

Latest 'News from the Guild' – August 2026

Dates for your diary:

- Saturday 19th September: Western Branch Ringing at St Michael's, Workington 10.30-12.00
- Saturday 3rd October: EGM and Autumn Ringing Meeting in the East – All Saints, Orton
- Saturday 10th October: Wigton Open Tower Day, Exhibition and Recruitment Drive 10.00am
- CHANGE OF DATE: Saturday 23rd January 2027: Guild Ringing Meeting, Service and Tea at Workington (note this has moved to a later date from that previously used)
- Saturday 6th March 2027: Western Branch AGM at Whitehaven
- Tuesday 9th March 2027: Eastern Branch AGM at Penrith

EGM and Autumn Ringing Meeting

An EGM and Annual Ringing Meeting is to be held at All Saints, Orton. Ringing will commence at 15.00. The 'Bring and Share' Tea will be from 16.30 and will be followed by an EGM.

The main business of the EGM is to consider changes to the constitution as follows:

The recommended changes to the constitution are to align with the Central Council's Code for Ringing. This is in line with other similar ringing guilds, and follows the Code's introduction in 2024, and is strongly supported by our Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. It is also intended for use in local towers and parishes, so we ask you to display it on your tower noticeboard and discuss it with your local church contacts.

The proposed amendments to the constitution do not change the Guild's purpose or structure, but they significantly strengthen governance, particularly around:

- Membership eligibility
- Handling of misconduct
- Safeguarding compliance
- Exclusion from Guild events
- Reconsideration processes

These changes provide clearer procedures, better protection for members, and alignment with modern expectations for volunteer organisations.

Please let Ed at info@cumbriabellringing.org.uk know if you are joining us – to help with planning. All Guild members and all ringing abilities are welcome!

St Mary's, Wigton Open Tower Day, Exhibition and Recruitment Drive

The ringers at Wigton are arranging an Open Tower Day on 10th October from 10.00 – 16.30. There will be exhibition displays in the church, alongside the Borders Mini Bells and Hand bells demonstrations. All are welcome to join in promoting bellringing and to recruit new ringers for the Wigton tower. Please contact guildcomms@gmail.com for more information and to offer help.

Bellringing Exhibition at The Cathedral

The hugely successful bellringing exhibition at the Cathedral ran from 15 May to 11 June. It was a giant task to put together, and the efforts of the band are described here by tower captain, David Steel:

<https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/carlisle-cathedral-bell-exhibition-may-june-2026/>

Guild Striking Competition at Hensingham

A great afternoon was had by all at St John Evangelist, Hensingham. Many thanks to the judge, Stephen Hall; the Hensingham ringers; and all the participants who made it a fun time with some lovely ringing.

You can read all about it here: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/another-great-striking-competition/>

New Rope Tops at Brampton

Thanks to a generous benefactor, the rope tops at Brampton have been retrofitted with polyester tops. John Proudfoot describes the effect of this: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/new-rope-tops-at-brampton/>

Great Urswick Bells Project

The church of St Mary and St Michael in Great Urswick is raising funds to cast two new bells and preserve an historic bell – you can read all about it and how to donate here: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/great-urswick-bells-project/>
Update from Andy Pollock:

The Urswick Bells Project is essentially complete, barring a couple of add-ons to (a) improve sound control between the ringing room and belfry and (b) purchase new ropes to replace those that are in quite poor condition (temporarily using a set of cast offs from Barrow which are serviceable but not great).

Donations are still welcome, but now just in-person cash donations. The cost of the main project has been met with thanks to everyone who contributed with generous donations and volunteering.

Western Branch Ringing Morning

Ringers from six Western Branch towers met for a glorious morning of ringing at All Saints' Church, Cockermouth. You can read more here: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/western-branch-ringers-come-out-in-force/>

The next WB ringing morning will be on Saturday 19th September at St Michael's, Workington 10.30-12.00.

Ringling for Doctor John

The bells of St Martin's, Brampton were rung for the funeral of Dr John Hopkins in June. The Brampton ringers were joined by ringers from other towers, who wanted to show their respects for Doctor John.

50:50 Club Draw Results

Prizes for May, June and July 2026 - drawn at Cathedral practice 17 July

May

£25 Ed Matthews
£15 Tony Ruberry
£10 Christine Robinson

June

£25 John Proudfoot
£15 Hilary Pawley
£10 Ruth Gilbert

July

£25 Jeanette Ellison
£15 John Shallcross
£10 Nick Tithecott

The wonderful support from you all keeps the Bell Restoration Fund topped up ready to support bell installations and restorations around the Guild. We are always happy to have NEW MEMBERS of the 50/50 Club so why not give it a go? The club is organised by Anne East, who can be contacted at aeast65sr@btinternet.com, if you would like to take out a subscription.

News from CCCBR:

The CCCBR have put together an Heritage Open Days Publicity Toolkit to help you plan and publicise Open Days. Please click here for more information: <https://cumbriabellringing.org.uk/thinking-of-holding-an-open-day/>

Congratulations to...

06/06/2026	Bampton (St Patrick)	Rounds, Plain Hunt
17/05/2026	Bampton (St Patrick)	Rounds and Plain Hunt
18/06/2026	Brampton (St Martin)	Call Changes
29/08/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1320 Geranium Doubles
26/07/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Plain Bob Triples
11/07/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1320 Honeysuckle Doubles
11/07/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1320 Honeysuckle Doubles
28/06/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major
10/06/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles
10/06/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles
28/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Bluebell Doubles
27/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Bluebell Doubles
27/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Bluebell Doubles
25/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	Call Changes
25/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	Plain Bob Doubles and Call Changes
25/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
17/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	1274 Plain Bob Triples
17/05/2026	Carlisle Cathedral	Rounds and Call Changes on 12
10/05/2026	Cockermouth (All Saints)	5040 Plain Bob Triples
02/08/2026	Great Salkeld (St Cuthbert)	1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

31/05/2026	<u>Great Salkeld (St Cuthbert)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
21/06/2026	<u>Greystoke (St Andrew)</u>	1260 Grandsire Doubles
14/06/2026	<u>Greystoke (St Andrew)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Minor
17/08/2026	<u>Orton (All Saints)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
11/07/2026	<u>Orton (All Saints)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
02/08/2026	<u>Penrith (St Andrew)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
15/08/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1320 Geranium Doubles
18/07/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1280 Spliced Surprise Major (5m)
12/07/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1280 Belfast Surprise Major
05/07/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1260 Plain Bob Triples
27/07/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1320 Rose Doubles
27/07/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1320 Rose Doubles
17/05/2026	<u>Wigton (St Mary)</u>	1280 Pudsey Surprise Major

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