



Founded 1925

President—Mr Harry Bardens

DEVON CALLS

December 2003
Volume 1, Issue 12

Recruitment and Retention of the Younger Ringer

- Special points of interest:**
- Honorary Secretary's message
 - Mid Week Ringers
 - 30 years of organising tours
 - Wrinklies Rounds
 - Association Festivals
 - Secretary's AGM report
 - Award for John Kelly B.E.M.

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Younger people today have many more opportunities for leisure activities than in the past, but, with enough effort it is still possible to attract them to ringing and to turn them into useful ringers. We owe it to the future of our art to make more of an effort with youngsters.

Recruitment

How do you get people through the belfry door? Do you have Services where a number of youngsters traditionally attend, e.g. Christingle, carol or theme or family services? Announce that the Tower will be open

before or after the Service. Demonstrate ringing and let younger ones chime. Invite the local primary school to run a project on ringing and include a visit to the tower. Involve younger ringers in the church before they are old enough to ring. Use handbells to ring rounds, or even a simple carol, to be performed at a Service. Put articles in the church magazine on a regular basis. Invite the uniformed organisations and local co-ordinators of the Duke of Edinburgh Award to have a tower visit as one of their

meetings. Look out for possible recruits amongst the children of neighbours and friends. Open the tower as a Year 7 end of term school activity. Be proactive. Generally 11 or 12 is the ideal age to recruit but, however tempting it may be, do not teach a child before he/she is physically big enough. You should also check your church insurance policy regarding the minimum age limit. Do not expect recruits straight away, but when they do turn up, they will have plenty of enthusiasm. Keep it going.

New President

The Chairman, Mr Drake, thanked Mr Stevens for his service to the Association as President for the past year. Mr Stevens duly welcomed the new President, Mr Harry Bardens and placed the presidential sash over Mr Barden's shoulder. Harry stated that this was an honour for him and that he would serve the Association well over the next twelve months.

Vice President

Mrs Pat Johnstone, Churston, and Mr Sid Cooper were elected Honorary Life Vice Presidents at the AGM and presented with commemorative plaques and congratulated by the new President, Mr Harry Bardens. He stated that Pat and Sid were both recognised as loyal and long serving members of the Association. They join Edgar Cole in receiving this honorary recognition.



Keep this date free

Following discussion in various meetings by members of the Association, it was agreed to hold a Novice Ringing Competition at Throwleigh – in March 1999. Many of you may have been there. Subsequently, we have staged three more similar Competitions, which continue to prove popular.

There is no rising or lowering involved – something that daunts many ringers! Entering teams are expected to ring a set piece – either seven minutes of round

ringing or half a peal of '60 on thirds' call changes.

Comments following previous Competitions have all been positive. Enthusiasm from participating teams has been tremendous. The encouragement that listening to other teams from throughout the county of Devon of a similar standard has been far reaching, and lasted well beyond the day of the Competition. Teams have come back the following year and continued to take something home with them. All teams are presented

with a certificate. The winners of each section are presented with a shield.

So, where is it next year and what's the date?

HOLCOMBE BURNELL, near Exeter on SATURDAY 13th MARCH 2004.

Entrance fees are kept to 50p a rope – we just need to cover our costs!

Contact the Secretary to register your entry or to get further details. Go on, give it a go – you are guaranteed an enjoyable afternoon out!

A message from the Honorary Secretary

A statement from the Hon Secretary following the 2003 Annual General Meeting.

Seventy members of the Association attended the AGM on Saturday 8th November 2003 at North Tawton Town Hall. We are grateful to Mr and Mrs B Drake who organised the venue and the light refreshments. A long agenda looked daunting, but business was completed in 2 hours! This is much shorter than many a previous meeting. The circulation of previous meeting minutes, which included three Committee Meetings, greatly assisted with reducing time reading out lengthy accounts of meetings; and also gives members greater opportunity to read, digest and consider comment on Association business BEFORE the AGM. To allay any fears or doubts about the Association Constitution, the current draft which was endorsed by the Committee in June 2003 and circulated to all affiliated towers with the October 2003 Devon Calls, DID NOT raise a single question under matters arising at the AGM, with the members agreeing that at the next Committee Meeting (February 2004) that the President, Hon Secretary and Chairman would sign and thus finally endorse this document. It is accepted that further modifications may be necessary from time to time, that would in

each and every case be brought before the AGM for ratification. The question about election protocol will be discussed at the February Committee Meeting. There was much debate about election protocol at this AGM! It is fact though, that the AGM gave the Committee a mandate to select judges and scrutineers to save time at the AGM (you will recall that Bob Southwood proposed this originally). We do need, however, to look at election of officers, the start of a 'triennium' and tower selection for competitions.

On a lighter and more important note, let us PLEASE remember what the Association stands for and what we want it to achieve. There has been great movement in the encouragement of ringing – this MUST be built on. WE all want to be ringing and have a thriving Association in 5 or 10 years from now – don't we?

Let us have your views on new ideas or new events. The Officers aim to manage YOUR Association with the assistance of the Committee. Let us have your opinions. We want there to be TWO way communication and discussion. We look forward to hearing from you! Wishing all ringers a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. Thanking you for your continued support.

J.J. Darke.

Editorial

To run any organisation you need a set of rules so that everyone is aware of what is happening or what is likely to happen. If these rules are to change, you may argue that sufficient notice should be given so that people have notice and time to think about the issues. If any members have questions or queries about the constitution, or wish to change or amend anything, this is their right. Any member may write to the Secretary and the letter will be read and considered at the following committee meeting. Things do have to change and we have to adapt. If you have not read the constitution, please do so now. The committee will, once again, debate the constitution, and this may be an advantage in that matters can be clarified.

Numerous groups go to hotels and it would be an advantage to know where you believe you received best value. This could help other groups who may be looking. Please do contact me.

Thank you to all the contributors. This is your newsletter, please make use of it and support it. Any member is welcome to send any articles, news or reports from your Deanery, or from your competition or tower.

Please forward to the Editor,
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5 Kings Rydon Close
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Totnes
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Email: mtwebster@btinternet.com

Mid Week Ringers

2004 Tour to Chester and North Wales

A week around Chester and North Wales sounds a good idea, never mind have a ringing itinerary as well. This group of ringers have planned the holiday from Monday 7 to Friday 11 June 2004 at a cost of about £210. This includes the coach, half board, insurance and tower fees.

If you have not booked, please contact, John Staddon of Alphington as a matter of urgency. There are a limited number of seats available. If the coach is full, this brings the cost down for everyone. The likely trip is:

Monday: Devon to Mold with two towers in Gloucestershire.

Tuesday: Ruthen, Denbigh, Bodelwyddan, Halkyn.

Wednesday: Chester Cathedral, St Mary's, Handbridge, Hoole.

Thursday: Llangollen, Ruaban, Wrexham, Hope and

Friday: return to Devon with two towers in the Redditch and Bromsgrove area.

Wrinklies Rounds

We were out again in October and November and well attended on both occasions with about 40 people turning up at either event. October saw us in the deepest darkest depths of the South Hams, an area that in my opinion has many delightful peals of bells and, what would appeal to some, delightful country inns serving good food.

Our first tower was the church of Stokenham where John Came greeted us whilst Sue served coffee and biscuits. This church is known as the "Cathedral of the South Hams". Everyone enjoyed the ringing, all having quite good peals and after ringing retired to the nearby and aptly named "Church House Inn" for lunch. Thanks must go to the way we were cared for, in view of the personal circumstances. The afternoon found us just a few miles down the road at West Charleton



Pat's 80th birthday cake

and here I have to make a confession. I once owned a pub in the area and did not know that this church existed as it is set back some way off the road through the village. So needless to say I got lost but eventually recovered my whereabouts. The bells were enjoyable and ringing them was a perfect end to an enjoyable day. Thanks must go to John and Sue. November found us in the depths of the moors at Doddiscombesleigh. We were greeted on arrival by a massive granite carving of an "Orb" situated at the west end. At lunch, Pat Johnstone

was presented with a birthday cake to celebrate her forthcoming eightieth birthday. After enjoying a slice we retired to the gardens outside and enjoyed the glorious sunshine. Where in England can you do that in November?

The afternoon found us in Christow and a sound crew who were making a documentary on all the church bells situated on the moor and the ringers that ring them. The day ended with everyone enjoying their ringing and thanks must go to John Staddon who organised the day and the ladies for organising coffee. *Oddstruck.*

Proposed towers for 2004

March	Broadhempston	Littlehempston
April	Coffinswell	Kingsteignton
May	Down St Mary	Lapford
June	Trip to Chester and North Wales	
July	Hatherleigh	Inwardleigh
August	St David's	Clyst Hydon
September	South Pool	Chivelstone
October	Talaton	Payhembury
November	Bradford	Sheepwash

Christmas venues will be discussed at our March meeting. Pat and Bernard, who first started this group, now wish to retire, any queries please contact Ken Rowe on 01803 521489

Results

27 September 2003 Tamar Valley Competition held at Bradford

Novice Section

1	Holsworthy	71.5
2	Buckland Filleigh	76
3	Lamerton	98.5
4	Shebbear	128

B Section

1	Black Torrington	26
2	Kilkhampton	53.5
3	Littleham	58.5
4	Clawton	78.5
5	Lydford	135

A Section

1	Littleham	38.5
2	Holsworthy	59
3	Bridgerule	87.5
4	Poughill	100
5	Lydford	103.5

27 September 2003 St James, Iddesleigh

Open Section

1	South Brent	11
2	Egg Buckland	13
3	Devon Belles	21
4	Littleham	30
5	Black Torrington	39
6	Mortehoe	44
7	Burrington	57
8	West Down	66

Senior Section

1	Iddesleigh	28
2	Sampford Courtney	46
3	Mariansleigh	47
4	Colebrook	48
5	Egg Buckland	60
6	Monkleigh	64
7	Torrington	69
8	Dolton	94

18 October 2003 Tedburn Invitation 6 Bell

Section A

1	Egguckland	12.5
2	Exminster	23
3	Lamerton	28
4	Exeter, St Petocks	31
5	Stoke Gabriel	31.5
6	Down St Mary	34.5

Section B

1	Colebrook	55.5
2	Exminster	60
3	Zeal Monachorum	61
4	Kenn	61.5
5	Ide	76
6	Spreyton	85
7	South Tawton	86
8	Mariansleigh	86.5
9	Broadhempston	103.5

25 October 2003 St Giles in the Wood

Open Section

1	Egg Buckland	8
2	Mortehoe	10
3	West Down	13
4	Iddesleigh	16
5	Exeter St Petrocks	20
6	Burrington	22
7	Molland	25

Senior Section

1	Kenn	39
2	Monkleigh	41
3	Sampford Courtney	45
4	Colebrook	46
5	Torrington	50
6	Mariansleigh	61
7	Clawton	69
8	Dolton	83

29 November 2003 Stratton 8 Bell

1	South Brent	33
2	Chittlehampton	44
3	Sampford Courtney	49
4	Lamerton	51
5	Buckland in the Moor	52.5
6	Paignton	56
7	St Columb Major	73
8	Okehampton	74.5

Kilkhampton 8 Bell

1	South Brent	17.5
2	Buckland in the Moor	27.5
3	Exminster	28.5
4	Okehampton	33.5
5	St Columb Major	33.75
6	Lamerton	34
7	Sampford Courtney	34.75
8	Paignton	47
9	Chittlehampton	61.75

Results are usually available within 24 hours on the website www.devonbells.co.uk. If you wish your results to appear, please contact the publicity officer, Michael Webster of 5 Kings Rydon Close, Stoke Gabriel, Totnes, TQ9 6QG. Tel: 01803 782591 or via the website under contacts.

Deanery Secretaries

Kindly send reports from your deanery, whether this be competitions, election of officers or social events. I hope that this will not only assist ringers in your own deanery but other readers generally. Entries may also be made via the website.

30 years of organising holiday trips

Arthur and Jean Fidler have celebrated 30 years of organising trips. My first time with the Mid-Devon Ringers' Tour was in 1977 when we stayed in Bournemouth. Little did I think I would still be going in 2003. Sadly about ten of those present then are no longer with us, but each year new friends are made and this year was no exception. Since 1977 we must have visited well over 400 churches, staying at various places from Barry to Blackpool, Maidstone to Melton Mowbray, where we had a break in during the night. Thanks to Arthur and Jean,

our money was safe. This year we went back to the Isle of Wight, our third visit, but just as enjoyable. We had a little more time to spare and visited Osborne House, Butterfly World and the spectacular Waltzing Waters. It is too soon to know where we will go in 2004, but I would like to thank Arthur and Jean, who arrange the coach, food, churches and hotels so meticulously. Everything is so well organised, we can always look forward to a pleasant tour. Happy Christmas to my fellow ringers and friends on the Mid-Devon Tour.
Barbara Blight.

Correspondence

Dear Mr Darke,
I felt I must write and pass on the very complimentary message when your party visited our church in November. It was a welcome change to have so many parishioners contact me to say what a joy and pleasure it was to be able to listen to the bells. I must admit usually if I get any comments they are complaints about the noise and clashing of bells, and we have had some rather unfortunate experiences of this just recently, hence our rather hesitant approach to welcoming visiting ringers.

Eileen Bryan, Askerswell.

Leading the Team at 80

A Trip to Hampshire to celebrate Pat Johnstone's 80th birthday.

On Friday 21st November, at eight o'clock, a seventeen-seater mini bus left Plymouth, picking up ringers from around the city, and then heading east, with collection points at Ivybridge and Ashburton. A three-day ringing tour to Hampshire was ahead of us. The trip was organised to celebrate the marvelous attainment by one of Devon's greatest lady ringers – a past President and now Honorary Life Vice-President of the Devon Association of Ringers – our great friend Pat Johnstone.

The first tower was Askerswell, a super light ground floor ring of six. It was here that we met up with our organiser – Jereme Darke. Some good striking was enjoyed, with many of the locals stopping to listen and passing complimentary remarks!

We then travelled up the A35 and A31 to Christchurch. We parked in the Priory grounds, and soon located an excellent pub – Ye Olde George Inn. Here we refuelled and set ourselves up for the afternoon! We climbed the stairs to the Priory ringing chamber and had two peals of queens on the back eight, including rising and falling the bells. The 29cwt tenor had a lovely tone. We then rose the front four, and had some excellent striking on the 12 – quite pleasing since we rarely ring more than eight bells.

We then headed to Milford on Sea, and were warmly welcomed. This is a ground floor ring of 8, with an interesting spiral staircase to the belfry situated in the corner of the ringing chamber. Again, some enjoyable ringing was had here – another well kept peal of bells.

Darkness fell, and we headed to Hordle that was only a few miles away. This was an interesting light set of eight, which proved to be challenging, but we soon got some music out of them! Another short tower, with a raised ringing platform making it a very short draft.

Ringing was now over for the day. We then headed to Alresford, which was to be our base for the weekend. We arrived at The Swan Hotel and checked in. A fine three-course dinner was served in the hotel, where

much banter and discussion about the day's ringing occurred. Some of us explored the local hostelrys for a nightcap, before turning in for the night. The two Sues provided some wine for those who wanted additional nightcaps!

"A quick phone to the next tower allowed us time to watch the extra 20 minutes"

Saturday morning arrived with rugby fever in the air. The match started at 9.00 am, and would be televised in the hotel basement. After a fine full English breakfast, a reduced party headed for Ropley to ring. The remainder headed for the basement. Dave and Roger were duly dressed for the occasion in England tops! Ropley had a lovely tone – this is a fine 15cwt six. We travelled back to the hotel to collect the others, with extra time needing to be played because of a draw at full time. How nerve racking. A quick phone to the next tower allowed us time to watch the extra 20 minutes. What a great result – well done England! We then travelled through pouring rain to High Cross, Froxfield. An interesting light six on plain bearings. These were enjoyable, with Suzanne taking on a difficult tenor!

Lunch was now beckoning, so we called in at the George Inn, East Meon. To be commended – very welcoming – open fires, good beer and food. We then tried the 10 at East Meon. The back eight were interesting but could be struck. The ten were then tried, with our leading lady rising the treble in peal of ten – one of the highlights of the trip – an excellent effort!

With lots to talk about, we continued to venture through pouring rain. A friendly welcome at Petersfield set us up for some good ringing. This 15cwt eight went very well, with our host having a go in the third peal.

On a short distance to Steep. Ryan and Suzanne wanted to have a competition ring – a rise, peal of 60 on thirds and lower. The youngest six versus the oldest six! Suzanne was not eligible for either, along with Sue and Hils – they were to be the

judges, so headed back to the bus to await the signal. A coin was tossed, with the oldies winning and electing to go second. The youngsters climbed the interesting wooden staircase and set to this light six. Errors were made by all, leaving the door open for the oldies.

"Congratulations to Pat – you are a great friend"

When both teams had rung, the judges came in for a ring. The result was then announced – first with 38 faults were the youngsters, with the oldies coming a close second on 41! The youngsters lined up as follows – 1. Mark Lovell, 2. Christine Pascoe, 3. Chris Pascoe, 4. Ryan Trout, 5. Alan Brown and 6. Jereme Darke. The oldies lined up as 1. Pat, 2. Ray Mugridge, 3. Bernard Minors, 4. Graham Pascoe, 5. Dave Trout and 6. Roger Trout. A bit of fun was certainly had!

We finished our Saturday at Selborne. This was a fine ground floor six. Some good ringing was enjoyed. Back to the Ship Inn with a splendid evening dinner going down well. Sunday soon arrived. We were fortunate to be able to ring for the 11 am service at Wonston. An interesting ring of six – we managed to fill the church with a congregation! Turning west, back down the A303, we arrived to ring on a recently refurbished eight at Amesbury. These went well, super tone. The Bell at Wyllye provided Sunday lunch. We then rang at Wyllye, an interesting ground floor six. We did our best to make them sing. Back on down the road to Dorset, to ring on the fine set of six at Sandford Orcas. Pity we did not have more time. A super little set! A short distance to Marsta Magna, to finish the ringing.

Fifteen towers visited, some super towers and some excellent striking. All ringers really 'pulled together' and gave their best.

Congratulations to Pat – you are a great friend and we were all pleased to be able to join you on this celebratory trip. Here's to the next one! Thanks to Dave for driving us and singing to us! It was a true pleasure to be included, and to be able to arrange this memorable trip.

Association Competitions

Novice Competition—Holcombe Burnell,

Saturday 13th March 2004

Judges: Messrs C Clayton, S Herniman, M Langdon and N Holloway.

Eight Bell Festival—Winkleigh

Saturday 24th April 2004

Judges: Messrs B Drake, M Phillips, B Osborne and Ryan Trout. Reserve: Mr C Hockin

Scrutineer: Mrs E Stevens.

South Devon Qualifier—Loddiswell

Saturday 8th May 2004

Judges: Messrs I Avery, W Avery, J Dietz and Mrs P Johnstone. Reserve: Mr P Pester.

Scrutineer: Mrs S Husband.

North Devon Qualifier—St Giles In The Wood

Saturday 8th May 2004

Judges: Messrs M Way, I Hookway, C Hockin and R Chapman. Reserve: Mr J Coulthirst.

Scrutineer: Mr G Arcsott.

Minor Final—Offwell

Saturday 22nd May 2004,

Judges: Messrs Ryan Trout, P Pester, C Hockin and I Hookway. Scrutineer: Mr C Adams.

Major Final—Langtree

Saturday 12th June,

Judges: Messrs B Drake, M Way, I Avery and W Avery. Reserve: Mr J Dietz.

Scrutineer: Mr G Arcsott.

Winkleigh 8 Bell Final and Loddiswell 6 Bell South Qualifier

Winkleigh Church



The venue for the Devon Eight Bell competition on 24 April 2004

The eight bells cast by Whitechapel, were tuned, turned and hung with new fittings in a new steel frame by Arthur Fidler in 1974. There is a reference to the ancient bells in the old accounts, "1588. Pd. to the ringers for the tryumphing of her Majestie 4s." in celebration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

The base of the tower is 14th century and 550 feet above sea level. The view from the tower is magnificent. The clock was presented by Miss Pinckard and the Westminster Chimes were added in 1933.

Loddiswell Church

The venue for the 6 bell South Qualifier on 8th May 2004



Secretary's report to the AGM

The Secretary gave his first report to the AGM. He thanked the membership for electing him at the previous AGM, he thanked fellow officers for their support over the last year, especially the President Mr Stevens and Clive Ward for deputising for him at the North Devon Qualifier at Clovelly. The secretary more importantly thanked his family for their support. The late Mr Bill Sanders was remembered for teaching the secretary to ring 21 years ago! Efforts of previous secretaries were noted, with there being a tough act to follow.

The competitions held in 2002 were briefly discussed, with the success of the 4th Novice Competition at Christow particularly highlighted as being very well supported and proving the need to capture new interest and enthusiasm. He thanked all incumbents, PCC's and tower captains for allowing the Association to use their bells. Support for the six bell qualifiers was slightly disappointing. Special congratulations were offered to Egg Buckland, who had fielded two teams in the South Qualifier at Dod-

brooke, both teams qualified for the final, and the teams were placed one and two in the Major final at Staverton. History has been made! The secretary thanked Egg Buckland for promoting a high standard of call change ringing and told other members that this should not daunt them, but use it as a gauge to aim for.

Efforts by those helping to organise the Annual Dinner at the Waie Inn, the Ringing Roadshow at Lincoln, the Annual Draw and the Ringers Carol Service was acknowledged. The success of the Devon Ringers CD was acknowledged, with special thanks to the Devon Ringers Council and in particular Lester Yeo and Jon Bint who greatly assisted awareness of ringers nationwide at the Roadshow in July. Future projects of the DRC were touched on – the Dartmoor project, production of a Devon Ringers Directory and the National Competition.

The publicity officer Mike Webster was thanked for his sterling efforts in publishing the Association newsletter 'Devon Calls'. He also, along

with John Enderson and Graham Pascoe has worked hard on updating the Association Website. Also the efforts of the Training officer David Trist were acknowledged. Members were reminded that the Secretary could send letters or cards to fellow ringers and friends of the Association for anniversaries and the like. An attendance book would be started this year, which was passed around the floor for members to sign. Affiliation numbers were up to 131, but with around 400 towers in the county; increased affiliations were to be encouraged! Rounding off, he stated that we must look forward, continuing to promote and encourage the art of Devon Call Change Ringing. We should not be afraid to stand up and 'sell' our art. The Devon Ringers CD has done much good to date – with many positive comments being reported in the Ringing World magazine. We must build on what we have achieved! He was looking forward to continuing his office and hoped to carry out his duties to his best ability.

Accounts

The treasurer, Mr Hookway appreciated the messages of good wishes and visitors attending him, during his long stay in hospital this year. His hip replacement was a success and his strength increasing following his cardiac problems. He stated that he would continue in office for another year. The Association finances were looking very healthy, despite the £250 public liability insurance premium. Mr Hookway proposed that £2,500 be donated to the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund, being the proceeds from the 2003 Annual Draw. The Accounts were presented and accepted by the AGM. The Chairman thanked Mr Hookway for his continued efforts in office. The accounts show income for the year ending 30 Sept 2003 as £4,914.33, this added to the sum brought forward of £5,625.09 gave a total income of £10,539.42. Expenses amounted to £4,370.63 leaving £6,168.79 to be carried forward.

Annual Draw

In Mrs Endicott's absence, the Secretary updated the meeting. Mr C Ward had offered to assist Mrs Endicott with the 2004 draw, due to a family wedding next summer. The Committee agreed to keep prizes and arrangements the same as 2003. That draw raised a total of £3,428.98 with a net profit of £2,686 profit being made. Mrs Endicott thanked all members for their assistance with the distribution and sale of draw tickets. She was hoping for more support as there is always more room for increased penetration of ticket sales, to ultimately increase the funding afforded to the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund.

The Fund has numerous projects to consider this coming year. With the support of all members it is hoped that the sales will greatly increase with the 2004 draw. It is hoped that members will assist Mr Ward to ensure a new record is set.

Advertisement

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Notices

Affiliation Fees

The annual affiliation fees due in November 2003 have been increased to £5. Entries for the 2004 competitions have been increased to £1.50 a ringer. 6 bell total will be £14; 8 bell total will be £17. The increase was approved at the 2002 AGM and will now cover insurance, along with certificate and administration costs.

Dates

The Carol Service is to be held at Barnstaple Parish Church on Saturday 20 December 2003 at 3.00pm.

The next committee meeting will be at North Tawton 26 February 2004 at 7.30pm

The Novice Competition will be on Saturday 13 March 2004 at Holcombe Burnell.

The annual dinner will be on Saturday 20th March 2004 at the Waie Inn, Zeal Monachorum.

The next AGM will be Saturday 13 November, North Tawton, 2.15pm.

Editor

Members have been reminded to think away and look for suitable venues for the Festivals in 2005. Two verbal invitations so far for the eight bell is from Widecombe and East Budleigh. If you have or know of a suitable venue, please write to the Secretary by June/July 2004. The Minor and Major competitions alternate each year between North and South Devon, i.e. North and South of the A30.

Competition Dates

Novice Competition

13th March—Holcombe Burnell

Eight Bell

24 April—Winkleigh

North Devon Qualifier

8 May—St Giles in the Wood

South Devon Qualifier

8 May—Loddiswell

Minor Final: 22 May—Offwell

Major Final: 12 June—Langtree

Clothing

Any bellringing related clothing or badges can be obtained from Janice Gist (Iddesleigh and St Giles in the Wood).

The views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the Association. Any articles, comments to The Editor, see page 2.

John Kelly B.E.M. Beacon Award

John Kelly B.E.M. has been highly commended after being nominated for the prestigious Beacon Prize 2003, for his philanthropic endeavours. Beacon awards individuals who are an inspiration to others. John was nominated for his efforts in recognition of his outstanding contribution to charitable and social causes in the category of leadership. *"In an almost impossibly difficult process, with many hundreds of outstanding nominations, John's achievements stood out as exceptional,"* commented Emily Stonor, Chief Executive of Beacon. *"We congratulate all our highly commended candidates - reaching the final shortlist is a considerable mark of recognition for your achievement."* Congratulations to John from all his ringing colleagues.

New Blood for Judging Panel

New Blood for Judging Panel?

At the September committee meeting judges were proposed for the Association competitions in 2004.

There was no magic or secret list in compiling the names, merely putting forward names of judges who had officiated in various competitions in the past. If you are a keen judge, or know of one, and they wish their name to go forward, please notify the Secretary, Jereme Darke so he may add to his list.

It is important that the more experienced judges can pass on their own experiences to the newer judges. It is important to ensure a continuity of judges.

If you are older, you probably have the experience, if you are younger, you may wish for more experience, either way, we need you, please help.

-Advertisement-

Glorious Devon Bells

A full length compact disc of recordings of Devon bell ringing containing towers throughout the county.

Devon has more rings of bells than any other county, and two traditional ways of ringing them. This Compact Disc includes a cross-section of towers throughout the county, and examples of both Devon call changes and method ringing.

Its two societies, the Guild of Devonshire Ringers (method ringing) and the Devon Association of Ringers (call changes) work closely together to promote bell ringing across the county.

Devon is very much a rural county, and there has been no attempt to remove birdsong from the recordings! Other extraneous noises can also at times be heard, as they would by the listener in the churchyard.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Egg Buckland | Rise and peal of changes on six |
| 2. Exeter Cathedral | Stedman Cinques |
| 3. Stoke Damerel | Plain Bob Major |
| 4. Buckland in the Moor | Rise and changes on eight |
| 5. Combe Martin | Yorkshire Surprise Major |
| 6. Buckerell | Cambridge S Minor |
| 7. Kingsteignton | Call changes and lower on eight |
| 8. South Brent | Call changes on six |
| 9. St Marychurch | Erin Caters |
| 10. Morteohoe | Call changes on six |
| 11. Tiverton (St Peter) | Grandsire Triples |
| 12. Stoke Gabriel | Call changes on six |
| 13. Tavistock | Grandsire Caters |
| 14. Clyst St George | Grandsire Doubles |
| 15. Dunsford | Call changes and lower on six |

Sold in aid of the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund

£10.99 each (inc £1 UK postage and packing).

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