

THE FOUR SHIRES GUILD OF BELL RINGERS

(Affiliated to the Central



Council of Church Bell Ringers)

NEWSLETTER No 173 - July 1st 2022

CONTENTS

P2 officers and committee members

P4 Peals and quarters,

P7 Minutes of the committee meeting and quiz questions

P10 & 11 Archives from 40 and 100years ago and quiz answers

P13 Adverts

P3 Chaplains thoughts, Guild badged clothing

P5 & 6 Platinum Jubilee ringing

P8 & 9 Calling the changes by Robert Chadburn

P12 Guild Saturday weekly meetings

P14 Subscription and donation payment form



Founded Oct 18th 1909

NOTICE OF THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AND STRIKING COMPETITION, Saturday 15th OCTOBER commencing at the
TIME OF 12 NOON

VENUE STILL TO CONFIRMED



Editorial

Great to see so much celebratory ringing over the Jubilee weekend. Quarters, Peals and photos all on pg 5 & 6. Sadly having all got back to frequent and unmasked ringing there seems to be another spike in local pockets of covid infections, so ringing is still not back to normal yet, we are endeavouring to continue making ringing

plans.

There are ringing outings taking place, the WADRA southern branch have theirs this weekend as do the G&B Cheltenham branch. The FSG has confirmed plans to return to weekly Saturday practices starting this weekend, see pg.12 but please note start times vary between 7 or 7:30 pm. As above there is a date for your diary,

note the **new time** of 12 noon to avoid the late finish for the AGM and striking competitions, the venue is still to be confirmed but teams for the usual Brazier Cup and Newing Shield can get practicing. Please let Richard Lewis-Skeath, the ringing master know of your intention to enter the competition.

Alison Lee

Officers and Committee Members of the Guild

President

Mr John Nicholls

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr Chris Povey

chrismpovey@gmail.com

The Rev Dr Peter Newing

Chaplain

Rev Dr Peter Newing

Accounts Examiner

Claire Penny

GUILD OFFICERS

Guild Master

Mr Peter Quinn

Ringing Master

Mr Richard Lewis-Skeath

Hon Secretary

Mr Steve Bowley

S_bowley@btinternet.com

Hon Treasurer

Mr Michael Dane

landm.dane@btinternet.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs Christina Ireland

Mrs Jackie Hands

CCCBR Representative

Mr Chris Povey

chrismpovey@gmail.com

BRF coordinator

Mr Chris Povey

Guild Peal Recorder

Mrs Sandra Parker

Programme Secretary

Mrs Christina Ireland

Mr John Carroll

Mr Stuart Cummings

Membership Secretary

Health and safety officer

Mr C Povey

Safeguarding Officer

Mr Chris Mew

Mr John Wheeler

Dr Nicholas Allsopp

Mid-week Tours

General Contact

Mrs Isobel Murphy

News letter editor

Alison Lee

alison.lee.bellringer@gmail.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FSG subs were due on 1st January 2022. The rates are £5 for adults and £2 for juniors. Please pay as soon after the due date as possible, an annual subscription is required to retain membership. If paying by cash please use the payment slip at the back of this Newsletter. Payment may be made to Michael Dane, Hon Treasurer.

THE PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR SUBS AND DONATIONS IS BY INTERNET BANK TRANSFER.

THE GUILD'S NEW BANKING DETAILS ARE: Bank, LLOYDS; Acct No,67433862 ; Account name, FOUR SHIRES GUILD; Sort Code, 30-98-97. For 'Reference', please insert your name and tower (or unattached), otherwise you and your payment will be untraceable!! You will not need a receipt, as the bank transfer process allows a copy of the transfer document to be printed off

Chaplains thoughts

My grandfather William Mayturn (1871-1961) rang at Wickhambreaux and Littlebourne, both villages from near Canterbury from 1891-1958. When he told me that he could no longer reach the first floor in order to ring at both churches. At what is now about the same age I find that this now applies to me. No more can I ring at much Marcle (Herefordshire) and Childswickham. There are other towers in our area. It is now several years ago that I was advised not to drive after dark even though I have much better eyesight than hearing. To be human is to be limited for we may, in age, become more frail in one way or another. We have a fine example in our Queen who continues in the usual way in all that she can do

I have recently completed 75 years as a member of the Kent County association of change ringers. I have received a certificate signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury as President of the KCA. Almost the same day I had another from the Cumberlands for 70 years membership.
Peter Newing.

The Central Council Mobile Belfry: funding

The Central Council (CCCBR) has launched a Crowd funding campaign to enable individual ringers to be part of the Mobile Belfry 2.0 project and contribute to it. Full details of the project, including an introductory video, can be found at <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/mobile-belfry>

Funding for this project is coming from a number of sources, most notably the donation of the bells themselves by the Loughborough Bell foundry Trust, funds from the Central Council, and donations pledged from Guilds and Associations. The Funding from individual ringers and other interested parties will complete the project, with plans for its first appearance at the Council's Road show in Nottingham in September.

The Guild's Committee agreed to send a donation towards this project at the their November meeting last year. The present invitation to contribute is via donations from individual ringers
Please take a look at the website via the link above.

Chris Povey, Guild Central Council rep

GUILD-BADGED CLOTHING

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE:-

Polo shirts:	£20.00	Full-zip ladies fleece:	£33.00
Sweatshirts:	£21.00	Half-zip fleece:	£37.00
Full-zip fleece:	£33.00	Lambswool V-necked sweater:	£48.00

In the first instance please email your order to **Kathy McCarthy**:- khmccarthy@fastmail.fm There are no extra carriage charges on the prices above. All profits from the sale of clothing go to the Guild Bell Restoration Fund.

Colours: The range of colours can be seen on the Guild's website, which is <http://www.fourshires.org.uk>

Some idea of sizing can be gauged from the following:-

(Chest size in inches)	Small	Medium	Large	X-large	XX-large
Polo shirts	36-38	40	42	44	46-48
Sweat shirts	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49
Men's full zip fleece	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49
Half zip fleece	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49

Dress size:

Ladies' full zip fleece	10	12	14	16	18
-------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

The deadline for the next issue of the FSG Newsletter (OCTOBER 2022) is SEPTEMBER 26th 2022

I need your help so send me your news, please contribute something, however small (or large)! all items welcome. It will be easier if articles are sent by e-mail but hand written ones will equally be used.

Newsletter Editor: Alison Lee Postal and email addresses page 2.

Please let me know ownership of photos for acknowledgement where relevant.

PEALS AND QUARTERS around the Four Shires with mainly FSG members

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Saturday, 16 April 2022 in 41m Pebworth, Worcestershire St Peter Tenor: 4-3-2 **1260 St Martin's Bob Doubles** Rung on the front 6 bells 1 Claire Penny 2 Neil Garner 3 Graham Lee 4 Alison Lee 5 Martin Penny (C) 6 Tom Sandham Rung before the service to celebrate the wedding of Polly & John. First in method 3 & 4

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Saturday, 23 April 2022 in 30m Bretforton, Worcestershire St Leonard Tenor: 8-3-11 in F# **Plain Hunt and Call Changes** 1 Bill Boyce 2 Thea Jenkins 3 Alan Curry 4 Rob Davis 5 John Cleveland 6 Roger Hunt (C) To mark St George's Day.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 28 April 2022 in 47m Todenham, Gloucestershire St Thomas of Canterbury Tenor: 12-2-10 in F 1290 **Plain Bob Doubles** 1 Elizabeth Royle 2 Isobel Murphy 3 Keith Murphy 4 Jane Gilbert 5 Nicholas Allsopp (C) 6 Rob Stansbury as a Birthday compliment for John Nicholls.

Birthday compliment for John Nicholls' 90th birthday, on Saturday 30th April



Long Compton

Rung for Trevor Hobday's 86th birthday. Trevor, a past Secretary of the Four Shires Guild, is stepping down as Tower Captain of Long Compton after 31 years in the job. Congratulations to Sarah Elliott, who is taking over as the new Tower Captain.

John with the band, L-R in ringing order as written above

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Tuesday, 3 May 2022 in 48m Long Compton, Warwickshire St Peter and St Paul Tenor: 12-0-22 in F **1260 Doubles (3m) 240 Reverse Canterbury, 480 Plain Bob, 540 Grandsire** 1 Caroline Makepeace 2 Michael Cummings 3 Sarah Elliott 4 Len Morley 5 Trevor Hobday (C) 6 Stuart Cummings Rung for Trevor's 86th birthday and his retirement as tower captain.

Worcestershire & Districts Association On Saturday, 21 May 2022 in 2h 55 Birmingham, West Midlands St Laurence, Northfield Tenor: 14-1-13 in F# **5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major D F Morrison (No. 565)** 1 Steve Bowley 2 Robert Tregillus 3 Roger H Hunt 4 Neil J Garner 5 Catherine R Taylor 6 Nicholas K Allsopp 7 Roderic K Bickerton 8 Michael Chester (C) Rung the mark the 40th anniversary of the conductor's first peal, rung at Staindrop, Co. Durham, on 19th May 1982.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Friday, 3 June 2022 in 45m Pebworth, Worcestershire St Peter Tenor: 11-3-9 in F# **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** 1 Pat Bell 2 Martin Penny 3 Richard Lewis-Skeath 4 Claire Penny 5 Neil J Garner (C) 6 Jacqueline Corstopphine 7 Roger Hunt 8 Robert Newman 1st Quarter Peal 6; 1st with 8 bells 1.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Sunday, 12 June 2022 in 43m Offenham, Worcestershire St Mary and St Milburgh Tenor: 10-3-2 in F# **1260 Plain Bob Minor** 1 Graham Lee 2 Claire Penny 3 Alison Lee 4 Neil Garner 5 Rachel D Page 6 Martin Penny (C) Rung for Offenham Wake

Worcestershire & Districts Association On Thursday, 23 June 2022 in 48m Fladbury, Worcestershire St John the Baptist Tenor: 12-3-3 in G# **1260 Grandsire Triples** 1 Sandra Parker 2 Neil Garner 3 Jennie Kimberley 4 Steve Bowley 5 Rachel D Page 6 David Jones 7 Roger Hunt (C) 8 Rob Newman Rung open in celebration of the life of David Henry Burlingham, former local ringer and churchwarden, whose funeral took place here this afternoon. David was a prime instigator and facilitator of the refurbishment and rehanging of the then derelict ring of 6 bells (T Mears 1807 - the oldest surviving ring by The Whitechapel Foundry in the Diocese) and their subsequent augmentation. Co-incidentally today is the 31st anniversary of the re-dedication of the restored 6 bells.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Saturday, 25 June 2022 in 45m Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire St Edmund Tenor: 9-2-1 in G **1440 Cambridge Surprise Minor D.F. Morrison (No 6487)** 1 Nicholas Allsopp (C) 2 Sarah Elliott 3 Jane Gilbert 4 Steve Bowley 5 Len Morley 6 Graham Nabb 2: First quarter peal of Surprise Minor Rung as part of the closing ceremony for the Shipston Proms fortnight

Jubilee celebration ringing around the Four Shires.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 33m Willersey, Gloucestershire St Peter Tenor: 12 in G **70 Call Changes Following the Stedman principle** 1 Helen Chadburn 2 Rob Pitt 3 Robert Chadburn (C) 4 Rekha Pitt 5 Lena Stranks 6 Beccie Williams First long length of call changes 2. Rung at the lighting of the Broadway Beacon at 9.45pm, for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 51m Wellesbourne, Warwickshire St Peter Tenor: 10-0-24 in G **1260 Grandsire Triples** 1 Michael Haynes 2 Stewart Heritage 3 Barbara Howes 4 Sarah Thomas 5 Sue Bacon 6 Len Morley 7 Michael Dane (C) 8 Roger Howes In celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II; rung prior to the lighting of the beacon on the church tower.



Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 46m Ilmington, Warwickshire St Mary 1260 Plain Bob Triples 1 David Clark 2 Fran Chapman 3 George Osborn 4 Bill Sabin 5 Bill Nash 6 Jacqueline Hands 7 Michael Dane (C) 8 David England 1st in m 3, 1st on 8 8 In celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Ilmington, Photograph supplied by Michael Dane

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 30m Childswickham, Worcestershire St Mary

the Virgin Tenor: 11-3-26 in F# **Call Changes, Every member of the band called changes to Queens and back to rounds in succession.** Freddie Barwise Rob Moon Alison Lee Tim Watkin Bill Wadsworth Matthew Turvey Clare Davies Martin Robins Graham Lee first time calling changes for several members of the band. Ringing for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.



Worcestershire & Districts Association On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 90m Elmley Castle, Worcestershire St Mary Tenor: 17 in E **Grandsire Doubles and General Ringing Call Changes & Firing** John Alexander Sarah Bent David Bezzant Steve Bowley Kate Collingwood Clare Davies David Jones Jennie Kimberley Richard Lewis-Skeath Rachel Page Graham Partridge Matthew Turvey Tim Watkin Rung to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee



Singing The National Anthem

Oxford Diocesan Guild On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 3h 8 Hook Norton, Oxfordshire St Peter Tenor: 20-2-13 in E **5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major Composed by Mark B Davies** 1 Richard Lewis-Skeath 2 Daniel J Austin 3 Sally A Austin 4 Stephen Bowley 5 David M Salter 6 Jonathan E Muller 7 Graham J Clifton 8 Colin M Lee (C) First Surprise Major: 2 Rung to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Friday, 3 June 2022 in 26m Willersey, Gloucestershire St Peter Tenor: 12 in G **70 Call Changes Following the Stedman principle** 1 Stefanie Whittle 2 Lisa Hillyard 3 Sarah Fletcher 4 Chrissy Wainwright 5 Robert Chadburn (C) 6 Pete Kavanagh First long length of call changes 2. For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Friday, 3 June 2022 in 60m Willersey, Gloucestershire St Peter Tenor: 12 in G **70 Plain Hunt Doubles and Call Changes** Call changes, Plain Bob Doubles, Plain Hunt Doubles. All ringers completed 70 consecutive changes of Plain Hunt Doubles. Helen Chadburn Robert Chadburn Sarah Fletcher Lisa Hillyard Pete Kavanagh Rekha Pitt Rob Pitt Lena Stranks Chrissy Wainwright Stefanie Whittle Beccie Williams To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, rung before the service of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral.



Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Friday, 3 June 2022 Hinton on the Green, Worcestershire St Peters tenor 10-1-8 in G **Rounds and Call Changes** 1 Steve Bowley 2 Vicky Green 3 Martin Robins (C) 4 Sarah Bent 5 Graham Lee 6 Martin Raymond / Clare Davies Rung to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Hinton Jubilee Band

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Sunday, 5 June 2022 in 23m Willersey, Gloucestershire St Peter Tenor: 12 in G **70 Call Changes Following the Stedman principle** 1 Rob Pitt 2 Sarah Fletcher 3 Chrissy Wainwright 4 Rekha Pitt 5 Robert Chadburn (C) 6 Pete Kavanagh To precede the village picnic on the recreation ground, for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Sunday, 5 June 2022 in 45m Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire St David Tenor: 10-0-14 in G 1260 **Plain Bob Doubles With 2 bells covering** 1 Jane Gilbert 2 Elizabeth Royle 3 Isobel Murphy 4 Annie Holden 5 Nicholas Allsopp 6 Keith Murphy 7 Louise Hamilton-Smith 7: First Quarter peal. 2: First inside. Rung before the Sunday Service in celebration of HRH Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

Moreton ringers in order from L-R



l-r): Roger, Rob N, Neil, Thea, Rob D, Bill, Rachel, David, John, Clare.

The Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Thursday, 2 June 2022 in 45m Bretforton, Worcestershire St Leonard Tenor: 8-3-11 in F# **Call Changes, Queens and Grandsire Doubles** Roger Hunt Thea Jenkins John Cleveland Rob Davis Bill Boyce Clare Davies Rob Newman Rachel D Page David Jones Neil Garner Rung in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Saturday, 4 June 2022 in 41m Offenham, Worcestershire St Mary and St Milburgh Tenor: 10-3-2 in F# **1260 St Martin's Bob Doubles** 1 Neil Garner 2 Beccie Williams 3 Claire Penny 4 Robert Chadburn 5 Martin Penny (C) 6 Clare Davies First in method - 3 First as cover To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers On Sunday, 5 June 2022 Offenham, Worcestershire St Mary and St Milburgh Tenor: 10-3-2 in F# **70 Call Changes Starting and finishing in Queens** 1 Neil Garner 2 Judy Wallington 3 Neil Walters 4 Olivia Walters 5 Graham Lee 6 Martin Penny (C) To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen First Service Ringing - 3 & 4 Alison Lee & Claire Penny also rang this morning

The Four shires Guild of Bell Ringers
Minutes of a committee meeting held on 10th May 2022 at Evesham

Chairperson Chris Povey acted as chairperson in Peter Quinn's absence

1. Apologies for Absence Stuart Cummings and Peter Quinn

Present Stephen Bowley, Chris Povey, Alison Lee, Richard Lewis-Skeath, Michael Dane, Christina Ireland, Nick Allsopp and John Wheeler

2. Minutes of the last meeting 8th February signed off

3. **Matters arising from last meeting** none

4. **Reports:**

Guild Master none

Hon. Secretary Account transfer from Barclays to Lloyds bank has now been successfully completed. There were no outstanding grants and 119 members out of 180 had paid subs to date. The midweek tours had raised £200 and continues to be a success.

Proposals for membership

These new nominations for membership were accepted for ratification at the next AGM:

David & Elizabeth England, both from Ilmington/Mickleton. Bill Sabin has proposed, seconded by Michael Dane Ashley Ellison of Blockley Claire Penny to propose and Stuart Cummings to second Chris, Lucy and Lizzy Tennant, proposed by Steve Bowley Richard seconded

Hon. Treasurer/Membership Bank account transfer from Barclays to Lloyds bank has now been successfully completed. There were no outstanding grants and 119 members out of 180 had paid subs to date.

Ringling master FSG held two practices the first of which should have been Salford Priors. However, due to unforeseen circumstances this was changed to Hinton with special thanks to Claire Davies for accommodating the guild at the last minute. The other practice was Guiting Power with 22 attendees.

Safeguarding No incidents reported.

Fixture Secretary Committee members suggested having further discussions regarding a new fixtures secretary now Stuart wanted to step down from this post. In the meantime Christina and John had matters in hand to deliver a regenerated practice list of weekly events. Bretforton has been lined up to start the guild's new weekly rota.

Health and Safety No issues reported

Newsletter Editor Distribution problems were noted at Bretforton.

Website and IT. The committee discussed the possibility of digitising the guild's newsletter back issues from 1-121. Nick agreed to track these down. Off topic slightly but discussed at the same time, was the care of the guild's archive material. Chris has these items stored safely. It was suggested though that a long term solution should be made regarding their preservation into the future.

CCCB update

Peal Secretary no report

5. **Bells repair fund**

6. **Learning to ring flyer** Alison reported that there were about a quarter of the flyers left.

7. **Assessment of current membership** Work updating the membership list was going well and a job in progress.

8. **Resumption of Guild activities - update.** Activities formed a main feature for the Guild and a popular attraction to new members. Re-establishing FSG activities, for example Guild weekly practices and outings would be reinstated to get things back to normal. Chastleton was discussed as a possible AGM venue, also to implement the earlier time of 12 noon instead of 2pm.

AOB The committee discussed the possibility of holding events that would aptly celebrate and mark the 50th anniversary year of re-founding of the Guild. Suggested was the possibility of a peal.

Chris suggested that the time had come to update the Guild's handbook. Chris agreed to look into this.

10. **Date and location of the next meeting** Wellesbourne 9th August 2022

Quiz questions

1. Which of the following are ringing terms:

A) Cat's Ears

B) Fish Tail

C) Slow work

D) Lightening work

E) Two and a Penny

2. If you are ringing a true touch of Plain Bob Doubles and you run in at the first bob, list all the work you could be doing at the second bob

3. What calls would you make to take you from Kings to Queens when calling changes?

Claire Penny.

CALLING ALL THE CHANGES ON FIVE BELLS

by Robert Chadburn

If any ringer reading this is curious as to how they could call all 120 changes on five bells - that is, using 120 call changes, starting and ending in rounds and with no change repeated - then read on! This article is written entirely from my own personal experience of doing this. I know two main methods of calling 120 changes: other ringers may well know of others. The two methods I'm going to describe also have multiple variations, some of which, from a participant's perspective, would feel (and sound) quite different to ring. So there is no shortage of variety for any bands wishing to specialise in this. To save space I will only describe my favourite variation of each method, which in my opinion produces the most musical sequence of the 120 changes in each case.

Method 1: the Devon Principle I'm only naming this the 'Devon' principle because that's what I've always called it: it may well have no more association with that glorious county and its ringing tradition than to any other county, but it will serve as its name here. Apologies to anyone out there who feels this is wrongly assigned! My preferred example of this proceeds as follows.

1. Swap the bells that are in 3-4:

12435

2. Move the treble from 1st place to 5th place (one place at a time!):

21435 24135 24315 24351

3. Move the 2 from 1st place to 2nd place:

42351

4. Move the treble from 5th place to 1st place:

42315 42135 41235 14235

5. Move the 2 from 3rd place to 4th place:

14325

6. Move the treble from 1st place to 5th place:

41325 43125 43215 43251

7. Move the 2 from 3rd place to 4th place:

43521

8. Move the treble from 5th place to 1st place:

43512 43152 41352 14352

I shall refer to this last change as being a 'half-part end'

We can see that Bell 2 has made a 'slow hunt' from the front to the back of the change, while between each step the treble has made a 'quick hunt', either from 1st to 5th place, or from 5th to 1st place, depending on where it last ended up. The second half-part is a repeat of this process, only this time Bell 2 makes its slow hunt in the opposite direction, ie from the back of the change, to the front of the change. The second half-part, in full, then looks like this: Starting from 14352

1. Swap the bells that are in 3-4:

14532

2. Move the treble from 1st place to 5th place (one place at a time!):

41532 45132 45312 45321

3. Move the 2 from 4th place to 3rd place:

45231

4. Move the treble from 5th place to 1st place:

45213 45123 41523 14523

5. Move the 2 from 4th place to 3rd place:

14253

6. Move the treble from 1st place to 5th place:

41253 42153 42513 42531

7. Move the 2 from 2nd place to 1st place:

24531

8. Move the treble from 5th place to 1st place:

24513 24153 21453 **12453**

We are now at the end of the first **full** part.

We now repeat the whole of this full part two more times to obtain all 120 changes. The half-part ends of the whole calling are as follows:

1st half-part: 14352

2nd half-part: 12453 = 1st full part

3rd half-part: 15432

4th half-part: 12534 = 2nd full part

5th half-part: 13542

6th half-part: 12345 = 3rd full part

The possible variations are almost endless: eg we can allocate any two bells to be the quick hunting and slow hunting bells!

Method 2: the Stedman principle I refer to this as the Stedman principle because of its structural similarity to Stedman doubles.

My preferred version of this method proceeds as follows:

1. Swap the bells in 3-4:

12435

2. Call the **front three bells** to make the changes that would occur if they rang plain hunt, with the first instruction being to **swap the bells in 2-3**:

14235 41235 42135 24135 21435

3. Swap the bells in 4-5:

21453

4. Perform the same plain hunt on the first three bells, again starting by swapping the bells in 2-3:

24153 42153 41253 14253 12453

5. Swap the bells in 3-4:

12543

6. Perform the same plain hunt sequence on the first three bells again:

15243 51243 52143 25143 21543

7. Swap the bells in 4-5:

21534

8. Now do a final plain hunt on the first three bells, except this time the first instruction is to **swap the bells in 1-2**:

12534 15234 51234 52134 25134

This is the end of the first part. We now repeat this four more times. The part ends for the whole calling are as follows:

1: 125134 2: 54123 3: 43521 4: 31452 5: 12345

For anyone interested, Steps 1-4 are equivalent to a Quick 6 in Stedman doubles (because the bell that enters the hunting work at the start of the sequence is the same bell that leaves the hunting work at the end). So we could refer to Steps 1-4 as a 'Quick 12' if we want to follow the analogy.

Steps 5-8 are equivalent to a Stedman Slow 6, as a different bell leaves the hunting work at the end of the 12 changes from the one that entered it at the start. So we could refer to Steps 5-8 as a 'Slow 12'

Comparing the two methods

The Devon principle is much the easier method to call. On the other hand, the individual ringers will get a rather different ringing experience depending on which bell they ring. So the treble will be changing places far more often than any other bell (ie nearly every call), Bell 2 will change moderately often, while the ringers of Bells 3, 4, and 5 will hardly change places at all, except to 'get out of the way' of the treble and 2 as they perform their respective hunting paths.

The Stedman principle is much more of a challenge to call, though there are plenty of signposts that can help the conductor not to lose their place! On the other hand, as in Stedman doubles, every individual bell does exactly the same work, though of course at different times.

As for the music, it's the same changes but in a different order: a matter for personal preference!

FROM THE ARCHIVES: 40 YEARS AGO

Minutes of a Committee meeting held at 48 High Steet, Honeybourne on Tuesday 14th September 1982, 7.30pm.

1 Present: AJ Brazier, D Hammond, J Nicholls, Jackie Taylor, Hazel Davies, A Turner, P Harmer.

Apologies received from MF Fairfax, Judith Fletcher.

Mrs Davies took the chair in the absence of the Guild Master.

2 Minutes were read and signed by Hazel Davies in the absence of the Guild Master.

3 Matters arising

Open afternoon: Mrs Davies commented arrangements were poorly made. Discussions ensued. Committee agreed in future one member should be made responsible for arrangements. Mrs Davies agreed to write to thank ringers at St Mary's Warwick for the loan of a demonstration bell.

Publications: Miss J Taylor agreed to make up publications holdings to the agreed number.

4 Sponsored peal: Mr Brazier reported Ms Fletcher would prefer the attempt to take place in the morning. He also reported she did not wish to call the peal. After discussion it was agreed that Mr Brazier would be the conductor. He suggested a 10.00am start dependant on the tower captain at Moreton. Mr Nicholls would make the arrangements.

5 Ringing Tour: Mrs Davies reminded committee of their responsibilities in drumming up support. Numbers coming to date were 15 and 3 other possibles.

Committee agreed a £2.00 donation should be made to each tower visited and that outing fees should be £1.00 per person for the day or 20p per tower. Mr Brazier suggested thank-you cards should be left with donations. The Secretary would arrange this and would collect monies on the day. Miss Taylor would coordinate the ringing.

6 Officers for 1983 and AGM:

The AGM is to be Saturday 30th October after the competitions at Shipton-on-Stour.

Nominations for Officers are required by 16th October. It was noted that Mr Fairfax did not wish to stand again as Guild Master.

There was a general discussion.

7 Newsletter: the Secretary reported that he had only one item to date

Committee requested the following items be included:-

Notice of AGM

Closing date for nominations of officers

A piece about the competitions

Quarter peals

Note of Stow Fair

Ditto Stratford-on-Avon ringing

Ditto Surprise practices

Ditto to check with Ringing Master that Saturday practices are as stated in the diary

Note of sponsored peal

8 Competition: this to be at Shipston-on-Stour on Saturday 30th October. The Treasurer reported arrangements were in hand. The Secretary was asked to make a note in the Newsletter that bands not represented in the first half of the competition would be welcome.

9 Subscriptions 1983: Committee agreed to recommend no change to such for 1983.

10 Any Other Business

The treasurer reported that the cash balance was only marginally changed from the last meeting. The Committee agreed to donate £10 to the Ray Selby Memorial Fund in aid of a ringing platform (Cleeve Prior).

The next committee meeting to decide requirements for Guild notepaper.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 26 October at the home of Judith Fletcher. Meeting closed at 9.35pm

(Signed) MF Fairfax 26/10/82. 14/9/1982

FROM THE ARCHIVES: 100 YEARS AGO

April 29th 1922. The half yearly meeting of the Guild was held at Ilmington on Saturday 29th April 1922. The competitions commenced at 2pm in which the towers of Shipston, Willersey and Moreton took part, taking their places in the order named above.

At 4:30 a special service was held in the church, which was well attended, and much appreciated by the members and friends present, an eloquent sermon being preached by the Rev W.F. Guerrier, of Ebrington.

Tea was provided in the schoolroom, and about 70 members and friends sat down to what proved to be an excellent repast. The Business meeting followed, and the Rev W. F. Guerrier was unanimously voted to the chair. There were also present the Rev's J.

Tucker, Canon Heygate, and Dr Hollbrooke, the church wardens, Messers S Bennett and Purser, and W. Gardiner, Mr Boyd Wilson, and many other prominent church workers.

After the minutes had been read and duly passed, correspondence was read concerning the proposed Badges. The Balance sheet was presented by the secretary which showed a Balance in hand of £8-1-4. This with the report given was accepted. The Officers were unanimously re-elected, but the secretary intimated that he would not stand for re-election next spring. The certificates won at Moreton by Campden and Ilmington were presented by Mrs W Gardiner. The Judges gave the result of the competition as follows,

Rising and Falling	Call Changes	Method	Total
Willersey 92%	98%	91%	281
Shipston 80%	92%	96%	268
Moreton 82%	92%	90%	264

As Ilmington were unable to qualify for method, the average on the days competitions was therefore 179, this being allotted to Ilmington as the non competitive tower.

The meeting decided to purchase the Badges in accordance with the design prepared by Mr E. Pardon. The question of insuring the trophy was left over until the next meeting. It was unanimously resolved to hold the Autumn meeting at Willersey on Oct, 28th. Votes of Thanks was heartily given to all those who had helped at and contributed provisions for the tea, on the proposition of the chairman, also to the clergy who took part in the special service, on the Proposal of Mr S Bennett.

After a vote of thanks had been passed to the Rev W.F.Gurrier for his services in the chair, the meeting terminated.

Signed Spencer Jones, chairman

Sept 29th 1922. A committee meeting called to arrange the programme for the Autumn meeting at Willersey, was held at the Rectory, Moreton on Friday, Sept 29th at 7pm.

In the unavoidable absence of the Rector, Mr H. Terry was elected to the chair, and there were also present representatives from Willersey, Shipston, Campden and Moreton. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Apologies for inability to attend were read from the Rev Canon Heygate, Rev A.D.Ager, and Rev G.E.Hitchcock. It was proposed by Mr Terry and seconded by Mr Faulkner that we adopt the programme as carried out at the previous meeting at Ilmington, which was passed unanimously. A letter written by the Rev Cannon Heygate to the Rev Spencer Jones stating that he was very sorry he would not be able to welcome the Guild personally to Willersey, as he had to undergo a course of medical treatment in London, and he expressed a wish that the Rector of Moreton would conduct the church services, and the committee were glad to note that he had kindly accepted the invitation. Messers W. Large and E. Pardon were again elected judges for the competitions.

It was Proposed by Mr Faulkner and seconded by Mr Harris, that the sum of 2/- each be charged for the new Badges. Carried.

Outstanding certificates. A discussion took place as to the necessary qualifications to secure a certificate, and it was resolved that in future they shall only be awarded to the tower which secures the second highest number on points for the current year.

It was also further resolved that in future, one attempt only will be allowed to be made by any team in each competition, otherwise to be disqualified.

Mr H. Terry applied for a course of instruction for the Ilmington Belfry, according to rule this with the usual votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

Signed S. W. B. Hollbrooke March 27th 1923

Quiz answers

1. All of them. Cat's Ears are specific to Stedman and Two and a Penny is specific to Erin. The others can appear in different methods.
2. The thing you need to know is that there are only three true touches of Bob Doubles.
There is the standard 120 which is 3 bobs. One bell makes long 5ths at each bob and the other bells run in, run out and make the bob in turn & in that order. Therefore if you have just run in at the next bob you must run out.
There is the 60 which is a bob called at alternate leads and you can call the first bob at the first or second lead. Again 3 bobs in total. It doesn't matter which variation is called, if you have just run in at a bob the next lead is a plain lead so you dodge 3-4 down. There is a bob at the next lead (alternate leads remember) but the next work after 3-4 down is long 5ths so you are unaffected.
The final touch (which some of the purists are a bit funny about) is two consecutive bobs. This means you run in twice and it comes round immediately.
So the answer is if you have just run in at a bob, at the next bob you could be doing anything **except** making the bob
3. You just need to rotate the front three bells so calling up: 5-3 5-1 3-1 or 3-1 5-1 5-3 (calling down 1-5 1 lead 3-1 or 3 lead 1-3 1 lead)

DIARY OF GUILD SATURDAY WEEKLY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

2022

- JULY 2nd** BRETORTON 8, tenor 8-3-11 in F#, WR11 7JS NOTE EARLIER TIME (19:00 UNTIL 20:30),
JULY 9th LONG COMPTON 6, tenor 12-0-22 in F, CV36 5JJ 7:30PM START
JULY 16th MORETON IN MARSH 8, tenor 10-0-14 in G, GL56 0LT NOTE EARLIER TIME 19:00 UNTIL 20:30
JULY 23rd ALVESTON 6, tenor 7-1-25 in A CV37 7QJ 7:30PM START
JULY 30th STRATFORD UPON AVON 10, tenor 19-0-2 in E CV37 6BQ 7:30PM START
AUGUST 6th STANTON 6, tenor 9-1-16 in G WR12 7NF NOTE EARLIER TIME (19:00 UNTIL 20:30),
AUGUST 13th SHIPSTON ON STOUR 6, tenor 9-2-1 in G CV36 4AP 7:30PM START
AUGUST 20th BISHAMPTON 6, tenor 10-2-4 in G WR10 2LU NOTE EARLIER TIME (19:00 UNTIL 20:30),
AUGUST 27th ASTON CANTLOW 6, tenor 14-0-14 in F B95 6JB NOTE EARLIER TIME 19:00 UNTIL 20:30
SEPTEMBER 3rd DIDBROOK 5, tenor 6-0--21 in B GL54 5PF NOTE EARLIER TIME (19:00 UNTIL 20:30),
SEPTEMBER 10th TREDINGTON 6, tenor 16-1-20 in D CV36 4NQ NOTE EARLIER TIME 19:00 UNTIL 20:30
SEPTEMBER 17th FLADBURY 8, tenor 12-3-3 in G# WR10 2QB NOTE EARLIER TIME (19:00 UNTIL 20:30),
SEPTEMBER 24th BRAILES 6, tenor 29-0-19 in C OX15 5HU 7:30PM START

For any alterations to this programme, check the FSG web-site (<http://www.fourshires.org.uk>), also BELLBOARD website bb.ringingworld.co.uk (diary section) **Meetings are from 7.30pm until 9.00pm unless otherwise stated.** All are welcome. You do not have to be a FSG member and we are especially pleased if members of the local band wish to come along and ring. The Guild carries Public Liability insurance through the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group for all its activities. Non-members attending these activities are also covered by this insurance, providing they abide fully by the Guild's Health & Safety and Child Protection policies. (Both policies now appear on the FSG web-site, so their contents are available to all, whether members or non-members.)



Scaffolding already in place around the stone for works to begin



Four Shire Stone Restoration 2022



Please help us to restore the Stone
To donate visit www.fourshirestone.org.uk
Thank you

While travelling around the Four Shires to attend the above practices one reader thought it may be of interest to point out some history that may be in the name after spotting an article in the Evesham Journal.

100yrs ago Many meetings for the Four shires guild were held at Moreton in the marsh thought to be the centre, a stone monument 1 miles east of Moreton at the junction to Great Wolford, marks the boundary of three counties Warwickshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. Pre 1931 when the boundaries changed there would have been the fourth county of Worcestershire that also met at this site, hence The four shires. Historians have found reference to a stone here dating back over hundreds of years. This stone monument is also thought to have inspired JRR Tolkien as he wrote the Hobbit and the Lord of the rings.

Currently the monument is in disrepair and this year local retired Chartered surveyor James Hayman-Joyce has set up a fund raising website to help restore the stone to its former glory. Works have started to take place. Alison Lee.

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.

BELLFOUNDERS BELLHANGERS CARILLON BUILDERS

Tower Bells Chimes Handbells Bell ropes
Design service Building work Access systems
Profile matching Restoration Augmentations
Wrought iron clapper repairs

See our website www.taylorbells.co.uk for specifications services and the latest information



The Bellfoundry, Freehold Street, Loughborough,
Leicestershire LE11 1AR, England
Tel: 01509 212241 Fax:01509 263305
Email:office@taylorbells.co.uk

The Guild has a Bell Restoration Fund, from which the Committee is empowered to offer grants towards suitable aspects concerning rings of bells within the Guild's area of operation. Such aspects may include a range of needs, from maintenance to augmentations. Rules and Constitution of the Fund are in the Guild Rule Book, and application forms are available from me. (These forms are email-able.)
Chris Povey 'BRF grant coordinator'

GUILD LAPEL BADGES



Guild lapel badge are available. They are slightly different to the previous version, as it is now the same as the clothing badges (the 'standard' Guild badge). It is slightly '3D' too, as some features are raised.

£4 each from the Hon Sec.

(The original badges cost £1 in 1976!)

NEED A CLEAN-OUT OF YOUR TOWER? THEN TRY FUSION CLEANING SERVICES



Craig Ellis

Managing Director
Fusion Cleaning Services Ltd

Fusion Cleaning Services Ltd
17A Shrub Hill Industrial Estate
Shrub Hill Road
Worcester
WR4 9EL

Free: 0800 6125608
Mob: 07802 758159

E: craig@fusioncleaning.uk
www.fusioncleaning.uk

Commercial and Office Cleaning Services
Industrial Cleaning Services

Fusion has cleaned out Hampton, Hinton-on-the-Green and Evesham Bell Tower belfries; and recently at Badsey.

