



# Bristol Rural News



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

0816 No 234

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

- 1. Julie McDonnell appeal**
- 2. September Heritage day at Winterbourne Church and Barn**  
**48 days to go, your help will be required!**

**August**  
**2016**

Published on the 4th Saturday

## Farcited Ringing

### 4th August

10.30 - 11.15 Nempnet Thrubwell BVM 6 (9cwt)  
BS40 8YH 532604.  
11.30 - 12.15 Ubley St.Bartholomew 6 (12cwt) GF  
BS40 6P .529583  
12.30 - 2.15. Lunch venue and menu later.  
2.30 - 3.15 Compton Martin St. Michael 6  
(15.1.23) BS40 6JQ 544569

### Branch Ringing.

No Branch Ringing in August  
Sodbury Ringing 3rd Friday

## Branch officers

(Following on from the Secretary responsibilities last month from the annual report)

The role of the Management Committee Representative.

As MC Rep' you are one of the Association's trustees under the charities legislation. you need to attend three meetings a year two of which last about two hours, and the other of which is much shorter. The meetings are friendly and constructive dealing with all sorts of matters relating to the running of the association and the awarding of belfry restoration grants. All the members meet in a spirit of co-operation. You will bring your own views and the views of the branch committee, and afterwards you will report back to your branch and your fellow officers.

## Branch Practice Information

No Branch Practice in June it was the Clevedon walk and ring!

## Heritage Open Days

The Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry is coming to Winterbourne Medieval Barn this September. The Branch has organized this as a way to sell bellringing to members of the general public and to recruit new ringers. Heritage Open Days is advertised very widely so we expect to get visitors from a wide area, both within South Gloucestershire and beyond. There will demonstration ringing, opportunities for visitors to try out ringing and tower tours at Winterbourne tower (next door but one) so people can see full sized bells in action via our CCTV system.

The event is open from 11 till 5 on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September and 12 till 5 on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>. On the Saturday evening we will be having our annual joint social with the Wotton Branch at the barn.

We will need lots of help to make this event a success:

- help on Friday evening to assemble the belfry when it arrives
- a team of ringers on hand throughout the two days to demonstrate ringing, talk to and sell ringing to visitors.
- ringers to help with tower tours.- tower teams to book a ringing slot, join in the event and recruit ringers for your tower.

If you can help in any way, please contact:

**Chris Greef**

Please see the information from the Central Council about registering your tower for the open days September 8th to 11th

<http://www.bristolrural.co.uk/cc/Heritage 2016. pdf>

## A Lucky Chance

Many of you may know that Mary and I have been in Australia for the last month visiting grandchildren and their Dad. One weekend we travelled to Goulbon which is about 140 miles south of Sydney for our Son in law to go motor racing in in his MG Midget(1974) at the Wakefield park racetrack. After a couple of races we thought it was time for coffee as usual, so we drove into Goulbon and parked. As we got out of the car the bells at Goulbon St Saviour's Cathedral started ringing, so we forgot about our coffee to find it was their monthly practice which included

training for a number of new learners. As is normal throughout the ringing fraternity we were made very welcome and joined in with their ringing. I must say I only had one ring on 8 to say I had rung their, but Mary rang several times including on the 12 which they were extremely pleased about as they rarely have sufficient ringers to do that.

Their must have been between 20 and 25 people present some coming down from Sydney for the practice 130 miles away and some from Canberra 60 miles away. I thought that we in Rural branch are very lucky as it is about 16 miles in the branch to go from Bitton to Thornbury. After ringing we went and had our coffee and returned to the racetrack to watch Dave compete in a couple more races. The weather was fine but an extremely cutting wind blew all day, but there we are it is winter in Australia but we had a very good day including the ringing "A lucky Chance"

*Addendum* The temperature was 0 when we arrived at 7 am in the morning and probably did not get above 7 all day.

## Parking Spaces for Bells

During my recent visit to Hamburg I noticed that as part of the integrated transport system, parking spaces were provided for bells.

In fact these are from the very beautiful church of St. Michael – last rebuilt 1902. The bell story is on the plaque.





## Gary Crisp

PS I asked Gary for a translation, his reply was he did not speak Australian?



Chris Greef has just sent me an email to say the original image was back to front, so I have reversed it and replaced the original which I thought we needed a translation. Thanks Chris!

## Frenchay Trip to Loughborough

Frenchay are organising an outing to the Loughborough Bell Foundry on Thursday October 27th.

Travel will be by coach from Frenchay Church leaving 7.30 am and returning about 7.30 pm. There will also be a visit to the Carillon Tower and lunch in the restaurant in the grounds, or you can bring a picnic. There will be a chance to ring the foundry bells. The cost is £35 pp excluding lunch. There are seats available on the coach if you would like to join us please send a £10 deposit by September 27th to Edna Cause, Homeleigh, Lynton Way, Frenchay BS16 1QP Tel : 0117 9562106, email : [edna@cause.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:edna@cause.fsworld.co.uk)

## Julie McDonnell

Some months now ago Julie sent an email to all Ringing Association Secretaries worldwide. It was a plea for funds for the Antony Nolan Trust, A charity helping people with Leukaemia like Julie to have Stem Cell Treatment. Julie lives in Hastings and started ringing about 18 months ago, she has done very well indeed

with a recent quarter peal of Grandsire Cinques at Canterbury Cathedral. However in January this year she was diagnosed as being terminally ill. It was then that the Antony Nolan Trust heard of her plight and found a matching donor or a stem cell transplant, Julie has been given a new lease of life from this and she is determined to raise £100k for this charity by the end of this year with the help of all bellringers worldwide.

To name a few fundraisers they rang a bell on the Space Station, the Pope rang a bell in the Vatican, and a 2 yr. old boy rang the Buddha bell in Thailand (with help) ! Julie did a sponsored walk from Wye to Canterbury on 25th June ringing at every Church along the way, which we linked with our walking trip to Clevedon. On Saturday 15th October (which co-incides with the 950th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings) Julie has been given permission to take over the whole of Hastings pier and line it with teams of handbell ringers from all over the



country, you can ring songs, tunes, even Hymns and Carols, or do some method ringing. If there are any teams from our Branch would like to take part Please let me know and I will put you in touch.

There is another fund raising scheme which we can do, Julie has been offered £10k by a generous sponsor if she can get all the ringing fraternity to ring 100 quarter peals rung by Christmas Day.

But it has to be the special method named after her, and you must register your Q peal on her BellBoard website

"Bell Ringers Strike Back Against Blood Cancer"

The method is Julie McDonnell Doubles and its a variation of Callender Bob Doubles with a

Lichfield Single.

If anyone would like to take part in one of these quarter peals, even if the method is difficult there is always the treble or the tenor Please let me know.

**Alan Coombs** Ringing Master

## Branch Walking Trip to Clevedon

On June 25th we held our annual Walk'n'Ring tour of the 4 Churches in Clevedon.

The weather was very kind to us all day long despite what the forecast said which may have been why just 14 turned up, which included a few from neighbouring Branches.

At the first tower of St Andrews the 8 bells have just had a major overhaul, and they went very well.

St Johns and All Saints which included our lunch in the hall all went without a hitch, but we were left high and dry at St Mary's Walton when no-one arrived to unlock for us, After various phone calls from some kind church people we finally got the keys half an hour later from a very apologetic Tower Master.

Our trip culminated with a beautiful walk back along the seafront to our starting place at St Andrews.

At each tower we rang a special touch for Julie McDonnell, At St Andrews it was Grand-sire Triples. At St Johns it was Stedman Doubles. At All Saints it was Plain Bob. and St Mary's was 120 of Call Changes.

We collected money along the way with each touch we rang, I have also received further donations and I'm very pleased, and proud to say that I have sent a cheque to Julie on behalf of Bristol Rural Branch for £90.

Thank you to everyone that contributed

**Alan Coombs** Ringing Master  
Clevedon Walkers picture below.

