



Bristol Rural News

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bellringers

The Newsletter of Bristol Rural Branch Bellringers

No 257

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Headlines

- 1 Far-cited outing - Cossington, Durleigh & Cannington - 2nd August
- 2 Branch practice - Dyrham - 18th August, 14.30-16.30, followed by cream tea

**August
2018**

Editor's Note

There seem to be various ideas being promoted to commemorate Armistice Day with ringing this year, which is the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice at the end of WW1. I reported in April that Westerleigh (and maybe others?) have joined a Ring Out for Peace campaign, ringing at 7.05pm to link with the lighting of beacons and the playing of the Last Post around the country. Now there is another proposal to ring at 12.30pm to coincide with a march-past at the Cenotaph - see the details below.

To complicate matters Armistice Day falls on a Sunday this year so many ringers will be commemorating the event by ringing for Church services: we will be doing so at Winterbourne.

I personally don't believe it matters which idea your tower chooses to adopt, but I do think we should try to make sure that every tower in the Branch rings at some time on the day. So please let the Committee know if you don't think you will be ringing and we'll try to raise a band for you.

Also, you could let us know if you have managed to recruit any of the 1400 new ringers that Central Council are pushing for?

Chris Greef

Bristol Rural/Wotton Branch Joint Social

The day began for many of us with rushing to undertake ringing for weddings or getting in the crops from the fields but come the afternoon 20 of us gathered at Tytherington to enjoy ringing the bells there and have a well earned cup of tea – thank you Val, very much appreciated. We rang a selection of Rounds and Call Changes, Bob Doubles, Stedman, Grandsire, Single Oxford and Cambridge. The evening then saw some of those members plus others gather at The Wheatsheaf, Thornbury for an evening of skittles and a ploughman's supper and by the close of play 37 people had taken part in all or some of the activities. The skittles ended with a

'play off' for first place with Ernest Matthews just edging out Christine Gordon for top slot so the guests beat the hosts well and truly but at least one of the host branch won the booby prize. Our sticker up, Ruby, worked extremely hard and in very hot conditions, we are very grateful to her. After the purchase of prizes and pocket money to Ruby the skittles made a profit of £4.11 and the food broke even.

Linda Gittings

July's Far-cited Outing

This month's far-cited outing visited the Somerset Levels. The first tower was Barton St. David, the sort of place you could ring at all day – comfortable weight bells that go like tops. Next was Long Sutton, a heavy six with ridiculously long ropes – the ringer of the fifth found it easier to sit down to raise the bell. After lunch we visited the five at Muchelney. This really is Levels country, slightly higher than the surrounding land so it doesn't actually flood although it does get cut off. When the area was badly affected a few years ago, my wife's cousin who lives in Muchelney had to wade out every day to get to work. Anyway, I was intrigued that the tower captain didn't just leave us to it (the bells were up) until I pulled off the tenor and it dropped like a stone, taking a number of pulls to get it back on the balance. He then explained, probably with a concealed smile, that when they had the option of improving the bearings as a Millennium project the band decided deliberately to leave the bells as a "country ring" on plain bearings. We discovered that they have to be rung very slowly, right up to the balance, to keep them under control. We kept the ringing very simple after that.

It's this kind of variety that makes the far-cited outings fun, as well as a challenge sometimes!

Chris Greef

Bells to Ring and 10,000 to March Past the Cenotaph as the Nation Says 'Thank You'

The Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sports have announced plans for the International Moment as the Nations says 'Thank you' Please see the attached Press Release that coincided with the announcement made on 12th July on the BBC's The One Show.

DCMS is also supporting the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government on an initiative 'Ringing Remembers' which is run jointly by the Big Ideas Company and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. This project aims to get 1,400 people ringing church bells on the centenary of the Armistice, the number of bell ringers lost in the war.

Press Release:

Ringing Remembers: Bells ring out to mark the centenary of the Armistice

The UK Government invites all bell ringers to join the nation in marking the end of the First World War by ringing together on Remembrance Sunday. They would like ringing to take place at 12.30pm on Sunday 11 November to coincide with the nation's tribute as thousands march past the Cenotaph. Everybody is invited to take part, whether you are a new Ringing Remembers recruit or an experienced ringer. All are welcome. If you haven't done so already speak with your tower captain to start making plans for ringing during this national moment.

Share your plans with us and we'll spread the word to inspire other ringers. Contact: bells@big-ideas.org or find us on Twitter @Big_Ideas_Co, #RingingRemembers, Facebook Big Ideas, Instagram @_BigIdeas

Ringing Books Available

Tony York has some books and badges available at cost as below. Please contact him if you are interested:

The One per Learner Book (the little yellow book, ideal for learners for logging progress in early stages) - £1 each.

Ringing Circles (gives the blue line and details of what happens at calls for some standard methods) - £3 each.

Diagrams (blue version – the line for large numbers of methods given) - £12.

G&B badges - £5

Branch Ringing Achievements

Frenchay - 1260 Doubles - after a service to celebrate 175 years of Frenchay school.

Thornbury - 1280 Bristol Surprise Major - first in method for David Powell.

Almondsbury - 1260 Plain Bob Doubles - first inside for Nigel Waters.

Notice Board

Bristol Rural Branch

web site www.bristolrural.co.uk

**August
2018**

What's on this month in the
Branch

FarCited Ringing

1/8/2018

10.30 - 11.15 Cossington, Blessed St Mary TA7 8JR

11.30 - 12.15 Durleigh, St Hugh TA5 2AW

12.30 - 14.15 Lunch - The Malt Shovel, Blackmore Lane, Cannington TA5 2NE 14.30 - 5.15
Cannington, Blessed St Mary TA5 2HA

FOLLOWED BY Cream Tea and; weather permitting; open garden at Church Cottage, Cannington

Branch Ringing

18th Branch Practice 14,30 - 16.30 (followed by a cream tea) Dyrham

Chipping Sodbury Ringing

Third Friday 19.15 - 21.00 Unless notified differently.

If you would like to use the Branch CCTV cameras in your tower, just ask a branch officer?

Bristol Rural Branch

Branch Practice at
Dyrham

14.30 - 16.30

followed by a

Cream Tea

and cake



Issue 2 Change of time

Saturday 18th August