





### Editor's Foreword – Andy Clark

Thank you for the contributions to this fifth edition of the quarterly branch newsletter.

It's been a busy quarter which of course included the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May (hence the bunting!). Away from all things royal, there have been several striking competitions, and write-ups from all of these are included in this edition.

We are in the privileged position of having plenty of material planned for the next (Q3) edition, but as ever, please keep feeding through anything you'd like to see included. I am yet to turn down the offer of an article!

The usual table below has been updated to show the upcoming activity for August – October. Please continue to look out for emails from Barbara, and keep checking the Branch website, in case of last-minute changes.

Date	Location	Time	Notes		
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Cheltenham Minster	19:30-21:00	Branch 12-Bell Practice		
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	Badgeworth	19:00-21:00	Branch Training Session: Advanced Handling		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Badgeworth	19:30-21:00	Branch 6-Bell Practice		
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Winchcombe	10:00-12:30	Branch Core-7 Surprise Major Practice		
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	TBC	All day	G&B Autumn Training Day		
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Bishop's Cleeve	19:30-21:00	Branch 8-Bell Practice		

### The 6-bell Croome Trophy – Becca Meyer

The G&B Association striking competitions are held on the same day as their AGM – this year, it was Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. There are two striking competitions, followed by numerous open towers and then the AGM and supper. This year, the Bristol Rural branch hosted us.

Having previously won the Banner Trophy (the Cheltenham Branch 6-bell competition), a band from St Mark's was selected to represent Cheltenham Branch in the G&B competition for the Croome Trophy. We managed to squeeze in a couple of practices, but none with the entire band together – the first time all six of us rang together was on the day. We had seven minutes to get used to the bells and have our practice, then a 120 of doubles was the test piece. We chose to ring Grandsire, conducted by Simon.







Frenchay bells are unusual, weighing just 4cwt and rung from a balcony at the back of the church, with good views down to the nave below. The bells are fitted with sprung steel stays, which means there is a bit of bounce in them, even when they're up – in fact, one of our ringers caught hold to pull off and commented that they thought their bell might be down! An interesting experience – and a bit of fun! Our test piece was rung without incident. The judges commented that our ringing had pace and placed us first. The Croome trophy has returned to Cheltenham for the second year running and resides on the windowsill at St Mark's.

Next year's AGM is in the Stroud branch, and I encourage you to come along if you find yourself available – it's a fun day out with some good ringing and normally some tower grabs in the afternoon.

Congratulations to the band (I-r): Hannah, Mike, Liz, Simon, Hilda and Becca. Also thanks to Mike Morton for being in reserve but not being needed on the day. Liz is holding the Banner Trophy and Hilda is holding the Croome Trophy.



# The 8-bell Penn Trophy - Mark Davies

The Cheltenham branch often does well in the Penn Trophy, particularly when it is, as was the case this time, a Triples year. I'm not sure why we are more likely to do well when there's a cover, given that ringers chosen for our Penn band typically ring a lot more Surprise Major than they do Grandsire or Stedman, but there you are! Nevertheless, to compete against strong bands from Swindon, Bristol, Wotton and Tewkesbury, we have to put forward our best team, we have to put in some preparation and practice, and we might need things to go well for us on the day – the right bells, a judge who is well-disposed to our customary push-it-along rhythm – that sort of thing. But when it all comes together, we can definitely produce some fine ringing.







So, how did it work out this year? Stuart asked me to organise the Penn band back in January but owing to work pressures and general lack of organisational skills, I didn't get off to the best start! Nevertheless by March we had a squad of ten ringers and a couple of practices booked. The towers for these, Norton and Charlton Kings, proved useful preparation for the competition venue of Warmley in the Bristol Rural branch, bracketing it in weight (11cwt and 17cwt versus 15cwt) and, certainly in the case of Norton, which are awaiting rehanging, providing a similar challenge in the oddstruckness department.

One aspect which definitely helped us this year was the availability of a good number of veterans of Cheltenham's campaign in the National 12-bell Contest. The concentrated months of focus on striking, using tools like Hawkear for accurate feedback, had further honed the skills of some of our best ringers, and the Penn band definitely benefited from this. At the end of March we rang an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on the challenging bells at Norton, and, the night before the competition, repeated this with an even higher standard of ringing at Charlton Kings. In both cases we set an enthusiastic pace from the off, and the ringing flowed beautifully throughout. Yes, a couple more practices would have benefited us, but I felt we had done enough to make a reasonable account of ourselves.

The day of the competition followed a familiar pattern, with hourly draws of between two and four bands, typically ringing an hour later than their branch's entry in the Croome. Although the 6-bell competition represents a single tower, often several band members will also ring in the 8-bell team, occasionally leading to a nervous wait for everyone to arrive if the earlier contest overruns. But the organisation is usually suitably relaxed, and accommodations made. In the meantime, more tea is drunk, and more biscuits eaten, by those who have already arrived!

Warmley is a pleasant village between Bath and Bristol, and, although the weather wasn't the warmest on the day, it was fine enough for churchyard conversations with old friends from other parts of the Association, and to let us bend a critical ear to the ringing of other branches. It become obvious that the bells weren't the easiest, because, up until Swindon rang, none of the test pieces really sparkled, in my humble opinion at least.

When the time came, the Cheltenham band – Becca, Cara, Liz, Mike, Cath, Richard, Simon and myself – ascended to the tower and stood to our ropes. The test piece of any striking competition usually races past in some kind of blur, but for me at least it's a happy blur, because it really is enjoyable taking part in a piece of ringing focused purely on the quality of the striking. The only slight additional stress for the conductor is remembering to put the bobs in, but as always with these things, the simplest touches are the best, and calling the 7th in-and-out three times can't really go wrong.

It's almost impossible to compare the quality of ringing you are taking part in, and therefore experiencing in the tower on the end of a rope, with what you've heard in the churchyard. The two things are chalk and cheese. Nevertheless we rang well, got the measure of the bells, settled into a good rhythm, and delivered what I thought should be an enjoyable-sounding touch. Being proud of how you've rung is I think what you should always aim for — what position the judges put you in is secondary. Nevertheless we were all pleased that we eventually placed second. I think we would have struggled to beat the remarkably accurate ringing produced by the Swindon team that day, so the judges definitely got that right. Nevertheless, here's to next year — let's try for one place higher! Thank you to everyone who took part, ringers and reserves, and to the tower contacts who allowed us to practice.







The coronation of Charles III and his wife, Camilla, as King and Queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms, took place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at Westminster Abbey, London. Charles acceded to the throne on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 upon the death of his mother, Elizabeth II.

The Coronation was a really busy time for ringing in the branch. I can't possibly do justice to all the ringing that took place for this special occasion — so for a more comprehensive listing, and lots of photos, please see the page that Cara has kindly set up on the branch website:

### http://www.cheltenhambranch.org.uk/index.php

For the purpose of this article, I'll just pull out a few of the bits of ringing in the branch.

To start, thanks to Ann Jessop for flagging a special story for Pat Hall. Pat rang for George VI when he died in 1952. She rang for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, having had to cycle 15 miles from St Leonards to Rye in order to do so, and back again afterwards. 70 years later, on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023, she rang at Woolstone for the Coronation of Charles III. The photograph shows Pat (front row – in the blue jumper) with the team, during the ringing at Woolstone.









The band at Leckhampton had a busy weekend, with general ringing on the Saturday morning, with a quarter on the Sunday. A band photograph for the general ringing is below.



Turning to smaller bells, Reg and Isabel Hitchings assembled a team of ringers for a Quarter Peal on the Bicycle Ring (Alma Road, Cheltenham) on the Saturday.







Here is a selection of the ringing from the weekend, picking up a number of different towers, some quarters, a peal, and plenty of general ringing, on big bells, smaller bells and not forgetting mini rings!

Dumbleton	Cheltenham				
St Peter's	St Mark				
Saturday, 6 May 2023 (11 in G)	Saturday, 6 May 2023 in 2h 55 (16–1–2 in F)				
General Ringing (Rounds & Call Changes including	5024 Cambridge Surprise Major				
Queens & Kings)	Joseph W Parker				
Marguerite Chandler	1 Ian D Bucknell				
Coll Blomley	2 Michael J Seagrave				
Sylvia Smith	3 Hilda C Ridley				
John Williams	4 Quentin S A Jackson				
John Chandler	5 Michael P Hartley				
Mel Blomley	6 Richard J Clements (C)				
Paul Smith (C)	7 Richard H Knight				
Bob Galvin	8 Simon J Ridley				
Brian Lucas	·				
Charlton Kings	Didbrook				
St Mary	St George				
Saturday, 6 May 2023 (17–0–13 in Eb)	Saturday, 6 May 2023 in 39m (6–0–21 in B)				
1260 Grandsire Triples	1260 Doubles (5m)				
1200 Grandshe Tripies	300 Plain, 240 each St Simon's, St Martin's, St				
1 Andra Knight	Osmund, Eynesbury				
2 Pauline Smith	osmana, zymeszary				
3 Kate Telford	1 Clara P Jackson				
4 Ray Talbot (C)	2 Roy Williams				
5 Hilda Ridley	3 Greg Jones				
6 Quentin Jackson	4 Andrew L Haynes				
	5 Rebecca L Meyer (C)				
7 Richard Knight	3 Nebecca Livieyer (C)				
8 John Richardson					
The Bicycle Ring	Cheltenham				
Saturday, 6 May 2023 in 28m (1lb 7oz)	Minster Church of St Mary				
1272 King Charles Delight Minor	Saturday, 6 May 2023				
	General Ringing (Rounds & Call Changes, Grandsire				
1 Isabel Hitchings	Caters & Grandsire Cinques)				
2 Barbara Pettit	. ,				
3 Ben Gooch	Cara Capewell, Liz Coke, Mark Davies, Mike Fitch,				
4 Stuart Tomlinson	Robyn Fitch, Anthony P Foster, Michael Hartley,				
5 Andy Clark	Andrew Haynes, Isabel Hitchings, Reg Hitchings, Anson				
6 Reg Hitchings (C)	Jack, Cath Jack, Andra Knight, Richard Knight, Kevin				
	Little, Becca Meyer, Max Michel, Mike Morton				
	Tara Morton, Harry Stephenson and Vickie Talbott				
	. S. S. I. S. Con, Harry Stephenson and Viole Parisott				







ı		L	<b>L</b> -			•	_	_
L	ec	ĸ	Пa	ш	D	U	U	п

St Peter

Sunday, 7 May 2023 (9–1–14 in Ab) 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1 Gilly Whittingham

2 Barbara Pettit

3 Jacqui Hyde

4 Mike Hartley

5 Anthony P Foster

6 Stuart Tomlinson (C)

#### Warden Hill

St Christopher

Sunday, 7 May 2023 in 34m (0-2-7 in C)

1260 2m Doubles (540 Plain Bob and 720 Grandsire)

1 Gillian Lloyd-Williams

2 Cara Capewell

3 Isabel Hitchings

4 Harry Stephenson

5 Reg Hitchings (C)

6 Lesley Wells

#### Winchcombe

St Peter

Saturday, 6 May 2023

**General Ringing** 

Chris Fawcett
Clare Pritchard

Clare i illeriara

David Clarke Edward Kain

Kate Robinson

Keith Poole

Margaret Bearne

Nigel Bearne

Peter Davies

#### Childswickham

St Mary the Virgin

Saturday, 6 May 2023 (11–3–26 in F♯)

**General Ringing** 

Alison Lee

**Martin Robins** 

Freddie Barwise

Matthew Turvey

Bill Wadsworth

Graham Lee

Andy Grelak Tim Watkin

### **Bishop's Cleeve**

St Michael and All Angels

Saturday, 6 May 2023 (19-2-21 in Eb)

General Ringing (Rounds and Call Changes including

Kings and Queens)

Pauline Bower

Mark Burt

**Brian Chappell** 

Pam Davies

Sarah Galvin

Angela Hill

Judith Jenkins

Michael Jenkins

Ann Jessop

Richard Johnstone

**David Lewis** 

### Stanway

St Peter

Saturday, 6 May 2023 in 41m (11–0–2 in F♯)

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1 Clara P Jackson

2 Hannah Guggiari

3 Andrew L Haynes

4 Roy Williams (C)

5 Greg Jones







### 3-Bell Peals at Sevenhampton – Quentin Jackson & Simon Ridley

A long time ago in a place far away - well probably a pub after practice - a plan was formed to ring a peal at all towers within the Cheltenham Branch. As Sevenhampton (with just three bells) is part of the branch we decided this had to be included in the list of towers.

The first recorded peal on three bells was on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1949 on the now unringable St Stephen, Ipswich, and is recorded on a peal board there. Since then, there have been 18 further known peals involving 44 ringers although two of these are spliced minimus and singles. Of these peals, all have been on tower bells including one tower twice and one peal on flower pots hung in a tower. Methods have mostly been Original but there are also some of Stedman (2), Plain Bob (3) and Shipping Forecast (2).

So back to Sevenhampton, where in 2007 we rang our first peal at the tower. It was hot and hard work (even in January). At the time we said never again... But later in the pub we joked that if it was for an important enough occasion such as the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we would ring another peal. Also, by extension, if we rang a second peal, surely we would have to return to ring the third peal and circle the tower!

Years passed and we occasionally joked in the pub this was still the plan. Everyone else thought we were bonkers and it was just a joke.

Come September 2022, with the announcement of the death of Her Majesty, we decided that we should ring the first ever half-muffled peal on three. Two of us were still keen (possibly slightly mad), and had forgotten the blood, sweat and tears of 2007. After some time fixing muffles to the bells, oiling and checking all was good to go, we rang the second peal, on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The ringing throughout was consistently good. The report back from the tower captain was that the local Whatsapp group had a large number of compliments. A short video is available of the early stage of the peal at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFyuo-vtUgE&ab channel=simonbellringer

For our third (and final?) peal of singles we had to find yet another ringer as Simon Edwards, although keen to ring one peal of singles, said one is enough. A last-minute drop out caused some concern (have you ever tried getting ringers for a peal of singles on a coronation weekend?) but Thomas Moller of Oxford agreed to step in at the last minute. Unfortunately for him, a peal in the morning and a new rope did some damage to his hands and so he set off into the peal, with the aid of hospital grade micropore and some encouragement from the other band members. We also decided to mark the importance of the coronation by ringing not 840 extents but 1001 extents of original singles, the longest ever peal of singles.

Some might ask what is hard about ringing on 3 bells as surely ringing on 8, 10 or 12 is far more difficult? Yes in some respects the more bells, the more complicated the methods can become. However, physically and mentally 3-bell ringing is very hard! Reactions to these peals have been mixed, while they gave ringing a very significant PR boost in the village and potentially piqued interest in learning, some ringers have criticised such attempts as lacking in value. So, why ring on three?

1. Ringing on three makes good PR. Ringing needs all the positive publicity it can get and if ringing a rarely rung three to mark an occasion makes an impact then it can only benefit ringing in a wider sense. Often three bells towers are silent and so ringing is noticed more and this opportunity can be used to recruit.







- 2. Ringing on three develops excellent bell control. The movement between each place is roughly equivalent to moving two places at a time in minor. As there is no natural rhythm, any minor error in this movement and disruption to the rhythm can result in the ringing disintegrating within seconds (as we discovered during a false start!).
- 3. The bells have no natural speed of rhythm and so this has to be generated by and consistently stuck to by the band. An excellent exercise in teamwork.
- 4. Ringing on three increases stamina. While a peal may be beyond some ringers, the physicality of low number ringing enables ringers to build stamina and endurance.
- 5. Ringing on three is fun! While the methods are not difficult (unless you ring Stedman which is extremely hard) it is challenging in other ways and successful ringing gives the same sense of satisfaction as does ringing on higher numbers.

You may not want to attempt a peal, but each year quite a few ringers attempt quarter peals on 3. You can ring many methods or principles including Stedman, Erin or newer options such as Shipping Forecast <a href="https://complib.org/method/34019">https://complib.org/method/34019</a>. We chose original singles as to make our peals as compliant with Central Council peal rules of 2007 as possible. However, what I would say is give 3 (or 4) bell ringing a go some time. It is not easy and it provides a different challenge.

Thank you to Hilda, Simon (Edwards) and Thomas for ringing with us in the three peals. Also thank you to Robert and the residents of Sevenhampton for welcoming us back. Before writing off ringing on lower numbers, we would implore ringers to try it and make a success of it – it's harder than is sounds. The bells at Sevenhampton are available for general ringing and the village is receptive to them being rung, so why not arrange a practice? I am certain the country's leading three bell ringers will be happy to help!

#### Sevenhampton, Gloucestershire

St Andrew

Tuesday, 20 September 2022 in 2h 47 (7 in A) 5040 Original Singles

- 1 Quentin S A Jackson
- 2 Simon J Ridley
- 3 Simon W Edwards (C)

First on 3: 3

Rung half-muffled in memoriam HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Believed to be the first half-muffled three-bell peal.

#### Sevenhampton, Gloucestershire

St Andrew

Monday, 8 May 2023 in 3h 15 (7 in A) 6006 Original Singles

- 1 Thomas I Moller
- 2 Quentin S A Jackson (C)
- 3 Simon J Ridley

Rung to celebrate The Coronations of TM King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

Believed to be the longest length of singles ever rung. Circled tower to peals - 2 and 3.







### Benefact Group Movement for Good Awards – Becca Meyer

The Benefact Group are the parent group of Ecclesiastical Insurance, who insure many of the churches we all ring at. The Group is owned by Benefact Trust (formerly Allchurches Trust), which exists to give grants to good causes – many of our recent local projects have received funding from the Trust and I suspect many of you have heard of them.

The Movement for Good Awards is their annual programme of giving. This year they will be giving over £1million to charities and good causes – with your help.

You can nominate as many charities as you like for a £1,000 award – it's one nomination per charity, per person. Simply fill in the short form (link below) to get them into the draw. You can nominate a registered charity, not-for-profit organisation or community interest company in the UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands or Isle of Man.

The more nominations a charity gets, the greater their chances of winning, so spread the word!

Nominate your charity here: <a href="https://movementforgood.com/#nominateACharity">https://movementforgood.com/#nominateACharity</a>

Did you know... Ecclesiastical Insurance supports all their employees to take volunteering days. If you have any upcoming projects or workgroup days and could do with some extra manpower, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me and we'll see what we can do! beccameyer14@gmail.com

## Devon Call Change Competition – Simon Ridley

Until fairly recently Devon call changes were perhaps sometimes considered rather old fashioned by many change ringers, however recent years have seen a resurgence in their popularity.

But what are 'Devon' call changes and why should they be of interest to Change Ringers? Simon Linford explains all about this style of ringing in his article found at <a href="https://callchanges.cccbr.org.uk/">https://callchanges.cccbr.org.uk/</a>. However for a short read - there are a few things that set Devon calls apart from the sort you are used to....

### **Closed Handstroke Leads!**

Ok, so some of your ringers probably ring with closed handstroke leads anyway and you have given up telling them about it. A perfect open handstroke lead is actually quite difficult to achieve, and what is perfect anyway? You may be told to leave a whole bell's gap, but actually about three quarters of a bell's gap sounds Ok. The best 12-bell bands perfect something even narrower and call it 'style'.

Devon call change ringing is done with closed handstroke leads, which is sometimes referred to elsewhere as 'cartwheeling'.

### **Ringing Up and Down**

When the Devon ringers ring in competitions, and most of the rest of the time too, they ring up and down at the beginning and end of each piece of ringing, which they will call a peal. This means they get very good at ringing up and down. Ringing the bells up and down is no longer just a means to an end – it is of equal importance to the rest of the ringing and is where competitions are won and lost. This style of raising and lowering requires ringers to pitch in (start together) and finish without the usual 'catch and hold'. Good bell control and teamwork are essential.







#### **Fixed Peals**

Devon Call Change peals do not focus on the 'musical changes' that you are used to. They don't go for a set that you might use for a wedding, going for instance from Queens, then Kings, and back, or you might mix Tittums and something else. The Devonians don't do that, but ring long-established and very formulaic sequences that many of the ringers know by heart. To be honest they are not musical in that sense at all, but that's not the point. Ringing one of those sequences, the famous 'Sixty on Thirds' will be your first target, but there will be stages to go through before that.

Devon ringers compete regularly, in fact potentially upwards of 20 competitions a year so the standard of striking is usually much higher than would be considered acceptable for change ringing and so it was with some determination that St Mark's entered two teams for the first ever National Call Change Competition, held at Moseley in Birmingham. Practices were intense, both in focus on accurate striking, raising and lowering in a peal 'Devon style' and on the hands. Those less seasoned ringers used a roll of micropore up in a single practice!

The test piece was to be the Devon standard 6-bell – a raise, 60 on 3rds, and a lower, taking around 15 minutes in total. Information and a video of this can be found at: <a href="https://callchanges.cccbr.org.uk/docs/080-sixty-on-thirds/">https://callchanges.cccbr.org.uk/docs/080-sixty-on-thirds/</a>

On the day, our two teams were placed 6/13 and 13/13, Team A managing to achieve both our objectives – 1. To beat one Devon team at their own game and 2. To beat Stroud district. Our ringing was described as 'confident, accurate and fast', at 39 rows per minute (actually the fastest of the day). With one exception (St Paul's Birmingham) we were the top placed band of 'muggles' – those outside of Devon. Top muggling!

#### So what did we learn?

- Raising and lowering in a peal to the standard required takes real teamwork, excellent bell control and considerable practice.
- Devon call changes require the band to work more closely as a team and each bell has a specific role at different points in the test piece.
- It is excellent practice for developing better bell control and teamwork in your band.
- Calling the test piece is good for developing rope sight and conducting confidence.

The competition promises to become an annual event and I would strongly encourage teams from any tower to enter. If anyone would be interested in a workshop on Devon Call Changes we would be happy to run one.







Band A (I-r): Simon (Conductor), Hilda, Mike, Tony, Becca, Mark



Band B (I-r): Andrew (Conductor), Shaun, Will, Hannah, Andrew, Simon









### Lichfield Outing - Gill Joseph

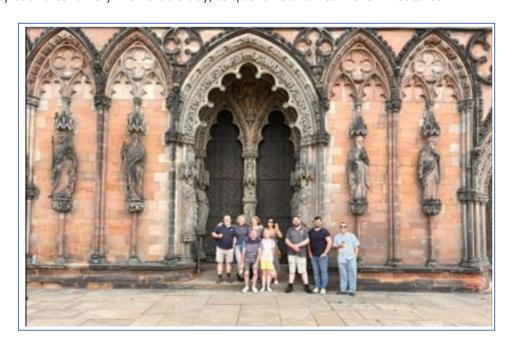
On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, a group of regular ringers from Badsey, Childswickham, Ashton under Hill and surrounding area, headed off to Staffordshire, by minibus (expertly driven by Sarah Bent), on our annual tour.

It was hot and sunny for our early start, which made for a promising day. We were not disappointed. Apart from a brief diversion off the motorway, for which we are very grateful to Apple Maps, we had a very enjoyable day.

First stop Kings Bromley for a ring of 6-bells, to warm us up for our much-anticipated stop at Lichfield Cathedral (see band photograph below). After scouring the town for coffee and bacon butties, we were welcomed at the Cathedral by the tower secretary, who led us up the short flight of stairs to the ringing room. After a brief introduction, we were left to ring prior to the lunchtime service. We all tried our hand successfully, at ringing the 31cwt tenor - a first ring on such a heavy bell for some. Also a first Cathedral for some of the group and the first ring at Lichfield Cathedral for all of us.

A much-needed break for lunch took us to the Plum Pudding in Armitage, just four miles away, where some enjoyed the taste of craft beers by the Canalside. Sadly for some, we didn't have enough time to sample them all!

Back on the bus, we headed off to Abbots Bromley, an 8-bell tower. Then our final port of call, the beautiful church of Mavesyn Ridware another 8-bell ring. After our final photocall, we boarded the bus for our journey back after a very memorable day, to quench our thirst in the Wheatsheaf.







### **Branch Striking Competition – Hilda Ridley**

The Annual Branch Striking competition this year took place at Alderton on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July. Six teams entered and Rachel Coates from Ledbury was the judge. When the ringing had finished most of us adjourned to The Teddington Hands for a meal followed by the results so we were kept in suspense. Rachel thanked the Branch for the invitation and then gave her comments about each team. Four teams rang Grandsire Doubles, Alderton / Dumbleton rang Plain Hunt and Bicycle ring rang Double Oxford Bob Minor.

The results were given in reverse order:

- 6th Alderton/ Dumbleton. This was the first time this tower had entered a band and they improved as they rang.
- 5th Bicycle Ring. Steady ringing with a good middle section
- 4th Leckhampton. Good rhythm but with some uneven ringing
- 3rd Charlton Kings. Good rounds with a good rhythm but uneven in places
- 2nd Minster. Solid piece of ringing
- 1st St Mark's. Confident ringing.

St Mark's collected the Banner Trophy and Alderton / Dumbleton collected the Cleeve Trophy. The St Mark's band photo is below (I-r): Hannah, Becca, Hilda, Mike, Simon, Andrew, and the team Mascot – Kinsey the Golden Retriever.







### **Branch Notices** – All

### **Practice Nights**

A reminder that there is a new feature on the Branch website which allows you to see the branch's practice nights at a glance.

This is at:

## http://www.cheltenhambranch.org.uk/towers.php#practice

As you can see, we cover all days but are most heavily loaded on Wednesdays!

### **Coronation Ringing**

A reminder to visit the Branch website for the full listing of the ringing that took place over the Coronation weekend as this newsletter just provided a small snapshot.