

# **THE TROYTE RINGING CENTRE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

## **JANUARY 2015**

This is the first in a series of monthly newsletters, the intention of which is to keep those who support the Centre informed of things which might be of interest to them. Our supporters are those who participate in TRC events and activities, as listed below, and copies of each Newsletter will be placed in the Bampton and Huntsham ringing chambers each month for collection. There is no “membership” requirement, participation in TRC events and activities is sufficient. However, if anyone on the list does not wish to receive copies in future or if anyone not receiving copies would like to be added to the list please let Mike Hatchett know and the circulation list will be amended.

### **TRC SUPPORTERS AT THE BEGINNING OF 2015:**

Ann Barrow, Richard Barker, Simon Bartlett, Chris Bolt, Les Boyce, Darren and Frances Brice, David Bromwich, Mandy Burnett, Carla Dawes, Libby Ford, Eve Grosse, Mike and Pat Hatchett, Mark Heritage, John Ridd, Brian Samuels, Sheila Scofield, Tony Trigg, Jack Ward, Mike Weight.

### **WELCOME:**

We welcome Mandy Burnett of Bampton who started learning to ring with us during the summer of 2014 and is making excellent progress.

### **REVIEW OF RINGING AT HUNTSHAM DURING 2014:**

During 2014 there have been 42 peal attempts at Huntsham of which 30 have been successful. The principal thrust of peal ringing at Huntsham at present is to ring new treble dodging major methods and name them after Castle class steam locomotives with the number of changes in each peal corresponding to the engine number of each locomotive. The engine numbers in which we are interested start at 5000 and end at 5100. This collection of new methods presents a significant challenge to the composer, to produce compositions which are true and contain the exact number of changes for each engine number, and also presents a significant challenge to the conductor, as some of the compositions are quite difficult. All successful peals are recorded on our Web Site by Ken Smith. During the year we have rung for a total of 22 weddings and blessings in Huntsham Church and civil marriages at Huntsham Court. Ringing for events at Huntsham Court requires a signalling system so that ringing starts and stops at the appropriate times. This seems simple but there is no mobile phone signal in the area and systems of flashing lights or waving coloured umbrellas are used instead. Some of those ringing for weddings at Huntsham ask for their donations to be credited to the bell fund, for which we are most appreciative. During 2014 we rang nine quarter peals and held eleven training events and extended practices. The North East Branch held eight advanced monthly practices at Huntsham and during the year we welcomed four bands of visiting ringers.

All these ringing activities generated income as follows:

Peals and peal attempts	£1,098.00
Wedding donations	845.00
Quarter peals	68.00
Training and extended practices	163.10
Branch practices	66.00
Visiting ringers donations	86.00
Sale of merchandise	25.00

Thus total income for 2014 was £2,351.10 which is slightly less than the average annual income over the last ten years of £2,561.00 per year. Each year the Troyte Ringing Centre donates £700.00 to Huntsham PCC towards the cost of heating and lighting the church, £200 to the Devon Bell Restoration Fund and £500 to the Farm Community Network which is the charity of preference for the Hukeley Mission Community to which both Huntsham and Bampton churches belong. We also arranged for the porch gates at Huntsham to be replaced in gratitude for all the support given by Churchwarden Ciss Carpenter to us during the last ten years.

Next month we will summarise the income received during 2014 at Bampton.

### **CELEBRATING THE TROYTE RINGING CENTRE'S 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY:**

One of the aims of the Troyte Ringing Centre has been to demonstrate that tower bells can be seen as an asset to the churches in which they are located. We took the view that each tower should raise its own funds to pay for all maintenance and improvement works and should make financial contributions to the PCC and to such local charities as the ringers and the local community preferred. Over the ten years from 2004 The Troyte Ringing Centre has raised a total of more than £36,350 and this money has, in addition to other things, paid for new ropes at both Huntsham and Bampton, for the clappers at Bampton to be rebushed and for the main bearings to be replaced. We decided to celebrate the successes of the last ten years with a dinner on 27 September 2014 at which 46 supporters and friends of the Centre enjoyed a meal together.

### **ANNUAL DIY DINNER:**

Our Annual DIY supper will be held at Bampton Community Hall on Friday 23 January, so please put this date in your new diaries now. More details later

### **WEDDINGS AND OTHER THINGS:**

We have weddings at Huntsham on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January and a celebration ring at Bampton on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January for Mr. Kingdon's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. During Saturday morning 24<sup>th</sup> January we will be ringing some Plain Doubles methods at Huntsham, further information will be provided so please come if you are interested.