



# Bristol Rural News

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Church Bellringers  
The Newsletter of Bristol Rural Branch Bellringers



0415 218

**Headlines** web site [www.bristolrural.co.uk](http://www.bristolrural.co.uk) email: [bristolrural@bristolrural.co.uk](mailto:bristolrural@bristolrural.co.uk)

1. VE Day 70th Centenary Ringing Request.
2. St Georges Day Program 23rd April for your diary (Poster and Menu attached)
3. Pucklechurch Ringers win the Association Tower of the year award
4. May Day Outing towers Monday May 4th

## April

2015

Published on the 4th Saturday

**What's Happening this Month**  
**Farcited Thursday April 9th note second Thursday. See Newsletter**  
**Day out by car to Herefordshire mainly 30th March - 5th April Holy Week 31st March Tuesday**  
**Tower Captain/representative meeting Frampton Cotterell St Peters 19.30 - 21.00**  
**23rd St Georges Day (Thursday)**  
**St Georges Day, a day of ringing! Ringing around the branch and a pub lunch with tea and coffee available as well. See Newsletter.**  
**25th Branch Practice 19.00 - 21.00 Dyrham.**



**Chipping Sodbury Ringing**  
**The 3rd Friday 19.30 - 21.00**  
**Association**  
**18th G and B AGM, Penn and Croome Trophies Chippenham Branch**  
**Colerne, Information sent to tower**  
**Contacts.**

### Branch Striking Competition 2015

The 2015 Striking Competition for Rural Branch Towers took place at Corston All Saints after a quick change of venue by our ringing master Alan due to a wedding scheduled at 14.00 at Compton Dando that it appears no one new about?

I will do a quick scan of the rules,

1. The weather will be crisp and spring like.

This was certainly true a great sunny afternoon.

2. Everyone will have fun and not get upset even if they have a really bad day.

Overall I think this also worked except for team who failed to finish their competition piece!

3. The judges will

be a very nice person(s) and will only say nice things about the teams.

I think Robert and Nicki achieved this in a very practical way?

4. The teams will consist of six ringers but towers who are short of ringers are welcome to join together with other towers. If you look at the team photographs on the branch web site this was certainly also achieved.

5. Three minutes can be spent practising and rope adjusting.

6. Three whole pulls on the treble will be the signal for the test piece.

7. The test piece will be 120 changes of any method or four minutes of Call Changes - composition up to you, initial rounds up to 1 minute will not be marked all finishing rounds will be marked.

Rules 5, 6, and 7 were all met under the eyes of Alan Coombs and Thomas Moller.

8. Everyone will encourage everyone else and wish them luck.

I hope everyone who came along agrees with my interpretation of the rules on the day!

We started on time at 14.00 with the draw, and 10 teams entered. The ringing commenced with Mangotsfield and progressed throughout the afternoon. The number of teams increased to 13 as the afternoon went on with a junior team with most members under the age of 22 except one who happened to be the youngest



person after those under 22. Bitton also entered a late team as they found they had at least three of their tower members present, and finally Lucy Bailey a recent return to ringing entered an all ladies team. Lucy used to ring at Syston in the Ken Weeks days and has recently started ringing again at Frampton.

Whilst the ringing was taking place tea, coffee soft drinks and cake were plentiful those waiting to ring or had already rung and waiting for the results. We probably had upwards of 50 branch ringers at the competition which is in fact more than we get at an AGM? Eventually with the sun beginning to go down the 13 teams had all completed their test piece, the bells were brought down and the judges Robert Perry and Nicki Lang had completed their deliberations it was time for the results.

Robert commented on all the teams efforts, and then Nicki Lang gave the results in reverse order as is normal.

In the end it came down to the fact that for the first four towers there were only 3 1/2 faults in it but at the final count Tytherington were the overall winners with 23 faults, Westerleigh second Mangotsfield third and Almondsbury a very close fourth.

This year we had towers entering who have certainly not entered to my knowledge in the last 20 years.

Well done to all the teams who entered and hope you had an interesting afternoon.



Tytherington  
Winners 2015

Thanks to Alan Coombs our Ringing Master, Thomas Moller the time keeper in the tower. The lady's who provided the teas and coffee all afternoon, the towers who brought along the splendid array of cakes, and all the ringers who turned up and took part. The Branch donated £35.00 to Corston tower from the proceeds of the afternoon tea/coffee and cake donations.. Finally but certainly not least the Corston Ringers and the Church for letting us ring at very short notice.

**Well done everyone!**

### **Farcited Outing April 9th**

April 9th (Note 1st Thurs in Holy Week)  
A Day Out by Car to Herefordshire.  
10-10.45 am. St. Weonards. 6. St. Weonard  
10.0.24. (T) Map 161 496243  
11.15-12 noon Kentchurch St. Mary 7.2.5GF.  
419256  
12-2 pm Lunch the Bridge Inn Kentchurch.  
Menu Later.  
2.15-3 pm Eywas Harold 6 6.2.12 GF.  
387281  
3.15-4 pm Abbey Dore.6.St. Mary. 8.0.21.  
387304

### **St Georges Day Program Thursday 23rd April**

09.30 – 10.30 Frenchay with morning coffee  
(toilet facility)  
10.45 – 11.30 Iron Acton  
11.45 – 12.30 Frampton (toilet facility)  
Lunch (Poster and Menu attached)  
14.00 – 14.45 Abson (toilet facility)  
15.00 – 16.30 Syston with afternoon tea.  
(toilet facility)

### **May Day Outing Monday May 4th**

Ebbw Vale (8, 24-3-15) (reputed to be one of the best sounding eights in the country)  
Mynyddislwyn (8, 12-1-4) (interesting white-washed tower on the top of a hill - beautiful views)  
Lunch at The Tredegar Arms, Bassaleg  
Bassaleg (8, 14-1-17) (right next door to the pub)

Caerleon (8, 8-1-21)  
(Roman amphitheatre adjacent for any non-ringing friends)

Shirenewton (6, 5-2-2) (nice light six on the way home to finish up with if you are feeling tired)

Please put the date in your diaries. Further information will follow. (Poster)

We will guarantee some 6-bell ringing on the lighter eights (that is, all but Ebbw

Vale)

### **Tower of the Year Competition 2015**

Bristol Rural Branch do it again,! Following on from "The Frampton 50" celebrations in 2013 and coming second in the Association Tower of the year competition 2014, the excellent Pucklechurch entry this year came first, the competition trophy will be presented at the Association AGM at Colerne in the Chippenham branch on April 18th.

***Well done to the Pucklechurch ringers and friends.***

Go along on a Monday night if you are free and see what they have been doing!

The Pucklechurch entry is attached to the newsletter.

### **Tower Affiliation to the**

### **Gloucester and Bristol Association.**

I hope you all realised that about three years ago your tower if affiliated to the G and B stopped receiving the annual affiliation card, it was replaced by a far more attractive looking poster with tower details like the one for Frampton displayed below.



As it has been from the inception of the new poster, if the information changes, for example the tower contact, you can obtain a replacement from the branch web site, amend the details and print it for display in your church porch or notice board. You can check you tower is affiliated by looking in the latest annual report and observing an 'A' adjacent to your tower name. All Rural Branch towers are affiliated for 2015 including Doynton!

Perhaps you could all check that the details on your affiliation form where ever it is displayed has the correct details for your tower! If you have problems in displaying or amending your affiliation poster on the web site please let me know and I will guide you through it or I



**Gloucester & Bristol  
Diocesan Association of  
Church Bell Ringers**  
(Charity No 285431)



Affiliated Tower

Bristol Rural Branch

**St Peter, Frampton Coterrell**  
BS36 2AB

When do we ring?

Sunday 09.45

For practice **Tuesday 19:30**

Who can ring?

Anyone with enthusiasm to learn!

How to join in?

Speak to the Tower Contact or look on the Branch website for further details



**Tower Contact**

Gary Crisp  
Tel: (01454) 773902



www.bristolrural.co.uk

### **Ring the changes**

Bell ringing: a great tradition

can produce a replacement poster for your tower.

### **VE Day 70th Centenary Day Ringing**

A request has been received from Government for bells to be rung to mark the 70th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day). If possible, the desire is for bells to be rung at 11 am on Saturday 9th May or alternatively at other convenient time over the weekend Friday to Sunday 8th-10th May. Although there are other demands for special ringing coming up we hope that this can be given due support. The Church of England has also been approached by Government so church authorities should be aware of the reason for additional ringing."



## **St Thomas á Becket Pucklechurch**

### **Tower of the year entry**

For many years Pucklechurch tower has been untidy and unloved! Like many tower's the ringing room and the lower clock room a store for all types of rubbish. The ringing room walls were a variety of colours, due to different layers of peeling paint, the lath and plaster ceiling was literally hanging by a prayer, every time the 4th bell was rung the ringer attempted to dodge falling plaster which was then trodden into the carpet.

#### **Our bells deserved a better environment.**

With permission from the PCC a small group of us set about a complete renovation project. We started by removing all unwanted items. Our first job was to get scaffolding in the ringing room in order to safely take down the lath and plaster ceiling. A job no-one envied, around 40 sacksful were carried down the stairs as the windows were too narrow to be of use, everyone's legs aching for England it was gone leaving beams exposed which were treated, and painted matt black.

All the walls were then stripped of the flaking paint, a seemingly never ending job of "making good" all the holes, then painting lower walls with 2 coats of grey and upper magnolia.

Brilliant new lighting installed throughout the tower, the tower steps were painted, and even steam cleaned the carpet. A carpet in the middle room has been added to aid warmth and provide sound proofing along with acoustic mitigation of the clock winding mechanism by some 10dB.

Our restoration project is now on going as we plan to treat and re-paint the entire steel bell frame.

#### **We are proud of our tower and all the work completed.**

Pucklechurch has two members. It relies mainly on four ringers from Yate with whom we have amalgamated our practices and Sunday ringing, we get a couple of regular visitors.

The standard of our own band has vastly improved, In 2013 a quarter peal could only be rung if one regular was surrounded by a strong band,

In 2014 all the regular band rung quarter peals for St David's Day, All Souls Day, Our Patronal Festival, Branch 1/4 peal week, and WW1, some individuals ringing a total of 13 quarter peals of bob doubles and grandsire. For the first time in many years the bells were heard in the parish half muffled raising many positive comments from parishioners.

The bells now are requested by the PCC for many Church events, along with a request from the village to ring whilst the annual "Revel" parade takes place. In 2014 the "Revel" committee donated £300 to bell funds.

We have for the last 5yrs had ongoing fundraising collecting clothing twice a year, 2014 ~£296.00

We were proud to show off our much improved tower when we hosted the G&B Branch AGM in November.

We are now encouraged to invite visitors and prospective new ringers to Pucklechurch hopefully this will swell our membership.

Pucklechurch Ringers and Friends



# COME AND RING FOR ENGLAND



23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 Will See  
St. George,  
In The Guise Of Bristol Rural  
At

**09.30 – 10.30 FRENCHAY – WITH COFFEE AND BISCUITS** (Toilet available)

**10.45 – 11.30 IRON ACTON**

**11.45 – 12.30 FRAMPTON COTTRELL** (Toilet available)

**LUNCH AT THE GLOBE** (next to the Church) **SEE PRE ORDER MENU ATTACHED**

**14.00 – 14.45 ABSON** (Toilet available)

**15.00 - 16.30 SYSTON – WITH TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE** (Toilet available)

**ALL STANDARDS CATERED FOR  
SO NO NEED TO BE AFRAID.**

**EVEN THE DRAGON IS FRIENDLY.**



# Lunch Menu

## **Jacket potatoes ~** All served with salad

Homemade chicken curry	5.95
Cheese & beans (v)	5.95
Tuna mayo & red onion	5.95
Goats cheese & onion chutney	5.95

## **Fresh Ciabattas ~** served with homemade chips and mixed leaves

Tuna melt	5.95
Steak & caramelised onion	6.95
Stilton & mushroom (v)	5.95
Goats cheese and caramelised onion(v)	5.95
BLT	5.95
Fish finger	5.95

Soup of the day with warm ciabatta	4.95
Hand carved ham, egg and homemade chips	6.95
Scampi, homemade chips, peas & tartare sauce	7.95
Pork & leek sausages on creamy chive mash with a rich onion gravy	9.95
Homemade chicken curry served with pilau rice, poppadum and mango chutney	10.95
Beer battered fillet of cod, homemade chips, peas & tartare sauce	10.95
Homemade beef lasagne, homemade chips and salad	9.95
Honey and lemon roasted fillet of salmon served with rice and salad	11.95
Homemade vegetable lasagne, homemade chips and salad(v)	9.95
Garlic & mushroom stuffed chicken wrapped in bacon, served with new potatoes, salad and a stilton sauce	10.95
Locally sourced 8oz sirloin steak, homemade chips, peas onion rings and tomato	16.95
Goats cheese, beetroot & spring onion wellington, with salad & new potatoes (V)	8.95
Mushroom Stroganoff served with rice, garlic bread and garnish (v)	9.95
Faggots, creamy mash and peas with a rich onion gravy	9.95

**If you have any dietary requirements or allergies, please contact a member of staff who will happily help. Fish dishes may contain small bones. Free Wi-fi available to all customers. Please ask for the password**