

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS



NEWSLETTER 2002

Ian Returns

At the October AGM Ian Fielding was elected as Master for a second term having had a year's break during which he married Jo, the SRCY librarian.



We hope you enjoy reading this SRCY Newsletter which includes reports of the events that took place during 2002 and details of the program for 2003.

The Society relies on the support of it's members so please do join in whenever you can – we look forward to welcoming you to any of our regular Wednesday evening practices and at other events during the forthcoming year.

Details of all practices and events can be found in the Ringing World and on our web page – www.srcy.org.uk

ELECTED OFFICERS 2002 -2003

| | |
|--|--|
| Master | Ian R. Fielding |
| Senior Steward | Shirley E. McGill |
| Junior Steward | Fiona Edwards |
| Honorary Secretary | Philippa M. Whittington |
| Honorary Treasurer | James W. Belshaw |
| Honorary Librarian | Joanne Fielding |
| Honorary Assistant Secretary | Penny Sharpe |
| Trustees | Ian H. Oram John S. Barnes |
| Independent Examiners | Christina D. A. Fleckney Michael H. D. O'Callaghan |
| Central Council representatives | John S. Barnes Ian H. Oram John P. Loveless Derek E. Sibson |

Useful Information

- ◆ Life Membership subscription is £15.00
- ◆ Steepleage is 50p
- ◆ Peal booking Fee is 50p

For successful peals both steepleage and the peal booking fee are payable (i.e. £1 per ringer).
For unsuccessful peals steepleage only is required (i.e.50p per ringer)
Steepleage, peal booking fees and details of peals including details of compositions and ringers for unsuccessful peals should be sent to the **Junior Steward** :

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47 Beechwood Gardens, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 2HP
fionaedwards@ukonline.co.uk

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c/o Miss S J Pattenden, 3 Willow Court, 31 Willow Place, London, SW1P 1JJ.
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SRCY DIARY 2003

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8th January | Meeting at St. Martin-in-the-Fields |
| 1st February | Not The Dinner Day |
| 8th March | Country Meeting in Essex |
| 7th May | Meeting at St. Martin-in-the-Fields |
| 12th July | Country Meeting in the Derby area |
| 6th September | Anniversary Dinner at Selwyn College Cambridge |
| 4th October | General Meeting and AGM in London |
| 15/16th November | Peal Weekend |

PEAL CONGRATULATIONS

1000th Peal Claire Edwards
 Ian Bushell
 Michael Belcher

2000th Peal Peter Fleckney
 Pat Halls

1000th Peal for the Society Alan Regin

The band that rang the first peal of Bristol Surprise Maximus at Liverpool Cathedral

The bands that rang the peals of Orion at Escrick and Rotherham organised by Jennie Town

New members

The Society welcomed 14 new members who were elected Society between January and October 2002:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Damien S. Smith | Mary Eleanor Holden |
| Margaret Holmes | Scott A. Stricker |
| Philip B. Buck | Christine Gabitass |
| Anthony J. Cox | Elizabeth Hill |
| John Sibbald | Jill Belcher |
| Madeleine Cheesman | Alison Harvey |
| Jenny Walton | Julia M. Forster |

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths Officers' Report 2001-2002

The Society has had another active and successful year. Membership has continued to increase steadily and practices and meetings have been well supported. Attendance at social events has varied with events outside of London proving more popular than those in the capital. It has also been a year of preparation with preliminary plans in hand for work at Shoreditch and the anniversary dinner.

Practices and Meetings

London Meetings

Regular weekly practices were held in London. The highest attended practice was 30 members at St Martin's on 6th February closely followed by the practice at St Martins on 9th January with 29 attendees. There were also two special practices held where quarter peals were rung. (Bristol Maximus and Cambridge Royal). Methods rung at 12 bell practices have included Stedman, Cambridge, Newgate, Yorkshire, Bristol, Orion and Spliced, while at other practices included 8 spliced Royal and touches of methods from Norman Smith's 23 Spliced Surprise Major series. A regional practice was also held at Hertford in February.

Northern Practices

During the year 8 northern practices have been held including one associated with a "Christmas Dinner" in Darlington. Attendance varies but are still generally good. We have lost a few experienced ringers and gained a few less experienced ones so the method range has become more basic, but we are gradually building up again and all practices seem worthwhile. A significant achievement was 2 peals of Orion, one at Escrick with 4 "firsts" and the one at Rotherham had 2 "firsts" in method.

Visitors are always very welcome at any of the Society's practices.

Five business meetings were planned for the year – the A.G.M. in October and four other General Meetings. Meetings were held in London in January and May and Country Meetings were held in Canterbury in March and North Somerset in July. The Spring Country meeting included Peal attempts in all corners of the County of Kent followed by a meeting and evening social in Canterbury. As usual, the possibility of a long weekend ringing was too tempting for a number of members and the July Country meeting included a number of peal attempts on Thursday and Friday, followed by peals and general ringing on Saturday morning. Over 50 members enjoyed a selection of towers on Saturday morning before everyone gathered at Backwell for the meeting. In the evening over 90 members enjoyed an excellent barn dance and supper at Kingston Seymour.

The Society is extremely grateful to everyone who helped organise all of these events.

On 21st November 2001, a Special General Meeting was held to consider the reports received on the bells and installation at Shoreditch. From this meeting a set of proposals were agreed and the interested parties invited to provide quotations for the work by the end of January. These were considered at the March Meeting and it was agreed that based on the recommendations of the Shoreditch working party, the contract should be awarded to Hayward Mills.

Other Events

The Anniversary Dinner was held at the Crypt in St Martins in the Fields on September 8th 2001. Over 40 members and friends attended and the evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

Peal weekend took place as usual on the third weekend in November. In total 50 attempts were arranged, of which 38 were successful, and 1 peal was rung for the Norwich Association. Our thanks go to all the organisers of the peals during the weekend and to John Barnes for his patience and commitment to this fixture.

Not the Dinner Day in February followed the usual format with 7 peals being rung during the day and an excellent curry in the evening.

The Society entered a band for the National 12 bell striking competition and after successfully competing in the eliminator at Newcastle were placed third in the final at Winchester in June. It is a credit to the Society that 75% of the members of the bands in the top 3 places were Cumberlands.

Members were active during the year for the funerals of HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and HRH Princess Margaret, and also the Queens Golden Jubilee celebrations both in London and in supporting their local towers throughout the country.

Peal Ringing

267 peals were rung during the year.

A number of members have reached significant milestones during the year :-

Peter Fleckney and Pat Halls rang their 2000th peals

Michael Belcher and Ian Bushell rang their 1000th peals

Alan Regin rang his 1000th peal for the Society

Jessie Kippin celebrated her 93rd birthday (on the day of the March country meeting)

Other notable achievements during the year were

A Society band that rang the first peal of Bristol Surprise Maximus at Liverpool Cathedral

The bands that rang the peals of Orion at Escrick and Rotherham organised by Jennie Town

Claire Edwards and Stephanie Pattenden who rang Exeter Tenor to a peal

New Members

16 new members were elected to the Society during the year. We welcome them.

Sunday Service Ringing

We are grateful to all members who support the Society's Sunday service ringing.

A number of members are part of the local band at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and ring regularly on Sunday mornings.

The Society is also responsible for regular service ringing at Spitalfields and Shoreditch. It has become increasingly difficult to organise Sunday service ringing at Shoreditch, due to changes in the times of services at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The officers have investigated alternative arrangements for arranging ringing and are grateful to Derek Sibson and Penny Sharpe for their assistance in this matter . Sunday service ringing at Spitalfields has continued when possible.

Towers

Regular Society practices continue to be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields, usually on the first Wednesday of each month and we have now returned to Shoreditch on a regular basis for practices. .

The work on the Church at Shoreditch has mainly been completed, though the officers are in negotiation with the church about renovation work on the steps to the ringing chamber.

The restoration work at Spitalfields Church continues. The bells are rung regularly and the Society again rang as part of the Spitalfields festival.

Though, since it is a Guild Church, there are usually no Sunday services at St Andrew's, Holborn, the Society is from time to time asked to provide ringing for weekday occasions.

Newsletter

This year the newsletter has again been published on the website as well as being sent out to every member. This year for the first time the newsletter was produced in A4 format rather than A5. This appears to be popular with the members as the donations we received showed a significant increase over

past years, contributing to nearly half the cost of production. Donations to the cost of producing the newsletter are always very welcome.

Christmas Cards

Christmas cards based on the Oranges and Lemons prints were produced and sold, in collaboration with the ASCY, with the funds raised towards the BRF. To date this, together with sales for the original prints have raised over £9000. The Society is grateful to Alan Regin, David Hilling and Jo Dorling for the time and effort they have given to this project.

Library

The programme of transferring historic records belonging to the society to the Guildhall Library has begun. All the volumes of peals books that were stored at St. Martin-in-the-Fields have now been removed and are in the process of being electronically scanned prior to being stored in the Guildhall Library. The task of updating the library records with references to each individual item's location has begun.

Society Property

We thank the trustees for ensuring the safety of the Society's property.

Doug Beaumont, Russell Brown, Philippa Whittington , Heather Kippin,
Shirley McGill, Fiona Edwards, Jo Fielding

CONGRATULATIONS

65 years membership

Doris Colegate elected 30.1.37

50 years membership

John Boutland elected 4.2.52
George Williamson elected 4.2.52
A. Muriel Reay elected 18.4.52
Betty Daysh elected 17.5.52
Joyce Dodds elected 21.6.52
John Schofield elected 21.6.52
Norman Smith elected 21.6.52
Mary Hill elected 27.9.52
S. Kathleen M. Baldwin elected 23.10.52

25 Years Membership

Heather Barrington elected 15.1.77
Charlotte Kirwan elected 15.1.77
Dawn V. A. Offen elected 15.1.77
Lucy Walpole elected 2.4.77
George H. Bailey elected 2.4.77
E. S. Bailey elected 2.4.77
David Andrews elected 2.4.77
Anne M. Anthony elected 2.4.77
Nicholas Wilkins elected 2.4.77

Sheila M. Williams elected 2.4.77
Peter Smith elected 2.4.77
John Bell elected 2.4.77
Lynne P. Butters elected 6.7.77
Sarah R. Humphries elected 6.7.77
Janet Penney elected 5.10.77
David Mossop elected 5.10.77
Rosamund J. Durham elected 5.10.77

The National 12-Bell Final 2002 – Winchester Cathedral.

The Band

(Pictured anticlockwise from bottom left)

1. Simon Davies
2. Paul Cammiade
3. Carole Hurst
4. Shirley McGill
5. Linda Garton
6. Russell Brown
7. John Loveless
8. Mike Wigney
9. Doug Beaumont
10. Ian Fielding
11. Frank Rivett
12. Alan Regin



When June finally came around, the 22nd to be precise, we all wondered why we'd said 'yes' but we dutifully boarded the train to Winchester to represent the Society in the 12-bell competition. It is an occasion that attracts many ringers from all over the country and, whether you are taking part in the competition or not, it certainly is quite different from local events. It is not only a good opportunity to hear good ringing but also a chance to meet old friends – all the more enjoyable when you've already rung your test piece! There is inevitably lots of nervous tension amongst the participants and an abundance of churchyard punditry - and this year was no exception.

For those who haven't been to a 12-bell final before, and I've only been to 4, the successful formula seems to be roughly the same wherever you go – a ring of twelve that you can hear inside and out, lots of space around for milling about and listening and chatting and a very well-stocked beer tent. Winchester fulfilled all the criteria (and the weather was good, too). The local ringers certainly know how to stage an event and we all enjoyed the benefits of some excellent organisation.

So to the actual ringing. The test piece this year was a lead of Primrose followed by five leads of Cambridge maximus, which we had been practicing during the previous months with varying degrees of success. We had qualified for the final at Newcastle earlier in the year, but inevitably, nerves play a large part on the day and our last place in the draw meant a lengthy wait. However, statistics show that a position later in the draw gives an advantage so maybe it was worth it! By the time it was our turn to ring, everyone appeared composed and we all tried our best. There were three members of the band who had never rung in a final before and all credit to them for keeping their cool. It's not bell ringing as we know it!! At the end, we felt we had done pretty well, but not well enough to win, and it turned out that the judges agreed with us.

The results were announced (much later) by the judges, Chris Kippin, Martin Whiteley and Alison Regan and it was clear that their task had not been easy. There were only three percentage points separating the top three teams, but most agreed that York were worthy winners. Much debate and post-mortem ensued, but most people just headed straight back to the beer tent to round off the day in typical style.

Some of you may have heard that Mike Wigney was seriously injured in a climbing accident in the Alps not long after the 12 bell final. We are pleased to report that he is making progress – he is now coming home at weekends, is ringing handbells and is also hoping that he will be able to come to the dinner in Cambridge in September.
We send our best wishes to him.

Country Meetings

Once again we held two Country Meetings during the year. In March we visited Kent and in July we went to North Somerset.

We are very grateful to everyone who helped to organise both of these events.

The Spring Country Meeting - March 8/9th 2002

This year's spring country meeting took place in the beautiful surroundings of the Kent countryside. Arriving in the dusk of Friday evening and rising early Saturday morning, we were rewarded by the lovely spring views. Some of us had chosen to stay down in Kent on the Friday and found that the Rose & Crown at Old Romney was a very picturesque and welcoming place to stay.

Peals had been rung on the Friday at New Romney, Lydd, Appledore and Benenden. On Saturday, following Friday's success, peals were scored at Maidstone, Rainham, Staplehurst and Birchington. General ringing took place at Canterbury Cathedral, St Dunstan's and St Stephen's and following that, the meeting took place St Alphege, formerly a church and now the Canterbury Environment Centre. A rare opportunity was available for us to "grab" the tower here, albeit having to carefully avoid boxes and cartons stored precariously in and around the ringing chamber!

The local ringers did us proud with the quality of organisation and evening meal. The food was superb and the bar was on hand, always ready to serve that one more glass of wine/pint of beer! I found it was a good opportunity to meet and ring with friends old and new. It was lovely to see people who had travelled long distances to the meeting and catch up on years past. A very successful and enjoyable weekend.

Jo Dorling

Dosy Do-dgers at The July Country Meeting

I recently enjoyed the weekend Country Meeting with the Cumberlands in North Somerset. The weather was fine, the company convivial, the food (Saturday tea, dinner) great and the ringing of course was excellent.

.....but there was a barn dance too!

Now, why is it that some of the best heavy bell ringers in the land, some of the best ringers of complex methods with perfect striking, some of the best composers and conductors who manipulate numbers from 1 to 8 to produce wonderful music, why do they fall into such an absolute heap with a simple square dance?

Perhaps it would be easier if we realised that a Do-si-do is nothing more than a dodge with your partner; that the move forward to kiss (Mmwaa!) your partner and back is making seconds (or thirds) and when repeated becomes Stedman slow work; that the Grand Promenade is Plain Hunt with your course bell(e) to the back, down to the front and back to your place; that the Grand Circle is Rounds; and that the move where all rush together with hands in the air (Ole!) is Firing on eight.

Then calling the Cumberland Reel becomes something like:

First ring rounds

Here we go

Dodge with your partner

Stedman slow

Plain hunt with your course belle

Listen to the band

Back to rounds

Fire; Stand

It was a lot of fun, special thanks to the organisers.

The July Country Meeting

I hope you'll all forgive me for reporting this in rhyme,
And missing out the boring bits you find time after time!
Those who wanted prose will find it in the Ringing World,
But here is my rendition of the way events unfurled...

An early morning phonecall rendered Alan in a tizzy
Poor Peter couldn't make it, 'cause he said he was too dizzy!
Some hectic alterations had things covered later on,
But seven hapless ringers couldn't start peal number one.

By nine pm on Friday we had thirteen peals completed
And we met up in Flax Bourton to regain our strength, depleted.
A most rewarding prelude to the July country meeting
At St Andrew's church in Backwell, and a splendid local greeting.

Four more peals and general ringing had us ready for our tea,
Which "set us up quite nicely!" in the words of Mrs. P!
When Heather finished eating, then the business could begin
But the high-tech mike and speakers had the Master in a spin.

Once Doug had figured out it must be button number three,
The meeting came to order and our hearts were filled with glee.
As those dreaded Shoreditch steps were given due consideration
The cost of restoration caused substantial consternation!

At last we all agreed that we would make them out of wood!
Well, some were not persuaded, but the rest of us felt good.
Then Stephanie regaled us with an even-handed tale
Of the Central Council meeting and the "Board that couldn't fail!"

Votes of thanks were duly given to all those who lent a hand
To make the grand occasion run successfully as planned.
The meeting was adjourned and after that we made our way
To the Kingston Seymour Village Hall, to dance the night away!

The band was quite electric with a captivating beat
And the music was compelling 'till we withered in the heat!
Thanks to Alan, Mike and Joe, and thanks to Philippa and Jo.
Thanks to Tony and Rebecca. Thanks to all, now I must go.

by Ian Mills

Northern Practices

This year we have held six practices at Stockton, and attendance has been fairly stable at 13 - 15.

We have lost quite a few regulars through house or job moves, and new babies, however, the practices remain worthwhile because enthusiasm is still high.

There has been opportunity to ring more right-place surprise maximus for some less experienced ringers, whilst others have moved on to Bristol. We still ring Orion, but not as regularly.

There are occasional problems at Stockton, the ropes are very suspect, and the 8th rope came off the wheel at one practice.

However, the local ringers are extremely welcoming and do all they can to ensure we can hold regular practices there. In fact, the local pub think we ARE the Stockton ringers !

When David went in (advance party to check the beer) shortly after the showing of "Midsomer Murders" on the television, he was greeted with "Oh the bell-ringers are back. You haven't been in for so long we thought you had all been murdered".

We have been invited to hold a practice at Newcastle Cathedral in November, which will allow some of the northern members who have difficulty getting to Stockton to join us. After this, we are open to suggestions but the format will remain much the same.

Orion Peal Weekend

The idea sprang from the fact that Ron wanted to ring a peal of Orion, but was afraid he was "past it", so we started to ring it at practices, and gradually it became apparent that several regulars would be perfectly capable of ringing a peal of it.

The next stage was to speak to Alan Regin about it. He decided we needed to supplement the "Northern gang" with people who were "Competent, Caring, and Cumberland", so we discussed who might fit the bill.

In the end, some of the "wish-list" were unavailable, both from North and South, so I expanded the list to include a couple of northerners who were not able to attend practices.

On the Saturday, England were playing in the World Cup, so when Ian and Claire were delayed it gave us opportunity to watch more of the match. We were leading 3-0 as we went up the tower, and with 3 minutes left to play we decided that defeat was not an option. The peal was similarly successful, and we went off for the traditional celebrations.

I don't know about the others, but next day I found it very hard to motivate myself to do it all again. Could we really concentrate that hard for another 3 hours? In fact this peal was even better, and on its completion six Northern Cumberlands had rung their first peals of Orion over the weekend.

Thanks to everyone who came along and worked so hard and made the weekend a ringing and social success. If the missing "C, C, C" people are available next year we may need some extra peal attempts!

Jennie Town

Newcastle Practice on 27 November 2002 - a visitor's impression

On a recent business trip to the north-east I found myself free on the night of the Society's practice at Newcastle Cathedral.

Those who have ventured to this area will know of the famous hospitality to be found, and thus it was that I was summoned to meet at 6.15 pm at a house in one of the more up-market areas of Sunderland, thence to be transported with four others to Newcastle. Being voted the smallest, I was directed to share the back seat of the car with Rachel Dyson and Karen Dickinson, a position I can thoroughly recommend.

Having managed to find a space in a car park (Newcastle United were playing a European match that night) we assembled at the Cathedral at the appointed hour of 7, to find we were already quorate. The bells were duly raised and soon good quality Cambridge Maximus was echoing round the streets of the city, doubtless to the joy of the assembling football fans.

Reinforcements kept arriving, bringing the eventual total to 26, and allowing touches of Bristol, Yorkshire, Stedman and Orion to be brought round, some more than once. True we had to have two attempts at the Orion, but at the second try a creditable three leads plus a lead of Bristol was successful. This brought the evening's ringing to an end and, after lowering the bells, we adjourned to 'The Bridge' to do what all good Cumberlands do after ringing.

That the practice was a success was evident not only by the good standard of ringing throughout but by the significant attendance, from as far afield as Ripon and northern Northumberland. With only one other twelve-bell tower within 30 miles, northern members and friends are obviously willing to go some distance in order to achieve some good twelve-bell ringing, and Jennie Town is to be congratulated on the success of practices in the north-east.

All too soon it was time to say goodbye and start on the journey home. The car was successfully extricated from the car park and the passengers loaded. I was again assigned the back seat with the aforementioned ladies, but this time I made a bid for the centre position which evened things out a bit. Thus I arrived back at Sunderland at some unearthly hour, bruised but unbowed, and full of gratitude for all the northern SRCY hospitality I had enjoyed.

And the final score? I think it was SRCY 18, ASCY 4, the rest 4, though there was some dispute. Oh, the football? Newcastle lost 4-1.

Chris Kippin

From the Peal Books

250 Years Ago

| | | | |
|------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 15/04/1753 | St George in the East | 5120 Union Bob Major | George Partrick |
| 12/05/1753 | St Leonard's Shoreditch | 5040 Cumberland Bob Major | George Partrick |
| 30/05/1753 | King Edward the Confessors Chaple Royal Romford | 5040 Plain Bob Major | George Partrick |

The peal at Romford (the dedication is how it appears in the copy peal book) was the first peal rung there and was the 17th rung for the Society, George Partrick had called all but one of these.

The peal of Cumberland Bob Major, composed by George Partrick has plain lead shown in the copy peal book, the notation is as follows:

x18x16x58x18x18x18x18x12

Sounds like a good anniversary to commemorate to me!

Don Morrison writes on the subject:

The method would appear to be a sort of reverse of Eastern Bob Major, an asymmetric plain method appearing in the CC methods collections, with the note that it was first rung on 27.12.1747 at Shoreditch. Looking at the Felstead collection it would appear it was rung by the Eastern Scholars. The place notation of Eastern Bob is given as x4x3x1x1x1x1x1x2 and it is also a leadhead b method. Double Eastern Bob was rung at St Margaret, Westminster five years later. So this similar method being rung at Shoreditch the year after that seems to fit just fine.

200 Years Ago

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 03/01/1803 | St Mary le Bow | 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal | George Gross Jnr |
| 22/02/1803 | St Leonard's Shoreditch | 5024 Oxford Treble Bob Major | George Gross Snr |
| 05/12/1803 | St Johns Hackney | 5040 Plain Bob Major | John Hints |

The peal at Bow was on the old heavy ten, tenor around 53cwt and it is noted that it was "rang by ten men only", James Marlton ringing the tenor.

In the copy peal book it is recorded after the Shoreditch peal recorded that "on the 3rd May this year died Mr George Gross senr who had served the Society as their Warner more than 20 years and by his abilities as a composer and bob caller caused the fame of this Society to be extended through these Kingdoms his compositions in this art are held in the highest estimation by all admirers of this exercise but more especially his productions in Treble Bob in which he surpassed all his contemporaries which will ever remain a lasting monument of the skill. He was succeeded in the Office of Warner by his only Son Mr George Gross."

100 Years Ago

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 24/01/1903 | St Mary's Speldhurst | 5184 Kent Treble Bob Major | Thomas Card |
| 07/02/1903 | Christ Church Wansted | 5040 Surprise Minor, 7 Methods | William Keeble |
| 14/02/1903 | St Margaret's Westminster | 5007 Stedman Caters | Edgar Wightman |
| 14/02/1903 | St Mary's Speldhurst | 5024 Plain Bob Major | Thomas Card |
| 07/03/1903 | St Mary's Woodford | 5040 Treble Bob Minor, 7 Methods | Edgar Wightman |
| 07/03/1903 | SS Peter & Paul Tonbridge | 5040 Stedman Triples | Keith Hart |
| 14/03/1903 | St John Bapt Erith | 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major | Edgar Wightman |
| 01/06/1903 | St Margaret's Uxbridge | 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major | George Williams |
| 20/06/1903 | St Peters Tunbridge Wells | 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major | Frank Bennett |
| 25/07/1903 | St Mary's Walthamstow | 5080 Kent Treble Bob Royal | Edgar Wightman |
| 05/09/1903 | St Mary's Speldhurst | 5376 Kent Treble Bob Major | Thomas Card |
| 12/09/1903 | St Anne's Highgate | 5024 Double Norwich Court Bob Major | Edgar Wightman |
| 30/09/1903 | SS Peter & Paul Tonbridge | 5040 Grandsire Triples | Thomas Card |
| 24/10/1903 | St Mary's Battersea | 5040 Stedman Triples | George Williams |
| 10/11/1903 | St Stephens Hampstead | 5040 Grandsire Triples | Mark Woodcock |
| 02/12/1903 | St Mary's Speldhurst | 5088 Plain Bob Major | Thomas Card |

Exactly the same number of peals as had been rung in 1901 and 1902 at 16, pretty standard fare with the Kent band led by Thomas Card still very active. The February 14th peal at Speldhurst mentions in the footnote that all of the members are Carpenters & Joiners by trade.

Alan Regin

Dinner Day 2002

by Louisa Holt

The anniversary dinner was held on Saturday 7th September in the crypt of St Martin-in-the-Fields – an excellent location suitable for a discerning yet sociable clientele such as the SRCY!

Two peals had been scored earlier in the day – Spliced Surprise Major at Shoreditch conducted by Ian Fielding and Glasgow Surprise Major at Wimbledon conducted by Catherine Merlane. The ladies at Wimbledon decided to make a really professional job of it by having no less than three warm-up sessions, by which time the band was glowing sufficiently as to inspire us to ring the full peal. We were rewarded with some enjoyable ringing of a challenging composition. Well done to Cath ‘the brain’ Merlane!

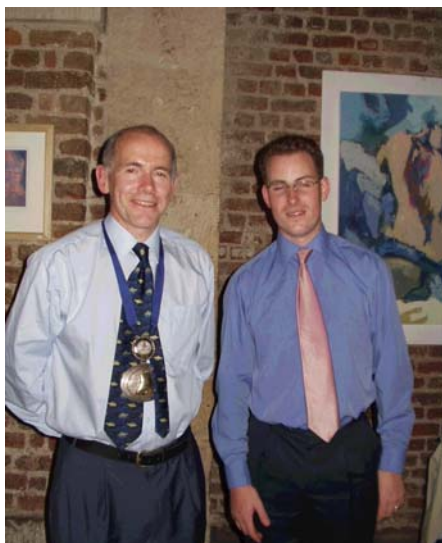
A few hours (and pints) later, everyone dodged the tourists in St Martins church and congregated in the crypt for a well-earned dinner. The SRCY anniversary dinner is unusual in that there is no formal seating plan and so you have to bag your seat when you arrive. The more experienced diners were straight on the case with tactically placed handbags and coats. Once you’ve established your location, and marked your territory, you have to make sure no one sneakily swaps your starter for the one you didn’t want. It’s tense stuff.



In the meantime, Heather Kippin supplied a novel form of pre-dinner entertainment with an enthusiastic display of her beautifully nail-varnished toes (“...’cause I’ve never ever painted my toes before in my life, no never, but I actually thought why not, and so I went into the shop with a bottle of nail polish and bought the dress to match! Chris said...”)



As I recall, there were three choices of main dish – beef, lamb or veggie, but I cannot possibly do the food as much justice as the serving staff, who untiringly waxed lyrical on the merits of each dish as people made their choice. I can certainly say that the beef (“Aberdeen Angus, I believe, madam - a very popular choice tonight”) was delicious. Judging by the appreciative chomping around the room, the other dishes were equally good, in fact so much so that seconds and even thirds (Olly) were energetically tackled. Personally, I thought it prudent to leave ample room for the chocolate pudding - hurrah!



The Master delivered a motivational speech which exhorted us to consider taking up office in the society if our talents lay in that direction. He said that there were future Masters in the room who maybe hadn't considered themselves, but he was careful not to make eye contact with anyone!

As the evening progressed into the latter stages and more wine was consumed, my memory starts to falter. Maybe Lloyd will have captured some interesting moments on his digital camera? Better check the website just in case.

I vaguely remember the departure of a sub-committee to the nearest pub to get a cider/real ale fix – possibly this would be the only criticism of the catering facilities: not enough variety in the drinks dept. But maybe this is a deliberate attempt by the church to stem bellringers' over-indulgence!



All in all, it was a 'good do' and what's more, I impressed myself by turning up to Sunday morning ringing at St Martins on time and awake!



CONGRATULATIONS

To

Gill and David Sparling on the birth of their son James David
Anne Davies and Clive Moon on the birth of their daughter Kathryn Ruth
Richard and Kathy Hinchliffe on the birth of their daughter Freya Christine

Jessie Kippin on her 93rd birthday

Jo and Ian Fielding on their marriage

News from our Towers

Clerkenwell

Ringling on the Second Sunday of each month has continued regularly with people coming from several different towers. It is rare to meet short and the ringling usually includes anything from Grandsire Triples to spliced surprise major.

As last year there have been quite a few weddings to ring for and the vicar has allowed one visiting band to ring on a Saturday.

The work done last year on the tenor clapper has made it a much easier bell to ring but still they are a challenging ring with plenty of tower movement to catch out the unwary.

Everyone is welcome.

Stephanie Pattenden

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

The St Martins band has had a successful and enjoyable year with much activity to report on.

At the AGM in February 2002, Olly Cross was re-elected as Tower Captain whilst Fiona Edwards took up the role of Vice Captain and Joanne Fielding as Secretary. Some members have been lost from the Sunday service band as natural turnover dictates members move out of London or towards other towers. Despite the loss of some strong members, the band has continued to ring Bristol Maximus and Stedman Cinqes as standard on a Sunday morning, with Orion not quite as frequent, but nevertheless a part of the band's repertoire.

Advancement continues to be a strong theme at St Martins, both as a band and as individuals. In 2002 a peal of Orion was rung, followed by a peal of Stedman Cinqes in June for the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Several quarter peals have been arranged and rung specifically to help individuals in their learning of a new method.

In June 2002, the band made no secret of their delight at the result of the National Twelve Bell Striking Competition in Winchester. Just 1% behind the winners, this was a great day for the band, and, incidentally, 11 of the 12 are members of the SRCY. The individuals who rang have much to celebrate, but it's not just down to the 12 that this result was achieved. Those who were willing to help with the practices played a large part, as did the church in their support and encouragement of what is still considered a relatively new band to the 12 bell.

During the summer months the church organised some hidden tours which took visitors behind the scenes into the vestry, roof space and ringing room. This presented an opportunity to experience a different part of ringing, that of communicating our art to the outside world. Roddy Horton worked with the church to plan the ringing room part of the tour, which was to turn out the high point for many visitors. It's difficult to put all you know about ringing into a 10-minute slot, but somehow Roddy, Tony Kench, Alan Regin, Terry Horton, Jo Dorling and Jo Fielding achieved this with many complimentary comments from both the church and the visitors.

Looking back over the year, the band has much to be proud of. Looking forward, there are new and exciting opportunities that will arise. We look to continue to advance our ringing, both as individuals and as a band, and to contribute more than a 'Sunday morning noise' to church life. Anybody interested in joining the St Martins band for service ringing or other band activities during the year, please contact the Secretary, Jo Fielding, on 020 8655 4476.

Jo Fielding

Shoreditch

This year has been a busy one at Shoreditch, now back to normal after the church reopened in September 2001.

There has been a large amount of ringing on the bells, numerous peals by the Society and others and some visiting bands for tower outings and practices.

Unfortunately, we have still been unable to man Sunday service ringing very often. Derek Sibson's band has rung for services bi-monthly and Doug Beaumont has managed to organise a few others so thanks to both of them. Anyone interested in bringing a band for service, possibly to ring a quarter, should contact me.

There is not going to be as much ringing in the next two months of 2002. The work on the bells is scheduled for November and will be undertaken by Hayward Mills. Also, the Spitalfields Festival is taking place in December at Shoreditch. Overall, it has been a good year for the Society at Shoreditch and we look forward to next year when the work on the acoustics will commence.

Fiona Edwards

Spitalfields

I am pleased to report another good year at Spitalfields, the bells have been rung on the 1st and 3rd Sunday on most occasions during the year. Once again we are very grateful to a relatively small number of ringers who help out on a Sunday.

On the peal ringing front the tower has been as active as usual with some 21 peals being rung during 2002 to date. The Society has also used the tower for practice on a couple of occasions also and we have welcomed a number of visiting bands during 2002. The bells were also rung for the first and last concerts of the Summer Music Festival. As last year, no major maintenance has been required. However, the bells have recently been inspected by Hayward Mills and a full report on the condition of the bells and fittings has been received detailing some minor work required to clappers and pulleys. We hope to be able to put this work in hand shortly.

The report did also mention that the frame now requires repainting and again we hope to have that work underway shortly, most likely by Society Members and Friends - volunteers welcome!

As members will probably be aware, the church restoration project at Spitalfields moves ahead, the exterior work being completed some while ago. We have been aware for some while that the interior work is planned to start shortly. In fact, it is understood that the contractors will take over the building on Monday 4th November. It is quite likely, because of the regular access route through the Church, that we will not be able to gain access to the ringing chamber for some while. We hope to meet with the contractors shortly to discuss the situation, I will endeavour to keep members aware of developments in this respect.

Although the work may restrict ringing in the short term, I am certain that the long term benefits will very great.

On a sad note, I have to report the departure of the Rev Paul Bowtell after over 11 years at Spitalfields. He is moving to a new post in East London. Paul has been a great friend to ringers in general and the Society in particular and he will be greatly missed.

Alan Regin



Losses of Members

The following have died during the year and have been remembered at a meeting:-

William G. Merritt of Lewes. Elected 1983.

Marie R. Cross MBE of Abingdon. Elected 1935

Clive W. Longden of Chesterfield. Elected 1966

Prebendary Austen Williams (Honorary Member)

Mike Elson of Porthallow Cornwall. Elected 1960

Margaret Ranken (nee Fiddell) of Littleport, formerly Sunderland elected 24/10/1947

Albert J. Lancefield (Bert) of Willesborough, Kent, elected 22/8/1947

Jean Woolford of Zeals, Warminster, Wilts elected 17/9/60 (Daughter of Olive and Teddy Barnett)

AUSTEN WILLIAMS 1912-2001

Prebendary Austen Williams was the first person to be elected an Honorary Member of the Society after the rules were amended to allow non-ringers who have been particularly supportive of the Society to be elected. He felt very honoured to be in such a position.

Austen was vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields for 28 years - from 1956 until his retirement in 1984 and he followed the Rev. Mervyn Charles Edwards when he became Bishop of Worcester. He was an ideal priest for St Martins with his very individual approach to the part St Martins played in caring for the lonely, unwanted and homeless, in the tradition established by Dick Sheppard. He was also a very well known and loved broadcaster with a monthly service for the BBC World Service and the Annual Christmas Appeal as well as early morning slots.

He was a very loyal supporter of the Society, even though he felt the priorities at the time prevented him launching an appeal for the bells, while recognising their need for restoration. He was a regular guest at the Society's dinners and we have enjoyed his speeches on a number of occasions.

He died in December 2001 at the age of 89 and we shall miss his quiet spoken help and advice as will numerous others who have benefited from St Martins.

Derek Sibson

Excellent Team-work at Liverpool Cathedral

A Cumberland band rang the first peal of Bristol Surprise Maximus on the 82 cwt bells of Liverpool Cathedral. This took place on Saturday June 1st and was rung to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Congratulations to the whole band for a great performance.

Here we have reports from each ringer describing how it felt to be part of what has been universally recognised as a brilliant achievement.

Bell by bell:

Christina Fleckney - Treble

Having lived on Merseyside most of my life ringing at Liverpool Cathedral was not uncommon, but even for general ringing there was a "fear" - the vastness of the Cathedral, the claustrophobic lifts, the cavernous ringing chamber, the circus ring with sawdust, the sound of the bells - and now a peal to be rung. I've no idea where the time went as it seemed shorter than most other peals and it took the rest of the day for the reality of the excellent performance to sink in. An ambition fulfilled in style. Thanks to all involved.

Catherine Merlane - 2

To ring a peal at Liverpool Cathedral was something I had placed on the 'unlikely to do' list so I felt extremely honoured to be invited to ring for the Queen's Golden Jubilee. My fears of standing on the wooden ring were overcome at the practice but the other worry was 'how do I know how far through the peal we are?' So the composition was learnt in an unconventional manner but this made it easier to gauge progress. Driving home I was on a high, proud that I had been part of the team that had achieved what we had set out to do. For me it was certainly the highlight of the year.

Linda Garton - 3

An unforgettable day! I don't think I've ever been so nervous during a peal or quite so jubilant afterwards! It was a brilliant team effort, resulting in a peal to be really proud of. The ringing was confident and positive from the start - the practice beforehand was certainly invaluable. My lasting memory will be of everyone running round and round the ring after the peal, congratulating each other, and when we went up to look at the bells, the magnitude of the achievement really sank in.

Ian Roulstone - 4 Conductor

My lasting impression of the peal at Liverpool will be one of a fine, solid, team effort. From the moment we set foot inside the ringing chamber for the practice on 19th May, everyone geared themselves up for a real challenge. And somehow, I felt that all the band realised the importance of simply giving our best - if the bells turned out to be too much, then we would have tried our hardest. Standing on the 'circus ring' and ringing Bristol Maximus on an 82cwt twelve was just dealt with. In the end it was SRCY 1, '82cwt twelve' 0!

Claire Edwards - 5

A certainly memorable - if not slightly stressful - experience. It's probably the first and maybe the last peal I've rung in where one ringer has made a grab for another ringer's vittles. (Vittle: archaic variant spelling of victual, meaning food or provisions, typically as prepared for consumption and related to vivere "to live".) And of course I'm very pleased to have been asked to take part.

Doug Beaumont - 6

Everything about the ringing chamber seems calculated to terrify, from the wide echoing chamber with its great steel beams covered in black pitch, to the high circular platform on which ringing takes place. It was a great event to be taking part in, but a relief to finish!

Graham Duke - 7

When Jake first emailed me with the offer of a rope at Liverpool I couldn't reply fast enough, as it really is the opportunity of a lifetime. At the practice a fortnight before I found them just as difficult to hear as I remembered them, even after a few touches, and I felt that we rang rather too slowly and there were too many method mistakes. So for the peal I took some cotton wool to put in my ears and although this quietened everything it did make the strike notes clearer and helped me a lot. I was very pleased with the peal, and think we settled down well in the circumstances, produced good ringing throughout and had an excellent finish.

Peter Fleckney - 8

Having been let down once at Liverpool Cathedral I didn't really hold my breath about this one. However after the practice, which proved very useful, it seemed more likely and my enthusiasm returned. On the day the band used all its experience and professionalism to produce a peal which I'm sure none of us will ever forget. A great effort by all.

Ian Fielding - 9

The peal went much more quickly than I had expected it to. It wasn't an enjoyable experience in the normal sense of the word, but very satisfying when it came round. The whole band rang well as a band (we wouldn't have got it if we hadn't) and some of the ringing at the end was really enjoyable.

Stan Jenner - 10

The only thing missing at Liverpool to make the set-up totally intimidating is a long draught, and I have never seen a whole band so nervous before a peal. Once under way, most of the peal was good, but the confident ringing of the last three quarters of an hour or so was a particular pleasure: the tenor ringers knew they had enough left in the tank to finish in style, but the rest of us had to keep up on our own! I'm glad I've done it, but I wouldn't like to have to do it again.

Alan Regin - 11

I suppose my main thought was that, as a band, we were stepping into the unknown. Although we were all very experienced peal ringers none of us had rung a peal on such heavy bells and in a place quite like Liverpool Cathedral. Those bells are a physical and mental challenge - the weight of bells, the fact that all ringers stand on what is in effect a very large box in a huge towers surrounded by sound - what an experience!

John Loveless - Tenor (Box)

I had rung at Liverpool Cathedral several times before and I knew that in terms of both overall difficulty and intimidation rating they were a level above all the other big peals of bells, even including St Paul's. To ring Maximus well (which I felt was an attainable objective from the outset) we clearly needed to take a very strong band but, just as important, we needed a practice session - you really do have to learn how to ring an 82cwt twelve - in order to be fully prepared for the peal. Our first attempt at four extremely slow leads of Bristol demonstrated the steepness of the learning curve but by the end of the practice we had a clear idea of what we needed to do, ring them at a sensible speed and don't be scared! The peal itself? A real team effort, sustained high quality ringing, very few method mistakes and a better result than any of us could have hoped for.

Ian Campbell - Tenor (Strap)

This was a once-only opportunity not to be missed so I was really pumped up for it! However, the strapping was harder work than I had anticipated - that was probably due to the fact that we were always on top of the bell. Bristol is a superb method but to ring it on such heavy bells makes it quite demanding. The end result was I believe exceptional and far surpassed my expectations.

Where are they now?

Please help us find up-to-date addresses for these members.
Thank you to those who helped last time.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Alison Hill | Angela Wright | Anna M. P. Piechna |
| Annette Bradbury | Colin G. Andrews | Cyril Buesden |
| G. D. Fearnough | Gerald Frost | Hetty Hawthorne |
| Ian M. Robinson | J. Martin Page | Jacqueline Harrison |
| James T. Stevens | Joyce Clark | Lance S. F. Hewson |
| M. Pearse | M. Janet Mattinson | Maureen A. Popple |
| Peter D. Storey | Susan Houghton | Susan P. Cole |
| Terence V. Barnard | Valerie Williams | W. S. Bonnet |
| Walter J. Lemon | William Allsopp | P. Charles Sinden |

Do you receive the monthly email news update?

If not and you would like this useful way of being kept informed, send your email address to the secretary at srcy.sec@ntlworld.com and she will add you to the list.

S.R.C.Y. PEALS RUNG IN THE YEAR 2001 - 2002

| | | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 10.8.01 | Coleraine | 5024 | Westmorland Surprise Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 11.8.01 | St. Albans (Cathedral) | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Maximus | D E Sibson |
| 11.8.01 | Ballylesson | 5152 | 7-Spliced Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 12.8.01 | Ballymena | 5042 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | J P Loveless |
| 13.8.01 | Hillsborough | 5040 | Pudsey Surprise Royal | J P Loveless |
| 13.8.01 | Dundela | 5120 | Bristol Surprise Royal | S A Wheeler |
| 18.8.01 | Lincoln (St.Giles) | 5152 | Glasgow Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 18.8.01 | Washingborough | 5152 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | I Roulstone |
| 18.8.01 | Canterbury | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Maximus | D E Sibson |
| 19.8.01 | Grimsby | 5122 | Bristol Surprise Royal | S A Wheeler |
| 20.8.01 | Stow | 5056 | Essex Surprise Major | I Roulstone |
| 20.8.01 | Kirton in Lindsey | 5088 | London Surprise Major | I Roulstone |
| 23.8.01 | Spitalfields | 5040 | Grandsire Triples | A Regim |
| 23.8.01 | Trumpington | 5024 | Newport Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 26.8.01 | York (St.Martin-le-Grand) | 5056 | Kirkstead Surprise Major+ | D E Sibson |
| 27.8.01 | Bridlington | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 1.9.01 | Bampton | 5088 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 2.9.01 | St. Albans (St.Peter) | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 6.9.01 | Trumpington | 5056 | Yate Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 6.9.01 | Spitalfields | 5152 | 23-Spliced Surprise Major | A Regim |
| 8.9.01 | Limehouse | 5120 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 8.9.01 | Bermondsey | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 9.9.01 | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate | 5042 | Orion Surprise Maximus | I R Fielding |
| 9.9.01 | Cottesbrooke | 5088 | London Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 13.9.01 | Trumpington | 5024 | 9-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 15.9.01 | Coleshill | 5040 | Verdon Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 15.9.01 | Staplehurst | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | I R Fielding |
| 15.9.01 | Northfield | 5040 | Ravenstone Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 19.9.01 | Bocking | 5040 | XL Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 19.9.01 | Great Baddow | 5022 | XL Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 22.9.01 | Exeter | 5007 | Stedman Cinques | J W Belshaw |
| 22.9.01 | Fulbourn | 5088 | Quadrant Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 23.9.01 | Frinsted | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | S A Wheeler |
| 29.9.01 | Northampton (All Saints) | 5120 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 29.9.01 | Northampton (St.Giles) | 5040 | Lincolnshire Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 30.9.01 | Ilford | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 30.9.01 | Hunston | 5040 | 7 methods Doubles | S A Wheeler |
| 2.10.01 | Shoreditch | 5088 | Barford Surprise Maximus | D E Sibson |
| 6.10.01 | Spitalfields | 5056 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 6.10.01 | St. Mary-le-Bow | 5019 | Stedman Cinques | J W Belshaw |
| 9.10.01 | Pimlico | 5152 | Molybdenum Surprise Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 12.10.01 | Meldreth | 5056 | Iolite Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 13.10.01 | East Grinstead | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | I V J Smith |
| 17.10.01 | Fulbourn | 5056 | Vulcanite Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 20.10.01 | Stowting | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | S A Wheeler |
| 20.10.01 | Wye | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | R Baldwin |
| 21.10.01 | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate | 5042 | 5-Spliced Surprise Maximus | I R Fielding |
| 21.10.01 | Sennen | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J P Loveless |
| 22.10.01 | St. Budock | 5088 | Uxbridge Surprise Major | R M Hobbs |
| 22.10.01 | Stithians | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J P Loveless |
| 24.10.01 | Phillack | 5090 | Cambridge Surprise Major | R M Hobbs |
| 24.10.01 | Carbis Bay | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | Linda M Garton |

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|----------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 25.10.01 | Probus | 5152 | Glasgow Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 26.10.01 | Madron | 5152 | Ealing Surprise Major | M G Elson |
| 27.10.01 | Hastings (Blacklands) | 5040 | Stedman Triples | D D Smith |
| 2.11.01 | Houston | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 2.11.01 | Houston | 5184 | Superlative Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 3.11.01 | Houston | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 4.11.01 | Texarkana | 5040 | Stedman Triples | S A Wheeler |
| 5.11.01 | Texarkana | 5024 | Stateline Surprise Major * | S A Wheeler |
| 5.11.01 | Texarkana | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 5.11.01 | Texarkana | 5120 | London Surprise Major | R Baldwin |
| 6.11.01 | Little Rock | 5056 | Belfast Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 7.11.01 | Marietta | 5152 | Uxbridge Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 7.11.01 | Atlanta | 5000 | Atlanta Delight Royal * | D E Sibson |
| 8.11.01 | Atlanta | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | R Baldwin |
| 8.11.01 | Marietta | 5120 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 8.11.01 | Marietta (H/B) | 5040 | Plain Bob Minor | R Baldwin |
| 9.11.01 | Hendersonville | 5024 | 6-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 9.11.01 | Hendersonville | 5152 | Glasgow Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 10.11.01 | Hatfield | 5040 | Oxlease Surprise Royal * | J P Loveless |
| 10.11.01 | Kimpton | 5024 | Glasgow Surprise Major | J R Turnock |
| 10.11.01 | Charleston (Grace Church) | 5000 | Bristol Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 11.11.01 | Charleston (Cathedral) | 5088 | Charleston Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 12.11.01 | Sullivan's Island | 5056 | Cornwall Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 12.11.01 | Charleston (Cathedral) | 5056 | Eastthorpe Surprise Major * | D E Sibson |
| 14.11.01 | Charleston (H/B) | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | R Baldwin |
| 16.11.01 | Bermondsey | 5184 | Kensington Surprise Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 16.11.01 | Broadclyst | 5088 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | D B Carter |
| 17.11.01 | Kalamazoo (H/B) | 5024 | Plain Bob Major | M F Schulte |
| 17.11.01 | Alton | 5120 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 17.11.01 | Grayshott | 5056 | Grayshott Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 17.11.01 | Sharow | 5088 | Uxbridge Surprise Major | R S Riley |
| 17.11.01 | Staplehurst | 5003 | Grandsire Caters | R A Pearce |
| 17.11.01 | Guildford | 5088 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | J Morgan |
| 17.11.01 | Hexham | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | M J L Durham |
| 17.11.01 | Carshalton | 5088 | Uxbridge Surprise Major | M J Wigney |
| 17.11.01 | Hemel Hempstead | 5184 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | G A Duke |
| 17.11.01 | Burnley | 5024 | Ashtead Surprise Major | A D Sibson |
| 17.11.01 | Welbourn | 5056 | Rutland Surprise Major | P A Sharp |
| 17.11.01 | Brighton (St.Peter) | 5039 | Grandsire Caters | A R Baldock |
| 17.11.01 | High Wycombe | 5040 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | J P Loveless |
| 17.11.01 | Dagenham | 5056 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 17.11.01 | Deptford | 5152 | Glasgow Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 17.11.01 | Southill | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J P Loveless |
| 17.11.01 | Warfield | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | S A Rossiter |
| 17.11.01 | Clevedon | 5056 | Cambridge Surprise Major | C R Nicholls |
| 17.11.01 | Warnham | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | D D Smith |
| 17.11.01 | Bristol (St.Stephen) | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | Rebecca J Cox |
| 17.11.01 | Hethersett | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | C M Peckham |
| 17.11.01 | Northfield | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | I Butters |
| 17.11.01 | Sheldwich | 5184 | Bristol Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 17.11.01 | Hartfield | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | I R Fielding |
| 17.11.01 | Charleston (Cathedral) | 5056 | Cambridge Surprise Major | R Baldwin |
| 18.11.01 | Sandon | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J P Loveless |
| 18.11.01 | Maidenhead (H/B) | 5056 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | K J Darvill |
| 18.11.01 | Stockton-on-Tees | 5040 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | Jennifer A Town |

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|----------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 18.11.01 | Keele | 5024 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | Patricia A M Halls |
| 18.11.01 | Terling | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J L Towler |
| 18.11.01 | Trumpington | 5024 | Zakynthos Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 18.11.01 | Holt | 5152 | Lincolnshire Surprise Major | A P Cotton |
| 18.11.01 | Offton | 5184 | Norfolk Surprise Major + | S D Pettman |
| 18.11.01 | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate | 5040 | Rigel Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 18.11.01 | Kalamazoo | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | D Trumpler |
| 20.11.01 | Barton Seagrave | 5088 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 24.11.01 | Oxford (St.Thomas) | 10000 | Nideggen Surprise Royal | J P Loveless |
| 28.11.01 | Shoreditch | 5184 | Newgate Surprise Maximus | S A Wheeler |
| 28.11.01 | Colne Engaine | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | D E Sibson |
| 30.11.01 | Frodsham | 5088 | London Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 30.11.01 | Buckley | 5088 | Cardiff Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 1.12.01 | Chichester | 5024 | Lessness Surprise Major | J W Belshaw |
| 1.12.01 | Guildford | 5042 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | I R Fielding |
| 1.12.01 | Drogheda | 5088 | Dublin Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 1.12.01 | Ballylesson | 5056 | Belfast Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 2.12.01 | Haddington | 5088 | Edinburgh Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 4.12.01 | Shoreditch | 5040 | Shoreditch Delight Maximus | D E Sibson |
| 8.12.01 | Dunstable | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 8.12.01 | Shepton Beauchamp | 5040 | Primethorpe Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 8.12.01 | Sidmouth | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 9.12.01 | Thorverton | 5040 | Meadowhall Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 15.12.01 | Saffron Walden | 5007 | Stedman Cinques | J W Belshaw |
| 15.12.01 | Spitalfields | 5088 | Tockenham Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 16.12.01 | Beckenham | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | I R Fielding |
| 16.12.01 | Shoreditch | 5040 | Fredebie Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 27.12.01 | Cranbrook | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | I V J Smith |
| 27.12.01 | Goudhurst | 5088 | 6-Spliced Surprise Major | S Jenner |
| 27.12.01 | Crick | 5024 | Verdigris Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 28.12.01 | West Wycombe | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | P F Curtis |
| 28.12.01 | Beaconsfield | 5088 | London Surprise Major | S J Davies |
| 28.12.01 | Thrapston | 5088 | Zephyr Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 30.12.01 | Great Baddow | 5024 | Jacaranda Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 31.12.01 | Barton Seagrave | 5024 | Oakley Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 31.12.01 | Trumpington | 5024 | Quy Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 1.1.02 | Melbourn | 5024 | Upware Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 1.1.02 | Cirencester | 5040 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 1.1.02 | Highworth | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | A Regan |
| 5.1.02 | Melton Mowbray | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | I Roulstone |
| 5.1.02 | Beeston | 5040 | 6-Spliced Surprise Royal | R P Graves |
| 5.1.02 | Spitalfields | 5120 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 6.1.02 | Clifton (St.Mary) | 5120 | London Surprise Major | I Roulstone |
| 8.1.02 | Shoreditch | 5152 | 13-Spliced Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 12.1.02 | St. Martin-in-the-Fields | 5089 | Stedman Cinques | D E Sibson |
| 13.1.02 | St. Mary-le-Bow | 5088 | Ariel Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 17.1.02 | Trumpington | 5024 | Glasgow Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 19.1.02 | Chiddingstone | 5040 | Double Norwich Court Bob Major | A R Baldock |
| 19.1.02 | Burnham | 5056 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 19.1.02 | Stoke Poges | 5088 | Taplow Surprise Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 20.1.02 | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate | 5001 | Stedman Cinques | I R Fielding |
| 26.1.02 | Southill | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | J P Loveless |
| 26.1.02 | Lydd | 5152 | Superlative Surprise Major | A L Andrews |
| 2.2.02 | St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | J P Loveless |
| 2.2.02 | Pimlico | 5184 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | P F Curtis |

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|---------|------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2.2.02 | Wandsworth (West Hill) | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 2.2.02 | Lambeth (Waterloo Rd.) | 5184 | Sheraz Surprise Major * | S A Wheeler |
| 2.2.02 | Rotherhithe | 5088 | Bristol Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 2.2.02 | Shoreditch | 5088 | Uxbridge Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 2.2.02 | Spitalfields | 5088 | London Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 3.2.02 | Shoreditch | 5088 | 4-Spliced Surprise Maximus | I R Fielding |
| 6.2.02 | Thaxted | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 8.2.02 | Shoreditch | 5056 | London Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 9.2.02 | Coggeshall | 5000 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | J W Belshaw |
| 9.2.02 | Kings Langley | 5056 | Rutland Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 9.2.02 | Buckland Dinham | 5056 | Belfast Surprise Major | J StJ Beaumont |
| 10.2.02 | Shoreditch | 5040 | Hemington Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 10.2.02 | Beckenham | 5055 | Stedman Caters | M J Wigney |
| 23.2.02 | Deptford | 5056 | London Surprise Major | S Jenner |
| 24.2.02 | Stockton-on-Tees | 5042 | Lincolnshire Surprise Maximus | Rachael H Dyson |
| 8.3.02 | New Romney | 5120 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 8.3.02 | Lydd | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 8.3.02 | Appledore (Kent) | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 8.3.02 | Benenden | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 9.3.02 | St. Laurence in Thanet | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 9.3.02 | Maidstone (St.Michael) | 5088 | Bristol Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 9.3.02 | Rainham | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | I V J Smith |
| 9.3.02 | Staplehurst | 5000 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | S A Wheeler |
| 9.3.02 | Birchington-on-Sea | 5056 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | A D Pink |
| 12.3.02 | Shoreditch | 5152 | 16-Spliced Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 16.3.02 | Eltham | 5088 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | J W Belshaw |
| 16.3.02 | Spitalfields | 5088 | Frankley Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 23.3.02 | Fulbourn | 5088 | Quidditch Surprise Major * | D E Sibson |
| 26.3.02 | Shoreditch | 5088 | Frascati Surprise Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 29.3.02 | Maidstone (St.Michael) | 5072 | Grandsire Major | J W Belshaw |
| 1.4.02 | Wimborne | 5040 | Owlerton Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 2.4.02 | Shoreditch | 5040 | Lessness Surprise Maximus + | D E Sibson |
| 4.4.02 | Cambridge (R.C.) | 5024 | Glasgow Surprise Major | J W Belshaw |
| 5.4.02 | Spitalfields | 5152 | Bristol Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 6.4.02 | Northampton (Holy Sepulchre) | 5184 | Bristol Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 9.4.02 | Shoreditch | 5152 | 18-Spliced Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 9.4.02 | Maidstone (St.Michael) | 5184 | Superlative Surprise Major | S Jenner |
| 13.4.02 | Fairwarp | 5152 | Adelaide Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 13.4.02 | Over (Cambridgeshire) | 5024 | Dolomite Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 14.4.02 | Pluckley | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | A L Andrews |
| 18.4.02 | St. Mary-le-Bow | 5001 | Stedman Cinqes | I R Fielding |
| 19.4.02 | Spitalfields | 5088 | Northfield Delight Major + | S A Wheeler |
| 20.4.02 | Selby | 5042 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | J P Loveless |
| 21.4.02 | Escrick | 5042 | Cambridge Surprise Maximus | J P Loveless |
| 21.4.02 | Shoreditch | 5000 | Vintry Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 23.4.02 | Shoreditch | 5152 | 23-Spliced Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 27.4.02 | St. Peter in Thanet | 5120 | Bristol Surprise Major | J W Belshaw |
| 27.4.02 | Tunstall | 5088 | London Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 27.4.02 | Wroxham | 5040 | 3 methods Minor | C M Peckham |
| 28.4.02 | Kennington | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | I R Fielding |
| 4.5.02 | Rotherhithe | 5024 | Lessness Surprise Major | J W Belshaw |
| 4.5.02 | East Meon | 5080 | Mercia Delight Royal + | J P Loveless |
| 4.5.02 | Swanage | 5056 | Bristol Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 6.5.02 | Bristol (St.Stephen) | 5000 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | A J Cox |
| 6.5.02 | Leatherhead | 5040 | Henleaze Surprise Royal | J P Loveless |

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|---------|--------------------------|------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 6.5.02 | South Croydon | 5042 | Lincolnshire Surprise Maximus | P F Curtis |
| 7.5.02 | Shoreditch | 5002 | Cork Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 9.5.02 | Plympton | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 11.5.02 | St. Dennis | 5056 | Cornwall Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 11.5.02 | Burnley | 5088 | Bristol Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 11.5.02 | Truro | 5040 | Quedgeley Surprise Royal + | D E Sibson |
| 14.5.02 | Spitalfields | 5088 | Charleston Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 18.5.02 | St. Martin-in-the-Fields | 5088 | 4-Spliced Surprise Maximus | J P Loveless |
| 25.5.02 | Bicester | 5000 | Bristol Surprise Royal | R Baldwin |
| 25.5.02 | Market Harborough | 5040 | Swindon Surprise Royal | P F Curtis |
| 25.5.02 | Barton Seagrave | 5056 | Kettering Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 26.5.02 | Tamworth | 5040 | Triton Delight Royal + | J P Loveless |
| 30.5.02 | Trumpington | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 1.6.02 | Liverpool (Cathedral) | 5042 | Bristol Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 1.6.02 | Downe | 5040 | 5 methods Surprise Minor | J W Belshaw |
| 1.6.02 | Penge | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Minor | J W Belshaw |
| 3.6.02 | Islington (St.James) | 5040 | 7 methods Surprise Minor | S A Wheeler |
| 4.6.02 | Shoreditch | 5050 | Banbury Surprise Royal | D E Sibson |
| 6.6.02 | Trumpington | 5056 | Belfast Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 8.6.02 | Barton Seagrave | 5024 | Radnor Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 14.6.02 | Bristol (Cathedral) | 5184 | SRCY Delight Major | J StJ Beaumont |
| 15.6.02 | Escrick | 5088 | Orion Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 16.6.02 | Rotherham | 5042 | Orion Surprise Maximus | I Roulstone |
| 22.6.02 | Warnham | 5040 | Milia Surprise Royal * | D E Sibson |
| 29.6.02 | St. Martin-in-the-Fields | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | D J Beaumont |
| 30.6.02 | Barton Seagrave | 5088 | Barton Seagrave Surprise Major + | D E Sibson |
| 2.7.02 | Shoreditch | 5050 | Jubilee Surprise Maximus | D E Sibson |
| 11.7.02 | Wiveliscombe | 5056 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 11.7.02 | Bishops Lydeard | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | A J Cox |
| 11.7.02 | Milverton | 5088 | Glasgow Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 11.7.02 | Thorverton | 5040 | Cambridge Surprise Royal | R Baldwin |
| 11.7.02 | Luppitt | 5056 | 8-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 12.7.02 | Midsomer Norton | 5040 | Yorkshire Surprise Royal | J P Loveless |
| 12.7.02 | Bathwick | 5120 | Bristol Surprise Royal | S A Wheeler |
| 12.7.02 | Weston-super-Mare | 5024 | Rutland Surprise Major | R Baldwin |
| 12.7.02 | West Monkton | 5024 | Yorkshire Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 12.7.02 | Bridgwater | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 12.7.02 | Chilcompton | 5000 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | J W Belshaw |
| 12.7.02 | Evercreech | 5040 | London No.3 Surprise Royal | R Baldwin |
| 13.7.02 | Barrow Gurney | 5024 | Platinum Surprise Major + | I V J Smith |
| 13.7.02 | Blagdon | 5120 | 6-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 13.7.02 | Bristol (St.Stephen) | 5042 | Yorkshire Surprise Maximus | I R Fielding |
| 13.7.02 | Congresbury | 5024 | Bristol Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 12.7.02 | Bristol (Cathedral) | 5088 | Bristol Surprise Major | G A Duke |
| 13.7.02 | Ditcheat | 5088 | London Surprise Major | J P Loveless |
| 13.7.02 | Wraxall | 5024 | Rutland Surprise Major | R Baldwin |
| 14.7.02 | Wedmore | 5024 | 4-Spliced Surprise Major | I Roulstone |
| 25.7.02 | Trumpington | 5056 | 10-Spliced Surprise Major | D E Sibson |
| 27.7.02 | Danbury | 5058 | Glasgow Surprise Major | I R Fielding |
| 27.7.02 | Great Waltham | 5088 | London Surprise Major | S A Wheeler |
| 27.7.02 | Cambridge | 5040 | Imperial Surprise Maximus * | D E Sibson |

* First peal in the method.

+ First peal in the method for the Society

Peals Analysis

This year there has been a slight increase in the number of peals rung between 1/8/01 and 31/7/02, 268 compared with 256 last year. This time there were just 4 (6) handbell peals in that total. The number of towers was almost the same with 184 (187). Once again after just one year being deposed, Shoreditch is back as the leading tower and this year there are three from the U.S.A. in the top ten.

Towers: Shoreditch 18 (11), Spitalfields 10 (13), Trumpington 9 (10), St. Sepulchre's and Barton Seagrave 5 (0 for both), Texarkana 4 (0), Bristol St. Stephen (0), Charleston Cathedral (0), St. Mary-le-Bow (0), Fulbourn (5), Houston (0), Maidstone St. Michael & All Angels (1), Staplehurst (1) and St. Martin-in-the-Fields (2) all 3, 19 towers with 2 and 151 with just 1.

Geographically the peals were even more widespread, being rung in 47 different counties in the British Isles and 24 in 6 states in the U.S.A. Most were rung in London 53 (46), followed this time by Kent 29 (19), Somerset and Avon 24 (6), Cambridgeshire 17 (38) and Essex 12 (6). The change in distribution each year is obviously a reflection of where we hold country meetings and special ringing days.

309 (316) members took part and 141 (155) rang in only one peal.

Ringers: Derek E. Sibson 95 (74), E. Jane Sibson 92 (69), Alan Regin 91 (84), Simon J. Davies 83 (78), Stephen A. Wheeler 66 (55), Christina D. A. Fleckney 60 (43), Ian G. Campbell 59 (46), John P. Loveless 57 (77), Peter M. Fleckney 55 (36), Michael H. D. O'Callaghan 53, (33).

The conducting was shared by 47 people this year compared with 34 last year. Derek E. Sibson 83 (68), Stephen A. Wheeler 43 (38), John P. Loveless 25 (44), Ian R. Fielding 22 (27), James W. Belshaw 13 (10), Ian Roulstone 12 (0), Roger Baldwin 11 (11) and Paul F. Curtis and Ian V. J. Smith 4 each (4 and 0 respectively).

The variety of methods increased again this year having fallen last year. 120 (100) different methods or groups of methods (e.g. 4-Spliced) were rung and it is pleasing to see a marked increase in 12-bell peals after last year, not just due to the return of the availability of Shoreditch.

Methods: Bristol S. Major 24 (40), London S. Major 18 (12), 7 Surprise Minor 15 (15), London No.3 S. Royal 11 (11), 8-Spliced S. Major 10 (8), Glasgow S. Major 9 (4), Yorkshire S. Major 9 (2), 4-Spliced S. Major 7 (12), Bristol S. Maximus 7 (2), Cambridge S. Royal 6 (8) Stedman Cinques 6 (2).

Results of Peal Weekend 2002

At the time of going to print we know of 41 attempts with 30 peals being scored successfully, 9 losses and 2 peals being rung for local associations.

This year the date of peal weekend seemed to clash with more local events than normal and therefore some areas had difficulty organising bands. One band asked if they could ring a peal the following weekend because of other commitments during peal weekend and we were pleased that they were able to arrange this.

If anyone needs any help in future years please contact John Barnes (01689 853666). John has a list of contacts, knows where the attempts are taking place and he may be able to help find extra ringers to make up bands.

We would like to thank all the local organisers, we are very grateful for their help and support.

Special thanks are due to John Barnes for his excellent organisation and all the work that he puts in each year to make this event a success.

DON'T MISS...

THE NEXT SRCY ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Book the date NOW!!

6th September 2003

Selwyn College Cambridge



Cost £45.00

This includes

- ◆ pre diner drinks
- ◆ 3 course meal
- ◆ wine with dinner

Book early to avoid disappointment

We hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter.
Please don't forget to fill in the newsletter reply sheet and let us know what you think.
Donations towards the cost of producing the newsletter will be very gratefully received.