



June 2013

Newsletter Issue 52

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Many thanks to those who contributed to this latest very pictorial issue and what about the rest of you having a go? Maybe you would like to reply to my question? Do you always ring the same bell? If so what do you do when a crucial player is on holiday or ill? How do you cope with 10 arriving to practice one week and 4 the next? Four in hand helps but is my team the only one that finds regular numbers a problem? Sue

Chat from the Chair



At long last, it seems, there are signs of “Summer” in the air. It was a long time coming so here’s hoping it stays with us for a while. For some ringing teams, Summer is about taking a break while many individuals continue to enjoy ringing activities around the country. For the Scottish Region Committee it is a chance to reflect on events past and to organise further events for a new session.

My thanks go to those who worked extremely hard in the long run up to and during the National Rally 2013, hosted by the Scottish Region, in Renfrew. For some members of our Committee, it was the culmination of over two years planning and organising. Others joined in at the event, leading workshops and working “back stage”, to ensure everything went to plan to ensure the delegates (over 170 of them) had a great weekend.

Clearly they did from the excellent feedback we have received.

With this national event in our Region this year, we did not have a “Scottish Spring Rally” but our AGM was held in Dunblane on Saturday 2nd March following a Committee meeting. A number of changes were made to the Committee at the AGM. We said “Goodbye” to Christine Reid – formerly Chair – who has moved on to pastures new as HRGB National Secretary. Lynda Barclay stepped down as Treasurer but remains on the Committee as our NEC Representative. We welcomed Laura Buist, of Jordanhill Handbells, as Lynda’s successor. Irene Duncan felt the time was right to leave the Committee but continued to assist us at the National Rally. We thank all of these people for the time and talents they have shared willingly with

HRGB Scotland. The other members of our Committee have been re-elected for another year.

Young ringers gathered in Dunblane, on Thursday 16th May for the annual “Schools’ Ring” under the capable batons of Lysbeth and Malcolm Wilson. Around 150 children were at Newton School for the event while others joined in online through GLOW. These young people are our ringers of tomorrow and a big thank you goes to Lysbeth and Malcolm for the work they do to encourage them.

The “Silver” Ring in Praise day will take place in Dunblane Cathedral Halls on Saturday 8th June. It is hard to believe it is 25 years since the first such event took place – especially if, like me, you were actually

at that first one! This year’s theme, to mark 25 years, is “Celebration” and as always, a wide selection of workshops are available to ringers of all levels of ability.

Our Regional Handbell team – Celtic Carillon – will perform, by invitation, to members of the Church of Scotland Guild in the Caird Hall, Dundee, on Saturday 7th September. Rehearsals will take place over the Summer. This is a great opportunity for handbell ringers to reach a wider audience as delegates from the Guild around Scotland come together in Dundee.

Some Scottish ringers will travel to Sheffield on 29th July to participate in this year’s National Residential Ringing Week. This is a “week of work” but a great opportunity to join with fellow ringers to share musical experiences, fun and friendship.

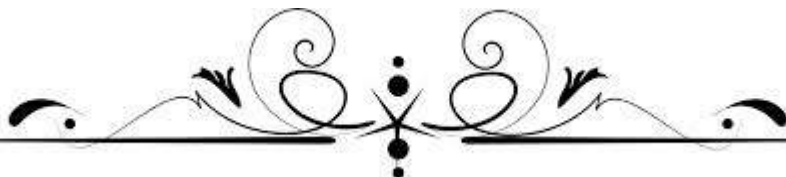
The Scottish Region stretches far and wide and our Committee tries hard to organise ringing events in different parts of the country to enable teams and individuals to attend without too much travelling each time. As we only meet as a Committee three times per year (with regular email contact in between) it is essential that events are planned well in advance. We can assist with the running of these events but we do require host teams and venues in the North, South, East and West. **Please do consider doing this.** We will support you prior to and on the day itself. Could your team, for example, host the next Spring Rally & AGM in March 2014?

Our Autumn Rally this year will be held in Fife on Saturday 26th October, hosted by Eden Handbell Ringers. We thank them for agreeing so willingly to do this and hope you will show your support by joining us for the day. Put the date in your diary!

I wish you all a happy Summer – hopefully some good weather too! – and hope to see many of you in the Autumn. Meantime, Committee members are only a phone-call or an email away. If you have an idea, a query or an offer to host an event please do get in touch.

The Scottish Region of HRGB is here for YOU and YOUR TEAM.

Elaine Duffus



The National Rally at Renfrew

Two 'Chapel Chimers' from Aberdeen attended the National Rally at the Normandy Hotel. We set out with the intention of enjoying ourselves so we only signed up for

We danced the night away at the ceilidh and rose to breakfast and the Sunday Service having spent a thoroughly enjoyable week-end.



Maori Stick Class

We met many friendly folk from south of the border and enjoyed the hospitality at the hotel. Our thanks go to all who participated in the concert and Sunday Service and especially to the organisers for a full and well run series of workshops and to the sponsors of the event.

Jan Smith & Jean Fraser
Chapel Chimers

The Gay Gordons

fun workshops and left the nervous tensions to others! As a result we laughed our way through 'Maori Sticks' (thanks for making allowance for aging knees!!) and tried to keep up with the 'Change Ringing'

The Saturday concert was excellent. We were particularly impressed by the young and very young ringers and of course the Silver City Chimes (Aberdeen) who were a great advert for the use of handchimes.



Photos from Renfrew



Maori sticks



Malcolm's masterclass



Martin conducts ad hoc ringing



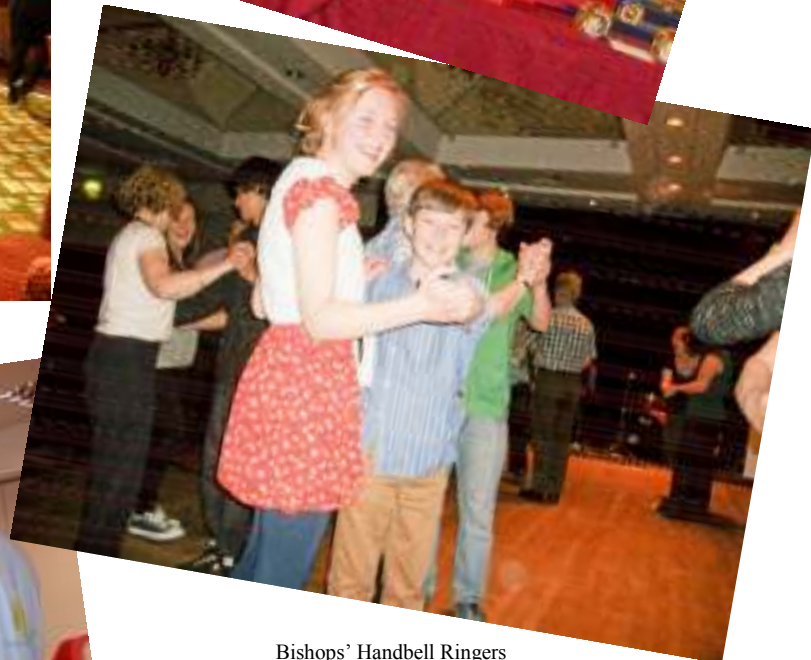
Some Scottish delegates



Ruth conducts ad hoc ringing



Silver City Chimes prior to their performance



Bishops' Handbell Ringers
learn to dance



Aidan's Belleplate Workshop

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Diary Dates

Saturday 8th June 2013	25 th Ring in Praise Seminar – Dunblane Cathedral Halls
Sunday 16th June 2013	Dunblane Cathedral Handbell Ensembles Presentation Evening 7.30pm
Saturday 22nd June 2013	Celtic Carillon Rehearsal 1—Jordanhill Church, Glasgow
Saturday 6th July 2013	Celtic Carillon Rehearsal 2—Jordanhill Church, Glasgow
Saturday 31st August 2013	Celtic Carillon Rehearsal 3—Jordanhill Church, Glasgow
Saturday 7th September 2013	Celtic Carillon Performance to Church of Scotland Guild Delegates
Saturday 26th October 2013	HRGB Scottish Region Autumn Rally, Fife

Kilwang Ringers

The ringers have had a busy time over the spring months practicing some new pieces and entertaining.

We are now the proud recipients of a new bell - Bb kindly gifted by a friend of the group to enhance our repertoire of music. Our bell also came with a special piece of music written for us entitled 'Fanfare To Welcome The New Bb.' The arrangement heralds the arrival of Bb with much pomp and ceremony. Chords short and sharp demand its attention and as our bell proceeds through the imagery created in the piece the graceful ending suggests Bb turning to bow.

We are indeed grateful to our friend for her gift.

At the time of writing we are finalising our fund raising coffee morning when we will entertain with some well known pieces and Bb will make its debut!

A fun day is planned towards the end of our session when we will stay longer at our practice and enjoy a packed lunch. We intend to 'swop' bells, 'ring from scratch,' play favourite pieces and have a quiz.

Time together has flown past and we now look forward to our summer break. Refreshed, we will resume ringing in August. We now have 26 bells and 3 Belleplates.

Margaret Godsman

Jordanhill Parish Church HR

With Christine, Lynda and Ruth on the organizing committee of the National Rally at the Normandy Hotel, Renfrew we were very involved in the run up to the event as well as at the event itself. Catherine, Johanna and Laura also took part in the workshops and found it a good experience.

In May we had our annual concert with the Jordanhill Community Choir which this year was for the charity Freedom from Torture. This was our first opportunity to show off our new bass chimes. It was a very successful concert raising almost £500 for the charity and we had many positive comments about our ringing as well.

Over the summer there will not be the usual lull in ringing this year as we are hosting the rehearsals for the Celtic Carillon Ensemble on 3 Saturdays, 9 of the group are going to the Ring in Praise event at Dunblane Cathedral and 4 of us are attending the National Residential Ringing Week in Sheffield so rehearsals need to be programmed in for that too.

Ruth Cantlay

Jordanhill Parish Church Handbell Ringers

Closing Date for Issue 53
24th September 2013

14th Annual Scottish Schools Ring 2013

Over 140 pupils aged 8-11 performed in the Scottish Schools Ring 2013 which was hosted by Newton Primary School in Dunblane on 16 May - the 14th annual event of its kind and the fourth year in which the event was broadcast live using video-conferencing linking pupils 250 miles away in Castletown Primary School, Caithness with pupils from Shieldhill Primary School, Falkirk, Cowie Primary School, Kincardine-in-Menteith Primary School,

Cumnock school, Ayrshire, Blackford Primary School in Perth and Kinross and Newton Primary School as hosts.

The ringing instruments family were well represented with Belleplates, handchimes and handbells all in use. Everyone worked together on 3 pieces of music for massed ringing, all of which had been provided in advance - the music is provided in three versions to best suit the abilities and experience of schools - there is a chords-only version, a melody-only version and a full version combining the accompaniment and melody. The music comprised "Maytime Sunshine," "Ring for Scottish Schools" and "Yankee Doodle" composed and arranged by Lysbeth Wilson, (principal organiser of the event) as well as a processional created on the day by the pupils themselves improvising on given notes (with the addition of untuned percussion instruments) under the guidance of Malcolm Wilson who also conducted one of the three massed performances.



GLOWmeet in action



Greenmill Primary School



Newton Primary School



Castletown Primary School
Caithness



Goodies on the Sales Table



Procession

Kincardine- in -Menteith
Primary School



Cowie Primary School



News from Dunkeld Handbell Ringers

Things have been rather difficult for the group during the last few months, quite a few of the ringers having health problems which resulted in two planned concerts being cancelled.

However, those who were fit continued practising and



things are now gradually getting back to normal. Ringers recently provided entertainment for Dunning SWRI, the evening being much enjoyed by all. The 12th Summer Season of “Handbell Harmony” in The Cathedral on Wednesday afternoons (2.00 – 4.00) has also begun (rather later than usual).

The performances take the form of solo style ringing with solos, duets and trios by Heather, Margaret and Dolly but, occasionally, the soloists are joined by other ringers for small ensemble ringing. If you fancy a day out why not come to Dunkeld one Wednesday to enjoy the music? The Tourist Information Office is always informed on the very few occasions when ringing won't take place so check beforehand. Tel: 01350 727688

Heather McLean

The Parish of Dunkeld Handbell Ringers

Heather and Cath

New Music for the Isle of Gigha from

Sparkling  Music

The Isle of Gigha celebrated 10 Years of Community Ownership in March 2012. To mark this very special occasion I was invited to compose a new piece of music for the island. “Tenacious Gigha” was born. As well as music, I added lyrics which the children of the island’s Primary School performed on the day of the celebrations.

Written in Scottish Waltz style, “Tenacious Gigha” is a gentle, lilting piece and it wasn’t long before someone asked, “Can it be played on Handbells?” I set to arrange it for this musical medium and on 27th October 2012, my own team – Silver City Chimes – gave the piece its premier performance at the Scottish Region Autumn Rally in Bankfoot in the presence of one of Gigha’s residents and a handbell ringer herself, Susan Allan.

Following that performance, a number of teams have asked if “Tenacious Gigha” is available to purchase. After consultation with the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust, I can now tell you it is and – like “Sparkling Sound” which many teams from around the UK purchased – all profits from the sale will go to Gigha.

“Tenacious Gigha” is arranged for 3 Chromatic Octaves of Handbells/Handchimes (C4 – C7) and very straightforward to play. The bass and lower treble instruments play in a “vamping” style while the upper treble carries the haunting melody.

A Licensed pack comprising a master copy and permission to make 7 further copies costs £14. For post and packing, please add £1. Additional individual copies available *with or after purchase* of the pack are £1.75 each. Please add 25p p&p for each extra copy required. Cheque payments with orders to me please at my usual contact address or queries via the Chairman at HRGB Scotland website.

Remember, all profits to the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust.

Elaine Duffus

Fun Corner



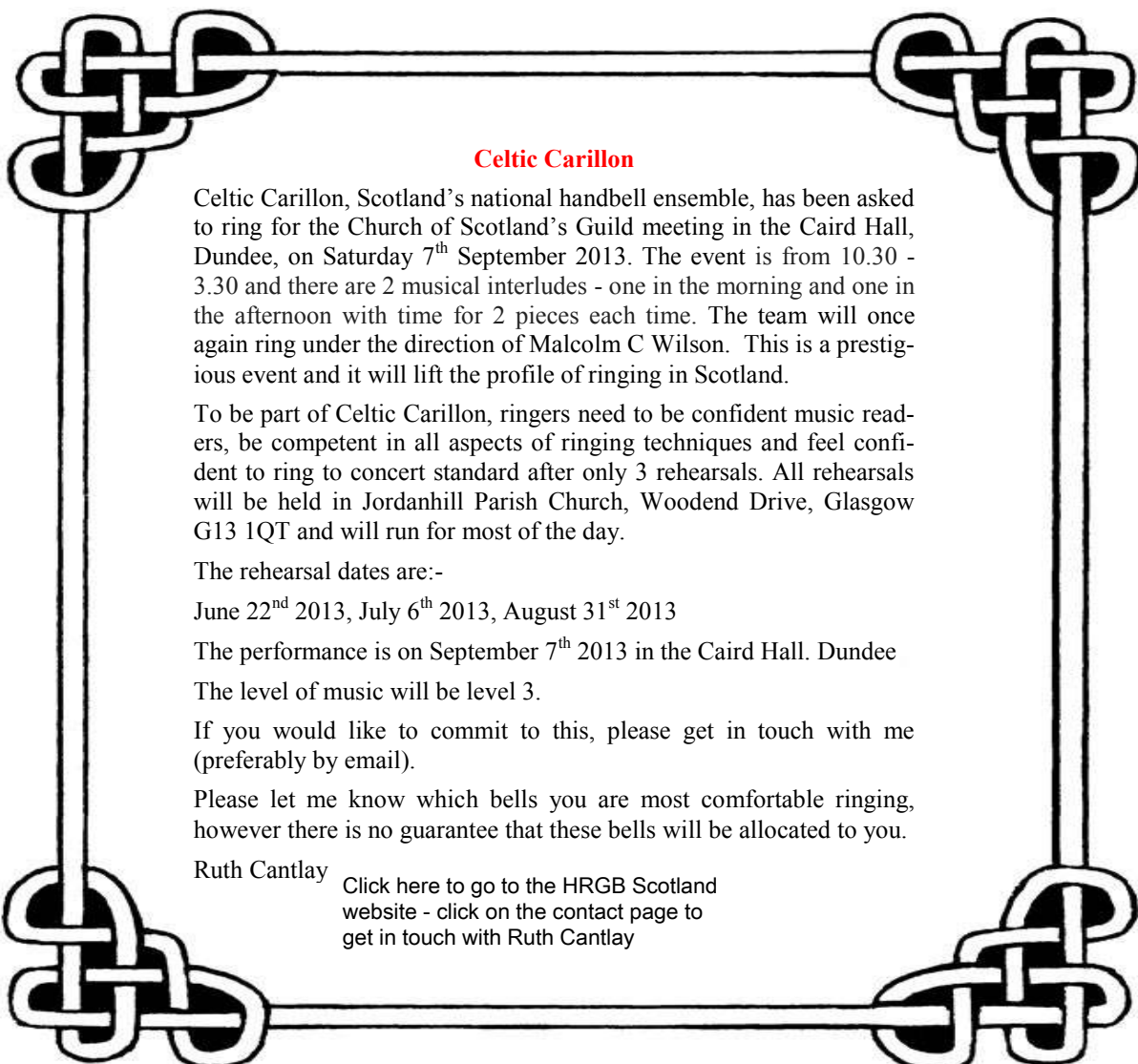
Ways to Err at a practice session:-

- Have ready different music from the rest of the group (Rule no 1—Everyone play the same piece of music)
- Have the music upside down
- Take more than 30 seconds to find your music and have it ready to play
- Play a natural where a sharp or flat is needed
- Play when you aren't supposed to
- Fail to play when you are supposed to
- Fail to damp after playing
- Have your bells in the wrong hands
- Get lost in the music
- Get confused by the repeats and go back to the wrong bar.
- Drop your bell on the floor
- Play a Belleplate with the plastic cover still on it
- Play ff in a p part or vice versa
- Damp in an LV part
- Not realise the music has two pages and not have the second page ready.
- Have Belleplate facing the wrong way

Do any of these sound familiar?

Don't forget:-

A Twitter account is now set up
www.twitter.com/HRGBScot
Username@HRGBScot



Celtic Carillon

Celtic Carillon, Scotland's national handbell ensemble, has been asked to ring for the Church of Scotland's Guild meeting in the Caird Hall, Dundee, on Saturday 7th September 2013. The event is from 10.30 - 3.30 and there are 2 musical interludes - one in the morning and one in the afternoon with time for 2 pieces each time. The team will once again ring under the direction of Malcolm C Wilson. This is a prestigious event and it will lift the profile of ringing in Scotland.

To be part of Celtic Carillon, ringers need to be confident music readers, be competent in all aspects of ringing techniques and feel confident to ring to concert standard after only 3 rehearsals. All rehearsals will be held in Jordanhill Parish Church, Woodend Drive, Glasgow G13 1QT and will run for most of the day.

The rehearsal dates are:-

June 22nd 2013, July 6th 2013, August 31st 2013

The performance is on September 7th 2013 in the Caird Hall. Dundee

The level of music will be level 3.

If you would like to commit to this, please get in touch with me (preferably by email).

Please let me know which bells you are most comfortable ringing, however there is no guarantee that these bells will be allocated to you.

Ruth Cantlay

[Click here to go to the HRGB Scotland website - click on the contact page to get in touch with Ruth Cantlay](#)

2013/2014 Committee

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