

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS



NEWSLETTER 2005



Ladies Chandler's Band – Catherine Merlane, Mary Holden, Alyson Kerr
Jessica Lansberry, Joanne Fielding, George Brown, Linda Garton, Christine Richardson

We hope you enjoy reading this SRCY Newsletter which includes reports of the events that took place during 2005 and details of the program for 2006

The Society relies on the support of its 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

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.

Are you a taxpayer?

When you send a donation for Shoreditch, if you are a tax payer, please complete and return the gift aid form. That way the BRF will benefit from additional income.

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.

Audited accounts?

Would you like a copy of the audited accounts for 2004 - 2005? These can be provided either by email or snail mail. Please contact the Secretary for a copy.

SRCY DIARY 2006

4th January	Meeting at St. Martin-in-the-Fields
4th February	Not The Dinner Day
11th March	Country Meeting in Bedfordshire with morning peals 14:00 Open Ringing 18:00 Meeting at Clifton, Bedfordshire followed by a fish/Chicken and chip supper
3rd May	Meeting at St. Martin-in-the-Fields
8th July	Country Meeting around Exmouth area Peals, meeting and riverboat trip
9th September	Formal dinner at St. William's College, York
7th October	General Meeting and AGM in London
18/19th November	Peal Weekend

Make a note in your diary NOW!

In Correspondence with the Master

Jo Dorling talks to Simon Holden

Mr Simon Holden – elected Master of the SRCY on 1 October 2005.



So what's the grand plan for your 3 years in office?

I have two priorities initially:

- I think there is a tremendous amount of ability within the Society that we are not using to the full at the moment. I want to make sure we are doing more as a Society, through organising things myself and encouraging others to take the initiative.
- I think the Society can work to improve how we communicate with members and publicise our activities – to make sure we are advertising what we are doing to the wider ringing community to raise our profile and attract new members.

Longer term I would like to build on the two things above. The Society should look to be innovative in its activities in the future and I hope to push this in my 2nd and 3rd years, if elected.

How are we [the Society] shaping up so far?

I think we are in good health But there's always room for improvement! It is really important to increase our capability as a Society and for individuals to make progress. Specifically, I am looking to provide people with the opportunity to reach their full potential on 8, 10 and 12 through practices and peals. We need to develop people not only in terms of ringing, but conducting and holding positions of Office.

It is good to see pockets of activity round the country. I hope that this will increase and that more links will be established between the London and country members, something we are already making good progress on. The Society needs its country members to be proactive in recruiting people and getting involved whenever possible. I look forward to getting out and about over the coming year and welcoming people to our events.

Any heroes/mentors of the past?

I don't think I do have any particular mentors or heroes. I've really only got into ringing over the last 5 years – when I learnt to ring 15 years ago I didn't really have any "heroes" and I'm too old for that now..... There are people I really enjoy ringing with back in Gloucestershire who I owe a tremendous amount to because they taught me well. My parents would have to get a mention. I blame Andrew Wood for getting me back into ringing and he and Mark Davies have perhaps had a bigger influence on me than they might realise. Again, I wouldn't say I've had any particular mentors. I've tried to pick up things from all sorts of people wherever I've been ringing. Major influences would include my Mother – whose no nonsense approach to organising people and leadership I've come to appreciate. Since moving to London I have been influenced by numerous ringers (too numerous to mention in fact).

What is your most memorable ringing event?

"Memorable" conjures up very different events for different reasons.... A few spring to mind – my first peal, ringing outings which have gone down in history for everything except the ringing, ringing in the 12-Bell competition for the first time or the Society's dinner in Cambridge.

However, I think it would have to be my first peal of Stedman Triples, which was on the fantastic eight at Westbury. I was concerned about how I'd get on with Stedman Triples – added to the pressure of making a good job of the bells. Maybe one's memory plays tricks, but I remember it being a very good peal with few, if any, mistakes.

And down to the good stuff now – the real nitty gritty character questions your readers demand?!

What's your favourite method?

That's easy – Stedman. Although I have to add, variety is the key – I need to ring other things to appreciate Stedman.

If you could come back to earth as another ringer, who would it be and why?

I don't know, but it would be someone who can ring round the front!!!!

Which beer do you hate the most?

Too many to choose from – Courage Best probably. I've given up on Sam Smiths as well.

What is your most embarrassing moment (involving ringing!)

I am continually "caught short" in the tower due to my dedication to keeping my body properly hydrated. This happened very badly during a peal at Pimlico recently, after too much liquid refreshment the night before. However, I confess that many, many years ago, I didn't quite manage to hold on until the churchyard

Which song will get you racing onto the dance floor?

Chesney Hawkes – "I am the one and only" or A-ha "Take on me".

And to finally round things up

So You're now Master of the SRCY Scared?

Perhaps, just a bit a couple of things spring to mind here – the experience I've had running ringing as Ringing Master at Kensington has been invaluable and something I learnt about "being in charge" is that no one really has the answers, its just that everyone else thinks you do, so you just have to get on with it!

I think we're a friendly lot, so it's not been too scary even Stephen has been reasonably well behaved, so far

..... Look out in future editions for Year 2 and 3 reports – "Reflections" and "Did I really say that?!"

Newsletter donations

In 2004, the newsletter cost £1,157 to print and distribute. This is just over 87p per member. Part of the increase in cost over the previous year was due to a franking charge imposed by Royal Mail. This year, we will avoid this cost by sticking the stamps on ourselves! In 2003, the cost was £842 (about 63p per member). Donating 87p or 63p is not a realistic request but how about donating £5 every 5 years. There is the option to take a copy by email (but bear in mind this version is about 10Mb in size) or to download the pdf file from the web. Or if there is more than one member in a household and you are willing to share your copy, let us know and we can send one copy among a number of people. To choose any of these options, please indicate your preference on the insert. We also realise that many people like a paper copy and we have at least one example of the newsletter being the contact point for an entry in the "where are they now" list.

New members

The Society welcomed 16 new members who were elected between January and November 2005:

Stephen Borman	Edward Westlake
Karen Dickinson	Helen Brotherton
David Cloake	William Brotherton
Barbara Murray	Andrew Coe
Becky Dunnett	Stephen Croxall
Teresa Dunstone	Matt Edwards
Aileen Murphy	Paul Mills
Michael Spencer	Michael Morton

Losses of members

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

Keith McGregor of Helston, Cornwall, elected 22nd January 1949.
Sue Agg of Guildford elected 21st January 1984.
Ronald Snack of Milton Keynes elected 15th April 1972
Sylvia Pipe of Grundisburgh elected 8th July 1972
Mark Lancefield of Ashford elected 22nd August 1947
Harry Stacey of Bude elected 9th July 1966
George Roome elected 17th January 1953

Where are they now?

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

Amette Bradbury	Alison Hill	Anna M.P. Piechna
Cyril Buesden	Susan Houghton	Maureen A. Popple
Susan P. Cole	Walter J. Lemon	Alyson M.S. Porter
G.D. Fearnough	M.Janet Mattinson	Ian M. Robinson
Gerald Frost	David Mossop	James T. Stevens
Christopher J. Gill	Peter G. Neville	Peter D. Storey
Jacqueline Harrison	J.Martin Page	Valerie Williams
Hetty Hawthorne	M. Pearse	Angela Wright
Lance S.F. Hewson		

If you have contact information for anyone listed here, please contact either the Secretary or Assistant Secretary.

**We wish to congratulate the following members
on achieving membership milestones**

70 years membership

Mr.A.J.House elected 19.1.35
Mr.J.T.Stevens elected 9.2.35
Mrs.J.Hall elected 30.3.35

60 years membership

Mr.A.Page elected 16.7.45
Mr.C.E.Jeffries elected 13.10.45
Mr.H.A.May elected 2.4.45
Mrs.J.Gray elected 28.4.45
Mr.R. Clist elected 12.04.45
Mr.R.C.Noon elected 13.10.45

50 years membership

Mr. A.R.Agg elected 10.7.55	Mrs.M.Layton elected 10.7.55
Miss.B.Johnson elected 3.6.55	P.F.Romney elected 15.5.55
Mr.G.Fry elected 1955	Mr.R.Baldwin elected 15.1.55
Mr.G.A.Price elected 1955	Mr.W.M.Mann elected 10.7.55
Mr.I.H.Oram elected 10.7.55	

40 years membership

Mr.A.S.Hudson elected 10.4.65	Mrs.J.F.Wagstaff elected 16.1.65
Mrs.A.E.Graveling elected 16.1.65	Mr.K.S.Hohl elected 16.1.65
Mr.C.M.Press elected 13.11.65	Mr.M.M.Powell elected 24.4.65
Mr.C.J.Butler elected 16.1.65	Mr.P.M.Fleckney elected 20.3.65
Mr.G.S.E.Winter elected 16.1.65	Mr.P.M.Wilkinson elected 10.4.65
Mr.H.F.Gibson elected 15.5.65	Mr.R.French elected 22.5.65
Mrs.H.Brown elected 10.4.65	Mrs.S. Bianco elected 11.9.65
Mr.I.R.Panton elected 18.9.65	Mrs.S.Page elected 11.9.65
Mrs.P.M.Wilkinson elected 10.4.65	Mr.W.L.Weller elected 10.4.65
Mr.J.R.Pratchett elected 15.5.65	Mrs.Y.Grainger elected 10.4.65

25 Years Membership

Miss Allison Reed elected 19.1.80	Mr.J.Kleeman elected 2.7.80
Mr.A.J.Mead elected 26.4.80	Mrs.J.V.Jones elected 1.10.80
Mrs.C.M.Mitchell elected 26.4.80	Miss.Linda Drew elected 19.1.80
Mrs.C.Jack elected 2.7.80	Mr.M.J.Lodwick elected 19.1.80
Mrs.C.Smith elected 19.1.80	Mr.M.Foulds elected 26.4.80
Mrs.C.Potter elected 2.7.80	Mr.P.D.Storey elected 26.4.80
Mr.D.M.Joyce elected 19.1.80	Mr.P.F.Pope elected 19.1.80
Mr.D.A.Chapman elected 19.1.80	Mr.P.J.Huxley elected 26.4.80
Mrs.E.Chapman elected 19.1.80	Mr.R.Hedges elected 26.4.80
Mrs.J.R.Hedges elected 26.4.80	Mrs.S.Ewbank elected 19.1.80
Mrs.J.M.New elected 26.4.80	Mr.S.A.Elwell Sutton elected 19.1.80
Mrs.J.Foulds elected 26.4.80	

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths **Officers' Report 2004-2005**

It was decided this year to hold an event on AGM day rather than at the beginning of September, and about 50 members enjoyed a Chinese meal in Gerard St. Membership has increased steadily and practices and meetings have been well supported. Members continue to support social events both in London and also further afield. Work on the Shoreditch acoustics has continued with the working party gathering information from different sources preparatory to making changes. A number of members volunteered to work on the frame at Spitalfields. 361 ³/₄ hours hard work was completed, masterminded by Alan Regin and the fruits of these labours culminated in the long length of London rung in April. The London Ringers social was held this year after a special Ringers Advent service at Cripplegate, both of which were enjoyed by members from a wider area than normal practices. In July a band successfully rang the first ladies peal of Chandler's 23 spliced.

Practices and Meetings

London Meetings

Regular weekly practices were held in London with a good standard of ringing maintained. The highest attendance at a practice was on 5th January 2005 at St. Martins (42 people) while the lowest attendance at a practice was 11 people at Shoreditch on 11th August 2004. 78 members attended at least one Wednesday night practice with the average attendance being 21.5 people. After it was decided to cancel a practice at Chelmsford due to a tube strike, the Society was warmly welcomed to a rearranged practice in September 2004. The Society would like to thank the local members for their assistance in these arrangements.

Northern Practices

Jennie Town reports that they have had 4 practices this year with attendance ranging between 13 and 17. They have rung Orion and Bristol at all but one of these but have so far failed to meet with enough to ring Ariel (which has been the special method).

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

Five business meetings were held during 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 Suffolk in March and Hexham in July. In March, there were five successful peal attempts in the morning. In the afternoon, members attended a demonstration at East Bergholt followed by ringing at Woodbridge, Hasketon, Bredfield, Ufford and Pettistree. The meeting in Pettistree church was followed by a buffet in the Three Tuns. The July country meeting was based around Ridley Hall near Hexham. Peals were rung on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning and a selection of open towers on Saturday morning finished at Hexham Abbey. The meeting and ringers tea followed before people returned to Ridley Hall for games on the lawn, a treasure hunt around the beautiful grounds, a BBQ, music from Northumbrian pipes and a real ale bar. A mobile ring set up in the grounds encouraged a band to ring a quarter peal that included the footnotes : latest start for a QP (22:07), darkest QP, most time bitten by midges in QP, most heckling during a QP, first QP with a dog entering the ringing circle.

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

Other Events

Peal weekend took place as usual on the third weekend in November. 29 peals were successful out of 40 attempts. The Grandsire Cinques rung at St. Andrew's Sydney was the Society's first peal on twelve bells in the Southern Hemisphere and the Australian members followed this on the Saturday evening with a very successful Dinner. 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.

Members of the Society rang a peal to the memory of Martyn Harbott at St. Martin, Epsom, Surrey on January 9th.

A number of members helped with ringing for a Blue Peter programme shown in December, a venture to raise the profile of ringing with Linda Garton and John Loveless teaching one of the presenters. A friendly striking competition was held between the Society and the College Youths on 26th April at Southwark for 6 and 12 bell competition and on 11th May at Shoreditch for the 8 and 10 bell. This resulted in 2 enjoyable evenings ringing and socialising and ended with honours even.

Not the Dinner Day in February followed the usual format with 7 peals rung during the day and a Sheraz curry in the evening.

The Society entered a band for the National 12 bell striking competition and was narrowly eliminated at Worcester.

Peal Ringing

198 peals were rung during the year.

Members who have been congratulated for reaching significant milestones during the year are:-

Ian Campbell on ringing his 3000th peal
Ben Duke on his 750th for the Society
Derek Sibson who rang his 3,500th peal
Pat Halls on ringing her 2500th peal
Katharine Salter and Kath Firman on ringing their 1000th peal
David Salter on ringing his 2000th peal
Stephen Wheeler on his 1000th as conductor
Beryl Norris on ringing her 1000th peal

Other notable achievements during the year were:

- Alan Regin and John Loveless for their part in the record peal of 17,280 London Surprise Major at Spitalfields
- Derek Sibson on his election as President of the Central Council.

New Members

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

Losses of members

The Society stood to the memory of 6 members who had died during the year

Sylvia Pipe of Grundisburgh; Mark Lancefield of Ashford; Harry Stacey of Bude
Keith McGregor of Helston, Cornwall, Sue Agg of Guildford and Ronald Snack of Milton Keynes

Sunday Service Ringing

Regular Sunday Service ringing has taken place during the year at Shoreditch. The Officers, organised by Simon Holden, have shared the responsibility of arranging ringing in those months that peals are not arranged by Derek Sibson. The University of London have also rung for a number of Sunday services. The Society is very grateful to Derek and **the ULSCR** for their support.

Towers

Regular Society practices continue to be held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, usually on the first Wednesday in the month. Due to security issues, the Society has experienced problems with access to St. Martin-in-the-Fields and we thank the authorities for their assistance in minimising this disruption. Building work at the church now means that the Choir rehearsal room will not be available for meetings for a period of time. Practices have also been held at Shoreditch, Spitalfields and St. Andrew's Holborn.

Newsletter

This year the newsletter has again been published on the website as well as being sent out to every member. Some members received the newsletter via email (by request).

Library

Details of Society property are now listed on the website and there are plans to expand the information held here to enable people to find out more about the Society and its history. No items are currently out on loan.

Society Property

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

Ian Fielding, Shirley McGill, Philippa Whittington, James Belshaw, Simon Holden, Jo Fielding, Penny Sharpe.

News from our Towers

Clerkenwell

Ringling on the second Sunday of each month has continued as in the past. It has been well attended with methods rung ranging from Grandsire triples to 8 spliced major. There have been several weddings for which the bells have been rung and the vicar has recently been a little more relaxed about allowing visiting bands to ring. No peals are allowed at present.

Stephanie Pattenden

Shoreditch

Shoreditch bells have been well used this year with 34 successful peals that I know of to date, as well as the regular Society practices. Sunday ringling has continued at least once a month. Special thanks go to Simon Holden for continuing to co-ordinate this and Derek Sibson and his peal band, the officers, Paul Cammiade and the UL (University of London) who have all provided bands for service ringling. The bells are readily available for peals, quarters, practices and general ringling. We are lucky that Paul Turp is supportive of the Society's activities and allows us to ring whenever possible. Hopefully the next year will see the internal acoustics continue to improve and the installation of a walkway on the top tier of the frame.

Ian Fielding

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Penelope Sharpe and Jo Fielding were elected as Tower Captain and Vice Captain at the 2005 AGM in February. With the re-introduction of regular practices on the third Sunday (11.30am to 1pm) and the first Monday (6.30pm to 8pm - often a quarter peal attempt) of the month the band has gone from strength to strength. Attendance for Sunday service ringling (9am to 10am) is now consistently good - Bristol, Cambridge and Yorkshire Surprise Maximus and Stedman Cinques are regularly rung and Orion Surprise Maximus is often rung at practices and sometimes rung on Sundays. The fact that the bells are now much more readily available for peal attempts on Saturday mornings (9.30am - 1.30pm) seems to be filtering through and six peals have been scored since the 2005 AGM - the most recent of these being a local band peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus (without sound control) on the morning of Trafalgar Day, Friday 21st October 2005. There has only been one visiting band during the year but at the end of November 2004 we played host to a BBC film crew and a Blue Peter presenter who had been taught to ring by Linda Garton and John Loveless in Bedfordshire. He rang in call changes for about half an hour for the Christmas Tree Lighting Service in Trafalgar Square. We have rung for a number of special services during the year which have included the annual service for the Victims of Homicide, the Friends of the Elderly Centenary service (when we were joined by the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Tim Joiner) and memorial services for Sir Peter Ustinov and Sir John Mills. If you are interested in joining the band and getting involved in the life of St. Martin-in-the-Fields please contact me at avb@btinternet.com or on 01308 485096.

Andrew Brown

St. Andrew's Holborn

Ringling at St. Andrew's Holborn has been limited this year as the times of the practices coincide with a service currently held in the church. However, a well supported practice was held in August and the Society has endeavoured to supply ringers for services as and when requested.

Jane Wilkinson

Spitalfields

This year has seen quite a bit of activity since the re-opening of the Church, as mentioned last year, if you haven't visited yet you should get along. Members may be interested to know that Christ Church Spitalfields has been judged the Winner in the Conservation/Restoration Category for the much coveted 2005 Wood Awards!

The year started with major work in the tower, stripping down and re-painting the bell frame along with work to some of the fittings. 4 clappers were re-bushed, one pulley block was replaced and some of the sliders had the running surfaces smoothed off. The painting of the bell frame was a major task which took some 361.75 working hours to complete. A very thorough job was done and I am very grateful to the following for technical advice and for practical assistance given:

Noel Anderson, George Brown, Doug Beaumont, Penny Sharpe, Haley Barnett, Peter Harrison, Frank Rivett, Ian Campbell, Jo Fielding, Russell Brown, Shirley McGill, Mark Pendery, Simon Holden, Derek Sibson, Ian Oram, John Barnes and in addition to these I am grateful for the efforts of Jo Dorling and Philip Vracas who provided a large amount of the labour, 105 and 30 hours respectively.

As well as this, the internal walls of the belfry were limewashed as they had become very dusty following the work on the frame.

Ringling re-started following the work with the very keen support of the Rev Andy Rider who is the Rector at Spitalfields along with other Church members, indeed Andy and his wife Carol hosted a party for some of the ringers involved in the work in the tower, we are all very grateful for this support.

Peal ringling re-started with two peals of London Surprise Major, initially a practice peal which was followed up by one of 17,280 London Surprise Major which is the longest peal in the method yet rung and the longest peal ever rung at Spitalfields - the peal was well received in the area with just one complaint - that the bells were not loud enough! We are now able to ring peals on a regular basis on the third Sunday afternoon and occasionally at other times by arrangement - since the restoration the Church is used for various functions which sometimes limits access to the tower!

If members would like to bring a band to ring a peal on one of the third Sunday slots please contact me.

The bells have been used by the Society for practices during the year and we have been very pleased to once again provide ringling for both the Summer and Winter Spitalfields Festivals. We have held an open day for Church members which was well attended and we have also been paid a visit by staff from ABN Amro bank, on both occasions we were able to give a short history of the bells and tower along with a demonstration of ringling. We were also able to run tours of the ringling chamber on the Saturday morning of London Open House weekend in September with more than 60 people visiting the tower - we are very grateful to all those who help at these events.

We have rung for the 1st Sunday 10.30 service each month and I am very grateful to the people who regularly support this ringling, if you would like to help out with this regularly or occasionally please let me know! We have also rung for other services the most notable was for the "Spital Sermon" which was for the first time in many years back in Spitalfields, the preacher was the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey of Clifton.

We are not resting on our laurels either, the Friends of Christ Church are hopeful that they will be able to re-instate the proposed work to the ringling chamber and belfry that was dropped from the contract when

the church was restored. We are hopeful that this will include new lighting in the ringing chamber and belfry, a blind over the east window along with some other decoration work. I hope to be able to report back to members the completion of this additional work in the next newsletter!

Alan Regin

Some practice stats from the 'Steepleage Book' from August 1st 2004 – July 31st 2005.

Practices were held at :-

St Martin in the Fields, Shoreditch, St. Andrew Holborn, Aldgate, St. Sepulchre Holborn, St. Mary-le-Bow, Southwark Cathedral, Chelmsford Cathedral, Cripplegate, Spitalfields, St. Mary Abbots Kensington, Limehouse and St. Lawrence Jewry.

Highest Attended Practices were :-

St. Martin-in-the-Fields (42) on 5/1/05

St. Sepulchre Holborn (30) on 9/3/05

St. Mary-le-Bow (29) on 17/11/04

Highest Non - Officer Attendance :-

Doug Beaumont = 43

JJ Ford = 40

Louisa Roughley = 40

Jo Dorling = 39

65 people attended at least one London practice. 23 people attended the 'Out-of-Town' practice at Chelmsford Cathedral.

News from overseas

Don Morrison reports from America:

Sadly, not a great deal has gone on here, and my understanding is that Bruce is having trouble getting many bands together for the peal weekend, though I may be mis-informed on that.

Turns out I'm personally right in the middle of moving to Pittsburgh, so am pretty much of the loop anyway. Probably the most exciting SRCY stuff for North America is how much ringing Haley's been getting in the UK! :-)

Kathi Downs reports from Australia

We have a peal weekend and dinner planned for the Cumberlands this coming weekend 18-20 November.

Peal Weekend 2005

Peal weekend takes place this year as the newsletter goes to the printers. John Barnes is currently aware of 33 attempts in the UK and Canada and there are other attempts planned in USA and Australia. The expectation is that the number of attempts will be similar to last year.

SRCY at the Ringing Roadshow 2005



After several succesful Ringing Roadshows, I think we can be sure that there will be more to follow. If you've never been to one, you might be wondering who goes and what they get out of it. Before 2005 I'd never been to a Ringing Roadshow. To be honest, the name didn't exactly inspire me. It sounds like a ringing convention – car stickers and the like. It's just not me. I mean, I've just about learned how to handle that awkward question at work about what I'm doing at the weekend, but I'm not into bellbadges and car stickers. So why did I find myself not only attending the Roadshow but organising one of the stands at the 2005 event?

To put it simply, ringers who might not have come across the SRCY are interested in what we do and who we are. We first exhibited at the Roadshow in 2003 and found that it was a good opportunity to meet new people as well as dispell any myths, like being solely London-based or an exclusively 12 bell ringing society. Seemingly, 'other societies' caught onto this opportunity. (The debutants were strategically placed opposite us this year.)

Planning the display seems to consume more than its fair share of time and effort. In theory it shouldn't be that difficult to stick a few pictures up but in reality, people glance at the stand and if you haven't caught their eye within 5 seconds, you've lost them. We went for colour, which was provided through a PowerPoint presentation of photos from recent events, and we also provided some written information about the Society, covering 1746 to the present day.

The display, however, is only part of it. We offered wine to everyone (as well as orange juice, naturally). And it seemed to work. We can't take all the credit – we had a stand next to a TV screen which featured the cricket. But it didn't really matter if people came to chat to us about the cricket or about ringing, hopefully they got an impression of us as a friendly lot.

So, what's a 'Roadshow' like? Having never been to a venue where over two and a half thousand people are all talking about bells and ringing, it seemed a bit surreal. The slightly nauseating sound of umpteen mini rings all competing with a 62cwt 12 booming out across the room isn't forgotten fast.

However strange all of this might seem, it still has those vital ingredients for a ringing function – lots of people, beer and a bit of ringing thrown in.

Joanne Fielding

"Ladies' peal" of Chandler's

York, N Yorks

All Saints, Huntington

Sun Jul 10 2005 2h 44 (5)

5152 Spliced Surprise Major (23 methods)

224 each Glasgow, Whalley, Malpas, Belfast, Bristol, London, Essex, Caterham, Buckfastleigh, Yeading, Chertsey, Sussex, Colnbrook, Sonning, Moulton, Richmond, Newcastle, Willesden, Chesterfield, Northampton, Claybrooke, Newlyn, Pudsey. 160 changes of method, all the work & each lead different.

Comp. S D Chandler

1 Catherine N Merlane (C)

2 George Brown

3 Joanne R Fielding

4 G Jessica Lansberry

5 E Alyson Kerr

6 Christine Richardson

7 Linda M Garton

8 Mary E Holden

It is more than 20 years since I first attempted Chandler's 23-spliced but the thing that sticks in my mind is that for the first two hours of that first attempt we managed to achieve the best ringing I can ever remember either before or since; until, that is, someone blinked and it fell apart like a soufflé! We subsequently went on to ring it, and it has been rung by many bands since of course, but it's still up there as one of the hardest things I've ever attempted.

At some point towards the end of last year, some devious wee small birdie (come on Duchess, own up!) chirruped into my ear that the College Youths were going to attempt a ladies peal of Chandler's. Stung into action for once, I scoured the Cumberland's lists to see if we might get there first but couldn't see an immediately obvious band, so arranged for a group of friends to ring around me who I knew wouldn't carp too much if I decided that it was all too much after such a long time. After that, the rest is all Simon Holden's fault...

Sitting in a pizzeria in Cirencester back in May (like you do) he told me that his Sister and a few others were arranging an attempt in the northeast. A few bottles of wine later, and we'd got the whole thing sussed: four ladies from the north, four from the south and attempts during the country weekend in July in Hexham. It seemed so simple! In reality, there were lots of exchanges of emails, various practice peal attempts (which included a couple of College Youths – David Brown and Phil Earis - who swear blind they had no idea they were being used as rope fodder for the cause) and many a covert conversation trying to persuade Glint to relinquish some of the towers when the Country Weekend was already soaking up all the available ropes within a 30 mile radius of Hexham.

By the time we got there, we were still trying to keep what felt like the world's worst-kept secret. We'd planned two attempts: one at St. Oswald's Durham on the Saturday and one at All Saints Huntington near York on the Sunday. Jake's attempt to wind us up (he told us that Simon Linford had 'phoned to wish us well) backfired when his glass remained empty on the Friday night until we took pity. We gathered on the Saturday, introduced ourselves to each other over the noise of the miners' rally which passed right next to the church and promptly went on to fire out about three times, after which we swapped the conductor from the treble to an inside bell and rang the last five parts without too much difficulty. The hardest part, though, was behaving well that night whilst everyone else was having a high old time at one of the best Cumberland parties I can remember for ages! Sulk.

The next day dawned blooming hot - way too hot for me, and by the time we got to the end of the first part I was drenched in sweat. They're really handy bells of course, but the sheer effort of staying right coupled with the stress of knowing that re-organising a band living so far apart from each other would have made another attempt virtually impossible meant that the ringing was nervy. At one point, I even had to remind myself to breathe! Knowing that we were being cheered on by Glint and others who had casually dropped by the nearest pub to hear us was nice in retrospect but, at the time, it just added to the tense atmosphere - for me at least.

It only really started to dawn on me that we could really do it about half way through the last part. By then, the adrenalin wasn't just coursing through my blood, it was like a river in full spate; and when rounds came up, we punched the air, hugged each other and popped the champagne corks in a frenzy of joy! I can only speak for myself of course, but it took several days to calm down and even longer for the smile to be wiped from my face. It was, without doubt, the most challenging peal I've ever had the privilege of being involved in and I am extremely grateful to everyone who helped make it possible. So, girls, what's next?!

George Brown

From our U.S. correspondent: A year (and a bit) in London

Simon:

When Haley Barnett was elected to the Society in July 2004, she was resident in the U.S.A. Soon afterwards she arrived in London and has been here for just over a year. We thought we'd ask Haley to reflect on her time ringing with the Society in the UK, and here's what she said.



Haley:

I left the United States for London in September 2004 to pursue my MA in Library and Information Studies. While education was the reason I gave the Home Office when obtaining my visa, I'd be lying if I said I hadn't been motivated to go to London because of the ringing opportunities available there.

Before my departure from the States, I did battle with several lots of doubts; some were about my ringing, including how I would be received at SRCY practices. Would there be, I wondered, space for a person who wasn't very experienced but was keen to improve?

The answer was a resounding "yes!" From the very first Society practice I attended, I found myself welcomed and encouraged. Without being overbearing, people made sure that I met lots of people at practices and in the pub, that I knew how to get to various towers, and that my pint glass was never empty. Although the complete adjustment to life in London took some time, I felt at home in the ringing chamber shortly after arrival.

While I was wonderfully supported, I still had to cope with my own ringing difficulties and demons. Before I came to London, my home towers had all been 10-bell towers. I don't remember "learning" to ring on 10 bells...looking back, it just seemed to be an extension from 8. So, before I came over, I imagined that ringing on 12 would be a simple stretch from 10, and that I'd spend more time learning methods than thinking about rhythm.

It wasn't, however, quite that simple. 12 bells and 12 ropes proved, to me at least, to be extraordinarily more than 10 + 2. I remember struggling, at first, to hear all 12 bells within each change, and wondering if I would ever be able to do so. Some more experienced Society members assured me that this difficulty in adjustment was a natural one, and that it would get easier with practice.

As I became more experienced in ringing on 12, I would still have "bad ringing days," which often fell in sync with busy times on my course. Try as I might, there were just some days when I couldn't ring as well as I knew I should. With the support of my fellow ringers, I worked not to let a bad day or two discourage me, and tried to look forward as much as possible.

When I wasn't ringing, I tried to follow a bell. Before I knew any maximus methods, all I could follow during those touches was the treble. Although this occasionally felt repetitive, it definitely helped improve my ropesight. Studying outside the tower (yes, even occasionally during a lecture) also helped. Although I had some low points, I tried hard not to get disheartened, and would encourage you to do the same.

Looking back on my time in London, I am pleased to note the many ringing high points. Beyond the things I enjoyed about weekly practices and service ringing, I'm happy to go back to the States having accomplished things such as my first peal of 8-spliced surprise major, the ringing of two peals in a day, and my first quarter peal and peal on 12. I also thoroughly enjoyed attending Society country meetings in Suffolk and Hexham.

My post-London life is still in flux. I'm returning to my childhood home in Washington, D.C., from where I will continue looking for a job (if you have any leads on jobs for librarians in a city with a tower, please be in touch!). I am very much looking forward to joining in with NAGCR ringing again, and hope to pass along some of the knowledge that I've gained.

If you or someone you know are considering spending some time in London, I'd encourage you (or them) to do so. My fellow Society members made me feel so welcome and did so much to encourage me from my very early days here; I felt I'd become part of a kind of family. Although my course did limit my ability to ring as much as I might have liked, I did make it a priority to go along to SRCY practices.

I never expected to come to London and leave as a fantastic ringer, but I hoped to reach the standards I set for myself. With the encouragement and support of so many, I was able to make a fair amount of improvement over the course of 14 months. I will always be appreciative of the time and effort spent by so many to help me improve. Without steady, generous ringers and patient mentors, my progress would not have been possible. Thank you so much!

Simon:

I once joked with Haley that when we elected her, we didn't realise she'd actually start turning up!! I'm very glad she did though; Haley quickly made an impression in London with 110% application to her ringing and enthusiasm for socialising.

For the Society's medium to long-term health it is really important that members take the opportunity to progress as individuals and help grow the Society's capabilities and strength in depth. Members who come to London have the opportunity to make rapid progress and I would encourage people to take those opportunities as Haley has done.

Haley's time in London has highlighted two things: Firstly, that we need our members all over the world to be proactive in recruiting people to the Society with ability, potential and a positive attitude. Secondly, that we should encourage people to become involved in Society activities where and whenever possible. Whilst there is far more to the Society than just London ringing, we need to ensure that we publicise that ringing with the Society in London is open to all members and potential members; it is, I believe, a positive and welcoming environment.

Haley has become an integral part of the London "scene" and the Society; it has been a pleasure to have her company in London for the last 14 months and watch her ringing progress. We will miss her terribly, but we wish her well for her return to the U.S.A. and will look forward to seeing her again – on either side of the Atlantic.

Haley Barnett and Simon Holden

The Cumberlands and 30 years of the 12 bell Contest

The first ever 12 bell ringing contest in modern times took place at Redcliffe in 1975, and the winners, Leicester, were awarded the Emlyn F Hancock Trophy. The judges were John Mayne, Roger Baldwin (a member of the Society) and Chris Woolley.

In the early days the contest venues were established by invitation from competing bands, so from 1975 through to 1979 the original 5 teams from the Redcliffe contest, namely Bristol, Leicester, Southwark Cathedral (ASCY), Birmingham and Reading, took turns to host it. In those days there were relatively few teams involved, no contest committee, and certainly no eliminators. 12 bell ringing opportunities outside of the major centres of population were very limited. Bristol Maximus, taken for granted these days as standard fayre on 12, was anything but a standard method then.

The Taylor Trophy that is still competed for these days was given by Paul Taylor for the 1976 Contest at St Margaret's Leicester and so the 2005 Contest was the 30th anniversary of the '12 Bell' as most regard it. The Society's progress in the Contest is duly recorded in the Newsletter each year, but perhaps it's fitting this time to take a more detailed review of 30 years of history and how the Cumberlands shape up.

The truth is that the last 30 years have been characterised by massive advances in change ringing across the whole spectrum and nowhere is this better demonstrated than by the 12 Bell.

The Society first entered in 1977, at Southwark, and came third behind Birmingham and ASCY. The scores were 80%, 77% and 76%, so a good start. A little more telling is the fact that of our 15 'top 3' finishes over the years, only 3 have been wins! Usually the bridesmaid, one might observe? 'Promised much' the judges must have observed countless times, but such judges comments will apply to many teams. Set against this, averaging our position in all the finals in which the Society has participated gives a position of 3.13, nothing to be ashamed of. Our wins have been at Redcliffe (1989), Towcester (1993) and St. Martin-in-the-Fields (1997, 250th Anniversary Year) and we have always had to beat major teams, ASCY, Birmingham, St Paul's, in those finals.

The phenomenon of Birmingham, 14 wins, needs little comment. Add together a 12 bell ringing tradition stretching back centuries, a proven style of ringing that they stick to through thick and thin, and sound ringers who are well led and they nearly always deliver.

Interestingly, the opening up of 12 bell ringing across the country has been mirrored by the Contest results over the years. So Birmingham won the Contest for 7 out of 10 years to 1985 but managed only one win between 1989 and 1999. During this 11 year period the Cumberlands and two provincial teams, York and Cambridge, all won the Contest with regularity, with the old guard of Birmingham, College Youths, St. Paul's very much in the shadows. This was very different to the established order and it was now the newcomers who were driving up the standard for the future. Since then one might say that normal order has been restored, with 5 Birmingham wins in 6 years!

What should the Cumberlands' achievement level be, have we underperformed over the years and should we do better? As with any team entering the Contest, we need to practice regularly and effectively. We are as good as our people, our leader and how we translate this into the end result...and normally our result is pretty good! Only winning is good enough but however hard we try the standard of ringing is incredibly high and getting better.

Relatively unchanged in 30 years, where does the Contest go from here. Well, the entry level and attendance both indicate that we have a winning formula. I think one of the attractions of the current format is that the day is stimulating from start to finish. It is also very stable – and some of the competitors need all the stability they can get, particularly later on. The draw goes on the blackboard, you have to memorise the time of your slot, you may note one or two others for listening/drinking purposes, and off you go! If you haven't been, come along to Worcester Cathedral on June 24 2006. What a venue!

John Loveless

PS – The Society Band was narrowly eliminated in this year's contest – a surprise to some but perhaps it shows that entry to the final is not automatic – whoever you are!

NORTHERN PRACTICES

The practices at Stockton have had a quiet year and I take full responsibility for this. Pressures at work resulted in a less than co-ordinated approach and I am sorry to say that this continues to be the case to some extent. However, I did manage to organise four practices during the year.

We rang Orion at all but one of these, with the usual " three leads and a lead of Bristol", sometimes rung twice. Cambridge, Yorkshire and Bristol Maximus plus Stedman Cinques are standard fare, but the one time I tried to re-introduce Ariel we only had nine inside ringers, which was rather disappointing for those who had taken the trouble to learn it.

As always, there were highlights and low spots: an excellent practice in March, with an attendance of seventeen ringers and ringing of a good standard all night, contrasted with the practice in July when,

despite having previously agreed the date, very few people came along and we rang on ten for part of the night (enjoyable ringing too, including Bristol Royal) and the only Maximus was some rather poor Yorkshire. There was a bright spot to this practice though, and that was our new-found Stedman conductor, Chris Mills, calling a touch of Cinques.

There were pub problems, with some people not being keen on the Sun Inn, so that we moved to the Green Dragon, only to move back when neither the beer nor the soft drinks proved satisfactory at the new venue. Travelling was not always easy either, with Wendy's car breaking down when she was travelling to one of the practices, and latterly with major roadworks in the centre of Stockton making it well-nigh impossible to drive to the tower, even though we had been there dozens of times in the past. In fact, after the last practice it took me longer to drive out of Stockton than it did to get from the outskirts back to Northallerton !

It was decided not to hold a practice in the week before the Hexham Country weekend, as it clashed with a surprise practice at Wickham, but many of the people who attend the practices were involved in helping, or went along to sample what proved to be an excellent weekend, characterised by traditional northern hospitality. The other spin-off, the "north meets south" peal weekend was not as successful as usual this year, with a new method being rung at Northallerton, but Spliced Maximus lost at Rotherham on the Sunday. Stockton practices will resume shortly – I miss the smiling faces and the chance to work together towards improving our 12-bell ringing.

Jennie Town

Country Meetings

Linda's fall, or why you should always bring your sunglasses to a Country Meeting

When Simon Holden told me we'd have to take an 8 am train from Liverpool Street in order to be on time for our peal attempt in Ipswich, I began to reconsider my decision to attend the SRCY Country Meeting in Suffolk. What student in her right mind decides to get up before 7 am on a day with no lectures for something that is supposed to "fun"?

Doubts aside, I meet Simon and Penny Sharpe at the station around half past seven, and we, along with Liz Hibbert, board the train to Ipswich. Our journey is punctuated by three sets of worries: mine (will I really be able to ring a 12-bell peal?), Penny's (will everyone really show up for their scheduled peals?), and Simon's (will he really learn the blue lines for his peal the next day?). Our arrival at St. Mary le Tower is without incident; while getting there, I make a mental note of shopping available in the town. Although the ringing room is a little colder than ideal, our peal begins without incident. After about two-and-a-half hours, we are all shaken awake by Linda Garton's unbelievably graceful descent from her two-box pile into the middle of the ringing chamber. I decide I will just keep ringing until "stand!" is called, and start thinking about the shopping I'll be doing soon. Linda manages to keep ringing, kick the top box into the right place, and ascend to her original spot. She flashes us her trademark smile and asks for help in finding her place. The tenor ringer obliges, and Linda settles back in more quickly than the rest of us. Her husband, the conductor, admonishes us for the subsequent giggles and trips. "The entertainment's over," he says. "She's back on the box now." We come back into rounds in 3 hours and 26 minutes, not bad considering all the excitement.

Lunch is a bit of a blur, but we have some, along with beer (for most) and lots of discussion about what towers we will visit the afternoon, and how we will get there.

Linda's car is my transport for the afternoon. Signage in Suffolk does not live up to our expectations, and we play more games of "spot the tower" than we'd planned. There is good ringing at the four towers we manage to visit, and I am pleased to be running into familiar faces.

The last tower of the afternoon is Pettistree, which also serves as the setting for the Meeting. An army of very nice people provide us with coffee, tea, and biscuits as we settle in for the day's main event. Approximately 66 members are present for the meeting. Although I have only been to two previous meetings (and no country meetings), it seems to me that this one follows the standard pattern. Notable parts include the Secretary reading to us from the pulpit, the Master's unbelievably bright pink-and-green rugby shirt (where are my sunglasses when I need them?), the absence of nominees for membership, and no mention of the table at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.



Post-meeting, we move en masse down the road to The Three Tuns, our home for drinking and buffeting for the evening. After much eating, chatting, and drinking with old friends and new, the time for heading back to London arrives. Richard Hobbs has kindly agreed to transport me from Suffolk to the tube, and I perform a good imitation of a bad passenger by sleeping the entire way. I crawl into my bed many, many hours after leaving it, tired and happy after a very good day. Many thanks to Stephen Pettman and the others who organised this Country Meeting and surrounding activities.

Haley Barnett

Notes from the Hexham Country Meeting

From a couple of Northern Sausages

This year's July country meeting was based around the beautiful and expansive building and grounds of Ridley Hall near Hexham. Alongside the traditional peals and Saturday tour, Clive Moon and his set of SRCY stewards had arranged, amongst other things, a coach trip to a pub, various garden games, a mini-ring installed in the garden, a giant barbecue and a fiercely competitive, if rather variable, Treasure Hunt – winning team 1 hour to victory, some teams still going after midnight

After finding their way round Ridley Hall and locating the allocated rooms on Friday night, most people reappeared later looking rather puzzled (having discovered one of the several other existing staircases in the Hall!) to await the arrival of the coach to the evening social event at the elegantly named Cart's Bog Inn a few miles from the Hall. Food, good company and good beer made for a very convivial evening catching up with old friends and meeting a few new ones. The bus back to the Hall and Hexham meant that no-one had to drive if they didn't want to. Wine and beer continued to flow back at the Hall, and the mini-ring was put to such good use that Julia felt the need to join in - in her jimjams!

Saturday brought to us a good breakfast, peals and ringing tour followed by tea and the eating of many many cakes before the meeting in the Methodist Hall.



With the swiftly dealt business at the meeting, it was soon back to Ridley Hall for lawn games and pre-dinner bar-b-que drinking after locating the bar (cunningly hidden in a cupboard!). Once open, the bar queue managed to postpone the start of Clive's very cleverly devised Treasure Hunt by 30 minutes, as

obviously beer is necessary for all brain work. Teams of eager Treasure seekers hunted at variable speeds using many Surprising and Delightful methods, forming Alliances as they went. It was noted that the team doing "in, out, make" through the wrong set of bushes did not win! The team who did win and *found the stairs that descend beneath the library* got champagne all round. The other teams who finished and completed Duncan's fiendish tie-break conundrums also got bubbly prizes.

Special thanks must go to Kris King for arranging the loan of the mini-ring from Duncan Davis at Capheaton, including transporting it to and from the Hall, and for organising the Saturday tour towers. Thanks also to Christine Richardson for ensuring that there were enough peal towers available for the many requests received, several at less than 2 weeks notice – not an easy job when you look at the number of towers available locally.

The culmination of the weekend was the high-note news that the SRCY Girls had scored their peal of Chandler's 23-spliced at Huntingdon. Well done to all the band.

Karen Dickenson & Rachael Dyson

Not the Dinner Day 2005

This took place in London on 5th February, with 38 people ringing in 7 peals, (6 for the SRCY) and with 5 different conductors. The usual post peals analysis took place but with no losses, the scope for recriminations was severely limited. Simon Davies was heard to compliment Penny on her ringing style which so mesmerised him that he missed a bob. Never mind, there was time for a re-start. There seemed to be general agreement that the re-hanging at Waterloo Road, Islington and Walworth had all brought worthwhile improvements.

49 people then met at the "Sheraz" in Brick Lane for a curry. Simon Holden did a splendid job negotiating with the restaurant staff to moderate the volume of the curried muzak but it took the presence of the Master rising to his feet to get it turned off completely. This was followed by a stunned silence when Glint announced that he did not intend to make any jokes. There were thanks to Shirley McGill, Simon Holden and Ian Bushell for organising the towers and special thanks to Penny for making sure the right number of ringers got to the right number of towers, and for making all the excellent arrangements for the curry. Best wishes were sent to Stephen Wheeler who had been taken ill suddenly; he was replaced at short notice by John Barnes for Bristol Royal at Fulham and Alan Flood for 23 Spliced at Islington, with Ian Fielding and Alan Regin standing in as conductors.

Curiously, "Not the Dinner Day" was a day when everyone taking part scored a peal and / or got their dinner.

Peter Blight

Country meeting – Australia

At the AGM this year, the date of April 2007 (immediately after Easter) was agreed for this tour. It was also agreed to request a deposit of £200 per person, to be paid to the Society Treasurer by Easter 2006 (mid-April), so that by then we will know for sure whether we have a sufficient number to make it viable. We cannot, in any case, make definite travel or accommodation bookings before then.

So far, I have had about 25 people agree that they are willing to pay such a deposit so it does look fairly certain that it will go ahead, assuming no major problems between now and then. If you are interested and have not already contacted me, please let me know ASAP – contact details below. I plan to email or write to everyone I know who has expressed an interest early in the New Year, to ensure everyone is aware of the deposit request, by which time I hope to have a few more details of the plans. If you believe you have expressed an interest to me but have heard no more from me by the beginning of March, please contact me again.

Ben Duke, 55 Stanley Avenue, St Albans, Herts, AL2 3AA
Tel: (h) 01727 768336 (w) 01923 433498
Email: ben.duke1@ntlworld.com

ASCY v SRCY COMPETITION 2005

During April and May a friendly striking competition was held between the Cumberlands and College Youths. This was to be on 6,8,10 and 12 bells over 2 evenings with appropriate social gatherings to follow.

Overall, the score was ASCY 2, SRCY 2

The first leg of this competition was held on Tuesday 26th April at Southwark Cathedral.
The results were as follows:

6 BELL COMPETITION

1st ASCY Rang 1st 240 Cambridge S Minor

2nd SRCY Rang 2nd 240 Norwich S Minor

Teams:

ASCY

1. Dinah E Reed
2. Stephanie J Warboys
3. Christopher J Cooper
4. Dickon R Love
5. Anthony J Bloomfield
6. Robert C Kippin (C)

SRCY

1. Roderick R Horton
2. Richard Hobbs
3. Russell Brown
4. Andrew P Sparling
5. Ian K Bushell
6. Stephen A Wheeler (C)

Judges: Simon Linford & Ian Fielding

12 BELL COMPETITION

1st SRCY Rang 2nd ½ course Cambridge S Maximus

2nd ASCY Rang 1st ½ course Cambridge S Maximus

Teams:

SRCY

1. Shirley E McGill
2. Joanne R Fielding
3. Fiona M Wheeler
4. Louisa Roughley
5. Linda M Garton
6. Ian K Bushell
7. Nicholas M W Haggett
8. Douglas J Beaumont
9. Roderick R Horton
10. Oliver D Cross
11. Simon R Holden
12. Ian R Fielding (C)

ASCY

1. Joanna M Ainsworth
2. Janet E Rothera
3. Katherine A Town
4. Graham Bradshaw
5. Andrew J Graham (C)
6. David E Rothera
7. Antony R Kench
8. David E House
9. Mark A Humphreys
10. Philip R Goodyer
11. John N Hughes-D'Aeth
12. Paul L Carless

Judges: Chris Kippin & Stephen Wheeler

The second leg of this competition was held on Wednesday 10th May at Shoreditch.
The results were as follows:

8 BELL COMPETITION

1st SRCY 8-Spliced S Major
2nd ASCY 8-Spliced S Major

Teams:

ASCY	SRCY
1. Rebecca L Sugden	1. Linda M Garton
2. Charles WG Herriott	2. Shirley E McGill
3. Andrew P F Bradford	3. Joanne R Fielding
4. Mark H Ainsworth	4. John J Ford
5. Martin J Cansdale	5. James W Belshaw
6. Christopher L Rusby	6. Ian G Mills
7. Eleanor J Linford	7. Frank W Rivett
8. Nigel J Bailey (C)	8. Alan Regin (C)

Judges: Stephanie Warboys & Simon Holden

10 BELL COMPETITION

1st ASCY ½ course Cambridge S Royal
2nd SRCY ½ course Cambridge S Royal

Teams:

SRCY	ASCY
1. Joanna K Dorling	1. David J Baverstock
2. Penelope J V Sharpe	2. Christopher H Rogers
3. David Cloake	3. David E Rothera
4. Phillippa M Whittington	4. Susan J Rothera
5. Nicola E Firminger	5. Andrew R C Kelso
6. John S Barnes	6. Robert E Hawtree
7. Peter Blight	7. Terry J C Streeter
8. Peter I Harrison	8. Simon S Meyer
9. Mark Pendery	9. Nigel J Newton
10. Simon R Holden (C)	10. Simon J L Linford (C)

Judges: Chris Kippin & Ian Fielding

S.R.C.Y. PEALS 2004 – 2005

Aug 3, 2004	Shoreditch	5040	Hillingdon Surprise Maximus*	D. E. Sibson
Aug 5, 2004	Greyabbey	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	S. A. Wheeler
Aug 5, 2004	Carrickfergus	5024	Cooktown Orchid Delight Major*	S. A. Wheeler
Aug 5, 2004	Greyabbey	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
Aug 6, 2004	Londonderry	5040	Henleaze Surprise Royal	A. Regin
Aug 6, 2004	Holywood	5088	London Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Aug 7, 2004	Hillsborough	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
Aug 7, 2004	Enniskillen	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	I. R. Fielding
Aug 8, 2004	Ballymena	5002	Bristol Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
Aug 9, 2004	Dundela	5160	Antrim Surprise Royal	I. R. Fielding
Aug 9, 2004	Ballylesson	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Aug 14, 2004	St. Lawrence, Jewry	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Aug 14, 2004	Dorchester	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	D. A. Warwick
Aug 28, 2004	Chislehurst (St. Nicholas)	5024	6-Spliced Surprise Major	S. Jenner
Aug 30, 2004	Orwell	5024	Warwickshire Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Sep 2, 2004	Willesden	5152	15-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Sep 4, 2004	Kingston	5040	Isle of Purbeck Surprise Royal+	J. W. Belshaw
Sep 4, 2004	Northallerton	5122	Bristol Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Sep 4, 2004	Coventry	5042	Bristol Surprise Maximus	J. P. Loveless
Sep 4, 2004	Market Bosworth	5152	Adelaide Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Sep 5, 2004	Middleham	5021	Glasgow Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Sep 18, 2004	Shalford	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	J. Morgan
Sep 18, 2004	St. Sepulchre, Newgate	5042	5-Spliced Surprise Maximus	I. R. Fielding
Sep 30, 2004	St. Clement Danes	5088	7-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 2, 2004	Eltham	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Oct 2, 2004	Wandsworth	5058	3-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 3, 2004	Eynsford	5088	London Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 7, 2004	Barton Seagrave	5024	Dorking Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Oct 23, 2004	Wedmore	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Oct 24, 2004	Barnstaple	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Oct 25, 2004	Appledore (Devon)	5280	6-Spliced Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Oct 25, 2004	Northam	5120	London Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 26, 2004	Georgeham	5120	Devon Surprise Major*	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 26, 2004	Braunton	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Oct 26, 2004	Houston (St. Thomas)	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 27, 2004	North Tawton	5120	Lessness Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Oct 27, 2004	Chittlehampton	5184	Cassiobury Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 27, 2004	Houston (St. Thomas)	5056	4-Spliced Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Oct 27, 2004	Houston (St. Paul)	5152	Lessness Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 28, 2004	Combe Martin	5152	Glasgow Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 28, 2004	Little Rock	5280	9-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 29, 2004	Chagford	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Oct 29, 2004	Moretonhampstead	5040	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	S. A. Wheeler
Oct 29, 2004	Little Rock	5120	London Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Oct 29, 2004	Little Rock	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 30, 2004	Marston Bigot	5088	London Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Oct 30, 2004	Eardisland	5056	Yorkshire Surprise Major	R. A. Pearce
Oct 31, 2004	Hendersonville	5024	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Oct 31, 2004	Hendersonville	5152	Bristol Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Nov 1, 2004	Sewanee	5024	Cambridge Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Nov 2, 2004	Marietta	5024	7-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Nov 2, 2004	Atlanta	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	R. Baldwin
Nov 3, 2004	Atlanta	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	D. E. Sibson
Nov 4, 2004	Augusta	5088	London Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Nov 4, 2004	Augusta	5024	Robert's Wilde Bells Surprise Major+	D. E. Sibson

Nov 5, 2004	Charleston (Grace Church)	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	R. Baldwin
Nov 6, 2004	Newport Pagnell	5056	Ashtead Surprise Major	R. M. Hobbs
Nov 6, 2004	Norton (S.Yorks)	5184	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Nov 6, 2004	Ranmoor	5080	Cambridge Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Nov 6, 2004	Charleston (St. Michael)	5088	Charleston Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Nov 7, 2004	Badby	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J. P. Loveless
Nov 7, 2004	Harthill	5152	Yorkshire Surprise Major	O. D. Cross
Nov 7, 2004	Charleston (Grace Church)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	D. E. Sibson
Nov 13, 2004	Cold Higham	5040	26 methods Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
Nov 13, 2004	Moreton Pinkney	5040	7 methods Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
Nov 13, 2004	Little Rock	5040	Plain Bob Minor	M. F. Schulte
Nov 13, 2004	Ipswich	5003	Grandsire Caters	S. D. Pettman
Nov 13, 2004	Grundisburgh	5088	Oxford Treble Bob Major	S. D. Pettman
Nov 18, 2004	Bristol (St. Stephen)	5000	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	A. J. Cox
Nov 19, 2004	Fairwarp	5056	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	A. R. Baldock
Nov 19, 2004	Sydney (Christ Church, St. Laurence)	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	C. M. Peckham
Nov 19, 2004	Shoreditch	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Nov 19, 2004	Haslemere	5129	Grandsire Caters	J. Morgan
Nov 20, 2004	Westbourne	5152	Sussex Delight Major*	D. D. Smith
Nov 20, 2004	Sunderland (Roker)	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	R. R. Warford
Nov 20, 2004	Broughton	5056	Keele University Delight Major+	R. J. Angrave
Nov 20, 2004	Lincoln (St. Giles)	5024	8-Spliced Surprise Major	R. Philip Graves
Nov 20, 2004	Toronto	5008	Plain Bob Major	D. F. Morrison
Nov 20, 2004	Okehampton	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	I. V. J. Smith
Nov 20, 2004	Clevedon	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	J. St J. Beaumont
Nov 20, 2004	Henley-on-Thames	5152	Yorkshire Surprise Major	D. J. Beaumont
Nov 20, 2004	Stepney	5000	London No.3 Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Nov 20, 2004	Sydney (Cathedral)	5015	Grandsire Cinques	C. M. Peckham
Nov 20, 2004	Camberwell	5040	Bristol Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Nov 20, 2004	Sutton-cum-Lound	5184	Worthington Surprise Major*	P. F. Curtis
Nov 20, 2004	Benenden	5042	Cambridge Surprise Maximus	J. P. Loveless
Nov 20, 2004	St. Laurence in Thanet	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	J. W. Belshaw
Nov 20, 2004	Privett	5024	Privett Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Nov 20, 2004	Hawkley	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Nov 20, 2004	Kalamazoo	5024	St. Clement's College Bob Major H/B*	M. F. Schulte
Nov 21, 2004	Kalamazoo	5088	Michigan Delight Major+	M. F. Schulte
Nov 21, 2004	Pettistree	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	S. D. Pettman
Nov 23, 2004	Barton Seagrave	5024	Gainsborough Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Nov 27, 2004	Basingstoke (All Saints)	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Nov 28, 2004	Grundisburgh	5056	Pudsey Surprise Major	S. D. Pettman
Dec 7, 2004	Shoreditch	5002	Triton Delight Royal	D. E. Sibson
Dec 9, 2004	Willesden	5152	19-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Dec 11, 2004	Northfield	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J. W. Belshaw
Dec 18, 2004	Kettering	5040	Bristol Surprise Maximus	D. E. Sibson
Dec 23, 2004	Pimlico	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	E. A. Hibbert
Dec 27, 2004	St. Albans (St. Peter)	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	G. A. Duke
Dec 27, 2004	Hinckley	5184	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Dec 28, 2004	Loughborough (All Saints)	5040	Loughborough Delight Royal+	R. J. Angrave
Jan 1, 2005	Datchworth	5040	14-Spliced Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
Jan 3, 2005	Crick	5024	Petworth Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Jan 4, 2005	Shoreditch	5040	Quenby Hall Surprise Maximus*	D. E. Sibson
Jan 6, 2005	Stamford Hill	5152	19-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Jan 8, 2005	Shoreditch	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Jan 9, 2005	Epsom	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	D. E. Sibson
Jan 22, 2005	Langleybury	5040	35-Spliced Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
Jan 22, 2005	Little Gaddesden	5040	28 methods Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding

Jan 22, 2005	Rotherhithe	5088	Pudsey Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Jan 22, 2005	Spitalfields	5088	Spitalfields Delight Major	D. E. Sibson
Jan 23, 2005	Kingston-upon-Thames	5090	Bristol Surprise Maximus	I. R. Fielding
Feb 5, 2005	Fulham	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	I. R. Fielding
Feb 5, 2005	Stamford Hill	5088	Yorkshire Surprise Major	S. J. Davies
Feb 5, 2005	Walworth	5024	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Feb 5, 2005	Shoreditch	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Feb 5, 2005	Lambeth (Waterloo Road)	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Feb 5, 2005	Poplar (Cubitt Town)	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	G. A. Duke
Feb 6, 2005	Shoreditch	5120	8-Spliced Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Feb 12, 2005	Downham	5040	7 methods Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
Feb 20, 2005	Shoreditch	5040	Thwaites Surprise Royal*	D. E. Sibson
Feb 24, 2005	Pimlico	5120	Glasgow Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Mar 5, 2005	Hackney	5120	Bristol Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Mar 5, 2005	West Ham	5120	Cat's-Eye Surprise Royal*	I. R. Fielding
Mar 12, 2005	Henley	5088	Yorkshire Surprise Major	B. E. Whiting
Mar 12, 2005	Hollesley	5088	Yorkshire Surprise Major	M. W. Crowder
Mar 12, 2005	Coddenham	5056	Rutland Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Mar 12, 2005	Grundisburgh	5001	Stedman Cinques	I. R. Fielding
Mar 12, 2005	Ipswich	5040	Cambridge Surprise Maximus	J. P. Loveless
Mar 13, 2005	St. Mary-le-Bow	5088	4-Spliced Treble Dodging Maximus	I. R. Fielding
Mar 15, 2005	Shoreditch	5000	Attenborough Surprise Royal*	D. E. Sibson
Mar 17, 2005	Shoreditch	5152	20-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Mar 31, 2005	Orwell	5024	New Cambridge Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Apr 8, 2005	Harefield	5040	19 methods Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
Apr 8, 2005	Chenies	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
Apr 9, 2005	Downham	5040	17-Spliced Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
Apr 10, 2005	Rushden	5024	Rushden Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Apr 16, 2005	Warnham	5160	Aldergrove Surprise Royal+	I. R. Fielding
Apr 16, 2005	Kettering	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Maximus	D. E. Sibson
Apr 17, 2005	Bermondsey	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	R. M. Hobbs
Apr 17, 2005	Shoreditch	5000	Tintern Surprise Royal+	D. E. Sibson
Apr 23, 2005	Broadchalke	5088	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D. A. Warwick
Apr 28, 2005	Shoreditch	5152	21-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Apr 30, 2005	Debenham	5088	London Surprise Major	I. Roulstone
Apr 30, 2005	Sudbury (St. Peter)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
May 1, 2005	Prittlewell	5042	Bristol Surprise Royal	I. Roulstone
May 2, 2005	Cirencester	5042	Bristol Surprise Maximus	A. J. Cox
May 3, 2005	Shoreditch	5000	Iodine Surprise Royal*	D. E. Sibson
May 3, 2005	Ditcheat	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	A. J. Cox
May 4, 2005	Chew Magna	5088	London Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
May 5, 2005	Capel	5040	30-Spliced Treble Dodging Minor	I. R. Fielding
May 5, 2005	Ockley	5040	19-Spliced Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
May 10, 2005	Shalford	5152	13-Spliced Surprise Major	J. Morgan
May 14, 2005	Stow Bardolph	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
May 14, 2005	Downham Market	5184	Cambridge Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
May 15, 2005	Spitalfields	5184	Rutland Surprise Major	S. R. Holden
May 26, 2005	Islington	5088	Preston Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
May 28, 2005	Dunham Massey	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
May 28, 2005	Leek	5040	Henleaze Surprise Royal	A. J. Cox
May 29, 2005	Crewe	5082	Bristol Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
May 30, 2005	Cannock	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	R. M. Hobbs
May 30, 2005	Stafford	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J. P. Loveless
Jun 4, 2005	Shoreditch	5088	Orion Surprise Maximus	I. R. Fielding
Jun 7, 2005	Shoreditch	5040	Mirfield Surprise Royal*	D. E. Sibson
Jun 9, 2005	Orwell	5024	Quedgeley Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Jun 11, 2005	Northallerton	5002	Euler Surprise Royal+	I. Roulstone

Jun 14, 2005	Shoreditch	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Jun 18, 2005	Edgbaston	5152	Adelaide Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Jun 18, 2005	Northfield	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	I. R. Fielding
Jun 22, 2005	Grayshott	5152	18-Spliced Surprise Major	J. Morgan
Jun 25, 2005	Aston Clinton	5040	Banbury Cross Surprise Royal	I. R. Fielding
Jul 2, 2005	Barking	5088	Cosgreave Delight Major+	S. A. Wheeler
Jul 2, 2005	Bow	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	R. M. Hobbs
Jul 3, 2005	Isleworth	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler
Jul 7, 2005	Schildon	5056	London Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Jul 7, 2005	Hartlepool (Stranton)	5024	Greybury Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Jul 7, 2005	Hartlepool (St. Oswald)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	I. Roulstone
Jul 7, 2005	Darlington (Holy Trinity)	5040	8 methods Surprise Minor	P. J. Waterfield
Jul 7, 2005	Darlington (St. Cuthbert)	5152	Bristol Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Jul 8, 2005	Bamburgh	5024	Bamburgh Surprise Major*	D. E. Sibson
Jul 8, 2005	Shincliffe	5040	17 methods Surprise Minor	I. R. Fielding
Jul 8, 2005	Sunderland Minster	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Jul 8, 2005	Heworth	5040	Cambridge Surprise Minor	R. R. Warford
Jul 8, 2005	Whitley Bay	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D. E. Sibson
Jul 8, 2005	Houghton-le-Spring	5088	Pudsey Surprise Major	S. A. Wheeler
Jul 9, 2005	North Shields	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	M. J. L. Durham
Jul 9, 2005	Allendale	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Jul 9, 2005	Ryton	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	R. Baldwin
Jul 9, 2005	Wigton	5184	Bristol Surprise Major	J. P. Loveless
Jul 10, 2005	Burnley	5056	Victoria Alliance Royal*	D. E. Sibson
Jul 10, 2005	Hexham	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	M. J. L. Durham
Jul 10, 2005	Huntington	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	C. N. Merlane
Jul 16, 2005	Stepney (St. George-in-the-East)	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	I. R. Fielding
Jul 21, 2005	Maidenhead	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal H/B	K. J. Darvill
Jul 23, 2005	Shoreditch	5090	5-Spliced Treble Dodging Maximus	I. R. Fielding
Jul 28, 2005	Limehouse	5040	Anglia Surprise Royal	S. A. Wheeler

+ denotes first peal in the method

* denotes first peal in the method for the Society

Peals Analysis (last year's figures in brackets)

This year it is good to report an increase in the number of peals rung between 1/8/04 and 31/7/05, albeit rather small, 198 compared with 187 last year. Handbell ringing has declined as there were only 2 (7) handbell peals in that total. The number of towers was slightly more with 158 (148). Shoreditch has naturally retained its place as the leading tower but remarkably there are only three other towers with more than two peals, and one of them is in the U.S.A., Little Rock Cathedral. Two new towers in the U.S.A. have been added to the list, Augusta and Sewanee and one in Northern Ireland, Greyabbey.

Towers: Shoreditch 17 (23), Spitalfields 5 (0), Little Rock 4,(0) Grundisburgh 3 (0), Orwell 3 (0), 17 (14) towers with 2 and 137 (134) with just 1.

Geographically the peals were well distributed, being rung in 39 (39) different counties in the British Isles, 20 (8) in 7 (5) states in the U.S.A., 2 (1) in Australia and 1 (0) in Canada. Most were rung in London 45 (49), followed this time by Devon 11 (6), Sussex 11 (3), Northants 9 (14), Surrey 7 (5), Tyne & Wear 7 (1), Co. Down 6 (2), Durham 6 (0), Georgia 5 (1), and Somerset 5 (11). The change in distribution each year once again is a reflection of where we hold country meetings and special ringing days or tours.

There has been a further fall in the number of members taking part, 289 (308) and 127 (168) rang in only one peal.

Ringers: Alan Regin 80 (75), Ian Fielding 64 (56), Richard Hobbs 58 (52), Derek Sibson 50 (34), Jane Sibson 45 (33), Fiona Wheeler 44 (47), Stephen Wheeler 44 (58), Simon Holden 40 (27), Shirley McGill 40 (44), Catherine Merlane 39 (38), Jo Dorling 38 (29), John Loveless 37 (41), Jo Fielding 36 (21), Simon Davies 35 (50), Linda Garton 35 (37), Penny Sharpe 35 (23).

The conducting was shared by 38 people this year compared with 43 last year. Derek Sibson 43 (33), Ian Fielding 43 (31), Stephen Wheeler 28 (33), John Loveless 17 (19), Roger Baldwin 9 (7), Tony Cox 4 (3), Ian Roulstone 4 (6), Julian Morgan 4 (0), Richard Hobbs 4 (5), and Stephen Pettman 4 (2). 20 (24) members conducted just 1 peal.

The variety of methods has increased a little since last year. 97 (85) different methods or groups of methods (e.g. 4-Spliced) were rung. The number of 12-bell peals has fallen again 15 (21), but only 4 (5) at Shoreditch. Spliced has reappeared and we were very pleased that a 12-bell peal has now been rung for the Society in the southern hemisphere.

Methods: Bristol S. Major 22 (16), Cambridge S. Royal 10 (7), 8-Spliced S. Major 9 (5), Bristol S. Royal 9 (4), London S. Major 9 (7), Yorkshire S. Royal 7 (4), Cambridge S. Major 6 (6), Yorkshire S. Major 6 (7), 4-Spliced S. Major 5 (7), 7 Surprise Minor 5 (11), Bristol S. Maximus 4 (8), London No.3 S. Royal 4 (3).

In more general terms, Alan Regin has just overtaken Derek Sibson as leading peal ringer for the Society with 1316, Derek having rung 1313. The other members who have rung over 500 peals for the Society are Simon Davies 1125, Jane Sibson 831, Graham Duke 765, Ian Campbell 751, Ian Fielding 750, John Loveless 710, Linda Garton 690, Peter Fleckney 673 and Catherine Merlane 501.

From the methods point of view the top ten since 1934 when the present computer records start, are Bristol S. Major 385, 4-Spliced S. Major 177, 8-Spliced S. Major 159, Yorkshire S. Major 155, London S. Major 150, 7 Surprise Minor 144, Bristol S. Maximus 136, Yorkshire S. Maximus 130, Stedman Cinques 126 and London No.3 S. Royal 110. These are in fact the only methods with more than 100 peals rung for the Society.

If any member wants a list of their Society peals please get in touch with Derek Sibson at sibson@bartonseagrave.freeserve.co.uk.

Derek Sibson

Contributions

We would welcome contributions to the Newsletter from members at any time of the year. If you attend or are organising an event, please remember that other members might like to hear what is going on. Each year we receive letters from members, who are not able to be as active in the Society as they would like, telling us of the enjoyment they get from reading about events during the year. Articles can be sent at any time of the year to the Secretary. Pictures are always welcome – either prints or negatives which can be scanned in (and will be returned) or digital pictures.

ELECTED OFFICERS 2005 -2006

Master	Simon R. Holden
Senior Steward	Joanne R. Fielding
Junior Steward	Shirley E. McGill
Honorary Secretary	Philippa M. Whittington
Honorary Treasurer	James W. Belshaw
Honorary Librarian	Richard Hobbs
Honorary Assistant Secretary	Penny J. V. Sharpe
Trustees	Ian H. Oram John S. Barnes
Independent Examiners	Michael H. D. O'Callaghan Frank W Rivett
Central Council representatives	John S. Barnes Ian H. Oram Derek E. Sibson Andrew Preston
Newsletter editors	Jo Dorling Philippa Whittington

Pictures copyright P Whittington, Peter Harrison, Christine Richardson

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 (by email or ordinary mail) to the

Junior Steward: Shirley McGill

8 Southcote Road, London SE25 4RG

semcgill@blueyonder.co.uk

Treasurer : James Belshaw
c/o Miss S J Pattenden, 3 Willow Court, 31 Willow Place,
London, SW1P 1JJ.
james.belshaw@virgin.net

Secretary : Philippa Whittington
1 Clifton Farm Barns, Church Street, Clifton, Beds SG17 5EX
01462 851816
srcy.sec@ntlworld.com

Ass Secretary : Penny Sharpe
Flat 2, 101 Burnt Ash Hill, London SE12 9AQ
pjvsharpe@onetel.com



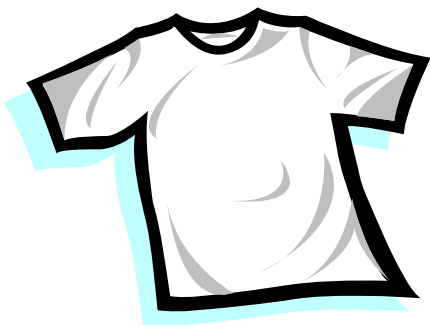
**Saturday 9th September 2006
7pm for 7.45**

**Society of Royal Cumberland Youths dinner
at St Williams College, York**

**Tickets £60
(Including wine with dinner and pre dinner drinks)
Available from the Secretary or Assistant Secretary**

**Come and join in the fun
This is an event NOT TO BE MISSED**

Fancy yourself as a designer - or just like to have a go



We are looking for a new design
for a Cumberland polo-shirt

(possibly also for a sweatshirt
and/or a cap badge).

Send your entries to the Secretary
Philippa Whittington
1 Clifton Farm Barns
Church St, Clifton
Beds SG17 5EX

