

## Building of a revised Guild through 2022 and beyond

It seems like ages ago that the Guild ran a survey with members to find out what they were thinking and feeling about ringing. This resulted in a number of changes, some fundamental to the structure and purpose of the Guild, being adopted at the Guild AGM in April last year. Since then, the Guild has quietly been making decisions, taking action and bringing in change. Here is what has happened and what is planned going forward:

- A new constitution was adopted with new roles being filled for all but one post, and the establishment of a smaller Planning Committee which enables agile decision making about activities.
- A refreshed approach to communicating with Guild members through the distribution of 13 bulletins and other formal announcements to Tower Correspondents.
- Worked with ART to deliver of two teaching bellhandling courses to increase skills within the Guild for teaching new ringing recruits.
- Support for a huge swell of ringing for the Queen's Jubilee, her subsequent death and the King's Proclamation.
- The establishment of regular monthly surprise major practices and ringing practices in the west of the Guild (thanks to Norman Brock and Gareth Evans for their efforts).

Coming up in 2023, we will:

- Continue to improve welcoming communications with members and the public about our activities including a refreshed website.
- Support towers to run recruitment events through open days and other marketing/advertising.
- Continue to develop teaching skills and learning opportunities to support the teaching and development of new ringers and retention of existing ones.
- Encourage the articulation of training and development needs at an individual and tower level.
- Establish some measures of success for the Guild.

## Congratulations to...

**Ruth Gilbert** not only for ringing her [first quarter on 12](#), but doing so at the incredibly hard work and (some would say) intimidating venue of Liverpool Cathedral.

**Jason Pollock** for his [first quarter on 8](#).

All at **Carlisle Cathedral** who gathered, in secret, to [ring for Ron East's BEM Presentation](#).

The gathering involved band members and family including people who have only been ringing with the band for a few months. A lovely and fitting celebration indeed.

## Sad news regarding David Jones

I would like to advise members of the Guild of the death of David Jones. He died in the week leading up to Christmas and his widow, Rachel, asked me this week if I could spread the sad news. David lived in Skelton and enthusiastically tolled the single bell, from the sitting position, in the Parish Church of St Michael's.

I got to know him well at the services held there since our move to Skelton. Whilst he could no longer ring he was good for the bell ringing 'crack'. Many will know him through his ringing at Penrith and Greystoke and I know he rang a QP at Aspatria with Stephen some years back.

[Michael Hall]

## Upcoming.....

### **Guild meeting with service and tea: Saturday 14 January 2023, Workington.**

Ringling 3:00pm, Service 4:30pm, Tea & short meeting 5:00pm.

The bells will be available after tea until 7.00pm

Ringers of all abilities welcome – call changes to surprise major. Focus Methods: Double Oxford Minor, Double Norwich CB Major.

Names for tea, please, by Wednesday 11th January 2023 Pat Evans (01900) 824647 or [patmevans5@gmail.com](mailto:patmevans5@gmail.com)

### **Surprise Major practice: [Saturday 21 January, Wigton, 16:00 - 17:30.](#)**

### **[Hereford Ringing Course: 13 - 16 April](#)**

Applications for the first of many national ringing courses have opened (link above). [Information provided by Lynne Sydes]

### **Guild striking competition: Saturday 13 May**

Thank you to those who completed the survey regarding the virtual striking competition. Of those who responded, the vast majority (79%) said they would not be interested in another virtual striking competition. The next competition will therefore take place in person on Saturday 13 May at a tower in the Eastern part of the Guild. Further details to be announced, but do start preparing a band (or two) to enter.

## Finally...

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the fundraising 50/50 club. New members are always welcome. Email Anne East at [aeast65sr@btinternet.com](mailto:aeast65sr@btinternet.com) for more information.

Congratulations to the August to October prize winners which were drawn at a Cathedral practice on 5 October:

Draw results	£25	£15	£10
August 2022	Mike Rodger	Bob Smith	Ed Matthews
September 2022	Ruth Gilbert	Sally Nicholson	Nick Newby
October 2022	Ron East	Christine Robinson	Sally Walker