

ART WORKS

Issue 26
February

Association of Ringing Teachers - www.ringingteachers.org
Patrons: Paul Flavell and Helen McGregor & Peter Bevis

ART Conference 2019

Book a place at ART Conference

www.ringingteachers.org/conference

The ART Conference is our leading national event and is open to anyone with an interest in ringing teaching and leadership. We would like to invite you to join us at Worcester on 2/3 March 2019 for what is sure to be a full and interesting weekend.

The exciting conference programme includes a great line up of speakers, with keynotes by:

Mark Regan, the Ringing Master at Worcester Cathedral, who will be looking to the future.

Matt Bulbeck a professional outdoor sports coach and bell ringing teacher.

New-ish ringers **Ian and Lousie Wilson**, with their take on bell ringing leadership based on 20 years of knowledge and experience gained in industrial and academic settings.

Simon Linford and **Clare McArdle** will be talking Project Pickled Egg alongside the re-launch of the Learning the Ropes Plus scheme.

Reflecting the rapid proliferation of questions and concerns around recent events, additions to the ART line-up include presentations about safeguarding, insurance and risk assessments with opportunities to talk

through any local issues with the experts available throughout the day.

The second day of the conference weekend concentrates on building a vision for the future of youth ringing and is hosted by the Central Council.

This is a day of speakers and break-out sessions. A day for you to help shape the future. A day for anyone interested in developing the leaders and ringers of the future.

A Vision for the Future of Youth Ringing – **David Hull**

Putting Girls in the Lead: How Girlguiding Does it – **Fiona Joines**

Successful Leaders and the D of E Scheme – **Christopher O'Mahony**

Parental Involvement: What can we Learn from other Activities – **Pip Penney**

Different ages, different approaches – **David Smith**

The day will include a number of break-out sessions led by youth leaders. These will provide plenty of opportunities to share ideas and good practice and give you the chance to draw a vision of the future and start working towards it.

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The next issue of ART WORKS will be May 2019. Copy Deadline - 30 April 2019

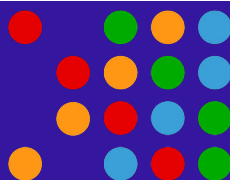
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 Association of
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Chairman's Chatter



What a year 2018 was for ART – and ringing as a whole! The Ringing Remembers initiative has seen an influx of recruits and a great deal of good publicity for ringing. Now we must capitalise on that work by maintaining ringing's high and positive media profile as well as developing and retaining our new ringers.

For ART and ART teachers the workload has been exceptional. 1400 new ringers registered, 60 courses run, increased workshop requests and accreditation rates now running at approximately 33%. Our membership has increased by about 25% to about 550. Already there are indications that the level of course and workshop activity may not reduce in 2019!

The Conference is almost upon us and I am looking forward to meeting many of you in Worcester. Do make the effort to come – it's a great day. There are the usual variety of speakers on a host of relevant topics and there is also opportunity to see the Ringing Centre at the Cathedral. It is a fantastic opportunity to meet with others, exchange and develop ideas and, of course, socialise.

Once again, the ART Awards prize giving ceremony will take place in the evening and I am looking forward to hearing about the great activities and achievements of all the applicants.

Several Tower Leadership workshops have been held, receiving some great feedback – if you think you can host one in your area do get in touch.

The Learning the Ropes scheme is well established now but it is worth reminding teachers that if, through some disability or medical condition, a ringer is having difficulty meeting the full requirements for a particular level, you can ask for a review under

our equality policy – have a look on the ART website for details.

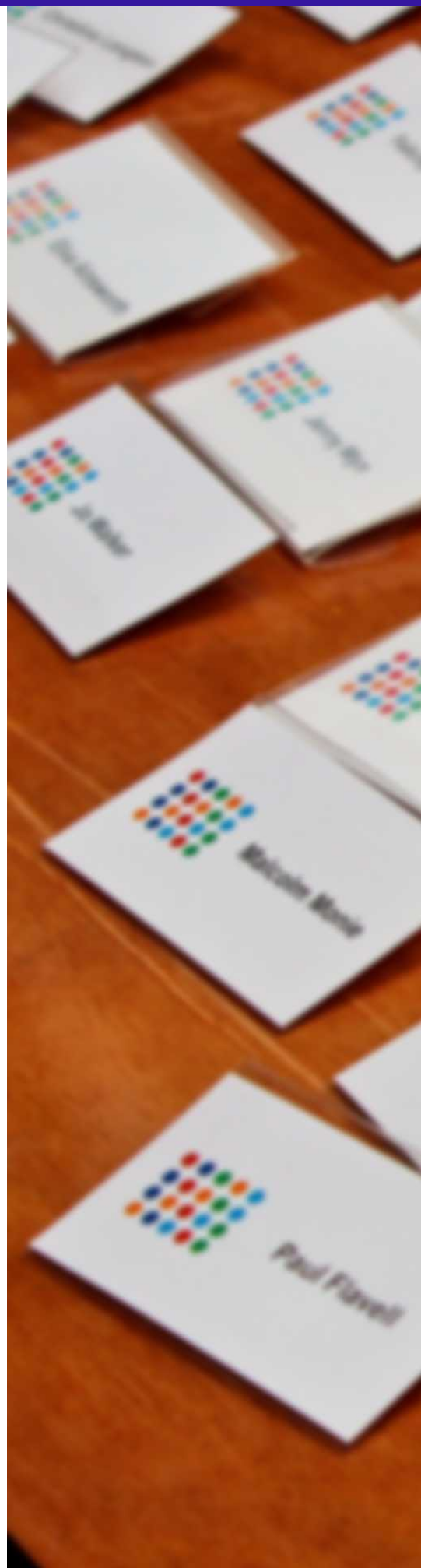
Learning the Ropes Plus will be relaunched at the conference having been brought up to date (it now includes the core seven "Picked Egg" Surprise Major methods for instance) and is a good basis to plan targeted practices, allowing ringers to get recognition for their achievements in a variety of categories. Any ringer can now be registered for the scheme.

A plethora of Silver and Gold 50 Ringing Things certificates have been issued over the last few months. A really great effort by those involved who now have a fantastic variety of skills in a host of disparate aspects of ringing. Well done!

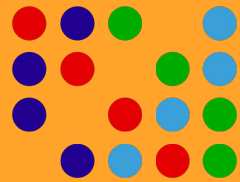
ART continues to rely on the support and generosity of our financial supporters. Without their continuing help ART would make the progress that it is. Thank you so much – your support and the work of ART teachers has really made a much-needed difference to ringing.

Finally, I congratulate Lesley Belcher on her election as the next Chairman of ART. She will take up the post officially after the ART AGM. I know that ART is in safe hands and that ART will continue to move forward to the benefit of ringing. I thank everyone for the support I have received and look forward to continuing my involvement with ART in the future.

ART Chairman - Graham Nabb
grahamnabb@ringingteachers.org



A Band without Bells



In December 2017, we received the sad news that Church Gresley Church was to close its doors. The church, that was built in 1135, was in a sorry state and was no longer deemed as safe. The saddest part was that the strongest and safest part of the church was in fact the bell tower, having had extensive works completed three and a half years prior, after being out of action for a long 8 years.

It was an odd time of year, with so many plans in our ringing calendar being cancelled. We had so many plans for the future for individuals and for the band as a whole. We had worked so hard and invested a lot of time and energy in forming and developing the band since April 2015. We were determined not to be without a band again. We held a meeting in early January 2018 with 16 ringers present to discuss various options for the future. We were so fortunate that St George's in Ticknall offered us the use of their tower & simulator on Mondays for the foreseeable future. The entire band agreed to stay together, so we simply changed our practice location to Ticknall.

Our practices are still being held at Ticknall on Monday evenings, they're always busy and the band is thriving. Recruitment is challenging as we're practising a fair distance from Church Gresley, but we have had one or two new recruits and band members from other towers have joined us.

Church Gresley and our ringing teaching has continued to grow and reach out in other ways, with the recent amalgamation with Lullington Church forming the South Derbyshire Ringing Centre. We were contacted by a Lullington resident via the ART website in July 2018.

Lullington has not had a band or a practice for many years and ringers from other towers have to be drafted in to ring for weddings. The local residents had been chatting in the pub and decided that they wanted to ring the bells themselves and nominated Tim to find out how they could do so. They wanted us to run a course to teach them, we explained that it wasn't quite that simple, but; we had a better idea!

I was tutoring an ART Module 1 course locally in November, which was likely to lead to several keen teachers needing students, therefore we agreed to postpone teaching at Lullington until after the course.

We have been running group teaching sessions on Sunday afternoons with 9 learners, 3 per hour with a group of 7 teachers alternating each week. The teaching is going extremely well, with all of them approaching completion of their LtR Level 1. They're starting to join us at our Monday practices at Ticknall so that they can progress to ringing rounds and beyond.

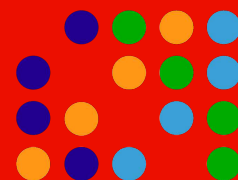
The DDA Southern District striking contest heats are to be held at Lullington in March this year, we're hopeful that our learners will be able to join the Association and enter the striking contest. We'll keep you updated on the progress of the band!

Moira Johnson



Annual outing to Liverpool Cathedral

Young Ringers Outing



Here at the Old North Berks Branch of the ODG, we try to fit in a young ringers' outing in every school holiday. It's always difficult to find a date in the Christmas holiday – too busy before Christmas, family's go away between Christmas and New Year and after New Year we are lucky if we can fit in one day before all the young ringers go back to school.

We met at Radley, just south of Oxford on Wednesday 2 January 2019. It has a light ring of six bells, rung from a generously sized balcony at the west end of the church. We were glad to have thirteen ringers under the age of twenty plus six adult ringers and four parents, two of whom ring. It was quite crowded! The youngsters did most of the ringing, ranging from rounds to Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles.

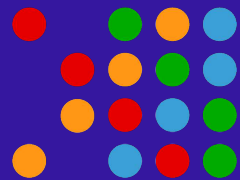
We split the young people into two groups. Half of them went to the Church Rooms next door where they enjoyed trying a variety of table top games including Jenga, Dominoes, Connect 4, Rummikub and card games. The other half rang carols on handbells. Then refreshments including Daphne's famous lemon drizzle cake and pizzas were served, before the two groups swapped activities for another half an hour. There was a lot of hilarity, with the construction of a miniature stonehenge out of dominoes. And Paul took some lovely photos.

It was a good way to spend the last afternoon of the school holidays!

Susan Read



Seventeen for Kilmood



A unique (in my experience as a ringer) event took place in 2018. A new 6-bell tower was to be opened to commemorate the Centenary of World War One. The Irish Association and I were not needed for fund raising or recruitment but, and I quote, "Could you teach 17 new ringers for us please with a deadline of November 11th 2019."

Following an incredible fund-raising campaign by the incumbent and parishioners in a place where no immediate tradition of bell ringing existed, the project was on course and here were 17 adults, male and female, all wanting to learn.

After an introductory visit to see bell ringing at a Northern District practice at St Mark's Dundela and have a "wee go", the next event was a special practice meeting in Ballylesson Drumbo where the recruits met those I'd chosen to instruct them.

Northern Ireland for various reasons was behind in the development of ART and I saw this as an opportunity to use the few ART instructors we had alongside other very experienced and talented instructors in the District and get them all working towards a common aim. After establishing the availability of the 17 recruits for instruction, three groups were set up on different nights and in different locations. Initially these were in Bangor, St Thomas Belfast and Hillsborough. I instructed in St Thomas and Hillsborough in conjunction with Gaurang Patel and Simon Walker while Martin Yardley, Colin Holiday and Brian Hamilton taught in Bangor. After a while some of the Hillsborough and St Thomas groups were also offered a second location with some going to Carrickfergus on another different night.

The learners were all instructed using ART methods and registered on Learning the Ropes. With the lighter nature of the Kilmood bells in mind, having achieved a level of competence on large bells all teaching relocated to the six at Greyabbey to further develop skills. Eventually the Kilmood bells were installed in October and I'm pleased to say that following further intensive instruction in Kilmood all 17 recruits (none of whom dropped out !!!) were able to take part in the dedication service for the bells and later at the various Centenary events.

Since then, they now have attended two practice nights a week in two groups assisted by myself, Simon and Gaurang. In addition, some ringers also attend District practices and Bangor practices. It is hoped that they will all take all the opportunities that exist to spread their wings in other towers as time goes on.

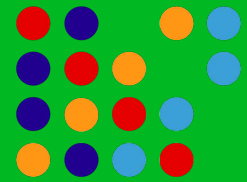
I expect them all to pass their LTR Level 1 and be presented with their certificates when they join the Association at the District AGM. It's difficult to get across the amount of enthusiasm these learners have and indeed the way they have assisted in re-invigorating the district as a whole.

Furthermore, the non-ART but very experienced instructors who worked with me have agreed to start working towards accreditation in 2019 along with others of varying experience who are responsible for teaching in other towers. All in all, a very worthwhile experience which was enjoyed by all. I look forward to continued progression in 2019.

Don McLean



Having Fun with Bells!



Podcasts! Are you a listener to these snippets of chat and discussion that are a growing way of broadcasting audio entertainment? They are like a little radio show, except you download a podcast (to your phone, tablet or computer) and listen to it when you want. They can be about everything and anything and now we have one about bell ringing!

Cathy Booth is not a bell ringer but is married to one. Having seen the commitment and dedication to this lovely hobby by her husband, she has taken it upon her self to contribute to the ringing movement in a innovative and different way.

Cathy will be producing this weekly series of podcasts aimed at raising awareness of bell ringing, to recruit new ringers and also for those who are relatively new to bell ringing to encourage them.

The podcast, under the title 'Fun with Bells', will be launched in late February. Cathy describes the aim of the podcasts as "chatting around a coffee table with people with an interest in bells."

And indeed that is how it felt when she interviewed me as a relatively new ringer about my experience and journey into bell ringing. There will be discussions about every aspect of ringing. I know interviews are lined up on the following topics:

- A learner's eye view of Learning the Rope Levels 1 to 5
- Ringing in Australia, by a Central Council executive member
- Striking competitions by a ringer in her 20s, who has been ringing since the age of 7
- Getting into ringing as a Ringing Remembers recruit from an interest in family history
- Devon call change ringing
- Ringing handbells in unusual places
- Ringing in the USA
- Ringing in "big" towers and teaching centres
- Learning to ring as a blind person

There will also be an "ask the expert" section in each episode where listeners are encouraged to write in or send an audio file with a question to ask.

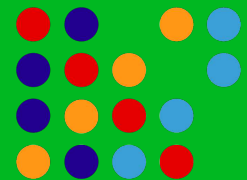
With the help of Lesley Belcher, Cathy has many other topics to cover.

So go to www.funwithbells.com to find the podcast and tell everyone you know about it!

Nic Boyd



New Administrator



Denise joins the ART Administration Team

We're very pleased to announce that Denise Tremain joined the ART Admin team on the 1st January 2019. Denise will be responsible for workshop and website administration.

Denise learned to ring at St Columb Major, Cornwall, in the early 1980s where she remains a member of the band. Since giving up full-time employment she is now more actively ringing with the local old codgers, and other groups in support of her husband Phil – a full ART Member – providing training with an emphasis on improving bell handling & striking.

Denise brings to the role over 25 years of administrative experience within the primary education sector.

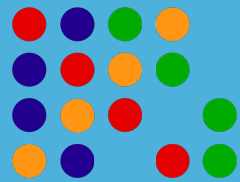
Other than ringing she is a part of the Messy Church team in her local benefice, where she also provides admin support and is currently Secretary of the PCC in St Columb. Denise's hobbies include photography, arts & crafts, therefore bringing a creative flare to her role with ART.

Denise will be taking over from Mark Hibbard who has stepped down from his role as ART Resource Administrator. Thank you Mark, for all your hard work!

Lesley Belcher



A new band at Mitcham



After ringing a quarter peal at Mitcham at the end of 2017, Kate and I were approached by the vicar, Father David Pennells, who told us the Mitcham bell ringers had retired mostly due to old age and would we consider teaching a new band there? We said yes so long as Mitcham did the publicity and recruitment campaign.

Father David was good to his word – in no time there were posters in the village and church, adverts in the local paper and encouragement at the Sunday services to come for trials!

We held a taster day in July where the Mitcham people laid on refreshments and about 20 people turned up for a go. We signed up about 12 people and Kate and I and other ART teachers have been intensively training new ringers since August.

We're very grateful for the support we have received from local and ART trained ringers who helped with the bell handling training and also other ringers who are now helping the Mitcham ringers to learn to ring rounds. Using ART bell handling methods as our base has meant the training has been safe, structured, and consistent, and this has really helped the ringers' progression.

There is a healthy contingent of about ten learners, eight of whom have already passed ART Ltr Level 1. They all cheer and applaud when a certificate is awarded! There is a returning ringer Paul Barry and we are very pleased to get him back. There is a great camaraderie amongst the learners and they all get on very well.

The vicar, Father David Pennells, is also learning to ring and is a great source of inspiration to us all.

Mitcham bells received a comprehensive bell maintenance visit to ensure they were in good order for training purposes. The clappers were clamped for the early stages of teaching bell handling but were unclamped in early October so the ringers can now hear what they are doing! The bells had been silent for some time, so we are having to be fairly sensitive with the ringing so as not to upset the neighbours.

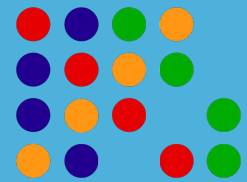
We've since proposed eight new Mitcham ringers to join the Surrey Association. The ringers are continuing with Monday practices and Pam Donovan has agreed to run two Sunday mornings a month, so this is excellent progress by all. We very much appreciate the help from good ringers coming to help at the practices now the Mitcham band are ringing rounds and some are already managing Call Changes.

Paul Flavell



Mitcham trainers and recruits left to right: Paul Flavell, Andrew King, Christina Brice, Jean Mooney, Samaneh Afrazikalir, Patricia Hiller, Norma Vieira, Heavenleigh-Angel, Kate Flavell.

Changing Speed



Do your learners struggle with changing the speed of their bell, particularly at backstroke?

By the time learners move onto plain hunting they need to be comfortable enough with speed changes so that they can devote their attention to the bell's path, not being overly distracted by the mechanics of getting the bell to ring in the desired place. Some will inevitably find it harder than others. This skill starts developing from the earliest handling exercise through to the end of Learning the Ropes Level 1 when the learner can raise, lower and set a bell. Many of the LtR Level 2 exercises contribute to the refinement of this skill and with a little imagination you can find others too.

Observation of experienced ringers shows that they do not always change their hand position on the rope when changing speed. When ringing lighter bells they achieve a quicker backstroke by bending their arms a little. Only when ringing a heavier bell do they shift up and down the tail end. The same is true of the handstroke, but here there is likely to be a small change in the position of the hands on the sally.



Catch with a gap between the hands



Move the lower hand up to close the gap and shorten the rope

So, what's going on? Efficient control of a bell relies upon the ringer having both the skills and experience to deliver the optimum amount of work on the bell, using a personally comfortable amount of physical effort. Simple physics tells us that the work applied to the bell is the force applied multiplied by the distance over which that force is applied. Ringers make changes to both force and distance as required. The experienced ringer does not need to think about doing so any more than a driver has to consider how hard/fast to turn the steering wheel. The novice does need to devote thought to the process and needs to develop a feel for both force and distance. Many start off by applying great force over a small distance, which is tiring and inefficient. Others struggle to apply enough force. We teach the skill of a long pull to maximise the work achieved by the force applied. This of course has the essential benefit of better rope control and reduces the temptation to "snatch" at the sally.

As the novice progresses on to the stage of needing to make fine adjustments in order to vary speed we must ensure they have the physical skills to control the speed change. These are the same skills as the start of ringing down and the end of ringing up. Ring a bell yourself or have someone else do it and show natural ways of achieving speed variations, perhaps start by ringing a bell part down and back up again. Have learners watch, discuss and then experiment on single bells, seeking to refine the basic skills they have developed to date. Encourage them to consider the effectiveness of both moving the hands up/down the tail end, altering the positioning of the hands on the sally and ringing with arms straight, moderately bent or very bent. You may find it useful to consciously ring different weight bells for a dodging exercise yourself and discover what you do on various bells.

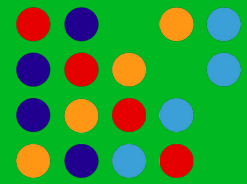
Having said that, it is absolutely essential that novice ringers learn the skill of ringing with the maximum distance of pull possible and learn to make quick and efficient alterations to their tail end length at the correct point in the pull, i.e. before the rope starts to rise to the backstroke and not whilst their hands are up in the air. It may be that they find this easier on a middle to back bell than on a light one.

Having developed this skill they will be able to deal with pulling off a bell which has a tail end that is much too long or with a bell that suddenly drops for whatever reason and they will be well set up to learn to efficiently control bigger bells. Later they will settle to their own comfortable style, using the range of pull-length that suits them and the bell they're ringing – but they have to "walk before they can run".

Once the learner can comfortably change speed at will on a single bell, they need to practise it at normal ringing rhythms. There are many exercises which can be used for this – here are just a few:

- Follow the leader: offer a bell to follow who will take the learner on a journey of varying speeds.
- Call changes, changing at backstroke as well as at handstroke.
- Dodgy call changes.
- Long and short place making (Kaleidoscope) again changing at backstroke as well as hand.
- Mexican Wave.
- "Hunting" through static bells, i.e. the rest of the ringers stay in rounds sequence and allow the novice to ring in 2nds, 3rds etc between them. Hunting up/down can be separated by instructing the novice to hunt to 5ths and stay there. Then on an agreed cue, starting at backstroke, they hunt down to lead. This is a good way of emphasising the three speeds of hunting without them thinking about finding bells to follow.

Heather Peachey



How far do our ringers progress?

In the last edition of ART WORKS we started looking at the reasons that the proportion of ringers progressing through the higher levels of the Learning the Ropes scheme has remained stubbornly fixed. From feedback provided by teachers and ringers on the scheme we looked at motivation and why ringer's ring and how to create opportunities for ringers to progress. Now we will look at what teachers can do to get the best out of their ringers and what can slow-down progress.

Teachers – getting the best out of ringers

“We are very lucky that our Tower Captain is a brilliant teacher and ringer who I know will be able to help us develop as far as we want to. Not every learner is so lucky to have such an enthusiastic and capable teacher at their tower.”

True, but the Module 2 courses spend a lot of time addressing how to teach foundation skills and early methods, making practices fun and breaking skills development into bite-sized chunks – just as the Module 1 course does for bell handling. Many teachers don't go on to attend a Module 2 course, which means their ringers may not have the opportunity to ring a greater variety of things.

Attend a Module 2 Course

Spending time finessing a ringer's bell control and teaching listening, striking and rhythm skills will bear fruit later on.

Not spending enough time on getting the basics right at Level 2 (bell control, striking and place counting) can hinder a ringer's rate and extent of progress and can lead to frustration and them giving up. The LtR scheme is about more than bell handling and teacher's do need the help of a Module 2 course to make the most of it.

The Learning the Ropes Scheme – using it to best advantage

The LtR scheme isn't for everyone “Some people just don't like signing up to something with set goals, and others will be ok with that to start with but will drop out of the LtR formal scheme as they progress, or perhaps when they change teacher or tower.”

However, have we got it right? A number of teachers commented that the “Jump from Level 2 to Level 3 is a big one” which is “Maybe why we stall”.

Using LtR to best advantage

Spend more time really reinforcing the foundation skills in Level 2 so that progress through Level 3 and beyond will be quicker and less frustrating.

One insightful ringer commented "I'm finding that expectations vary greatly between teachers; maybe those learners who have been rushed through the early stages struggle above Level 3"

It's true, some ringers are rushed through the Level 2 exercises perhaps to make it seem as though students are progressing rapidly now that they are ringing with others. So, the message is: spend more time really reinforcing the foundation skills in Level 2 so that progress through Level 3 and beyond will be quicker and less frustrating.

Don't forget that there is a place for “intermediate stage rewards to keep the (slower) learner motivated. Examples include “Making more of first and subsequent QPs ... celebrating ringing up and down in peal as it's not easy ... and reward regular conducting to improve the chances of someone becoming a conductor.”

When the ideal world meets the real world

“The requirements for Levels 1 and 2 are great for a tower with an easy-going ring of bells, with a short draft and a nice low ceiling. You know – the sort of tower that we'd all love to teach in! The reality is that we teach where we are, and where things aren't so ideal.”

The not-so-perfect world

In the real world of difficult bells, tower configurations and ringers varying needs, ways can be found to overcome most things but progress will be slower.

So true, and there are other examples. Those learning in a 5-bell tower can't practise ringing the tenor to Doubles and there are other towers in which bells are not rung up and down routinely. And then you get a ringer who just can't do an exercise for one reason or another – “Ringing up and down. She's terrified of it and will turn down opportunities to practise if at all possible. I'm taking the line of getting her to try occasionally because if I push her too hard, I think she'll give up and we'll lose a faithful service ringer.”

Teachers say they find a way around these obstacles meaning that progress through the Levels might be delayed, with some tasks “Always the last ones to be completed and often forgotten afterwards as not routinely practised.” For a small minority of ringers the “rigidity” of the scheme, particularly at the higher levels might not work well for them.

What have we learnt?

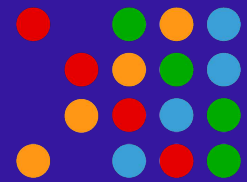
Some key messages from this and the previous article:

- Understand your ringer's motivations and let them guide progress. Ringing is just a hobby!
- Good quality rounds and call changes for some ringers and bands is as much to celebrate as a Level 5 certificate for others.
- Provide plenty of opportunities for those with the “ringing bug” to learn and progress, including frequent targeted practices.
- Foundation skills training is just as important as bell handling training in producing a skilled and motivated ringer.
- Celebrate successes throughout a Level, not just at the end with a LtR certificate.
- The Learning the Ropes scheme won't easily work for all ringers or towers, however it can usually be made to work.

What's next? Well first of all if you've got any other experiences or insights please get in contact at lesleybelcher@ringingteachers.com and then we're looking to address some of the issues that you've brought up. Look out for some exciting events and products later on this year!

Lesley Belcher

Don't reinvent the wheel



What do you use SmART Ringer for?

If you are an accredited teacher, you will have completed the multiple-choice quiz. Hopefully you will submit LtR passes for your ringers. But do you use the wealth of material available to help you teach? Recently I ran a Plain Hunt day for half a dozen of our own learners. No need to reinvent the wheel; I went straight to SmART Ringer to check out the resources! So, what did I find?

Background information

"Small steps to Plain Hunt" and "What is ropesight?" were helpful as prior reading.

Teaching information

- Teacher's notes
- PowerPoint presentation
- Ringing Plain Hunt on handbells
- A variety of additional methods to help with LtR Level 3

I used the notes as a basis for my plan and showed the excellent PowerPoint slides to explain how we ring Plain Hunt. The handbells session was later in the day for some light relief when we were all tired.

Student information

- Plain hunt worksheet
- Plain hunt doubles
- Count your place
- Ringing at 3 different speeds
- Ringing Jargon
- Course and after bells

The worksheet guides the student through writing out Plain Hunt on 5 and 6 bells and was a good starting point for the day. I expanded the Plain Hunt Doubles chart (changes written out with each bell in a different colour) so that it could be mounted on a flip chart and used it to discuss in more detail how we hunt. I could have written it out myself but this was so much more professional! The other worksheets reinforced the theory introduced earlier and these were distributed throughout the day as we covered practical exercises to develop each of the skills needed to ring Plain Hunt. They provided useful revision whilst sitting out.

Follow up information

- Jargon worksheet
- Plain hunt quiz
- Plain hunt dominoes

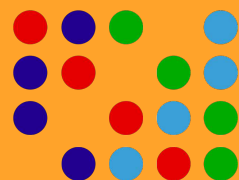
The worksheet and quiz helped to check that information had been absorbed and the dominoes gave a fun, collective way to consolidate all that had been learned!

This is a little taste of what's available on the website; there is much more. So next time you need to teach something, whether it's to one of your own learners during a practice or to a whole group of students, have a look at SmART Ringer and see what's available. You don't have to use it all and you can adapt it to suit your needs but there's a treasure trove there waiting to be used!

Judith Frye

SmART Ringer

<https://smartringer.org/teaching/m2/m2genres/>



Looking back at the teacher refresher day

Just over a year ago, in the Ely Diocesan Association, we organised a Teacher Refresher Day at the Stretham Ringing Education Centre because we had 15 people who needed to become accredited before they were out of time. We also wanted the chance to meet them, find out what had been stopping them and help them to overcome any obstacles they had encountered.

At the time, we felt the day had been a great success but now, a year later, we are just reflecting on what has happened. Seven of the fifteen have now been accredited and a further four people associated with the event – either paired with one of the above or unable to come on the day but strongly interested in making progress – were also accredited. We think that's not bad!

We have since targeted people in similar situations much more individually and invited them and their mentors to come along to a Saturday morning session at Stretham. This is much easier to do – it takes little organisation and only a bit of preliminary contact making sure that they're ready, and then an email inviting them to come along on a specific date when we have made sure we can observe an assessed lesson on the same day.

So, looking back, was the event worth doing?

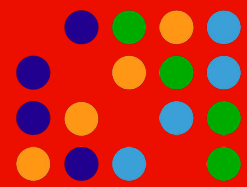
It had the goal of removing people's excuses for not getting accredited – and therefore did! But it also had the effect of raising the visibility of the teaching process, of ART and assessment, to a much wider group of people. For those who did attend, it enabled them to feel part of a community and to know each other and make their own networks. There was a bit of a buzz on the day. We got to find out about people doing things we hadn't been aware of previously. We hadn't realised they were so keen.

So, I think these bigger events are worthwhile. They're not as big as the ART Conference but they are important for growing and maintaining enthusiasm at a more local level. This year we are planning a couple more ART events in the region – an Assessment Information Day in February and a Learning the Ropes event in Norwich in the Summer.

It's important that we have reasons for people to remain members of ART after they have become accredited – we need people to feel that offering the Learning the Ropes scheme is essential. I've noticed that some accredited people have allowed their membership to lapse and perhaps this is our next challenge.

Lesley Boyle





A big thank you to Graham

All I can say is that without Graham and his professional approach ART would not be where it is today. He took my initial ideas and professionalised them. The two of us working together were by far stronger than either of us working separately.

We needed the two of us. In the early days we had lots of arguments [good hearted ones] because I wanted to approach things from winning over 'hearts and minds' and he was much more for documents and standards. After one committee meeting Les Boyce said to me "Well you two didn't actually come to blows then!"

Pip Penney

A nice story which is idiosyncratic of Graham - we needed a Tutor for a course at Marsworth and Graham agreed to come, on the strict condition that we organised a QP opportunity for him. This was because he was aiming to ring a QP on every date of the year and he needed that date. So, at the end of the course, four local ART Members dutifully turned up to ring a QP of April Day Doubles with Graham, Sue joined in and rang the tenor.

Rose Nightingale

I have always appreciated Graham's quiet, patient and measured approach, even when people are being a little difficult or I'm asking a silly question!

Judith Frye

Last year in May, Adam Beer and I were visiting the UK from Australia – imagine my total surprise when Graham was one of a band organised to ring a quarter peal with Adam in Knaresborough, North Yorkshire and so we met up by fluke in the tower – brilliant!! It's a small world ... who would have thought?

Corinne Rule

I want to thank Graham for his understanding, appreciation and accommodations over the years with respect to the complications/problems we have in North America getting our teachers to follow through after going on an ART Course and following the ART curriculum.

Bruce Butler

I first met Graham in the early days of ART, when I was sent to UK by ANZAB to see whether we should adopt it in Australia and New Zealand. There was an ART Module 1 to be run by Graham at Trowbridge but there was no Module 2 scheduled for a convenient date. It is typical of Graham that he at once offered to run a Module 2 nearby at the same weekend! Happily, it proved popular and was fully booked out on the day.

I was completely blown away! On reflection this was the result of both the admirable content of the ART Modules and Graham's enthusiastic presentation. Fast-forwarding to the present day, we now have four antipodean ART Tutors, and we regularly run ART Modules here.

I particularly remember the feedback of one very experienced teacher who came along to an early module: "I came a sceptic – I left enthused!"

David Smith- ANZAB

Graham, thanks for all you have done. It has been great taking ART from its beginnings to the organisation it is today. Some things we agreed on, others we argued about (politely.) I have enjoyed deciphering some of your emails as I expect you have mine. With everyone's help we have built a thriving Association which is meeting the needs of the grass roots ringers, teachers and learners, and that is what matters. My sincere best wishes and thanks.

Frank Seabright

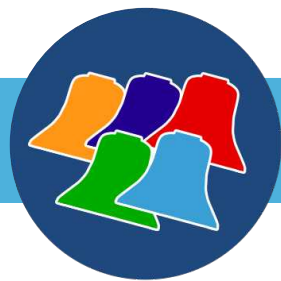
His total inability to distinguish between Les!(ie)(ey)s! (Boyce, Boyle and Belcher). And, of course, thanks to Graham for his prodigious efforts in doing the lion's share of course delivery over the years.

Les Boyce, Lesley Boyle, Lesley Belcher

Graham's mantra for ART seems to be 'get on and do, but at the same time concentrate on what is important and don't do everything' – I've grown to expect an almost immediate reply to an individual or group email, but with phone predictive text and keyboard slips there have been more than a few wry smiles and head-scratching moments in order to decipher what has appeared in that message! Thanks Graham for all your hard work, commitment and passion.

Paul Lewis





Learning the Ropes Achievers

Level 1 - Bell Handling and Control: Safe and competent bell handling including raising and lowering a bell.



December 2018

Joanna Byers - Stretham Ringing Education Centre
 Alexandre Kabla - Stretham Ringing Education Centre and St Mary's Ely
 Sue Leather - Westerham
 Madeleine Hickling - Litton Cheney
 Orla McGrane - Melksham
 Jane Dearling - Stratton
 Lisa Raymer - Shrewsbury
 Will Scutts - Much Hadham
 Alex Luketa - Sandon
 Michael Genner - Evenley
 Fiona Maxwell - Bramcote
 Rosanna Tree - South Walsham
 Noah Millership - South Walsham
 Linda Horne - Hickling
 Lyra Coke - South Walsham
 Catherine Ansett - Reedham
 Nick Toovey - Great Wilbraham
 Emily Cory - Reedham
 Nick Toovey - Great Wilbraham
 Jacob Peace - Thurcaston
 Jeremy Groves - Ranmoor
 Ruth Groves - Ranmoor
 Nicola Webster - Yeovil St John's and Odcombe
 Naomi Wills - Yeovil St John's and Odcombe
 John Skipper - Holy Trinity Weston Hills Ringing Centre
 Bella Skipper - Holy Trinity Weston Hills Ringing Centre
 William Bishop - Puddletown
 Mike Money - Puddletown
 Grace Wordsworth Clarke - Swaffham Bulbeck
 David Troves - Ranmoor
 Fr David Pennells - Mitcham
 Andrew King - Mitcham
 David Over - Cholsey
 Derek Taylor - Yeovil St John's
 Oliver Wordsworth Clarke - Swaffham Bulbeck
 Kenneth Wong - St John's Cathedral Brisbane
 Janet Phillips - Fovant
 Joseph Clark - Eling
 Shaun Spillane - Chichester Cathedral
 Janice Bird - Chichester Cathedral
 Celia Taylor - Chichester Cathedral
 Mark Cumberland - Aldingbourne
 Thomas Roskell - Abingdon St Helens
 Andy Ferris - Stanground
 Pete Briggs - Stanground
 John Pratley - Cruwys Morchard

Dan Uprichard - Kilmoor
 Thomas Chorley - Abingdon St Helens
 Jack Higgs - Abingdon - St Helens
 Alex Heaton - Castor Ringing School
 Judith Wilson - Heighington and Melsonby
 Tom Finn - St John's Cathedral Brisbane
 Paul O'Hare - Ringwood
 Tina Thorpe - Walsoken
 Robert de Vos - Brumdingers
 Trefor Williams - Tysoe
 Tom Morffatt - Tysoe
 Carroll Lymbery - Tysoe
 Niels Benatar - Tysoe
 Henry Evans - Great Totham

January 2019

Mark McCaughan - Kilmoor NI
 Sheilagh McKimm - Kilmoor NI
 Pippa McGimpsey - Kilmoor NI
 Laura Moore - Kilmoor NI
 Ken Brundle - Kilmoor NI
 Howard Beattie - Kilmoor NI
 Gail Faulkner - Kilmoor NI
 Fiona Chamerlain - Kilmoor NI
 David Faulkner - Kilmoor NI
 Amanda McMullan - Kilmoor NI
 Daniel Clarke - Kilmoor NI
 Elaine Cheeseman - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Kay Foley-Davies - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Annette Seeley - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Alex Ross - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Margaret Curtis - Stretton On Dunsmore
 Clare Bui Stockton - Carlisle Cathedral
 Sheila Ferguson - Carlisle Cathedral
 Karen Scrivener - Carlisle Cathedral
 Gill Heighway - Kilmington
 Isabelle Hodgson - Roos
 Zoe Simpson - Axminster
 Isobel Simpson - Axminster
 Judith Garner - Norwich
 Peter Booth - Blackburn Cathedral
 Andrew Harrison - Blackburn Cathedral
 Pilar Chantell Holt - Blackburn Cathedral
 Orla Jones - Winsford
 Luke Catton - Shenfield
 Jenny Sumner - Bolton
 Kate Jennings - Caistor
 Pauline Dawson - Kinver
 Heather Bentham - Swanage

Louise Wall - Swanage
 Cathy O'Conner - Lilleshall
 Eugene O'Conner - Lilleshall
 Mandy Carter - Swanage
 Andrea Thomson - Swanage
 Roberta Tylor Ferris - Willingham by Stow
 Valerie Anderson - Carhampton
 Louisa Bradshaw - Roker
 Daisy Bradshaw - Roker
 Neil Aitken - Glasgow Cathedral
 Catriona James - Glasgow Cathedral
 Helen Richardson - Hilton
 Debra Brown - Northallerton
 Wendy Archibald - Barnes
 Joanna Teverson - Barnes
 Ian Bishop - Puddletown
 Russell Barker - Tamworth
 Anita Barker - Tamworth
 Samantha Emmott - Llandeyrn
 Georgia Emmott - Llandeyrn
 Brenda Gratwicke - Kidlington
 David Weston - Llandeyrn
 Amanda Smith - Llandeyrn
 Gillian Berridge - Brinklow
 David Jones - Bradford Peverell
 Kate Forrester - Bradford Peverell
 Jane Kennedy - Stretton on Dunsmore
 Chris Bradley - Stretton on Dunsmore
 Karen Bannister - Stretton on Dunsmore
 Steffi Penny - Old Cleeve
 Simon Lovelock - St Peter in Thanet
 Tracy Williams - Holt
 Patrick Hughes - Addington
 Mandy Gunning - Yeovil & Odcombe
 Tom Woodland - Puddletown
 Julie Woodland - Puddletown
 Matthew Pearson - St Michael's Without, Bath
 Holly Ellis - Much Hadham
 Stefka Iwanyk - Bolton
 Jill Day - St Hilda's Katoomba
 Sarah Dillane - St Hilda's Katoomba
 Andy Wood - Barnby Dun
 Paul Bradford - Aynho & Evenley
 Stepi Bradford - Aynho & Evenley
 Jennifer Pratley - Ducklington
 Wendy Church - Llandeyrn
 Alan Church - Llandeyrn
 Geraldine Kelly - Mitcham

Level 2 - Foundation Ringing Skills: Ringing with others: able to dodge, make places and ring simple call changes.



December 2018

Chloe Honeywell - Offenham
 Sue Sewell - Covington
 Shirley Mathews - Covington
 Peter Sewell - Covington
 Jenny Forester - Kimbolton
 Henri Merriam - Covington
 Christina Burr - Macclesfield
 John Bacon - St Ives

Anne Bell - St Hilda's Katoomba
 Jonathan Newey - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Lina Horne - Hickling
 Emily Cory - Reedham
 Ann Horwitz - Reedham
 Maggie O'Malley - St Marie's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Sheffield
 Matt Groves - Ranmoor
 Bob Rae - St Marie's Roman Catholic

Cathedral, Sheffield
 Francis Town - Northallerton
 Jackie Chan - Marcham
 Michael Sykes - Sunningwell
 Paul Woodridge - Sunningwell
 Marianne Cooper - St Hilda's Katoomba
 Sophie Ramsamy - Combe Raleigh
 Kenneth Wong - St John's Cathedral Brisbane
 Charlotte Brierley - Northampton Ringing Hub

Mike Gregory - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Karen Bowley - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Simon Lawrence - Leominster
 Pamela Sargent - Leominster
 Graham Morris - Northallerton
 Joe Nicholas - Abingdon St Helens
 Kim Garwood - Lytchett Minster
 Sarah Robbins - Shenfield
 Tom Finn - St John's Cathedral Brisbane
 Orson Gee - Brumdingers
 Sonny Butcher - Brumdingers
 Sara Paulson - Brumdingers
 Corinne Morris - Northallerton

January 2019

Craig Atkinson - Allendale
 Alison Atkinson - Allendale
 Sandra Murphy - Great Baddow
 Alex Bessent - Great Baddow
 Megan Forbes - Allendale
 Amy Forbes - Allendale
 Helen Forbes - Allendale
 Lewis Abbott - Woodston
 Charlie Bates - Kirtlington
 Sue D Thomas - Carlisle Cathedral
 Teresa Timms - Messingham
 Barbara Langridge - Holbrook
 Alex Heaton - Castor Ringing School
 John Makin - Kingston upon Thames
 So-Shan Au - Kingston upon Thames

Caroline Mould - Nassington
 Blake Lawrence - Leominster
 Aleezah Aspinwall - Crondall
 Emily Cooper - St Thomas' Salisbury
 Amanda Smith - Llandeyrn
 Coral Ann Blake - Seend
 Kate Forrester - Bradford Peverell
 Georgia Yarrow - Great Gransden
 Tiffany Clarke - Oxenhope
 Christine Searle - Huntingdon
 Joanne Cattmull - Huntingdon
 Susan Wareham - Alderley
 Michelle X - Abingdon St Helens
 Katie Havenhand - Doncaster Minster
 Amanda Gilbert - Llandeyrn
 Martin Gilbert - Llandeyrn
 John Smith - Llandeyrn



Level 3 - Introduction to Change Ringing: Competent at Plain Hunt and covering (demonstrated by ringing two quarter peals at least one of which is on the treble)

December 2018

Beccie Williams - Willersey
 Sara Paulson - Brumdingers
 Ellis Hollows - St Annes on the Sea
 Monica Hollows - St Annes on the Sea
 Hazel Turner - Tiverton St Paul
 Rhiannon Godfrey - Swanage
 Kelise Hamilton - Kinver

January 2019

Lauren Miller - Messingham
 Julie Hartridge - Lilleshall
 Pauline Fox - Northallerton
 Anson Jack - Cheltenham Minster
 Emma Mutie - Arnold
 Paul Tomlin - York Minster & St Wilfrid's York
 Rachel Milner - Inverness
 Mandie Bell - Thorpe on the Hill
 Alex Bell - Thorpe on the Hill
 Willow Gathergood-Dains - Abingdon St Helens
 Graham K Hunt - Doncaster Minster



Level 4 - Novice Change Ringer: Ringing and calling touches of a Doubles or Minor method (demonstrated by ringing a quarter peal inside). Raising and lowering a bell in peal

December 2018

Theo Millard - Honiton
 Chloe Woodruff - Marsworth ART Teaching Centre
 Charlie Linford - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Darren Swancot - Broseley
 Willow Gathergood Dains - Abingdon St Helen
 Dan Gillett - Abingdon St Helen
 Sally Church - Combe Raleigh
 Noah J McDermott - Sprotbrough

January 2019

Lisa Basden - Round the Wrekin Teaching Hub
 Harry Helyer - Northallerton
 Alex Bell - Thorpe on the Hill



Level 5 - Change Ringer: Ringing and calling a second method and ringing touches of Plain Bob (demonstrated by ringing three quarter peals including inside to Plain Bob Minor).

December 2018

Theo Millard - Honiton
 Max Pike - Swanage
 Alfie Pike - Swanage
 Alexander D Town - Northallerton

January 2019

Alice Kaye - Offchurch



Learning the Ropes Plus: For ringers who have progressed beyond Level 5. Acknowledges achievements in ringing, conducting and organisation.

December 2018

Bronwen Laugharne - Gamlingay
 First Peal

Moira Johnson - South Derbyshire Ringing Centre
 First Peal

Joseph Hill - South Derbyshire Ringing Centre
 First Peal

January 2019

Steve Vickars - Kirtlington
 Conducting First Quarter Peal