

ART WORKS

Issue 27
May 2019

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

Learning the Ropes Plus



Once you or one of your ringers can ring a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor inside the world of method ringing begins to open up. The Learning the Ropes Plus scheme provides the pathway for progress and encourages learning in a structured way.

Learning the Ropes Plus has been updated and is now in its third edition. The scheme is now open for ANY ringer, at ANY stage of learning.

The progress logbooks indicate the methods to work on and the targets to achieve. It can be ordered through the ART online shop. (<http://ringingteachers.org>). If not already registered with SmART Ringer, the participant can register on SmART Ringer and then request their certificates of achievement.

The benefits of having a structured learning scheme to introduce concepts and new skills in a graduated, logical way has long been recognised as being a huge benefit to learning. The concept of recognising achievement through certificates is a proven motivator and LtR Plus continues the good practice of the LtR scheme in that regard.

The third edition progress logbook and SmART Ringer support is now available but those following earlier editions of LtR Plus may continue and still order certificates.

The scheme is divided into sections. Certificates can be claimed for each section which do not have to be taken in any order or all completed – you can pick and choose. There is also a more flexible area for wider ringing skills.

The methods selected are designed to support progress in a structured way with each one introducing new concepts

which are indicated in the progress logbook. You are required to ring plain courses of each method, touches of some and two or three Quarter Peals to complete a section and claim your certificate of achievement. (peals may be rung as an alternative!)

The methods have been updated and now, for instance, include the core seven "Pickled Egg" Surprise Major methods.

For those organising local practices LtR Plus provides a focus, as well as the opportunity to reward achievement. Targeted practices based on Doubles, Treble Dodging Minor or any other of the areas covered, can be run by focussing on the methods recommended with each introducing a new skill to learn. Once accomplished, the basic skills in each area will have been practised and mastered allowing a ringer's repertoire to extend even further

If you, or a ringer in your tower, have just completed LtR Level 5 and ordered a certificate, then a free copy of the LtR Plus logbook can be requested and Hubs & Centres have also been offered a free copy. In due course a book to support learning with the scheme will be published.

Graham Nabb

See page 12 for a teacher's experience of LtR Plus.

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The next issue of ART WORKS will be August 2019. Copy Deadline - 30 July 2019

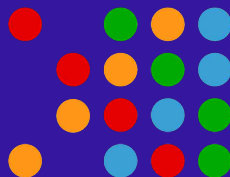
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 Association of
Ringing
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Chairman's Chatter



ART continues to go from strength to strength, whether measured by the number of participants on the ART Teaching and Learning the Ropes Schemes, attending ART Workshops or accrediting to become ART Members. These increased numbers do however produce their own problems. The SmART Ringer website is running slow and sometimes falls over. Our volunteers are having to work harder to handle the extra workload, compounded by the drive to be better at all we do. And we shouldn't forget that quality is just as important as numbers.

ART Conference and ART Awards

It was great to meet so many of you at the ART Conference. There was a great line-up of speakers – feedback was excellent and there were plenty of ideas for inclusion in next year's conference. The ART Awards attracted the largest ever number of nominations which made the judges' job very difficult – thank you to Stephanie Pattenden along with Jennie and David Town. The recruitment and retention award was particularly popular this year as a result of the Ringing Remembers campaign. A special award was given to Vicki Chapman for her leadership of the Ringing Remembers team. A well-deserved award sponsored by Ecclesiastical Insurance.

SmART Ringer

We have launched a project to replace SmART Ringer under the leadership of Nigel Mellor from Wokingham. We're not rushing into it because we want the new system to be designed for growth, both in the number of users but also in terms of the ART offer, so we're taking our time so as to get it right. We are aware of many of the issues associated with ease of use – after all we have had to deal with them as teachers just as you have – but please feel free to email with issues or ideas. Now is the time!

Who's new in ART

To cope with the increasing demand for our teaching modules, we are currently training four new ART Tutors. The first to complete was David Sparling from Essex, who has got off to a flying start tutoring two M2F courses in April. Welcome to the team, David. If you are an ART Member, have good presentation skills, and are interested in

becoming an ART Tutor then please contact Graham Nabb.

I would also like to welcome Clare McArdle to the ART Management Committee. Clare was a key mover in the formation of the Birmingham School of Bell Ringing and has been involved with ART since 2012 as a mentor, an ART Assessor and more recently an ART Tutor. Clare will bring a wealth of experience to the Management Committee and we look forward to her shaping our thinking.

Some new ideas

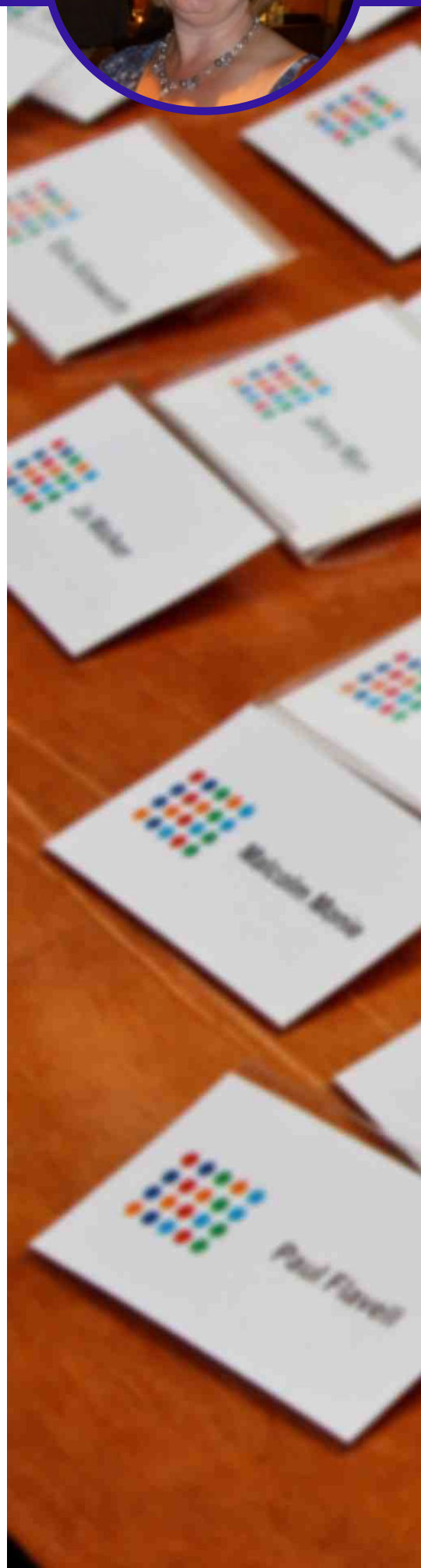
For the first time the ART Bell Handling (M1) and Foundation Skills (M2F) day courses were held at the beginning of the Essex Course. Immediately afterwards, the course delegates were able to put what they had been taught into practice with students on the course; all the time under the watchful eyes of Ruth Suggett and David Sparling. A flying start to their accreditation journey.

A set of online simulator resources has been developed, covering hardware, software and how to use them to teach or to learn. These resources complement the Simulator Awareness Workshops which are being run at the rate of about one a month at the moment. As one delegate said, "An inspiring workshop – now to return to the tower and put it into practice!"

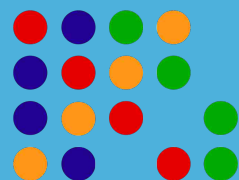
ART in the news

Those of you who take the Ringing World will be aware that ART has featured prominently in the letters section recently. It was gratifying to see so many leap to ART's defence. I would like to take this opportunity to say again that ART does not have a hidden agenda to mandate accreditation and has had no discussions with the insurance industry or the Church about this. ART's aim is to increase the number and quality of teachers and compulsory accreditation would work against this. We do however think that all ringers should have an awareness of insurance and this edition of ART WORKS contains a very useful article written about this subject written by Marcus Booth of Ecclesiastical Insurance, which is being shared with the Ringing World.

ART Chairman - Lesley Belcher
lesleybelcher@ringingteachers.org



A bell ringing experience - Great Gransden



"Hello, I was wondering if you could arrange a bell ringing experience for me and my friends!!"

I had been contacted, through ART, by someone from the St. Neots area who asked if it would be possible to arrange a "bell ringing experience". She and some friends like to do something different every year and bell ringing was top of the list for 2019.

I had no hesitation in agreeing to arrange our standard tower tour for her group at Great Gransden, which comprises a visit to the ringing room, clock room and belfry. From the outset I explained that I couldn't give them much bell ringing but could assure them of an educational and exciting visit, which would culminate in some basic 1:1 bell handling. The date agreed was Saturday 27th April and for them to arrive at 9.30am.

Having never set foot in a bell tower before all members of the group were a little apprehensive, especially the organiser, Holly Jones, who was not sure what she had signed them up to. However, my confirmatory email to her a few days before assured them of an enjoyable morning.

My wife Sheila and I have done this tour many times. Our tower is fairly visitor friendly with all rooms accessible. We follow the Ecclesiastical Insurance guidelines for tower tours and go through safety procedures with visitors beforehand, which only take a moment.

The tour starts in the ringing room and visitors are immediately drawn to the tower arch screen to enjoy the panoramic view of the church. Thereafter, there is interest in everything we take for granted as ringers, from bell ropes, photographs and striking competition certificates.

Then up to the clock room to see the 17th century clock and chiming apparatus where the latter is demonstrated, and photographs taken. We have an exhibition of redundant clock parts, clappers, stays and sliders and I explain their relevance as one of the old clappers is handed around for them to get a feel for some heavy engineering.

Last stop is the belfry. There is a bit of a scramble to get in here but the platform alongside the bells makes for good viewing whilst I stand on the bell frame explaining how a bell works. We supply ear plugs so that a bell can be rung whilst they watch.

Two-way radio is used to signal to Sheila to ring up No2 bell and further explanation is given. More questions and comments of amazement and further expressions of "I didn't realise there was so much to bell ringing" are shared. This is another photo opportunity – definitely one for the album.

The bell is rung down and the tour is concluded by a careful descent of the tower where coffee and biscuits are served. We had arranged for our own ringers to come along at 10.30am to give some demonstration ringing and they soon mingle with our visitors chatting about their ringing experiences.

After refreshments we go up into the ringing room. First thing is to give a brief talk about safety and for them not to touch any ropes now that they have been lowered ready for use. We then ring up the bells and rattle off a few call changes and Plain Bob Doubles (many thanks to our enthusiastic team for turning out). The bells can be seen ringing via our CCTV and our visitors can then see the relationship between rope, ringer and bells. The simulator has been switched on and although we didn't demonstrate it we explained how we use it for training.

Finally, we invited our guests to be taught the basics of ringing at backstroke so that they can see what it is like to ring a bell, albeit with assistance. With a demonstration beforehand and the instruction "don't pull hard!" those that tried were very successful.

We complete the "experience" at about 11.30am. Sheila has posted on Twitter as the tour progressed and a summary of the morning was put on Facebook where Holly later commented "Would highly recommend this to anyone else interested in the workings of a bell tower and bell ringing. Fascinating!"

This was not a recruiting exercise but a brilliant PR opportunity and one which we as ringers were very excited about. Our guests enjoyed their visit and we were delighted to have the opportunity to share our enthusiasm and skill of all things bells and bell ringing.

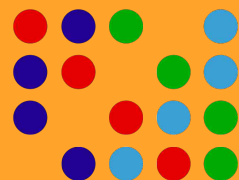
Philip George



In the belfry at Great Gransden



In the clock tower at Great Gransden



Rounds and about

The 2018 London Bell Ringing Summer School used as its role model the Summer School of the previous year, and the design and timetable followed a similar format.

There were, however, two significant new features: the use of taster events to act as a filter for applicants, and pre-arranged follow-up sessions to provide continuing support for the students rather than just passing them over to towers immediately. The latter has developed into the London Bellringing School, which works alongside all the other London ringing societies in the support and training of ringers, particularly (at the moment) at the lower levels. It also reflected the desire of the Summer School organising team to provide a more continuous process of teaching compared to the batch process that a Summer School provides.

Initially, four fortnightly sessions were arranged exclusively for the Summer School participants. The popularity – and the support from established ringers – meant that two further sessions were added on the end. These took place in the Autumn of 2018.

The organisers then took some time off before launching the Rounds & About sessions that have been taking place this year. These have been made available to a wider audience than just the Summer School students. Including Summer School students there were approximately twenty applications for places at the six fortnightly sessions in January, February and March.

Taking the Summer School students as the level we wish to support and looking at what we want to achieve with them, the sessions start with Rounds and then look at simple call changes, dodging, place-making and other basic ringing skills: hence “Rounds & About”. We expect the applicants to be ringing a bell on their own but we are prepared to help with residual handling problems which may be limiting their progress.

Given the demand – which we could not all meet at the Saturday sessions of Rounds & About – the applicants were divided into four groups. The first group, all from Ruislip, were given direct support at their own tower by arranging three dedicated Friday evening sessions in January with the help of Sonia Field, Christopher O’Mahony and James White. These proved to be very effective and a number of residual

handling issues were ironed out. It is planned that continuing support will be given by a closer relationship between towers in that area, an initiative being led by Sonia.

A second group of applicants from the Docklands group of towers has been receiving the equivalent of Rounds & About sessions from Louise Booth at local practices in Bermondsey and Limehouse. The third group of applicants are some of the Summer School students (and a few others) who have been receiving on-going support at the level of Rounds & About at special sessions at Pimlico (St Saviour) on Monday afternoons (and elsewhere), looked after by Stephanie Pattenden, Peter Blight and James White.

This also overlaps with the ringing sessions for boys from Westminster School on a Monday which is part of the outreach programme associated with the restoration work at St Stephen’s Church, Westminster. Also led by Stephanie Pattenden this is supported by David Holdridge (and occasionally others) as well as by Peter Blight and James White.

The fourth group were the ones actually invited to the Saturday sessions of Rounds & About where Louise Booth leads the sessions dealing with handling issues and ringing exercises to move from rounds into changes.

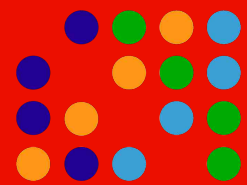
In December 2018 St Clement Danes was fitted with sensor equipment so that a simulator can be used to make the bell noises, and some of the sessions start with tied bells (typically the front six) but move on to the open bells, including ringing rounds on all ten. This provides an opportunity for those working on the activities in the “50 Ringing Things” scheme to ring a bell over one ton.

There is further demand for support at the Rounds & About stage so the London Bellringing School will continue after Easter with more sessions which will be advertised once the dates and venues have been arranged.

James White



Insurance and bell ringing



How often do you walk into a tower and see a notice or be told that “Our insurance doesn’t allow/ cover ...”? At the 2019 ART Conference in Worcester, Marcus Booth, Church Underwriting Manager at Ecclesiastical Insurance and also Tower Captain at Almondsbury, near Bristol, tried to demystify some of these perceptions by outlining how Ecclesiastical approaches ringing as a whole.

The starting place is that bellringers will normally ring at their ‘home’ church. However, we know that ringing is a sociable activity and ringers may choose to visit another church to ring their bells, either on a Sunday or on a practice night or for a peal or quarter peal and therefore insurance arrangements may be called into question.

Ringers are covered as standard under the Employers Liability section of a church policy as “authorised volunteers”, i.e. people who give their time voluntarily to serve a specific need of the church and who are accepted and sanctioned by the PCC. In general, this would include:

- The resident band ringing for any occasion
- Visiting ringers attending a practice night or Sunday service ringing
- Visiting ringers invited to ring for a specific event by the church, vicar or PCC, for example where there is no resident band in place
- Visiting ringers on a tower outing, peal or quarter peal attempt where the appropriate agreement has been obtained from the Tower Captain/ PCC/ Vicar. (For an organised tower outing by a specific church band it is possible that the “home” church insurance may respond as this activity would be deemed to be a form of church outing)
- People conducting tower tours
- People performing maintenance (unless being paid as a separate organisation), such as cleaning, clock winding or other tower activity

Ringers would also be covered by the Church’s own Public Liability cover for any liability for accidental bodily injury to or death of a third party or accidental loss of or damage to third party property. Again, in general this would include:

- Visiting ringers or bands where the liability arises out of a failure of duty of care or a breach of the Occupiers’ Liability Act by the church or resident band,

e.g. failing to maintain the bells or ringing chamber so that an accident occurs

- Any non-ringing visitor to the tower, e.g. someone on a tower tour or open tower event
- Any contractor or other third party present at the request of the Tower Captain, vicar, PCC, etc.

Cover under any Personal Accident section of the church insurance will provide a defined benefit to the insured (i.e. not necessarily the injured party. This is up to the insured to pass this benefit on should they wish) following accidental injury to, or death of any ringer aged between 3 and 80 years and whilst engaged in church business. Ringers older than 80 years are still covered for liability as above and this is NOT a barrier to their continuing as ringers!

We deem it neither practical nor necessary to expect ringers to provide evidence of insurance every time someone attends a ringing session at another church. Some churches may not wish to extend their church liability to cover this scenario and some ringers may not have any form of personal liability; for example the Personal Liability cover under a Household Insurance policy, minors and students being prime examples. We would expect the Tower Captain or their appropriate representative to be the ultimate judge of who is safe, competent and able to ring and would support their view as the appointed representative of the PCC.

Where a separate legal entity, such as a Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers exists, it should hold appropriate insurance cover in its own name to protect its own distinct legal interests. The church policy may not provide an indemnity to the Guild other than for Property Owners liability, where it owes a duty of care for visitors to their premises, ensuring a safe environment for everyone, regardless of their purpose of visit.

Ultimately, as a general rule if we are the insurer of the church or premises where any insured event has taken place we would pick up any claim under the policy for the church involved and would deal with the circumstances as appropriate, utilising our knowledge and expertise of dealing with church claims.

In return Tower Captains and ringers can help us through record keeping,

such as log books, keeping maintenance and inspection records, undertaking risk assessments and recording accidents and the circumstances which led to and followed the incident. Also it is helpful to review risk assessments periodically or when things change and particularly after any incident. Finally please report any incidents that result in damage or injury to our Claims Team.

As an ART member you will be covered whilst specifically on ART business and activities or acting as a representative for ART in some capacity. This is because ART holds its own Charity insurance on behalf of its Members, both as a primary cover for Members and also a contingency insurance, in case any of the above does not apply. In return Members are expected to abide by ART procedures, rules and guidelines, for example safeguarding. Questions regarding the scope and cover of this insurance can be directed to Graham Nabb.

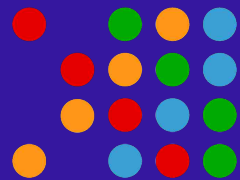
This is all based on our general approach to incidents and claims and we appreciate that there may be circumstances where this has not been the case. The aim of the article is really to help ringing and ringers and to facilitate freedom of movement without unnecessary barriers being put in the way. However, the PCC is ultimately the gatekeeper and decision maker and we are just their insurers and cannot overturn any ‘local’ decisions or intervene in disputes as such. We would always encourage frequent open and constructive relationships and dialogue with your PCC on ringing matters and are always happy to take general queries on ringing. Please see our website. However, bear in mind that the church/PCC is our customer and we would have to establish the precise relationship of the caller before we can discuss specific issues.

General queries we are always happy to help!

Marcus Booth, Ecclesiastical Insurance

www.ecclesiastical.com/church/

Developing Dorset



Last year Dorset recruited 23 new ART teachers and this article endeavours to identify the road to our success and explain how ringers in Dorset are looking to a bright and positive future.

It all began with a lucky break when the Dorset County Association managed to secure a small grant towards encouraging local activities within a 7 mile radius of Dorchester.

As a result, this funding enabled us to set up two M1 training sessions at Charminster where 18 local ringers had their places paid for. The success of these courses led to funding 8 places on a M2C day at Piddlehinton for ringers who had been accredited to M1 and needed to look at skills for teaching all their new learners and novices!

Nationally there appears to be a low take up of teachers to accreditation. So, why have our courses resulted in a higher take up than elsewhere? Did the fact that they had been paid for mean that those involved felt an obligation to complete and gain accreditation? Was it that Dorset with many heavy six bell village towers is aware that encouraging local recruits always requires new ideas and innovations? We believe one of the key factors is to ensure ringers are mentored effectively.

Our local assessor Alan Bentley was kept busy getting round to see so many learners with their teachers. Mentors ensured that once ready Alan was booked to come and see two or three teachers all on the same evening, so that they did the assessment in a tower that was not necessarily their own. However, as we all know, the benefit of the LtR Scheme is that a learner can go into any tower and (under supervision) ring the bell up from the down position to demonstrate good handling. Alan has also been very clear before his visits on what is required for teachers to pass their assessments and his support has been invaluable.

Through Ringing Remembers and the introduction of LtR there are many newly formed bands up and running. A block of 6 visits by a team of ART teachers to a tower requesting support has enabled those who are new to ringing to move on quickly and enthusiastically whilst maintaining interest. Martinstown, Hilton and Puddletown have all started bands from scratch, whilst the latter has ten recruits (trained by a team of teachers one of

whom is Dorchester Guild Ringing Master Robin Mears). Amazingly, in four months they have a band that can ring decently struck rounds and call changes for Sunday Services at a tower where there have been no ringers for ten years! It is also noticeable that towers implementing the LtR ideas are sustaining and increasing their numbers.

Our Young Ringers, under the guidance of Hilary Child, meet on a regular basis for weekend socials and ringing experiences throughout the county. At Piddlehinton Captain Richard Ellis (also using LtR) has recruited several adults over the past two years and now has 7 junior ringers in his band too!

Finally, focus has been given to those towers where all their ringers are predominantly beginners or novices within LtR and so have no experienced ringers to teach them method ringing. As a trial, we ran a set of four 'one off' Saturday morning sessions entitled 'Rounds into Plain Hunt', 'Plain Hunt with Confidence', 'Plain Hunt into Plain Bob', and 'Plain Bob with Confidence'. The purpose of these was for teachers to gain teaching experiences with a group of ringers at these stages of learning. The sessions, hosted by John Close at Winterborne Whitechurch, saw 5 teachers and 12 novices meet for 2 hours to work on the simulator. In this way everyone involved gained valuable experience and the neighbours were not disturbed! Feedback has been very positive.

Resulting from this initiative several ringers have taken part in Quarter Peals for the Salisbury Guild 'Firsts' Week 2019. Meanwhile, to the east of the county Debbie Phipps has set her ringers at Lytchett Matravers a challenge of learning to ring Plain Bob over a series of Saturday morning 'tours' to local towers. Again experienced ringers have been there to support and stand by whilst the novices move on with their ringing skills. This has also proved to be an excellent fund raising initiative for the tower.

Finally, to the west of the County interest in LtR is spreading and there are now regular Saturday morning sessions on the simulator at Bradpole led by training officer Sue Carter.

Jane Pridmore

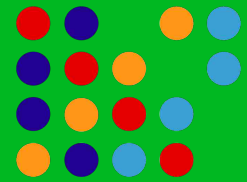


Jane Pridmore receiving grant at Dorchester town hall



Some Dorset ringers with their certificates

Fun with Bells



Have you been listening to our fantastic bell ringing podcasts? If not, why not! You may wonder if you have time to sit and listen to a 30-minute interview, but the fantastic thing about podcasts is that they are so portable and so versatile. I listen to all sorts of podcasts, at random times, but commonly I am in the car, walking the dog, doing the ironing or sometimes just awake at night and the pods are like my friend, keeping me company while my husband soundly sleeps beside me! And I get really excited when I know my favourite pods are due to be released. I have loved 'You, Me and the big C' (which really helped me as my husband recovered from prostate cancer), Griefcast (a realistic and humorous look at recovering from the loss of a loved one), Brexitcast (self-explanatory but it's actually very good) and now our very own FUN WITH BELLS!

When I spoke to Cathy Booth the other day, she sounded quite exhausted by the work involved in bringing these podcasts to life. Cathy has taken it upon herself to produce a series of podcasts about bell ringing. You may have already read about her project or met her at the ART Conference. If not, then in

brief, she is married to Roger Booth (an ART Tutor and ringing enthusiast) and although not a ringer herself, she has decided to launch this podcast to explore the world of bell ringing, which she says fascinates her. She explained that every interview takes roughly four hours of editing, plus all the background research required, arrangements to set up the session, IT issues and so on! Amazingly she is doing all this and working five days a week. Well done Cathy – it's an amazing achievement.

In each episode Cathy interviews someone who reveals more about the world of ringing and at the end of each episode, Pip Penney answers listeners' questions. This season's topics include:

- Learning to ring including completing the LtR Scheme and learning when blind
- The Ringing Remembers campaign including interviews with the coordinator, instigator and a new recruit
- Prolific peal and tower grabbing
- Ringing in other parts of the world
- The different type of ringing that they have in the South West of England

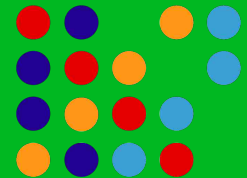
- The history of some famous ringers of the past
- How to record your bells
- Striking competitions
- Handbell ringing including its links to tower bell ringing
- What it's like to be a young ringer

For those interested in stats, each episode has had roughly 250-300 downloads and there have been over 3,000 episodes played – quite impressive. Still there must be many more new and potential ringers who would also find this podcast interesting. You can help them to find it by telling everyone you know about it, liking and sharing from the Facebook page or retweeting on Twitter. Find the podcast at www.funwithbells.com where you can play each episode.

Season one will end in May. Cathy is currently contemplating whether she will launch a season two in the autumn. If you would like to feedback comments on this season or influence the development of the next season, then drop her a line at funwithbellspodcast@gmail.com.

Nic Boyd

50/50 Club Administrator



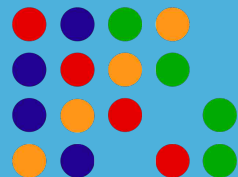
ART is a self-financing charity whose mission is to improve the learning experience of all ringers. The 50:50 Club is one way that we raise the money necessary for us to do the work we do. Currently it contributes £600 per year to ART with the potential to contribute more.

We are on the look-out for a volunteer Club Administrator who can run the scheme, organise the draws and promote the scheme within ART. Typically, this will take three hours per month and you can schedule the work to suit you.

If you are interested in helping ART by becoming the Club Administrator than please contact Gill Hughes at gillhughes@ringingteachers.org



LtR



A first handbell peal

The June 2018 ART WORKS featured an article about teaching Rebecca to ring. Rebecca, who has been totally blind from birth, recently achieved the milestone of ringing her first peal on handbells and this seems a good point to look back on the progress she has made and hear from her about her experiences of learning to ring and what challenges she has had to overcome.

Rebecca writes:

I first came across tower bell ringing when I lived in Oldham back in 2015. I thought it might be a fun activity to take part in, but did not look into it further until October 2017. I contacted Ros Baxter through the ART Administrator to see if tower bell lessons would be a viable option. I also contacted Peter Church, leader of the Hull Handbells Project, to see if he would be willing to teach me change ringing on handbells. Peter was unsure, but with encouragement from Heather Peachey and Graham Nabb, he agreed to give me a lesson.

At the start of my first tower bell lesson in November 2017, I thought bell ringing was simply a matter of chiming the bell. I had no understanding of hand and back strokes, ringing up and down or standing. Methods and principles seemed impossible to grasp. Bell ringing terminology was very alien to me.

However, I spent a lot of time learning bell handling with Ros and the other ringers at Hessle. This turned out to be even more important for me as I need to consistently know where the sally is going to end up; it was imperative that I learned to have a good ringing style. Another key skill I had to master was ringing rhythmically with other people. Fortunately, I have a sense of rhythm so this skill came relatively easily. With the help of tutors from Hessle, Barrow and Lowgate, Hull, I was able to achieve my Learning the Ropes Level 1 in September 2018.

I started learning handbell change ringing in January 2018 with Peter Church. He and his wife Christine came to meet me and discuss how learning handbells would work best for me. I explained that blue lines, visual diagrams and graphic-laden webpages were out of the question. Peter did some research on how best to teach me. He gave me my first simulator lesson shortly after the initial meeting and found that I could

memorise the places my pair of bells should strike in. Peter then set up Abel and Handbell Manager on my laptop, gave me two motion controllers and set up Plain Bob and Plain Hunt for me to practice. I use a screen reader so it was important that any software I was using would work with a computer keyboard. Abel does this really well. Peter also wrote out documents with words only, explaining how Plain Hunt and Plain Bob worked. My first physical handbell lesson was a very enjoyable experience. I rang a course of Plain Bob Minor with Peter and Christine and was asked to join their Tuesday group. With the help of this group, Abel, and Peter's teaching, I rang my first quarter peal in August 2018, and my first peal on 1-2 to Plain Bob Major on 16th March this year and am now breaking new ground with Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob Royal. With Peter's help, I'm now also able to add new methods and compositions to Abel, learn them with his notes and practise them with the Hull Handbells group every week. It's a thrilling experience.

Similar to tower bells, the language used in handbell ringing was unfamiliar. Plus, having two bells to concentrate on made ringing handbells more difficult. However, credit must be given to all the bell ringing tutors who have helped me. They had to change their teaching methods and find new solutions to help me learn. They have been very patient with me whilst I "learned the ropes" as it were. So, it has been as much a learning curve for them as for me.

My bell ringing experience is not much different from that of a sighted person in that good rhythm, bell handling and memory for methods are key. The difference for me is that ropesight is eliminated. This can be advantageous as I can concentrate on the bell's sound and placement with other bells, and am not fazed by other bell ropes moving.

Bell ringing, to me, is a spiritual experience that sends out positive energy to everyone ringing or listening to the bells. It's a great way to get to know more people, tower bell ringing is good exercise and all bell ringing improves listening and communication skills.

Ros writes:

Rebecca has made fantastic progress with her ringing, thanks to

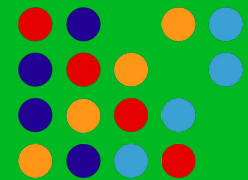
her enthusiasm and determination, great powers of concentration and excellent listening skills. She is now ringing tower bells regularly on practice nights at two local towers, and has rung at several different towers on Beverley and District Ringing Society meeting days. Such is her commitment that she recently volunteered and was elected to the committee of the Society demonstrating that you don't need years of ringing experience to become involved and it is illuminating to have her fresh perspective on things.

Negotiating tricky spiral staircases and entrances to ringing chambers has probably proved more challenging for Rebecca than ringing on different bells! We spent a long time ensuring that Rebecca got the basics right and she has an excellent handling style. I think one of the hardest things for her to learn and for me to teach her with confidence is ringing up and down – this is likely be her one still "working towards" exercise for her LtR Level 2, which she is likely to have completed by the time this appears in print. On practice nights she is ringing the treble to Plain Bob Doubles and Plain Bob Minor and recently rang a course of Plain Bob Minor inside, so her first quarter peal on tower bells won't be far off and I'm very much looking forward to ringing it with her.

Rebecca started change ringing on handbells not long after I did, but her progress very quickly surpassed mine and she is to be congratulated on her fantastic achievement of ringing her first peal in hand. I'm sure Rebecca will continue to notch up the ringing milestones on both handbells and tower bells. If any tutors are approached by a visually impaired person wanting to ring, do give it a go. Concentrate on getting the basics right and it can become a very rewarding journey for you both.

Rebecca Legowski & Ros Baxter

Editor's note: A photo of Rebecca ringing handbells can be found on the cover page at the bottom.



A balanced ringing style

Which hand is doing most of the work?

Many learners don't achieve a handstroke pull where the work is equally shared between the hands. For the purposes of simplicity, I am going to assume the learner has the tail end in the left hand. What you often see, to a greater or lesser degree, is the right hand in charge of the sally, taking hold of it before the left, doing most of the pull and letting go later than the left. Let's look at the origin of the problem and then some ways to resolve it.

One of the trickier parts of learning to handle a bell is getting the left hand to deal with both the tail end and the sally. The learner fears they will drop the tail end and so we get all manner of potential handling issues as they try to reduce this perceived risk. One of these involves letting the right hand manage the sally, allowing the left time to deal with the tail end and then join it. The left hand then leaves the sally early, leaving the right to do the actual work.

Resolving the problem is something that's ideally done during the process of learning to handle. However, we don't live in that ideal world. We live in the real world with all its flaws. Please don't come to my tower expecting to see nothing but perfect styles and hear nothing but perfect striking! I do my best, as do my ringers, but all are human with human imperfections and challenges.

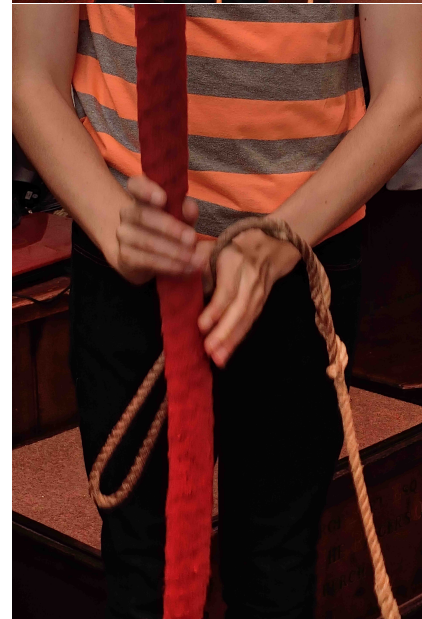
So, what's my take on this? First, I will discuss with the learner (at whatever stage) why it is desirable that both hands/arms share the work. I make a bit of a joke about developing muscle only on one side, but we seriously consider the ringing action and that it is far better for the body to work as evenly as possible. In addition, the bell control at all stages (raising, ringing, lowering) will be more efficient. Depending on the individual, we may use a short video clip of their ringing to allow them to compare this to other people's styles. It's a fact that what someone feels they are doing may not be what they're actually doing and video proof is what can convince them of this. I also find that before/after videos are really helpful. Sometimes they may like to keep copies for future reference – after all, whenever a ringer has a "weak point" in their handling it often crops up time and time again when they're under stress, learning new things.

The next stage is a physical exercise. I ask them, with support, to ring the bell with just the left hand, keeping the other behind their back. Most require a good bit of support to have the confidence to even try this; I assure them my hand will be there as insurance. However, I am careful to add nothing at all to the pull. What normally happens is they struggle to pull off a bell they normal ring and are quite shocked. After a couple of slight fumbles with the sally due to them worrying about it, they quite quickly realise that they can ring the bell one handed as long as someone is there to make sure all is well. I then ask them to ring the bell with the only the right hand working the sally. Again, I will put my hand on it to protect the stay if necessary. This time they usually find they can pull off with ease.

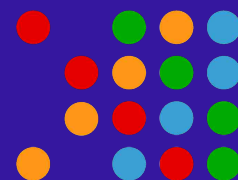
Essentially what we are doing is allowing the learner to discover for themselves how evenly they're working. From this point the instruction is to focus intently on the left hand and be aware of its input. Then allow the right hand to stop pulling and just be there passively before gradually achieving a balance between the hands. The learner is encouraged to ring a few whole pulls on their own whenever possible, perhaps just a few prior to rounds starting or ringing the service bell on a Sunday as this offers private practice time. Then they're asked, whenever ringing something that is straightforward for them, to repeat this exercise of focusing on the balance of work. Don't expect a quick permanent fix – it will take time and desire from the learner to correct the habit. Remember, practice doesn't make perfect, it makes permanent!

Heather Peachey

Video resource
Correct positioning of hands
during the handstroke
smartringer.org/resource/7601/



Correct positioning of the hands during the handstroke



Bellringing is not something that you naturally associate with new technology, but if you can get out of the straitjacket of always doing things the way they have always been done in the past, then all sorts of exciting possibilities open up. No longer do belfries need to be cold and uninviting spaces where new ringers spend a lot of time sitting out and limited time on the end of a rope each week.

Electronic simulators have been around for something like 30 years, and in the last 10 years the technology has come on in leaps and bounds. Many ringers are familiar with the early installations, which had limited functionality and could sometimes prove troublesome, and relied entirely on listening. This did not enhance their reputation, and as a result many early simulator installations lie gathering dust in the corners of belfries. Many others are used purely as a form of sound control (the silent practice mode). Another problem, as the functionality improves, has been the need to show people how simulators can be used, and to train them how to set up and use one.

Benefits

One of the key benefits of simulator technology is the ability to practise on a one-on-one basis, with the computer ringing the other bells (the workstation mode.) During the last five years, all the principal software packages have incorporated video to give a virtual reality like simulation, so it is no longer necessary to ring purely by ear. Also, people have experimented with multi-workstation installations, so that a number of people can practise individually, each with their own set of headphones. In a traditional practice each new ringer might get two "prime rings" with a steady band around them. Ten minutes practice a week makes for slow progress in acquiring any new skill.

However, installations like those at Worcester and Mancroft now enable up to eight people to practise learning something for the whole session, maximising rope time. Of course, workstation practice needs to run alongside practice with a real band, but finding helpers is always a problem. A multi-workstation set up can make significantly better use of that scarce resource, experienced helper time. And you don't need to base your workstation installation on a set of dumb-bells, like those above. If your real bells have ready

access and are easy to silence, you can do exactly the same.

ART and Simulators

Because of the benefits, ART has put in considerable effort over the last 18 months to spread the word about simulators. We have issued a revised book *Teaching with Simulators*, available from the ART online shop, explaining how simulators can be used from the earliest stages of training new ringers to ringing complex methods. This was launched at the ART Conference at Royston in March 2018, held in conjunction with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. At this event, as well as various presentations, we had a number of workstations set up in the main hall and around 50 delegates were able to try ringing different dumbbells and practise using the different software packages. Chris Hughes of Abel, Tony Croft of Belfree, Steve Farmer of Simbell and John Norris and Matthew Higby (dumb-bells) were there to demonstrate and talk about their products.

Since then ART has held Simulator Workshops at Kensington (2) Bryanston, Oxted and Bridgwater. These offer half a day concentrating on using one of the principal software packages, with a maximum of two delegates to each workstation. We also offer bolt-on sessions on how the hardware works and which hardware to buy, to make a whole day workshop. Derek Ballard (Beltower), Tony Croft (Belfree/Virtual Belfry), Steve Farmer (Simbell) and Chris De Cordova are on board to help deliver further workshops up and down the country.

We have our own Bagley splitter box, so any tower with a Bagley multi-bell interface can host one. We also have six foot switches and sets of headphones and four laptops. We found at Bryanston that encouraging delegates to bring their own laptops did not work very well, as it took too much time to set each one up. (If anyone wishes to donate a second-hand Windows XP or Windows 7 laptop, we would like to hear from you!)

If you would like to host a workshop later this year, or next, please get in touch:
rogerbooth@ringingteachers.org

Roger Booth

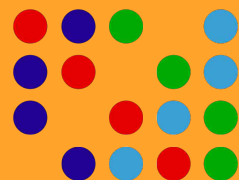


Multiple workstations in use at the Mancroft Ringing Discovery Centre



Mimicing the Mancroft setup at the Sedgmoor Ringing Centre (Bridgwater) workshop

Simulator resources



In addition to the workshops, ART have also launched a Simulator Resources section on the ART website. This includes a lot of useful advice on how to use a simulator and the equipment and software that is available to buy (we strongly advise trying out a simulator elsewhere, and deciding how you intend to use one, before spending any money). <http://ringingteachers.org/resource-centre/simulator-resources>

The simulator resources section also includes a Simulator Map showing around 250 towers which have a simulator installation that is in working order. Clicking on a pin reveals detailed information on who to contact and what software and hardware the installation is based on. From information provided by the sensor manufacturers, we estimate that there are around another 200 older installations, that are not in regular use.

There is also a Simulator Users and Suppliers Facebook group, where people can post their queries, and have them answered by other users, or suppliers. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1441867412528870/> On one recent occasion a tower with an older simulator installation that had not

been used for a number of years because of defective sensors was able to make contact with another user in the area, who was able to arrange for the defective sensors to be replaced at minimal cost and to get the simulator working.

No longer do our learners need to have their progress held back by spending long periods of time waiting out for their turn. Do consider hosting one of the ART Simulator Awareness Workshops to help us spread the word and bring more simulator installations back into use, and make better use of the ones that we already have.

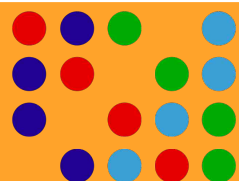
Modern technology also offers many other exciting opportunities. There are already smartphone apps (what young ringer does not have a smartphone?) and further exciting apps are planned. Short YouTube videos are also replacing books as a medium for learning, particularly amongst the young. We now have podcasts aimed at newer ringers, and we have not yet explored the possibility of webinars for coaching teachers and new ringers. Exciting times, but perhaps topics for future articles!

Roger Booth

Simulator Resources

ringingteachers.org/resource-centre/simulator-resources

LtR Plus A teacher's story



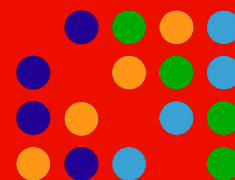
I find that the main Learning the Ropes scheme really motivates many of my learners, with its progressive stages, clear objectives and recognition of progress through awarding certificates.

Having only restarted ringing myself 3½ years ago after 40 years absence, I am motivated to continue my own ringing self-development and I find the LtR Plus scheme very useful with several different objectives covering higher stages and more advanced methods. I also like the fact that it is possible to pursue these objectives non-consecutively or in parallel as time, inclination and opportunity allow, together with the recognition that achieving each brings. I have reached Doubles, Triples, Plain Minor and conducting achievements and plan to attain Major and Treble Bob Minor this year.

I also feel that it is important for my students to see that I am actively pursuing my own ringing development and that there is so much more to ringing than the Doubles and Minor content (important that it is) in the main LtR scheme. In fact, one of my learners who recently achieved LtR Level 5 has also been motivated to start LtR Plus. I would recommend it to everyone.

Steve Vickers

2019 ART Awards winners



The 2019 ART Awards attracted the largest ever number of nominations which made the judges' job very difficult – thank you to Stephanie Pattenden along with Jennie and David Town for deciding on the eventual winners.

The ART Award for Inspiring Leadership in Ringing Sponsored by Talent Innovations

Winner Lesley Boyle

As a young ringer mentored by Lesley says: "Lesley is a true inspiration and wonderful teacher. She has given me so much help, from teaching me handling to driving me and another young ringer to Birmingham so that I could take part in the 2018 Masterclass. Apart from all this, there is one thing for certain and that is the fact that I wouldn't be ringing at the level I am today had it not been for Lesley for which I am infinitely grateful."



The ART Award for Innovation in Recruitment or Retention Sponsored by AbelSim

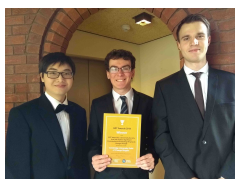
Winner: Geoff Horritt
Highly Commended: Old North Berks Branch

"Approximately 30 recruits have been trained in total, ranging in age from 12 to 70."
Editor's note – you really have to see the statistics and the range of this nomination to appreciate it!

The ART Award for a University Society that has made a Significant Contribution to Promoting Ringing to Younger People Sponsored by CCCBR

Winner: Cambridge University Guild of Change Ringers

"We can now proudly say that several of our most active members are students who learned with us. We recognise that the recruitment of new ringers is essential to sustain the large and vibrant community of student ringers Cambridge has had for many years. To this end we are thrilled with the record number of students who came for lessons with us in 2018 and are motivated to continue these efforts into 2019 and beyond."



The Sarah Beacham Youth and School Group Award Sponsored by the Sarah Beacham Memorial Trust

Winner: Colerne School
Runners Up: Brumdingers and Yorkshire Tykes

"Within the school the children talk about church bell ringing, and we have a waiting list of pupils who want to learn. Recruitment is never an issue."

The ART Award for Innovation in the Effective Use of Technology in Teaching Sponsored by John Taylor & Co.

Winner: Geoff Horritt

"The initial objectives in 2015 were to build a Training Centre at Weston to provide focussed training from handling up to LtR Level 5 and beyond, to serve the local towers in the Benefice, and then be extended to the District. In addition, two local towers at Sandon and Wallington were to have single bell sensors installed. These initial objectives have been met this year with the installation of sensors on all bells at Holy Trinity Weston, and the setting up of two work stations."

The ART Learning the Ropes Individual Achievement Awards Sponsored by the Ancient Society of College Youths

Winner – Achievement Award: Jimmy Yeoman
Highly Commended: Daniel Hughes



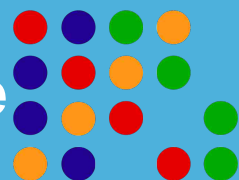
"Jimmy has rung a total of 11 peals (5 on handbells) from Doubles to Royal and 27 quarter peals (ranging from Doubles to Caters) and has conducted 5 of them. Before Jimmy turned up to an Exning bellringing practice in October 2016 he had never had any connections with bellringing. To see what he has achieved in the two years (especially in 2018) since his first lesson is astounding."

Winner – Contribution Award: Judy Farrimond
Highly Commended: Jenny & Tim Sunter



"In the three years that she has been ringing Judy has achieved her Learning the Ropes Level 5 and rung in 34 quarter peals. Judy has attended the ART Module 1 course, is actively teaching and will be ready for assessment in the new year. She became Branch Secretary after six months of ringing and still fulfils that role."





My interest in dumb bells [writes Geoff] was initially kindled not long after the millennium by a photograph of one of the first Ringing Roadshows in The Ringing World, showing a number of weird dumb bell contraptions – bicycle wheels with ropes for example! I'm a retired defence and space engineer, so practical solutions with an engineering angle have always interested me.

In 2002 I became a Herts Central Council rep and a year later I joined the Education Committee, followed shortly afterwards by Pip Penney. It wasn't long before she was launching the ART Teaching Scheme, working collaboratively with the Central Council. Soon after I retired, in 2007, the Central Council had a Ringing Centres initiative, but I failed to find a suitable local venue. However, I was pleased when St Peter, St Albans, applied for and was successful in obtaining funding from the Central Council. From then on, I used the centre at St Albans once a year for a District training morning until the centre closed a few years later.

Retired Physics teacher John McCutcheon built an optical sensor for me and we tried it out at my home tower in the village of Sandon. It worked and I used it occasionally, but at that time I was still working full-time and playing cricket, so I didn't have much time to spare. John built another sensor for the church at Weston, in North Herts. We had some trouble with its alignment, realised what the problem was, but we simply did not find the time to make the adjustments.

At the first of two Ringing Roadshows at the Newbury Racecourse, the Education Committee stand displayed the prototype Saxilby simulator and support frame, built by David Horrocks. My task was to show punters how it worked and to let them have a go. At the end of the show the simulator was packed into my car, so I took it to Sandon and assembled it at the back of the church at the time of the annual flower festival. A villager said that she would like to learn to ring and I arranged to meet her on a Saturday morning and try out with the bell. Within two hours she was ringing a tower bell and on the following Tuesday rang rounds with the band! That's when I decided that dumb bells were the way forward. I have never quite repeated that experience in Sandon, and soon after David

Horrocks reclaimed his hardware.

A year or so passed, and then in 2012 Weston's PCC generously asked the ringers if we needed any funding. Together with Tower Captain Richard Clements we suggested that they might buy a Saxilby for us. The complete Saxilby with a stand was too expensive at that time, so we went for just the Saxilby dumb bell which we mounted in the tower at Weston. We sourced a second-hand computer and screen and there it was – our first simulator! We trialled it over the next few years with training handling and method ringing. I also trialled focused ringing mornings – two learners and six experienced ringers – for a few hours of dedicated practice and all concerned enjoyed their morning. At this time we applied for an ART Award and were delighted to be Highly Commended, but I thought we could do more.

By then I was travelling around the UK extensively and was always interested in looking at simulators and talking to whoever would listen about training hardware and how it could be used. In 2018 I saw the opportunity to obtain some funding to enable Weston to become a Training Centre in the District. Sensors have been added to each of the six bells so we can now teach up to six learners simultaneously with the bells' clappers tied. It has opened up so many possibilities for the learners, who can practise at any time of the day, on a virtual system which can replicate the experience of ringing in a band of up to 12 ringers. It has enabled us to teach youngsters safely, and in response to the Ringing Remembers recruitment initiative, we used the equipment to train a complete new band for Cottered, where the five bells of St John the Baptist have not rung regularly this century. In addition to those individuals named above, I am particularly grateful to Holy Trinity Weston's Rector Reverend Fiona Wheatley and the Parochial Church Councilors for their support. Also, to County Councillor Steve Jarvis and The Whiting Society for providing seed-corn funding. In parallel the tower at Hitchin offered me their Saxilby dumb bell and a local ringer Bob Langley has designed and built a frame. This is now available to the District and has just been on loan to the Essex Course over Easter.

I invariably finish second in competitions, so I was very surprised to win an award at the last ART



Geoff being presented with one of his awards at the ART conference

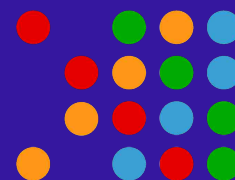
Conference and then two came along at the same time! The monetary awards will be used to provide extra facilities at the Weston Hills Ringing Centre. We want to install cameras in the belfry and we also hope to install a camera in the ringing chamber itself, so that a TV screen can be placed in the nave to enable those in the church to see the bell ringing as it takes place.

Currently, I am experimenting with the use of headphones for the hard-of-hearing, by running the simulator in parallel with open ringing. The simulator is set to produce a sharp clear sound to enable the user to pick out their bell. The problem with normal hearing aids is that they tend to cut out the background sound which includes the sound of the bell!

Finally, the "clamp the clapper" challenge. What I would like to have is an electro-mechanical device in the clapper bearing which enables the clappers to be clamped using a switch in the ringing room. This should not be difficult to engineer and would greatly enhance the use of simulators for teaching and practice nights. Would the Central Council or ART or Association training budgets like to put forward some money for the design and development of such a system? Some ringers are already thinking of potential systems but we need a concerted effort which also involves the bell hangers

For more information you can contact the Weston Hills Ringing Centre directly on ringingWHRC@gmail.com

Jenny Thomson & Geoff Horritt



Generosity

Pervading the ART conference was a spirit of generosity that sent me home with a glow in the heart. On Friday night we rang a course of Double Norwich. I'm no longer a DNCB ringer but those generous seven encouraged that third attempt.

Hours of generously-given time, preparing talks. They sometimes inspired, sometimes pointed up my inadequacies, sometimes produced ideas and, yes, sometimes passed me by. I'll not say which was which but I will single out an exhibitor. Handbell restorer Alan Collings was, as always generous with his time, trade "secrets" and even a give-away handbell! Alan hit my spot but others will tell similar stories of other folk.

There were my generous breakfast companions who encouraged me to rabbit on about my own affairs with no mention of their own successes in the ART Award ceremony.

It's great to be perpetually surprised by all that sort of generosity. But perhaps I shouldn't be. Bell ringers are a pretty good bunch, really.

A breath of fresh air

I've sat in a lot of rooms and halls, full of ringers, filled with ringers' teas. And, although we have some good meetings, there's always the grumbles "The Branch Ringing Master should do this, the Secretary should do that". We've all been there.

The ART Conference was a breath of fresh air. Still a room full of ringers, but enthusiastic ringers, motivated ringers, ringers who want to make ringing better. People who believe it's not just about bell ringing, it's actually about bell ringers. Can't wait for next year!

Sharing ideas with Friends

Another superb ART Conference with a very interesting line-up of inspiring speakers. It's always great to hear of successful and new recruitment ideas, in particular the Mancroft Ringing Discovery Centre story. It was also great to meet Rose and catch up with many other ART colleagues.

Youth

Out of the whole weekend I had in Worcester, the best part for me was the Tour of the Cathedral Tower and

Ringling Centre. I found this extremely informative and educational as everything about how the dumbbells work and the history of the bells and tower was explained tremendously well. It really gave me an insight as to how learners at the tower gain so much confidence in the simulator room before moving onto the real bells. It also allowed me to get some ideas for myself as to what processes I could take to newer ringers around my area as well as thinking about how it would benefit me in the long run for learning new methods and developing my skills even further.

Another part of the weekend which also stood out for me was the Interactive Sessions. This was where everyone was split into four separate groups and was assigned a station to go to. These were all hosted by youth leaders and included School Groups, Youth Groups and the RWNVC, Running Mixed Age Groups and Transition to University. I particularly loved how each person in the group was able to say something and have their opinion, as everything was being written on a board, so that we could see how different people have different ways to do things. I was able to present many of my own ideas to each group which resulted in others giving their own input, which I found very constructive as I am only young.

Parental Involvement

For those of us who organise events for young ringers, the parents might just have been seen as the means of getting the young ringers to the events. Pip explained how we can draw the parents in by communicating with them and getting to know them. For instance, making sure the parents collect the young ringers from the ringing room rather than waiting in the cold outside, and updating the parents on their children's progress. We should arrange events as family outings so the rest of the family can be part of the events (e.g. trips on heritage railways to towers). This is excellent advice and I intend to do more of this from now on. (We might even get some of the parents to learn to ring!)

The Youth Forum

Several people suggested I should attend the ART Conference as it was focusing on Young People this year. I drove down after work on Saturday

morning and arrived just in time for the ART Award Ceremony. This was a wonderful opportunity to learn first-hand what wonderful projects are taking place up and down the land with young people and with technological innovation. It was a lovely surprise when our own Yorkshire Tykes were announced as joint runners up in the Schools and Youth Groups category.

Day two saw the Youth Forum open with a thought-provoking assessment of where we are today, and where we hope to get to in the future by David Hull ... hang on don't I know him from somewhere? Followed by an interactive session to gain delegates thoughts on how to galvanise school groups, youth groups and university groups. I'm not big on these types of sessions but ideas were flying around and some seem really positive. I used some of the time to network and do my own bit of information gathering from those around me. Other sessions followed from the Girl Guides, D of E scheme, and crucially Pip Penney focused on parental involvement, which I see as the vital link to success with any activity involving young people.

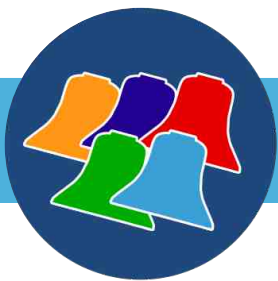
All very informative and I do hope the best ideas are taken forward. A good start would be to pull all the information we already have about active groups (schools, youth teams and universities) together into one place. To enable others to see the good work already going on out there and avoid re-inventing the wheel and share best practice.

And finally ...

Association of Ringing Teachers
Worcester, Worcestershire
St Swithun
Friday, 1 March 2019 (13-0-21 in F)
1260 Doubles (5m)
60 Grandsire, 420, 360 St Martin,
240 St Simon 240 Plain Bob
1 Ann Abraham
2 Louise Booth
3 Claire Holbrook
4 Sandra Underwood
5 Graham Nabb (c)
6 David Smith

Rung by ART Members on the eve of conference and as a thank you to the ringer of 5 for his 3 years as Chairman

**Christopher Wright, Colin Ward,
Sandra Underwood, Steph
Runting, Susan Read & Jane
Lynch**



Learning the Ropes Achievers

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



February 2019

George Davis - Thurstaston
Nick Willson - Loddon Ringing Hub: Hurst
Stephanie Milner - Loddon Ringing Hub: Hurst
Keith Milner - Loddon Ringing Hub: Hurst
Jeremy Carpenter - Loddon Ringing Hub: Hurst
Karen Squirrell - Woolpit
Carole Taylor - St Comgall, Bangor
Sue Carter - Islip
Duncan Kendall - Loddon Ringing Hub: Hurst
Natasha Burns - Much Hadham
Laura Harvey - Washington Cathedral
Herbert Dal Corso - Washington Cathedral
Marie Camilleri - Washington Cathedral
Tony Myerhofer - Washington Cathedral
Niah Bradley - Chester Cathedral
Jenny Roberts - Hyde St George
Susan Maddock - Mottram in Longdendale
David Selby - Mottram in Longdendale
June Evans - Hyde St George
Marcus Wood - Thorpe on the Hill
Joyce Bates - Monksilver
Diana Mead - Cockermouth
Peter Harrington - Bridekirk
Edward Grabke - Troyte Ringing Centre
Jules Franks - Shawell
Storm Empson - South Derbyshire Ringing Centre
Maurice Hoare - Walsoken
Carol Hawkins - Walsoken
Michele Gallon - Walsoken
Tina Thorpe - Walsoken
Malcolm - Thorpe - Walsoken
Jacqueline Jones - Wingham
Scott Cooper - Shawell
Nick Bircher - Shawell
Julia Hampson - Shawell
Clare Waters - Shawell
Brian Giles - Weekley
Poddy Ander - Puddletown
Thea Tasker - Dunster
William Evans - Carhampton
Andrew Morrison - Alderley
Elijah Darling - Dunham Massey
Kate Robert - Dunham Massey
Vera Paksy - Dunham Massey
Aaron Sutton - Dunham Massey
Rees Berrisford - Dunham Massey
Adam Paksy - Dunham Massey
Margie Crawford - Kilmood
Ben Robinson - Kilmood
Dulan Thomas - Wellington Cathedral
Steve Majury - Kilmood
Joan Warrington - Kilmood
Ollie Parker - Shawell
Lisa Netherwood - Shawell
Andy Netherwood - Shawell
Cathryn De Boer - Stretton on Dunsmore
Spencer Wadsworth - Stretton on Dunsmore
Matthew Cooper - Fittleworth

Angus Leigh - Aynho
Gerald Brushby - Weston on the Green
Andrew Wilkinson - Weston on the Green
Julie Bailey - Carhampton
Robert Mears - Puddletown
Rebecca Alderton - Bocking
Louie Alderton - Bocking
Rachel Oakes - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Duncan Macey - Maids Moreton
Michele Hilbrow - Goldhanger
Josephine Bradford - Margaret Marsh
Tim Herral - Tiverton St Paul
Katie Waterworth - Stretton on Dunsmore
Natasha Vonhof - Weekley
Lyla Vonhof Small - Weekley

March 2019

Helen McKenzie - Wells next the Sea
Fay Bennett - Sprotbrough
Lucy Burnham - Evenley
Andrea Macauley - Whitley Bay
Mary Ruth Mayo - London Bell Ringing School (Highgate)
Philip Mead - Horningsea
Ian Foreman - Walsoken
Debra McGowan - Walsoken
Harry Tozer - Stanground
Lynda Lawrence - Ducklington
Carmen Tollerson - Ducklington
Lottie Taylor - Docklands Ringing Centre (Bermondsey)
Valerie Massie - Great Totham
Sandra Mackie - Great Totham
Peter Mickelsen - Great Totham
Amanda Mickelsen - Great Totham
Colette Stroud - Whitley Bay
John Close - Winterborne Whitechurch
Ella Bull - Troyte Ringing Centre ART Hub
Janet Asiliskender - Poulton le Fylde
Marion Duncan - Poulton le Fylde
Debra Nixon - Holt
Victoria Thompson - Burnham on Sea
Bradley Gittings - Hyde St George
Karen Hildreth - North Shields
Nicole Morgan - Brent Pelham
Kate Taylor - Childswickham
Geoff Franks - Shawell
Jo Harris - Harrow on the Hill
Caspar Kennedy - Harrow on the Hill
George Robinson - Barnard Castle
Alix Robinson - Barnard Castle
Sam Wich - Pontefract
Emma Whipp - Pontefract
Chris Dagger - Pontefract
Karen Glynn - Pontefract
Esme Bailey - Tulloch
Richard Hill - Tiverton St Peter
Julie Hill - Tiverton St Peter
Thomas Crow Brown - Minster
John Mundy - Bowerchalke
Jane Sladen - Crondall
Dawn Hackett - Bowerchalke
Julius Jones - Docklands Ringing Centre (Walworth)
Daniel M Smith - Piddlehinton

Susan Payne - Piddlehinton
Tim Jeanes - Piddlehinton
Paul Johns - Piddlehinton
Harry Steven - Piddlehinton
Herbert R Hudson - Piddlehinton
Tia Moore - Piddlehinton
Courtney Elizabeth Moon - Piddlehinton
Anthony L Smith - Piddlehinton

April 2019

Geoff Stone - Petersfield
Tony Edwards - Rattlesden
John Sawyer - Poulton le Fylde
Alison Sawyer - Poulton le Fylde
Martin Braundt - Horringer
Jo Braundt - Horringer
Poppy Gauvain - Wells Bells Alderney
Ayla Lord - Wells Bells Alderney
Sally-Ann Lewis - Wells Bells Alderney
Lex Earthquake - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Liz Oakes - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Sarah King - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Jane Morris - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Tracy Cowburn - Old Glossop
Hannah Jane Lees Hill - Old Glossop
Trevor Smith - Horringer
Christiana Hancox - Perranarworthal
Chris Davie - Perranarworthal
Christopher Peace - Thurstaston
Christine Carruthers - Roker
Kay Ritchie - Welton
Andy Booth - Hexham
Peter Martin - Hutton
Madhu Davies - Great Wilbraham
Isaac Darling - Dunham Massey
Lorraine Niblett - Sidmouth
Martin Potts - Bradfield
Rosemary Hadow - London Bellringing School, Pimlico
Amelia-Jayne Bale - Whitstable
Lorraine Potts - Bradfield
Howard Eyre - Bradfield
Maisie Jenner - Whitstable
Janie Mann - Bowerchalke
Steve Brealey - Troyte Ringing Centre
Bridget Little - Troyte Ringing Centre
Colin Birt - Kingston upon Thames
Glen Olley - Ingrave
Isaac Smith - Writtle
Ruby Moulton - St Mary's, Peterborough
Alison Nelson - Kilmood
Maria Lofts - Old Fletton
Sarah Collins - Sidmouth
Luiza Barrios - Pattishall
Paul Washington - Chearsley
Paul White - St Cleer
Les Dixon - Monksilver
Malcolm Ware - Leckhampton
Paul Poser - Puddletown
Kathleen Orme - Handbridge
Emily Breen - Terling
Aleander Nicolai - Wargrave (Loddon Hub)



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

February 2019

Robert Mears - Puddletown
 William Bishop - Puddletown
 Jo Rimmer - Thorpe on the Hill
 Julie Hampson - Shawell
 Miranda Jones - Dunblane
 Ruth Francis - Woodchester
 Sue Taylor - Great Gransden
 Evadne Vallance - South Leigh
 Emma Hughes - Puddletown
 Dylan Thomas - Wellington Cathedral
 Nicki Courtney Hart - Eardisley
 Richard McKnight - Kildwick
 Tina Thorpe - Walsoken
 Carol Knott - Broomfield
 Andrew Knott - Broomfield
 Nathan Fuller - Burwell
 Rees Sather Berrisford - Dunham Massey
 Adam Paksy - Dunham Massey
 Vera Paksy - Dunham Massey
 Elijah Darling - Dunham Massey
 Aaron Sutton - Dunham Massey
 Kate Roberts - Dunham Massey
 Alec Bell - Histon
 Angus Firth - Kildwick
 Lisa Raymer - St Chad Shrewsbury
 Angus Leigh - Aynho
 Julie Rudman - Moresby

Jim Barwise - Moresby
 Peter Grierson - Moresby
 Barbara Southwell - Moresby
 Anne Grierson - Moresby
 Anne Denwood - Moresby
 Abbie Stonier - Yeovil St John's

March 2019

Nick Jenkins - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Helen McKenzie - Wells next the Sea
 Debra Brown - Northallerton
 Rob Hargrave - Tadcaster
 John Firth - Tadcaster
 Toby Hughes - Belper
 Lesley Oats - Combe Raleigh
 Stefan Pond - Edgehill Ringing Centre
 Sue Carter - Islip
 Steve Rigby - Gosforth
 Judith McLane - Gosforth
 Alicja Sznurkowska - Chiswick
 Marlies Boink - Ypres
 Sven Berg - Ypres
 Hugh Shipman - Ypres
 Joseph Godfrey - Loddon Hub (Twyford)
 Heather Horner - South Leigh
 Katy Douthwaite - Pattishall
 Ellie Andrews - Loddon Hub (Sonning)
 Henry Lansley - Chichester Cathedral

John Close - Winterborne Whitechurch
 Janet Asilskender - Poulton le Fylde
 Isabelle Johnson - Barnes
 Vanessa Ellams - Great Totham
 Mark Bushby - Tibberton
 Molly Holmes - Dunblane Cathedral
 Peter Henderson - Tibberton
 Karin Freer - Southover Lewes
 Scott Cooper - Shawell
 Carol Craven - Darlington
 Paula Aldrich - Crondall
 Jo Laws - Ockley
 Graham Hunt - Ockley

April 2019

Peggy Hirt - Great Tew
 Tom Woodland - Puddletown
 Dorinda Ostermann - Docklands Ringing Centre - Limehouse
 Chris Hinkins - St Ives
 Edward Bale - Whitstable
 Hazel Harlock - Winterborne Stickland
 David Moore - Dunster
 Stephen Chisman - Lytchett Minster
 Hepi Cole - Leominster Priory
 Katie Thomas - Sonning (Loddon Hub)
 Jane Farquharson - Dunblane Cathedral
 Alexander Nicolai - Wargrave (Loddon Hub)



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)

February 2019

Ross Havenhand - Doncaster Minster
 Aidan Purchase - Aylesbury
 Daniel Braniff - Workington
 Edward Gormley - Docklands Ringing Centre - Lewisham
 Florence Jones - Troyte Ringing Centre
 Chiara McBrien - St Congall, Bangor
 Tony Vernon - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 Holly Pyke - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 David Hill Ilderton - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
 John Broom - Arnold
 Samantha Goode - Leominster Priory
 Rohan Agarwal - Newdigate St Peter

Emma Marsh - Heddington
 Dylan Thomas - Wellington Cathedral
 Liz Millward - Ypres
 Timothy J Lodge - Barnby Dun
 John Close - Winterborne Whitechurch
 Peter T Biggin - Tamworth
 Jack W Lisseter - Tamworth
 Katie Havenhand - Doncaster Minster

April 2019

Katie Armitage - Wokingham
 Sue Walker - Petersfield
 Henry Wood - Town Church, Guernsey
 Sharon Jewitt - Tadcaster
 Edward Bale - Whitstable
 Francis Town - Northallerton

March 2019

Blake Lawrence - Leominster
 Heather Horner - South Leigh
 Evadne Vallance - South Leigh
 Colin Helyer - Northallerton



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

February 2019

Edward Askew - Kildwick
 Cory Gibson - Aylesbury
 Zoe Eyles-Vaughan - St Woolos Cathedral, Newport

March 2019

Kate Best - Yeovil St John's
 Ellis Hollows - St Annes on Sea
 Joseph Blake - Town Church Guernsey
 John Close - Winterborne Whitechurch

April 2019

Henry Wood - Town Church, Guernsey
 Bryony Gray - Monksilver
 Ross Havenhand - Doncaster Minster
 Gil Firth - Tadcaster
 Janet Bond - Maids Moreton
 Andrew Moncrief - Whitehaven
 Delia Brandwood - Monksilver



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).

March 2019

Caspar Clyde - Darlington
Janice Firth - Town Church Guernsey
Will Le Ray - Town Church Guernsey
Joseph Blake - Town Church Guernsey

April 2019

Harry Helyer - Northallerton
Charlie Linford - Birmingham School of Bell Ringing
Charlie Thorpe - Tadcaster
Kaeko Tozawa - St Giles, Norwich
Noah J McDermott - Sprotbrough



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

March 2019

Steve Vickars - Kirtlington, Ringing Plain Minor

April 2019

June Banister - St Annes, Alderney - Ringing Plain Major
Harry Helyer - Northallerton - Ringing 10 Bells
Harry Helyer - Northallerton - Ringing First Peal

ART Conference 2019 in pictures

