



# Society of Royal Cumberland Youths

## Newsletter 2014



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# Welcome to this edition of the SRCY newsletter



Many people have put in a lot of hard work supplying articles, photos and items for inclusion which has been, once again, brilliantly brought together by Mary Holden. I hope you enjoy reading it.

It is an honour to be your Master once again, having previously had two 3 year stints, from 1989 until 1992 and again from 1997 to 2000. Quite a few things have changed over that time but I am pleased that we have a vibrant Society and I hope, with your support, to build on that in the months ahead.

For very many years the Society has held its regular weekly London practice on Wednesday evening from 6.30pm until 8.00pm, ringing at a number of Churches in the central London area, this is always followed by a visit to a local hostelry for refreshments and the camaraderie that we are well known for. I encourage all members and prospective members to come along whenever you can, you will be sure of a warm welcome. Our Northern members have for many years enjoyed the Stockton practices arranged by Jennie Town, if you are around in that area a warm welcome also awaits you.

In addition, the Society has an excellent range of events, 2 Country Meetings each year, other London based business meetings and along with our regular "Not the Dinner Day" event in London, there is also, a September dinner – 2015 sees us hold our Triennial Formal Dinner on 19<sup>th</sup> September. This will be held in Norwich at the very kind invitation of our Norwich and Norfolk members; please do not miss this, it promises to be a great evening – there will, of course, be some ringing going on also during the weekend!

So, please enjoy your Membership of our great and historic Society, take part in events as you are able, remember peal weekend in November and consider arranging something in your area if there is not usually a peal arranged.

Visit our website: [www.srcy.org.uk](http://www.srcy.org.uk) where you can find all about our practices, events, history and very much more.

*Alan Regin*

## Not the dinner day

The first Saturday of February is the Society's "Not the Dinner Day", featuring peal attempts at London towers followed by a curry in the evening.

2014's Not The Dinner Day was well supported. We were able to field seven peal bands, four 8s, two 10s and a 12, and I'm pleased to say that all the peals were successful.

After ringing and taking refreshments (at the Pride of Spitalfields, as might be expected) 56 members and friends headed to the Sheraz in Brick Lane for a curry supper. We nearly filled the restaurant, but despite our number, the service was prompt; the food was excellent, copious and reasonably priced, and the Sheraz's bring-a-bottle policy (no corkage charge) kept down the price of drinks! The evening concluded with a final session in the Pride of Spitalfields.

Thanks to the Master Shirley McGill, and Assistant Secretary, Penny Sharpe, for organising the day, and to all those who signed up for and took part in this popular event.

*John J Ford*



# March Country Meeting

The 2014 March country meeting was held in Portsmouth, by kind invitation of Malcolm Powell

The 2014 March Country Meeting was held in Portsmouth. On the Friday evening a peal was rung on the eight at St. Agatha's, then everyone adjourned to the designated pub, The Bridge Tavern.

Saturday saw a clean sweep of peals at Alverstoke, Catherington, Curdridge, Portsea (Fratton) and Romsey Abbey. The end of the peal at Curdridge was greeted by a loud cheer; offenders doing Community Payback had been weeding the churchyard accompanied by well over three hours of these lovely heavy, but very loud, bells. Perhaps some of them will think twice before reoffending! Members and guests not participating in peals enjoyed the 'tour' ringing at Westbourne, Havant, Portsmouth Cathedral and St Agatha's.

Cups of tea were provided in The Discovery Centre at St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral prior to a fairly brief Business Meeting. With a little time to kill before the meal, most people visited a local hostelry for pre-dinner drinks. The staff at The Discovery Centre fed us very well with Spaghetti Bolognese followed by Apple Pie and Custard all washed down with an ample supply of wine and coffee.

A few members stayed on in Portsmouth and joined the local band for Sunday Service ringing at the Cathedral and a final peal was rung at St Agatha's on Sunday afternoon.

We are all most grateful to Malcolm Powell for his excellent organisation of a very enjoyable weekend and to our Master, Shirley, for co-ordinating the peal bands.

*Geraldine Forster*



## Ringling Roadshow



September 2014 saw the return of the Ringling Roadshow, held at Newbury Racecourse. The Society stand was manned by several members during the course of the day, and was an excellent opportunity for catching up with friends. Primarily though, the Roadshow is an opportunity for the Society to generate publicity with potential members of the future. Thanks to all those members who volunteered to spend some time manning the stand showcasing the friendly face of the Society, and explaining what we're all about. Particular thanks also to Shirley McGill who co-ordinated the Society stand.

# National 12 bell contest 2014

This year we found ourselves drawn in probably the hardest eliminator on paper, with several teams who had qualified for the final in recent years and including serial winners Birmingham. Arriving at St Sepulchre on the day, we found the programme gave us a glowing write-up as “London’s in-form band”, and confidently stated that we were “the team with the best chance of knocking Birmingham off the top spot today”. Happily, we managed to live up to this billing, and, although we didn’t quite manage to knock Birmingham off top spot, we were very pleased with our test piece and joined them in equal first place. The judges said that we produced some very enjoyable ringing with a good framework, good rhythm and an excellent finish.

A special mention must go to Jo Dorling, who has been first reserve in the Society’s 12 bell band on a number of occasions. At this year’s eliminator Jo rang at short notice due to illness of one of the band, and clearly did an excellent job!

So on to Oxford, and the question was whether we could match Birmingham again, this time in the final?

Not quite, was the answer. On a thoroughly enjoyable day in Oxford, our test piece was described by the judges as very nice to listen to, with a consistent compass, although the first half was slightly better than the second. This resulted in us being placed second, with Birmingham the winners once again.



The SRCY 12 bell band. Front row—L to R: Lee Pinnington, Shirley McGill, Heather Forster, Geraldine Forster. Second row L—R: Mary Holden, Benjamin Constant, Ian Mills, Doug Beaumont. Back row L—R: Alan Regin, Steve Bailey, Oliver Cross, Tom Mack

## Congratulations

We congratulate the following:



Ruth Curtis on ringing her 4,000<sup>th</sup> peal, at Thurstaston on 18<sup>th</sup> January

Russell Brown on ringing his 1,000<sup>th</sup> peal, at Clifton on 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Alan Regin on ringing his 5,000<sup>th</sup> peal, at Spitalfields on 11<sup>th</sup> September

Heather Kippin, on ringing her 1,000<sup>th</sup> peal, at South Croydon on 1<sup>st</sup> November

David Warwick, on ringing his 1,000<sup>th</sup> peal, at Wimborne Minster on 27<sup>th</sup> December

Damien Smith and Carla Ovenden on their wedding on 24<sup>th</sup> May

Duncan Loweth and Gemma Wickersham on their wedding on 27<sup>th</sup> July

Nicola and Stephen Borman on the birth of Benjamin William  
Jo and Simon Holden on the birth of Amy Elizabeth  
Laura and Richard Turk on the birth of Hannah Laura



# Alan Regin's 5,000th peal

In 2014 Alan Regin became the first Society member to ring 5,000 peals. Here he looks back at his peal ringing career so far

I learnt to ring at Christ Church Ottershaw in Surrey during 1970, taught to handle by Roger Pashley and I was hooked from my very first lesson! I rang my first peal on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1972 at St. James the Less Dorney, Buckinghamshire, this peal was jointly conducted by David C Brown, Paul V W Feast and June D Regan (now Wells) and, oddly, it is the only peal I have rung that has been jointly conducted, well, on purpose anyway! My peal ringing got off to a slow start, 2 more peals followed in 1972, 3 in 1973 and none in 1974. After leaving school in 1976 my first full time job was working at John Taylors Bellfoundry in Loughborough, and I did ring a few peals during my time there but it was really when I returned south and moved to London, Alperton, near Wembley to be precise, that my peal ringing increased, indeed I had decided that if I was to improve my ringing then I needed to move to an area where there was lots of opportunity. Initially I joined the band at Bushey with Roger and Kath Baldwin encouraging me greatly and after a job move from Waterloo to Kensington I joined the band at St Mary Abbots.

I joined the Society on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1983 and that opened a world of opportunity for me, ringing my first peal for the Society on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1983 at Shoreditch (of course) and my next Society peal, on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1983, also at Shoreditch, which was my first peal on 12. The composition for my 4,000<sup>th</sup> peal was produced by Graham John and consisted of favourite methods or methods named after favourite places of mine, Adelaide, Charleston, Glasgow, Heptonstall, Kenninghall, London and Spitalfields. The 5,000<sup>th</sup> contained the same methods with the addition of Ypres. I was particularly pleased to ring these two peals at Christ Church, Spitalfields where I have been steepkeeper for a number of years. When I started peal ringing I guess I never thought I would ring 500, let alone 5,000 but, one must acknowledge, 100%, that ringing is a team game and I am most grateful to the 1,600 ringers that have rung peals with me to date and to those that have conducted them. 6,000? Maybe!

Before that I hope to ring my 2,000<sup>th</sup> peal for the Society, at the time of writing, 9 more to go.

*Alan Regin*

1000<sup>th</sup> peal, 4<sup>th</sup> May 1991, St Chads, Shrewsbury, Maypole Alliance Maximus  
2000<sup>th</sup> Peal, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1997, St Paul's Cathedral, London, Bristol Surprise Maximus  
3000<sup>th</sup> Peal, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2003, St Leonards, Shoreditch, Burnley Surprise Royal  
4000<sup>th</sup> Peal, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008, Christ Church, Spitalfields, 7 Spliced Surprise Major  
5000<sup>th</sup> Peal, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014, Christ Church, Spitalfields, 8 Spliced Surprise Major

## July country meeting in Oxford

The 2014 Summer Country Meeting was held in Iffley Church Hall, Oxford on Saturday 12 July, after three days of ringing, socialising and enjoying the delights of summer in Oxfordshire

12 out of 16 peal attempts were scored over the Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with one loss being a casualty of the M25. On the Saturday morning there was also a walking tour taking in three towers in Oxford city centre and the ring of 6 at Iffley.

Members met on the Friday evening for eats and drinks at the Kings Arms in Oxford, and after the meeting on Saturday enjoyed an excellent hog roast in Iffley Church Hall. Iffley Church Hall was full for the meeting and the membership statistics were boosted by the election of five new members.

Many thanks to Ian and Claire Roulstone (and also their helpers) who organised this event and worked hard to make it a success. And thanks also to Doug Beaumont who, in a very generous celebration of his retirement, paid for everyone's desserts - delicious they were too!

# September Dinner

The Society held its informal dinner in London on 13th September

It's always a bit of a difficult one – do we really want to spend ££££ on clothes, hotel, train fare and a black-tie dinner, or is our more modest 'Informal Dinner' the more acceptable choice? Of course, you cannot really make direct comparisons and, fortunately, our programme dictates the order of things, with the 'big' dinner falling every third year and the London-based dinner providing less glamorous entertainment in the intervening years. This year was informal and our wallets breathed a sigh of relief!

London, as ever, proves to be full of restaurants and choice but none of them seem to tick all the boxes. Chief trouble spot is the price of wine/beer and the minimum bar spend – everything else seems plain sailing in comparison, although there is a strong preference for a decent ambience! There were several tense moments in the planning stages and at one point it was looking quite bleak, but I personally had every confidence that Penny would find the right place – and she did!

On Saturday 13th September three peals were rung in the morning before we descended (literally) on Carey Lane, a Balls Brothers establishment just near to St Vedast Church. Although it lacked the fabulous views of previous years, it made up for it in a cosy, comfortable atmosphere and splendid service from the manager and his team. The food was good; the wine even better if purchased in 'Happy Hour' and the assorted mix of company made it a very special occasion. We were honoured to be joined by Simon and Sue Meyer and Sam Wells, the vicar of St Martin in the Fields.

*Shirley McGill*

## Book now for the September 2015 dinner in Norwich

The Society is holding its triennial formal dinner on Saturday 19th September 2015, in the Noverre Ballroom at The Assembly House, Norwich (near St Peter Mancroft). We have been invited by the Norwich ringers as part of the celebrations taking place to commemorate the tercentenary of the first ever recorded peal.

This peal was rung on Monday 2nd May 1715 at St Peter Mancroft, Norwich. The method was "Grandsire Bob Triples", which we now know as Plain Bob Triples. The peal was rung by members of the Norwich Scholars, over 30 years before the foundation of the Cumberlands.

Dinner tickets are now available at £50, which includes a welcome drink, three course meal and tea or coffee. There will be a cash bar, or wine can be ordered in advance. Menu details are on the website. Tickets can be booked by contacting John Ford ([secretary@srcy.org.uk](mailto:secretary@srcy.org.uk)) or Penny Sharpe ([assistant.secretary@srcy.org.uk](mailto:assistant.secretary@srcy.org.uk)), or through the website. If you have special dietary requirements, please contact John or Penny before booking your ticket. The capacity of the Noverre Ballroom is 143. Tickets will be allocated strictly on a first-come-first-served (and paid for!) basis.

On dinner day there will be peals and a general ringing tour.



# Rifleman Andrew Warner

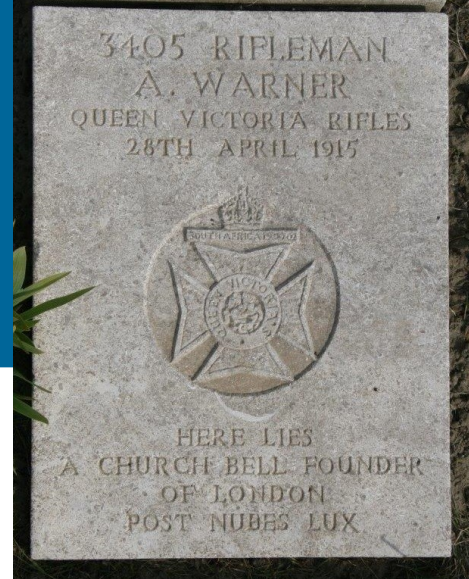
The name Andrew Warner appears in the Central Council Roll of Honour, and on the SRCY war memorial at Shoreditch.

He was born in Chelmsford as Andrew Marriage, his parents being Andrew and Edith Marriage. Edith was the daughter of Robert Warner, who owned John Warner & Sons, Bell founders, and Andrew worked for the firm. His brother Robert took the surname Warner by deed poll but it is not certain if Andrew ever did so officially.

At the time of the 1911 census Andrew was living in Earl's Court Square, London. We know from the Ringing World that in August 1914 he represented the Warner Foundry at the dedication of the restored bells at Bredon in Worcestershire as Andrew Warner and the Society name book shows him being elected to the Cumberland Youths in 1915. He was a Freeman of the City of London and a member of the Founders Livery Company. He was educated at Uppingham School and while there was a member of the Officer Training Corps. When war broke out he enlisted in the Queen Victoria Rifles (9th London Regiment) and went out to France before Christmas 1914. He wrote a number of letters from the front to his brother Robert and three of these were published in the Ringing World, they cover a wide range of subjects, life in the trenches, in reserve and further back behind the lines. In what might have been his last letter, he wrote: "I have joined a special squad of snipers, bomb throwers, trench mortarers and grenadiers, and our duty is to make as great a nuisance of ourselves as possible to the enemy. We are thus able to more readily gain distinction or extinction, in so much as the chances of a ticket to England or heaven are correspondingly greater. Anyhow it will be a bit of excitement and a good test of nerves, so we shall see how things turn out."

On the 20th April 1915 Andrew is believed to have taken part in action on Hill 60, on the edge of the Ypres salient, and here he was severely wounded, struck in the head by shrapnel. He was evacuated from the Hill and reached hospital in Boulogne where he died from his wounds on 28th April 1915. He was buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery and lies there today. On his grave marker (pictured above) it reads "HERE LIES A CHURCH BELL FOUNDER OF LONDON". In the peals of 100 years ago section you will read of two peals rung by Society members to his memory.

*Alan Regin*



## London 12 bell competition

The 2014 London 12 Bell competition was held at St Mary-le-Bow on 25th October. Ten teams took part. The SRCY were defending champions, but unfortunately did not retain our title, coming second this time around.

The band that represented the Society is pictured. Front row—L to R: Michael Crockett, Heather Forster, Shirley McGill, Jo Dorling. Second row L—R: Geraldine Forster, Mary Holden, Ian Mills, Katie Hill. Back row L—R: Tom Mack, Steve Bailey, Alan Regin, Ben Constant





# Peal weekend

Peal weekend 2014 was once again co-ordinated by John Barnes

This year Peal Weekend saw 46 attempts arranged of which 34 were rung successfully. Our sincere thanks to the organisers and conductors who made this possible. Special thanks to Maureen Hanney who, on learning towards the end of October that nothing was being arranged in her area of Hampshire, phoned almost 50 people in organising two attempts at Awbridge.

Three attempts were lost because of mechanical failure: at Melbourne Cathedral a clapper fell out, at Petworth the tenor rope unravelled below the sally and at Amersham a bell slipped wheel.

There were several notable peals rung. In particular, congratulations to Barry Mack on conducting his first peal of Stedman Triples, to the Suffolk ladies who rang a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal at Grundisburgh, to Hannah Campbell on ringing her first peal for the Society, to David Parker on his first peal on ten bells, to Andrew Cairns on ringing his 400th peal, to Donald Carter on his 550th peal of Major as conductor, to Harry Blamire on his first peal of 8-Spliced S Major, and to Susan Marsden on ringing her 900th peal on tower bells.

The peals at Philadelphia and Marietta were rung in memory of Kathryn Tucker. A member of the band at Marietta, Kathryn was taught to ring there by Derek Wilsden and it was fitting that he was able to ring in the performance at that tower.

*John Barnes*



The Suffolk ladies band who rang a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal at Grundisburgh for peal weekend



# SRCY Peals Analysis 2013-14

(Last year's figures in brackets)

This year has seen an increase in the number of peals rung.



Between 1/8/13 and 31/7/14 there were 185 compared with 168 the previous year, which is a rise of 9.1%. There are 11 (7) handbell peals in that total with one (0) in the USA. The number of towers was slightly lower with 125 (131). Shoreditch is still the leading tower with 11 (10). Geographically the peals were still widespread but this year there were 4 peals rung in the USA and 2 in Australia. In the British Isles peals were rung in 41 (41) different counties. 11 (0) peals were rung in Northern Ireland this year but none in Scotland. There were also 4 (0) in the Channel Islands.

This year the number of members taking part in peals is almost the same at 300 (303). 126 (119) rang in only one peal. This year Alan Regin is back in front.

Ringers: Alan Regin 61 (37), Shirley McGill 55 (28), Richard Hobbs 45 (30), Ian Campbell 38 (14), Michael Crockett 37 (16), Jo Dorling 36 (21), Katherine Young 45 (12), Lee Pinnington 33 (11), Janet Archibald 31 (21), Claire Roulstone 31 (22), Ben Constant 29 (17), Catherine Merlane 29 (16), Timothy Forster 28 (9), Adam Greenley 28 (17), Paul Curtis 25 (14), Ruth Curtis 25 (14), Geraldine Forster 23 (17), Janet Menhinick 23 (40), Richard Thumwood 22 (4) and Michael O'Callaghan 20 (37).

The conducting was shared by 51 (46) people this year. Richard Hobbs 23 (8), Ian Fielding 18 (8), Derek Sibson 17 (35), Ben Constant 13 (6), Roger Baldwin 8 (6), Stephen Wheeler 8 (10), James Belshaw 7 (10), Paul Curtis 7 (2), Peter Waterfield 7 (15), Graham Duke 5 (5), Ian Roulstone 5 (6), Ian Butters 4 (1), John Loveless 4 (7), Lucinda Woodward 4 (1), Janet Archibald 3 (1), Anthony Cox 3 (2), Richard Pearce 3 (0), Stephen Pettman 3 (2), ten (11) members with 2 and 23 (21) with 1.

The variety of methods has markedly increased. 88 (66) different methods or groups of methods (e.g. 4-Spliced) were rung. There has been a resurgence of 12-bell peals with 24 of Maximus across a good variety of methods.

*Derek Sibson*

## AGM

At the AGM, Shirley McGill, Ben Constant and Heather Forster stood down from their officer positions, and were thanked for their hard work on the committee. Shirley was presented with flowers in thanks for her work as Master over the last three years. The officers for the following year, pictured, are, from left to right:

Barry Mack (Honorary Treasurer), Penny Sharpe (Assistant Secretary), Alan Regin (Master), Tom Mack (Senior Steward), Geraldine Forster (Honorary Librarian), Nick Brown (Junior Steward), John Ford (Honorary Secretary)



# Around the towers

**Shoreditch** It has been 20 years since the current Shoreditch bells were installed and a peal attempt was arranged and rung to mark the anniversary of the first peal on these bells. 2014 saw an increase in peals rung at Shoreditch (23 compared to 11 the previous year). Derek Sibson continues to bring a peal band and the SRCY continue to have a practice once a month. I would like to encourage the membership to come and ring at Shoreditch (quarter peals, peals, outings etc), there is an online booking form and calendar on the SRCY website (<http://www.srcy.org.uk/towers/shoreditch.php>) to check what dates are available (subject to confirmation). We are indebted to the Reverend Paul Turp, Vicar of Shoreditch for his continued support of our Society.



*Richard Hobbs*

**St Martin in the Fields** 2014 was a busy year for the St Martin's band. In addition to our primary focus of Sunday morning service ringing, we rang four quarter peals. There was also a joint St. Martin's/Southwark Cathedral quarter peal of Stedman Cinques for the thirtieth and fiftieth birthdays respectively of two of our number! The band also rang a number of important services, including the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association Service attended by Prince Harry and the memorial service for Ralph Smith, who was one of the vergers at St. Martin's for many years. Advent is always a busy part of the Church calendar and we were pleased to ring for the Advent Carols, Nine Lessons and Carols and the Community Carol Service.



The band outing was again a joint event with the Southwark Cathedral band and this year was to Worcestershire. Our annual dinner was held in July at the Punch Tavern, Fleet Street, with a wide selection of different G&Ts! We were pleased to welcome Katherine Hedderly, priest at St. Martin's, and her husband for an enjoyable evening. We entered the National 12 Bell striking contest, unfortunately coming last in our eliminator. However, we rang closer to form in the London 12 Bell competition at St. Mary-le-Bow and came fifth, just behind St. Paul's. The ringing chamber was open to the public for the Saturday Open House weekend and we received very positive feedback for our ever-popular ringing demonstrations and tower tours.

We extend our thanks to our outgoing tower captain, Heather Forster, and wish her every success in Berlin. Finally, we have recently started to have a weekly practice on a Monday evening at various towers in London including some slots at St. Martin's. We have a few ringers who are fairly new to ringing on twelve and would welcome the support of any SRCY members who can come along (no matter how infrequently), with the overall aim of boosting the number of ringers at St. Martin's itself. Details of practices are available on the website [www.smitf-bells.co.uk](http://www.smitf-bells.co.uk). Please do come along!

*Paul Caruana*

**Stockton-on-Tees** Practices have been held on the second Wednesday of every month in 2014 except November, when a quarter peal was rung. The clergy at Stockton Parish Church are extremely supportive of our ringing and they now hold a very well-attended multi-cultural service on a Wednesday evening, which we ring through! They declare that keeping the church doors open and having the bells sounding out proclaims the gospel to the town in a very public fashion. Attendances at practice have not varied a great deal, averaging about 19 ringers, with one month as low as 15 and two others reaching the heights of 24. We have recently added Orion to our repertoire to join Phobos and Avon as our "extra methods". The striking at practices has improved markedly over the years and some of the band recently rang a peal of Avon.



It is pleasing to note a good attendance from younger members, who encourage others to come, and so it builds. They are also keen to learn new methods, which helps to ensure that we have enough for the more advanced ringing. It has been a pleasure to watch their confidence increase. I am trying to encourage some of the newer people to join the Society, so watch this space for some more members from the north-east.

*Jennie Town*



# SRCY peals 250, 200 and 100 years ago

## Peals rung by the Society in 1765, 1815 and 1915

09/04/1765 St Edward the Confessor Romford 5040 Plain Bob Major  
The only peal rung by the Society in 1765 taking 3 hours and 18 minutes.

Samuel Wood

18/03/1815 St Leonard Shoreditch 5200 Oxford TB Royal  
As in 1814 the Society rang just one peal in 1815!

William Shipway

06/03/1915	Brondesbury, 25 Winchester Avenue	5056 Plain Bob Major	John D Matthews
27/03/1915	Southfields, 130 Clonmore St	5056 Plain Bob Major	John D Matthews
08/05/1915	St Leonard Shoreditch	5003 Grandsire Caters	Frank Smith
11/05/1915	St Anne Highgate	5024 Double Norwich CB Major	Frank Smith
25/06/1915	The Spitalfields Foundry	5184 Plain Bob Major	Edgar Wightman
05/07/1915	The Spitalfields Foundry	5072 Plain Bob Major	Edgar Wightman
05/08/1915	The Spitalfields Foundry	5056 Plain Bob Major	Edgar Wightman
13/11/1915	The Spitalfields Foundry	5040 Plain Bob Royal	Edgar Wightman

Many peal ringing groups' activities were curtailed by the Great War; the two tower bell peals at Shoreditch and Highgate were rung to the memory of Rifleman Andrew Warner who died on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1915 - you can read more about him on page 7.

All the other peals (6) were rung on handbells. The footnote to the first Spitalfields Foundry peal reads: "First peal of major rung in hand by a bell foundry band, all being employees of John Warner & Sons Limited". And the footnote to the peal of Plain Bob Royal reads: "First peal on ten bells in hand by a bell foundry band, and believed to be the first peal of Royal in hand by the Society".

*Alan Regin*

**Spitalfields** We have continued to ring for the 10.30 service on the first Sunday of each month along with other times requested by the Church. I am very grateful to the small pool of ringers who support this ringing. If anybody is willing to assist please do contact me.

One major event this year was the resumption of Sunday evening services at Christ Church on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014, we rang the bells and around 200 people attended that service.

We have purchased two new ropes during the year. In addition some work was done to try and correct some odd-struckness that has become more marked during the year, this work will continue into 2015. The peal board that was commissioned for the peal of Huguenot Surprise

Major rung in 2013 arrived and has now been hung on the North West staircase. Our artist friend, Anthony (Tony) Eyton RA held an exhibition of his work at a local Spitalfields gallery and among the items in the exhibition, entitled "Drawing on Hawksmoor", where several sketches of the ringers in action. As part of the exhibition the Royal Academy commissioned a video which includes Cumberland members ringing "Eyton RA Delight Major"; you can take a look at: <https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/article/anthony-eyton-bell-ringers-spitalfields>

The bells have once again proved popular with peal ringers and other visitors. 19 peals were rung during 2014.

There have been 5 quarter peal attempts, 4 outing bands, ringing for 1 wedding and 3 SRCY practices, after one of which we were very pleased to be invited to the Rectory for refreshments.

During 2014 I was extremely pleased to be able to propose our Rector, Andy Rider as an Honorary Member of our Society, for his enthusiastic support of the Society over the 11 years he has been at Christ Church. He was elected at the AGM in October 2014.

I am once again grateful to the Rector, Andy Rider, his wife Carol, Honorary Curate, David Stuart-Smith, a regular visitor to the tower on Sundays, and the wider members of Christ Church for their support of the Society and the ringing of bells in their Church.

*Alan Regin*



# Anniversaries of membership

## Elected 1949 — 65 years

Audrey Allaway	James M Page
David J R Martin	Beryl N Reed
Patricia Cross	Stella Knight
Trevor A Cross	

## Elected 1954 — 60 years

John R Leeming	R Bailey
Alan H Sturgess	E J Munday
Mary R Andrews	William L Exton
Mary Bartholomew	

## Elected 1964 — 50 years

Judith Geiringer	Hilary Hinde
Anne E Ketchell	David Orledge
Yvonne C S Porter	E Snell
Margaret Reeves	Frank Rivett
Patricia Diserens	David D Smith
Rosamund Rawlings	

## Elected 1974 — 40 years

Jeffrey M Britchford	Roger S Riley
Anthony S Braben	John L Girt
Hilary K Derham	Peter J Blight
Patrick M Wills	Laura Watson
Stephen D Pettman	Ian G Campbell
Kenneth A East	Gail Randall
J Richard Anthony	W John Riley
Roderick R Horton	Anita Kirkman
Patricia O M Hitchins	

## Elected 1989 — 25 years

Andrew J Dickinson	Emma Rothery
Douglas W Nichols	John F Oultram
Charlotte Mackle	June Saint
Elisabeth Trumpler	Ruth M Border
Vanessa Gisslegard	Richard Green
Stephen A Rossiter	Andrew J Parker
Gwyneth A Clay	Tina Stoecklin
A Christine Smith	Margaret Reed
Katherine A Hinchliffe	

# Membership news

We welcome the following new members, elected during 2014:

Robert Beavis	James Crawley	Clare Veal
Deirdre Watson	Christopher Wilton	Craig Homewood
Jane Bull	Raymond Ballard	Stephen Aldridge
Harry Blamire	Hannah Campbell	Andy Rider

It is with sadness we report the death of:

Alf Patten	Catherine Ladd	Leslie Weller
Kathryn Tucker	Revd Lord Wrenbury	Jean Hall
Neil Belson	Ruth Maundrell	

# Calendar 2015

Below is a list of upcoming dates for your diary:

14th March	Country meeting	Kettering
6th May	Business meeting	London
9th—11th July	Country meeting	Wimborne Minster
19th September	Triennial dinner	Norwich*
3rd October	AGM	London
21st—22nd November	Peal weekend	

\*See page 6 for details of the Triennial dinner in Norwich

To find out more, or to sign up for any of these events, please visit the website or contact the Assistant Secretary, Penny Sharpe, at [assistant.secretary@srcy.org.uk](mailto:assistant.secretary@srcy.org.uk)

# The newsletter

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