

# ldg NEWS

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## CHANGE & GROWTH IN 2011

Thanks to all those who have contributed to this Newsletter, please keep articles coming in to me as and when they get written, it makes my job a lot easier!

It's all change in the Education Committee. I know a great number of Guild ringers who have gained help from the education committee under the leadership of Gwen, Garry and Sue and their successors have been left a good base of students and helpers to call on - good luck to them!

### EDITORIAL

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If you are interested in knowing more about this or would like to help please put your name forward through your District Committee.

The numbers of Rising Ringers keeps increasing as does their enthusiasm for the practices. The new regime of bi-monthly

practices seems to be going really well. Thanks to Mark Pendery and Andrew Young for organising these.

If you have any Rising Ringers in your area, please encourage them to come along to the practices.

I hope the snowy, cold weather does not stop you getting where you need to be for Christmas or from taking part in ringing for Christmas and the New Year, a bit of bell ringing soon warns you up! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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#### We need your articles!

Your articles and notices make up ldgNEWS, we love to get them and we want more!



Leicester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

## Guild Dinner 2011

February 26th 2010 ~ Birstall Golf Club ~ 6.45 for 7pm ~ Tickets £22.50

A poster will be coming round shortly with menu choices etc to be returned to Jennie Higson ASAP please!

Guest speaker Pip Penney from Kids.Ring.Out

# REGULAR RISING RINGERS RINGS

## YOUNG RINGERS: REGULAR SESSIONS & RW CENTENARY

### THE GUILD rising ringers

Mark Pendery  
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**The rising ringers now meet on a bi-monthly basis to encourage the continual development of learners in the exercise.**

Two meetings have taken place since the last newsletter both at the ringing centre at Oadby.

This uses the facility at Oadby for its intended use and provides a non threatening learning environment. The bells are tied and the sound is produced using the simulator.

This has worked really well for the group and allowed good progress to be made.

We will continue with these bi-monthly meetings next year. The dates are:

22nd January 2011  
26th March 2011  
28th May 2011  
23rd July 2011  
(Venues to be confirmed)

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We are in the process of organising a team to take part in the **National Youth Striking Competition** on Saturday 26th March 2011 in London.

This is all part of the Ringing World's Centenary Day and promises to be a fantastic day out

with lots of events and open ringing available.

The Guild are looking into organising a bus as transport to and from the event, further details will be available shortly.

Additional information regarding the events can be found online at <http://bit.ly/rwyouthcontest> or <http://bit.ly/rwcentenary>

May I personally thank everyone that has been part of the rising ringers group during 2010. Especially the helpers, without which we could not achieve the great things that I have seen during this year.

Happy Christmas and all the best for 2011.

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# SINKING FEELING AT FREEBY

### GUILD COMMITTEES BELLS

Garry Mason  
Bells Committee

**The village of Freeby is situated on the edge of the Vale of Belvoir. The tower of its village church houses three bells which, until a few years ago, were rung fairly frequently.**

Sadly the church has enormous structural problems in that the main part of the building is sinking

into the ground. So far the tower appears to be unaffected but, for reasons of safety, the church has been closed.

What is the future of the building? I have heard many suggestions but the stark reality may be its eventual demolition. I hope that I am wrong but the potential cost involved in stabilising the building would be enormous and beyond the scope of such a small village.

In the same vein the church at Ab Kettleby has now been closed for two years due to structural problems in the building. The tower houses a ring of three which

cannot be rung until, either the problems have been resolved or some decision has been made as to the future of the church.

On a brighter note some of our members visited the church at Ashby Parva several months ago in company with George Dawson, the Diocesan Bells Advisor, with a view to inspecting the bells and getting them ringing. Jim Lackenby of Whitwick and Colin Lord of Coleorton have kindly undertaken to do the necessary work and we are optimistic that the bells will soon be back in ringing order.

# END OF EDUCATION ERA

## COMMITTEE TO CHANGE: AFTER 30YRS OF COURSES

### GUILD COMMITTEES EDUCATION

**Sue Mason**

Education Committee

Secretary

*education@leicester.org.uk*

**Thirty years ago I was asked to take over as Secretary of the Education Committee.**

Garry became a Committee member around the same time and, although I cannot remember the exact date, Gwenyth Tyler joined us soon after and became our Chairman.

At that time the activities of the Education Committee revolved entirely around a weekend in September at Church Langton; the Hanbury Centre which was situated in the local school.

Starting on Friday evening many students, helpers and lecturers stayed at the Centre for the whole weekend, enjoying dormitory accommodation and meals prepared by the local staff. We had five sessions over the weekend, Friday evening, Saturday morning and afternoon and the same on Sunday. We set up a bar thanks to the assistance of the licensee of the Bulls Head at Tur Langton, (Sadly that pub closed many moons ago and stands almost derelict) who left us with drinks and cash float to look after ourselves. In the best tradition of bell ringers we invariably saw off the draught beer.

The Centre had its own playing fields where various games took place whilst, during Friday and Saturday evenings we made our own amusement in the `temporary`

bar usually organised by Tim Payne who had a fantastic repertoire of songs and games.

Usually, by Sunday morning, two nights of sleep deprivation meant that many of our younger members were on their last legs and, certainly, the last session during the afternoon was a constant battle to keep them awake or, at least, alert.

We had helpers who gave of their time each year including one ringer from north of here who would turn up like clockwork each Saturday evening for the `fun, games and Sunday ringing`.

David Thorne, now retired editor of the Ringing World came on at least two occasions. Having been `warned` before his first visit that his stamina might be insufficient he enjoyed his times with us whilst, at the same time, giving our course excellent coverage in the Ringing World. He did remark on more than one occasion that he thought we were too cheap, certainly compared with other residential courses up and down the country. Suffice to say our prices enabled, particularly, our younger ringers to attend and we still managed to make a small profit each year which subsequently went towards the subsidy of future training sessions and the refurbishment of the Guild handbells.

There are too many tutors to mention here and there is always the danger of missing one out. Nonetheless we provided excellent tuition and many of our ringers, mainly from this Diocese, benefitted from a weekend at Church Langton.

The decision to finish the residential course was not ours really; the Hanbury Centre became unavailable which forced us to seek an alternative. Quite honestly the

cost at alternative venues was prohibitive and would certainly have prevented many of our younger members being able to attend.

So we decided to run smaller training sessions for two and three students at a time, usually in churches with toilet and catering facilities. Because many of our members are retired it became possible to organise sessions during the week.

Admittedly many of the training sessions have been organised to help the less experienced but we have ventured as far as a morning of Bristol Surprise Royal. Bell Maintenance Courses, Bob Caller's Courses, Quarter Peals; they are just a few of the things which we have provided.

Garry, Gwenyth and myself all felt that, after such a long period, it was time to retire gracefully and open up the way for fresh blood and new ideas.

So at the end of 2010 we shall hand over to our successors. I would like to tell you who they are but that is up to you, the Guild members to decide.

Education is one of the most important things that we provide and the Guild has a lot of expertise available to continue the work. Together with a healthy bank balance we hand over a list of requests from Guild members for various training sessions to be organised. More of the above plus rope splicing and plain hunt.

Over the last thirty years we have received help and support from many areas of the Guild; the Education Committee, the tutors, helpers and students themselves. A really enjoyable time with many, many happy memories. Thank you.

# AGM BEETLE MANIA

SPOT THE CREEPY-CRAWLIES: 6 ARE HIDDEN IN ARTICLE!

## THE GUILD NEWS

Jenny Harvey

*The names of 6 different creepy-crawlies/insects are hidden in the article below.*

*How many can you find?!  
(Beetle doesn't count...)*

**The Leicester Guild AGM was held this year at Sapcote, the best (and only) ring of 10 in the Hinckley District.**

Afternoon ringing was really well attended (or perhaps in such a small ringing chamber it seemed that more people were there!) and the assembled crowd enjoyed some Grandsire and Stedman Caters, rounds and call changes on 10, Bob Major, Yorkshire and Bristol Surprise Major: something for everyone! It was fantastic to see so many young and capable ringers getting involved.

Ringing was followed by a short service in All Saints church, appropriately on the eve of All Saints Day, after which everyone gathered in the church hall for the meeting. Highlights included the appointment of a new peal secretary, Steve Harvey, and

also some discussion of the Ringing World Centenary celebrations where the suggestion of a coach to London for the event (including the National Youth Ringing contest) was met with great enthusiasm. Once the meeting came to a close, we passed to the real business of the evening: the Beetle Drive!

It was decided to hold a Beetle Drive largely because of the success enjoyed by the last one in Sapcote and this year, we were hoping that it would be every bit as good. The only change was that the event decamped from the Scout hut to the church hall. The fish and chips were as good, the raffle prizes were as good (in fact, some of those might even have been exactly the same!) and a certain person (who shall remain nameless) managed to smuggle in an extra couple of dice again...

Cries of disbelief were ringing around the hall when after waiting to roll a 6, you rolled 4 in a row; dice were flying through the air after being thrown with a little too much enthusiasm and beetles were becoming more and more creative as people tried to win the prize for the best beetle art! Looking around the hall, I

was reminded of one of the reasons why I enjoy ringing so much; people separated by more than 60 years of age were having a fantastic time, all enjoying an activity together. It gives everyone the chance to make new or maybe catch up with old friends.

Many thanks to Chris and Gloria Sansome for the enormous contribution they made to the event and also to Mick Angrave who was charged with the difficult task of keeping us all in order. It was perfectly organised. In a way, it's most important to thank everyone who attended, supported the Guild and BRF (we raised £100) and made it such an enjoyable afternoon and evening. I don't know about everyone else, but I can't wait for the next one!

*How many creepy-crawlies did you spot? Here are the answers:*

- 1.) It was **fantastic** to see so many...
- 2.) It was **fantastic** to see so many...
- 3.) ...**hoping that it would be every bit as good.**
- 4.) ...**dice were flying through the air...**
- 5.) ...**to make new or maybe catch up with old...**
- 6.) It **was perfectly organised.**

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## CHRIS DEACON 1924 – 2010

Chris was ringing master at Saddington for many years and, along with his wife Lilian, was the instigator of augmenting the five bells to a ring of six, followed by the installation of a ringing floor. Chris was involved in many aspects of church life as well as being a great supporter of the Harborough District and the Leicester Guild, last coming to a Harborough District meeting in April this year. He will be greatly missed for his dry, amusing anecdotes, his enthusiasm to help learners and his ability to sink the odd whisky.

Find all the dates and details for Guild and District events below...



## JANUARY

Fri 7th	Leicester	District Meeting at Willoughby Waterleys 7.30pm
Sat 8th	Hinckley	Burton Hastings 3pm, cooked tea at Burbage 4:30, names by Jan 6th
Tue 11th	Syston	Open Practice at Rothley
Thu 13th	Harborough	Surprise Major Practice at Kibworth, 7.30pm
Sat 15th	Harborough	Ringling Meeting at Great Glen
Wed 19th	Loughboro'	District Practice at Prestwold, 7.30-9.00pm, All welcome

**Sat 29th Guild Social in Syston District – details to follow soon**

## FEBRUARY

Sat 5th	Leicester	District Meeting at Kirby Muxloe, 10.30am - 12noon
Sat 5th	Loughboro'	District Practice at Breedon
Thu 10th	Harborough	Surprise Major Practice at Oadby, 7.30pm
Sat 12th	Hinckley	District Meeting at Higham on the Hill and Stoke Golding
Sat 19th	Harborough	Quarterly District Meeting at Alexton, Medbourne and Great Easton

## Sat 26th Guild Dinner 2011

Once again, an occasion not to be missed as guest speaker Pip Penney (from Kids.Ring.Out) joins us for another fantastic evening together

*Birstall Golf Club ~ 6.45 for 7pm ~ Tickets £22.50*

A poster will be coming round shortly with menu choices etc to be returned to Jennie Higson ASAP please!

## MARCH

Sat 5th	Loughboro'	Training morning (Location TBC)
Sun 6th	Leicester	District Meeting at Braunstone
Thu 10th	Harborough	Surprise Major/10-Bell Practice at Market Harborough, 7.30pm
Sat 12th	Hinckley	District Meeting at Kirkby Mallory and Earl Shilton
Sat 19th	Harborough	Ringling meeting at Great Bowden

## APRIL

Fri 8th	Hinckley	District Meeting at Sibson and Fenny Drayton
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**Fri 29th 8-Bell Striking Competition & HYM in Leicester District**