

YORKSHIRE HANDBELL RINGERS' ASSOCIATION

The Bell News (7 November 1903, page 387) reports a meeting at Liversedge on Saturday 10 October 1903 for the purpose of discussing the formation of an association to further the art of musical handbell ringing in the county of Yorkshire. An object was to hold two contests annually on Easter Monday. A contest for the first class bands, for which a trophy was to be presented - a silver medal was to be given to all members of the winning band, with a similar silver medal for the conductor only of the 2nd and 3rd placed bands. The other contest was for the second class bands and bands with small peals of bells - a silver medal being given to all members of the winning band and to the conductor only of the runners up.



Left: The obverse of the early silver medals, 3 cm in length.

Right: The reverse of a medal won at the first competition by William Booth of the Huddersfield Hand Bell Ringers. It was manufactured by Mappin and Webb and assayed in Sheffield in 1903 (l).



Below right: Two examples of medals with the same obverse but with a shield cartouche on the reverse. The one in the library collection was manufactured by Constantine and Floyd (C^E & F^D) and hallmarked for Birmingham in 1911 (m). The shield is vacant.

The example of this design by the same manufacturer has the shield engraved with the initials 'H R' and the date '4th June 1921' It was hallmarked for Birmingham in 1920.



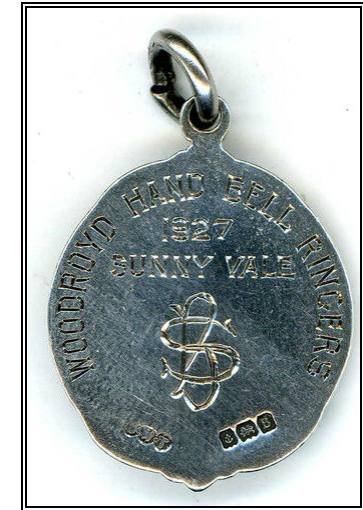
Left: An example in gold. The reverse has no shield, but is inscribed 'ELLAND / C E M S H / H ROBINSON / WINNERS / 1920-21-22'

This may have been a special version presented to mark the triple win.





Left and right: Images of another type of medal issued by the Association. It was awarded to a member of the Woodroyd Handbell Ringers at the competition held at Sunny Vale in 1927. The manufacturer's mark is J.W.T for J W Tiptaft & Son Ltd of Northampton St, Birmingham. It was assayed in that city in 1926-7.



Left and right: A further medal issued by the Association, similar to the one above but with a less ornate border. Its design was registered as number 694570. It has W H H as the mark of its maker, W H Haseler Ltd, who operated at various addresses in Birmingham. It is stamped 'STERLING' but has no date letter.

Other examples of this design have been seen: 1) reverse blank except for RD number, WHH maker's mark and set of Birmingham hallmarks for 1930 (F) and 2) 'N. CROSLAND (sic) 1932', WHH maker's mark and set of Birmingham hallmarks for 1932 (H)

