



# Bellfounders' Gift Page



## The late Canon Felstead's peal records

Readers may like to know that the late Canon K. W. H. Felstead bequeathed to the Central Council the records of peals rung at each tower, records which he built up and maintained over a period of 40 plus years, and that they are to be continued by David J. Dearnley, of 49 King Street, Royston, Herts, SG8 9AZ. Telephone: 0763 244637.

David will be pleased to deal with enquiries as to details of peals rung at particular towers and he hopes to submit occasional articles to *The Ringing World* on points of interest from the records.

Meanwhile, the Computer Co-ordination and Peals Analysis Committees of the Central Council are working on the creation of a database for recording in computer format the existing records and future peals.

CHRISTOPHER H. ROGERS

Hon Secretary, Central Council.  
Witley, Godalming, Surrey.

## Ringing Course 1994

At its meeting in October the Education Committee decided to adopt a different format for the 1994 course to enable students to "sample" a wider variety of options and to be in greater control of their own learning requirements. However, this approach seems to have caused some confusion amongst prospective students and helpers which I would like to try to explain and hope to show that we are not trying to frighten them, but to enhance the opportunities available in a short space of time.

The course is divided into ten sessions. Sessions 1-6, 9, 10 are devoted to the main subject and will be approximately one third theory and two thirds practical, depending on the subject. Sessions 7 and 8 are the subsidiary subject sessions and can be either practical, theory or a mixture, depending on the subject.

Subsidiary subjects will not be covered in as much detail as main subjects, but will give students the opportunity to study a second method or another aspect of ringing. It would therefore be unwise to choose the same main and subsidiary modules. Page 2 of the application form will be passed to the tutor to ensure that students' objectives are met.

We are also asking helpers to select modules because people are generally more enthusiastic when they are doing something they enjoy and we all have favourite methods etc.

If anyone has an application form, either as a student or helper and requires further help in completing it please contact me on the telephone number in the brochure as soon as possible.

CAROL FRANKLIN,  
Course Secretary.

## First peal congratulations

Andrew Borrill, Lynda H. Greaves, Tony Evans, Ann Bachelor, David M. Towers, Fraser M. Kerr.

## Final tribute

Late in 1993 the U.B.S.C.R. decided to attempt a peal at St. Stephen's Bristol with 11 members of the Society together with our honorary member Albert M. Tyler to celebrate Albert's birthday.

The peal was to have been rung for the Ancient Society of College Youths, as honorary members cannot ring peals for the U.B.S.C.R.

The band met at St. Stephen's but unfortunately due to a service at the church it was not possible to make the peal attempt. Albert immediately contacted the Rector and another attempt was arranged for February this year. Albert informed some of the band that this would probably be his last peal attempt, as he was beginning to find peal attempts stressful.

Tragically Albert passed away before this attempt he had arranged could take place. However the U.B.S.C.R. decided to carry on and ring a peal at St. Stephen's in his memory.

However, due to the incompetence of a certain conductor the peal was lost. Never the less, thanks to the kind co-operation of St. Stephen's ringers yet another attempt was arranged for April.

This time the peal was successfully rung giving the U.B.S.C.R. the opportunity of paying a final tribute to its much beloved honorary member and friend Albert in his home tower of St. Stephen's.

T.P.E.

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Not many people reach the ripe old age of 100, but Mrs. Mabel Ingram from Rowley Regis in the West Midlands has achieved just that. She and her family and friends celebrated her 100th birthday on April 22nd. Mrs. Ingram has been a life long member of St. Giles Church, Rowley Regis, where her husband, Reuben, was a bell ringer for many years. When the ring was remodelled in 1984 Mrs. Ingram and her family were generous in their support, and the 4th bell is inscribed with Reuben's name and those of other past ringers.

The congregation of St. Giles was able to join in the celebrations at the Morning Service on April 24th when Mrs. Ingram was present. Before the Service began the ringers rang a quarter peal of mixed Doubles and a certificate commemorating this event was given to Mrs. Ingram during the Service.

Rowley Regis, West Midlands. 24 April, 1260 Doubles (6m inc Stedman): A Roberts 1, Gill Roberts 2, B Darby 3, M Vine 4, D Chiswell (C) 5, J Tromans 6. Rung as a 100th birthday compliment to Mrs Mabel Ingram, life-long member of St Giles, Rowley Regis. £1

## Good news from Romney Marsh

After a silence of six years the historic anticlockwise ring of eight at New Romney are back in limited use again. The Norman tower has a long history of weakness, the problems being compounded by the great storm of 1987 which destroyed much of the roof of the church and dislodged part of one of the pinnacles. A six-figure sum has been raised and spent on the most urgent work to the tower fabric; new stainless steel ties have been fitted to replace their rusting predecessors, extensive areas of poor stonework replaced and the parapet and roof (which incorporates the remains of a former spire) have been largely rebuilt. More recently several days have been spent in clearing out loose debris from the tower interior and carrying out maintenance on the bell installation which dates from 1748 with the fittings replaced at the last rehanging in 1974. The bells were first rung for morning service on Easter Day, this being the last day in office for Canon Peter Ford, Vicar of New Romney since 1964; a tireless campaigner in raising the colossal sum of money required for the church fabric and leader of a working party of enthusiastic parishioners who were able to do much of the work themselves.

At present the bells are very loud, both in the ringing chamber (where sound insulation awaits replacement) and outside where a new housing estate has sprung up in close proximity to the church. Ringing, therefore, is having to be restricted until these matters are addressed and the remaining work on the tower completed (as and when funds permit).

During the interregnum visitors will be very welcome to assist in Sunday ringing from 9.30 – 10.00am (with exceptions – please telephone 0797 321188 first). A local band will soon be in training and details of practice night etc., will be announced in due course. Requests for ringing at other times (for a maximum of 1 hour) will normally be accommodated where logistically possible subject to a satisfactory watching brief on the tower structure. Peal ringing is unlikely to be sanctioned until the next phase of tower work has been completed.

N.J.D.



"Honestly Kate – don't you think it's about time you gave up ringing?"

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