

CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT TOWER CAPTAIN RETIRES

Desmond Ferguson has retired after 60+ years' service as Tower Captain of Stanton Lacy Bellingers. Des (seated centre) learnt to ring in the early fifties and was one of the band that rang for the Coronation of the Queen in 1953 after the bells had been rehung. Very soon afterwards Des became Tower Captain and has maintained the bells, trained the ringers and organised the ringing ever since. Des was also Master of the Guild in 1980 – 81.

At the practice on Friday, 17th April, 2015 he was given a certificate noting this achievement, which was presented by Phil Keene, a fellow long serving member of the band, on behalf of all the local ringers as a mark of their appreciation. The beautifully inscribed certificate was made by one of the band as was the celebratory cake, which was cut and enjoyed as tales were recounted of the early days of learning to ring, cycling over to Bromfield to seek help from the older ringers, being driven to meetings further afield, not knowing whether they would arrive or not.....

Des is not giving up ringing altogether and will continue to attend the weekly Friday practices and Sunday Service ringing.

