

Shropshire Association of Church Bellringers



News Update – July 2024



July Events

Training Morning – Saturday, 6th July, 10 am – 12.30 at Meole Brace

This event is now full. The next training morning will be on 2nd November at Edgmond.

July Practice and Quarterly Meeting

This is at Oswestry, on Saturday 13th July, with ringing from 7.00 pm. The meeting will follow, at about 8.20 to 9.00 pm.

Ringling for Peace

A good number of Association towers took part in the D-Day Commemoration Ring for Peace on 6th June. Neil Comerford and Darren Pickett rang at St. Michael and All Angels, **Loppington**. Congratulations to **Meole Brace** ringers who rang an Eighth Peal of Plain Bob Doubles with members of their regular Sunday band. Other towers I know of that rang are: **Albrighton, Baschurch, Bicton, Cheswardine, Lilleshall, Norton-in-Hales, Newport, Oswestry, Sheriffhales, Shrewsbury, and Wellington**.

The Ringing World has published the names of all the towers that put their participation online: a huge list that runs to several pages. Apparently over 7,500 ringers were involved. I find it thrilling to feel a part of a worldwide ringing community.

Gill Glover

SACBR Treasure Hunt

Saturday 8th June saw ringers scratching their heads for a different reason as we attempted to solve Vicki's clues centred on the Meole Brace area.

The weather was kind, the company convivial and the event was enjoyed by ringing members, their families and friends.

Open ringing after the hunt was run by Nik, and the presence of a good mix of abilities enabled 'improvers' to take advantage of the extra support.

A superb tea was provided afterwards in the well-appointed Trinity Centre. The room hire was donated by the church, and we thank them for allowing us to use this fantastic space. Crucially, this enabled us to show a small profit.

The whole afternoon was entirely down to Vicki's efforts: from compiling the questions; walking and checking the route; doing publicity; to providing tea and organising helpers to set up tables and clear up afterwards. Those who came all said how entertaining it had been and how very fortunate we are to have Vicki to co-ordinate these social events!

Thank you to everyone who attended. And please remember, this is *our* Association, and your support and ideas are crucial to ongoing events, both social *and* ringing.

Nik Galton

Association Surprise Plus Practice

Tony Freemont and Gareth Jones have started a monthly Association practice for those who would like to progress to advanced six and eight bell ringing. The first meeting was held at Wem on Friday 21st June. Tony writes, 'We had great fun at Wem last night. Fourteen people were present, including three who wanted to progress into Surprise Minor/Major.

We rang two courses of Norwich Surprise Minor, and two half courses of Cambridge Major. We also rang three leads of Kent Major, a half course of Yorkshire and a full course of Rutland. There were two lots of five spliced major (CYNSR) and two lots of three leads of Bristol. Almost everything came round, so very pleasing. Cordelia, Gareth, Mark and I "conducted". We finished with Stedman, quite a long touch called by Mark, which also came round.

Gareth has confirmed we can use Wem bells on the third Friday of the month for this practice and the plan is to progress to Pudsey and Lessness, as well as CYNSR and Bristol, at the next meeting.'

This sounds like a busy and useful practice. Anyone who would like to join in will be very welcome. The next practice is at Wem on Friday, 19th July, at 7.30 pm.

Gill Glover

Further Ahead – Dates for your Diary

Association Striking Competition

This will be at Calverhall on Saturday, 14th September, from 4 o'clock. We will provide a rolling tea. We have struggled to get this traditional annual gathering started again after the Covid interlude. So this year we're making a push – do get a team together and come and join in. This is a light-hearted affair, not intense competition. If you only have three or four we can make up a band from our pool of helpers. We have three trophies to award, including one specifically for call change ringing.

Autumn Social – Ceilidh

This will be at Meole Brace on **Saturday 19th October**. **IMPORTANT**, note the change from the published date. We liked last year's band and caller so much we wanted to book them again – and this is the only date they can offer. So please update your diary.