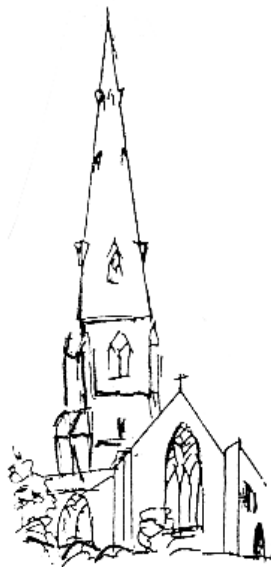
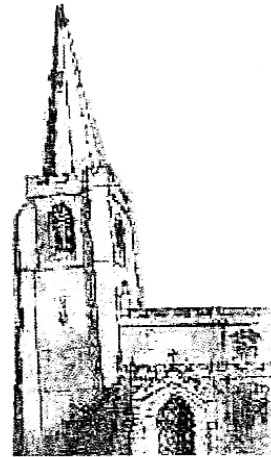


Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Central Branch Newsletter (number 64) December 2008

Celebrating 'Lovely Lincolnshire'

St Lawrence, Surfleet (with its leaning spire) where the day began. Lincolnshire Maximus was rung here but sadly, no quarter. However Annette's generous refreshments made the journey well worthwhile.



St Andrew, Ewerby. In the quarter here Philip Dawson rang his first blows of Lincolnshire Surprise Royal.

St Chads, Welbourn, the venue for Kate's first quarter of Lincolnshire Surprise Major.



Wednesday 1 October was Lincolnshire day and before leaving for a holiday in the USA Phil Mason had arranged a very ambitious celebration of quarter peals with Lincolnshire as their theme. Most of the 16 ringers, wearing something yellow, were from the Central Branch with very welcome support from the West Lindsey and Southern Branches of the Guild. Phil Wild from Nottingham joined us in the evening.

Lincolnshire Royal was rung at Ewerby and Lincolnshire Major at Welbourn. Then on to Branston 'pots' where Lincoln Minor was rung and, after much needed refreshments, another quarter of Lincolnshire Major was rung.

The day didn't finish at that - a move was made for yet more ringing on Sandra's 'pots' in Lincoln. Very late in the evening yet another quarter of Lincolnshire Major was successful.

During the day Philip Dawson struck his first blows of Lincolnshire Royal and Kate Morgan rang her first quarter of Lincolnshire Major. Congratulations to both of them.

A very long and tiring day but very enjoyable and 'Lovely Lincolnshire' was well and truly celebrated. 1 October is now established as the day when all true Lincolnshire Yellowbellies whether native or naturalised can celebrate their good fortune to be living in 'Lovely Lincolnshire' so 1 October 2009 is already in our diaries!

John R Ketteringham

[What a flying start to the quarter peal month!]

Obituary

Joyce Froggatt

1924 - 2008

Joyce learnt to ring at St Mary le Wigford, Lincoln in 1971, and it was here that she met Walter, who was to become her husband. She rang her first quarter by the end of the year, at Christmas time. They went to the Guild Ringing School at Brant Broughton in 1972, and it was here that their relationship blossomed. She was getting to grips with 6 bell ringing at St Peter's and St Botolph's but found ropesight difficult to master. She rang regularly for some while after they were married, but lacked self confidence and gave up when Walter handed over the running of the tower. However she remained a member of the Guild until 2003, attending Guild Annual Meetings until ill health finally prevented her from coming. She, with Walter, supported St Mary's church faithfully throughout their married life. **R.I.P.**

Proposed Ringing Programme 2008/2009

10 Jan	Washingborough	AGM	3.00
4 Feb	Nettleham	Ringing	2.30 - 4.00
14 Mar	Timberland	Ringing	2.30 - 4.00

Branch Surprise Major Practices at Washingborough will be from 10.30 - 12, on 20 December 2008, 24 Jan 2009, 28 Feb, 28 Mar, **18 Apr** (to miss Guild AGM), 23 May, 27 Jun, 25 Jul, 22 Aug, 26 Sep, 24 Oct, 28 Nov, **19 Dec** (to miss Boxing Day). **Put these dates in your diary!** Any queries to Sue Waterfall 07925 149104.

These are subject to change during the year. It is wise to check.

Branch Committee meeting proposed the following meetings to be ratified at the Branch AGM.

11 Apr	Easter Weekend		
May 9	Wragby	Striking Contest	Draw 5.00pm
May 25	Martin	Rabbits	2.30pm start
Jun 13	Ewerby	Meeting	19.00 - 21.00
Jul 11	Waddington	Full meeting	
Aug 8	Swinderby/Eagle/Thorpe		
	Ring for your supper	Arrangements tba	
Sept 12	Dunholme	Training morning	10.00 - 12.00
	Guild Striking Contest	Final	
Oct 10	Leadenham		18.30 - 19.30
	and Fulbeck		19.45 - 20.45
Nov 14	Hackthorn	Quiz Night	19.30 start
Dec 12	Welton	Carol Service	3.00pm start
Quarter peal moth in October 2010			
Jan 9	St Giles (hopefully)		
	Ringling, Service, Tea & Meeting		3pm start
Feb 13	North Rauceby		14.30 - 16.00
Mar 13	Scothern		14.30 - 16.00

The Central Branch Quiz Night

Our annual branch quiz night was held on the very wet and windy Saturday night of November 8th. Once again we were pleased to be able to enjoy the homely hospitality of the Hackthorn Village Hall. It was a great pleasure to return to last year's venue, a spacious hall with licensed facilities, ample car parking and not least a quick ring on the 6 bells to open the evenings festivities.

This year the event attracted 6 teams including the inspired names of codgers, shrek and also rans

The competition followed the now established pattern of 8 rounds of questions with the opportunity to play the 'Joker' for double points on the teams pre-selected 'wishful' best round. The competition was further supplemented by a couple of extended question sheets for the teams to work on and test their mettle during the evening whilst battling through the main competition.

Once again Mick Stracey proved that not only is he a very able Branch Ringing Master but also a very enterprising and competent Quiz Master. Scoring and adjudication was in the capable hands of Margaret Parker and our thanks are due to Margaret; and also to Mick for the time and effort in organising the event and to the redoubtable Betty in setting the questions. Thanks also to Dot and Phil who helped organise the refreshments and the ever popular raffle.

The evening champions received the magnificent Sylvia Taylor trophy, won by the 'Swinging Sixties' team with 128.5 points. Congratulations to them. This team is based at a tower very close to Heckington, consequently I do not expect to be allowed to forget the result through 2009. As always we plan to redress the balance next year.

All participants had a very enjoyable evening and we are all looking forward to next years competition with hopefully even more entries.

Neil Davison

We wonder

- - - - who was the ringer, when faced with two toilets in the church marked 'Unisex' remarked that there was no problem as they were both communal - is that what they meant?!

- - - - and who, having visited the toilet before ringing at Woodside', remarked 'This is the height of decadence, pre-warmed lavatory paper' ? (The roll hangs immediately above the radiator, and we had none of us noticed before.)

- - - - and who, when advocating tolerance to the amusement of those who challenged if he knew what the word meant, said 'I can recognise it in other people.'

News from the towers

A peal was rung at **Welton** on 15 October, the 100th anniversary of the first peal on the bells (called by H Law James). The method was the same (Plain Bob Minor) but it was considerably quicker. They knew how to spin their ringing out in the 'good old days'!

The quarter rung at **Timberland** on the 219th anniversary of the opening of the peal of bells, was the first in the tower by a local band for 20 years. It was also rung to mark 10 years since the Conductor, Christopher Woodcock, started to learn to ring at All Saints, Wragby under the instruction of Jim Sutherland, ready to ring in the millennium at his home tower at Potterhanworth. He wishes to thank everyone who has helped him along in this ringing, especially Ron Applewhite.

The **Navenby** ringers have been able to ring for service again, the first time with an all local band for a long time. Well done!

The **Guild BRF Fundraising team are seeking recipes** for a book to be published next year. They want traditional ones or those with a particular story associated with them, maybe a family favourite which you would like to share. The plan is to have a recipe on one page and on the facing page a picture associated with the place of origin or a story about the background. They appeal for us all to contribute anything that might be suitable, which can then be edited or expanded for inclusion.

Ring out, wild bells the Bells of Lincolnshire is a new CD published by Lincoln Minster Shops Ltd featuring the bells of 20 of Lincolnshire's most interesting churches. A good Christmas present? or just interesting for those of us who ring to buy for ourselves. Available from Lincoln Minster Shop, The Cathedral, Lincoln LN2 1PX. Price : £10.99 each (plus "2.00 per order if you want to send for it by post)

Have you any **school-aged ringers** in your tower who would like to join the group meeting at Hackthorn church for a day of fun and ringing on 30 December? If so contact Margaret Parker 01522 753412

From the Editor

I am always looking for to people to volunteer to write about their ringing. I don't necessarily look for a literary masterpiece (although I often get some), but **your** views and doings are important. Someone said the last magazine was a good one. That was only so because so many people wrote interesting things for me to put into it.

Notes on the Guild Committee Meeting,

* The Guild team came 2nd in the inter-Guild 10 bell **Ridgman Trophy Competition**.

* A design of **certificate** for **Honorary Life Members** was selected. To be 'tweaked' and sent to the branches for their AGM to discuss.

Fund Raising Committee Report :

* The **Barn Dance** very successful - raised £469 from tickets and raffle. (Could members not leave it to the last minute buying tickets for functions as this causes problems for caterers.)

* Design of new **Guild lapel badges** agreed. They will be on sale by Branch AGM's.

* There will be a **Fund Raising Draw** again at Guild AGM. Tickets £1 each (sold in books of 5) ; top prize £150.

* **Guild clothing** still available, now including a ladies' micro-fleece. Orders to Sue Faull.

* **Christmas cards** on sale (£1-50 per pack of 10)

* Send your **recipes** for the planned recipe book.

2009 Guild AGM preliminary plans

10 am Holy Communion in Ringers' Chapel

11 am Annual Meeting in Bailgate Methodist Hall.

12 ish Lunch

Afternoon towers open. Maybe Willingham, Stow, Hackthorn with a hall open for light refreshments (and bar!) for people to congregate and socialise until time for

4.45 pm Ringing for Evensong at Cathedral

5.15 pm Evensong in the Cathedral.

Followed by evening ringing at Cathedral

The Southern Branch offered to host the **2009 Inter Branch 8 bell striking contest** in the afternoon of 24th October. Preferred method to be discussed in Branch meetings.

Annual Report - Please help secretaries by telling them of any changes asap.

Proposed to enter members full names, not initials.

The new **Guild Webmaster** is Sandra Rhodes. She appealed for news etc, and will update once a week, highlighting new entries. Reminder of data protection requirements. Website address www.ldgcb.org.uk

Archdeacon's Guidelines finalised.

Guild Newsletter to be published shortly. Items please.

Child Protection CRB checks - at least one checked member to be present when working with minors, preferably a man and a woman, as a general rule.

Martin Bellringers Stride Forth

Bellringers are always up for a challenge, but Gerald Audis, Colin Watson and Clive Brooke from Martin Bellringers are keen walkers and were looking for a walk that would challenge them.

It all began as all foolhardy ideas do, after bellringing, in the local pub, and after a few pints of hand pulled locally brewed ale. Colin had previously picked up leaflets entitled 'Steeple and Spires Arts and Heritage Trail', and flippantly suggested it was a walk we should try. It ticked all the right boxes. It had a bellringing connection, it was local, there were lots of history and art projects to see on the way, and there was a promise of pubs on the route. We were onto our third pint so we **all** foolishly said yes.

For those not familiar with the Spires & Steeples walk, it starts from Lincoln Cathedral and finishes at St Denys Church Sleaford, a distance of 26 miles, calling at churches and villages with chance to savour local arts and heritage on the way. Because it would be our first long distance walk we decided to do it in two halves and as Colin lived in Metheringham (roughly half way) that should be our finishing post for the first leg (or the last leg if we found it too much of a challenge), plus Dorothy, Colin's wife, is renowned for her hospitality.

As with all good walks, you must start with a good hearty breakfast and after initial enquiries the University of Lincoln was found to be the most suitable both in price and location, and it was open for an early start. Our researcher, Gerald, suggested we take the electric bus from the Stonebow up Steep Hill to the Cathedral. But, alas he forgot to check times; subsequently we were too early to take advantage of the service. So, *Mistake No 1* a walk up Steep Hill before we had even started, but it should be downhill from there it was suggested. *Mistake No 2* no one realised it may be uphill towards Washingborough.

We arrived at the Cathedral and duly posed for the group photograph. 'One for the album, Gromitt' as Clive called it. Then came *Mistake No 3*, always check how to work the camera timer before you try to take the photograph, this avoids the embarrassment of not knowing how to work modern technology.

We eventually set off around 9.45, this time downhill and along the 'Water Rail' on Waterside South heading towards Washingborough. 'Wow, this is easy walking, it's all flat' came a voice from the tenor (Clive) at the back. Needless to say the tenor at the back had to pull in a bit as we approached Washingborough church as he was getting further and further behind as we climbed the hill. On arrival at the church we were greeted by 3 ladies cleaning it in readiness for a visit by the Bishop of Grantham later in the week. A quick pose for the 'album' and we were off again on our next leg of the walk to Heighington. As we left Washingborough we admired the newly created carved seat but unfortunately it was fenced off so we couldn't try it out. On reaching Heighington we were joined by Derek, a non ringing relation of Colin. A walk with 3 Martin Bellringers was just the tonic to get him out of the weekly housework.

We reached our next destination, Branston, around noon and although we had carried a pack up from Lincoln, that was *Mistake No 4*, the smell of freshly cooked food permeating from the small tearoom 'Food for Thought' was too much of a temptation. We all opted for the Dambuster cheese ploughman's meal except Derek who fancied the all day breakfast, as he had missed out of the other one earlier.

After lunch and a quick look at the Branston millennium mosaic we were off again on route to Potterhanworth. By this time it had started to rain a little so it was on with waterproofs. It was on this leg of the walk that Derek, the non ringer, got a

little confused with the terminology. Phrases like, 'who's leading?' '3 lead,' 'watch your spacing No 2,' and 'who's at the back?' left him not knowing who to follow, (a common fault with some of the Martin Bellringers). What really confused him was when Gerald shouted 'Help. I'm dodging at the back.' Unsure of why he was dodging with anybody, Colin shouted 'Stand then.' We stood still only to find Gerald was still dodging trying to avoid a *wasp*. Clive shouted out 'Look to -I'm going - I'm gone!' We were off again. Potterhanworth was a welcome sight since walking across a recently ploughed field, *Mistake No 5*, meant that our boots were now weighing twice the weight of when we had started. The sound of the vacuum cleaner greeted us once again from within the church, we didn't venture in because of the state of our boots, but was the Bishop of Grantham coming here too? Or is Thursday the designated church cleaning day throughout Lincolnshire? After 'one for the album' it was onwards towards Nocton, Dunston and Metheringham. We finally arrived in Metheringham around 4 pm slightly damp, a little sore, but full of ideas of how to change the world.

Final verdict

Not a strenuous walk, as long as you miss out the uphill start up Steep Hill, but full of local history and wildlife. With access to bus services along the route it is quite easy to do the walk in even smaller stages which are more manageable for the less adventurous. Unfortunately we didn't manage to sample any of the pubs on the way, *Mistake No 6*, but who knows, we may be back.

So where next for Martin Bellringers? Stage 2 of course, Metheringham to Sleaford. See you at St Denys.

[Perhaps others may like to join you, at least at some of the churches, so you can ring as well on the way next time!! Any takers?]

Quarter Peal Month

Blankney, Lincs. 2 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : Jayne Palmer 1, Janet Risdale 2, Yvonne Woodcock 3, John Nicholson 4, Christine Jackson 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6 Rung prior to the Estate Harvest Festival. 600th quarter - 6.

Branston, Lincs. 5 Oct, 1260 Grandsire Doubles : Janet Risdale 1, John Fry 2, Yvonne Woodcock 3, John Nicholson 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5, Ray Cucksey 6. Rung prior to the Harvest Thanksgiving Service.

Caythorpe, Lincs. 24 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Mary Rushmere 1, Barbara Robinson 2, Mary Riglar 3, Mick Stracey 4, Geoff Riglar 5, Kate Morgan 6. First quarter - 1.

Caythorpe, Lincs. 30 Oct, 1250 Rutland Surprise Major : Kate Morgan 1, Dot Mason 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Sylvia Taylor 4, Les Townsend 5, Mick Stracey 6, John Underwood 7, Phil Mason (C) 8.

Chedburgh Campanile, Lincoln, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1280 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Dot Mason 1, Sylvia Taylor 2, John Underwood 3, Philip Dawson 4, Sandra Rhodes 5, Phil Mason 6, Mick Stracey 7, Christopher Woodcock (C) 8.

Dunholme, Lincs. (Performance) 12 Oct, 720 Bob Minor : Jean Sims 1, Margaret Parker 2, John Bundy 3, James Stevenson 4, Fiona Dawson 5, Philip Dawson (C) 6. For Songs of Praise service . A 97th birthday compliment to Canon Frank Hone.

Dunholme, Lincs. 15 Oct, 1260 Minor (720 Single Oxford, 540 Plain Bob) : Jean Sims 1, Margaret Parker 2, Dot Mason 3, John Bundy 4, Philip Dawson 5, Phil Mason (C) 6. Rung to welcome Alfie, great grandson for John and Margaret Bundy.

Ewerby, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1282 Lincolnshire Surprise Royal : Margaret Parker 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Dot Mason 3, Sandra Rhodes 4, Mick Stracey (C) 5, Christopher Woodcock 6, Sylvia Taylor 7, Philip Dawson 8, John Underwood 9, Phil Mason 10. First blows in the method - 8

Ewerby, Lincs. 19 Oct, 1282 Cambridge Surprise Royal : Margaret Parker 1, Sylvia Taylor 2, Dot Mason 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Sandra Rhodes 5, Philip Smith 6, Jonathan Clark (C) 7, Philip Dawson 8, John Underwood 9, Phil Mason 10. For Evensong. First Royal as Conductor.

Great Hale, Lincs. 28 Oct, 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Dot Mason 1, Yvonne Hubbard 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Mick Stracey (C) 4, Bryan Ward 5, Phil Mason 6.

Hackthorn, Lincs. 25 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Jenny Porter 1, Margaret Parker 2, Brian Smith 3, John Bundy 4, David Fox (C) 5, Helen McGurk 6. First quarter - 1. Rung to welcome Wesley, first grandchild for Jenny Porter.

Harmston, Lincs. 4 Oct, 1264 Plain Bob Major : Dot Mason 1, Sue Waterfall 2, John Nicholson 3, Les Townsend 4, Richard Spencer 5, Bryan Ward 6, Mick Stracey (C) 7, Phil Mason 8. For Church Flower Festival.

Lincoln, Cathedral. 12 Oct, 1253 Grandsire Cinques : Harold Gibson 1, Delia Heppenstall 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Dot Mason 4, Les Townsend 5, Sandra Rhodes 6, Sylvia Taylor 7, Robin Heppenstall (C) 8, David Fox 9, Mick Stracey 10, Graham Colborne 11, Phil Mason 12. For Evensong.

Lincoln, Lincs, 27 Bunkers Hill. (Performance) 28 Oct, 720 Plain Bob Minor : John Ketteringham 1-2, Fiona Dawson 3-4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5-6. To celebrate John's 79th birthday.

Martin, Lincs. 27 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Karen Brooke 1, Janet Risdale 2, Clive Brooke 3, Christopher Woodcock (C) 4, Colin Watson 5, Gerald Audis 6. Rung on practice night.

Metheringham, Lincs. 5 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Sam Palmer 1, Christopher Woodcock (C) 2, Jayne Palmer 3, Yvonne Woodcock 4, John Fry 5, Ray Cucksey 6. Rung on the front 6 prior to the Harvest Festival.

Metheringham, Lincs. 18 Oct, 1260 Doubles (720 Grandsire & 540 Plain Bob) : Yvonne Woodcock 1, John Fry 2, John Nicholson 3, Tom Blyth 4, Christopher Woodcock (C) 5, Colin Watson 6. On the back 6 during the Metheringham Fayre & Feast.

Nettleham, Lincs. 5 Oct, 1320 Plain Bob Doubles : Ian Douglas 1, Sally Collins 2, Margaret Parker (C) 3, James Stevenson 4, John Bundy 5, Jerry Truscott 6. Rung for the Confirmation Service.

Newark, Notts. 26 Oct, 1282 Cambridge Surprise Royal : Dot Mason 1, Fiona Dawson 2, Heather Grover 3, Sandra Rhodes 4, Sylvia Taylor 5, John Underwood 6, Philip Dawson 7, Mick Stracey 8, Philip Grover 9, Phil Mason (C) 10.

Nocton, Lincs. 12 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : Yvonne Woodcock 1, Janet Risdale 2, Ron Applewhite 3, John Fry 4, John Nicholson 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6. Rung prior to the Harvest Festival.

North Rauceby, Lincs. 23 Oct, 1272 Plain Bob Minimus : Jan Riley 1, Mary Riglar 2, Geoffrey Wilkins 3, Geoff Riglar (C) 4, Martin Clarke 5. First quarter - 1. To welcome Revd Alan Littlewood, recently licensed as priest in charge of the Ancaster/Wilsford Group of parishes.

Scothern, Lincs. 29 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Minor : Jan Kenworthy 1, Margaret Parker 2, Margaret Neate 3, John Bundy 4, Fiona Dawson (C) 5, Philip Dawson 6. First Minor - 1. Rung half-muffled following the funeral of Mary Finlay, a great friend of St Germain's, and in memory of William Bundy, brother of John who died on Sunday.

Sleaford, Lincs. 12 Oct, 1344 Plain Bob Major : Sylvia Taylor 1, Mary Riglar 2, Yvonne Hubbard 3, Bryan Ward 4, David Collin 5, Richard Short 6, Richard Spencer 7, Geoff Riglar 8. For St Denys.

Swinderby, Lincs. 19 Oct, 1320 Doubles (7 methods) : Des Underwood 1, Soo Pendleton 2, John Nicholson 3, Nigel Pendleton 4, Mick Stracey (C) 5.
For Evensong.

Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Lincs. 4 Oct. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Victoria Jenkinson 1, Margaret Parker (C) 2, Roy Chapman 3, Nigel Pendleton 4, Sandra Rhodes 5, Soo Pendleton 6. Rung in the octave of St Michael & All Angels, the Patron Saint of this parish.

Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Lincs. 30 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Helen Burberry 1, Margaret Parker (C) 2, Soo Pendleton 3, Nigel Pendleton 4, Roger Asher 5, Des Underwood 6. First quarter - 1. Rung to welcome Oscar, first grandchild for Victoria Jenkinson.

Timberland, Lincs. 30 Oct, 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Janet Risdale 1, Clive Brooke 2, Yvonne Woodcock 3, Christopher Woodcock (C) 4, Colin Watson 5, Gerald Audis 6.

Waddington, Lincs. 25 Oct. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles : Wendy Jeins 1, Jean Williams 2, Angela Holt 3, Amanda Pues 4, Jonathan Clark (C) 5, Nick Jeins 6. First inside 3.

Welbourn, Lincs. 1 Oct, 1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Mick Stracey 1, Sandra Rhodes 2, Kate Morgan 3, Harold Gibson 4, John Underwood 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, Philip Dawson 7, Phil Mason (C) 8. First in method 3.

Welbourn, Lincs. 3 Oct, 1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Dot Mason 1, Kate Morgan 2, Sylvia Taylor 3, Sandra Rhodes 4, Mick Stracey 5, Les Townsend 6, John Underwood 7, Phil Mason (C) 8. Rung for Harvest Service & supper.

Wellingore, Lincs. 30 Oct, 1272 Primrose Surprise Minor : Sylvia Taylor 1, Dot Mason 2, Mick Stracey (C) 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Phil Mason 5, John Underwood 6. 100th quarter this year - 3.

Welton, Lincs. 24 Oct, 1274 Cambridge Surprise Minor : Margaret Parker 1, Dot Mason 2, John Bundy 3, Philip Dawson 4, Mick Stracey (C) 5, Phil Mason 6. Rung following a wedding.

Woodside Campanile, Branston, Lincs. 1 Oct. 1320 Lincoln Surprise Minor : Sylvia Taylor 1, Sandra Rhodes 2, Dot Mason 3, Mick Stracey 4, Phil Mason 5, Christopher Woodcock (C) 6.

Woodside Campanile, Branston, Lincs. 1 Oct. 1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major : Phil Mason 1, Christopher Woodcock 2, Philip Dawson 3, Phil Wild 4, Sylvia Taylor 5, Sandra Rhodes 6, John Underwood 7, Mick Stracey (C) 8.

Woodside Campanile, Branston, Lincs. 11 Oct. 1260 Grandsire Triples. Margaret Parker 1, Phil Mason 2, Fiona Dawson 3, Mick Stracey (C) 4, Sandra Rhodes 5, Phil Grover 6, Sylvia Taylor 7, Heather Grover 8. First on a mini-ring 6 & 8.

Woodside Campanile, Branston, Lincs. 11 Oct. 1250 Cambridge Surprise Major. Margaret Parker 1, Sandra Rhodes 2, Mick Stracey 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Phil Grover 5, Sylvia Taylor 6, Heather Grover 7, Phil Mason 8(C).

Woodside Campanile, Branston, Lincs. 19 Oct, 1250 Pudsey Surprise Major : Margaret Parker 1, Mick Stracey 2, Christopher Woodcock 3, Fiona Dawson 4, Sylvia Taylor 5, John Underwood 6, Philip Dawson 7, Phil Mason (C) 8.

The quarter peal month marked progress for a lot of our ringers. **Congratulations** to **Jenny Porter** (treble to Bob Doubles at Hackthorn), **Jan Riley** (treble to Bob Minimus at North Rauceby), **Mary Rushmere** (treble to Bob Doubles at Caythorpe) and **Helen Burberry** (treble to Bob Doubles at Thorpe-on-the-Hill) on ringing their first quarter, and to all those who marked up a first of some sort. Of the 36 quarters rung, 15 were rung for a church service, 3 welcomed first grandchild/great grandchild of a member of the local band. These months provide the incentive to all our ringers to advance their ringing, and the enjoyment gained from it through increased confidence.

I'm proud to announce that I've now rung
My first quarter peal. At last!
Plain Bob Doubles on Hackthorn's treble
The bell which we all saw cast.

I have to admit there were times
When I got in a bit of a muddle
But I feel I managed to 'wing it'
Without a great deal of trouble!

I'd thought 40 minutes non-stop ringing.
Would seem an awfully long while
Especially when I'm told
I have to breath as well as to smile!

I tried to follow this sound advice
And to keep my rhythm quite steady
But when I heard "This is all" I thought
No, it can't be. Not already!

So to any nervous new ringers
With a first quarter peal to be done
I say go for it! Enjoy it!
I assure you it's really good fun."

Many thanks to Margaret, Brian, David, John and Helen for the nods, winks, smiles and other gestures of encouragement, which saw me through the quarter peal and helped me celebrate the birth of my grandson, Wesley.

I'd also like to thank my special friends and fellow ringers, who were waiting for me at the foot of the bell tower, with their congratulations; together with drinks and nibbles. (They obviously had more confidence in my ability to succeed than I had). I'm the last of Hackthorn's new ringers (Brian's Babes - we call ourselves) to achieve her first quarter peal. We're very fortunate to have been taught by such skilled and experienced ringers. We all appreciate the continuing instruction, patience and good humoured support we receive.
Did I hear Margaret murmur 'inside bell next'?
H'mm - something for the distant future!!!

Jenny Porter

Barn Dance

A fun time was had by all at the Ringers' Barn Dance in Upton cum Kexby on the night of 18th October. Over 100 people from as far away as Hampshire and Whaplode attended. Also, it appeared that all six Branches were represented. The dance floor was packed with country dressed, 'hayseed' revellers, who enjoyed kicking up their heels to the lively tunes of the Riverhead Ranters band.

A total of £469 was raised for the Bell Repair Fund during the evenings festivities, which included a delicious array of food, a raffle, and great music.

A hearty thank you to the Bell Repair Fund Raising team for organising such a fun and successful event!

Amy Burkitt

Songs and Soup Service

A group of us go regularly to Ewerby to ring for their monthly Evensong - and swell their tiny congregation. In October they told us that the November service was going to be a bit different, and there was some talk about soup. Even so, when we reached the bottom of the tower after ringing, we were puzzled to find two laid trestle tables in place of the front rows of chairs and a third before the screen, on which was a camping stove and piles of vegetables. We took our hymn books and sat at the tables and were welcomed to what was described as 'A mix between 'Can't Cook, Won't Cook and Songs of Praise.' As the two 'contestants' prepared the soup we were treated to phrases which applied equally to cooking soup and the Christian faith, such as :-it needs preparation; the more you put in, the more you get out; we need all sorts, shapes and sizes, and there is a place for the less than perfect samples; some cook quickly, others need more time to mature; the seasoning pervades the whole, bringing out the flavour, as Christians should season the community; it is easier to do when someone is telling you than reading about it in a book; etc. All this was interspersed by singing hymns ('Bind us together, Lord' being particularly appropriate to the occasion) and a prayer and reading. At the end we shared soup introduced as 'in good Blue Peter fashion, 'Here's one I made earlier' ', and had time to chat and get to know each other. Not your normal Evensong, but it gave us food for thought.

The experienced ringer made a mistake causing the learner to hesitate
Experienced ringer : It was me who went wrong. I'm sorry I put you off.
Learner : 'Actually I find that rather encouraging!' - We mustn't under-estimate
the lack of self-confidence people feel when trying something new!

Catch hold for Cambridge. Shall you ring the Treble?
What's my start?!

Dodge 1-2, go up to 3-4 and pick it up from there.

Do you feel the odd man out?
No. I never feel men of any sort!

Will you call me undeflected?

There was a dash for the Treble.
To the one who was too late : 'He who hesitates - - - - '
'Doesn't get the Treble!'

Backhanded compliment : Heard in the tower at All Saint's Harmston on practice
night. One learner had just rung for the first time, Plain Hunt on 7 bells and rung it
well. One of the more experienced congratulated him and added 'That was almost
like a normal person ringing!'

At the last minute (literally) he was asked to call a quarter of Grandsire. After 10
minutes' ringing he said, 'Stand. I've forgotten the composition'. When turning to a
diary to look it up, he asked a fellow-ringer and said 'I haven't got my glasses. Is that
the one I was calling?' 'No' came the reply. 'That's Stedman!'

'Look to; trouble's going'. How's that for confidence!!

Branch Quarter Peals

EWERBY 21 Sept

1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1. Sylvia Taylor
 2. Fiona Dawson
 3. Christine Jackson
 4. Sandra Rhodes
 5. Jonathan Clark (C)
 6. Philip Smith
 7. John Underwood
 8. Philip Dawson
- For Evensong.

BRANSTON 1 Nov

1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. Yvonne Woodcock
2. Christine Jackson
3. Ron Applewhite
4. Christopher Woodcock (C)
5. Tom Blyth
6. Ray Cucksey

On All Saints Day, the Patronal Festival.

The Cucksey family have lived in
Branston for 100 years.

NOCTON 2 Nov

1440 Plain Bob Minor

1. Clive Brooke
2. Jayne Palmer
3. John Fry
4. Yvonne Woodcock
5. Christine Jackson
6. Christopher Woodcock (C)

First Minor - 1

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

LEA 7 Nov

1260 Buxton Bob Minor

1. John Underwood
2. Fiona Dawson
3. Dot Mason
4. Phil Mason
5. Peter Limage
6. Mick Stracey (C)

UPTON 7 Nov

1272 York Surprise Minor

1. Brenda Coley
2. Dot Mason
3. John Underwood
4. Peter Limage
5. Phil Mason
6. Mick Stracey (C)

WILLINGHAM 7 Nov

1320 Norwich Surprise Minor

1. Sue Faull
2. Dot Mason
3. Mick Stracey
4. Peter Limage
5. John Underwood
6. Phil Mason (C)

DUNSTON 8 Nov

1320 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Sam Palmer
2. Jayne Palmer
3. Yvonne Woodcock
4. Christopher Woodcock (C)
5. Clive Brooke

Half muffled for Remembrance Day.

NOCTON 9 Nov

1260 Doubles (480 April Day, 780 Plain
Bob)

1. Sam Palmer
2. Yvonne Woodcock
3. Jayne Palmer
4. John Nicholson
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)
6. Ray Cucksey

Half muffled on Remembrance Day

BRANSTON 9 Nov

1260 Doubles (540 Grandsire, 720
Southrepps)

1. Jayne Palmer
2. Janet Risdale
3. Ron Applewhite
4. John Nicholson
5. Christopher Woodcock (C)
6. Ray Cucksey

Half muffled on Remembrance Day.

CATHEDRAL 9 Nov
1319 Grandsire Cinques
1. Sylvia Taylor
2. Sue Faull
3. Delia Heppenstall
4. Fiona Dawson
5. Sandra Rhodes
6. Les Townsend
7. Mick Stracey
8. Dot Mason
9. Harold Gibson
10. Phil Mason
11. Robin Heppenstall (C)
12. David Fox
For Remembrance Day Evensong.

EAGLE 9 Nov
1260 Single Oxford Bob Minor
1. Derek Phillips
2. Soo Pendleton
3. Sue Waterfall
4. Martin Pearson
5. Nigel Pendleton
6. Mick Stracey (C)
For Remembrance Sunday Evensong.

POTTERHANWORTH 9 Nov
1320 Southrepps Doubles
1. Christopher Woodcock (C)
2. Janet Risdale
3. Ron Applewhite
4. Yvonne Woodcock
5. Clive Brooke
6. John Nicholson
First in method for all the band.
Half muffled, on Remembrance Day.

METHERINGHAM 11 Nov
1260 Doubles (with 7& 8 covering)
(720 St Martin's, 540 St Simon's)
1. Jayne Palmer
2. Christopher Woodcock(C)
3. Janet Risdale
4. Yvonne Woodcock
5. John Nicholson
6. Clive Brooke
7. (not rung)
8. Sam Palmer
Half muffled on Armistice Day

WELBOURN 11 Nov
1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major
1. Kate Morgan
2. Mick Stracey
3. Fiona Dawson
4. Christopher Woodcock
5. Sylvia Taylor
6. John Nicholson
7. John Underwood
8. Phil Mason (C)
First Surprise Major - 6
For Armistice Day.
Circled the tower this year - 2

BRANSTON, Woodside 11 Nov
1263 Stedman Triples
1. Christopher Woodcock
2. Dot Mason
3. Fiona Dawson
4. Sylvia Taylor
5. Phil Mason
6. John Underwood
7. Mick Stracey (C)
8. John Nicholson
Rung Half muffled for Armistice Day.

HACKTHORN 11 Nov
1260 Plain Bob Minor
1. Val Fox
2. Harold Gibson
3. Brian Smith
4. Les Townsend
5. Phil Mason
6. David Fox (C)
First Minor - 1.
Rung half muffled on Armistice Day.

EWERBY 16 Nov
1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Royal
1. Margaret Parker
2. Fiona Dawson
3. Heather Grover
4. Dot Mason
5. Sandra Rhodes
6. Christine Jackson
7. Sylvia Taylor
8. Philip Dawson
9. Philip Grover
10. Phil Mason (C)
For Evening Service.

SWINDERBY 16 Nov
1260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury,
Grandsire, St Martins, St Simons and
Plain Bob)
1. Des Underwood
2. Sue Waterfall
3. Soo Pendleton
4. Nigel Pendleton
5. Mick Stracey (C)
For Evensong.

BRANSTON, Woodside 19 Nov
1260 Grandsire Triples
1. Margaret Parker
2. Dot Mason
3. John Underwood
4. Fiona Dawson
5. Mick Stracey (C)
6. Christopher Woodcock
7. Phil Mason (C)
8. Sylvia Taylor
Circled the tower - 8

BRANSTON, Woodside 29 Nov
1344 Cambridge Surprise Major
1. Daniel Meyer
2. Benjamin Meyer
3. John Underwood
4. Christopher Woodcock (C)
5. Philip Grover
6. Philip Wild
7. Philip Mason
8. Mick Stracey
For St Andrew's Day.
First all male band to a quarter on the
'bells'.

LINCOLN, Chedburgh 29 Nov
1344 Yorkshire Surprise Major
1. Daniel Mayer
2. Dot Mason
3. Christopher Woodcock (C)
4. Benjamin Meyer
5. Philip Gover
6. Phil Mason
7. Philip Dawson
8. Margaret Parker
Birthday compliment to Philip Dawson.