



## Happy New Year

A new year is a good time for starting new things, so it is with excitement, tinged with sadness, that we report that Striking Features is about to be replaced with a District website and that this is the final issue.

Striking Features has served us well over the last few years, providing a means of communicating with every member in the District, reporting on past events and announcing future ones. However, in these days of electronic communications, producing a paper newsletter every few months is outmoded and inefficient. Any 'news' is likely to be several weeks old before it is even printed.

In the last couple of years, of course, Striking Features has been supplemented by the online updates, mainly used to give notice of future events, and these will continue with copies placed on the website for anyone who has mislaid their email version.

The new Ely District website is at

<https://sites.google.com/site/elydistrictbells>

The website is very much a work in progress. Read more about it on page 15, have a look at it and let us know what you think (contact details on the back page).

This is certainly a bumper issue to close on, and thanks to all our contributors. Let's hope we can use the website to keep ringers in touch with each other as effectively as Striking Features has been used in the past.

*Janet Garnett, Roderick Johnstone and Sue Marsden*

Thanks to contributors: Helen Atkins, Alan Barber, Peter Binns, Barbara Le Gallez, Camilla Hagggett, Roderick Johnstone, Allan Whyte

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## Recent Peals and Quarters

### Ely Diocesan Association

**Swaffham Bulbeck** (St Mary)

Sat 10 Nov 2012 in 2h41 (10-1-25)

**5056 Yorkshire Surprise Major**

Composed: A J Cox

- 1 Marion A Robinson
- 2 Edith M Robinson
- 3 Geoffrey T Grayton
- 4 Helen C Atkins
- 5 Roger G R Collins
- 6 Susan E Marsden
- 7 Philip D Bailey
- 8 Michael G Purday (C)

250th peal: 2. First Yorkshire: 3. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Lynn and Neil Hunter. Also rung as an 18th birthday compliment to Kezia Adams, God Daughter of the ringer of the 3rd.

### Society of Royal Cumberland Youths

**Cambridge** (St Edward, King & Martyr)

Mon 19 Nov 2012 in 2h42 (9 cwt)

**5040 Surprise Minor (7m)**

1 extent each: Carlisle, London, Beverley, Ipswich, Surfleet, Cambridge, Norwich.

- 1 Colin A Johnson
- 2 Susan E Marsden
- 3 Michael H D O'Callaghan
- 4 Peter V Rogers
- 5 Richard C Smith
- 6 Peter J Waterfield (C)

700th peal - 1. 1500th peal - 3. For SRCY Peal Weekend.

### Ely Diocesan Association

**Fulbourn** (St Vigor)

Sat 1 Dec 2012 in 2h45 (10-0-7)

**5056 Xerxes Surprise Major**

Composed: D F Morrison (#1166)

- 1 Colin A Johnson
- 2 Edith M Robinson

- 3 Helen C Atkins
- 4 Susan E Marsden
- 5 Ian W Davies
- 6 Philip D Bailey
- 7 Michael G Purday (C)
- 8 Alan T Winter

Completes the surprise major alphabet: 4. Colin's 99<sup>th</sup> peal on the bells!

### Ely Diocesan Association

**Willingham** (St Mary & All Saints)

Sat 15 Dec 2012 in 2h49 (11-3-10)

**5040 Surprise Minor (7 methods)**

1 extent each: Wells, Durham, Netherseale, Westminster, Bourne, Norwich & Cambridge.

- 1 Adrian G Peacock
- 2 Philip D Bailey
- 3 Susan E Marsden
- 4 Peter J Waterfield
- 5 Michael J Dew
- 6 Michael G Purday (C)

Rung for Christmas.

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**Landbeach** Sun 12 Aug 2012 in 44m (11cwt) **1260 Stedman Singles**. Nicholas Small 1, Rowena Small 2, Barbara Le Gallez (C) 3, Allan Whyte 4.

For Evening Prayer. To welcome the Revd Paul Butler as Associate Vicar of Landbeach and Waterbeach. First QP at first attempt: 4

**Landbeach**, Sun 4 Nov 2012 in 44m (11cwt) **1260 Carter Singles**. Nicholas Small (C) 1, Rowena Small 2, Barbara Le Gallez 3, Roger Gooding 4.

For our Patronal Festival. First QP at first attempt, within a year of starting to learn to ring: 4. First in method: 1, 2 and 3.

## Society of Royal Cumberland Youths

**Over** (St Mary the Virgin)

Thur 27 Dec 2012 in 2h56 (13 cwt)

**5058 Bristol Surprise Major**

Composed: R J Angrave

- |                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Andrew J Davey    | 5 Philip D Bailey             |
| 2 Edith M Robinson  | 6 Alan J Marchbank            |
| 3 Marion A Robinson | 7 Matthew D Hetherington      |
| 4 Susan E Marsden   | 8 Jonathan C Hetherington (C) |

First peal of Bristol and at the first attempt: 3.

Rung to celebrate Christmas, the 70th birthday of Marion Robinson, Tower Captain, and the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in the year in which London hosted the games of the 30th modern Olympiad.



## GEORGE MARKWELL – Wilburton

George was one of what I called 'The Three Musketeers' who travelled to Ely District meetings together, the others being George Walker and Arthur Yarrow who used to drive in his mini. George came from a ringing family and the names of his forebears can be found on peal boards in the district. In the 1950s/1960s the Wednesday night Wilburton practice was an active one. In addition to 'The Three Musketeers' such people as Harry Sharp, Stan Shipp, Claude Gimbert and Don Murfet often being in attendance. It was usually possible to ring advanced

Minor for the time with the favourite method being Woodbine Delight which was taught to me as Norwich above, Oxford below.

Being short of stature George always took his own tail end with him to make the rope length more suitable for him. Although he was capable of ringing on 8 he was always happier on 6.

George and his family ran a market garden on Twentypence Road in Wilburton. What I remember specifically about him is his friendly nature and always having a twinkle in his eye.  
*Alan Barber*

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## Go Glasgow!

Fourteen of us met on Saturday 20 October in the Guildhall at Burwell for a training day on Glasgow Surprise Major. We were greeted with a warm welcome, tea and coffee, and a large pile of cakes.

We started with a theory session. Our tutor, Paul, claimed to be somewhat nervous about tutoring some of the Ely District's keenest Surprise Major ringers! In truth, many of the ringers were very apprehensive about the method to be attempted later in the day.

Paul spoke to a very comprehensive booklet on Glasgow Surprise Major that he had produced, setting Glasgow in context as the 9<sup>th</sup> method of the standard eight! We learned that the method had been created by John Spice, first pealed in 1946, and that it is characterised by 4-5 dodges both at the half lead, and at the lead end. It is noted as one of the first 'spiky' methods, while its blend of both right and wrong hunting makes it counter intuitive in many ways and hence quite hard to ring. As well as being hard to ring, it is also hard for peal composers to produce a composition including more than more than half of the musical combination roll ups which are so sought after.

Paul then took us through the method, lead by lead, both in words and diagrams. Paul's comprehensive booklet showed the method in each of Criblines, Blueline and Grid format. Then the bombshell hit! Glasgow can have either (or both!) 4<sup>th</sup> place and 6<sup>th</sup> place bobs – more work to be learned. In anticipation of our pending success, Paul finally introduced us to some quarter peal and peal compositions.

During an interactive session in which we were encouraged to test each other on our knowledge of the different leads there were more fine refreshments and cake and biscuits. Then to the tower...

Fortunately, there were some capable Glasgow ringers present, who (with Paul) were able to provide some degree of stability for the novices to work within. All levels were catered for. Those that wanted to ring only a few leads had the method called round appropriately, changing to Little Bob for an elegant finish in rounds (at least in principle!). Others rang the full plain course, while some were able to attempt splicing alternate leads of Glasgow and Cambridge – an excellent way to practice knowledge of Glasgow place bell starts.

Lunch was a diverse affair, then to the afternoon session at Swaffham Bullbeck.

Plain and bobbed courses, as well as Glasgow and Cambridge Spliced, were attempted with a remarkable degree of success. For me, there is no substitute for the old adage "practice makes perfect", so while this training day has provided a solid foundation, and shown what is possible, I think that I'll need a few more practice sessions to consolidate what has been learned, before moving on to quarter peal the method.

Very many thanks are due to Dee Smith for organizing this training day, to Paul Seaman our unbelievably amazingly capable (and patient) tutor, all the helpers who came to provide a stable framework for the learners to ring within, and to the locals at Burwell for providing such a warm welcome, and loads of cakes.

*Roderick Johnstone*

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## Ringers at Stretham Farmers' Market

On Saturday 29 September, a team of tower members from St James, Stretham became stallholders at the village's Autumn Farmers' Market to raise funds and recruit new ringers. The sale of a range of mostly bell-themed items, including home-made cookies, cakes, biscuits, sally bookmarks and earrings, gingerbread, toffee apples, fresh pizza and books raised a total of £90. Donations were also collected for the planned refurbishment of Stretham's once very fine set of twelve Warner handbells (tenor E size 20).

Chatting with market visitors revealed a surprising number of villagers who had learned to ring as teenagers and the Stretham team used their best efforts to encourage some of them to take up the art again. Several indicated that they might take up the invitation to 're-familiarise' themselves at practice evenings in the near future.

Many thanks to Greg and Jane Davidson, Robert and Ruth Bramley, Alison Langford, Ray Clist and Barbara Le Gallez for their contributions and hard work. Since re-forming in June 2011, the Stretham St James 2012 Society of Bell Ringers has grown by recruiting beginners and currently has 10 members who practice regularly and now ring for Sunday services and weddings.

*Peter Binns*

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## Handbells by Candlelight

St James Church, Stretham 7.00pm Sunday 13 January 2013

Make a date in your diary for this uplifting concert of music and change-ringing performed on handbells and other instruments. The two-hour programme will include a wide range of popular, traditional and classical music, with a demonstration of change-ringing on handbells. Refreshments will be available during the interval. Admission is £4 for adults, but free for under 16's, and tickets will be available from Stretham Stores, Peter Binns on 649428 or Jane Dunseath on 649232. All proceeds will go towards the Stretham & Little Thetford Handbell Restoration Appeal.

*Peter Binns*

## “All the Bells” at All Saints’ Landbeach

I’m a simple soul. All I really want to do is pull very hard and make it go dong. So “All the Bells” was a concept I could easily relate to. Much simpler than this fancy tum-ti-tum-ti-treble-leads-NOW-Dodge! hocus-pocus.

At All Saints’ Landbeach, we have a tradition of inviting everyone in the parish to chime the bells at the start of the New Year. Now we invited them to “Chime a Bell for the Olympics” between 3 and 4 pm on Fri 27<sup>th</sup> July. We leafleted every house in the village. Allan and Barbara put on their “Chime a Bell” tee shirts (yes, really) and accosted the children waiting for the school bus. We half-expected to be arrested for molesting them. Barbara bravely boarded a school bus to hand out leaflets, shrinking back to a quivering 11-year-old for 3 minutes. Was she glad to get off that bus and back to the year 2012!

We were keen to join in the nationwide ringing at 8:12 am as well. However, the available band was largely composed of novices and the walking wounded. Attempting to ring up and down in peal would certainly have achieved the desired effect of loud clashing and clanging. We opted instead for random chiming of all four bells, as well as a school bell and a decorative model bell. This permitted Ray and Dannie to join in, as they can still chime, although they don’t ring now-a-days. Ray was also our link man with BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, who mentioned us during their broadcast from Kettle’s Yard. If you ever try anything similar, please



be aware that the sound of bells isn’t transmitted well between mobile phones. We were thrilled that Sally was able to join us on her way into London to work as a Games Maker.

Back in All Saints’ at 3 pm, we waited anxiously to see if anyone would turn up. They poured in! Having a ground floor ringing room that is only lightly partitioned off from the church perhaps makes us less intimidating for non-ringers. It was lovely to see so many people thronging the back of the church enjoying a community occasion. Allan, Roger and Sharon were kept busy for an hour teaching people how to chime and filling in their “I chimed a bell for the Olympics” certificates. Nearly 40 people signed our Visitors’ book, and the ages of those who joined in ranged from a few months to over 80 years.

Did I say “non-ringers”? Oops, of course I meant “about-to-be-ringers”. A signup form for those who wanted to learn to ring collected thirteen names. We organised two bell-ringing taster sessions at the beginning of August, publicising them heavily throughout the three villages in our joint benefice. By a stroke of luck, with near-perfect timing our joint benefice had just expanded to include Milton as well as Waterbeach. Landbeach, the smallest village of the three, is also the only one with ringable bells, so the merger has swollen our pool of available bellringers to oceanic proportions.

After the two taster sessions, enough people wanted to continue learning to enable us to restart our regular practices. Some dropped out, but some extra recruits turned up. At the time of writing, we have 11 new learners: 4 children and 7 adults, as well as having re-captured two people who hadn’t rung for years but who now help out with service ringing. Using the simulator, and teaching handbell ringing in parallel with tower bell ringing, seem to be enabling Nicholas, Rowena and Barbara to hold the interest of such a large number of learners. Visitors are always welcome at our Friday evening practices, 7 to 8:30 pm.

So, while “All the Bells” was undoubtedly a gimmick, it focussed public attention on bells. This enabled us to give many people who would otherwise never have thought of ringing bells the opportunity to discover how interesting and rewarding change ringing is.





## Westminster Wedding Bells

On the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 the bells of Westminster Abbey rang to celebrate a wedding, this time not a royal one but the marriage of Carol Ripley to the Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Minor Canon and Sacrist at Westminster Abbey.

The wedding was special in many ways. Not only was it the first time in at least 60 years that banns had been read in the Abbey, but the Scottish bride (a fine musician herself) entered to the glorious sound of piper Niall Bowser's unique composition, 'Doune the Isle', thought to be the first time that a bride has been piped down the Abbey aisle.

Carol, who learnt to ring at St Andrew's, Histon and is a member of that band, was keen for the bells to be part of her celebrations (they even

featured in the Address!). So as well as the Abbey band ringing four courses of Stedman Caters after the service, five ringers from Histon were pleased to be invited to contribute to the occasion by ringing touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters. Whilst nerve-racking for some, it was a hugely enjoyable experience.

Following the wedding and ringing a large reception was held in College Garden, behind the Abbey. With Big Ben on one side and the Abbey on another, even the weather couldn't resist putting on its best face to shine on this beautiful setting, Carol and Jamie, and their families and friends. In the evening numerous kilts were on display at a lively celebratory ceilidh as Jamie (also now kilted) and his lady led the way.

Many congratulations to Carol and Jamie on their marriage - we wish them every happiness in their life together!

*Helen Atkins and  
Camilla Haggett*



## Peal Ringers of 1962

The surviving members of Alan Barber's first peal 50 years ago last February.

Left to right:

- George Thoday, former Over Ringer,
- Geoff Lucas of Willingham,
- Alan Barber, formerly of Fordham and Longstanton.

See also Alan's article on page 11

## Ely District Training Morning for Plain Hunt and Plain Bob Doubles

This course took place at St Andrew's Isleham on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep. Philip Bailey and several helpers took on the exhausting task of training 12 students from 5 different towers. Isleham bells require a bit of work, but are well worth the effort, and we appreciated the warm welcome, and excellent refreshments, from the local ringers.

Allan Whyte and Barbara Le Gallez attended from Landbeach as student and helper respectively. Here is what they thought about it:

*Allan:*

I really welcomed the opportunity to practice Plain Hunt on six bells as we only have four at All Saints' Landbeach. I have only ever practiced on a simulator, which is not quite the same thing as hearing yourself on open bells. Philip began by explaining the theory of Plain Hunt and Plain Bob Doubles and the slight differences between them, which was very useful. All those involved in the

teaching were very helpful and supportive and I was more than satisfied with my own efforts. I was really enthused by the experience of ringing with others and I really want to learn more and develop my skills. Overall it was a very rewarding experience and it was great to meet all the ringers from various different Towers.

*Barbara:*

Learning a skill involves knowing both what to do and how to do it. For bell ringing, we have to build up our skills step by step, so we generally learn “how” to ring before we appreciate “what” we are going to ring. A training course such as this is only one among many steps: preparation beforehand and reinforcement afterwards are essential.

Watching the ringing, it became clear to what an extent the “how” of plain hunting is just applied bell control. Executing plain hunt depends crucially on knowing how to move exactly one place forwards or backwards either at handstroke or at backstroke - and then to do something different on the next stroke. This is something that cannot be practised too much, in every tower on every practice night.

As for the “what” of plain hunting, there are at least three different ways of describing that. Some students see it better one way, some another. I wonder if it would be beneficial if practice nights routinely included separate theory sessions? This would give time away from the pressures of ringing in order to absorb explanations before having to put them into practice. Roger Palmer was seen giving an intensive tutorial in the ringing room, which very clearly paid dividends for one student.

The students who attempted Plain Bob did rather better than me, as I missed one of my dodges. OK - what do you do with your mistakes? You analyse them and learn from them. In other words, no-one ever stops being a student.

*Allan Whyte & Barbara Le Gallez*



*Students and helpers at Isleham*

## **12.12 on 12/12/12 at LONGSTANTON**

**By Alan Barber**

I still vividly remember the first time I rang at Longstanton. It was at a joint meeting of the Ely and Cambridge Districts of the Ely Diocesan Association with the Cambridge University Guild. Having learnt to ring at a reasonably heavy not easy going ring of 6 rung from ‘upstairs’ the light ground floor ring of Longstanton was a culture shock especially as my 8 bell ropesight was almost non-existent. However it was the peal board in the ringing chamber depicting the first peal on the bells that was of particular interest to me.

I must have got my act together as several months later I rang my first 8 bell peal on the bells. This remains my only peal of New Cambridge Surprise Major and was organised by Colin Johnson with George Thoday conducting (read on for more about these two). At least 6 members of this band are still alive (does anyone know the whereabouts of Ian M Smith?) and Don Murfet is remembered with much affection. Those who know my love of Double Norwich will be interested to learn that I subsequently called my first peal in the method on the bells.

A few years later, having bought my first house, I found myself living locally and Longstanton became my home tower. In due course, for my sins, I not only became Tower Captain but also PCC member, Church Treasurer and even Deanery Synod Representative (I will never forget those long boring meetings). Both my children were baptised in the Church.

I eventually moved away from Cambridgeshire to seek my fame and fortune, failing miserably on both counts. Despite my various moves in the Eastern parts of England the date of the first peal at Longstanton was always at the back of my mind.

Fast forward the clock to 2010 and I thought it was time to organise a peal to mark the Centenary of the first peal on the bells on the due date. Thanks to Sue



*All Saints' church,  
Longstanton*

Marsden who put me in touch with Mike Cartwright at Longstanton the wheels were set in motion. As a result I arranged a band with whom I've rung several peals over the years. Meeting long standing (I prefer not to use the word old even though on the day half of the band was younger than me) friends is what a lot of ringing is about and makes it so enjoyable. For this special peal we rang Longstanton Delight which was originally rung for the first time during my tenure as Tower Captain.

Although the intention was to go into changes at 12.12 it was not quite achieved the delay being caused through having to pose for a photographer from the Cambridge News taking our mugshots. This resulted in an item in the following day's paper whilst its website showed a brief video including an interview with Mike Cartwright and the ringers in action. Any publicity is better than none! Despite these diversions the peal was duly rung most of which was of a high standard. This enabled George to circle the tower in the sixth decade after his first on the bells whilst I rang the same bell as I had to my first on eight.

### **Ely Diocesan Association**

**Longstanton**, Cambridgeshire All Saints

Wednesday, 12 December 2012 in 2h 45 (7)

### **5152 Longstanton Delight Major**

Composed: S Humphrey

1 Colin A Johnson

2 Susan E Marsden

3 Alan M Barber (C)

4 David J Hawkins

5 George E Thoday

6 Christopher N McCarthy

7 Peter J Waterfield

8 Michael G Purday

On the centenary of the first peal on the bells (12 December 1912).

Now what of the band who rang the first peal on the bells? The tenor was rung by the Rev H B Woolley who was the incumbent at Longstanton and must have been the driving force for the installation of the bells. His two sons John and especially Christopher both became very proficient ringers. The Rev H Law James, the conductor, was an eminent ringer and composer with his name being synonymous with Surfleet. The Rev Boughey was the incumbent at Great St Mary's, Cambridge. Frederick Pitstow was a member of the famous ringing family from Saffron Walden. William James was a promising ringer of much ability before his life ended prematurely on active service in France in 1915. The Rev Pearson and William Kempton were also well known ringers of the time. The final member of the band was T Reginald Dennis. 'T Reg' was a prominent Cambridge ringer for over 60 years. He also rang in the peal on the exact 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first peal on the bells, this being his 350<sup>th</sup> peal. Reg was present at the meeting when I first rang at Longstanton and both Colin and George rang peals with him. This provides a fascinating link between the first and the Centenary peal on the bells. Incidentally after his death, followed by cremation, in 1966 Reg's ashes were interred in Longstanton Churchyard.



*The band who rang in the peal on 12/12/2012, in ringing order from front right.*

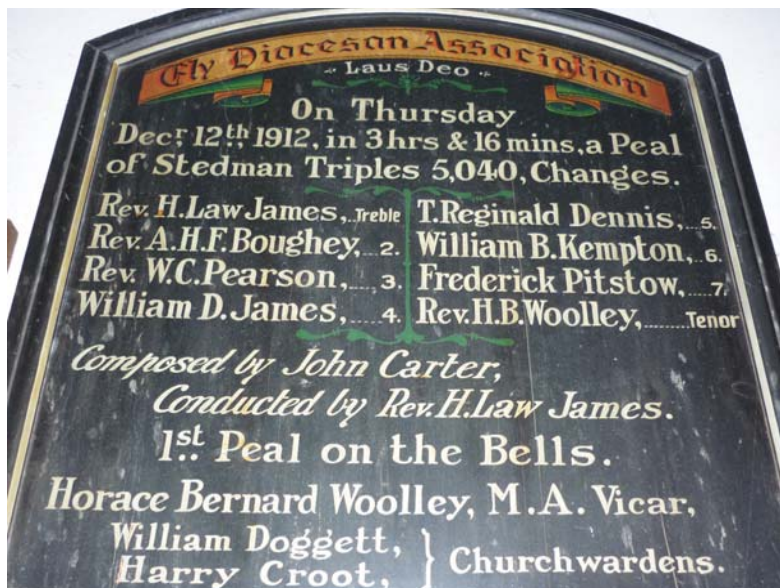
Five weeks after the first peal on the bells another peal of Stedman Triples was rung. Again with the Rev Woolley on the tenor it was rung 29 minutes quicker and was conducted by Law James' brother the Rev E Bankes James. This peal had the footnote 'Last peal with the old tenor'. Quite what was wrong with it seems to have been lost in the passage of time. However on Saturday 2 August 1913 the first peal with the new tenor was rung and was the first of Major on the bells. This was one of the very early peals of Bristol Surprise Major and the band was a who's who of ringers at the time being: 1 Bertram Prewett (C), 2 William Pye, 3 John H Cheesman, 4 George R Pye, 5 Alfred W Grimes, 6 John S Goldsmith, 7 Keith Hart, 8 Ernest Pye. These eight ringers formed the nucleus of the bands that rang peals of Stedman Cinques and Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Great St Mary's, Cambridge the following Monday which was then a Bank Holiday.

Despite the bells always being popular for peals the present total of 195 is not excessive. However until the augmentations at Trumpington and Meldreth it was the most popular 8 bell tower for peals within the Ely Diocesan Association. Amongst others the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major was rung for the Association in 1950. It was conducted by the legendry Mansfield (Mac) Ginn with the treble being rung by another legend John Gipson who happily is still with us. This peal was only achieved after several attempts which may seem surprising nowadays.

As part of the Centenary Day celebrations a concert given by the Colchester Waits Band was held in the Church on the evening. Not only was it very enjoyable but those present now know what music a Waits Band plays! During

the interval at which I rang some commendable call changes with the local band the writer presented his labour of love to Mike Cartwright. This was a book containing the full details of all the 195 peals rung on the bells.

Now the final conundrum. Why did I always remember the date of the first peal at Longstanton? By one of those extraordinary coincidences the date of 12/12/12 just happened to be a significant birthday for me!



Peal board for the first peal on Longstanton bells

### Stretham Ringers' Cake

The fantastic cake made by Greg Davidson for the Stretham Ringers Christmas Social



## The Ely District website - Ely District Bells

Welcome to the new website for the Ely District at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/elydistrictbells>

The website is intended to provide news, articles and current information about the Ely District of the Ely DA. This is the third district website in the Association, after the Cambridge and Huntingdon district sites, all supplementing the main Ely DA website (at [www.elyda.org](http://www.elyda.org)). The bottom of this page shows part of the front page of the website.

To get started, the website already includes some news and articles, and you will find some of the articles in this issue of Striking Features are already there. The website also includes District information - the ringing programme for 2103, District officers, details of towers and practice nights including a map, and so on. All the online updates from 2012 are there, and the updates for 2013 will be added as they are issued. The website is still under development, so please let us know if there is something else that you would like to see.

Now we need contributions from everyone so that the website reflects what is going on in the district. Do please provide news items, articles and photos, just as you would have done for Striking Features in the past, but now the website can be updated frequently, and your photos will be in colour.

We do realise that some Ely District members may not have access to the website, or may not want to see the information in this form. We have some ideas for how to approach this, but would like to get the website started first and see what the response is. So please do get in touch, even if it's only to say that you can't access the website.

For the next few months, coordinating the website will be the responsibility of the District Secretary, so please send all contributions, comments and suggestions to Janet Garnett (email [ely@elyda.org](mailto:ely@elyda.org) or Tel 01954 230327).





## Dates for your Diaries



### District Ringing Meetings 2013/4

- 2 Feb** CHATTERIS 3 - 5, then tea.
- 2 Mar** SOHAM 2. – 3.30, ISLEHAM 3.30 – 5, then tea. District Committee meeting after tea.
- 6 Apr** Outing, perhaps to Hertfordshire
- 4 May** Evening (6.30 – 8.30) at OVER
- 6 May** Ely DA AGM, and 8-bell striking competition, Cambridge district.
- 1 Jun** Striking competition at STRETHAM. Draw at 6 pm, refreshments during ringing. Business meeting.
- 6 Jul** BBQ in Roderick's garden, quarter peal(s) beforehand if required
- 3 Aug** Evening (6.30 – 8.30) at HADDENHAM
- 7 Sep** Mini tour LOLWORTH 2 – 2.45, CONINGTON 3 – 4, FENSTANTON 4.15 – 5.15. Refreshments at Fenstanton. To be confirmed.
- 5 Oct** ELY 3 – 4.30, harvest festival service, tea, business meeting all at Ely. Evening at WICKEN.
- 2 Nov** LONGSTANTON 2 – 3.30 (to be confirmed), OAKINGTON 3.30 – 5, tea. Committee meeting after tea.
- 7 Dec** FORDHAM 3 – 5 pm, then tea.
- 4 Jan 2014** ADM. HISTON 2.30 – 4.30, service, tea and meeting.

The new Ely District website is at

<https://sites.google.com/site/elydistrictbells>

For comments, contributions and suggestions, contact:

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