



SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS BELL RINGING TALKS

Talks are on 'Zoom' and start at 7.30 p.m. (join from 7.15 p.m.) Each talk will be approximately 45 minutes with time afterwards for questions. Enjoy these talks from the comfort and warmth of your own home. No charge, but a voluntary donation to the LEBRF (Diocesan Bell Restoration Fund Charity No. 270529) in lieu of a ticket would be much appreciated. Talks will be recorded and posted on-line.

**SATURDAY
16 JANUARY 2021**

**Registration Deadline: One Day
Beforehand (Book early)**

THE GREAT BRITISH BELLFOUNDING REVIVAL

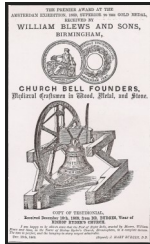
*Bell Founders and Bell Hangers of
the late Nineteenth
Century*



**Speaker: Chris
Pickford**

Did you know that by the mid-1840s the Whitechapel

foundry had a near monopoly in the British bell founding market? The Victorian church reforms coupled with the reordering and restoration of churches changed all that. This talk explores the great British bell founding revival.



A ringer for over 50 years, Chris is now based in south Staffordshire. He is a Past Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths and has rung 2000+ peals.

Now semi-retired, he spent his working life as an archivist. He is the author of ten books, but the history of bells and bell founding is his "special subject".

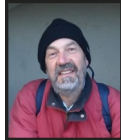
*Above: William Blews and Sons
Advertisement (Church Bell
Founders).*

**SATURDAY
20 FEBRUARY 2021**

**Registration Deadline: One Day
Beforehand (Book early)**

WAR AND COVID

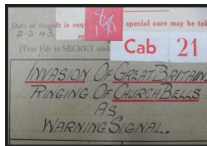
*A 'Long View' of Restrictions on
Ringing*



**Speaker: Robert
Willen**

There is a programme on BBC Radio 4 called 'The Long View'. In it, a contemporary event

or phenomenon is taken and compared to historical events which appear to have some similarities. For this talk I apply this format to our recent situation in comparison to the last time the British State intervened to regulate the ringing of church bells, between 1940 and 1943.



Robert has been Master of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers

since 2015. He lives in Gillingham in north Dorset. He has rung since a teenager and has rung over 1500 quarter peals. He has a lifelong interest in history and a Masters degree in the subject from Lancaster University.

*Above: Cabinet Files 1943.
(National Archives).*

**SATURDAY
20 MARCH 2021**

**Registration Deadline: One Day
Beforehand (Book early)**

FOR WEDDINGS AND SOME FUNERALS

*Ringling for Life and Death events in
the 18th and 19th centuries*



**Speaker: Gareth
Davies**

What was the difference between ringing for a wedding and a marriage? Did the death of Prince Albert start a trend to have bells rung for funerals? How much did the ringers get paid? Discover how the custom of ringing for such events developed and how practices differed from the way we do things today.



The bridegroom should also now make arrangements for the bells being rung after the ceremony, the sentiment of this being that it is the husband that must call on all the neighbours to rejoice with him on his roosting his wife, and not the lady's father on her going from his house.

Having retired from a career in education, Gareth is currently completing a PhD on the history of bellringing in Cambridge. He is the tower captain at Swaffham Prior, a six-bell tower in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. He is also a keen handbell ringer. He has tenuous local family links , as his great great grandfather died in the workhouse at Warminster.

*Above: The Etiquette of Courtship
and Matrimony.*

Information and Contacts:

Guild website at <https://sdgr.org.uk/bell-ringing-talks/> Registration is simple and will be via 'Eventbrite' at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/three-bellringing-talks-tickets-130556009539?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>.

There is an LEBRF 'Just Giving' website for each talk, details sent by Eventbrite with each 'ticket'. General Information-Robert Willen on guild.master@sdgr.org.uk | LEBRF Information-Anne Wardell on lebrf@sdgr.org.uk | Technical Support (i.e. Eventbrite/ 'Zoom')-Vicki Rowse on guild.secretary@sdgr.org.uk