

Room: 3. 110th together: 5.8. 100th together: 2.6. 75th together: 1.5. 1st in m: 4.8. **£6**

Ringing Room, USA. 2 Jun, 1440 Wolf Wrap Major: Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 1-2, Julie M Curtsinger (Roseville, M N) 3-4, Kristine K Fowler (St Paul, M N) 5-6, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 7-8. 1st in m for all. 1st performance of the method unspliced with other methods. Dedicated to Stan Wagon, who created the method & to Joan Hutchinson, who encouraged him. **£3**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 27 Jun, 1440 Rhyl S Minor: Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 1-2, Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 3-4, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 5-6. Believed to be the first double-handed Q of the method. 1st in m for all. With get-well wishes to Joseph Sharp & Rose & Barry Humphrey. **£2.25**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 10 Jul, 1440 Primrose S Minor: Lisa Ryan (Stanford in the Vale, Oxon) 1-2, Susan K Fautsch (Longville, M N) 3-4, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 5-6. **£2.25**

Ringing Room, USA. 12 Jul, 1440 Cambridge S Minor: Tj Marchello (Seattle, WA) 1-2, Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 3-4, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 5-6. 1st S: 1-2. **£2.25**

Ringing Room, UK. 17 Jul, 1272 PB Minimus: Barbara D Murray (C) 1-2, Rosemary J Humphrey 3-4. Rung by the Dynamic Duo from The Bellerophons because we could. **£1.72**

Ringing Room (Hemel Hempstead & Kendal), UK. 23 Jul, 1260 Little Bob and PB Minor: Nicky J Smith 1-2, Sue Carpenter 3-4, Stephen J Crawley (C) 5-6. Sue's special Birthday treat (21 x 60).

Ringing Room, UK. 24 Feb, 1280 Cornwall S Major: Karen McCleave 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Lavinia Sullivan 3, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 4, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 5, Sue Portsmouth 6, Jennifer M Thomas (Brasted, Kent) 7, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 8. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Banana Bread Day. 1st in m: 6.7. 40th as C in Ringing Room. 20th together: 3.4. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK. 10 Mar, 1280 Bristol S Major: Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Jennifer M Thomas (Brasted, Kent) 3, Christine B J de Cordova 4, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 5, Lavinia Sullivan 6, Sue Portsmouth 7, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 8. Rung by The Bellerophons to celebrate the discovery of the rings of Uranus, this day in 1977. 125th online: 4. 40th together: 3.4. 20th together: 5.8. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK. 17 Mar, 1280 Double Coslany Court Bob Major: Catherine A Colman 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 3, Christine B J de Cordova 4, Joseph A Sharp 5, Lavinia Sullivan 6, Sue Portsmouth 7, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 8. Rung by The Bellerophons for St Patrick's Day. 125th together: 2.4. 110th together: 5.7. 60th together in Ringing Room: 6.7. 40th together: 1.7. 30th together in Ringing Room: 1.3. 20th together: 2.6. 10th together: 1.6. 40th in Ringing Room as C. 1st in m for all. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK. 5 May, 1288 Grandsire Triples: Joseph A Sharp 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 3, Lavinia Sullivan 4, Sue Portsmouth 5, Catherine A Colman 6, Richard A Wolfgang (C) 7, Christine B J de Cordova 8. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Totally Chipotle Day. 50th together: 2.7. 25th together: 6.7. 10th together: 1.4. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 6 May, 1296 Netherseale S Minor: David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 1, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Lavinia Sullivan 4, Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 5, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons to celebrate the official opening of The Eiffel Tower to the public at the Universal Exposition in Paris, this day in 1889. Also to celebrate George V becoming King of England, this day in 1910. 1st in m for all. The band would like to associate Caroline J Champion & Kevin J Musty with this performance. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 19 May, 1272 Norwich S Minor: Catherine A Colman 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Lavinia Sullivan 4, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 5, Thomas A Winter (Gillingham, Kent) (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons to celebrate St Dunstan's Day, Devil's Food Cake Day & the birth of Colin Chapman of Lotus cars, this day in 1928. Also rung to welcome Angel the pug to Tom's family! 100th together: 3.5. 70th together in Ringing Room: 3.4. 1st as C in Ringing Room. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 26 May, 1280 Rottenege Treble Place Major: Sue Portsmouth 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) (C) 3, Christine B J de Cordova 4, Lavinia Sullivan 5, Catherine A Colman 6, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 7, Simon J O Head 8. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Paper Airplane Day, also to celebrate the publishing of Bram Stoker's Dracula (1897) & the inaugural 24 Hours of Le Mans (1923). Also Birthday compliments to the C. 1st in m for all. Believed to be the first Q of this method. 140th together: 1.7. 100th this year: 1. 100th in Ringing Room this year: 7. 90th together: 2.6. 75th single method Major in Ringing Room: 6. 65th in Ringing Room this year: 4. 30th in Ringing Room this year: 6. 30th together in Ringing Room: 3.6. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 17 Jun, 1296 Lincoln S Minor: David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 1, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Lavinia Sullivan 4, Kevin J Musty (Aberavon) 5, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons to celebrate the birth of Igor Stravinsky (1882) & the arrival of The Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour (1885). 1st in m for all. Marking one year of Kevin being part of the 'Early Friday Crew!' **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 27 Jun, 1272 Spl S Minor (23m): Sara Llewellyn (Pontypridd) 1, Daniel T Calvert (Plymouth) 2, John Harpole (Ramsden Heath) 3, Maurice Calvert (Calverley) 4, Nicholas J Green (Shrewsbury) 5, Andy Sutherland (Ilkley) (C) 6. Special thanks to Sara on treble who due to technical issues had to ring without hearing any voice input. Most Minor methods: 3. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 15 Jul, 1368 London S Minor: Lavinia Sullivan 1, Sue Portsmouth 2, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 3, Kevin J Musty (Aberavon) 4, Susan K Fautsch (Cooon Rapids, M N) 5, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Photography Day. 100th together: 3.6. 30th together: 2.5 & 1.3. 20th together: 1.5 & 4.5. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 18 Jul, 1280 Yacky Doodle S Major: Joseph A Sharp 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 3, Rosemary J Humphrey 4, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) 5, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 6, Sue Portsmouth 7, Robin A Daw (C) 8. Rung by The Bellerophons for Nelson Mandela International Day & World Listening Day. 1st in m for all. 275th together: 2.4. 90th together: 4.5. 90th for The Bellerophons: 8. 30th together: 5.8. **£6**

Ringing Room, UK & USA. 22 Jul, 1440 Coldstream S Minor: Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 1, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) 2, Kevin J Musty (Aberavon) 3, Sue Portsmouth 4, Lavinia Sullivan (Wargrave) 5, David B Wilson (Vancouver, WA) (C) 6. Rung by the Bellerophons for Moon Day, two days ago, the anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969. 1st in m for all. 25th together: 3.4. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 23 Jul, 1292 Swirling Vortex Of Doom Treble Pl Minimus: Barbara D Murray 1, Sue Portsmouth 2, Rosemary J Humphrey 3, Joseph A Sharp (C) 4. Rung by The Bellerophons for International Yada Yada Yada Day. 230th together: 1.4. 180th together: 2.3. 160th together: 2.4. 50th Minimus: 4. 1st in m inside: 3. **£3**

Ringing Room, UK. 25 Jul, 1296 Spl S Minor (4m): Andy Sutherland (Ilkley) (C) 1, John Harpole (Ramsden Heath) 2, Sue Neal (Low Bentham) 3, Nicholas J Green (Shrewsbury) 4, Daniel T Calvert (Plymouth) 5, Maurice Calvert (Calverley) 6. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 26 Jul, 1296 Benzene TB Minimus: Barbara D Murray 1, Sue Portsmouth 2, Joseph A Sharp (C) 3, Rosemary J Humphrey 4. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Coffee Milkshake Day. A short cure for Pentophobia. 1st in m for all. **£3**

Ringing Room, UK. 27 Jul, 1250 Let's Call It A Day Treble Pl Minimus: Barbara D Murray (C) 1, Rosemary J Humphrey 2, Pauline M Kennard 3, Sue Portsmouth 4. 1st in m: 3. 1st in m inside: 2. 1st in m as a C. Rung by The Bellerophons for National Sleepy Head Day, a Finnish Festival & pre-Birthday compliment to Simon Head. **£3**

Ringing Room, UK. 28 Jul, 1296 Bourne S Minor: Lavinia Sullivan 1, Barbara D Murray 2, Sue Portsmouth 3, Christine B J de Cordova 4, Catherine A Colman 5, Nathan B Colman (Bury St Edmunds) (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for World Conservation Day, National Milk Chocolate Day, also Birthday compliments to Simon J O Head. 220th together: 2.3. 70th together: 4.6. 40th together: 1.6. 20th together: 1.5. Believed to be the 400th Bellerophons Q. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 29 Jul, 1440 Durham S Minor: Rosemary J Humphrey 1, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 2, Joseph A Sharp 3, Barbara D Murray 4, Catherine A Colman 5, Robin A Daw (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons to celebrate International Tiger Day & also to celebrate Alison's increased availability for ringing. 1st in m: 3.6. 220th together: 2.4. 210th together: 1.3. 170th together in Ringing Room: 1.2. 70th together: 1.5. **£4.50**

Ringing Room, UK. 30 Jul, 1320 York S Minor: Barbara D Murray 1, Robin A Daw 2, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 3, Simon J O Head 4, Catherine A Colman 5, Joseph A Sharp (C) 6. Rung by The Bellerophons for the International Day of Friendship & as a Birthday compliment to Carol A Girling. 1st in m: 2 & as C. 200th this year: 3. 40th together: 4.6. **£4.50**

Ringing Room. 11 Aug 2020, 1260 PB Doubles: Lisa Basden (Atcham) 1, Alison T Merryweather-Clarke (North Leigh) 2, Peter J E Judge (London) 3, Kevin Musty (Aberavon) 4, Lindsay Powell (Oxford) (C) 5, Sue Portsmouth (Sonning) 6. 1st away from cover & 1st on Ringing Room: 3. 1st in Ringing Room: 1 & as C. 80th Birthday compliments to Michael Douglas, Tower Captain at Bladon. **£1.50**

Ringing Room, Oxon. 9 May 2021, 1260 PB Minor: Michele Winter (Oxford) 1-2, Joe Norton (Wantage) 3-4, Lindsay Powell (Oxford) (C) 5-6. **£2.25**

Ringing Room (Hemel Hempstead & Kendal), UK. 25 Jul, 1260 PB Royal: Nicky J Smith 1-2, Wheatley 3-4, Sue Carpenter 5-6, Wheatley 7-8, Stephen J Crawley (C) 9-10.

Ringing Room, Oxfordshire. 21 Mar 2021, 1260 PB Minor: Michele Winter (Oxford) 1-2, Joe Norton (Wantage) 3-4, Lindsay Powell (Oxford) (C) 5-6. 1st Minor in hand & as C: 5-6. With huge thanks to Joe Norton & David Thomas for all their support & also to Simon Gay for an excellent conducting course. **£2.25**

Barnes Summer Tour 2022

(See report opposite)

Belbroughton, Worcs. 12 Jul, 1260 Doubles (4m): Owen Toller 1, Peter Richards (C) 2, Mike Wigney 3, Caleb Saunders 4, Roderic K Bickerton 5, Malcom McAlister 6.

Bewdley, Worcs. 13 Jul, 1288 Grandsire Triples: Mike Wigney 1, Trisha Hawkins 2, Colin Friend 3, Louise Booth 4, Peter Richards 5, Gill Tomlinson 6, Tony Nunn (C) 7, Malcolm McAlister 8. On the Barnes Annual Summer Trip.

Clebury Mortimer, Shrops. 13 Jul, 1296 Cambridge S Minor: Mike Wigney (C) 1, Jackie Harrison 2, Penny Bradsell 3, Caleb Saunders 4, Peter Richards 5, Roderic K Bickerton 6. On the annual Barnes Summer Ringing Trip.

Kinver, Staffs. 13 Jul, 1344 PB Major: Mike Wigney 1, Jackie Harrison 2, Penny Bradsell 3, Caleb Saunders 4, Andrew Harvey 5, Malcolm McAlister 6, Colin Friend 7, Louise Booth (C) 8. On the annual Barnes Summer Tour.

Kingswinford, W Mids. (S Mary) 14 Jul, 1344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Colin Friend 1, Louise Booth 2, Peter Richards 3, Mike Wigney 4, Caleb Saunders 5, Gill Tomlinson 6, Roderic K Bickerton 7, Tony Nunn (C) 8. 1st in m: 5. On the annual Barnes Summer Trip.

Beckbury, Shrops. 15 Jul, 1296 Northumberland S Minor: Colin Friend 1, Louise Booth 2, Mike Wigney 3, Peter Richards 4, Gill Tomlinson 5, Tony Nunn (C) 6. On the Barnes Annual Summer Trip.

Claverley, Shrops. 15 Jul, 1250 Lincolnshire S Major: Mike Wigney (C) 1, Caleb Saunders 2, Louise Booth 3, Malcolm McAlister 4, Peter Richards 5, Gill Tomlinson 6, Tony Nunn 7, Adrian Udal 8. On the Barnes Annual Summer Trip.

Little Aston, Staffs. 16 Jul, 1320 Bourne S Minor: Trisha Hawkins 1, Tony Nunn 2, Mike Wigney 3, Roderic K Bickerton 4, Peter Richards 5, Gill Tomlinson (C) 6. On the Barnes Annual Summer Trip.

Rushall, W Mids. (S Michael Archangel) 16 Jul, 1260 PB Minor: Adrian Udal 1, Wendy Archibald 2, Caleb Saunders 3, Helen Udal 4, Colin Friend 5, Louise Booth (C) 6. On the Barnes Annual Summer Trip.

£31

Barnes in the Black Country

by Tony Nunn

The annual Barnes Summer Trip has become something of an institution over the past 33 years but for obvious reasons it didn't happen in 2020 or 2021, so it was with great anticipation that we assembled at Hagley, Worcestershire, on 12th July. As usual the planning was meticulous, and the final itinerary came with a vastly expanded artistic notes section thanks to Owen (with a little help from Pevsner and Betjeman).

While the first quarter peal was successful, Grandsire Triples was inexcusably miscalled by the composer, who had only called the composition 74 times previously. When the culprit later sat on the throne-like chair under the model bell at Stourbridge, it reminded some of the occasion on an earlier tour when he called Bob Minor from a different type of throne. (It would appear from information on Dove that the toilet cum ringing chamber experiment was not an unqualified success as Gaulby is no longer a ground-floor ring.)

Our base for the duration was the Himley House Hotel. Breakfast was taken overlooking the lawn where we could watch the handbell band finishing their early morning stint of spliced surprise/delight minor or the unusual spectacle of a pigeon being chased by a rabbit.

The temperature was not ideal for ringing (although it would have been far worse the following week!). Shorts and sandals were the order of the day for most people, causing Mike to remark on the plethora of toes. Sticky clappers were an issue at a couple of towers, in one case causing the QP band to give up when the treble resolutely refused to speak and access to the bells was by a somewhat daunting ladder.

The daily schedules took us variously into rural Shropshire and the West Midlands conurbation. There were no major transport problems, although at one point people were



The Barnes band at Kemberton. Front – Mike Wigney, Monica Trow, Jill Wigney, Jackie Harrison, Caleb Saunders. Behind – Adrian Udal, Louise Booth, Colin Friend, Wendy Archibald, Peter Richards, Tony Nunn, Gill Tomlinson, Malcolm McAlister, Andrew Harvey, Trisha Hawkins. Not in photo – Helen Udal, Rod Bickerton, Penny Bradsell, James Ingham

seen frantically waving at the Tower Captain Emerita as she drove off with the tailgate open. Bells varied in quality, as might be expected, but when the local tells you they “go like the side of a house” it doesn't exactly inspire confidence. A mere 9cwt tenor defeated the back-enders, despite its plain bearings having been oiled the previous day; the lady who met us charitably suggested that the hot weather must have dried up the oil already.

Among the easier rings was Kemberton, recently augmented from four to eight. Some of us standing in the churchyard were approached by a stern-looking woman who demanded to know what we were going to do with the four old headstocks in her mother's garden. Once it had been explained that we were only visiting and that the local ringers would surely be happy to address the problem, she departed amicably enough, adding that the bells sounded very nice.

The more adventurous drinkers were keen to try the famous Crooked House in Himley but were disappointed to find it closed two evenings running. It's situated down an unmade road near the municipal rubbish dump – apparently an ideal location for the chap we met who goes there regularly to practise his bagpipes. Fortunately, the Bridge Inn in Kingswinford had an excellent selection of local ales and a free help-yourself cheeseboard.

A cautionary note to outing organisers – either allow plenty of time for lunch or be very clear about the terms you agree with the pub in advance. Of the three establishments where we had pre-ordered, one served the food in a reasonable 10 to 15 minutes, the others kept us waiting over

half an hour despite knowing our orders and arrival time. Andrew, who had a train to catch, went hungry (so Adrian ate his fish and chips, which was just as well because it made Adrian's lunch available for Monica whose own choice belatedly proved to be unavailable).

The “formal” dinner was on Friday evening. The menu was perhaps a little less sophisticated than we have been offered in the past, although the chicken liver pate was widely acclaimed. Wendy made her maiden speech as Tower Captain and Caleb responded as the token newbie. The event ended in the traditional manner with spontaneous singing. It must be somewhat unusual in a gathering of 17 people to find at least five who know several Flanders and Swann songs by heart, but maybe that's just a reflection on the eclectic tastes of ringers.

Notable performances included Double Norwich at Kingswinford with Caleb ringing his first blows in God's Own Method. Some minor rescheduling on the Saturday resulted in a good quarter of Bourne rounding off the tour. Sadly, the final attempt (Little Bob Royal) was doomed by the trebles being virtually inaudible.

Hearty thanks are due to Trisha, Mike and Jill for organising the trip. We all look forward to the next one, although I suspect I'm not alone in finding that the pandemic has perniciously taken its toll and I don't have quite the same strength, stamina and enthusiasm as I did three years ago – then again it could just be advancing senile decrepitude.

(see performances opposite)



The author on his throne at Stourbridge