

## Headlines <http://www.bristolrural.co.uk>

1. Gloucester Cathedral: All Welcome Sunday 15th
2. Its that time again: The annual Association Subscription is due  
See below

### Farcited Thursday, 6th September Not Confirmed

11.00 - 12.00 Compton Dando 6 bells  
14 cwt.GF.

Note there is a service in the church which will finish by 11.00 a.m. The church has invited us to join them for coffee.

12.00 - 14.00 p.m. Toby Carvery at  
Whitchurch

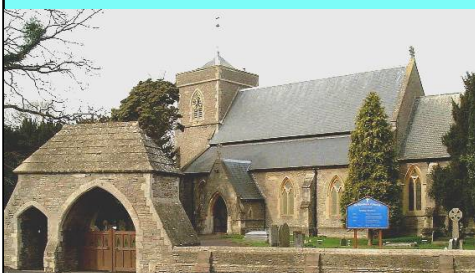
14.00. - 15.00. Queen Charlton 6 bells  
7 cwt GF

### Branch Ringing

7th Training Day TBA Saturday

15th Gloucester Cathedral (Sunday)  
Gloucester Cathedral

28th Branch Practice 19.00 - 21.00  
Coalpit Heath



Chipping Sodbury Ringing  
3rd Friday 19.30 - 21.00

### Its annual Subscription Time Again

Your Tower correspondent or treasurer will soon be asking for your annual subscription. The Annual return forms are on the branch web site under "Branch Affairs and Membership Information" page, then select your tower return form from the drop down box. It is available as a word document. When your tower correspondent or treasurer has completed it with any changes to practice or ringing times he will return it to the branch treasurer Richard Sleeman whose address is on the top of the form.

Please note all personal information about your tower has been removed for security and privacy reasons. If you think this information has changed please complete the various boxes, if not leave it as it is and send to Richard with your tower remittance.

We would like all returns completed by our AGM on the 23rd of November.

### Westerleigh has a face lift

For months now Westerleigh Church has been shrouded in scaffolding to enable much required work for the fabric of the church to be repaired. The "Notice Board" outside shows a requirement of £400 thousand pounds or so to complete the necessary work. Thanks to extraordinary efforts by Patrick Mills in particular, but others also within the parish, and village, the funds were acquired and contracts were let.

I am pleased to say that the arrangements allowed us to continue our ringing un-hindered. The only problem was the need to refuse a visiting band access during the working week so as not to delay the contract. This contract has now completed, conveniently by the Patronal Festival for St James, and to mark the occasion our local ringers rang a Quarter Peal for the Patronal



Service on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July. This service was attended by all sorts of dignitaries from the other churches in the practice, past clerics, MP's, plus representatives from church and village groups.

Details of the Quarter Peal are;\_ 1260 changes of doubles (360 each of Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob, 540 Grandsire) in 50 minutes.

1. Diane Coslett
2. Kathy Mills

Published on the 4th  
Saturday each month

**Bristol Rural**  
Association of Churches  
**September**  
**2013**  
1309  
No 199  
**Views**

Information for the next news letter the  
Tuesday prior to the 4th Saturday

3. Bryan Hardwick
4. Chris Musty
5. Martin Blanchard©
- 6/ Sandra Godwin .

### Martin Blanchard

#### Gloucester Cathedral Ringing

If you would like to ring at Gloucester Cathedral for their evensong on September 15th at 13.30, these are the arrangements, parking can be found in the Cathedral precinct.

Then go to the entrance which is at the RH end of the car park facing the front of the cathedral. If you are early





there is a cafe round to the left of the Cathedral.

You should be at the RH entrance (picture above) at 13.30 -13.35, You can also get to this door on the inside by going in the main entrance. The scaffolding in the picture has probably gone by now)

When we have ascended the tower the tower steps door is locked behind us. Ringing commences when we get into the ringing chamber, the Rural Branch Ringing Master Bill Liebow will organise the ringing. Ringing finishes at 14.50 you should then be able to see the Cathedral Bourdon Bell chimed, it is rung mechanically. There is also opportunity to go to the top of the tower for a panoramic view of Gloucester and the surrounding country side.

### Golden Oldies Quarter Peal

A quarter peal was rung at St Barnabus Church Warmley, on Saturday 3rd August 2013, rung by the ringers who all learnt together in the 50s.

It was rung on the front 6, in 42mins. Two methods 780, grandsire doubles. 480, plain Bob Doubles

Treble Mick Lewis (Brian)

2nd. Myra Gibbs (nee Wilkins)

3rd. Gloria Wiltshire (nee Newton)

4th Derek Wilkins-Smith

5th Ian Smith (Conductor)

6th Joe Metcalf (Brian)

The ringers have a combined average age of nearly 73 yrs, after a bit of a false start --



Sandra Lewis

Ken Weeks

Rev: Roger Newton

William Lampard (Bill)

Thanks to

**Sheila Lewis Syston**

### And 50 Years ago

The first peal of Canon David Sansum, Grandsire Triples, was rung on 29th June, 1963, St Peter's Day, at Emmanuel church,

and assembled a band of people with whom he had rung over the years.

Unfortunately when the day arrived he felt unable to take part owing to some strange ailment which afflicts the aged, but was most grateful to Mark Edwards, of St Mark's, Swindon, who kindly took his place. On a fine summers day he was able to hear the whole of the peal, Grandsire Triples again, ably called by Darran Ricks,

DS

*Pictures and Article from the August 2nd Ringing World, Many Thanks*

I thought I would put this article in as it has David Sansum a very local



2013 (l-r) -- back row: M Edwards, F Byrne, R Beavis, A Burns, A Alldrick, D Ricks (C); front row: Revd P Wooster, Canon D Sansum and Katherine Young



1963 (l-r): W Abraham, M Gregory, W Bonner, A Cleaver (C), L Pearce, R Bowden, Revd R Fry and Revd D Sansum

the ringing chambers air conditioning broke down :) -- the window slammed shut !! Making everyone jump. After an increasing rise in temperature and a lot of sweat, we finally managed it. We all still ring together from time to time.

We wish to dedicate this 1/4 peal to all the ringers who learnt to ring with us, and have now sadly passed away.

Anthony Gibbs (Tower Captain)

Bristol, and was the first in that tower for 50 years, the previous one having been in 19'13. Not many more were rung there as the bells were broken up in the tower and removed in the 1970s. To mark the 50th anniversary of this event David gained permission to ring on 29th June, 2013, at East Ilsley, Berkshire, one of his favourite towers,

ringer,m who we often see David at Farcited days out and also ringing locally in the branch. There are a couple of other local ringers, in the 1913 picture a young Richard Bowden a Farcited and Bristol Branch Ringer, and in the 1963 picture Frank Byrne from Wotton Branch.

**Editor**



**Joint outing  
with  
Bristol City Branch ringers  
Saturday 17 August**

Robert Convey from the City Branch organised an outing to the Chew valley and kindly invited any Rural Branch ringers to join in. He had arranged for sufficient time between towers to enable ringers to cycle from one to the other. Only one brave soul did so and he was a ringer-cyclist from Knowle who knew the lanes in the area well, so obviously understood what he was letting himself in for. However, there were another 14 or so ringers who came (including 6 from the Rural Branch for at least part of the day), taking the easier option of four-wheeled transport.



The first tower was Stowey, listed in our version of Dove's guide as an unringable five. It is now a very comfortable ground floor six, enabling a good range of methods to be rung, from call changes through to Norwich Surprise. Oh, and the village name derives very appropriately from the Saxon for 'steep way', so that explains why there was only one cyclist! There were some 20<sup>th</sup> century wall paintings in the chancel, with the characters based on local villagers. I



did wonder who was used as the models for the devils and condemned souls in the Judgement scene.

Next was Chew Magna, a very stately-going and magnificent sounding eight with a 28 cwt tenor. Even with two ringers on the tenor rope, it still went

up wrong and someone had to go and turn the clapper over. In contrast to this, the three was so light set that it appeared you only had to breathe on the rope for it to pull off. We restricted ourselves to call changes, some plain hunting on seven and bob doubles with three cover bells.

Lunch had been booked at The Stoke Inn. The menu was simple but the food was excellent - I was pleased to discover that the landlord is particularly proud of the fish and chips, because that is what I had ordered (and he is right to be proud).

The first stop after lunch was Chew Stoke, another ground floor six, where we rang a wide range of methods again. Whilst not ringing I wandered round the church, as many other ringers do, and was intrigued to find that the wooden eagle forming the lectern was holding a huge quartz crystal (a real one) in its talons. Unfortunately, the church guide had nothing to say about its origins.

The final tower was Compton Martin, like Stowey a ring of six perched on the side of a steep hill. Given its position, it was surprising to find the very large pond opposite the church, with no apparent edge on the downhill side - a bit like the 'infinity pools' you see in the holiday ads.

As we left, the heavens opened but our cyclist had gone home after Chew Stoke, so with luck he didn't get too wet. It was a good day, with opportunities for ringers of all standards. Thanks to Robert for making the arrangements and inviting us along.

*Chris Greef*



### Improving the ringing at your tower

How often have you been at your tower practice and thought, if only we had someone extra who could stand behind so-and-so to help him get to grips with grandsire (or plain bob, or...), or, we need two more reliable ringers to help us learn the bobs and singles?

The four Saturday morning Branch training sessions we have each year help with some of these sorts of things. They always tend to be very well supported, with almost too many learners for them all to have a fair chance. So, this year we added some weekday sessions as well. The idea was that a few experienced ringers from across the Branch would go along to a regular tower practice to help the ringers there with whatever method or other aspect of ringing they wanted. We had two such sessions this year, one which focused on a particular method and the other where the helpers made up the numbers so the local ringers could practise things they just couldn't do by themselves. I think the ringers at the two towers involved thought it was useful.

So, why don't you get some help when you need it, whether it's call changes or Difficultissimus Surprise (if it's the latter, you'd better say in advance so the helpers can learn it!)? Let Tony York know and I'm sure we could provide some assistance. Just say what kind of thing it is you want. There isn't meant to be a set pattern, it's your practice after all

**Chris Greef**

I have received the fifth newsletter from the ART group and will circulate to all email contacts shortly! Or you can download it from here:

<http://www.ringingteachers.co.uk/aw/AW5-Aug13.pdf>

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As always if you find an error in the newsletter please let me know, I will try and correct by issuing an apology next month or just sending out an email to tell everyone of the problem.

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### The 2014 Branch Program

The branch committee will soon be meeting to put together the 2014 program.

Should you have any views on the 2013 program or would like to see changes for the 2014 issue your views would be much appreciated.

We are always looking for new ideas and would be very happy to have your input.

If you have any strong views do let the committee members know of them.

An early reminder about the annual general meeting which will be held at Filton on the 23rd of November.

If you have an item for the agenda let me the secretary have them for inclusion in the meeting.

If you have new members in your tower and intend proposing them for membership of the association at the AGM may we have their names, their title Mrs , Mr, Miss, their group Senior, Retired, Junior. The proposer and the tower, junior is any one in full time education, retired, anyone receiving the state pension.

This will allow us to produce the certificate that we now give to all new members with the G & B badge if they are a new junior member.

You can always have your new members proposed at a monthly branch practice, but as above let me have the details to produce a certificate please.

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*Thanks to the branch members who have contributed this month it is very much appreciated.*

*Editor.*

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