



The
University
Of
Sheffield.



Sheffield
Hallam University

SHARPENS YOUR THINKING

Newsletter January 2012

Sheffield Universities' Guild of Change Ringers

Web: <http://sugcr.union.shef.ac.uk/> **Email:** SUGCR@sheffield.ac.uk

NOTES FROM A PRESIDENT: Sue Burchell

Another year, another newsletter – it seems to come round so quickly! I hope you've all had a good year.

Have you seen the recent television programmes on bells and ringing? I have still to watch the musical one (the recording is waiting for when I have a spare moment) but very much enjoyed "Still ringing after all these years". As ringers, we have an amazing heritage. There are about 40,000 of us, we were told. That sounds a lot but compared to the total population, it's not actually that much. Many towers struggle to keep a regular band. In the Banbury area, we are trying to find more ways to encourage young ringers. It's really incumbent on all of us to teach new recruits to keep 'the exercise' going. After all, we were all new recruits at one stage and others gave their time to teach us. I know that people are very busy these days but we should try to spare some time to help learners.

This is my last letter as President. My term of office ends at the 2012 dinner. I have enjoyed the five years as president. At the start, I tried to join in as many tours and outings as I could particularly in the 50th anniversary year but over the last two years my spare time has been limited and I have not been able to take an active part in Guild activities (apart from the dinner). I'd like to thank the Committees that I've worked with (actually, they did most of the work – I just turned up occasionally). It's great that the Guild keeps going, despite a fall in student membership. It's great that so many alumni support the dinner.

So, we're on the lookout for a new president. Please get your nominations to Helen or Emily as soon as possible. And please consider whether you'd like to stand as president. The job can be what you make it. The main requirement is to preside at the annual dinner. You also provide a link with alumni and it's good to be on hand at the end of a phone-line or fibre-optical cable for any queries. If you can be more hands-on so much the better.

I look forward to seeing many of you at this year's dinner. Best wishes for 2012.

Sue Burchell

PEOPLE NEWS

Who are we? – “The Committee” 2011 – 2012

President: Sue Birchell

Chair: Helen Scarf, Medicine, University of Sheffield

Secretary & Inclusion Officer: Emily Mellor, Paediatric Nursing, Sheffield Hallam University

Ringin Master and Treasurer: Tom Lovering, Medicine, University of Sheffield

Webpage: Stuart Wrigley, University of Sheffield (staff)

Newsletter & Alumni Communications: Gill Codd

New members

Three new members this term:

Jonathon Williams

Tim Woodliffe

Sarah Lund

INTRO TOUR 2011... Helen Scarf

On the 12th November we headed out to the Worksop area, Claire's new home, for our Fresher's Tour. Like last year we hired a mini bus, however this year we made an advanced decision not to take any unplanned short cuts!

First stop was Worksop St Anne's- Vicky dropped us off so she could head to B&Q to buy a tap as Worksop was the only place that had any in stock - what a coincidence! Whilst ringing we noticed that many of the ropes were short and lots of us required boxes for the first time years!

Worksop Priory was next. Yet again, short ropes! Not only were we standing on three boxes at a time, the possibility of falling through them was very high! They must have thought we were good though because they asked if we would come back to ring for their Christmas fayre.

Next tower was Edwinstowe, we had a slight problem in the car par- firstly getting in, but more difficult- getting out without hitting any other cars- it took a 30 point turn! We did however find a very nice little chocolate shop next to the church.

Then came lunch at Forest Lodge, a recommendation by Claire as she supplies beer to them. Lunch was enjoyed by all and we all left feeling very full. The first tower after lunch was Creswell- we didn't need to ask which bell was which as the numbers were printed onto the ceiling, something not many of us have seen before. Last tower of the day was Cuckney, a 6 bell tower, but we could only ring 5 due to a broken wheel.

Everyone enjoyed the day even without so much mini- bus drama as last year!

GUILD EVENTS COMING UP SOON.....

The 53rd Dinner – February 18th 2012:

The 53rd annual dinner will be held on 18 February 2012 at [Whirlowbrook Hall](#). A booking form ([pdf](#) or [doc](#)) is available – if the links do not work please see the form at the end of this newsletter; the closing date for booking forms is Friday 20th January 2012.

Date: 18th February 2012
Time: 19.00 for 19.30
Venue: Whirlowbrook Hall, Sheffield
Price: £39 (£37 for students)

MENU

Prawn Cocktail with Smoked Paprika dressing
or
Humous Fritters with Tomato Jam (V)

-----oOo-----

Amuse Bouche

-----oOo-----

Roast Loin of Pork served with Creamed Potato and Bramley Apple Compote
or
Spinach and Mascarpone Tart with Sun Blushed Tomato Relish (V)

-----oOo-----

Classic Bakewell Tart with Clotted Cream

-----oOo-----

Followed by Tea or Coffee and Mints

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR Gill Codd

Twenty-Two is finally here. The year has been in people's minds for many years, thanks to the winning bid of the London Olympic Committee back in July 2005 – or perhaps the predicted doom suggested by the end of the Mayan Long Count Calendar. On a personal note 2012 is the year of my wedding; I can no longer postpone writing the guest list, designing the invites, and deciding on cake decorations. The time is now!

Last night at ringing practice, Elaine told me that ringers are inherently lazy individuals. Feeling somewhat offended on behalf of my fellow enthusiasts I looked at her questioningly. She went on to explain that ringers will only learn exactly what they need, and will make use, where possible, of what they already know. The example last night was an explanation of St Clements, based on what I already knew about Bob Minor. The more I thought about it, the more it made sense. Although perhaps “efficient” would be preferable to lazy 😊. Without thinking, I have been using this skill for planning my wedding too, making use of the experience of planning and organising the annual Ringers' Dinner when I was on the committee. Experience tells me to never ask people where they would LIKE to sit unless you are in need of a complex logic puzzle; if there are flowers on top of the cake, it's usually hiding something underneath; and finally – the speeches should never last longer than the dancing.

As Sue mentions, the President role is really what you make of it. This prompts me to think about my own role. I would like to make something more of my own role as Newsletter Editor. The amount of content which comes through to me is becoming smaller and smaller each year, and I am never sure how many people really read these letters. I would like to see more use of technology to aid the communication within the Guild. We have a great website, and need to point people to it more often as well as keeping it up to date. As an alumnus it's great to see photos of events from all eras over the year, and to hear news of marriages, babies, and other big events. I will endeavour to work with Stu – the web page owner, the new president once elected and the current committee to make these things happen.

And so, I wish everyone a happy New Year, and hope to see you all at the Dinner in February.

Gill Codd

Missing Members!!!

Do you know any members who do not receive the newsletter? Or keep up to date with SUGCR? Please send an email or postal addresses to GillCodd@yahoo.co.uk so I can add them to the distribution list.

Presidential Elections

Nominations should be sent to sugcr@shef.ac.uk or:

Include them with your Dinner ticket order form

The closing date is the 18th February 2012.

General rules for nominations and voting:

1. Nominees, proposers and seconders must be past student members of SUGCR.
2. Only past student members of SUGCR in attendance of the 2012 Annual Dinner may vote (no postal votes).

Nominations should be sent in the form of the following text:

SUGCR Presidential Election 2012

Nominee.....

Proposer.....

Secunder.....

SUGCR Annual Dinner 2012 Ticket Booking Form

Saturday 18th February

Whirlowbrook Hall, Whirlowbrook Park, Ecclesall Road South, Sheffield
S11 9QD



Ticket prices:

Non-students: £39

Students: £37

Number of tickets required:

Meat _____

Vegetarian _____

Names for each ticket:

1. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____
2. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____
3. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____
4. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____
5. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____
6. Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other (_____) _____

Email address to send confirmatory email:

Contact telephone number: _____

Names of people with whom you would like to sit **if possible**:

(Tables are for 12 people. Please let us know if you would like to reserve an entire table)

Dietary requirements: _____

Once completed, please return this form with a cheque payable to “**University of Sheffield Union of Students**” with your **name and address written on the back** to:

Emily Mellor: 28 Wadbrough Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire. S11 8RG

The closing date for booking forms is **Friday 20th January 2012**