

Subject: SACR Newsletter :: Scottish Association of Change Ringers
From: "Martin Mellor, SACR Publicity" <Publicity@sacr.org>
Date: 04/04/2022, 21:48
To: Members <Members@sacr.org>

Dear Members

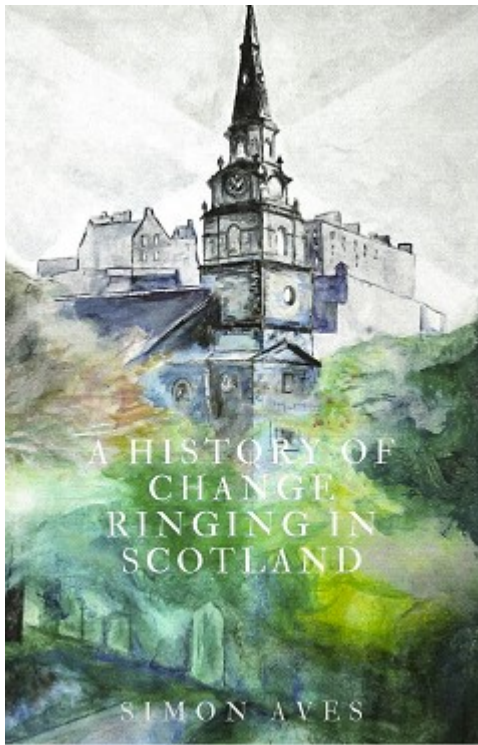
Next month is the **SACR Striking Competition in Aberdeen**. It will take place on Saturday 21 May along with the SACR AGM. Please would you start thinking about your band for the Striking Competition and Ruth know at master@sacr.org by **30 April** if you will be entering a team. Thank you.

Upcoming events

On BBC Sounds :: BBC Radio Scotland's show Sunday Morning has a feature about bellringing in Scotland, looking at the Haddington ringing course, which Sally Thomas ran this spring over six weekends for new ringers. The piece also discusses the history of change ringing in Scotland with Simon Aves. Catch it on BBC Sounds via <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m00161gy> (the feature starts 1:28 mins into the programme).



Thu 14 Apr :: Fun With Bells podcast :: April's podcast is a focus on SACR in which Cathy Booth interviews Simon Aves on the history of the association and change ringing in Scotland. It will be available online from 14 Apr onwards. funwithbells.com. Simon has made his book available as an e-book via [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) (no print copies are available).



Sat 23 April :: 90th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of SACR, which took place on 23 Apr 1932 at St Mary's, Edinburgh.

Fri 29 April :: Advanced Practice :: Glasgow, 7.30pm-9pm. As usual, please let Ruth (master@sacr.org) know if you plan to attend. Focus methods are Yorkshire, Bristol & Cambridge Royal.

Sat 7 May :: Scottish Handbell Day :: Simon Gay is planning a handbell day on Saturday 7th May at 1 Albany Quadrant, Glasgow.

The format will be a mixture of practice sessions and quarter peals, as we have done in the past. Please feel free to pass the invitation on to anyone who you think might be interested, especially if you are doing any regular handbell ringing with people who have started recently. The only condition is that we are not planning to cater for complete beginners, so anyone who comes needs to be able to ring Plain Bob Minor already.

So, please could you do the following:

1. Tell me whether or not you are going to come.
If you are coming:
2. Tell me what you would like to ring a quarter of.
3. Tell me what you would like to practise.
4. If you think I don't already know, tell me what you can ring confidently.
5. Tell me whether you can bring a set of bells.

All of that goes for conducting too; maybe some people would like to try calling new things.
Simon Gay (for more details, please email Simon.Gay@glasgow.ac.uk)

Sat 21 May :: May meeting in Aberdeen: AGM & Striking Competition :: Aberdeen will be hosting

our next big meeting, where we will have the AGM and striking competition along with some handbell ringing. Please put the date in your diary. And please see above re. entering a band: Ruth (master@sacr.org) would like to know details by 30 April.

Fri 27 May :: Advanced Practice :: St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh (provisional venue), 7.30pm-9pm. As usual, please let Ruth (master@sacr.org) know if you plan to attend. Both venue and focus methods to be confirmed.

Fri 3 Jun :: Queen's Platinum Jubilee :: There's to be a service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, London, with a suggestion for a collective ringing session. Time to be confirmed but it's likely to be the morning (this and other info at <https://cccbr.org.uk/2022/01/12/hm-queens-jubilee>).



Fri 29 – Sun 31 Jul :: Inveraray Ringing Festival :: More details to follow nearer the time.

Sat 22 Oct :: October meeting :: location to be confirmed

News

SACR training day in March at Tulloch Ringing Centre

A few thoughts on being a trainee, from Irene Drummond.

I am one of the ringers from Glasgow St Mary's tower. I thoroughly enjoyed the training day on Saturday 12 March. Tulloch Ringing Centre is an excellent training venue and creates a unique learning platform, allowing various levels of bell ringers to meet together and share knowledge, skills and experience. I was learning to ring up and ring down and also the theory of call changes... and there were lots of practice opportunities... I feel I made good progress. I am very grateful to the organisers and teachers for sharing their breadth of knowledge... and for their patient and encouraging approach.

A few thoughts on being a helper, from Margaret Williams.

The training day was a long day with a very early start from home, but fortunately I was offered a lift for part of the journey which made it much less tiring. The situation at Tulloch means that both rings of bells can be rung all day if necessary, although the lighter bells in the Last Tower were challenging for some people. There were sessions on bell-handling, some simple doubles and minor methods and Stedman Triples. At the end of the day we also practised some call changes on the back ten of the twelve.

Prior to the training day the students had indicated what they would like to learn and they were put in to groups to accommodate their wishes as far as possible. They were given talks by a tutor on the theory of the method they were learning. The role of the helpers is to give advice, but

mainly to ring methods competently so that the students have a good chance to see where they should be ringing, who they should be following, and put the theory into practice. If there are plenty of helpers it means that there is only one student in each band, making learning much easier. By the end of a long day's ringing it is quite an effort to keep ringing perfectly but the helpers all did their best. At least this year it rained all day so that no-one was tempted to leave their post to wander off and talk to the chickens!

This was an enjoyable day meeting with some SACR members whom I had not seen in person for two years. Most importantly from the comments I heard it proved valuable for the students and I hope that they are now able to put their new-found skills into practice in their home towers.

Sunday service ringing :: Congratulations to Alex Linton, who has starting ringing on Sundays. Alex reported on [facebook](#): "A bit nerve racking but extremely enjoyable. First at The Parish Church of St. Cuthbert, Edinburgh City Centre with some Call Changes on the Front 6, then onwards to St Andrew's and St George's West Edinburgh for some ringing on 7 (missing out the 2nd). Lovely weather for it too!"

6060 changes :: Happy Birthday, Sue! <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1502726>



Inveraray maintenance weekend :: A whole weekend of sunshine & hard work ... fabulous weather for some maintenance.



Bells on Sunday: Call for recordings :: Here are some details about how to make a good recording of bells, and a request for submissions for broadcast on Radio 4's Bells on Sunday.

<https://ccbr.org.uk/2022/01/28/bells-on-sunday-guide-to-making-a-recording/>

Anniversary dates

- **Sat 23 April** :: 90th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of SACR, St Mary's, Edinburgh
- **Sat 4 June** :: 90th anniversary of the first SACR peal at St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh
<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1230062>
- **Sun 12 June** :: 90th anniversary of the first SACR handbell peal at 66 Hillhead Street, Glasgow
<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1230063>
- "Scottish Association Formed: National gathering at Edinburgh ... The inaugural meeting of the Scottish Association of Change Ringers was held in Edinburgh on Saturday, April 23rd, when between 40 and 50 ringers were present from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Paisley, Alloa and Leith ..." From *The Ringing World*, 13 May 1932 (<http://ccabr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/rw1932.pdf>):



Social media

For up to date info on social media:

<https://www.sacr.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/scottishbellringing>

<https://twitter.com/SBellringing>

@SBellringing

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bellringers>

The SACR Committee
