

THINGS to DO, PLACES to GO

Pot-Luck Ringing Contest

16th July 2005
 All Saints Brailsford
 3.00 pm - 6.00 pm
 Names of participants
 (indicating beginner or experienced)
 to Rod Pearson at
 dgen2@derbyda.org.uk
 or phone no. in Annual Report.
 See your Tower Notice for full
 details.

JULY 10th

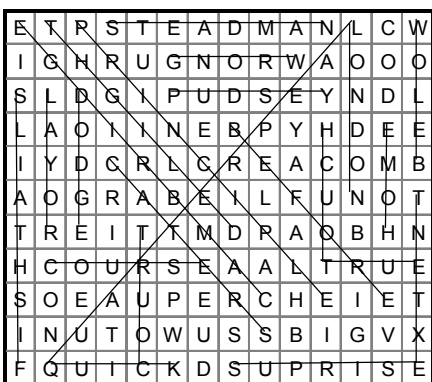

10th July is the date set for the national commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War Two. It is planned that the bells throughout the country will ring at 5 pm on that day - to mark the commemoration taking place in London.

A poster to place on church noticeboards and tower doors is available to download from the CCBR website <http://www.ccbbr.org.uk>. It is reproduced below.




RINGING ROADSHOW 2005

Newbury Racecourse, Berkshire
 Saturday, 10th September 2005

Sunday July 10th 2005

**The bells in this church will
 be rung at five p.m. as part
 of the National Celebration
 in Commemoration of the
 end of World War II**



The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers
 Supporting change ringing world-wide

CONTRIBUTIONS for the next issue are needed by **July 25th 2005**. Please post to Jenny Booth at 51 The Plain, Brailsford DE6 3BZ, or e-mail to Strike Notes@derbyda.org.uk
Strike Notes is compiled by Jenny Booth and printed by Steve Harpham

Strike Notes

June 2005 Issue 53

News, Information and Trivia for ringers in the Derby & Ilkeston Districts

Secretary's Salutations

Being a new member to the Association I have often wondered about the history of the two striking contests, the Horsley Cup and the Arthur Ashby Cup. I guess many of you may know this but maybe some, like me, are unaware of how these came into existence. After researching old Annual Reports I found that the Derby District first held it's striking contest at Horsley on May 13th 1961. Eleven teams entered. The event was extremely successful; the weather perfect; Gwen Harrison provided a splendid tea and about 75 ringers turned up. The judges were Roger Baldwin & David Friend. They placed Alvaston first, ringing call changes, Sawley second, also ringing call changes and Derby Cathedral third, ringing London Surprise. The Horsley Churchwarden, Mr Else, promised to provide a cup.

In 1962 15 teams entered. The winners were Derby Cathedral, and that year a trophy was presented. 1963 saw Sawley winning, with Alvaston & Duffield joint second - it did say Derby Cathedral rang Cambridge well but fired out near the end!

In 1964 the Horsley Cup was open for the first time to the whole Association. District heats were held at Clay Cross, Stanton-by-Dale and Breadsall, the winners being invited to compete at Horsley. The winners were Dronfield, followed by Old Whittington, with Sandiacre and Derby Cathedral tied in third place. 1965 saw the Peak District entering for the first time. Heats were held and then the final at Horsley with Dronfield winning and Burbage second.

The reason the contest was started was to try to make bands make more effort to improve their striking - it certainly worked. One of the reasons that Mr Else provided a cup was to recognise the fact that the bells of the Cathedral were always rung for the Harvest Festival service for the farmers of Derbyshire, which he, as an auctioneer, always attended.

At the time that Alvaston won in 1961,
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they were not members of the Association. After that everyone who rang in the final had to be an Association member.

Arthur Ashby was elected to the Association in 1963, as a ringing member of Barlborough. He wanted to give something to the Association. It was decided that a striking competition for less experienced teams should be started, and there we have it, a cup was purchased and the rest is history.

In 1988 the first Arthur Ashby striking competition took place at Bradbourne and Derby Cathedral B team won it. In 1989 Mugginton won at Clay Cross with only 9 faults, and later featured in the Derby Evening Telegraph. Mugginton were predominantly a new band, their bells being dedicated on 1st November 1987 so this really was a remarkable achievement.

Sadly Arthur Ashby died in April 1990. No doubt he would be proud of the enthusiasm shown by ringers who now compete for this cup.

Something that is not in the reports is that one year while the Cathedral were ringing, a dog came in to the ringing chamber and started to jump up at the ringers! The band fired out, but were given a chance to have a second go. They came second that year with their second attempt!

A big thank you to Pat Halls for her help with this, along with information which is her personal knowledge, and not what I'd be able to find in the reports. I hope my research is correct.

Elizabeth Cotton

Striking Competition Results 2005

Horsley Cup

1	Darley Dale	246
2	Old Whittington	245.7
3	Derby Cathedral	239
4	Tideswell	235
5	Ticknall	220
6	Belper	213

Arthur Ashby Cup

1	Darley Dale	231
2	Etwall	224.5
3	Eckington	223.5
4	Derby Cathedral	223
5	Ashford in the Water	222.5
6	Denby	208

Starting Over

I used to ring, for over twenty years in fact, beginning in the early 1970's, but I became ill about thirteen years ago and had to stop. My illness compromised all the faculties required for ringing, I was weak, confused, had double vision and fell down quite often. The fact that I rang at Saint Luke's and drank with Alan Rowe was purely coincidental!

I found other less taxing things to do - taking my sons swimming, supporting their football teams and watching them both develop into County class athletes. Over the years my symptoms have abated somewhat and I have also learnt how to husband my reduced physical and mental resources to their best effect.

People used to ask how the illness (CFS or M.E.) affected me and I would tell them that 'I felt like a very frail Septuagenarian'. Commenting that as

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the symptoms were reducing so gradually I was likely to be in my seventies before they completely disappeared and thus would then not even notice!

Previously I have made a couple of unsuccessful attempts at a ringing comeback but last Autumn I decided to try again and it is my intention (your editor willing) to recount this experience to you in a series of short articles.

I have seen other (but healthy) people come back to ringing after a long absence and usually after a slightly wobbly start, they regain a similar or even attain a higher state of competence in our art.

Similarly I was told, and even hoped myself, that it would all come flooding back to me but it has not been like that, not at all. Continuing the hydrological analogy my confidence first seeped, then dripped and is currently trickling back to me.

In effect I have had to learn again and it is this process which I hope to explain, inform and hopefully entertain you with.

Geoff Peach

From the Archives

"The ringers of Matlock Parish Church have been celebrating the marriage of Mr W. N. Statham, one of their number, who has been a ringer for thirteen years. The occasion was honoured with a merry peal of bells, and there were also several exceedingly pretty presentations from the choir and ringers".
Derbyshire Advertiser 2nd October 1891

Did You Know?

Did you know that the bells of Bradwell were given in memory of Mr Samuel Fox, who invented the steel ribbed umbrella design? They were presented by Mrs Fanny Jeffrey, Mr Fox's niece.

Bradwell bells are the second heaviest bells in Derbyshire - the tenor weighs 39 cwt 1 quarter 5 pounds and sounds the note B. The bells were cast by Taylor's of Loughborough in 1938 and are hung dead - there would be no room in the fairly small tower for them to be rung full circle.

Pat Halls

E	T	P	S	T	E	A	D	M	A	N	L	C	W
I	G	H	R	U	G	N	O	R	W	A	O	O	O
S	L	D	G	I	P	U	D	S	E	Y	N	D	L
L	A	O	I	I	N	E	B	P	Y	H	D	E	E
I	Y	D	C	R	L	C	R	E	A	C	O	M	B
A	O	G	R	A	B	E	I	L	F	U	N	O	T
T	R	E	I	T	T	M	D	P	A	O	B	H	N
H	C	O	U	R	S	E	A	A	L	T	R	U	E
S	O	E	A	U	P	E	R	C	H	E	I	E	T
I	N	U	T	O	W	U	S	S	B	I	G	V	X
F	Q	U	I	C	K	D	S	U	P	R	I	S	E

Hidden Words

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| BEFORE | LONDON |
| BELOW | PRINCIPLE |
| CAMBRIDGE | PUDSEY |
| CATERS | QUARTERPEAL |
| COURSE | QUICK |
| COURT | ROYAL |
| DELIGHT | STEADMAN |
| DODGE | SURPRISE |
| EXTENT | TOUCH |
| FISHTAILS | TRUE |
| HOME | WRONG |