



Handbell Ringers of Great Britain - Registered Charity No 298945(England) and SC0038918 (Scotland)

North East Region eNews - October 2022 - 2

Welcome to another issue of eNews, here you will see a report and photographs from our Autumn rally, news of concerts, an invitation from the EM region, a short report on the recent UK bronze event, Andrew and John promoting HRGB at a church bell ringing roadshow, a report on what Dronfield HR are up to, a recent engagement by the Sedgefield ringers and a Halloween quiz - answers to the quiz in the next eNews. In the run up to Christmas I'm sure everyone is busy so please let me have any team/concert news so that I can share it with other members. If you know of any members who aren't receiving eNews please can you let me know.

Warm regards

Rona - NE Secretary



NE REGION AUTUMN RALLY

On Saturday 8th October the Bingley ringers hosted the North East Region Autumn Rally at Silsden Methodist Church. This was a really good venue with a large main hall together with a well equipped kitchen, café area and a smaller room break out events or (as in this case) film showing Teams performing individual pieces were Bingley, Bradfield, Clifton and Clifton Youth, Holy Trinity Sheffield, Kildwick Mini Ringers and Treble Eight. Teams also represented at the event were Beverley, Chevin, Ecclesfield and Messingham. Music performed included traditional

rhymes and dances, classical baroque and ragtime. Two massed ringing sessions were expertly directed by Clair Bonner of Bingley and John Atkinson our regional chair.

The Kildwick Mini Ringers were performing for the first time and some of the children have only been ringing for four weeks, they used the Wharfedale bells. Two pieces were performed then a demonstration of change ringing on handbells with the children moving around a large, numbered floor mat to ring the bells in the correct order. They also enthusiastically joined in the massed ringing.

Clifton Youth team also included a ringer who has only been practicing with the team for four weeks and even though they had three of their regular ringers missing, impressed everyone with their very musical performance.

During the lunch break we were able to see the documentary made by Peter Fawcett (author of Ringing for Gold) entitled Travelling in Time. This is around 30 minutes long and was previously shown at the National Rally in April, after which Peter found he had to insert subtitles so that the northern accents could be understood! The film was excellent, very informative and interesting, I hope Peter will be showing the documentary at future events so that more people will get the opportunity to see it. A second film was shown by Philip Gregory detailing the design and craftsmanship which went into the making of the International Symposium emblem.

It was a very enjoyable rally with plenty of opportunities to ring, but more importantly to eat, drink and socialise – plenty of cuppas were consumed! Thank you to the Bingley ringers for hosting the day, to those who attended, to Claire for the regional sales and to Peter and Philip.



Regional Officers promote HRGB at Roadshow held by The Central Council of Church Bell ringers



Regional Chair and Treasurer John and Andrew were invited to promote the work of HRGB at the annual meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell ringers.

The event, held at Nottingham Trent University on 4th September, saw the region's display boards and a variety of "freebies" on show. It was also lovely to welcome Alan and Margaret Hartley, ex North

East Region members who were in attendance to promote the HRGB William Hartley Memorial Fund.



Alan and Kathryn Hughes, "Bells of Whitechapel" completed our handbell ringing "corner" and we were all able to offer advice and promote tune ringing to delegates attending including a couple of membership renewals! A result!

John Atkinson



Christmas 2022 with Dronfield Handbell Ringers

After two years of very little Christmas ringing due to the pandemic, suddenly Dronfield Handbell Ringers are 'up to their eyes' in Christmas cheer!

Our festive season starts with a concert at Storrs Road Methodist Church in Chesterfield on 19th November, with Minerva, an excellent a capella Women's Chorus. Our programme includes some of our favourite pieces, and we are looking forward to a concert in the lead-up to Christmas with no carols in it!

One of our ringers is a volunteer at Longshaw, a National Trust estate near Fox House in Derbyshire. Every year Christmas trees are sold to raise funds for the National Trust, and for the last few years the team has played carols there at a weekend. This involves wearing lots of warm clothes, thick socks, boots and silly hats. We ring under a small marquee and although it often rains we (and our bells) tend to stay dry, if not warm. We certainly look forward to our cup of tea at the end of the session. Why not come along and support us – and take home a beautiful Christmas tree with you? We'll be there on Saturday 3rd December between 10:30 and 12:15 (with a break in the middle).

On Saturday 10th December we are ringing carols and festive pieces in a concert given by a choir from Wingerworth at Holymoorside Church in Chesterfield.

Finally, we will be ringing at Chatsworth on three occasions – Sunday 18th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st December. In the past, Handbell teams have rung in the Statue Gallery on Thursday and Friday evenings in the four weeks before Christmas, at the end of tours of the House. This year the format has changed, and there will be daily live entertainment outside over a much longer period. Dronfield will be ringing carols and seasonal tunes in Flora's Temple in the Gardens between 12 and 2pm on those three days. We're hoping that it won't be too cold – though the Statue Gallery was always pretty chilly – and are glad that we'll be under cover. Flora will be looking down on us while we ring. We haven't yet been invited to ring in Dronfield Parish Church on the Sunday before Christmas but would probably accept a late booking. With all these performances we'll be well rehearsed by then!

We send our best wishes for a happy Christmas with lots of good ringing to everyone in the region.

Helen Foley

Dronfield Handbell Ringers