

Latest 'News from the Guild' – March 2026

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 17th March: Eastern Branch AGM at Penrith – 20.45

Saturday 18th April: Guild AGM at St Bees: 15.00 Ringing / 16.30 Service / 17.00 Bring & Share Tea / Followed by Business Meeting

Saturday 9th May Guild Striking Competition at Hensingham

15th May – 11th June: Bellringing Exhibition at the Cathedral

AGM at St Bees

The timings for the AGM are as above. In addition - on the morning of the AGM, 18th April, the Belfry at St Bees will have a recruitment drive from 10.30am-12.30pm. There will be displays; visitors will be able to see ringers in action and see the bells turning full-circle. And if they want, they can have a go on a bell.

<https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/belfry-open-morning-at-st-bees/>

Bellringing Exhibition at The Cathedral

The Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral have graciously invited the Cathedral Bellringers to organise a Bell exhibition within the Cathedral, scheduled for four weeks from 15 May to 11 June – coinciding conveniently with school half-term holidays, so good footfall is anticipated. This represents an excellent opportunity to introduce bell ringing to a wider public and attract new ringers.

Further information about the exhibition and how to get involved can be seen here:

<https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/bellringing-exhibition-at-the-cathedral/>

2025 Annual Reports

The Annual Report for 2025 is nearing completion – I currently have reports from the following towers:

Barrow, Shap, Wigton, Cockermouth, Bridekirk, Cathedral, Penrith, Keswick Crosthwaite, St Bees, Bampton, Arlecdon, Hensingham, Brampton, Thursby and Whitehaven.

If you are not listed above and have sent a report to me, please contact me urgently as I have not received it – or have lost it!

If you are planning to send a report but have not yet done so – please let me know as soon as possible on

guildcomms@gmail.com or ring 07584 484102.

News from CCCBR:

- The 2026 Bell Advisors Conference is to be held on Thursday April 16th at Carlisle Cathedral. This conference is organised by The Church of England and it is open to all. The programme for the Conference and the optional afternoon visits and informal meal on Wednesday April 15th can be seen here:
<https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/dac-bell-advisers-conference-programme/>
- The Ringing 2030 Environments Workgroup of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers is launching the 2026 award for people who have recently become involved in belfry maintenance and improvement, developing their own skills and helping others to do so. The award will be presented at the CCCBR AGM in Rugby in September 2026. The winner will receive £100, kindly donated by Westley Group, and a certificate.

Details of the award, and how to enter, can be found on the Council's website here:

<https://cccbr.org.uk/about/workgroups/ringing-2030-environments/westley-award-2026/>

Congratulations to...

Shap

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

First quarter inside- Julian Thorpe

First quarter on tenor- Julie Sandilands

First quarter conducting- John Inkley

Orton

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

First quarter Paul Steadman

Wigton

5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major

First peal - Hannah Saudek

1260 Grandsire Doubles

For Mothering Sunday

1280 Spliced Surprise Major (4m)

1st Spliced Surprise Major - Lynne Sydes.

Rung in memory of Peter Gardner, a regular Surprise Major ringer in this tower - sadly missed today.

Rung prior to the Deanery Evensong service.

1280 Plain Bob Major

For Choral Evensong, at which the Dean of Carlisle, the Very Revd Michael Everitt was guest preacher.

1320 Violet Doubles

First in this variation: Amanda Rodger Janet Yasities Ruth Gilbert

750th quarter peal: Andrew Warboys

1280 Cambridge Surprise Major

1st Surprise Major inside - Janet Yasities.

To celebrate the life of Dougie, with gratitude for the love and joy he brought to Aruna, dearest friend of Janet Yasities.

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

First of Surprise on inside bell: Janet Yasities

1280 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1st Treble Bob - Mike Lee

Cathedral

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Rung with fond memories of Peter Gardner, a stalwart of this quarter peal band for many years.

1320 Violet Doubles

Rung with simulated sound.

500th quarter peal: Anne East

First in this variation for all the band

1320 Snowdrop Doubles

Rung with simulated sound.

Birthday compliment to Dave Dennison

1320 Snowdrop Doubles

Rung with simulated sound.

First quarter in a Doubles variation: Janet Yasities, Ron East

18th birthday compliment to Toby Coulthard

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1st Treble Bob Major - Janet Yasities.

Birthday compliment to Anna, daughter of Janet Yasities.

Website name change:

The Guild website is now www.cumbriabellringing.org.uk and mirrors our Facebook Group name of Cumbria Bellringing – if you have any issues accessing either of these – please let us know at guildcomms@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/479827378371419>

It would be great if you have something to post - or want to comment on posts.

It will be a means of the Guild contacting members and members being able to contact other members and the Guild – such as requests for ringers for a wedding or last-minute requests for Sunday service ringers... getting help for an Open Day; relating about a special occasion. That kind of thing.

This 'News from the Guild' can be viewed on the Guild website at

<https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/the-guild/documents/>

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