



February 2011

Newsletter Issue 45

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Under New Management

Hello!

My name is Sue Wilson and I am the new editor of your newsletter. I am a member of Border Bells in the Scottish Borders. There is an article about my team on page 5. I'm third from the left in the photo.

I think it's about time our newsletter got a name but maybe you disagree. Let

me know what you think and maybe suggest a name. Please get your ideas in to me before the deadline for the next issue.

I intend to have a letters section. Tell me what you think of the new format or what you are doing in your team. Contributions don't need to be long.

There is going to be a Fun

Corner with jokes, good things to see on line and so on. Maybe you have a contribution for the lighter side of bellringing?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sue

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From the Chairman

Welcome to the first magazine of a new year. I hope that 2011 finds you well and looking forward to another year of handbell, handchime and belleplate ringing. It was great to see many of you at our 'Mistletoe & Wine' rallies and thanks are due to our hosts Holy Trinity Handbells, Haddington and GJK Chapel Chimers in Aberdeen. An enjoyable time was had by all at both events and the standard of ringing in the region is getting better and better. I have been hearing that many of you were disappointed in the run up to Christmas, that due to snow and more snow, many concerts had to be can-

celled. I'm sure your prospective audiences will welcome you at a later date.

I am pleased to welcome Sue Wilson of Border Bells as our new magazine editor. Please support her by sending news and photos – however small. No news will result in no magazine.

The Spring Rally and AGM will be hosted by Callander Chimes on 26th March. The venue chosen is the local leisure centre so there will be plenty of space for all. If your team is unable to come, why not consider coming on your own – just bring the bells you plan to ring on the day with you.

At the AGM voting will take place for a committee for the next 12 months. Please give some thought to joining the regional committee. It is good fun and not too onerous. A nomination form was sent out with the Spring Rally & AGM details.

Planning is already well ahead for our Autumn events and again we will have a rally in the north and one in the south – more details will follow on these.

The National Rally and AGM will be held at Royal Holloway in April. A number of Scottish ringers have already signed up to attend.

In December you should have received your membership renewal details from the HRGB Membership Secretary. I do hope you have chosen to renew. The membership fee is very reasonable for all the benefits available to you – especially the cheaper rate for attending our rallies.

I look forward to seeing and chatting to as many of you as possible at the rally in Callander. In the meantime, please do get in touch if there is any help the regional committee or I can offer you.

Happy ringing.

Christine D. Reid

Scottish Region Chair

Chairman's Report for 2010-2011

I am pleased to report another successful year for the Scottish Region. Membership continues to be strong among both adult and youth members. We welcomed two new teams during the year and there have been several additions to existing teams.

The following Regional events have taken place this year:

AGM and Spring Rally hosted by Jordanhill Parish Church Handbell Ringers

Schools Ringing Day in Newton Primary School, Dunblane

Ring in Praise Seminar hosted and run by Dunblane Cathedral HR

Mistletoe & Wine Ring-Along hosted by Holy Trinity, Haddington

Mistletoe & Wine Ring-Along hosted by Chapel Chimers, Aberdeen.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in making these events successful and enjoyable.

A huge thank you is also due to Helen Campbell who has stepped down as magazine editor. Helen has edited our magazine for 9 years – a tremendous commitment from a non-ringer.

Teams continue to promote handbell ringing in a variety of venues across Scotland – country markets & fairs; guilds and fellowship groups; nursing homes and hospitals - to mention but a few. The Parish of Dunkeld HR rang in Innerpefferay Chapel and the Chapel Royal at Falkland Palace. Lysbeth Wilson, Dunblane Cathedral HR, rang solo handbells at the launch of the Prestonpans Tapestry which recounts the journey of Bonnie Prince Charlie from France to victory at Prestonpans in 1745. Jordanhill Parish Church HR celebrated 20 years of ringing with a concert with friends.

The annual Scottish Schools Ring this year brought young ringers together at Newton Primary School in Dunblane. This was the 11th annual Schools Ring but the first to make history as it was broadcast live over the Scottish schools secure intranet, GLOW. Thanks are due to Lysbeth and Malcolm Wilson for the interest and encouragement they show to our young ringers.

Scottish ringers have participated in events countrywide and worldwide. Eleven ringers attended the National Rally in Leicester leading and participating in workshops. Six ringers attended UK Bronze in Sutton which was again directed by Fred Gramann. Heather McLean of Dunkeld joined the Bells of the Cascades cruise to Alaska. Three members participated in 'Echoes for Peace', the 14th International Handbell Symposium in Osaka, Japan – returning with some fantastic memories and ringing friendships made around the world.

On your behalf, I would like to thank the members of the committee for their contribution to the smooth running of the Region and the planning of events.

Thank you for your friendship and support over the past 12 months. I look forward to a happy and successful year in 2011/12.

Christine D Reid Scottish Region Chair

Sales Manager's Report 2011

Sales have continued to be steady at all regional events and we continue to supply HRGB, Mayola and Aardvark music. Our music-note socks have been the best-seller this year.

I have enjoyed being Sales Manager over the years, with support at the Sales Table from my team, "The Blair Bells". However, I am starting to think that it's time for me to enjoy a more relaxed and leisurely time at rallies and

seminars etc., so, if there's anyone out there who would be interested in taking over my "job", please come and see me at the Sales Table at the Spring Rally in Callander and see how easy it is!

Mary McGregor, Sales manager, Scottish Region

Treasurer's Report for the Year 2010

The annual accounts will be emailed or posted to you ahead of the AGM when the Examiner has completed his examination.

The Scottish Region accounts remain healthy. Once again this year we had more individual members in teams and therefore received a larger rebate from the national accounts. This is our main income based on the number of members in the region. It is important, to have all ringers in our teams members of HRGB.

The Autumn Ring-a-longs in two venues this year again saw many ringers taking part and thanks to the generos-

ity and hospitality of the host teams we have money to spend providing and promoting Youth and International events in the future.

Purchasing music, handbell accessories and gifts from the regional sales team also generates income for the region.

Savings continue to be made by the electronic distribution of the magazine. If you change your email address or acquire one for the first time please let the chairman or secretary know so the committee does not lose touch with you.

The Region was pleased to donate to the following charities during the year: Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund, St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, Maggie's Aberdeen, and Leuchie House MS Centre.

I will be attending the AGM in Callander and will be happy to answer any questions relating to the figures. I can also be contacted by phone or email.

Lynda Barclay
Regional Treasurer

Secretary's Report for 2010-2011

Our AGM and Spring Rally was hosted by Jordanhill Parish Church Handbell Ringers in Glasgow in March 2010. 76 ringers representing 13 teams from around the region had a fun afternoon of ringing. The massed ringing pieces were Men of Harlech, Willow Waltz and Highland Cradle Song. We also enjoyed listening to each team's performance of their own choices. In April 2010 thirteen ringers from Scottish Region attended the National Rally in Leicester and enjoyed the excellent workshops and challenging music. Newton Primary School in Dunblane hosted the Schools' Ringing Day in May when 150 ringers from Inverurie in the north to Ayrshire in the south, ably led by

Lysbeth Wilson and Malcolm Wilson, made digital history as their ringing went out live across Scotland on the Scottish schools secure intranet GLOW. The two Regional events held in the Autumn were hosted by Holy Trinity Ringers in Haddington on 9 October and GJK Chapel Chimers in Aberdeen on 23 October. In total 126 ringers attended and enjoyed the theme "Mistletoe and Wine". The committee very much appreciate all the work that the host teams do to make these events so successful. We now look forward to the AGM and Spring Rally in Callander on 26 March. There have been three committee meetings held in May and September 2010 and in January 2011 in the halls of Dunblane Cathedral. Why

not think about serving on committee for a few years and help to plan and shape future events for the region? My time is now up!! I have served as secretary for five years after having been on committee for some years. I came on as secretary in 2006 at the AGM which was being hosted by my own team at Cathcart in Glasgow. I would like to thank Lynda Barclay and Christine Reid who have been in the chair during my time as secretary and also all the members of committee for their support.

Jean Routledge

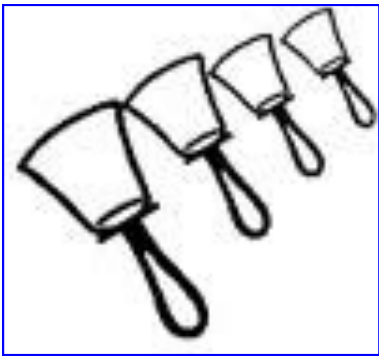


Haddington Rally



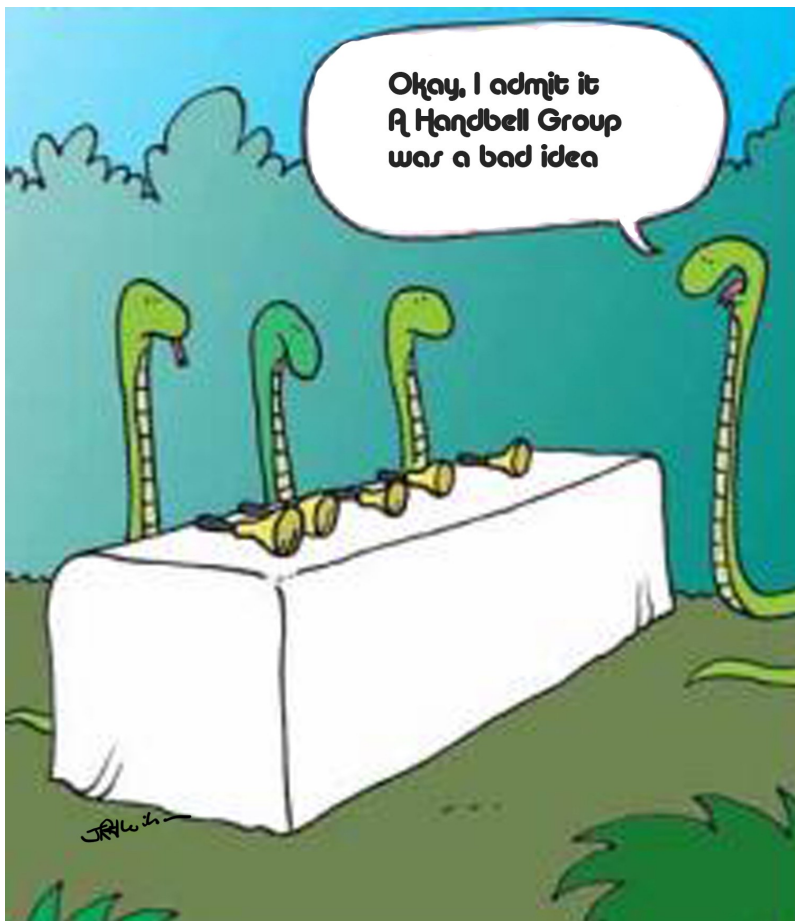
Aberdeen Rally

Reading this in print rather than by email?
 A member of HRGB? It's only £10 a year.
 Have an email address?
 Then let us have your email address and you too can get your newsletters on line, in colour and any size you like.
 You'll also get Reverberations.



SPRING RALLY
& AGM
Saturday 26th March 2011
McLaren Leisure Centre
Mollands Road
Callander
FK17 8JP
Hosted by Callander Chimes
 For more info contact Anne Docherty
 01877 330996
 mail@annedocherty.co.uk

Fun Corner



If you haven't heard Kiriku playing Plink Plank Plunk on YouTube you have missed a treat. There is a long winded introduction but it's worth the wait.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpizRsjMyDw>

A clapper is the only part of a bell that is self applauding.

Write the music notation idiot proof and someone will come up with a better idiot.



Cartoon©JRH Wilson

Border Bells

Border Bells was rooted from its very beginnings in the U3A. (University of the Third Age for retired people and those who work part time). Its inspiration came from a brief note in a U3A magazine about the Flintinnabulas, a group in Flintshire who played Belleplates. This was followed up and the leader of that group was a mine of information and support. An encounter with handbells while on Shetland sparked my interest and led eventually to the purchase of the Belleplates.

We won an Awards for All grant which paid for the Belleplates, some equipment and music. Our two-octave set of Belleplates arrived in August 2007 to which we have now added A6. Five still remain of our original eight founding members and four more have joined us. Ruchi, a young Indian woman joined us for two or three months and made up beautiful deep red cloths for our tables. We each have a red scarf and wear white tops and dark trousers so if you see us at a rally you'll know who we are.

At first we played from a colour-coded grid but after seven or so months we changed to staff notation which immediately widened our horizons. Isa and Margaret started out with no music reading skills at all and are quite startled when we assure them that they are actually reading music.

Maureen is a retired teacher and keeps us on our toes with remembering to damp. Shirley and Margaret both come from a medical background. Marrette is our efficient facilitator and the best quaver player of the group, while Sue writes lively music for us at useful moments.

Bridget is a new member having joined us a year ago. She was so keen to join us that she forgot to join U3A as well. Fortunately she is retired so eligible for our team.

In January we acquired a new member so we now have three Margarets. New Margaret slotted in very well and thoroughly enjoys bellringing with us.

Our progress has been encouraging but we could always do with more



**Our two-octave set of
Belleplates arrived in August
2007**

members. One or two of us may try two-in-the-hand this year which would be a useful skill.

Our very first public appearance was at a local residential home at Christmas and looking back I am aware how unambitious it was. But since then we have performed at a variety of occasions including a money raising event which we called Bells and Biscuits. We have also enjoyed gatherings at Dunblane and Haddington. Our recent activities have been somewhat hampered by the snow but we are looking forward to our ringing in 2011 as always accompanied by enjoyment and laughter.

Helen Crockett

News from Jordanhill Parish Church HR

We were represented at both the Ring Alongs in Haddington and Aberdeen and were delighted that Jennifer MacRae, a former ringer and now minister of St Mary's Haddington was able to join us for some of the ringing.

We have had an extremely busy December with Christmas ringing starting on the 1st December and carrying on right through until Twelfth Night! Quite amazingly, despite the severe weather conditions, we were able to carry out all our engagements.

We will be attending the Rally in Callander and will be having our annual concert with the Jordanhill Community Choir in May

We now have a Facebook page which is regularly updated with our news and current information so please take time to have a look at it.

Ruth Cantlay



The Parish of Dunkeld HR

After flying home on a Saturday evening at the end of UK Bronze, it was off to Pitlochry early the next morning, having loaded the car a week earlier, with equipment for the group's usual performance at Dougie MacLean's Amber Festival - a great day, as always, with an enthusiastic audience. November saw members ringing for two hours in Pitlochry High Street at the start of Pitlochry Festival. The ringers were one of the many groups of musicians spread at intervals along the whole length of the street. Very cold but very enjoyable.

Early in December, another annual event is Santa's Day in Dunkeld, with reindeer pulling Santa on his sleigh from Birnam into Dunkeld. It's always fantastic and was listed this year by The Scottish Field as one of the top ten Christmas events in Scotland. We rang at The Cross (i.e. the square) in the morning and took part in the Carol Service held in The Cathedral in the afternoon.

The group provided entertainment for a Guild Christmas Party in Crieff and also at a Day Centre in Perth, which the ringers visit at regular intervals - both of these were great afternoons with everyone joining in the carols and singing their hearts out. Christmas activities ended on Christmas Eve with solo ringing in the Cathedral at the Watch Night Service. Sadly, due to the appalling weather conditions, we didn't make it to

Linda Lamb has kindly dedicated two new arrangements of a piece (one for group ringing and another for solo ringing) "To Heather McLean and The Parish of Dunkeld Handbell-Ringers."

Edinburgh for our regular performance in the Christmas programme at The National Museum of Scotland. This was disappointing as it's always an enjoyable day - but it wasn't to be this year.

The ringers were back in action in January when we normally have our only break of the year but we resumed early to ring for Bankfoot Church Guild, one of our ringers being the President. We also enjoyed a late Christmas lunch at Alyth Lunch Club before providing the entertainment

(the event having been re-scheduled from its December date due to the weather). The group will be ringing the introit, anthem and postlude in three morning services at Little Dunkeld Kirk during February. Then work will begin on the music for our Summer Tour programme, which will include a new arrangement of "Annie Laurie" by Linda Lamb with whom I shared a cabin on the Bells of the Cascades Cruise to Alaska and who has kindly dedicated two new arrangements of the piece (one for group ringing and another for solo ringing) "To Heather McLean and The Parish of Dunkeld Handbell Ringers". As you may imagine we were delighted to receive such a generous gift from Linda. On our tour this year we shall be performing in Oban, then crossing by ferry to Mull where we ring in Tobermory Church and also in Duart Castle (home of the chief of Clan

McLean). Then we cross to Iona for a return visit to ring in Iona Abbey. As you can imagine, everyone is looking forward to the trip - ferries, accommodation, venues etc. all booked a long while ago.

Heather I McLean

At The Cross,
Santa's Day,
Dunkeld, 2010



Closing Date for Issue 46—
Saturday 21st May 2011

The Scottish Contingent at UK Bronze



Left to right—Heather Maclean, Lysbeth Wilson, Irene Duncan, Mary MacGregor, Beryl Snowden, Christine Reid

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- March 26 Regional AGM and Spring Rally, McLaren Leisure Centre, Callander
- April 15-17 National Rally, Royal Holloway College
Details in Reverberations
- May 12 Scottish Schools Ring
Details from Lysbeth Wilson
- June 4 Ring in Praise, Dunblane
Details from Malcolm Wilson at www.ringinpraise.org.uk
- August 1-6 National Residential Ringing Week, Kingston
Details in Reverberations
- October 8 Regional Rally, Bankfoot, Perth
- October Regional Rally, Cathcart Church, Glasgow



2010/2011 Committee

Contact details can be found on the HRGB Scotland website at www.hrgbscotland.org.uk

Chairman

Christine Reid

Secretary

Jean Routledge

Treasurer

Lynda Barclay

Sales Manager

Mary McGregor

Committee Members

Elaine Duffus

Ruth Cantlay

Marge Paterson

Lysbeth Wilson

John Elcock

Irene Duncan

Newsletter Editor

Sue Wilson

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Handbell Ringers of Great Britain

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