

## Farcited Ringing

January 5th

Chipping Sodbury 11.00 - 12.00

The Fox Iron Acton Bypass TBC

Cromhall 14.00 - 15.00

### Branch Ringing

December

28th Mince-pie Branch Practice

14.30 - 16.30 Frampton

### January Ringing

7th Training Day

Cambridge Contact the Ringing Master

28th 2012

14.30 - 16.30 Iron Acton



3rd Friday Chipping Sodbury

19.30 - 21.00

## A Brief AGM Report

You can see the full AGM minutes on the branch web site web address above.

We have a new Ringing Master! Bill Liebow has become Ringing Master and we have a new name on the Management committee, Steve Crane who rings at Almondsbury is our new Assistant Ringing Master, we welcome them both to their challenging

management positions.

All other elected officers stay in place. Sue Liebow remains on the committee as the co-opted press officer. The Twigs who were at the meeting agreed to remain in their current posts.

A couple of other points:

We will be collecting your association subscriptions twice next year. Nothing sinister in that, it was agreed at the AGM we would change our collection time of subscriptions and tower information from January February and March to October and November, all money payments to be in by the branch AGM at the end of November!

The Mayday outing will be to the North Devon/Somerset borders.

We elected nineteen new members at the meeting.

The 2012 branch program can be found on the branch web site, but should be in your tower via the tower contacts!

See below for a new branch weekly practice, for everything else please see the AGM minutes.

## By Popular request

There is to be a further day time practice starting in the new year at Syston

The Wednesday practice at Abson due to its success has become hugely over subscribed. A few of the people who attend asked if a further practice might be arranged.

The organisers are not sure what will happen! They do not know if all the people who go to Abson will go to Syston, or will it attract a new and different group of ringers! The first Syston practice will currently be on Friday January 6th 10.00 - 11.30

Contact Bill Liebow Branch Ringing Master if you require more information telephone no on the bottom of the branch 2012 program.

## Filton Bells are back in action

Five of the bells at Filton were cast in 1734 by William Evans of Chepstow. They fell into disrepair and became unringable over the war years. In 1961, they were rehung and a new Treble was cast and added by Taylor's of Loughborough. In 2009, the headstock's of the third and fourth bells cracked and were replaced. The decision was then taken to refurbish the other bells. The work began in August this year and is now nearing completion. Members of the local band have repainted the bell frame, treated the wooden fittings with preserva-



tive, cleaned out the bell chamber and replaced the sound attenuation materials. The headstock's of the treble and second bell have been replaced; the clappers of the treble, 2, 5 and 6; the bearings of 5 and 6, and all the pulley blocks, have been refurbished by Taylor's.

Following three days of hard work, Paul Mason from Taylor's, his friend Molly and members of the band, the bells have been rehung.

The photographs show 1) Paul Mason, David Haslum (Tower Captain) and Stephen Cowl with the wheels of the treble and second; 2) David helping to load the headstock's and fittings to go to Loughborough; 3) David and Eddy Welch with the refurbished headstock's, wheels, clappers and pulley blocks on October 3rd; 4) David and Chris Gooding (Tower Secretary) with the fittings; 5) Molly painting the headstock of the fourth bell; 6) David roping the third bell; 7) the resin collar being made for the second bell; 8) Paul Mason tightening bolts on the headstock of the second; 9) the repainted headstocks of the fifth and tenor.

The cost of the work is expected to be in excess of £6,500. The band has raised a substantial amount of this already, and generous donations have been received from members of the church congregation. Photograph 10) shows the presentation of a cheque for £350 by Roy Hale on behalf of John Lewis to David, Chris and other members of the band. Fund raising activities currently include selling jams and preserves in the Church Cafe and a Recorder Concert in church on 17th October arranged by the Organist. Application for financial assistance has been made to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers, the Sharpe Trust, the Leche Trust and other organisations. Needless to say, any contribution, however small, would be most welcome. Please contact either David Haslum or Chris Gooding (email: [chris.gooding@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.gooding@btinternet.com)).

Mary Haslum



Filton Quarter Peal:

Gloucestershire, Sunday 13th November, 2011,  
1299 Grandsire Doubles in 47 minutes.

1. Martin Lawrence
2. Terri Arman
3. David A.C. Matthews(C)
4. John Cole
5. David C. Haslum,
6. Andrew Marker.

Half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday Solemn Evensong. First Quarter Peal on the bells of re-hanging of Treble and second by Taylors.

and spread their visits to the church over a period of time.

This list was further reduced as some applicants found ringing to be too difficult for them. (eg Four were OAP's and suffered from arthritis etc.) So the present list of new ringers consists of:-

Two ladies, both very keen, but nursing duties interrupt their availability. Three teenagers learning to ring for their D.of E. Award, All very keen making good progress.

Three middle age men making good progress. One middle aged man, an ex ringer for 40 years, who has restarted to ring as if he



Of all the events to ring for in 2012 the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be the most historic. The nation will be celebrating H.M.'s sixty year reign up and down the country during the long Bank Holiday weekend of 2nd - 5th June. The only other monarch to have had a longer reign to date is Queen Victoria, who reigned for just over 63 years. Many events are already being planned for

Sunday, 3rd June and include The Big Lunch, where as many people as possible will sit and eat together, 2012 Beacons will be lit on various sites around the UK and The River Pageant will take place in London. A thousand boats will sail down the Thames

from Battersea in the West to Greenwich in the East, with the first 'herald barge' having a New ring of eight bells on it. This peal, commissioned by St James, Garlickhythe, a City of London church, is being cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. You could ring at your local tower or find out where ringing would be appreciated for a local event or street party. There are plenty of Diamond-named methods to choose from for such a memorable event. Diamond Surprise Major; Double Diamond Surprise Major and HMS Diamond Delight Minor to mention a few.

The Central Council meets on Monday, 4th June in Chester which, by a happy coincidence, is the home city of the Blue Peter competition winning designer of the Diamond Jubilee Emblem (above), 10-year-old Katherine Dewar. To find out more about Diamond Jubilee celebrations go to [www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk) or local Diamond Jubilee events and street arty advice visit your local council website or [www.streetparty.org](http://www.streetparty.org). UK For Central Council Church Bell Ringers events visit [www.cccbr.org.uk](http://www.cccbr.org.uk)

#### **HELEN UDAL**

If you were not at the AGM at Frenchay but have a view on what the branch should

1. do for St Georges Day and or
2. the Queen's Jubilee

let one of the branch officers know about it please.

#### **Editor.**

Thanks to Mary Haslum and Ryan Price for the two articles this month. I also had an article from our press officer Sue Liebow which I will put in next month.

*Apologies to some ringers who may not receive this newsletter as it is from my web mail lists which is not totally up-to-date.*



#### **Saint James Mangotsfield Recruitment Drive**

Following an advertisement in the Evening Post for new Bell Ringers at St James which ran for several weeks I am aware that many ringers would wish to know the outcome of the project. In November 2010, the number of active regular ringers at St James was 6, plus 2 ringers who rang when they were available. We were also supported by Terry Jefferies when he was not required at Winterbourne and one young ringer from our Sunday School.

About this time, an advertisement was placed in the Evening Post suggesting bell ringing as a useful form of activity and for persons interested to ring Ryan, and quoting my telephone number!

The response was slow to start with, but gradually a list of 20 names began to form.

I rang all callers in turn and gave them an outline of our hobby.

Some were not interested; one chap asked if he could bring his drums, others lived too far away from a church with bells. If the caller lived nearer to another peal of bells than Mangotsfield I would redirect them to Tony York Branch Secretary for contact details of other branch towers..

A list of 12 people developed, fortunately not all at once, so it was possible to start applicants

never had stopped!

So we now have 9 new ringers at Mangotsfield but.....

This year we have lost three ringers by Fiona Neads moving up North.

Colin and Catherine Walsh moving to Salisbury Also, Antony Jefferies has been very ill this year, so he and Clare have not been fully available for ringing. However, Antony has now made a good recovery and we hope to see them both in the tower in the not too distant future.

Has the advert scheme been a success? Quite definitely – but be prepared for a busy time.

My grateful thanks for their continued support throughout this period goes to:-

Our Secretary Rachel Walters, Terry Jefferies, my wife Eileen, and the rest of the St James Ringers.

#### **Ryan Price**

Mangotsfield Tower

#### **Farcited December Ringing**

The Farcited visited Horton St James Elder for ringing, tea coffee and cake were served. This was followed by Christmas lunch at BAWA at Filton when 32 ringers and friends had lunch. Further ringing took place at St Peter's Filton in the afternoon. All very close to home this year.