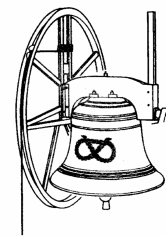


Clappertrappings



Newsletter of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers
Ringing the changes across the county

www.nsacr.org.uk

October 2009

Forthcoming Events

Saturday monthly meetings

Saturday 7th November 2009:

**Training sessions at Tutbury & Marchington
Evening ringing at Burton St Modwen.**

We will be holding two training sessions during the afternoon, commencing at 2pm and running until 4:30pm. These will be at Tutbury (8) and Marchington (6). They are open to all Association members and provide an ideal opportunity to practise a specific aspect of ringing. An experienced and supportive band will be on hand to ring with. Places must be pre-booked but spaces are plentiful and both pupils and helpers are always wanted. E-mail education for further details or to book a place.

After the training sessions, we will head over to Burton-on-Trent where St Modwens will provide us with tea and refreshments from 5pm, followed by evening ringing until 7:30pm. Don't forget to book your tea using our dedicated email address (or contact Lee Cooke directly) by Wednesday 4th November.

Saturday 5th December 2009:

**Annual General Meeting, tea and open ringing,
Newcastle under Lyme**

We will start at 3pm with some open ringing, then, after a 5pm tea, the Annual General Meeting will take place. This will be followed by evening open ringing run by the newly elected Ringing Master until 9pm.

And finally....

Some of you may have spotted the clue above, but I will be stepping down from my role as Ringing Master at the AGM on 5th December as I take up a new job in Leicestershire in October, so will be around in Staffordshire less often, and will be unable to continue to commit the time that the role deserves. This means that your Committee are on the look-out for budding hopefuls to take the reins. It is quite a fun role, if at times challenging, but if you have good leadership skills, good ringing experience and are able to program the ringing events to be inclusive to all those present, then you'll definitely do as good a job of it as me! If anybody wishes to discuss the role, please feel free to contact me at any time about it.

See you in November!

*Peter Sharp,
Ringing Master*

Tuesday Daytime Band

20th October 2009:

Shifnal (8) [SJ747075] 11 - 12:15

Lunch

Sheriffhales (6) [SJ758120] 2 - 3:15

17th November 2009:

Details not available at the time of going to press.

For the latest on TDB activities contact Marian Owen, 01785 242098 or e-mail tdb

Where do you read yours?

Hi Lee,

My son Mike caught this candid shot during a recent trip to the Lake District. Any profits from the sale of prints should go to charity.

Best Regards,

Alan



North Staffs Tuesday Daytime Band

TDB, otherwise known affectionately as The Wrinkly Wringers, has now been going for 20 years. We normally meet on the third Tuesday of every month for a social outing comprising morning ringing at a pre-arranged tower, then a pub lunch, followed by afternoon ringing at a second tower.

From the very beginning, the organising secretary has been Marian Owen from Stafford/Ingestre. She has done a splendid job of arranging pubs for lunch & towers for ringing in a wide area - not only in our part of the Lichfield Diocese (the Stoke Archdeaconry), but often further afield in neighbouring territories like the rest of Staffordshire, Cheshire, Shropshire, Derbyshire and the West Midlands.

The group started in 1989 with just a small number of retired ringers, some of whom are still with us! Attendance at a recent meeting was over 30, but it does vary from month to month and with location. A collection is made at each meeting (presently fixed at 75p per person per tower) and an appropriate donation is left at each tower we visit. The ringing (on any number of bells), is arranged to suit a wide range of experience from call changes, through all the standard methods up to spliced surprise. If you are free on the third Tuesday of any month, why not find out where we are going and come along to join us. I'm sure you will enjoy the experience!!

Stop-press! Marian has indicated that she would like to retire as organising secretary of TDB at the November meeting (17 Nov). On behalf of all the Wrinklies who have attended over the years, "Thank you Marian, God bless you", and also thanks to your Consort, Denis, who has kept a diligent record of the attendees at every meeting. A presentation to show our appreciation will be made at the November meeting.

Jean Nixon from Penkridge has offered to take on the vital role of organising secretary, with assistance from Jim no doubt!
RHD

Message from our Chairman

To all of the Association membership.

At the next AGM you will need to elect:-

A new Chairman.

A new Ringing Master, with hopefully a deputy of his/her choice.

A Central Council Representative to join me and Jenny this year, and you need replacements for us next year.

We need extra committee members to make it up to full strength. In my opinion they should be young, not necessarily experienced, to breathe fresh air into our association as we older members who have served before have to admit we are too set in our ways.

Frank Beech.

Ringling Wet!

On the very wet Saturday morning of 1st August 2009, a hardened (later to be wet and hardened!) group of ringers gathered together for the 'Walk and Ride' day out to Cheddleton following the Churnet Valley Railway and along the Cauldon Canal.

We all met on the station at Froghall. There were about 8 or 10 of us ready for a walk on a beautiful, midsummer August day! But what we got was a wet weekend in August instead! Still, not to be beaten by the weather we set off. The walk took us along the path from the Station at Froghall and down to the Cauldon canal. We walked for what seemed like some considerable distance along the canal side to

Consall and the Black (or is it Red?) Lion pub, unfortunately it was closed, so we had our snack under the canal-bridge! We merrily continued on our way as Peter Jones, the organiser of the day's events pointed out things of interest along the way. In actual fact the rain subsided and we all thoroughly enjoyed the walk and the company.



On reaching Cheddleton, we stopped at the Boat Inn for some lunch. Some of our 'fair weather' friends joined us here and we walked together up the bank to Cheddleton Church.

Surprisingly our climbing day wasn't over - boy the staircase is steep up to the six bells in the ringing chamber! Once up there, we all enjoyed about an hour of ringing, some of us were very much beginners and as usual were given tremendous support from the established ringers who by now had come to join us 'wet heads'. Coming from Church Leigh, where we have a very high ceiling, the tower at Cheddleton was a very unusual low ceiling with the clock mechanism above our heads. It was a great experience. Eventually it was time to 'climb' back down the staircase and get back to the Station to buy our return tickets to Froghall.

After afternoon tea at Cheddleton Station, we had a wonderful journey back on the steam locomotive back to Froghall Station and our parked cars. We then headed off to Kingsley Church to the six bells, which have just been restored and re-hung. Here we met up with some more ringers and had a wonderful hour or so of ringing there. (It was also noted that every other monument and plaque within the Church and yard was dedicated to somebody 'Beech' who, we were reliably informed, was an ancestor of our own Frank!)

Yet again another wonderful day in the company of lovely people. The day, organised by Peter Jones was a great success. Despite the inclement weather, which didn't really matter, we came away having again developed our knowledge of bell ringing further and more confidence to take back to our own towers. Thank you, Peter.

*Melanie Hazelton
Church Leigh*



A perfect day

Saturday 22nd August was a perfect day for a wedding and no doubt many of you reading this were ringing for a wedding on that day. However some of us ventured over the border into Cheshire to the pretty village of Astbury for a very special wedding, that of Tunstall ringer Steven Stoker and Rosemary Bayley. The bride, whilst not a ringer herself, is no stranger to ringing being the granddaughter of Richard Cartledge, a ringer at Astbury.

Steven, resplendent in morning suit with burgundy cravat and sporting a deep red rose in his buttonhole as a tribute to the bride, was keen to join in the pre

service ringing. Fortunately, after he had raised the tenor, Steven was prevailed upon to remove his tail coat thus protecting the rose from further damage from the rope.

The marriage service opened with "All things bright and beautiful" an appropriate hymn for such a lovely day, the vows were taken, the vicar spoke and we all sang "Amazing Grace." The bride sparkled and so did her tiara and dress and soon the smiling bride and groom emerged from the church into the sunlight.

At Steven's request the post service ringing included three sessions of (intentional) 8 bell firing followed by queens, whittingtons and tittums and a quarter peal of Cambridge and Plain Bob Minor was scored.

The weather was perfect, the bride was early, the bells are lovely, the church magnificent, wonderful omens for the happiness we wish to Steven and Rose in their future life together.

Pat Bishop

Annual Dinner-Saturday 14th November

Please feast your eyes on the menu below, fill in the order form overleaf, and send it off post-haste, with your payment, to our Secretary, Lynne Grant, at 8, Hurlingham Road, Stafford ST161QW. Or download the form from www.nsacr.org.uk. It promises to be a great evening, so make sure you're there.

North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers Annual Dinner

Saturday 14th November 2009 at The Wayfarer, Stone.

Cost: £16 per person

Starters

- Coarse farmhouse pate served with warm toast
- Chefs Soup of the Day
- Button mushrooms in a creamy Stilton and garlic sauce, topped with spiced croutons
- Paprika spiced breaded whitebait served on a bed of fresh salad leaves

Main Course

- Homemade steak and kidney pudding served with rich onion gravy
- Pan fried lambs liver and onions served on a bed of creamed mashed potato
- Beer battered cod fillet served with hand cut chips and mushy peas
- Chicken and smoked back bacon pasta Carbonara
- Vegetarian choice of the day (usually choice of 5)
- Char-grilled cajun fillet of tuna, served with caramelised onions and peppers

All served with fresh seasonal vegetables and a choice of chipped, jacket, new or mashed potato unless otherwise stated

Desserts

- Traditional Bread and Butter Pudding Served with Locally produced vanilla ice cream
- Vanilla Panna Cotta topped with fruits of the forest
- Spiced apple crumble served with custard

Order forms available online at www.nsacr.org.uk
or on the reverse of this page.

Puzzle Corner

Congratulations to John Muir, who found a phenomenal total of 710 words lurking within the title of this publication. A year's free subscription to *Clappertrappings* is his well-deserved prize.



For December, a caption for this wonderfully captured (thank you, Warren) photo, please. There's lots of potential for mirthful merriment and festive cheer in this one, so scores of entries are anticipated. The judge's decision as to a winner will be final, no correspondence will be entered into, and the editor reserves the right to publish any or all of the entries, no matter how scathing, derogatory or downright rude may be their nature.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Aunt Tail-End

It was generous of your Where do you read yours? correspondent to offer to donate money to good causes, but, when considering the kneedy, perhaps charity might more urgently begin at home, with the purchase of some long trousers to conceal those most alarmingly knobbly aspects of his anatomy.

Yours knockingly

Pat Ellas

Dear Kneecaps

There's no kneed to be so knegative and knasty, I think it was an exceedingly knoble gesture. It is not often we get to see a Pyrenees in the Lake District, and Alan's pic has given me a tailor made, (although sadly not long trousered) opportunity to include this hilarious, laugh-out-loud joke in our newsletter, thus boosting sales and vastly increasing revenue and profit. ATE

North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers Annual Dinner Booking Form

Name		Affiliated Tower	
Address		Tel No	
		e-mail address	

Ticket Requirements

Number of Tickets Required			
Names	Starter	Main Course	Desserts

Please indicate if you wish to have the vegetarian option.

Payment must accompany this registration form in order for the booking to be processed by Saturday, 7th November please. Cheques, for £16 per person, should be made payable to "North Staffs Association".

Please provide all names and dietary requirements of guests.

Complete and return this form to Mrs M L Grant, 8 Hurlingham Road, Stafford, ST16 1QW

For all enquires relating to this event please contact:

Mrs Lynne Grant on 01785 220394 or e-mail secretary