

Cheltenham Branch Bell Ringers – April 2016

Gloucester & Bristol Officers Meeting

Report from Saturday 5 March 2015

Tower of the Year 2015 is Compton Abdale; Churchdown is runner-up. See all the entries at <http://www.bellsgandb.org.uk/toty.html>

Many thanks to Retired members who have chosen to pay the full Senior subscription: with upcoming projects needing nearly £1M this is a very welcome boost to funds.

Thanks also to towers who have reduced their 'ask' for Annual Reports, since producing these is a major expense to the Association.

The Association likes to recognise members who have been members (of the G&B) for 40 years. Please tell our Branch Treasurer Nigel if you know anyone who qualifies.

Gloucester & Bristol Association AGM

Report from Saturday 9 April

The striking competitions and AGM were held in the Cheltenham Branch. The Penn Trophy was won by Bristol Branch and the Croome by St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol Branch. The Cheltenham Minster band came 5th in the Croome and Cheltenham came =4th in the Penn.

These were followed by a well-attended service at St Mary's, Charlton Kings and the AGM at Sacred Hearts Church Hall. The Charlton Kings band provided an excellent tea before further ringing at Charlton Kings.

Our thanks to all who helped to make the day run so smoothly, the volunteers manning the towers, Rev Canon Michael Garland for the service, Neil Fortin for playing the organ, and to the Charlton Kings band for providing the tea, putting up tables and setting out chairs in the hall as well as clearing up afterwards.

That's it for us until 2028!

QPs for the Queen and St George

Thursday 21 and Saturday 23 April

As well as general ringing we're particularly encouraged to ring Quarter Peals. Do let the committee know if you're ringing a QP, and get in touch if you want any help forming a band or placing someone who wants to ring.

Minster Quiz

Saturday 23 April, 19.00

St. Matthew's Church, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3PL

Tickets £8 per person

Fish/Chicken & Chip Supper included and Soft Drinks supplied.

Teams of 4-6 people welcome

Please bring your own alcohol and glasses

Tickets available from

ringing@cheltminsterbells.org.uk or call Isabel (243099) or Liz (07762 208311)

Training with Steve Coleman

Saturday 21 May, 1400-1830

Steve will be running 2 x 2 hour courses chose from: Raising & Lowering; Trebling up and down; Teaching Handling; First Steps into Methods; Striking & Listening Skills; Running a Practice. Please let Simon Ridley (email address below) know which courses you may be interested in going on by 30th April.

BBC Music Day

Friday 3 June

Bellringers have been invited by the BBC to take part in their Music Day. If you and your band are interested in taking part, please email Miriam.williamson@bbc.co.uk to find out more.

Branch Camera System for Loan

The Branch now has a digital camera system to let people see both the bells and ringers in action. It consists of two cameras with mountings, a 27" monitor and all the necessary cabling and instructions - and it even comes with branch help to set it up!

This provides a starting point from which new ringers can be engaged and recruited, without them having to set foot in the tower. It also provides opportunity for those unable to safely access the bells or ringing room to see what is involved.

It'll be useful for church open days, wedding ringing and community events: so we invite you to think how you might use the system.

Bookings so far include:

- A ringers service
- A Tower and church open day
- Colesbourne snowdrop festival
- Teaching and training sessions
- G&B AGM at Charlton Kings

For details and bookings, contact Barbara our secretary.

Contacts and Committee

Website: www.cheltenhambranch.org.uk
Facebook: 'Cheltenham Branch Bell Ringers' Group
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