

Annual Meeting at Ladock

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"The Bell"

Issue 2017/2

The Guild AGM was held at Ladock on the first Saturday in March, the eve of St.Piran's Day. It was preceded by the Guild Office conducted by Revd. Canon Andrew Wade, Team Rector of the Probus team, prior to which ringing took place at Probus & Ladock.

President Annie Holland opened the meeting at 3pm and welcomed the 60 members present. Minutes were approved and reports received from the various officers, all of whom were re-elected with the exception of Public Relations Officer Phil Tremain who had indicated his wish after 33 years to stand down from this post. No successor was able to be found at the meeting and so the matter will be raised at the round of District AGMs prior to the Standing Committee's consideration at their next meeting. Phil was warmly thanked for the way he had fulfilled the role.

A minor rule change, making it a requirement for the Standing Committee to appoint a Health & Safety Officer rather than giving them the discretion to do so, seemed to create more discussion that it deserved, but was eventually carried by the necessary two-thirds majority.

50 year long service certificates were presented by the President to Kevan Borlase of St. Dominic and (unbeknown to him beforehand) to Guild Secretary Robert Perry (pictured), although in the latter case at the time it was only 49 years and 11 months!



At the close of the meeting members of the local band served a splendid tea from the excellent catering facilities at the back of the church, and further ringing took place at St.Erme.

Phil Tremain



Editorial

This is the final issue of An Clogh which I shall be editing, following my retirement from the post of Guild Public Relations Officer at the AGM back in March. President Annie Holland would be glad to hear from anyone who may be willing to take on either role.

Phil Tremain

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Winter League Finals

The Winter League organised by the East Cornwall Association culminates in March with a finals day when the teams which finish in the top half of the league table ring in the A-final, while those in the bottom half ring in the B-final.

	TOTAL	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Lansallos-1	15	3	3	3	3	3
St.Columb	14	3	3	3	3	2
Lansallos-2	12	3	2	2	3	2
Lostwithiel	12	2	1	3	3	3
St.Wenn/Withiel	12	2	2	3	2	3
St.Neot	11	3	2	1	2	3
Lanivet	9	2	3	2	1	1
Lanlivery	9	2	1	2	2	2
Roche	8	1	3	2	1	1
St.Kew	7	1	1	1	2	2
St.Germans	6	1	2	1	1	1
St.Veep	1	0	0	0	1	0

This year the final was held at Linkinhorne and the results were as follows:

A-final: 1st Lansallos-1 $8\frac{3}{4}$ strokes, 2nd Lansallos-2 (14), 3rd St.Columb ($14\frac{1}{2}$), 4th Lostwithiel (27), 5th St.Wenn/Withiel ($29\frac{1}{2}$)

'B' Section: 1st Roche ($15\frac{1}{4}$ strokes), 2nd Lanivet ($17\frac{1}{4}$), 3rd St.Kew (26), 4th St.Germans (34)

The most improved team was Lanivet.

Phil Tremain



Keep up to date with what's going on and receive information about Guild activities by subscribing to the Guild email mailing list. You can sign up at our website <http://tdgr.org.uk> by clicking the mailing list link.

Ring & Picnic

Eric Bannister's ring & picnic was again a great success; participants are pictured below.

Central District Spring Festival & AGM

Held, in accordance with recent custom, on the day before Palm Sunday/Holy Week the Central District Spring Festival & AGM was held at Probus. Ringing began at St Mewan, and after briefly starting off with five bells three more ringers soon arrived to give us more than enough to ring call changes on the $7\frac{3}{4}$ cwt six. Our numbers were further increased when moving on to the heavy octave at Probus, where for an hour the bells were rung to a mixture of call changes and methods, including half a course of Yorkshire.

The Guild Office was conducted by Revd. Andrew Wade who quipped that he had had some practise in so doing, having hosted the Guild AGM at Ladock (another of his churches) just a month before. Chairman Malcolm Bowers led us through the agenda with reports received & accepted, and a surplus of funds from 2016 being voted to the Bell Restoration Fund. In the main officers were re-elected although Jonathan Young now joins Brian Wood as District representatives on the Standing Committee, and Brian joins Phil Tremain as Pydar Deanery Stewards. After enjoying a splendid tea which could easily have fed three times as many as the two dozen or so who were present, ringing continued briefly at Probus to end the day.

Phil Tremain



Young ringers (under 30) with a Facebook account may like to join the *Young Bell Ringers Facebook Group*.



Western District Spring Festival & AGM

This took place at Zennor this year but the afternoon began at Lelant where a goodly number of ringers turned up and the ringing was varied catering for everyone including beginners and junior members; it was good to see the latter enjoying their ringing. We then went on to Zennor where we were welcomed by Sam Nankervis and his band. The ringing ranged from rounds to Surprise Minor and was ably organised by Chris Venn, the Ringing Master. A short service of Evensong in the Church was conducted by the Reverend Elizabeth Foot. Everyone then adjourned to the Church Hall where the AGM took place.

The meeting was attended by 38 members of the Western District representing 15 towers; visitors included Annie Holland, the Guild President, and Robert Perry, the Guild Secretary. The meeting went smoothly and included the officers' reports followed by the election of officers. The new Ringing Master is Sam Nankervis and there is now a Carnmarth Deanery Steward, Christine Iles of Stithians. At the end of the meeting a Guild badge was presented to Renate Augstein of Penzance.

After the meeting it was time for a most excellent and plentiful tea served by the Zennor ringers; many thanks to them for their hard work. This was also a time for catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. Finally we moved on to ring on the eight bells at Towednack where the ringing was perhaps not up to the usual standard with even some of the better ringers making mistakes! However, a good day had been had by all and some finished it with a pint in the Engine Inn at Crippleasease.
Jane Hitchens



Ringers with a Facebook account may like to join the group *Bellringing in Cornwall*.

Eastern District Spring Festival & AGM

The Eastern District AGM started in Linkinhorne with some fine ringing, and then moved on to St Ive before coming to rest in St Cleer, the venue for the meeting. All in all, it was an excellent District AGM; plenty of ringing followed by a short service. The service was conducted by St Cleer's new vicar Becca Bell (great name ... if only she rang!) with a passionate and heartfelt

appreciation for all that we do as bellringers, for our churches and our communities. The meeting itself was presided over by our Chairman, Richard Warwick, who was unanimously re-elected. Robin Woods, the secretary, announced his intention to step down after 25 years of continuous service to the district. Ringing Master Owen Borlase made a short speech of thanks and presented Robin with a specially made paperweight. Ian Banbury stepped up to the plate and offered to take on the role of secretary, an offer that was immediately accepted with sighs of relief all round.
Ian Banbury



Royal Cornwall Show

Education Officer Rob Pearce and his team of young and not-so-young helpers again manned the Bradoc mini-ring at the Royal Cornwall Show.



Pictured is PirateFM presenter Holly Day trying her hand at ringing. *Photo from Johnny Cowling*



Ian Banbury, new Eastern District Secretary

Ian moved to St Cleer with his wife a few years ago, from Plymouth. Turning up at the tower one Wednesday evening to see what all the fuss was about he was quickly hooked, learnt the basics and now also rings at Pillaton practice on a Tuesday. Ian would like to thank both Geoff Auckland and Richard Warwick for their patience and perseverance in teaching him the various nuances of ringing.

Gunnislake Festival

A group of ringers from St Dominic, Calstock and St Cleer, took the Bradoc mini-ring to the Gunnislake Festival. The day started early when the team arrived at the site to erect the tower. A somewhat sub-horizontal site was selected and after a good deal of propping and levelling the mini-ring was eventually in place and ready to be tested. After a brief period of training we were all deemed to be broadly competent and promptly executed a few rounds and call changes. The purpose of our day was to persuade the villagers to give ringing a try, which they did with great enthusiasm. Well over fifty budding ringers were shown how to pull the ropes, our youngest customer being just four and the oldest too old to ask. We even had visitors from a galaxy far away who came under Owen's tuition (Owen is the one on the right!).



Despite very indifferent weather the bells were an obvious success and a good time was had by all.

Ian Banbury



News from Phillack

The ringers at Phillack Tower have been entertaining several visitors lately. President Annie Holland spent a Tuesday evening practice with us and next to call in were husband and wife Richard and Sarah, on holiday from Devon. Hearing the bells ring out while enjoying fish and chips in Hayle, they called in on the spur of the moment, and enjoyed broadening their experience on different bells.

Most recently, the Tower rang not only with bells and chimes, but with young French voices. Fifteen youngsters from Pordic, Hayle's Twinning Town in Northern France, spent time in Hayle for a Cornish holiday. As a part of their itinerary they enjoyed a tower visit, picking tunes out on the Ellacombe chimes, and they climbed the narrow spiral stone stairway to see the bells. On to the top of the tower they

enjoyed the magnificent view, and the novelty of clambering the ancient steps. Towards the end of their visit, the Phillack team rang a peal for the visitors, which appeared to delight them. Bell ringing as we know it is not done in Europe, so was a new experience for these young people. Life is never dull at Phillack Tower!

Tina Morgan



"The ringers of Launcells"

"They meet once more! That ancient band,
With furrowed cheek and failing hand..."

These are the opening lines of the poem by Rev.R.S.Hawker about the six men of Launcells who rang for both the coronation and the golden jubilee of George 3rd; they are immortalised in Frederick Smallfield's painting.

The picture was donated to the Royal Cornwall Museum in 1905 but is now on long-term loan at Bude/Stratton museum in the Castle, Bude.



Tail Ends

Kevan Borlase was caught by surprise when a buffet took place at the *Who'd Have Thought It* in St. Dominick, marking his 50 years of ringing combined with an early birthday treat. Owen gave an amusing speech relating to some of his dad's more eventful experiences whilst ringing around the country.

Congratulations to Bob Woods who rang his first quarter peal, covering to Stedman Triples, at his home tower of Helston.

The new ten bells for St Winnow have been cast at Eijsbouts, Holland. Small amounts of Cornish tin & copper from South Crofty were added to the mix.

Crantock held a Ringing and Picnic Celebration in July to mark the 250th anniversary of the installation of the first four original bells. It culminated with a quarter peal.

Congratulations to those who rang the first quarter of Surprise Maximus, Cambridge, at Truro Cathedral by a band resident in Cornwall.

The *Old Codgers* August tour visited Lyme Regis and two other towers in the area.

That's all folks

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