

Wirral Branch Treasure Hunt

On Monday 4th May, we set out on our annual treasure hunt. We won't say too much about the team that couldn't even find Parbold church but they were well named Mile-O-Max! After ringing at Parbold, nine teams set off. The winning team called themselves "The Winners" — how's that for confidence — congratulations to Janet & Eric & Clare. Propping up the field came the Neston Dogs' Home — better luck next year! Most importantly we all found our way to the supper venue — The Red Lion at Newburgh — all of a quarter of a mile as the crow flies, but not as treasure hunts go. Many thanks to Sue Sparling for the excellent organisation — some easy clues and some difficult ones — funny how we couldn't agree which were which. Thanks also to the incumbent and key holder at Parbold for use of the bells. BDH

Barnes Go West Again And Again!

Barnes ringers and their friends have travelled west twice and had two weekends away this spring. In March we rang our way along the Severn Estuary from Caldicot to Caerleon on our way into Cardiff and spent the next two days ringing around Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. One of the objectives of this trip was to give those who had not rung on the ten at Llandaff the opportunity to do so before the bells came out, and during a busy three days when we rang at over twenty towers in the area, the two tens at Llandaff and Cardiff St John's, provided some of the most satisfying ringing. We visited several other superb rings and it is difficult to identify the most enjoyable, but Cowbridge and Penarth in particular prompted comments.

For those involved in the organisation of these trips, no sooner was the visit to Cardiff over than it was full speed ahead to finalise the arrangements for our annual visit to Devon. Although the first letters for these trips had gone out in December and February respectively, we always seem to get into a last minute rush as we try to establish who is coming and where we are ringing. Nevertheless despite a few last minute changes the night before, (most of) the band set forth again eight weeks later in weather that rapidly became hot and sunny. Although it was May and not July this year, we were again going to be lucky with leisurely lunches in pub gardens basking in hot sunshine. After some enjoyable bells in Somerset on the way down, we spent Saturday in the Barnstaple and Bideford area where 6 excellent eights rewarded us for our travels. We finished our weekend joining the local band to ring for Evensong at Exeter Cathedral, which was certainly an impressive way to round our trip off.

With a more relaxed schedule and ringing in the evenings somewhat optional, we visited fewer towers and attempted fewer quarter peals than in previous years, nevertheless we still seemed to be in a scramble to get our food orders in at the Exeter Inn, before a line was drawn under our privileged late orders.

Over the two weekends we rang 16 quarter peals and rang at 39 towers giving several of our team valuable experience and contributing all the while to improving our ringing standards, though the quarter of Grandsire triples continues to elude us! I particularly enjoyed meeting ringers and returning to towers that in some cases I had not seen or rung at for over thirty years. We are again grateful to all who arranged for bells to be available, towers to be open and in many cases came to meet us. Also to Evan Chapman and Colin Yandle who accommodated so many of us and Jim Goodfellow who helped so much in South Wales. EJRH

Penhow, Gwent. 20 Mar, 1296 Cambridge S. Minor: Liz A Marchant 1, D Holdridge 2, Jennifer H Doughty 3, W J Goodfellow 4, F Ring-Davies 5, G E J A Doughty (C) 6.

Magor, Gwent. 20 Mar, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Amanda Lysons 1, J N Ley 2, Patricia A Chapman 3, Jill M Hupman (400th Q) 4, E J A Hartley (C) 5, Lorraine Lysons 6.

Radyr, S Glam. 21 Mar, 1344 P.B. Major: J N Ley 1, E M Chapman 2, Jennifer H Doughty 3, Liz A Marchant 4, F Ring-Davies 5, G E J A Doughty 6, M J Wigney 7, D Holdridge (1st Major as C) 8.

Coity, Mid Glam. 21 Mar, 1260 P.B. Doubles: Amanda Lysons 1, Lorraine Lysons 2, W J Goodfellow 3, E J R Hartley 4, Jill M Hupman (C) 5, Patricia A Chapman 6. 1st tog for 30 years: 3 and 4.

Sully, S. Glam. 21 Mar, 1260 P.B. Doubles: Liz A Marchant 1, Patricia A Chapman 2, E M Chapman 3, F Ring-Davies 4, W J Goodfellow (C) 5, J N Ley 6.

Penarth, S. Glam. 21 Mar, Stedman Triples: A Watkins 1, E J R Hartley 2, D Holdridge 3, Jennifer H Doughty 4, Fran Watkins 5, G E J A Doughty 6, M J Wigney (C) 7, Jill M Hupman 8.

Cardiff, S Glam. 22 Mar, 1263 Grandsire Caters: E M Chapman 1, Susannah Clements 2, Jennifer H Doughty 3, R J Hall 4, E J R Hartley 5, D Holdridge 6, M J Wigney (C) 7, G E J A Doughty 8, J A Vesey 9, Jill M Hupman 10. For Morning Service.

Ely, Cardiff, S Glam (59 Wroughton Place). 22 Mar, 1260 P.B. Minor: J C Parker 1-2, W J Goodfellow (C) 3-4, M J Wigney 5-6.

St Mellons, Gwent. 22 Mar, 1320 London S. Minor: Jennifer H Doughty 1, E J R Hartley 2, D Holdridge 3, G E J A Doughty 4, J C Parker 5, Jill M Hupman (1st as C in m) 6.

Huish Episcopi, Som. 15 May, 1260 P.B. Minor: Jill M Hupman 1, Elaine R Gosden 2, M R Gosden 3, J N Ley 4, D Holdridge 5, M J Wigney (C) 6.

Langport, Som. 15 May, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Amanda Lysons 1, Alex Bayliss 2, Patricia A Chapman 3, F Ring-Davies 4, E J R Hartley (C) 5, Liz Marchant 6. These two quarters rung to celebrate the birth of baby Alexandra Marchbank on May 5th, daughter to Alan and Christine.

Taunton St George, Som. 15 May, 1259 Grandsire Caters: Alex Bayliss 1, Elaine C Gosden 2, Jill M Hupman 3, Liz Marchant (1st inside on 10) 4, E J R Hartley 5, F Ring-Davies (1st on 10) 6, M J Wigney (C) 7, M R Gosden 8, D Holdridge 9, J N Ley 10.

Braunton, Devon. 16 May, 1250 Cambridge S. Major: Liz Marchant 1, Alex Bayliss 2, Mark R Gosden 3, Elaine C Gosden 4, E J R Hartley 5, Jill M Hupman 6, D Holdridge 7, M J Wigney (C) 8.

Northam, Devon. 16 May, 1260 P.B. Triples: Amanda Lysons 1, Jill M Hupman 2, J N Ley 3, Lorraine Lysons 4, F Ring-Davies 5, M J Wigney 6, D Holdridge (C) 7, J C Yandle 8. To mark the centenary of the National Society for Epilepsy.

Bampton, Devon. 17 May, 1260 P.B. Doubles: Lorraine Lysons 1, Amanda Lysons (1st inside) 2, M J Wigney (C) 3, Jill M Hupman 4, D Holdridge 5, J C Yandle 6. In celebration of the life of Miss Clara Victoria Yandle (108 years).

Pinhoe, Devon. 17 May, 1260 P.B. Minor: Cathy Bonsell 1, J N Ley 2, E J R Hartley 3, F Ring-Davies 4, D Holdridge 5, M J Wigney 6.

Exeter Goes To Essex

They say it takes twenty years of living in the county to be accepted by the native Devonian. Ian and Wendy Campbell are now exactly seven-eighths of the way to achieving acceptance by the local ringers and have become quite adept at coping with numerous coils or tying huge knots in the ropes. However, they still retain a great fondness for the people and bells of Essex, where they lived for six years in the late sixties and early seventies, and a trip down memory lane was called for before becoming committed Devonians. To this end a quarter-peal weekend was arranged, based at Maldon, ringing on some excellent bells and also appreciating the really fine, sunny weather. There was some competition noisewise on Monday from the Southend Air Show, but this did not interfere at all with the 100% success rate. Our thanks go to all those ringers who allowed us the use of their bells.

Saturday 23rd May

Coggeshall. 1280 DNCBM: Graham Tucker 1, Susan Sawyer 2, Susan Legge 3, Wendy Campbell 4, Ian Campbell 5, Alan Sinden 6, Peter Sawyer 7, Graham Colborne (C) 8.

Bocking. 1282 Yorkshire S. Royal: Elaine Grant 1, Ian Campbell 2, Susan Sawyer 3, Wendy Campbell 4, Susan Legge 5, Graham Colborne 6, Alan Sinden (C) 7, Graham Tucker 8, James Grant 9, Peter Sawyer 10.

Thaxted. 1280 Spl. S. Major (BCLS): James Grant 1, Julie Sinden 2, Susan Sawyer 3, Elaine Grant 4, Wendy Campbell 5, Ian Campbell 6, Graham Tucker 7, Peter Sawyer (C) 8.

Great Dunmow. 1260 Stedman Triples: Julie Sinden 1, Wendy Campbell 2, Susan Legge 3, Lesley Tucker 4, Elaine Grant 5, James Grant 6, Ian Campbell (C) 7, Graham Colborne 8.

Terling. 1344 Rutland S. Major: Susan Sawyer 1, Susan Legge 2, James Grant 3, Graham Colborne 4, Graham Tucker 5, Alan Sinden 6, Peter Sawyer 7, James Grant (C) 8.

Sunday 24th May

Chelmsford (Cathedral). 1253 Grandsire Cinques: Ian Campbell 1, Susan Sawyer 2, Yvonne Towler 3, Wendy Campbell 4, Susan Legge (1st on 12) 5, Elaine Grant 6, Graham Tucker 7, Alan Sinden (C) 8, Graham Colborne 9, James Towler 10, James Grant 11, Peter Sawyer 12. For Evensong.

Monday 25th May

Rayleigh. 1260 Grandsire Triples: Peter Sawyer 1, Elaine Grant 2, Susan Sawyer 3, Susan Legge 4, Alan Sinden (C) 5, Graham Colborne 6, Graham Tucker 7, James Grant 8.

Prittlewell. 1263 Stedman Caters: Elaine Grant 1, Julie Sinden 2, Susan Sawyer 3, Lesley Tucker 4, Graham Colborne (C) 5, Wendy Campbell 6, Susan Legge 7, James Grant 8, Ian Campbell 9, Peter Sawyer 10.

Thorpe Bay. 1280 Glasgow S. Major: Wendy Campbell 1, Susan Sawyer 2, Graham Tucker 3, Elaine Grant 4, Alan Sinden 5, Ian Campbell 6, Peter Sawyer 7, James Grant (C) 8.

Danbury. 1250 Pudsey S. Major: Elaine Grant 1, Julie Sinden 2, Susan Sawyer 3, Wendy Campbell 4, James Grant 5, Ian Campbell 6, Peter Sawyer 7, Graham Tucker (C) 8. £15

The Yorkshire Association (Scarborough & District Branch) Quarter Peal Day

On Monday 25th May (Spring Bank Holiday) we held our Branch Quarter Peal Day and out of ten quarters attempted, six were successful and several firsts were scored in various forms.

Many thanks to all ringers who took part especially all those who helped with learners, and commiserations to all those who were not successful in the quarters at Helmsby, Kirkby Moorside, Whitby and Scarborough. Congratulations to the six ringers from All Saints Brompton (5) who all did very well in their quarters (4 of which were firsts).

Afterwards about 20 ringers met at the Cayley Arms in Brompton for the Branch Dinner, superbly organised by Ian Woolley and much enjoyed by all. EPK

Scalby, N Yorks. 25 May, 1320 Rev Canterbury Pleasure Bob Doubles: P Hodgson 1, Angela E Witty 2, R M Franks 3, W Walton 4, D Mundy (C) 5, D Jones (1st Q) 6. 1st in m: 3, 4 and as C.

Scarborough, N Yorks. 1320 P.B. Doubles: Sheila Anderson (1st Q for 30 years) 1, Alison Turner 2, G Taylor (1st inside) 3, Sue Elliott 4, E P King (C) 5, I Anderson (1st Q) 6.

Norton-juxta-Malton, N Yorks. 1264 P.B. Major: R M Franks (1st in m) 1, Alison Turner 2, Catherine Simpson 3, P Hodgson 4, Angela E Witty 5, W Walton 6, M Turner 7, D Mundy (1st Major as C) 8.

Flamborough, N Yorks. 1320 P.B. Doubles: Heather Woolley 1, Rachel Robins 2, G Taylor 3, Sue Elliott 4, E P King (C) 5, I Woolley 6.

Filey, N Yorks. 1320 P.B. Doubles: C Jackson 1, E P King (C) 2, G Taylor 3, Sue Elliott 4, P Hodgson 5, M Thomas (1st Q) 6.

Brompton, N Yorks. 1320 Doubles (3m): Alison Turner 1, W Walton (1st in 3m) 2, D Mundy 3, E P King 4, R M Franks 5. Jointly cond: 3, 4, 5.

Date Touch

Rushden, Northants. 31 May, 1992 Stedman Triples: Pam M Bailey 1, Freda P Willgress 2, Brenda M Dixon 3, R Dennis (C) 4, I N Willgress 5, A J Marks 6, J Hedgcock 7, B Whitworth 8. For Ascension tide. 80p