



Founded 1925

President – Mr John Cole

Devon Calls

**September
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Vol 2 Issue 8**

Special points of interest

- See attached voting
- Don Roberts
- Devon County Show

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Jereme Darke making excellent progress

Jereme is making excellent progress and was discharged from Musgrove and continues his rehabilitation by being cared for by his mother, Sally, from 16 May 2012. Sally reported that Jereme had been helpful around the house and garden and had completed a number of small tasks. Jereme has appeared at a number of bell ringing competitions and has also been ringing himself. His visits are kept purposely short so that Jereme does not become overtired, he is still recovering. Fund raising is taking place so that a presentation can be made in respect of his chosen charity.

Stoke Gabriel win Major Final

Stoke Gabriel had a convincing win at the Devon Association Major Final held at Down St Mary on 9 June 2012. This is the first time that they have won this title and they had been trying for the last 50 years, since 1962. Stoke Gabriel regularly appear at competitions and the title of winners of the Devon Major Final had always eluded them.

Ade in Britain

Comedian Ade Edmondson travels across Britain, focusing on a different region in each of his TV episodes. He explores the areas foods, crafts, industries and traditions, celebrating the distinct character of each county. He is producing a second series and the production team is coming to Devon, where he lives. Arrangements were made for him to meet the South Brent ringers so that he could find out more about call change ringing and produce an episode on Devon Call Change Ringing.

Emergency Meeting held

A special emergency meeting for the Committee members was held at Rewe on the day of the Novice Competition. Many Committee members would be present as they would be assisting or promoting their novice teams. The purpose of the meeting was to clarify the procedures for the remainder of the Devon Association Competitions. There had been some confusion as to whether the rules for this year's competitions had been made in accordance with the constitution. An announcement followed and you can read more on page 9 under Team list rule.

Plympton St Mary Broken Wheel

The parish church of St Mary's celebrated its 700 year anniversary by ending with a special ring that was planned for 7 hours. Teams of ringers came and new ropes had been put on for this occasion, however things did not go to plan. Please see page 3 for more details.

Voting for Judges

A letter is included with newsletter to allow towers to vote for judges for 2013. Please do read the instructions carefully as they have changed since last year. Towers will only be able to vote for Judges for the competitions that they are eligible for, e.g. the 8 bell, or 6 bell North or 6 bell south. All towers can vote for Judges for the Novice. There can only be one entry from each tower and the votes must be received by 1 October 2012.

Obituaries	Emmanuel	Cruwys Morchard
<p>A service of Thanksgiving for Heather Weaver was held at Great Torrington on Thursday 10th May at 12 noon with refreshments afterwards at RHS Rosemoor.</p> <p>Guy Holding, Tower Captain at Bovey Tracey, turned up to ring for a wedding on 9th May and collapsed in the Church at Bovey Tracey prior to ringing, Ambulance staff were unable to revive him and he was rushed to Torbay Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival. The funeral was held on Monday the 28th of May at 14:00 hrs at Bovey Tracey Parish Church. Ringing was from 13:15 and after the funeral.</p> <p>Alan Woollacott, one time captain of Yarnscombe, died at the age of 70, on May 12th. His funeral was at Yarnscombe Parish Church, on Sunday 27th May at 2pm. followed by interment.</p> <p>Ron Garland Tower Captain at Lustleigh died on 24th June. Ron had been unwell for a couple of weeks and was taken into Torbay Hospital the previous week. Ron was a long standing member of both the Lustleigh and Bovey Tracey bands and his wit and try humour will be missed. Ron's funeral was at Bovey Tracey parish Church on Monday the 9th July at 2:00pm. There was ringing before the service at 13:15 and immediately following the service. At the conclusion of the service there was a private cremation at Exeter.</p> <p>John Rodd passed away at home on 22 June after being ill for 5 years. His Funeral was at Down St Mary Church followed by a cremation at Exeter. John used to ring tenor at Colebrooke years ago and continued ringing at Down St Mary.</p> <p>The Funeral of Yvonne Adams, Wife of Mike Adams, Captain of Kenton Ringers, was held at Kenton Parish Church on 21 August at 2pm. The service was followed by interment in the Churchyard.</p> <p>Mike Adams stated "I would like to thank everyone for the cards and messages of sympathy sent to me on the death of my beloved wife Yvonne. An especial thanks to the ringers who rang Kenton bells half muffled before and after the service, it was very moving as we walked to the church and to the cemetery afterward to hear the bells being rung so well. Can I say thanks also to Chris Clayton who was instrumental in disseminating the news around to the ringers in mid Devon.</p> <p>Yvonne and I have been privileged to have a close and supportive family and to be part of the wider ringing fraternity. Thank you all again."</p> <p>Keith Freeman a long time ringer at Yarnscombe St. John the Baptist church died 14 August. His funeral took place at Yarnscombe church on 23 August at 2-30p.m.</p>	<p>Emmanuel - Children ringing Primary school children have been ringing the bells at a newly-refurbished Mannamead church. Emmanuel Church in Compton Avenue has been welcoming children from five local schools. Youngsters have been visiting as part of their religious education modules and have been given the opportunity to ring the church tower's hand bells.</p> <p>"It's a delight to open the church to children so they see it as a living place," said organiser and former city headteacher Tim Lyddon. Pupils from Hyde Park Junior School, King's Independent Prep-School, Lipson Vale Primary School, Compton Primary School and High View Primary School in Efford are among those to get a look around.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Handbell ringing</p> <hr/> <p>Pupils bowled over by handbell-ringing experience CHILDREN at a Mid Devon Primary School were so taken with bell-ringing following a recent church visit they have launched a lunchtime club to practice the hobby.</p> <p>The 10 and 11-year-olds at Rackenford Primary School were instructed by local ringers at Rackenford Church for around six weeks earlier this summer and it is hoped the club will continue to grow when the autumn term resumes in September.</p> <p>Children from Bickleigh Primary have also joined youngsters from Rackenford on a visit to Cruwys Morchard Church for a day devoted to campanology, which proved so popular it had to be repeated a second time to accommodate a total of around 80 children.</p> <p>Ian Campbell, ringing master from Exeter Cathedral, came to talk to the children and brought a demonstration bell to show how church bells work. Later, small groups were taken up to the belfry to see the bells in their frame. The children also had the opportunity to try ringing handbells as well as chiming the tower bells.</p> <p>Other activities included drawing and learning about the history of the church tower and an open tower day. During the visits the children were set the task of going back to school and designing and making parachutes for their teddies, to bring to the open day when there will be teddy parachuting from the 17m high tower for all to enjoy.</p> <p>Many towers have handbells that are hung up and not used. Opportunities can be made as they can be used, children are delighted by them. The can be used for demonstrations and even concerts.</p>	<p>The Cruwys Morchard bell ringers have recently celebrated the awarding of a Heritage Lottery Fund of £21,100 for the re-hanging of the historic church bells. The six bells on plain bearings are the original William and Evan Evans of Chepstow. Five of which were cast in 1721 with the treble following in 1755. Les Tosdevin, from the ringers, said members of the Guild had declined to ring the bells as they were arduous to pull.</p> <p>However, a special effort was made to ring the bells recently to mark the start of the Olympics at 8:12am on the opening day. The bells are to be restored to their former glory at a total cost of around £45,000. Restoration work is set to begin in October and the bells are expected to be back in situ next year.</p> <p>Les said those who have worked hard to get the project off the ground were keen to involve the whole community in the project. They are hoping following the restoration work, people of all ages will get the chance to learn, participate and help to preserve church bells and the traditional skill of bell ringing.</p> <p>Cruwys Morchard is a geographically large Parish with a relatively small population six miles west of Tiverton. The bells are in good order but need new headstocks and clappers and most importantly from the point of view of their ring-ability need to be re-hung on ball-bearings rather than their present plain bearings. The 1905 Harry Stokes frame is sound so the restoration project is not too daunting. Money raising efforts are proceeding with great gusto. A large proportion will have to be raised despite the Lottery grant and so any contribution would be gratefully received by the Project Manager, Roland Notley of Wringsland, Pennymoor, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 8LH.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Youtube - Devon Call Changes</p> <hr/> <p>Following on from the Wednesday Evening Ringers trip to York, a detailed version of which appeared in the March issue of Devon Calls you can now see a series of clips from the ringing escapades of that ringing group. This has been cleverly put together with music and fast motion. If you have not watched them you will be missing out on something creative. This clip raises the profile of bell ringing and Devon call change ringing in particular as well as lowering and rising the bells. I am sure you will recognise a few of the ringers. See: www.youtube.com/playlist?List=PLD6743406C43D3D5B.</p>

Plympton St Mary's Celebrate 700th	Ringklies holidays	Auntie's Army in Wiltshire
<p>To close the events of the 700th anniversary celebrations at St Mary's Church, Plympton, the bell ringers held a bell ringing experience on 11 August 2012. The intention was to have as many towers as possible so that the bells could be rung continuously for a period of 7 hours. There had to be a short stop during the 4th team while the 5th wheel was repaired. The idea was a peal of 3322 change, derived from the years 1311 and 2011 added to make up this number. The aim was for 14 teams and each team to ring for 30 minutes.</p> <p>Teams were provided with a wonderful assortment of refreshments and despite the small delay, events ran smoothly. A certificate was presented to each team member and a team certificate was also issued to their church.</p> <p>A plaque with all the names, team and their respective churches, is to be produced and kept in St Mary's tower.</p> <p>A peal for 8 bells had been devised for this occasion and each team rung the same peal with a conductor being provided, if required. The peals were Whittingtons, Tittums and Queens. Happy celebrations to Plympton St Marys.</p>	<p>The Ringklies holiday from May 14 - 18 was a stay at the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne, kindly arranged by John Staddon.</p> <p>The ringers left Bow at 7.45am and had a tour to be based around Hampshire, West and East Sussex. On day one they visited Litton Cheney (Dorset), Fareham and Angmering (West Sussex).</p> <p>Tuesday they were ringing at Christchurch, Dorset and at Eastbourne, East Sussex at St Saviours and All Saints and St Mary.</p> <p>Wednesday was at Pevensey, Willington, Alfriston and Seaford, all in East Sussex.</p> <p>Thursday ringing was again in East Sussex with ringing at Ripe, Laughton, Heathfield, Waldron and Chiddingly.</p> <p>Friday, on their way home, ringing was at West Tarring and Chichester, all in West Sussex and finally Sopley, Hampshire.</p> <p>On Monday 15th to Friday 19th October the next trip, the A & J autumn tour is planned with a stay at the Royal Hotel Weymouth.</p> <p>Suggestions for towers so far are</p> <p>Monday: Clyst Honiton/Offwell/Kilmington/Musbury/Charminster</p> <p>Tuesday: Burton Bradstock/Shipton Gorge/Loders/Bradpole/Powerstock/Symondsbury</p> <p>Wednesday: Weymouth, Preston and Upwey/Abbotsbury</p> <p>Thursday: Dorchester, Fordington/Bardford Peverell/Stratton/Frampton</p> <p>Friday: Dorchester/Whitchurch Canon-icorum/Axminster/Shute</p> <p>The cost will be £280 per person sharing, or £296 single occupancy (limited availability). Any enquires to John Staddon.</p>	<p>Another early morning start for this trip starting on the 3rd Friday in August. As befitting this summer there was some heavy rain overnight causing a lot of surface water. The weather cleared as we went east and we had a wonderful time. Our stay was to be in Marlborough and some ringers would meet us there and we would be 28 ringers in total with a number of supporters. On the Friday we rang at Tangley, Hants., Upper Chute, Wilts., and stopped for lunch there, at the National Country Pub of the Year 2010, the Cross Keys. During the afternoon we rang at Everleigh and Collingborne Ducis and arrived at our hotel, the Castle and Ball, Marlborough. They ran out of all 3 draught beers on the first night and this was before our evening meal. On Saturday at 9am we rang at Marlborough. We were locked out of the 2nd tower, Savernake Forest and were not to know that events would really go awry. After a phone call, we waited for someone to turn up and were not to know what was developing along the only road leading to this beautiful church set in some magnificent scenery that is owned by The Earl of Cardogan who owns 4,500 acres of land. It seems that a trespasser was spotted! This sparked a person, we were told, representing the Earl, to block the public highway. The key holder could not get to us and when travelling back to the main road we could see that our coach would not be able to pass the blockade of vehicles as this was the only road to the church. Fortunately, for us, the person blocking the highway had called the police. When the police officer arrived we were allowed through, we had not been trespassing and the person blocking the road had to reverse about 400m to allow the coach to pass. After this excitement, we went and rang at Hungerford and in the afternoon at Shalbourne and Great Bedwyn a 28cwt 6 and one caller decided to turn the tenor in! Our last stop was at Wootton Rivers a 3cwt 6 where the clock face has GLORY BE TO GOD instead of numbers. On Sunday we rang at Christ Church Swindon 22cwt 10 for their Sunday service. Making our way back we stopped at Avebury to explore the largest stone circle in the world, now a World Heritage Site. Our final ring was at Bishops Cannings followed by a Sunday Carvery. Thanks to all in making this so successful and especially to Steph and David for arranging the itinerary, Jon for the witty programme, Mervyn for the ringing list, Elinor for her computer and administrative skills and to Julia for her inspiration and encouragement. We look forward to next year's trip.</p>
<div data-bbox="97 1086 547 1176" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">St Petrox, Dartmouth</h2> </div> <p>Bell-ringers raise cash for wheel repair</p> <p>Tower captain Tim Chapman and his bell-ringers presented a cheque for £650 to Fr Will Hazlewood.</p> <p>Dartmouth's 'marathon' bell-ringers have raised enough cash to get the clappers going again in St Petrox Church.</p> <p>Earlier this year, a 14-strong band of bell-ringers hiked the one-mile route between St Petrox Church and St Saviour's Church, 26 times. They carried with them the church's broken bell wheel which is costing more than £1,000 to repair and to get the church bells ringing again. The sponsored walk raised £650 and, with another £500 from the St Petrox Trust land charity, there is enough to cover the £1,144 repair bill. Tim Chapman, the tower captain, said the money means the church itself will not have to 'pay out the expense of a new bell wheel'. He explained: 'Earlier this year the second bell wheel at St Petrox church was very badly damaged when the rope caught around the bell and ripped through its wheel.</p> <p>'At first it was hoped that a repair could be carried out but it soon became apparent that a replacement would be necessary at a cost of £1,144.' He said 14 members of the Dartmouth Town Ringers raised over</p>	<div data-bbox="547 1323 1034 1832" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Ringklies Programme for the remainder of 2012.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Noss Mayo followed by Newton Ferrers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">October</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South Milton followed by Charleton.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Atherington followed by Ashreigney</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To be confirmed</p> <p>For any last minute changes please do check with the Devon Association website www.devonbells.co.uk or the organiser of the day, or Michael Webster.</p> </div> <p>£600 towards the cost of the replacement by means of a sponsored walk, carrying the old wheel 26 times between St Saviour's and St Petrox churches – a distance of about one mile – so completing a marathon walk. Tim, who organised the event, said the ringers were to be congratulated for their efforts and thanked sponsors for their generosity.</p>	

Stoke Gabriel win Major Final for their first time

On the 9th of June 2012, as a team representing Stoke Gabriel, Sam, Julia, Colin, Chris, John and Mike, the captain, met at Rewe, north of Exeter, for yet another bell ringing practise. There was nothing significant about ringing at Rewe, they were more concerned with loosening up.

The Devon Association 6 Bell Major Final ringing for the Ross Shield is the most prestigious competition for call change ringers. Teams have to qualify and only those qualifying can go forward to this competition.

Luck was with them when they got to Down St Mary. They managed to park alongside the beer tent. Yes, they stayed in the beer tent most of the afternoon, and the early evening, as they had been drawn last to ring. The tent provided shelter from a cold wind and the occasional showers. They did have breaks from the tent. There was the service and the splendid tea.

Many elements go into ringing. As a team you have to be familiar with each other's style. The rise and lower of the bells is crucial. The treble at Down St Mary demanded a lot of concentration, with the ringers of the other bells having to be aware. The third bell seemed to have been marking throughout the day. The pitch, the speed of the striking, seemed to be a deciding factor, some teams rang slow, others rang fast. Of course these are minor imperfections, as we are talking about the best twelve teams in the county of Devon.

The team listened intently to South Brent, who were drawn first. Then to Eggbuckland who were drawn third. Both Eggbuckland and South Brent had won the shield in the past, with Eggbuckland winning numerous times. The Major Final was one win that Stoke Gabriel ringers had been trying for, in earnest for 50 years, since 1962, when they first formed and became interested in competitions.

Our time came to ring. No one mentioned that it could be our day, as no team, so far, had had a good pitch. It was well known that the treble ringer would have to work hard, and the rest of the team to be aware to give the treble ringer a fighting chance. The team knew that these bells were not to be underestimated. The bells needed to be worked so as to keep them under strict control. As the team went into the tower they joked about that they were not to be lazy. A very timely reminder.

The rest is history. Stoke Gabriel won the Devon Association Major 6 Bell competition for 2012. When the results were given

out, there was a deafening cheer. South Brent ringers were overjoyed for them. They often ring against them as they are both in the Totnes Deanery. Eggbuckland, who have won this title more than any other team, were also pleased that finally Stoke Gabriel had won the Major Final.

Coming out of the ringing chamber the team had not had time to think about how well they had rung as they were the last team and walked straight into the church to listen to the results. Many others congratulated them on having a good peal.

The team has been reminded that the first win is always the best, this is as good as it gets. Stoke Gabriel can recall the times when the team did so well and yet did not win. Once was in 1976 at Meavy when Art Seymour collapsed and died and the other in 1988 at Diptford where they were favourites to win and came 3rd.

It took Stoke Gabriel 50 years to finally win the title. Colin is the remaining ringer from that the era. His perseverance had paid off. He played a big part on the day, and was complimented on the way he rang the third bell, as that bell had given away so many other faults, for so many other teams.

Sam, the youngest ringer, had to wrestle with the awkward treble throughout the entire peal. Worthy congratulations were given to him.

To make their day, they also won the trophy for the best top ringing on the day.

As if these two trophies were not enough, they were even more delighted to see that each of the four judges had unanimously put them as the best peal. A resounding victory and congratulations to the team on ringing so well for such an important competition. Letters, cards, phone calls and emails congratulating the team came in abundance, everyone be-

ing so happy that Stoke Gabriel was to finally win the Major Final. Thank you to all for your personal thanks. It has still not dawned on some of the ringers of the prestige in winning this most coveted title. Personal thanks go to Horace and Norman Mortimore. Horace does not compromise his standards and this has encouraged them to keep them on their toes with their striking. Norman Mortimore's help has been invaluable. He is the one who will step in at the last minute to help. With their experience and help it had contributed greatly to Stoke Gabriel winning the Devon Association Major Final 6 bell Competition 2012.

Ringers from the past had been remembered as they had all contributed to this success, whether they rang just for services or not. Special thoughts were for Stan Martin who rang for Stoke Gabriel for so long and who was never to win the Major Final. A celebration service was held in Stoke Gabriel Church on 7 July and a buffet followed in the Church House Inn. It was good to hear from Bob Scadding a member of the team who rang from the 60s and was unable to attend. He sent his congratulations. A retiring collection of £100 is to be donated to Jereme Darke's chosen charity towards Frenchay Hospital.

The picture below shows the Stoke Gabriel team on the day. L-R. Colin Heath, Chris Massey, Sam Massey, John Kelly BEM, Julia Jarvis and Michael Webster, Captain.



Results

Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 4 Third round at Lamerton - 7th Feb 2012

1. Lamerton 34 3/4
2. Monkleigh "B" 76
3. Petersmarland 122 1/2

Judges : John Wickett & Helen Robinson

Results of the Devon Ringers Council 10 bell at Tavistock on 18th February 2012

Top ringing only

1. Wed Night Ringers (team 2) 9 1/2
2. Tavistock 12
3. The Quarter Pealers 14
4. Wed Night Ringers (team 1) 24 1/2
5. North East Branch 39

Results from the Mid Devon Winter League competition held at Sampford Courtenay 21st Feb 2012

1. Chagford "A" 4 1/2
2. Sampford Courtenay "A" 6
3. Chagford "B" 15
4. Bridestow/Lydford. "A" 16
5. Sampford Courtenay "C" 17
6. Sampford Courtenay "B" 19
7. Chagford "C" 21
8. Bridestow/Lydford. "B" 43

Top ringing only.

Judge Brian Drake.

Next and last round at Lydford on Mar 13

Totnes Deanery Winter League - Dean Prior - 25 February 2012

1. South Brent A 61
2. Stoke Gabriel 65 1/4
3. Broadhempston A 68 3/4
4. Dean Prior A 73
5. Dean Prior B 112 1/2
6. South Brent B 137
7. Broadhempston B 154 1/2

Judges: John and Robert Dietz

Tamar Valley Winter Knockout - Group 2 Third round at Morwenstow - 29 Feb 2012

1. Monkleigh "A" 31 3/4
2. Morwenstow 66 1/4
3. Bradford 237

Judge : Raymond Clements

Devon Association Novice 6 Bell Competi- tion held at Rewe on 10 Mar 2012

Rounds Section competing for the T H
Priddle Shield

1. Exeter St Davids 30.3
2. Exminster 38.4
3. Dunsford 56.9
4. Dartmouth 60.1
5. Chagford 64.6
6. Chivelstone 81.8
7. Berrynarbor 85.6

Call Change Section (half peal of sixty on thirds) competing for P Rice Shield

1. Upton 30.4
2. Broadhempston A 32.5
3. Broadhempston B 36.6
4. Chagford 39.4
5. Paignton 42.0
6. Exeter St Davids A 43.5
7. Exminster 48.0
8. South Pool 50.4
9. Dartmouth A 52.4
10. Salcombe 52.8
11. St Giles in the Wood 56.9
12. Dartmouth B 60.0
13. Exeter St Davids B 60.9
14. Berrynarbor 64.8
15. Chivelstone 68.6
16. Dolton 70.4

17. Sampford Courtenay 80.5
18. High Bray 101.5
19. Whimble 105.5

Thank you to all who participated, to all who helped to make this event so successful and special thanks to Dave Trist, Training Officer.

The final round of the Mid Devon Winter League was held at Lydford on 13 March.

1. Sampford Courtenay "A" 4
2. Chagford "A" 6
3. Chagford "C" 13
4. Chagford "B" 16
5. Bridestow/Lydford "A" 19
6. Sampford Courtenay "B" 22
7. Bridestow/Lydford "B" 24
8. Sampford Courtenay "C" 28

Top ringing only. The competition will resume in October.

About 40 ringers from the towers who took part enjoyed Lydford bells and the supper that followed.

The judging was as usual done by Brian Drake, who was thanked for turning out every month in all weathers to listen to our ringing. After the competition the 40 ringers who took part joined in a bring and share supper along with tea and coffee provided by the Lydford ringers. Brian presented the section shields and every ringer had a glass inscribed with the Winter League logo and the date. The first place shield was shared between Sampford Courtenay and Chagford "A" teams who had three wins and three seconds each.

Tamar Valley Guild Winter Knockout Final : Black Torrington - 14th April 2012

- "A" Section - Knockout
1. Littleham 25
 2. Monkleigh "A" 29 1/2
 3. Bridgerule 30 1/2
 4. Lamerton 34

"B" Section - Knockout

1. Morwenstow 59
2. Monkleigh "B" 64
3. Dolton 88

Novice Section - Half a peal of top ringing

1. Petersmarland 17
2. Bradford 54

Open Section

1. Burrington 17
2. Lamerton 33
3. Littleham 35
4. Alphington 45 1/2
5. East Anstey 56
6. Petersmarland 99

Judge : Mervyn Way

Results from Ide on Saturday 14th April

A section

1. Egguckland 1 3/4
2. South Brent A 2
3. Kingsteignton 5 1/4
4. Shaugh Prior 9
5. Burrington 10
6. Stoke Gabriel 14
7. Broadhempston 23
8. Alphington 32 1/2
9. Holbeton 36

B Section

1. South Brent B 39
2. Chagford 40
3. Down St Mary 41
4. Exminster 45 1/2

5. Bow 50 1/4
6. Spreyton 63
7. Exeter St David 75 3/4
8. Ide 103 1/4
9. Alphington B 104

Results from Throwleigh on Sat 14 April

1. Egguckland 12 1/2
2. Shaugh Prior 20 1/2
3. Holbeton 49 1/4
4. Chagford 53 1/2
5. South Tawton 54
6. North Bovey 60 1/2
7. Down St Mary 67 1/2
8. Bow 69
9. East Anstey 69 1/2

Another good day run by Dave and Dawn Hatton and the ladies that helped serve tea.

Results of the Interdeanery Competition held at Cheriton Bishop on 21 April 2012

1. South Brent 36 1/2
2. Egguckland 39 1/2
3. Plymstock 47 1/2
4. Exminster 52
5. Dunsford 71 1/2
6. Stoke Gabriel 77
7. North Bovey 95 1/2
8. Modbury 96 3/4
9. Widecombe in the Moor 115
10. Upton 125 1/2

Cup for the Best Deanery went to Plymouth

Judges: Ian Avery and James Grant

Results from the Devon Association 8 Bell Competition held at Chittlehampton on 28 April 2012

Top ringing faults in brackets

1. Kingsteignton 34 (20 1/2)
 2. High Bickington 44 1/2 (27)
 3. Plymstock 46 (23 1/2)
 4. Georgeham 47 3/4 (26 1/2)
 5. Exminster 55 1/4 (31 1/4)
 6. Exeter Cathedral 64 (31 1/4)
 7. Tavistock 66 3/4 (32 3/4)
 8. Chagford 105 1/4 (57 3/4)
 9. Widecombe in the Moor 124 (68 1/4)
- Kingsteignton also win the top ringing trophy with 20 1/2 faults.

Results from the Woodleigh Deanery Festival held at Stokenham on 5 May 2012

Junior section - Ringing off the stay

1. Galmpton 77.5 faults
2. Stokenham A 82.5
3. Stokenham B 92.5
4. Malborough 103.5
5. South Milton A 106
6. Sherford 120
7. South Pool 133
8. Salcombe B 143
9. Chivlestone 168

Senior Section

1. West Alvington 70.5
2. Modbury B 86
3. Churchstow 126
4. Modbury A 144.5
5. South Milton B 152
6. Salcombe A 168

The lady ringers entered a scratch team on the day and had 125 faults.

A raffle raised £215. The proceeds will be given to Sally Darke for Jereme as they are raising money for the ICU at Frenchay Hospital. It was felt appropriate to support this fund raising as Jereme learnt to ring at Stokenham.

Results (Continued)**Totnes Deanery Festival held at Staverton on 5 May 2012**

1. South Brent A 25 1/2
2. Stoke Gabriel 38
3. Broadhempston A 70 1/2
4. Dean Prior 97 1/2
5. South Brent B 112 1/2
6. Broadhempston 175 1/2

Judges: Sue Husband and Mary Mears.

Devon Association North Devon Qualifier held at Welcombe on May 12, 2012

1. Burrington 13 1/4
2. Littleham 20 1/4
3. Monkleigh 28 1/2
4. Morteheo 30 1/2
5. West Down 31 1/4
6. Drewsteignton 36 1/4
7. Bow 44 3/4
8. Zeal Monachorum 52 1/4
9. East Anstey 61 1/4

Places 1 - 5 qualify for the Major Final, to be held at Down St Mary on 9 June

Places 6 - 9 qualify for the Minor Final, to be held at Broadhempston on 26 May

Results of the Devon Association 6 Bell South Qualifier held at Sheepstor on 12 May 2012

1. Egguckland 24 1/2
2. Shaugh Prior 35 3/4
3. South Brent 37 1/2
4. Lamerton 41 1/4
5. Stoke Gabriel 44 1/4
6. St Petrock's 60 1/2
7. Holbeton 83 3/4
8. Holne 101 1/4

Judges: Ian Avery, Martin Sharland, Maurice Sharland, Ruth Tuckett
Scrutineer: John Cole.

Towers placed 1 - 5 qualify for the Major Final to be held at Down St Mary on 9 June

Towers placed 6 - 8 qualify for the Minor Final to be held at Broadhempston on 28 May 2012.

The 17th St Peter's Striking Competition held at Bampton on 19 May 2012.

A mixed Doubles and Call Change event open to all towers in the Tiverton and Culmpton Deaneries.

1. Tiverton St Peter (P.B. Doubles) 26 3/4
2. Bampton (P. Bob Doubles) 42 1/2
3. Tiverton St Paul (P. Bob Doubles) 45
4. Uffculme (Call Changes) 80 1/2
5. Washfield (Call Changes) 92 1/2
6. Cruwys Morchard (Call Changes) 121

Judge: David Trist

Hartland Deanery Annual Competition held at Littleham - 19th May 2012**Senior Section**

1. Littleham 17 3/4
2. Monkleigh Novices 27 1/4
3. Monkleigh "A" 33
4. Alwington 50 1/4
5. Parkham 63 1/2
6. Bideford 74 1/2

Novice Section

One novice ringer; no raising & lowering; six minutes of change ringing

1. Weare Giffard 10 3/4
2. Weare Giffard 15 1/2
3. Parkham 16 3/4
4. Weare Giffard 24 1/2
5. Alwington 28
6. Abbotsham 40

Judge : Lester Quance

Results of the Minor Final held at Broadhempston on May 26th 2012

1. Exeter St Petrock 68 1/4
2. Holbeton 80 1/4
3. Bow 87 1/2
4. Drewsteignton 107 1/2
5. Holne 127

Novice Section

1. Upton 51 3/4

Broadhempston rang and declined to be placed, their score 41 3/4.

Judges: Rob Dietz, Steve Facey, Stephen Herniman, Martin Sharland. Scrutineer: John Cole

Results of the Moreton Deanery Ringing Festival held at Lustleigh on Sat 2 June 2012

1. Widcombe in the Moor B 34 ½ Faults
2. North Bovey 39
3. Widcombe in the Moor C 75 ½
4. Widcombe in the Moor D 87 ½
5. Holne 90
6. Ilington 111
7. Bovey Tracey 115
8. Manaton 119
9. Buckland in the Moor 121

The improvers cup was awarded to Holne

Results from the Plymouth and Ivybridge Deaneries Competition held at Yealmtpton on 2nd June 2012**A Section (Full peal with rise and lower)**

1. Egguckland 22 1/2
2. Plymstock 49 3/4
3. Shaugh Prior 50 1/2
4. Holbeton 63

B Section (Full peal off the stay)

1. Bickleigh 44 1/4
2. Wembury 89 1/4
3. Tamerton Foliot 95 1/2

Novice Section (Round ringing)

1. Wembury A 19
2. Wembury B 43 ½

Judges: James Kerslake and Barry Osborne

Results of the Devon Association 6 Bell Major Final at Down St Mary on 9 June 2012

1. Stoke Gabriel 30 1/2
2. Burrington 38 3/4
3. Egguckland 40 1/2
4. Shaugh Prior 43 1/2
5. West Down 44 1/2
6. Lamerton 46 1/2
7. Littleham 54 3/4
8. South Brent 56
9. Holbeton 65 3/4
10. Morteheo 69 3/4
11. Drewsteignton 70 1/4
12. Monkleigh 71 3/4

Judges: I Avery, J Dietz, C Hockin and M Way.
Scrutineer G Arcsott.**Results from the competition held at Egguckland on 16 June 2012**

1. South Brent A 24 1/2
2. Kingsteignton 27 1/2
3. Burrington 30 3/4
4. Stoke Gabriel 35 1/2
5. South Petherwin 56 1/2
6. Shaugh Prior 58
7. Plymstock 61 1/4
8. South Brent B 69
9. Holne 98
10. Broadhempston 170

Judges: Harry Bardens and Stephen Trout.

Results from the competitions held at Morchard Bishop and Bow on 23 June 2012

1. Egguckland 20
2. Burrington 34

3. Stoke Gabriel 34 1/2
4. Shaugh Prior 37
5. Holbeton 49 1/2
6. Chagford 53
7. Monkleigh 63
8. Morchard Bishop 77
9. Sandford 134
10. Ide 175

Judges: Sue Husband and Mervyn Way

Bow

1. Egguckland 39
2. Burrington 44
3. Shaugh Prior 50
4. Holbeton 65 1/4
5. Stoke Gabriel 67
6. Monkleigh 74 1/4
7. Chagford 93
8. Morchard Bishop 100 1/2
9. Sandford 110 1/4
10. Ide 214 1/4

Judges: Robert Dietz and Jim Steer

Results of the South Devon Ringers' competition held at Meavy on 30 June 2012

1. Egguckland 16 1/2
2. South Brent 24
3. Plymstock 24 3/4
4. Stoke Gabriel 37 3/4
5. Shaugh Prior 41 1/4
6. Holbeton 52
7. Lamerton 58 1/4
8. Chagford 63 1/4
9. Widcombe in the Moor 73
10. Holne 96 3/4
11. Paignton 98 1/4

Novice Section (Round Ringing)

1. Exminster 26 1/4
2. Kenton 45 1/2

Intermediate Section (1/2 peal 60 on thirds)

1. Holne 20 1/4
2. Meavy 28
3. Paignton 40
4. Exminster 41 ½.

Judges: Scott Adams, Nick and Ruth Tuckett.
*Holne had 11 year old Holly in their team, the youngest ringer taking part.**The sum of £252.26 was raised in aid of Devon Historic Churches Trust***Results from South Brent 7th July 2012**

- 1 Egguckland 11 1/2
- 2 Burrington 16
- 3 Plymstock 17
- 4 Shaugh Prior 21
- 5 Kingsteignton 22 1/2
- 6 Exminster 24
- 7 South Petherwin 32 1/2
- 8 Holbeton 34 1/2
- 9 Stoke Gabriel 39 1/2
- 10 Down St Mary 65
- 11 Lamerton 71 1/2
- 12 Broadhempston 90 1/2

Judge: Neil Holloway

Results of the Torridge Valley Competition held at Shebbear on 7 July 2012**Open Section**

1. South Tawton 31
2. East Anstey 39
3. Alphington A 87
4. Alphington B 128

Torridge Section

1. Littleham 28
2. Monkleigh A 53 1/2
3. Little Torrington 58
4. Morwenstow 58
5. Monkleigh B 59
6. Dolton 66

Results (Continued)

Ctd from p 6 - Shebbear on 7 July 2012

- Torrington 89
- Petersmarland 103

Novice Section

- Dolton 77
- Petersmarland 95
- Bradworthy 165

Junior Novice Section (off stay with short peal)

- Weare Giffard SB 31 1/2
- Morwenstow 32
- Dolton 26 (under time)
- Weare Giffard SD 34
- Dolton 39
- Petersmarland 42 1/2

Judges: John Wickett and Helen Robinson

Results from the competitions held at Collaton St Mary and Stoke Gabriel on 14 July 2012

Collaton St Mary

- Shaugh Prior 7
- Exminster 13 1/2
- Burrington 15
- South Brent 17 1/2
- Down St Mary 18 3/4
- Holbeton 26 1/2
- Ide 55 1/2
- Broadhempston 92

Judges: Sue Husband and John Cole

Stoke Gabriel

- South Brent 44
- Burrington 44 1/2
- Shaugh Prior 52
- Exminster 55
- Down St Mary 76 1/4
- Holbeton 95 1/4
- Ide 136 1/2
- Broadhempston 177 1/2

Judges: John and Robert Dietz.

Development Section held at Stoke Gabriel

- Broadhempston 23 1/2
- Stoke Gabriel 51 1/2

Judge: Norman Mortimore

Results from the competitions held at Doddyscombsleigh and Dunsford on 21 July 2012

Doddyscombsleigh

- Egguckland 18
- Burrington 26 1/2
- Shaugh Prior 31
- South Brent A 35
- Kingsteignton 41
- South Brent B 52 1/2
- South Petherwin 56 1/2
- Chagford 70
- Holbeton 72
- Stoke Gabriel 81
- Down St Mary 90

Judges: Mary Mears and Maurice Sharland

Dunsford

- Egguckland 19
- Burrington 24
- South Brent A 25 1/2
- Shaugh Prior 31 1/2
- Kingsteignton 32 1/2
- Stoke Gabriel 34
- Chagford 52
- South Petherwin 57
- Down St Mary 63 1/2
- South Brent B 72 1/2
- Holbeton 105 1/2

Judges: P. Pester and Martin Sharland

All proceeds with be donated to the Devon Church Bell Restoration Fund

Jereme Darke had his first competition peal since his accident and rang for Holbeton at both towers

Results from the Burrington three towers Competition held on 28th July 1012.

Atherington.

"A" Section.

- South Brent 16 3/4
- Shaugh Prior 25
- Egg Buckland 26
- South Tawton 31

"B" Section.

- Chagford 39
 - High Bickington 43 1/2
 - Mortehoe 44 1/2
 - Sampford Courtenay 48
 - Monkleigh 48 1/2
 - Littleham 49
 - Down St Mary 67
- Judge. Mervyn Way.

Ashreigney.

"A"

- Egg Buckland 15
- South Brent 21 1/2
- Shaugh Prior 39
- South Tawton 42 1/2

"B"

- Sampford Courtenay 51
 - Morthoe 54
 - Monkleigh 55
 - Littleham 59
 - Chagford 66 1/4
 - High Bickington 67
 - Down St Mary 68 1/4
- Judge. Paul Wright.

Burrington.

"A"

- Egg Buckland 9 3/4
- South Brent 17 3/4
- Shaugh Prior 26 1/2
- High Bickington 30

"B"

- South Tawton 44 1/2
 - Sampford Courtenay 45
 - Monkleigh 54 1/2
 - Morthoe 59
 - Littleham 77
 - Chagford 80 1/4
 - Down St Mary 83 1/2
- Judge. Steve Facey.

Handicap Overall Results by Steve Herniman.

- South Tawton.
- Sampford Courtenay.
- South Brent.
- Egg Buckland.
- Shaugh Prior.
- Littleham.
- Chagford.
- Monkleigh.
- Morthoe.
- Down St Mary.
- High Bickington.

Results from competition held at Widecombe on 4 August 2012

- Egguckland 9
- South Brent 12 1/2
- Soc'y of Royal Cumberland Youths 15
- Burrington 15 1/2
- Shaugh Prior 16
- Exminster 24
- Holbeton 27
- Stoke Gabriel 29 3/4
- South Tawton 37 1/2

- East Anstey 45
- North Bovey 46
- Widecombe 57 1/4
- Dean Prior 60 1/4
- Holne 61

Judges: Ruth Tuckett, J Cole and M Way.

Results from competitions at Monkleigh, Torrington and Frithelstock on 11 Aug 2012

Monkleigh - Open Section

- Egguckland 10
- Burrington 21 1/2
- Down St.Mary 25
- Stoke Gabriel 29
- East Anstey 39
- Dean Prior 46

Local Section

- Monkleigh "B" 30
- Dolton 37
- Frithelstock 132

Judge : John Wickett

Torrington - Open Section

- Egguckland 7 1/4
- Burrington 9 1/2
- Stoke Gabriel 15 1/4
- Down St.Mary 15 3/4
- Dean Prior 20 1/2
- East Anstey 23 3/4

Local Section

- Dolton 17 3/4
- Monkleigh "B" 22 1/2
- Frithelstock 104

Judge : Mike Rose

Frithelstock - Open Section

- Egguckland 19 1/2
- Burrington 34 1/2
- Stoke Gabriel 51
- Down St.Mary 56
- Dean Prior 81

Local Section

- Monkleigh "B" 50
 - Frithelstock 150
- Judge : Mervyn Way

Results from the competitions held at Lydford and Bridestowe on 18 August 2012

Lydford

- Egguckland 7
- South Brent 15 1/4
- Exminster 26 1/2
- South Petherwin 34
- Mortehoe 36 3/4
- Burrington 38 1/2
- Lamerton 54
- South Tawton 63 1/4
- East Anstey 66
- Alphington 73 1/2
- Ide 94

Judges: Mary Mears and Mervyn Way

Bridestowe

- Egguckland 10
- Mortehoe 11 1/2
- South Tawton 17 1/2
- South Brent 18
- South Petherwin 18 1/2
- Exminster 21 1/2
- Burrington 32
- Alphington 32 1/2
- East Anstey 37
- Lamerton 63
- Ide 68 1/2

Judges: John Wickett and Cedric Hockin

Jubilee Celebrations

The first Royal Jubilee bell, Elizabeth, weighing half a ton, and donated by the Worshipful Company of Vintners was cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in east London, where Big Ben was cast. The first Royal Jubilee bell is the largest of eight bells making up the Royal Jubilee Bells had been cast for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The bell, Elizabeth, played an important role in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant on Sunday 3 June. The bells were rung from a floating belfry, the first vessel in the pageant called "Ursula Katherine". The other bells are named after senior members of the Royal Family, Philip, Charles, Anne, Andrew, Edward, William and Henry. The Belfry Barge, an amazing vessel, heralded the start of the Pageant, was pushed along by a tug at about 6mph, as it made its way to Tower Bridge from Battersea Bridge. Following immediately behind was the Queen's barge Gloriana. The barge led 1,000 boats down river with its bells ringing and churches along the route sounding their bells in reply.

This 94ft-long barge had been hired to carry the enormous steel belfry which stood 20ft above the water.

The belfry which consists of the eight bells and a heavy duty steel frame had a combined weight of more than 12 tons.

The Ursula Katherine had been used to carry supplies to the Olympic Park.

Red and gold decorations had been designed by Philippa Broadhurst, former art director for the ITV hit Downton Abbey. Eight change ringers, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, formed the Royal Jubilee Bellringers and rang a quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Major. They rang while other churches along the route and around the country providing an answering peal.

Following their role in the pageant, the Royal Jubilee Bells found their home at the Church of St James Garlickhythe in the City of London. They were originally hung for change ringing in a purpose built tower in a warehouse in Edenbridge. The tower and bells were then transferred to the boat that led the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant on 3rd June and were rung to a quarter peal and various other touches. The bells were transferred to St James' and dedicated on 17th June. This is the second new ring of bells to be hung in the City of London to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. A new ring of 10 bells was created at St Dunstan-in-the-West and were first pealed to welcome HM The Queen to the City of London for her Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral on 5th June.

A feat not often achieved Nationally. As recorded on the National Database.

Devon Association

Broadhempston SS Peter & Paul
Tuesday, 5 June 2012 in 30mins (13)

120 Doubles by Call Changes.

Plain Bob Doubles

Called at Hand Stroke with the 5th as observation bell.

1 Julia Jarvis

2 Beverly Hinkley/Christine Pascoe

3 Lesley Rowe/ Marion Ryder

4 Caroline Keen

5 Graham Pascoe (c)

6 Spencer Keys

HRH Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee celebration. First in method by 1,2,3,4.

First in method as conductor (5).

Stoke Canon

The bells are safely installed in Stoke Canon church. The bells, which had not been rung for several years because the bell frame was unsafe, were removed from St Mary Magdalene Church in November 2008. There was a huge fundraising effort from villagers. When the bells were returned to the village people were so concerned about them being stolen that a guard was mounted. A spate of metal thefts from local churches meant that no insurer would cover the bells for theft while they were still on the ground. Sixteen people volunteered for bell patrol. The village, with a population of 600, had the task of raising £86,000 to cover the cost of a new ringing chamber as well as the re-tuning and refurbishment of the bells. In addition one of the old bells had to be replaced with a specially made new bell because it was of important historical interest. Many local and national charities interested in bells and bell ringing made donations and the fund-raising was given an enormous boost with a grant of £44,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Local children were very involved with raising money so that the Bell Restoration Committee decided to have the new bell engraved School Bell. On the day the bells arrived in Stoke Canon the entire school including the pre-school children, took part in a short Service of Blessing, led by the Rev. Preb Sue Sheppard. The rededication service was held on June 23rd and a youtube clip is available of ringing on the newly installed bells.

Gates and bell are the perfect reminder of this Jubilee year

JUBILEE celebrations already seem a while ago but Hatherleigh has at least two permanent reminders. The new Jubilee gates and the Bell. The Jubilee footpath first opened in November 1897 was to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. It links Park Road to Victoria Road, known then as Moor Lane and Higher Street. This short cut saves residents a quarter of a mile and a climb of 1,900ft (the route being a mere 412ft by the new footpath). To mark Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee new gates were erected by the present Town Council. The cost of this project was more than £2,000 for just the gates. Right Angel on the Hatherleigh Industrial Estate kindly painted them as a donation to the town. One thing, however, hasn't changed since 1897, the lovely views from the path. The same idyllic scenes are there today, with sheep grazing in the adjoining and distant fields.

On Hatherleigh Moor, near the monument, a wonderful granite bell was placed in time for the Jubilee. It is the work of renowned sculptor, Marcus Vergette, who lives on the outskirts of Hatherleigh. This bell is not perhaps what many people would consider a conventional bell it hasn't got a rope or clapper, but the passage of wind will give it a voice and the beauty of its shape and form adds interest to this area of the moor. It will be a permanent reminder of the Jubilee. Marcus is currently working on the Time and Tide project which will see a permanent installation of 12 bells around the United Kingdom, which will be rung by the sea at high tide. This project is to make a permanent installation of the Time and Tide Bell at the high tide mark at a number of diverse sites around the country, from urban centres to open stretches of coastline. The rise of the water at high tide moves the clapper to strike the bell. Played by the movement of the waves, the bell creates a varying, gentle, musical pattern. As the effect of global warming increases, the periods of bell strikes will become more and more frequent, and as the bell becomes submerged in the rising water the pitch will vary. The first bell was installed in July 2009 at Appledore, Devon: the second on Bosta beach Gt. Bernera, Outer Hebrides: the third at Trinity Buoy Wharf, London: the fourth installed in Aberdyfi, Wales. A further example of Marcus' work can be seen at the village hall in Highampton, commemorating the foot-and-mouth outbreak.

Association News

Team List Rule

Due to an error on the side of the officers at the AGM the team list rule could not be enforced. An announcement was made hoping that teams would still comply to enable compliance with the existing rules. Teams are still allowed to borrow ringers at short notice as the rules allow, however, the relevant Assistant Secretary on the day should be informed before the draw if this applied.

Minor Final Venue changed at short notice to Broadhempston

The Minor Final was to be held at Thurlestone but due to unforeseen urgent repairs to the tower arrangements were made at short notice to hold the event at Broadhempston. The date and time remained the same, 2pm on May 26th 2012. The officers apologised for any confusion and inconvenience caused, and thanked Julia Jarvis for her immediate offer of assistance and to Graham Pascoe, Captain of the Broadhempston tower, for stepping in at short notice.

Annual draw

Prize Winners from the Devon Association Grand Draw

Draw at Down St Mary on 9 June 2012

1. £250 - Reg Pincombe - Warkleigh
2. £75 - F Tucker - Burrington
3. £50 - Rob - Sherford
4. £25 - B Woollad - 01837 840***
5. £25 - M Harris - Bridgerule
6. £25 - Jane Lott - Bow
7. £25 - Ward - 01805 603***
8. £25 - A Beer - Winkleigh
9. £25 - S Blackburn - Braunton
10. £25 - Sally Sellick - Drewsteignton
11. £25 - M Fishwick - Appledore
12. £25 - M James - Northlew

Fund raising at AGM

After the AGM there are short meetings from other groups. It makes sense as people are attending the AGM in any event, or maybe the further meetings may encourage their attendance at the AGM. There is usually tea, biscuits and cakes to follow the AGM and also ringing at North Tawton. It has been suggested that a further event could be added after the AGM, maybe an Association fund raising event, such as for Jereme's chosen charity, to be held at the Waie Inn, Zeal Monachorum. Pub games could be considered, skittles or any other games, maybe a knock out competition for Euchre, darts or bridge. The Waie Inn is open all day, and these events could start at 6pm. The Waie Inn could provide meals or a buffet. If you are interested please do contact James Steer or Graham Sharland.

Devon Association of Ringers

Training, Recruitment & Youth Development

Intermediate Competition

The Devon Association is holding an Intermediate Competition on **13th October 2012** at **Lustleigh/Bovey Tracey**. This competition is aimed at teams who may have previously entered the Novice competition but would now like to start to improve and develop their rising and lowering in competitions.

The competition will, much like the Novice competition, have a friendly and encouraging atmosphere. The competition peal will comprise of a rise, half a peal of 'Sixty on Thirds' and a lower, with each section of the peal being judged separately. Each section will have a winning team along with an overall winner, along with constructive comments from the judges as to what could be improved for next time.

Invitations will be issued nearer the time, however if you are interested in attending or require more information, please contact Sam Massey.

Rising & Lowering Workshops

In conjunction with the Intermediate competition, the Devon Association Training, Recruitment and Youth Development committee is launching a programme of workshops to assist teams and individuals in developing their rising and lowering skills.

A number of teams have already registered an interest; if you would like more information about rising and lowering workshops please contact Sam Massey.

Stuart Aplin collapses at South Devon Qualifier at Sheepstor

Stuart fell of a chair and knocked his head on granite at Sheepstor during the ringing and was rushed to hospital. He was discharged from Derriford that evening. The cut on Stuart's head was not as bad as first thought and he had traces of bruising to his ribs. Stuart's Son-in-law was waiting in A&E and took Stuart back to his home in Kingsteignton for the night. A special thank you to everyone who attended and cared for Stuart at Sheepstor.

Don Roberts - hip replacement

It was Don Roberts' birthday on 5 August. He is now 82. You may have seen Don at Cheriton Bishop for the Interdeanery and at Broadhempston for the Minor Final. He was then using two sticks to get around. I am pleased to report that Don's right hip has been completely replaced with an "Exeter hip" on 10 August 2012. This is to match the left hip that was replaced on 9 August 2002, this one is expected to last 15 years. Don states that the pain is now easing and he has started to walk and to do his exercises. He will see his Surgeon on 25 September and hopes to return to ringing on 27 September. He did ring the day before his operation, just in case!

Ringing is still taking place at Upton and Don will be looking forward to seeing the improvements with the team's ringing when he returns. Don is still very active and very much involved with swimming and is organising events from his home and looking forward to the National Schools Teams Swimming Trials.

Congratulations to the Officers.

After Jereme stood down as Association Secretary, and then his unfortunate accident others having been trying to fill the void that he left. There is already a Secretary, Margaret White, an assistant Secretary for the South, James Kerslake and now a competition secretary, Joan Clarke, who conducted the smooth running of the competitions this year. I doubt whether it was that easy as each team considers its own priority as more important than someone else's. A lot more effort goes into being a competition secretary than most imagine. Jereme, with his vast experience would ensure that everything from parking, teas, services, judges accommodation etc., was seen to and this would suddenly become a job for Joan. With local help and co-operation, events can run smoothly and take a lot of pressure off of the Competition Secretary. Joan is to be congratulated on the way she ran the competitions so efficiently. They all involved work well before the competitions and some careful planning.

Other Officers, who have had more work, are Margaret and James. Margaret rose to the challenge and kept things running despite her arm injury and the absence of Jereme. James, amongst all of his additional tasks had also taken on the running of the website after John Enderson's retirement. The website appears to have run seamlessly, thanks not only to John, with his development and handing over of the website, but also to the enthusiasm, time and energy from James.

All the Bells

**Ring out for Olympics – All the Bells
Any Bell. Anyone. Anywhere.**

08:12 27th July

Turner Prize-winning artist and musician **Martin Creed** invited everyone in the UK to take part in *Work No. 1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes* at 08:12 on 27th July 2012 to celebrate the first day of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Led by Big Ben, bells across Britain rang out in a joyous cacophony, marking the official opening day of the London Olympics. At precisely 8:12 a.m., 12 hours before the spectacular Olympic opening ceremony, the bells heralded a day of celebration that has been years in the making. Big Ben, chimed 40 times over three minutes to ring in the games. It was joined across the country by bells and horns in churches, ships, boats, trucks and cars 12 hours before the symbolic time of 2012 British Summer Time — 8:12 p.m.

Creed said "Bells are the loudest instruments, and so I thought to do a work in public using bells, trying to make a sort of public piece of music that could be heard everywhere, you know, across the whole city and kind of across the whole country." Olympic organisers say they believe Friday was the first time that Big Ben's 13.5 ton bell, which usually strikes the hour, had been rung outside its regular schedule since 1952, when it tolled 56 times for King George VI's funeral, once for every year of his life. It will open with the sound of a 27-ton bell from the 442-year-old Whitechapel Bell Foundry, which also made Big Ben and Philadelphia's Liberty Bell. Many took part by ringing any kind of bell for three minutes - from enthusiastic children with hand bells, bicycle bells and doorbells to experienced change ringing experts of tower bells. The cacophony lasted three minutes and also saw people jangling car keys and making their mobile phones ring.

Martin Creed said: *'It's by people and for people. On the morning of the opening of the Games it's a massive signal that something is happening.'*

All The Bells was broadcast by the BBC to a potential live audience of over 10 million people across the UK on TV, radio and online - including BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans Breakfast Show where **Cullompton** were broadcast ringing after someone phoned in, the ringers were also presented with Olympic Meals. BBC local radio stations also joined in and **St Marks Exeter** was broadcast ringing. Ringing took place after hearing Big Ben ring at 08:12. Locally in Devon many churches rang out and at 08:12, such as **Paignton, Collaton St**

Mary and at **Stoke Gabriel** where there was 25 minutes ringing to complete the call change version of Five Rings Doubles. **St Marychurch**, rang all 10 bells to Call Changes at 08:12 for about 10 minutes. **Wolborough** also rang (twice) and they had the services of a town crier in full regalia! **Kingskerswell** were also among the early risers! **Kingsteignton** rang loud and fast. **Broadhempston** rang Olympic Doubles Call Changes twice a little later in the morning. **Totnes** also rang a little later as did **Abbotskerswell**. There was bell ringing in Newton Abbot town centre when local dignitaries joined in the country's bell-ringing ceremonies to herald the start of the Olympic Games.

Newton Abbot town crier Cllr Ken Purchase, borough crier Eveline Davies and her escort Michael Davies rang a resounding chorus with their three bells from outside St Leonard's Tower at 8.12am on Friday. The bells also rang out for an unprecedented three minutes at Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth to help mark the start of the games.

Children in Uffculme were among thousands across the country to join a chorus of chimes to express their enthusiasm for the Olympic Games. Pupils from Kingwood Childcare were at St Mary's Church to ring in a welcome about 12 hours before the start of the event. Administrator Jennifer Nash said: "The children really were excited and we have had an Olympic-themed week here so they are doing lots of events and we have even got an Olympic village set up, complete with a ticket office." The youngsters also planted a tree at Denner's Way in tribute to the Games being held in Britain.

A number of National Trust properties across the region also had their bells going including Castle Drogo – the chapel bell at the popular visitor attraction can be heard across the Teign Gorge on Dartmoor. There was a lot of enthusiasm for the Olympics and the games and organisation gave us all something to be proud of.

Bells ringing for the Dartmouth Regatta

The bells from St Saviour's were rung, as is tradition for the 3 mornings during the Regatta, from Thursday, 30 August through to Saturday 1 September. The ringing started after the cannon was heard at 8am each morning. That session of ringing lasted an hour, and then most ringers found breakfast somewhere in town. After breakfast ringing commenced at 10 am until 11am. Visitors called in to ring and well done to Tim Chapman for providing a local team from Dartmouth who not only assisted every day but had a complete team for two peals Saturday morning at 10am.

Bratton Fleming

Bride gets her bells ringing

Wedding bells could be heard ringing at Bratton Fleming Parish Church on Friday 17 August. But they weren't being rung as a blushing bride left the church – because the bride was in the bell tower, ringing the bells herself.

Katherine Miles, who until Friday morning was known as Katherine Taylor, opted to spend the minutes immediately after marrying husband Chris ringing the bells at the church, after spending large parts of her childhood doing the same.

Katherine's parents, Steve and Rachel, have rung bells for many years, with Steve following in the footsteps of his father and taking up bell-ringing as a child while Rachel started when she was a student.

And Steve and Rachel are delighted to see the family tradition continued.

Rachel, who moved to Bratton Fleming four and a half years ago, said: "It seemed like a nice thing to do, and we're really happy with it." Steve and Rachel started ringing bells at Bratton Fleming's church 18 months ago, after an advert was placed in the parish magazine asking for bell-ringers to ring at another wedding.

Since that time they have helped train more bell-ringers, and Bratton Fleming now boasts nine. Katherine, a teacher, said it was nice to give a small nod to part of her childhood on her wedding day.

"Bell-ringing is something I grew up doing because of my parents," she said.

"So when the opportunity to do this presented itself we thought, why not?"

Frithelstock

Frithelstock now has a thriving bell-ringing team which is preparing to host its first competition at the church in 62 years.

The bells had not been rung regularly for 40 years until about three years ago, when a group of villagers decided to do something about it. Tower captain Terry Warrington said: "I used to play rugby with a bellringer and he used to try and get me to have a go. Then my lifestyle changed and I had more time at home. I spoke to a few guys in the pub to see if they might be interested, and they were." The eight volunteers, who are all in their 40s and 50s, had to be taught how to ring. Most churches have a competition and theirs is combined with Monkleigh and Torrington on the same day. Researching bellringing competitions, Terry said they discovered some unusual facts. "Years ago people used to ring for unusual prizes". To follow this, local monumental mason Gabriel Hummerstone is making a slate bell which will be set in a wooden frame.

Two articles from Chris Clayton

Do you call yourself a Tower Captain?

Visiting a tower in Devon one night I asked the person who let us in if he was the captain of ringers and was there a band in the tower. His reply was "No interest around here".

My first thoughts were "why not" these are lovely bells and then I looked around. The belfry was dirty, cold, draughty, ropes all different heights, rubbish in the corners so I started thinking. In the past this had been an active tower with a strong band, what had gone wrong.

When I started ringing fifty three years ago at Warkleigh that's just what the tower was like, but life really was different. I would have come fresh from the farm, others were quarry men, farm workers, road men and lorry drivers. In other ways men, (and it was all men) who earned their living manually, lived in the cold and wet and thought the tower was fine.

Also there was not much else to do on a Tuesday night. Towers all around Devon were full of men like that, who spent hours practising, rang on Sunday and rarely went very far except the annual outing and the occasional competition.

The trouble is, fifty years on the ringing scene has totally changed and if you don't embrace the new reality, you will end up with towers like the one I walked into.

Modern ringers are as many women as men, in fact in many towers they are the majority, they live a life, where damp and cold don't feature. They like central heating, modern amenities and even more important on a Tuesday night there is a wealth of different things to do. If we are going to attract and more importantly keep ringers, the belfry has to be the place where they want to be.

I know it costs money, but money can be obtained with enough determination, but look around your tower. Is this the sort of place that a young lady for example, fresh from her centrally heated office where she has sat at a computer all day would want to spend her evening? Is it clean, warm, bright, carpet on the floor, because that's what she will expect!

Are the ropes all the right height with fresh clean sallies. Is the welcome warm and even more important is the instructor competent to teach in a safe manner.

When I started on the first night, after watching one demonstration I was told to rise the bell and that was my instruction. Being young, strong, tough hands I soon got the hang of it, but now an entirely different approach is needed. It presents its own challenges but is very rewarding and instead of having to say "no interest

around here" how much better to be able to say "yes I am the captain and we have a good strong band".

Ringling in Devon and not just for the Association, faces many challenges. The legacy of the past has not helped, because as it was so successful it is difficult to admit it has no place for the future, but the future must be faced. More about that in another article, but for now, let's all do all we can to make sure it has a future.

How to train and keep ringers

Do you look at your learners and think, "They look nice and relaxed with a good action!" Training ringers is fraught with dangers. You are asking the learner to pull a rope and the only thing between them and possible disaster is a thin bit of wood called a stay.

With this in mind I think it is time to look at some of the habits I see around me when ringing and try to relate that to the possible dangers when teaching. Don't look at my action, I was self taught, I try to improve but old habits die hard. I don't let my learners take on bad habits to start with. What they do when I am not around or later in their ringing career is not my problem, but it is my problem when under my instruction.

I think I had better remind readers what I said in my first article. Fifty years ago, hands were hard, muscles strong and manual labour, if not the norm, was pretty universal, even to men who worked in the office. Today, it is quite possible the first rope a potential learner ever feels is the bell rope. With hands soft and muscles quite sufficient to handle a key board great care must be taken or the recruit will be put off for life. This can equally apply to men as well as women.

Some of these points the reader may find controversial and not how they may quite successfully train learners. Well that's fine, I want trainers to think about what they are doing and if this helps, good.

Starting ringers from the bottom and rising from the start. Well I don't know what you do, just remember, ringing is about balance and rhythm. If the first few weeks are spent being told to "pull" "pull harder" this may be what is remembered.

I find learners progress very quickly to rounds if taught from the stay and a good action is easier to install. Rising and lowering comes quickly and naturally when the ringer is more confident.

Rope coils when ringing. Strong views on both sides. I consider coils to be an unnecessary nuisance even though I was taught with two to three coils.

Much easier to learn without a coil and

learn how to ring with a coil if you have to, than learn with coils and have to ring without.

You have all seen ringers who wont ring without a coil and have to hunt for boxes. Teach without and have a nice double rope to hold, much easier.

One other important point about coils. If there is an accident, for example, the stay is broken and the learner cannot drop the coil in time. You will be LIABLE for teaching in an UNSAFE manner.

Running the rope through the hand, again an unnecessary action which has lead to many nasty and quite severe accidents. It can also cause rope burns. Keep the rope away from any part of the ringer that can be caught. I myself have seen broken bones, ends taken off fingers, pulled arms etc. One accident like this and the learner has gone for good.

Do not let your learners run the rope through their hands. If you do and there is an accident, you will be LIABLE for teaching in an UNSAFE manner.

It goes without saying that no learner should ever put their hands through a loop. Look after your learners, make sure that your belfry is the most important place to be on practice night, it's a great feeling to be able to look around and think "I taught these ringers" Don't forget we need every ringer we can find.

Devon County Show

The 2012 Devon County Show lived up to its billing as the biggest party in Devon with one of the largest crowds in modern times enjoying the celebratory atmosphere of a region welcoming the Olympic torch and preparing for HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. There was a fabulous line-up of entertainment headlined by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The ringers section of the Churches Stand at the County Show is now a well established part of the Devon Ringers' Calendar. They had a prominent place at the entrance this year from Thursday 17 May to Saturday 19 May and attracted much attention on all three days of the show. Any ringers were warmly invited to see what was on offer. The Frank Mack ring was the most prominent part however the most important function was the chance to meet people who may be potential or returning ringers. This was another very successful event at the county show with many people having a go on a mini ring for the first time. If you wish to help out next year, please do not hesitate to contact Ian Avery.

AGM Notice

The AGM will be held on Saturday 10 November 2012 at North Tawton Town Hall starting 2.15pm. The annual affiliation fees for 2011/12 are 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.

Fund Raising is planned to take place after the AGM. Events such as a skittles evening are being considered at the Waie Inn, Zeal Monachorum from 6pm.

Ringkly Ringers

The holiday this year will be to the Eastbourne area from 14 - 18 May 2012. If you have not booked and wish to go, please contact John Staddon, Alphington. The mid week ringing has been organised for 2012 and is on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. The first tower is at 10:30am with light refreshments. An optional meal at 1pm with another tower in the afternoon. For more details please contact the Secretary, Michael Webster - 01803 782591.

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'

Devon Association of Ringers

Training, Recruitment & Youth Development

Intermediate Competition

The Devon Association is holding an Intermediate Competition on **13 October 2012** at **Lustleigh/Bovey Tracey**. This competition is aimed at teams who may have previously entered the Novice competition but would now like to start to improve and develop their rising and lowering in competitions. The competition will, much like the Novice competition, have a friendly and encouraging atmosphere. The competition will comprise of a rise, half a peal of 'Sixty on Thirds' and a lower, with each section of the peal being judged separately. Each section will have a winning team along with an overall winner, along with constructive comments from the judges as to what could be improved for next time.

Invitations will be issued nearer the time, but if you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Sam.

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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.

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