Bath & Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers



President: THE RIGHT REVEREND THE LORD BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS The BELL FUND of the Association is Registered Charity No. 73962

REV MARK JACKSON 12 PALMER STREET SOUTH PETHERTON SOMERSET TA13 5DB 01460 242171 Master@bath-wells.org DAVID PARFREY 9 KINGSTON AVENUE SALTFORD BRISTOL BS31 3LF 01225 873887 General.Secretary@bath-wells.org

Draft Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting Held at 3:15pm on Saturday 13th May 2023 at Holy Trinity, Street

1. Opening Items

1.1. Welcome – Deputy Master

In opening the meeting Marilyn Backhurst explained that our Master was unwell and unable to be with us but had sent everyone his good wishes. Consequently, as Deputy Master for this year, she would be chairing today's AGM. The meeting asked the Deputy Master to convey their good wishes to Mark.

The Chair then welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanking Glaston Branch for hosting us this year.

1.2. Attendance and Apologies

Apologies had been received from:

Brenda Arscott	Julian Back	Bob Boulton	Helen Beaufoy	Jill Hansford
Mike Hansford	Annie Holland	Mark Jackson	Tim Marshall	Margaret Marshall
Bernard North	Helena Parfrey	Philippa Parfrey	Gordon Rendell	Jan Swann
Paul Taylor	George Wyatt	Jan Wyatt		

1.3. Remembering Friends

The meeting stood while we remembered those of our number who we have sadly lost.

In 2022

Peter Alderson	Ron Ballam	Roy Cave	Margaret Chapman
Roy Davis	lan Hay Davison	Tim Edmonds	Sue Fairhouse
John Hayter	Eddie Hancock	Tony Hodgson	Julian Kerry
Jeffrey Knipe	Reg Lee	Jim Major	Bruce Oakley
Edric Ovens	Debbie Parfrey	David Purnell	Mike Seeley
Victoria Su <pre>Pon-Thompson</pre>	Derek Vowles	Bob Walker	Margaret Whatmore
Brian Whitlock			

And In 2023 thus far we have said good-bye to:

David James Chris Swatton

1.4. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on 14th May 2022

The minutes had been reviewed at the General Committee in March and had been published with the meeting papers for this AGM. The meeting was content for the Chair to sign them as a true record of the 2022 AGM.

1.5. Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere)

No matters had been identified prior to the meeting, and none were identified during the meeting.

2. Elections

2.1. Election of New Members

The following new members were elected en-block:

Cade Gather – Junior Member from Somerton. Proposed by Bill Hall. Melissa Cooper – Wells. Proposed by Sam Shead Lynda Friel – Wells. Proposed by Sam Shead Henry Sage – Ditcheat. Proposed by Paul Feast David Bailey – Ditcheat. Proposed by Paul Feast Grayson Pattemore - Ditcheat. Proposed by Paul Feast

2.2. Long Service Awards

The meeting celebrated the service given by its members over many years. Special framed certificates were awarded to the following members recognising their long service:

Martyn Cave – 50 years
Steven Davies – 50 years
Maureen Hawkins – 60
Beverley Perry – 50 years
Jan Sapiezynsk – 50 years
Peter Tudball – 75

Jenny Cornwell – 50 years Clive Dennis – 51 June Legg – 50 years Gordon Rendell – 75 Andrew Sealy – 60 Sandra Verrier – 50 years

2.3. New Honorary Life Members

The Chair was pleased to be able to inform the meeting that Honorary Life Membership of the Association had been awarded to David Bromwich and Julian Back in recognition of their great contribution to the work of the Association. She was delighted to be able to present David Bromwich with his certificate, Julian who was unable to be present would receive his certificate later. Julian Back We are delighted to announce the election of David Bromwich and Julian Back as Honorary Life Members of the Association. Both have given vast service to our Association and we are extremely grateful.

2.4. Election of Officers

The following officers were elected en bloc:

Master - Mark Jackson	Deputy Master - Marilyn Backhurst			
General Secretary - David Parfrey	Treasurer - David Parfrey (b)			
Education Officer - Jill Hansford	Deputy Education Officer - Janet Wyatt			
Membership Secretary - David Parfrey (c)	Peal Secretary - Tony Cox			
Quarter Peal Secretary - Clifford Nicholls	Report Editor - Ken Hallett			
Safeguarding Officer - Steffi Penny	Librarian - David Bromwich			
Ringing Support Fund Officer - Margaret Lee	Association Bookstall - Janet Wyatt			
Webmasters - Julian Back & Paul Taylor (d)	Independent - Examiner Anna Hallett			
Central Council Representatives - Paul Feast, Michael Hansford, Matthew Higby,				
Charles Pipe-Wolferstan, David Parfrey				

- (a) The Tower Advisor & Assistant Tower Advisor are appointed by the General Committee and not through election at the AGM, it was noted that John Hallett and Bernard North had been respectively appointed to these positions.
- (b) Although David had been elected as Treasurer at the last AGM, he wished to record his gratitude to Liz Lane who had generously continued in post through 2022 to cover the role whilst David needed time out.

- (c) As agreed at 2022 AGM the roles of General Secretary & Association Treasurer have been brough together whilst we move through a period of modernising and restructuring, a part of which will lead to redefinition of the roles required by the Association. It was noted that since Debbie's death David has covered her Membership Secretary role, and it is proposed to add this to the restructuring activity as there are currently areas of overlap.
- (d) Paul Taylor was elected Webmaster in 2022, however as we are working on a new Website Julian has kindly continued to support the existing website.

Members were encouraged to note the explanatory comments below the table. Particularly noting that we agreed at 2022 AGM that we would seek to simplify, modernise and improve our admin processes, and this would have an impact on some of the officer roles we presently have, for example in removing present overlaps and duplications. DP apologised to the meeting that he did not make the headway on this that he had hoped during 2022, because of the sudden illness and subsequent death of his wife, Debbie. Nevertheless, one gap in our officer coverage he is concerned about is communication with members and beyond, he believes we need someone to handle this area. Although a role description has yet to be developed, and hence no election was sought at the AGM, DP said that he would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in this area after the meeting.

Notice was given today particularly for two roles requiring election in 2024:

- Peal Secretary Tony Cox has indicated that he wishes to step down in 2024
- Master Mark had indicated this week that he wishes not to seek re-election in 2024. This means that during the coming months, and at an appropriate time, we will begin the task of 'recruiting' a new Master. There will of course be a formal election at the 2024 AGM as there is every year, but in advance of that there will be process to identify potential candidates and pave the way for a successful transition.

2.5. Ratification of election of non-resident life members elected prior to peals

The Secretary reported that he had been made aware of three:

- Colin Newman from Reading who rang a peal at Wells on 28th May
- Adam Crocker from Bromsgrove who rang a peal at Chilcompton on 12th June
- Nicholas Elks from Peterborough who rang a peal at Long Ashton on 30th October

3. Officers Reports

The following officers reports had all been circulated in advance of the meeting and are included as an Annex to these minutes. The reports were taken as read.

- 3.1. Master's Report
- 3.2. General Secretary's Report
- 3.3. Treasurer's Report
- 3.4. Tower Advisor's Report
- 3.5. Ringing Support Fund Officer's Report
- 3.6. Education Officer's Report
- 3.7. Edna Grabham Memorial Education Fund Report
- 3.8. Safeguarding Officer's Report
- 3.9. Peal Secretary's Report
- 3.10. Quarter Peal Secretary's Report

4. Information

4.1. Association Striking Competitions

The General Committee had decided it wished to follow the same format as last year, and rules and explanatory notes had been circulated prior to the meeting. The competition will be at the kind invitation of Cary Branch on the last Saturday in September (30th). It will be based at Wincanton (8 bell class) and Pen Selwood 96 bell class) with everyone together for tea and results. Paul Feast had offered to lead on the arrangements for the competition and entries should be communicated direct to him.

4.2. Update on new Website

The Webmasters had sent their apologies for the AGM, however it was reported via the Secretary that progress is being made on the requirements definition of our new website. Paul & Julian had been trawling through other ringing association websites, not to copy them, but to see what they are offering and what works well and not so well; it was reported that our vision is for a best of breed, all new site. It will be produced for us by Will Carey of the Big Dot Co. Whilst the definition phase is not yet complete, new features might include on-line subscription payment, on-line updating of membership details etc, with the database behind this becoming the single source for all membership reporting, including the annual returns.

4.3. 'Festival of Ringing'

DP apologised that for the reasons already given he has not been able to progress this idea as he wished, and that 2022 had been overtaken by events of national importance involving ringing across the country (Jubilee and the death of Her Majesty the Queen). Also it was noted that 2023 has also had great national focus on bellringing as we came together to celebrate the Coronation. Given all these things, and the need to progress admin improvements DP proposed to return to this in 2024.

4.4. 2024 AGM – Ilchester Branch, Saturday 11th May 2024

Members were asked to note the date and location for the 2024 AGM. The Chair reminded members that they should now be used to the fact that 2nd Saturday in May each year is AGM day, and she asked them to put it on branch calendars, tower calendars and their own calendars now, and make a point that whenever Christmas, or whatever, brings a new calendar this date goes straight on. She emphasised that the point of having a fixed date means that we don't need any comms to tell us when it is going to be, only where it is going to be.

5. Other Business

Two items had been notified in advance of the meeting, and a third was requested at the meeting:

5.1. Milverton with Halse, Fitzhead and Ash Priors

This was a proposal from the Master to transfer the tower affiliations and membership of the Milverton with Halse, Fitzhead and Ash Priors Benefice from Taunton Branch to Dunster Branch. The meeting was informed that this has the support of the committees of both the Taunton and the Dunster Branches.

Keith Beale commented that the members of these towers were not supportive of this change and had no wish to change Branches. As neither the Master nor the representatives of the Taunton committee were present it was felt that this could not be taken further at this meeting. Keith had wished to raise his unhappiness with the overall situation with regard to the Benefice, its members and the Taunton Branch, he had prepared a note for the Master concerning this however, again because the Master and Taunton Committee representatives were unable to be present, Keith did not ask for this to be discussed further at this time.

5.2. Committee Communication

Glenn Taylor had concerns about the present level of communication between the Committee and the Association's membership, and clarity in areas of the rules.

It was generally agreed that improved communications would be very beneficial. The Secretary responded that as he had mentioned under the election of officers he felt the need for a committee member dedicated to the role of internal and external communications, and would undertake to develop a draft brief for the role, he hoped a volunteer would be forthcoming. However he also reminded the meeting that every Branch has a representative on the General Committee, and that the purpose of this role is to maintain the link between the Committee and the Branches, and through Branches to our members.

As to rules, the meeting agreed that they had only been redrafted two years ago, after a great deal of consultation. That is not to say that they are perfect and further improvements that could be made. Members may propose amendments to the rules for consideration at any AGM, and the rules do require a formal review every five years, the next of which will be due during the next two years with the outcome to be submitted for approval at the 2025 AGM. A particular issue is the implementation rules and the processes required to make them work, and the Secretary had produced an accompanying procedures document. He apologised that this had not been posted on the website, he wanted to review it again in the light of experience gained since it was originally drafted, and he hoped that when published it would help.

5.3. Committee Work

Sam Shead asked if he might comment on the work being done by the officers on behalf of the Association's members. He reminded the meeting that all the officers are volunteers and give freely of their time, and that they do their best and they deserve members thanks for all they do. He paid particular tribute to the Secretary, who despite such a very sad year he had remained in office and continued working for the membership. He asked the meeting to join him in a round of applause for the officers.

5.4. Vote of Thanks

John Hallett gave the vote of thanks, to the Revd Ana Lawrence, for taking the service and allowing us to come to Street, to Charles Pipe-Wolferstan for again playing the organ, to Mike Palmer and Graham Darke for local arrangements, to everyone worked to give us such a splendid tea, and of course to Marilyn Backhurst for stepping in the Chair the meeting.

6. Close

The meeting closed with the Grace.

OFFICERS REPORTS

REFLECTIONS FROM THE MASTER – Mark Jackson

To my fellow Bellringers in the Association.

I want to say thank you to all those who quietly work in the background making our Association effective and workable. Many jobs are achieved by unsung heroes who have shown such dedicated service to the cause of ringing. The range is enormous but mustn't go unheralded. Much free time is given so that we can improve our skills and keeping the wheels turning no mean feat. So my gratitude to all who ring, serve our community and make things happen. Many of our jobs lacklustre but are important. What we do we do for all, and so when you see a gap in the system, please volunteer and lend a hand.

We are moving into another new phase. We see a breakthrough in new developments, and the bells are more important than ever to ring out joyfully in what often appears to be a tired and challenged world. Encouragement, outreach, service, are indeed what we stand for. Churches would be much duller places without the bells and the call to worship is indeed a very ancient practice.

There is a massive push to revitalise our art, to encourage the young to learn in a safe environment and our responsibility to embrace the best we can achieve and give to the Association.

We look forward to new beginnings and even better achievements, greater skills and a common theme of mutual support. So thank you for what you have done in the past, what you offer for the next generation and what you bring to building up our community.

Markfulism

Dear friends,

In my last report I spoke about our cautious return from the pandemic; the difficult days of 2020 and 2021 in particular will not be forgotten, and we remembered those lost to our art. Nevertheless it was time to look forward, a Platinum Jubilee beckoned; if ever there were a time to ring out in celebration this would be it. I also floated my thoughts of a Festival of ringing.

We held our AGM, a little light on attendance, perhaps understandably as for many caution still remained. Nevertheless we were very well looked after by the Frome Branch with our service at Midsomer Norton with tea and meeting at Chilcompton. Key decisions at our meeting included moving ahead with an all new website, the recruitment of a part-time administrator and modernisation and simplification of many of our ways of doing things. And so we left with heads high looking to a better future. As many will know life for me and our family was uptipped when my wife Debbie, died after a short illness. I have been ringing for nearly all of my life and a member of our Association for over 50 years, and during that time I have been fortunate to have made many friends. If these last months have taught me anything it is the value of friendship, I have been blessed to have received incredible support from friends across the Association and I thank you all. Also can I thank you for the patience you have shown me during this time. I am now moving ahead with the list of things we had planned so please do look out for things happening, please support the initiatives wherever and however you can. I will be keeping you up to date regularly with progress and there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved. The AGM, hosted very kindly by Glaston Branch this year will of course be a good place for updates and discussion.

Before I finish I would like to return to friendship. We are one of the larger associations and to me that gives us a responsibility to show the way. Perhaps one of two of our processes have fallen a bit behind times, but we are addressing that. But of people: when I learnt it was well known that wherever you went, as a ringer you would find yourself amongst friends. I certainly have found that is still the case, I hope, though, it is the case for all of us. Perhaps our ringing brings us peals or quarters in regular bands, perhaps it is our own practice nights or the opportunity to visit others. Ringing for service on Sundays and at other times will certainly feature, but wherever and however we ring we cannot do it alone, we depend on our friends and they depend on us. We are one Association, we are one membership, my hope is that in all we do we hold a hand of friendship to our fellow ringers, whoever they are and wherever they are, so that friendship and support for each other defines us in the Bath & Wells DACR.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Liz Lane

Overall member numbers continue to decline, however there is still enough income to cover costs. Normally a £20K transfer to the Ringing Support Fund is made, however surplus funds have been left to cover planned expenditure in the following year. No payments have been made under the return to ringing scheme, and now all unclaimed awards are cancelled.

	GENER			ME AND EXPENDITURE December 2022	
2021	INCOME	2022	2021	EXPENDITURE	2022
£		£	£		£
17122	Branch Membership & Badge Sales	15,011	200	Central Council Subscription	200
0	(less Branch Expenses)	0	0	Central Council Reps Expenses	0
<u>0</u>	(less Branch Ringing World Notices)	<u>0</u>	0	Ringing World Notices - Association	0
17122		15,011	0	Expenses: Gen Sec - administration	0
			0	Gen Sec - Membership	0
62	Peal Booking Fees	46	0	Treasurer	0
0	Sales of Report and Badges	20	0	Peal Sec & Asst	0
0	Advertising	0	0	Report Editor	0
0	Donation via General Fund	0	0	Education Officer	0
22	Bank Interest Received	98	0	Dep Education Officer	0
	Sale of Books	0	0	Webmaster	0
			0	*Cost of Annual Report	0
22	Other (back year subs)	<u>0</u>	361	Insurance Public Liability	375
			0	Training	0
			10	Central Council Library Subscription	10
			1,708	Return to Ringing	0
			0	Other (incl subs overpaid)	
			20,000	Transfers to Bell Fund	0
			21649	Total Expenditure	585
<u>17207</u>	Total Income	<u>15,175</u>	<u>-4442</u>	Surplus Income over Expenditure	<u>14,589</u>
			<u>17207</u>	-	15,175

*Annual report printing costs cheque cleared in 2023

GENERAL FUND - BALANCE SHEET As at 31st December 2022

2021	LIABILITIES	s	2022	202	1 4	ASSETS		2022	
£			£	£				£	
	Accumulated				0	Cash:			
44,451.28	Balance at 1s 2022		40,009.70	39,88	25 N	John out Dank	Current	54,472.	00
44,451.28	Plus Surplus :		40,009.70	39,88		Jatwest Bank Jatwest Bank		54,472.	09
-4,441.78	Year	ior die	14,589.59	0		Reserve	oupital	0.	00
	Balance at 31						-		~~
	December 20	22	54,599.29			Cash in Hand			00
				127		Cash in Hand		0. 101.	00
						Ringing Worl 3.5% War Los			80 00
40.000.50		200	10 000 50			0.0% War Loa	an		
40,009.50		=	40,009.50	40,01	0.2			54,573.	<u>- 22</u>
		1.	5225 75	627 678	10000	20.00	2000		L
	Members	2022		s, Associate	Deduct	10.1 C	Net	Net	
	in 2022	compared to 2021		& HLMs at ember 2022	Expense Claimed		Receipts	Receipts	
BRANCH			No	£	£	£	£	%	
Axbridge	169	-10	179	1,690.00		0.00	1,690.00	100	
Bath	125	-14	139	1,225.00		0.00	1,225.00	100	
Bridgwater	126	7	119	1,260.00		0.00	1,260.00	100	
Cary	164	-11	175	1,640.00		0.00	1,640.00	100	
Chew	176	41	135	1,760.00		0.00	1,760.00	100	
Crewkerne	76	-25	101	760.00		0.00	760.00	100	
Dunster	131	-6	137	1,310.00		0.00	1,310.00	100	
Frome	107	-17	124	1,070.00		0.00	1,070.00	100	
Glaston	90	-4	94	900.00		0.00	900.00	100	
Suboos Ilchester	100	-33	133	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00	100	
Taunton	178	-37	215	1,776.00		0.00	1,776.00	100	
Non-Resident	1/8	-37	215	1,770.00		0.00	1,770.00	100	
HLMs	1	0	1	10.00			10.00		
Totals	1,441	-109	1,550	14,410	0.0	0 0.00	14,410	100	

Ringing Support Fund Trustees' Report 2022 – Liz Lane

The Ringing Support Fund continues to have a healthy balance with a number of grants approved during the year. Unfortunately a number of older grant approvals have expired because work has not started, the value of these awards is released back to the available balance. It is noticeable however that without the transfer in of surplus cash from the general fund, that income is low. Fund raising activity has dropped since covid, and understandably, some people are reluctant to attend gatherings which could raise funds. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to thank all those who have made donations or have been involved in fund raising activities, but encourage members to re-engage with fundraising activity.

BELL FUND – INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2022

(Registered Charity No 273962)

2021	INCOME	2022	2021	EXPENDITURE	2022
£		£	£		£
52	Covenants & Gift Aid Standing Orders Tax refund on	52	0	Insurance - Tower Advisers	364
0	Covenants & Gift Aid	0	0	Expenses - Tower Advisers	0
5,885	Affiliation Fees	5,790	0	Expenses - General Secretary	0
46	Interest Received	205	0	Expenses – Treasurer (Pens) Grants to Towers - see	0
0	Peal Fees CDs, Car Stickers &	355	14,173	separate list	8,100
210	Sweatshirts	31	0	Cost of Sweatshirts	0
0	Legacies Other (Quota payments	0	0	Refund of fees/quota payments	0
0	in error) Donations - see	0			
3,035	separate list	1,995			
0	Quarter Peal Month	0			
	Transfers from General				
20,000	Fund	0	15,208	Surplus (deficit) for the year	-56
29,383		8,408	29,383		8,408

BELL FUND - BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST December 2022

2021 £	LIABILITIES	2022 £	2021 £	ASSETS	2022 £
L		2	2	Call	2
	Accumulated Fund: Balance et 1st January			Cash: Naturat Bank, Current	
85,095	Balance at 1st January 2022	100,022	100,103	Natwest Bank - Current Account	100,022
05,055	Surplus (deficit) for the	100,022	100,105	Natwest Bank - Capital	100,022
15,208	year	-56	0	Reserve A/C	0
424	CBF	424	424	CBF Deposit Account	424
			0	Fixed Rate Bond	0
			0	Cash in Hand	0
	Balance at 31st				
100727	December 2022	100,391	100,527		100,446

DONATIONS TO THE FUND	£				
Bridgwater Branch	50				
Chew Branch Quiz	251				
Glaston Branch	50				
Taunton Branch Lottery	750				
David Bromwich	300				
David Purnell Funeral	390				
Tickenham	50				
Other	154				
Total	1,995				
GRANTS PAID TO TOWERS		£		CONTINGENT LIABILITIES - OUT GRANTS	STANDING
Keynsham			1,100	Nunnex	5,745
Taunton Holy Trinity			7,000	Marksbury Stanton Drew	2,680 650
				Monksilver	5,540
Total			8,100	Taunton St James	200
				Sutton Montis	5,052
				East Harptree	6,400
				North Curry	20,00
				Compton Dando	1,200
				Chew Magna	4,800
				Total	52,267

Post independent examination note: offers for Marksbury (£2,680), Monksilver (£5,540) & Sutton Montis (£5,052) have time-expired under the terms of the offers, and have therefore been withdrawn and the outstanding liabilities cancelled. The outstanding liability above is therefore reduced to £38,995.

BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE GRANTS

Cash at Bank & in hand per Balance Sheet Less Outstanding Grants Income Reserve	100, -52,2 48,1	267				
Balance Available for Future Grants	2022	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Cash at Bank & in Hand	£	£	£	£	£	
per Balance Sheet	100,446	83,853	107,026	99,194	85,519	100,527
less Outstanding Commitments	-52,267	48,180	32,095	47,406	25,142	19,867
Balance Available	48,179	51,758	59,620	47,564	66,371	80,660

(nb. See post IE note above; outstanding commitments now reduced to £38,995)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers' Bell Fund

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the act and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the act, have not been met: or
- 2. to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anna Hallett Westonzoyland, 3rd March 2023

TOWER ADVISOR'S REPORT – John Hallett

The thirteen inspections and reports undertaken in the last Association year were allocated and carried out on a geographic basis by myself and Bernard North, to whom I am grateful.

Of the thirteen inspections carried out ten were Initial visits, requested by PCCs prior to any work being undertaken; the remaining three being final inspections to confirm the completed work prior to Bell Fund grant money being released.

The ten initial inspections included maintenance recommendations at Norton Sub Hamdon, Wootton Courteney, Horsington, Drayton, Fitzhead, Burnham on Sea and Cossington. Roping issues were discussed at Spaxton.

Refurbishment and a rehang was recommended at Tickenham and a complete rehang recommended at Holy Trinity, Taunton.

The three final inspections confirmed refurbishment work carried out at Keynsham and Chew Magna and the successful rehang at Holy Trinity, Taunton.

RINGING SUPPORT FUND OFFICER'S REPORT - Margaret Lee

In this year I received 3 grant application requests, of which 3 were approved and 2 grants have been paid. I would like to thank John and David for their support over the past year.

- 1. Grants Awarded prior to 2022 and still live
 - Nunney £5,745
 - Compton Dando £1,200
 - East Harptree £6,600
- 2. New grants awarded in 2022 Financial Year
 - Keynsham £1,100, work complete and grant paid
 - Taunton, Holy Trinity £7,000, work complete and paid
 - North Curry £20,000

EDUCATION OFFICER'S REPORT - Jill Hansford

In the last five months of 2021, once ringing was able to get back to as close to normal as it had been since the beginning of the pandemic, activities were organised in the branches to help people get back to ringing. It was wonderful to see ringers gradually returning to ringing at this time and beginning, what was for many people, the long road back to ringing fitness and competence. The start of 2022 saw the beginning of the first full year of ringing since the pandemic began. As well as working hard to re-start activities that were running before Covid, it has been brilliant to see really exciting developments across the Association. Behind these developments, of course, are the really keen and enthusiastic members of our branches leading this progress, and our very grateful thanks go to them.

In the **Glaston Branch** a teaching centre for the Branch has been planned and is being set up in Street. The necessary agreements have been obtained, risk assessments have been completed, the Association has provided the funding to install a simulator, and this is being installed at the present time. We will look forward to seeing it in action in the near future.

In the **Cary Branch** a ringing hub is being developed at Pitcombe and a simulator, funded by the Association, has just been installed. Regular learn to ring and improver sessions have already started. At a recent Open Day 14 potential new ringers and those who had just started ringing attended. The Branch are already working on setting up a second hub at Barton St David and we will look forward to hearing of the progress here shortly.

Progress is also being made with getting the first simulator installed in the Crewkerne Branch. It is hoped that this will be at Curry Rivel. The idea was formally approved by the Branch at it's recent AGM, and the PCC is now being approached for its agreement.

In the **Bridgwater Branch** special practices are being arranged to improve the standard of eight-bell ringing, ready to take on the other eleven branches in next year's Association Striking Competition!!

In the **IIchester Branch** the Ringing Master is going to visit all the towers with ringers and feed back to the Branch where support is needed. The Education Officer has volunteered to visit towers where learning is taking place. Other resources will be organised to help where it is required. An Open Day has also been organised at Martock where recruits are needed to develop a new band.

In the **Axbridge Branch** at Badgworth, where a new band was taught in recent years, the Education Officer, with help from ringers from Axbridge and Weston, has developed a learners practice every other week on a Thursday morning.

As a result of discussion at Education Officers Meetings it was decided that help was needed in the Branches in two areas. The first was for new Tower Captains or Tower Organisers. For various reasons, including returning from Covid to find that their Tower Captain was not returning and had not had time to prepare anyone to take their place, ringers were having to take on the role unexpectedly and were looking to their Branches/the Association for help. The second was for people needed to teach the learners that were coming forward as towers were short of ringers. Ringers who were prepared to do some teaching and needed help to refresh their skills or to gain the confidence necessary to begin teaching after doing an ART Course, etc, were also looking to their Branches/the Association for help. It was decided that the Association would run workshops covering these two areas. These were advertised in the late Autumn. 14 ringers applied for each workshop. They were divided into two groups, one covering the north and central part of the Association, and another covering the Western part of the Association. Two workshops were held before Christmas and another two were planned for the beginning of 2023. Further courses will follow throughout 2023. These are all exciting developments for both the Branches and the Association and we look forward to very positive outcomes from them all.



The Ringing World National Youth Contest was held in Exeter this year. Our Young Ringers did us proud as always. With some of the team new to striking competitions we were not competing for a trophy this year. After ringing in the striking competition, they joined with 200 plus young ringers to ring at several towers in and around Exeter, including the Cathedral. At the Cathedral the young ringers were offered the opportunity to ring the tenor, a challenge that was accepted by Melissa and other young ringers.

Our Young Ringers this year were Davina Bakam (Yeovil), Jack Higby (Chilcompton), Ronel Bakam (Yeovil), Igi Waugaman Reed (Clevedon), Will Hooper (Ashwick), and Melissa Hunt (Burnham on Sea). Melissa was the team captain and Conductor. They all had a brilliant day and are already thinking about next years contest in York on July 8th.

Young Ringers Activities. It is excellent to see young ringers active in almost all our branches. Young ringers from across the Association were invited to practices organised by Jan Wyatt to prepare for the National Youth Competition. In the Glaston Branch a mini-outing, a visit to the North Wotton mini-ring and a visit to Matthew Higby's workshop to ring on the mini-ring and dumb-bell and tour the workshop, were arranged; and the Taunton Branch has run three practices during the school holidays for its young ringers. Unfortunately the Association Young Ringers Festival that had been planned for September had to be cancelled as it coincided with the death of the Queen.



Former Young Ringers. Marcus Ham continues to ring in the Axbridge Branch when back from university. Olivia Hunt, also from the Axbridge Branch, who began training as a teacher of

ringing before the pandemic, has now moved with her job and lives in Northampton and is ringing in that area. In the Bath Branch, Nick Field, who has already been Branch Ringing Master, is now running a monthly special practice for 10-bell ringing at Bath Abbey. George Wyatt is still the Tower Maintenance Contact for the Chew Branch. From the Crewkerne Branch Frank Agar has followed Josh Jones to ring at university (Frank is at university in Birmingham). Sean Langton, who ringers in the Frome Branch may remember, picked up ringing again after university, when having qualified as a vet he lived in Glasgow, and rings in the Frome Branch when returning there. Sam Shead is now Ringing Master at Wells in the Glaston Branch. Rose-Anne Kimber from the Taunton Branch, married this year, rings with her husband Jack at Chester Cathedral. It is always good to hear that the young ringers we have taught are still ringing. For this to happen it is very important that we all continue the excellent work of encouraging young people into our towers

Tower Maintenance Contacts (TMCs). In the year before the pandemic our TMCs were only just beginning their work. As we came back to ringing they had a very important role in checking bells before ringing began again. In the first full year of ringing after the pandemic it is good to see our TMC's active in almost all our branches. In the Axbridge Branch the TMC has been asked to look at the frame at Bleadon, and in the Chew Branch the TMC was asked to look at the bells at Tickenham and Kingston Seymour and to give advice on the work that was needed.

Tower checks were also carried out in the Bath, Bridgwater, Cary, Dunster, Glaston and Taunton Branches, advice was given on work needed, and the TMC's helped to complete minor works in the Bridgwater, Dunster and Taunton Branches. The Bridgwater Branch BMC also prepared a report for Burnham on Sea. In the Cary Branch Castle Cary began ringing again after a long silence because of the condition of the tower pinnacles, and the bells were checked before ringing began again. In the Crewkerne Branch help was given with muffling bells. In the Glaston Branch the Cathedral bells were checked under contract with Taylors. A risk assessment was carried out at Street, and several safety-related items were identified together with remedial actions. In the Ilchester Branch the TMC rectified a problem at North Perrott, and having had problems at Chiselborough and East Coker referred to him helped to get the work referred to bell-hangers and general builders respectively. In the Taunton Branch the restoration work was completed at Holy Trinity Church, Taunton, by Taylors, assisted by the TMC's, and other work at Holy Trinity also included installing sound control to make the bells quieter in the ringing room; helping to replace the organ air-box and stairs, all removed to get at the trap door; and making a new trap door entrance to the ringing room.

Training Teachers of Ringing. A lot of very hard work continues to be done to increase the number of teachers of ringing within the Association. Those teachers who were already training before the pandemic will be given time extensions to complete the modules that they were working on then. Both Module 1 and Module 2 courses were run during 2022 and 7 new teachers have begun training. A total of 8 Mentors and 25 Teachers have completed the award from across the Association.

Learning the Ropes. As part of the ART Course the New Teachers and their Mentors have to teach new ringers. The ringers that they teach are able to take part in a progressive scheme called 'Learning the Ropes'. This is divided into five levels. This year, much time has been spent helping ringers to get back to what they were ringing before the pandemic and therefore far fewer certificates have been awarded. The Dunster Branch has awarded 10 Level 1, and **1** evel 3; and the Taunton Branch has awarded 3 Level 1 and 1 Level 2. This will undoubtedly pick up again in 2023. Since work on the award began the Association has awarded 220 Level 1, 139 Level 2, 48 Level 3, 36 level 4 and 14 Level 5.

Courses Organised by the Branches This Year. Only 115 courses have been organised this year, under half the 250 organised in the year before Covid. The probable reason being the need to use resources to help people to get back to ringing after eighteen months with little ringing. The following branches have run the following courses – Axbridge – Monthly Courses including handling, rounds, plain hunt, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Cambridge Minor, short touches; Bridgwater – 3 Improvers; Chew – 1 call change, 1 raising and Iowering; Dunster – 1 bell handling, 2 Kaleidoscope, 1 Bob Doubles, 1 Plain Hunt; Frome – 3 Handling, Raising and Lowering, Plain Bob Doubles, Stedman Doubles; Glaston – Plain Bob Minor; Ilchester – 1 Training Day; Taunton – 10 Handling/Rounds, 4 Raising and Lowering, 6 Kaleidoscope Ringing and

Call Changes, 5 Raising and Lowering in Peal, 5 Plain Hunt, 9 Plain Hunt to Methods, 7 Plain Bob Doubles, 5 Reverse Canterbury Doubles, 9 Grandsire Doubles, 2 St Martins/St Simons, 5 Plain Bob Minor, 6 St Clements and Little Bob, 5 Kent Treble Bob, 4 Surprise Minor (8 methods), 1 Plain Bob Triples, 4 Calling (Call Changes, Plain Bob, Grandsire).

Branch Tutor/Ringing Master/ Trainers taking Weekly Training for a Tower Band on the Band's Practice Night. This very important activity is back to pre-Covid numbers – Badgworth, (Axbridge); Bath Abbey, Bathwick, Corston, Newton St Loe (Bath); Pitcombe (Cary); Kingston Seymour and Portishead (Chew); Chard, Curry Rivel, Ilminster and Ilton (Crewkerne); Dunster (Dunster); Norton St Philip (Frome); Wells St Cuthbert's (Glaston); and Norton Fitzwarren, Staplegrove, Taunton Holy Trinity and Taunton Minster (Taunton). In the Axbridge Branch John Dunstone, with help from ringers from Axbridge and Weston, has developed a learners practice every other week at Badgworth on a Thursday morning.

Other Branch Events with Learning Opportunities. Most of our Branches, Axbridge, Bridgwater, Cary, Chew, Crewkerne, Dunster, Ilchester and Taunton have a **regular monthly practice** once again. The Bath Branch is going btry monthly practices for the next two months to see how successful they are. The Frome Branch held two last year and are hoping to get a monthly programme going again soon. Only just over half of our Branches managed to organise an **outing** compared with most branches before Covid. Axbridge held two outings one of which was a walk and ring; the Cary, Crewkerne and Dunster Branches had an outing; the Frome Branch held one on the day of the Queen's funeral to ring at towers where there were no ringers, so that there was ringing there on this special day; and the Glaston Branch a cycling and ringing outing. Also Dunster had a Joint Practice with the North East Devon Branch, a skittles evening and an Annual Dinner; and the Taunton Branch a Carol Service with ringing and refreshments.

Special Practices Organised by the Branch Providing Learning Opportunities. These might be arranged weekly (W), fortnightly (F), monthly (M) or occasionally (O), and provide very valuable learning experiences. It is excellent to see that these practices are also up to pre-Covid levels. 12-bell (Bridgwater M, Taunton Minster M); 10-bell (Chew M); surprise major (Chew M, Glaston M, Taunton F); 8-bell (Crewkerne M, Dunster M); 8-bell plain methods (Taunton M); Surprise Minor (Taunton M); Red Pathway (Cambridge Minor and beyond) (Cary M); Advanced 6-bell (Crewkerne M); Blue Pathway (Bob Doubles and beyond) (Cary, M); improvers (Dunster W); and learners (Axbridge F, Dunster two W, Taunton two W).

Branch Striking Competitions. These competitions were well down this year. Before Covid all branches were holding a striking competition, but this year only the Bridgwater, Ilchester and Taunton Branches held one. The Bath Branch will check what the feeling in the Branch is next year and organise a competition if this is warranted. The Frome Branch normally holds one but has not organised one this year, and the Glaston Branch also intends to start one in the future. Hopefully numbers will be back to normal next year.

The Branch Education Officers are meeting three times a year. If there is something that you would like them to address please tell them! I would like to finish by thanking the Education Officers and the members of the branches for all the work that they have put in this year not only to get people back to ringing and begin teaching new ringers, but also because many are looking forward and are being prepared to try new ideas which bodes well for the future of ringing in our Association.

THE EDNA GRABHAM MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND REPORT - Helen Beaufoy (Secretary), Jill Hansford, Robert Perry, Beverley Perry.

Our main event for 2022 was a Plain Bob Doubles workshop. Following the success of 2021's Zoom talks, we arranged for Gill and Chris Greef from the Gloucester and Bristol Association to give a presentation about Bob Doubles. Their talk included some excellent visual aids which many people found really helpful. This talk was followed a week later by an opportunity for participants to attend a practical session to try out what they had learnt. Five towers, spread across the Association, were arranged, with a leader and steady ringers to help the learners. Great progress was made, and since then many people have scored first Quarter Peals of Plain Bob.

Once again The Trust paid for the hoodies for the young ringers who went to Exeter for the National Competition. The Trustees had agreed to pay for the food for the Association Young Ringers' get together, but sadly HM Queen's death prevented this from taking place. Another idea this time was to encourage people to attend a residential course by offering funding towards it. Only one person applied, but we are pleased to report that we were able to help her to go to Bradfield, where she learnt a tremendous lot. Returning to her home tower with her new found knowledge and confidence, she has been able to help the other learners in her tower and is encouraging some of them to go on the course next year.

The Trust continues to maintain and update <u>www.treblesgoing.org.uk</u> which is now used by people across the country.

The Edna Grabham Fund exists to help learners young and old to progress in their ringing. The Trustees welcome applications for grants for individuals, or for those organising events for learners at all levels. The easiest way to contact us is through <u>www.treblesgoing.org.uk</u>, or of course you can speak direct to one of us.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER'S REPORT- Steffi Penny

Our Association is committed to ensuring that our procedures comply with the safeguarding guidelines issued by the CCCBR, the Diocese, and legal requirements. The guidance provided on our up-dated safeguarding website page includes direct references from these sources.

Diocesan matters

There have continued to be several important personnel changes in the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. We have maintained a solid working relationship with the new team. Together we continue to monitor known offenders and have maintained our strong lines of communication.

They have now significantly improved the safeguarding section of their website. They will imminently be uploading safeguarding posters and wallet-sized safeguarding cards to the website, to be used by anyone who so wishes. The website now contains an online reporting tool so that you can make a safeguarding referral online.

Non-emergency – within 24 hours

The Diocesan Safeguarding Manager (Ben Goodhind) no longer uses a work mobile, so if you need to contact him please do so via **01749 588917**. He now has an app so that this number will reach him wherever he is.

Emergencies and out of hours (5pm - midnight & 7am - 9am on Mon-Fri; 7am - midnight on Sat and Sun, on bank holidays and other absences)

If you have a concern that a child or vulnerable adult may be at risk of serious harm please call the police immediately on 999. Then please contact **thirtyone:eight's Safeguarding Helpline on 0303 003 1111** for emergency safeguarding queries. The Diocese of Bath & Wells are working in partnership with 'thirtyone:eight' to provide this out of hours service. An Information Sharing Agreement between the two organisations will allow for the team to receive a copy of the advice thirtyone:eight may offer the caller, so that appropriate follow up and support can be offered to the caller/situation on the team's return to the office. Please note, this out of hours service is only for emergencies and not to discuss matters such as training or DBS applications.

Training

You need to refresh your safeguarding training every three years at your highest level of safeguarding training. NB you will not be mandated to refresh levels below this.

It is up to each Diocese to decide which bellringers should complete safeguarding training, and to what level. The Bath & Wells Diocesan Safeguarding Manager continues to require that all ringers will need to complete the Basic Awareness Course and in addition all Tower Captains the Foundation Course. Both of these can be completed online (see below). For those unable to do courses online, you will need to inform your Parish's Safeguarding Officer that this is the case, along with notifying the Association Safeguarding Officer.

Basic Awareness Safeguarding Training (known previously as CO).

To do this course go to 'Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal', <u>http:// safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org</u> then once you have registered for an account, 'Online Training courses', and follow the links for Basic Awareness.

Foundation Safeguarding Training (known previously as C1)

To do this course go to 'Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal', <u>http:// safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org</u> 'Online Training Courses', and follow the links for Foundation training.

Tower Captains will only need to undertake the Leadership Course (previously C2/C3) if they work in high profile venues, such as cathedrals, or are involved in training children. The diocese is now using Eventbrite for training bookings - this allows you to browse live availability, book your place online and amend your bookings. The system will also send you confirmations, reminders and post-course information. If there is **a**ssue with you booking the course direct, please contact the Safeguarding Administration Assistant at Bath &Wells, email training.safeguarding@bathwells.anglican.org It will be up to each Parish's Safeguarding Officer to ensure that the correct level of training is completed, so please contact them in the first instance about your training needs.

PEAL SECRETARY'S REPORT - Tony Cox

Peals rung in 2022. Although there were no restrictions on peal ringing in 2022 and a number of events of national significance occurred during the year, the number of peals rung for the Association during the year was significantly down on pre-Covid levels. While this can partly be explained by recent rule changes, it is also part of a long-term trend of decline caused by the lack of good younger ringers coming through and the ageing of many of the current keen peal ringers.

The Annual Report contains a summary list of peals rung during the year and full details are available from the Association web site in the form of a downloadable PDF (portable document format) file. This has a number of advantages over a print copy as it is searchable and contains a number of links to other online information. Each peal is linked to its Bellboard record where more information such as photos of the band may be available. There are also some links to the tower details on Dove and the composition used where that was given via Bellboard. Full details of all Association peals rung in recent years are also available by searching Bellboard and much statistical information is available through Pealbase.

Of the 92 peals rung during the year, only 4 were on handbells although one of these was the first peal of surprise in-hand rung for the Association in over twenty years. Of the 88 tower bell peals, 84 were rung within the diocese with 29 of these rung on three private small rings of bells. The 55 which were rung in churches within the Diocese were rung at 26 different towers with the most pealed towers being Marston Bigot with 10. Weston-super-Mare with 6 and South Petherton with 5. It was good to see the bells at All Saints, Clevedon, pealed at last. Only four peals were rung outside our diocese, these included one on the excellent small ring in Dordrecht, Netherlands.

The two main events of national significance during the year were the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen and later in the year to mark the death of the Queen and the Accession of King Charles III to the throne. These generated a lot of extra ringing but this was not particularly reflected in the number of extra peals; 8 were dedicated to the Platinum Jubilee but only 3 for the death of the monarch and one for the accession of King Charles.

During the year several prominent members of the Association died and were remembered in the peals rung. January saw the loss of Jeff Knipe who had rung over 1200 for the Association and was instrumental in the augmentation of Shepton Beauchamp bells. Margaret Chapman died in May and she was the leading handbell ringer for the Association with 617 handbell peals and over a thousand in total. David Purnell passed away in July, he rang over 400 peals for the Association and was the mastermind behind the remodeling and augmentation of the rings at Midsomer Norton and South Petherton. All three will be greatly missed and their enthusiasm hard to replace. Others remembered in footnotes were: Barry Quintin, David Gay, Ian Unsworth, Michael Horseman, Ruth Strickland, Derek Vowles, Becca Wyatt, Geoffrey Carter, Mike Seeley and Robert Perry's brother.

As usual the peals contained a number of personal footnotes. There was only one first pealer for the Association: Melissa Hunt with a peal of Watford S Major at East Huntspill. Barrie Hendry rang his 3000th peal and 1800th for the Association. Tony & Rebecca Cox rang their 2000th together at their home tower of Backwell and peals were rung to celebrate 40 years of peal ringing for Andee Beaumont and 50 years for Ian Hill. At the end of the year two peals were rung for the wedding of Matt Gardiner and Annabelle Frost. Patrick Bridges is to be congratulated on ringing five peals in the year after a 66 year gap since his first peal.

Leading Ringers this year: Barrie Hendry (48), Andrew Ball & Adrian Beck (31), Joe Beaumont & Josh Jones (29), Sam Shead (26) and Nicholas Field (25). Another 21 ringers rang at least 10 peals for the Association during the year. Peter Felton, Barrie Hendry and lan Redway were the leading Handbell ringers. with 3.

Leading Conductors: Joe Beaumont (19), Robert Perry (15), Tony Cox (13).

Towers: East Huntspill (12), Marston Bigot (10), Holcombe (9), North Wootton (8) with leading handbell venue Halcyon, Evercreech with 3.

The all-time leading ringers for the Association (totals at year end) are:

All peals: Barrie Hendry 1841, Adrian Beck 1433, Robert Beck 1423, Christopher Field 1401, Jeffrey Knipe 1222, Lesley Knipe 1168, George Massey 1103, Margaret Chapman 1031

Handbells: Margaret Chapman 414, Tom Chapman 349, Barrie Hendry 253, Alex Hunt 109, Jennifer Taylor 104

and the leading conductors are

All peals: Timothy Collins 711, Anthony Cox 624, Donald Carter 587, Brian Mountjoy 415, Barrie Hendry 400.

Handbells: Tom Chapman 199, Barrie Hendry 105

QUARTER PEAL SECRETARY'S REPORT - Clifford Nichols

The total number of quarter peals rung during the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and published in the Ringing World or on BellBoard was 713. These were rung in 217 towers, again this quarter peal report includes those quarter peals submitted to BellBoard only, of course those that are neither published online or in the Ringing World are still be excluded from the analysis. For the first time in three years we have a complete year's worth of ringing and this is reflected in the increase in the number of quarters, although the numbers rung are still below those rung prior to the pandemic. With two national events to ring for, in the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and funeral, this has encouraged many additional quarters to be rung and no doubt has boosted the total numbers. Many of these quarters encouraged ringers to ring their first quarter or progress to their first inside.

.There were 5 quarters of Minimus, 1 of Minimus and Doubles, 4 of Singles and Doubles, 236 of Doubles (of which 49 were Grandsire, 4 Stedman and 45 Plain Bob), 3 of Doubles and Minor, 209 of Minor (of which 136 were Surprise and 32 were Plain Bob), 1 of Doubles and Triples, 83 of Triples (of which 48 were Grandsire and 13 Stedman), 124 of Major (of which 106 were Surprise and 14 were Plain Bob), 24 of Caters (of which 17 were Grandsire and 4 Stedman), 15 of Royal (12 of which were Surprise), 5 of Cinques and 3 of Maximus.

15 members rang their first quarter peal, 9 members rang their first inside and on 126 occasions someone rang something new. 11 members conducted a new method.

25 quarter peals were rung on handbells, 7 at Evercreech (Halcyon), 1 at Timsbury (Hill View), 1 at Bath (Purlewent Drive), 2 at Wookey (Batch Cottage), 2 at Wells (Turner Court), 2 at Wells (St.Cuthbert, Church Green), 8 at Wells, St.Cuthbert's and 2 at Wells Cathedral

66 quarters were rung to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen ElizabethII The position of the eleven branches in the Association is as follows:

AXBRIDGE	58 quarter peals rung in 19 towers
BATH	106 quarter peals rung in 17 towers
BRIDGWATER	26 quarter peals rung in 20 towers
CARY	24 quarter peals rung in 14 towers
CHEW	90 quarter peals rung in 25 towers
CREWKERNE	37 quarter peals rung in 15 towers
DUNSTER	50 quarter peals rung in 20 towers
FROME	108 quarter peals rung in 21 towers
GLASTON	38 quarter peals rung in 10 towers
ILCHESTER	56 quarter peals rung in 23 towers
TAUNTON	120 quarter peals rung in 33 towers

Overall, quarter peals were rung in 62% of ringable towers with 5 or more bells.

Congratulations to the following members who rang their first quarter peal:

Scarlett Atherton, Stephen Beard, David Bidgood, Susan Bidgood, Marianne Burke, David Chapman, Mark Gill, Helen Hossell, Julie Leader, Elaine Morgan, Georgina Moody, Huw Parker, Lisa Parker, Lynne Purcell, Claire Symms and to the following who rang their first quarter peal inside; Paul Ashmore, Susan Bidgood, Sandy Killick, Sarah Lippett, Ian Norton, Lucy Smith, Robert Stevenson, Finlay Totterdell, Gill Whatmore

Congratulations to the following members for whom special celebration quarter peals were rung:

Bathwick – Ruby Wedding Anniversary of Ruth and Paul Beavin Bishop's Hull – 60th Birthday of Heather Davis Brompton Ralph - 60th Birthday of Heather Davis Butleigh - 70th Birthday of Marilyn Backhurst Charlton Mackrell - 90th Birthday of Roy Cave Chipstable - 90th Birthday of Preb. Chris Marshall Clevedon, St.John - Silver Wedding Anniversary of Helen and Mark Callow, Ruby Wedding Anniversary of Nicholas & Fiona Dixon, Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Margaret & David James High Ham – 75th Birthday of Charles Pipe-Wolferstan Kingsbury Episcopi – Golden Wedding Anniversary of Phil and Stephanie Shillito Milverton– 90th Birthday of Preb. Chris Marshall Otterhampton – 75th Birthday of Paul Forbes-Harper Pitminster – 70th Birthday Adrian Whatmore Sampford Brett - 70th Birthday Adrian Whatmore Seavington St.Mary - 70th Birthday Helen Beaufoy and 75th Birthday A.C. John Davis Wells Cathedral – 60^h Birthday of Alison Felton West Monkton – Golden Wedding Anniversary of Norman and Tricia Cavill Wilton - 80^h Birthday of Brenda Arscott

In Memoriam

34 quarter peals were rung in memory of HM Queen Elizabeth II 34 quarter peals were rung in memory of Margaret Chapman (10 in Somerset) 9 quarter peals were rung in memory of David Purnell, member of South Petherton. Ash – John Hayter, former ringer. Bathwick – Debbie Parfrey, former ringer. Bath, Larkhall – Eric George Leach, former ringer. Butleigh – John Hayter, former ringer. Chilcompton – Debbie Parfrey and Jim Shepard, former ringers. Clapton-in-Gordano – Mike Seeley & Derek Vowles, former ringers. Curry Rivel – Edric Ovens former ringer Drayton – Jeffrey Knipe and Jim Shepard, former ringers. East Huntspill – David Gay former ringer. Easton-in-Gordano – Derek Vowles, former ringer. Holcombe, Potters Yard Ring – Debbie Parfrey and Jim Shepard, former ringers. Minehead – Edward Taylor – former ringer. Midsomer Norton – Jeffrey Knipe former ringer. North Weston, Wyatt's Yard – Derek Vowles, former ringer. Pitcombe – Jay Bunyan, former ringer. Pitminster – Margaret Whatmore, former ringer. Pitney – Edric Ovens, former ringer. Seavington St.Mary – John Hayter, former ringer. South Petherton – Jeffrey Knipe and Edric Ovens, former ringers. Taunton, St.Mary – Jeffrey Knipe, former ringer. Walton St.Mary - Mike Seeley & Derek Vowles, former ringers. West Coker – Tim Edmonds, former ringer. West Cranmore – Neville Whitney, former ringer. West Monkton – Julian Kerry, former ringer. Weston-in-Gordano – Derek Vowles, former ringer. Weston-super-Mare – David Gay, former ringer and tower captain. Wilton – Pamela Bellamy, former ringer.

Personal Achievements Glenn Taylor 600, Ian Tucker 500, David Bromwich 400

As Conductor David Kelly 1500, Patrick Tucker 950, Will Rogers 50