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ASSOCIATION OF BELLRINGERS

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Spring 2024



Saint Patrick's Cathedral
Bunbury, Western Australia
The First Peal on the Bells
Saturday, 17 August 2024



ON THE COVERS

St Patrick's Cathedral, Bunbury, WA

8 bells. Tenor: 7-3-1 Cover Photograph: Richard Offen
For more details see the ANZAB Website.

The foundation stone of the original Roman Catholic Church in Bunbury was laid in 1919, the church opened two years later and was elevated to Cathedral status in 1954 when the Diocese of Bunbury was formed. A spire was added to the tower in 1967. Sadly, on 16 May 2005 disaster struck when a cyclone damaged the Cathedral beyond repair and it was demolished two months later. In July 2008 construction began on a new cathedral, which was completed and consecrated some two and a half years later.

Thanks to the generosity of Perth ringer Laith Reynolds, the new cathedral was supplied with a very fine ring of eight bells cast in Holland, with John Taylor & Co providing the bell fittings and bell frame design for a local Bunbury firm to fabricate. The bells were raised into the belfry in February 2012 and on 17 March, over 20 ringers made the journey from Perth and Rockingham to ring prior to a special St Patrick's Day Mass, at which the bells were formally commissioned by the Bishop of Bunbury. The resulting ring is delightfully pretty sounding and extremely user-friendly to ring. Read the account of the first peal on page 11.

Back Cover - 5056 Kent Treble Bob Sixteen

The idea to ring a 16-bell peal in Perth with an all Aussie band is something which routinely came up in conversation time and time again but would never get organised. There had been an ANZAB peal on 16 bells in 2016 - it just qualified for the association with 7 resident ringers and 1 former resident ringer. I certainly believed we could muster a completely residential band and "one-up" Little Bob Sixteen, which was the method rung in 2016. The tricky bit was getting all the right ringers in the right place and at the right time to have a fighting chance. There is a finite number of ringers in Australia you can ask to attempt such a goal and so the first emails went out in January. It also doesn't help when the majority of ringers live nowhere near the only 16-bell tower in the country - happily most enjoy travel. In addition to attempting a peal at the Swan Tower I arranged peals at other towers in Western Australia to sweeten the attraction. Furthermore, a practice day on 16 bells was arranged to give us the best possible chance of scoring.

All the plans came together over six months - I had 19 ringers committed to travel to Perth, including 3 reserves! 5 peals were organised in total so everyone was going to get something out of the trip. The best thing of all would be the huge social that would come with the occasion as we really can go years without seeing friends from across the association. James Perrins

All the ringing was successfully scored - read more of the 16-bell story on the back cover and see the other peals on page 12.

- Directors: President Deryn Griffiths, Treasurer Murray-Luke Peard, Secretary Peter Harrison, Membership Secretaries Simon McMillan, Andrew Cole. Thomas Perrins, Mary Sluter, Kellie Hajek, Matthew Farthing

- Non-Executive Officers: Peal Secretary: Adam Beer, Librarian: Bill Perrins, Webmasters: Simon McMillan & Deryn Griffiths, Advisory Panel Co-ordinator: Richard Offen, UK Membership Contact: Yvonne John, Ringing Development Coordinators: ART: Kathi Downs, Intermediate: David Smith, Advanced: Philip Goodyer, 12-Bell: Philip Goodyer

Membership and Subscriptions (2024/2025)
For full membership category details see the ANZAB website here.

Table with 2 columns: Membership Type, Subscription. Rows include Member/Associate Member, Honorary Life Member/Honorary Associate, Senior Member, Junior Member, and New Associate Member.

For a printed copy of Ringing Towers add A\$10/NZ\$10 (bulk posted) or A\$20/NZ\$20 (individually posted) to rates above.

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Submissions
Articles may be edited for space reasons. When submitting please indicate if publication in electronic Ringing Towers is not acceptable. The views expressed in Ringing Towers do not necessarily represent those of ANZAB Ltd, the Directors or Officers of the Company.

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Next Ringing Towers deadline: 31 Dec 2024



WELCOME

From the President

The transition of responsibilities to the new Directors is taking longer than I had hoped, but is happening. Murray-Luke, our Treasurer, has been chasing options for someone to audit our accounts and I hope we will have more news for you by the end of the year. The new membership secretaries, Andrew Cole & Simon McMillan, have sent out requests for 2024-25 subscriptions. Please help them by replying as soon as possible.



The Directors have approved a project regarding the library and archives, and have been pleased to hear that the Richmond (NSW) bell installation project has been granted council approval. We are aware of various other project applications that may be submitted, ranging from new towers to improved sound and safety, to programs to support training. If you have a project that might warrant funding from ANZAB, please apply prior to undertaking the work and be aware that receipts are required to claim any reimbursement.

ANZAB exists in a formal manner with a constitution, a system of nomination for membership and membership fees. However, all towers and ringers in Australia and New Zealand are in some way the face of ANZAB. This plea is to Tower Contacts and those running or participating in any ringers' events, whether or not you are ANZAB members, to be good and timely communicators. Please make sure the contact details on the ANZAB tower directory and elsewhere are up to date with email addresses and phone numbers that are monitored. This gives occasional visitors a way to contact you and enhance your practice or service ring.

After 2 months of being unable to ring due to injury I am relieved to be back. One personal recent highlight was ringing in a first QP for a new Geelong ringer. During September I was part of a country visit focussed on assisting ringers from Albury, Wangaratta and Beechworth and was delighted with their willingness to try new things, be it ringing a heavier bell than usual or trying a touch for the first time. Please reflect on your personal highlights and keep enjoying your ringing.

Deryn Griffiths

From the Editor

My thanks also to the Directors for ANZAB's investment in an updated version of Adobe InDesign - the software used to produce *RT*.

In this issue of *eRT* I have complied with a request from the President to not use an image (previously published on *Bellboard*) as it has potential to offend.

Phil Goodyer



From the Membership Secretaries

In July, the Directors appointed us joint Membership Secretaries. Since then we have been busy learning the ropes and being trained by the former and present ANZAB Secretaries, Kellie Hajek and Peter Harrison. It has been a steep learning curve.



On 13 Aug we sent out subscription reminders to all ANZAB tower/group contacts for them to complete the annual membership returns. We've received a number - thank you - however, the majority are yet to complete returns, please do so sooner, rather than later.

If you haven't been asked about your ANZAB subscription renewal for 2024-25, please talk to your tower or group contact.

ANZAB has a generous grace period for subscription renewals. Subs fall due on 1 July, with the final date for the payment of 31 Dec. The six months is to give tower reps time to compile returns and make payments, and give the Membership Secretaries a chance to complete their part of the process. This year we are grateful for the grace period, but do wonder if it should be so generous.

Around 20 members subscribe individually rather than via a tower or group. We will be in touch with you soon about your renewal for the current membership year. *Simon McMillan and Andrew Cole*



ANZAB 2025 GOULBURN • CANBERRA

Ringers of Goulburn, Manuka and Yass look forward to welcoming delegates from around ANZAB's territory and beyond. The Festival will take place over the ANZAC Day long weekend. With Easter the previous weekend you can book 3 days of leave and enjoy an extended break from Good Friday to Sunday 27 April! Here's the draft program:

THURSDAY 24 APRIL

- Early bird registration and ringing in Canberra & Goulburn
- Potential ART Module to be delivered at Yass
- Set up of the Little Toze mini-ring

FRIDAY 25 APRIL - ANZAC DAY

- Optional participation in Dawn services
- ANZAB Annual General Meeting at around 11am
- Afternoon ringing at all three towers plus the mini-ring
- Evening Civic Reception

SATURDAY 26 APRIL

- General ringing and quarter peals in the morning
- Striking competition in the afternoon
- Ringers' Service
- Formal Festival Dinner in the evening

SUNDAY 27 APRIL

- Morning service ringing at all 3 towers plus the mini-ring
- BBQ lunch followed by general ringing & quarters in the afternoon

At least one minibus will run a scheduled service between Yass, Canberra and Goulburn. (offers of carpooling gratefully accepted).

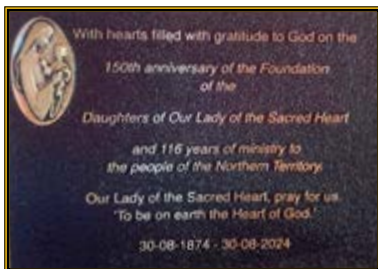
Peripheral activities will include Tours of Canberra Carillon, local wineries, a brewery, the railway museum and historic steam waterworks; plus Rocky Hill War Memorial Museum, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, handbells, theory sessions and, don't forget, the iconic Big Merino! Stay tuned for further info in *RT* and on the website. *Stephen Relf & ANZAB 2025 Organising Committee*



BELFRY GOSSIP

Northern Territory - Darwin, St Mary's Cathedral

Over a weekend in August all around Australia the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart celebrated their 150 years jubilee in Australia. To celebrate this very special milestone, the Bishop of Darwin asked us to ring the bells after Mass as well, while the parishioners continued the celebrations in our Mackillop Hall.



Darwin Bell Ringers rung rounds of Tittums* (on 5 bells) to celebrate this jubilee.

Left: the plaque dedicated to the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart presented and blessed by Bishop Charles Gauci

*Tittums as we only had 5 ringers with one, Lyra, a

novice ringing a bell open for the very first time. *Stella Taylor*

New South Wales and ACT

Singleton, All Saints

Positive progress from all our newest members - Marea is competently ringing call changes from a variety of bells. Jon recently rang both strokes and stood his bell independently. Wendy is almost up to this stage too. Both Jon and Wendy rarely miss a practice night. Our newest member, Danielle, invited the local newspaper to cover her story of taking up bellringing - it made front page news. Hugh's patience and expertise is guiding our band in the right direction and hopefully we will continue to attract more keen bell ringers in the future. *Janelle Cox*

Armidale, St Peter's

The 2024 Armidale Anniversary Weekend has been postponed to 22-24 Nov, with ringing on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Billets are available. *Simon McMillan*

Broadway, St Benedict's

Thanks to the efforts of Fr James' notices in the parish newsletter there are 2 or 3 parishioners learning to ring. *Peter McEvoy*

Burwood, St Paul's

The last few months have been fruitful with a peal on the 6 July to celebrate my significant birthday, and the visit of young ringers late July when they attempted the first quarter of their trip. This was unsuccessful but good practice for the weekend.

Our most recent learner, Linda Wong, rang her first quarter - treble to Bob Doubles. She was very nervous but rang almost faultlessly. She has already progressed to ringing inside with bobs to Bob Doubles and will be venturing out to another tower.

We are fortunate to average 9 ringers practice nights and Sundays and ring to our ability, trying to improve the striking. *Pam Brock*

Orange, Holy Trinity

Here in Orange we always encourage anyone to come to the tower to see what we actually do when ringing bells, particularly as mostly interest stems from an unfortunate episode of Midsomer Murders where most of the bell ringers were murdered.

Among the many who have climbed the steps to the bell chamber is one regular visitor who has spent many hours supervising ringing during his life, both in the UK and Australia. Now, as he approaches his twilight years, he spends most of his time in the tower occasionally dozing off, but not before enthusiastically greeting the band members and offering them encouragement. He has many friends in our band - we all look forward to his visits.



In 2018 he supervised a peal of Lincolnshire Major at Thornhill, West Yorkshire - recorded in The Ringing World as his first Peal. Not many in our band can claim that honour!!

Although he has a keen interest in bellringing, he is yet to pull a rope due to the fact he is "vertically challenged" and lacks opposable thumbs!! I would like to present a favourite

four-legged friend - Mr Ronald O'Mahony!!! *Jennifer Derrick*

Lithgow, Hoskins Memorial

Ringing took a slight break over the winter with various ringers heading to warmer places! Hannah to UK and Scandinavia, others to coastal NSW, Sydney or Qld! And Bill to several parties celebrating his and his wife's milestone birthdays and a big wedding anniversary! congratulations to them both. Sadly Bill has been unwell recently, so best wishes for a speedy recovery Bill.

Sept saw most of us back, and some UK visitors! Edward and Isabel Woodward from West Sussex, came along to practice night and we rang a quarter with Sydney ringers at the weekend. We have several learners, which is exciting, but training is mostly dependant on me being there. which has slowed things down a bit lately! I'm hoping to arrange handling training day one Sunday in Nov if anyone is interested in helping out! *Hannah Musgrove*

Yass, St Clement's

Earlier this year a new vicar was appointed. I have been keeping in touch with Rev Luke Collings as he's settled in. He has been conscious of the benefits the fine ring of six bells in his church, but necessarily other priorities have taken his early attention.



With immediate urgent tasks attended to, focus has turned to bells and ringers. A first task was to conduct a safety and maintenance inspection, as there has been no change ringing at Yass for the last few years. On 28 Sept Thomas Perrins and I spent a dirty and dusty 3 hours in the bell chamber, running through a comprehensive checklist of belfry maintenance items. Happily, the report card was a positive "B+".

The Ringing Room "before". After the inspection we were able to do some test rings with 4 other ringers who 'coincidentally' turned up. And the vicar's teenage son rang some backstrokes too!

This is all really encouraging, and I hope to report again regarding the rebuilding of a local Yass band. *Christopher O'Mahony*



See lots more NSW + ACT Branch news in *eRT* or by downloading *A Ringing Note* from the anzab.org.au website in the Members' section (where you'll also find other branch news).

Queensland

Brisbane

At the cathedral, we have continued our system of rotating the role of Ringing Master (between 5 more experienced ringers) on a monthly basis. This is working well, being less onerous for the ringing masters and providing a greater variety of approaches.

The air conditioner at St Andrew's was finally replaced in mid-Feb - to celebrate this (overdue!) event, we rang a quarter of a new method (courtesy of Adam Beer) - Air Conditioner Delight.

We've welcomed interested non-ringers at a ringing open weekend in March, at tower tours during Brisbane's Open House event in July and hosted about a dozen younger visitors as part of the cathedral parish's Tweens Day in Sept. These were quite popular but unfortunately didn't result in many recruits. A visit organised remotely by a newer UK ringer for a relative in Brisbane and an online advertisement by the cathedral for various volunteer roles resulted in a couple of enquiries and we have two new learners and expect to have a few more starting soon.

Matthew Shaw, our long-term UK visitor, returned home in August and will be missed. We had a low-key farewell for him on the weekend before he left. David Smith has just returned from a couple of months in the UK. I made my first visit to the UK in July; though it wasn't specifically a ringing trip, I was able to ring at several towers.

Harold Bartlett

New Zealand

Auckland

We're very proud to have quite a few learners - we nearly have a whole band of learners! They are progressing well: 2 working on handling, 1 ringing rounds, and 2 moving into called changes. In more advanced ringing: in the same quarter Connor rang his first quarter (Plain Bob) and Scott called his first.

Our new vicar (Rev Richard Bonifant) was installed on 18 April. We rang a pleasant quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor and joined in the refreshments after his induction was complete.

On 8 Sept we rang 69 tolls in memory of Kīngi Tūheitia Pōtatau Te Wherowhero VII (GCCT KStJ KCLJ) who died on 30 Aug. This was followed by open ringing to celebrate the coronation of Te Arikiniui Kuīni Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō on 5 Sept, the final day of the tangihanga (funeral) of her father, Kīngi Tūheitia, at Tūrangawaewae Marae. Included was 27 rounds of Queens - Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō is the current youngest monarch at age 27.

We're back in the Auckland Heritage Festival 2024, with an open day on Sunday 13 Oct. We'll be showing visitors around the tower, demonstrating ringing, and giving visitors an opportunity to chime a bell. We're fairly limited by the dimensions of the tower, so get around 50 people up the tower and had 200-300 people through the church during our previous open days. Follow us on our 4 social media platforms to see what we're up to.

A reminder that our research project into health & safety in bell-ringing is wrapping up at the end of 2024. Towers wanting to contribute/see more info: <https://anzab.org.au/towerPages/AUC/>. The plan is to follow up with a survey of towers in 2025 asking about what issues they see as preventing lifelong learning (stairs getting steeper, arthritis, etc.). Any feedback can be emailed to: scott_pilkington@hotmail.com.

Scott Pilkington

Western Australia

Claremont, Christ Church

We love having visitors join us and over the past few weeks have welcomed Cameron Pepper and Ethan Bridges. The highlight of each month is our meal out (2nd Wednesdays) – lots of great eating places in our area so please join us when you can!

Perth St George's

Our videographer Simon is preparing a report on costs and feasibility of live streaming the ringers as part of the recruitment process and as a method of traffic management on the stairs.

Mosman Park, St Hilda's

Our two dedicated students Kaitlyn and Dulcie are now ringing plain hunt which is great. And remember, any ringer can join us on Wednesday, 7.30am, in term time with coffee and pastries afterwards at Freshwaters and its great view over the river!

Perth, The Bell Tower

Our social media audience is slowly but surely increasing as is our number of new learners. On the ringing front things have remained fairly steady. Our regular practices have been well attended; Thursday lunchtimes have been a bit shaky, but they remain viable and continue to provide a service to the tower.

Victoria

Happy (and tired) ringers in Wangaratta on 14 Sept (*right*) after a get together in the North East. Ringers from Wangaratta, Albury, Beechworth, Melbourne Wagga and Ballarat met up in Albury and then



in Wangaratta for a busy, productive, fun day. Many thanks to Andrew for organising. *Edith Fry on VicANZAB Facebook group*

Melbourne, St Paul's

We were delighted to host a VIC ANZAB 10-bell practice recently, organised by Andrew Cole. We managed Plain Hunt on 9, 10 and 11, and on 1-5 and 7-11 while ringing 12 bells. We worked on Grandsire Caters, building up leads before it fell apart. We finished with particularly good R&CC for service.

We are missing a few long-term ringers. In particular Helen Pettet who is now in aged care. We will be running open tower evenings in late November and hope to recruit some new ringers that way.

South Australia

Adelaide

We've been chilling post-ANZAB, waiting for some to return from extended trips elsewhere. Matthew Ball has organised a number of 'developmental



Quarters' which have seen ringers like Laurence Williams progress from ringing behind to inside to Grandsire Doubles.

Prospect practice on Fridays continues to be a useful opportunity for learners (notably 10 year old Liam), more advanced ringing when numbers permit, and socialising. In the absence of a nearby pub, we bring our own supper to the church hall. It has become a tradition to photograph (*above*) this event and send images to the absent so they know what they're missing.

Susan Tonkin



RINGING DEVELOPMENT

CCCBR Recruitment & Development Workgroup

Laura Goodin (Melbourne and Ballarat) and Julie Taylor (Perth) have stepped up to represent ANZAB on the Recruit, Regain, Retain hub of the Recruitment and Development Workgroup as part of Central Council of Church Bellringers' (CCCBR) Ringing 2030 Project. Julie has extensive experience in the rebranding initiative and social-media activity for The Bell Tower in Perth, and Laura has been active in designing learning and publicity resources and recruiting new ringers through Ringing Room and face to face. They both view their involvement in the RRR hub as a logical extension of their work in Australia, and look forward to contributing ANZAB insights to this international forum.

Working together is yet to start, but Laura can be contacted at lauragoodin@gmail.com if you have recruitment/retention/etc. ideas you would like to share.

Laura Goodin

Ropesight Day

On Saturday 3 Aug ringers from Orange and Bathurst came together for a highly successful Ropesight Day, meticulously organised and led by Jim Woolford (*Right demonstrating technique*). Jim's profound expertise offered a thorough exploration of the theory behind call changes, various ringing methods, and the fundamentals of ropesight, also underscoring the critical importance of ringing technique.



The event was further enriched by the presence of several experienced ringers including Rob McCalary, Oriana Zanon, Jared Bignall, Claire O'Mahony and Joy Fabry. Their diverse perspectives and practical insights added valuable depth to the learning experience.

Held at Bathurst Tower, the day was attended by approximately 15 participants. A notable highlight was the chance to test the new sound system, which received enthusiastic feedback for its clarity and enhanced auditory experience.



This upgrade greatly contributed to the day's ringing sessions, allowing a much more accurate assessment of technique and striking.

The practical ringing sessions were a core component of the event.

Participants, especially those still developing their ropesight skills, benefitted greatly from observing proficient striking. This observational practice was instrumental in mastering essential techniques such as elimination and counting up and down through plain hunting. Jim and the other experienced ringers provided hands-on guidance, offering personalised tips and addressing specific queries from attendees.

After a fulfilling day of learning and practice, the group enjoyed a delightful lunch at the church bar. The sunny weather provided the perfect backdrop for a relaxing meal and an opportunity to socialise and reflect on the day's activities. The combination of educational content, practical experience, and a convivial atmosphere made for a truly rewarding day, enhancing both skills and camaraderie among all participants. *Oriana Zanon*

Intermediate Ringing Development

Future Intermediate Ringing Weekends

David Smith has been overseas since last issue of *RT*, but courses are planned for November - in Sydney; and in Katoomba "and points west". Watch the webpage for more details. And if you'd like to host an ANZAB subsidised course let David know.

Advanced Ringing Development

Future Advanced Ringing Weekends

After frantic activity in the first half of 2024 Advanced Ringing Weekends are having a well earned break! The next planned weekend is **Fri 31 Jan to Sun 2 Feb 2025 in Hobart**. ANZAB is subsidising travel for experienced ringers Richard Offen, Callum Crofton, James Perrins and Caroline Pawley with Hobart ringers providing accommodation. Doug Nichols is finalising the program which will include the usual "Steps towards Surprise Ringing", in addition there will be sessions covering Grandsire and Stedman. The weekend will be a combination of workshops and focused ringing sessions. An aim of the weekend is that Hobart ringers will be able to ring competent Grandsire Triples after the visitors leave. As always, other interstate ringers (not subsidised) are very welcome to attend - drop Doug an email.

Arrangements are progressing for a weekend in **Victoria 30 May - 1 June 2025**, with 3 experienced NZ ringers already signed up for the weekend - contact Deryn Griffiths for details.

And pencil in an Advanced Weekend in **Perth 17/18 May 2025**.

12 Bell Weekends

Sydney and Goulburn, October 2024

As *Ringing Towers* goes to print the Annual Sydney 12-Bell Weekend is about to take place, along with the "Goulburn Extension" - there'll be a report in the Summer issue of *RT*.

Adelaide, 6-9 June 2025 (King's Birthday weekend)

The first 12-Bell Weekend in 2025 will be in Adelaide 6-9 June, with Sydney to follow 10-12 October - the weekend after the SRS.

APPLY FOR AN ANZAB SUBSIDY

Subsidies are available for these Ringing Development events:
ART Courses - contact Kathi Downs to arrange one.
Intermediate Ringing Weekends - contact David Smith for details.
Advanced Ringing Weekends - subsidised travel for 4 experienced ringers to come to you! Contact Phil Goodyer to arrange a weekend.
12-Bell Weekends - subsidised accommodation and group travel.
Apply early before each weekend to Phil Goodyer
Ideas for Ringing Development? - Contact the Directors



ITALIAN NAVY IN DARWIN

On Sunday 14th July 2024, St Mary's Star of the Sea Cathedral Darwin had the privilege of welcoming and Confirming 13 young men and women from the Italian Navy Aircraft carrier Cavour. They were prepared by their Chaplain on the high seas and Confirmed with our community in Darwin. Knights and a Dame of Malta accompanied the procession.

In celebration of this Sacrament, the Darwin Bellringers were asked to ring at the conclusion of Mass. Rounds to Queens and Whittingtons were rung, before the Bellringers were invited to join in their celebrations and meet the Italian Armed Forces personnel. As the Bishop of the Diocese of Darwin described, "It was a heartfelt moment of grace for us all."

The following day, the Australian Navy opened up their Larrakeyah base HMAS Coonawarra for their open day for the first time in 7 years. A group of the Darwin Bellringers and their families gathered for this exclusive event. Thanks to the generosity of the Italian Navy, the group had the privilege of going on board the Italian Aircraft carrier Cavour and receiving an incredible tour.



Darwin Bellringing group on board the ITS Cavour for an exclusive tour while attending HMAS Coonawarra Open Day. L-R Claudio Rimondi, Lorenzo Lodge, Daniela Eugster, Kathy Campbell, Stella Taylor



Both the Italian Navy and Air Force were in Darwin as participants in the RAAF biennial Exercise Pitch Black.

During this exercise, members of the public were invited to an Open Day at the Darwin RAAF Base on Saturday 20th July 2024, where they were able to get up close to some of the aircraft and meet some of the airmen from all the (21) countries participating in the exercise. There, Claudio & Stella met with one of the personnel who was Confirmed.

Personnel from the Italian Marina Militare and Aeronautica Militare, including 13 who were Confirmed at St Mary's Star of the Sea Cathedral, Darwin in a special ceremony on Sunday 14 July 2024

Lastly, the Italian members of Darwin Bellringers, Lorenzo Lodge, Daniela Eugster and Claudio Rimondi received an exclusive invitation from the Italian Honorary vice Consulate to attend a celebratory cocktail event with personnel from the Italian Navy and Italian Air Force.

Stella Taylor



EMERGENCY EVACUATION II

In the July 2015 issue of Ringing Towers the St Mary's Cathedral bellringers reported their learnings from a medical emergency evacuation on 23 Apr 2015. We learned a lot of things that didn't go smoothly and we wanted our mistakes/unpreparedness not to be an issue for other towers. We even wrote our account in *The Ringing World*. We had talks with the Cathedral authorities about "next time" - not that anyone wanted there to be a next time!

One of the biggest problems we had with the evacuation in 2015 was the hook above our trap door was not load tested. Some weeks later we found that the ceiling had been replaced around the hook so visible inspections could be made and hook load tested and tagged. In subsequent years they have kept this load testing up-to-date without any input from us.

The ringers themselves have also made sure that everyone knows of the procedures in case there is a medical emergency with updates all the time. Our procedures document is a "living" document and we have a laminated copy by the tower phone. We also have a "Next of Kin" document. This is not in case the worst happens, but if someone has to go to hospital for some reason then we know who to contact.

Unfortunately in June 2024 we had an accident in the tower towards the end of the practice when a ringing teacher was helping a learner and the learner lost control of the rope. The teacher went to remedy the situation but by pure bad luck got the rope wrapped around their waist and was tipped over, landing on their head and shoulder. "Stand" was shouted straight away, and seeing the look of the teacher's face, we called an ambulance, suspecting concussion. We knew where to send the ambulance (although we haven't got our "What3Words" sorted out yet - see below if you're not familiar with W3W) but they still did not go to where we wanted - they went to the front door of the Cathedral like last time.

Once we knew the emergency services were on their way two people went down to let them in and also contacted the Dean who opened the

doors for the emergency services and turned on all the lights. When the first medic arrived he said to some of the Police Rescue "oh, I was here about 10 years ago for a cardiac arrest".

The teacher / (now) patient was stable when the emergency services arrived but the obvious question was extraction. The 111 spiral stairs were very quickly ruled out, and as this wasn't our first rodeo we immediately showed the trap door under some carpet to the Police Rescue as well as the load tested hook for lowering. Furniture was moved, trap doors opened, along with safety fencing so no one would accidentally fall down. A couple more ringers went downstairs to move the pews for a clear landing. The Police Rescue and Ambulance team did their job and the patient was on terra firma within 90 minutes of the event.



Above: lowering the "teacher/patient", accompanied by Police Rescue. Far Left: the long drop from the trapdoor to the Cathedral Nave floor.

As mentioned our evacuation procedure document is a "living" document, and we found a few things on the night either didn't go smoothly, or worked by luck - we've now updated information on keys and the tower address. This is where "What3Words" comes in - W3W is a system where three (seemingly random) words will give a 3m x 3m location. It's globally recognised and used by Australian emergency services.

Our tower landline phone has been misbehaving and crackling, meaning a mobile was used that night. This was mentioned to the Dean - by the time you read this report we strongly suspect our landline will be fixed by some sort of magic! We firmly believe that if a communication tool or extraction point is not working as intended then it needs to be raised with the church authorities, rather than waiting for an incident. It's not a bad thing to challenge the church authorities politely.

For a complex issue of extracting someone 30m above ground level we appreciate it's never going to be a straightforward exercise. But at least we know we operated as efficiently as we could, and we have learned from this incident as well. We hope that mentioning this to the wider community makes them think of safety and extraction on a regular basis in your tower.

A couple of quotes from the night:

We don't need to do an extraction every year, but we also need to make sure it's in 'living memory' - The Dean of the Cathedral.

I remember coming here 10 years ago for a cardiac arrest - Medic who knew the lay of the land, and we knew they knew.

St Mary's Cathedral Ringers



CENTRAL COUNCIL 2024

The Central Council and Ringing World AGMs were held in Exeter on the weekend of 6 to 8 Sept. ANZAB Reps Peter Harrison and David Smith attended: Peter was on long service leave in the UK and David had been a tutor at the new North West residential course. Enid Roberts presented her apologies, though she was in communication the other reps before the AGM.

The weekend started with ringing opportunities on the way to Exeter and a social gathering (*right*) at a local Wetherspoons pub on Friday evening.

Official business started on Saturday with presentations from the current workgroups, reorganised as everyone works towards “Ringing 2030” - an initiative started under Simon Linford’s presidency and gathering steam under the current leadership of Tina Stoecklin (President) and Vicki Chapman (Deputy). 2030 has been set as a target for bringing about various changes currently being planned. More details can be found at <https://cccbr.org.uk/ringing-2030/>. Essentially the intention is to tackle some of the difficulties facing ringing, many of which are found in our territory as well as the UK, though England currently has a particular problem with socially isolated towers that are declining or falling silent - exacerbated by Covid.

The approach is divided into three “pillars”:

Publicity and Marketing: raising awareness of bellringing in society generally.

Recruitment and Development: developing local and regional structures to attract new ringers and regain lapsed ringers, and ensuring facilities exist for ringers to progress.

Quality environment: improving the teaching, leadership, ringing environments, safeguarding etc. so that ringers feel welcome and are retained.

Work has started in many of these areas - the workgroup reports gave details of current progress and future plans. All this requires more volunteers, and a more secure (and larger!) income stream for Central Council. This was the subject of the only mildly controversial motion at the CC AGM on the Saturday, namely to increase the fees. After some debate, the motion was passed (by a substantial majority, though with some votes against). Previously societies paid an amount depending on the number of representatives to which they are entitled, but CC subscriptions from 2023 have been on a per capita basis - currently 20 pence per annum, increasing to 40p for 2025 and then rising further to one



pound the following year. At the meeting, the main arguments against this increase came (a) from university societies (many of whom do not charge a subscription, and whose members are probably the least able to afford even a small sum) and (b) from other societies that do not have subscription fees, and may find the administration tricky. However, even those who had reservations were largely in favour of raising more funds, but perhaps with rather more notice or at a slower rate; and the suggestion was made that university societies could apply for grants from CC if their situation really became too difficult financially, rather than creating exceptions.

In the debate, and at other times during the weekend, the point was made that current 2030 plans are still rather too vague and lacking in detail. While this is to some extent inevitable in these early days of the 2030 initiative, the Executive did take note of the criticism and undertook to improve things in this respect.

Much of the rest of the meeting was the usual reporting and routine business. In terms of elections, it is good that ANZAB is again represented on the CC Executive. David recently retired after two

terms, but the meeting elected Peter to the vacancy in the Executive created by the retirement of Clyde Whittaker. ANZAB really is one of the more effective of the territorial societies and has an important role to play in being involved with Central Council international ringing. The only other election was the re-appointment of the Treasurer Fergus Stracey.

As usual the Ringing World AGM was also held on the same day. Its financial situation is currently healthy, though it depends very heavily on donations

made to BellBoard, chiefly by ringers submitting quarter peals – so please will ANZAB members continue to be generous about this. This revenue has returned to pre-Covid levels, and has been further boosted by various royal events in recent years such as the “Ring for the King” initiative. However, no similar boosts are on the horizon, so RW’s financial future is a cause for mild concern. It was noted that subscription rates are falling, though only slowly (almost entirely when existing subscribers pass away) - but few younger ringers are signing up. A report was also given on the very successful Ringing World National Youth Competition, which is growing in popularity.

One further event was the presentation of the Westley Awards for belfry maintenance. It was noted that while nominations were received from outside England for the first time this year, there were still no nominations from ANZAB or NAG!

Saturday evening saw a social event at the Topsham Brewery and Taproom, and on Sunday morning there was service ringing at various local churches, followed by a well-attended meeting where Tina Stoecklin gave a further progress report on Ringing 2030, and Simon Linford & Alison Hodge detailed their work on the dangers posed to ringing by the decline in church attendance and the resulting likelihood of churches becoming redundant. (While very interesting, not of such great relevance to ANZAB currently, but contact us if you want more information.)

Future AGM weekends are planned for Sheffield (5 to 7 Sept 2025) and Coventry (2026).

David Smith



The HUNCHBACK of SYDNEY

Accompanying the Wurlitzer

Bells at the end of the 1812 Overture has been done before. We had the chance in June to apply bells to a different form of entertainment and what a memorable experience it was.

The organist at St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, Ross Cobb and organist around Sydney town David Drury hatched a plan to recreate the days of the silent movie and the Wurlitzer. In the 1920s, silent movies were accompanied by music extemporised by the local pianist or organist to fit the ongoing storyline on the screen. For this performance, the choice of venue was St Andrew's Cathedral with its grand organ (Hill, refurbished by Letourneau in 1998) and the date June 1st (which turned out to be the wettest day in Sydney this year). The choice of movie was to be *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1923) starring Lon Chaney and Patsy Ruth Miller. This was the most successful silent film ever made by Universal Pictures, grossing \$3.5 million in 1923.

David Drury was the accompanist on the night with Ross as the stage manager. David had watched the movie 6 times during the previous week to familiarise himself with the story. Following a chance encounter with Tom Perrins at the Cathedral copying machine, Ross decided that, since bells were an integral part of the story, the Cathedral bells should be involved. So, at the last minute (4.30pm before a 6pm start) Ross and I went through the film and identified 6 intervals where bells should be sounded. These were of varying lengths up to one minute and requiring either one or two bells to be ringing.



Esmerelda points out the finer points of striking to Quasimodo (1923)



Quasimodo - in need of some help from a remedial bellhandling therapist

Emily Perrins and Tim Hyman were available at short notice to help and the 10th and tenor were raised in anticipation. To increase the volume in the Cathedral, both doors to the belfry and the spiral staircase were left open.

Ross stage managed our contribution by phoning my mobile five seconds before each entry. Tim, a non-ringer (so far), timed the ringing and gave an appropriate signal when we should stop. Emily and I tolled on one or two bells as appropriate. This ad-hoc arrangement worked well though Ross had to apologise for an extra "pocket" call.

Apparently, at the first bell entry, the audience broke into laughter and applause on realising that the bell noise was in fact the real thing. At the conclusion of the performance (in which the organist excelled) both Drury and we were given standing ovations.

Following this, many of the assembled company took the opportunity to brave the spiral staircase and view the belfry and bells. We were delighted to enrol Sophie Brown as a new recruit to ringing. She has proved to be an able learner and has made rapid progress, enough that she was able to ring at Prospect during a recent visit to South Australia.

Although only a small crowd had braved the weather for this extravaganza, it was an evening which both they and we will remember fondly.

Bill Perrins





PEALS & QUARTER PEALS

All performances rung for ANZAB unless noted otherwise.

Peal congratulations: First on the bells: Bunbury, WA

1538 BURWOOD, New South Wales, St Paul

Saturday, July 6 2024 3h 1 (11–0–8 in G)

5088 80th Birthday Delight Major

Comp. John R Ridley

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Pam E Brock | 5 Andrew P J Davies |
| 2 Esther M Perrins | 6 Jennifer C N Davies |
| 3 William T Perrins | 7 James W Perrins |
| 4 Hugh A Carwardine | 8 Thomas M Perrins (C) |

Significant birthday compliments to Pam Brock.

In eRT: The band, 1-8 clockwise from front right.

1544 DARLING POINT, New South Wales, St Mark

Saturday, August 17 2024 2h 51 (8–1–26 in A)

5318 Olympic Surprise Major

Comp. William T Perrins

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Murray-Luke Peard | 5 Andrew B Mills |
| 2 Mary C Symes | 6 Hugh A Carwardine |
| 3 Esther M Perrins | 7 James W Perrins (C) |
| 4 Andrew P J Davies | 8 Thomas M Perrins |

Celebrating the triumphs of the Australian athletes at the recent Paris Olympics winning total of 53 medals, including 18 gold.

1546 SYDNEY, NSW, Christ Church St Laurence

Saturday, August 31 2024 3h 6 (10–3–8 in G)

5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Caters

Comp. William R Haynes

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Murray-Luke Peard | 6 Mary C Symes |
| 2 Thomas M Perrins | 7 Caroline N Pawley |
| 3 Esther M Perrins | 8 Andrew B Mills |
| 4 Andrew P J Davies | 9 Philip R Goodyer |
| 5 James W Perrins (C) | 10 Samuel P E Rorke |

Rung for the Feast of St Laurence.

First time the method has been pealed in 10 years.

1547 SYDNEY, NSW, Cathedral Church of St Andrew

Sunday, September 1 2024 3h 32 (29–0–4 in C#)

5056 Spliced Surprise Major (5m) 1120 Lincolnshire, 1056 Cambridge, 1024 Yorkshire, 960 Turrumurra, 896 Rutland. ATW

Comp. Thomas W Goodyer

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Philip R Goodyer (C) | 5 Murray-Luke Peard |
| 2 Andrew P J Davies | 6 Andrew B Mills |
| 3 Esther M Perrins | 7 Thomas M Perrins |
| 4 Christopher D O'Mahony | 8 James W Perrins |

On Fathers' Day.

In memory of Thomas W Goodyer.

1545 BUNBURY, WA, Cathedral Church of St Patrick

Saturday, August 17 2024 2h 46 (7–3–1 in Bb)

5040 Grandsire Triples

J.W. Parker (12 part)

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Patricia Lubbock | 5 Lloyd S Cartwright |
| 2 Richard C Offen | 6 Adam J Beer |
| 3 Michael J A Collinson | 7 Ian D Harris (C) |
| 4 Joselyn R Sloan | 8 Roger B Lubbock |

First peal on the bells. In celebration of the life of Chris Kippin.

Sadly, despite several attempts to start a local band, a group of local ringers has not eventuated at Bunbury Cathedral. One of the main problems is the long distance from other WA towers disrupting the possibility of regular teaching and practice.

Without a cathedral band the bells have not been rung often enough for the local residents to get used to hearing them on a regular basis. It was therefore prudent to leave thoughts of the first peal on the bells for a reasonable time. In 2023 Roger Lubbock kindly stepped up to the mark to organise a date and band, not easy with a small pool of peal ringers, some with young families or working away from home regularly.

However, before a firm date could be fixed, some work was required in the tower. The cast-iron rope bosses had been fixed to the plasterboard ringing room ceiling with ordinary rawl plugs, resulting in several bosses working loose - the treble's had fallen during a ringing session - not a comfortable occurrence for the ringer on the end of the rope! (*you can say that again - Ed*)

After several intended dates passed, we decided in early 2024, it was do or die. 17 Aug was firmly set in everyone's diary. Kath Fenton worked with the Cathedral authorities to get permission and to publicise the peal locally. Even then there was a hitch, when a week before the day, Adam was sent for work to Indonesia, with a return home on the evening before the attempt. We were extremely lucky that Vicki Greenhalgh agreed to be on standby, particularly as at 18:00 on Friday night, Adam was still in Denpasar! Thankfully, he made it back in time.

The morning of the peal dawned very windy and wet. Having braved the elements, five ringers from Perth, two from Mandurah and one from Bridgetown arrived at St Patrick's to be given the customary warm welcome from Kath. After adjusting ropes, etc, we set off with a will and a very enjoyable & trouble-free peal of Grandsire Triples came round in 2 hours 46 minutes. Afterwards, Kath informed us there had been no complaints, which isn't surprising as the tower's sound control is very effective.

The after peal celebration took place in Bunbury's 'Froth Craft Bunbrewery', which is now recommended by all the band for its excellent beers and food menu. This was followed by another wet and windy journey home - we all hope the Cathedral tower has not suffered the same ignominy as its predecessor!

Richard Offen

St ANDREW'S SOCIETY of BELLRINGERS (Lismore) Lismore, New South Wales, St Andrew

Saturday, 24 August 2024 in 2h 50 (4–1–21)

5000 Minimus (4m) 1680 Plain, 1656 Single Court & Lismore TP, 8 Plain Hunt

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Robert P Weatherby | 3 Peter Corlis |
| 2 Margaret A Weatherby | 4 Robert T W Weatherby (C) |

For the 120th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone.

Commemorating the first peal rung in the tower 20 years ago.

In memory of Tom Goodyer, conductor of the first peal, teacher of the original Lismore ringers and teacher of 1, 2 and 4.

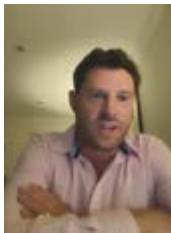


College Youths Peal Weekend

James Perrins organised three peal attempts in Sydney for this year's College Youths Peal Weekend, with two successful 12-bell peals.

The weekend included a drinks & pasta evening on Friday, a pub dinner (*below*) and concluded on Sunday with a BBQ at Andrew Davies' home.

The Master, Andy Bradford (*above*), sent a video message to Australian members taking part. Hear the start in *eRT* - "Trust this document", speakers on, you may need to then reopen *eRT*.



L-R Bill Perrins, James Heyes, Philip Goodyer, Christopher O'Mahony, Andrew Davies, Ian McCulloch, Clare Dyer, Caroline Pawley, Hadden Arrowsmith, James Perrins, Esther Perrins, Thomas and Anna Perrins.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

SYDNEY, New South Wales, Cathedral Church of St Andrew

Saturday September 21 2024 3h 32 (29-0-4 in C#)

5042 Cambridge Surprise Maximus

Comp. Christopher J Poole

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 William T Perrins | 7 Caroline N Pawley |
| 2 Esther M Perrins | 8 Hadden L Arrowsmith |
| 3 Christopher D O'Mahony | 9 James W Perrins (C) |
| 4 James D Heyes | 10 Ian P McCulloch |
| 5 Murray-Luke Peard | 11 Philip R Goodyer |
| 6 Andrew P J Davies | 12 Thomas M Perrins |

For College Youths Peal Weekend

SYDNEY, New South Wales, Cathedral Church of St Mary

Sunday September 22 2024 3h 40 (34-1-3 in C#)

5004 Stedman Cinques

Comp. Thomas Perrins

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Esther M Perrins | 7 Andrew P J Davies |
| 2 Clare E F Dyer | 8 Ian P McCulloch |
| 3 William T Perrins | 9 Richard F Webster |
| 4 James D Heyes | 10 Philip R Goodyer |
| 5 Hadden L Arrowsmith | 11 James W Perrins |
| 6 Thomas M Perrins (C) | 12 Christopher D O'Mahony |

For College Youths Peal Weekend

Sydney, New South Wales (St Mary's Cathedral Ringing Room)

20 Sep 1296 Stedman Caters Murray-Luke Peard 1-2, William Perrins 3-4, Christopher O'Mahony 5-6, Thomas Perrins (C) 7-8, James Perrins 9-10



ASCY Tour to Australia 2025

The Tour includes a "Challenge" ringing competition at Sydney City towers on Dinner Day, Sunday 2 March, with mixed bands of visitors & local ringers; members & non-members competing.

Put the date in your diary, all ringers are welcome: an afternoon of ringing followed by the dinner at L'Aqua Restaurant, Darling Harbour. Dinner tickets are \$130 each, including all drinks. We hope many local Sydney ringer will attend. *Swaz Apter, Senior Steward ASCY*

WA Peals around The Bell Tower 16-Bell Peal

1539 MOSMAN PARK, Western Australia, St Hilda's

Saturday, July 13 2024 2h 42 (4-0-22 in D)

5184 Pudsey Surprise Major

Comp. David B Wilson

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Hadden Arrowsmith | 5 Andrew P J Davies |
| 2 Esther M Perrins | 6 Ian P McCulloch |
| 3 Lloyd S Cartwright | 7 James W Perrins (C) |
| 4 Thomas M Perrins | 8 Murray-Luke Peard |

1541 CLAREMONT, Western Australia, Christ Church

Tuesday, July 16 2024 2h 37 (6-1-21 in Bb)

5040 Surprise Minor (7m) London, York, Wells, Durham, Beverley, Surfleet, Cambridge

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Murray-Luke Peard | 4 James W Perrins |
| 2 Esther M Perrins | 5 Ian P McCulloch |
| 3 Andrew P J Davies | 6 Peter I Harrison (C) |
- 400th peal: 6

1542 MANDURAH, Western Australia, Christ's Church

Tuesday, July 16 2024 2h 57 (7-0-21 in A)

5184 Spliced Surprise Major (4m) Bristol, Cambridge, London, Superlative

Comp. Robert D S Brown

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Lloyd S Cartwright | 5 Caroline N Pawley |
| 2 Andrew P J Davies | 6 Hadden L Arrowsmith |
| 3 Thomas M Perrins | 7 James W Perrins (C) |
| 4 William T Perrins | 8 Ian D Harris |

First of Spliced Major: 5

1543 PERTH, WA, Cathedral Church of St George

Wednesday, July 17 2024 2h 49 (11-0-18 in G)

5120 Bristol Surprise Major

Comp. William T Perrins

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Andrew P J Davies | 5 Ian D Harris |
| 2 William T Perrins | 6 Ian P McCulloch |
| 3 Esther M Perrins | 7 James W Perrins |
| 4 Hadden L Arrowsmith | 8 Thomas M Perrins (C) |

Quarter Peals

First QP congratulations: Patrick Houston, Zachary Lewis, Linda Wong, Sarah Dillane, Connor Hart; as conductor Scott Pilkington

Australian Capital Territory

Manuka (St Paul)

22 Aug 1260 Plain Bob Minor Julie Doyle 1, Phoebe Houghton 2, Andrew Mills 3, Jim Waddell 4, Scott Jones 5, James Perrins (C) 6. Retirement quarter peal with best wishes to St Paul's Asst Priest (and bellringer) Revd Kay Pendlebury. First of Minor: 2

5 Sep 1260 Plain Bob Minor Julie Doyle 1, Harry Howard 2, Andrew Mills 3, Jim Waddell 4, Will Ryan 5, James Perrins (C) 6. First inside: 2

New South Wales

Bathurst (All Saints' Cathedral)

18 Sep 1260 Plain Bob Doubles Robert Mcalary 1, Claire O'Mahony 2, Oriana Zanon 3, Jim Woolford 4, Tim Denham (C) 5, Patrick Houston 6.

Rung in celebration of the life of Barbara Bacon, wife of first ringer at the Bathurst Tower, Chris Bacon.

Bowral (Uniting Church)

18 Aug 1260 Stedman Doubles James Perrins 1, Caroline Pawley 2, Andrew Mills (C) 3, Ron Shepherd 4, Esther Perrins 5, James Sillence 6.

Broadway (St Benedict)

27 Jul 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor Richard Winkler 1, Tom Finn 2, Rachel Aland 3, Matthew Shaw 4, James Perrins 5, Thomas Perrins (C) 6. First in method: 2.

Burwood (St Paul)

3 Aug 1260 Plain Bob Doubles Linda Wong 1, Pam Brock 2, Jackie Spratt 3, Mark Palmer 4, Andrew Davies (C) 5, Mick Lorber 6. First quarter peal: 1. *In eRT: L-R, 1-6*

Katoomba (St Hilda)

2 Jul 1272 Plain Bob Minimus Kathi Downs (C) 1, Tony Pipe 2, Marianne Cooper 3, Maria van der Sman 4, Graham Harman 5, Sarah Dillane 6. Rung by a local band, with 2 covers. First quarter on the bells. First QP: 6. First away from the tenor: 2,3,4.



8 Sep **1260 Grandsire Doubles** Jared Bignell 1, Graham Harman 2, Mary Symes 3, Hannah Musgrove 4, Kathi Downs (C) 5, Ron Shepherd 6.

Lismore (St Andrew)

7 Jul **1272 Grafton Cathedral Singles** Pete Corlis 1, Margaret Weatherby (C) 2, Robert Weatherby Snr 3, John Maloney 4. Celebrating Rev "Aunty" Lenore Parker, Elder of the Yaegl Nation, being made an Honorary Canon of Grafton Cathedral this afternoon. For NAIDOC Week.

21 Jul **1260 Court Singles** Margaret Weatherby (C) 1, Pete Corlis 2, Robert Weatherby Snr 3, John Maloney 4. Rung to celebrate today 21st July 2024, 140 years Anniversary since the Dedication of Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton. Lismore is in the Diocese of Grafton.

4 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Singles** Julia Stewart 1, Margaret Weatherby 2, Robert Weatherby Snr (C) 3, John Maloney 4. For the opening of "Tinnie Army Commemorative Mural".

1 Sep **1260 Shipping Forecast Singles** Kevin Walsh 1, Margaret Weatherby 2, Robert Weatherby Snr (C) 3, Julia Stewart 4. Rung to welcome our new Locums Bishop Stephen Pickard and Fr Lyndon Sulzberger. Also to celebrate Father's Day.

Lithgow (Hoskins Memorial)

6 Jul **1260 Grandsire Doubles** Jared Bignell 1, Mary Symes 2, Oriana Zanon 3, Clare Dyer 4, Kathi Downs (C) 5, Patrick Houston 6. 1st QP: 6. 1st of Grandsire: 3.

Right: The band L-R, 1-6

15 Sep **1272 Cambridge S. Minor** Hannah Musgrove 1, Isabel Woodward 2, Graham Harman 3, Caroline Pawley 4, James Perrins (C) 5, Edward Woodward 6.



Menangle (St James)

5 Jul **1260 Doubles (2m)** 780 Grandsire, 480 Plain Bob. Sam Owen 1, Caroline Pawley 2, Bill Perrins (C) 3, James Perrins 4, Ron Shepherd 5, Roy Craddock 6. First on treble: 1

Naremburn (St Leonard)

7 Jul **1260 Grandsire Doubles** Judy Dearn 1, Patricia Gemmell 2, Mary Symes (C) 3, Emily Perrins 4, Kanae Micallef 5, Geoff Gemmell 6. Rung in honour of the swearing in of Australia's 28th Governor General, Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC

25 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** Mary Symes (C) 1, Alan Cutter 2, Sam Rorke 3, Geoff Gemmell 4, Kanae Micallef 5, Peter McEvoy 6. Rung to celebrate the extension of the Sydney Metro which will cut travel time between a number of towers including those of St Leonard, St James, Christ Church St Laurence and St Benedict. *In eRT, the band L-R, 1-6.*

Parramatta (All Saints)

3 Jul **1250 Superlative Surprise Major** Ron Shepherd 1, Esther Perrins 2, Richard Youdale 3, Bill Perrins (C) 4, Stephen Fox 5, Colin Sweet 6, Jeff Price 7, Thomas Perrins 8. First in the method 5,6,7

7 Aug **1280 Cambridge Surprise Major** Stephen Fox 1, Bill Perrins 2, Colin Sweet 3, Esther Perrins 4, Jeff Price 5, James Perrins (C) 6, Thomas Perrins 7, Caroline Pawley 8.

Sydney (St Andrew's Cathedral)

11 Aug **1280 Spliced Surprise Major (8m)** Standard 8. Bill Perrins 1, Angus Gilchrist 2, Caroline Pawley 3, Esther Perrins 4, Thomas Perrins 5, Nigel Bailey 6, James Perrins (C) 7, Andrew Mills 8.

Sydney (St James)

28 Jul **1250 Spliced Surprise Major (2m)** C. Y. Andrew Davies 1, Esther Perrins 2, Matthew Shaw 3, Rachel Aland 4, Caroline Pawley 5, Luka Sostarko 6, Murray-Luke Peard 7, James Perrins (C) 8. Rung in the octave of St James to celebrate the bicentenary of the church and the dedication of the bells in 2003 First Spliced: 3,4,6. *In eRT: 1-8 c/w from front right*

Sydney (St Philip)

27 Jul **1260 Stedman Triples** Lindsay Small 1, Matthew Shaw 2, Thomas Perrins (C) 3, Luka Sostarko 4, Rachel Aland 5, Caroline Pawley 6, James Perrins 7, Inga Griffiths-Hunt 8. First in method: 2, 4.

14 Sep **1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major** Bill Perrins 1, Caroline Pawley (C) 2, Colin Sweet 3, Lindsay Small 4, Tom Read 5, Esther Perrins 6, Murray-Luke Peard 7, James Perrins 8.

Turramurra (St James)

7 Jul **1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor** Elaine Lee 1, Mary Symes 2, Peter McEvoy 3, Graham Harman 4, Colin Sweet 5, Jeff Price (C) 6.

15 Sep **1280 Minor (2m)** Little, Plain. Elaine Lee 1, Peter McEvoy 2, Brian Dodd 3, Colin Sweet 4, Stephen Fox 5, Jeff Price (C) 6.
Rung in memory Kevin Sweet and Lois Beale McEvoy

29 Sept 1320 St Albans Delight Minor Elaine Lee 1, Bill Perrins 2, Brian Dodd 3, Graham Harman 4, Stephen Fox 5, Jeffrey Price (C) 6. First n method for all and in Australia

Queensland

Brisbane (St John's Cathedral)

25 Sep **1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor** Mike Toze 1, Rosemarie Harris 2, Patrick Johns 3, Rachel Aland 4, Harold Bartlett 5, Kellie Hajek (C) 6.

South Australia

Walkerville (St Andrew)

5 Jul **1260 Grandsire Doubles** Patrick Meyer 1, Elbé Alexander 2, Laurence Williams 3, Andrew Hopton 4, Matthew Ball (C) 5, Daniel Alexander 6. First in method: 3

6 Sep **1260 Doubles (3m)** 60 Stedman; 600 Grandsire; 600 Plain Bob Daniel Alexander 1, Elbé Alexander 2, David Sorell 3, Charlotte Sorell 4, Matthew Ball (C) 5, Laurence Williams 6.

Victoria

Geelong (St Paul)

3 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** Deryn Griffiths 1, Inga Griffiths-Hunt (C) 2, Mary Heyes 3, David Heyes 4, Emily Nation 5, Zachary Lewis 6. First Quarter: 6. 90th Birthday compliment to Graeme Heyes..

Right: The band 1-6 clockwise from front right

24 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** Zachary Lewis 1, Emily Nation 2, Mary Heyes 3, Deryn Griffiths (C) 4, Paige Kranz 5, David Heyes 6. First QP away from tenor: 1

29 Sept **1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor** Andrew Cole 1, Luka Sostarko 2, Mariane Merati 3, Inga J Griffiths-Hunt 4, Deryn Griffiths (C) 5, Paige Kranz 6.



Recent practices and QPs in Victoria have built on skills from the Intermediate and Advanced Ringing Weekends earlier in the year, as well as harnessing enthusiasm from those and attendance at other ANZAB events. They included a 10-bell practice at St Paul's Cathedral, a concerted effort culminating in a local band St Clement's College Bob Minor QP and a similar effort culminating in a Cambridge Surprise Minor QP also with a local band.

Western Australia

Balga (The Cygnet Ring)

5 Jul **1260 Plain Bob Minor** Zoe Colvin 1, Richard Offen 2, Callum Crofton 3, Julie Taylor 4, Henry Attfield 5, Adam Beer (C) 6. First quarter without a prostate gland: 2.
26 Jul **1260 Grandsire Triples** Zoe Colvin 1, Corinne Rule 2, Richard Offen 3, Vicki Greenhalgh 4, Callum Crofton 5, Andrew Ling 6, Adam Beer (C) 7, Charlotte Greenhalgh 8. First quarter as cover: 8. In celebration of the life of Chris Kippin.

Claremont (Christ Church)

23 Aug **1272 Obdurodon Treble Bob Minor** Mary Townsend 1, Corinne Rule 2, Lloyd Cartwright 3, Callum Crofton 4, Andrew Ling 5, Adam Beer (C) 6. First quarter in the method: -5-1-2-1-234.34.125.12. Welcoming Linga back to the New Methods band!

Perth (St George's Cathedral)

4 Aug **1260 Grandsire Triples** Charlotte Greenhalgh 1, Mary Townsend 2, Ian Harris 3, Richard Offen (C) 4, Callum Crofton 5, Vicki Greenhalgh 6, Joselyn Sloan 7, Rhys Greenhalgh 8. In celebration of the lives of Lesley Faye Sloan, grandmother of Joselyn, and Robert C (Chris) Kippin, a great friend of the Perth ringers.

8 Sep **1260 Grandsire Triples** Mary Townsend 1, Julie Taylor 2, Callum Crofton 3, Tony Murray-Feist 4, Vicki Greenhalgh 5, Andrew Ling 6, Ian Harris (C) 7, Cameron Pepper 8. 1st on 8: tenor. To celebrate Tony's 50th anniversary of migrating to Australia.

Perth (The Bell Tower)

3 Aug **1259 Grandsire Caters** Pat Lubbock 1, Julie Taylor 2, Lloyd Cartwright 3, Vicki Greenhalgh 4, Callum Crofton 5, Mike Collinson (C) 6, Roger Lubbock 7, Henry Attfield 8, Ian Harris 9, Alan Gillson 10. Rung to celebrate the efforts of all Western Australian athletes currently competing at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Special congratulations to Brianna Throssell (gold; swimming), Flynn Southern (silver & bronze; swimming) and Annabelle McIntyre (bronze; rowing)

11 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** Mike Collinson 1, Maria Ross 2, Ian Harris 3, Henry Attfield 4, Adam Beer (C) 5, Cameron Pepper 6. First inside: 2. Rung to celebrate the efforts of all Western Australian athletes competing at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Special congratulations to Nina Kennedy (gold; pole vault), Matthew Richardson (bronze; cycling), Oliver Bleddyn, Sam Welsford, Conor Leahy (gold; cycling), Matthew Wearn (gold; sailing), Iona Anderson (bronze & silver; swimming), Jack Robinson (silver; surfing) and Matthew Ebdon (gold; tennis)

18 Aug **1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor** Alan Gillson 1, Tony Murray-Feist 2, Julie Taylor 3, Callum Crofton 4, Henry Attfield 5, Ian Harris (C) 6. First Treble Bob: 1 Rung to celebrate the efforts of all Western Australian athletes competing at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Special congratulations to Matthew Richardson (silver x 2; cycling), Charlie Senior (bronze; boxing), Caitlin Parker (bronze; boxing), Zoe Arancini & Genevieve Longman (silver; water polo), Amy Atwell (bronze; basketball).

1 Sep **1440 Spliced Surprise Minor (2m)** Ipswich and Cambridge Alan Gillson 1, Richard Offen 2, Callum Crofton 3, Mike Collinson 4, Lloyd Cartwright 5, Ian Harris (C) 6. Get well compliment to Laura Ivey. Celebrating the efforts of all Western Australian athletes competing at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Special congratulations go to Thomas Gallagher (gold; swimming) and Madison de Rozario (bronze; athletics).



New Zealand

Auckland (St Matthew-in-the-City)

16 Jul **1560 Plain Bob Doubles** Adrian Grant 1, Mike Stone 2, Connor G Hart 3, Alison Brookes 4, Scott Pilkington (C) 5, Robbie Bennett 6. 50th birthday compliments of our Tower Captain (1) earlier in the month. First quarter for 3. First as conductor. *Right: The happy conductor.*



Dunedin (First Church of Otago)

11 Sep **1260 Doubles (5m/p)**

Stedman, Grandsire, St Martin's, St Simon's, Plain Bob.

Peter Jaquiery 1, Mary Sluter (C) 2, John McAdam 3, Christopher Hext 4, Frank Sluter 5. To celebrate the birth of Oliver and Phoebe Hill on 6th September, friends of 4.

Papanui (St Paul)

28 Jul **1264 Plain Bob Major** Chris Oldham 1, Mandy Spearing 2, Nicky Richards 3, Lindsay Trott 4, Robbie Richards 5, Jacqui Grafton 6, Christian Westrip 7, Ronald Stevens (C) 8. Rung by a combined Christchurch Cathedral-Papanui band to welcome a new ring of eight bells for St Peter's Church, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch.

25 Aug **1312 Plain Bob Major** Nicky Richards 1, Lindsay Trott 2, Robbie Richards 3, Mary Sluter 4, Frank Sluter 5, Jacqui Grafton 6, Christian Westrip 7, Ronald Stevens (C) 8. Rung for the visit of Frank & Mary Sluter.

Wellington (The John David Mini Ring)

31 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Minor** Derek Williams 1, Colin Saxelby 2, Janet Grocott 3, Philippa Bowron 4, Andrew Dicks 5, Chris Jarman (C) 6.

An 80th birthday compliment for Derek Williams.

14 Sep **1260 Plain Bob Doubles** Pádraig Fletcher-Dobson 1, Ruth Lightbourne 2, Janet Grocott 3, Colin Saxelby 4, Chris Jarman (C) 5, Derek Williams 6.

21 Sep **1260 Plain Bob Minor** Isabella Scott 1, Colin Saxelby 2, Janet Grocott 3, Derek Williams 4, Andrew Dicks 5, Chris Jarman (C) 6.

To welcome Isabella to Wellington and a birthday compliment for Helen Williams, daughter of Derek.

28 Sep **1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor** Isabella Scott 1, Ruth Lightbourne 2, Gerald McIlhone 3, Andrew Dicks 4, Derek Williams 5, Chris Jarman (C) 6.

A birthday compliment for Philippa Bowron.

Handbell Quarters

Australian Capital Territory

Campbell (Getting Crescent)

29 Aug **1260 Plain Bob Minor** Scott Jones 1-2, James Perrins 3-4, Andrew Mills (C) 5-6.

Kingston (Adina Apartments)

28 Aug 1344 Plain Bob Major James Heyes 1-2, James Perrins 3-4, Andrew Mills (C) 5-6, Will Ryan 7-8.

New South Wales

Eastwood (4 Spencer St)

27 Sep **1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor** Caroline Pawley 1-2, James Perrins 3-4, William Perrins (C) 5-6. First of treble dodging minor: 1-2

New Zealand

Handbell Stadium, Wellington

18 Jul **1260 Single St Benedict's Bob Minor** Ruth Lightbourne 1-2, Chris Jarman 3-4, Gerald McIlhone (C) 5-6. Method named Single St Benedict's 36.14-16-16,16.

8 Aug **1320 Spliced Surprise Minor (2m)** Bourne, Hull. Ruth Lightbourne 1-2, Gerald McIlhone 3-4, Chris Jarman (C) 5-6.

Andrew Bolton

Died 23 August 2024, aged 83 years

I remember Andrew Bolton as a dynamic & enthusiastic member of the ringing team at St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne. Andrew learned to ring in Newburn, Northumberland and Newcastle Upon Tyne and became a College Youth. An electrical engineer, he and his wife Shirley moved to Melbourne for work in 1965. They were a welcome addition to the ringers at St Paul's Cathedral and soon made their presence felt. Shirley was an avid knitter and ringer. Andrew brought his enthusiasm for ringing, and in particular, conducting Stedman Caters, to a team that was still mourning the departure of his predecessors, Philip Gray and George Pipe.

In 1968 Andrew was elected captain of St Paul's Cathedral. His vibrant personality and encouragement of learners made their mark on the ringing scene of the time. Andrew & Shirley were in Melbourne during the "Great Adventure II".

They and 2 other local ringers joined the visitors in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, the first peal of Maximus rung outside the UK.

Andrew rang 48 peals, including 7 for ANZAB in methods ranging up to Stedman Caters, Cambridge Royal and Kent Maximus. Bellboard records 230 quarter peals rung by Andrew, but this will be an underestimation of quarters rung early in his ringing career.

In the 1990s the Boltons moved to South Africa where Andrew was a founder member of Transvaal Society of Church Bell Ringers in Johannesburg, South Africa, and tower captain of the (then) new ring at St George's, Parktown. Later they returned to the UK, ringing regularly at Kingston-on-Thames. We extend our sympathy to Shirley, and to his sons Robert and Darren. *David Heyes*



OBITUARIES

Lewis Prince

3 April 1940 - 6 July 2024

Lewis Prince was born in Walsall, Staffordshire and learned to ring when he was at university in Edinburgh - at St Mary's Cathedral. Lewis married Margaret in 1965. They lived in Great Easton, Leicestershire and later at St. Andrews, Scotland. He may not have done much ringing during that time, but in 1975 he moved with his family to Christchurch, New Zealand where he became a regular member at St. Paul's Papanui and also rang at the cathedral. In 1979 the Prince family moved again, this time to Papua New Guinea, causing an inevitable break from ringing. The break ended in 1981 when they moved again - this time permanently - to Hobart.



From 1981 to 2023 Lewis was a loyal and much-loved member of the Hobart band, serving as treasurer for the St. David's ringers throughout that time. His other contribution to Hobart ringing came in the form of his two daughters, who rang with us until careers and family took them elsewhere. Lewis rang ten peals, all but one in Hobart, in methods ranging from Plain Bob Minor to Cambridge Major. Bellboard records 128 quarter peals. He was not known for making mistakes during these performances. Lewis will be remembered for his cheeky sense of humour and his colourful - and willingly offered - opinions on absolutely anything.

Doug Nichols

Melbourne, Victoria (St Paul)

18 Aug **1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor** Andrew Cole 1, Calvin Chai 2, Luka Sostarko 3, Mariane Merati 4, Paige Kranz 5, Brian Pettet (C) 6.

Rung in celebration of Graeme Heyes 90 years old and in memory of Lewis Prince a visitor from Hobart to this tower.



LOOKING BACK

With Elizabeth Bleby

75 years ago

From *THE RINGING TOWERS* (Vol.3 No 9, 10 & 11) Oct, Nov & Dec 1949 Editor: Bill Rowe
A band from St Clement's, Yass visited Sydney for training so that they could ring for the



Centenary of the church, scheduled for April 1950. The bells of St Paul's, West Maitland, had been affected by floods, as had other country towns in NSW.

The Association's first peal of Minor was rung at St Jude's, Randwick.

The bells of Christ Church St Laurence had had necessary attention; they are the oldest ringing peal on the mainland of Australia;

Holy Trinity Hobart are the oldest in the country.

Jack Cummins reported on a visit to Adelaide, ringing at the Cathedral and St Andrew's, Walkerville. "I found the bells at St Peter's very easy to ring and I was rather surprised at the standard of ringing there."

50 years ago

From *RINGING TOWERS* (Vol 28 No 4) Nov 1974
Editor: Jennifer Murphy



The Editor was the first ANZAB President to visit "The Ringing Isle" whilst in office. There is a long article by David Bleby about proposed reform of the Constitution, following the airing of problems at the Hobart AGM, including the cost of posting changes to every member. Suggestions were made of publishing them in *Ringing Towers* instead and allowing proxies, as well as the need to define and record members of different categories of membership.

Bells from St George's, Perth had been removed for shipping to Taylor's for re-casting. The tenor was kept as a day bell and to preserve the link with the old bells - it is dedicated to Queen Victoria. Handbell ringers at Christchurch Cathedral had recorded a selection of tunes & carols for a LP record - in time for Christmas.

25 years ago

From *RINGING TOWERS* (Vol 53 No 5 & 6) Oct & Dec 1999
Editor: Diana Bleby-Williams and Matthew Sorell

A letter had been sent from the WA Premier Richard Court to every ANZAB tower about WA's Millennium Project - the Swan Bells. There had been local opposition, but earthworks had begun.



Open ringing celebrated Hoskins Memorial Day in Lithgow. It was the first ringing of the bells, of which 3 new ones were dedicated to the Hoskins family.

Bishop George Browning launched the sale of the Great Australian Bell Sock, a fundraiser for the installation of bells at St Paul's, Manuka.

St Peter's Cathedral, Armidale celebrated the 3rd anniversary of the installation of its bells.

Federal funding for St Jude's, Randwick will buy 8 bells from All Saints', Wandsworth, UK to be re-tuned and have new a new frame and fittings.

There was notice the 2000 Festival would be held in Wellington.

10 years ago

From *RINGING TOWERS* (Vol 68 No 4) Spring 2014
Editor: Mike Toze

The front cover featured the blessing of the new bells at St Bartholemew's Burnley, Vic.

There was a long report on Northern Towers activities from the Secretary and Publicity Officer, Margaret Weatherby.

There were reports on Training sessions in Sydney, Wellington and Adelaide and suggestions on what to do next about ITTS was discussed over 3 pages in this issue.

Elizabeth Bleby



THAT'S ALL FOLKS

I can honestly say, we rang for 2 weddings in and out (120mins total), and all the ringing on middle and back 8 was higher quality than I have ever rung before for weddings in terms of striking with no errors. Great to ring with these guys today. *Andrew Mills writing on Bellringers Facebook about St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.*

"At least this time they didn't scratch the Duco" - The Dean's comment on the ceiling panel being lifted out of place for the extraction of the injured ringer at St Mary's recently. The previous time the Police Rescue dragged the wood panelling and the paint on it is still scarred to this day!



When Bell Ringing becomes an obsession, you see them everywhere!

Here is Lorenzo Lodge (*left*) who managed to locate a bell while touring HMAS Coonawarra. *Stella Taylor, Darwin*

From a recent email "I've attached two photographs of the AGM: one with lots of people trying to look interested; and then voting."

After a tricky quarter, the morning following an enjoyable social evening: "that was really hard, I think I was sweating red wine"

Recently one of our ringers who arrived for practice announced: "I have to rest before I can ring - I've just had a cup cake and need to get over it!!". This was a new reason for me - any other funny reasons at your tower? *Burwood practice night*

5056 KENT TREBLE BOB SIXTEEN THE BELL TOWER, PERTH



In the lead up to the peal I arranged 2 practice peals, one on 12 at Goulburn and one on 13 at St Mary's Sydney. Both of these failed! In Goulburn we rang on 10; in Sydney Stedman lasted an hour. The attempts did a little bit to build confidence but, unfortunately, the problems continued. One of the 19 invited ringers moved back to the UK and then within days of flying to Perth 2 more dropped out due to illness. We were down to 16 ringers and no reserves.

We gathered at the Tower after Sunday service ringing at St George's and it was lovely to see old friends again albeit with a few nervous faces. We tried Erin Septuples - it was awful, clearly a bridge too far! Plain Hunt on 16 was next. We built up with Treble-bob hunt, 3 leads of Kent, then one lead of Yorkshire. It was quite a thought that we might actually be able to ring a peal of Surprise Sixteen! A Quarter of Yorkshire was very shaky and unsatisfactory; plus nearly cut short by the 6 tonne, swinging bourdon bell going off at midday - crashing over us for two minutes. We retired to the "Lucky Shag". Once back in the ringing chamber we decided to try a QP of Kent TB and then one of Erin Septuples. The Kent QP went really well and we downgraded Erin to a short touch. It was clear the best chance for Monday was Kent Treble Bob Sixteen.

14 July 1474 Yorkshire Surprise Sixteen

Esther Perrins 1, James Perrins (C) 2, Bill Perrins 3, Lloyd Cartwright 4, Ian McCulloch 5, Joselyn Sloan 6, Matthew Ball 7, Caroline Pawley 8, Andrew Davies 9, Peter Harrison 10, Vicki Greenhalgh 11, Hadden Arrowsmith 12, Murray-Luke Peard 13, Ian Harris 14, Philip Goodyer 15, Thomas Perrins 16. First of Surprise Sixteen for the association and all ringers except 14 and 15. Rung by a resident band

14 July 1280 Kent Treble Bob Sixteen

Esther Perrins 1, James Perrins 2, Bill Perrins 3, Lloyd Cartwright 4, Ian McCulloch 5, Joselyn Sloan 6, Matthew Ball 7, Caroline Pawley 8, Andrew Davies 9, Peter Harrison 10, Vicki Greenhalgh 11, Hadden Arrowsmith 12, Murray-Luke Peard 13, Ian Harris 14, Phil Goodyer 15, Thomas Perrins (C) 16

There were good spirits in the pub that evening! The next morning, we had the bourdon bell sabotaged to not ring and with a few swaps of the band placement we started for our peal.

1540 PERTH, WA, The Bell Tower (Swan Bells)

Monday, 15 July 2024 in 3h 52 (29-0-14 in C#)

5056 Kent Treble Bob Sixteen

Composed by Alexander E Holroyd

1	Esther M Perrins	9	Andrew P J Davies
2	James W Perrins	10	Murray-Luke Peard
3	William T Perrins	11	Victoria S Greenhalgh
4	Matthew A Ball	12	Hadden L Arrowsmith
5	Ian P McCulloch	13	Peter I Harrison
6	Joselyn R Sloan	14	Ian D Harris
7	Lloyd S Cartwright	15	Philip R Goodyer
8	Caroline N Pawley	16	Thomas M Perrins (C)

First of Treble-dodging Sixteen for the association.

First of Treble-dodging Sixteen for all ringers except 14 and 15. Rung by a resident Australian Band

Kent is a method where you can easily predict where bells will be - it was this structure which kept the ringing strong. As it came round there was quite a relief for most of us and very shortly the celebrations began. There were smiles all round for the rest of the day and a spirited pub-session ensued. This peal wouldn't have been achieved if we didn't all work together and it is this team cohesiveness which makes the reward all the sweeter. Thank you to everyone who helped to pull this off, especially the three reserves who stepped up to the plate. Special praise to Vicki Greenhalgh, who had never rung a peal of Max (or higher) before and whose last peal was 11 years ago. Overall, it was the first peal of Treble-dodging Sixteen for all but two of the band as well as the association and rung to a high standard. But most satisfyingly of all, we rang it with a resident band. *James Perrins*

Above: The peal band, 1-16, clockwise from front right. Photo: Irene Mackenzie