



February 2012

Newsletter Issue 48

Hi Ringers

When the deadline for this issue came and went with only one contribution I began to wonder if you actually want to have a newsletter. Please don't leave it to other people. We want to know how YOUR group is doing. If you are sending photos

please make them at least 300 dpi as anything less than that does not print very well and unfortunately, we are still having to print out almost 50% of the issues.

Anything you care to send will be most welcome.

Sue

From The Chairman



By the time you read this, we shall be well into 2012 and the Christmas music will have been packed away. The lead up to the festive season is always a busy time for ringers and this past Christmas was no exception with groups ringing in hospitals and residential accommodation, at carol services and at Watch-night services. Dunblane Cathedral Youth Handbell Ensemble rang very proficiently in the BBC Christmas Eve Service. At all of these events, you are promoting the art of tune ringing to new audiences.

Our 15th Birthday Celebration Rallies were a great success with 110 ringers joining in the events. Thank you to the Parish of Dunkeld Cathedral HR and Cathcart Old Parish Church HR who acted as excellent hosts.

The Spring Rally and AGM will be held at Ruthrieston

West Church in Aberdeen on the 17th March. 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 thoughts to joining the regional committee. The Region cannot operate without a committee or officers. So please think about it – don't just sit back and assume someone else will do it. A nomination form was sent out the Spring Rally & AGM details.

This year's National Rally & AGM will be held in York in April. Plans are progressing well for the 2013 rally which will be held in the Normandy Hotel, Renfrew. Please put this date in your diary and

give some thought to attending. These events are a great deal of fun and an opportunity to learn more about ringing techniques.

14 Scottish ringers have signed up to participate in the International Symposium in Liverpool in August. We are therefore able to form a sizeable Scottish team. Malcolm Wilson of Dunblane is one of the massed ringing conductors and we are looking forward to playing his composition.

In December you will 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. If you are reading this and you are not a member of HRGB, why not consider joining. The HRGB website

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(www.hrgb.org.uk) will give you all the details.

This will be my last Chairman's letter as after 4 years, I will be standing down at the AGM next month. It is time for someone with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to take the Region forward. I have enjoyed my time as chair and thank you for all the support I have had in doing so. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing and chatting to as many of you as possible at the rally in Aberdeen. Please do get in touch if there is anything I or the regional committee can do to assist you.

Happy ringing.

Christine D Reid

Scottish Region Chair

Chairman's Report 2011-2012



I am pleased to report another successful year for the Scottish Region. Membership numbers continue much as before. We lost one team due to illness and members moving home. However existing teams continue to attract new members.

The following Regional events have taken place this year:

- AGM and Spring Rally hosted by Callander Chimes.
- Schools Ringing Day in Newton Primary School, Dunblane
- Ring in Praise Seminar hosted and run by Dunblane Cathedral HR
- 15th Birthday Celebration Rally hosted by The Parish of Dunkeld Cathedral HR in Bankfoot.
- 15th Birthday Celebration Rally hosted by Cathcart Old Parish Church HR.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in making these events successful and enjoyable – in particular our massed ringing conductors who have always agreed to my requests.

At last year's AGM we said goodbye to Jean Routledge who had done a sterling job as secretary for many years. We welcomed Marge Paterson, Cumnock & District HR, as our new secretary and Liz Jamieson, from the same team, as a committee member. We also welcomed Sue Wilson, Border Bells, as magazine editor. Please do support her by sending in articles and photos – however short. On your behalf, I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their contribution to the smooth running of the Region and the planning of events.

Teams continue to promote tune ringing in a variety of venues across Scotland – from Dumfries in the south to Caithness in the north. The Parish of Dunkeld HR went on tour to Oban, Mull and Iona where they gave concerts in aid of charity. Heather McLean did a sponsored solo marathon to assist with their equipment transport costs. Dunblane Cathedral Youth Handbell Ensemble made it to television by performing in the Christmas Eve Service on BBC1.

The annual Scottish Schools Ring this year saw 140 young ringers joined in a fun day of ringing. Castleton Primary School in Thurso were able to participate via GLOW, the Scottish schools' secure intranet service. Thanks are due to Lysbeth and Malcolm Wilson for organising and continuing to encourage our young ringers.

Scottish ringers have participated in events further afield. 5 ringers attended the National Rally in Royal Holloway, while another 5 participated in the National Residential Ringing Week in Kingston in August where they mastered the musicality of 13 pieces of quite challenging music.

As I step down from the post of chairman, I would like to thank everyone – and especially the members who have served on the committee – for your friendship, help and support over the past four years. You have helped to make my years as chairman less onerous. Ringing in Scotland continues to go from strength to strength and I have confidence that the coming year will be another successful year.

Christine D Reid

- 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 and be able to access any links in the newsletter.

Secretary's Report 2011-2012



How quickly time flies! It's hard to believe that I have nearly completed my first year as Secretary of HRGBS. I am still on a very steep learning curve! I followed in the footsteps of Jean Routledge who stepped down at the AGM in Callander in March. At the AGM, thanks were expressed to Jean for all her hard work over the last five years. This was followed by the Spring Rally. Eighty two ringers from all over Scotland attended and had a most enjoyable day. The massed ringing pieces were *Easter Collection 1*, *The Dark Island* and *Sweet Nightingale*.

In April five ringers from Scotland attended the National Rally and AGM at Royal Holloway. They found all the workshops most enjoyable.

The next event was the Scottish Schools' Ringing Day at Newton Primary School, Dunblane on 12 May. Ten teams participated in this event including some teams who had only been ringing for three weeks! One school in Caithness participated from their school hall through the Scottish Schools' Intranet Service GLOW.

The final event of the session was the annual Ring in Praise held at Dunblane Cathedral on 4 June 2011. This was a most enjoyable day comprising a variety of twelve different workshops ranging from Bell Basics to Solo Ringing with Company. Our thanks go to Malcolm Wilson and the Dunblane Cathedral Ringers for organising this event.

In the Autumn we had two Regional Rallies with a *Celebration* theme to mark the 15th birthday of HRGB (Scottish Re-

gion). The first of these was held at Bankfoot Church Centre on 8 October, hosted by The Parish of Dunkeld Handbell Ringers. The acoustics in the hall were wonderful. The second was held at Cathcart Parish Church, hosted by Cathcart Handbell ringers. A birthday cake was enjoyed at both events.

Dunblane Cathedral Youth Handbell Ensemble performed in the Christmas Eve Service, broadcast on BBC1 television. This was very well received.

We are looking forward to a trip to Aberdeen in March for the AGM and Spring Rally at Ruthrieston West Church, hosted by Silver City Chimes. Hopefully the weather will hold up for us!

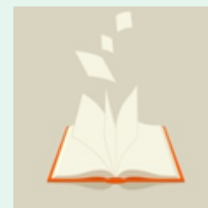
And so begins another year in the HRGBS Calendar.

We in the Scottish Region are hosting the National AGM & Rally in 2013. This will run from 12-14 April and will be held in the Normandy Hotel, Renfrew. Preparations are beginning to be made for the great undertaking of hosting this event.

I'd just like to finish off by reminding you that all these events can be well organised but their success is dependent on ringers taking the time to attend.

Marge Paterson, Secretary

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



March 17, 2012	Regional AGM and Spring Rally, Ruthrieston West Church, Aberdeen
March 30 – April 1	National Rally, University of York Details in Reverberations
May 17 th	Schools Ringing Day, Newton Primary School, Dunblane
July 31 – Aug 4	15 th International Symposium, Liverpool
August 6 th	Hakuoh University Handbell Team concert in Edinburgh University
August 7 th	Post symposium Japanese Group concert, Linlithgow
August 8 th	Kobe YMCA concert, Dunblane Cathedral
September 8	Ring in Praise, Dunblane Details from Malcolm Wilson at www.ringinpraise.org.uk

Treasurer's Report 2011-2012



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

The Scottish Region accounts remain healthy. This year our membership of HRGB stayed about the same. 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 generosity 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. In future only 2 hard copies per team of the magazine or any other paperwork relating to the region will be posted to the team contact to pass to members with no email address.

The Region was pleased to donate to the following charities during the year: Strathcarron Hospice, Cornhill Macmillan Centre and Cathcart HR bell refurbishment fund.

I should like to record my personal thanks and those of the Region to Eric Brown for once again being the Examiner of the accounts. Also a huge thank you to John Tipping the National Treasurer who retired from the post last autumn. He was instrumental in leading us all through the minefield of our charity status in a calm and progressive manner.

We welcome Anthony Hayes as the position of National Treasurer.

The committee is already planning for the 2013 National Rally(12-14 April) which will be hosted by the Scottish Region at the Normandy Hotel in Renfrew. Deposits have been paid and as soon as we have more details you will be the first to know. Please think seriously about attending this worthwhile event. I have learned a tremendous amount about ringing from attending these rallies and this time it is on home soil.

I am unable to attend the AGM in Aberdeen this year but will be happy to answer any questions relating to the figures by phone or email.

Lynda Barclay Regional Treasurer

Sales Manager's Report 2011-2012

2011 continued with steady sales, with the Spring Rally in Callander being the first outing for the sales table, followed, in May, by the Schools Ringing Day. This was a disappointing day for sales and for children with pocket money to spend, as stock for the day took almost two weeks to come, by first class post, and didn't arrive in time.

At the Ring in Praise Seminar in June we did exceptionally well, thanks to a large

number of sheet music orders.

Again, we were kept busy at the two autumn rallies, with Beryl, from my team, The Blair Bells, manning the table for me.

Music-note Scarves have always been very popular, but even more popular than usual during the last year.

I haven't yet had much success in

retiring from the Sales Manager's position and would still like to do so if someone would be kind enough to volunteer to take over from me. All being well, (if my first grandchild doesn't arrive early!) I'll be at the AGM and Spring Rally in Aberdeen, where I'm sure I shall be inundated with offers to take over the Sales Table!

Mary McGregor, Sales Manager

NEC Report 2011-2012



Christine Reid and Lynda Barclay as elected representatives from the Scottish region have travelled to Birmingham 3 times this year to attend the National Executive Committee meetings. Lysbeth Wilson as an Honorary Life member has also attended when able.

Sadly due to ill health John Tipping has had to resign as National Treasurer. He has been replaced by Anthony Hayne from East Midlands region until the AGM in 2012.

National membership numbers have increased slightly, but there is still a need to encourage all ringers to join the association.

Magazine costs continue to rise with the VAT increase and higher postage costs.

The William Hartley Memorial Fund (WHMF) continues to lend bells to teams around the country and to give out loans for refurbishment/repairs and to purchase new bells.

The Jean Sanderson Bequest allowed the East Anglian Regional Association to commission "Celestial Charm" by Malcolm C Wilson for use by HRGB for a year until June 2012. This piece will be used at our AGM in 2012.

Handbells have received a high profile on TV this year with Alan and Gay Cooper on Britain's Got Talent, Dunblane Cathedral Youth Team appearing on the BBC1 Watchnight Service from Paisley Abbey and Charles Hazelwood's unique musical experiment using 3 church bell towers and 30 handbell ringers. Let's hope this will attract an audience for the Symposium Concert in the Echo Arena Liverpool on 4th August 2012.

Past Events: National Rally 2011 Royal Holloway

Future Events: National Rally 2012 30 March -1 April York

15th International Symposium 31 July-4 August Echo Arena Liverpool

UK Bronze 2012 31 October – 3 November Sutton

National Rally 2013 12-14 April Renfrew

Lynda Barclay, NEC representative

Closing date for Issue 49

Monday 21 May 2012

The Parish of Dunkeld HR



Autumn was busy as usual for the Dunkeld ringers. Of the 21 performances in the latter part of the year, most in Nursing Homes, Day Centres, for Disability Groups, Rurals, Guilds and the usual Christmas “gigs”, four events in particular stand out.

The Regional Rally, Bankfoot. Hosting this for the first time was quite an experience for the group.

In the past, premises in the Dunkeld area have been too small or too expensive for a regional rally. With the building of Bankfoot Church Centre, the Dunkeld ringers could at last take their turn. 75 ringers attended representing 12 handbell teams from Ayrshire in the south to Caithness in the north and all points in between. At the end of the day we were tired but pleased that everything had run smoothly and that everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Our BIG mistake was to provide far too much in the way of refreshments but, as I've mentioned before, the Dunkeld ringers like their food!

Dougie MacLean's Perthshire Amber Festival. This is



Squeezed into the hall at the Perthshire Amber Festival

something we always enjoy. This time, instead of being in Pitlochry, it was held in Dunkeld, which proved to be a fantastic centre for the event. The whole community got involved. All the business premises were festooned with amber coloured ribbons, the decorated wheelbarrow procession (which kick-started everything) was absolutely amazing and for ten days Dunkeld was buzzing with 7.500 visitors from 22 countries.

Christmas Lights Fundraising Concert, Alyth. The Dunkeld ringers are no strangers to the residents of Alyth and they obviously enjoy our music. The proceeds of this concert were to be shared between the handbell group and Alyth Christmas Lights Fund. It was well supported with a really enthusiastic audience and a collection amounting to over £400.

Archive Concert in Dunkeld Cathedral. At present the Community Archive is up a steep, winding staircase in one of the Cathedral's towers – cramped quarters and difficult access. New premises have now been purchased for the Archive, these being (wait for it!) the redundant public toilet building in The Cross area.

A new toilet building is now situated in the North Car Park (again, wait for it – these are the only public toilets in Scotland to be awarded 5 stars for cleanliness and quality!). As you may imagine, a huge sum is required to make the old building fit for its new purpose as the Community Archive. Various grants have been obtained but there is a considerable shortfall and all members of the community have been asked to help. Our contribution, from the concert in The Cathedral, was nearly £600.

The Parish of Dunkeld HR was formed in October 2002 and so it will be our 10th anniversary. We are looking forward to celebrating this occasion in some special way – plenty of ideas but nothing finalised yet.

Heather I. McLean, The Parish of Dunkeld HR

Regrouping With New Name

Ringers from the three groups in the Perth area - Blair Bells, Scone Belleplates and The Parish of Dunkeld Handbell Ringers have joined together to form a combined group. After voting on a long list of suggested names, the 18 ringers chose to be called "Bells of the Tay". They begin rehearsing in February, but everyone is already practising the music at home. The group will be directed by Heather McLean.

Jordanhill Parish Church HR



'As always we had a busy autumn but disappointingly we had two outings cancelled – one due to the industrial action on 30th November and one due to inclement weather. December as always was busy!

We started early in January ringing for Epiphany in a shared service with the Carmelite Sisters in Kirkintilloch. Our

church has had long-standing links with the Carmelite Sisters originally in Langside have continued after their move to join the Sisters of Kirkintilloch. We rang the Hal Hopson introit All shall come from East and West and As with Gladness Men of Old.

We will be represented at the AGM and Spring Rally in March and we

will be having our annual charity concert with the Jordanhill Community Choir on May 10th.

It is good to see a number of 'likes' on our Facebook page so please keep visiting it!

Ruth Cantlay

Annual Charity Concert

Jordanhill Parish Church handbell Ringers And
Jordanhill community Choir
10th May at 7.30pm

Jordanhill Parish Church,
Woodend Drive,
GLASGOW



NEW! WHITECHAPEL HANDBELLS WOODEN JIGSAW PUZZLE

This is a familiar picture of part of the Woodroyd Handbell Ringers' refurbished competition set now used by HRGB to introduce new ringers to the art of handbell tune ringing.

Wentworth puzzles make an excellent gift. They challenge those who enjoy jigsaws that intrigue, frustrate and confuse! There are straight edges inside the puzzle and a set of specially cut musical "whimsies" (so-called because Victorian puzzle cutters included them 'on a whim').

This wooden puzzle contains 250 pieces and measures 250mm x 360mm (10" x 14"). It costs £22 (plus £3 p+p within the UK).

Please send your details
and a cheque made payable to HRGB to:
John Willis, Lyndhurst, Prospect Hill, Okehampton, Devon EX20 1JD
email: sales@hrgb.org.uk



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Celebration Rally at Bankfoot



On a dreich October Saturday, 4 ringers from Jordanhill Parish Church Handbell Ringers set off for the first of the two Scottish celebration rallies. It is now 15 years since Scotland got independence!! Although there were only four attending from our group we

celebration Ring by Sandra Winter and conducted by Claire Griffith, Twinkling Mozart arranged and conducted by Elaine Duffus and March Maestoso written specially for our 15th anniversary by Malcolm Wilson who also conducted the piece.

– we even had birthday cake with the Scottish logo on it!

Eight teams played individual pieces loosely based on the theme of celebration, Heather McLean of the Parish of Dunkeld Handbell Ringers played a solo and 4 other teams were represented. Teams were from as far apart as Caithness in the very north of Scotland and Cumnock in Ayrshire. There was a lovely mix of tunes and both handbells and belleplates were represented. All individual teams played extremely well but for me Heather's solo piece Annie Laurie, arranged by Linda Lamb especially for her, stole the show.

The day finished around 4.15pm when we made our farewells and headed home with goody bags of surplus cake!

Ruth Cantlay
Jordanhill Parish Church HR



Gathering prior to cutting the cake

were looking forward to meeting up with Anne Goodall again as she was coming south from Boat of Garten to ring with us.

Despite the drizzle we arrived to a warm welcome from The Parish of Dunkeld Ringers and once we had set up there was time for coffee, home baking and chat as we caught up with old friends. The event was being held in the Bankfoot Church Centre – a fabulous purpose built hall and church. If ever you are in the area it really is worth a visit.

There were 75 ringers at the rally so we really were able to do justice to the massed ringing. We had three pieces of massed ringing all based on the celebration theme. The pieces were Cele-

Throughout the day there was time to chat during the lunch break and whilst enjoying cake in the afternoon

Celebrations at Bankfoot



More Celebrations at Cathcart



Celebrations at Cathcart



Fun Corner

Your challenge in this issue is to name as many films with 'bell' or 'bells' in their title as possible. This may include films made for television and translated titles from foreign films if the English title contains a bell.

It may not include 'belles', 'bellboys', 'cowbells' or any word that contains bell in it, so The Belles of St Trinians does not count.

The answers are attached separately. There are over 100, the earliest being from 1898! See how many you can think of before you peek. The answers are listed alphabetically but it is on an Excel spreadsheet so you can easily change it to chronologically. Well done if you manage 10.

Spring Rally and AGM

Saturday 17th March 2012

Ruthrieston West Church

Aberdeen

hosted by Silver City Chimes

Details from HRGB Scotland Secretary

2011/2012 Committee

Chairman

Christine Reid

Secretary

Marge Paterson

Treasurer

Lynda Barclay

Sales Manager

Mary McGregor

Click here for contact details which can be found on the HRGB Scotland website contacts page

Committee Members

Elaine Duffus

Ruth Cantlay

John Elcock

Lysbeth Wilson

Irene Duncan

Liz Jamieson

Newsletter Editor

Sue Wilson

Honorary Life Members

Lysbeth Wilson

Malcolm Wilson—Website Administrator

NEC Reps

Christine Reid

Lynda Barclay

Ex-Officio Member

Anne Smith—Archivist



Handbell Ringers of Great Britain

Registered Charity numbers 298945 (England) and SC038918 (Scotland)