

Les Cloches des îles

The Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Newsletter of the Channel Islands District



February 2011 – Issue No. 52



Editorial

It seems a long time ago now but I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and all the very best for 2011.

Since the previous issue of Les Cloches the weather has caused a number of events to be cancelled or severely depleted and this is borne out by the fewer number of articles in this edition. Nevertheless ringers, being resilient souls, have “looked to”, “got going” and “gone” to as many gatherings as possible and there are several very amusing accounts to be read.

A decision was made at the ADM to try to print fewer copies of Les Cloches and for as many ringers as were amenable to the idea, to accept the newsletter by email as a PDF.

Please do send any comments you may have about reading it on screen, my email address is jenrains@hotmail.com

So onwards and upwards, plenty of events planned for the next six months and hopefully much better weather too!

Jenny Rains

front cover:
New stained glass window at St. Peters, Guernsey

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Blow the Bells it's the Eating that Counts

I was asked before our October Ringing trip to Oxford to write up something irrelevant along the lines of previous trips. I seem to remember there have been studies of Church cleaning methods and the correlation between colours of sallies with the success of methods rung. With this in mind I decided to concentrate on bell-ringers eating habits. After all I estimated that we only rang bells for a total of 9 hours at the 15 towers on the trip whereas 16 hours were spent eating. In addition at least 4 hours were spent walking and 10 hours on the bus. 15 hours were spent sleeping and I think 10 hours thinking.....for instance why are steps to towers always clockwise...or are they? Bell-ringing has developed a specialist vocabulary over the centuries and it was thought that we could apply similar principles to our eating experiences so I decided that we would name each meal after a ringing method reflecting the nature and style of the meal

Our trip did not start very well at 6am on the Saturday morning. There was a cloudburst at the airport with the gutters overflowing. Renee arrived soaked to the skin with a very wet boarding ticket and Tim got charged £30 for not booking his luggage on line – good old FLYBE they've always got a trick up their sleeve. Mind you Tim did not forget the charge and failed to buy drinks for the whole trip, but I may have got this wrong.

Anyway we arrived at Southampton and while waiting for the bus four of us tried **Continental Breakfast Minimus** at Mitchell's Bar at Southampton Airport. After 20 minutes waiting, the method had not **Come Round** and we found we had to serve ourselves. It then became clear that the waiter had no experience of serving the method and created a crisis of confidence by attempting to charge for coffee which should have been included in the **Plain Course**.

Our first ring was at Whites of Appleton where we worked up an appetite on the mini-ring. Unfortunately we had to ring at Appleton Parish Church before we could partake of **Ploughman**

Triples for lunch. After checking in at our Oxford hotel we had little time to relax before departing on a major ringing excursion at four Oxford towers with no thought of refreshment but the promise of a later evening date. So it was that on Saturday evening we walked more miles and eventually arrived at a very busy student pub, the King's Arms, where they professed to have no knowledge of our reservation. We were finally given **Imperial places** and engaged in a single course of **Atmospheric Surprise Royal**. Our pay-up-front eating method was **conducted** by a super efficient Polish waitress.

On Sunday morning we started with **All Day Breakfast Doubles** supplied by super efficient hotel staff, who didn't miss a trick with **Reverse Oxford** places. Walking off our breakfast methods we arrived for Sunday service ringing at St Aldates. I have never seen a church so packed with bands and families of all ages. I am glad we had a good breakfast.

Peter Gallienne as usual was excellent with his driving and with the aid of his SATNAV got us to all our destinations on time even if he did once leave the SATNAV in walk mode and attempted to go down footpaths which were frankly too narrow for the bus. On Oxford roads there are many speed humps and it was comforting to feel Peter slow down for the front wheels of the bus and then to speed up again followed by a big bounce when the back wheels hit the bump five seconds later. Now I know what back seat driving means - I was sitting at the back!!

We ate lunch at the Eight Bells in Long Crendon (the Midsomer Murder Village) where we had to wait a long time for lunch but eventually appreciated the **Slow Work** of **Long Crendon Slow Course Major**.

After ringing at another three towers we decamped to the hotel followed by another long walk through the centre of Oxford to arrive at Brasserie Blanc. This was supposedly a French restaurant with waiters who understood not a word of French but had been shipped in from the Czech Republic (Dobry Den). Here we enjoyed a 3-course m(p)meal of **Home Spliced Brasserie**

Major in 2 hours 32 minutes for £426. After a longer walk back to the hotel and after a bit of **practice** at the bar we hit the sack.

Our last day dawned to a breakfast of **Full English Minor with shared toast and no bacon.** I **led wrong** and had to share Tim's toast and was then presented with bacon I did not order. I am not sure that the waitress was **leading right** but with a little **listening practice** I'm sure she'll improve.

After building up an appetite at a further three towers our final meal was at the Coach and Horses Chiselhampton where we consumed **Coach and Horses delight with Duck or Grouse places and special Sticky Toffee end work.** Arriving back at Eastleigh we forgot about the ringing and with little memory of our last meal tried to memorise the **FlyBe Blue Line (No Free Drinks)** before arriving back at Guernsey late on Monday

The ringing trip led to some very successful eating at a wide variety of towers and pubs but the whole trip (ringing and eating) would not have been possible without the superb efforts of **Sue, Paul and Andrew Hazeldine and of course Peter.**

Mike Collins

Training Weekend in Reading November 19/20/21st 2010

Huge thanks again to the Reading ringers - without their support and encouragement this most enjoyable and instructive weekend simply would not happen.

2 Jersey ringer, 2 Guernsey ringers and 4 Alderney ringers joined me and Peter for a weekend of intense ringing in Reading.

Starting at St Giles in central Reading on Friday afternoon, we were supported by local ringers and rang DNCBM, Kent TB Major etc. Then it was off to St Mary's for a ¼ of Glasgow S Major for me, Peter Bevis and Peter Routier - scary stuff but we managed ☺.

Supper was at Jenny's then 'home' to the Premier Inn for a good nights sleep. Saturday saw the ringers divide into 2 groups - A went to Tilehurst with me and group B to Shiplake for a day under the guidance of Stephen Rossiter.

I was not keen on wasting time on the luxury of lunch - fortified as we were by June's magnificent baking, however my group were spared starvation by Donald's kind intervention - nipping out to Asda for sandwiches and some fruit. Bell handling to treble bob & Stedman doubles was a good variety - plenty to watch when not actually ringing oneself and with each student under the particular guidance of a mentor there was plenty of chatting & explanations.

Most of Group B fared better for lunch - though 6 rang a ¼ of Winchendon Place instead of lunch !! Kent, Stedman triples, Cambridge major and DNCBM - all students making good progress A ¼ of plain bob major at Englefield for some but most returned directly to Jenny's for a Chinese takeaway. We sang Happy Birthday twice - once for Daniel Page (aged 8) and once for Peter Routier (more than 8) - and cut 2 cakes.

The photo is of Peter's cake baked by Duncan and brought - carefully - from Guernsey especially for the weekend - many thx Duncan.



Sunday morning had us ringing for service at St Peter's Caversham and St Mary's in Reading and then after lunch we were again supported by the local ringers and enjoyed the 12 bells of St Lawrence's. This being the 3rd year of the course it was exceptionally pleasing to see how much progress had been made by our ringers now confidently tackling rounds on 12 and a touch of Stedman Caters, and yet more Cambridge Major and DNCBM.

The next Reading training weekend will be Fri Nov 25th, Sat 26th & Sun 27th 2011 - you would all be most welcome for all or any part of the weekend.

Helen McGregor

Reading, Berkshire

St Mary the Virgin

Friday, 19 November 2010 in 52mins (26 cwt)

1280 Glasgow Surprise Major

1. June Saint
2. June Wells
3. Peter Routier
4. Helen McGregor
5. E John Wells
6. Peter Bevis
7. Alex Byrne (c)
8. Stephen Rossiter

1st in method: 3. Rung to celebrate the engagement of HRH Prince William and Kate Middleton

Shiplake, Oxon

SS Peter & Paul

Saturday, 20 November 2010

1260 Winchendon Place Doubles

1. Viv Bloundele
2. Jack Page
3. Alex Byrne (c)
4. Duncan Loweth
5. Stephen Rossiter
6. Peter Bevis

100th Q: 1. 1st in method for all. Rung as a birthday complement to Peter Routier and Daniel Page.

Englefield, Berkshire

Saturday, 20 November 2010 in 47 mins

1264 Plain Bob Major

1. June Wells
2. June Saint
3. E John Wells
4. Helen McGregor
5. Peter Bevis
6. Duncan Loweth
7. Peter Routier
8. Stephen Rossiter (c)

1st Major 6. Rung as a birthday complement to Zoe Benyon.

Guernsey hand bell Ringers



Joe Allen and Duncan Loweth practising handbell ringing

Guildford Cathedral Bells

As the population of South East England grew during the early part of the twentieth century, the Diocese of Winchester was divided into three sections. The section in the north became the new Diocese of Guildford and Dr John Greig was appointed the first Bishop in 1927.

Initially, Holy Trinity Church in Guildford High Street was used as the Cathedral, but it soon became clear that it was not large enough. In 1928, the Diocese resolved to build a new Cathedral. Despite many misgivings, the work of planning and fund raising began. It was an astonishing act of faith and vision.

Initially, an architectural competition was held for the design of the new building and 183 architects submitted proposals. The portfolios were exhibited for public comment after which five architects were invited to submit full designs.

The winner of the competition was Edward Maufe and he was appointed Cathedral Architect in 1933.

The building of Guildford Cathedral is a story of success against the odds. Begun in 1936 to a design by Sir Edward Maufe, and completed in 1961, it retains its unique position as the only new Anglican Cathedral to be built in the South of England since the Reformation.

The story of the foundation of the Cathedral choir - one of a very few ensembles of its type to be founded in the 20th century - is equally remarkable. The tower is 160 feet (49 m) high, and contains twelve bells, ten of which were cast by Mears and Stainbank in 1965. The bells were augmented to 12 with two Whitechapel trebles in 1975.

Its bricks are made from clay taken from the hill on which it stands.

(copyright Guildford Cathedral 2008)



How's this for space!



12 bell ropes to gather up

and this is what's on the other end!!



Weighing in at.....

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">GUILDFORD</div>				
The Cathedral Church of the Holy Spirit				
The Bells				
	Weight	Note	Year Cast	Founder
Treble	4 - 2 - 7	A	1972	
2	4 - 3 - 20	G	1975	
3	5 - 1 - 7	F#	1965	
4	5 - 2 - 6	E	1965	
5	6 - 1 - 7	D	1965	Mears
6	6 - 1 - 20	C#	1965	
7	7 - 2 - 5	B	1963	
8	9 - 2 - 19	A	1965	Stainbank
9	12 - 2 - 20	G	1961	
10	15 - 2 - 3	F#	1965	
11	21 - 1 - 2	E	1965	
Tenor	30 - 1 - 10	D	1965	

Here is a short video from Youtube showing the bells being rung from the floor and from above.

If you are looking at this newsletter online, just click on the link below to watch the video otherwise copy/paste it into a web browser.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djFzMyCVQ5Q>

New Years Day at St. Peters

St Peters and Forest ringers invited ringers from Town Church and Vale to celebrate with a general ringing and a glass of mulled wine on New Years Day.



and Phil was left holding the baby!!



Ringling and Cancer Treatment

It came as something of a shock to the system to be told by my doctor following a routine annual medical check that he suspected that I was showing early symptoms of Prostate Cancer. A blood test revealed that the PSA level was raised to the extent that he recommended me to the Medical Specialist Group for further tests and examination. I won't go into details but sufficient to say that by early November 2009 I knew the worst and had to face whatever would be recommended.

Over the following weeks I seemed to be either at meetings at Specialist Group or, later at Southampton General Hospital. Finally I was admitted to Southampton General and operated on in the middle of February. Although I was only kept in hospital for a week – I was sent home virtually as soon as I was fit to fly back. I was totally housebound for the next month but the next development was a meeting with the Southampton Hospital Radiology Specialist where I learned that although they were very pleased with the way the prostatectomy had gone they were not certain that all the cancerous material had been removed. They wanted me to return later for a course of Radiation Therapy, but not until I had fully recovered from the surgery.

As for heavy exercise and ringing I was able to return to work at Easter time and was able to get back to ringing again – but had to be a bit careful. There is no doubt that intrusive surgery of that nature will be 'somewhat ticklish'! However the incentive first to get back to work and to get back to ringing is very real, after an experience like this it's great to get back to normal even if you do have to be a bit careful.

After yet another meeting at Southampton General I started a course of Radiation Therapy in the middle of June comprising of 33 treatments over seven weeks. This of course was rather different from the operation in that the treatment was basically ten minutes a day Monday to Friday and the rest of the day is yours! I was determined not to let the Radiation get to me, and to keep as active as possible. I

was able to drive and to go ringing, so the way it evolved was Monday at Kings Somborne, Tuesday at Shedfield, Wednesday at Romsey Abbey, Thursday either at Lockerley or East Tytherley and finally Friday at New Alresford. All of these were within about a 30 to 40 minute drive from Southampton. I have to say that although there were occasions later on in the course of treatment when the radiation was really affecting me and I was in considerable discomfort but I was still determined to get out. There is no doubt that the exercise of ringing helped keep up the fitness level and has been a great boost to my recovery. Besides I have made a lot of friends in the towers visited and it has been a valuable experience.

Finally the latest report from the medical specialist dealing with me locally is that the treatment has been entirely successful and I am now all clear. Obviously I will still be monitored on a regular basis, but it's looking good at the moment. I can only say that Prostate Cancer is, and has long been cited as the "Silent Killer" in that if you wait for symptoms to really manifest themselves then it is often too late and the cancer may well have taken hold elsewhere. As with any form of cancer early diagnosis is vitally important and I am very pleased that my GP referred me straight away, and the treatment was both swift and decisive even if it was rather more painful than the condition itself. I would urge anyone from say the age of about 40 onwards to have regular annual health checks with their GP and to ensure that a PSA test is included. Although the PSA in itself is not considered to be conclusive, if the level is raised to more than about 5 the alarm bells are ringing and there are several more tests that can be carried out. In my case an MRA scan clearly showed the lump developing on the prostate, and that was more than enough to set things in motion.

Peter Gallienne

We are all very pleased to hear that Peter has been given the all clear and we wish him all the very best for the future.

A bit about Big Ben

This picture was scanned from a calendar, I think the text is quite interesting so I've typed it out to make it legible.....



Cast by John Warner & Sons,
Bell and Brass founders to her Majesty,
Crescent Foundry, London.

Weight with clapper 16 tons 11 cwt 2 qtrs. 20 lbs.
Diameter at mouth 9ft 5 and a half inches, height
7ft 10 and a half inches.

The illustration represents "Big Ben" as suspended for the various severe tests to which the referees subjected the bell.

On the left is shown the experimental clock hammer, weighing 13cwt raised by machinery and allowed to fall on the bell with a weight and force equal to one and a quarter tons.

On the right are represented ten men, whose combined power pulled "Big Ben's" monster clapper and caused so much motion at times that the bell often struck the fixed experimental hammer.

Opinions are compared and we are happy to say, it is universally acknowledged, the bell is without flaw or crack. It was found, as we receded from the tower, that the voice of "Big Ben" assumed, in spite of its enormous volume, a soft and melodious sound until, when we reached the middle of St. Margaret's churchyard.

The Times Nov. 14th 1856

The clapper, weighs 13 cwt, being twice the usual weight in proportion to the bell.

"The truth is the difference in the size of the clapper is the consequence of the bell having a much greater power, both of bearing blows and giving out sound than usual."

Lecture at the Royal Institution, March 6th 1857

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Channel Island District

Minutes of the AGM held at St. John's, Jersey on 18th September 2010

1. **Declaration of Any Other business**, since circulation of agenda – None was declared.
2. **Chairperson's remarks.** Anne Fraser welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the Guild ringing Master, David Strong, and the Striking Competition judges, Peter & Louise Ellis. Concern was expressed for the 13 Guernsey ringers who had been prevented from attending at the last minute due to difficulties with Condor ferries, which meant also that the Town Church and Vale were unable to enter the Striking Competition. Also, the Alderney contingency had to leave for the airport quite early, so dealing with the agenda would need to be brisk. Once again the uniqueness and difficulties of our District had been highlighted.
3. **In Memoriam.** Members stood for 2 minutes in memory of Hazel Bailey who died earlier this year. Condolences were expressed for her widower Jim, and son Marc.
4. **Apologies for absence:** received from Sue Park, John Lihou & Michael Bubb. It was also noted that the following people had been due to travel from Guernsey on Condor ferry:- John David, Harry White, Peter Gallienne, Duncan Loweth, Joe Allen, Paul Lawrence, Jane Le Conte, Mike Collins, Judith Lainé, Tim Wainwright, Adrian Ritchie and Ingrid Ellen.
5. **Minutes** of the 2009 AGM had been circulated earlier, and it was proposed by Helen McGregor, seconded by Phillip Maddocks that these were a correct record.
6. There were no **matters arising** from the 2009 minutes, not listed elsewhere in the agenda.
7. **Treasurer's report.** Phillip Maddocks reported that membership had fallen slightly but would hopefully soon rise again. The District's funds were healthy. He informed the meeting that it had been decided at the Guild AGM that the subscription rates would be increased by £1.50 for full & senior members and £2.50 for junior members, the whole increase to be forwarded to the bell restoration fund. He suggested that in our District, this increase could be met by transferring part of the existing C.I. levy to the Guild subscription, rather than by the members, based on the present membership. Some discussion followed, as to whether this was the way forward, or whether to increase the members' contributions and keep the levy. A proposal to keep the Channel Island rates as at present, and to augment them with the present levy so that the Guild received the full amount including the increase, was made by Anne Fraser, seconded by Nicky David, and after a vote, was carried by those present. It will be reviewed on a yearly basis – an increase may still be necessary if membership falls further. The audited accounts for the year to August 31st 2010 were also presented.
8. **Ringmaster's report** – See attached.
9. **Election of new members:-**
Jane Fraser, Alderney – Full member
Judith Lainé, Town Church, Guernsey - Full member from probationary member
Joe Allen, Vale, Guernsey – Full Junior from probationary member

10. Election of District Officers.

- a) District Chairperson - Anne Fraser proposed by Jack Worrall, seconded Helen McGregor
 - b) Ringing Master – Helen McGregor proposed Anne Fraser, seconded Pam Pearson
 - c) District Secretary – Nicky David, proposed Anne Fraser, seconded Helen McGregor
 - d) District Treasurer – Phillip Maddocks, proposed Anne Fraser, seconded Helen McGregor
- Jack Worrall proposed a vote of thanks to all the District Officers for their work during the year.

11. **Proposed meetings 2011/2011**, dates, formats and venues. Some discussion followed as to how many meetings were desired – or practical with present travel difficulties. It was decided that there would be ONE Spring/Summer meeting, and this would take place in Jersey. The AGM & Striking competition is due to take place in Alderney. The monthly District practices would continue in Guernsey, mostly on the 4th Saturday, and members were also encouraged to join a training weekend 19th-21st November, and a District outing to coincide with the Ringing World Centenary London Ringing day in March. (Details of the latter 2 events are in the latest copy of “Les Clôches”.)

Provisional dates for the 2010 Spring Meeting and AGM are 25th June and 24th September respectively, but these are to be confirmed.

12. **Production of “Les Clôches”**. Rising production costs mean that printing is no longer a viable option. It was agreed that future issues would be circulated to tower secretaries electronically. Tower members would be asked to print out “hard” copies for any members who required them. The Editor, Jenny Rains, was to be congratulated on the high standard of “Les Clôches”. David Strong commented that our District produced the best newsletter in the Guild.

13. **Guild Striking Competition**. The Ringing Master asked if anyone was willing to take on the organisation of forming a band for the 8 bell striking competition next year (due to take place at the Guild AGM in the Isle of Wight 2nd July). No-one was forthcoming, but it was suggested that the Spring meeting could be used as a practice venue.

14. **Torteval Mini-Ring**. The Ringing master had requested that this be put on the agenda to ensure that all members realised that this was not available to ringers, local or visitors, (as detailed in the Guild Report), as she had herself not been aware of the fact. The present owner of the mini ring does not want the bells rung at all; nor is she interested in selling them. Nicky David advised those present that this information had been given to John David when he was asked to inspect the bells & fittings last year. Judy Collins suggested it might be good idea to remove the mini-ring from the tower list in the guild report in future.

15. **Any Other Business**. Nicky David thanked Anne Fraser for the organisation of the day’s proceedings, and in particular for the excellent homemade lunch she and her helpers had provided.

The meeting followed with the results of the Striking Competition:-

As noted above, 2 towers were forced to withdraw. 5 teams entered, one of which was a “scratch” team.

Judges Peter and Louise Ellis commented that there had been some nice patches of ringing by all teams. After giving constructive comments to individual teams, the results were declared as follows:-

(Scratch team	Cambridge	10 faults)
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1 st St Mark's, Jersey,	Grandsire	15 faults
2 nd Alderney	Grandsire	39 faults
3 rd St. John's, Jersey,	Plain Bob	51 faults
4 th Forest/St. Peter's, Guernsey,	Call Changes	56 faults



David Strong presenting the trophy to Stuart Reeves (St Marks)

Ringling Masters Report 2010

I would like to say at the outset that I have greatly helped by Nicky's magnificent efficiency in Guernsey and Anne looking after Jersey. What the District has achieved this year is due in no small measure to their powers of organisation.

I see the role of the district is to facilitate individual ringers and towers to achieve more than they can on their own. In this regard I think the 4th Saturday District Days on Guernsey have been very hugely successful – and they are about to be extended to include a surprise major session. I feel the surprise major is to be added to the 'menu' for the day rather than to take the place of any other session – we need to make the 4th Saturdays worth travelling to from Alderney and Jersey to get the most out of the days. I am aware of the concerns that the Guernsey Tower Captains have expressed through Nicky – that we might exhaust the availability of the Guernsey towers – so I was pleased to have reported to me that the Town Church simulator is now working perfectly.

Training weekend last November in Reading was great fun and I hope useful – the same again is being arranged for this November

I am conscious that Jersey has 'suffered' from having a District Master reside on Alderney ☹. Peter & I went to Jersey on 20th March – I should here express my thanks here to Peter – his support has been invaluable – it is so much easier to run the District ringing when I have support of such an able & enthusiastic husband ☺ We had a good day on Jersey and we will return in spring 2011 for another session. It is the downside of living on Alderney that Jersey is a long way away – realistically all I can do is try to encourage the Jersey ringers to literally meet me half way and come and enjoy the District Days on Guernsey. I have to say it would be a huge benefit to Jersey if the District Master came from Guernsey rather than Alderney – if any Guernsey ringers was tempted to take over next year I wouldn't mind.

The District arranged a ¼ peal Day on 17th April - this came close to cancellation because of the lava ash cloud. After many last minute phone calls swapping the bands around: sadly although 2 attempts had to be cancelled 5 ¼'s were attempted and 4 were scored. Huge thanks to all who cheerfully re-jigged their plans for the day to accommodate the rapidly rearranged schedule

The spring meeting on Alderney – 24th April – had 2 visitors from Guernsey, the Summer meeting on Guernsey on 12th June had 2 ringers from Alderney and 3 from Jersey. It seems to be increasingly difficult/expensive to travel inter-island. ☹

District outing to Southampton area in May (entirely organized by Peter) was most enjoyable – my thoughts for the outing next year are to hitch our wagon to the Ringing World London Day of ringing March 26th 2011.

Thank you for your support – I have had a great year and I hope you have too ☺

Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next weekend at 4th Sat on Guernsey.

Helen McGregor

TOWN CHURCH REPORT

This hasn't been a very busy period as far as ringing is concerned. Not many extra ringing events.

We did have a very enjoyable trip to Oxford in October for which we have to thank Sue & Paul who with the help of Andrew Haseldine organised an excellent weekend.

This was my first trip with the group and I am told it was as good as any of the others. So many different things have to be put together, Plane, Coach, Towers, Hotel, Lunches and Dinners. A very good trip 16 towers were visited, including one with steel bells.

We were kept very busy in three days, we all needed a good rest when we got home. I am looking forward to the next. Where will it be? Surely not more than 16 towers. There's a challenge.

We were very sad to hear about Ed Hynard and miss his expertise very much. We wish him well in his recovery.

We only had the usual ringing over Christmas period. Maybe this year we will ring in the New Year.

Our A.G.M. held on Sunday 6th January. It was agreed to ring a quarter peal once a month on Sunday's.

Adrian Richie unfortunately stepped down as steeple keeper. Many thanks go to Adrian for his time in the last 4 years. Permission has been given to go ahead and paint the headstocks at last.

Our Wednesday quarter peals are going well. I have now completed three. One on tenor and two on treble.

A first for us, on Thursday 20th January we were asked to ring half muffled for the memorial service of Mr Peter Smedley, we rang Reverse Canterbury Doubles on the back six with the tenor tolling for two minutes prior to the start of the service.

The reason I am writing this report is that Paul is very busy preparing for his holiday in New Zealand. We wish Paul and Lynn a very good time and look forward to their return in March.

I would like to thank all members of the Town Church team for their help and encouragement during the last two years. Paul and Sue have given me so much support that they deserve special thanks, also Mike Bubb and Phil Le Conte and members of their teams for their help and encouragement and for allowing me to attend their practise night's.

Judith Laine

TOWN CHURCH QUARTER PEALS

4th August	Oxford Treble Bob Minor	
8th September	Plain Bob Minor.	To commemorate Battle of Britain Week
22nd September	Grandsire Doubles	
10th November	5 Doubles Methods	
14th November	Reverse Canterbury Doubles	For Remembrance Sunday
17th November	Plain Bob Minor.	For the Royal Engagement
15th December	Plain Bob Double	
16th December	Grandsire Doubles	
12th January	Plain Bob Minor	
26th January	Plain Bob Doubles	

ST. PETERS/FOREST TOWERS REPORT

The Forest/St. Peters band is still a little on the thin side, this was quite evident over Christmas when we had service clashes on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, this coupled with four of our regulars being away made for difficulties in manning both towers.

2011 will have to see a real attempt to attract more recruits, particularly younger members. Despite this we have been making steady progress, Ann and Jenny are now onto Grandsire and Rene (although refusing to ring Grandsire!) has mastered Reverse Canterbury and is attempting St. Simons. Unfortunately we don't have enough experience at practices to tackle Plain Bob Minor or Triples, but maybe soon.

This year we must start attempting quarters again, we did achieve a solitary quarter during the six month period. A first inside of Plain Bob Doubles for Jenny, no less!

The striking competition in Jersey was attended by six of our ringers, the only Guernsey ringers to make it south. We had decided that our funds being healthy we would offer a substantial subsidy for those wishing to travel by plane. This was taken up by most of our ringers, despite the risk of fog which would leave us stranded at home. As things turned out it was Condor who was having problems that day and if we hadn't decided to fly no Guernsey teams would have taken part that day.

Peter was one of the ringers not to make it, so I had a choice of six people for a St. Peters and Forest team (an easy choice). Our inexperience maybe showed, but we pleased to represent the Western Isle. I stayed over and met with Peter Routier in the evening at the Jersey Beer Festival. (The beer that the Rector recommended in his sermon was a very good choice).

On the social side we arranged our Annual Herm trip for a meal at the Captains Table. An excellent evening as usual. Living near the harbour has its advantages! And allows the wine to flow more freely.

We are looking forward to trying to move the band forward in 2011 and are always welcoming of Helens tireless efforts as Ringing Master, which I know are always appreciated by the band. We also look forward to seeing our friends in the other islands during the coming year.

Phil le Conte

FOREST QUARTER PEALS

20th November 2010 – Plain Bob Doubles,

1 Rene Batiste

2 Pauline Bartlett

3 Jenny Rains

4 John David

5 Phil le Conte (c)

6 Anne Dorey

1st inside for Jenny Rains

to celebrate the Royal Engagement of Prince William to Kate Middleton

31st December 2010 – Plain Bob Minor,

1 Pauline Marquis

2 John David

3 Nicky David

4 Paul Lawrence

5 Peter Gallienne

6 Michael Bubb (c)

50th quarter peal this year for Michael Bubb

VALE REPORT

By the time this is read we will be well into the New Year but still Happy New Year to all ringers from us at the Vale.

A fair number of quarter peals this six months. Joe Allan rang his first on Tower Bells on 31st October and then on 5th December his first on the Treble – both to Bob Doubles. Since then he has rung the treble to Grandsire and St Simon's – no mean feat with both methods not being that straightforward.

Our quarter peals have been a good mixture of Doubles and Minor, some fairly straightforward and others to make the brain work. Kent Treble Bob was rung with David Ely (a very regular visitor) and, just for something different and within the octave of St Nicholas' Day, St Nicholas College Bob Minor. Stedman eludes us not for want of trying. It's one of those where a slight hesitation and there is a full collapse.

On the social side we again ran the tea tent at the Fete but also had to provide manpower for the barbecue. All was successful and no complaints. There was no barbecue held this year – we just didn't seem to have a time when the majority were available.

It was a great shame that we were unable to attend the District ADM due to problems with Condor's fast ferries. Let's hope next year we are not frustrated by fog!

Congratulations go to the three members of the Tower who rang 50 or more quarter peals in 2010 – John and Nicky David and me. Whether we can achieve this in 2011 – well out of the 6 quarters attempted so far this year we have had 4 failures.

Mike Bubb,
Tower Captain

VALE QUARTER PEALS

17 th July	1260 Doubles in 2 methods rung prior to outdoor service with the Salvation Army
24 th July	1260 Minor in 2 methods by a visiting band
25 th July	1260 Doubles in 11 methods. Rung to celebrate the life of Olive Ferbrache
1 st August	1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor. David Ely's annual quarter peal with us.
17 th August	1260 Grandsire Doubles. A diamond wedding compliment to Ed and Mary Hynard.
22 nd August	1260 Doubles in 4 methods. An 86 th birthday compliment to Ed Hynard
29 th August	1260 Doubles in 3 methods. To welcome Pete back to quarter peal ringing
5 th September	1260 Doubles in 6 methods. Birthday compliments to The Rector, John Dempster and John David. Also to welcome Eloise Thompson into the Church Family here at Vale.
3 rd October	1260 Doubles in 2 methods. For Patronal Festival and a get well compliment to Ed Hynard
31 st October	1260 P.B. Doubles. 1st on tower bells Joe Allen. 65 th birthday compliment to Helen Sarchet
7 th November	1260 Grandsire Doubles. Prior to Parish Eucharist on our annual gift day
14 th November	1260 Doubles in 6 methods. Half muffled Remembrance Sunday
17 th November	1260 P.B Minor. Engagement compliment to HRH Prince William and Miss Kate Middleton
28 th November	1260 Doubles in 9 methods. Prior to annual joint carol service with Salvation Army and Bordeaux Methodist Church.
5 th December	1260 Plain Bob Doubles. First away from tenor Joe. 50 th quarter peal this year Nicky
11 th December	1260 Grandsire Doubles. Wedding compliment to Emma Ceresa and Simon Lanyon
12 th December	1260 St Nicholas College Bob Minor. On Gaudate Sunday. First in method by all.

19th December 1260 St Simons Bob Doubles. For service of lessons and carols.
24th December 1260 Grandsire Doubles. For annual Christingle Service
29th December 1260 Grandsire Doubles

ST. MARK'S, JERSEY TOWER REPORT

We still try to ring every Friday evening and Sunday mornings. Over the last 6 months we have welcomed a number of visitors and we appreciate their assistance and enjoy ringing with them. St Mark's is looking for ideas and ways to attract new ringers at the moment to make sure we have enough ringers for practices.

We have a new ringer, Heidi Sydor, who learned a long time ago in the UK and has decided to take up ringing again and she is progressing quickly. We also have some old faces returning to St Mark's.

Stuart Reeves, the Tower Captain, is still doing a great job.

The highlight for us was St. Mark's winning the Striking Competition in September 2010 and we are proud to have the shield hanging up again in the tower. We aim to fight to win it again in 2011.

ST. MARK'S, JERSEY QUARTER PEAL RECORDS

Sunday 26 September 2010

In 43m (9-2-16)

1260 Mixed Doubles

Alternating 120s of Grandsire and Plain Bob, finishing with a 60 of Grandsire

1. Joanne Routier
2. Jack Worrall (C)
3. Louise Read
4. David Clare
5. Peter Routier
6. Stuart Reeves

Sunday 7 November 2010

In 45m

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. Jack Worrall (C)
2. Peter Routier
3. Joanne Routier
4. Justin Read
5. Stuart Reeves
6. Mike Halsey

First quarter peal inside for 3

ST. JOHN'S, JERSEY TOWER REPORT

I'm afraid ringing at St. John's is limping along slowly. We have a number of loyal supporters, but could really do with a couple more experienced ringers or new learners. Whilst we have been able to run practices most Wednesday evenings we have struggled to raise a band for several Sunday services.

There may be some light at the end of the tunnel. We have recently encouraged two lapsed ringers to return to the fold. Derek has committed to joining us when he is free and Heidi will join St. Mark's practices. We also expect David Clare back from university later in the year and Joanna Knight has just moved back to the island.

I would like to thank all of the St. Mark's ringers who join us both on Sundays and Wednesdays.

We have lost our most hopeful young ringer, Ben Smith, to pilot training school on the mainland. Hopefully he'll join us when he has time off.

Congratulations to Jo Routier for her first quarter on 8 (tenor to Stedman Triples).

Justin

ST. JOHN'S, JERSEY QUARTER PEALS

Wednesday, 29 December 2010 in 44 mins (7)

1260 Stedman Triples

1. Louise Read
2. Louise Ellis
3. David Clare
4. Justin Read
5. Jack Worrall
6. Peter Routier
7. Peter Ellis (C)
8. Jo Routier

Friday, 23 July 2010

1280 Yorkshire S Major

1. Morley Bray
2. Georgina Barratt
3. Lynda Lazzerini
4. Anne Deebank
5. Ben Gooch
6. David Lazzerini
7. Ron Shepherd
8. Dave Kelly (C)

First on 8: 8. Birthday compliment to 2 for 28th Dec.

ST. ANNE'S, ALDERNEY TOWER REPORT

The second half of the year got off to a good start by a very satisfactory performance in the striking competition. Our principal objective is to perform well struck ringing and very often we fall well short. The hope that I had 12 months ago to have a band in Alderney ringing peals of 7 surprise minor have come up against reality and the second half of 2010 has been spent taking an interesting diversion into the wonderful world of doubles.

I believe that doubles is something that you ring if you only have 5 bells. Those of us fortunate enough to have six bells ring Minor. But tenor behind doubles has its place (apparently) and we have been "bashing away" at those old favourites Grandsire and Stedman. The Grandsire I believe we have firmly cracked. Maurice even likes it. The Stedman has put up a much stronger rear guard action, but several of the band can keep to the line in a plain course and an interesting way to bring it round - well to a crashing halt anyway - appears to be to call "Single" - STAND!

Once those firm favourites have been mastered, or consigned to the "too tricky" box, the world of doubles does become a bit more interesting, as our attempt to ring Alderney Bob Doubles reported in the last issue proves. We now regularly ring Reverse Canterbury and St Simons, and with a Grandsire single and a Reverse Canterbury bob we instantly have a dozen variations at our finger tips. So far we have only rung 4m in a quarter, but watch this space!

Rounds and call changes remain our staple for Sundays and funerals and the standard of striking is often very good. We have benefited from a few visitors, and our thanks to them for their support.

Peter Bevis

ST. ANNE'S, ALDERNEY QUARTER PEALS

Thursday 22 July 2010

1296 Cambridge S Minor

- 1 Ben Gooch
- 2 Peter J R Bevis
- 3 Pat Phipps

- 4 Morley Bray
- 5 Ron Shepherd
- 6 Dave Kelly (C)

Thursday 22 July 2010

1320 Beverley S Minor

- 1 Anne Deebank
- 2 Lynda Lazzerini
- 3 Sarah E Stonehouse

- 4 David Lazzerini
- 5 R Ian Stonehouse
- 6 Peter J Triplow (C)

Friday 13 August 2010

1360 Doubles (4m)

- 1 Duncan Loweth
- 2 Jack E Page
- 3 Philippa Arditti

- 4 Helen M McGregor
 - 5 Peter JR Bevis (c)
 - 6 Pamela Pearson
- First Doubles, 2. Most Methods, 1,2

Saturday 14 August 2010

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Helen M McGregor
- 2 Jack E Page
- 3 Philippa Arditti

- 4 Duncan Loweth
 - 5 Peter J R Bevis (C)
 - 6 Ann Wheeler
- First Inside, 4. First Cover, 6.

Monday 16 August 2010

1260 Plain Bob Minor

- 1 Duncan Loweth ((First minor)
- 2 Maurice Stupart
- 3 Jack E Page

- 4 Philip B Maddocks
- 5 Helen M McGregor
- 6 Peter J R Bevis (C)

Tuesday 17 August 2010

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Duncan Loweth
- 2 Jack E Page

- 3 Pam E Pearson
- 4 Helen M Mcgregor
- 5 Peter J R Bevis (C)

Wednesday 18 August 2010

1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

- 1 Andrew Montgomery
- 2 Jack E Page
- 3 Ann Wheeler

- 4 Helen M McGregor
 - 5 Peter J R Bevis (C)
- First in method, 2,3.

Wednesday 15 September 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Philippa Arditti
- 2 Maurice Stupart
- 3 Ann Wheeler

- 4 John Mackey (First in method)
- 5 Peter J R Bevis (C)
- 6 Andrew Montgomery

Wednesday 20 October 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Jane M Fraser
- 2 Philippa Arditti
- 3 Maurice Stupart

- 4 Philip B Maddocks
 - 5 Peter JR Bevis (C)
 - 6 Andrew Montgomery
- First quarter at first attempt, 1

Saturday 6 November 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Maurice Stupart
- 2 Philippa Arditti
- 3 Duncan Loweth

- 4 John Mackey
- 5 Peter JR Bevis (C)
- 6 Pam Pearson

Saturday 6 November 2010

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Pam Pearson
- 2 Philippa Arditti
- 3 Maurice Stupart

- 4 Duncan Loweth (First in method)
- 5 Peter JR Bevis (C)
- 6 John Mackey

Wednesday 10 November 2010

1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

- 1 Andrew Montgomery
- 2 Philippa Arditti
- 3 Maurice Stupart

- 4 Pam Pearson (First in method)
- 5 Peter JR Bevis (C)
- 6 Victoria McAllister

Wednesday 24 November 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Helen McGregor
- 2 Philippa Arditti
- 3 Maurice Stupart

- 4 Andrew Montgomery
- 5 Peter JR Bevis (C)
- 6 Pam Pearson

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

CHANNEL ISLANDS DISTRICT

Dates for your diary – Calendar 2011

(Details of each event will be circulated nearer the time. Please note, dates of Spring & Annual District meetings to be confirmed)

22nd January 2011 District Teaching/ practice day Guernsey

25th-27th February 2011 District Quarter Peal w/end, Guernsey

12th March 2011 Guild Executive meeting, Southampton

26th March 2011 Ringing World Centenary day, London

2nd April 2011 Guild District Officers' Forum

30th April 2011 District Teaching/Practice day, Guernsey (moved from 4th Sat this month)

21st May 2011 Guild Dinner and Guild Inter Tower 6 bell striking competition Day

?? 28th May 2011 District teaching / Practice (Half term & Bank Hol)

25th June 2011 District Spring/Summer meeting TO BE CONFIRMED

2nd July 2010 Guild AGM & Guild's District 8 bell striking competition

23rd July 2010 District Teaching/Training day Guernsey

27th August 2010 District Teaching/Practice Day Guernsey (NB Bank Hol w/e)

24th September 2010 District AGM & Striking competition TO BE CONFIRMED

22nd October 2011 District Teaching/Practice day Guernsey

19th November 2011 Guild Executive meeting, Southampton

25th – 27th November Reading Training weekend