

### **November Meeting 2004**

The November meeting at Arksey was exceptionally well attended. Ringers and non-ringing partners turned out in force thanks to invitations sent by Terina, to share mulled wine and mince pies.

Our thanks to Terina for all her hard work in preparation and on the night, plus our thanks to Roy for arranging for us to meet at Arksey.

It was good to have time to socialise with friends as well as to join in some different methods. A variety was rung throughout the evening, including rounds and call changes, Cloister Triples, Little Bob, Plain Bob and Double Norwich.

A lovely evening to complete our 2004 ringing programme! Our next meeting in January will be the AGM at St George's - full details will be published nearer the time.

Wishing all our ringers and friends a peaceful Christmas and happiness in the New Year.

### **Reminder for November Meeting 2004**

Our next meeting is at Arksey on Saturday 27th November 2004 from 7 - 8.30pm. The Arksey ringers are tempting us out of our cosy warm homes for an evening of ringing and festive refreshments. This is our last meeting of 2004 so come along and join us.

Special methods are:

- Little Bob Major
- Cloisters
- Double Norwich

We have also had a request to ring Yorkshire Surprise Major, so get the diaries out and we may manage some during the evening.

See you all on Saturday!

### **October Meeting 2004**

It was lovely to see such a well attended meeting - around 20 ringers! The bells were a delight to ring at Thrybergh. We rang a selection of methods including: Cambridge, Norwich, Oxford Treble Bob, Little Bob, Rounds and call changes.

Our thanks to Pat for opening the church for us; the warm radiators were especially welcome.

## Outing 2004

We enjoyed a full days ringing in the Rutland area.

Our driver Craig, seemed to have a 6th sense for where Churches were hidden. Either that or exceptional observation skill! His wealth of experience ensured we were delivered promptly, as close to each church as possible.

Our first tower was Barrowby, set at the head of a small cul-de-sac and with a lynch gate entrance, it was very picturesque.

We were warned about a weak stay on the fifth and having ensured all who wanted to, had rung the bells, we lowered them earlier than expected for safety reasons. I enjoyed ringing this set of bells.

Our contact Geof Childers was full of information about the local history, the creating of Rutland Water and the submerged church at Normanton, which is accessed by causeway and still has bells in it!

We moved on to Empingham, a beautiful village set on a hillside. The bells sounded lovely. The tenor apparently felt heavier than its 15cwt, but I had an enjoyable ring here.

Ian Lyon's friend kindly took those of who wished up on to the roof - the panoramic views were fantastic.

The White Horse at Empingham provided us with a timely break for much need refreshments. Most of us had had an early start. I was extremely pleased with the organisational skills of the establishment and the friendly professional welcome with which we were met. Having arranged to hand in the menus in advance were able to fit this restaurant into our timetable. The food arrived promptly - the orders were accurate and the meals themselves - outstanding. The presentation and generous helpings were greatly appreciated by all. I would recommend this restaurant to any traveller.

We skirted Rutland Water along its Northern banks and had lovely views over the area.

Uppingham church was beautifully decorated with magnificent Dahlias and other flowers in readiness for their Harvest Festival on Sunday. The balcony ringing chamber enabled non ringers to see what all our enthusiasm was about without having stairs to climb.

There was a real community feel to this Church - with several people enjoying a look around inside - even before we arrived. The bells were a lovely ring of eight and our contact on the day, Jane Wright, was very helpful and friendly. However, without Janice Atkinson's input, we would have had some difficulty in parking the coach nearby and retracing our steps to the Church. Our thanks to them both for a smoothing the path of our visit.

Our Ringing Master and family joined us at this tower for the rest of the day, so there were sufficient ringers now to make a first attempt to ring Rutland Surprise - closely followed by several offers to look it up on the coach before the next tower!

At Ashby Folville we were warmly greeted by Pam Adams. A lovely, ground floor ring. The village setting had many attractive local buildings showing period architecture. A tranquil setting for this beautiful church. We had strict instructions to keep the church loving black cat out! Even so she managed to find her way in, and was seen on several occasions - but was dutifully found and returned to the outside world before our departure!

Our route to Bingham was longer due to a road closure but we were almost on time to meet Andrew Peters. He showed us round and allowed us to roam in style.

The bells were left raised for service in the morning as requested. On coming to secure the church - Andrew remembered to lower the treble for the early service and in doing so the treble rope fell from the wheel as she came to rest. A lucky escape for us!

Our Ringing Master and family left us at this point to return home and the trip concluded with a raffle on the coach and thanks to those who had helped in any way.

I feel the trip was successful - even though our numbers were low. The ringing was appropriate to each person's level. The meal was lovely and each of the churches showed us their individual personality as we entered them.

The death of our dear friend and Treasurer John Laughton may have been seen as a dark cloud over the day initially - but as our route (which he had planned) unfolded, it was like a comforting blanket.

His meticulous style of planning had been passed forward and with variations of its own, strived to make this 2004 outing a success and act as a bridge between the past and the future.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication, enthusiasm and generosity of the few who joined us this year. Your presence made this trip the success it was, and for this I thank you all.

Judith Jopling  
Secretary

### **John Laughton**

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our dear friend and treasurer John Laughton.

At 6am on Wednesday 22nd September 2004, John lost his battle with cancer. He will be greatly missed.

This has deeply shocked and saddened us all. He will be greatly missed by the ringing community in Doncaster and it is difficult to find the words to express our feelings. We offer our sympathy and thoughts to his Wife Barbara and family.

We will continue with our plans for the annual outing, on Saturday 25 September 2004. John was so dedicated to making it a success each year and this year was no exception. From his hospital bed he would relay messages of encouragement and offer advice from his wealth of experience, via his wife Barbara, and their family. It is for us, now, to make it successful.

### **Funeral Arrangements**

The funeral is to be held at the White Church (St. Peter), Warmsworth Road, Doncaster, on Thursday 30 September 2004 at 11.00am. Followed by committal at Rose Hill Crematorium at 12.00 pm.

No flowers by request please, but if desired, donations in lieu will be shared between Ward M4 DRI and Prostrate Cancer Charity.

Tea and refreshments afterwards will be served in the White Church Hall.

### **August Meeting 2004**

The August meeting was not well attended, due in part to annual holidays and the Bank Holiday weekend.

Several courses of Single Oxford were managed, but there were insufficient experienced ringers to manage Cambridge on this occasion.

We received a very warm welcome from Harold and Joy, who provided refreshments during the evening. This was greatly appreciated.

Please note that there will be no Tower meeting next month, it is our annual outing on Saturday 25th September 2004.

### **July Meeting 2004**

The July meeting was well attended. We welcomed two visiting ringers from Cambridge.

A variety of methods were rung including: Erin Triples, Yorkshire Surprise Major, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire, Little Bob and Plain Bob.

Everyone was pleased to see John at the tower for a short visit and it was good to have Pam and Katie ringing with us again.

### **Ernest Padgett**

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of Ernest Padgett. Ernie died peacefully in hospital after a long illness bravely borne on Friday 16 July 2004 aged 78 years.

The funeral is to be held at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church, Barnby Dun, Doncaster, on Monday 26 July 2004 at 10.15am. Followed by committal at Rose Hill Crematorium at 11.20 am. Service ringing will commence at 9.45 am.

No flowers by request please, but if desired, donations in lieu to Barnby Dun Parish Church. A plate will be provided in church.

### **June Meeting 2004**

Having arrived a little late at Misson, we were warmly greeted by Jeff Hutt and just six ringers made their way to the tower. Having rung up we were joined by one or two others which enabled us to start the evening with a course of Cambridge Surprise Minor, other methods included Little Bob and St Clements. Our thanks to Jeff for a pleasant start to our evening and a challenging ring at Misson.

Moving on to our next tower, we arrived at Bawtry for the last hour's ring. Here one or two more ringers joined us. It was good to see Alan Jowitt up in the tower, it is some time since he was with us.

Ringling at Bawtry included Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clements and Plain Bob.

Overall the meeting was poorly attended. We understand that some of our members are absent due to illness, but where is everyone else? Except for a few staunch ringers, we have suffered increasingly poor turnouts since the start of this year. This means that it is difficult to meet the ringling requirements of all our members.

Neil, Anne and the boys are settling well in to their new community, despite a few traumatic hours due to the removal company. We wish them continued success.

Special thoughts are with those of our members who are not well, especially Ernest Padgett, John Laughton, Pam Allison, Roy Clarke and Fred Jackson.

A warm, friendly meeting despite the low numbers, it was lovely to meet Richard, a guest from Howden.

### **May Meeting 2004**

The May meeting at Wath on Dearne was poorly attended with only 9 ringers. I think this was due in part to it being the Bank Holiday weekend, together with the start of the half-term holiday. Illness sadly keeps some of our members away - all the best for their speedy recovery.

We still managed to ring Plain Bob Major and Little Bob Major, and a touch of Stedman Doubles.

The bells were a delight to ring and our thanks to Richard for opening the tower for us.

This meeting was the last before Neil, Anne, Richard and Simon leave for their new home in Derbyshire. We wish them well in their new business venture and hope we continue to see them at our monthly meetings.

Our next meeting is a split venue starting at Misson (6.00 - 7.15 pm) and then moving on to Bawtry (7.30 - 8.30 pm). We hope to see as many members as possible so please spread the word and the website details!

If anyone has news or updates about any of our members or towers please let me know.

### **April Meeting 2004**

The April meeting at Gringley on the Hill was well attended with ringers from: Adwick, Arksey, Barnby Dun, Bawtry, Blyth, Gringley on the Hill, Mattersey and Misterton.

Two visiting ringers from St. Anne's Cathedral, Leeds joined us. It was lovely to see several of the local band participate in our meeting.

Methods rung: Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Minor, Plain and Little, Little Bob, St. Clements, Grandsire, Steadman and Cambridge Surprise.

Our thanks to Ann-Marie for opening the tower for us and to Neil for conducting the evening's ringing. Best wishes were sent to John Laughton and we hope he makes a speedy recovery and is soon home again.

Our next meeting is at Wath on Dearne on Saturday 29 May 2004, 6.00 - 7.30 pm. We hope to see as many members as possible so please spread the word and the website details!

### **March Meeting 2004**

Our meeting at Tickhill was well attended. Towers represented were: Adwick, Arksey, Barnby Dun, Bawtry, Conisbrough, Howden, Mattersey, Misterton, Sprotbrough and Tickhill.

Various methods were rung, including: Rounds and Call Changes, Plain Hunt, Grandsire Triples, Plain and Little, Little Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Stedman Triples.

Thanks were given to Ralph for opening the Tower and to Neil for arranging the evening's ringing.

The methods for the April meeting at Gringley on the Hill (6) are Stedman and St. Clements.

### **February Meeting 2004**

Despite snow falling and the long distances travelled by some of our Ringers, we had a good attendance at Blyth with nine Towers represented. An excellent start to the New Year!

We rang rounds, call changes and Plain Hunts, Plain and Little, St. Clements, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman and London.

There was something for everyone. The help and guidance offered during ringing was greatly appreciated by all. Our thanks to Andy Hall for a lovely evening's ringing.

Jim tells us that Ernest Padgett is now home from hospital and ringers are welcome to visit. The ringers send their best wishes to Ernie and also to John Laughton for a speedy recovery.