

Lichfield ALE

by Tim Sunter

A record 40 members of the Guild took part on the Adult Learner's Event (ALE) visit to Lichfield on 19th November. Ringing took place at St Michael's on the Greenhill and at the Cathedral.

Although the ringing room was a crowded at St Michael's some fine ringing took place.

As expected from an Adult Learner's Event there was something for everyone: Rounds, call changes, Plain Bob Doubles, Cambridge Minor and a touch of Plain Bob Minor. The session was run firstly by Simon Linford and, when he had to go to an engagement in York, Janet Horton. Thanks to both.

Following a refreshment stop in the nearby Duke of York the party then moved to the Cathedral where Phil Ramsbottom took charge.



Lichfield Cathedral

Once again all abilities were catered for and Phil was very careful that everyone had the chance to experience ringing the bells. Rounds and call

changes on 10 gave everyone the opportunity to ring.

For the most experienced ringers there was an opportunity to ring Grandsire Caters and Stedman Caters. The ringing was of such a quality that a round of applause was deservedly given.

Thanks to all for their efforts in arranging such a popular and enriching experience. A great day all round.

Gill Campbell and Colin Frew

by Andrew Ellis



On October 20, many ringers from across the North of the city converged on Boldmere for the wedding of Gill Campbell and Colin Frew. Gill was attended by her daughters Hannah and Katie. All are regular members of the band at Erdington Abbey, and the entire bridal party ascended the

tower to ring following the ceremony. Needless to say, on this occasion tower captain Dave Reeves was not required to source wedding ringers from the resident band. Celebrations continued into the evening at Wishaw Country Sports, a popular local venue.

Gill looked radiant, Hannah and Katie were delightful, and Colin looked just a little pleased with himself. Very best wishes to all four of them, from their ringing friends.

Brierley Hill Bells are resounding!

by Jenny Sunter

As a result of the Birmingham School of Bell Ringing, Brierley Hill tower in the Black Country has started practicing again and an embryonic band has been put in place.



Tim and Jenny Sunter started ringing at BSoBR in 2014 when local residents commented on the lack of ringing at the tower. A chat with the local vicar highlighted the difficulty in getting ringers. A Google search identified the then recently formed school of bell ringing as the place to learn.

In October, after a 20 year gap, practices resumed again. The first practice attracted 17 ringers, many of whom came from the Guild.

Jenny Sunter said:

"The Church leaders have been keen supporters and after more than two decades St. Michael's and All Saints Brierley Hill has a practice night once again.

"With only two of us we knew that in these early stages we would be reliant on friends to support us. And what support we have received, we are very grateful.

"We try to accommodate the needs of everyone who visits our practices. Although we are reliant on visitors we know that we need to build our own local plans so we are undertaking courses through BSoBR and ART that will help us support new ringers. We know that the school is the best option for most and this will be encouraged.

"We have had great feedback from local residents. We are close to many homes and being situated on a hill the sound does travel. Brierley Bells are resounding! And people seem to like it."

Practices take place every Friday evening from 7.45pm to 9pm, and afterward many choose to head to the nearby Bull and Bladder to sample the delights of local ales.



Guild members are more than welcome to attend.

In fact the practices rely on you. It would be great if you could join us to build on the success.

King's Norton Clappers Return

There has been an eerie silence from King's Norton bells recently. In recent years, inspections from the bell founders have pinpointed deterioration due to wear of our ten clappers. It was decided to send nine of these to Taylor's foundry for refurbishment this autumn. There was also the necessity to clear a large quantity of debris which has accumulated under the bell frame.

On 26th October a team of volunteers set about the work and by lunchtime all the clappers were successfully removed via the spiral staircase and stored at the back of the church. We then undertook a clear up which has been put off for years, including sweeping down the tower stairs from top to bottom. We are also hoping that a deterrent to pigeons entering the ringing chamber will be successfully concocted.

Our new steeple keeper, Brian Wevill, has been instrumental in leading the maintenance, including transporting all the fittings to Loughborough and back. Simon Adams from Taylors assisted with the refit. Assistance was also given by Catherine Taylor, Claire Calver, Steve and Tom Horton from Smethwick, and Mike Keeble from Harborne. We are grateful for all the help as this has been dirty work in a tower in need of a major clean. Hopefully once we have cleared the ringing chamber of obstructions and dust, ringing at King's Norton will be a pleasanter experience.

Jim Dunn's maintenance of our bells and tower over many decades should be mentioned. We hope for his speedy return to good health and ringing in 2017.

It was thrilling to ring the full ten on Christmas morning for the first time in many months. Thank you to Northfield ringers for helping us out. It made all the hard work seem worthwhile

A warm welcome awaits ringers of all abilities at our Tuesday practices. Visitors in the early stages of rounds and call changes are actively encouraged, along with our own recent recruits.

Pictured are tower captain, Claire Calver, and steeple Keeper, Brian Wevill, with the clappers following removal.



Michael Lowndes

15 July 1939 – 9 September 2016

The name of Mike Lowndes, who died last July aged 64, will not be widely known among the current generation of Birmingham ringers, but he was by birth a Brummie and made several firm friendships here when he first got involved in belfry life in the late 1970s. He was aged 26 when he first learned to handle a bell – Fran Dodds taught him the initial skills at Harborne where she was tower captain; he proved to be remarkably capable, and within a year had joined the Guild and rung his first peal, which was of Stedman Triples at St Chad's Cathedral. One might well say that he took to ringing, and to its community life, like the proverbial duck to water.

It was due to a chance conversation that his interest in ringing had been aroused, and on the strength of this he had made a visit to St Chad's belfry one Sunday morning to see what went on. This was five years after he had returned to Birmingham in 1973, following university in Manchester, to work as a researcher in electronics engineering with Lucas. In his chosen career he became highly skilled, but no-one could describe him as a nerd: ringing became for him another aspect of his wide interest in music-making which had developed during his school days in Tettenhall. He had become much involved in musical life here, being well known in amateur and semi-professional circles as an excellent cellist.

By 1980 he had found his way to St Martin's, then under the conductorship of Richard Grimmett, and soon rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques. It was natural that in this environment and with his mathematical background he took considerable



interest in composition. However, in 1982 he moved for work reasons to Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, and continued his ringing mainly with the Bedford Association, though he did keep in touch with Birmingham friends. By the time his involvement in many activities sadly declined in the 1990s,

he had rung a total of 77 peals, almost half of them on twelve, and two with the College Youths.

He also enjoyed days out on various other kinds of sociable ringing exploits. Good conversations, not to say banter, card games and crossword puzzles at some comfortable pub table in convivial company saw him at his happiest. There was a hilarious moment in a pub near Brecon where he challenged John McDonald over lunch to be first to complete a crossword. John may have expected to win, but to his surprise Mike filled in nearly all the spaces in a couple of minutes. The reason, not at first disclosed, was that Mike had had a previous copy which he had spilt beer on when nearing the end of the puzzle, and had bought a fresh newspaper to continue.

We should acknowledge also Mike's insightful comments on the proposed tuning of the new bells being planned for St Martin's in the late 1980s, and work on the strikeometer which, though greatly altered since, still has an element known as 'Lowndes files'. His Birmingham friends mourn his passing and a memorial peal at Cardington (Shropshire), his family home, is planned to take place in the spring.

Richard Jones

Ringling Master's Report

Arthur Reeves

I'm pleased to announce the start of our monthly Guild focus practices. They will be on the third Saturday of each month. The current focus will be on developing the



opportunities for ringing Surprise Major, both for those who have never rung Surprise before and those wishing to advance their ringing of Surprise methods further. Do get in touch if you'd be interested in joining this pathway.

We are constantly seeking to reflect on ensuring that we offer the broadest possible opportunities for all members of the Guild. On the mailing list, you should have seen advertised notices regarding minor practices, a Surprise Minor focus workshop, the regular higher numbers quarter peal programme and a Bristol Maximus practice. Of course, running this quantity of additional opportunities, on top of regular practices and Sunday service commitments, requires the support of a wide range of people. I am, as always, very grateful for all who volunteer their time in helping to organise, lead and support these practices.

I'm looking forward to meeting with the Youth Recruitment and Retention Working Group in the near future, which will begin to look at this most challenging area of the Guild's work.

Finally, I challenged the Guild to support the national Strike Out Against Blood Cancer campaign. Since our last newsletter, the drive for fundraising has increased exponentially. The original aim was to ring 200 quarters by the end of 2016, to earn £35,000 for a variety of blood cancer charities. So far, over £5 million has been raised and the campaign continues. One challenge next year is to

see all cathedrals ring a quarter of one of the Julie McDonnell variations. I'm proud that Birmingham Cathedral led the way in ringing Julie McDonnell New Bob Caters, and that in total Guild members have rung 8 quarter peals contributing towards this initiative. Keep them coming!

My venture around the guild has admittedly been quiet over the last few months, so I will make a concerted effort over the next few months to get out and ring with those of you I haven't as yet. I look forward to ringing with many of you soon!

Arthur

Birmingham Cathedral was particularly busy over Christmas as usual, with many extra services including five additional Carol Services! Ringers from across the Guild helped the local band and a total of 20 rang for the various services. Gill and James are grateful to all who helped out.

Some notable additional ringing was on 21st November – the anniversary of the Birmingham pub bombings. The tenor bell was tolled 21 times in memory of the 21 who died. The tolling was by Steve Horton, assisted by Thomas and Rebekah, and mentioned in the Birmingham Mail as a moving experience.

In 1965 and 1966 two significant 12-bell records were rung at Birmingham Cathedral – the record lengths of Cambridge Maximus and Stedman Cinques. A peal to mark the Cambridge was rung on the anniversary last year, and in November it was the turn of the Stedman Cinques.

There was a QP of **Julie McDonnell** New Bob Caters rung at St. Philip's for the Strike Back Against Blood Cancer campaign. It was also the first performance in the method.

Birmingham

Cathedral Church of St Philip

Tuesday, 29 November 2016 in 52m

1296 Julie McDonnell New Bob Caters

[Composed by](#) JPR

- 1 Chris Mills
 - 2 Jack Page
 - 3 Clare McArdle
 - 4 Angie Wakefield
 - 5 Steve Horton
 - 6 Matthew King
 - 7 Phil Ramsbottom
 - 8 James Ramsbottom (C)
 - 9 Tony Daw
 - 10 Mike Rigby
- First Quarter Peal in Method
Julie McDonnell New Bob
Caters=9.1.9.3.9.23.9.23.9,27
Rung for the Strike Back Against Blood
Cancer campaign

Birmingham, St Martin

Thursday, 15 December 2016

1260 Julie McDonnell Doubles

- 1 Arthur J Reeves
- 2 Alan S Burbidge
- 3 Mark R Eccleston (C)
- 4 John H Fielden
- 5 James P Ramsbottom
- 6 Richard L Jones

Knowle

Sunday, 6 November 2016 in 41 mins

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

- 1 Ruth E Shepherd
- 2 Jill Erskine
- 3 Richard Andrew
- 4 Rowena Shipley
- 5 Stephen Shipley (C)
- 6 Ann Smart

Edgbaston

Sunday, 16 October 2016 in 40m

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

- 1 Amelie K Hunnebeck-Wells
- 2 Susannah A Moore
- 3 Jenny G Robertson
- 4 Jack E Page (C)
- 5 Alistair J Cherry
- 6 Jonas Munoz Novelo

The band at **Knowle** has continued the theme of remembering Knowle WW1 casualties (not necessarily ringers, but those from the village. Along with other bands commemorating casualties, the anniversary of the Battle of the Somme has generated a peak of activity, including this performance:

Knowle, West Midlands

SS John the Baptist, Lawrence and Anne
Sunday, 9 October 2016 in 43 mins

1280 Rutland Surprise Major

- 1 John Anderson
- 2 Julie Tarling
- 3 Judy Yates
- 4 Ruth E Shepherd
- 5 Richard Andrew
- 6 Michael Dodson
- 7 Alison R Williams
- 8 Roy Williams (C)

For evening service on the day of the baptism of Benjamin James Drysdale at the church of St Peter, Glasbury on Wye, Powys. First in method: 2.

Also, remembering further casualties on the Somme Battlefield: L/Cpl William Bird (Headmaster of Knowle School), aged 35, and L/Cpl George Thompson, aged 30, killed in action on 4 October 1916 by the same shell; and Rifleman Reginald Whorwood, killed in action on 9 October 1916.

Likewise at Harborne and Smethwick, including remembering a member of the Guild:

Harborne, St Peter

Sunday, 13 November 2016

1260 Grandsire Triples

1 Christine Barnell

2 Tracy Stevens

3 Sarah C Jones

4 Clare McArdle

5 Tamsin Lane

6 Michael Rigby

7 Stephen W Horton (C)

8 Michael Keeble

Remembering:

Private A Connop, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, 1st/4th Bn. Died 12/11/1916.

Private Horace Howell, Service No.23964.

South Staffordshire Regiment "B" Coy.

2nd Bn. Died 13/11/1916 age 25. Bell ringer at Smethwick and Edgbaston and member of St Martin's Guild.

Private Frank Parker, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, 11th Bn. Died 14/11/1916, aged 40.

Half muffled on Remembrance Sunday.

Smethwick, Old Church

Sunday, 13 November 2016 in 43 mins

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Audrey M Flint

2 Janet A Horton (C)

3 David B Flint

4 Matthew Turley

5 David R Ingram

6 Thomas M W Horton

Rung half-muffled by members of the

Sunday Service band in memory of

Private Horace Howell, a ringer at

Smethwick and a member of the St

Martin's Guild, who died on 13/11/1916;

a casualty of The Great War.

100 Club news - numbers available

At the end of the year £1078 was donated to the Guild's Bell Restoration Fund – the profit from the 100 Club. The 100 Club is the biggest income generator for the BRF.

The BRF is available to help towers in the Diocese with projects to restore, augment and improve their bells. 2017 will see a donation of £10,000 from the BRF to Castle Bromwich as they augment and rehang their bells.

100 Club membership costs £24 per year, half of which is donated to the BRF. Members are allocated a number and each month a draw for three prizes takes place. The prize values are proportional to the number of members in the 100 Club. The first prize currently stands at around £37.50 with two smaller prizes. If the 100 Club were fully subscribed (100 members, as the name suggests) the first prize would be £50. In addition all numbers are entered into an extra draw in December with a first prize roughly double the monthly first prize and a further six smaller cash prizes.

A new 100 Club starts each year and the majority of existing members continue with their subscriptions by automatically renewing. However, 25 numbers are still available. If you have not subscribed to the 100 Club before and would like to join, or have done in the past and would like to rejoin, now is a very good time to do so as the 100 Club is about to start.

For more information or to join please get in touch with Clare McArdle.

Birmingham, St Paul

Tuesday, 13 December 2016 in 2h 58m

5028 Grandsire Variable Treble Caters

Composed by Alan Burbidge

1 Chris Mills	6 Mark R Eccleston
2 Alan S Burbidge (C)	7 John H Fielden
3 Jack E Page	8 Richard B Grimmett
4 Graham R Kelly	9 James P Ramsbottom
5 Jack P Gunning	10 Jonathan P Healy

First peal of Grandsire Variable Treble Caters

Notated by the bells being called as treble, with an index giving the number of thirds being made around the treble prior to the next call - for example 2^3 means 2 is treble until 3 lots of thirds have been made around him.

Six sections A - F in each half of the peal

A:	2^3 5 3^2	5^3 3 4^2	3^3 4 1^2	4^3 1 2^2	1^3 2 5^2
B:	2^3 5 3^2	5^3 3 4^2	3^3 4 1^2	4^3 1 2^2	1^3 2 5^2
C:	7^4 1 2^7 1^6				
D:	2^3 5 3^2	5^3 3 4^2	3^3 4 1^2	4^3 1 2^2	1^3 2 5^2
E:	7 8 1^7 6				
F:	2^3 5 3^2	5^3 3 4^2	3^3 4 1^2	4^3 1 2^2	1^3 3 5^2

With the additions of

In section A

- after one lead of the 2^3 insert [9 7]
- after two leads of the 4^3 insert 5^7
- after two leads of the 1^3 insert 3^7

In section B

- after one lead of the first 2 insert [7 6 9]

In section D

- after one lead of the 2^ insert [7^3 9 7]
- after two leads of the 4^3 insert 5^7
- after two leads of the 1^3 insert 3^7

In section F

- after one lead of the 2^3 insert [5 9]
- after two leads of the 3^3 insert 5^7
- after two leads of the 4^3 insert 3^7
- after two leads of the 1^3 insert 4^7 ,when 1 is called back as treble after the 4^7, use a single to swap bells 2 and 3.

Repeat the whole interchanging 2 and 3

Omit any set of x^7 for 5028 changes.

Contains back bell combinations of tittums, handstroke home,98765,9876,97568, backstroke home. Contains all 120 rows of type6789

Solihull's tradition of date touches continued with this performance:

Solihull, St Alphege

Sunday, 4 December 2016 in 1h 17m

2016 Plain Bob Major

Arranged by M G Dodson

- 1 Allison K Joiner
- 2 Richard J Andrew
- 3 Michael G Dodson
- 4 Sand J Cooper
- 5 Keith D Whitehead
- 6 William G R Davies
- 7 Jonathan Evans (C)
- 8 Malcolm J Paulson

For Evensong and to celebrate the birth, on 4th November, of Alice Imogen Grace, granddaughter of the 6.

First date touch: 1



Adam Knight-Markiegi recorded his first quarter on 8, just sneaking it into this issue!

Birmingham, St Paul

Sunday, 1 January 2017 in 43m

1259 Grandsire Triples

- 1 Adam Knight-Markiegi
 - 2 Chris Mills
 - 3 Graham Kelly
 - 4 Angie Wakefield
 - 5 James Ramsbottom (C)
 - 6 Richard Jones
 - 7 Tony Daw
 - 8 Jonathan Thorne
- 1st on 8: 1



And Sophie Keeble joined the ranks of conductors:

Harborne, St Peter

Sunday, 11 December 2016

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Trish Everett
- 2 Catherine R Taylor
- 3 Sophie Keeble (C)
- 4 Clare McArdle
- 5 Michael Rigby
- 6 Michael Keeble

First as conductor: Sophie Keeble

RECENT LTR AWARDS

Level 1:

David Hill-Ilderton (Erdington)
Bill Langford (St Anne's Moseley)
Andy Foster (Harborne)

Level 2:

Sue Watts (Castle Bromwich)
Anastasia Willetts (Erdington)
Thomas Willetts (Erdington)
Emma Clewlow (Castle Bromwich)
Bernadette O'Dwyer
Leo Fielding

Level 3:

Sue Rogers (Coleshill)
Stella Tew (Mosley)
Sallie Morgan (Erdington)

Level 4:

Jenny Sunter (Brierley Hill)
John Rogers (Coleshill)
Adam Knight-Markiegi (St Paul's)

Nether Whitacre's new ropes by Quentin Howell

Nether Whitacre Ringers have finally got new ropes. After years of complaints from the locals about the ropes being past it and the sallies being too thin, as well as some of our older ringers betting that they would not live to see new ropes on the bells – they have finally been fitted. This is not news I hear you say but the ropes fitted are rather special friends.

They were bought when the rope companies were offering any length up to 80 feet for £80 and as we were still a downstairs ring at the time and our ropes were old but useable we took advantage of this offer. Then in 2002 (yes the ropes are that old) our church had some money to put toilet facilities at the back of church which forced the ringers up to a new upstairs ringing gallery. Our old but not yet worn out ropes suddenly could lose the nasty splices that were already appearing on the tops and so gained a new lease of life. The new ropes were jokingly hung up to pre-stretch from the top of the clock room back down to the ringing gallery but still had to be looped into three sections to fit.

In 2010 the new ropes were even taken down and waterproofed as commitment to their fitment. As the years passed the ropes got a bit thinner and then were spliced and some new rope let into the tops but eventually the tails started to degrade. Even this did not stop us as we managed to replace a few tail ends and then I learnt how to eye splice which extended their lives further. At this point the jokes started to be made about using new ropes and life expectancy..... However the main source of some of these quips was even known to find a new spare tail end just when one was needed which prolonged the agony further.

Despite planned fitment in 2014 and 2015 the ropes stood up well but in November the third

tail finally broke up on Roy during our Sunday ringing.

The new ropes were finally got down from their stretching positions and fitted. Remarkably they are not nearly as stretchy as new ropes usually are and within a week or so it was really worth hanging them up for over 15 years! However now the sly comments have started again – you can tell what our band is like – comments such as the sallies are so big they hurt our hands have been heard.

Do come and try our new ropes out.



BUSCR members are looking forward to the BUSCR dinner which will be on Saturday, 28th January 2017, at the Highfield in Edgbaston, the same venue as last year.

Birmingham, West Midlands
Apartment 2007, 1 Hagley Road
Sunday, 30 October 2016 in 1h 55m

5040 Surprise Minor

7 methods: Lightfoot, Wearmouth,
Netherseale, Rossendale, Stamford, Annable's
London, Norwich

1–2 Alistair J Cherry

3–4 Mark R Eccleston

5–6 Jack E Page (C)

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY At the Woodman



Simon Linford delivers vote of thanks



Tim Sunter explains his PR strategy



Party listens attentively



A meeting of minds

On Saturday 25th March, Birmingham Cathedral is hosting one of the **Eliminators** for the 12-bell contest. Gill Postill will be looking for plenty of helpers. The Birmingham band will be competing against Guildford. Melbourne, St Paul's Cathedral and Towcester, with three teams going through to the Final in June.

10 Bell Quarter Peal Programme

Unusually not a lot to report regarding the 10 and 12-bell quarter peals. October consisted of a lock out due to a church service happening, (was to be Stedman Caters), and Stedman Cinques firing out at Aston – the bit we did ring was perfectly acceptable.



The first event for November was a focused Cambridge Royal practice, (as opposed to a quarter), which proved to be very successful indeed. Three “students” benefitted from the evening which was also much enjoyed by those who came along to help. November ended with a good quarter of Stedman Caters at St. Paul’s and was more of a “keep up the practice” than anything. Hoping to end the year with a quarter of Cambridge Maximus at Walsall, sadly this was fraught with problems from the start so settled for a further quarter of Stedman Caters. Even this very nearly didn’t happen due to the indisposition of one of the band so we were all hugely relieved when a good quarter came round. As for the Cambridge Maximus– we’ll be back!

Please can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who’s been involved in and supported the programme these last two years. Collectively we’ve achieved many good things, none of which would have come about with your support. I thank you all.

In closing, next year will be a bit different as I’ll only be arranging a quarter in the 4th week of each month. Some of these may well be arranged as targeted practices. As has always been the case, if either you or anyone you know would like to take their first steps into ringing on 10 bells, then please do get in touch so that something can be arranged for your or their benefit.

Phil Ramsbottom

John Anderson’s 60 years as a member of the Sunday Service band at St Martins was marked with a peal and a special dinner.

Birmingham, West Midlands

St Martin

Saturday, 15 October 2016 in 3h32 (39–1–19)

5060 Stedman Cinques

Composed by M R Eccleston

- 1 Mark R Eccleston (C)
- 2 Stephanie J Warboys
- 3 Victoria J M Wilby
- 4 Paul E Bibilo
- 5 Arthur J Reeves
- 6 Clare McArdle
- 7 Jack E Page
- 8 John H Fielden
- 9 Frances Dodds
- 10 Michael P A Wilby
- 11 John S Warboys
- 12 William R Haynes

Rung to mark the 60th anniversary of John Anderson's election to the St Martin's Band of Sunday Service Ringers; and to mark the 25th anniversary of the completion of the installation of 16 bells in this tower.



Some other peals

Erdington, West Midlands
Abbey Church of St Thomas and St
Edmund of Canterbury
Saturday, 1 October 2016 in 2h 47m

5040 Stedman Triples

Composed by Sir A P Heywood's
Transposition of Thurstans'

- 1 Rebekah G W Horton
- 2 Alan S Burbidge
- 3 Stephen W Horton
- 4 James P Ramsbottom
- 5 Vernon C Wright
- 6 Simon E Adams
- 7 Andrew J Ellis (C)
- 8 Jonathan M P Thorne

Rung on the presumed 100th anniversary
of the death of Pte George Parsons,
London Regiment 1st/20th Bn. Service
No. 633432, a ringer at this church since
1902, aged 33. George was reported as
missing in action on 1 October 1916, and
later presumed to have died that day.
First peal of Stedman - 1
75th peal as conductor and 25th peal of
Stedman Triples as conductor.

Aston

St Peter and St Paul
Tuesday, 11 October 2016 in 3h 24m

5007 Stedman Cinques

[Composed by](#) David E House

- 1 Mark Regan (C)
 - 2 Gillian Eastwood
 - 3 Simon J L Linford
 - 4 Jack E Page
 - 5 Alistair J Cherry
 - 6 Jack P Gunning
 - 7 Stephen W Horton
 - 8 James Clatworthy
 - 9 Jonathan P Healy
 - 10 William R Haynes
 - 11 Paul E Bibilo
 - 12 William M Regan
- First on 12 - 2.

Birmingham, West Midlands
RC Cathedral of St Chad
Thursday, 13 October 2016 in 2h 10m

5040 Stedman Triples

Composed by Graham N Scott
1-2 Alan S Burbidge (C)
3-4 Charles A S Webb
5-6 Mark R Eccleston
7-8 Paul E Bibilo

Birmingham, West Midlands
RC Cathedral of St Chad (The Ullathorne
Room)
Thursday, 10 November 2016 in 2h 10m
(11 in G)

5040 Stedman Triples

[Composed by](#) H Law James (7 part)

- 1-2 Alan S Burbidge
- 3-4 Charles A S Webb
- 5-6 Mark R Eccleston
- 7-8 Jack E Page (C)

Aston

SS Peter and Paul
Monday, 21 November 2016 in 3hrs 22m

5040 Tritonian Surprise Maximus

[Composed by](#) J P Gunning [\(No. 1\)](#)

- 1 Dickon R Love
- 2 Mark R Eccleston
- 3 Jack E Page (C)
- 4 Paul McNutt
- 5 Paul E Bibilo
- 6 Jack P Gunning
- 7 Alistair J Cherry
- 8 James P Ramsbottom
- 9 Stephen M Jones
- 10 Simon J L Linford
- 11 Gordon R Birks
- 12 Michael P A Wilby

Tritonian Surprise Maximus:
3x3.4x2x3.4x2.5.2x2.7.4x6.9.8x0.e, 2
[d]

A very good new Maximus method produced by
Jack Gunning along with a composition designed
to exploit its features.

Edgbaston, St Bartholomew

Monday, 19 December 2016 in 2h 47m

5056 Bristol Surprise Major

Composed by R W Lee (No. 4 (after MBD))

- 1 Mark R Eccleston
 - 2 Paul E Bibilo
 - 3 D Rose W Horton
 - 4 Jack E Page (C)
 - 5 Jack P Gunning
 - 6 Alistair J Cherry
 - 7 James P Ramsbottom
 - 8 Gordon R Birks
- First Bristol: 3

A post Christmas “peal week” organised by Simon Linford met with mixed success! A peal of Surprise Minor at Castle Bromwich was lost in most unlucky circumstances when a mistake caused rounds to come up not at an extent end. A peal of Grandsire Triples at Harborne, which was to have been Christine Barnell and Sophie Keeble’s first peals, was lost after an hour from a swap, and London Major at Knowle blew up as only London and Stedman Triples can, after an excellent hour. The consolation prize was at Moseley:

Moseley, West Midlands

St Mary

Thursday, 29 December 2016 in 3h 6m
(18-0-9 in F)

5040 London Surprise Royal

Composed by David G Hull arr. Don F Morrison

- 1Stephanie J Warboys
- 2Simon J L Linford (C)
- 3Jack P Gunning
- 4Janet A Horton
- 5James P Ramsbottom
- 6Frances Dodds
- 7Richard J Andrew
- 8Paul Jopp
- 9Paul McNutt
- 10John S Warboys

Forthcoming events

Please consider coming to the **Henry Johnson Dinner** if you are not already doing so. Our Chairman this year is Pip Penney, who has been a leading light in ringing training for many years, instrumental in setting up the Association of Ringing Teachers, and the Learning the Ropes programme which is used at the School.

The Dinner is on Saturday 25th February at the usual venue of the Council House, Birmingham. There will be a practice and social evening on the Friday before at Northfield, and ringing during the day.

And finally:

Harborne’s entry for best ringing chamber Christmas tree is probably a strong contender, resplendent as it was with ropes, wheels and method lines ...

