

‘SPICED’

OK so you are now cool with calls. What can we think of next to stop you being bored with change ringing? How about instead of calling ‘Bob!’ (to mix just 3 bells) we call a different method; so all the bells drop what they were doing and, on an instant, all seamlessly start ringing the new method!! Scary or what!? That’s spiced! And why stop at 2 different methods? There are eight well known Surprise Major methods so how about we learn them all and allow the conductor to chose which order they’ll be rung but to keep the adrenaline running, only she knows that order and will give you a maximum of three seconds’ notice of which method comes next!

‘CHANGE’

When all the bells in your tower ring once, sequentially, that is a change. The most common change is called ‘rounds’ and (for a six bell tower) is written ‘123456’. Some other changes, such as ‘Queens’ (135246) have names, most do not; after all, there are 720 different changes possible with 6 bells! The whole point of change ringing is to avoid the monotony of hearing the same change repeated over and over again. Methods allow us to ring a different change each time the bells strike.

EXTENT

To calculate the total number of changes possible for a given number of bells multiply them together. Thus the total changes on three bells are $1 \times 2 \times 3 = 6$ and for 12 bells: $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9 \times 10 \times 11 \times 12 = 479,001,600$

This number is the ‘extent’ so the extent on 6 bells is 720.

PEAL and QUARTER PEAL

The word peal has had many different meanings over the centuries. However, the official definitions, set by the arcane decisions of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers requires a certain number of changes (typically 5,040 for eight bells - and none of them repeated!) Unfortunately peals can take around three hours to ring; too long for most people to endure or to be convenient for service ringing. Thus the ‘Quarter Peal’ was born. As you might expect, a quarter peal is usually around 1,260 changes long (but again complex rules mean this number can vary slightly) and takes a more pleasant 40 minutes or so. ‘Quarters’ are an excellent way to improve the quality of your ringing and many ringers are part of a quarter peal band which rings them on a monthly basis.

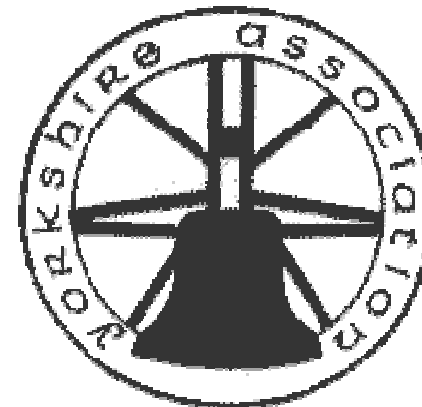
CORRIGENDUM

In the last Newsletter, under ‘A new President for the Association’ I said the last time I remembered an election for the post was at Penistone some 40 years ago, between Vernon Bottomley and Norman Chaddock. My memory and this information are indeed correct in so far as they go; but the statement is a little economical with the truth.

In fact there have been two elections since then - between Tom Cox and Wilfrid Moreton in 1981 and between Rev. Giles Galley and Neil Donovan 1996. My apologies.

Bob Cater

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS



NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2008

EDITORIAL

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. We look to be in quite good shape by the amount and variety of ringing going on around the Association, although there is always more we can do to encourage the next generation, as well as support our current bands.

The next edition will come out after the Association AGM in May. Articles should be sent to Bob by Easter.

*Robert Cater (Robert@thecaters.org.uk)
Anne Deebank (anne.deebank@virgin.net)
Editors*

ASSOCIATION NEWS

General Meeting at Thrybergh on Saturday 20 September 2008

The meeting was combined with the Final of the Association's Striking Competition for Sunday Service bands, the entrants being the winners of the local Branch competitions. It was held during the afternoon at Rotherham.

Before the meeting the Service was held in Thrybergh Church, conducted by the Rector and a sumptuous hot meal, running to a choice of several dishes, served to the large gathering by the local company. They were fulsomely thanked by Peter Sanderson. A collection for the BRF raised the sum of £150 after recovery of income tax.

Barrie Dove was in the chair for the first time and explained several new initiatives which had been or were planned to be introduced. The Association's 'Standing Sub-Committee', which consists of some of the Association's Officers and the Chairman or substitutes from all the Branches, had met for the first time for many years for instance.

A re-vamp of the arrangements for the Snowdon Dinner to get away from the traditional format was announced, which was well supported. For example, the 2009 Dinner in Bradford organised by the Western Branch will have short speeches after sitting down and before the meal is served (as happens at Central Council Meeting Dinners), and will be followed by a ceilidh. It was thought better to have Dinners in a readily accessible location and organised by a central grouping rather than by the Branches. To this end a committee was elected to arrange Dinners from 2010 onwards consisting of the President, Catherine Simpson, Neil Donovan, Elaine Scott, Sue Green and Anne Deebank.

A review of the arrangements for the Final of the Striking Competition for future years was another announcement made, so as to encourage all Branches to enter a team and to make it easier for participants to stay on for the meeting and declaration of the results. Various members made helpful suggestions, including having the event in a village location rather than in a town centre.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7 February 2009	General Meeting	Selby Branch
7 March 2009	General Committee Meeting	Sherburn-in-Elmet
9 May 2009	Association AGM	Central Branch
19 September 2009	General Meeting	Western Branch
17 October 2009	Snowdon Dinner	Bradford (Western Branch)

ASSOCIATION GARMENTS

It will be the 25th anniversary of the Whirlow Ringing Course in 2009 and to celebrate we would like to produce polo shirts etc with a new emblem. This will include the words WHIRLOW RINGING COURSE, and the new emblem will also be used for all future Yorkshire Association garments which can have individual tower names added.

You are invited to submit your ideas for a new emblem to Dinah Rhymer at 6 Waltham Lane, Beverley HU17 8HB or drhymer@drhymer.karoo.co.uk before the next General Meeting in February 2009. The winner will receive a free polo shirt.

Dinah Rhymer

RINGING JARGON

More explanations of the jargon used in ringing, courtesy of the Western Branch's Newslines.

'WHOLE PULL/HALF PULL'

Some of the earliest jargon we're given in our very first days as learners are 'handstroke and 'backstroke'. In all the confusion of flying ropes and stress we may not realise at first that the bell sounds once for each of these 'strokes' or 'pulls'. If you put together one handstroke and one backstroke the rope (and the bell!) are back where they started; this constitutes a 'whole pull' and results (obviously) in two strikes of the bell. Now you will see that either a backstroke or handstroke must be a 'half pull' and gives one strike of the bell. Modern change ringing is normally 'half pull ringing', that is, we ring a different change at every stroke but those of you with a copy of Jasper Snowdon's book, 'Ropesight' can read an evocative description of half-muffled whole pull ringing also known as 'echo changes'.

'CALLS'

Having become bored with the plain course (q.v.) of a method how to get some different changes (q.v.) and some mental stimulation? This is where the 'calls' come in. By shouting one of these instructions the conductor tells some of the bells to swap places. This is rather like the effect when you are ringing call changes but in this case it's in the midst of a length of change ringing. Each ringer affected by a call must drop what they were doing and, on an instant, take up the work of one of the other bells. This muddling up means that the changes will not run back into rounds as expected but only when a carefully composed series of such calls makes them do so. In this way many differing lengths of touch (q.v.) can be produced, right up to the extent (q.v.). The most commonly used call is 'Bob!' which generally changes 3 bells. 'Single!' is used less often and changes a pair of bells; however some methods (e.g. Grandsire) use singles more often; Stedman Doubles exclusively so. Other more esoteric calls (which you are unlikely ever to hear) include the 'Holt's Single', 'Extreme' and 'Bingle'!

RINGING ROADSHOW at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire - 5 & 6 September

Dreadful weather! We arrive at the site in pouring rain and there is a definite reluctance to get out of the car, but parking next to us is a car load of Thorleys – friendly, familiar faces! So we hastily pull on waterproofs and scramble out to exchange greetings, which was just as well as that was the last we saw of each other all day! This gives an idea of what it is like to go to the Ringing Roadshow – you see lots of people you know but equally you miss a lot of people too because it is so big.

It was my first trip to a Ringing Roadshow and I am afraid this will be a personal account. I apologise to those whose interests lie in entirely different directions, but I didn't feel that my remit was to rush round sampling everything in the interests of journalistic endeavour. In particular, I am ashamed to report that I didn't sample a single mini-ring as my enthusiasm for getting soaking wet and cold was not high. It must have been disappointing for those who had taken so much time and trouble to set them up, but I am pleased to report that there were still quite a few people braving the elements.

I did get round most of the stands although I didn't spend long at any of them. The bell foundry stands were of interest to David who cast a professional eye over the wheels, whereas I had some interest in talking to the IT people. Many YACR people were involved, including David Hull for the Ringing Foundation who got us to sponsor the long handbell peal. I went to chat to them whilst they were ringing – it didn't seem to make one iota of difference to the striking!

In the Personal Development Zone more YACR members were working hard: Barrie Dove, Janine Jones, Brian Sanders and Gail & Robert Cater, giving opportunities for people to get handling practice or help with a method on a Wombel. It was well-used and well-organised and I rather wished I had been involved. However, I did contribute by ringing some handbells; it went rather well but was totally inaudible to the spectators because of the background noise.

So would I encourage people to attend a future Roadshow? I would say it is definitely worth a visit. You are almost certain to meet someone you know but haven't seen for ages; if you want help or advice you can be pointed in the right direction to get it; if you want to discuss a new project there are people there with all the relevant information and if you want to be entertained there are concerts. I just hope that the weather is better next time...

Jennie Town



Roger Green working hard at the Roadshow

A 10-bell Striking Competition was promoted by Roger Green for 2010, which is reported separately in this Newsletter, and was supported in principle.

The results of the Striking Competition were then announced by its judge, Heather Peachey - 1st Pickering, 2nd Huntington, 3rd Walkley, 4th Tadcaster, 5th Halifax, 6th Knaresborough: Wakefield did not complete the test piece.



Simon Percy of Pickering receiving the trophy from Heather Peachey.

'Ring on 10 in 2010'

At the General Meeting held at Thrybergh on 20 September a proposal that the Association should designate 2010 as a year to focus on 10-bell ringing within branches was enthusiastically adopted. A small committee has been formed* to liaise with Branches and to plan the various events, but essentially the three main ideas are:

1. Encourage all Branches to plan their 2010 programme of activities to enable and help every member to make some progress on 10 bells – through meetings, training courses, quarter peals, peals etc – in the hope that those who can competently ring call changes on 6 at the beginning of the year are given the opportunity to ring call changes on 10 during the year, and that those who can ring Bob Doubles at the beginning of the year have the chance to ring Bob Caters or Royal.
2. Designate Sunday 10 October 2010 (10.10.10) as an Association quarter peal day – this could be expanded to a quarter peal weekend or week – where Branches attempt quarter peals at every 10 in their branch (including back or light 10s of 12s). It is hoped that every member of the Association who wants to is given the opportunity to attempt a quarter on 10.
3. Organise a one-off Association-wide ringing Festival and social event at a central location involving 3 separate inter-Branch striking competitions, where Branches are encouraged to enter up to three different teams:

- one team ringing 5 minutes of call changes on 10 with at least 7 members of the band who are not yet confident of ringing method on 10 competently.
- one team ringing a plain course of Plain Bob Royal with at least 7 members of the band who are not yet confident of ringing surprise royal competently.
- one team ringing half a course of Yorkshire Royal – open to all members.

All participants would meet up after the competitions for the results, and this would be followed (for those who want to stay and pay) by a buffet meal and ceilidh. Light refreshments would be provided at each venue during the afternoon and there would be a bar at the social event in the evening. Additional general ringing during the day might be arranged.

Clearly, such an event will take some organising, with potentially up to 300 ringers involved. The next stage is for the organising committee to decide on a definite date and venue for the event, and then to consult with Branch committees about a suggested detailed format and rules for the striking contests. We hope to bring you firm proposals in time for the Spring Newsletter and the Association AGM in May. However, certain arrangements for the year as a whole could be considered now – for example, Branch committees may want to consider which 10s can be planned for meetings or training courses during 2010 and Branch peals at rare or difficult 10s may need booking soon!

This is intended as a one-off plan for 2010 with no implications for the format of any future inter-Branch striking competitions. It is also our intention that there should be no adverse effects on either the Sunday Service band striking competition or the Snowdon Dinner. But if it works out well, who knows what 2012 might bring?

Roger Green (Ilkley)

* The Committee elected was Roger Green, Brian Sanders, Malcolm Turner and Deborah Thorley.

Fund raising for the BRF

Most people who attend Association events will be familiar with the idea of passing a plate around at tea time during a Branch or General meeting to take a collection for the Bell Repair Fund. Some of you may even Gift Aid a regular amount by Standing Order or by an envelope at the meeting. As a youngster (alright, a good forty years ago!), I recall that people would often give some of the 'small change' from their pockets. In those days, I think most ringers regarded the bells as the property of the Church and that the same institution would find most of the larger sums of money needed for major restoration projects.

Around thirty-five years ago, the Association, recognising the need to better manage the distribution of BRF funds, set up an allocations sub-committee whose aim was to be able to offer grants up to 10% of the cost of any project. There was realisation that Bell Ringers needed to organise funding for bells themselves rather than rely solely on the Church. This

An Evening with the York Minster Bells and Bell Ringers

Several years ago it was possible for the York Minster bell ringers to raise money for funds by holding an Open Bell Tower Day two or three times a year and charging tourists for guided tours of the bell towers. After the Dean and Chapter introduced entry charges to the Minster, it was felt that this way of fund raising for ourselves was no longer viable. This year we asked the Dean and Chapter if we might host "An Evening with the Minster Bells and Bell Ringers" on five occasions in the summer/early autumn and charge for tickets, with profits going to our own funds. The Dean and Chapter kindly agreed.

Each evening followed the same format: a talk by YMSCR President, David Potter, about the history of bells and bell ringing, a demonstration of change ringing by members of the band and then the opportunity to see the bells in action in both the south-west and north-west towers. Having recently had a 3 octave carillon installed, one of our carillonneurs was able to demonstrate his skills on this new instrument too. The evening was rounded off with drinks and nibbles and the opportunity for our visitors to talk to the ringers, ask questions and find out more about what bellringing entails.

We were delighted with the response. The first two were arranged exclusively for members of York Civic Trust. The latter ones were aimed at members of the public, local and visiting, although some ringers from other parts of Yorkshire showed a keen interest too. The Dean and Chapter's Press and Publicity Officer kindly sent out a Press Release and also arranged for David to be interviewed on BBC Radio York in order to advertise the evenings.

It never fails to amaze us just how exciting, surprising and pleasurable our visitors find these evenings. They are usually stunned initially by the ringing chamber; presumably because they expect to find a dark, dusty and cobweb infested room up some dingy staircase, when the reality is a beautifully lit, clean and tastefully furnished and carpeted ringing chamber. Our visitors are further fascinated by the intricacies and complexities of our art, asking many interesting questions, and usually remarking how much more there is to bellringing than they ever imagined. Whilst we may bask in the compliments our visitors pay us, their reaction serves to remind us what a great privilege it is for us to ring at York Minster.



Visitors enjoying York Minster Ringers' hospitality

*Christine Potter, Hon Sec.
York Minster Society of Change Ringers*

[Why don't you try something like this at your church? Editor]

vicar, with a bottle of champagne and some beer, which was gratefully received and added to the celebrations.



The peal band, left to right: Richard Hobbs, Stuart Raggett, Thomas Raggett, Tricia West, Clive Whiteley, Susan Webb, Angela Spaven and James Gibb.

On the Saturday morning there was an exhibition in the church, which included a display by the Civic Society of Tadcaster over the last 100 years and a display of ringing at St Mary's over the last 400 years. The tower was open to visitors who were able to see the bells, have a demonstration of ringing and have a go for themselves.

In the afternoon ringers who had rung at the tower in the past or who had connections with the Tadcaster ringers attend a ringing session, which included three leads of Tadcaster Surprise Major.

In the evening we had a grand parish supper, to give an opportunity for everybody to join in. Those that attended enjoyed a splendid meal, after which the vicar performed a special poem that she had written for the occasion and then had everybody in stitches with one of her comical stories. This was followed by a demonstration of handbell ringing and a chance for those present to have a go at handbell ringing for themselves, which caused as many laughs as the vicars comic story. It was a wonderful evening to end a memorable day.

At the Sunday morning service thanks were given for the bells, which played a central theme to the service.



To round off the celebrations a quarter peal of 1260 changes of bob doubles was rung by a regular Sunday evening service band prior to the evening service.

Quarter peal band left to right: Martin Hardgrave, Susan Webb, Thomas Raggett, Tricia West, Stuart Raggett and Tony Dawson.

led on to a body called 'Friends of the Bell Fund', where churches and individuals were invited to make regular donations to the Bell Repair Fund.

To be in a position to provide greater funding for any project, we need to raise more funds in an organised way. For the past few years, there has also been a provision in the rules for a Fund Raising Committee. As you can imagine, the label says 'what the tin should contain'. This committee urgently needs to recruit new members if we are not to miss out on fund raising opportunities. So, if you can give a little of your time, we will be pleased to hear from you. The most important requirement is enthusiasm and, if you have any particular expertise then that's a bonus!

I suggest that the following activities are the ones which I would like to see us doing: Advice and assistance to individual towers on fund raising, Expert understanding of national and local funding bodies and how to approach them, Organisation of fund raising at Association events, Contact with every tower and active band, A Sales Team who can sell items for ringers and general public at Countywide events, A Design/ Manufacture Team who can bring forward ideas for saleable products and perhaps produce them or, at least commission them from someone else.

The most important thing is that the committee needs people who are prepared to give a little of their time and experience, to be hands-on rather than attending meetings, communicating by modern means as appropriate and exchanging ideas. Please help us raise the funds. Get in touch now!

*Neil Donovan
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Life Members' Day

Saturday 30th August 2008 marked the day of the 2nd Yorkshire Life Members' Day, which was introduced in 2007 by the previous President, Deborah Thorley. In the presence of the Association President, Barrie Dove, more than 30 members some with, and some without, the use of satnav, met together at Pickhill, a gem of a village near to Thirsk in North Yorkshire at the church of All Saints with a delightful light ring of 6 bells.



The bells were raised and a variety of methods rung under the guidance of the Association Ringing Master Brian Sanders, almost all the touches came in to rounds at the correct change although on at least one occasion with a little help. We were very pleased to meet again Jeanne Bottomley who had not rung for 30 years; she showed great potential by successfully completing a touch of Little Bob!

At 4.30 a service was held conducted by the Vicar with the lesson read by the President. Members then proceeded to the village hall at Sinderby where a ringers' tea of huge proportions was awaiting. True to our reputation full justice was done to it. A vote of thanks was given by Vice President Digby Burton to the local ringers, and officials for the use of the bells and providing tea. Members then wound their respective ways home. Most would agree that they "ad a reight gud day art"

Peter & Joan Dawson

This kind of event for members seems to be very popular. What about Branches arranging monthly mid-week ringing outings for members who are free during weekdays? Say a tower in the late morning followed by lunch at a pub and then another tower in the early afternoon? Perhaps leave out the Winter months and have the events running from say March to October. It doesn't take much organising.

Other Guilds and Associations organise these kinds of days with great success, I believe. And there are already at least two such privately organised groups in operation in Yorkshire to my knowledge (one of them with only an afternoon tower)

Bob Cater.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Notes on a meeting of the YACR Education Committee - 17 September in Tadcaster

Present: Gail Cater - Co-opted (Chairman), Elaine Scott - Sheffield Branch, Susan Laycock - C&N Yorks, Neil Donovan - East Riding, Gerry Bacon - Scarborough, Marian Thomas - Selby, Robert Cater - Western, Barrie Dove - President, Emma Baxter - web master.
Apologies: Pat Hearn - York, Mark Sheridan - Central, John Leech - Leeds.

- The Harrogate Course (April) and the Whirlow Course (July) were both analysed in depth and considered successful.
- Plans were made for next year. The Harrogate Course will be 3 to 5 April and the Whirlow Course 10 to 12 July. It will be the 25th Whirlow and special commemorative activities were planned in addition to the usual events.
- The Stedman day held in conjunction with the Selby Branch in July was judged very useful for the students. There were plenty of helpers at St. Wilfrid's in York and at Eskrick.
- Detailed plans were made for the Conducting day to be held at St. Wilfrid's in Harrogate in October and the traditional Handbell day in November, this year at New Earswick near York. The events are widely advertised.
- It was agreed that we should aim to help Branches run Courses in 2009, perhaps of a more specialist kind. Members were asked to discuss this within their Branches.

We were finally called to the Cathedral for the results and the usual general comments followed by team specific comments were made. One of the judges said "Some of the best ringing of the day came from this team". He was talking about us!! This was quite an incredible feeling. The nerves were tingling as the results were read in reverse order. All we were listening for was team 9. The first few results were read and still no team 9. York had been read out, then Stockton. Still no team 9. This was amazing. Finally we were awarded 4th place and created by far the biggest cheer for our placing. We were only a few percent off 2nd place. Birmingham were awarded the contest to polite applause but you could tell 90% of the people there didn't want them to win!! However, they were the best team on the day (again!!) and we accepted that.

So the day was complete. We were rightly proud of our 4th place (our highest ever by some margin) but rued a little the fact that we did not ring our best piece and could easily have been 2nd if that had been the case. However, most of the band will be around next year and we will have that little bit more experience next time round. I think the four hour wait and relatively novice band took the edge off our performance but we will be back stronger in years to come. I promised the Birmingham Captain that we will be beat his band in the future and he smiled and accepted the challenge. Leeds - onwards and upwards

Steve Ollerton

The results were; 1st Birmingham Parish Church, 2nd Ancient Society of College Youths, 3rd Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, 4th Leeds Parish Church, 5th St. Paul's Cathedral London, 6th York Minster, 7th Stockton on Tees Parish Church, 8th Guildford Cathedral and 9th Bristol City ringers.

The results were very close for the bands in 2nd, 3rd and 4th places.

Lots of supporters from Yorkshire were at the event cheering on their teams. Innumerable quantities of liquid refreshment were consumed in the beer tent: in a usual year it's well over a 1000 pints of Real Ale, never mind wine and other kinds! This year it was probably even more.

Editor

St Mary's Tadcaster, Centenary Weekend.

Records indicate that there was a "bell house" (bell tower) in 1634, so one can assume that there was a bell at St Mary's Tadcaster at that date. We know that a second hand set of six bells were moved from Skipton on Craven and installed at St Mary's in 1765. In 1908 these were taken to John Taylors bellfounders in Loughborough and melted down to form the middle six of a new ring of eight bells with a new treble and tenor bell being added. The new tenor bell weighing just over a ton. These were mounted in a new frame and were dedicated by the Bishop of Beverley and rung for the first time on the 20th June 1908. Records show that there was great rejoicing in the town and people stood in the churchyard to hear their fine new ring of bells. So we could not let the weekend go by without celebration.

On the evening of Friday 20th a band of local ringers rang a peal of 5056 changes of Bob Major in 3hours 7 minutes. On leaving the tower the band were met by neighbours and the

Leeds Parish Church in the National 12-bell Contest

Part 2 - The Final at Lincoln

From the moment we received the results of the heat we were in at Cheltenham we were thinking towards the Final. Only six of the team had rung in a Final before and only four of those for Leeds (2002). We set up some more practising to keep the team ticking over - including a peal at Escrick.

There was plenty of trepidation and none of us really knew what our chances were. Jeff Ladd had the dubious accolade of having rung in the final three times and come last every time! This meant our first job was to not come last. The incentive of two other YACR teams competing in the Final gave us an even bigger target. None of us really expected to beat Birmingham!

After three more months of practising the Final day came round. We gathered in the Cathedral Centre in Lincoln and everywhere you looked there were world-class bellringers. It was all rather daunting. Fortunately we had equipped ourselves with bright blue and yellow training tops so everyone knew who we were too!

There was an amazing buzz around the whole event. Birmingham were obvious favourites but there were a few people who thought we had a chance. I found that really hard to believe, as we had always been "making up the numbers" for many years. This must have been on the back of our Cheltenham result where we certainly raised a few eyebrows. Was this year different - we were certainly ringing at a different level than before?

So it came to the draw in the Cathedral. There was a palpable nervousness around the Cathedral and as every name was drawn out of the hat our mood lowered. Eventually we were drawn - 9th. Four hours of waiting before we could ring. This was torture and the band were a little deflated. The pressure of having to ring was enough, but having to wait four hours to do it was dreadful. We decide to set off in various directions and try to while away a couple of hours. I didn't listen to much of the ringing that was going on - I was too nervous.

Eventually after a very long lunch and the slowest pint of beer I have ever drunk it was our turn. The waiting half way up the tower for the previous team seemed to take almost as long as the previous four hours. The band was unusually quiet as we tried to prepare ourselves mentally. We were trying to remember Cheltenham and also our practice at Lincoln four weeks previously.

Finally we got into the ringing chamber and rang our piece. It would be fair to say we did not ring at our best. It was good but never sparkled. However, the intense relief to get to finally stand our bells at the end was incredible. We all just wanted to get out of the tower as quickly as possible and finally join the revelry going on in the Cathedral centre. Again we had to wait a further two hours for the results but this time was well spent at the bar. The churchyard pundits had Birmingham as clear winners but there was a great deal of debate about how the other teams had fared and we were certainly in the mix!

- The Association's grant of £500 per year was welcomed. It was agreed to donate £200 to both Ranmoor and Tadcaster to help buy simulators.
- A proposal that the committee should purchase a Wombel for use across the Association was strongly supported in principle. Members are to ask their Branches for volunteers to help with its storage, transport, assembly etc. More details about these aspects are available.
- Emma Baxter suggested ideas for better promotion of the committee's activities on the Association web site.
- Members were asked to send substitutes from their Branch when they cannot attend a meeting.
- The next meeting is on 21 January 2009 in Tadcaster. (*The committee meets twice a year*).

For more information about the Wombel - particularly if you would like to help with its storage, transport etc. - please contact Gail Cater on 01729 840806 or gail@thecaters.org.uk

Whirlow 2008

The 24th Whirlow Ringing Course took place one week later than usual this year over the weekend of 18-20 July. The change of date was out of our control and we do wonder if it was the reason why we had fewer helper and student applications this year.

There were 24 students who were divided into 5 groups ranging from plain hunting to 8 spliced surprise major, although there was very little demand for any methods between plain bob minor and surprise major. These groups were helped by a total of 67 helpers.

We had our first ever total lock-out for the course on the Saturday morning for the surprise major group, but luckily other arrangements were quickly made for the group to go to Harthill as the tower captain there was helping with the group. Thank you Ian. Apart from that, everything else seemed to go smoothly with the weather being kind to us which enabled the beer drinkers at Whirlow to get their pints in the dry this year - the barrel of local brew is kept outside, although there is also a fully stocked bar at Whirlow.

The accommodation has improved considerably in recent years with all rooms now being en suite, but unfortunately we did not fill them all for the first time. Last year some people had to stay at a local B & B due to the high demand for accommodation. All those who did stay in residence gained from the general camaraderie, and of course there was the opportunity for students to get extra tutorial sessions. Only 8 students were residential and it is hoped in future that a lot more will stay as residents as they are missing a very important part of the course - the social side - apart from travelling considerable distances each day.

Next year will be the 25th course and we are planning "something special". Watch this space.

Dinah Rhymer

Whirlow 2008 – A Family Weekend

This year's Whirlow was somewhat different from previous years for the Baxter family. Barry and I have been going along as helpers for several years and when the children were young they got used to being taken along and sat in dusty corners of churches with toys and colouring books whilst we rang. Now they are ringers themselves. Last year James was a student in the Plain Hunt group and this year had progressed to Plain Bob. Alice was also a student this year for the first time, in the Plain Hunt Group, so it was the first year all four of us were involved. With both children attending Whirlow as students and insisting they didn't want mum or dad helping with either of the groups they were in, I decided it was about time I really got to grips with the Standard Eight and, rather than sign up as a helper along with Barry, joined the Surprise Major group as a student.

Despite good intentions of learning all the methods and each place bell properly beforehand, on the car journey to Whirlow I was studying blue lines and could be heard muttering "7th place bell, London places in 3-4, lead wrong" and the like under my breath – fortunately Barry was driving! For the past few years, we haven't stayed in Whirlow Grange itself, but have taken our caravan and stayed at a campsite about 20 minutes drive away, near Hope in the Peak District.

Friday evening, after a warm welcome from Neil, it was time to join our groups and meet our fellow students and tutors for the first practical session of the weekend – the four Baxters heading off to four different towers. Group E headed for Sheffield Cathedral, where under the expert eye of our tutor, Andrew Aspland, and his willing helpers, I rang my first course of London Major – my first blows in the method. If I had rung nothing else all weekend, it would have been worthwhile just for that! But there was more to come. Despite a lockout at Eckington on Saturday morning and a change of venue to Harthill, where some of the band helped out a distressed bride by ringing at extremely short notice for her wedding, I and my four fellow students had lots of opportunities to make progress with our ringing over the weekend. Unlike them, I didn't achieve the dizzy heights of 8-spliced, but did manage to ring 6-spliced and felt much more familiar with the methods. Next year, I'm definitely going to go prepared to ring 8-spliced!

The lectures and sessions at Whirlow Grange, the Saturday evening ringing and Sunday service ringing at towers in the area are open to all helpers and students. Barry, James and I found Andrew's talk on the history of change ringing absolutely fascinating, whilst Alice, a member of Hessle Handbell Ringers so no stranger to tune ringing, had her first foray into change ringing on handbells. The highlight for Alice was ringing at Rotherham Cathedral on Saturday evening – her first chance to ring on twelve. After patient tuition in Plain Hunt from Neil and Dinah in Group A, she's now looking forward to ringing her first quarter peal. James also enjoyed himself - as well as ringing Plain Bob inside, he came back knowing the difference between Treble Bob, Delight and Surprise methods – amazing what you can learn chatting over a cup of coffee between sessions at Whirlow Grange. For Barry and myself the weekend was also an opportunity to meet and chat with ringing friends old and new over a glass or two of good beer – especially as I managed to volunteer Barry to do the driving to and from the campsite that weekend!

Many thanks to Neil and Dinah and all those involved in organising the Whirlow Course, and to the tutors and the helpers for sharing their enthusiasm and expertise. Look forward to seeing you all next year for the 25th anniversary Whirlow weekend.

*Ros Baxter
All Saints', Hessle, East Yorkshire*

Giggleswick

Copy of an entry in the St.Alkelda's Church Giggleswick record of ringing book. 1903 to present day.

September 10th 1904

Ringers outing to Lake Ullswater.

On Sept 10th 1904, the "Ministers of the Belfrey" St.Alkelda's Church, Giggleswick met at Settle Station en route for Lake Ullswater, the company consisted of the Vicar Rev. T.P. Brocklehurst, Mr.T.N.Brassington ringer and Church Warden, Messrs. S.James, T.L.Bullock, Mr.Bradley, Mr.Moorby, T.Young, Mr.Hudson, J.Hodgson, and E.P.N.Whiffen.

Waggonettes were mounted at Langwathby Station and a 10mile drive to Pooley Bridge enjoyed, where the hungry ringers sat down to a delicious cold luncheon at the Sun Inn. A steam down the lake to Patterdale after lunch, - the magnificent scenery impressing "the boys" with its grandeur - was succeeded by a spell of rowing by 6 of the party, the rest exploring quaint Patterdale. After gallantly rescuing the Vicar and 3 other members of the party who in some mysterious way had contrived to be left behind on an islet they had returned to explore, the rescuers, and the frightened rescued, joined the others in a stroll to the lead works in the neighbourhood. A sharp walk back to Patterdale produced amongst "the boys" some fair examples of thirst, and murmurs of "lead me to a brewery" were audible, but curious to relate when 6d per glass of draught ale was found to be the price charged all signs of thirst vanished. The steamer was boarded again, another hour of watching the wonderful scenery, then Pooley Bridge and ham and eggs etc at Thompsons Tea rooms. After tea some postcards for distant friends, and we took wagonettes for Penrith, where an hour was spent and the Church visited, then off again for Langwathby, the stillness of the evening broken up by the singing of our favourites by "the boys" Settle was reached at 10.10.pm. The Bell-ringers outing in 1904 - a right enjoyable time - come to an end.

Submitted by Vera Walker

Would the price of the drink put off bellringers these days, do you think? I remember it had reached only a shilling (5p) a half by 1957 when I came across it. (Sorry, 1958 to make it legal).

Bob Cater

With all the necessary “paperwork” in place and sufficient money raised actual work could now commence.

One day in May 2006 a group of Cleveland and North Yorkshire Branch ringers complete with lifting gear and trucks descended on (or more accurately climbed up to) St Paul’s, Denholme. The bells were given a final ring and recordings made, after which the bells, frame and its fittings were removed from the tower and loaded into a truck and transported to David’s workshop for storage and subsequent renovation. Over 90% of the recovery work was completed in 1 day with only minor tidying up required later.

During the next 2 years the whole installation was cleaned and renovated where necessary. In practice the bells and frame were absolutely sound and only needed cleaning. However the wheels had deteriorated and needed some repairs and strengthening. The pendulum stay mechanisms needed overhauling and all the bearings were replaced. In addition it was necessary to design and build a grillage to support the frame in St Thomas’s tower and also to design and build a secondary frame (going over the top of the bell frame) to support the 3 existing bells which were to be retained and used as clock bells. During this period the existing 3 bells were recovered from Brompton and the frame removed. The bells went to Whitechapel to have their crown staples drilled out whilst the headstocks were renovated and parts of the old frame converted to support the bells above the peal of 8 in the tower. Once all the renovations, metalwork etc was complete the whole installation was reassembled at the workshop to ensure everything fitted together correctly. It was then broken down, painted and reassembled before finally being broken down and loaded ready for transportation to Brompton and final installation.

Final installation commenced in Holy Week 2008 and was completed some 2 to 3 weeks later. The actual installation is something of a blur to me as numerous things were all happening together with holes being knocked into walls, steel and bells being hauled up on a manual (!) chain block plus floors being taken up and then refitted. The place was very much a hive of activity, but in a controlled manner. After no more than 3 weeks the actual installation of the new bells plus reinstallation of the old 3 (albeit now hung dead as clock chimes only) was complete. The installation was inspected twice (during and after completion) by John Arthur for the DAC and once by Alan Hughes of Whitechapel, and passed with flying colours.

The ancillary work of sound proofing and redecoration are in progress as I write. Reinstallation of the clock and rewiring of the tower will commence shortly. All work, from recovery through design, construction and renovation to installation has been undertaken by volunteers from within the branch and I would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who has taken part. There has been a lot of hard physical work put in by many people. Some of the work has been pretty miserable but equally there has been a great sense of satisfaction in seeing a major project completed successfully.

The bells were formally rededicated on Sunday 13th July. It was very pleasant to see that a large number of the Denholme congregation had been able to join those from Brompton for the Service.

Gerry Parsons

Conducting Course 25 October



Here’s some of the group at Kirk Deighton.

A Course on Bob Calling and Conducting held in the Knaresborough area attracted eight students, four tutors, another ten helpers and Millie, a small dog. Barrie Dove, Brian Sanders, Peter Scott and Neil Donovan were the tutors and the towers used were St. Wilfrid’s in Harrogate, Knaresborough, Birstwith and Kirk Deighton. Lunch was taken all together at a pub in Knaresborough. John Leech made all the local arrangements for the Committee. It was a fantastic day of tuition and fun!

In the six-bell group I helped with, all the four students called numerous touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob - something they were new to or relatively new to. The confidence it gave them was palpable. The other group was a little more adventurous, dealing with Grandsire Triples. Both groups finished the day with calling different methods of their choice.

Millie was superb throughout nearly four hours of ringing and only stirred when the bells were being rung down. She’s obviously had a good tutor.

Bob Cater

THE SNOWDON DINNER

I think it is worth recording, especially for the benefit of those who did not attend, that the Snowdon Dinner, held at Woolley Hall between Barnsley and Wakefield on Saturday 18 October was an outstanding success. It was an excellent venue, good food and service, but it was the speeches that made it a most memorable occasion.

Professor Paul Rogers (Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University and a ringer at Almondbury) and the Vicar of Cawthorne and Darton were both very good value, while Ian McMillan gave the most hilarious speech, complete with audience participation, that I have ever heard at a ringing dinner. Taught to ring at Darfield, Ian was good enough to ring a peal once, and though now lapsed still regards himself as a ringer; but well known these days for his frequent radio and TV appearances and newspaper articles. He was presented with an illuminated ‘peal board’ as a memento.

Congratulations to Brian Sanders and the Central Branch committee for booking him, especially as he has an extremely busy schedule.

Simon Reading



The President and Speakers. L to R - Barrie Dove, Brian Sanders, Revd. Jean Daykin, Paul Rogers, Ian Mc Millan, Neil Donovan

FROM THE BRANCHES

Leeds & District Branch

This year's Branch outing took place on Saturday 12th July when we visited a range of towers in the Burnley area. After having warm (or even hot) sunny weather for the previous two outings, this year's weather was a bit of a disappointment and only a few brave souls actually picnicked outside at lunch time (they very quickly joined most of the others in the pub). Our first tower was Padiham where we were met by a young man who had visited Leeds Parish practice a few weeks before. When I phoned up to arrange the outing visit the tower contact asked whether LPC would be practising on Thursday as he and a friend (the one who met us) were working in Durham and would like to come and ring in Leeds on their way home. I think they enjoyed their ring in Leeds and we enjoyed our ring at Padiham – a mutually beneficial phone call!

The method of the day was Little Bob and we had our first tentative goes at the method here. The next tower was Whalley where we improved our Little Bob expertise. The tower before lunch was Downham. This is a lovely village which is quite a contrast to the local industrial towns and was the setting for the TV program Born and Bred. It is often used for filming as there are no electric cables, television aerials, dormer windows or street signs (and hence no speed restrictions!) The village is owned by Lord Assheton who I later discovered was the tower contact with whom I had arranged the visit. I didn't realise this when I was talking to him on the phone – perhaps I should have made sure I was using my 'posh telephone voice'.

As I mentioned at the beginning the weather wasn't too good and didn't encourage exploration of the village. I think I was the only one who saw quite a lot of it! Despite detailed instructions on where to collect the key in case we weren't met I ended up dashing from house to house trying to find a key holder. Fortunately it was a small, very friendly village so I was instructed at the first house I tried 'go to the house up there and see if Mrs ... has a key – no she didn't but she was sure that Mrs ... up the lane, down the little path and in the house with the big chimneys did. Fortunately she did, so we got to ring in the end and it turned out that the chap in the tea shop where I was sent to first did actually have the key but hadn't realised that the key to the church also opened the door to the ringing room!

nervous exhaustion seemed remote. However, those experienced ringers were endlessly patient and consistently encouraging. There has been no smooth progression. Each step brings on a fresh wave of panic "The treble? But that means I'll have to lead! Hunting is anything but plain to me! Bob who?"

But, mysteriously, after the near total disaster which accompanies an attempt at anything new, the previous step, which was proving so unattainable, suddenly seems feasible! Oh the relief of call changes after the first plain hunt, even though those same call changes had been causing cerebral meltdown trying to work out which bell the bell I'm following is following!

"A [Western] Branch Training Day?" It was with some apprehension that I drove towards the first tower early in March, but any anxiety swiftly abated as we settled down to examine our handouts and listen to the tutor explain the theory, before we attempted to convert that knowledge into practice. Different tower, unknown bells, new instructors, all contributed to the learning curve and my lasting impression of a constructive and worthwhile day. The number of different approaches to resolving the same difficulty was a revelation. "One of these will work for you" I was told, and it did! It was enormously helpful. The tea and Western Branch AGM added another dimension and underlined the generous amounts of voluntary time, enthusiasm, goodwill, detailed organisation and sheer hard work which ringers dedicate to their craft.

Driving home over the moors late that Saturday night gave me the chance to reflect on all that the day had taught me, and I suddenly felt privileged in belonging to this company which seeks to further a tradition going back hundreds of years, but which still contributes so much to today's society. Whatever difficulties and challenges lie ahead, this is change ringing, and it's not like anything I could ever have imagined.

Pat Wells-Oliver

Peal of 8 Bells for St Thomas, Brompton

Installation of the peal of 8 bells into St Thomas, Brompton (Northallerton) is now complete. However, at the time of writing the whole project is not yet finished as the sound proofing (very necessary due to many houses being less than 50m away), reinstallation of the clock, tower rewiring and redecoration of the ringing chamber are not yet complete.

There have been a number of different plans and ideas over many years to augment the existing 3 bells at St Thomas into a more ringable peal. However it was not until recent years that serious fund raising got under way led by David Town. At around the same time there was a project developed to transfer a light peal of 8 from the redundant church of St Paul's Denholme to Topcliffe. Unfortunately this project had to be abandoned. Fortunately David was able to secure the bells for St Thomas.

At this point I would like to thank the Bradford Diocese for agreeing to release the bells to us, the support of the Yorkshire Association and the Keltec Trust for assisting with a financial loan. I would also acknowledge the assistance of the York DAC in ensuring that the faculty application was sufficiently robust and detailed to be accepted, thus allowing the installation to proceed.

York Branch

Since Spring the York Branch has been reasonably active, holding our monthly practices around the city centre (apart from a summer break during August). Our striking competition on 19th April was at the lovely new ring of six at Rufforth. Out of twelve teams, the Huntington A team narrowly beat St Wilfrid's, York, to qualify for the Yorkshire Association final. This was a very successful event, well attended as is shown by the number of teams that entered! The Rufforth ringers were excellent hosts, providing a delicious tea.

On Saturday 7th June we had a car outing to West Yorkshire, where we rang at five towers: Emley, Holmfirth, Shelley, the beautiful eight at Penistone, and Royston. The day was enjoyed by all of the twenty or so people who came, and the evening meal at Newmillerdam was one of the highlights of the day!

We also held a 'fun' four-bell striking competition at St Lawrence's, York on 30th August, intended to encourage less experienced ringers to develop their listening. The six teams were placed into pairs, and the rest of us who weren't ringing judged which of the two teams were best. The three winning teams then went on into a final. The competition was followed by a barbecue, which John Potter ably cooked for us.

At the end of September we had to say goodbye to our Deputy Ringing Master, Matthew Jones, who is moving on to Nottingham. We wish him all the best in his new job there and thank him for all his work in the branch.

*James Sanderson
Branch Ringing Master*

TOWERS' NEWS

Addingham Learner Tails

"Open Tower" proclaimed the notices around the village. Having never been inside my own church tower, a few weeks later I found myself, along with several children and attendant parents, climbing a narrow stone staircase and looking with awe at the huge metal bells suspended in their frames, at the ropes, the wheels and the pulleys, and marvelling at the complexity of it all.

"Would you be interested in learning?" Me? Well, it would be something new, a challenge, a new set of friends, the maintenance of a venerable tradition and a service to my church. Along with many others, I have always enjoyed hearing the bells ring out.

"It won't be like anything you have ever seen or imagined" I was warned on my first lesson. An accurate statement if ever there was one! Nothing I have ever attempted before comes even remotely near it! As adults we are not used to acquiring a completely new skill, so it takes time and patience and practice . . . unbelievable amounts of practice. While I watched, enviously, the experienced ringers in our tower, with their seemingly effortless precision, the possibility of my surviving ten minutes of "rounds" without collapsing in

Our next tower was Clitheroe – a wonderful heavy eight where we rang Little Bob and London Major and hopefully did credit to the bells. We then moved onto Rishton where there are 8 bells but unfortunately only 7 ropes. We had a go at Little Bob Triples but when it came round before everyone had rung all the work c++++conductors Jeff and Adrian had a lengthy discussion on how to call a touch so that everyone did all the work. I think they eventually concluded that it couldn't be done – in the mean time the rest of us had rung some touches of 'Not Quite Little Bob Triples' which was good fun.

Church Kirk was the next tower and we finished at the exceedingly light twelve at Accrington. It made a change so see everyone fighting for the back bells! These bells are tricky especially with the 'Accrington ends' – a version of Yorkshire ends, but everyone had a good ring and we did just about manage Little Bob Maximus.

Some of the group went for a pub meal on the way home and this rounded of a very enjoyable day. Special thanks to the out of branch ringers who joined us and enabled us to ring London Major and Little Bob Maximus.

Another recent event which stands out as a highlight of the year so far was the branch visit to join Leeds Parish Church practice which took place in September. Building on our 12-bell ringing at Accrington this was an opportunity for Branch members to have a go on a considerably heavier twelve. This was a very popular event and there were 39 people at practice that night – fortunately the tower was just about large enough to fit every one in – it did get a bit warm though! Steve Ollerton, LPC tower captain, ran the practice admirably enabling everyone to have a go. Ringing ranged from rounds on 8 and 12, to plain hunt on 11, Grandsire and Stedman Cinques and Bristol Maximus. Everyone really enjoyed the visit (the draw of a pint or two in the Palace after ringing also featured heavily!) and hopefully this will now become an annual event in the Leeds Branch Calendar.

Penny Thorley

Scarborough & District Branch

One of the advantages of helping to put the Newsletter together is that I get a preview of what everyone else has written. It is heartening to know that the Scarborough Branch is 'ahead of the game' in at least three areas. Earlier this year we took a decision to try to build on our traditional high support of the BRF by organising some different types of fundraising activities. Some of you might have been persuaded by Catherine Simpson's subtle selling techniques to buy the Yorkshire Place Names quiz she put together. We had to have two reprints and raised an amazing £130 profit, although there were some complaints from her ringing chums in deepest Buckinghamshire and Somerset that the clues were a bit obscure for those unfortunate enough not to live in God's Own Country! We have another quiz coming up in time for Christmas, are planning to start a '100 Club' and the St Mary's, Scarborough ringers have volunteered to organise a handbell concert in the Spring of 2009.

Scarborough St Mary's Ringers had already offered to host a Branch 10-bell 'friendly' striking competition in 2009 – before the 'Ring on 10 in 2010' initiative was advertised!

And for several years we have run our 'Friday Occasionals' – which may or may not coincide with a Friday! – which comprise either a practice of a particular method or a quarter peal or two, but always include a good pub lunch. As Bob said earlier, it doesn't take much organising!

In July, Simon Percy organised another Young Ringers' Tour; this time to Durham. Needless to say it absolutely poured down as soon as we'd left the cars to walk around Durham itself and the only lock-out of the day coincided with the heaviest rain! The highlights of the day were being allowed to ring at the Cathedral for evensong – where the youngsters acquitted themselves magnificently – and the mini-ring at the Black Bull at Frosterley – a first for many of the helpers too, who were torn between the novelty of ringing the bells and the good beer on offer!

We also had a good day in the dales on our Branch Outing in September, ably organised by Mike Pickup.

Add to all this the success of Pickering in securing the Association Striking Competition Trophy – all in all a good year for the Branch!

*Anne Deebank
Chairman*

Selby & District Branch

We wish to record our thanks to Philip Brook and Sue Webb who have been very active in the Branch since its formation in the early 1990s. Philip had been Ringing Master for a number of years and Sue either the Secretary or Treasurer since the Branch was founded. We are grateful for their hard work & enthusiasm over the years, and wish them well as they take a break to spend more time on other hobbies.

Our new Ringing Master, Neil Turner has recently achieved the remarkable feat of ringing 2 tower bells to a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor (1260 changes) with a local band. The 3rd and 4th bells at Pocklington are close together, this enabled him to ring one bell with each arm. Neil managed the quarter peal without mixing up his two bells, it was the other ringers who had problems deciding which of Neil's bells they were dodging with!

In April, the Branch held their monthly meeting at Goole for the first time in several years. The bells had been unringable for some years but had recently undergone some repair, although more work needs to be done on the bells and the Church Warden is applying for grants. A small but enthusiastic group of locals are being taught to ring and two of the learners rang rounds for the first time at the meeting.

Our annual outing, organised by Neil Turner took place on Sat 4th October, 17 ringers visited six very different towers in Hull and to the east of East Riding. The bells at Sutton on Hull (6 bells, 13cwt) went well and were a good start to the day, we rang a variety of methods from plain hunting to Ipswich Surprise. At the beautiful church of Roos, the 5 bells, which were on pain bearings were quite a challenge to handle but the sounded lovely. At Withernsea, 6 bells were also a bit of a challenge to handle but rewarding, after which we went for a bracing walk on the wind swept beach. The highlight of the day was the glorious 8 bells (17cwt) at Hedon which were a joy to ring. Our final tower was the delightful anti-clockwise ring of 6 bells at St Mary's, Lowgate, Hull, to confuse everyone further we rang Reverse Bob. We finished the day with a pub meal and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Marian Thomas

Selby and District Branch Stedman Triples Training Day

The branch had received several requests for Stedman training, but being a small branch we were unable to supply a suitable tutor or sufficient helpers. Help from the YACR Education

Committee made it possible to have a successful and extremely helpful Stedman Triples training day on 5th July. Barrie Dove was the tutor for the day, supported by Janine Jones, Gail and Bob Cater, and ringers from the branch as helpers. Not only did half a dozen would-be Stedman ringers make real progress over the day (as well as enjoying themselves), some of the helpers were surprised and, after recovering from the shock, pleased to find themselves calling the bobs for simple touches!

In a completely unsolicited letter of thanks, one of the students said "As you probably noticed I was as nervous as hell! Even so, I got such a kick at the end of the day when I rang a touch. It was wonderful. The tutors and helpers gave up so much of their day - please can you let them know that I for one really, really appreciated their help and their knowledge and hints which could well have taken me years to discover left to my own devices!"

Stedman Triples is wonderful stuff – musical, versatile with many short touches as well as longer ones, and excellent for developing ringing skills. The branch is truly grateful to the Education Committee for their help.

Jim Startin



Students and helpers at the Selby & District Branch Stedman Training Day

Sheffield & District Branch

The Sheffield Branch runs a '100 Club'. Here are recent winners:

July	£50	Robin Story
August	£50	Ecclesfield Tower
August	£100	Beighton Tower

Western Branch



The President at the Crease

*Taken at a Western Branch cricket match
What other hidden talents does the President have?*