

# Handbell Ringers of Great Britain East Midlands Region Newsletter

Winter 2023

No 2/23



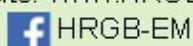
Merry  
Christmas

**HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS  
298945 (ENGLAND) AND SCO38915 (SCOTLAND)



# REGIONAL OFFICERS

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# Editorial



Winter Edition No 2/23

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year



**Welcome** to the Winter Edition of the East Midlands Newsletter.



The Editor

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Our Treasurer, Marie, reports that since complaining to our bankers, TSB, concerning missing papers they have added £100 to our bank balance in compensation.



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# Seagrave Rally

**HRGB East Midlands Regional Rally  
Held at Seagrave on October 14<sup>th</sup>**



Valentine Bear

Twenty three ringers and three family members arrived at Seagrave Memorial Hall in Leicestershire on a beautiful autumn morning. Teams represented were Loughborough All Saints, Grantham Town HR and Stanwick HR. It was also good to see two Independent ringers who formerly rang with the East Midlands Regional Team.

Apologies were received from Dot Williams of the Grantham Town HR and Judith Kirk on behalf of Bretherton HR.

As our new Chair of the Region was unable to attend, Marie Allen from Stanwick HR welcomed everyone; giving a special mention to the Loughborough All Saints Team who had not attended a rally before.



Marie Allen

Marie then introduced our first guest conductor, Sue Bond from Weldon. Her first piece for massed ringing was *Waltz La Sarabande* arranged by A. Ellis. This was a very jolly piece, enjoyed by all.



**All Saints  
Loughborough**

Team ringing pieces played during the morning included *The Skye Boat Song* and *The Lord is my Shepherd* from All Saints and *Shepherd's Hey* and *Siahamba* from Stanwick. The Stanwick 4-in-hand trio also played *Country Gardens* and *Waltzing Matilda*.

Samuel Davies then introduced *A Round of Praise* by Michael Helman as our next massed ringing piece. This needed to be played 'with joy' and everyone was soon entering into the spirit and following Samuel's vigorous conducting!



Sue Bond

A welcome lunch break gave us chance to catch up and chat with members from the other teams, but we were soon put through our paces again by Sue as she took us carefully through *Frere Jacques* arranged by Dorothy De Salis. Once that tune was successfully mastered, she led us on to *Aura Lee*, a Traditional tune arranged by A Ryan Price. Some of us had played this before, but hadn't mastered the second page! By the end, we felt much more confident, so no excuses now, Stanwick! Thank you, Sue.

By coincidence, the next team piece played by All Saints was a different version of *Aura Lee* – this received rapturous applause from the audience! As they had threatened all day, their final piece was *Jingle Bells*. It's never too early to start practicing!

Stanwick's remaining team pieces were *Soliloquy* and *Moon River*, while the 4-in-hand trio finished with *Will ye go?*, *Purple Heather* and *Wild Mountain Thyme*. We had started to raise the volume with our



\*Stanwick Handbell Ringers



Stanwick 4-in-Hand Trio

second attempt at *A Round of Praise* when we heard competition from the roof as the skies opened! Rain stopped play!

A change in the programme saw the raffle being drawn with the numbers very ably announced by Benji. Tea and cakes followed and, as the sun came out once more, we were ready to tackle practicing all the massed ringing pieces for the final time.



**Benji**

Marie explained that the proceeds from the raffle would be shared between the Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund and Philip Hayes who is raising funds for a Scout trip to Iceland. She thanked Sue and Samuel for their leadership and tuition in the massed ringing pieces and presented them with bottle shaped gifts. Marie also thanked Anthony Hayes and his family for their part in ensuring that the rally ran smoothly and for providing the liquid refreshments.



Anthony Hayes

A final rousing concert, where all our new pieces were played, was a fitting end to a very successful and enjoyable day. We hope that more teams will join in with future rallies so that friendship and the love of handbell ringing can be shared more widely.

Gill Crowe Stanwick HR



Massed Ringing - conducted by Sue Bod

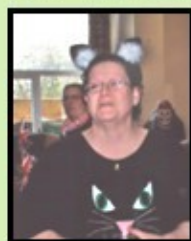


# Obituary

## Tegwen Manton



Tegwen, together with her husband Richard, were well known figures in the world of hand bell ringing. Harlaxton Chimes, based at their home in Washingborough, began life when they lived in Harlaxton near Grantham.



For many years Tegwen was the Treasurer of the East Midlands Region and organised rallies at Washingborough and the surrounding district. One was most memorable as it had a nautical theme and Tegwen dressed as the ship's cat, whilst the team rang from the RMS Titanic.



RMS Titanic

After retiring as Treasurer little was seen of Tegwen and Richard at East Midland's events but they continued to attend National rallies, where they ran several workshops and regional rallies in the North East Region.

Richard died August in 2019 and since that time ill health has dogged Tegwen. She died in June of this year.

Known for outspoken views, Tegwen was always forthright in her remarks

***May She Rest in Peace.***

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# SYMPOSIUM EXPRESS

Road to Hamamatsu 2024

It's Next SUMMER!

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## ♪♪♪ 21st International Handbell Symposium ♪♪♪

DATE: August 12-17, 2024

VENUE: ACT City Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Pref.  
90 min from Tokyo and Osaka / 30 min from Nagoya by Bullet Train

THEME: Ka Na De Ru MIRAI - Ring the Future 2024

### (PROGRAM)

Mon, Aug 12	PM: Registration
	Eve: Opening Ceremony, Fun Night
Tue, Aug 13	AM: Mass Rehearsal
	PM: Workshops, Mass Rehearsal, Solo Concert
Wed, Aug 14	AM: Mass Rehearsal
	PM: Workshops, Mass Rehearsal, Solo Concert
Thu, Aug 15	AM: Mass Rehearsal
	PM: Excursion
	Eve: Solo Concert
Fri, Aug 16	AM: Mass Rehearsal
	PM: Mass Rehearsal, Workshops
	Eve: Charity Concert
Sat, Aug 17	AM: Dress Rehearsal
	PM: Final Concert
	Eve: Banquet, Closing Ceremony

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## SYMPOSIUM COSTS

All fees and prices are listed in Japanese YEN



### 1. Registration Fee

[Earlybird] **¥98,000-** (registration by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

**¥110,000-** (registration deadline April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

The above fee includes Massed Ringing, Workshops, Opening & Closing Ceremonies & Banquet, Charity Concert, Half day outing, some meals

### 2. Accomodation & Hotels

A variety of hotels within walking distance to ACT City Hamamatsu in available. Our designated travel agency can help you arrange your accommodations. Information will be released in September 2023. The expected hotel prices will be about ¥11,000 per room/per night/per person (single rooms).

### 3. Foam

All groups will be required to purchase FOAM.

¥2,500 per foam (60cm x 60cm) Tables are 180cm in length and will require 3 pieces for each table you need.

※foam prices may change due to rise in manufacturing cost.

### 4. Other costs

Music, group photos etc will be announced in September.

#### Announcing Massed Ringing Conductors from the HRJ and HMA

Kyoko Ashida will be representing the HRJ as one of the Massed Ringing selections from Japan.

Greig ASHURST will be representing the HMA. Music and others to be announced.



# Diary



<b>2024</b>	
27th January	NEC
28th January	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
25th February	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
23rd March	NEC
24th March	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
5th-7th April	National Rally—Swanwick, Derbyshire
	AGM and Rally -
<b>19th May*</b>	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
23rd June	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
28th July	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
12th-17th August	21st International Symposium - Japan
<b>11th August*</b>	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
22nd September	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
27th October	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
24th November	Regional Team Rehearsal—Grantham
<b>2025</b>	
11-13 April	National Rally—Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre
<b>2026</b>	
4th-8th August	22nd International Symposium - Gateshead
* NB: Meeting this month on the third Sunday.	

# "Look to the Future"



## The 22nd International Handbell Symposium The Sage International Conference Centre Newcastle/Gateshead Quays

The venue is a new and exciting Project under construction in the North East and is due to open in 2024/25

Tuesday 4th  
to  
Saturday 8th  
August 2026

The Sage will be a place like no other. Comprising spaces for entertainment, live events, dining, relaxing and connecting, it will bring people, communities, culture and businesses together - and all with that famous Geordie warmth and welcome.

The Planning team under the leadership of Martin Winter will be issuing progress reports and anyone wishing to join the group should contact him at [symposium26@hrgb.org.uk](mailto:symposium26@hrgb.org.uk)



**PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING AS IT IS A ONCE IN A 16 YEAR HOME EVENT**

The Sage Gateshead

## Anniversary Bears at Lincoln Cathedral





# Mini Regional Round-up

**T**eams from Grantham Town, Stanwick and Loughborough All Saints gathered for an Autumn Rally at Seagrave in October. They were joined by three independent ringers and two conductors, and an excellent day was enjoyed by all. It was the first time that All Saints had attended an EM rally and we look forward to seeing them again on future occasions. Our rallies give the opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new ones, while sharing a joint love of handbell ringing. Please come along and join us!



Grantham Town Hand Bell Ringers

The East Midlands Regional Team continues to meet once a month in Grantham. Our rehearsal time has recently been extended by an hour and this has proved to be a great confidence booster to members. Our repertoire is challenging but very rewarding. New members are always welcome. Tea and cakes are the order of the day!

An East Midlands Team sub-committee has recently been established. This helps to ensure that roles are clearly defined and practices are well organized. We look forward positively to 2024.

# WORD SEARCH



N	L	C	W	A	R	S	A	W	O	C	S	O	M	O
O	I	T	O	S	C	E	B	N	O	D	N	O	L	E
B	L	C	E	P	S	A	D	E	B	T	I	V	R	E
S	S	O	O	N	E	U	N	I	I	D	T	O	A	M
I	U	A	A	S	D	N	R	B	T	J	P	A	A	O
L	N	W	N	N	I	M	H	S	E	A	I	M	W	A
O	S	A	A	S	I	A	E	A	G	R	S	N	B	A
G	G	L	N	N	A	R	T	N	G	T	R	E	G	T
P	L	A	G	O	A	L	I	S	E	E	R	A	E	A
T	R	H	I	H	L	S	V	R	E	D	N	H	H	T
E	A	A	C	T	D	E	D	A	E	P	E	C	V	H
M	I	U	G	E	N	A	C	E	D	R	A	I	T	E
I	B	E	E	U	M	A	N	R	A	O	E	D	S	N
O	F	L	T	H	E	E	S	N	A	N	R	P	U	S
L	H	E	L	S	I	N	K	I	A	B	A	I	N	B

## TOWNS AND CITIES OF THE WORLD

ATHENS MOSCOW, WARSAW, LONDON, CANBERRA,  
 SWANSEA, BIRMINGHAM, BUCHAREST, LEEDS,  
 SINGAPORE, AMSTERDAM, TEHERAN, VIENNA, BUDAPEST,  
 COPENHAGEN, SEOUL, SANTIAGO, BARCELONA, OTTAWA,  
 LISBON, NICOSIA, SAN SALVADOR, PRAGUE, HELSINKI,



## The Regional Team



John  
Atkinson  
MD

The Team usually meets on the fourth Sunday in the month at ChristChurch, Finkin Street, Grantham from 1.00 pm. New members are always welcome.

Please contact Marie Allen for details  
See inside front cover.

Dates of Rehearsals are to be found on page 8 Regional Diary'.

## ISABELLA RIPPIN'S CHUTNEY



Put the first four items through the mincer, and then mix all the ingredients thoroughly in a preserving pan (**NOT** aluminium). Boil for approximately 2 hours, until the liquid



has reduced to leave a suitable consistency.

Bottle in warmed jars and cover securely

This is my grandmother's recipe, and the chutney is such a tremendous favourite with all my family that I never make less than treble the above quantities each time.

### INGREDIENTS

- 1lb cooking apples
- 1lb onions
- 1lb green tomatoes
- 6 oz. raisins or sultanas
- 1lb brown sugar
- 1 pint of vinegar
- 1 tablespoonful salt
- 1 teaspoonful pepper
- 1 teaspoonful mustard

Recipe from "The Grantham Book of Recipes"  
by kind permission of Mary Pointer, Bygone  
Publications



# From The Editor



**I**t seems a long while ago that the first edition, under my editorship of the branch Newsletter was published.

At times, a struggle to find copy, but, nonetheless, it has been a most enjoyable experience.

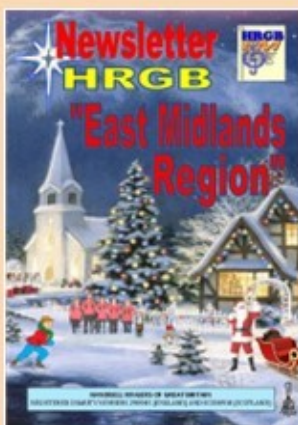
Sadly I must announce that I am standing down as editor and that this will be my last edition under my blue pen.

I would like to thank:

- Mike Johnson, as Chair during this period; for his expertise at proof reading, and his guidance.
- For the members of the Committee without whose help and contributions we would probably not had a Newsletter some years.
- All those who contributed over the years and provided copy and photographs.

Ill health has become a reality which is one of the reasons I feel I should stand down but that a younger person should take over the editorship, if the Region is to flourish.

Many thanks. Best Wishes



# NEC MEETING

Saturday 30th September 2023 by Zoom

Extract of the minutes of the meeting.

1. **Attendance:** 21 members under the Chair of Keith Rowland
2. **Apologies:** 4 members sent apologies
3. **Minutes** of the last meeting were accepted.

## 4. Regional Matters

Eight regions reported on events in their region including **East Midlands** who said that:

A rally was planned in October at Seagrave

A new team was registered at Edwinstowe.

Nicola Wright had started a new team at Stanton by Bridge.

Judy Gees' two school teams continued to thrive

Tegwen Manton had bequested her bells to the East Midlands Region and paperwork was in hand to formally take ownership.

## 5 Future Events

- i) **National Rally** at Swanwick, 5-7 April 24  
Booking forms have been issued.
- ii) **National Rally** 11-13 April 25 at Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Contracts are being circulated.
- iii) **National Skills Day** Swindon (SE)
- iv) **National Diamond Jubilee**  
**West Midlands Region** Representative reported that their region did not have sufficient members to organize such an event. EM offered support.
- v) Virtual events: See report on page 18
- vi) **International Events**
  - ◆ 21st International Symposium 2024  
29 members registered to go
  - ◆ 22nd International Symposium 2026

See page 11

## 6. **Past Events**

- **National Residential Week** August 2023  
Event popular and well attended. Insurance discussed as a bell was damaged. Balens have withdrawn from insuring bells.

## 7. **Money Matters**

An examiner of accounts needs to be found—it is estimated that there will be a significant increase in fees Public Liability Insurance to be examined.

8 **Bequest** from the estate of Nick Ottmann. SE Region to decide on use of the £2000 and the family to be kept informed.

## 8a **Education Group**

Members reminded of the Vaughan Evans Fund available for funding students to national events.

9 **Musical Directors Report** - differed to January 2024.

## 10 **Charity Commission** Update

Attention had been drawn to several videos which the Commission was encouraging Trustees to watch.

## 11 **Officers Reports**

- \* **Membership** - Current membership, 1840.
- \* **Sales** -Ticking over nicely.
- \* **Reverberations** - Young Vibrations section reinstated.
- \* **Social Media** - Regions thanked for sharing Facebook page.
- \* **Archives** - No additional news
- \* **WHMF** - 2 Octaves of Malmark bells and 3 of chimes available to lease.
- \* **Correspondence**: 54 messages received since last meeting and dealt with.



# Webinars



We must be thankful that some good came out of the Covid lockdown. One such example is the use of Zoom and of Webinars. The following have been successfully delivered for the benefit of members:

## A) You've arranged some music - now what?

Presented by Malcolm Wilson and John Willis.

Tuesday 19th September 2023. 16 members attended

Mainly a Webinar for composers and arrangers but non the less of interest to ringing members. The presenters were able, step by step, to lead us through the maze of jargon and that ever

present thorn in every teams side, Copyright. All aspects were covered on arranging and composing either for your own team or for publication.



present thorn in every teams side, Copyright. All aspects were covered on arranging and composing either for your own team or for publication.

## B) Building Brains by Bellingring; the Neuroscience of Music Learning

Presented by Katrina Gordon

Wednesday 18th October 2023

A fascinating talk on how the practice of music and hand bell ringing changes the brain throughout life. Perhaps, something we already knew, is that the more you practice the more benefit that is achieved.

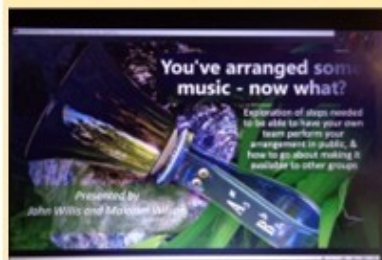
Well worth watching on HRGB website.



**NB: The Webinars are available on the HRGB Website in the Members Section.**

BB

# HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING?



HRGB's November 2023 webinar on Concert/ Performance Planning was presented by Aidan Fozard and Malcolm Wilson, with the maxim "fail to prepare, prepare to fail".

Are you organising your own concert or are you the invited performers, is there a theme requiring appropriate choices of music, can your team be accommodated comfortably for the performance, easy access to the building for all the accumulated baggage of a handbell team, the list goes on.

Handbell music publishers can be found on the internet. On some sites you can listen to your choice before you buy. Other websites for anniversaries/days of the year, eg 2024 is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Music chosen, lots of practice for your ringers to be proficient and being sure to make notes of your conductor's instructions.

Ideas for encouraging the audience to have-a-go, then having finished ringing how about changing that bow to a Mexican one. Before packing up leave time for audience members who want to chat and have a closer look at your instruments.

The presentation slides and a recording of this presentation are on HRGB's website [www.handbells.org.uk](http://www.handbells.org.uk), as are the other two of this autumn's webinars Building Brains by Bellingring: the Neuroscience of Music Learning in October (Katrina Gordon), and Publishing Music Arrangements in September (John Willis and Malcolm Wilson). See also Reverberations, autumn/winter 2023, pp20/21.

These informative webinars are FREE and available in the COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME, via computer, mobile phone, or even your landline.

Sandra Cox Stanwick HR



# FROM THE ARCHIVES



## Rally at Grantham 2008



Disclaimer

Views expressed in the articles in this magazine are not necessarily the views of the editor or the committee.