

NEWS FROM THE GUILD

April 2025

Time for the Spring Newsletter, and our most important item is to invite you all to attend our...

Guild Festival and AGM – 10th May 2025

We will be holding our Guild Festival and AGM on Saturday 10th May in the Ross district. This year we've added some more activities to the usual format, so we hope that everyone will be able to find something to interest them, and that we will see many of you on the day.



Timetable for the day

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Open Towers (General Ringing)</p> <p>9.30 – 10:30 Garway (5)</p> <p>11.00 – 12.00 St Weonards (6)</p> <p>12.00 – 1.00 Linton (6)</p> <p>13.00-13.30 Ross on Wye(8) with service touch by a band representing each district</p> <p>15.15 – 17.00 Ross on Wye (8)</p> | <p>Taster Sessions</p> <p>(limited numbers - places must be pre-booked*)</p> <p>10 - 11 Plain Hunt/Doubles Weston Under Penyard</p> <p>11 - 12 Plain Bob/Grandsire 7/8 bell Bridstow</p> <p>11 - 12.30 Introduction to Foundation Skills & Kaleidoscope Ringing (ART Module 2) Much Marcle</p> <p>12 – 1pm Surprise Minor Goodrich</p> |
|--|--|

*To book a place at the Taster sessions go to membermojo.co.uk/hdgb sign in then go to **Your membership** then click on **Visit Store** to reserve your **FREE** place, or email bookings@hdgb.org

at St Mary's Church Ross on Wye

13:30 - 14:00 Café church service & refreshments

14:00 - 15:00 Annual General Meeting (to include Special General Meeting)

After meeting – 17:00

Activities to include General Ringing at Ross

Activities and stalls within the church of St Mary, to include

- Bell Restoration Fund stall
- Guild merchandise
- Wombel
- Handbell sessions (both tune and method ringing)
- Recruitment information/advice
- Bookstall
- ART information stand
- History & Archive

More details including meeting agendas and information are available on the website, but please email contact@hdgb.org or call 07702 799082 with any questions.

[visit the website at hdgb.org](http://hdgb.org)

Long Service Awards

We've written to the following members to congratulate them on achieving their long-service awards and to invite them to a presentation of the certificates and badges at the AGM

Long Service Awards 2025

Congratulations to the following members who have achieved notable long service to the Guild

50 years

Brian R Jones, Leominster.

25 years

Neil Bragg, Coalbrookdale; Dorothy Chamberlain Stoke Prior; Rachel Coates, Tarrington;
 Stuart Edinborough, Burghill; Martin Elcock, Claverley; Jan Greatrex, Ludlow;
 Tony Greatrex, Ludlow; Rachel Hamer, Welshpool; Peter L Johnston, Clungunford,
 Heather Kennard, Wellington; Andria Lewis, Hereford St Nicholas; Margaret L Oakley, Ludlow;
 Susan Rees, Stoke St Milborough; Chereilyn M Sell, Ludlow; Martin E Speight, Diddlebury;
 Deborah M Talbott, Ross on Wye; Cecilia R Walters, Eastnor; Ray Wilson, Cleobury Mortimer.

and we've received a wonderful reply –

I am greatly honoured to learn that I have been awarded a long service certificate, and am pleased to confirm that I will be proud to come along on Sat 10th May to collect it.

I'm afraid I haven't contributed very much during my 25 years, but I would like to place on record my appreciation of the warm welcome I received from the bell-ringing community as well as the expert, patient instruction and encouragement I received and continue to receive. I also appreciate the huge amount of work done by all the people responsible for the maintenance of the bells, organising events and all the other tasks which enable the world of bellringing to continue to flourish so happily and enthusiastically.

With best wishes, Stuart Edinborough

ART Teaching Course – Module 2C – Ledbury, 24th May 2025

As we publish this newsletter there are two places still available on an ART Module 2C teaching course at Ledbury on Sat 24th May. Registration closes on 9th May so if you are interested visit <https://events.bellringing.org/en/events/courses/teaching-course-module-2c-ledbury-herefordshire> as soon as possible to book a place.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Event</p> <p>Prerequisites</p> | <p>You must be a bell-ringing teacher (or would-be teacher) aged 14 or over.</p> <p>You must have sufficiently good bell control to be able to inspire confidence in others.</p> <p>You must have the ability to comfortably ring up and down in peal.</p> <p>You must have rung a quarter peal on an inside bell of Bob Minor standard or above, recorded on Bellboard.</p> |
|---|--|

Snippets from the District AGMs

Guild Officers tried to attend as many District AGMs as possible over the season, and there was at least one Guild Officer at every meeting. We ate a lot of cake and sang a lot of hymns. Here is some of the news from the districts:

Leominster – this was the first AGM to take place, and there was a change of Ringing Master for the district. Welcome to Jane Yardley who takes on the role.

Clifford & Kington - the meeting was postponed due to storm warnings but took place the following week. There was a change of officers and a programme of district practices for the year was agreed, with GMT practices held in the afternoon and BST practices held in the evening, as this appeared to work best for the district members.

Ross – Ross AGM was also postponed due to weather warnings but took place on 11th January despite the cold. All officers continued in their roles, and 12 new members were elected (from 5 different towers) and welcomed to the Guild.

Church Stretton – Lesley Harling, secretary, stood down and Neil Pirie was elected to the post. As he has fairly recently moved to the area Neil has been busy contacting towers in the district to build new relationships. Church Stretton have also opted for different times for practices held GMT or BST.

Hereford – Barbara Fox who has served as district secretary for 22 years stood down, and Nicky Aubrey was elected to the role, there was a widespread change of other officers too – Hereford is a large district and has 3 area ringing masters, details of all the new officers can be found on the Hereford district page at hdgb.org. The meeting voted to donate £200.00 from district funds to the project to rehang the bells of Mordiford. A wonderful 19 new members were elected, and a programme of training events is planned for 2025 as well as general practices.

Bridgnorth – welcomed Carl Steventon, the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, as a guest to their meeting and a discussion of the recent changes to the C of E safeguarding framework took place. Cherry Hughes, who had been BRF rep for 25 years stood down and Phil Buggins kindly agreed to take on the role. 14 new members were elected and welcomed to the Guild. Bridgnorth District is continuing to develop its teaching capabilities using the ART programme. *We are all very sorry to hear that Cherry recently lost her battle with cancer, her contribution to the Guild and the Bell Restoration Fund in particular was significant and long-standing, she will be greatly missed.*

Ledbury – all officers continued in their roles, and three new members were elected, they were very pleased to have their new membership packs presented to them by the Master, Sue Robinson. Ledbury District is setting up a district Maintenance Fund to help churches with small grants towards bell maintenance. The district has been working closely with Ashley Fortey, the Belfries Officer, who has been invited to inspect the bells in the district and has offered advice on maintenance jobs which will help keep the bells ringing well and safely for longer. Ledbury District holds a wide range of weekly & monthly practices tailored towards different abilities and is supporting tower captains to work with their ringers to identify their goals and aims and has introduced a series of 1:1 'interviews' outside of a normal practice night to give everyone an opportunity to talk freely.

Bromyard – Sylvia Bland stood down as Treasurer and Karen Ferguson-Thomas was elected to the role. The article below describes how Bromyard tried a different format for their AGM Day, and this seems to have been very successful, it is great to hear that Bishops Frome and Pencombe were available to ring again, and bands are being developed to bring the towers back to life, with 15 new members elected at the meeting.

We have a very wide and varied range of Districts, some very large, some much smaller, but visiting the AGMs has allowed us to see the variety of ways in which ringers are working together and looking towards the future. Whilst some districts are settled in a regular pattern that works well for them with existing and identified routes for learners



and training, others are looking at new ways in which we can encourage more ringers and ringing. We are so pleased that all the districts offered us a very warm welcome and an openness to new ideas such as membermojo.

Thank you to all who attended the meetings, and especially to all those who volunteer in a district officer role.

Safeguarding

You may be aware that we have recently appointed a safeguarding lead for the HDGB who will work closely with Carl Steventon, the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding at individual church and parish level remains the responsibility of your PCC, and they will have either appointed a parish safeguarding officer, or your incumbent as the first point of contact for all safeguarding matters at a parish and individual church level. Jason Walker is our new safeguarding lead, and he can help with safeguarding matters at District and Guild level, if you have any queries, please contact Jason on safeguarding@hdgb.org

Guild Sessions

Guild Sessions are continuing to be extremely popular and seem to be a positive experience for those who attend. Since our last newsletter we have held a Learners Session at Cradley and Triples & Major sessions at Stoke St Milborough and Bromyard.

Taster sessions are available at this year's AGM.



We are rolling out the Guild Training Sessions throughout the districts and are very pleased that in every district there are officers and other experienced ringers willing to support the events.

We've also held another 'meet-up' for guild and district officers in April, and it was really useful to be able to get together and share ideas so that we can learn from and support each other.



Thank you to everyone who attended.



80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe

Many of you will already have made arrangements for ringing to commemorate VE Day, please send us details of what you do, especially if it involves working with your community to make an event to remember.

Upload your VE Day ringing to: <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=19733>



For further information about the VE Day 80 Celebrations please visit: www.VEday80.org.uk

140th Anniversary of the HDGB



Celebrating **140 years**
1886-2026

2026 marks the 140th Anniversary of the founding of the Guild, and we would like to celebrate in style.

We've invited Bishop Richard to attend our AGM, and hope to hold a series of events for all our members to enjoy, and to publicise ringing to a wider audience.

We are excited to hear your thoughts on how we can celebrate the 140th Anniversary of the Guild. Your suggestions are invaluable to us, and we want to ensure this milestone is commemorated with activities that resonate with everyone.

Would you like to have a grand dinner where we can gather, reminisce, and honour the rich history of our Guild? Perhaps you envision recruitment events to bring in new members and expand our community. Maybe more ringing events to showcase our skills and engage with the public, or open tower days to invite the community to explore and appreciate our heritage.

We welcome all ideas and look forward to hearing what you would enjoy. Together, we can make this anniversary truly special.

Membermojo

Thank you to everyone who has registered on membermojo, we're really pleased that almost 93% of our members have completed the online registration form, and we know that some of you are already using some of the features like the online 'store' for booking places at training events etc.

If you haven't registered yet, or you know someone that hasn't please get in touch with Fran (guild_secretary@hdgb.org or 07702 799082).

Whether you are not sure how to complete the form or simply don't want your details to be recorded in this way, Fran can help, either with a phone call, or online assistance, or by registering your membership for 2025 by paper record only.

Please consider printing out a copy of this newsletter to put in your tower, or to share with ringers who don't receive emails

Fundraising

Do you donate to charity through either 'Give as you Live' or 'Easyfundraising'?

The Guild is a registered charity, and we have signed up with both of these providers to allow you to raise money for the Guild whilst just spending on your usual household expenses. We'd love to be able to offer more support to districts, towers and ringers with recruitment, maintenance and training expenses, as well as arranging special events for next year, so extra fundraising will help to make this more possible.




Generate free donations for us at over 6,000 online stores. It's completely free thanks to our partner, Give as you Live Online!

Simply scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to sign up for free!
Just some of the 6,000 stores paying free donations:

M&S, booking.com, ebay, Expedia, trainline, ASOS, Argos

Scan the QR codes for either service to register and support the Guild as you shop, we'd be really grateful for your help.



You shop, brands donate
It won't cost you any extra!

easyfundraising
Help us make a difference when you shop. Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Booking.com, JOHN LEWIS, Argos, ASOS, ebay, 8,000+ online brands

Download on the App Store, GET IT ON Google Play

Recruitment

Guild Officers have recently had an online meeting with Tina Stoecklin, President of the Central Council, to discuss ideas to increase the recruitment and training of new ringers. Tina was able to tell us about experiences of recruitment projects in other associations, and she suggested several ideas, some of which we are already considering, so it was good to know we are thinking on the right lines.

The Central Council has also contacted us to ask for contact details to add to a new national recruitment portal which will match recruits to a local tower where they can expect a warm welcome and positive learning experience.

If you would like to teach and are willing to welcome new recruits at your tower please contact Fran (guild_secretary@hdgb.org), so we can begin to put together our own diocesan directory of teaching towers.

Bell Restoration Fund 600 Club

Don't forget – you can buy tickets for the 600 Club at any time, you can encourage your friends and family to take part too – you don't need to be a ringer (just over 18). For details contact your district BRF rep or see the Guild website.

Bell Sunday 18th May 2025

One of the subjects discussed at our recent officer's meet-up was how to engage with our church and community and Bell Sunday offers a welcome opportunity to reach out to some of those people who rarely see us as we ring.

Anthony Ellis recommends a book by the Guild of Clerical Ringers that could be really useful to give incumbents a better understanding of ringing's history, theology and society, and its relationship with the Church of England.

If your tower isn't marking Bell Sunday in any other way, maybe you could consider giving your incumbent a copy, you can buy one from <https://www.ringingworld.co.uk/purchase/shop/the-voice-of-the-church.html>



Central Council Resources

Running a Tower



For anyone running a tower:

- statutory and legal requirements
- advice to make a safe and pleasant place
- hints on running a tower



runningatower.cccbr.org.uk

Belfry Upkeep



Keeping a bell installation in good order:

- regular checks & maintenance tasks
- identifying problems
- when to call for expert assistance



belfryupkeep.cccbr.org.uk

Belfry Projects



Running a bell project:

- planning the project
- specialist advice
- building a project team
- fund raising
- formal requirements



belfryprojects.cccbr.org.uk

Did you know there is a wide range of resources on the Central Council website offering help and advice for tower captains and steeple keepers?

From a Maintenance Checklist to more detailed subject information for Steeple Keepers we recommend you visit <https://belfryupkeep.cccbr.org.uk/> and for tower notices and posters see <https://cccbr.org.uk/resources/publicity-material/noticeboard-toolkit/>

Notices

Since our last newsletter we have sadly lost several members and retired ringers through death. We remember the following who have rung alongside us in the past:

Bob Leeson (past member Llangarron)
Jerry Cummins (past member Whitbourne)
Gerald Hodnett (Honorary Life Member Much Wenlock)
Cherry Hughes (Bridgnorth)
John Powter (past member Clun)
Andrew Barnfield (past member Kings Cople)

May they Rest in Peace

News from Bromyard District

Pencombe Bells ring out!

On Saturday 22nd February 2025 the Bromyard District held its AGM, the last in the round of such meetings within the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Bellringers for another year.

For the first time in a few years, we have the start of local bands in churches where the bells have been only heard for special occasions and the odd district practice or not heard at all in recent times.

We started the morning at Bishops Frome, hosted by the Tower Captain there Sarah Parkinson. During 2023 the tenor bell was designated unringable, in need of a new gudgeon pin. Thankfully funds were available from the church to complete the repair and now the bells are back in action and able to be rung. Lunch followed at the Three Horseshoes in Little Cowarne.



We then moved across to Pencombe for the meeting in the village hall and I'd like to express a big thank you to our hosts for providing tea and coffee along with biscuits and cake - all very much appreciated. We were delighted to have 29 people attend the meeting, which for such a small district was an exceptionally good turnout, it was equally as delightful to vote in 15 new members, all of whom were there.



We concluded the day ringing on the bells at Pencombe which for the local band, aptly named the Pencombe Pealers, marked a milestone in their journey to have the bells back in action. This was the culmination of months of hard work getting the tower declared safe, securing funding for a new access ladder & platform, completing the installation of the ladder & platform and getting the bells in a suitable condition to be rung. Several people deserve a very big thank you for giving assistance at various stages of this journey. With more ringing and more improvements planned, including targeted maintenance & rope guides, the bells should become much easier to ring. Despite the plain bearings and long draught which are challenges for the less experienced ringer, the bells go well enough and it's an absolute pleasure to hear them again. Thank you, Rachel Lewis (Tower Captain) for inviting us.

Sue Robinson - Tower Captain Bromyard



HDGB at the West Cork Ringing Festival 2025

The **West Cork Ringing Festival** has taken place annually since 2002. Its focus is to encourage ringers from far and wide to descend upon West Cork in Ireland for a long weekend and give the local ringers a much-needed blast of intensive instruction and practice. There are a handful of Church of Ireland towers in the area and the number of regular ringers is low but once again thankfully on the rise. Therefore, any help that can be offered to keep them motivated and to develop their skills is very much appreciated.

The year's ringing festival took place over St Brigid's weekend, a new Irish bank holiday held around St Brigid's Day (1 February) since 2023. Six members of the HDGB travelled out to attend the festival: Sue Robinson, Kris Perruzza, Jason Walker, Martin Scott, Ashley Smith and Elaine Wilkinson. We were also joined by Stella Smith of WDCRA (and soon-to-be HDGB), making seven of us from the area. We all chose not to brave the Irish Sea at the end of January in a ferry, so it was Ryanair's job to bring us over in comfort and style...



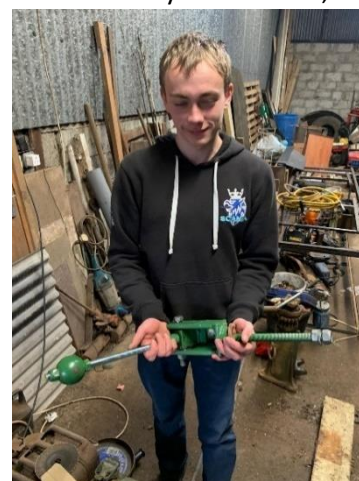
Starting on Friday 31 January, the festival got off to a swift start with teaching sessions taking place at Bandon, Skibbereen and Rosscarbery for the local bands, with visitors doing the teaching or filling in as helpers. With thirty-eight visiting ringers in attendance over the weekend, there were more than enough of us to go round. After completing the afternoon teaching session at Rosscarbery, we had an hour available before the official festival opening in which to ring a quarter, so six of us polished off a 1320 of Cambridge Surprise Minor on the lovely sounding bells of Ireland's smallest cathedral, St Fachtna's.

The evening involved a meet-and-greet with nibbles, organised - as was the whole festival - by a true stalwart of the local ringing scene, Diana Pitcher. This was our opportunity to sign up for the various sessions going on in the towers of West Cork, either as lead or helper. There were more than enough options and it was clear that we would be able to ring at any tower we wanted to at some point during the weekend (ladders permitting, that is, at least for the vertical-ladderly-challenged amongst us...)

Saturday for us involved intensive teaching sessions during the morning and afternoon at Skibbereen, followed by a quarter peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major on the beautiful eight bells of Dunmanway. This went very well indeed, thanks to the user-friendliness of the Sam Maguire Community Bells, as they are called <https://www.visitdunmanway.ie/sam-maguire-community-bells.html>



The day may also go down in the record books for the quickest broken clapper replacement. The clapper of the 5, which broke on another quarter peal band around lunchtime, was back in full working order in time for us at 4:30pm! (Having Matthew Higby around is always helpful in this regard...)



The day came to a close with everyone gathering for a marvellous feast at Skibbereen church hall. Before the food came a Striking Competition with six teams selected randomly from the visitors and locals to ring five minutes each of Rounds and Call Changes on the six light bells of Skibbereen. Kris Perruzza led the winning band, whose performance was indisputably deserving of the win. Special mention, though, must go to the local ringers, some of whom have been ringing for less than a year, and all of whom stepped up to ring with confidence in what can be a rather nerve-wracking situation.



On Sunday, the Hereford ringers headed over en masse to Doneraile, the geographical outlier of the festival, which is actually in North Cork and about two hours' drive away from the other participating towers. Though it may be rather far flung, the journey was well worth it, as Doneraile has both a fantastic ring of six and an enthusiastic band of learners numbering in double figures. We were impressed to see how they have managed to develop their skills in relative isolation, and they were very grateful to us for helping them to add a few more building blocks to their learning process.



After Doneraile, we had to dash off in time for Evensong ringing at St Fin Barre's Cathedral in Cork. Matthew Higby led the ringing and there were roughly 40 of us (!) there to take turns at ringing everything from Rounds on 12 up to Stedman Cinqes. These bells went beautifully, and the sound outside was incredible, being able to travel across the whole city from the cathedral's high vantage point.



At this point, Stella, Sue and Elaine had to dash off to the airport for their flight home, but four of us remained to return to Rosscarbery for another quarter peal attempt with the help of two ringers from the Carlisle Guild, David Horne and Wendy Belsey. In the weeks leading up to the festival, while messing around with the Complib website, I had discovered that a certain 4th-place Delight Minor method had never been rung. It looked to be easy to learn and worked when called with 1-2 bobs in the standard 720 WHWx3 and 600 WWWHHH compositions. So, with Martin tasked to conduct it from the tenor, we rang it successfully and named it Rosscarbery Delight Minor.



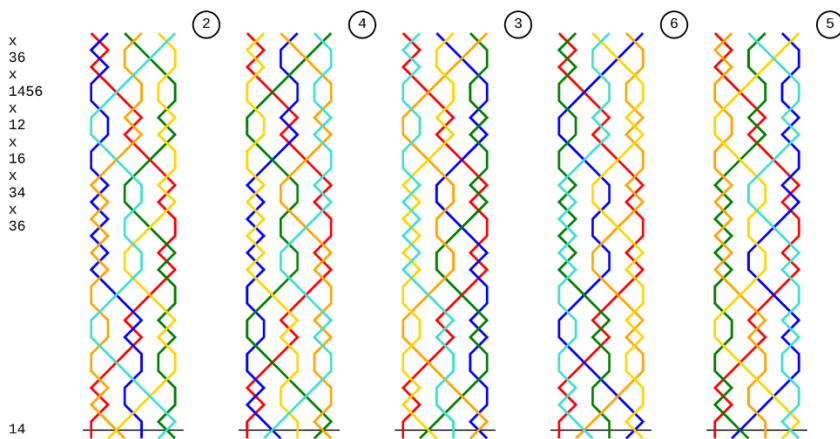
On Sunday, 2 February 2025
 Rosscarbery, Cork
 Cathedral and Parish Church of St Fachtna
 Tenor: 12-2-3 in G

1320 Rosscarbery Delight Minor

- 1 Wendy Belsey
- 2 David A Horne
- 3 Ashley Smith
- 4 Jason M Walker
- 5 Kris Perruzza
- 6 Martin Scott (C)

For the West Cork Ringing Festival

Rung for the first time: x36x1456x12x16x34x36,14 lh 154263



Kris and Jason had to take a very early flight back home on Monday morning, so that left just Martin and me to get involved in Monday's ringing. This involved a session for the ringers of Dunmanway, which was led by Martin, and which saw some astonishing progress achieved. One young ringer, for example, started the day hoping to ring an unaffected touch of Plain Bob Doubles. By the close of play, he had not only rung it with the bobs, but he had also rung

faultless courses of Plain Bob Minor and Major! (The previous day, he, his brother and sister had rung Grandsire Doubles for their first ever quarter peal, so clearly there is a promising future waiting in the wings for West Cork.)

All in all, the experience of the West Cork Ringing Festival was one which the seven of us from the Hereford Guild area agreed was second to none. We plan to return for next year's festival and will seek to go over at other times of the year, as the welcome received from Diana Pitcher and all of the ringers in Ireland was as warm and generous as anyone could possibly hope for. To anyone else thinking of going, please don't hesitate. You will love it, you will be welcomed with open arms and the contribution that you can make to the locals' ringing progress will create a crucial and lasting impression.

Do get in touch with Martin and me at milburgaringers@gmail.com if you have any questions and we can put you in touch with Diana and the West Cork network.

Ashley Smith, Stoke St Milborough

News from Ledbury District – Simulator Training Day

It's a rather unconventional ringing circle in several respects. Most of the ringer are facing outwards, wearing headphones and in front of each of them is a stool with a laptop on it. This was a first of a series of training mornings Ledbury District is running at Ledbury Tower using simulators. We wanted to help our ringers to focus on listening, striking and adjusting to ring accurately without visual ropesight cues. For each ringer there is a helper standing by to help interpret the result from the simulator, suggest adjustments and keep an eye on ensuring good technique and control of the bell.



Each ringer has their own simulator working independently of the others and so the session for each is tailored to their specific needs. The session was 2 hours long with about 15 minutes of "how to" guidance at the start giving over an hour and a half on the end of the rope. Most are ringing one of six bells to rounds though we have one covering to 120 of St Simons Doubles. A few ventured on to rounds on 10, Plain Hunt on 5 and 240 St Simons inside. If you haven't tried it, accurate Plain Hunt is a big step from steady rounds! The ringer chose the number of bells (we went from 4 to 10) and which bell they would ring (treble, cover or inside). After two whole pulls on their own the simulator fits in the rest of the bells through the ringer's headphones. The speed of the simulator is matched to the first two whole pulls. The simulator is relentless. It will not vary its speed. The idea is to listen, recognise your bell and adjust your striking to ring rounds consistently and accurately. The simulator reports the accuracy of the ringer's hand and back strokes so the helper can see if they are early, late or erratic and prompt accordingly.

For those not interested in the IT skip to the next paragraph. We have 8 ports linked to the simulator. Cables run from the wall sockets to the laptop's USB port. A foot pedal triggers go and stand connected to a second USB port. The laptops are running Windows 11 with the latest version of Abel installed and configured for the Ledbury bells. All non-required software (a lot) was uninstalled which dramatically improves laptop performance and boot time. Wifi is disabled to prevent unplanned operating system updates, reinstallation of unwanted software and malware infections. We use a cable from the laptop's 3.5mm jack to the headphones because we found with Bluetooth connectivity a lag made ringing in concert with the simulated bells disconcerting at best and impossible at worst.

Feedback from the session included: the proximity of the laptop made for a congested ringing space (the extra energy for some concentrating on handling made focussing on listening harder); plain hunt was really difficult on a simulator; it revealed to one of our ringers something we knew but they didn't quite believe that they are consistently slow at back stroke and slightly fast at hand stroke (the evidence was in the simulator's report which they still didn't quite believe until the helper demonstrated it wasn't a problem with the simulator).

We have more sessions planned for learners just beginning to ring on their own to rounds, plain hunt and rounds for those ringing plain bob doubles and minor but struggling with striking accurately and one for our more advanced ringers and teachers to learn how to set up the laptops so they can run future sessions and practice ringing inside to methods.

Dates for your Diary

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| 3rd May | Tewkesbury Shield competition | 7 th June | Clifford & Kington Practice at Eardisley |
| 3 rd May | Clifford & Kington Practice at Clifford | 21 st June | Church Stretton Practice at Clun |
| 8 th May | 80 th Anniversary of VE day | 28 th June | Hereford District Outing – all welcome |
| 10th May | Guild AGM at Ross | 5 th July | Clifford & Kington Practice at Knighton |
| 17 th May | Church Stretton Practice at Pulverbatch | 12 th July | Guild Learners Session, Clunbury |
| 18 th May | Bell Sunday | 19 th July | Church Stretton Practice, Leintwardine |
| 18 th May | Guild Learners Session, Hfd St Nicholas | 27 th July | Hereford District Meeting, All Saints |
| 24 th May | Hereford Practice at Abbey Dore | 9 th -24 th Aug | Quarter Peal Festival |

News from Bellboard & Facebook

We regularly check Bellboard and Facebook to see what has been happening around and about. Here is a round-up of some of the news and events over the past three months:

- **Stoke St Milborough** featured on Radio 4's Bells on Sunday on 23rd February, you can listen at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m002899s>
- Several videos of ringing at **Clun** have been posted on YouTube, visit <https://www.youtube.com/@Clochenfuhrer> they are well worth a look.
- A local band of ladies rang a quarter peal at **Michaelchurch Esley** to mark **International Women's Day** on 8th March.
- A band of friends rang 8 quarter peals in one day in the Golden Valley area on 23rd February, including one at **Peterchurch** to celebrate the awarding of the King's Award for Volunteering to the community.
- After attending an ART Module 1 course in early January, Kris Perruzza and Jason Walker of **Burghill** both received accreditation as ART teachers in March.
- On 26th January, ringers from neighbouring towers joined together for the first Sunday Service ringing at **Peterchurch** for more than 20 years.
- Congratulations to **Louise Cox** and **John Murdoch** on ringing their first quarter peals
- **Llangarron** celebrated their first ring on 'new' ropes for the tower which had been donated by Twynning and refurbished by Malcolm Taylor.
- **Leominster** ringers rang during the 'Light Up Leominster' town event to welcome all into The Priory Church
- A family quarter peal was rung at **Llangarron** by the Pugh family before the funeral of their 'Uncle Bob' Robert Leeson.
- A notable footnote to a quarter peal at **Coddington** - Rung in memory of Jeanne Jones, mother of Chris Jones who sadly died on Boxing Day. She loved the bells and was convinced that we said "Look to, treble's going, CHEESE SCONE!" RIP
- A sponsored peal was rung at **Worfield** in aid of the new rope guide, please contact the tower to donate.
- Ringing was recorded on **Bellboard** to celebrate birthdays; to remember our friends and loved ones who have died; to mark the celebration of Easter; as well as other occasions such as Mothering Sunday, the 5th anniversary of the COVID outbreak, St David's Day, Holocaust Memorial Day and the 139th Anniversary of the founding of the Guild.

We hope that you have found this Guild Newsletter useful and enjoyable, please let us know what you think, we'd really appreciate your feedback. You can tell your District Secretary, or email direct at news@hdgb.org

We've really appreciated receiving news stories from around the Guild, please send news for the next issue to news@hdgb.org