



Founded 1925

President – Mr Mervyn Way

Devon Calls

**November
2011
Vol 2 Issue 6**

Special points of interest

- Results supplement
- Pictures from 1972
- Bell Ringers in the news

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Eggbuckland win Major Final

Eggbuckland had a resounding win at the Major Final held at West Alvington in June despite the fact that they had come second to South Brent at the South qualifier held at Dunsford a few weeks earlier in May. At West Alvington Eggbuckland had 5¼ less faults than the 2nd placed team, South Brent and Eggbuckland also won the best 'top ringing' with just 8 faults.

The event at West Alvington was also memorable for the remarkable tea and the local raffle that had so many prizes. It was a pleasure to see Jack Rhymes, once again, throughout the day.

Kingsteignton set new record for Devon 8 Bell competition

In 2011 Kingsteignton won the Devon Association 8 Bell competition for the 10th consecutive time, which is a new record. Ian Avery has rung in all of those 10 peals. Kingsteignton also have a new record being the team who have won more times than any other team by winning for the 22nd time in 2011. Their first win was in 1967. The previous record was held by North Tawton who had 21 wins, the first being in 1927. Congratulations to the Kingsteignton team and especially to Bill Avery who was instrumental in training Kingsteignton to be able to set this new record.

**New Officers needed
Are you willing to help?**

Do you wish to help to reshape the future of bell ringing? There are a number of Officers who no longer wish to stand. This includes, the Secretary, the Training Officer, the Publicity Officer and the Webmaster. We hope that many others will be interested to continue their work. Please contact the Secretary, Jereme Darke, for more details.

**Recruitment, Training
and Youth Development**

At the Devon Association Committee meeting a new sub committee was set up to look at training, recruitment and youth development and there is an initial report, see page 11. This group will be reliant upon members giving their ideas and opinions. The best teachers of ringing are generally those who themselves learnt young. There is some evidence to suggest that recruiting young people of 11-13 is reasonably successful, but retaining them between 14-18 is difficult.

**Plympton to have a
ringing experience**

The parish church of St Mary's will be celebrating its 700 year anniversary during the 12 months, August 2011 to August 2012. There will be many events during the 12 months, which they hope to finish with a ringing marathon of 7 hours made up of at least 14 other towers. Please see page 10 for more details.

Theft from Churches

Your metal has a scrap value and is attractive to thieves, whether it is lead or copper on the roof or bells. Metal items now have to be marked with Smartwater for any insurance to be paid out and then it is limited under the Ecclesiastical policy. You also have to have the the appropriate signage as it has been shown that this can deter removal. A cashless scrap metal trade would create an audit trail and this may significantly reduce metal theft.

Obituaries

Bill Campion immediate past captain of Broadhempston died suddenly at his home on the 1 November 2010 aged 81. Bill, captain for 12 years before his retirement in 2004 was one of those larger than life characters who had an opinion about most things. He was dealt a severe blow when his wife Ella died suddenly some years ago while completing her regular crossword puzzle, leaving Bill without a soul mate in his remote cottage at Woodland. Attempts to get him to come down to Broadhempston and socialise with his former team mates were resisted by Bill. Instead he preferred regular schedules by telephone with Horace Clements (Stoke Gabriel) and Edward Pidwell (Hallwell), Harry Bardens (Bigbury) and rely on local ringers to call when passing. It was clear from those visits Bill was struggling to look after himself. He remained staunchly independent to the end. The funeral service was held at Woodland, half the congregation comprised ringing friends from across South Devon, from Exminster in the East to Egg Buckland in the West. Woodland having only three bells which are not able to be rung full circle so it was decided to ring a memorial peal at Broadhempston on Monday the 13 November. A continuous peal lasting 81 minutes of 720 unrepeated call changes were rung in his memory. All ringers attending from many local towers took part, no matter their skill level, changing the ringers as the peal progressed every 15 minutes or so. The tenor was 'turned in' with calls at a sedate pace by Graham Pascoe who rang the treble throughout. Following the peal, glasses were raised in the Monks Retreat in honour of Bill who had been a loyal member of the local band of Broadhempston ringers for many years.

Herbert 'Pickles' Pascoe

Former captain of Buckland in the Moor, Herbert 'Pickles' Pascoe passed away peacefully on 21st December at around 10.30pm aged 94. The funeral took place at Buckland in the Moor on Thursday 6th January 2011 at 2pm.

Two method peals have been rung in Pickles' memory, one on 24 December and the other on the day of his funeral.

William J Ridgman of Arrington, Herts died 16 January 2011 in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Bill was a vice president of the Devon Guild, having learnt to ring at Newton St Cyres. Bill was elected to the Ancient Society of

College Youths in 1955. Many will remember him as an elder statesman of the Cambridge University Guild, having served as Guild President from 1961 to 1989. Bill's funeral was held at St Pater-nus, North Petherwyn, Cornwall on Friday 4th February at 2 pm. There is also likely to be a memorial service in Cambridge later this year.

Michael Poole died on Sunday 30 January 2011 out in one of his fields. The funeral took place at 2pm on Friday 11 February at Lapford Church.

Lynda Christine Pope died on the 30 January 2011 after a four month illness bravely born. Her funeral was at North Tawton on the 7 February and over one hundred people who attended, spoke volumes about the regard in which she was held.

The funeral was conducted by The Rev Jeff Harris, a family friend, and the reception was held at the Railway Inn.

After a very varied and interesting career, including a spell as an Air Traffic Controller, Air Hostess, owner of a Hotel in Scotland and Pub in Somerset, Lyn and her husband David with their two girls Georgina and Charlotte moved to Sampford Courtenay.

Originally living at Rose Cottage, Lyn had several secretarial jobs before moving to financial services with an insurance company in Exeter and more recently as an accountant for a Farm Services company near Wembworthy. After just over a year at Sampford Courtenay, Lyn moved to the Old Forge North Tawton where she and the family lived for many years before Lyn and David moved to the new houses at Strawberry Fields. Lyn had had a few lessons in Bell Rope handling when they owned the Shurton Inn at Stogursey and she joined the Sampford Courtenay Ringers very soon after her arrival. Lyn was a very regular Sunday ringer and member of the competition band for some 20 years.

In later years Lyn became a valued member of the North Tawton Sunday band where she also was an epistle reader for services. Lyn nursed her husband David for several years, through his increasingly serious dementia and he is now in a nursing home at Launceston.

Lyn is survived by David and her two daughters. "Georgie" who lives in Kent and "Charlie" who at the present time lives in North Tawton and is a member of the Sampford Courtenay bell ringers.

Harold Adams' funeral was held at Holy Cross Church, Crediton, on Thursday 3 February at 1.30 p.m. Harold learnt to ring in one of the towers on the edge of Exmoor, before joining the team at Chittlehampton. He had rung at Crediton since the 1960s, however ill health had prevented him from ringing recently.

Robert Shears

Always cheerful, a friend and help to many, and totally dependable – this was Robert. A full church at his funeral on Monday 28 March 2011 was testament to the respect in which he was held and to the many friends he had.

Robert did all of his schooling at Dunsford (he was goalkeeper in the school football team) leaving at the age of 14 to work with his father and elder brother John on the farm at Burnwell. He learnt to ring soon after and was a member of the Dunsford ringers for about 65 years until his failing health forced him to give up in 2009. He was a willing and able member of the team right up until the day he retired from ringing and regularly helped out with ringing at Christow. Robert was also supportive of the Church in a practical manner. He could often be found working in the churchyard with a strimmer and massive broom, 'tidying up' as he called it. Such was his eagerness to keep things neat and tidy that he once made short work of a 'wild garden' that we attempted to grow following a suggestion from the judges of the best kept village competition!

We shall miss his great humour and boundless enthusiasm – always willing to help others. His exploits will be recounted by his many friends, especially in the ringing fraternity, for many years to come. He was truly a great Dunsford 'character'.

Walt Tremain who rang at Chawleigh passed away on 3 May 2011. He had been in poor health for some time. A private cremation was held at Barnstaple 4 May 2011.

Morris Wright, Tom & Ralf's brother, passed away on 6 May. The funeral was held at Down St Mary on 16 May 2011.

Henry Pascoe died on 6 June 2011 aged 97. He had previously fallen out of his bed and broke a hip. He had an operation to repair this and returned to his residential home where he died. The funeral was held at Ashburton 2pm on 15 June.

Clifford Weekes, who rang for West Alvington, died on 7 August 2011 at 4:30 am. The funeral took place on 17 August at 2pm at West Charleton.

(Continued on next page)

Obituaries (Contd)	SYLVIA MORTIMORE (SYLV)	
<p>Robert 'Chips' Rivett passed away on 8th July. He learnt to ring at Sampford Courtenay in the 1970's. He later farmed at Bere Ferrers and rang at Buckland Monachorum. On his return to Sampford Courtenay he was a regular Sunday Ringer and rang in many competitions.</p> <p>John Caunter died on 2 July 2011 after failing health over a long period. John was a long time ringer with Buckland-in-the-Moor and also had spells with Ashburton, Widcombe-in-the-Moor, Modbury and Plymstock. John Caunter's funeral was held at Ashburton St Andrews on 13 July at 2pm. Ringing took place with the tenor breaking which was now been repaired.</p> <p>Betty Aggett Betty, aged 91 and widow of Perce Aggett who was Captain and tenor ringer at South Tawton, passed away on Tuesday 14 June 11. Betty was supportive and used to do wonderful teas for the judges at the South Tawton competitions and she was still helping to serve teas right up to last year's competition.</p> <p>Arthur Newton Arthur Newton of Hughenden, Bucks passed away in Wexham Park Hospital Wednesday 15 June 2011, aged 99 years. Arthur learnt to ring at Chulmleigh. Arthur was one of the oldest and longest serving Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (ASCY), having been elected to the Society in 1945. His son Robert is also a well-known Member.</p> <p>Sylvia Mortimore passed way, in hospital on 8 December 2010 after suffering a cardiac arrest the day before. Sylvia, a regular ringer at Marldon and Stoke Gabriel, leaves her husband, Norman. The funeral took place on Monday 20 December at Marldon at noon. Despite the heavy snow fall and the icy roads the church was packed. Ringing took place from 11:30 until noon and again after the funeral. As many others were unable to attend due to the weather, a memorial service was held at Marldon Church on Saturday 29 January 2011 at 1pm. Speeches were given by Michael Webster on behalf of the Stoke Gabriel bell ringers and by Harry Bardens on behalf of the Devon Association of Ringers. Sylvia an accomplished judge for bell ringing striking competitions also attended the Mid Week Ringers (Ringklies) events. The family eulogy follows and there was also a touching eulogy by Douglas Pulle who had worked closely with Norman and Sylvia.</p>	<p>SYLVIA was born in Torquay in 1931 and was the daughter of Thomas and Winifred Keen (a local dairyman), and before Sylvia reached school age, she and her parents moved to farm at East Burne, Bickington.</p> <p>She didn't start school until the age of 6 because of the distance, as the walk was some two and a half miles each way to Bickington School. She went on to Ingsdon Convent, again walking most of the way, but this time with the aid of a little bus ride. Peter, Sylvia's brother, was born in 1933 and together the family milked cows, reared cattle, pigs and turkeys for Christmas. Sylvia was mainly responsible for the milking side of things. She held fond memories of those days and didn't mind the hard work that went with it. Preferring the outdoor life, she took her tractor test at 16 and stayed at home, working on the farm although her dad wanted her to become a nurse. She loved showing cattle at the local market shows and became involved with the Newton Abbot Young Farmers Club, learning various countryside skills. It is also renowned as a first class dating agency! Here she met Norman, a local farmer. Love blossomed and they later married in 1952 at Bickington Church. Married life began at Norman's family farm in Buckfastleigh and it was there that their daughter Wendy was born. Soon they moved up to Kiln Road, Marldon where they did all sorts of things -Market gardening, sold logs, kept saddle-back sows, poultry. Norman also farmed land nearby for his father.</p> <p>John French, a local man, approached them one day and said he was selling his small milk round. So from 1954 Norman and Sylv delivered milk, eggs and poultry to houses in Marldon and Compton. As the village grew, so did their milk sales. In the beginning it was 8 - 10 gallons a day and by the end of the 1960's it had reached 90 gallons. Being a daily job, they accumulated many friends around the village over the years. Sylv picked and prepared poultry every week as well as selling poultry at Christmas time. Marldon Tor came up for sale in 1955 (which incidentally was one of their milk customers). Norman and Sylv were successful in the purchase of Marldon Tor which consisted of a timber chalet style bungalow surrounded by larch trees and 12 acres. It had been run as a nudist camp and if extra milk was wanted, someone would listen out and shout down through the trees their order for that day!</p> <p>In 1956 Mark their son was born. It was a wonderful spot to grow up in and in the 39 years spent living, many projects were tackled. It was real teamwork. Between them</p>	<p>built up the poultry to 1,000 head, building or renovating houses to cater them. Sylv was the one who fed them, picked up and graded the eggs for sale. Boiler fowls were also sold each week. Sylv took in visitors for bed and breakfast for a number of years, while Wendy and Mark were growing up. Many returned year after year for the notorious breakfasts and evening meals, the produce cut fresh from the vegetable garden. Sylv loved her garden and spent hours improving the borders around the bungalow. Painting and decorating was on going both inside and out. She could turn her hand to anything and it pleased her to see the improvements. She was also very good at needlework, making clothes for herself and the children. As Wendy and Mark got older, she helped Norman more on the milk round. She learnt to drive and Norman being a keen bell ringer, would drop him off on a Sunday morning at Marldon Church, carry on delivering milk but be back near the Church to pick him up! She took up knitting, not in a traditional way but by machine. She would turn out jumpers for everyone at Christmas! Extra land was later rented next to their own to enable them to keep cattle - stores to bring on and fatten. Also weaned calves in batches which Sylv fed on the bucket. All this taken in her stride. The milk round stopped in early 1970 and in 1991 they retired to Kingskerswell, where they could maybe take life a little more leisurely - but NO! Bell ringing was very much their number one joint interest. Sylv had learnt to ring and they very much enjoyed the company of friends from their bell ringing circles. Sylv led a very full and active life, right up to the end. Nothing was too much trouble. She loved to follow her family as they grew up and revelled in their achievements. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were a delight to her. There are no words to describe the heartfelt feelings of her many family and friends right now. All we can say is "our memories will never fade". All the help you given us and all the love you have shown, will never be forgotten.</p> <p>A further Eulogy was given by Mr Douglas Pulle who moved to Marldon in 1967 and was 'volunteered' to help with the milk round so that Sylvia and Norman could enjoy a well-earned holiday. He soon discovered how much loved and trusted they both were. The daily milk round, meant that both Sylvia and Norman were well and truly at the centre of life in Marldon. So many people will have fond memories of Sylvia, least of all for her legendary meals.</p>

Ringkly Ringers have Spring and Autumn Holiday

The Mid Week Ringers known as the Ringklyes are so dedicated that the majority of the group went on yet another holiday. John and Linda Staddon organised the five days away from home with the Ringers staying at the Savoy, in Bournemouth in May 2011. The coach company used for this event was Mid Devon Coaches and passengers made use of the parking facilities provided by them. Several passengers were picked up en route and ringing took place travelling along to Bournemouth on the Monday. Ringing local to Bournemouth took place Tuesday to Thursday, and there was ringing on the return journey on the Friday.

The hotel provided breakfast and an evening meal, with a free bar, but only from 7.30pm! The real ale drinkers still found a local pub. To assist with the travel requirements lunch was also arranged on the Monday and Friday.

The Ringklyes are off again in October, this time following on the tradition of Arthur and Jean's outings. This event is now called the A & J Trip and now organised by John and Linda Staddon. Again, Mid Devon Coaches from Bow was used and parking at their depot assisted some. The trip this time was to the Wolverhampton area. The routine was similar with ringing taking place on the Monday on the way to Wolverhampton, then ringing in that area from Tuesday to Thursday and ringing for the return journey on Friday on the journey back to Devon.

The Spring 2012 trip will be from 14 to 18 May and will be to the Eastbourne area.

Ringkly Ringers meet monthly

The Ringkly Ringers also meet throughout the year from March to December usually on the second Wednesday of the month. There is one tower in the morning where tea, coffee and biscuits are provided. Lunch is organised, usually a pub, although we have used Golf Clubs and Garden Centres. A further tower is arranged in the afternoon. Ringers from all over Devon met along with their partners for a wonderful day out and a chance to see some beautiful Devon countryside.

Jim Vellacott - 62 years of ringing in the same tower - Morebath

Jim has rung for the same tower, Morebath, for 62 years. Is this a new record? Many other ringers have rung for a long time, however, well done to Jim for continuing to ring in the same tower for so many years.

Auntie celebrates 20th Anniversary of Chagford Bellringers' weekend

It started on Friday 8 May 1992 when 17 ringers left Chagford Square at 8.30am in mini-buses for the Isle of Wight. The instructions were to bring food for the day as there was not enough time for a stop and to keep luggage as light as possible because of lack of space on the bus. So started the first of 20 annual weekends of bellringing organised by Julia and the Chagford Team. Times have changed - now leaving at 6:30am in a 50 seater with plenty of knee and luggage space and food stops are scheduled. The tradition is now established for the third weekend in August. Ringing has been in the Cathedrals of Winchester, Worcester, Canterbury, Coventry, Bristol, Lichfield, Portsmouth and Llandaff along with St Martin in the Fields, Bath Abbey, Dorchester Abbey and Warwick. Of the original 19 ringers, the following have been on all 20 weekends, Julia and Evan Endacott, Jon Bint, Margaret Peirce and Chris Clayton.

The trip organised for 2011 was in the South Gloucester and Oxfordshire area with ringing at Upton St Leonards, Painswick, Horsley and Tetbury on Friday. The hotel was in Cirencester and conveniently close to a real ale pub. Saturday's ringing before lunch was at Shrivenham, Longcot and Faringdon. After lunch we had a photocall with the entire group including the driver wearing the distinctive royal blue polo shirts that had a picture of Chagford church and surrounded by the words "20 years of Auntie's Army. Chagford 2011 Tour." Thank you to Julia and Evan for providing so many memorable occasions. In the afternoon we rang at Lechlade and Fairford where there just happened to be a steam and vintage vehicle rally.

There was a celebratory evening dinner to mark the 20th anniversary in a restaurant in Cirencester.

Sunday, after loading our luggage, and missing Paul and Catherine; Paul having been summoned at 4am to Addenbrooke Hospital for a transplant, we rang at the Parish Church of Cirencester, Mersey Hampton and stopping for a three course carvery Sunday Lunch at South Cerney. The final ring of the weekend was at Watermoor, Cirencester and then back on to the M5 to Devon and home.

Another chance reunion was with Rob, our coach driver, who, although now retired and recovering from knee operations was able to drive us for this trip. We now look forward to the next mile stone!

Isle of Scilly

Bob Pengelly arranged for a small party from Lydford and a few friends to ring at St Mary's, Isle of Scilly in September. It was an early start to the day as we had to be in Penzance to board the Scillonian III by 8:45. This superb ferry was well cared for and had been recently overhauled. The sea was calm and after watching the Cornish Coastline we soon saw The Bishops Rock Lighthouse and soon after that the outline of the islands. After a short walk, and lunch, we made our way to the church which had 8 bells installed by Andrew Nicholson in March 2009. The church and bells featured in "An Island Parish", a TV series. There are two monitors, one in the ringing chamber and the other on the ground floor of the church, so that all can witness what is happening in the belfry. After many peals, but not enough, we had to be on board by 4pm. For the return journey, the weather stayed very pleasantly warm, with plenty of sunshine, this allowed most to stay on deck, putting jackets on as dusk arrived. A very enjoyable journey and a pleasure to be able to ring at St Mary's. Thank you to Bob for arranging the trip.

Brentor

Ian Hardy reports that at last the bells of Brentor can be rung again. There is still some painting to do, and they hope to add some more 'insulation' so that the tenor is not too loud. The team report that there is a definite improvement. The ring of 5 were rehung on the existing fitting, with repairs to the frame and the work was undertaken by John Taylor & Co.

Devon Ringers' Council

The Devon Ringers' Council have been very busy with different activities over the past year.

The Council took part in the Exeter Autumn Festival with a performance called Music in Bells in November 2010 at St Petrock Church. The Carol Concert is organised by the Council and last year this was held at Heavitree. There were 3 different displays of handbell ringing.

The Council also took part in the Devon County Show with ringers from the Guild and Association assisting over the show days. The Council also organise the 10 bell competition and on 18 February 2012 this will be held at Tavistock and that the 2013 competition will be held at Cullompton.

Eggbuckland and Friends on a Narrowboat Tour along the Kennet & Avon Canal 20 - 27 May 2011

Back in the autumn of 2010 I received an invitation to go on a ringing trip with a difference and readily accepted. I had considered on several occasions in recent years that it would be fun to hire a narrow boat and tour a region's churches to ring bells. The area would include parts of Wiltshire, Somerset, Avon and Gloucestershire. It goes without saying that a sample of ales in the local hosteleries was firmly on the agenda too!

Friday 20th May 2011 soon dawned and we convened at Seend. There were 12 of us in the party – 9 of us were ringers. It soon became evident that our organisers Dave and Hilary Trout had put in many hours of preparation. There were 6 members of the Trout Family – these were Dave and Hilary, Nick and Angie, Dan and Steven. Sue, Louise and I were the other three. The non ringers were Tim and Leslie from Welwyn and Hayley Trout. Seend are a ground floor ring of six with a 14 ½ cwt tenor. They went their weight and we had soon accomplished some decent striking on our first tower. From the churchyard there was a splendid view of the Salisbury Plain. After some liquid refreshment we headed to Hilperton Marina, just north of Trowbridge to park up and board our mobile base for the next week.

Our 12 berth narrow boat bore the name of 'Whistling Swan'. The kitchen was centrally placed with a bathroom and room for sleeping six persons on either side of this. The obligatory health and safety lecture was not too arduous and an engineer showed us the basics about running the boat. Then it was over to our Skipper Dave to get the machine moving. We headed in a westerly direction along the Kennet and Avon Canal towards Bristol. Recommended maximum speed was four knots – this was fine as it gave us more time to enjoy the views, local hospitality, each other's company; and of course the bells. After successfully passing over an aqueduct and through our first lock we parked up – no sorry moored our vessel in Bradford-on-Avon: just next to the Canal Tavern. We then walked up the hill to our first peal of eight at Christchurch – tenor weighing just over 12 cwt. These went well with most of our ringers enjoying the experience! We then needed refreshment in the Canal Tavern – with a few exotic dishes on the menu to include Kangaroo and Crocodile! Then we staggered (not really?) back to the boat and turned in for the night.

Saturday morning soon dawned. Thanks to the ladies, a full English was served up for us. We were then on our way again and soon moored up at Limpley

Stoke. An enjoyable 30 minute walk brought us to our next tower – Freshford. Relatively recently overhauled this 11½ cwt six went well. We popped into the Hop Pole Inn for a quick lunch before returning to the Whistling Swan. On we travelled to Claverton and found the church after a short stroll up the hill. This pretty little set of six weighing 6½ cwt were enjoyable. Interesting ringing positions – in a line rather than a ring similar to Otterton. Well satisfied we wandered back to the canal and moved on to Bathampton, where we moored, rang, fed and watered in the George Inn. A word of warning if you visit this little six you need a short 4th ringer – poor positioning adjacent to the clock box! Red paint on the woodwork to warn ringers of hand/knuckle damage!! Pity these could have gone better.

Sunday morning was then upon us and off the short distance to Bath mooring just before a line of 6 locks! Off we headed to a pretty little light six at Lansdown to ring for service – 2 ¾ cwt tenor – a challenge but well handled by all. Then a quick coffee courtesy of Morrison's and we walked onto Larkhall – a good ring of eight weighing approx 11 cwt. These were a bit noisy but went well. We then had opportunity to visit more of Bath – some were tired and took a taxi! Afternoon arrived and we set sail for the lock-marathon, a run of six, the team performed well under strictest control of Captain Dave. The final tower of the day was at Twerton, a ground floor ring of eight weighing 13 cwt. These were tricky to rise but we soon got hold of them. We rounded the evening off in the Dolphin Inn where several of the younger members practised their Pool skills (with a cue you understand). Food here was very wholesome and of extremely good value for money.

The first ring on Monday was reached after crossing a dairy farm to the village of Kelston. A ground floor ring which sounded good outside but were a bit 'agricultural' as we had to clear the belfry of debris and they were difficult to rise. Back to the boat we went, avoiding silage trailers and soon on our way to the Bird in Hand for a liquid snack. On we headed westwards to Keynsham – the first drizzle of the trip did not dampen our spirits. This was a lovely ring of eight, 25cwt. Well done to Steve who put the tenor up. We managed a peal of Titums too (thank you Hils for bearing this). We rounded the evening off in the Lock Keeper, to be recommended, the portions were getting bigger and bigger or was it our appetites? A fine day on

Tuesday dawned; we turned around and headed back upstream to Bitton. What a welcome we had! We were also greeted by Patrick from South Brent (working he said, on route to Wales). This is where Emma from S Brent used to ring, then called Emma Richards, a team picture dated silver jubilee in 1977 included Emma in the tower gallery! An excellent ring of eight weighing 14cwt. A welcome coffee break was enjoyed in the walled garden next to the church. After dinner we moored further upstream and walked up to Newton St Loe. Ground floor six, not very musical but went well once we were up. Poor Louise had a pulled shoulder and was forced to rest. She managed a peal at the next tower, Corston, light eight with short draft. Then on to Weston for our evening meal.

First tower on Wednesday was Weston, ground floor ring of eight with 12cwt tenor. Not the easiest but a valiant effort by all. After lunch we rang at Bathwick, a fine 19cwt 10, but only enough to do back eight some justice, and in my opinion we did with some excellent striking. Finally after a long walk (some of us strolled this route on Saturday eve looking for a watering hole – lead by Dave!) to Bathford we reached our last tower of the day, an interesting six of 8 cwt. On we went to Limpley Stoke and had a good evening meal in the Hop Pole Inn.

Thursday we woke up to rain. Once wrapped up we walked to Westwood, a good 4½ cwt six. Almost a lock out! A good peal was disturbed by yours truly doing a terrier impression, 'manflu' coughing you understand! The rain eased and we soon got to Bradford for the second time. We then rang at the other tower in the town, Holy Trinity, these were proper, 30 cwt of metal and went well! We then travelled back to Hilperton and moored (boat due back in Marina at 0930 Friday). We rang at Hilperton and dined at the Lion and Fiddle. Friday arrived too quickly and we unloaded our belongings and said goodbye to the Whistling Swan. Sadly our final ring of the trip at Holt was a lock out!

On behalf of the crew I extend a very big thank you to Dave and Hils for organising a brilliant week. Thanks to the rest of the crew for doing your bit too, it made it all run smoothly, the breakfast team, the lock team, and of course our Skipper, Captain Dave, for ensuring in Hayley's words that a 'Titanic' impression did not occur. I can thoroughly recommend this type of ringing tour especially if you want to go at a relaxed pace, enjoy good company, like a bit of walking and hate spending too many hours on the road! It was certainly fun and a new experience for all!

JJD May 2011.

**A REPORT OF THE
1972 CENTRAL COUNCIL OF RINGERS
SPRING BANK HOLIDAY MEETING IN LONDON**

(Taken from The Ringing World, June 16th, 1972, page 492) Articles found by Scott Adams.

The arrangements and organisation for the Central Council of Church Bell-Ringers Annual Meeting for 1972 were undertaken by the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. A committee was made up of an equal number of members from each working together under the chairmanship of Air Commodore J. S. Mason. Mr D. E. Sibson was the secretary and he was ably supported by the masters of both societies (Mr. A. R. Patterson, College Youths, and Mr. Dennis Beresford (Cumberlands).

Mr. Beresford said it was his privilege, as master, to welcome the Council to London after 24 years, particularly as his society was celebrating its 225th anniversary. The chief feature of the organisation had been co-operation, and the committee were deeply grateful to the other London societies for their agreement that the two societies could be hosts to the Council. The Devon Association members present called forth particular mention, for many had started off from home before 2 a.m. that morning and were returning that night, having taken part in the call change competition during the afternoon. (Applause). The Devon Association of Ringers in sending six teams (by invitation) to London to take part in a competition of call change ringing at St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, during Monday afternoon, was a most successful innovation and has done much to bring together both call change and scientific ringers into closer relationship within the Exercise - which is of Church Bell Ringing.

It was a happy thought on the part of Mr. Dennis Beresford (master, Cumberland Youths) to suggest that an invitation be extended to the Devon Association, which is affiliated to the Central Council, to send some teams to London during the meeting of the Council over the Spring Bank Holiday to take part in a call change competition. When the Devon Association accepted the invitation it was received with great pleasure, tremendous interest being shown by all concerned, as well as by Council members generally. St. Vedast's, Foster Lane (6 bells), was chosen for the competition, and the teams taking part were the three champions last year from North Devon and three from South Devon. There were also a number of fans and supporters on the coaches, and at least four Devonians had not been to London before. In order to arrive in time for a practice peal, the coaches had to leave very early - one just before midnight on Sunday and another at 2 a.m. on Monday. The long journey and little, if any, sleep, with the excitement of this historic event, obviously brought on an attack of nerves among some of the less hardy Devon ringers. The bells, too, were not easy to hear in the ringing chamber, and the ropes were somewhat springy. However, it was the same for each team, who are considered in the West Country as experts in their particular field of ringing. There was a crowd of 100-150 outside the church at 2.30 on Monday afternoon and the presence of many method-ringing critics did not soothe the nerves of the teams who were out to display precision striking to all within hearing. The happy exchange of greetings and the West Country dialect spoken were a delight to listen to and many new friendships were made.

The teams were called together and briefed, and the draw for ringing order was made. Two teams then left for the tower, but it was not known which would be ringing the first peal. The judges were shut away in a vestry and several tape recorders were suitably placed. A bell sounded six times, which gave all warning of the impending start, and the team then rang up in peal, went into changes and rang down, also in peal, the whole taking not less than 15 minutes each. The second team replaced the first who then remained in the church until the ringing by the second team was completed, the same peals being rung. Nods, mutterings, head-shaking and frowns all gave the uninitiated indications of approval or otherwise as change followed change. The fact that the sun had disappeared behind clouds and that raindrops were falling did not appear to affect the Devon teams very much. The cold wind, however, certainly dispersed some of the groups of scientific ringers to stand in shop doorways or the church precincts, but as team followed team the prospects of which would be the winner became more obscure. After the last peal there was general discussion among the competing teams and, with few exceptions, the competitors seemed disappointed, saying that they had not rung as well as they should. They felt they had not achieved the good rhythm and striking which is always expected from the West Country teams. In fact the standard, in our opinion, was excellent. Taking into account the long, tiring journey and the strangeness of the surroundings, apart from the fact that it did impress the method ringers, the results were very creditable and all who listened could not but be satisfied with the performances.

At the reception in the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital the results were given and the certificates presented. The judges also received commemorative certificates of the occasion, and the chairman of the Devon thanks to the two associations and to the Central Council for the invitation to London to participate in the competition. It was, he said, a very special occasion and his association and the six representative bands attending had felt it a great honour to be present that day. (Applause).

RESULTS

1: **Kenn** (37¼ faults).

C. J. Rice, R. Staddon, K. Raddenbury, H. Brewer, F. Toghill (capt.) F. Verney,

2: Tie (decided by toss of coin)

West Down (41½).

M. Phillips (capt.), D. Smale, C. Ridge, G. Stevens, I. Hookway, L. Smale.

Plymstock (41½).

J. H. Hine (capt.), W. E. Weeks, F. T. Crowe, I. M. Treeby, R. R. Treeby, H. L. Collingwood.

4: **West Alvington** (48).

G. Edwards (capt.) J. R. Wills, T. Hockin, P. Holsgrove, L. Foster, J. Rhymes.

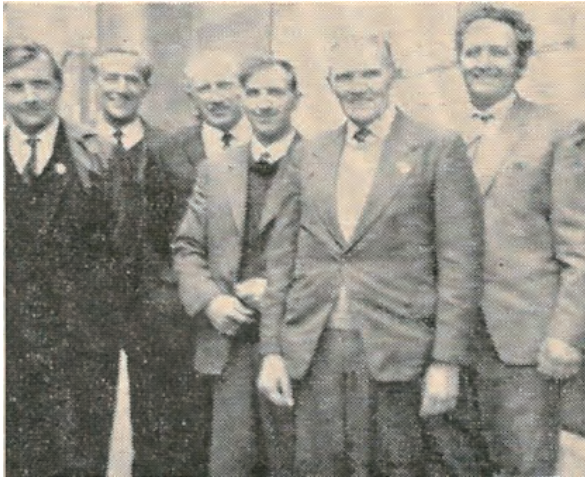
5: **Swimbridge** (51¼).

J. Tooze, D. Jewell, A. J. Bartlett (capt.), A. R. McLeod, M. Bowden (sub. for F. Dallyn), H. A. Jones.

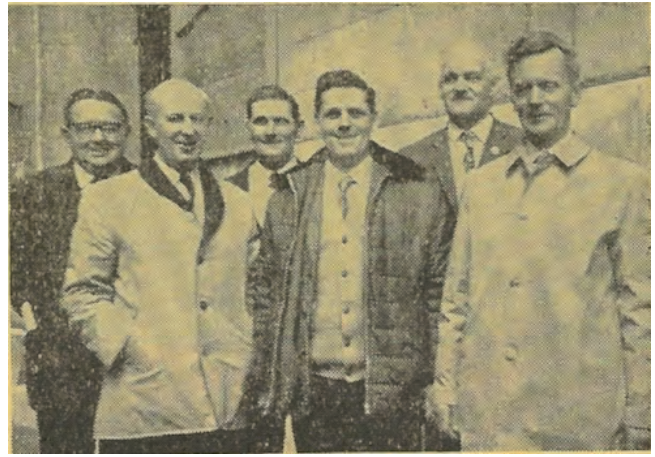
6: **Down St. Mary** (78¼).

H. Dockings (capt.), Rita M. Western, M. W. J. Western, T. Wright, R. O. Wright, M. Way.

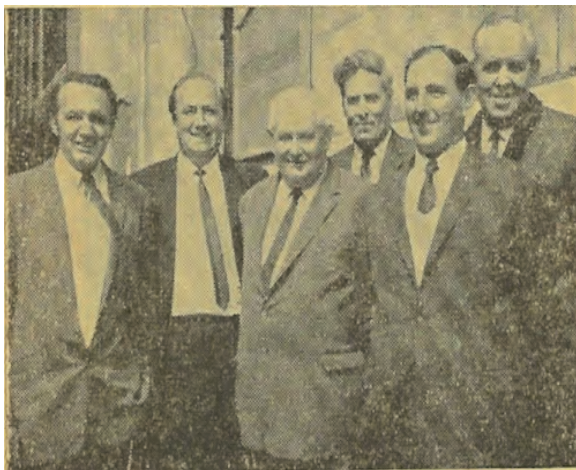
The four judges: Herbert Pidler (Chairman), Arthur Tapper, Brian Drake, Reuben Elliott (Vice-Chairmen). Hon. Secretary: E. J. Cole.



The winning team of the Devon call-change competition were from St. Andrew's, Kenn. L. to r.: K. Raddenbury, C. J. Rice, R. Staddon, H. Brewer, F. Toghill (captain) and F. Verney.



Plymstock: (l. to r.) W. E. Weeks, F. T. Crowe, I. M. Treeby, R. R. Treeby, H. L. Collingwood and J. H. Hine (capt.).



West Down: (l. to r.) D. Smale, L. Smale, C. Ridge, I. Hookway, G. Stevens and M. Phillips (capt.).



West Alvington: L. to r.: G. Edwards (capt.), T. Hocking, P. Holsgrove, J. Rhymes, J. R. Wills, L. Foster.



Swimbridge: L to r.: M. Bowden, H. A. Jones, A. J. Bartlett (captain), J. Tooze, D. Jewel and A. R. McLeod.



Down St. Mary team. L to r.: M. Way, M. W. J. Western, R. O. Wright, Rita M. Western (the only lady in the competition), T. Wright and H. Docking (captain).

Photographs shown in the *Ringling World* publication of 1972 see articles on pages 6 and 8. Information found by Scott Adams.

The Ringing World, June 16, 1972, page 475 to 476

CALL CHANGE COMPETITION

By Six Teams from Devon Association.

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DRAW MADE

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At the reception in the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital the results were given and the certificates presented.



Jack Rhymes (L) former Secretary of the Woodleigh Deanery for 31 years and his wife, Helen, being presented with a mantle clock by Harry Bardens, Treasurer of the Woodleigh Deanery.

Jack Rhymes with his wife, Helen, being presented with an engraved mantle clock on behalf of the Woodleigh Deanery, by Harry Bardens for his recognition as Secretary for 31 years. The presentation took place at Salcombe where the Annual Festival was held in May 2011. Jack did not seek re-election at the last AGM and John Gunstone was elected the new Secretary. Harry is the Treasurer and had previously been the Chairman of the Deanery for 39 years.

John Cole is the Chairman of the Deanery and as can be seen by their Annual Festival there is plenty of enthusiasm within the Deanery by the number of teams entering the competition. The Woodleigh Deanery still continue to hold their monthly training evening with an average of 30 people attending. This training evening was first started by Dave Trist and Jereme Darke about 8 years ago and is still as popular today as it was when it was first started.

Jack continues to be involved with West Alvington by welcoming the ringers, from his garden gate, on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

A message from Feniton calling all bell ringers

Well it happened on time and in Grand Style!! St Andrew's Church, Feniton is open and in fine fettle. However some things are still in need of renewal and in particular the BELL RINGERS, they need new blood. St Andrew's has a fine, light ring of six bells, but for various reasons we now only have four Feniton Ringers, and two who ring here and in Payhembury. This not enough to cover illness and holidays. We need to at least double out numbers. So if you already ring or would like to learn, age is no barrier, we would be glad to teach you. Practise is weekly, day to yet to be confirmed. It would be wonderful to have a full tower for Sunday Services and Weddings.

Please contact the Tower Captain Josephine Chown on 01404 850513, email jo@jochown.plus.com

Chardstock

Chardstock Flower Festival took place weekending 23 July - with an event highlighting the history of bell ringing in the village. Impressive floral displays were on show at St Andrew's Church through Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as the village was inundated with visitors.

Susan Bray researched and put together an exhibition detailing centuries' worth of history of bell ringing in the village, with newspaper cuttings and photos going back through the generations.

The St Andrew's Church bell ringers are looking for new members to add to their history - and meet for training every Thursday from 7.30pm to 9pm. If you are interested in getting involved contact tower captain Derrick Goff on 01460-220121.

Imagine at Exeter Cathedral

On Sunday 11 September there was a performance of John Lennon's peace song 'Imagine' on the bells at Exeter Cathedral. The performance marked the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and was the concluding part of a "peace walk" through Exeter. Six members of the Cathedral Society of Ringers performed the song by chiming the bells with the ropes tied to the clappers being conducted by Ian Avery.

Results of the Devon Association Grand Draw at West Alvington on 11 June 2011

1. £250 cash to A Morrison, Stoodleigh
2. £75 cash to Lucy White, Morteohoe
3. £50 cash to B Stevens, Woolsey

Eleven prizes of £25 each to:

1. Mrs P Pascoe, Ashburton
2. Chris Parker, Sandford
3. Carlow, Pilton
4. D Gidley, Kingsbridge
5. D Webb, East Anstey
6. A Stoye, Sandford
7. E Davis, Tavistock
8. G Allen, Kingsbridge
9. P Hunt, Cornworthy
10. M Fry, Whiddon Down
11. R Jordan, Bratton Clovelly

The above draw was to raise fund for the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund and Chris Ley, the promoter, wishes to thank all those who supported this event.

Devon Association Dinner and Dance

The Ringers dinner went very well, had great feed back on the evening. The food was wonderful were the comments and music was very enjoyable. Men were being dragged up to dance, Mervyn who attended was unwell and stayed in Hospital over night and was required for tests the following week.

High Bickington Church Tower Appeal

A Barn dance with a 2 course meal was held at Burrington Village Hall was in aid of High Bickington church tower appeal and this went very well with everyone having a great time. £931.00 was raised for the appeal, with some more still to come in.

Bell Ringers in the news

George Mudge

On Friday 14th January 2011 the guest on BBC Radio Devon's Interactive Lunch was George Mudge who talked about ringing and sheep shearing.

John Knott's 70th

The itinerary for the Birthday "surprise" tour for John Knott, who was 70 on 12 January 2011. He knew he was going out on Saturday 15 January but unaware of the venues. Ringing was at Broadclyst, Silverton, Tiverton St Peter and at Uplowman followed by an evening meal at Uplowman.

Paul J Pascoe - Records

Is the fastest person to ring 1000 Peals (from 1st to 1000th peal) in 3271 days with his 1000th peal being on 8 December 2007. Paul also has the record for most peals in a day. Starting at 10am on Saturday, 27 June 2009 10 peals at Marston Bigot, Somerset (20lbs) concluding the next day at 8.23am.

Paul also has the record for light bell ringers by ringing at Brockenhurst, Hampshire. (Jennie's Old Bedroom Ring) on Sunday 17th May 2009. The lightest ever bells yet rung to a Peal by rope and wheel. With a tenor weighing just 2oz (around 57 grams); with Paul conducting.

Paul also has a call change record in that on 30th September 2000 there were 5040 changes completed in 5hr 33min at Buckland in the Moor, with just Paul conducting, with most changes being called at EVERY handstroke.

Thomas J Waterson

On 26th February 2011 Thomas became the youngest person (aged 19yr 8mth) to ring a peal on the tenor at **Exeter Cathedral (72cwt)** and at **St Buryan, Cornwall (37cwt)**, the heaviest 6 bell tower in the world, the youngest to ring a peal of Surprise Minor in 3hrs 33minutes on 13th February 2011.

Alison Waterson and Hilary Beresford

Thomas' mother and aunt also have records for feats of learning and method complexity at a young age in that Alison Waterson on 3 September 1976, then aged 15 rang the 2nd to Yorkshire Maximus and Hilary Beresford, then aged 16 rang the 4th that day.

The above information was taken from the following link:

http://www.changeringing.co.uk/wiki/index.php/Notable_Achievements

PERCY PESTER soon to be 81

Percy reached the age of 80 on the 15th November 2010. He was born and brought up at Dunsford where he learnt to ring, an activity which he started in 1946. He then went on to ring at Dunsford for 20 years, mainly ringing the tenor. He first competed in a ringing competition on Saturday 22nd September 1956, ringing the tenor for Dunsford in the 'B' section at the 15th Kenn Deanery Festival which was held at Ashton (known to Percy though as Ashun!). That team comprised of: Treble, Alf. Sercombe. 2nd Tony James. 3rd Maurice Sharland. 4th Dick Sharland. 5th Robert Shears. Tenor, Percy Pester. No reflection on Percy but this was the last time in which Ashton's bells were used in a Deanery competition. The bells have remained silent ever since. In 1964 he moved with his family to Colaton Raleigh where he lived for just over 40 years. There he joined the ringers and in 1970 was appointed Tower Captain, a position he still holds. Throughout his ringing career he has encouraged and taught many people to ring, including his son David. Thanks to Percy's efforts Colaton Raleigh currently has 10 ringers and the bells are rung on a regular basis. He has consistently "flown the flag" for the Devon Association of Ringers in and around East Devon and acted as a faithful and reliable ringing judge for over 20 years. In 2005 he moved with his wife Sheila to No 1, Poplar Row, Budleigh Salterton (or as Percy would say -to 'Salterton').

It was in the Salterton Arms that I caught up with him following his 80th birthday and listened to his slant on the current situation surrounding bells and ringers. From his perspective things aren't altogether good with, "too much borrowing going on inside competitions" and seemingly the quality of striking has deteriorated over the years. Also today "there's they that c'n ring (presumably the minority) and they that thinks they c'n ring" (presumably the rest of us) and 'the trouble is, the more they listen the less they yur'! We didn't talk just about bellringing however. I was also treated to a well informed account, supported with photocopied text, on the workings of the old Teign Valley line and how quarrying operated in the area right up until the 1960's. It was a brief glimpse into the quarrying and mining industry of the upper Teign valley and the task involved in both extracting and transporting the valley's resources down to the old Christow station that was. In the Barytes mine at Bridford the late Reuben Elliot, captain of Bridford ringers, was employed as a blacksmith. Percy produced a photograph taken in 1950 of the mine workers. Included in the group of sixty or so men were the Waldron brothers Jack and Bert. Who both rang at Bridford as well as Reuben, and a non ringer, Percy's father, Harry Pester. Situated at Bridford was the Scatter rock stone quarry. The stone from Scatter rock was reputed to be the hardest of all road stone.

We spent an entertaining time together. It was good to hear an unrestrained Devonian accent being spoken in a traditional Devon pub and looking around I wasn't the only one enjoying our conversation! Belated Happy Birthday to you Percy from us all. *Colin Adams.*

Bill Blake celebrates his 90th birthday

Bill has recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He was born February 2nd, 1921, in Diptford and moved to Stoke Canon in 1988. He did well at school, often being top of his class. Bill left school at 14 and joined his father's business as a carpenter, builder, decorator and sawyer. He joined the RAF Regiment in 1939 and as part of the B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) worked on restoring and maintaining airfields in Europe as the German army retreated. He also worked on clearing the beaches at Ostend of remaining mines. After the war in Europe he found himself being transferred to Okinawa, but as his troop ship passed Gibraltar, the news of the surrender of Japan came through and Bill found himself being diverted to Singapore and Hong Kong. On demob Bill returned to England on the 'Mauritania', the old liner that had been commandeered as a troopship.

When his father died he carried on the business of A. Blake and Son. He has fond memories of his working life, particularly working with his father on all the woodwork required for the Totnes bypass and on one occasion purchasing from another company the magnificent oak screen with lead light glazing that had originally been in the Quirke family's mansion. Bill adapted it for Diptford Parish Church to act as a partition between the main church and the bell ringing area. He remembers too, how very well local small builders would work together on larger enterprises. Bill's great love is bell ringing. He was captain of the Diptford bell ringers for thirty years and is a member of the 'Retired Bell Ringers Club' that draws its members from all over Devon and some from Cornwall. He has rung in many churches including of course Stoke Canon and Rewe. To celebrate his recent birthday, a surprise was arranged for him in Rewe Parish Church when fifty bell ringers greeted his arrival with a hearty rendering of 'Happy Birth-

day' followed by ringing. Lunch at the 'Ruffwell' with further ringing at Thorverton.

A lover of music, Bill has sung in choirs and until his fingers became too stiff he played the mandolin and violin. His favourite music is Handel's 'Messiah'. He enjoys reading particularly books on travel, Michael Palin being a favourite author. Travel has been a joy to him especially visits to Malta and Italy, where Lake Como, Lake Garda and Capri were favourite destinations. His most treasured possession is his gate leg table made by his father from Devon oak and chestnut. When asked whom he most admired and would like to invite to tea he replied, "Prince Charles and Camilla Duchess of Cornwall together with the ex. Vicar of Diptford, Peter Willis and his wife Monica, although there could be many more but I wouldn't have the room!"

Asked what lesson his long life had taught him he said "Respect for the elderly. It is so important, they have so much to offer. Everyone should learn from them."

Sadly Bill's wife died in 2002. He is a father, grandfather and great grandfather. He has two daughters and a son. Rosemarie is a nurse, Pauline a teacher and Ian a computer consultant. Bill is very happy in Stoke Canon. When he first arrived in the village he met Brian the Post Master who gave him such a warm welcome. He used to call regularly on Ron and Jean Grimwood for the key to Rewe Church. Living on the first floor they would call down "Who is it?" He would call up "It's Bill." Ron would shout down, "We know at least six Bills." "I want to open up for the bell ringers" said Bill. "Next time," said Ron, "shout up, I'm Bill the Bells' and we will know who you are!" From then on Bill became known as 'Bill the Bells'!

Bill's verdict on Stoke Canon - "Stoke Canon has been absolutely spot on for everything".

Mischa Thompson - Denmisch Ring

A Devon garage has become the unlikely setting for preserving one of the country's most traditional pastimes. A detached house in Okehampton is giving young people some hands on experience of bell ringing, thanks to computers which provide the sounds. Mischa Thompson installed the simulated bells to allow local ringers to practice at any time. The light weight of the system compared with traditional bells is encouraging young people to take part. Ten ropes are connected to 10 bell wheels in the loft of Mischa's garage. The wheels are in turn hooked up to a computer and loudspeakers. Mischa said: "You can't ring church bells all the time, you have to get permission. But here you can ring any time." One youngster who has joined the bell-ringing group, called the Denmisch Ring, said: "It's strange being in a garage, but it's very exciting."

BBC Spotlight had a feature on the 10 simulated bells located in the garage with filming taking place on Sunday 24 July from 2.30pm onwards. Mischa advertised for as many ringers as possible to attend for some method and call change ringing. Mischa was particularly looking for some young ringers to show that ringing is for everyone.

Mischa states that it all went very well and wishes to thank all the ringers that came to support the event especially the youngsters. Mischa collected £105 from the donations for the refreshments which she sent to the Devon Air Ambulance towards their new helicopter. Mischa states that the person who designed and installed them has them on loan to her or until she is able to buy them!

Maintenance is annual and the extra 2 bells was to make the ring different.

Old ringing records needed - can you help?

As I'm sure most of you already know, I run a website where I keep an archive of results from competitions held since 2003, along with a league table for each year so that we have some sort of indication who is the 'best' team in a given year. A couple of years ago I upgraded how I run the site, from pencil-paper-and-perspiration to an online database, to make things easier to update. As a consequence I can make the archive better and give people more information, and so I've got a new project in mind which I need your help in completing.

We all know that method ringers keep records of all the peals and quarter-peals they ring complete with a list of who rang which bell etc. We don't currently have anything like this, and I think it's about we did. With this in mind, I'd like to compile a list of the ringers who were in the winning teams of the following competitions since the first year the respective competitions were held:

- 8 bell Final
- 6 bell Major Final
- 6 bell Minor Final
- 6 bell qualifiers, North and South

With the possible later additions of the South Devon 8 bell competition, the South Devon Interdeanery competition and the north Devon equivalents, if such competitions exist.

Once the data is collected I hope to be able to make it both browsable and searchable, so you, or anyone else, will be able to find out, for example, who was in the team that won the 1937 6 bell final or how many times a given ringer has won the North Devon qualifier.

Along with this I'd like to back-date the archive of results for all competitions that I have, so that there is a place where we can answer all those niggling questions that we all occasionally have, such as "When was the Swimbridge Major Final?" or "Where was the 1978 8 bell Final held?". Many of you do keep records, I hope that you will be able to assist me.

I believe that now is the time to do this, as if we leave it too much longer a lot of this knowledge will be gone! If you can help by providing the names of the ringers or results from past competitions please do not hesitate to email me (at james@myconid.co.uk), send the information by post, or even come and talk to me.

James Kerslake

700 years at Plympton St Mary's

The 7 hour ringing marathon at St Mary's Plympton has been devised by using the dates 1311 and 2011 (the 700 years) and adding the dates together to make 3322 changes. If 14 teams wish to take part, ringing will be for 25 minutes for each tower with 5 minutes for a change over. If more than 14 towers show an interest, the ringing times per tower will be less. Information packs are now available and you can contact the tower captain, Mrs Mary Nicholls, by telephone 01752 200053 or alternatively by email: cyrilnicholls44@hotmail.co.uk.

This occasion is in the early stages of planning and until they know the level of responses in the coming months, no final details can be confirmed. This 8 bell tower has a tenor of 25-1-11.

A certificate will be presented to each team member and a team certificate also given for their church. A plaque with all the names, teams, and their respective churches will be produced and to be kept in St Mary's Tower. A peal will be devised for this occasion, and each team will ring the same peal with a conductor being provided, if required.

St Margaret's Church, Stoodleigh
26th June 2011 - Rededication of the bells

The "Big Society" is promoted as a new initiative but, in fact, there is nothing new about it at all; such has existed in various guises since man first evolved into a social animal. Similarly, bells have played a fundamental role in the culture of all societies succeeding the bronze age. Thus the good citizens of Stoodleigh were following a centuries-trod path when they demonstrated a practical manifestation of what man always has managed without the need for attendant political whimsy.

Having had the bells at St Margaret's pronounced "unringable" in mid-2008, the small Stoodleigh community set about raising what for them was the enormous sum required to refurbish the ring of six and at the same time, restore some of the church's medieval decorations. It is to the great credit of those involved in this undertaking and with gratitude to the many who donated to this effort – individuals, the Heritage Lottery Fund and others – that in February of this year, the work was completed and the bells were again able to ring out. These adventures have been chronicled in earlier editions of RRD by Jennifer Rowlandson. Culmination of this stalwart enterprise was Sunday, 26 June's Service of Thanksgiving and Rededication of the bells by the Bishop of Crediton, the Right Reverend Robert Evens. During Evensong, augmented by a choir made up of local singers, Bishop Bob commanded the switching on of the new church interior lights. These are of a pleasant and entirely complimentary style and for which he provided a thanksgiving. Following one of his characteristically humorous and always relevant addresses, the Bishop presented Jennifer Rowlandson with the two volumes of the "Towers and Bells of Devon", that extraordinarily comprehensive work by Messrs Scott, Mack and Clarke. This gift was made in recognition of the pivotal part played by Jennifer – it has been around her that the success of the undertaking has hinged. Subsequently, the Bishop, Vicar, Chuchwardens and Bell Ringers moved to the west end of the nave for the Rededication of the Bells. This was the cue for the resident band under Gerald Palfrey to catch hold and start the festivities.

Nearly all the ringers who attended the service then took a turn – at one time, the Presidents of both the Guild and the Association together with the Chairman of the NE Branch could be seen in deep tintinabular concentration. It was a joyous occasion and a fun evening celebrating the outcome of such a worthwhile enterprise.

I had been invited to ring at Stoodleigh not long after the bells had been recommissioned and thought at the time that they possessed a very distinctive brightness and clarity.

Later, these qualities were confirmed from outside when the bells were rung for the service. It is an interesting ring with the combination of light weight (the tenor being a few ounces over 7cwt) and longish draft making for some lively ropes. Gerald Palfrey is the Tower Captain on 01398 351271. *Article by Dermot Elworthy.*

Jennifer Rowlandson reports that the service was a great success and she was completely overwhelmed by the presentation. She states that the church looked fantastic as the flower ladies had pulled out all the stops - it was rather like a flower festival. Jennifer also managed to gather together a choir of 22 so it was a superb Choral Evensong.

Stoodleigh

The peal of six bells at St Margaret, Stoodleigh were removed from the tower in September 2010 after a period of 2 years of silence. The bells were deemed unringable after an inspection found that water was coming in from the tower roof and this had badly affected the 1867 oak frame by Warner of London. The bells were subsequently removed, a new frame constructed and the bells have newly crafted wheels and hung on new bearings. The six bells are a complete peal cast in 1867 by John Warner & Son of Cripple-gate, London. Nicholson Engineering under took the project. The weights are: Treble: 3-1-23, 2nd: 3-3-15, 3rd: 4-1-12, 4th: 4-2-7, 5th 5-2-24 and Tenor: 7-0-3.

High Bray

The six bells at All Saints church, High Bray were unringable due to part of the oak frame decaying. The bells have been silent for some 30 years. The job of restoring the bells and the frame was awarded to John Taylor & Co of Loughborough. The Stokes frame which dates from 1892 is in fairly good condition. Taylors constructed a new side where the decay was and strengthened the rest. The frame now back in position sits on a new RSJ support beam. The bells have been re-hung with new fittings.

The bells weights are as follows: Treble: 4-1-9, 2nd: 4-2-4, 3rd: 4-2-19, 4th: 6-1-24, 5th: 8-3-2 and Tenor: 11-3-26 in Ab.

Sheepstor

The restoration of the bells at St Leonards Church, Sheepstor is now complete and they were re-hung in the original Stokes frame in January. The restoration has been a great success. The bells were re-tuned at Whitechapel as part of the restoration and the bells were re-hung with new fittings. The weights of the newly tuned peal are as follows: Treble: 4-0-24, 2nd: 3-3-21, 3rd: 4-0-0, 4th: 4-1-9, 5th: 4-3-24 and Tenor: 6-2-19 in A

Building Bridges?

The President of the Devon Association ringers and the President of the Guild rang together in the following peal at Heavitree (25-3-2) on Saturday, 1 January 2011 in 3h19.

5056 Yate D Major

Composed: A J Cox

- 1 Mervyn C Way - President
- 2 Lester J Yeo - President of Guild
- 3 Pauline Champion
- 4 Roger King
- 5 Thomas J Waterson
- 6 Ian V J Smith
- 7 Paul J Pascoe
- 8 Michael E C Mears (C)

An earlier peal rung on 6 November 2010 was a compliment to John Kelly BEM on completing his year as President of the Devon Association and to Mervyn Way, President-elect and again on 11 November 2010 complimenting John as retiring and Mervyn succeeding him as President.

Devon Association
Training, Recruitment & Youth Development

In light of the challenges faced both locally and nationally regarding the training and recruitment of ringers of all ages, the Association has set up a dedicated sub-committee to tackle the related issues of Training, Recruitment and Youth Development.

The sub-committee, comprising of a cross-section of ringers and Association committee members from across the county, held its first meeting at Widcome-in-the-Moor on the day of their annual invitation competition. The three topics mentioned above were widely discussed with lots of good ideas coming to the fore, with the following highlights:

- Based on feedback received from teams at the Novice competition in March, the committee proposes to host an Intermediate Competition & Training Workshop day. The format is yet to be confirmed but is likely to contain a rising and lowering workshop in the morning with a friendly competition in the afternoon. Venue(s) to be confirmed, but we are proposing the second Saturday in October next year (October 13th 2012) unless we receive any other suggestions.
- The committee are proposing to put together a list of area recruitment contacts which would be available to contact and advise prospective recruits (e.g. those expressing an interest at the Devon County Show) of local towers and appropriate regional training events.
- We are looking for ideas for suitable young ringers events across the county. Please contact us via the details below if you have any suggestions.

We will be holding regular meetings throughout the year and will report back at regular intervals, so watch this space! In addition to this, we are very keen to hear from you all – do you have a specific training need for your local area or have any suggestions regarding recruitment? We would love you to get involved. Please contact Sam Massey on 01803 782274 or speak to the Hon. Secretary for further details.

Ringling for the future

On Saturday 12 November 2011 there will be a national conference entitled "Change Ringing for the Future", initiated by the Central Council Education Committee. The conference will be a unique opportunity to discuss the well known problems of recruitment and training and to hear innovative ideas, perhaps from local Associations. It is a chance to bring experiences for the benefit of others. Both the Council and its affiliated societies have put significant efforts into improving the training of ringers, but yet it would seem that in many towers the training is inadequate for developing recruits to their full potential. A recent initiative that will improve this situation is the establishment of ringing centres. It is too early to assess the impact of this initiative, but in an environment in which the expectations of students is higher than ever (particularly now that a greater proportion are older people) setting up centres where the very best training is available is likely to be highly beneficial.

AGM Notice

The AGM will be held on Saturday 12 November 2011 at North Tawton Town Hall starting 2.15pm. The annual affiliation fees for 2011/12 were due on 1 October or at the AGM (currently £10). In addition, the competition fees, (currently £9 for the 6 bell and £12 for 8 bell) will be payable. Any bellringing clothing or badges can be obtained from Janice Gist 01805 624690.

THE TOWERS & BELLS OF DEVON

Those of you who have purchased a copy of this magnificent tome, may not realise that I am continually updating the material and correcting any mistakes where these have come to light since publication.

These corrections and additions are available on the Website of the Guild (http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/gdr/pdf/Devon_Errata.pdf), and on the website of the bell historian, George Dawson (www.georgedawson.homestead.com/files/Devon_Errata.doc).

I update the entries on a six monthly basis, so you may want to keep a copy inside the cover of your books, rather than deface them in any way.

James M. Clarke.

10-Bell Call-Change Competition

This event organised by the Devon Ringers' Council will be held at Tavistock on Saturday 18th February 2012 from 10.00am. More details will be available nearer the time.

The Bells of Devon – 2nd Edition Now With Updates

The comprehensive contacts directory for all Devon towers with 3 or more bells also includes details of 'lost rings' of the past 150 years, chimes of 3 or more bells, and 1-bell towers. **A MUST HAVE for any ring-er exploring Devon!**

All proceeds in aid of the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund.

The Bells of Devon is available including updates at £5.00 (plus £1.00 p&p) per copy or updates only at 50p per copy from: Tim Bayton, 64 Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter, Devon. EX4 7AH.

Please make cheques payable to 'The Bells of Devon'

Editor:

**Michael Webster,
5 Kings Rydon Close,
Stoke Gabriel, Totnes TQ9 6QG.
Mtwebster[at]btinternet[dot]com.**

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Association. Items for inclusion may be sent to the Editor, as above.

Devon Ringers' Carol Service

The Carol Service will be organised by Ian Avery and will be held on 10 December 2011 at 3pm at Cullompton. Anyone who wishes to be involved or join the choir please contact Ian. There will be the usual opportunity to run through the music on the following dates.

Friday 4 th Nov	7.45pm – 9.00pm
Sat 12 th Nov	10.30am – 12noon
Friday 18 th Nov	7.45pm – 9.00pm
Sat 26 th Nov	10.30am – 12 noon
Friday 2 nd Dec	7.45pm – 9.00pm

Diamond Jubilee

The Diamond Jubilee River Pageant on the Thames on 3 June 2012, will be one of the main events of a four-day bank holiday weekend marking the Queen's 60-year reign. The Queen will head the fleet and it will be made up of five sections, the first of which will be a floating belfry of eight new bells cast by the Whitechapel Bell foundry. Their ringing will be answered and echoed by ringing from riverbank churches along the route.

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Exeter Diocesan Advisory Committee

wish to recruit a

A Volunteer Trainee/Assistant Bell (and Clock) Adviser

Candidates should be interested in and have an enthusiasm for the history of bells and clocks and their installations, as well as an understanding of their preservation in use. An appreciation of the technicalities involved in both would also be an advantage together with an appreciation of conservation issues. They should also be able to travel to attend meetings or inspections from time to time, during a normal working day, for which expenses can be claimed. Training will be given by the current Adviser.

Anyone wishing to discuss the post should 'phone
James Clarke on 01237 451667

Applicants should send their CV to:

The Secretary, Exeter Diocesan Advisory Committee,
The Old Deanery, The Cloisters, Exeter, EX1 1HS.
Tel: 01392 294945

Applications should be submitted by 29 February 2012

Tamar Valley Guild Competition at Lamerton : 25th September 2010

1. Lamerton 29
2. Monkleigh 40
3. Petersmarland 88
4. Lamerton (Under time) 40

Open

1. Lamerton 27
2. Holbeton 30
3. Mariansleigh 66

Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 3 First Round at Lamerton - 29th Nov 2010

1. Lamerton 47
2. Monkleigh "A" 56
3. Bridgerule 58 ½
4. Monkleigh "B" : 85

First competition for James Ward

Judge : Raymond Clements

Results from the Totnes Winter League held at Townstall on 8 January 2011

1. Stoke Gabriel A 51
2. South Brent A 56
3. Broadhempston A 77
4. South Brent B 91
5. Stoke Gabriel B 101 ½
6. Broadhempston B 166
7. Broadhempston C 168

Judges: John and Robert Dietz.

John Cornish Memorial Competition - Kilkhampton, 15th January 2011 "A" Section

1. Egg Buckland 17 ½
2. South Petherwin 26 ½
3. Burrington 27 ¾
4. Alphington 34

"B" Section

1. Kilkhampton 36
2. Monkleigh 45
3. Bridgerule 48 ½
4. Morwenstow 79

Judges : Helen Robinson & John Wickett

Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 3 2nd Round at Bridgerule - 19th Jan 2011

1. Monkleigh "A" 36 ¾
2. Lamerton 49 ½
3. Bridgerule 51 ½
4. Monkleigh "B" 88 ½

Judge : Raymond Clements

Totnes Deanery Winter League at South Brent on 22 Jan 2011

1. South Brent 34 ½
2. Stoke Gabriel 39 ¾
3. South Brent B 54
4. Broadhempston A 64
5. South Brent C 70 ½
6. Stoke Gabriel B 92
7. Broadhempston C 130 ½
8. Broadhempston B 157

Judges John and Robert Dietz.

Totnes Deanery Winter League at Stoke Gabriel on 5 Feb 2011

1. Stoke Gabriel A 58
2. South Brent A 59 ¾
3. Broadhempston A 79
4. Stoke Gabriel B 91 ½
5. Broadhempston B 121 ½
6. Broadhempston C 124 ¾

Judges: John and Robert Dietz

Happy 61st birthday today to John Dietz.

Mid Devon Winter League - 8th Feb 2011

Results From Lydford - Top ringing only.

1. Sampford Courtenay A. 8.
2. Chagford A. 10.
3. Chagford B. 12.
4. Chagford C. 17.
5. Bridestow B. 21.
6. Sampford Courtenay B. 23.

7 Sampford Courtenay C. 35.

8. Bridestow B. 42

Judge. Brian Drake.

Mid Devon Winter League - 18 Feb 2011

Third round held at Sampford Courtenay Top ringing only.

1. Sampford Courtenay "A" 4.
2. Chagford "A" 9.
3. Chagford "B" 11.
4. Sampford Courtenay "B" 13.
5. Chagford "C" 19.
6. Sampford Courtenay "C" 30.
7. Bridestow "B" 31.
8. Bridestow "A" 33.

Judge Brian Drake.

The 2nd John Scott 10-bell call change competition held at St Mark's Exeter on Saturday 19th February 2011.

1. The Quarter Pealers 26
2. Exeter Cathedral 27 ½
3. Wednesday night ringers Band 1 30 ½
4. Wednesday night ringers Band 2 38 ½
5. Tavistock 41
6. St Mark's Exeter 52
7. North East Branch 59
8. Exeter Colleges Guild 65

Totnes Deanery Winter League held at Cornworthy on 19 February 2011

Top Ringing Section

1. Broadhempston 43
2. Cornworthy 71 ½

Competition Peal with rise and lower

1. South Brent 42
2. Stoke Gabriel 43
3. Broadhempston A 68
4. Stoke Gabriel B 103
5. Broadhempston 105

Judges: Sue Husband and Colin Avery

NAIT Deanery ringing at three towers for the Gilbert Shield on 19 February 2011

At Abbotskerswell

1. Ipplepen 28 ½
2. Paignton B 33
3. Kingskerswell 33 ½
4. Paignton A 43 ½

Judge: Norman Mortimore

At Highweek

1. Paignton B 11
2. Ipplepen 15 ½
3. Kingskerswell 18 ½
4. Paignton A 21

Judge: John Kelly BEM

At Ipplepen

1. Paignton B 16 ½
2. Paignton A 29
3. Ipplepen 29 ¼
4. Kingskerswell 40

Judge: Don Roberts

Final result from overall scores

1. Paignton B 60 ½
2. Ipplepen 73 ¼
3. Kingskerswell 92
4. Paignton A 93 ½

Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 3 3rd Round at Monkleigh on 21st February 2011

1. Monkleigh "A" 45
2. Lamerton 59
3. Bridgerule 64 ½
4. Monkleigh "B" 97 ¾

Judge : Raymond Clements

Totnes Deanery Winter League held at Broadhempston on 5 March 2011

1. South Brent A 18 ½
2. Broadhempston A 33 ½
3. South Brent B 44 ½
4. Stoke Gabriel A 51 ½
5. South Brent C 62 ½
6. Broadhempston B 82
7. Broadhempston C 90
8. Stoke Gabriel B 97 ½

Judges: Sue Husband and Ray Mugridge.

Mid Devon Winter League - 5 Mar 2011

5th Round at Drewsteignton. Top Ringing

1. Sampford Courtenay "A" 6.
2. Chagford "A" 14.
3. Chagford "B" 15.
4. Chagford "C" 21.
5. Sampford Courtenay "B" 25.
6. Bridestow "A" 27.
7. Sampford Courtenay "C" 36.

Judge Brian Drake.

Devon Association Novice 6 Bell Competition held at Holne on 12 March 2011

Round Ringing Section

1. Berrynarbour 22 ½
2. Petersmarland 28 ¾
3. South Milton 30
4. Chagford 36 ¾
- 5= Dartmouth B 42
- 5= St Giles in the Wood 42
7. Dolton 55 ¾
8. Dartmouth A 61 ¾
9. Kenton 68 ¾
10. Athrington 85

Judges: S Adams, C Clayton, J Kerslake and M Langdon

Change Section

1. Shaugh Prior 27 ¾
2. Paignton B 30 ¼
3. Chagford 35 ¼
4. Broadhempston B 36 ¾
5. North Bovey 38 ¼
6. Broadhempston A 39
7. Upton 41 ½
8. Sampford Courtenay 42 ¾
9. Dartmouth A 43 ¼
10. South Milton 44 ¼
11. Berrynarbour 47 ½
12. Salcombe 48
13. Sherford 55
14. South Pool 58
15. Buckland-in-the-Moor 62 ¾
16. Exminster 72 ¼
17. Holne 78 ¾
18. Dartmouth B 83

Judges: S Adams, C Clayton, J Kerslake and M Langdon

Totnes Deanery Winter League held at Diptford on 19 March 2011 and ringing for the Les Stone Shield

1. Stoke Gabriel A 18
2. South Brent A 19
3. Broadhempston A 33 ½
4. South Brent B 41 ½
5. Stoke Gabriel B 55
6. Broadhempston B 69 ½
7. Diptford 71 ½
8. Broadhempston C 110

Overall results for Winter League

- 1 South Brent A 39
- 2 Stoke Gabriel A 37
- 3 Broadhempston A 30
- 4 South Brent B 21
- 5 Stoke Gabriel B 16
- 6 Broadhempston B 12
- 7= Broadhempston C 8
- 7= South Brent C 8

**Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 3
4th Round at Broadwoodkelly on 22nd
March 2011**

1. Monkleigh "A" 43 ½
2. Bridgerule 48
3. Lamerton 53
4. Monkleigh "B" 77

Judge : Raymond Clements

**Mid Devon Winter League - 6th and final
round Chagford 29 March - Top Ringing.**

1. Sampford Courtenay "A" 6.
2. Chagford "B" 9.
3. Chagford "A" 10.
4. Bridestow "A" 21.+
5. Sampford Courtenay "B" 25.
6. Chagford "C" 32
7. Sampford Courtenay "C" 37.
8. Bridestow "B" 40.

Judge: Brian Drake

**Competition held at Ide on 2 April 2011
ringing for Delve Shield for A Section
and Centenary Cup for B Section**

A Section

1. Egguckland 10 ½
2. South Brent 21
3. Burrington 43 ¾
4. Shaugh Prior 45
5. Monkleigh 51 ¾

B Section

6. Stoke Gabriel 61 1/3
7. Down St Mary 63
8. South Brent B 71
9. North Bovey 81
10. Alphington 96 1/3
11. Widecombe in the Moor 97 ½
12. Spreyton 123
13. Broadhempston A 180
14. Broadhempston B 205

Judges: Stephanie Brown, Ruth Tuckett and David Trist.

**Results from the Tamar Valley Knockout
held at Buckland Brewer on 9 April 2011**

A Section

1. Monkleigh 59 ¾
2. Littleham 77
3. Peters Marland 105

B Section

1. Lamerton 89 ½
2. Morwenstow 151
3. Pyworthy 164

Novice

1. Bradford A 34 ¾
2. Peters Marland 45 ¾
3. Frithelstock 64 ¾
4. Bradford B 102 ½

Open

1. Egguckland 28 ½
2. Burrington 43 ½
3. Littleham 47
4. Lamerton 86
5. Peters Marland 132 ½
6. Frithelstock 141

A rope broke during the lower of this peal and the marks adjusted accordingly
Judge: James Kerslake

**Results of the Charles Mosse Memorial
Trophy held at Throwleigh on 9 Apr
2011**

- 1st Egguckland 11 ½
- 2nd Shaugh Prior 55
- 3rd South Tawton 62
- 4th North Bovey 66
- 5th Down St Mary 70 ½
- 6th Sandford 80 ½
- 7th East Anstey 85 ½
- 8th Spreyton 118 ½
- 9th Bow 123 ½

**Inter Deanery Ringing Festival held at
Walkhampton. 16th April 2011**

- 1 Egguckland 29 ½
- 2 Kingsteignton 36 ¾
- 3 South Brent 40 ¾
- 4 Dunsford 49
- 5 Stoke Gabriel 75
- 6 West Alvington 76 ½
- 7 Exminster 82 ¾
- 8 North Bovey 94 ½
- 9 Modbury 101
- 10 Holbeton 107
- 11 Widecombe 129

The Jack Rhymes Trophy for the best placed deanery won by South Brent & Stoke Gabriel, Totnes Deanery.

Judges; John Dietz & Jereme Darke
**Devon Association 8 Bell competition
Buckland in the Moor on 30 April 2011**

1. Kingsteignton 32 ¾
 2. Exminster 55
 3. High Bickington A 67 ½
 4. High Bickington B 67 ¾
 5. Chittlehampton 75 ¾
 6. Tavistock 82 ½
 7. Paignton 95 ¼
 8. Widecombe in the Moor 133 ¾
- NR Under time Exeter Cathedral (55)

Winner of Top Ringing -

Kingsteignton 18 ½

Judges: J Clarke, J Dietz, B Osborne and M Way. Scrutineer J Cole.

**Results from the Totnes Deanery Festi-
val held at Dartington on 7 May 2011**

1. South Brent A 19 ½
2. Stoke Gabriel 37 ½
3. Broadhempston A 49
4. South Brent B 63 ½
5. Guest Team 70 ½
6. Broadhempston B 106 ½
7. Totnes 121 ½

Judges: Ray Mugridge and Maurice Sharland

**Results from Woodleigh Deanery Festi-
val held at Salcombe on 7 May 2011**

Senior Section

1. Modbury A 37
2. West Alvington 44 ½
3. Churchstow 89 ½
4. Modbury B 92
5. Salcombe 103 ½
6. Malborough 133

Junior Section

1. South Milton B 46
 2. Modbury C 52 ½
 3. South Milton A 56
 4. Salcombe B 58
 5. Galmpton 68 ½
 6. Chivelstone 83
 7. Stokenham 93
 8. South Pool 98
 9. Sherford 105
- Deanery Ladies 68

**Results of the Devon Association 6 Bell
South Qualifier held at
Dunsford on 14 May 2011**

1. South Brent 14
2. Egguckland 16 ½
3. Shaugh Prior 30
4. Exeter St Petrock 31 ½
5. Stoke Gabriel 35 ½
6. Lamerton 50 ½
7. Holbeton 59 ½
8. Exeter St David 69 ¼

Judges: Ian Avery, Sue Husband, Martin Sharland and Maurice Sharland.
Scrutineer: John Cole.

**Results of the Devon Association 6 Bell
North Devon Qualifier held at
Shirwell on 14 May 2011**

1. Burrington A 20 ¾
2. Littleham 25 ¾
3. West Down 29 ½
4. East Anstey 35 ¾
5. Mortehoe 36
6. Burrington B 36 ¾
7. Iddesleigh 41
8. Drewsteignton 47 ¼
9. Down St Mary 49
10. Zeal Monachorum 60 ½

Judges: Cedric Hockin, Ivor Hookway, Lester Quance, Mervyn Way.

Scrutineer Gerald Arscott.

**Results from the Minor Final held at
Mortehoe on 28 May 2011**

- 1st Down St Mary 55
- 2nd Lamerton 56 ½
- 3rd Iddesleigh 63 ¾
- 4th Drewsteignton 82 ½
- 5th Zeal Monachorum 95

Burrington B disqualified undertime 55 ¾

Top Ringing

- 1st Shaugh Prior 41 ½
- 2nd Chagford 60 ¾

Judges: Stephen Herniman, Steve Facey, Colin Adams and Jereme Darke.

Scrutineer: Gerald Arscott

**Ivybridge & Plymouth Deanery Festival;
held at Stoke Damerel on 4th June 2011
B Section, sixties on third's from the stay**

- 1st Bickleigh 64
- 2nd Emmanuel A' 99 ¾
- 3rd Emmanuel B' 116 ¾

A Section, Competition peal

- 1st Plymstock 15 ½
- 2nd Egguckland 19 ½
- 3rd Shaugh Prior 35
- 4th Holbeton 44.

**Okehampton Deanery Competition held
at Lydford on 4th June 2011**

Main Section

1. Chagford 20 ¾
2. Sampford Courtenay A 26
3. South Tawton 59
4. Sampford Courtenay B 72 ½
5. Lydford 86

Intermediate Section (Top ringing, 1/2 peal)

1. Chagford 15
2. Lydford 16
3. Gidleigh 16 ½
4. South Tawton 22

Judges : Brian Drake, Lester Quance

**Devon Association 6 Bell Major Final
held at West Alvington on 11 June 2011**

1. Egguckland 13
2. South Brent 18 ¾
3. Burrington 21
4. Shaugh Prior 21 ½
5. Exeter St Petrock 31
6. Stoke Gabriel 31 ½
7. Mortehoe 40
8. Lamerton 43 ¾
9. Littleham 52 ½
10. West Down 53
11. East Anstey 54 ¾
12. Down St Mary 56 ¾

Top ringing winner:

Egguckland with 8 faults.

Judges: Ian Avery, John Dietz, Ivor Hookway and Mervyn Way.

Scrutineer: John Cole.

Results from Spreyton on 18 June 2011

- 1 Kingsteignton 30 ¼
- 2 Down St Mary 47

- 3 Monkleigh 58 ¼
- 4 Sampford Courtenay B 63
- 5 North Bovey 63 ½
- 6 Bow 77 ¼
- 7 Sampford Courtenay 85 ½
- 8 Zeal Monachorum 88 ¼
- 9 Dolton 115 ½
- 10 Spreyton 123 ½
- 11 Ide 149
- 12 Widecombe in the Moor 151

Results from competitions held at Bow and Down St Mary on 25 June 2011

Bow

1. Egguckland 27
2. West Down 38
3. Stoke Gabriel 39 ¾
4. Shaugh Prior 53 ¾
5. Burrington 69
6. Mortehoe 71
7. Exminster 72 ¼
8. North Bovey 73
9. Lamerton 78 ¼
10. Mariansleigh 86 ¾
11. Holbeton 99
12. Sandford 103 ½
13. Littleham 129 ½
14. Zeal Monachorum 138 ½

Judges: John Coulthirst and Ruth Tuckett
Down St Mary

1. Burrington 21
2. Egguckland 23
3. Mariansleigh 25 ½
4. Zeal Monachorum 27
5. Shaugh Prior 32 ½
6. Stoke Gabriel 32 ¾
7. Lamerton 33
8. Exminster 35
9. West Down 37 ½
10. Mortehoe 38
11. Holbeton 48
12. Sandford 50
13. North Bovey 51
14. Littleham 53
15. Spreyton 90

Judge: Mervyn Way.

South Devon Ringers 6 bell competition held at Yealmpton on 2 July 2011

Novice Section

1. Holne 33 ½
2. Paignton 35 ½
3. Yealmpton 43

Intermediate Section

1. Shaugh Prior 29 ½
2. Widecombe in the Moor 41 ½
3. Paignton 42 ½
4. Modbury 55 ½
5. Yealmpton A 64 ½
6. Holne 65 ½
7. Yealmpton B 86 ½

Senior Section for the George Middleton Shield and Arthur Tapper Shield.

1. Egguckland 38
2. Shaugh Prior 50
3. Stoke Gabriel 55 ½
4. South Brent A 56 ½
5. Plymstock 69
6. South Brent B 81
7. Holbeton 91
8. West Alvington 109
9. Holne 153

Judges: Scott Adams and James Kerslake.
Competitions held at Stoke Gabriel and Collaton St Mary on 9 July 2011

Results from Stoke Gabriel for the E.O.H Hill Shield and "Bill" Hine Cup.

1. Egguckland 29 ¾
2. South Brent 33 ¾

3. Burrington B 58 ¼
4. Shaugh Prior 75 ½
5. Burrington A 79
6. Lamerton 79 ½
7. Exeter St Petrocks 80
8. Holbeton 129 ½
9. South Brent B 133
10. Broadhempston 191 ½
11. Holne 214
12. Salcombe 328 ½

Judges Mary and Michael Mears

Results from Collaton St Mary ringing for the Arthur Seymour Trophy

1. South Brent A 29 ¼
2. Egguckland 30
3. Exeter St Petrocks 38
4. Burrington A 39
5. Shaugh Prior 40 ¼
6. Burrington B 43 ¼
7. Holbeton 53
8. Lamerton 77 ½
9. South Brent B 82 ½
10. Holne 103 ½
11. Broadhempston 140
12. Salcombe 157 ½

Judges: John and Robert Dietz

Results from Stoke Gabriel ringing for the Horace Clements Shield

Development Section

1. Broadhempston 36 ¼
2. Salcombe 43 ¼
3. Paignton 44 ½
4. Holne 88 ¼

Judge: Norman Mortimore

Results from Dunsford & Doddiscombsleigh Competition held on 16 July 2011

Dunsford

1. Egguckland 16 ¼
2. South Brent A 18 ¼
3. Burrington 19 ¼
4. Stoke Gabriel 26 ¾
5. Kingsteignton 32 ½
6. Monkleigh 40 ¾
7. South Brent B 42 ½
8. South Tawton 43 ½
9. Holbeton 49
10. East Anstey 59
11. North Bovey 63 ¼
12. Chagford 66 ½
13. Widecombe 73
14. Exeter St Davids 82 ½

Judges;

Maurice Sharland & Martin Sharland

Doddiscombsleigh

1. South Brent A 29
2. Egguckland 30 ½
3. Burrington 50
4. Kingsteignton 50 ¼
5. South Brent B 55
6. Stoke Gabriel 61
7. Monkleigh 72 ½
8. South Tawton 75
9. East Anstey 81 ¾
10. Chagford 82
11. North Bovey 97
12. Holbeton 103 ½
13. Exeter St Davids 108 ½
14. Widecombe 114 ½

Judges; Mary Mears & Nick Tuckett

Results of the Torridge Valley Guild of Ringers held at Petersmarland on 30 July 2011

Torridge Section

1. Monkleigh 24 ¼
2. Petersmarland 46
3. Torrington 60 ½
4. Little Torrington 66

5. Frithelstock 160 ½

Novice Section

1. Monkleigh 59
2. Bradford 144
3. Frithelstock 176

Junior Novice Section

1. Frithelstock 32
2. Bradford 34
3. Petersmarland 40

Judges: John Wickett & Helen Robinson

Results of the Burrington 3 Tower competition held at Burrington, Ashreigney and Atherington on 30th July 2011

Ashreigney

A section

1. Egguckland 12 ¾
2. South Brent 24 ½
3. Littleham 41 ½
4. Chittlehampton 42
5. High Bickington 44

B section

1. East Anstey 56
2. Monkleigh 58
3. Mariansleigh 58 ½
4. Exeter St David 74 ½
5. Sampford Courtenay 123

Judges: Paul Wright and Mervyn Langdon

Atherington

A section

1. Egguckland 13
2. High Bickington 19
3. South Brent 20 ¾
4. Monkleigh 26 ½
5. Chittlehampton 27 ½

B section

1. Littleham 36
2. East Anstey 40
3. Exeter St David 50
4. Sampford Courtenay 71

Judge: Mervyn Way

Burrington

A section

1. South Brent 12
2. Egguckland 17 ¾
3. Chittlehampton 43
4. Exeter St David 62 ¾

B section

1. Monkleigh 65
2. Littleham 71
3. Mariansleigh 72 ½
4. East Anstey 86 ½
5. Sampford Courtenay 92 ½

Judge: Steve Facey

Overall scores (Handicap in brackets)

1. Monkleigh 10 (40)
2. Chittlehampton 12 ½ (25)
3. Egguckland 14 ½ (0)
4. South Brent 19 (0)
5. Littleham 19 ½ (40)
6. Exeter St David 22 ½ (40)
7. Mariansleigh 23 ¾ (40)
8. East Anstey 25 ¾ (35)
9. Sampford Courtenay 55 ½ (40)

Results from the competition held at South Brent on 23 July 2011

1. Kingsteignton 10 1/2
2. Egguckland 12 1/2
3. Shaugh Prior 19 3/4
4. Dunsford 34 1/2
5. Stoke Gabriel 39
6. Burrington 39 1/2
7. St Petrock, Exeter 52 1/2
8. South Tawton 57 3/4
9. Monkleigh 61 1/2
10. North Bovey 89 3/4
11. Broadhempston 109
12. Holne 118

Unplaced - off course. Holbeton (63 1/2)
Judges: Jereme Darke and Neil Holloway.
Results of Monkleigh, Torrington and Frithlestock competitions held on Saturday 13th August 2011

Monkleigh
Open Section

1. Egguckland 10 ½
2. Kingsteignton 13
3. Stoke Gabriel 18 ½
4. Shaugh Prior 21
5. Exeter St Petrocks 28
6. Burrington 47
7. Holne 70
8. East Anstey 70 ½
9. Bow 73

Local Section

1. Monkleigh A 23
2. Littleham 27
3. Monkleigh B 54
4. Dolton 65
5. Frithlestock 196

Great Torrington

- Open Section
1. Egguckland 10 3/4
 2. Burrington 12 1/4
 3. Shaugh Prior 16 1/2
 4. Kingsteignton 18 3/4
 5. Exeter St Petrocks 22 1/4
 6. Stoke Gabriel 22 3/4
 7. East Anstey 28 3/4
 8. Bow 30 1/4
 9. Holne 67

Local Section

1. Monkleigh A 21 1/2
2. Littleham 22
3. Dolton 40
4. Monkleigh B 50 3/4
5. Frithlestock 118 3/4

Frithlestock

Open Section

1. Kingsteignton 27 1/2
2. Egguckland 33 3/4
3. Exeter St Petrocks 36
4. Shaugh Prior 42 1/2
5. Burrington 45
6. Stoke Gabriel 46
7. Bow 71
8. Holne 105
9. East Anstey - no result, conceded

Local Section

1. Monkleigh A 39
2. Littleham 60
3. Monkleigh B 74
4. Frithlestock 115

Results from competitions held at Lydford and Bridestowe on 20 August 2011

LYDFORD

- 1st Egg Buckland 6 ½
- 2nd Burrington 12
- 3rd South Brent "A" 13
- 4th Monkleigh 21 ½
- 5th Holbeton 25
- 6th Lamerton 25 ½
- 7th South Tawton 27
- 8th South Petherwin 28 ½
- 9th Exminster 30 ½
- 10th Alphington 36 ½
- 11th East Anstey 37 ½
- 12th Littleham 47 ½
- 13th South Brent "B" 51

Judges Harry Bardens and Sue Husband
BRIDESTOWE

- 1st South Brent "A" 10 ½
- 2nd Burrington 13
- 3rd Egg Buckland 16 ½
- 4th Monkleigh 19 ½

- 5th East Anstey 32 ½
- 6th South Petherwin 38 ½
- 7th Lamerton 39 ½
- 8th South Tawton 43 ½
- 9th Exminster 48
- 10th Holbeton 53 ½
- 11th Littleham 58
- 12th South Brent "B" 62
- 13th Alphington 89

Judges John Wicket and Jim Steer

Zeal Monachorum Competition, Saturday 27th August 2011

A section

- 1st Egguckland 10 ¾
- 2nd South Tawton 16 ½
- 3rd Shaugh Prior 19 ¾
- 4th Burrington 20
- 5th Holbeton 29 ¾
- 6th East Anstey 46
- 7th Monkleigh 47

B section

- 1st Bow 39
- 2nd North Bovey 40
- 3rd Spreyton 48
- 4th Widecombe in the Moor 49
- 5th Sandford 49 ½
- 6th Mariansleigh 61

Results from the competitions held at West Down and Georgeham on 29 Aug

West Down ringing for the Brin Phillips Cup

1. Egguckland 9.75
2. South Brent 19.5
3. Burrington A 20
4. Burrington B 30
5. Exeter St Petrock's 31
6. Morteheo 33.5
7. Chittlehampton 34.25
8. Chagford 53.5

Judges: Ivor Hookway and Mervyn Way

Faults from the above are added to the faults from Georgeham to find the results for the National Bell Ringing Competition

Handicap results from the competition held at Georgeham on 29 Aug 2011 ringing for the Ben Isaacs Shield

3 cols. = Total: (Handicap): Actual faults

1. Morteheo 18.5 (12.00) 6.50
2. Egguckland 10.5 (0.00) 10.50
3. Burrington A 21 (4.00) 17.00
4. South Brent 23.25 (2.00) 21.25
5. St Petrock's 32.75 (6.00) 26.75
6. Chagford 60.75 (20.00) 40.75
7. Burrington B 71.25 (20.00) 51.25
8. Chittlehampton 65 (12.00) 53.0

Judges: Cedric Hockin and Michael Rose

Overall results for the National Bell Ringing Competition held on 29 August 2011

3 cols. = Actual faults: (Handicap): Total

1. Egguckland 9.75 (10.5) 20.25
2. Burrington A 20 (21) 41
3. South Brent 19.5 (23.25) 42.75
4. Morteheo 33.5 (18.5) 52
5. St Petrock's 31 (32.75) 63.75
6. Chittlehampton 34.25 (65) 99.25
7. Burrington B 30 (71.25) 101.25
8. Chagford 53.5 (60.75) 114.25

Results from the competition held at South Tawton on 3 September 2011.

"A" section.. Tawton Trophy.

- 1st.Kingsteignton 33 ½
- 2...Exminster 48
- 3...Shaugh Prior 59 ½
- 4...South Brent 60
- 5...Down St Mary 69
- 6...Monkleigh 72
- 7...Burrington 73
- 8...Stoke Gabriel 73 ½

"B" Section, The Kingsford -Lethbridge Shield and Perce Aggett Cup.

- 1st.Exeter St Petrock 80 ½
- 2nd.Widecombe 96 (Cup)
- 3... Holbeton 96 ½
- 4...North Bovey 98 ½
- 5...Spreyton 101
- 6...Bow 125
- 7...Lamerton 135

Judges: Ruth Tuckett and John Coulthirst.

Iddesleigh & Dolton Results from 24 September 2011

Results from Iddesleigh

A section

- 1st. Egguckland 4 faults
- 2nd. Kingsteignton 5
- 3rd. Shaugh Prior 9
- 4th. South Brent 11
- 5th. Burrington 17
- 6th. West Down 21
- 7th. Lamerton 23
- 8th. Down St Mary 25

B section

- 1st. South Tawton 19
 - 2nd. Monkleigh A 27
 - 3rd. East Anstey 28
 - 4th. Monkleigh B 29
 - 5th. Dolton 51
 - 6th. Sampford Courtenay 97
- Best Tenor: Roger Trout-Shaugh Prior

Results from Dolton

- 1st. Egguckland 11
- 2nd. Kingsteignton 16
- 3rd. South Brent 22
- 4th. Down St Mary 26
- 5th. Shaugh Prior 26 ½
- 6th. West Down 31
- 7th. Lamerton 37
- 8th. Burrington 38

B section

- 1st. Monkleigh A 39
- 2nd. South Twton 44
- 3rd. Monkleigh B 58
- 4th. East Anstey 60
- 5th. Dolton 75
- 6th. Sampford Courtenay 85

Results from the South Devon 8 Bell comp. held at Tavistock on 1 Oct 2011

Top ringing faults in brackets

1. Kingsteignton 31 (15)
2. Exminster 31 ½ (17 ½)
3. Egguckland 38 ½ (20)
4. South Brent 43 ½ (23 ½)
5. Exeter Cathedral 45 ½ (24)
6. Lamerton 51 ½ (26)
7. Stoke Gabriel 61 ½ (38)
8. Tavistock 64 ½ (34)

Judges: Mary Mears and Brian Drake.

Results from competition held at Tedburn St Mary on 15 October 2011

A Section

1. Egguckland 14 ½
2. Kingsteignton 21 ½
3. South Tawton 31
4. Stoke Gabriel 42
5. North Bovey 51 ½
6. Down St Mary 67
7. East Anstey 74 ½
8. Alphington 80
9. Widecombe in the Moor 92 ½

B Section

1. Spreyton 83
2. Mariansleigh 100
3. Broadhempston 150

Judges: Ruth Tuckett and Colin Adams