

CARY BRANCH

Issue 8

Winter 2025

AGM in October – Your chance to get involved!

The AGM this October is in **Charlton Horethorne** at 3pm. It's an important event for our Branch to come together, celebrate what we've achieved, and look ahead. Things are changing in the Cary Branch and it is up to you, our members to help shape our future.

This year, Simon will be stepping down as Ringing Master, and there are other officer vacancies to fill too. Please do consider whether you might be able to support your branch by taking on a major role, a deputy role or a supporting role...there could be a position tailor made for you!

Fresh ideas and willing hands make all the difference to keeping our ringing community thriving.

There will be a simple said evensong and a bring and share tea.

New for 2025

Come along to **Pitcombe** on October 11th 10am - 12pm for a fun Rounds striking event. Bring a team or come as an individual and make up a team on the day with a chance for a practice before the judging. There will be a mix of experienced and novice ringers. Do support this new event and come and have a go at ringing. The emphasis will be upon ringing well struck Rounds and/or Call Changes and judges will be selected on the day but the overall aim is to have fun.

Please let Simon know if you would like to take part in a team or are happy to be allocated to a team on the day.



What's happening in your tower?

Will you ring for Christmas or to ring in the New Year? Send your photos in. Copy for the next newsletter to be with the editor by 5th January please. carybranch.news@bath-wells.org

News from the Towers

Wincanton ringers welcomed guests from Bruton to ring for the 80th anniversary of VJ Day:

Jim Ebner, Roy Taylor, Tom Power, Adrian Chiplen, Richard D'Arcy, Robin Wickenden, Janet Lowe, Emma Ceely



Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Friday, 15 August 2025 in 30m

Wincanton, Somerset
St Peter and St Paul
Tenor: 15-1-1 in F#

Call Changes and Grandsire Doubles
Call Changes on 8 bells and Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Adrian Chiplen
- 2 Richard D'Arcy
- 3 Jim Ebner
- 4 Emma Ceely
- 5 Robin Wickenden
- 6 Roy Taylor
- 7 Janet Lowe (C)
- 8 Tom Power

Rung to celebrate the anniversary of VJ Day and remember those who were there, including the grandfathers of 3 & 6.



Bath & Wells Diocesan Association

On Tuesday, 26 August 2025 in 20m

Barton St David, Somerset
St David

Tenor: 9-3-10 in Ab

120 Reverse Peal no 1 Doubles Call Changes
A D Elliot and J A Purdey

- 1 Simon Tremewan (C)
- 2 Christine Thomas
- 3 Jenny Alderson
- 4 Viv McHale
- 5 Richard Pollard
- 6 Trevor Lewis

First Call Change Peal - 6

Simon and others completed another Call Change Peal, this time at **Barton St David**, congratulations to Trevor Lewis on his first (hopefully of many).



Well done to Ollie who was presented with his **Wincanton** shirt by Janet. We look forward to seeing him represent his tower.

Some of the visitors to the **Batcombe** bell tower on Sunday 24th August as part of the tower tour. In continuation of what has become a tradition in the village, the bells were rung to open the fete.



Batcombe Bell Chamber



Sue and her team in **Batcombe** have also been busy cleaning out a jackdaw nest in their tower.



Congratulation to Ollie Feltham who rang at Chichester cathedral while on his summer holiday and Aaron Moreton who visited Hayling Island and joined their 3 bell practice, ringing in the French style.



David Mills - 11/11/1935 - 04/08/2025

- Harry Mills



We are sad to announce the death of our father, David Mills from Bruton. Dad was introduced to ringing by Brian Shingler towards the end of the 1970's and fell in love with it right away, a love which he passed on to several of his children. Our family remembers the outings to other towers with great fondness, and the bell ringer's socials which were always a huge amount of fun, laughing with other ringers and playing skittles, where the quality of play tracked almost perfectly the consumption of cider: One or two pints seemed to improve the playing, but it was very much downhill after that.

Dad particularly liked method ringing, and was full of admiration for those ringers who could visualise where all the other bells should be, no matter what the method. Stedman was one of dad's favourite doubles methods, but he also loved minor, especially Cambridge and London, which was always fun in his home tower as he tried to fit around the tenor!

Dad often commented on the fact that the ringing community was full of good-hearted folk, whether it was ringing at his home tower in Bruton, or dropping in on an unknown tower when on holiday. There was always a warm welcome, and once, whilst in Derbyshire, a lunch was laid on by the tower captain, on the understanding we stayed and rang for the bishop's visit that afternoon!

He would have been so happy to know that the Bruton bells rang him out of the church for his final journey.

Audrey Riley - 02/1939 - 18/06/2025

I first met Audrey in the early 1990's when I started my career in bellringing at Bruton. Brian Shingler was Tower Captain and on Wednesday evenings, experts like Audrey, Brian and Tim Watt taught beginners how to handle ropes, progressing to Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles and Grandsire in pretty short order. Slacking was not countenanced!

Many ringers will know what a great enthusiastic and encouraging teacher she was, and a thoroughly nice person to know.

She organised many annual ringers' coach trips with Robert David, and I have many happy memories of days out ringing in Hampshire, Oxford and coastal towns in Dorset and Devon. Expertly arranged and great fun for beginners and experts alike.



Look to, treble's going. She's gone xx

Roy Taylor - Bruton

Audrey willingly gave of her time both in training and in support of ringing.

In 1976 when we were rehangng Bruton bells, she spent considerable time collecting items for sale and travelled to a number of car boot sales where funds were raised to help pay for the project.

Harry Good, Bruton

We all know her passion for ringing and wanting to help others, but I remember most the New Year's Eve parties we had, either at her house, Gants Mill or at our house. The one at our house I shall never forget. We decided to play Murder In The Dark which meant everyone hiding anywhere in the house and the murderer having to find them. Then, of course, we went up the tower and rang in the New Year. Audrey was full of fun.

Happy Days.

Christine Dunn, Bruton

Kev Newport - 27/II/I962 - 06/09/2025

- Barry Laver



Kevin Leslie William Newport, fondly known as Chunk to most people, was widely known within the local bell ringing community and could be found most evenings in a church tower, ringing a quarter or helping and encouraging others in his favourite pastime.

Chunk started learning at the age of nine, along with many youngsters from the village, including myself, and he took great satisfaction in teasing me for having to stand on two boxes, only for me to later find out he had to stand on two boxes at Sherborne Abbey. Kevin later became Tower Captain of South Cadbury taking

over from my Dad Ken Laver, and has left a legacy of his own, encouraging everyone of all abilities to learn and improve with a smile and a lot of patience. The beginners today don't realise how easy they've got it. If you made a mistake when we were learning we were bellowed at from our peers!

Apart from inside a belfry, Kevin was happiest outside and attended to many gardens in his spare time. He loved walking around the local area and spending time with his beloved grandchildren. He leaves behind a wonderful family and will be greatly missed by so many people.

Kev you were a cheeky chap, had a nickname for everyone, but most of all you had a heart of gold and would help anyone. It has been a pleasure and an honour to call you my best mate. Now it is time for your final Quarter Peal.



Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Sunday, 7 September 2025 in 48m
Chilcompton, Somerset
St John the Baptist
Tenor: 19-1-6 in E♭
1280 Bristol Surprise Royal
1 Andrew Howard
2 Adrian P Beck
3 Sarah J Quintin
4 Charles H Pipe-Wolfestan
5 Heather E Davis
6 Sam Shead (C)
7 Joseph St J Beaumont
8 Jody A Wood
9 Michael J Stubbs
10 David C J Marshall

First in method: 3, 5 & 6

Rung in memory of Kevin Newport from South Cadbury.

Umpire: Phill Payne

Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Wednesday, 10 September 2025
Bruton, Somerset
St Mary the Virgin
Tenor: 25-3-1 in D
General Ringing
1 Petra Dowell
2 Janet Lowe
3 Joe Wheller
4 Harry Mills
5 Roy Taylor
6 Rob Backus

An evening of ringing dedicated to Kevin Newport who passed away on September 6th. Methods included Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles, Grandsire and Kev's favourite Union.

Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Thursday, 11 September 2025 in 45m
South Cadbury, Somerset
St Thomas a Becket
Tenor: 13-1-22 in F
1260 Doubles (2m)
480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire
1 Toby Doar
2 Geoffrey Batson
3 Emma Ceely
4 Paul A Reeves (C)
5 Roy Taylor
6 Edward P Reeves

Rung to the fond memory of Kevin Newport, a ringer at this tower for many years. He will be sadly missed.

Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Monday, 22 September 2025 in 45m
Wincanton, Somerset
St Peter and St Paul
Tenor: 15-1-1 in F♯
1260 Grandsire Doubles
1260 Grandsire Doubles
1 Jenny Alderson
2 Janet Lowe
3 Toby Doar
4 Emma Ceely
5 Nick Baker (C)
6 Aaron Moreton

Rung in memory of our dear friend Kevin Newport who died this month. He was Tower Captain of South Cadbury and a regular ringer at this tower.

Bath & Wells Diocesan Association
On Wednesday, 24 September 2025 in 25m
Castle Cary, Somerset
All Saints
Tenor: 15-0-8 in E
136 Call Changes
Owen J Borlase
Spliced King's Queen's Variation Triples.
1 Simon Tremewan (C)
2 Christine Thomas
3 Viv McHale
4 Jenny Alderson
5 Janet Lowe
6 Emma Ceely
7 Richard Pollard
8 John Dunford

Rung in fond memory of Kevin Newport by his friends from the Cary Branch on the eve of his funeral.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild
On Wednesday, 1 October 2025 in 47m
South Cadbury, Somerset
St Thomas a Becket
Tenor: 13-1-22 in F
1260 Plain Bob Doubles
1 Jennie I Francis
2 Georgina S Muir
3 Geoffrey Batson
4 Emma Ceely
5 Jack R Pease (C)
6 Sara A Keith
First of Plain Bob inside: 2
Rung open in memory of Kevin 'Kev' Newport, Tower Captain here, who tragically passed away last month, long before his time. Kev helped the ringers of 1, 2, 4, and 6 ring several of their early quarter peals, many of them here at South Cadbury, and the band would like to remember fondly his help, teaching, and guidance, without which the quarters would not have been possible.

Branch practices & Workshops

I don't know about you but with the change in weather, summer is starting to seem a long time ago. The Branch Practice in July was in **West Camel** where we rang Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Cambridge. It is always good to have enough ringers to stand by someone who needs a bit of direction and the Branch Practices can be a fantastic opportunity to improve and move forward in a method or even try something quite new. The August practice



in **South Cadbury** was a relaxed event with loads of great practice for all attendees. **Pen Selwood** offered tea and cake and therefore hosted 16 ringers for the Branch Practice in September. We rang Call Changes, Plain Hunt, Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Stedman, St.Clements College Bob Minor and Cambridge.



Workshops are starting up again for the Autumn, often utilising the simulators at Pitcombe and Barton St David. Christine has probably got you on her list but if you would like to progress further and haven't tried a workshop, please get in touch with her. c53thomas@gmail.com



Red pathway practices continue by invitation. Please contact Cathy if you would like to be included: catherine.civill@btinternet.com A prerequisite of these practices is to be able to ring Cambridge.