



Shropshire Association of Church Bell Ringers

Newsletter – January 2025

Hello,

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2025! I have very much enjoyed preparing the Newsletters for the last twelve months, and I hope you have found it useful to have monthly updates on the activities of the Association. Thank you to everyone who has supported me with contributions. If you would like to share news about your tower or ringers, do please send me your item. librarian@sacbr.org.uk

Meanwhile, I wish you all a very happy New Year, and happy and successful ringing in 2025.

Gill Glover, Editor

Quarterly and Annual General Meetings Ellesmere, Saturday 11th January

Programme

11 am	Ringing
12 pm	Service of Thanksgiving
1 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	Quarterly Meeting, followed by Annual General Meeting

We hope as many of you as possible will come to our AGM, which will be a sociable occasion as well as a business meeting. We have Officers to elect, Rule changes to discuss and a look ahead to the Centenary celebrations next year. Ellesmere ringers have also kindly organised ringing, service and lunch for us.

Please send numbers for lunch, so far as you are able, to Peter Leigh. His details are in the Handbook. Or, if you wish, send details to me (librarian@sacbr.org.uk). If you have a dietary issue this is particularly important.

The business of the Quarterly meeting includes the election of new members. We do this first, so that new members can vote at the AGM.

You should all have received Agendas, Minutes, a copy of the proposed Rule changes to be voted on, and a table giving the present serving Officers. If you have not had these, please contact Biff, who looks after our members (membership@sacbr.org.uk)

Monthly Surprise Major Practice

Our next surprise practice will be held at Wem on Friday, 17th January at 19.30.

All welcome, whether you want to break into Surprise with Cambridge or Norwich Minor, or extend your repertoire of Surprise Major ringing.

We usually ring Cambridge, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Superlative and sally forth into Pudsey, Rutland, 5 spliced and Bristol.

Our method of the month is Lessness.

See you there.

Tony Freemont

New Members' Morning

Lilleshall, Saturday 8th February, 10 – 12.30

Our new members' meeting will be held at Lilleshall this year. All recent joiners to SACBR are invited to come and have a ring on this user-friendly peal of bells. We hope you will enjoy refreshments and chat. It's an opportunity to get to know some more ringers, including committee members, and find out what the Association has to offer you.

Further Ahead

Training Morning

Edgmond, Saturday 8th March, 10 – 12.30

The next Association training morning will be held at Edgmond, on 8th March. At our last meet, we invited students to nominate their choice of what they would like to learn and practise. This proved very successful and popular, so we will do the same again. Please get in touch, with your request, so that we can ensure we have enough experienced ringers to give you a worthwhile morning.

Calling All Young Ringers

National Youth Ringing, Birmingham, Saturday 5th July

Last July a record 37 teams of young ringers (under 19) went to London for the National Youth Ringing contests. They travelled from as far afield as Cornwall and Durham, some to take part in six and eight bell competitions for call change and method ringing, some to take on the challenge of ringing with other young ringers from all over the country, on a variety of bells.

This year the competition is to be held in Birmingham, on 5th July. We feel it is high time Shropshire was involved, and a day out in Birmingham beckons. We would like to take any young ringers who want to go, whether it's two of you or twenty. If you would like to get a team together to compete, we will organise practices for you to get to know one another, perhaps in the Easter Holiday.

Our young ringers are scattered about, usually one or two in a tower. We know it can be hard to meet up, but if you're interested do get in touch and we will see what we can do.

Parents are, of course, very welcome to come and help (though they might not get a ring!).

Gill Glover, training@sacbr.org.uk and Paul Lewis, cprep1@sacbr.org.uk