

Bell-notes

The quarterly newsletter for The Chertsey District
Issue 33: February 2020



GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

President: THE BISHOP OF GUILDFORD

A Message from the Master~

I'm pleased to be able to report that the first Chertsey District Practice of 2020 rather took the wind out of my sails - but for all the right reasons. My planned submission for Bell Notes was really all about the lack of attendees at most of our District practices - so imagine my horror when over twenty people attended our first General Practice of 2020! Thank you, it was a joy to see such a full and happy tower particularly because we had plenty of experienced ringers in the mix. Anyway, below are my (slightly edited) original thoughts.

One of the most common but interesting conflicts that your average "early" ringer experiences is the horror of ringing badly with an experienced band.

It's entirely understandable!

The spotlight is on you - everyone has their eyes and ears tuned in to your bell.

You are the weakest link.

You are the one who will bring that touch of "Whatever Major" to a crashing halt, and quickly too!

So, you sit back down, keep your head down and make a mental note to stay at home next time.

Obviously, I'm here to tell you that submitting yourself to these horrors is a marvellous thing, something we should all do as frequently as possible! Well, you're right. I am. You should - but here are a few thoughts on why.

Once you have got over the hurdle of handling a bell properly, once you can adjust the pace and speed of your bell with degree of consistency then without doubt the hardest thing you have to do is gain that mythical thing called rope-sight. It's a multi limbed monster that loves to kick you down, you're going to need some help.

I've always thought that the term rope-sight is an oversimplification of what's happening, it's rather more than just spotting and counting ropes.

In many ways rope-sight is a collaborative thing, there is a lot of subtle communication going on. It relies heavily on your ability to pick out and hear your bell. You need to scan around all the ropes as you ring - on every stroke. On top of that you need to be fussy about every stroke, you need to mentally note whether you are too close, on time or too wide as you ring over each bell. In most towers this will be

different at hand and back on each bell, and different for every bell! These differences are small but are really significant to the quality of ringing.

And you still have the navigation issues of the method you are ringing!

Which is why you really need to be the one under the spotlight! You are simply never going to get the better of the rope-sight monster unless you are the only one making mistakes – you just cannot see or hear your bell if several others are wrong as well. It's a done deal, you've lost before you've started.

But... when you are the only tyro you can be confident that that clipping bell is you, that the big gap is you. The pile-up at the front when you are leading is because of you, that sudden change of pace is you – you can hear it, you can do something about it. And crucially you can hear whether your corrections are going in the right direction! Knowing that it is your bell that is wrong is a huge step forward, you begin to realise that you can hear your bell. Back at your home tower you will find spotting your bell amongst the (possible) melee is easier, your now improved striking is opening the door.

So, I am going to call it “The Spotlight of Opportunity”! You need to get yourself under it as often as possible – every time you do that you have an opportunity to move forward a little bit more. After a while you realise that you are beginning to “see” where you are going, you're beginning to hobble the rope-sight monster!

It's worth bearing in mind that your average “expert” would dearly love more experts to ring with, it's more fun that way!

Please have a look at our Programme on a Page for practice dates, there are quite a few and all of them represent an opportunity to either get under “The Spotlight of Opportunity” or help put someone under it!

Andy Charnleybeal



Short touches from the towers

Ottershaw

As ever we continue to bob along, moving learners from bell to bell and introducing learners to another bell in the same method/same old bell in a different method and making slow but relatively sure progress, ever hoping for that lightning strike called ropesight! I mentioned our handicaps last time out, they are still there but I won't repeat them –too boring.

Nonetheless we continue to have sufficient of our band attending for services to make a joyous sound and for practices to make them worthwhile (sometimes requiring a degree of creativity!). Indeed, our Christmas ringing was of good quality, though I says it as shouldn't. Thankfully, we are not visitor dependant, which is just as well as we don't get many! That may be because there's a rumour abroad – notified from the West Country – that our bells are unringable! Heavier than most 6s and 8s (and even a couple of 10s) in the Guild they may be but 'unringable' is just b****. Our bells, like others in the District, are rung for about 160 hours per year. Someone just needs to get a grip and as the current idiom is 'grow a pair'.

Spleen vented so back to earth. We were delighted to host District Practices last Autumn and all of the one visitor that turned up each time. Well done you, it made all the preparation worthwhile. We are even more delighted to have welcomed a new member to the band in the late Autumn. A young man (under 60!) of whom I have some hopes as he starts with the advantage of understanding the mechanics and the counter intuitive nature of ringing (more effort to go slow, less effort to go quick). Even more impressive was the speed with which John pounced for a 2019 (!) subscription, rapidly followed by a Certificate! As a new retiree his wanderlust interferes with his ringing, but that will pass and I am hoping he will be a real asset to the band. With now four learners at various stages we are embarking on a more formal training routine. That required a 'current skills' audit so we could identify what is needed and where to put the training effort. While it was pleasing that our current skills level appears greater than anticipated it is less pleasing that the programme has been and will be frustrated in the first quarter of 2020 by illnesses, cures and other absences – plus ca change! No matter, just keep on trying!

And another thing, just before Christmas, Mike Fuller and I discovered that a colleague at another activity of ours was a lapsed (tenor) ringer, sounded wistful about it and LIVES IN EGHAM! So with the power vested in me (!) as one of your Assistant Ringing Masters I took him along to a practice at St John the Baptist. Meeting up again after Christmas I learned that he had rung 4 times over the Christmas period! So, all, keep your eyes and ears open and be ready to pounce whenever the slightest hint of interest is detected!



Peter Binns

What do you know about February? Have fun; answers on page 19.

1· Ritchie Valens, J. P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson and which other rock and roll musician were killed in a plane crash on 3rd Feb 1959?

Weybridge

Since our last newsletter I am pleased to say that we have kept our learners and have gained another. Some evenings we have five teenagers in our midst! All but the newest can ring both strokes together. Let's hope we can keep them.

On Remembrance Sunday we had all eight muffled bells ringing, twice as we host the civic service in the afternoon.

Our annual Christmas dinner saw us celebrating at The Olive Branch in Baker Street. There is an upstairs room for private parties so perfect for us



There was plenty of ringing for the Christmas services with 9 ringers on Christmas Eve for the Crib and Midnight Mass but sadly only 3 returned for Christmas morning.

New year has started well with a bumper 14 at one practice night.

Linda Strange

2 Which country became the first to have a craft make a soft landing on the moon in Feb 1966?

Chobham

We had a very enjoyable tower Christmas dinner at the White Hart in Chobham just before Christmas.

We rang for our Crib service, Midnight Mass and other Christmas services including the New Year and we also had a wedding on January 25th.

Some of our members went to the ADM at East Molesey.

Seven of our band attended the district social at Old Woking where we took part in the Beetle Drive, Quiz and handbell ringing. It was a very enjoyable evening and the Old Woking ringers must be congratulated on organising a lovely evening.

We have now had our fifth bell corrected for it's odd-struckness and it is a great improvement, and much easier to ring amongst the other bells.

Since our new Vicar has arrived our main Sunday morning service has moved from 10 am to 10.30 am so we now ring from 10 am to 10.30 am for a trial period.

Chris Hill

3 Who was elected as the first President of the United States in 1789?

Hersham

Slightly awkward for me as DM is that the Parsons Cup award was taken out of my hands - and awarded to Hersham!

As with a lot of towers, the ringers are a strange and remote bunch so it was lovely that our vicar Jackie was keen to have us all at the front of Church on Sunday to show off the cup - and the team's achievement, we got an enthusiastic round of applause! It is great to have an opportunity to highlight ringing to the congregation.

We are now in a position of regularly ringing all eight bells on Sunday and ringing triples on practice nights. It's easy to forget that to get to this point our more experienced ringers have had to patiently ring lots of rounds, call changes and Plain Hunt on five and six bells over the last couple of years. It took some effort, but we seemed to reach a point of critical mass which has allowed us to take another step or two forward. One of those steps was a Quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor last Sunday evening with a completely home-grown band, the first for a long time.

Andy Charnleybeal

4 In 1971 who replaced Milton Obote as president of Uganda?



Walton-on-Thames

No ringing over Christmas this time I am afraid as no-one was around but Hilary rang in St Wilfrid's, Harrogate where she made up the six on Christmas Eve and at St Michael and All Angels, Beckwithshaw on Christmas Day where they have a very new band. Slightly stunned to be confronted with Yorkshire tails in the latter and my hands were not big enough to enclose the bulk so I found I was ringing one handed.

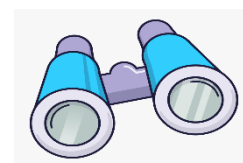
Our Christmas meal at Prima Fila was excellent, with partners and spouses welcome

The Beetle Drive was fun, even if Walton came last again. The resulting loot from the last three years when we have come last have at least filled the tower sweetie tin. Congratulations E Molesey, the tea at the ADM was delicious.

We very happily hosted twenty two people at the January district practice which was a bit of a squeeze but enabled a lot of different ringing.

Mike Wigney is attempting a quarter on 1st February – not anything to do with Brexit!!! And we will welcome Harry Glover back to ring in celebration of his 20th peal on 22nd Feb

Our learners are really making progress so it is time to go out and seek some more.



Hilary Brooks

5. In 1945 the Yalta Conference took place between which 3 leaders?

Egham

This year there were 6 of us ringing in the 2020 New Year at St. John's, a fine portent as we are gradually increasing our ringing numbers. Last week's tower practice saw 9 of us, and there might have been more. We have been joined by two 1st year undergraduates from Royal Holloway University (we hope they are in for the long haul), one local returning ringer (resting for 40 years), and two new learners (yet to progress to group ringing, but bodes well). So things are on the up, and progress is being made – often we ring touches (and in November we rang a quarter peal) of Plain Bob Minor, the first on the inside for this Bell Notes correspondent. Kent is more of a challenge, so we are going *via* Forward to get used to making places in 3rds and 4ths.

We continue to host the District 10-bell practice on the first Thursday of the month, and invite all along to that, regulars and new-comers alike.

Willy Burgess eghamten@gmail.com

6 Which year did Britain 'go decimal'?



Esher

Life is trickling along at Esher – we are looking forward to our new Rector Revd. Darren McCallig's arrival sometime in March but in the mean time we rang for all the usual Christmas services – no Midnight Mass or to celebrate the New Year – we might wake up the “little darlings”! BUT we did ring at mid-day (along with 5 visitors) which was not popular with “the sore head brigade”!!

Our New Year's resolution is to find some new recruits but we cannot get them trained to ring for the induction of the new Rector.

We have had a spectacular first!! We rang for Sunday Service on 4th January as usual BUT on finishing at 10.25am we looked into church to find it empty!! No congregation. Eventually 11 people turned up having negotiated an Esher High Street traffic-locked by “boys with their toys” (white Mercedes cars with spoilers on the back and roll bars inside) all going to Sandown to look at and photograph the latest version – they (the boys with their toys and dolly birds) were as frustrated as the locals at their slow progress – 40 Minutes from Waitrose- and no parking or turning round possible.

It was satisfying to walk faster than the traffic even if it was not planned!!

Jennifer Meade



7 The Munich air disaster in which 8 Manchester United players were killed was in Feb of which year?

East Molesey

A nice busy time this quarter with Remembrance Sunday, carol services, midnight mass, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve ringing. Hosting the ADM on 11th Jan with a reprise of Felicity's delicious home-made rolls. Numbers rather disappointing and little appetite for ringing the bells after the meeting even though they're the nicest bells in the District. Maybe we need to rethink these meetings and make them into something members want to attend?

Saying which congratulations to Old Woking for their recent social evening on 18th Jan – new ideas, good turnout – very enjoyable

A reminder about daytime ringing opportunities for all you retired ringers. Surprise minor at Epsom Common 2nd Wednesdays 1-3pm, 8 bell practice alternating Epsom Common/East Molesey 4th Wednesdays 1-3pm – all welcome – preceded by lunch from noon for those who wish.

Peripatetics 1st Mondays am & pm tower with lunch in between; wandering bobs (for aspiring conductors) on 3rd Mondays 10.30-12 am These latter are organised by the Surrey Association but often visit Chertsey District towers – the last wandering bobs came to Thames Ditton on 20th Jan.

And now for something completely scary... I thought the tenor clapper was a bit wobbly when I was removing the muffles and then found the nut from its bolt on the floor not quite clattered out but we had just rung a quarter peal with it in this state.



Jane Marsters

8. In 1885 the Congo was established as the personal possession of King Leopold II of which country?

Send

9 James II of England became king in 1685 following whose death?

Thames Ditton

We had an enjoyable experience hosting 20 enthusiastic ringers from North Surrey just before Christmas. This meant we could ring not just plain hunt but even up to Cambridge! We were also delighted to ring St Nicholas Doubles which is our theme tune and we like to ring it at least once a year

Pamela Rider

10 Which Welsh town did the French attempt to invade in 1797 but were thwarted by the ladies?



Old Woking

It's been a busy three months at Old Woking since the last newsletter. The band have rung two quarter-peals - Grandsire Triples for Remembrance Sunday (a first in method for Andrew Edwards) and Bristol for a candlelit carol service in December (a first in method for Isaac Johnson) and the Tower also hosted a quarter-peal of Rutland organised by George Hart from Hersham. The band managed to ring for most services over Christmas, including Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and even managed to squeeze in a practice on New Year's Day. Numbers at practice nights have remained steady and the band are working back up to ringing touches of the Nottingham Eight. Alongside that, some band members are brushing up on their conducting skills to give Richard a break on that front!

Away from the Tower (although not that far away, given it was in the Church Hall...), Old Woking hosted the District's January Social. The event was extremely well-attended, with 42 people coming along to participate in an evening of a beetle drive, quiz, handbell ringing and fish and chips. Thanks to Rachel and Caroline in particular for their organisational efforts and to everyone who came along.

Doug Stoneham

77. Which of the Queen's children was born in February?

Chertsey

Although we did not have enough ringers to '*Ring-In*' the New Year, we did ring the bells for a plethora of services over the Christmas period at Chertsey including the Scouts & Guides Christingle services accompanied by switching on the Christmas lights outside the church, the Museum Carol Service, and two school Nativity services (see below).

Unfortunately, two band stalwarts, Joan Densham & Paula Mobsby are '*hors de combat*' at present but we hope they will be well enough to ring again sometime in the future. In addition, one of our promising beginners has also had to drop out for the moment due to changes in shift however, one of the other beginners is now ringing alone so are still able to ring 5 or 6 bells for Sunday mornings. .

We were hoping to break our 2019 quarter peal duck but unfortunately the QP at the end of December came to grief 5 minutes before the end when two bells crossed over. However, we were more successful on Sunday 26th January 2020: with **1260 Stedman Triples** (50 minutes).

Rung to congratulate Malcolm Loveday on being awarded the British Empire Medal for service to the community in Chertsey. Also to congratulate Chris and Nicola Latham on the birth of their first child, Matthew Leo, a grandson for Peter & Trisha Whisker. Also to congratulate Roger and Geraldine's daughter, Heather Forster, and Michael Powers on their engagement.

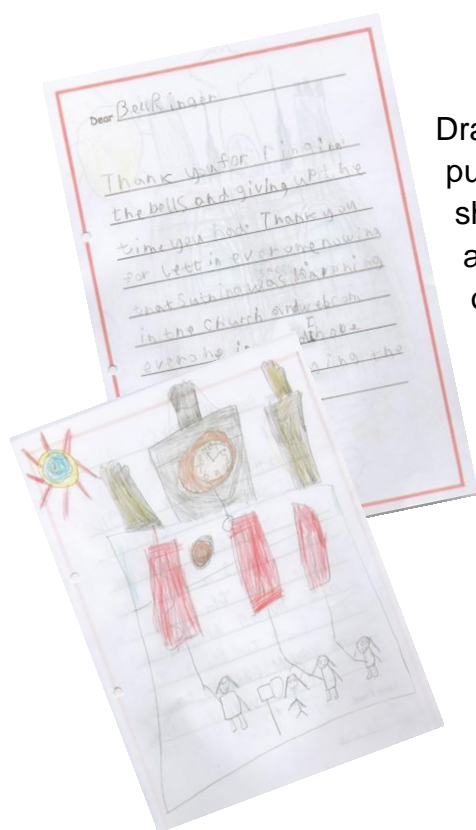
Chertsey Ringing Gallery Project

The wheels are very slowly turning and although the Vicar originally publicly promised that the Gallery would be in Phase 1 of the three phase £1.8 million church development project and an appeal leaflet was widely circulated which raised approximately £125 k together with a promise of a legacy in due course. However, since the full cost of the gallery was now about £90k including a glazed screen (£15k) and community room with glazed doors, access to the gallery via a new door through the medieval tower wall (£12k) , and relocation of large stone wall plaques (£15k) together with structural engineer's and architect's fees. As a consequence, the Vicar & PCC decided that they would not allocate the majority of the funds to the gallery project since they rate removal of the pews etc as a higher priority at this stage. The ringers have proposed that the cost of the gallery could be reduced by accessing the platform via wooden staircase from the nave and omitting the glazed screen together with not relocating the plaques if the Faculty permits; this would reduce the costs to approximately £45 k. Although an appeal leaflet for the gallery has been prepared by the ringers, the PCC do not want to see a separate appeal launched since it might be counter-productive to their grant applications for other aspects of the redevelopment project. Discussions with the Vicar & PCC continue!

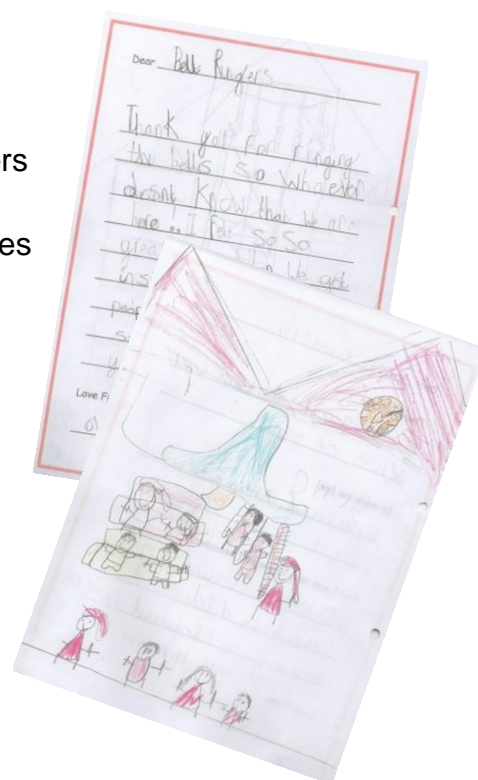
Stepgates School Nativity Services December 2019

The children from Stepgates School walked from the school in a crocodile and heard the bells as they approached the church but were very surprised how relatively quiet the bell sounded inside the building. On those two occasions were helped by Amanda Doyle a ringer from Esher, who is an LSA at the school, and who subsequently forwarded over 23 thankyou letters and drawings from some of the children, see below:

A selection from the 23 letters & drawings received in January 2020 from Year 2 children at Stepgates School, Chertsey after they saw the bells being rung for their Nativity Service held at St Peter's Church, Chertsey in December 2019.



Drawing by Atalia, showing the ringers pulling the ropes and people sitting in the pews. on the church clock and the bell ringers.



Malcolm S Loveday, Tower Captain.

12. Which soap opera was first broadcast in February 1985

Oatlands

We learnt to ring All Saints Doubles for All Saints Day at the beginning of November (not very difficult), had our monthly practice, then sent the ropes away to have new bottom ends fitted. This meant the bells were silent for five weeks. However, the ropes were back and installed in time for Christmas ringing. Handling the new ropes was a challenge at first but they are getting better.

Numbers for ringing on Christmas Eve looked uncertain: possibly only five of us. Requests for local support were remarkably well received and in the event nine people vied for places to ring for the late-night service. We also had a full eight on Christmas Day.

With the New Year we resumed practice on 8th January (always the second Wednesday of the month) when two members of the home band were assisted by very competent visitors to extend their calling skills.

John Burnett



13 On this day 1922, when Ed Wynn's 'The perfect fool' was broadcast in New York which sound was heard for the first time on radio?

Horsell

With numbers dwindling, we sometimes struggle to make up a full band. We did manage to ring for all the Christmas services, although sometimes not with a full six.

With the prospect of two of our young people going to college in a couple of years' time, we will be discussing the future of ringing at St Mary's at our AGM next month.

Avril Blagbrough

14 Born in February 1924, which US actor won an Oscar for his role in the film Cat Ballou?

Ockham

During 2019 we again only rang for the one wedding out of the three total at the church. We had two visiting bands, one from Sevenoaks for general ringing, and the other Kingston for a quarter peal. We also had two visits from the young ringer's Diocesan group and held one District Practice Training session for Raising and Lowering Bells. We also ran 3 evening advance Practices for the DFP group I look after and one Bell Maintenance Training Session.

A further 11 Quarters were scored by the local Practice band in 2019. Sadly 5 were for the Passing of Isabel Goodrick-Meech, Charles Hewlett [Both march], Bob Primrose [May], Matthew Webb [Prominent local ringer (50) Oct] and Julie Saunders [Wife of Tower Captain at Send].

However the births of two cousins to the Cousins family brothers along with Ann Watson (90) [Jan], Birth of Archie Windsor [May], Jen Meade (79) [Sep], Reverend B (75) [Oct] compensates, with notable first performance for Luca Hoverd-Knight (11) inside ringer [Sep] Grandson of Tricia who I have been teaching both at Ash.

We have started off well for 2020 with two scored the latest for Jean Swan's 100th Birthday [Jan-20].

We had our regular summer special visit to Clare's and Peter's Meadow and so very pleased to hear they are both now staying with us all in Ockham.

With our limited Local ringers however Sunday morning Service ringing has been limited to about once a month and mainly on only 5 bells.

On the recruitment front I have been recently contacted by two ladies each with a friend wishing to learn and also another lady who is known to Jan Winsor who I am advised wishes to try her hand.

So far the first lady Imogen and her friend Susie have visited 3 and once respectively, and the other pair Susan and Caroline last night.

I still need to organise a working party to wire brush and paint all the ironworks associated to the bells and frame. Perhaps there may be some willing volunteers from the parish to assist when the weather warms up a bit, in the spring. Angus kindly re-bonded the old facing to the top step before the ringing room door in June!

Church Clock

We had to call the clock repairers in June to fix a fault, and it had its annual service later in the year and seems at the moment to be keeping a closer approximation to time. Change in weather and seasons seems to affect its regulation from time to time!

John Young

15. Where does the name February come from?



St Mary's, Crondall (left) and St John the Baptist, Puttenham (below)

A letter from the Guild Master~

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild will take place at Crondall in the Farnham District on March 14th. It will be preceded by the Guild 6 bell striking contest which will be at Puttenham starting at 2pm.

The 6 bell contest is for tower bands (plus a band from the Young Ringers Group), and should be made up of those who ring there regularly for practice or Sunday service. Nobody can ring for more than one tower. but they can be in both the young ringers' and a tower band. Up to two bands per District can enter, ringing either a method or call changes, and it would be really good to see two District bands in the contest this year.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM in March

Jackie Roberts, Guild Master



Surrey Southern District Winter Outing 2019, organised by Matt Cousins

The outing was centred around the Basingstoke area starting at the furthest Tower All Hallows' at Whitchurch which was not too far for most of us although some travelled from around the Caterham area. The day was cloudy but dry and not too cold, we started ringing promptly at 9.30, with encouragement for good striking on these 10 bells. A break in the proceedings took place for the numbers club prize draw with one of the group winning £25, however the second draw was fun as the bag containing the numbered balls was 'squeezed' too tightly and quite a few shot out and landed on the flagstones of the ringing chamber.

We arrived at Church Oakley in plenty of time then waited for the chap with the key to open up, we admired the Church Yard, some of us made coffee and we waited...! It seems the chap opening up had advised us he would do this on his way to his Christmas Lunch, but went directly to lunch without passing the Church! Unperturbed we contacted the next tower's key holder in Basingstoke and she agreed to open up early.

The next tower was St Michael, but 3 of the ringers had made other arrangements for the rest of the day but we were joined by others to boost our numbers to 11. This was a lovely ring of 8 bells.

Lunch followed at Wetherspoon's in Basingstoke and nicely refuelled we set off All Saints; a lovely ring of 10 and as our numbers were a bit on the low side it meant that all hands on deck were needed so there was not much in the way of sitting about, this was a good tower for the group photo.



The last Tower was at Odiham a ring of 6 and a lovely end to a great day out. A big thank you was given to Matt

for organising the day and we were assured that there will be a summer trip and another winter tour at the end of the year. Many thanks to those who were kind enough to do the conducting throughout the day.

Tricia Hughes

The photo on the front cover is of Guildford Cathedral Church of the Holy Spirit, but what lurks in the crypt?

The Guildford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringer's Library

*The GDGCBR Library is probably the 5th largest collection of books on bells and ringing in the country. It comprises approximately 2000 items which are housed in a purpose-built cabinet located in the Cathedral crypt, with additional items stored in book cupboards in the tower ringing chamber. The oldest book dates back to the early 1664 and the collection includes an almost complete run of *The Ringing World*, the weekly newspaper which was produced at an office in Guildford since its inception in 1911 until the office moved to Andover about 10 years ago. It also includes minute books and ancillary papers from the Chertsey, Farnham, Guildford and Leatherhead Districts of the GDGCBR together with the Guild Executive records from the inception of the Guild in 1927, an important social history archive.*

The Library was founded in 1933 as a result of the hard work and enthusiasm of Mr Charles Hazelden of St Nicolas Guildford. He was appointed first Librarian and later a Vice President of the Guild continuing in both roles until his death in 1963.

The library collection has been re-catalogued in order to make the collection more accessible; the catalogue is also being integrated into a specialised Library Archive software package linked to the Cathedral Library system. The catalogue can be viewed on-line and access to the collection can be made available under supervision. See -

<http://guildfordguild.org.uk/guild/library>



The Guild Library bookcase constructed by John Williamson, from East Molesey at a cost price of £165 in 1973, given in memory of Mr Charles Hazelden, first Guild Librarian, 1932 -1963.

The photo shows Ivan Saunders, the current Guild Librarian and Vice President of the Guild standing alongside the bookcase in the Cathedral crypt.



The Guild Peal Books together with Faculty & bell installation tower reports are housed in cabinets in the Ringing Chamber. (Photo of Malcolm Loveday)

Approximately 400 items are stored in the cupboards in the Cathedral Ringing Chamber including

- a) Guild Peal Books
- b) Information about the Cathedral Bells,
- c) Generic Guild Papers
- d) Guild & Ringing World Anniversaries
- e) College & Cumberland Youths
- f) Other Guilds & Associations
- g) Guild Photos
- h) Scheduled Bells
- i) John Hesse's peals & notebooks
- j) Pat Cannon's peals & notebooks
- k) Other ringers' records
- l) Guildford Diocese Tower Inspection Reports and Diocesan Advisory Committee – Faculty bells applications: Covering ~ 160 Churches.

Please contact Ivan Saunders, Malcolm Loveday or John Young if you wish to visit the Library but a District visit is planned later in 2020 when it will be open to everyone.

Chertsey District contacts -as elected in January 2020

Ringling Master and Chairman: Andy Charnleybeal a.cb@live.co.uk

Secretary: Willy Burgess 01784 439583 egamten@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Young 01252 319739 jgy-young@tiscali.co.uk

Bookstall: under review

Assistant Ringing Master: Peter Binns pjbinns43@gmail.com

Assistant Ringing Master: Peter Whisker peter@whisker.org.uk

Belfry Inspector: Andrew Fisher 01932 829130 andrew@atf.me.uk

Training: Jane Marsters 020 8942 0886 maljan@ic24.net

Newsletter: Hilary Brooks 01932 227088 hilary@greenfinch.plus.com

Quiz answers;

1 Buddy Holly: 2 Soviet Union: 3 George Washington: 4 Idi Amin: 5 Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt: 6 1971: 7 1958: 8 Belgium: 9 Charles 2nd: 10 Fishguard (this is when the town was saved by the ladies red petticoats and the invaders thought they were soldiers on the top of the cliff): 11 Prince Andrew: 12 EastEnders: 13 A live audience: 14 Lee Marvin: 15 You'd be forgiven for thinking February was named after the Roman god *Februus*. But the word *February* comes from the Roman festival of purification called *Februa*, during which people were ritually washed in the river. In this case, the god was named after the festival, not the other way around. *Sounds a pretty cold thing to be doing in February but maybe it was warmer in Rome; Ed*

*Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to this edition of Bell-notes.
Please may I have copy for the May 2020 edition by April 15th? Ed*

Dates for the diary - until May 2020-

Thurs 6th Feb, Egham: Ten bell practice 19.45-21.15
Sat 8th Feb, Ockham: Grandsire Doubles theory/practice 10.00-12.30
Sat 15th Feb, Ockham: Grandsire Doubles theory/practice 10.00-12.30
Tues 18th Feb, Hersham: Eight bell practice 19.45-21.15
Wed 26th Feb, Esher: Six bell practice 19.30-21.00
Thurs 5th Mar Egham: Ten bell practice 19.45-21.15
Sat 7th Mar, Chobham: Grandsire Triples theory/practice 10.00-12.30
Sat 14th May, Farnham: Guild 6 bell Striking Competition
Sat 14th Mar, Farnham; Guildford Guild AGM
Sat 21st Mar, Chobham: Grandsire Triples theory/practice 10.00-12.30
Wed 25th Mar, Esher: Six bell practice 19.30-21.00
Thurs 2nd Apr, Egham: Ten bell practice 19.45-21.15
Sat 4th Apr, Horsell: Spanner Day 10.00-12.30 tbc
Tues 7th Apr, Holy Week training days: tbc
Sat 13th Apr, Spring Outing: tbc
Tues 21st Apr, Hersham: Eight bell practice 19.45-21.15
Wed 22nd Apr, Esher: Six bell practice 19.30-21.00
Thurs 23rd Apr, St George's Day
Sat 2nd May, Guildford: Guild 8 bell Striking Competition
Thurs 7th May, Egham: Ten bell practice 19.45-21.15
Fri 8th May: 75th Anniversary of V.E. Day
Sat 13th May; Striking Competition - tbc
Thurs 21st May, Weybridge: Eight bell practice 19.45-21.15
Tues 26nd May, Horsell: Six bell practice 20.00-21.00

For Daytime practices in Epsom Common and Molesey on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, contact Jane Marsters on maljan@ic24.net

These dates and venues are correct on publication but please always check monthly posters