

# Les Cloches des Îles

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

STEDMAN TRIPLES  
PLAIN BOB GRANDSIRE  
DIXON'S BOB MINOR  
**CLOISTER DOUBLES**  
*ST CLEMENTS*  
KENT Oxford Treble Bob  
**SURPRISE MAJOR**  
REVERSE CANTERBURY  
*BOAT RACE* **ST SIMON'S**



August 2012 – Issue No. 55



## Editorial

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LOOK TO, JENNYS GOING, JENNYS GONE!!

Off to stay with our daughter and her family in Heath, West Yorkshire.

Swopped bellringing for babysitting just at the moment but will get into it again hopefully when we have a place of our own to live in.

I hope some willing person will volunteer to take on the editing of Les Cloches at the next ADM, I think it is a great publication for Channel Islands Bellringing. Its a great way to share experiences, be embarrassed in the inevitable photos and to keep everyone in touch with upcoming events both at home and in the UK.

I'd like to thank everyone who has had a hand in getting me started on the long and frustrating road to bellringing and to think I only went along to the college of FE to enrol on an Adult Ed Art course! Funny how things turn out. Incidentally I did better on the Art course.

Best wishes to you all, hope we'll meet again somewhere.

Jenny Rains

District Practice Day 28<sup>th</sup> January

CI District Outing March 24<sup>th</sup>

April District Practice

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Congratulations to Helen and Peter

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## District Practice day 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2012

Friday evening's Surprise practice at TC was good fun with Cambridge, Rutland, Yorkshire and 3 leads of Bristol all coming round. Most of those present then enjoyed a cup of tea and a ¼ of Cambridge S Major – which was a first surprise major for Philippa – well done. I was very grateful to Jane for stepping in at the last moment, sadly Tim had hurt his knee and was unable to ring.

We were later than I had hoped in getting to St Peter's but did enjoy the Stedman triples when we got there.

On Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Jan Philippa and I joined Duncan and two of his new recruits for 30mins handbells before the Forest practice. Using the handbells we were easily able to get both Dani and Anthony plain hunting on 6 by counting their place – a great start to their tower bell method ringing. General ringing at Forest was centered around Plain Bob Minor but we also rang rounds and call changes and grandsire doubles. Simultaneously – at Vale – Sue scored her first quarter of surprise – a good quarter of Cambridge – very well done Sue.

Off to St Peter's for general ringing – Judith covered for Stedman triples (well done Judith.) and we rang lots of plain courses of Bob triples, a good touch of DNCBM, courses of both Yorkshire and Guernsey S Major and plain hunting on 7 & 8. Sadly the qtr of Bob Royal was unsuccessful.

In the afternoon the general ringing at Town Church was a wonderful mix of Stedman triples, lots of plain bob triples, treble bobbing on 8, 3 leads of Kent and half a course of Yorkshire.

It was great to kick off the New Year with such a varied weekend's ringing. Thank you all for your tea, biscuits and support.

## Channel Islands District Outing Sat March 24<sup>th</sup>

The Channel Islands have an outing to Southampton area most years but the decision to enter a District team in the Guild 8 bell striking competition this year gave an extra impetus to tour the area – making sure we visited the venue for the competition. We were as ever very grateful for the support of our Reading friends – Kelvin Britton, June Saint, John and June Wells, Jack and Jenny Page, Monica Trow and Viv Bloundele at various stages of the outing.

Steve, Peter and I were delighted to be joined by Kelvin on Friday night – the eve of the outing. We joined New Alresford (16cwt 8).– for their practice, were made very welcome and had a good evening’s ringing – plain hunt on 8 through to Cambridge Major.

On Saturday: Judy Collins and Justin Reid (from Jersey) were already over in UK and were joined by Peter Routier and David Clare (also from Jsy) and Jane le Conte (Gsy). These 5 together with Helen, Peter and Stephen make up the competition team, it was disappointing that no-one else from the Channel Islands was able to attend but it did mean we were able to ring the test piece on a good number of occasions without feeling guilty that the non-team members were being short changed.

Hawkley ( 8cwt 8) the venue for the competition – Stephen ran the ringing here kicking off with a course of our special method of the day – Diamond Delight Major. We were able to ring the test piece twice, John and June went outside and listened and were able to give some very direct feedback on the first run-through so Stephen started his tweaking of the band – managing to actually make positive use of my naturally late backstroke by putting me on a most appropriately odd struck bell.

Then we were off to Liss St Marys (8, 12cwt) where we were briefly locked-out. We tracked down a key though and only lost a little time. Peter R ran the tower and we had another go at our test piece and some Rutland & Stedman triples

East Meon( 18cwt 10) was run by Justin. Grandsire Caters and Stedman caters and little bob royal all went well.

Our convoy driving – Steve in the lead – was now perfected – winding our way through the beautiful country lanes – admiring thatched cottages and pretty village greens we found our way to the White Lion in Soberton for an excellent lunch, from which we were able to walk to the church

Soberton (13 cwt 8) was run by Judy – who claimed never to have run any ringing before!! Steve was by now nearly happy with his band placing – did another little swop and we rang our piece again, more Stedman & Bristol were also rung.

Shedfield (13 cwt 8) we realised we had rung here on a previous outing as soon as we saw the green and yellow ringing chamber with matching ropes – not difficult to remember with that combination. Perfect venue for our outing photo though, taken by the lady with the key who was delighted to tell us her photos are regularly found in the WI calendar. The “Jersey Boys” then made their way back to the airport for their flight home and we carried on for some very welcome afternoon tea.

Bishopstoke (11cwt 10) run by Jane. Wonderful bells which were unanimously voted as the ones we WANT to return to next year. Judy and Jane were delighted to meet up again with Peter and Julia Clarke. The Clarkes had rung in Guernsey in 1980’s before moving to

Jersey where Peter was tower captain at St John's before Simon Linford. Peter and Julia had left Jersey 24yrs ago so it was a wonderful opportunity for Judy & Jane to catch up with their news.

Supper was tasty and beds were all comfortable at the Premier Inn, Southampton Airport and Stephen was still thinking about his band placement at breakfast!!

On Sunday morning our trusty convoy went first to St Michael's Southampton where we rang some cracking Stedman Caters and Grandsire caters with the local band. Then on to Bitterne Park (8cwt 12) again with the local band and finally St Barnabas (3 cwt 6) which were great fun.

Please try to join us next year – an outing is a wonderful opportunity to experience different bells, and with the support of the Reading ringers it can provide many opportunities to enhance your handling technique/striking and listening skills/understanding of the theory. Ringers of all levels are most welcome.

Helen McGregor



Left to right = John Wells, June Wells, Viv Bloundele, Jane Le Conte, Stephen Rossiter, Peter Bevis, Jenny Page, Jack Page, June Saint, Helen McGregor, Justin Reid, Monica Trow, Peter Routier, Judy Collins, David Clare

## April District Practice

This District Practice had all the hallmarks of being challenging as we knew that no Alderney ringers would be present and all the Vale ringers were out of the island taking part in a ringing competition on the Saturday.

However, we were fortunate to have Stuart Reeves from Jersey and Simon Adams from Taylors on the island to make up the numbers of experienced ringers. This meant we had sufficient ringers on the Friday evening to concentrate on Cambridge Surprise Minor and also Kent minor. This provided an opportunity for those learning to get in some treble bob practice and for others to also learn the methods.

Saturday was predictably quiet but we were able to put Anne and Rene through their paces at Forest and later St. Peters, concentrating on Reverse Canterbury. Unfortunately, lack of ringers forced us to cancel ringing at Town Church in the afternoon but, on the whole, some value gained from the ringing the sessions that we did carry out. Thanks to all who supported the practice.

Paul Lawrence

## Town Church Ringers - Away Day In Alderney

The initial idea was that we would have a tower outing, we have several new members to the band and thought this would be an ideal opportunity for us all to get to know each better and meet up with some of the other district ringers, in the event just four of us went but we still we had a great time!

We joined the Alderney ringers for their normal Saturday morning practice using the simulator, lots of Bob Minor for Mike and others and a chance to listen to our striking with the steady rhythm produced by the Simulator.

Following lunch at Helen and Peters home, an excellent meal with good conversation putting the world to rights (we didn't talk about ringing! ) we spent the afternoon having a Surprise Practice, including Cambridge and Beverley and Surfleet (a first for me) but Paul and Jane seemed to know what they were doing. We were ably assisted by Alderney ringer John on the treble which made a huge difference.

Our thanks go to all the Alderney ringers who came and rang with us and made us feel very welcome.

All in all a really excellent day.

Sue Park

## CONGRATULATIONS TO HELEN AND PETER

Proud grandparents of James Peter Douglas Wilson,  
born in Guernsey on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May



Just 8 hours old and already contemplating Grandsire Doubles!



Grandad having a quick cuddle at the airport!!

## District Practice weekend May 25<sup>th</sup>/26/27<sup>th</sup> 2012

The sun shone brightly on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May and all was set for a good weekend's ringing for the Channel Islands fourth Saturday practice.

As many of you are now probably aware, Helen's daughter Laura gave birth to a beautiful son, James Peter Douglas Wilson, on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May and Helen, who wanted to give Laura as much help as possible when she came back to Alderney, decided that this was one Fourth Saturday practice she was going to have to miss.

Marcia Dieppe, a friend of Helen's was visiting from the UK and along with me and Peter Bevis we all travelled to Guernsey on the Friday. Unfortunately we did not get off to the best of starts, with a Quarter Peal attempt of Norwich S Minor at Forest, which after some really good ringing, came to grief just after the first 720 changes. Then it was off to Town Church for the traditional Surprise Major practice. It was here that we realised the weekend maybe a little short on numbers. Quite a few ringers had taken the opportunity to go away, and with the weather being so good who would blame them! The 2 hour surprise major practice turned into a 30 minute surprise minor practice where London and Norwich were both rung.

So after some fish and chips by the marina it was off back to Forest to join Phil and his band for their practice. Vale were hosts for the first tower of the day, on the agenda Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Boat Race, an irregular treble place method using Cambridge below the treble and Oxford above. Mike Bubb was there to meet us and once we had six started to attempt Boat Race. I am pleased to say that after a few attempts all of us there managed a plain course. Next was Forest and again short on numbers we rang some very good plain hunting on 6 and Bob Minor, until some had to leave to ring for a wedding at Town Church. Lastly was St. Pierre du Bois, with only 8 ringers it was decided to go for a Quarter Peal, with Anne Dorey successfully completing her first quarter on 8, ringing the treble to Plain Bob Major. Well done Anne!

Four of us then travelled on to Jersey where the main purpose was to practice for the Guild's 8 bell striking competition. After some handbell ringing on the Saturday night it was up early for ringing at St. Marks and St. Johns, followed by a practice Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Major in preparation for the Striking completion in July.

My thanks go to Peter and Jo Routier for putting us ALL up for the night.

Stephen Rossiter



## .....READ ALL ABOUT IT.....

### Annual training weekend to Reading

The 2012 annual training weekend to Reading will take place from Friday afternoon Nov 30th - Sunday afternoon Dec 2nd. The towers and helpers are booked - all we need are students:-) The format will be similar to previous years - general ringing Friday afternoon, 2 groups for serious training on Saturday with service ringing on Sunday. There will be a smattering of qtrs too.

For an enjoyable weekend which should also improve your ringing please come along - open to ALL ringers on the Channel Islands. Accommodation is in a Premier Inn with evening meals on Friday and Saturday chez Jenny and Jack. Only transport cost is flight to UK and then train to Reading.

For more details please email [helen@tullochfarm.co.uk](mailto:helen@tullochfarm.co.uk)

*Becoming a grandma can do strange things to ones' persona.....if you've ever been scared by Helen Mc's ....LOOK TO.....TREBLES GOING.....TREBLES GONE.....be afraid be very afraid now!!!*



The Black Queen

## Joint Third in the Guild Striking Competition

A burning ferry prevented Mike from his planned journey to the mainland. Fortunately there was plenty of space on the plane and the six of us travelled to Southampton without much incident save for a hysterical woman whom Nicky had to attend to as she sobbed and screamed over the turbulence.

The poor layout of the car park trapped us for a while but we still arrived in at Botley more than an hour early. Too early for tea shops, let alone pubs to be open we wandered the streets as the rain poured down upon us. Thankfully John Collis happened to be walking to the shop to get his morning paper and we took him up on his kind offer of a cup of coffee, a biscuit and most importantly a warm and dry place to sit.

The Kit-Kats and coffee had to keep us going for a long while as we were ringing 7th out of 8 bands at All Saints Church. As we waited we heard some excellent ringing which added to the pressure and nerves.

It was our turn at last! Entering the cosy ring chamber we took out ropes. John on the treble, Nicky the 2, Duncan 3, Peter 4, Mike 5 and Joe the Tenor.

Our practice piece was rougher than a badger's bottom which the judge later said would have won us the award for most improvement if there had been one as our test piece was at our proper standard. The 120 ticked over merrily with no mistakes and no clips or crashed. Annoying the judge merely gave the rankings, unwilling to divulge the number of faults, but we must have only had ½ faults and not many of those.

A respectable joint third left the band somewhat pleased and feeling that a good lunch was well earned. This we found in a quaint wine shop café just up the road in Bishop's Waltham where we had gone to for the results of the competition. The place was run by a gentile, if a little eccentric chap and offered a menu overflowing with Gluten-free choices. Unfortunately John was unable to enjoy his meal to the full as he had left his bag in the hall after the results and went on an epic journey to retrieve it including finding the Vicar to collect the keys only to discover it was no longer there. Unaware of the details of his adventure, we grew more and more concerned by John's long absence and we sent out Mike to search for him. Mild concern spread over the group as the bag not only contained the 1950s map we were using to navigate but more importantly John's ID which he needed for the flight home!

All back together (including the bag which was picked up by a ringer who found us just as we were leaving the village) we journeyed up the road to Swanmore where we rang an impromptu quarter of Bob minor. Kudos to Mike for keeping it straight despite our best efforts to destroy the 540.

With Mike dashing off to stop Cathy spending any more money the five of us squashed back into the hire car and headed back to the airport. Dividing several kilos of guild reports between our hand luggage was a small chore before sitting back with a Costa coffee and a muffin and waiting for our plane home.

Another uneventful journey brought us home to Guernsey where we all headed home for an early night having all been up since 5am. All in all we had a good day indeed :-)



Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> – certificate to prove it!



John on the treble, Nicky the 2, Duncan 3, Peter 4, Mike 5 and Joe the Tenor

### Summer Meeting Jersey June 16<sup>th</sup>

After fog wrecked the qtr peal day in February the law of averages should have made all travel for all subsequent meetings this year run like clockwork – it was not to be. Three Guernsey ringers were actually on the Blue Island flight whose axle broke while taxiing to the gate at Jersey airport this morning – leaving Duncan and me on the following Aurigny flight having to turn round mid-air and return to Guernsey. Nicky & John David had their Blue Island flight cancelled due to lack of an aeroplane and Jsy airport was shut till 4pm. Duncan and I intercepted Peter B when he landed on Guernsey from Alderney – en route to a peal at Town Church with Andrew Haseldine – a quick phone call to Phil le C and with Rene, we had a qtr peal band at Forest for Joe Berry's first quarter....it is an ill wind....

#### **1260 Doubles 2m**

600 Grandsire, 660 Plain Bob

- 1 Rene Batiste
- 2 Helen M McGregor
- 3 Peter JR Bevis
- 4 Duncan Loweth
- 5 Philip Le Conte (C)
- 6 Joe Berry



Rung to celebrate the official birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, First Quarter, 6 Here's hoping July District training is uneventful. Helen McG



Alderney ringers 1st annual summer BBQ - July 29th



As part of Alderney's celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee, we had an Open Day in the tower on June 4th. It proved to be very popular .

## ALDERNEY SNIPPETS



The Alderney band are delighted with their spider

## **2012 District AGM**

**(see Dates for your Diary)**

The 2012 District AGM will be held at the Town Church, St Peter Port, Guernsey on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

The judges of the six bell inter-tower striking competition will be Alan Regin & Jo Dorling from London, both members of the Cumberland Youths. Don't forget that a rule change was agreed at last year's AGM. A copy of the revised rules is attached below.

Due to the difficulties of Inter-Island travel, it is likely that some ringers from outside Guernsey will travel to the island the day before, and/or stay overnight on the Saturday. There will be a Surprise Major practice at the Town Church on the Friday evening, 4.30 – 6.30pm.

Following this, an informal dinner is being arranged at Les Côtils Christian Centre, 7.30 for 8pm, to which all ringers and their partners are welcome to attend.

The Saturday will include general ringing at the Town Church in the morning, short service, lunch, meeting, striking competition, tea and competition results.

There will probably be a 10 bell quarter peal attempt at St Peter's Saturday evening. To save time at the meeting, minutes of the Sept. 2011 District AGM and the Summer meeting in June 2012 are published in this edition of "Les Clôches". They will also be circulated to all Tower contacts, together with programmes for the day, agenda for the meeting, revised competition rules and details of the proposed Friday evening meal. Remember that all District Officers are elected on an annual basis and be ready with your nominations. (A list of Guidance for District Officers was published in the Feb. 2012 issue of Les Clôches.) A new editor for Les Clôches is also needed, to replace Jenny Rains who is moving back to the UK. (Thanks Jenny for all your hard work!)

Nicky David  
**District Secretary**

**CHANNEL ISLANDS DISTRICT  
OF THE WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD  
OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS**

**STRIKING COMPETITION RULES (Revised Sept. 2011)**

This will be a six-bell competition with teams representing towers to be chosen by the tower captain. Members of each team must be fully paid up members of the Guild and be a regular and active member of the Sunday Service band of the tower they represent. Where a ringer is a regular member of more than one tower, they should be allowed to ring for both bands.

- 2. Each tower may enter up to two teams of which no more than two ringers may be common to both teams. This rule may be varied at the discretion of the District Committee.**
3. Call changes or any doubles or minor method will be allowed.
4. Each band must strike 120 half pulls. Scoring will commence at the first change and cease upon coming into rounds. Any changes short will incur maximum faults per change. Any changes in excess will continue to be marked and, therefore, may accumulate extra faults. Call change bands must ensure that all bells, except tenor, take an approximately equal turn at leading.
5. It will be assumed that open handstroke leads are intended unless the conductor informs the organisers otherwise before commencing.
6. Each individual ringer, on entering the tower, may pull off his bell and adjust his rope, if necessary.
7. Each team may practice rounds/changes for a maximum of 2 minutes and then stand.
8. The treble shall be rung to indicate that the team is to commence the test piece.
9. Scoring will be determined by the judge on the day.
10. The order of ringing will be decided by ballot.



## Minutes of a meeting of

### The Channel Islands' District ("the District")

### of The Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers ("the Guild")

held at St John's Church, Jersey on Saturday, 16 June at 11.00 a.m.

Unfortunately, because of an accident at Jersey airport, (to the plane carrying 3 Town Church ringers) all flying was suspended. This resulted in the District Ringing Master, District Secretary, and 2 other ringers from Guernsey being unable to attend.

<b>Present:</b>	Anne Fraser	St. John's, Jersey	Chair
	Mike Halsey	St. John's, Jersey	Minute taker
	Judy Collins	St. John's, Jersey	
	Richard Herissier	St. John's, Jersey	
	Jane Le Conte	Town Church, Guernsey	
	Judith Lainé	Town Church, Guernsey	
	Mike Bubb	Vale, Guernsey	
	Justin Read	St John's, Jersey	
	John Lihou	Town Church, Guernsey	
	Jo Routier	St John's, Jersey	
	Peter Routier	St. Mark's, Jersey	

#### 1) Election of new members

The following new (full) members were proposed:-

Denise Stewart,	Vale	Proposed by Mike Bubb and David Reeves
Mark Pizzey,	Town Church	Proposed by Jane Le Conte and Rob Gorton
Richard Herissier,	St John's	Proposed by Justin Read

All the proposed new members were elected unanimously.

#### 2) Guild AGM Striking Competition -2012

The Guild AGM and Striking Competition were being held on Saturday, 7 July, 2012 and the Notice of, and the Agenda for, the meeting had been circulated already.

#### 3) District Striking Competition - 2012

The District AGM and Striking Competition were being held on Saturday, 22

September, 2012 at the Town Church in Guernsey.

**4) Guild AGM and Striking Competition - 2013**

The 2013 Guild AGM and Striking Competition were being held on Saturday, 6 July in Jersey. The members present supported the idea of there being a dinner for the occasion and the Committee would discuss the idea and decide the appropriate arrangements to be made.

**5) Proposals for changes to striking competitions**

Altering the Guild's six bell striking competition from an inter tower competition to an inter district one had been suggested. The same idea was also being considered for the Guild' eight bell competitions. After discussion, the members present expressed a preference for the six bell competition to remain an inter-tower one, but would be happy if the eight bell competition remained as an inter-district one.

**6) Peal and quarter peal submissions**

This item was not taken.

**7) Ringing for the Queen's Silver Jubilee**

David Strong wished to know the names of all those involved in ringing to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee and the anniversary of her succession in February. Those present confirmed quarter peals had been rung by all towers for the Jubilee.

**8) Other business**

*Young ringers*

Mike Bubb reported on comments which had arisen from a recent meeting of young ringers. It was clear groups of ringers needed to be inclusive of ringers of all ages, both for ringing and associated events. It was agreed Sunday ringing was of consequence and a prime objective of ringing. In Guernsey recently, someone who had commenced ringing had become a full member of the congregation, been confirmed and joined the servers' rota. There was no support for the idea of teaching bell ringing to persons who would not commit to ringing for Sunday services.

*Communication*

There was concern at the recent poor communication from the District Committee to the members. More advance warning of events and the avoidance of alterations at short notice was requested. Mike Bubb informed the meeting that the date of this meeting had been changed from 23<sup>rd</sup> June to 16<sup>th</sup> June in January (subsequent check of his email showed it was early February)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 11.32 a.m.



# THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Channel Island District

**Minutes of the AGM held at St. Anne's, Alderney, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 2.15pm**

**Welcome and opening remarks.** The Chairperson, Anne Fraser, welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially John and June Wells of Reading who were to judge the striking competition, and Michael Hopkins Till, the Guild Vice-Master, and Lucy Hopkins Till. She noted that this was a special occasion as today's meeting marked the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Channel Island District, the first meeting having also taken place in Alderney in 1981. It was to be marked by Quarter Peal attempts in each tower, and a special cake had been made for the afternoon's tea.

**Declaration of "any other business"** since circulation of the agenda – 3 items had been submitted.

**Apologies for Absence:** Michael Bubb (Vale), Robin Pittman (St. John's), Jack Worrall (St. Mark's).

**In memoriam** - none

**Minutes of the 2010 AGM** and District meeting June 2011. These had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Rene Batiste, seconded Anne Dorey, that these be adopted.

**Matters arising** (matters not on the agenda separately) :-

- a) **Guild 8 bell Striking Competition.** It was noted that there had not been enough interest in raising a band for this year's competition. Some discussion ensued including differing views on the construction of possible bands, and whether members would be willing to take part if they were at the Guild AGM, regardless of prior practice together, but no conclusions were made.
- b) **Les Clôches.** This was now being produced electronically with a few "hard" copies for those who preferred them or didn't have internet access. Comments were made that the A5 format was rather hard to read due to the small print; Peter Bevis explained that this format kept the costs down but if the original was written in a larger font than at present, it would not be so reduced when printed. Phillip Maddocks suggested at least 10 or 12 point, and a more "readable" script such as Times New Roman, be adopted. It was agreed that these suggestions be passed on to the Editor, but also thanks for her hard work in producing an excellent newsletter. Peter was also thanked for his work in printing it. It was suggested that

if A4 copies were required for individual members, their home tower should find someone to print one off or, failing that, a special request be made to Peter.

**Treasurer's Report.** Phillip Maddocks presented his report. He stated that membership was slightly down, but was not unduly worried by this. The deficit of £345 was a result of 2 years' judges' expenses showing up in one year. The current balance is actually 25% up on 5 years ago. However, he did feel it was time to raise subscriptions and proposed 50p per member for all except probationers. That this should take place was proposed by Mike Halsey, seconded by Ann Wheeler, and voted for unanimously.

**Ringing Master's report.** Helen McGregor thanked the District secretary for her support during the year. She highlighted the events that had taken place, especially the Saturday practices in Guernsey. In addition a training weekend had been organised in Reading, a Quarter Peal day held in Guernsey, and an outing "piggy-backed" onto the RW centenary celebrations in London. All these events had been fully reported in "Les Clôches".

**Election of Officers.** The Secretary clarified that looking back through the minutes of previous years had confirmed that the only rules pertaining to C.I. District officers were that each Island should be represented and that they be elected each year to facilitate this. Terms of office were *traditionally* 3 years but this is not statutory, nor is there a necessity to stagger the change of officers. All present officers were willing to stand for another year although Helen informed the meeting that if elected, this would be her last year as Ringing Master. Nicky might well also stand down at the end of the year. Anne was willing to stay on until after the 2013 Guild AGM. There being no other nominations, Peter Bevis proposed that the existing officers be re-elected for another year. This was seconded by Paul Arditti and carried unanimously.

**Election of new members.** The following members were unaminously elected:-

Probationary members :

Sally-Ann White

Esme White

Joe Berry

Katie Dodd

Anne Cooper

Molly Cooper

- all St. Peter's Guernsey, proposed by Philip Le Conte, seconded Peter Bevis

Full member :

Heidi Sydor, St. John's Jersey. Proposed by Justin Read, seconded Jo Routier.

## **Guild AGMs**

- 2012 A letter had been received from the Guild Secretary asking the District to discuss whether a different programme timing of Guild AGMs would encourage more members to attend as the Master was conscious of the fact that members attending from the Island Districts on a day trip were likely to miss some of the meeting (and tea!) under the present format. A short discussion followed, but it seems unlikely that change of times would affect members' willingness to attend – high travel costs were the determining factor. This information will be passed on to the Guild Executive committee.
- 2013 The Guild AGM is due to be held in our District in 2013. The District Committee had agreed that this would be hosted by Jersey. However, there are no plans to combine the meeting with a “mini Festival” as on previous occasions. The District would provide facilities as per AGMs held on the mainland, but no travel arrangements, holiday packages, or excursions would be arranged. However, if individuals chose to make their own arrangements to extend their stays, then they would be made most welcome and towers would be made available to them as far as possible in whatever island they chose to visit. This information would also be sent to the Guild Executive.

**30<sup>th</sup> Birthday Quarter Peals.** The District Committee had previously suggested that a quarter peal be attempted at each tower in the district around the time of the meeting, to commemorate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Vale had already rung theirs; Alderney planned one later that day, and the other towers hoped they would soon be able to ring one. Members were requested to send the details of any Quarters rung for the occasion to be sent to the District secretary, so that they could all be sent into the “Ringing World” together, with a short report.

**Update on Alderney bells.** Peter Bevis (Tower captain) informed those present of the plans for augmentation of Alderney's bells to eleven. A redundant bell (21cwt 7lb) has been purchased from St John's, Crawshawbooth, Manchester to provide a new tenor. Three new treble bells are to be added and one in the middle. This will result in a light front six, a heavy back six, and a middle weight eight, as well as a ten. Funding is in place without any grant from the Guild Bell restoration fund. The States of Alderney have approved the work subject to survey. A faculty has yet to be obtained. It is hoped that the work will be completed by this time next year.

## **Any Other Business:-**

- a) **Change of Striking Competition rules.** John David proposed that rule 2 be changed to enable all Sunday Service ringers present at a meeting who wish to take part, being allowed to do so with a minimum overlap of people. This would reduce the necessity for “scratch” teams and give every qualified ringer the opportunity to ring for their home tower. A long period of at times confused discussion followed. Peter

Bevis felt it was important that everyone should have the opportunity to take part and that it was a valuable experience to perform their best striking. Jane Le Conte reminded those present that the “two per tower” rule was made in the days when the district was more active and because of the time constraints of the meeting – too many entries could cause practical difficulties. Pam Pearson felt that allowing more than 2 ringers common to a team could give some ringers an unfair advantage of winning by having “two bites at the cherry.” Eventually Paul Arditti suggested that Rule 2 be changed to **“Each tower may enter up to two teams of which no more than two ringers may be common to both teams. This rule may be varied at the discretion of the District Committee”**. Acceptance of this was proposed by Maurice Stupart and seconded by Duncan Loweth. The motion was carried by an almost unanimous vote – there were two votes against.

- b) **District Officers’ Forum.** The Chairperson gave a short description of the Guild’s District officers’ Forum which was set up earlier in the year by the Guild Master, David Strong. This is a group providing the opportunity to discuss ringing related matters, sharing ideas and information in a much less formal way than the Guild Executive meetings. Anne had attended the inaugural meeting in April, and was prepared to attend the next one 29<sup>th</sup> October. Two delegates are permitted to attend, ideally District Officers, but not necessarily so. She asked if anyone would like to attend or had any issues which they would like to have discussed, to contact her in the near future.
- c) **Membership Badges.** Anne Fraser reminded members that newly elected full members of the Guild were at present presented with a Guild membership certificate, paid for out of District funds. She proposed that as from today’s meeting, any newly elected full members also be presented with a Guild badge, also to be funded by the District. Badges are currently £2 each. This was seconded by Nicky David and carried unanimously.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 3.15pm.

The meeting was followed by tea which included an especially commissioned “birthday cake” made by Vale ringer, Duncan Loweth, which was cut by Chairperson, Anne Fraser. The judges of the Striking Competition, John and June Wells of Reading, then gave the results as follows:-

1 <sup>st</sup> St. Anne’s, Alderney (Team 2)	32 faults
2 <sup>nd</sup> St. Michel Du Valle, Guernsey	33 faults
3 <sup>rd</sup> St. John’s, Jersey	51 faults
4 <sup>th</sup> Town Church, Guernsey	88 faults

5 <sup>th</sup> St. Anne's, Alderney (Team 1)	107 faults
6 <sup>th</sup> St. Pierre Du Bois, Guernsey	124 faults
7 <sup>th</sup> Forest, Guernsey	136 faults
(Scratch Team	20 faults)
(Scratch Alderney 3	112 faults)

The Judges thanked the Committee for inviting them to judge the competition. They commented that all 9 teams had made a good effort, and completed their test piece. Ringing varied from “extremely good” to “a bit of polish needed”. All bands had used their opening rounds well but most needed to practise their “pull offs”. The bells themselves were a “sedate six” and hard to achieve perfect ringing on. They had both marked the faults and were looking for a good overall sound rather than a specific speed. Ultimately it had been very hard to separate the teams in the top two places and they had nearly given them a tie!



## **TOWER REPORTS AND PEAL RECORDS FOR THE CHANNEL ISLANDS DISTRICT**

### **ST. ANNE'S, ALDERNEY TOWER REPORT**

The first six months of 2012 have just flown by, but lots has happened in that time. Firstly we welcome June Saint, Stephen Rossiter's wife, who has finally taken the plunge and joined the W&P and the St Annes band. June is still not a frequent member of the Sunday Service band, but she is not the only member to have that particular defect and joins us as often as she can! We also welcome Aileen and Thursa, both taking the first steps towards plain hunt on six on tower bells and mastering the simpler pleasures of plain bob in hand.

The Beresford Ring is now complete, and located at the Methodist church hall. This ring comprise six Saxilby simulators in a steel frame. We have begun teaching what seems like dozens of children, most of whom will inevitably fall by the wayside. Some, however, show real talent and we can only hope. Practice night is Tuesday, from 6pm - 8pm and is combined into a mind games club, with dozens of board games available at tables, which



prove a popular distraction to those not ringing at any time, and round out the experience for the children.

The St Anne augmentation grinds slowly forward. In February, we obtained a favourable opinion from the Guernsey firm of structural engineers (selected by the church architects) on the ability of the tower to take the additional bells. Since then we have also had to comply with the less reasonable demands of The States to have the precise design of the bell frame approved by the structural engineer before starting on the process of applying for a faculty. Following a return visit by the bellhanger, the bell frame design has now been reviewed by a bemused structural engineer, who has naturally approved it, having never seen

one before. We can only wait now to see how The States can delay us further. It is over a year since I approached them for permission to apply for a faculty. A ten minute job, I naively thought. No wonder the Alderney economy is in tatters.

On the ringing front, we progress slowly, but definitely in the right direction. As Donald and Keith join the ranks of the plain hunting majority we ring less rounds on a Sunday and more plain hunt. A good thing if overall striking standards are maintained. Saturday mornings have been placed at Helen's disposal, to permit this time to return to being primarily a learners' practice. On Monday, Norwich has become a standard method, despite the almost permanent, and sad, loss of Philippa to her Scottish home. We still remain disappointingly capable of firing out a plain course of bob minor though. Ah well.

Aileen and Thursa are guinea pigs for two of my "pet theories". Firstly I suspect that learning to plain hunt using the simulator at the same time as learning to hunt by ropesight helps a learner to hear their bell in methods. As ringers who cannot hear their bells suffer from the same sort of handicap as a colour-blind painter, I believe that this is a vital skill to gain. More controversial, perhaps, is my suspicion that it may be better to learn to hunt on an even number of bells. When learning to hunt on five with a cover, learners may use the tenor as a visual crutch, instead of listening to their leads. Then, when moving on to ringing on an even number of bells, they experience the pain of having "nothing to lead off". Also, in even bell hunting, the place at the back is a right place, rather than the wrong place found in odd bell ringing.

Visitors have been rare birds indeed. Only 11 visitors over the whole period.

## ST. ANNE'S, ALDERNEY QUARTERS/PEALS

We are very pleased to have rung 18 quarters in the first half of the year, compared to 9 in the same period last year. Of the tower bell quarters, 7 were of minor and 10 of doubles. The Surprise mainly comprised St Anne Ringers, whereas last year we relied heavily of visitors in order to manage quarters of surprise. Of special note was Donald Hughes' first away from cover, treble to a quarter of Bob Doubles and Jane Fraser's first inside, also Bob Doubles.



We were fortunate to have a visit by two of the Vale band, Joe and Duncan, and used the opportunity to ring some fancy spliced - London and Cambridge, Plain, Double and St Clements and Cambridge and Plain. What a pleasure it is to ring well struck spliced.

The Alderney band are very proud of their first ever 'peal' board - recording details of the 2 quarter peals rung for the royal wedding

Tuesday 19 June 2012	1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor
Tuesday 5 June 2012	1260 Doubles 2m
Tuesday 29 May 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
Wednesday 23 May 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
Tuesday 22 May 2012	1260 Minor (2m)
Thursday 12 April 2012	1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor
Wednesday 11 April 2012	1320 Spliced Surprise Minor (2m)
Wednesday 11 April 2012	1320 Vale Treble Place Minor
Tuesday 10 April 2012	1260 Spliced Minor (2m)
Tuesday 10 April 2012	1260 Spliced Plain Minor (3m)
Monday 9 April 2012	1260 Doubles (6m)
Tuesday 20 March 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
Wednesday 14 March 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor (handbells, Wells House)
Monday 5 March 2012	1260 Doubles 3m
Saturday 4 February 2012	1260 Doubles (2m)
Tuesday 31 January 2012	1260 St. Clements College Bob Minor
Tuesday 24 January 2012	1260 Doubles 6m
Tuesday 10 January 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles

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

It has been an encouraging few months at St. John's as we have made progress in all aspects of our ringing.

We have welcomed Richard Harris (ako Herrissier) back to ringing after many years away. Richard was a ringer in London but gave up when he went to work overseas. He has become an important member of the band.

We also have Gill Hutchinson, and adult learner, making steady progress with handling a bell. She will soon be ready for rounds. We have a number of other interested youngsters who are looking to start learning in September.

Mike Halsey is making steady progress in consolidating Stedman Triples and plays a valuable support role with treble bobbing to surprise major methods.

We have welcomed a number of visitors over the summer; some have enabled us to achieve things we couldn't have otherwise, and others we have been able to support with their progress.

I am particularly pleased with the progress we have made with Surprise Major ringing. On one recent practice night we have managed Superlative and three leads of Bristol with a local band. It has been a long time since we were so strong. I hope this continues. We hope to ring a local band surprise major quarter once a month which has just commenced with Cambridge.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting Sunday service ringing and also the Friday weddings we have had, which I know have been inconvenient.

All in all, ringing at St. John's is experiencing a resurgence of enthusiasm.

Justin Read

## **ST. JOHN'S QUARTERS/PEALS**

**Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild Jersey, Channel Islands**

Saturday 4 August 2012 in 43 (7)

**1280 Cambridge Surprise Major**

1 Michael Halsey

2 Robin Pittman

3 Richard Herrissier

4 Louise Read

5 Jack Worrall

6 Peter Routier

7 David Clare

8 Justin Read (C)



**Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild Jersey, Channel Islands**

Sunday 3 June 2012 in 41 (7)

**1260 Mixed Doubles**

720 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob

1 Richard Herrissier

2 Michael J Halsey

3 Stuart J Reeves

4 Anne Fraser

5 David S Clare (C)

6 Arthur Reeves

Rung to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Birthday compliments to 4.

**Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild Jersey, Channel Islands**

Sunday 27 May 2012 in 46 (7)

**1264 Plain Bob Major**

1 Judy Collins

2 Richard Herrissier

3 Jane Le Conte

4 David S Clare

5 Steve Rossiter (C)

6 Peter Bevis

7 Peter J Routier

8 Justin A Read

**ST. MARK'S TOWER REPORT**

Having taken the position of tower captain in January, I must first thank Stuart Reeves for his contribution to St. Mark's previously. I certainly have some big, steel-toe-capped shoes to fill!

My objective as tower captain is to ensure the whole band enjoys their time in the tower while promoting overall progress in the standard in ringing. To this end, I'm pleased to see the continued progress of Joanne Routier and Heidi Sydor. The rest of the band have hopefully had fun (and a challenge) in ringing some "interesting" methods, including the likes of Superlative Minor and a spliced arrangement that has become known as "Justin Surprise".

Quarter peals have come like buses in the first half of 2012 at St. Mark's, with none rung until April, then 4 in four weeks! We are also trying to ring regular (if not frequent!) quarters of Surprise Major together with the St. John's ringers.

Going forward, St. Mark's looks forward to sending three ringers to the W&P 8-bell

striking competition and two to Guernsey for a peal to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We are also looking forward to a ringers' BBQ hosted by the Routiers and sending a team to Guernsey for the District 6-bell competition.

A special mention must go to Jack Worrall, stalwart of St. Mark's. During the second half of 2012, we aim to help him reach his 900th quarter, a remarkable achievement.

My thanks to the St. John's ringers who regularly support St. Mark's on Friday evenings and Sunday mornings, and to all of those that have made the first six months of the job so enjoyable.

David

### **ST. MARK'S QUARTERS/PEALS**

9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 (42 minutes) 1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor

Richard Herrissier

Michael J Halsey

Jack R Worrall

Justin A Read

Peter J Routier

David S Clare (C)

Rung to mark the 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Jersey.

First in method: as conductor

18<sup>th</sup> May 2012 (41 minutes) 1260 Mixed Doubles (2m: 720 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob)

Joanne L Routier

Michael J Halsey

Justin A Read

Richard Herrissier

David S Clare (C)

Peter J Routier

1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 (40 minutes) 1260 Mixed Doubles (3m: 300 Stedman, 480 Plain Bob, 480 Grandsire)

Peter J Routier

Jack R Worrall (C)

Richard Herrissier

David S Clare

Stuart J Reeves

Michael J Halsey

Rung to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 (39 minutes) 1260 Stedman Doubles

Robin N Pittman  
Jack R Worrall  
Richard Herrissier  
Peter J Routier  
Peter R Ellis (C)  
Stuart J Reeves  
Rung to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

### **VALE TOWER REPORT**

The first six months of 2012 have flown by. The ringers have been exceptionally busy and as mentioned in the last Les Cloches we have risen to the challenge from the Rector to ring 60 quarter peals in this Jubilee year. More a little later.

After much discussion at our Tower agm we decided to enter a band in the Guild's inter tower 6 bell striking competition. With five ringers flying over for the day and one on the boat what could go wrong. Well fog is the initial thought but no, the Commodore Clipper had a fire on board on the Thursday and yours truly was travelling overnight on the Friday to meet up with the rest of the band on the Saturday. A quick change of plans and all six of us flew. Our practice before was, to say the least, ropey however we overcame our nerves and produced a really super piece of ringing to come third equal only being beaten by Portsmouth Cathedral and Eling an 12 and an 8! Lunch was had in Bishops Waltham but not without the drama of John leaving his bag in the church hall. Luckily it was found and John was reunited with the bag. In the afternoon a quarter of Plain Bob Minor was rung at Swanmore. First in UK for Joe.

So back to the 60 quarters – where are we? The half way quarter was scored on 1<sup>st</sup> July some six weeks earlier than expected. It was helped by quite a number being rung over the Jubilee weekend. Unfortunately we lost our peal on the Saturday of the Jubilee weekend which was a great pity. There will be other opportunities during the latter part of the year to attempt another.

What have we been ringing? Apart from the usual we have been moving into more interesting methods/ variations. Joe rang his first of treble bob – trebling to Kent and repeated his success trebling to Duncan's first of Kent two weeks later. Mark Pizzey from Town rang his first quarter on 26<sup>th</sup> February. April Day was rung on 1<sup>st</sup> April and St John the Baptist Doubles on St John the Baptist Day. We also had first in methods for all with Double Bob Minor and Union Bob Doubles and Joe rang Bob Minor with all singles (on a working bell) and called his first quarter – Bob Doubles after the rare wedding on 30<sup>th</sup> June. In calling it off the 5 he had circled the Tower to quarter peals.

Talking of weddings this year has seen the lowest number of weddings at the Vale for a very long time. At least the majority of our Saturdays are free!

Well there is one Saturday not free and that's the second Saturday in July. Fete day. This year not only are we manning the Tea tent but also providing cover for the Barbecue. After some indifferent weather we were blessed with an ideal day. Not too warm for the beach but just right for a fete.

Mike Bubb  
Tower Captain

### **VALE TOWER QUARTERS/PEALS**

2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2012	1260 Grandsire Doubles
8 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor
22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
28 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	1300 (sic) Cambridge Surprise Minor – First in method Sue Park
6 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor – First of challenge 60
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles 2 of 60
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	1272 Cambridge Surprise Minor 3 of 60
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2012	1260 Grandsire Doubles 4 of 60
25 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor – first treble bob Joe Allen, First in method Tim Wainright 5 of 60
26 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	1260 Doubles in 3 methods and 2 variations. First quarter Mark Pizzey 6 of 60
4 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles 7 of 60
11 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor. First in method Duncan Loweth. 8 of 60
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	1260 Doubles in 2 methods. 9 of 60
25 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	1260 Doubles in 2 methods. 10 of 60
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2012	1260 April Day Doubles. First in variation Duncan. 11 of 60
8 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor. 12 of 60
15 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	1260 Doubles in 11 methods 13 of 60
21 <sup>st</sup> April 2012	1260 Grandsire Doubles 14 of 60
22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor (all singles) 15 of 60
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	1260 St Clements College Bob Minor 16 of 60
9 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	1260 Grandsire Doubles 17 of 60
13 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	1260 Double Bob Minor – first in method Nicky, Duncan, John, Peter and Mike. 18 of 60
17 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	1260 Plain Bob Doubles 19 of 60
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	1260 Doubles in 11 methods (includes 120 Union for the first time) 20 of 60
1 <sup>st</sup> June 2012	1260 St Martins Bob Doubles. First in method Duncan. 21 of 60
2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2012	1260 Doubles in 4 methods and 7 variations. 22 of 60
3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2012	1260 Grandsire Doubles. 700 <sup>th</sup> at Tower. 550 <sup>th</sup> as conductor Mike. 23 of 60
5 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1260 Doubles in 3 methods and 10 variations. 15 <sup>th</sup> birthday

	compliment to Joe. 24 of 60
7 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1260 Doubles in 15 variations. 25 of 60
10 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor (all singles) First all singles affected Joe. 26 of 60
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1260 St John the Baptist Doubles. First in variation Nicky, John, Peter and Mike 27 of 60
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1320 Union Bob Doubles. First in method Nicky, John, Joe and Mike. 28 of 60
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	1260 Plain Bob Minor. First as conductor Joe. 29 of 60
1 <sup>st</sup> July 2012	1260 Minor in 2 methods. Half way there!!! 30 of 60
St Baranabas Swanmore.	1260 Plain Bob Minor. First in UK Joe. In celebration of our 3 <sup>rd</sup> equal place in the Guild's inter tower 6 bell striking competition

## **TOWN CHURCH REPORT**

Once again I am looking back on what has been a busy year for us so far.

In February we hosted a visit from a “young” WI group. They were all fit (I think I'm allowed to use that word in this context?) and keen to have some “hands on”. The group was quite large – around 20 members, so we spread the sessions over two evenings. As a PR event it was successful and a bonus that there were no injuries in what was quite a crowded tower. Several of the ladies seemed really keen to carry on with learning to ring but once again, the commitment required caused them to shy away.

That aside, we had a couple of enjoyable and interesting sessions so my thanks to all who gave up their time to come along and help.

Ringling for special events this year has figured large in our calendar.

Events began with the inauguration of the new Bailiff when we rang following his service of celebration at Town Church. This was followed in May with Liberation day when we rang a very well struck quarter of Plain Bob Triples. (We reckoned knowing an audience was outside helped focus our concentration!).

June of course provided the opportunity for a fair amount of ringing as part of the Jubilee celebrations – we rang for the local service on Saturday 2nd June, the usual Sunday morning service and then for the start of the Thames Pageant at 3.00pm.

We had Monday off and then rang a quarter peal at 9.30am on Tuesday 5th prior to the service at St. Paul's in London. After that I needed a holiday even if no-one else did!

Tower membership is quite steady at the moment. David Reeves (yes, he is related to Stuart!) is shaping up to be a valuable ringer within the Tower so is a very welcome addition. Rob Gorton, also a new-comer to the island, is enjoying taking up ringing again and we are very pleased to welcome him as well.

This means that for most Sunday service we are able to ring some very nice call changes on 8 bells. Practice nights also continue to be well supported so my thanks to all who come along.

Paul Lawrence

### **TOWN CHURCH QUARTERS/PEALS**

18th Jan 2012, Plain Bob Minor

Guernsey Band

25th Jan, Grandsire Doubles

(John David's 800th Quarter)

Guernsey Band

27th Jan, Cambridge Surprise Major

District Band

6th Feb, Grandsire Doubles

To celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Accession to the Throne

Guernsey Band

4th March, Plain Bob Doubles

"Town" Band

7th March, St Clements College Bob Minor

Guernsey Band

21st March, Mixed Doubles

Guernsey Band

11th April, Grandsire Doubles

700th Quarter for Mike Bubb

25th April, St Simon's Bob Doubles

Guernsey Band

9th May, Plain Bob Triples

Guernsey Band

To commemorate the 67th liberation Day Anniversary

5th June  
Plain Bob Minor  
Guernsey Band

### **ST. PETERS and FOREST TOWER REPORT**

Things have started to pick up at St Peters and the Forest in the first 6 months of 2012. We have started to ring Quarter peals regularly again. We have scored 11 during the last 6 months, and I must thank Duncan and Joe from the Vale who offered help which has been invaluable. The quarters have contained 10 firsts. Although most have been of Plain Bob Doubles, we can boast 6 first quarter peelers. This contains Rob Gorton of the the town church, but also contains 4 of our young learners, Esme, molly, Joe and Fraser, all aged between 11 and 14. The other being Anne Cooper (Mollys Mum). Added to this Esme and Molly have rung Quarters on the treble and have now progressed to ringing Inside. Anne Dorey has rung Plain bob Major on the treble and Jenny managed Grandsire Doubles before departing to the UK. With the Increase in numbers we are now able to ring call changes on 10 for most morning services. Long may it continue and hopefully we can report similar progress in 6 months time.

We are all sad to have lost one of our most popular members of the band as Jenny with her husband Steve have had to relocate back to the UK. The annual Herm dinner was hastily arranged in time to say farewell and was, as usual, a very successful evening, despite returning in heavy rain! But then when hasn't it rained this summer. She's not called Jenny Rains for nothing!! We are all going to miss her enthusiasm ( I'll also miss the odd ticket for Guernsey FC when her husband Steve found he had a Refereeing job elsewhere). We wish them well.

Not much else to report. We manned the Teddy slide at the fete and managed the none stop ringing over the Diamond Jubilee weekend.

See you all soon  
Phil le Conte

### **ST. PETERS and FOREST QUARTERS/PEALS**

#### **St Peters**

18/03/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1st away from cover Molly Cooper (Age 12)

26/05/2012 1264 Plain Bob Major 1st Quarter of Major Anne Dorey

17/06/2012 1260 Plain bob Doubles 1st Quarter Fraser Wilkes (Age 14)

#### **Ste. Marguerite de la Foret**

25/01/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1st Quarter Molly Cooper (Age 12)

- 08/02/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1st Quarter Esme White (Age 11)
- 25/02/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1st Quarter Rob Gorton
- 29/02/2012 1260 Grandsire Doubles 1st in method Jenny Rains  
?0th Birthday Compliment to Rene Batiste
- 07/03/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1st Quarter Anne Cooper
- 08/04/2012 1260 Plain bob Doubles 1st away from cover Esme White (Age 11)
- 09/05/2012 1260 Plain Bob Doubles Rung to celebrate Liberation day  
Also rung to celebrate life of Nancy Le Conte  
mother of Phil Le Conte
- 16/06/2012 1260 Plain and Grandsire Doubles 1st Quarter Joe Berry (Age12)  
for Queens official birthday

**WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL  
RINGERS**

**CHANNEL ISLANDS DISTRICT**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- The District AGM and Striking Competition to be held on Saturday, 22 September, 2012 at the Town Church in Guernsey.
- 2012 Annual Training Weekend to Reading, Friday Nov 30<sup>th</sup> afternoon to Sunday Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> afternoon. For more details see page 9 of the newsletter and please email [helen@tullochfarm.co.uk](mailto:helen@tullochfarm.co.uk)

\*Whilst every effort will be made to adhere to these dates, some alterations may be necessary as the year progresses.

**However, PLEASE PUT IN YOUR DIARIES NOW!**