

Latest 'News from the Guild' – April 2024

Dates for your 2024 Diary –

Saturday 20th April – Borders Mini Bells promoting ringing at Dalemain Marmalade Festival

Saturday 27th April – Guild Ringing Gathering and AGM in Western Branch, at Wigton

Saturday 11th May – Guild Striking Competition in Western Branch, at Cockermouth: 2pm onwards with 'bring and share' tea to follow. More details here: <https://bellringingincumbria.com/event/7315/>

Sunday 12th May – Bell Sunday: The CCCBR annual celebration of the contribution of bell ringers to the life of the Church. Suggestions of how to get involved can be found here: <https://bellsunday.org/>.

All these dates are on the website calendar at <https://bellringingincumbria.com/events/> and further information will be added closer to the time.

Last call for Annual Report –

The Annual Report for 2023 is currently being finalised – so if you would like to be included, please send your tower reports to Guildcomms@gmail.com before **16th April**. The towers so far included are: Appleby, Arlecdon, Bampton, Barrow, Brampton, Bridekirk, Cockermouth, Cathedral, Greystoke, Keswick, Kirkby Stephen, Penrith, Shap, St Bees, Thursby, Wigton and Workington. If you are not included in the above and you think you have sent me a report, then please contact Guildcomms@gmail.com.

My-andy-ring Celebrations at Barrow:

Exactly 10 years after the rededication service of the bells at St James on 9th March 2014, ringers gathered to celebrate – Andy Pollock describes the day's events here:

<https://bellringingincumbria.com/10-year-anniversary-celebrations-at-barrow/>

The 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings:

Will your tower be marking this historic occasion? If so, please let us know. If you have any ideas about how this anniversary could be celebrated around the Guild, these would be gratefully received by the committee. We would like to keep a record of ringing tributes; and if your tower needs any support in celebration ringing; ringing of quarter peals etc – please ask. All suggestions and requests/offers to Guildcomms@gmail.com.

Retirement of The Venerable Dr Richard Pratt:

As the Guild bid a fond farewell to Richard, with thanks for his years of service and support to the Guild, Andrew and Jane Holland write about the Farewell Service:

<https://bellringingincumbria.com/fond-farewell-to-our-president/>

We all echo their sentiments wishing Richard and his wife, Diane a long and happy retirement in Scotland; and good luck with the gardening!

Farewell to Gerald H Sewell

Family and friends of Gerald gathered at the Crematorium on 12th March to pay their respects. During the service, the Eulogy encompassed the breadth of Gerald's interests, knowledge and passions. Undoubtedly, bellringing was an important part of his life, but he embraced so much more. It is appropriate that the 'Final Words' were given by a colleague from Aspatia Dreamscheme, Linda Hunter. She described how he made a difference to people's lives – particular those of young people. That is a fine legacy and a wonderful way to be remembered.

Thoughts and memories of Gerald have been contributed by Guild members and can be found here:

<https://bellringingincumbria.com/gerald-hodgson-sewell-obituary/>

Congratulations to...

At Barrow:

1260 Grandsire Triples

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1707652>

Rung for the 10th anniversary of the rehang and restoration of the bells exactly 10 years after the service of rededication, by 7 people heavily involved in the restoration, and conducted by someone who learnt to ring on the restored bells.

Also to remember Hairy Biker Dave Myers, a fellow Barrovian.

At Wigton:

1260 Grandsire Triples

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1710700>

To mark 50 years of ringing for Kate Telford and Alison Robinson (25 years each).

Also remembering Gerald Hodgson Sewell, 7th April 1941 to 22 February 2024

At Greystoke:

1260 Kennington Doubles

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1711114>

Celebrating the Conductor's birthday, Michael Hall. Also the 50 year anniversary of him learning to ring and drive!

At Cathedral:

1260 Plain Bob Minor

Christine Brennan – First QP inside to Minor at first attempt

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1711708>

1260 Plain Bob Minor

Sue Thomas – First QP inside to Minor at first attempt

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1711706>

Rung as a 65th birthday tribute to Sue Thomas (*Editor: And she doesn't look a day over 21!*)

At Brampton:

1260 Plain Bob Minor

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1714947>

In celebration of the life of Gerald Sewell, who often rang here.

This 'News from the Guild' can be viewed on the Guild website at <https://bellringingincumbria.com/the-guild/documents/>

We would love to hear the news from your tower – so get in touch at GuildComms@gmail.com