

## THINGS to DO, PLACES to GO

### Central Events April-July

29th April	District Meeting at Doveridge (4.30-5.30) and Tutbury (6.00-7.30).
15th June	Evening ringing at Mugginton (7.30-9.00).
17th June	The Zipper Car Tour. to Matlock, Darley Dale, Edensor, Bakewell, and Tideswell
1st July	<b>Association Summer Meeting.</b> Morley (2.15-3.00), Denby (3.00-3.45) and Belper (4.00-5.00)

### Southern Events April-July

20th May	District meeting at Netherseal 7:00-9:00
17th June	District meeting at Newton Solney 6:45-7:15 & Winshill 7:30-9:00

### Joint Central & Southern Event

15th July	Pot Luck Striking Competition at Brailsford 3:00-6:30
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### BARN DANCE on April 1st

at  
Brailsford Village Hall (on the A52)  
7:00pm-11:00pm

Dancing to the Stedman Stompers  
Licensed Bar with REAL ALE  
£7.00 (includes light supper)

Get your tickets from:

Lizzie Cotton Ssec@derbyda.org.uk or Steve Harpham Cesec@derbyda.org.uk

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suitably skilled Blacksmith to repair the clapper by hot-forging, although theoretically possible, was no more successful. The only two viable options were therefore, a fabricated clapper made from separate steel component parts which would be welded together or the more elegant solution of a Cast Ferrous component. The very few fabricated clappers that I had seen not only looked as if they had been designed by Committee but functioned just as poorly.

This is when I threw my hat into the ring by offering to provide a Cast replacement. On reflection this was a trifle impetuous as my foundry had little experience of successful Nodular/Spheroidal Graphite Cast Iron production. Our Metallurgists had not at that time mastered the routine, reliable production of this material and so the new clapper would have to be made from Malleable Cast Iron instead.....

*To be continued*

*Geoff Peach*

**CONTRIBUTIONS** for the next issue are needed by **April 8th 2006**. Please post to Jenny Booth at 51 The Plain, Brailsford DE6 3BZ, or e-mail to StrikeNotes@derbyda.org.uk

*Strike Notes is compiled by Jenny Booth and printed by Steve Harpham*

# Strike Notes

March 2006 Issue 62

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News, Information and Trivia for ringers in the Central & Southern Districts

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### Southern Secretary's Salutations

I remember last month I commented on how spring like the weather was, well, today we woke to a layer of snow everywhere!

I would like to welcome the following new members, elected after the striking contest heat results at Ticknall. Barry Boulton from Overseal, Jake & David Bull and Chris Ebborn from Sawley. It was great that all the new members above represented their tower in the heats.

Well done to those teams who took part in the competition and congratulations to those who go through to the finals at Horsley on May 6th.

Alistair Smith from Beeston was our judge and our thanks to him for delivering the results in a friendly manner along with very positive comments, which people found constructive. The afternoon began at Newhall with the draw, this was so that teams taking part would be able to listen to everyone, chat amongst fellow ringers and drink cups of tea. It was encouraging to see a lot of the team members following along to indulge in pizza & cake and to hear the results. Hearing what the judge has to say is always worth while, after all they are the only ones who really listen to every piece of ringing and their feedback is important. Remember it is the taking part that counts. It is fun so please think about

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### Central Reservations

Details of the first three months of the Central District's events are on page 4. Please put these dates in your diary. PDA or on your calendar and support as many of them as you can. I plan to produce the diary inserts again this year and hope to send them out with the next issue of Strike Notes.

Tickets for the Barn Dance are available now!!

Thanks to all who took part in the Striking Contests Heats. The results were as follows -

#### Arthur Ashby Cup (Call Changes)

1st Etwall	199 points
2nd Sutton-on-the-Hill	197 points
3rd Breadsall	182 points

#### Horsley Cup (Methods)

1st Belper	214 points
2nd Mugginton	162 points
3rd Brailsford	140 points

Etwall and Belper therefore go through to the finals at Horsley on the

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entering your tower next year.

The results were as follows:-

#### **Horsley Cup**

1st Derby Cathedral	214 points
2nd Derby St Peter's	181 points

#### **Arthur Ashby Cup**

1st Overseal	204 points
2nd Derby St Peter's	181 points
3rd Newhall	180 points
4th Sawley	160 points

This means Derby Cathedral goes through to the final of the Horsley Cup and Overseal and Derby St Peter's for the Arthur Ashby. Congratulations.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Brailsford for the Barn Dance on the 1st April. At the time of writing, there are still tickets available.

Happy ringing.

*M Elizabeth Cotton*

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6th of May. Congratulations to both teams. Thanks also to our judge, Peter Humphrey, who stood-in at short notice and whose comments on our performances were perhaps not improved by his bad cold or that I had forgotten to give him directions from Etwall to Ticknall village hall. Apologies once again. Finally thanks to the helpers with the tea. That's all for now.

*Steve Harpham*

### **Silence in the Cathedral**

Living fairly locally to Derby City centre I often visit the Friday night practice at the Cathedral. It is always very friendly and, while concentrating on striking, call changes, doubles and minor, offers opportunities (turn out permitting) to learn striking on 8 and 10 bells. I recently encountered a practice unlike any I had previously been to. I was surprised when turning up to see a service taking place and yet a practice was taking place upstairs as normal. The answer lay in the connection of all ten bells to a computer running Abel simulation software. Clapper ties were in place so the service was not disturbed. General ringing took place exactly as normal except that the sound came from a pair of loudspeakers and, after each ring it was possible to review the striking. As an additional treat we rang six bells as if they were the front six of a ring of twelve and had Abel add in the missing six bells. Ringing down was slightly strange, as chiming does not work too well on the simulator. In all it gave the ringing master more scope for the practice in conditions where otherwise practice would have been cancelled or reduced to a theory only session. It does seem slightly odd though when someone changes the pitch of the bells to stop them sounding to tinny.

*Chris Gilbert*

### **A Tale of Two Clappers - Part One : Calamity at the Cathedral!**

Many years ago (my standard story opening) in my previous Ringing Career at St.Lukes I also worked at the Derby Foundry of Leys Malleable Castings. To cut a long preamble short, during this time the clapper of one of the Cathedral's bells broke, not whilst I was ringing it, I might add! but the problem therefore arose of its repair or replacement.

Then, as now. the availability of the preferred material 'Wrought Iron' was more than problematical and so a new clapper made from this was a non-starter. Finding a

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### **From the Derby Mercury 12 Sept 1894**

Whether they were experts who went to see how far light railways are practical, or visitors intent on spending a couple of hours in a very pleasant spot, all who accepted Mr Percival Heywood's invitation to Duffield Bank last week must have been charmed by their experience. Duffield Bank is situated on the hill side by the Horsley-road, just as one crosses the railway and the river by Duffield Church, and being slightly above the level of the valley, an excellent view is obtained of one of the most picturesque parts of the county. The railway is constructed on the hill side above the house, but it is so hidden by shrubs and trees that one would need a keen eye to discern any evidence of its existence from the valley. Yet, on what is at first sight an almost impossible piece of ground, Mr Heywood has constructed a miniature railway representing most of the difficulties incidental to railway construction, and, what is perhaps more indicative of his capacity for overcoming difficulties, he himself made suitable engines, besides the necessary carriages and rolling stock for carrying on traffic. He and his family have evidently spent many pains and much enthusiasm in the work, and during the experiments last week a good deal of cheerfulness was infused into the proceedings by the young gentlemen wearing railway caps with the initials "D.B.R.", who acted as engine drivers, guards, and so on. It may be mentioned too, that the chief signal box was under the care of a young lady, who proved herself to be quite a reliable manipulator of the levers, and the traffic - for "slow trains" and "expresses" were passing at frequent intervals - was worked without a hitch.

*(Thank you to Sue Peach for discovering this in the Matlock archives. Next month is the 90th anniversary of Sir Arthur Hayward's death, and there will be another article).*



**Here's one I made earlier...**