

Ringling Around and About in the Huntingdon District



Issue No 4: April 2023

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St Neots – venue for our April
practice meeting

Editor's Comment

Sheila and I have been visiting other towers this month on various missions. I have presented membership certificates on two occasions, as reported on page 2, and thank everyone for the welcome we have received on those practice nights

We also attended Maurice Thurmott's funeral at Ramsey, and at the family request rang handbells briefly at the end of the service.

Some of our ringing has been "out of area", having been invited to attend a treble bobbing workshop at Thriplow where we renewed acquaintances in the Cambridge District from pre-pandemic times, and had a thoroughly constructive and enjoyable morning helping out. Another enjoyable event was the Great Gransden mini outing to north west Essex.

The success of *Ringling Around and About* will be partly dependant on regular contributions. I can write articles about what I do but I would really like your help too, from each corner of the district. It is always good to get different people's view on things, and you know better than I what is happening in your tower. So, please write an article and send it to me with photographs (optional). Doing so will be an encouragement for others and it will contribute to documenting our history – *what we did in 2023*? Subject matter can be anything - outings, maintenance, quarter peals, special ringing, socials, public relations, recruitment, young ringers, training – there are a host of topics which could be included.

I am sure there has been/will be (depending when you read this) lots of ringing during the **Coronation Weekend**. Please send me details of your ringing for this special event so that I can include all of it in the May issue, especially if you had any RFTK ringers.

Let me know if you have any questions/comments about ringing – I am always pleased to help.

Phillip George

Visits to Practice Nights *by PG*

Visiting other practices is always enjoyable. A time when I can just be a ringer – no other responsibilities, enjoy the ringing, different bells, chatting to friends old and new.

During April Sheila and I have made two such visits. The first was to [Godmanchester](#) on Tuesday 11th when, on the second Tuesday of the month the practice is shared with Huntingdon All Saints. This benefits both towers, All Saints ringers get to ring on 8 bells and Godmanchester ringers benefit from other experienced ringers.

We were warmly welcomed by Charles Looker (T/C) and Jez Bottley (T/C of All Sts) and enjoyed joining with the ringing during the evening which included Rounds, Call Changes, Plain Bob 7, Plain Hunt 7, Cambridge, Yorkshire and Grandsire.

I presented certificates to newly elected members of the Association; **Georgie Hunt** (All Sts) and **Sylvie and Nigel Strong** (Godmanchester).

By coincidence Sylvie and Nigel were also presented with their level 1 Learning the Ropes certificates by Mel, having started on their ringing career in August 2022. Congratulations, well done!



L-R: Georgie, Sylvie, Nigel and Phillip



L-R: Sylvie, Mel and Nigel

Our second practice night visit was to [Holywell](#) on Monday 24th April.

Holywell is part of a group of practises which include Fenstanton, Hilton and Houghton. There were about 18 ringers present and the church was buzzing with enthusiastic chatter as everyone took their turn to ring.

Ringing included call changes, Plain Hunt, Plain Bob 5, Grandsire 5, Single Oxford, Double Oxford and Cambridge S.

Tower Captain Roger Beaman welcomed Sheila and me and I presented new member certificates to **Melanie Duncan, Sarah Lewis, Penny Peart** and **Ben Browne**, all Holywell ringers. The ringing continued and Sheila and I had chance to chat with everyone, especially the keen new ringers.

We are looking forward to visiting other towers in the group in due course but for the time being wish everyone well in their ringing careers.



L-R: Melanie, Sarah, Ben, Penny

The Excitement of Teaching Ringing – to a non-ringer by PG

Ten year old Josh is following the Sherbourne Teaching Aids programme as well as Learning the Ropes. The scheme is based on “collecting” bells on a record card as each ringing skill is achieved. The first ten bells gives the learner a blue badge (Happy Hunter). Between us we eagerly monitor progress and check every week to see if another bell can be coloured in.

Of course, he comes to ringing with his dad, Dominic, who takes an active interest in how he is progressing. During the last 14 weeks Dom has also been picking up the jargon and often asks me questions about ringing.

This week, referring to the progress card, the question was, “What is a touch?” and I explained that the term is usually used for a piece of change ringing which is not a plain course i.e. contains bobs or singles, but sometimes a plain course can be referred to as a touch. This was followed by another question “Why can’t you ring a quarter peal of Little Bob Minor?” I explained what happens in methods like Plain Bob where the treble rings in all the positions in every lead and that this enables us to get all 720 changes, but in LB the treble only goes to 4th place and therefore 720 changes is impossible to achieve. I then explained that alliance methods are used to splice with Lt Bob to make up for those missing positions.

One answer leads to another question so I then went on to explain treble bob and made reference to Cambridge surprise, also listed as an achievement on the card.

Now, to explain all this to a non-ringer is unusual because they have no concept of the mechanics of ringing, or structure of methods. Dom, having seen ringing and been exposed to the mysterious language for this period of time is beginning to understand it although he literally has never touched a bell rope. Perhaps he’ll learn to ring one day!



The bells were augmented to 10 in 1984 by the addition of two trebles cast by Taylors to match the existing eight which were cast in 1919.



15th April Practice Meeting at St. Neots

Sixteen of us gathered at St Neots on the morning of the 15th April to enjoy the 29cwt 10. It is 52 steps to the ringing room but worth the climb!

Christian sent his apologies due to illness and Cass and Andrew were absent, both on Easter holidays, so reserve ringing masters stepped in to make sure that everyone had a good ring.

Call Changes, Plain Hunt on nine and ten, Grandsire Caters and Yorkshire Major were included, and a plain course of Stedman Caters, a creditable performance by Hunts District ringers!

Our thanks go to Rev Paul Hutchinson, vicar of St Neots and to Alban Forster, T/C, for meeting us.



Scan the QR code to listen to Plain Hunt Royal!

Committee Member Profiles

Catherina Griffiths – Belfry Repair Fund Treasurer

My introduction to bells was as a little girl when my aunt used to sing “Why don’t you leave my wife alone; she is so drunk she can’t get home” to the sound of St Neots bells ringing what I now know to be Queens on 8! I was introduced to St Neots Belfry by members of the church youth club, but it was several years later before I actually learned to ring. I was taught by Wilf Ratcliffe in 1972 at West Bridgford, Nottingham when I was at college – my roommate was a ringer too. This was an 9 cwt 8 so whenever I had been home to St Neots I was kept away from the lighter bells.

I was elected a member of EDA in 1973. The following year Tim and I were married and settled into the St Neots band. We both were elected to the district committee, Tim holding various offices and me as BRF Treasurer which after a break of many years I am back in post. I organised the Huntingdon District tour for 38 years and used to organise a couple of weekend tours each year to various parts of the country (I organised 49 of these!). I held the office of General Secretary for 21 years and at the end of my tenure was honoured to be elected as an Honorary Member. I was also involved in the writing of the Association History.

I have been very fortunate to be in the St Neots band at a time when we were advancing our method repertoire and augmenting the ring to 10 bells gave me confidence on higher numbers.

My 3 children are all accomplished ringers, David being Steeple Keeper and Deputy Tower Captain at St Neots. My granddaughter is also ringing in her own church.

Having rung tower bells for 50 years, I have also been a member of a tune ringing handbell group for 45 years. Change ringing on handbells was a big mystery to me until I joined the EDA online session on Saturday mornings during lockdown. The mists cleared and I have now rung 4 quarter peals on handbells. It’s never too late to start something new!



Ed Groome – Committee member and RATS rep

Hi there, great to see you! My name is Ed and I started my ringing career in 2004 at the age of 8 (I’ll let you do the math to work out my age!) at St Botolph’s Church in Barton Seagrave, a tower in the Kettering Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. Before I learnt, I would go and watch my dad ring at towers (not sure how I sat through quarters at that age!) and remember climbing the stairs of Peterborough Cathedral many a time. I knew early on it was something I wanted to try.

I rang throughout my school and university career and once I graduated, I moved home to Kettering and sat on the branch committee as Press Correspondent before my move to Cambridgeshire in 2019 to start a new role at Cambridgeshire County Council. I now live in St Ives but love travelling around the area visiting new towers and meeting new people

I joined the committee in 2021 and represent the Huntingdon District on the Recruitment and Training (RATS) Committee. I organised the Ely DA Training Day in 2022 and have a real passion for training and development so do let me know if you have any ideas!

Besides ringing, I am passionate about sports, travel, history, and fitness. I look forward to seeing you at some District events in the near future.



Gransden Ringers' Mini Outing

"Why is it called a mini outing?" asked one of our non-ringers. "Well, I said, "because we are only ringing at three towers". And so it was that on Saturday 22nd April sixteen of us set out to try some bells in north west Essex.

The first port of call was [Steeple Bumpstead](#), a 14 1/2 cwt six. Julia, one of our ringers, learned to ring here for the millennium when a band was trained up for the occasion. Sadly, there is no regular ringing here anymore and the ringing room could do with some TLC. The bells are quite nice and a good weight for a six.



From here we went on the [Radwinter](#), a 12cwt eight. More signs of life here with a white board with plenty of blue lines. The ropes of Nos 2 and 3 go through chutes in the clock box but those who rang them managed perfectly. We rang a course of Cambridge S Minor on the back six, probably our best piece of ringing during the day.

Lunch was taken at the [Coach and Horses](#) PH at Newport. We enjoyed a relaxing time here and appreciated the good food. There were six handbell ringers in the group and during this break we rang Plain Bob Minor and Single Oxford Bob Minor.



[Steeple Bumpstead](#)

The last tower was [Newport](#). This church has a tall tower faced with stone and flint but its interior is brick. The bells, also a 14 1/2 cwt six are a little awkward in a unique and interesting way. They are quite deep set and have long unguided ropes making good bell handling essential. Some of our ringers rang only once but we did manage a course of Plain Bob Doubles as our last touch. There is no regular ringing here, and we were told, possibly only one or two visiting bands a year. The ringing room is dusty and small pieces of detritus fall from the walls/ceiling when the bells are rung!

Although we didn't ring on any bells that "we would like to take home" we had a very enjoyable day. It was interesting to briefly look around the churches and of course it is always fascinating to discover things in the towers and ring the bells, even if some are a little challenging.

Our grateful thanks to Tricia for organising the whole day and to the local people who met us and allowed us to ring their bells.



Mark, Catherina and Rebecca



Group Photo at Newport



[Newport](#)

Visit [Gt Gransden Bell Ringers' website](#) for more info about our own tower.



Remembering Maurice Thurmott 15/12/1930 – 24/3/2023

Ely Cathedral Chorister, Architect and Bell Ringer

In 2015 Maurice celebrated 70 years as a bellringer and so, to mark the occasion, he was asked about his ringing career and the following article was published in two parts in the *News From The Belfry* page of the Link, the parish magazine for Ramsey, Cambs, where Maurice lived.

Maurice was born, brought up and educated at Ely where his family had been Saddlers and Harness makers. He trained as an architect and spent the bulk of his professional career in local government, ending it as the City Architect of Leeds.

Maurice was 13 years old when the ringing ban was lifted in 1944 and a year later he joined the newly formed band of Ely youngsters. At the same time as learning to ring tower bells he also learned to ring the methods on handbells.

Access to other towers for practice was limited by travel opportunities. No one in Ely had a car and the cost of public transport was out of a youngster's reach except for special occasions, so Maurice resorted to cycling! He recalls pedalling from Ely to Newmarket to ring his first handbell

and to many towers further afield to broaden his learning and gain experience in other methods.

One Saturday Maurice and a friend (Owen) went by train to Bury Edmunds intending to return home on the 'milk train' at 9:30pm. Arriving at the station they were told that, "The milk train doesn't run on Saturdays"! So they started to walk home not thinking to tell their parents. By midnight it was raining hard and they had reached Kentford where they found a truckers 'doss house' where for 2s 6d (12½p) they had bed and breakfast and a fire in front of which to dry their socks. They did think in the morning to ring their parents who were by now mad with worry. Maurice does not elaborate on the reception they received on the arrival home!

Maurice's enthusiasm and dedication to ringing again led him to cycle with Owen 70miles to ring a peal at St Giles church (8 bells) in Norwich. This time they sensibly stayed overnight at a youth hostel, rang the peal in the morning but had to travel home by train in the afternoon as the cycle ride took a full day!

A peal takes about three hours to ring so, after cycling all the previous day, we can deduce they must have been quite fit!

In Maurice's own words; "I was in the Ely Cathedral Choir for six years and it was the then tradition that on leaving the Choir you were taken up to the Octagon by the Head Verger and allowed to inscribe one's name and date of leaving on the back of one of the Angel Doors - an act of gross vandalism unthinkable today!"

Maurice was always interested in the theory of ringing, he remembers his mother commenting that she wished he would spend as much time on his school work as he did on 'those figures'. Fifty-one of Maurice's own compositions are held on the Central Council of Church Bellringers website. This interest led him to be appointed the first Ely Diocesan Association Peal secretary at just 17 years old.



Remembering Maurice Thurmott 1930 – 2023 *Continued*

The role of peal secretary was not to record peal attempts but to check the compositions and validate them as true, no easy task when the rules of a peal say that it must consist of at least 5040 changes on up to seven working bells, or a minimum of 5000 on higher numbers of bells. There have been occasions when ringers have claimed a composition as their own (great kudos in the world of ringing) but Maurice's knowledge enabled him to challenge the claim and prove it to be untrue.

In 1952 after National Service (in Harrogate!), Maurice settled in Bradford, where he met his future wife, Jane, whom he married in 1955. Jane later learned to ring bells as she felt 'if you can't beat 'em, join 'em!' They moved to Reading in 1959 and rang the bells at the churches of St. Mary (8 bells) and St. Lawrence (12 bells).

A move to Bicester in 1961 led to the opportunity of ringing one of the 12 bells of Christchurch Oxford, when the *1812 Overture* was performed in the quadrangle with real cannon and the bells providing the cascade of sound for the finale.

Back to Yorkshire in 1964 for over 20 years, during which time Maurice composed and conducted a peal on the 12 bells at Bradford Cathedral on the occasion of Sir Winston Churchill's funeral and he and Jane started up a new band at Drighlington (8 bells). Their fledgling band won the Western Division Striking Contest two years in succession.

They retired to Rothwell in 1989 and in 1996 Maurice suffered a mini stroke after an attempt to get a band to ring a heavy ring of bells at the correct speed. Although he made a full recovery he was forbidden to ring. Maurice was allowed to ring again for the Millennium, but there is no record of how much pressure was put on his doctor to grant that permission!

Sadly, Jane died in 2002, so Maurice moved back to Cambridgeshire, to be closer to his sons and sister.

Ramsey ringers write, Out of that tragedy came good fortune for the ringers at Ramsey and throughout the Ely association. We at St. Thomas a Becket have been so very fortunate to have had Maurice ringing with us, teaching us and sharing his expertise.

Maurice's funeral took place at St. Thomas a Becket Church, Ramsey on April 21st 2023.

Maurice had been a much loved and respected ringer at Ramsey since 2002, when he retired to Ramsey to be nearer his family.

At his request the tower bells were rung open and in rounds and call changes until his coffin reached the church. One of his sons joined the band for a brief ring.

The coffin was welcomed by handbell ringers from a group Maurice had taught each week. During the service his son, Richard, gave a eulogy about Maurice's ringing 'career'. This was followed by his younger son, Mark, telling about his father's life and career as an architect.

The coffin was bade farewell by more handbell ringing on Maurice's own bells rung by a number of his close friends.

The service was a joyful celebration of a life lived to the full.

R.I.P. dear friend

Cathy Moulton

Quarter Peals Rung in Memory of Maurice

26th March – [Godmanchester](#). 1260 Plain Bob Triples

1st April – rung by a Huntingdon quarter peal band.

[Barley](#), Herts. 1296 Cambridge S Minor

[Gt. Chishill](#), Cambs. 1320 Doubles (1m/1v)

[Rushden](#), Herts. 1320 Cambridge S Minor

[Wallington](#), Herts. 1320 Doubles (3v)

2nd April – [St Neots 1280](#) DNCB Major

3rd April – [Lt Gransden](#), 1260 Plain Bob Minor on handbells

21st April by a Peterborough band

[Peterborough St. Mary](#), 1260 April Day Triples

Tributes to Maurice by some of his many ringing friends

Maurice was a kind and gentle man. I was not very good with male helpers when I was learning to ring methods as they seemed to shout a lot. Maurice never shouted but always encouraged and praised. [Emily Partridge, Ramsey](#)

In Ramsey tower we still quote Maurice's adage of "No post mortems" when a method had gone skewiff! He also refused to allow us to say sorry saying, "Only apologise if you have done it deliberately". We were blessed at Ramsey to have had Maurice as part of our ringing band. You don't know what you've lost until it's gone, do you? [Cathy Moulton, Ramsey](#)

Maurice was a brilliant ringer and before coming south to be nearer his son and family, he was a prolific peal ringer in the West Yorkshire Region. When he had settled into Ramsey Life, he used to ring handbells – largely Plain Bob, but also at times Treble Bob, as long as the others could manage it! He was very patient to handbell learners, and corrected their mistakes immediately and helped them to complete the touch which was being rung. If I remember correctly, three or four of us, rang handbells, when I arranged District Dinners, and I suspect that the performance would have been less than perfect if it had not been for his help and patience in our practices. He will be greatly missed in Ringing Circles, for there are relatively few ringers of his calibre. [Michael V. White, Hemngford Grey](#)

One occasion I remember particularly was when I gave him a lift to one of our many committee meetings in Cambridge about the EDA History. I asked him out of curiosity what was the difference between a Surprise Major method and a Delight method, as it certainly didn't seem that the latter was more delightful. Anyway this provoked from Maurice a 20 minute discourse explaining the difference, which is pretty technical. Clearly for him there was a significant difference and he explained it at length. Sadly it was all well above my experience and comprehension, so I was none the wiser. But thanks to Maurice for trying! [Richard Hough, St.Ives](#)

When I was a beginner, 20 years ago, he was a great encourager and support, especially at the well-attended Hemingford Grey practice. I still remember one of his helpful tips for Grandsire – "if you do you don't, and if you don't you do". (I don't ring Grandsire by that tip any more, but it was extremely helpful to me as a learner!) Rest in peace, Maurice. [Simon Kershaw, St.Ives](#)

He was so funny when he was teaching us to ring handbells and took our ribbing so well - I can still picture him waving his bells towards us to 'conduct' us and we could always tell when he wanted us to speed up! He was passionate about ringing, and especially keeping handbell ringing going. A lovely man. [Elspeth Novice, Ramsey](#)

So sorry to hear about Maurice, I have lovely memories of handbell ringing and sharing stories and anecdotes. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. [Janet Yeo, Huntingdon](#)

Maurice was always pleased to offer his insight and help anyone with their ringing. RIP
[John Boocock, Gamlingay](#)

I didn't know him well at all but his warmth shone through and his friendly encouragement was genuine. I seem to recall his name is engraved in the Octagon Tower at Ely Cathedral. [Jez Bottley, Huntingdon](#)

Maurice made a great contribution to the association history and told lots of stories of ringing when he was young. I'm so pleased he got to see the final print. [Catherina Griffiths, St Neots](#)

Most of my ringing with Maurice had been on handbells. Michael White encouraged the three of us to get together shortly after Maurice returned from living in Yorkshire and we started practising Plain Bob Minor. Maurice and I had a few sorties with the Cambridge handbell group when our ringing included major. This gave us the confidence in our own trio and our first quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung on 19th May 2005.

We rang many quarters after that including other plain methods. Initially, Maurice was the conductor, but he encouraged me to take on the role. One key occasion was in 2007 when we rang a handbell peal, the first by Hunts District ringers for 94 years. Maurice's first peals were on handbells, as he explains in the Association History. He was always encouraging and ready to help and advise.

[Phillip George, Gt Gransden](#)

The Ely Diocesan Association was reorganised 125 years ago with BELFRY REFORM as one of its objectives. Belfry Reform was a nationwide initiative to try to get ringers to be a part of the worship of the church. Hitherto, ringing had been a secular hobby or sport and ringers were often paid to ring for all sorts of events, but they didn't ring very much for church services.

The recently published History of the Association – *the first hundred years* makes for interesting reading, describing the challenges of bringing together ringers from such a large geographic area which in those days included parts of Bedfordshire and Suffolk.

The association has had its good and bad years, especially in the early days, and so too has the Hunts district. In 1904 the association General Secretary's report states that "the continued apathy in Huntingdonshire is still a matter of deep regret to all who have at heart the simultaneous development of the association throughout the diocese".

At that time there were few Hunts district towers with members and although in subsequent years membership increased, it fluctuated a lot. Eventually, change-ringing became more widespread in the district, *although in Great Gransden this didn't happen until the 1960's*. More towers had association members, and what I call the "modern" era became established.

Although we are still managing the association using the Victorian model, ringing is changing again. Enthusiasm is high. There is excitement in the air! Learning and teaching ringing requires commitment, and national organisations like the Association of Ringing Teachers are helping us to teach and train to high standards. The Association supports us in this way too through its training centres and promoting ringing amongst youngsters.

In its 125th year the association challenged its members to recruit at least 125 new ringers. We'll find out at the forthcoming AGM if we have achieved this. We are fortunate to have some excellent ringers and teachers in the district and I hope that our aim will be to continually recruit, train, encourage and develop ringers, especially the younger generations, so that ringing survives and thrives into the 2030's and beyond.

Strive for excellence, whenever we ring, for ourselves and our fellow ringers!

Special Method for 20th May Ringing Practice at St Ives 3.00-4.30pm Double Norwich Court Bob Major

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR (-4-36-5-1 LH1)

(2)	(7)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(3)	(8)	Bob
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 4 3 6 5 8 7 1 4 3 5 6 7 8 4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7 2 4 3 6 1 5 7 8 4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7 2 4 3 6 5 8 1 7 4 2 6 3 8 5 7 4 6 3 8 3 7 5 6 4 8 2 7 3 1 5 4 6 3 8 7 1 3 5 6 4 8 1 7 3 5 4 6 8 1 3 7 3 5 6 4 1 8 7 3 5 6 1 4 8 7 3 5 1 6 8 4 7 5 3 1 8 6 7 4 5 2 3	1 8 6 7 4 5 2 3 8 1 7 6 5 4 3 2 8 7 1 6 4 5 2 3 7 8 6 1 5 4 3 2 8 7 6 5 1 4 2 3 7 8 5 6 4 1 3 2 8 7 6 5 4 3 1 2 7 8 5 6 3 4 2 1 7 5 8 3 6 2 4 1 5 7 3 8 2 6 1 4 7 5 8 3 2 1 6 4 5 7 3 8 1 7 4 6 7 5 3 1 8 2 6 4 5 7 1 3 2 8 4 6 5 1 7 3 8 2 6 4 5 1 3 7 8 4 6 1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6 3 1 2 5 4 7 6 8 3 2 1 5 7 4 8 6 2 3 5 1 4 7 6 8 3 2 5 4 1 7 8 6 2 3 4 5 7 1 6 8 3 2 5 4 7 6 1 8 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 4 2 6 3 8 5 1 7 2 4 3 6 8 1 5 7 4 2 6 3 1 8 7 5 2 4 6 1 3 8 5 7 4 2 1 6 8 3 7 5 4 1 2 6 3 8 5 7 4 1 4 6 8 3 7 5 1 6 4 8 2 7 3 5	1 6 4 8 2 7 3 5 6 1 8 4 7 2 5 3 6 8 1 4 7 2 3 5 8 6 4 1 7 2 5 3 6 8 4 7 1 2 3 5 8 6 7 4 1 2 5 3 6 8 4 7 1 5 1 3 8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2 8 7 6 5 3 1 4 2 7 8 5 6 1 3 2 4 8 7 5 1 6 3 4 2 7 8 1 5 3 6 2 4 7 1 8 5 6 3 4 2 1 7 5 8 3 6 2 4 1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4	1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4 5 1 3 7 2 8 4 6 5 3 1 7 8 2 6 4 3 5 7 1 2 8 4 6 5 3 7 2 1 8 6 4 3 5 7 8 1 4 6 5 3 7 2 8 4 1 6 3 5 2 7 4 8 6 1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 8 3 2 5 4 6 1 7 8 2 3 4 5 1 6 8 7 3 2 4 1 5 6 7 8 2 3 1 4 6 5 8 7 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7	1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7 4 1 6 8 3 7 5 4 6 1 3 8 5 7 6 4 2 1 8 3 7 5 4 6 1 8 1 3 5 7 6 4 8 3 1 7 5 4 6 2 8 3 7 1 5 6 4 8 2 7 3 5 6 8 4 7 2 5 3 8 6 7 4 5 2 1 3 6 8 4 7 5 1 2 3 8 6 7 4 1 5 3 2 6 8 7 1 4 5 3 8 6 1 7 5 4 3 2 8 1 6 7 4 5 3 1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2	1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2 7 1 5 8 3 6 2 4 7 5 1 8 6 3 4 5 7 8 1 3 6 2 4 7 5 8 3 1 6 4 5 7 3 8 6 1 4 7 5 8 3 6 1 4 5 7 3 8 2 6 4 5 3 7 8 4 6 3 5 2 7 4 8 1 6 5 3 7 2 4 1 8 6 3 5 7 1 4 6 8 5 3 1 7 4 8 6 3 5 1 2 4 7 6 8 3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6 1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	5 3 7 2 8 4 6 1 3 5 2 7 4 8 1 6 5 3 2 4 1 8 6 3 5 2 7 1 4 6 8 5 3 2 1 7 4 8 6 3 5 1 2 4 7 6 8 3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6 1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 2 1 4 3 5 6 8 2 4 1 3 5 7 8 4 2 3 1 5 6 8 2 4 3 1 5 8 6 4 2 3 5 1 7 8 2 4 3 5 6 1 8 4 2 3 6 5 7 8 4 7 2 6 3 8 5 1

Double Norwich is a really good plain method, seldom rung in our area. It is an excellent stepping stone to treble bobbing. Lead end order is 2745638. Hunting at the lead end and half lead. Sixth place calls. Always remember - place against place and dodge against dodge! Coursing bells work together too, so it's a bit easier for the conductor to keep an eye on things.

THE BACK PAGE

Ringling Survey – *help please!*

The committee is going to carry out a survey of district ringers and would like to know your views on the ringing events organised through the year.

The survey will be sent to all ringers on our email distribution list. It begins with basic information about yourself and your relationship with the church. It goes on to ask what you can ring and what you are learning to ring. Then, there is a short section on teaching new ringers. Section 3 asks your opinion about the events organised by the committee and what you might be interested to take part in for future years. Section 4 is about how well we communicate and what improvements we could make.

Section 5 is for tower captains only. This section asks general questions about your bells, the age-range of your team, how frequently you practice and what you ring. There are also questions about shared practice nights, Sunday service ringing and training.

The final section is for your feedback to the questionnaire.

The results will help us understand the technical capability of the district and how we might help support training of new ringers. We will analyse the results and consider them when designing the ringing programme for 2024. We will also publish a summary of the results.

The survey will be announced by email which will contain a link for you to follow. Please do take part, we are looking forward to receiving your response.

Other Quarter Peals in April

22nd – [Huntingdon All Saints](#), 1260 Spliced St George and The Dragon Doubles. For the St George's Scout and Guide service

Feature Performance

Huntingdon based ringers have this spot again this month with a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples on 23rd April which was rung at [Godmanchester](#) for their monthly service of evensong.

Georgie Hunt rang the treble and it was her first QP of triples. Well done Georgie!

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1613235>



L-R: Angie, Andrew, Caroline, Iain (c), Nick, Jez, Mel, Georgie

“Coming Up Next” Watch out for Caroline's emails with details of planned ringing. Why not print them and post it in your tower? Everyone is welcome to attend our district events.

Association AGM at **Fen Ditton – Saturday 13th May**. Ringing 3.00 – 4.00. Service & Tea in church. AGM 5.30pm. More details in the CUN poster.

District practice at **St Ives – Saturday 20th May 3.00pm – 4.30pm**. All abilities catered for, everyone welcome.

Please send details of any ringing that you do for the **Coronation**. It will be published in the May issue of *Ringling Around and About*.