



Clappertrappings



Newsletter of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers
Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers.

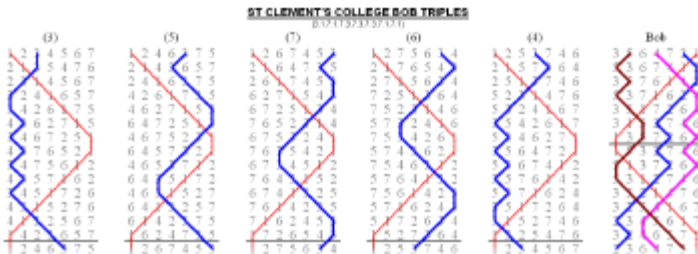
www.nsacr.org.uk

December 2006

Forthcoming Events

Sat 6th January 2007:

A training session at Keele and Madeley begins at 2:30pm, aimed at people wanting to learn or improve at Plain Hunt on 5 or Bob Doubles or other basic doubles methods. The facilities for training at these two towers are fantastic. Please approach Tim Hine or his newly elected replacement (e-mail education) to book a place on the session or if you are teaching or helping another ringer and you hope to persuade them to go on it.

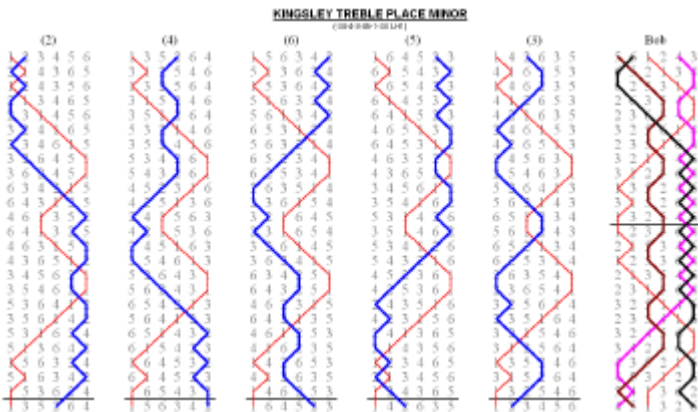


Training will be followed by open ringing at Silverdale, 6:30 to 8:30pm. The theme at Silverdale will be St Clement's College Bob Triples.

Sat 3rd February 2007:

- Dilhorne (6) 2:00pm - 3:30pm Training session
- Kingsley (6) 3:30pm - 5pm Open ringing
- 5:00pm - 7:00pm Tea at Alton
- Alton (8) 7:00pm - 9:00pm Open ringing

Training on this occasion is aimed at ringers in the Dilhorne / Cheadle / Kingsley / Alton area. Please contact our all-new education officer to book a place, or e-mail education. Book teas with Alan Walters on 01538 XXXXXX or send an e-mail to teas. The ringing theme at Kingsley will be Kingsley Treble Place Minor.



Tuesday Daytime Band

19th December 2006:

- Eccleshall (8) [SJ828292] 11 - 12:15
- Seighford (6) [SJ882250] 2 - 3:15

16th January 2007:

- Rolleston-on-Dove (8) [SK235277] 11 - 12:15
- *Tutbury (8) [SK211291] 2 - 3:15

Towers marked with an asterisk are provisional only. For the latest on TDB activities contact Marian Owen, 01785 XXXXXX or e-mail tdb.

Meetings with a theme

What methods would you like us to focus on at our Saturday monthly meetings? Is there something you'd like to ring but never have the chance with your local band? Suggestions for doubles or minor methods to be rung at Barlaston in March are most welcome. E-mail me at ringingmaster or phone 01283 XXXXXX with your ideas.

Ant Allen

Anniversary Quarter Peals

The December AGM sees the start of the Association's 125th year, and as part of our celebrations we are attempting to ring 125 quarter peals, across all Association towers, and involving as many NSA members as possible (and at least 125!). Quarters were arranged at various towers for AGM day to start us off, but many many more are needed. So, can you arrange one or two quarter peals in your tower? Would you like to ring a quarter but need some non-local help to complete the band? Do you regularly ring quarter peals around the NSA district and would like to dedicate some of them to the 125th Anniversary target total? If so please contact our ringing master, Ant Allen (e-mail ringingmaster or phone 01283 XXXXXX). Details of completed quarters should be sent to me, and a log of who's rung what and where will be kept on our website (www.nsacr.org.uk) and in Clappertrappings. The standard footnote for successful quarters is "Rung for the 125th Anniversary of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers." That, of course, doesn't have to be the sole dedication of your ringing, so feel free to celebrate local events, feast days, birthdays, etc and simply add the 125 dedication at the end.

Ant Allen - Ringing Master

2008 Roadshow

The next "Ringing Roadshow" is to be a two day event in September 2008.

Building on the success of previous Roadshows (the last one was at Newbury in 2005) the CCCBR Public Relations Committee is delighted to announce that John Anderson of the St Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham will form and lead an organising team for the next one. It will be at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire (home of the Royal Show) on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th September 2008. Please reserve these days in your diary now.

The name of the event may be changed and suggestions for a new title would be welcome. It is a new venture to organise a two-day event and plans are very much in embryo stage at the moment. However, it is hoped that it will give an opportunity for more people to see the show, and a major social event and get-together is planned for the Friday evening. There are both camping facilities and an hotel on the site at Stoneleigh, as well as a range of good local accommodation off-site.

In particular we want to make sure we have information about the event in every belfry - so that we include all ringers not just those who see *The Ringing World*. No doubt John will be calling upon you to play your part in this promotion. For the moment please circulate the dates.

Judith Rogers

*Chairman, Public Relations Committee
CCCBR*

prchairman@cccb.org.uk

Association Dinner 2006

Hundreds of thousands of diners poured into The Crown at Stone on 18th November. About fifty of them attended the annual dinner of the North Staffs Association of Change Ringers and enjoyed a relaxed and friendly evening. The lack of real ale failed to quell a rising tide of high spirits among local ringers and their friends and relations, all of whom seemed strangely liberated by a further omission from the menu: we had no visiting speaker. Chairman Alan Walters uttered a few well-chosen words of welcome and Paul Lewis of the Shropshire Association proposed the toast to the North Staffs on behalf of the visitors. The rest was silence? Well, not quite.

First of all, we had the pleasure of the company of Godfrey and Dot Stone, always a real bonus. In addition, it appeared that Tim and Jan Hine had extended their considerable organisational skills by splashing out on invitations (and possibly even tickets?) to members of the Welsh Colleges Society. Ceris Hine deservedly won the champagne, having provided personal sparkle and a tableful of young

men for the admiration of older ladies with long memories. Then there was the cabaret ...

The cabaret (I use the term loosely) began in formal fashion with conventional handbell ringing. This developed into a magnetic display of interactive learning conducted by Alan Walters who guided a dozen aspiring one-handbell dingers to the heights of choreographed plain hunting. The audience provided full-throated encouragement and the band was loudly applauded. Perhaps next year Ceris will take charge and produce something even more lively. Treats could be in store.

All in all, it was a most enjoyable occasion, with nice food, excellent company and that irrepressible champagne bubble that only the vitality of the young and young-at-heart can provide. Thanks go to the Hine team for organising the event and to all who attended for making it a night to remember.

Rowena Gay

Stop Press Update - Photos from the 2006 dinner are now available on our web site at www.nsacr.org.uk.

125th Anniversary Dinner

Put it in your diary asap, next year's dinner, our 125th Anniversary dinner, will be at the Clayton Lodge Hotel on Saturday 17th November. Further details to follow.

Phil Gay



Stafford's 2006 Triples Triple

A strong sense of *deja-vu* pervades this item, as it delivers the information that, for the third year running, the Eight-Bell Shield will once more be gracing the St Mary, Stafford trophy cabinet. **Congratulations and well done!**

The contest this year was held at the Parish Church of St Modwen, in the market-place heart of Burton-upon-Trent, where traders and shoppers alike were able to enjoy the mellifluous efforts that rang out from the tower above their heads.

Three bands entered, and all acquitted themselves well. The judge, Dennis Latham, had words of praise and encouragement for all, and the teams were pleased to hear his constructive comments regarding possible ideas for further improvement.



The teams were evenly spaced apart, faults-wise, with the hosts St Modwen sandwiched into 2nd place between victorious Stafford and the valiant Keele band from six-belled St John.

After tea, an enjoyable evening's ringing took place at Burton St Chad's. Cambridge Major, Double Norwich and the October theme plan of Plain, Little and Cambridge spliced were all successfully rung, as well as call changes, Plain Hunt and several Triples methods, so everybody had fun.

Once again, warm and well-deserved congratulations to Stafford. You guys seem to be unstoppable in the 8-Bell, and are a mighty opponent difficult to topple, but, the rest of us, let's keep trying. Who knows, in the Anniversary Year of 2007, perhaps, just maybe, hmmm.....

Hello Mum, I'm on the telly

A piece about bell ringing at Alton was broadcast on BBC Local TV (Digital satellite only) so you are forgiven for not seeing it before, but in true "listen again" style it can be viewed on the BBC's web site. To find the right link either start out at the NSA web site notice board, or go to www.bbc.co.uk and follow links to "where I live", "Stoke & Staffordshire", "Faith", "Bell ringing in Alton". In the faith section there are also two pieces on St Giles RC Church, Cheadle, so why not view those whilst you visit and make the web surfing even more worthwhile.

Public Relations Forum

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) held a Public Relations Forum at Melbourne on Saturday 14th October, and around 30 delegates, from associations all over the country, were in attendance, including two from NSACR.

Proceedings began with a welcome given by Pat Halls, President of the Derby Diocesan Association. Judith Rogers of the CCCBR then outlined the aims for the day, and introduced the proposed Programme, which was a rich and varied one. (*As was the lunch, from what I've heard, with a hot, home-made, knife-and-fork meal and flowing wine. But of course that wasn't your reason for going!* - Deputy Ed.)

Charles Townsend, Lord Raynham, gave a most interesting talk regarding the installation of bells at the church in East Raynham, and showed the film *A Passion for Churches* which portrayed all aspects of this endeavour.

Tim Joiner, bell ringer and Lord Mayor of Westminster 2005-2006, presented on ways in which groups are more likely to succeed when attempting to gain the interest of the media.



North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers



125th Anniversary

Commemorative Garments Order Form

125th Anniversary embroidered tops are now available for purchase, and a number of current committee members will be wearing sample items at the 2006 AGM. On the left hand side is the "North Staffs Association of Change Ringers 125th Anniversary" motif. If towers would like to have their tower name on the right hand side it will cost £3.50 per top extra. You have a choice of 3 garments, 6 sizes and 8 colours, as follows:



Choice of Garments:

Sweatshirts	£16.00 each
Polo Shirts	£14.00 each
Fleece Jackets	£21.00 each

Sizes available:

Xsmall	8/10 adult
Small	12/14 adult
Medium	40-42" chest
Large	44" chest
Xlarge	46" chest
XXlarge	48" chest

Colours available:

Black
Navy
Burgundy
Bottle Green
Red
Royal Blue
Grey
Caramel

Please place your orders using the reverse of this page. Alternatively, order forms can be downloaded from www.nsacr.org.uk.

Information needed

The 2007/2008 handbook is about to be produced, but before it goes to press we need to know if anything has changed. Could someone from each tower please check the details in the 2005 handbook, and send any amendments to Sue Kingman (e-mail handbook). This is for tower contact details and ringing times only – changes in membership must go via the treasurer as usual.

Sue would also be delighted to hear from anyone wishing to advertise in the 2007 handbook. Prices are very reasonable, with full page, half and quarter options available. Particularly suitable adverts are those which may appeal to visiting ringers - pubs, B&Bs etc.

Puzzle Corner

In the last edition we asked for a list of things which happened back in 1882 – the year when the North Staffs Association was formed. Well first off, here are nine peals which were rung in Staffordshire in 1882, courtesy of Dave *pealy-database* Simpson:



NON ASSOCIATION
LICHFIELD, Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary & St Chad

Monday January 9, 1882
5040 Grandsire Triples in 3h30

Composition: John Holt

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Francis Sedgwick | 5. Arthur Whitby |
| 2. James Key | 6. Frederick Cope |
| 3. Thomas Meredith | 7. A Greenwood |
| 4. Henry Meacham | 8. E Gallimore/C North |

NON ASSOCIATION

WALSALL, St Matthew

Tuesday April 11, 1882
5069 Stedman Caters in 3h22

Composition: William Hallsworth

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. J James | 6. J Astbury |
| 2. Job Joynes | 7. John Dunn |
| 3. David Chapman | 8. Frank H James |
| 4. Thomas Miller | 9. William Hallsworth (C) |
| 5. David Westley | 10. R Jones |

NON ASSOCIATION

BURTON UPON TRENT, St Paul

Thursday April 27, 1882
5040 Grandsire Triples in 3h13

Composition: John Holt

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Griffin (C) | 5. John Jaggard |
| 2. Edward I Stone | 6. Frederick W Appleby |
| 3. George Appleby | 7. William Wakley |
| 4. Arthur Wakley | 8. Harry Wakley |

NON ASSOCIATION

BURTON UPON TRENT, St Paul

Thursday May 4, 1882
5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3h30
Composition: Henry Hubbard

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Frederick W Dawson | 5. John Jaggard |
| 2. Edward I Stone | 6. Arthur Wakley |
| 3. George Appleby | 7. Frederick W Appleby |
| 4. Joseph Griffin | 8. William Wakley (C) |

NON ASSOCIATION

BURTON UPON TRENT, St Paul

Thursday July 20, 1882
5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 3h26

Composition: William Royle

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Griffin (C) | 5. John Jaggard |
| 2. Edward I Stone | 6. Frederick W Appleby |
| 3. George Appleby | 7. Jasper W Snowdon |
| 4. Arthur Wakley | 8. William Wakley |

HOLT SOCIETY

BIRMINGHAM, Harborne, St Peter

Saturday September 2, 1882
5040 Grandsire Triples in 2h56

Composition: Thomas Day

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Thomas Reynolds (Aston) | 5. W Ansell |
| 2. A Jones | 6. William Kent (C) |
| 3. Thomas James Hemming | 7. Charles Stanbridge |
| 4. John W Cartwright | 8. James Quarterman |

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

BURTON UPON TRENT, St Paul

Thursday November 9, 1882
5040 Grandsire Triples in 3h8

Composition: John F Penning

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Griffin (C) | 5. Frederick W Appleby |
| 2. William Wakley | 6. George Appleby |
| 3. John Jaggard | 7. Arthur Wakley |
| 4. Harry Wakley | 8. Thomas Holmes |

NON ASSOCIATION

DARLASTON, St Lawrence

Monday November 20, 1882
5040 Grandsire Major in 3h20

Composition: William Hallsworth

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. David Chapman | 5. William Johnson |
| 2. John Astbury | 6. William Rock Small |
| 3. A Mowbray | 7. John Astbury(jun) |
| 4. William Walker | 8. William Hallsworth (C) |

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

BURTON UPON TRENT, St Paul

Friday December 8, 1882
5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3h23

Composition: ?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Rev James H Fish | 5. John Jaggard |
| 2. Joseph Griffin | 6. George Appleby |
| 3. Harry Wakley | 7. Arthur Wakley |
| 4. Edward I Stone | 8. William Wakley (C) |

Barbara Wager sent in a number of bell-related articles from 1882 editions of *The Times* newspaper, my favourite of which is:

The Times, Jan 03, 1883; pg. 11; Issue 30394; col G
© 1882, The Times

Passing Bells - To the editor of The Times.

Sir, - I have the misfortune to live near a parish church, and am perpetually being annoyed by the miserable dong of a passing bell, and I ask why, in the name of common sense, are the 10,000 people who live within the sound of this

melancholy toll to be annoyed because Tom Smith's baby (or some other equally unhistorical person) is dead? If the bell advantaged the baby, on the score of humanity one would patiently endure; but the only advantaged one is the sexton who receives a shilling from Tom Smith for annoying the neighbourhood for an hour.

When an organ-grinder disturbs my studies I am allowed by law to send him away; but the law, I fear, does not permit me to command the sexton to stop tolling the church bell; therefore, I am driven to make an effort to create a public conscience against the antiquated custom of passing bells, believing as I do that they are a source of extreme annoyance to many thousands in London besides.

A Student.

Thank you very much, David and Barbara. If anyone has any other interesting facts or relevant material connected to 1882 then please send it in to the usual address.

Captions please

Calm down ladies, There's only *one* of Ceris' "young men", pictured here receiving "cabaret" instruction from our outgoing chairman, Alan Walters. But what's the caption?



Please send your submissions to the usual address: Clappertrappings, 45 Dover Road, Burton on Trent, Staffs, DE13 0TD or e-mail them to newsletter

Ha diddley Ha Ha

Ok, so the December issue of Clappertrappings has just spilled over onto page 6, and yes, you've guessed it, there's no more material to fill up the final page, so, for your entertainment, here's what you get if you type "bell joke" into google, and exclude the rude ones:

After Quasimodo's death, the bishop of the cathedral of Notre Dame sent word through the streets of Paris that a new bellringer was needed. The bishop decided that he would conduct the interviews personally and went up into the belfry to begin the screening process.



After observing several applicants demonstrate their skills, he decided to call it a day when a lone, armless man approached him and announced that he was there to apply for the bellringers job. The bishop was incredulous, "You have no arms!"

"No matter," said the man, "Observe!"

He then began striking the bells with his face, producing a beautiful melody on the carillon. The bishop listened in astonishment, convinced that he had finally found a suitable replacement for Quasimodo.

Suddenly, rushing forward to strike a bell, the armless man tripped, and plunged headlong out of the belfry window to his death in the street below.

The stunned bishop rushed to his side. When he reached the street, a crowd had gathered around the fallen figure, drawn by the beautiful music they had heard only moments before. As they silently parted to let the bishop through, one of them asked, "Bishop, who was this man?"

"I don't know his name," the bishop sadly replied, "but his face rings a bell."

(but wait, there's more...) The following day, despite the sadness that weighed heavily on his heart due to the unfortunate death of the armless campanologist (now there's a trivia question), the bishop continued his interviews for the bellringer of Notre Dame.

The first man to approach him said, "Your excellency, I am the brother of the poor, armless wretch that fell to his death from this very belfry yesterday. I pray that you honour his life by allowing me to replace him in this duty."

The bishop agreed to give the man an audition, and as the armless man's brother stooped to pick up a mallet to strike the first bell, he groaned, clutched at his chest and died on the spot.

Two monks, hearing the bishop's cries of grief at this second tragedy, rushed up the stairs to his side.

"What has happened?" the first breathlessly asked, "Who is this man?" "I don't know his name," sighed the distraught bishop, "but he's a dead ringer for his brother.

For the next issue ...

Do you have an article for publication?
The deadline for inclusion in the
February edition is Wednesday 3rd January.

Please send your *Clappertrappings* submissions to:
Lee Cooke, Tel:
45 Dover Road, 01283 XXXXXX
Burton on Trent,
Staffs, E-mail:
DE13 0TD newsletter