



## The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

# Working for ringers and ringing

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

When I was elected President of the Council last year, I wrote in *The Ringing World* that I wanted to help in every way I can to ensure that the Council addresses issues that affect all ringers. I identified three principal challenges for the Council:

- To support Guilds in reversing the trend of declining numbers of young recruits and ringers
- To support bell restoration more strongly
- To make the Council more relevant to all ringers and to make sure all ringers are better informed of the ways in which the Council can help them

The committees featured in this edition of the newsletter are engaged in these challenges and many others. Please take time to find out what the Council is doing. Wherever you can, do take advantage of the Council's services. And, do give us both your support and feedback so that we can help support the ringing in your area effectively.

Michael Henshaw

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### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The committee's role is to be aware of, and to help develop and spread best practice in ringing teaching and learning. It does this through three main strands of activity: courses, publications and communication.

#### Courses

The flagship course is Management, Teaching and Maintenance (MTM). This is a modular weekend course, but can be run

in cut down variants. The other popular course is the one day listening seminar. All courses are delivered on behalf of local associations, branches or ringing centres.

#### Publications

Many current CC Publications were produced by the Education Committee. Its policy is to identify topics not covered, where there is scope for alternative treatments, innovative products and so on, and to produce new or updated books, CDs or other resources to fill the gaps. The committee sponsors *The Learning Curve*, that appears monthly in *The Ringing World*.

#### Communication

The committee sponsors the Network for Ringing Training, to support ringing teachers, and enable them to communicate with, and to support each other. It runs an active discussion list and a contact service, and last year held its first conference. The committee works with youth movements that include ringing among their activities (Scouts, Guides and Duke of Edinburgh's Award).

John Harrison - Chairman

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### RINGERS ATTEND MANSION HOUSE DINNER

For three years now the Worshipful Company of Founders has honoured ringing not only with a large number of grants from a benefaction of £50,000 which it has given to assist the setting up of ringing centres. Additionally it has given a £500 prize to the ringing centre which has made the greatest contribution to the teaching of ringing throughout the year. Recently, the Founders decided to cast commemorative bronze plaques to be

awarded annually to each prizewinner. So it was that on 11 March this year, three prizewinners were invited to the Annual Dinner of the Worshipful Company of Founders at the Mansion House to receive their plaques. With the Lord Mayor of London and over 200 Founders and guests looking on, the Master of the Founders presented the first plaque to Phil Gay who received it on behalf of the Keele Ringing Centre, and the second plaque to Roger Booth on behalf of the Docklands Ringing Centre. The third plaque, along with his £500 prize was presented to John Turney on behalf of the Fire Ring Centre.

Congratulations to all of them on their well deserved success. Also at the dinner were Gail Cater, Chairman of the Ringing Centres Committee, and Eric Godfrey, CC Treasurer, both of whom have been heavily involved in the Founders' Scheme. This was a thoroughly enjoyable and unforgettably splendid occasion in a magnificent setting. No doubt the increasing number of ringing centres will generate stiff competition for prizes in future years.

**Gail Cater** - Chairman  
gailcater@8salters.freeserve.co.uk

## **RADIO AERIALS IN CHURCH TOWERS**

Church towers can make suitable sites for telecommunications equipment, but the issue is a far from simple one. It is essential that ringers and PCCs are as well informed as possible before any decisions have to be made. Ringers need to brief their PCC officers fully and effectively before any approach by a telecommunications company or its agent, and before the PCC decides of its own accord to make any contact, however slight, with a telecommunications company.

The Central Council continues its discussions with the Council for the Care of Churches; and the publication of the CCC's Guidance paper on the subject is awaited.

More information from the Towers and Belfries Committee is in *The Ringing World* 4083, p459, and on the Central Council website, [www.cccbr.org.uk](http://www.cccbr.org.uk); and copies of the Committee's leaflet, *Radio Transmitters installed in church towers*, can be downloaded, or purchased from Central Council Publications.

Further help can be had from the Towers and Belfries Committee, or CCCBR Honorary Secretary, Ian Oram, 01403 269743.



**Lincolnshire Showground**  
**26 July 2003, 10.30am- 5pm**

A national event where there will be displays of everything to do with bells..... bellfounding, bellringing, handbells, carillons, fairground organs with bells, mini rings of bells, computer software for bellringing methods and bell jewellery. We are expecting 3000+ visitors: 500 more than the last Ringing Roadshow, at Keele in 2001.

There will be a real 'country fayre' atmosphere – with a beer tent with Real Ale from Tom Wood's brewery, a range of catering outlets supplying non-stop food, tea and coffee, as well as handicrafts, 'The Taste of Lincolnshire', and a flypast of Hurricanes and Dakotas and much more.

*Admission: £3 adults, £1 12-18yrs, under 12s free. Free car parking. For further information visit our website at <http://www.cccbr.org.uk/info/prag/roadshow/roadshow.htm>.*