

THE WINCHESTER ROUNDS

The Newsletter of the Winchester District

No 1 Spring 2010

Communication and education are seen as the two big roles that the District can fulfil. For the former it was agreed to periodically produce a Newsletter. As this seemed to fit with Public Relation matters John Palk 'volunteered' to undertake its production. To circulate it by e-mail to all towers and to all of the members for whom we hold an address is possibly the most convenient method. For it to be a published quarterly, to coincide with the District meetings would appear ideal, it does, however, require input from you, the District members and towers. News, events, achievements, notices etc etc. See below for the moves on the education front.

DISTRICT NEWS

The District Annual Meeting

The draft minutes of this meeting held on 13th February at Bishopstoke have been circulated.

The principle points arising were:-

The new committee elected comprised just two members, there being no nominations for Treasurer, Ringing Master(s) or Executive Committee Representative. Authority was given to co-opt members to these offices and for confirmation of the action to be sought at the next District Meeting.

Chairman, Public Relations Officer and Newsletter Editor

John Palk, Penlee, Halterworth Lane, Crampmoor, Romsey, SO51 9AN
(01794 513862) penlee@clickers.org.uk

Secretary: Rosemary Oakeshott, Dummersdene, Saunders Lane, Awbridge, Romsey. SO51 0GP
(01794 340300) rosemary@winoak.co.uk

A **Treasurer** is a **must have** position and many peoples arms have been twisted, so far without success! In the mean time Rosemary has agreed to be acting Treasurer, indeed she has indicated her

willingness to become treasurer should there be a willing volunteer for secretary

We are very pleased to report that Edmund Wratten, has agreed to become the Ringing Master, a role that he fulfilled excellently for many years during the early 2000s. A second Ringing Master preferable from the east of the area is still required.

Ringing Master. Edmund Wratten,
10 Rozelle Close, Littleton, Winchester. SO22 6QP
(01962 880462) ej.wratten@virgin.net

Volunteers for any of the posts please contact any of the above, by any means at your disposal.

WANTED

District Treasurer/Secretary
District Ringing Master
Executive Committee Rep

As you will have read we say good-bye to many long serving members of the Committee.

Jen Churchill has been an enthusiastic Ringing Master for five years, cajoling many into new methods. Her true forte lay in organising the annual 'Young Ringers Outing' and similar events for our up and coming members. Indeed I believe that the outing was her inspiration. She will be missed.

Clare Griffiths leaves us for the Isle of Wight, after three years of very efficiently looking after our financial affairs. Not the easiest of Committee positions to hold but one she filled with distinction. For the Guild Report membership records of each of the towers are required, those from Clare were a model. The notes which she has left for our new treasurer are not only comprehensive but also easy to read and follow.

Peter and Christine Hill both held office for two years. Peter is finding that with his change of employer his time is becoming more heavily committed. We have not, however, seen the last of them as Christine is organising the District Outing to Oxford and both Christine and Peter are involved in the 'Walk, Ring and Picnic'.

The Education Move

The District and Guild both hold education days, which can be very constructive. However, all too often students return to their home towers and for whatever reason the method learnt on the education day is not rung for another six months by which time the students have forgotten everything imparted during the day.

Now there is a regular Surprise practice at Hursley which obviously caters for the more advanced ringers. A regular 'Beyond Bob Doubles' evening would seem to fill this void although this working title need not be fully descriptive of the evening. As a 'tester' and to gauge support an Education Day under this title is planned for May 22nd at a venue to be confirmed.

Please contact John Palk with your thoughts and aspirations.

BEST KEPT TOWER

Despite the poor response last year, we are again running the 'Best Kept Tower' competition in the belief that it does inspire some bands to look at their surroundings and consider the well-being of their ringers and learners and visitors, particularly with tower safety in mind. Unfortunately we still know of towers where there is no warning signage and where any visitors exploring the church might try their hands on the ropes. More details later, with the judging being in September. In the mean time if you would wish see a check list of items the judges will be considering please contact John. We would also be grateful to hear from anyone would like to help with the judging

District Refectory Duty

Four times a year the District provides assistance in the Cathedral Refectory. Duties include serving behind the counter, taking and delivering food orders and clearing tables. This year's remaining dates are:-

Tuesday 1st June

Tuesday 14th September and
Tuesday 30th November

DISTRICT PRACTICES

These are intended to be multifunctional, just how 'mult' being dependant upon the experience of the tower in which it is held and of course upon those who attend.

It can provide the learners and improvers of the 'Home Tower' with the chance to ring in a stronger band than normal, improvers from other towers the chance to experience ringing in a different tower and again possibly with a stronger band and for the more experienced ringers possibly the chance to ring something different.

It is proposed, that call changes and plain hunt will always be rung together, hopefully, with a named method chosen by the home tower. Other ringing will naturally be subject to the requirements and abilities of those there on the night,

To start us off, Romsey have chosen Carlisle Surprise Major. It is not in 'Diagrams', but is on the CC site and therefore accessible via those programmes which rely on that as a source. Copies will be available on the night.

DISTRICT STRIKING COMPETITION

After many false starts round weddings, church concerts and choir practices, the competition has been arranged to be held at Broughton on 8th May.

As usual it will be in two sections; call changes and methods. We have been looking into some form of handicap in the call change section, in an attempt to provide a more even playing field. This may take the form of the how many members of the team have rung quarters or possibly the total length of ringing experience of the whole band. Early days but we are looking at the problem of very experienced bands competing against the inexperienced.

GUILD ANNUAL DINNER 2010

SATURDAY 15th MAY, 6.45 FOR 7.30PM
Southampton Park Hotel, Cumberland Place,
Southampton, SO15 2WY.

Tickets £26.00

Details:- Mo Routh, Mill Cottage, Mill Lane,
Steep, Petersfield GU32 2DJ

Last date for ordering tickets is Friday April 30th
See Guild web site for menu and booking form

10 th March	District Practice at Romsey Abbey Special Method:- Carlisle Surprise Major
22 nd April	District Practice - Ropley
23 rd April	(St Georges Day) Ringing for England 6pm
8 th May	District Striking Competition, followed by District Quarterly Meeting – Broughton
15 th May	Guild Dinner - Southampton Guild 6 Bell Inter Tower Comp. Guild 8 Bell Inter Tower Comp.
22 nd May	Education Day beyond Bob Doubles
1 st June	Refectory Duty
June	District Practice (tbc)
3 rd July	Guild AGM – Basingstoke Guild 8 Bell Inter District Competition – Bramley
22 nd July	District Practice - East Tytherley
14 th August	Walk, ring and picnic. Test Valley area
19 th – 22 nd Aug	Bradfield Ringing Course
1 st September	District Practice - Cathedral
11 th September	District Outing to Oxford
14 th September	Refectory Duty
1 st – 8 th October	District quarter peal week
October	District Practice (tbc)
13 th November	Education afternoon Higher Numbers – Hursley District Quarterly meeting
30 th November	Refectory Duty
4 th December	District Carol Service - Mottisfont
January	District Practice Crawley (tbc)
12 th February	Annual District Meeting – New Alresford
March	District Practice (tbc)

Regular events

2nd Tuesday – Hursley Surprise Major practice.
4th Friday?? - Beyond Bob Doubles - ??

GUILD AGM

All the officer posts come up for election this year. Pam Thompson has indicated that she will not be seeking re-election as secretary, nor will Frances Mitchell be standing for minutes secretary, there are also vacant posts for Vice Master, Education Convenor and for the BRF Fund Raising Committee. Could you do the job?

North Stoneham

The bells are to be removed on 16th March for works to the frame, which are expected to be completed during May at an estimated cost of £20,000. A donation of £500 from the District towards this work was proposed and approved at the ADM

CONGRATULATIONS

To Jonathon Daniels who rang his first quarter in hand on 3rd January, John Williams who rang his first quarter inside at Romsey Abbey on 17th January, to Jacqui Horne of Lockerley for her first quarter peal on 7th February. Andrew Palk returned to Romsey Abbey on 19th December to ring in peal commemorating 25 years since his first that was also rung at the Abbey. The Clock House Bells at Awbridge have seen many achievements during the last few weeks, Andrew Dodd has rung a number of methods for the first time, rang his 50th peal for the Guild and also circled the tower to peals, as also have John Dodd and Roy LeMarechal. John and Roy also celebrated their 500th peal together. Jonathan Daniels rang his 50th quarter peal

GENERALLY

The dates for the Bradfield Ringing Course are Thursday 19th to Sunday 22nd August. The courses being offered are:- Bell Experience, Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Surprise Minor, Grandsire Triples, Surprise Major and Tower Leaders. It maybe that not all of the proposed courses will run, which do is dependant upon the take-up.

Full details are to be found at www.bradfield-ringing-course.org.uk

AND FINALLY

Well that’s the first edition done and dusted. For future editions we need your feed-back and input. News of your tower and ringers, events, achievements, weddings etc