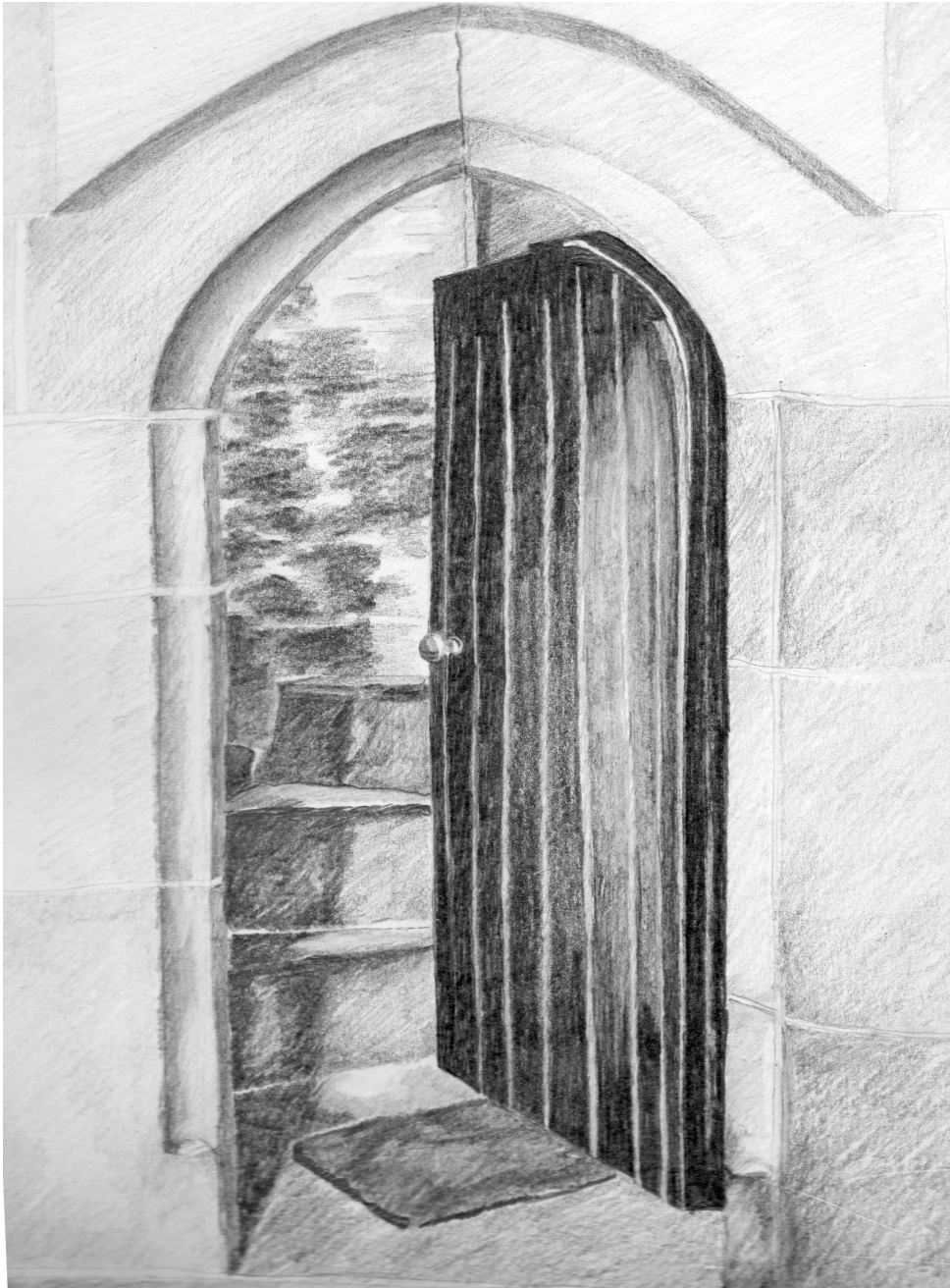


# Les Cloches des îles

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



August 2010 - Issue No. 51



## Contents

### Editorial

Firstly apologies for not producing Les Cloches by the publication date of the 1<sup>st</sup> August. I have recently become a grandmother (wishing to be known by a Yorkshire term as Nanan) I can only say, it seems just as time consuming for me as it is for the new Mum! I can report mother, baby and Nanan all doing well.

This summer has flown by and with a lot of fair weather we have been able to hold almost every single District Training Weekend in Guernsey, many thanks to Helen and Peter for flying over from Alderney so frequently.

Perhaps all the good weather has been responsible for the high number of weddings too. At St Peters and Forest, we have been ringing not only once but twice and occasionally three times on a Saturday, thankfully members from the other towers in Guernsey have come to our rescue when our numbers have been low. Thank you to all those who have helped out.

Another bumper edition of the newsletter with lots of interesting articles and accompanying photos, great stuff, let's keep it up.

Keep your diaries free for the weekend of November 19/20/21<sup>st</sup> because Helen McGregor is running a training weekend in Reading. This is the third time this event has been organised and the format of the weekend is now well established. See page 2 for details of the trip. Helen needs to know numbers and which groups you would like to ring in by September 30<sup>th</sup> please.

'Dates for your diary' is now going to occupy the last page of the newsletter as more events and activities are organised each year.

Jenny Rains

[jenrains@hotmail.com](mailto:jenrains@hotmail.com)

### Reading Training Weekend

Tips for calling Call Changes

March in Jersey

The Restoration and Augmentation of Forest Bells

Brownies visit Bellringers

Alderney Bob Doubles

The Forest Church Clock

March District Practice

Making Headway

April Quarter Peal day

District Spring Meeting

District Outing to the Southampton area

District Summer Meeting

First quarters at Forest

The Carillon at University of California, Berkeley

Guild AGM

Reading ringers visit

Tower Reports and Peal Records

Dates for your Diary

## Hazel Bailey 1934 – 2010

In 1979 I decided to hold an open day in the belfry of St. Mark's, Jersey principally for the benefit of potential learners for the new ring of bells due to be installed at St. John. During the course of the afternoon a lady appeared who had no connection with St. John and stated that she had learned to ring as a young girl. I invited her to catch hold, standing by in case of mishap, but my help was not needed as Hazel - for it was she who had appeared - handled her bell well with clear evidence of having been well-taught. As a result she joined the St. Mark's band and remained a most loyal member for the next 31 years until her death.

Although she had been taught to handle a bell, including raising and lowering she had no knowledge of change-ringing. Her fairly quick mastery of plain hunting enabled her to ring her first quarter on the Treble before the end of August. The mastery of method ringing on a working bell proved a more difficult task, but with the perseverance that was a hallmark of all she undertook, she eventually managed a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles (3rds observation throughout) by the end of the next year, with husband Jim whom she had introduced to ringing, achieving his first quarter on the Treble on the same occasion. She eventually introduced their son Marc to ringing and the three of them rang in several quarters together.

Unfortunately Hazel had her own unique way of learning methods which I never understood and which made mastery of new methods a very slow process. Plain hunting presented no problems and she quickly rang a quarter of Bob Triples on the Treble at St. John. Mastery of Plain Bob, both Doubles and Minor and Grandsire Doubles followed and finally Stedman Doubles which became, I always felt, her favorite method and in which she became a very safe ringer. Both she and Jim became stalwart members of St. Mark's and their attendance on Sunday mornings was, over the years, a great support to the church.

It took Hazel a very long time to master Cambridge Surprise but having done so she quickly mastered Beverley also. The achievement of which I think she was the most proud was joining the band of six or seven St. Marks ringers who rang quarter peals inside to all the (42) standard Surprise minor methods (the more so as she got there before I did). A lot of credit for this goes to Simon Linford.

Probably her greatest contribution to quarter-peal ringing at St. Mark's - and her last and 417th quarter there was in March 2009 - was as a very reliable Treble ringer. She circled the tower to quarters and was also Tower Captain for a spell of three years.

She was a member of the winning St. Mark's team on several occasions in the annual striking competition.

She and Jim became very enthusiastic ringing tourists and as leisure time made it possible together they rang all over

Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and on all the rings of bells in the USA.

Hazel died on 20th June after a very long illness. The groundbreaking treatment which she received meant frequent and tiring air travel to London but she never complained. The end, when it came, was very quick and she was in palliative care at Jersey Hospice for but a few days, so much so that her death came to most of us as something of a shock.

We were very sad to have lost the half-muffled quarter of Stedman Doubles on the day following Hazel's death but are pleased to have rung a quarter of Cambridge in celebration of her life on the evening of her funeral which was well attended by ringers past and present.

Our thoughts and prayers have constantly been with and for Jim and Marc at his time of their great loss.

Jack Worrall

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

For the third year running I am arranging a training weekend in Reading. The format of the weekend is now well established. For an account of 2009 training please see Feb 2010 Les Cloches.

### Itinerary:

Arrive Reading train station lunchtime on Friday afternoon (Nov 19th), check in to Reading Central Premier Inn . (not Travel Lodge as previous years) Walk to St Giles. Ring at St Giles 3pm – 5pm with support from Reading ringers. Chinese takeaway/casserole at home of local ringer.

Saturday morning – divide into groups, collected from accommodation, ring all day with support from Reading ringers. Attend a branch practice, supper at home of a local ringer.

Sunday morning service ringing in 2 town centre churches, café for lunch and a chance for some 12 bell ringing supported by local ringers on very well soundproofed peal of 12 at St Lawrence's (also in town centre). Mid afternoon train approx 2.30pm – arrive back in S'ton at approx 3.45 for 5pm flights home.

The groups will be fine tuned when I know who is coming. What I am hoping for is:

- Helen McG, Group A, Plain hunt and Bob Doubles. Probably at Shinfield Church
- Peter B, Group B, Interesting minor and plain triples and major eg Kent, Oxford Minor & Grandsire triples and Plain bob major. Probably at St Michaels Tilehurst
- Stephen Rossiter, Group C, Stedman triples, DNCBM and Surprise major. Probably at Shiplake

Obviously there may be overlap with methods but I am sure you get the idea.

**Cost:** Flights to and from Southampton, train to and from Reading, accommodation in Reading Central Premier Inn (Note this year we are in Premier Inn NOT travel Lodge as previously) currently £39 per night for double/twin room. 2 evenings of casserole/Chinese at Jenny's and tower donations.

Details of towers can be found at:

[http://www.odgreadingbranch.co.uk/towers/tower\\_names.html](http://www.odgreadingbranch.co.uk/towers/tower_names.html)

## EVERYONE WELCOME

Please can you contact me to let me know you are coming and which group you fancy?

Email: [Helen@tullochfarm.co.uk](mailto:Helen@tullochfarm.co.uk)

or

phone: 07760 373 560

or

send to: Helen McGregor, Grosnez House, 52 Victoria st, Alderney GY9 3TA

**Reply by Sept 30th appreciated**



images from ODG – Reading branch website



## Tips for calling Call Changes

1. Calls must be easily loud enough for the deafest person in the band to hear easily. Speak clearly – what is the point of mumbling? It just causes confusion and the band experiences a lack of confidence.
2. You must only swap bells which are adjacent in the current change
3. Calls must be made at the handstroke of the 2 bells you are swapping. The ringers will give effect to your call at the following handstroke – ie they get a whole pulls notice of the change.
4. You must either call the bells UP in the change or DOWN. It will be confusing to everyone if you call some changes up & some down. From rounds 1,2,3,4,5,6 to achieve 1,3,2,4,5,6 you can call the bells UP by calling 2 to 3, or call the bells down by calling 3 to 1. Either way is fine but please be consistent.
5. Have a clear goal in mind ie know where you are heading. There are a number of well recognised musical changes to aim for:

QUEENS: all the odd numbers then the even numbers eg 1,3,5,2,4,6,

TITTUMS: imagine dividing the rounds in half, then have the first bell of the first half followed by the first bell of the second half then the second bell of the first half followed by the second bell of the second half, then the third bell of the first half is followed by the third bell of the second half eg 1,5,2,6,3,7,4,8

This sounds wonderful when struck well but tends to be 'lumpy' if rung by an inexperienced band as you have (by definition) a little bell then a big bell then a little bell then a big bell etc.

If attempting this then it may be worth reminding the ringers that the big bells must keep close to the little bells and the little bells must give the big bells a decent space. Encourage the ringers to LISTEN to the change.

REVERSE ROUNDS: 6,5,4,3,2,1 – can have some lumpy moments when the treble is no longer leading & the tenor is called down from the back – not recommended for inexperienced band

Variations of reverse rounds: 5,4,3,2,1,6 (advantage = keeps tenor at the back) or better still 1,5,4,3,2,6 ie the 'inside' bells are in reverse order but the 1 & 6 are 'at home' – this is good for inexperienced bands (put your best ringer on the 5 – they have the hardest job, being a big bell called to follow the smallest bell)

6. When calling any changes have in mind the abilities of your band. **HORSES FOR COURSES**. There is no point in calling something hugely complicated if you have some ringers who are barely steady in rounds. If you have an experienced band then let your imagination run wild ☺  
Roller coaster: 1,4,3,2,7,6,5,8  
Jokers: 1,7,6,5,4,3,2,8  
Whittington's: 5,3,1,2,4,6 or 1,2,7,5,3,4,6,8

As with all ringing – time spent writing it out will pay dividends.

Helen McGregor

## 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in Jersey

I have only lived on Alderney for 2 years but for the last 18 months or so I have very much enjoyed the companionship of the Guernsey ringers on our regular ringing visits there.

Peter's parents lived on Jersey for many years but with his mothers recent move to Alderney our need to visit Jersey has disappeared. 'I want to spend the day with the Jersey ringers' – I said to Peter. After a quick check in the diary we decided that 20<sup>th</sup> March looked good. We emailed Anne & Justin and they made all the arrangements. Donald –an Alderney ringer looking for an excuse to visit Jersey – said he would come too.

We spent the day at St Johns. We had 2 adults and some children all having a first handling session. We rang plain hunt on 6,7 & 8, tenor behind for triples, treble bobbing on 8, Stedman triples, DNCBM (of course say the Guernsey ringers), 3 leads of Kent and touches of Single Oxford Bob triples. We rang handbells, enjoyed a Lent Lunch in the village school and generally had a great day out.

Huge thanks to everyone on Jersey. It is a pleasure to be Master of a District where everyone is so welcoming. HMMcG



## The Restoration and Augmentation of Forest Bells 1984

It is difficult to comprehend that it is already 25 years since the Forest Bells were restored and augmented from four to six by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London. The previous major work had been undertaken in the 1890's when the then three bells were rehung in a new oak frame and the cracked 1685 Tenor was recast by John Warner's Cripplegate Bell Foundry who also cast a new Treble to make the bells up to four. By the 1960's however the ironwork supporting the bells was thought to be in a poor condition, and it seems at that time there was neither the will or the financial resources to do very much about it. And so it remained until the mid 1970's when a family group of bell ringers from Oxford visited the Church and were able to inspect the bells. They found that although some of the ironwork was indeed somewhat corroded, the main problem appeared to be one of the bells loose on its headstock and in need of tightening. This was achieved and the bearings and frictional parts checked and low and behold the four bells were again able to be rung 'full circle' as was intended.

So the bells were rung for the next ten years as a 'Four' and indeed a good few quarter peals were rung on them in this period. We were mindful of the fact that the ironwork was somewhat corroded and that plain bronze bearings rather made for heavy going. The bells would need professional attention sooner rather than later, but how to go about it. Although the maintenance of the Clock and Bells is Parish responsibility under the Remède, it seemed desirable to be able to go one better than just to rehang, in fact various quotes for a rehang had been proposed over the years, but none taken up.

It was Michael Hilson who originally suggested that there might well be enough space beneath the existing oak frame to at least house another bell, and if one, then why not two to make the peal to six. I then consulted Mr William Hughes of Whitechapel Bell Foundry and suggested that such an augmentation may be possible. He suggested that I measure and survey the area beneath the frame and sent him a sketch of the proposal. As it happens Whitechapel were doing work at Torteval Church at the time, and their bell hanger Philip Jakeman visited the church and took his own measurements. When we found that they agreed with my figures to within a quarter of an inch we realized that the scheme would indeed be possible – with certain provisos, not least that the church would need a new ceiling below the bells.

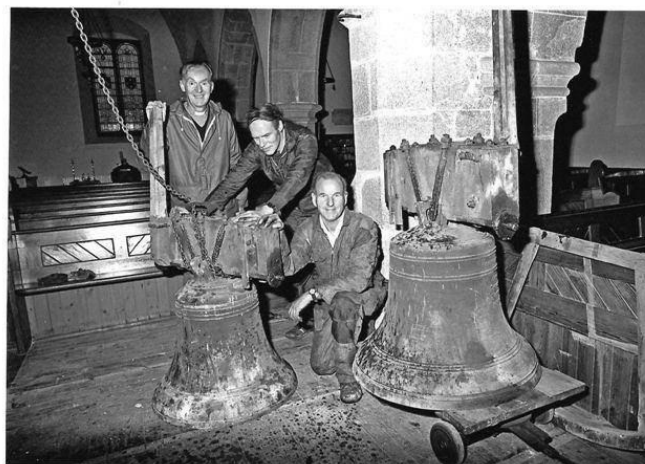
Within a short while Whitechapel Foundry produced a set of proposals and a breakdown for the works to be undertaken as two jobs, but priced to be undertaken both at the same time. This consisted of the work to modify the four existing bells, retune them and rehang them with new metal headstocks and with ball race gudgeon bearings i.e. up to date practice. The second part would be to cast and supply two new Treble Bells tuned to match the existing bells – as retuned and to supply all new fittings etc. The proposal was put to the Parish for them to fund the first part on the Remède, whilst the Church would find the approx £5,500 for the new bells. It was of course important that the whole job was completed as

one.

With a certain amount of negotiation the Parish accepted the scheme at face value and we set out to raise the balance for the two new bells. Within 10 months somehow – I am still amazed, the money was forthcoming and at the end of October the bells were returned from the foundry with all the fittings. I was able to work with Philip Jakeman both in the removal and the reinstallation. Certainly it was a most fascinating experience, and we remarked at the time that two of the bells date from 1685, two from the 1890's and two now from 1984. This was I think a very good way to celebrate the tercentenary of the 1685 bells, they are now the 4th and 5th of an excellent ring of six bells.



Philip Jakeman from Whitechapel Foundry lowering what is now the 4th, to be sent to the foundry for retuning and modifying.



The Tenor and Fourth now lowered, with Philip Jakeman, Rev. Shaw and Peter Gallienne.

Peter Gallienne



And this is how it looks now!



The No 5 and No 2 in the new lower part on the frame. This shows how tight a fit we had to contend with for this project.



Looking down through the clock chamber trap-door showing the fourth, the Tenor and the fifth at the bottom.

Peter Gallienne

### Brownies visit Bellringers

St Anne's ringers were delighted to welcome their local Brownies for an evenings activities on Weds 5th May.

15 Brownies under the watchful eyes of their leaders had a chance to ring tunes on musical handbells and then after a demonstration on a model bell – they climbed the last staircase up to see the real things. The evening concluded with a demonstration of ringing by the local band.

We have been promised an autumn visit from the Guides and maybe other societies on the Island will now also think to come to us for an interesting evening event.

Helen McGregor

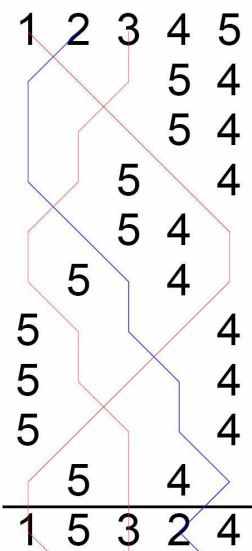


The Tenor, as of now, with its iron headstock and new clapper.



### Alderney Bob Doubles

It all began with an innocent observation in the pub. Philippa reminisced that she had once rung Woughton-on-the-Green bob doubles for a striking competition that was held at the



eponymous church. "That gave the judges something to think about!" As a band we had recently begun ringing some simple variations - April Day, Southrepps, Kennington - that sort of thing. A lot of novelty for little actual learning. So I thought it would be fun to ring a variation of Woughton and name it Alderney. On checking the blue line I could see why almost no variations have been rung. It is a twin hunt method (1 and 3 hunt), but the 3 rings wrong places. A wrong place in 3rds, . A wrong place in 2nds, . A wrong place at lead, . A wrong place in 2nds, and then 4 blows, still wrong, across the lead end. Nasty! 2nd and 5th place

bells have the pleasure of three blows at lead and a 4/5 dodge at the lead end. 4th place bell, the pivot, is a breeze by comparison, thought the 3 blows behind is a little unusual. Plain courses, though, went well and although I had produced some extents with the standard bob and single that go with Woughton, I couldn't wait to try a touch with the shatter single.

The shatter single is a nasty asymmetric single. The sole redeeming aspect is that by using it, only the one call is required to produce an extent of Woughton. Fancifully I thought that with just the one call our task would be simple. A plain course of only 30 changes; two bells hunting; one call; what could be simpler? Well we soon found that a lot of things were simpler! For a start, going in and out of the hunt was interesting. But there were bags of enthusiasm and most members of the band took part in the project over a few practice nights. Finally we selected six who both knew the line and happened to be available on a Wednesday evening to ring a few extents in order to name the variation. After a couple of false starts we settled town to some very confident ringing where everything slotted into place. It may be a while before we ring a peal of it, but hopefully it will appear from time to time on our practice night.



1. John Mackey

3. Philippa Arditti

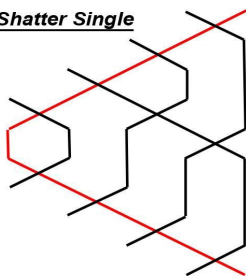
5. Peter Bevis

2. Maurice Stupart

4. Helen McGregor

6. Ann Wheeler

#### Shatter Single





## The Forest Church Clock

The Forest Church Clock was installed in 1897 as part of the parochial celebration of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The project was funded by public subscription although I understand that Dr Le Pelley gave a generous donation to see the project through. Initially Bensons of London were invited to furnish a new tower clock.

On surveying the tower, now with the four bells installed they came to the conclusion that there would not be a sufficient weight drop to allow the clock to operate for more than one day with the type of movement that they could provide.

However a German Clockmaker who had started in business was contacted to see what could be done. This was Mr. Ernst W Bachmann – who's Company we later knew as The Jewellers & Silversmiths (now Mappin & Webb) in Commercial Arcade.

Mr. Bachmann was evidently well familiar with tower clocks from Germany and was able to come up with a fairly unique solution.

His two weights, one much larger and heavier than the other driving the Striker, the smaller driving the clock, drop into a weight well on the north-east corner of the tower. It is however not possible for them to drop all the way down without fouling part of the bell frame, so they installed a slightly slanted greased board, allowing the weights to slide all the way to the bottom without fouling.

The clock remained in its original form, really with minimal maintenance, even when the bells were augmented from four to six in 1984.

It was only recently that the mechanism has been fitted with modern electric winding apparatus that any really significant alteration has been made, and even now the clock is only electrically wound, and is theoretically immune from being stopped and otherwise affected by power interruptions. It still however has to be manually regulated as it gains a little in the Winter and loses a little in the summer.

The following photo shows the clock mechanism from the front with the two setting dials.

The white dial on the right side shows minutes i.e. the position of the minute hand on the clock face whilst the larger wheel on the left shows hours and is part of the striking mechanism. The clock strikes the hours and half hours.

Peter Gallienne



The 'Striker Mechanism' that drives the clock hammer.



The 'Escapement Mechanism' driving the clock and timekeeping





## 27th March District Practice Guernsey

Philippa, Peter and I flew over from Alderney for another good days ringing.

After a welcome and welcoming coffee at Forest we started with Raising and Lowering in peal (then raising again!). We then practiced hunting on 5, & 6, treble bobbing and Cambridge Minor. At St Peter's we had rounds on 10, more plain hunt on 5 and 6, touches of bob doubles and minor and also both plain courses and a touch of DNCBM.

Lunch and some theory at Cobo was followed by Vale, where we rang Ipswich, spliced plain and Cambridge, touches of bob doubles and minor.

Duncan kindly took us back to the airport so we had some hunting on 8 on handbells while we waited for our flight home.

Thanks to all incumbents and tower key holders and for making their bells available for the District practices. Thanks too to everyone on Guernsey for another good and busy day out.

Helen McGregor

## Birthday Celebrations

On 21st April 2010 the Alderney band rang a quarter peal to celebrate the birthday of The Duke of Normandy.  
Alderney: St Anne's 1260 Plain Bob Doubles (45mins)

1. Maurice Stupart
  2. Philippa Arditti
  3. Helen McGregor
  4. John Mackey \*
  5. Peter Bevis (c)
  6. Pam Pearson
- \* First quarter inside



left to right: Pam Pearson, John Mackey, Philippa Arditti, Helen McGregor, Peter Bevis and Maurice Stupart

## 'MAKING HEADWAY'

Not in the ringing sense but as a charitable act to raise money for the very worthy organisation, Headway Guernsey.

The vale band pictured on "Wear a hat to Church" day, £222 was raised at the morning services.

John David



## HEADWAY GUERNSEY

Headway Guernsey supports over 50 islanders, and their families, who are living with the long-term effects of a brain injury. We provide a wide range of services that bring people together in a supportive and positive environment. We run a helpline offering information and advice and providing the opportunity to talk to others who have been through similar experiences

There is a regular programme of social events and information evenings and an active family support programme where family groups meet monthly.

At Headway House (Mon and Fri mornings), people with a brain injury can build their confidence, learn new skills, relearn old skills and support each other.

To find out more about how Headway Guernsey can help you on your road to recovery, call us on 07781 434629 or email [headwayguernsey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:headwayguernsey@yahoo.co.uk).

## Sat 17th April 2010 - Quarter Peal Day

17th April 2010 appeared to be a convenient day for a Channel Island District Quarter Peal Day on Guernsey. The ringers on Jersey and Alderney were invited to come to Guernsey and David Strong and Stephen Rossiter (from UK) were going to fly to Guernsey with June Saint and shoulder the lions share of the conducting. Alas we hadn't reckoned on the Icelandic Volcano wreaking havoc with air travel. In the end only Helen McGregor and Peter Bevis from Alderney were successful in travelling to Guernsey. After many last minute phone calls swapping the bands around: sadly 2 attempts had to be cancelled but 5 quarters were attempted and 4 were scored.

The day was rounded off by the participants and their spouses & partners being joined by the Dean of Guernsey and his wife enjoying a very pleasant dinner at Les Cotils.

The Channel Island ringers are very grateful to Stephen, David and June for having been willing to come to support our quarter peal day – and trust the travelling conditions will be better next year.  
Helen McGregor

Guernsey, Vale : 1320 Bourne S Minor in 40 mins

1. Nicky David
  2. Adrian Ritchie \*
  3. Paul Lawrence \*
  4. Peter Bevis
  5. Phil Le Conte
  6. Mike Bubb (c)
- \*1st Bourne

Guernsey, Forest: 1260 Plain Bob Doubles in 43 mins

1. Duncan Loweth
2. Renee Batiste
3. Helen McGregor
4. Peter Bevis
5. Paul Lawrence (c)
6. Mike Collins

Guernsey, St Peter: 1260 St Clements Bob Minor in 38 mins

1. John Lihou
2. Nicky David
3. Phil Le Conte
4. John David
5. Adrian Ritchie
6. Mike Bubb (c)

Guernsey, St Peter Port: 1264 Palin Bob Major in 48 mins

1. Ed Hynard (c)
2. Pauline Bartlett
3. Sue Park \*\*
4. Helen McGregor
5. Paul Lawrence
6. Peter Bevis
7. John David
8. Tim Wainwright

\*\*1st major inside. A 60th birthday compliment to Paul Lawrence – ringer of 5<sup>th</sup>



The successful band at Forest. Plain Bob Doubles  
Duncan (1), Rene (2), Paul(5), Helen(3), Mike(6) & Peter (4)



The successful band at St Peter's: St Clements  
Standing in order 1 – 6: John, Nicky, Phil, John, Adrian and Mike



'The Birthday Boy' at dinner  
Nicky, John, Rene, Mike, Judith, Paul, Lin and Sue (obscuring husband)



## Channel Island Spring Meeting – Alderney 24th April 2010

Guernsey ringers, myself and Judith, represented the Vale and Town at this year's spring meeting in Alderney. The actual 'meeting' lasting only about 30 seconds left plenty of time for ringing.

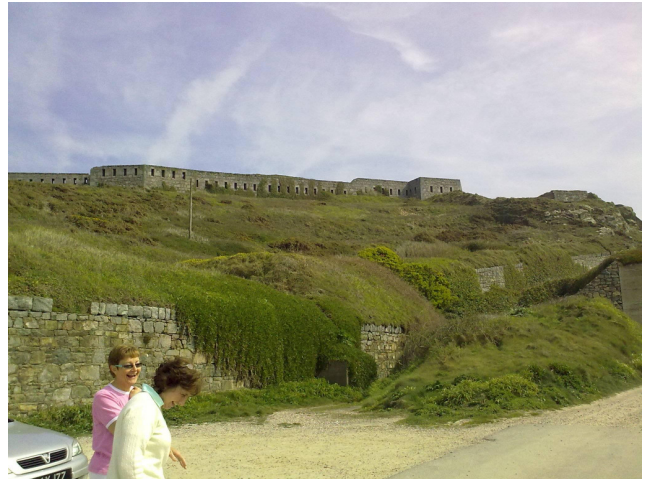
A lot of attention was given to the change of speeds by ringing kaleidoscope, good practice for people moving on to ringing inside methods, as well as Stedman, St Clements and Grandsire Doubles and more.

The highlight of the practise was a double lemon cake made by Helen, containing tangy lemon curd as well as lemon butter cream in between the sponge layers made it the best lemon cake I've ever tasted.

A delicious baguette lunch , provided by Philippa, gave us the energy to pick up the hand bells both for practice of place counting in Plain Bob doubles with one bell and 'proper' hand bell ringing with two bells.

Our minds fully melted with theory and ringing, a tour of the beautiful island began. Anything you want to know about Alderney, Pam is the person to see. Our ringing in the morning was so good that the wind itself stopped dead, and the usually windy island was calm and sun streaked. We saw many of the island's beautiful spots, with a passionate and fascinating narrative.

The only bad part of the day was having to come home at the end. Those who missed out – you don't want to be absent from the next Alderney visit!



Pam and Judith on the Island tour



Flowers in Phillipa's garden



St. Anne's, Alderney



Alderney Breakwater – originally designed for the entire fleet to be anchored in the harbour at once

Duncan Loweth

## Channel Islands District Outing Southampton Area May 22/23rd 2010

Alderney ringers turned out in force and we were delighted to have representatives from both Guernsey and Jersey to make it a real Channel Islands tour. We were met by friends from Reading and Hong Kong, together with the Guild Master which meant we had the strength for everyone to be able to have an interesting ring.

Peter Bevis had arranged 7 towers for us on Saturday and 3 for service ringing on Sunday. The special method was Alderney Treble Place Minor which we were able to knock off at the only 6 bell tower we visited.

Masses of plain hunt on 7, some Stedman triples, Grandsire triples, plain and little bob major and 3 leads of Bristol on the various 8's.

The only 10 bell tower we visited on Saturday (Fareham) had such an odd struck 7th bell that it was necessary to ring it ahead of the 6 on both strokes to get the rounds to sound acceptable – a real lesson in odd-struckedness!!

Service ringing saw us at the glorious heavy 10 of St Mary's, then the light 12 at Bitterne Park and finally the very small 6 of St Barnabus.

Jo's parents had done a terrific job reconnoitring lunch which was the perfect conclusion to the weekend. Glorious weather, great company, pretty countryside, Stephen Rossiter at the wheel of the transport – who could want for more?

Many thanks to Peter for all the arrangements, to Stephen for transport and driving and to everyone who was on the outing – we couldn't have done it without you.

Helen McGregor



## Channel island District - Summer meeting 2010 Held in Guernsey Sat. 12th June

Two members from Alderney, and three from Jersey joined the Guernsey ringers for ringing at Forest and the Town Church. We were also joined for the day by 10 ringers from Overton, Hants. Ringing included rounds to Double Norwich Court bob major. Lunch was provided by the Vale ringers and tea by those from the Town Church.

At a short business meeting, the membership of the following three probationary members, previously elected at a tower practice, was ratified:- Joe Allen, Sam Pengelley and Courtney Raineri, all from the Vale. A Guild membership certificate was presented to Duncan Loweth.

Nicky requested that she be advised of any members who had been elected as full members of the Guild during the past 2 years, who had not received a membership certificate and she would try to obtain one for them.

Anne Fraser requested that any items for the agenda for the District AGM on 18th September, be put forward in plenty of time. She said items for "Any Other business" would be accepted up to the morning of the meeting, but would not be accepted once the meeting had started.

Helen McGregor stated that one item she would be putting on the agenda was the guild 8 bell striking competition – whether members wanted to take part and how practices for this could be organised. She also advised the meeting that Peter and Louise Ellis of Reading had agreed to judge the striking competition.

Next meetings:-

District teaching and practice day, Guernsey, Sat 31st July  
District teaching and practice day, Guernsey, Sat. 28th August  
District AGM and Striking Competition, Jersey, Sat. 18th September

Nicky David



cake made by Duncan Loweth



## First quarters at Forest



13th June, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Christine Lenfestey
  2. Helen McGregor
  3. Peter Bevis
  4. Anne Dorey \*
  5. Phil Le Conte (c)
  6. Jenny Rains
- \* First inside



15th June 2010, 1260 doubles 3m 1p

1. Helen McGregor
  2. Nicky David
  3. Peter Bevis
  4. John David
  5. Phil Le Conte (c)
  6. Michèle de la Hulinière \*
- \* first quarter



14th June, 1260 Doubles 2 m

1. Jenny Rains
  2. Christine Lenfestey
  3. Helen McGregor
  4. Peter Bevis
  5. Phil Le Conte (c)
  6. Janet Emery \*
- \* First quarter



## The Carillon at University of California, Berkeley

A little history.....



In March of 1914, Leon J. Richardson of the Latin department and Chairman of the Committee on Chimes, wrote to the John Taylor Bell foundry to inquire about procuring bells for the University.

It was decided that twelve bells would be cast to be played from a large keyboard with twelve wooden pump-handles. The largest bell weighed 4118 pounds and struck the C below middle C. All twelve original bells bear the inscription "Gift of Jane K. Sather 1914."

Because of delays caused by World War I, the bells were finally shipped on the English Ship Senator, arriving in San Francisco in April of 1917 where they were hung in a circle from the ornate ceiling of the observation level of Sather Tower on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley.

The bells were first played on November 3, 1917 at 2 pm by George Williams Clark, a senior from Los Angeles. From the outset, it was clear that there were not enough bells to play many songs, including the Star-Spangled Banner. The original chime was transformed into a full carillon by the generous 50th Anniversary Gift to the University by the Class of 1928. These additional thirty-six bells were cast by the Paccard Foundry of Annecy, France.

In 1983, Evelyn and Jerry Chambers added thirteen more Paccard bells, making the carillon a sixty-one bell, concert pitch instrument, fully chromatic from low G to the g five octaves above. The transmission was installed by the I.T. Verdin company of Cincinnati, Ohio. The playing keyboard was designed and built by Richard P. Strauss.

The Chambers' gift also provides for a Carillon Festival to be held every fifth anniversary year of the Class of 1928 in its honour, a campanology library, practice rooms and practice keyboards, and an endowed position for the University Carillonist.

The carillon program at Berkeley has several constituent parts. The most prominent part is, of course, performance, with thrice daily performances on the carillon an integral part of campus life.

There is also an extensive instructional programme and, under the umbrella of the Berkeley Carillon Institute, a library of photographs, music, manuscripts, books and articles, and the publication of carillon music. Berkeley carillon students have also formed the Berkeley Carillon Guild, funded through the ASUC, which provides substantial campus outreach, including the DeCal class "Learning to Play the Sather Tower Carillon."



The carillon is played from a large keyboard containing both manual and pedal keys, similar in design to an organ but much larger. A carillon is very sensitive to the touch of the player, and has the largest dynamic range of any acoustical instrument. The keyboard is linked to the clapper of the bell by a manual transmission mechanism that allows the player great expressive range.

Use the following link on YouTube to watch a short performance of "A Flight of Angels" by GF Handel performed by UC Berkeley Carillon Duet, it's fascinating.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOPghInPP-k&NR=1>

Jenny Rains

## The Guild AGM

Climbing up to the ringing chamber to sample the recently augmented bells at Herriard St Mary, involves the navigation of 3 ladders, so it's certainly not a tower for the faint – hearted. The ring consists of three Medieval bells, two bells obtained from the Keltek trust, and a newly cast one, the work being supported by the Guild BRF.

The bells were dedicated in March this year, and considering their “newness” one might have expected a large crowd of ringers to turn up to sample the bells when they were available as the first of three towers open for the Guild AGM in July. However, this wasn't the case – there were in fact only 8 ringers present during the allotted time, and 3 of these were from the C.I. District!

Despite a mix of bells, the peal makes up a nice enough 6, although they were rather loud inside the tower, and seemed to be a bit harder work than one might expect from a 7cwt tenor.

The next tower available was Odiham All Saints. The local ringers here must all be dwarfs as the tail ends were exceedingly long, even for someone of such fairly short stature as myself!

This is a ground floor 12cwt ring of 6 with a long draught, so not the easiest bells to handle. However, they “go” reasonably well, but don't sound that inspiring.

The last tower was Basingstoke, St Michael. The first floor ringing chamber is accessed from a spiral staircase, which we eventually found an outside door to, after looking for a way in inside the church! The interior of the belfry gives off an air of an “old established” ringing chamber where ghosts of former ringers probably lurk to give a critical ear to the striking! There was a noticeable wobble of the tower walls during ringing here, but this didn't deter me from enjoying some Grandsire and Stedman triples. Unfortunately I didn't hear these bells outside, but they seemed to have a reasonable sound from indoors and went well.

Next on the agenda was a short service (Mike Bubb and I approved of the hymns, especially the Ringers' hymn set to the “proper” tune!)

The AGM followed in the adjacent “Glebe Hall”, appropriately decorated with bell shaped flower arrangements. Details of the meeting can be seen on the Guild website. However, a few items are noted below:-

- David Strong and Mike Bubb were re-elected as Guild Master and Guild Hon General treasurer respectively.
- The previously-vacant post of Vice-Master was filled by Mike Till. Clare Griffiths from the Isle of Wight is

the new Guild Hon General Secretary.

- proposed increase of subscriptions was approved. This will result in a £2.50 increase on all types of membership except probationary membership, and will be used in its entirety as a levy for the Bell Restoration Fund.

There were just 3 entries in the 8 bell striking competition held at Bramley that morning. It was won by the Christchurch and Southampton District. (This competition will be an item on the agenda of our district AGM in September.)

Unfortunately I had to leave the meeting early so that I had time to catch my train back to the airport, so I cannot report on the tea – which promised to be a good one! It was good to be involved in a Guild event. I would encourage others to attend if they have the opportunity.



Nicky David



## Reading ringers visit Guernsey and Alderney



### Reading and Alderney ringers

Seated (L-R): Jennifer Ellis, Tomas Byrne, Niall Byrne, Peter Ellis

Standing (L-R): Andrew Montgomery, Jim Diserens (obscured), Steve Rossiter, Pam Pearson, Louise Ellis, John Harrison, June Wells, John Wells, Jennifer Herriott, Nigel Herriott, Val Groves, Bernard Groves, Kelvin Britton, Helen Diserens, Peter Bevis, Ann Harrison, Helen McGregor, Alex Byrne

Eighteen ringers and family members from Reading arrived in Guernsey at the start of June for another of our long weekend tours which are becoming a regular fixture for the band. There was plenty of time for sightseeing and settling into the L'Eree Bay hotel before our first ringing engagement on Thursday, a peal of Spliced Caters and Royal at the pleasant light ten at St Pierre du Bois. We just had enough time to get some lunch and refreshments before visiting the six at Vale in the afternoon for general ringing. A few of us went along to the practice at St Peter Port that evening before returning to the hotel to take up what became our customary position during the week on the sofas in front of the main bar.

We had an earlier start on Friday to get the plane that we had chartered to take us to Alderney for the day. Our fifteen minute flight at one thousand feet was in no danger from volcanic ash and we landed on time at Alderney's tiny airport. Ex-Reading ringers, Peter Bevis and Helen McGregor, who now live on Alderney, had arranged for the local ringers to meet us at the airport and had fixed an excellent, if busy, day of eating and drinking, sightseeing, beach-combing, walks, quarter peals and a practice with the local band. Four quarters were scored, three of them including Alderney ringers, and one was lost. We were taken back to the airport for our return flight at seven and several of us rushed to St Pierre du Bois to join the local band for a ten bell practice before returning to our hotel to collapse exhaustedly onto the sofas in the bar.

We were back at St Pierre du Bois in the morning for general ringing and then on to the light six at St Marguerite de la Foret at Forest. Both sixes in Guernsey are rung from inside the church and we had interested tourists watching us at Forest where there was a flower festival in progress. Local ladies were providing tea and cakes for the flower festival and we took full advantage of this. Everyone then went off to get in some last minute sightseeing before eight of us assembled at St Peter Port for a peal of Bristol. We successfully scored the peal just before eight which gave us plenty of time for a pint and a meal together before returning to the bar and sofas at the hotel.

The group went their separate ways on Sunday as everyone set off for home, reflecting on an excellent few days socially with some enjoyable ringing. The Bailiwick of Guernsey has some excellent rings of bells which are a pleasure to ring. We had been made very welcome by the local ringers and all had a most enjoyable time.

Oxford Diocesan Guild  
Guernsey, CI  
St Pierre du Bois, Thu June 3 2010 2h50 (11)  
5040 Spliced Caters and Royal (2m)

Comp: Peter R Ellis  
1 June D Wells  
2 Jennifer M Herriott  
3 W Nigel G Herriott  
4 Alex F Byrne  
5 Noel J Diserens  
6 Bernard F L Groves  
7 Kelvin R Britton  
8 E John Wells  
9 Peter R Ellis (C)  
10 Stephen A Rossiter  
Rung as a birthday compliment to 1 and 4.

Oxford Diocesan Guild  
Guernsey, CI, St Peter Port  
St Peter, Apostle and Martyr, Sat June 5 2010 3h10 (21)  
5088 Bristol Surprise Major

Comp: John S Warboys  
1 John A Harrison  
2 June D Wells  
3 Jennifer M Herriott  
4 W Nigel G Herriott  
5 Kelvin R Britton  
6 E John Wells  
7 Bernard F L Groves (C)  
8 Stephen A Rossiter

Rung as a wedding compliment to Andy Smith and Kathleen Cara Polet, married today in Canada, and to Sue Park from Guernsey on her 60th birthday.

Alderney, CI, 4 June 1320 Alderney TP Minor: Alex Byrne (C) 1, Helen McGregor 2, June Wells 3, John Harrison 4, Peter Bevis 5, John Wells 6

Alderney, CI, 4 June 1320 Alderney TP Minor: Helen Diserens 1, Jennifer Herriott 2, Noel Diserens 3, Kelvin Britton 4, Nigel Herriott 5, Stephen Rossiter (C) 6

Alderney, CI, 4 June 1260 Plain Bob Minor: June Wells (C) 1, Louise Ellis 2, Pam Pearson 3, Peter Bevis 4, John Wells 5, Bernard Groves 6. First Bob Minor inside on tower bells, 3

Alderney, CI, 4 June 1320 Cambridge S Minor: Maurice Stupart 1, Stephen Rossiter 2, Pam Pearson 3, Helen McGregor 4, Peter Bevis 5, Kelvin Britton (C) 6. First of surprise, 3.

By WNG Herriott

# TOWER REPORTS and PEAL RECORDS, January – June 2010

## VALE TOWER REPORT

It only seems like yesterday that I was writing the Vale's report up to the end of last year. What a six months this has been.

In January we celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Rector's indication into the living of the Vale. In true ringing way we attempted and scored a peal in celebration. It was Duncan's first peal and Colin's first away from the tenor.

Not as many quarter peals rung this six months (well two less than last year!) Two rare morning quarters – one prior to the service celebrating marriage week on St Valentines Day and the other prior to the service, celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the evacuation of the island. As you can see both Harry and John were evacuated.

There has been a flurry of hand bell ringing with both Pauline and Duncan scoring several quarter peals of minimus. Special mention to Joe Allen, who not only has come on in leaps and bounds on the tower bells, has also rung his first quarter peal in hand. Joe is one of our young ringers who came along last year as part of a group from St Sampson's High organised by Duncan. Joe decided to learn to ring and should soon be ringing for Sunday service. It is quite something to see him ringing our tenor with confidence.

As most of you will know Nicky went out to Haiti with Bridge 2 Haiti over Easter. Her tales of life there after the earthquake were of sadness and joy. The ability of the people to adapt is quite something. Mind you it is only John D who when looking at pictures of the destroyed Cathedral spotted the bells!!!

The church fete has been and gone, an excellent result for church funds. As usual we looked after the tea tent and this year had to man the barbecue. To top it all, the Rector booked a wedding that day so we also have to ring just before the opening of the fete. Like all teams we pulled together and all went smoothly  
Look forward to seeing you all in Jersey in September

Mike Bubb

## VALE TOWER QUARTER PEALS

3 <sup>rd</sup> January	1320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor
24 <sup>th</sup> January	1260 Grandsire Doubles
27 <sup>th</sup> January	1260 Doubles in 3 methods
7 <sup>th</sup> February	1260 St Simons Bob Doubles
14 <sup>th</sup> February	1260 Grandsire Doubles
17 <sup>th</sup> February	1260 St Martins Bob Doubles
28 <sup>th</sup> February	1260 Old Doubles (Plain bob called with singles)
7 <sup>th</sup> March	1260 Doubles in 11 methods
28 <sup>th</sup> March	1260 Plain Bob Doubles 600 <sup>th</sup> quarter peal on the bells
7 <sup>th</sup> April	1260 Grandsire Doubles
17 <sup>th</sup> April	1260 Bourne Surprise Minor. First in method Paul Lawrence and Adrian Ritchie
9 <sup>th</sup> May	1260 Grandsire Doubles
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	1260 Doubles in 11 methods
1 <sup>st</sup> June	1260 Grandsire Doubles
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	1260 Plain Bob Minor
6 <sup>th</sup> June	1260 St Nicholas Bob Doubles
20 <sup>th</sup> June	1260 Grandsire Doubles Rung prior to the morning Eucharist at which the partial evacuation of the island was remembered. John David and Harry White who rang in this quarter were both evacuated. 600 <sup>th</sup> quarter and 450 <sup>th</sup> as conductor Mike Bubb



## VALE HAND BELL QUARTERS

15th February 2010 1272 Plain Bob Minimus

1+2 Pauline Bartlett  
3+4 Duncan Loweth  
First quarter in hand for both Pauline and Duncan

18th February 2010 1272 Plain Bob Minimus

1+2 Duncan Loweth  
3+4 Pauline Bartlett

22nd March 2010 1272 Reverse Bob Minimus

1+2 Pauline Bartlett  
3+4 Duncan Loweth

11th May 2010 1272 Plain Bob Minimus

1+2 Joe Allen  
3+4 Duncan Loweth  
First quarter peal - Joe

16th May 2010 1272 Double Bob Minimus

1+2 Pauline Bartlett  
3+4 Duncan

## VALE PEALS

30<sup>th</sup> January 2010

14 extents each Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob and Plain Bob  
In 2hrs 39 minutes

Treble Colin Sarchet

2 Sue Park

3 Nicky David

4 John David

5 Michael Bubb (Conductor)

Tenor Duncan Loweth

For Father Kevin's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of being Rector of the Vale

First peal Duncan Loweth

First away from tenor Colin Sarchet

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## ST. PETERS & FOREST TOWER REPORTS

Another difficult 6 months. We are still feeling the loss of Richard Pearson and Peter Galliennes' recent ill health has meant he has been away for a couple of long periods. This has promoted Christine Lenfestey to the second most experienced ringer quite regularly at our practices. The lack of strength in depth has made progress at practices quite a challenge. I myself, no longer have the time that I used to have to try to rebuild, but we are making a little progress. The recent visit from Helen and Peter gave us the chance to go for a first of Plain Bob Doubles inside for Anne Dorey and first quarters on the tenor for Janet Emery and Michèle de la Hulinière, all in the space of three days. The Peal Band of Peter Ellis were also most helpful at our practice night!

We have a few ideas to try to push for more recruitment which we may initiate in the autumn. Despite the shortage we are still managing to produce good ringing for Sunday services and even Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire before Forest services!

On the social front things are still lively. We were asked to do the teddy slide at the summer fete and a fun day was had on a beautiful sunny afternoon. This was followed by the barbecue once more held in Jennys' garden and another great evening was had there. (Even if the sunset didn't quite live up to its potential as it set).

The practice meeting in the spring was enjoyed by several of our ringers. It was nice to catch up with Peter, Jo and Anne while they were over from Jersey. Looking forward to seeing everyone in September.

Phil le Conte

ST PIERRE DU BOIS QUARTER PEALS	ST PIERRE DU BOIS PEALS - OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
15 <sup>th</sup> June 2010 Plain Bob Major	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2010, Spliced Caters and Royal – 360 Grandsire Caters and 4680 Yorkshire Surprise Royal
1. Ed Hynard	

2. Phil le Conte 3. Sue Park 4. Nicky David 5. Helen McGregor 6. Peter Bevis 7. John David 8. Adrian Richie	1. June D Wells 2. Jennifer M Herriott 3. W Nigel G Herriott 4. Alex F Byrne 5. Noel J Diserens 6. Bernard F L Groves 7. Kelvin R Britton 8. E John Wells 9. Peter R Ellis(c) 10. Stephen A Rossiter Birthday compliment to 1 and 4
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FOREST QUARTER PEALS		
13 <sup>th</sup> June – Plain Bob Doubles- 1260 1. Christine Lenfestey 2. Helen McGregor 3. Peter Bevis 4. Anne Dorey 5. Phil le Conte 6. Jenny Rains 1 <sup>st</sup> inside for Anne Dorey	14 <sup>th</sup> June Plain Bob Doubles – 1260 1. Jenny Rains 2. Christine Lenfestey 3. Helen McGregor 4. Peter Bevis 5. Phil le Conte 6. Janet Emery 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Janet Emery	15 <sup>th</sup> June – Stedman, Grandsire, St. Simons and Plain Bob Doubles – 1260 1. Helen McGregor 2. Nicky David 3. Peter Bevis 4. John David 5. Phil le Conte 6. Michèle de la Hulinière 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Michèle de la Hulinière

## ALDERNEY TOWER REPORT

Alderney ringers have had a busy first half of 2010 with strong attendance of the District outing in May and as hosts to the District Spring Meeting in April. A visit in June by our old friends the Reading ringers enabled a Smörgåsbord of ringing which included two quarters of Alderney Treble Place Minor and several firsts. Some of the Reading ringers stayed with us a few days, making a day trip to Guernsey for peals rather than staying in Guernsey and only making a day trip to Alderney. We approve!

In May, we hosted a visit from the Alderney Brownies, perhaps sowing seeds that will germinate later. We continue to harbour an ambition to involve young people in the band.

Our focus is to provide quality ringing for services and festivals and we have achieved that objective. The band remain numerically strong and the range of methods tackled in the first half of the year continues to build upon a foundation of regular practises on Monday night and Saturday morning. We also introduced in March a regular one hour slot on Wednesday evenings where a selected band can ring longer touches of a special method to improve striking, steady ringing and the quality of conducting (perhaps our weakest asset). This should leave us able to focus more on the needs of our less experienced ringers on practice night.

In the first six months of the year we welcomed 10 visitors and rang nine quarters (four doubles, 5 minor). These included Victoria McAllister and Keith Salmon's first quarters, Ann Wheeler's first inside to Grandsire, and Pam Pearson's first inside to Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Surprise Minor (all in a space of 24 hours!)

Going forward we are optimistic that gentle progress continues. On a practice night we are able to fire out an ever increasing repertoire. Methods which last year we could fire out in the plain course we can now fire out in a touch. Ringers who last year could go wrong in call changes, can now go wrong whilst plain hunting. Fate smiles upon us indeed. Like watching a tree grow. You cannot actually see the change day to day But each year as it comes into leaf you realise that it is greater than it was. A Ringing Master needs no more than this.

Peter Bevis

## ALDERNEY, ST ANNE QUARTER PEAL RECORDS

Saturday, 30 January 2010

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1.Victoria McAllister

2.Philippa Arditti

3.Maurice Stupart

4.Helen M McGregor

5.Peter J R Bevis (c)

6.Pam Pearson

Remembering Bobbie, wife of 3, who died 19/11/09.

First Q, 1.

Wednesday, 5 May 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1.Helen M McGregor

2.Ann Wheeler

3.Maurice Stupart

4.Philip Maddocks

5.Peter J R Bevis (c)

6.John Mackey

First in method, 2.

Thursday, 3 June 2010

1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor

1.Helen M McGregor

2.Pam Pearson

3.Maurice Stupart

4.Peter J R Bevis

5.Kelvin R Britton

6.Stephen A Rossiter (c)

First treble bob, 2.

Friday, 4 June 2010

1320 Alderney Treble Place Minor

1.Helen Diserens

2.Jennifer M Herriott

3.Jim Diserens

4.Kelvin R Britton

5.W Nigel G Herriott

6.Stephen A Rossiter (C)

Friday, 4 June 2010

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1.Maurice Stupart

2.Stephen A Rossiter

3.Pam Pearson

4.Helen M McGregor

5.Peter J R Bevis

6.Kelvin R Britton (c)

First surprise inside, 3.

Tuesday, 21 April 2010

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1.Maurice Stupart

2.Philippa Arditti

3.Helen M McGregor

4.John Mackey

5.Peter J R Bevis (c)

6.Pam Pearson

First inside, 4.

Wednesday, 2 June 2010

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1.Keith Salmon

2.Maurice Stupart

3.Ann Wheeler

4.Kelvin Britton

5.Peter J R Bevis (c)

6.Helen M McGregor

First quarter, 1.

Friday, 4 June 2010

1320 Alderney Treble Place Minor

1.Alex F Byrne (C)

2.Helen M McGregor

3.June D Wells

4.John A Harrison

5.Peter J R Bevis

6.E John Wells

Friday, 4 June 2010

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1.June D Wells (c)

2.Louise Ellis

3.Pam Pearson

4.Peter J R Bevis

5.E John Wells

6.Bernard FL Groves

First bob minor inside on tower bells, 3.



## TOWN CHURCH REPORT

We began the year full of hope that we would gain a couple of new ringers following the CFE course that we ran but that did not materialise. The one ringer who did continue attending practice nights has dropped out. However, on the plus side Judith is continuing to put in lots of enthusiastic practice and rang Tenor behind to her first Quarter of Bob Doubles last week. Congratulations to Judith for a very creditable performance the first of many more to come!

The first half of the year has not been without other anniversaries. As you will see from the quarter peal records, Sue and I have passed a significant birthday milestone. Unlike Sue, I have given up working (for a living) and intend to get in some winter travelling. For that reason, we will not be running the CFE course this year. The college expressed disappointment but having all been involved with the course for 6 years or so the feeling is that we have had enough for now and need a break!

That does bring us back to the ongoing issue of attracting new ringers. We had been considering holding an Open Day but as this has not attracted new ringers in the past we are not overly enthusiastic in organising this event. Perhaps Phil had it right with the idea of charging people to come and try ringing?

The other significant improvement over the past 6 months has been our Quarter Peal attempts, as you will see from the record below. I was having difficulty arranging Quarter Peals over a weekend due to other commitments from what is quite a small band of ringers so Sue came up with the brilliant idea of ringing quarters mid-week. Sue had recalled this happening in the UK, the reason being that so many ringers are now retired and are available in the week – and being newly retired, I neatly fitted into the slot! Not all of the Quarter attempts has gone as planned (Stedman!!) but on the whole I think for those of us that need improvement with concentration and striking we are benefiting from the experience. The other plus to this mid week ringing is that we have attracted Dean Lee back. Dean works in Town so comes along when available to ring during his lunch break as does Mike Bubb.

Thanks to all for their commitment to this mid week session and also to Ed who has conducted the majority of the Quarters.

Sue and I have also planned a ringing outing to Oxford in October. Andrew Haseldine who is one of our regular visiting ringers had in the past offered to arrange a tour around Oxford so we took him up on that offer this year. We have agreed an outline of the trip with Andrew and are now waiting for Andrew to confirm tower bookings but the tour will include a walking trip around some Oxford Towers on the Saturday we arrive in Oxford. I understand from Andrew that there are opportunities to try out some very good award winning Ales which may or may not improve the afternoon ringing sessions!

Paul Lawrence

## TOWN CHURCH QUARTER PEAL RECORDS

29/11/09 Plain Bob Triples. (Tim's first as conductor in method) for re-opening of church following repairs.  
3/3/10 St. Clements College Bob Minor. 1st in method for Paul & Sue for John & Nicky's 37th wedding anniversary.  
10/3/10 Plain Bob Triples  
14/4/10 Plain Bob Minor. First on treble for Robbie. 100th for Ed as conductor.  
17/4/10 Plain Bob Major  
18/4/10 Plain Bob Major. 60th birthday compliment for Paul.  
21/4/10 Grandsire Triples for H.M. Queen Elizabeth's 84th birthday.  
5/5/10 Plain Bob Minor  
9/5/10 Plain Bob Triples for 65th anniversary of Liberation.  
2/6/10 Plain Bob Major. 60th birthday compliment for Sue.  
9/6/10 Kent Minor  
16/6/10 St. Simons Triples. First in method for all – Ed (C), Nicky, Sue, John D, Peter B, Mike and John L.  
23/6/10 Plain Bob Triples for Armed Services week.  
14/7/10 St. Clements College Bob Minor. First in method for Dean.  
21/7/10 Plain Bob Doubles. First Quarter for Judith (tenor behind) for St. Peter Port Carnival week.

## PEAL RECORDS (VISITING BANDS)

5/6/10 Bristol Surprise Major. Oxford District Guild  
19/6/10 Spliced surprise Major. (5 methods – Superlative, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Cambridge, Pudsey). South Northamptonshire Society.

## **ST. JOHN'S, JERSEY TOWER REPORT**

We continue to ring most Wednesdays and Sundays, numbers allowing. Unfortunately, there have been no new ringers to St. John's. However, our Tower Captain, Justin Read, always makes practices interesting with new methods. All the ringers at St. John's would like to thank Justin for his continued enthusiasm and dedication even when he has not been well himself. Justin and Louise's daughter who is 6 has been ringing a little and looks like being a promising future ringer.

St. John's is looking forward to hosting the Striking Competition in September.

The St. Mark's ringers continue to be a great help and it was sad to lose one of their ringers, Hazel Bailey, who was an incredibly brave lady and will be greatly missed.

In July, St. John's held its AGM, appointing Joanne Routier as treasurer, taking over from Prisca Tremeer, everyone would like to thank Prisca for holding the position for a number of years. Joanne is also acting Secretary, whilst Doreen Schofield-Fost is unwell and unable to attend ringing.

The Jersey ringers in August are looking forward to a BBQ, let's hope the sun shines.

## **ST. JOHN'S, JERSEY QUARTER PEAL RECORDS**

Sunday, 24 January 2010 in 40 mins (7cwt), 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Peter Routier
  2. Robin Pittman
  3. Jack Worrall
  4. Anne Fraser
  5. Benjamin Smith
  6. Justin Read (C)
- First Surprise Minor: 5

Friday, 23 July 2010 (7cwt), 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)

## **ST. MARK'S JERSEY TOWER REPORT**

We enjoy regular practice nights on Fridays, although some have been missed this year. However we do seem to manage to ring nearly every Sunday which is great. Unfortunately, like St. John's there have been no new ringers to St. Mark's. However we have the occasional visitor over the spring and summer months which is good and we appreciate their help.

We all thank Stuart Reeves, the Tower Captain, for all his dedication both as Captain and doing an excellent job of maintaining the bells so they ring so nicely.

It was sad to lose one of our ringers, Hazel Bailey, who was an incredibly brave lady and will be greatly missed. She died after a brave battle against cancer. We hope that her husband Jim will continue to ring, as like Hazel, he is a valuable member of

the team at St Mark's.

St. Mark's is looking forward to the Striking Competition in September, more than St. John's, as it hopes to retain the shield it won last year.

The Jersey ringers in August are looking forward to a BBQ, let's hope the sun shines.

#### ST. MARK'S, JERSEY QUARTER PEAL RECORDS

Friday, 2 July 2010 in 43 mins (9cwt), 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Mike Halsey
2. Jack Worrall (C)
3. Justin Read
4. Robin Pittman
5. Benjamin Smith
6. Stuart Reeves

Rung in Celebration of the life of Hazel Bailey, a faithful ringer of this Church.

Friday, 23 July 2010 (9cwt), 1260 Doubles (IP, 4M)

Stedman, All Saints, Rev. Canterbury, Grandsire, Plain Bob

1. Pat Phipps
2. Sarah Stonehouse
3. Julian Lees
4. R Ian Stonehouse (C)
5. Peter Triplow
6. Ron Shepherd



## Dates for your Diary

Sat Sep 18th District AGM and Striking competition, Jersey

Sat Sep 25th Regular training/practice day to include Surprise Major practice 6.30 – 8pm. Details to follow.

Sat Oct 23rd - No Training/Practice day this month as date conflicts with Town Church outing

Nov 19/20/21st – see notice re Reading training weekend

Sat Nov 27th - Training/practice day

Dec 25th - No Training/Practice day

Jan 22nd 2011 - Regular training/practice day

Feb 25/26/27th 2011 Channel Island 1/4 peal day will be a weekend.

Based in Guernsey but obviously open to ALL CI ringers. Date to be confirmed but probably Fri evening Feb 25th and all day and early eve Sat 26th, finishing off with supper somewhere nice.

Perhaps those Jersey ringers who can't come to Guernsey might like to try for a quarter (or 2) sometime that weekend. Can we manage a quarter in every ringable CI tower that weekend? Alderney will ring a quarter on Sunday for Evensong when we get back from Guernsey.

March 26th 2011, please see RW p 616 - Ringing World Centenary London Ringing Day - This will be the CI outing for next year. Towers will be open on several routes into the capital. Afternoon service at Westminster Abbey, meeting point for tea and refreshments, more info to follow.

4th Saturday in April is Easter – so we will have training/practice/surprise on Sat Apr 30<sup>th</sup>

Looking forward to seeing you all on these dates.

HMMcG