

# Church News

## News from The Belfry

February 2014 had its ups and downs. At the beginning of the month I returned home and resumed ringing at St. Peter's. This gave me the opportunity to ring one of the "Methods of the Month". Let me explain! This year our Tower Captain has produced a practice night ringing plan. Every month there are two methods to learn, one for the experienced ringers and the other for those less experienced. Reverse Canterbury Doubles is in the latter category. Doubles indicates there are five working bells changing places with each other. At St. Peter's this was rung on six bells, the tenor, the heaviest bell is always rung in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Whilst every bell is tuned to a musical note bell ringers use a diagram, see illustration that shows the first ten changes, to learn the method.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	3	4	5	6
2	3	1	5	4	6
3	2	5	1	4	6
3	5	2	4	1	6
5	3	4	2	1	6
5	4	3	1	2	6
4	5	1	3	2	6
4	1	5	2	3	6
1	4	5	2	3	6
1	4	2	5	3	6

The first lines of Reverse Canterbury Doubles. Note the Tenor (No 6) does not change place.

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February four ringers from St. Peter's were joined by Jim from Inworth and Christine from Tollesbury and attempted to ring a Quarter Peal. This comprises 1260 changes and takes about forty-five minutes to ring on the bells at St. Peter's. Unfortunately the attempt failed after about thirty minutes. Still we can always try again!

Nine members of the band attended our AGM on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. There was no change to the elected officers. We took the opportunity to arrange our social events for the forthcoming year. The first is a tower outing on 26<sup>th</sup> April. We also noted in our diaries ringing on St. George's Day and for the St. Peter's Flower Festival over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend.

Are you interested in learning to ring the bells at St Peter's? Contact our Tower Captain Janice Spalding Tel: 01621 892197. You are also welcome to visit on our Friday practice night at 20.00hrs.

Website <http://greattothambellringers.org.uk/>

*Andrew Hood*