringer and having talked about it to Ellen, she wanted to see what it involved. We were all keen to have her along, and with some difficulty Colin and her carer got her wheelchair through the outside door, and into the church. We then turned it round so she could see us all, and we duly rang some rounds and call changes on 6. The treble bell was down, so she managed to chime this and thoroughly enjoyed herself. The sweets were passed around, and she enjoyed those too! Colin had a ring with us, and then we managed to manoeuvre the wheelchair outside. A lovely lady and a great experience to be able to share our hobby with some new friends.



We held our annual tower BBQ at Mike and Clare's house, and were able to be outside in the garden the whole time, despite a few drops of rain that sent everyone scuttling under the cover of two gazebos. Much food was brought along, salads, snacks, and delicious puddings. Owen and his dad, Assheton, barbequed endless sausages and chicken thighs, and we all washed it down with some home made wine, and other beverages. Several partners and dogs were also in attendance, leaving the cat really hacked off! The picture to the left, "101 uses for a broken stay – no 27 – Crushing home grown grapes for a new batch of wine. Suggestions for the other 100 uses??!!"

In September we welcomed a new recruit to our band, Connie Brown. She has made amazing progress, and is now ringing rounds.

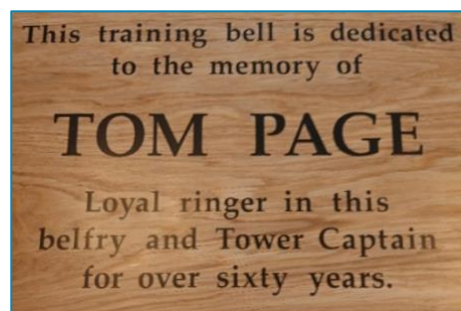
We entered a band in the 6 bell Striking Competition, and got 3rd place. We were pleased to also get the best Novice band, wooden bell award, as Toby was a new ringer, and rang the tenor very capably. We also came a very close second in the Quiz.

We have welcomed some newer ringers to St Michaels from other towers in the District, to have training sessions on the Training Bell, and these have proved very useful. It is a very unstressful way to try and help with any handling errors, as it is so easy to ring. Please do get in touch if anyone would like to take advantage of this lovely little bell.

We rang all 8 bells for Remembrance Sunday, with 4 of our new ringers ringing call changes. We also rang on Remembrance Day, tolling tenor bell just before 11.00, then having a 2 minute silence and then ringing it again for a few minutes afterwards. Our latest recruit, Connie, managed to ring the tenor for the first time, with some very nice, slow pulls. Well done Connie.

In November the ringers had an 'Open Tower' during the church Christmas Fair. Attendees were able to ring the training bell, chime a real bell and ring the handbells.

Clare Le Marie



Ash

It has been a very busy time at Ash since the last edition of Ringing Circles.

We are still only ringing from 8pm on a Wednesday evening and would appreciate it if anyone wishing to visit on practice night could email or telephone Judith Parker to ascertain whether there is ringing or not. We have one lady (Zoe) learning to ring at present under Lorna's guidance, and is doing really well.

The junior ringers came to Ash for a visit on 16th September, and although only a few youngsters attended, a rewarding afternoon was had. We have also had visits on consecutive evenings in October of two Beaver Packs. They all seemed to enjoy their visit. Thanks to Freddie for organising this.

A Quarter Peal of Westminster and Cambridge was rung on Sunday, 29th October by the Society of Roving Ringers who were on their way home after attending the wedding of Catherine and Peter Crawley at Farnham the previous day.

We hosted the surprise minor practice on 21st November.

Judith Parker

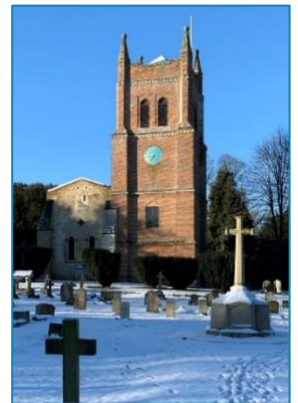


Crondall

This year we have rung for more funerals/thanks-giving services than wedding, with 13 funerals and 10 weddings, with a total of 21 of our ringers involved. A request from the vicar requesting 'muffled' bells for a funeral is a mixed blessing since it means crawling around under the bells to put the muffles on. From a ringing perspective, funerals tend to be on time unlike many weddings, although they have the disadvantage of the payment of the ringers fee sometimes taking weeks to come through, often needing a reminder to the church treasurer.

Julie, Claire, Jo and Barbara continue to make great progress, with all regularly ringing for Sunday services. They have also been keen to take up all the targeted district events such as 'Meet and Greet', the listening course and the Foundation Skills sessions. Julie and Claire were part of the Crondall 'Kittens' team for the district 6 bell striking contest, so well done to them for agreeing to take part, and for ringing so well only a few months after their first lessons.

All our ringers, old-hands and new, have been to the easily accessible belfry, but many had not been higher up in the tower. So one Monday in August, before the main practice, we ventured up higher, through the old belfry seeing the 1642 graffiti, then up two more steep stairways to the roof for great views of the village on what was a glorious evening.





We were able to enter two bands into the district 6-bell striking contest, the 'Cats' (old-hands) and the 'Kittens', some of whom have been ringing for only a few months.

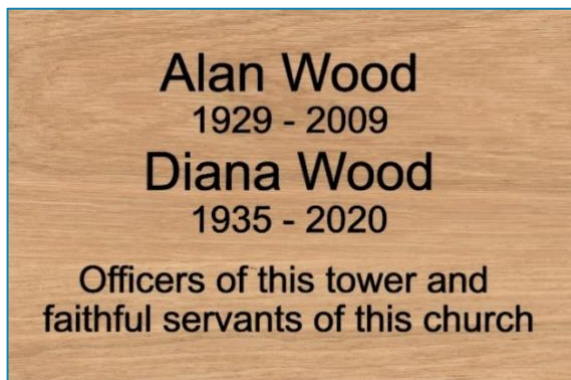
Practices are inevitably sometimes rather manic with up to 20 of our own ringers present. We try to accommodate all requirements, from call changes through to Cambridge Major and touches of Stedman

Triples. With Jonathan and Leeona recently getting the grips with Cambridge Major we are now able to attempt it with just our own ringers.

Spiders and bats invaded the ringing room on the last Monday of October, including a super-size replacement for our usual spider! Appropriately (sort of), the special method of the evening was All Hallows Place Doubles.

As last year we will be having our Christmas bash early in December. A gathering of Crondall ringers, partners and Crondall friends for an evening of food, wine and merriment ... and maybe some handbell ringing plus a few surprises too!

We have had two plaques made to recognise the huge contribution these ringers made to the Crondall tower.



Kevin Fox

Farnborough

Outing 2023

With showers forecast towards the end of the day, we set out by car on a bright morning up the M3, M25 and A41 in search of coffee at the Ashridge Monument Cafe near Tring. But a closed road caused mayhem with our satnavs and in the end only two cars made it to the designated coffee venue.

Passing all the crowds queuing to gain entry to the Zoo, we all arrived just in time at **Whipsnade** church with its very light ground floor ring of 6 bells. Although light, they were very easy to manage once we had knotted some of the long ropes.

The next tower, **Totternhoe**, had a 10cwt ring of 8 bells, rung from a gallery at the back of the church. These were lovely bells - easy-going and with a joyous sound. A course of Yorkshire here was probably one of the best pieces of ringing all day.

Time for lunch..... The Five Bells at Stanbridge made us welcome in spite of having a 40-strong party booking at the same time as our visit. Very good food although a bit pricy!

Heading further north along the A5 we reached **Great Brickhill** with its central tower and another superb ring of 8 bells, rehung and augmented from 6 for the Millennium. The slight drawback was a difficult spiral staircase (especially for those of us getting on a bit) requiring an awkward manoeuvre into the ringing chamber at the top.

Our fourth tower was just along the road - **Woburn**. The grand church here had been paid for by the Duke of Bedford and furnished with a heavy 24cwt ring of 8 bells in the tower. Our few back-enders were in great demand here, though by all accounts the back bells were easier to strike well than the much lighter front ones.

Finally, we drove through the Woburn Abbey parkland with a few herd of deer, to reach **Steppingley** - your scribe's only grab of the day. The 6 bells were only installed as recently as 2022, but the ringing chamber seemed a little unfinished! The lovely lady who met us provided welcome cups of tea or coffee accompanied by yummy chocolate biscuits - all the more welcome as a very heavy shower of rain held us captive in the church.

Then home, where the hardest amongst us enjoyed "vespers" in the Prince of Wales, Farnborough.

Thank you to our many visitors who came along and helped make the day a great success.

Martin Turner

Farnham

The bells are out of action due to structural issues with the tower.

Hawley

We have not had any significant births, deaths, anniversaries or weddings at Hawley over the past three months. The nine new ringers have reduced down to seven but they continue to improve and more importantly seem to be enjoying themselves (I think we are doing something wrong).

We were able to ring 6 bells half muffled on Remembrance Sunday but had a gap in the middle. The processional band continued playing whilst the people who had come down from the earlier Memorial Service waited outside the church. When they stopped we started up again to let them know we were still around. There is something very special about half muffled bells being rung.

I was asked to chime the bell in the porch way to mark the end of the 2 minute silence. At the exact time I prepared to ring a child in a pushchair decided to exercise their lungs as the parent frantically left the church. I was unable to hear anything from the bell but was told it only chimed once.

Richard Payne



Frensham

At our AGM in 2023 Harry Glover stated that he would like to stand down in his position of Tower Captain and Joint Secretary at our 2024 AGM. We're very pleased to say that Oliver Hall has taken over as our Ringing Master and is now responsible for all ringing and teaching in the tower, as well as being an extremely competent ringer who adds a great deal to our capabilities. Happily, Harry will remain as Tower Captain until at least our next AGM. We also took the opportunity to have a small reshuffle in the Executive Committee and Stuart Marshall becomes our Deputy Tower Captain as well as retaining his position as Assistant Tower Keeper. Paul Little takes on full responsibility as Secretary and the positions of Treasurer (David Munro), Tower Keeper (Paul Marshall) and PCC Representative (Steve Wingent) remain unchanged.



Guildford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

A Quarter Peal rung in Memory of Gordon (Nobby) Haytree

At St Mary's Church, Frensham on Friday 18th August 2023

A Quarter Peal of 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in 43 mins. by the following ringers

1. Yvonne Little	5. Mike Rose
2. Martin Turner (C)	6. Jack Regin
3. Anita Regin	7. Oliver Hall
4. Brenda Mayle	8. Harry Glover

1st on 8 bells: 1. Rung in memory of Gordon Haytree on the day of his funeral. His marriage to Sheila took place in Frensham church in 1961. They were married for 62 years and Sheila has been a faithful ringer in Frensham for even longer. Gordon was a well-respected gentleman and will be sorely missed.

Sadly, I must report that we lost Gordon (Nobby) Haytree in August. He was the husband of Sheila, who has been a member of the ringing team band since before they were married at Frensham in 1961. Nobby was a well known and well liked member of the community and was a total gentleman and top bloke. We marked his funeral on 18th August by ringing a 1260 of Grandsire Triples with the band comprising Yvonne Little (1st on 8 bells), Martin Turner (C), Anita Regin, Brenda Mayle, Mike Rose, John Regin, Oliver Hall and Harry Glover.

We have been very successful in our attempts to ring at least one quarter peal each month and these have included 4th August 1272 of Norwich Surprise Minor (a compliment to Harry and Liz Glover for their 56th wedding anniversary); 15th September 1320 of Cambridge Surprise Minor (50th QP and 1st Surprise inside for Anne Aitken, a regular visiting friend from Grayshott); 6th October 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major; and 20th October 1260 Plain Bob Doubles (1st QP for Steve Wingent on 1 and 1st QP inside for Stuart Marshall).

The Frensham team continues to progress with the more well established members pushing towards Minor methods in Cambridge, Primrose, Norwich and Ipswich, often with the support of friends from other towers who regularly attend our practices (thank you all!). We have quite a number of relatively new starters at present and these are also progressing well. Having mastered basic bell control, many are heading past Call Changes and towards Plain Hunt and Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles.

One initiative we have taken up recently is dusting off our set of handbells which are available for people to practice methods and theory on in the church when they are not on the end of a rope. We hope this will not only assist with the ringing the church bells but may entice some to take handbell ringing further.

I'd like to mention one of newer ringers, Elizabeth Chambers, who joined as part of the "Ring for the King" initiative. She has not only taken to ringing very well, but volunteered to set up a WhatsApp group to help ensure we have enough ringers to form a quorum for service ringing. She has been running this for a few months now and it has been enormously successful – it is now a rarity for there to be a shortage and we are often able to ring all 8 bells now which is very pleasing. Thank you Lizzie.

Following the rehang of our bells earlier this year, we have now agreed the wording of a plaque with our PCC and are now actively seeking quotes. We will also need to obtain a faculty to hang the plaque for which we're very thankful to our vicar Jane, as she has volunteered to deal with this.

The final word comes from our Tower Captain, Harry Glover. As many of you will already know, Harry successfully undertook the London to Brighton cycle ride recently (a trip I would think twice about driving, let alone cycling) and has raised an astounding amount of money for The Alzheimer's Society thanks to the generosity of a lot of donors including many ringers.

So it's a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from us all at Frensham and enjoy your ringing.

Paul Little

Yorktown

We are now back to full strength after Hazel had time off to recover from a hip operation and Petra a knee op. The holiday season is now over and we managed to ring surprise major at our practice on Wednesday for the first time in ages. Eight ringers rang for the Civic Service of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday.



Yorktown has hosted the Meet and Greet practice for newer ringers, the Guild 8 bell striking competition and monthly peals and quarter peals continue to be rung.

We had to change a stay at the beginning of September and another fractured so we repaired it by gluing and screwing it, and which seems fine for the moment but we will keep it under review. These were new stays from the installation of the bells and at the time seemed much smaller than the ones on the old bells (but then the new bells are smaller).

Plans for sound control have now been approved and we have had a meeting to discuss the way forward with this project.

Anne Daniels



NUMBER CLUB

There are some numbers still available so if you would like to join, please contact Helen Prescott (h.prescott@ntlworld.com).

HARRY'S STORY

Aside from bell ringing, one of my other hobbies is cycling, and I entered the London-to-Brighton charity cycle ride In September to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society. Liz, my wife, was diagnosed in January this year and after the diagnosis I joined *Slimming World* because I was over-weight and pre-diabetic and didn't want to risk getting diabetes in case Liz's health deteriorates and she becomes more dependent on me. I've lost 2½ stones and my BMI is now under 25, when previously it was 30.

The London-to-Brighton (L2B) ride is 55 miles and includes a climb up the infamous Ditchling Beacon so it was all quite a challenge for a 78-year-old, but I succeeded in cycling the full 55 miles and cycled up Ditchling! That's more than I could do in the 1980s when I last rode the L2B, and I put the achievement down to having a lower low gear on my bike rather than being fitter (but then I might be that too?) The road climbs about 500ft over a distance of about a mile, and the steepest part of the hill is 16% or 1 in 6. The 'reward' after getting to the top is then a long downhill run into Brighton, and I did treat myself to an ice cream at the top too!



On the morning of the ride my son-in-law, Niel, very kindly collected me at 5:30am to drive me to the start on Clapham Common, where there was a huge number of cyclists – over 5,000 – and Kerry, my daughter, met me in Brighton; it was lovely to see a familiar face in the crowd at the finish.



The ride took me 5¾ hours actual cycling time, but with rest, comfort and picnic stops my overall time was about 8½ hours, which I don't think is too bad for an old man; I doubt there were many cyclists of my age or older riding the route (I didn't see any).

The day stayed dry for the ride, but it was sunny and very hot [remember the record-breaking temperatures in early September?] so I was quite liberal with use of suncream. At the various water stops (where there were also toilets; thankfully) volunteers sprayed us with cold water – which was lovely at the time, but it soon evaporated!

I'd like to say a **VERY BIG THANK YOU to everybody** who donated money to the Alzheimer's Society in connection with the Charity Ride, and a big thank you too to the Pirbright ringers for kindly donating the 'tea money' collected on the afternoon of the District Striking Competition on 23rd September.

Probably most of us have a friend or family member who has Alzheimer's disease and as yet there is no cure. Fundraising is crucial to the Charity's work and money raised is helping people affected to get support, and funding research to help find a cure.

I am very pleased to report that the total of all donations, together with Gift Aid is a massive **£4,789.96!** The Events Team at the Alzheimer's Society say that's a phenomenal sum and I am very grateful to you all for your support.

Harry Glover

DISTRICT RINGING RAMBLE 2023 - LONDON

A wonderful day in the big smoke. We all arrived by various means, many getting the train, some driving and then getting the tube for what was to be a great adventure.



The first tower St Andrew's at Holborn. A lovely ring of 8 bells (18cwt). Luckily the ringing chamber was fairly large as about 35 of us were present. The ringing was good everyone had at least two attempts. We had quite a few new ringers, which was lovely to see as its always scary ringing on bells that aren't your normal bells.

We then had the short walk to get to St Vedast, Foster Lane (6 bells 16cwt). This was a challenge to ensure that everyone had a chance to ring on the bells. Nigel did an amazing job organising teams downstairs to ring.



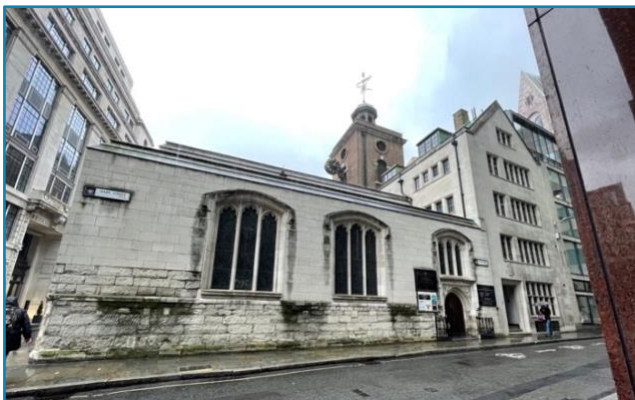
After this tower we had the longest walk to Spitalfields, past the Bank of England, and onwards to Spitalfields market for our lunch break. There was plenty of choice, some people had sandwiches while others enjoyed some of the different varieties available in the market.

After lunch we rang at Christ Church, Spitalfields (8 bells 17cwt). The church is very impressive as you walk down the street from the market





We had a wonderful time and the bells were lovely, and there was room in the ringing chamber to accommodate most of us.



After this we walked through the city to St Olave, Hart Street (8 bells 11cwt). This is one of the churches in London that you could walk past and not realise that it was there. This was the only time that we were caught in the rain on a day that was forecast to rain all day.

The next tower was the challenge for the day for many of us. Off we walked to St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames Street (12 bells 26cwt).

To get to the ringing chamber you had to enter

through the smallest door that can be found, we all had to duck to go in. For some they had never rung on 12 bells, but everyone did amazing. Here the tower really swayed when the bells rung. When you were ringing you did not notice, but sitting listening to the bells you could feel the tower move.





We were due to finish the day at St James, Garlickhythe, unfortunately, the key had been taken by the last ringers and was in Leicester! This was a shame, but it just means that we will have to do it all again to enable us to ring there. The authorities at St Magnus kindly let us stay a little longer to make up for it.

During the day the ringing was varied, ranging from rounds and call changes to triples methods and we even managed some surprise methods. At St Magnus we rang Little Bob Maximus (twice, just to prove it wasn't a fluke) and Grandsire Cinques.

After all this ringing, some of us walked back over the river and enjoyed a meal in the Anchor, Bankside just by Southwark Bridge.

If you are thinking this sounded really good fun, it was. It was a great day with wonderful people, lovely bells and new experiences and challenges. For a few of us it was also a chance to wander down memory lane as the city was where some of us worked. Thank you, Stu, for organising what was a really wonderful day.

The assembled party can be seen on the front cover, along with all the 5 towers.

Hazel Metcalfe

MORE HOUSE SCHOOL BELL RINGING CLUB

More House School in Frensham has two experienced bell ringers on its staff: the Headmaster (Jonathan Hetherington) and Head of Music (Mark Place). The school has recently started up its bell ringing club again on Monday afternoons, now hosted by Frensham church, while the bells are out of action in Farnham.

It's early days, but there has been plenty of enthusiasm from the students, who range from Year 6 (aged 10-11) to Year 12 (aged 17-18). Time is quite limited as it has to fit into a one-hour slot, which includes the travel time from the school to the church and back again. Some of the pupils are now able to ring rounds, with one already managing to ring the tenor behind to doubles. There will be more to report in future editions as the pupils develop their ringing, and possibly take part in some of the District and Guild events, such as the Young Ringers initiative.

Oliver Hall

DISTRICT 6-BELL STRIKING COMPETITION

The Farnham District Striking Competition took place in September at Pirbright. There were 7 teams in total, with ringing ranging from Call Changes to Cambridge Surprise Minor. The judges, Julian Morgan and Sally Schupke from the Guildford District, gave some useful feedback to all of the teams as well as some general pieces of advice for striking competitions. The full results were:

Position	Team	Method	Faults
1 st	Crondall Cats	Grandsire Doubles	18 faults
2 nd	Frensham 1	Cambridge Minor	24 faults
3 rd	Aldershot	Grandsire Doubles	38 faults
4 th	Frensham 2	Call Changes	49 faults
5 th	Crondall Kittens	Call Changes	64 faults
6 th	Pirbright	Grandsire Doubles	93 faults



Trophy Winner and judges



Wooden Bell Winner and judges

There was a separate 'scratch band' made up of ringers from Farnborough, Frensham and Grayshott who scored 16 faults, but they were not eligible for the trophy as there were not four ringers from one tower.

It was particularly pleasing to see three teams that included at least one person who had learnt to ring in the last 12 months. Of these, the band from Aldershot finished in the highest place and was thus awarded the Master's wooden trophy.

After the competition and some general ringing, a fish and chip supper was enjoyed by all, followed by an excellent quiz, run by Stu Aitken. A Crondall team romped home with another victory in the main quiz, while an Aldershot/Pirbright team won the bonus film poster challenge.

Many thanks to all who took part in such a wonderful afternoon and thank you to the Pirbright band for hosting us.

Oliver Hall

The teams ...



Crondall 'Cats'



Frensham Method



Aldershot



Frensham Call Changes



Crondall 'Kittens'



Pirbright



Scratch Band

A striking competition newbie

The previous six months of learning to ring at Crondall had provided a joyful combination of physical, mental and social highlights. But as I walked through the main entrance at Pirbright's St Michael and All Angels Church to take part in the Farnham District Striking competition, the overwhelming emotion was trepidation.

I was there as a member of our novice band, the Crondall 'Kittens'. Welcoming smiles, warm camaraderie, and the team's ethos of, 'above all else, enjoy the experience', calmed the nerves. And by the time our band had rung, the sense of team achievement (and relief!) far outweighed my initial apprehension. A delicious fish and chip supper and a fun quiz rounded off a great first striking competition experience. Many thanks to my fellow Crondall Kittens.



Claire Darling, Crondall

Striking competition and more

One fine September found me in Pirbright Church as the supporting cast of ONE to cheer the Frensham Ringers. This was all somewhat serendipitous. Why? The day before found me visiting St Mary's Tower, Frensham, having last been in a Bell Tower some twenty years previously. In my youth, I was a committed bellringer at St. Luke's Church Grayshott, being given tuition on a Thursday practice by our friend, Harry Glover.

It was only through seeing Harry that I was reminded what a fabulous and worthy hobby is bellringing. There is a distinct camaraderie, a welcoming, sincere jollity among ringers who actively encourage everyone they meet. Ringers at Frensham enjoy sharing tips and knowledge to help those new to the art. At Grayshott, I never felt entirely at ease with bellringing. Perhaps it was the predicament of being just me among many new ringers.

With more than one sally and tail regularly flailing around the ringing chamber I felt I had to have nerves of steel. As most ringers know – you must remain rooted to the spot and never let go of the tail or the sally, nor run for the hills, nor jump ship to avoid a missed, convulsing, whipping rope. This particularly applies when standing on a tall, square, wooden box directly underneath the tenor bell weighing several tons. After all, where could you go to escape? It then dawned on me that there is nowhere to escape and nowhere to run!

At Pirbright, I was delighted to see a great many people offering assistance. They were so helpful. Manoeuvring in a wheelchair is a challenge at the best of times and something that I am still getting used to. I would like to thank everyone who made my visit to Pirbright so easy and enjoyable. For me, it created a wonderful experience and memorable day. It seems that my presence as the Frensham Supporting Cast weighed greatly. In the final summing up, my contribution to the Quiz resulted in Frensham coming LAST!

Simon Clark

Like ringing, the day was divided
All math-mati, math-matti-cal-ley.
Striking bells judged by Diocese Experts.
To precise Ha-a-a, Ha-ar-mo-ny.

T'was great hearing the Judges explain
How they score such a complex routine
So followed a fish 'n chip supper
For teams so driven, stalwart and keen.

The Quiz was a work of great gen-i-us.
To win needed many top brains.
Sadly mine has been long lost and AWOL
Far from Oxford, Cambridge & also Queens.

GUILD 8-BELL STRIKING COMPETITION

Once a year, each of the four districts is called upon to enter a team into the Guild 8-bell striking competition. The Farnham District played host to this event in October, using the excellent new ring of bells at Yorktown. The only drawback of using this tower is that it robbed us of any home advantage – they are easy to handle, have no quirks or obvious odd-struckness, and are crystal clear in the ringing chamber.

The Chertsey District didn't manage to get a team together, but the other three districts took part, with each band ringing the same prescribed touch (two courses of Little Bob Major) after a short practice. The Farnham team had a cheeky practice the night before on the bells, ringing an eighth-peal of the competition method – it was meant to be a quarter peal, but the conductor fell asleep just after the halfway point and missed a call!

We rang well in the competition, and were happy with our performance. The judge agreed, giving us lots of positive feedback. In the final analysis, we just missed out to the Guildford District, who were the better side on the day, so finished in a close second place. There are rumours of the return of Guild 10-bell



competition; some more ringing on higher numbers is now needed to be ready for this!

Some reflections from the District Master on team selection

I've been working as a teacher for the last 20 or so years, and for some of these I volunteered to manage and umpire the Under 13A cricket. Fortunately, the team selection was mostly done by the dedicated Games staff, using their experience from weeks of Games sessions and extracurricular nets. If an individual wasn't selected one week, they might have a chance in the next match, so everyone was given a good opportunity. You can imagine the complaints from pupils and parents if someone was dropped to the B team!

But how on earth do you go about selecting eight ringers to represent the district? Ringing is mostly a collaborative activity, not a competitive one. I certainly don't spend my time ranking and assessing the performance of others – I am too busy listening to my own bell and wincing every time my backstroke lead isn't quite right or I clip another bell. One idea was to try to get as many towers as possible represented in the band; but having only just taken over as Ringing Master after an absence of almost 20 years from the district, I just don't know everyone and their capabilities that well yet.

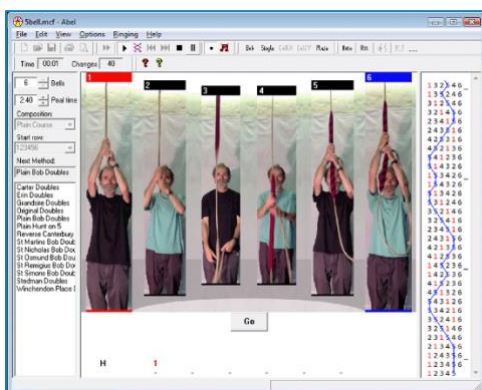
We are fortunate to have some of the Guild's leading peal ringers in the Farnham District, so this seemed like a sensible place to start... apart from the fact that several of them were (perhaps unsurprisingly) already booked to ring peals on the day of the competition. It didn't help that we also had a District Training event which clashed with the competition, taking out more of our experienced ringers. Note to self for next year: start organising a team much earlier next year. But what if I upset someone by completing the team without them? At least I hope not to get a complaint from their parents, unlike school cricket!

Oliver Hall

DISTRICT TRAINING (THE FARNHAM SCHOOL OF BELL RINGING)

Listening skills

On the last Saturday in October we had "Listening Skills" training at Crondall, run by Nigel assisted by Kevin and Clare. The 11 attendees were split into two groups with one group doing exercises listening to ringing with various degrees of irregular ringing, while the other took turns to ring a bell with the simulator.



five 'ringers' always have perfect ringing so any clash is from the student. Also the simulator shows colours indicating how accurate (or not) was the striking. It was very pleasing to see how many students managed to have double-greens on numerous occasions. Refreshments were organised by Clare and Owen (homemade cakes!).



Here are a selection of student comments:

- *Thank you so much for today's listening 'session', for your time, preparation, instruction and the delicious cupcake.*
- *Thank you all very much for the prep, care and time that you put into the really useful and enjoyable listening skills course.*
- *The two-part structure was fun and helpful.*
- *I'm very grateful for all the help and encouragement on offer to us newbies!*
- *The refreshments were fab, thank you.*

Nigel Smith and Kevin Fox

Foundation Skills

We have now started monthly Foundation Skills sessions. These aim to improve retention rates of our newest ringers and encourage early engagement with the district and wider ringing community. Practical sessions help learners to become used to ringing in different towers as well as improve ringing and handling skills. Talks cover ringing theory and introduce them to the broader world of ringing. A key aspect is the social afterwards.

Thirteen students arrived at Aldershot in October and were split into two groups; one to hone their ringing skills, and the other to learn about the history of bells and study the parts of a bell and their function. This was followed by a short quiz which caused much puzzling and hilarity, and then an exercise with paper plates, introducing the concept of place bells. In the tower, there was some practice at ringing up, and then some kaleidoscope exercises involving a dice and a pack of cards.



Sixteen students were present at Frensham in November, and the same pattern was used. Handbells could be heard from the church room, learning more about places and call changes. In the tower, handling skills were tested out on what were new bells for many of the learners, followed by call changes and more exercises. Fading in and out was a favourite. At the end two of the theory students called a few changes.

After both these sessions all met up for a chat and light refreshments. Thanks to all who organise these events, provide the refreshments, the students for being so willing to learn, and the experienced ringers who come along to help. We couldn't do it without all of you.

Nigel Smith

Surprise Practices

For those not up to speed with ringing nomenclature, these are not practices which happen without anyone expecting them (fun as that might be). 'Surprise' in this context refers to a group of ringing methods which share some obscure structural features. For most ringers, it is enough to know that they represent a challenge and at most local tower practices they would be viewed as quite advanced.

Some examples of commonly rung methods are below – difficulty is entirely subjective; some may disagree!

	Surprise Minor	Surprise Major
Entry-level	Cambridge	Cambridge, Yorkshire
Intermediate	Norwich, Ipswich	Cornwall, Lessness
Advanced	London, Carlisle	Bristol, London
Very difficult		Glasgow, Belfast

And then of course, you can mix them together in 'spliced', where you switch the methods at multiple times as you are ringing. Some consider this to be a highly enjoyable challenge.

District Surprise Minor Practices

These have recently been introduced for those who can ring plain methods on 5 or 6 bells and are ready for the next step, and also to help bridge the gap to Surprise Major. At our first practice we rang Cambridge, Norwich and some 6-spliced (covering the 'Cambridge 6' methods). The turn-out was quite modest, but by varying the night on which these practices take place. The second practice at Ash had an excellent turn-out with 18 attending.

District Surprise Major Practices

Nigel Smith, the District Training Office, has been ably running Surprise Major practices for a while, but has now handed them over to the District Master. Attendance was very encouraging at our November practice (Yorktown) where we had 16 ringers, with methods ranging from Cambridge, through 4-spliced, up to Belfast (which you will see from the table above is quite a challenging method to ring). Two quarter peals each month are arranged for those who attend these practices, aiming to produce some good ringing and also to challenge individual ringers with their method range or conducting skills. Although the level can be quite high, it is a welcoming practice for anyone looking to start out with Cambridge.

Oliver Hall

DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENTS

PEALS

Aldershot, Hampshire, St Michael
Archangel
Tuesday 22nd August 2023 in 2h 54m

5088 Martin Surprise Major

Composed by S Bond arr B White-Horne

1. K Roger Tompsett
2. Beryl R Norris
3. Janet E Menhinick
4. Nigel A L Mellor
5. Jackie Roberts
6. Nigel C Smith
7. Isaac W Johnson
8. Martin J Turner (C)

Rung in memory of Kath Baldwin.

Seale, Surrey, St Lawrence
Saturday 7th October 2023 in 2h 45m

5040 Grandsire Doubles

1 x Morris's, 4 x 10 differently called extents

1. Glenn J Poyntz
2. Nicholas M W Haggett
3. Martin J Turner (C)
4. Mark E R Gill
5. Mike Pidd
6. Evan G Llewellyn-Poyntz

First peal: 6

Specially arranged as a belated memoriam to Sylvia Poyntz (past ringer at Seale), who passed away during the pandemic. (Glenn's mum and Evan's grandma). Rung on the day of what would have been her 92nd birthday.

Congratulations to Evan on scoring his first peal and ringing at short notice, only having rung on one occasion in the last 15 years or more.

Also sending get well wishes to Nigel C Smith who was unable to ring.

Fleet, Hampshire, 20 Burnside
Friday 3rd November 2023 in 2h 18m

5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Composed by JS Warboys

- 1-2. Martin J Turner
- 3-4. W John Couperthwaite
- 5-6. Mike Pidd (C)
- 7-8. Ian M Redway

Fleet, Hampshire, 20 Burnside
Thursday 7th September 2023 in 2h 17m

5008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major

Composed by AS Hudson arr AE Holroyd

- 1-2. Ian M Redway
- 3-4. W John Couperthwaite
- 5-6. Mike Pidd (C)
- 7-8. Martin J Turner

Fleet, Hampshire, 20 Burnside
Monday 9th October 2023 in 2h 15m

5152 Lincolnshire Surprise Major

Composed by S Humphrey

- 1-2. June D Wells (C)
- 3-4. W John Couperthwaite
- 5-6. Mike Pidd
- 7-8. E John Wells

Yorktown, Surrey, St Michael
Tuesday 10th October 2023 in 2h 51m

5080 Spliced Triples & Major (5m/p)

2520 Stedman Triples, 1120 Superlative, 640 Cambridge, 480 London, 320 Bristol; 74 changes of method, 9 changes of stage.

Composed by Patrick WJ Deakin

1. K Roger Tompsett
2. Beryl R Norris
3. Janet E Menhinick
4. Nigel C Smith
5. Martin J Turner
6. Jackie Roberts
7. Peter W Emery
8. David R Cox

Fleet, Hampshire, 20 Burnside
Friday 10th November 2023 in 2h 20m

5088 Kent Treble Bob Major

Composed by DF Morrison, arr WJC (7502a)

- 1-2. Karen M White
- 3-4. Nigel A L Mellor
- 5-6. W John Couperthwaite (C)
- 7-8. Ian M Redway

700th peal for the Guild as conductor.

Frensham, Surrey, St Mary the Virgin
Tuesday 14th November 2023 in 2h 59m

5184 Spliced Major (2m)

3,648 Bristol Surprise, 1,536 Double Norwich
Court Bob. 36 com, atw.

Composed by Oliver M Austin

1. Martin J Turner
2. Beryl R Norris
3. Christopher H Rogers
4. Sally A Schupke
5. Jackie Roberts
6. Peter W Emery
7. Mike Pidd (C)
8. Julian Morgan

*A 75th birthday compliment to HM King Charles
III and with get well wishes to Janet Menhinick,
who was due to ring in this peal.*

Fleet, Hampshire, 20 Burnside
Friday 24th November 2023 in 2h 15m

5088 Kent Treble Bob Major

Composed by DF Morrison, arr WJC (7502a)

- 1-2. Karen M White
- 3-4. Ian M Redway
- 5-6. W John Couperthwaite (C)
- 7-8. Martin J Turner

Grayshott, Hampshire, St Luke
Tuesday 28th November 2023 in 2h 50m

5088 Cambridge Surprise Major

Composed by Robert DS Brown

1. Jackie Roberts
2. Beryl R Norris
3. Janet E Menhinick
4. Nigel A L Mellor
5. Martin J Turner
6. K Roger Tompsett
7. Mark E R Gill
8. Nigel C Smith (C)

TOWER BELL QUARTERS

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 4th August 2023

1272 Norwich Surprise Minor

1. Anne Aitken, 2. Brenda Mayle, 3. Harry Glover, 4. Stuart Aitken,
5. John Young, 6. Oliver Hall (C)

56th Wedding Anniversary compliment to Harry & Liz Glover

Crondall, All Saints. Sunday 6th August 2023

1280 London Surprise Major

1. Martin Turner, 2. Beryl Norris, 3. Ros Fox, 4. Rebekah Aspinwall, 5. Vernon Bedford
6. Joseph Sharp, 7. Oliver Hall (C), 8. Nigel Smith

First London: 3 & 4. First London on real bells: 6

Aldershot, St Michael Archangel. Sunday 13th August 2023

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Mark Place, 2. Claire Allen, 3. Clare Le Marie, 4. Helen Le Page,
5. Mike Le Marie 6. John Young, 7. Martin Turner (C), 8. Holly Rickard

*Rung in memory of Frances Whewell beloved wife of Paul Whewell (a ringer at this tower) whose
funeral was held yesterday. Mark & Sarah Jacot (former ringers at Crondall) wish to be associated
with this quarter peal.*

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 18th August 2023

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Yvonne Little, 2. Martin Turner (C), 3. Anita Regin, 4. Brenda Mayle, 5. Mike Rose
6. John Regin, 7. Oliver Hall, 8. Harry Glover

1st on 8 bells: 1. Rung in memory of Gordon (Nobby) Haytree whose funeral took place here this afternoon. Gordon and Sheila's wedding also took place in Frensham church in 1961. They were married for 62 years and Sheila has been a faithful ringer in Frensham for even longer.

Aldershot, St Michael Archangel. Saturday 26th August 2023

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Helen Le Page, 2. Claire Allen (C), 3. Briony Allen, 4. Clare Le Marie,
5. Mike Le Marie 6. Owen Le Page

First Quarter Peal: 6. Rung in celebration of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Dudley & Pat Elsmore

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 15th September 2023

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Brenda Mayle, 2. Anne Aitken, 3. Stuart Aitken, 4. Oliver Hall,
5. John Young, 6. Jonathan Hetherington (C)

50th Quarter and 1st Surprise Minor inside: 2

Grayshott, St Luke. Thursday 21st September 2023

1280 Spliced Surprise Major (4m)

Cambridge, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire & Rutland

1. Harry Glover, 2. Tim Stansfeld, 3. Francesco Greenslade, 4. Jonathan Deane,
5. Joseph Sharp, 6. Vernon Bedford, 6. Oliver Hall (C), 8. Stuart Aitken

100th Quarter Peal: 3. 1st spliced on real bells: 5

Crondall, All Saints. Sunday 1st October 2023

1280 Superlative Surprise Major

1. Jackie Roberts, 2. Claire Allen, 3. Ros Fox, 4. Rebekah Aspinwall, 5. Kevin Fox
6. Joseph Sharp, 7. Martin Turner, 8. Jonathan Hetherington (C)

First in method: 2 & 4. First in method on tower bells: 6

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 6th October 2023

1280 Cambridge Surprise Major

1. Anne Aitken, 2. Mark Place, 3. Stuart Aitken, 4. Brenda Mayle,
5. Harry Glover, 6. Mike Rose, 7. Oliver Hall (C), 8. Jonathan Hetherington

Yorktown, St Michael. Sunday 15th October 2023

1344 London Surprise Major

1. Claire Allen, 2. Beryl Norris, 3. Mark Place, 4. Janet Menhinick, 5. Martin Turner
6. Richard Daw, 7. Mike Pidd (C), 8. David Pearson

First in method: 6

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 20th October 2023

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Stephen Wingent, 2. Stuart Marshall, 3. Brenda Mayle, 4. Mike Rose,
5. Oliver Hall (C), 6. Paul Marshall

First quarter peal: 1. First quarter peal inside: 2

Crondall, All Saints. Sunday 5th November 2023

1344 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1. Martin Turner, 2. Ros Fox (C) , 3. Jackie Roberts, 4. Rebekah Aspinwall,
5. Vernon Bedford, 6. Kevin Fox, 7. Nigel Smith, 8. Jonathan Hetherington

First Surprise Major as conductor

Grayshott, St Luke. Thursday 16th November 2023

1280 Bristol Surprise Major

1. Harry Glover, 2. Stuart Aitken, 3. Vernon Bedford, 4. Jonathan Deane,
5. Tim Stansfeld, 6. Francesco Greenslade, 6. Joseph Sharp (C), 8. Oliver Hall

1st Bristol: 6. First in method as conductor

Frensham, St Mary the Virgin. Friday 17th November 2023

1280 Spliced Minor (3m)

Cambridge, Plain Bob & Little Bob

1. Brenda Mayle, 2. Anne Aitken, 3. Harry Glover, 4. Mike Rose,
5. Stuart Aitken, 6. Oliver Hall (C)

1st Spliced: 2

Yorktown, St Michael. Sunday 19th November 2023

1250 Spliced Surprise Major (3m)

Cambridge, Yorkshire & Superlative

1. Mark Place, 2. Clare Le Marie, 3. Kevin Fox, 4. Claire Allen, 5. Joseph Sharp
6. Oliver Hall, 7. Stuart Aitken, 8. Jonathan Hetherington (C)

First Spliced: 4

To mark the Confirmation of Fin Le Page and Owen Le Page

HANDBELL QUARTERS

Fleet, Friday 4th August 2023. **1440 Surprise Minor (2m)**: Bourne & Ipswich
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 Ian Redway, 5-6 John Couperthwaite (C)

Fleet, Monday 7th August 2023. **1312 Double Norwich Court Bob Major**
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 John Couperthwaite, 5-6 Mike Pidd (C), 7-8 Ian Redway

Fleet, Monday 4th September 2023. **1296 St Clements College Bob Major**
1-2 June Wells, 3-4 Mike Pidd, 5-6 John Couperthwaite, 7-8 John Wells (C)

Fleet, Thursday 14th September 2023. **1440 Surprise Minor (2m)**: Norwich & Hull
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 Ian Redway, 5-6 John Couperthwaite (C)

Fleet, Friday 22nd September 2023. **1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major**
1-2 Nigel Mellor, 3-4 Mike Pidd (C), 5-6 John Couperthwaite, 7-8 Ian Redway

Fleet, Friday 29th September 2023. **1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major**
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 John Couperthwaite (C), 5-6 Nigel Mellor, 7-8 Ian Redway
An 80th Birthday compliment to Chris Rogers

Fleet, Friday 6th October 2023. **1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major**
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 John Couperthwaite (C), 5-6 Mike Pidd, 7-8 Ian Redway

Fleet, Friday 27th October 2023. **1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major**
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 John Couperthwaite (C), 5-6 Nigel Mellor, 7-8 Ian Redway

Fleet, Friday 17th November 2023. **1280 Lincolnshire Surprise Major**
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 Mike Pidd (C), 5-6 John Couperthwaite, 7-8 Ian Redway

Fleet, Monday 20th November 2023. **1696 Superlative Surprise Major**
1-2 John Couperthwaite, 3-4 June Wells, 5-6 John Wells, 7-8 Mike Pidd (C)

Fleet, Wednesday 22nd November 2023. **1272 Treble Bob Minor (2m)**: Kent & Oxford
1-2 Martin Turner, 3-4 John Couperthwaite (C), 5-6 Jackie Roberts

