

The Edgehill Ringers and Harry Windsor Ringing Centre



Ringing Centres
Committee

Few villages can sustain their own complete band of ringers as they used to. A different more structured and collaborative approach is required to ensure bells continue to be part of our heritage. Bands from different villages working together as a cluster to teach and enjoy ringing has to be the way forward for a healthy future.

The Edgehill Ringers group is a loose association of Ringers who work together to ensure that the bells in this part of Warwickshire are rung as required for special occasions/events/services. A few of the bells are not in a condition that would stand regular ringing and some of the communities are very small and would not sustain their own band of ringers. Working together to train, ring and socialize and tell everyone about our skill getting more people involved is the key to ensuring these bells are heard in the future.

For the last seven years much good work has been carried out maintaining and restoring at least half of the 20 or so rings of bells in the area. Some work has been carried out professionally but most by volunteers. Only Pillerton Hersey and Hornton remain 'unringable'. Both have started projects to restore their bells and Newbold Pacey bells will be professionally restored and augmented in 2014.

The Challenge.....

Few of the villages are big enough to sustain their own band of ringers and most cannot ring changes or achieve good basic ringing, let alone train new ringers successfully. There are not enough ringers for all the bells.

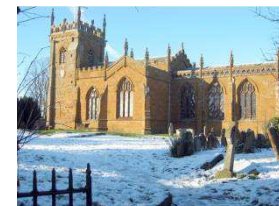
Therefore, besides restoration, the recruitment and training of more ringers is now vital.

Given the size of the challenge, the limited experienced ringers available, and the size of some communities - working together to achieve enough ringers and improve quality is essential. Our plan is to develop a flexible core of ringers in the area to supplement local bands. We recruit from all the villages even in there are only one or two ringers in some of them – overall there will be enough new ringers to achieve our goal.

Training...

The Teaching Centre at Kineton has been training ringers for seven years with good success. It has many facilities, CCTV, simulator, sound control etc. This will focus more and more on supporting 'local' recruitment and training initiatives and be the centre of a 'hub' of activity to support the area. All teaching is carried out by members of The Association of Ringing Teachers using the 'Learning the Ropes' syllabus and methodology.

Increased PR and recruitment initiatives are taking place, targeting a cross section of age groups with a particular emphasis on families and youth. There will be regular 'open days' in towers allowing everyone to see ringing and have a go.



Further information:

Graham Nabb
01926 641812
07974 743766

graham@nabb.oringehome.co.uk

<http://harry-windsor-ringing-centre.co.uk/>

The Edgehill Ringers and Harry Windsor Ringing Centre



Ringing Centres
Committee

Key to success is good follow up. People attending the open days are invited to a 'taster day' planned in conjunction with the 'open day', and names and contact details are obtained on the open day. Regular contact is maintained both prior to the taster day, and afterwards, so that new recruits are made to feel valued and part of the group.

All ringers in the area have their training monitored to allow needs to be identified and met. Targeted practices to support individual learning are arranged as required to supplement the regular Monday Practice at Kineton and individual practices at the other five towers that have regular practices. This support is therefore flexible and driven by need, rather than being constrained by a fixed annual programme, which changes little from year to year.

Young people

Experience has been gained in respect of School groups via the Warwick School initiative where a weekly after school club has been run since Autumn 2012.

In addition 'Kids in Charge' is an ad hoc group of young ringers who meet monthly and their development is supported by the Ringing Centre. We also support Scouting and Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes.

A 'camp' – a two day course intended for our youngsters – is planned for July 2014.

Social events and communication

We use social events to develop social interaction and make all of the ringers feel part of the wider group, without adding pressure. We include partners and family members.

Email is used to keep all ringers in the area directly informed and to advise of ringing/learning opportunities and we plan to develop a newsletter or some form of communication for residents in the area.

Finance

Money is required to support learning and PR/recruitment opportunities. Contributions by the ringers themselves and a 'Friends' group (non ringing support for the ringing group) will provide this. Friends may make a payment in return for ringing to celebrate an anniversary or special occasion.

The Harry Windsor Ringing Centre

The Harry Windsor Ringing Centre was established in 2008, and has trained many new Bell Ringers for the area. Apart from 'hands on' teaching there are workshops and courses on a variety of subjects (e.g. bell maintenance, rope splicing and many 'technical' areas) and talks on the history of bells and ringing



Further information:

Graham Nabb
01926 641812
07974 743766

graham@nabb.oringehome.co.uk

<http://harry-windsor-ringing-centre.co.uk/>

The Edgehill Ringers and Harry Windsor Ringing Centre



Ringing Centres
Committee

The Centre was established to professionalize ringing training and provide an environment where students can guarantee that they are taught well, at their own pace, and get to a position where they are a valued member of the local Ringers.!

The Ringing Centre is affiliated to, and follows a programme devised by, The Association of Ringing Teachers called "Learning the Ropes". This programme follows five key stages of learning to ring, from the initial technique of ringing a bell, and then developing that technique to ring with other people and progress into 'change ringing'.

Teachers have also been accredited as Ringing Teachers and are members of The Association of Ringing Teachers. <http://www.ringingteachers.co.uk/> All the teachers have appropriate DBS checks and are covered by A.R.T's. Public Liability insurance.

There are currently eight accredited teachers in the area that assist with teaching at the Centre on a regular basis;

Graham Nabb
David Bell
Sue Marshall
Mike Rigby

Steve & Sue Roderick
Annie Hall
Becki Johnson
Steve Tibbetts

Awards and Achievements 2013

Level 1

Ralph Holtom - Kineton
Albert Williams - Warwick School
Harvey Dowsett - Warwick School
Freddie Orme - Warwick School
Frederick Williams - Warwick School
George Jones - Warwick School
Gordon Bott - Farnborough
Harry Spalding - Warwick School
Helen Aries - Radford Semele
Isabella Parker - Kings High
Julia Tite - Horley
Kira Ashmore - Radford Semele
Phoebe Rowe - Radford Semele
Roger Young - Tamworth in Arden
Sam Jones - Warwick School
Susan Denning - offchurch
Thomas McGonagle - Warwick School
Thomas Pegler - Warwick School

Level 2

Alice Kaye - Offchurch
Alison Tite - Horley
Albert Williams - Warwick School
Harvey Dowsett - Warwick School
Julia Tite - Horley

Level 3

Albert Williams - Warwick School

Level 4

Luke Marsden - Bishop's Itchington
Nadeem Akhlaq - Halford

Level 5

Luke Marsden - Bishop's Itchington
Ruth Eyles - Leek Wootten



Further information:

Graham Nabb
01926 641812
07974 743766

graham@nabb.oringehome.co.uk

<http://harry-windsor-ringing-centre.co.uk/>