

# News Page

## Fred Jackson 1929-2008



Many people, including a number of ringers, attended Fred's funeral at Rose Hill crematorium, Doncaster on 30th October. His coffin was drawn the last mile to the crematorium by stream traction engine, (the photographs are of Fred's engine "Victoria", being driven by his sons Alan & Frank, pulling the coffin). The funeral service was both moving and uplifting, with friends and family talking about Fred's life, his many achievements and relating numerous funny stories. Fred was one of the great personalities of ringing in this area; we will miss him.



## October Meeting Review

14 ringers attended and we had an enjoyable evening. These bells are not easy to ring, but they have wonderful majestic sound. We rang a variety of methods including Grandsire triples, Little Bob Major, Plain Hunting on 7 & 8, Call changes and Cambridge.

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting is on Saturday 29th November 2008 at Conisbrough (8 bells) 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Festive refreshments after. All Welcome.

## **Next Meeting (Note Changes to Previously Published Times)**

Our next meeting is on Saturday 25th October 2008 at St George's, Doncaster (8 bells, 30cwt) 7.00pm to 8.30pm.

## **St George's Church 150th Anniversary**

St George's Church, Doncaster celebrated its 150th anniversary this week, a visiting band (with the help of some Doncaster & District ringers) rang for Dedication Festival Service last Sunday and members of the Society rang for an hour before for Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday evening.

## **Coach Outing Review**

The coach outing to Chesterfield was a great day out and enjoyed by all. It was a wonderfully sunny day, there were 32 of us on the coach and we were joined by several other ringers in the afternoon. The day went without a hitch (apart from when the coach driver ripped off his side mirror on a road sign), the pub lunch was great, the towers were interesting and all the bells were nice. In particular, the 6 bells at Clay Cross were a joy to ring and the 10 bells at Chesterfield (the crooked spire) sounded gorgeous. Many of us climbed up to the base of the crooked spire and looked up at the twisted beams of wood. It was magic! We made a small profit due to the money raised from the raffle and will donate this to the White Church, Warmsworth.

## **Coach Outing to Chesterfield on Saturday 27th September**

Our next event is the coach outing to the Chesterfield area, the itinerary is available from the download page. There are still a few seats left, please contact us to book your seat. We have local pickup points and all tower donations are included in the price. Excellent value at £12 per adult and £6 under 16.

Please arrive in the parking areas early and be ready to depart at the time on itinerary.

All towers are now confirmed so we know exactly where we are visiting now. Non ringers are also welcome, there is usually time to explore the villages and churches we visit.

## **August Meeting Review**

A lovely welcome from Harworth and with 19 ringers, a variety of methods were rung including: London, Oswald Delight, Cambridge, Stedman, Double Court, Kent, Plain Bob and some Rounds and Call Changes.

Ticket sales for the outing increased and we hope for still more to join us. Our thanks to Ian our Ringing Master for the night and to all who turned out to make this such a pleasant evening.

## **Coach Outing to Chesterfield on Saturday 27th September**

All the towers are confirmed and a copy of the final programme on the Society's web site, details given below (note the change of departure time from Blyth).

8.30am leave White Church, Warmsworth, Doncaster (free parking has been arranged in the Church grounds), 8.50am depart Blyth, 9.45-10.30am Staveley (8bells, 19cwt), 11.00-11.45am Clay Cross (6bells, 9cwt), 12.10 until 2.10pm lunch around Hardwick Park (free entry) with optional pub lunch at the Hardwick Inn (Carvery or salad bar or vegetarian £7.85 main course, 2 courses £11.60), 2.30-3.15pm Tibshelf (6 bells, 9cwt), 3.40-4.30pm North Wingfield (8bells, 18cwt) 5.00-5.30pm free time in Chesterfield, 5.30-6.30pm Chesterfield (10 bells, 25cwt with opportunity to view the crooked spire), 6.35pm -approx 7.30pm return to Blyth then Warmsworth.

We have sold 19 tickets so far, but we need to sell at least 30 to cover costs. Please urge all ringers in your tower to join us for a friendly fun day out.

## **July Meeting Review**

The numbers attending the Haxey meeting was very disappointing, only 5 ringers, this was probably due to the meeting being in the middle of the holiday season, it was a really sunny day (we do get some!) and the distance from Doncaster. The Society had not rung at Haxey in recent years, the 6 bells were heavy, treble 8cwt, tenor 18cwt and they were very heavy to ring, but had a glorious deep tone. The 3 back bells were all cast in 1515. We rang Bob Minor (with help from the tower contact), and call changes. For light relief there was some handbell ringing. A sociable time was had by those who attended.

## **June Meeting Review**

The Darfield meeting was attended by 21 ringers including several visitors, the 13cwt bells had a lovely mellow tone and went well. Thanks to Ian Kingston, who took charge of the session and made sure that everyone had a fair turn. The striking was generally good and a variety of methods were rung including the usual favourites plus Erin Triples, Superlative and Bristol.

## **Outing Update**

Coach Outing to Chesterfield on 27th September: nearly all the towers are confirmed and we have sold 17 tickets so far.

## **May Meeting Review**

The Society had not rung at Wentworth for some time; the village and countryside looked gorgeous in the sunshine. The Victorian Church was set in beautiful parkland. The 6 bells (13 cwt) were something of a challenge to ring but sounded alright. There were 16 ringers present and we rang various methods including call changes, PB Minor, Cambridge, St Clements, Single Court & Norwich Surprise Minor. Ringers then had time for a picnic tea and stroll around the village & parkland, before travelling to nearby Wath on Dearne. We were joined by tower captain Mike King and 2 visitors. The bells handled well and were a delight to ring. We rang Grandsire Triples, Stedman, Cambridge, St Clements Triples and PB Major. An enjoyable time was had by all.

## **June Meeting**

Our next meeting is on Saturday 28th June, we will be ringing at Darfield (All Saints, 8 bells, 13cwt) from 6.30 to 8pm. The special methods are Erin Triples and Superlative.

This is a change from our original draft programme, please remind ringers in your tower.

## **Outing 2008**

Our coach outing this year is on 27th September, to the Chesterfield area, a copy of the draft programme is now on the web site, and we will be selling tickets at meetings. We will be visiting 5 lovely but very different towers and there will be a long lunch break at Hardwick park, with an optional pub lunch. The price is £12 for adults, £6 for children 16 or under (no increase from last year!). A deposit of £5 will secure a place.

## **Ringling Programme 2008**

We now have confirmation of all our towers for 2008 (except for towers on the outing). The programme is available on the Programme page and a PDF version can be downloaded from the Download page. There are a number of changes to the draft programme, please print off a copy of the revised programme and display it in your tower and inform members who are not on our e-mail distribution list.

Full details of our coach outing to Chesterfield will be available at the June meeting and tickets will go on sale.

Looking forward to seeing you on May 31st at Wentworth (3.00-4.00pm) and Wath on Dearne (6.00-7.00pm)

## **2008 Ringing Roadshow**

The 2008 Ringing Roadshow will be held on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th September 2008 at Stonleigh Park in Warwickshire. It is the primary opportunity for the whole of the bell ringing community to meet together.

Full details of the event including discounted advanced ticket order form and publication leaflets can be download from the website [www.ringingroadshow2008.org.uk](http://www.ringingroadshow2008.org.uk) There is still some space available for exhibitors.

## **April Meeting Review**

Our April meeting took place on a lovely Spring evening and was very enjoyable, there were 14 ringers. We visited 2 beautiful Churches which were new to us (although from the archives, I see that the Society did visit Whiston in June 1929). At Wickersley we rang the Stedman front work, reverse and plain hunting on the 3 bells. They are hoping to augment the 3 to 6 bells in future, it will be nice to return when this happens.

We received a warm welcome at Whiston and refreshments were kindly provided. The 8 bells at Whiston were not easy to ring, some of them were very old (Renaissance bells), nevertheless we rang a variety of methods including Single Oxford Bob Triples, Yorkshire, Plain Bob Major, Little Bob and Grandsire. Hope to see you all on 31st May

## **May Meeting Update**

We have now confirmed arrangements for ringing at our May meeting.

Wentworth (6) 3.00 pm - 4.30 pm

There will be time for people to look around the nearby parkland and bring a picnic if they wish.

Wath on Dearne (8) 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm.

Special methods - Single Court, Cambridge (both Minor & Major) and St Clements Triples.

## **May Meeting Update**

We have now confirmed ringing at Wath on Dearne (8), but unfortunately only for one hour 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm.

Another tower is currently being sought in the area.

## **May Meeting - Wentworth and Rawmarsh**

Wentworth tower is still not confirmed.

We have been informed that the tower at Rawmarsh is unsafe. We are looking for an alternative tower in this area. Details will be published on the website as soon as possible.

## **March Meeting Review**

There was a good turn out for the Adwick meeting in March, with 15 ringers including 2 visitors from Chesterfield. A variety of 6 & 5 bells methods were rung, including Cambridge, Norwich Surprise, Sandal Treble Bob, St Clements, Oxford & Kent Treble Bob (separately & spliced), Plain & Little Bob (spliced), Stedman Doubles & Grandsire Doubles. Thanks to Harold & Joy for the warm welcome and for providing refreshments.

## **Committee Information**

The Committee met before the meeting to discuss the remainder of the 2008 programme. It was decided to re-arrange some of the unconfirmed towers and to move the coach outing from June to September. We used to have our coach outing in September but for the last couple of years changed to June because Central Branch had chosen the last Saturday in September for their outing. This year Central Branch are holding their outing in June, so the Committee has decided to move our outing back to September, we plan to ring at towers in the Chesterfield area. Details of the final programme for the rest of 2008 will be circulated to members as soon as the towers are confirmed.

## **February Meeting Review**

There was an excellent turnout for the Tickhill meeting, with 20 ringers including 5 visitors, 3 from Hovingham, North Yorkshire, 1 from Beverley and a visitor from Farnborough in Hampshire. The Tickhill bells are not easy to ring, but the evening produced some good striking. A variety of methods were rung including call changes, Plain Bob Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob, Yorkshire, Cambridge & Stedman Triples.

## **Society Officers**

At the Annual General Meeting Cyril Toyne stood down as our Vice President after many years of service to the Society. Cyril, although not present, was thanked by everyone at the meeting.

Roger Smith was unanimously elected as our new Vice President.

Judith Jopling stood down as Secretary after four years service. Marian Thomas was unanimously elected as our new Secretary.

A warm welcome was given to our new officers.

The minutes of the AGM will be posted on the website in due course after they have been prepared.

## **Annual General Meeting Review**

There were 17 ringers for the afternoon ringing at St George's. Methods rung included Grandsire Triples, Call Changes and Plain Bob Major. Comments were made by several ringers about the slow pace of the ringing making it hard work for those on the heavy bells and that the bells went better if rung more quickly. This was proved to be true, a touch of Stedman Triples rung at a brisker pace was certainly the best ringing of the afternoon.

After the AGM and tea many ringers went on to Bentley. In previous years, the evening ringing session at St George's had been quite poorly attended, partly because ringers objected to climbing the 150 steps to the ringing chamber twice in one day. This year the Committee had decided to try a nearby tower instead, this proved to be a popular idea as 15 ringers arrived at Bentley. However ringing at Bentley turned out to be quite an experience; shortly after the person letting us into the tower had departed, someone decided to switch on an electric heater which fused all the lights in the bell chamber and stair case, we were left in total darkness. We tried to phone the tower contact and the Vicar to access the fuse box, but with no success. However, showing great resourcefulness we collected 4 torches from ringers' cars, this gave a dim light to the ringing chamber and we proceeded to have an enjoyable hour's ringing. Methods rung included Plain Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, Call Changes, St Simon's Doubles, Reverse Bob and Stedman Doubles.