

Subject: SACR Newsletter :: Scottish Association of Change Ringers
From: "Martin Mellor, SACR Publicity" <Publicity@sacr.org>
Date: 03/05/2022, 13:12
To: Members <Members@sacr.org>

Dear Members

Upcoming events

Sat 7 May :: Scottish Handbell Day :: If interested and you haven't yet got in touch, email Simon.Gay@glasgow.ac.uk to check that there's still space on the day.

There's been some pretty active and impressive hand-bell ringing by SACR of late (https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/search.php?association_id=35), including the 250th quarter at Albany Quadrant: <https://www.handbellringing.co.uk/blog/250-quarters-at-1-albany-quadrant>

Sat 21 May :: May meeting in Aberdeen: AGM & Striking Competition :: As previously announced, there will be a proper ringers tea at the AGM, i.e. food as well as tea/coffee, which will be held in the church hall in Dunbar Street along with the business meeting. Please send names for tea to Ruth Ogilvie at aberdeen@sacr.org

Timetable

12.00 - open ringing for those who wish to try the bells

13.00 - striking competition draw

13.15 - striking competition in the tower, and handbells and tea/coffee available in the church gatehouse

16.30 - AGM, results of the striking competition **and ringers tea**

18.00 - 19.00 - open ringing for those who wish to stay

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

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 still 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>). <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=14297>



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

September :: Doors Open Days take place in Scotland in September. The national theme is following VisitScotland's "Year of Stories" and the European Heritage Days theme is

“sustainability”. Perhaps there might be opportunities for tower open days around these dates and themes in September? Here’s a link to show provisional dates for your area: <https://www.doorsopendays.org.uk/2022-weekends/>

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

News

Happy Birthday To Us! :: 23 April was the 90th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of SACR, and our healthy Association saw a wide range of ringing over the weekend: a women's development day, quarter peals both in hand and in towers, peals in hand, and the usual Sunday service ringing across Scotland. Plus a mention on "What's Hot on BellBoard" (*The Ringing World*, 5792, p.384). And congratulations to Ruth Ellis on her first QP.

Here's a link to a bellboard page of performances, with more likely to following in a few weeks when the anniversaries of the first peals come up: <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=14724>.

Development Day :: Inveraray :: There was a development day on heavy bells for some of our SACR women on 23 April in Inveraray. Abundant positivity, embracing of challenges, good ringing and company, plus sunshine and plenty of whisky. Not a bad way to spend the 90th birthday of the SACR.



The Highlands :: 21 April was an exciting day in the Highlands with a variety of ringing, both at Balnaferry Campanile and at Inverness Cathedral... It was the first time for many months that 10 bells were heard from the most northerly tower in the world. <http://facebook.com/scottishbellringing/posts/1406364816473767>

Haddington Ringing Course :: This six-week ringing course was very successful, and with so many new recruits the Friday practice has been extended by an hour and now starts at 6.30 for bell handling and rounds. The photo shows some of the new recruits and the tutors outside St Mary's Haddington after the final session of the course. An article has been submitted to the Ringing World which we hope will be published soon. The article sets out some of the learning from the course which we hope other towers may find useful when thinking about recruitment. There will also be more information at the SACR AGM.

Sally Thomas



BBC Radio Scotland's show Sunday Morning broadcast a feature about bellringing in Scotland, looking in particular at the Haddington ringing course. Catch it on BBC Sounds via <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m00161gv> (the feature starts 1hr 28mins into the programme).

Fun with Bells podcast :: History of change ringing in Scotland :: April's podcast focused on the history of the association and change ringing in Scotland, with Simon Aves in the hot seat. It's available online at <https://funwithbells.com/simonaves>. Simon's book is available as an e-book via [Amazon](#) (no print copies are available).

Host Cathy Booth writes: In this month's episode of the Fun with Bells podcast, Simon Aves takes me on an entertaining romp through Scotland's bell ringing history, which is very different from England's.

Who knew the Scots were so fond of peace and quiet? Cathy learns that in the past the best way to annoy people in Dundee was to travel up there and ring all their bells. And beware of the constable waiting at the bottom of the tower to arrest you for that very noisy peal you just rang. Or worse still, the constable might well follow you to the pub and then ban you from ringing, perish the thought!

Of course, all of this is history - very colourful history and brilliantly told at that. First bells, first peals, first women ringers, colourful characters, court cases and ringers being sick after their eight pints, this podcast episode has it all.



Call for photographs of your church and bells :: As we enter the spring and summer this could be a good time to capture some colourful photos in and around your tower. It would be good to have a selection of photos available for use by the media (we sometimes have requests for photos from the press), etc. If you have any suitable photos, or fancy taking some fresh ones, please email publicity@sacr.org.

Of course, if there are any identifiable individuals in photos, please ensure they are happy for you to take the photos. And please also include a description for each photo, and a longer caption with more detailed info where relevant.

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
