

LOOK TO!

ISSUE 171

March 2026



St Catherine's, Pontypridd
Newsletter of the Llandaff Branch of the L&M DACBR

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Newsletter submission

The deadline for the next edition is **15th JUNE 2025**

Front Cover

This month's cover photo was taken by **Pontypridd Ministry / area**

Contact details

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2026, Llandaff Branch of the Llandaff and Monmouth DACBR

Branch Officers

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|
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EDITORIAL

Well to start this year off... where has the time gone? It is beyond me how we are already in March. 2026 it's a big year for me personally. It's my final year in school being the class of 2026 after 15 years, this is going to be a big change. This year is the last year that I will be able to enter the Ringing World National Youth Competition and the hardest part for me to process is that I am turning 18! On the plus side when we have any ringing outings or AGMs at least if we have a pit stop at the pub, I have the option to drink more than just a pint of coke. But as the saying goes, when one door closes another one opens. So, after a lot of debating and coin flips, I have decided that in September I will be starting my next adventure of university life.

On a ringing note, I can now say I have been to my first Branch AGM and it was very interesting. For those who were not at the AGM to put it into perspective I liked to think of it like a typical day in parliament. The main difference is we were actually able to get something done. Since I took on this role it's fun to see which towers I need to chase up. The downfall to that is the only tower who has been running late each time is my own tower because I keep forgetting to remind them. Its amazed me to think that I took on this role a year ago now and this is my fifth edition. As you can see the next edition will be slightly late, due to my exams. Anyway, happy Saint Davids Day to you all and 'Canu Hapus'

Rhys Fairchild

Chairmans Quarterly Chat

I hope this finds you all well and ready for the better weather, if it will ever stop raining! But hopefully your towers have survived during this fairly unprecedented period of storms and rain. I was even myself up amongst some bells this afternoon and was surprised how little water ingress there was.

Andy Lingard

Safeguarding Forms

I have been asked by the Association to include the safeguarding forms. It is highly encouraged by the church of Wales that all of us complete the modules especially if you are teaching new ringers. Please view the forms/ modules and explain the importance of safeguarding. <https://llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk/en/ministry-area-support/safeguarding/>

Welcome The Ringing Master

At our Branch AGM on 7th February 2026 at Pontypridd, we said very many thanks to Peter Giles for his 6 years in the Masters chair and I was elected as the new Ringing Master. First, a big thank you to Peter for running the ringing and introducing various new initiatives each month to keep us all interested and engaged.

Expect more of the same! I also want to ring methods each month to complement some of the things you've hopefully been ringing in your own towers. So, if for example, you've been battling and starting to master plain bob doubles, ask your tower captain for the line of St Simon's Doubles and we'll try and ring that with you. I'm also aware that the more experienced ringers need support as well. Many of them have been patiently teaching bands plain bob doubles for a number of years, so to them, please have a revise of Superlative Surprise. Unless the most experienced ringers also progress, then the aspiring plain bob ringers will have nowhere to aspire to!

Our next Branch Practice is on Friday 6th March 19.30 - 21.00 at Merthyr Tydfil. I hope to see many of you there when I'll arrange ringing to try and suit everyone who comes along. So we'll be hopefully ringing some plain hunt on 7 and PB triples as well. Of course, it's always useful to know of any ringing requests in advance so do get in touch.

Look forward to meeting you.

Chris Kipling

The Bells of St. Catherine's, Pontypridd

Rising to 162 feet, the stone tower with slate spire, originally housed tubular bells (chimes). The Church having been built in 1867 to meet the needs of a massive increase in population arising from the Industrial Revolution, benefitted, as the town prospered. The bells were replaced in 1913 by a ring of 8, cast by John Taylor of Loughborough, the spire having been strengthened to contain them. The bells were hung in an H frame with plain bearings and Hastings stays.

On November 4th 1913 the Bells were dedicated by The Lord Bishop of Llandaff; the Rector of Caerphilly carrying his pastoral staff and the Vicar, Rev. T.P. Griffiths MA. accompanying him, the service, according to the archives, having been "intoned by the Rev, T.C. Phillips.'

At the conclusion of the Service, at which John Taylor was present, the bells struck out merrily.' Celebration followed with Rounds, Queens and Firing. A right royal salute! These were the days of polite society and genteel speech, Tea was partaken, at a restaurant in the town,' hosted and paid for by the Vicar and Churchwardens. They did after all, have their names inscribed on one side of the Tenor. The celebrations continued into the evening, "Various touches in the Standard Methods were rung, with Mr. J.W. Taylor, the Founder, taking part.' What a party it must have been! Fred Thyler the Tower Captain continued for a total of 66 years, finally retiring when his eyesight failed at the age of 89 in the 1970s. The 8 bells cast by Taylors were paid for by Hopkin Morgan, a prosperous Businessman, Councillor and JP of the district. He lived in Bronwydd, the biggest house in the town, just a stone's throw away from the Church. Despite being a Nonconformist, he was persuaded by the Vicar to finance the project, and his donation was made in the true Christian Spirit. The gifted bells were dedicated to Hopkin Morgan's parents, as inscribed on the Tenor.

The ring of 8 is set in the key of F# Major, which necessitates only one natural note, that being B, all others are sharp: F# E# D# C# B A# G# F#.

As reflects early 20th Century Pontypridd, all 8 bells are inscribed in Welsh.

Later, an Ellacombe system was added to the bell tower and has proved invaluable through the decades, enabling the bells to be chimed for Services and Weddings when there has been a shortage of ringers.

Repairs were undertaken in 1982 when the headstocks and bearings were returned to Taylor's, the parts being lowered dramatically through the trap door in the floor of the ringing chamber and thus into the porch below for transport to Loughborough.

The first peal, Grandsire Triples, was rung on November 27th, 1913, taking 2hrs, and 57 minutes.

Of the 170 Peals recorded, all worthy of note, some stand out: - In 1977, during the late Queen's Silver Jubilee Year, is Sardis Rd. (Pontypridd Rugby ground) Surprise Major and, 20 years later the delightfully named, Pontypridd Surprise Major, a fitting tribute to the Queen, St. Catherine's bells and our National Sport. The first peal in the method was rung on Mon De 2amd 1997 in 2hrs and 44minutes. The names of the band have a ring of familiarity about them.

Perhaps most surprisingly of all we find Neil Jenkins (of Pontypridd) Surprise Major listed in 2001, the year he went to Australia with the Lions Tour and also the year he played his last game of International Rugby.

Cheryl Lavington (previous edition of the Look To! Issue 162)

News From Around the Branch

Pen-Y-Fai

We are ringing for the Sunday services when we can and the congregation have said how good it is to hear the bells as they walk up the path !

We have some more scouts learning to ring, hoping they will stay as some of the others did ! Thomas is an asset for our tower, he is a brilliant teacher and he is trying to teach the old foggies but they are not responding very well !!

Trisha Owen

Llantrisant

Bell Restoration Almost There!

Work continued to complete the restoration throughout November and December last year with the ringing chamber walls and ceiling painted. The Peal boards and existing Ellacombe framework were removed and restored and final preparations made for the delivery and installation of the steel grillage and frame.

The steelwork arrived in mid-February and within three days thanks to our team of volunteers under the of guidance of Chris Cozens from Nicholsons the steels were lifted and fitted into the tower in preparation for our building contractor (JWB) to concrete the frame pockets



Bell delivery is planned for the end of February with a service of rededication on Sunday March 1st with the frame and rehanging to be completed during the first two weeks of March.

Easter Sunday will herald the return of the sound of bells at Llantrisant after 15 years!

Hand Bells

Hand bell ringing continued throughout the festive season with performances at carol services within the Ministry area with several talks and demonstrations planned for 2026

Nigel Bosanko

Cowbridge

Hello from Cowbridge, Llanblethian and St. Hilary,
The Christmas ringing, which is always a little bit special, had our ringers at full stretch. There were 9 sessions of ringing between 21st and 28th December, covering both Eucharist and Carol Services. On the 21st all the bells of Cowbridge, Llanblethian, St. Hilary and St. Mary Hill rang out in celebration. On the 4 bells of St. Mary Hill we rang Canterbury Place Minimus (well 3 of them did, not sure what the treble was doing but apparently I did start and finish in the right place). Minimus methods canter along at such a pace it's easier to bury mistakes. Sorry, I couldn't resist!

Whilst our practices take place on the 8 bells in Cowbridge's Holy Cross Church, Sunday services are also rung in on the 6 bells at St. John the Baptist in Llanblethian. Mike Kemp, as tower captain, has added the following Thank You to those ringers:
What a delight to be at 8.45 service ringing at Llanblethian and normally be one of ten or eleven who have come along.

Last May I explained that a new family of three ringers are ringing regularly with us. I am pleased to say they are still with us and developing their skills
Not since October have we been only six or seven for service ringing no mean achievement for a six bell tower.

I have appreciated the support of experienced ringers who join us every week and encouraged some of them to call some of the methods and changes.
I like to think that we have been successful in getting ringers to participate is because we enjoy each others company and have a relaxed atmosphere

January has been busy with the Branch Mini outing, on January 10th, which was organised by Peter Giles. Taking in Llangybi (6), Tredunnock (8) and Usk (8) it was well attended with 27 from a mix of towers. Joy and Chris enjoyed both the ringing, Bristol S. Major, Cambridge and Plain Bob Doubles in between, and catching up with ringing friends from other towers. Tony and Tom from Pen-y-Fai and Jack Disley from Coity, all regulars at Cowbridge practice nights were also enjoying their day out.

January 11th saw a larger coming together of the Cowbridge ringers at the Annual 'Christmas' Lunch in the Duke of Wellington. The 11 ringers, and 3 of their partners, had plenty of time to chatter as although the food was good, the service was slow.
Another social gathering, this time at the Market Theatre in Cowbridge, was definitely not slow, On 6th February, The Shakespeare Stakes, An Original Mystery, written by Giles Cosgrove was given its first official reading. Ringers from Cowbridge and Llantwit, his home tower, accounted for almost 50% of the audience and Nell, very bravely, joined Giles and the

other readers on stage with only 30 seconds notice. Congratulations Giles and well done Nell. It was a very entertaining play and whilst neither Chris nor Joy guessed the murderer, Andrea did. No spoilers here. The rest of us will have to wait until it is performed as a full costume drama.

With all this socialising we do remember the bells themselves and in early February Ellis pointed out that the tail end on 5th was very worn on the topmost tuck and on further inspection it was found that the 6th tail end was also severely worn in the same area. Chris and Joy swapped out the two ropes with temporary ones. One rope, identifiable by its grey synthetic top end, is undergoing field trials at the moment. damaged tail ends are to be washed and then spliced back onto their respective sallies.

The

This brings us up to date with our AGM on February 17th. Once the business of our towers is completed we will be socialising once again, this time with pancakes.

Elaine John

Llandaff

The Christmas period is always a busy one for the Cathedral. This year we have managed to maintain our ringing for most practices, as often in the past in December we have not been able to practice much because of events in the Cathedral. We are grateful to the Dean and Cathedral clergy and staff for their help over this and their recognition of our contribution. We have continued to make progress, being able to ring on all 12 bells on many occasions although our number of ringers was somewhat depleted during December and early January with the absence of several of us for a variety of reasons. This mainly affected our service ringing as attendance at practices held up well. We managed to ring for almost all the Christmas services, a considerable improvement on recent years. Our newer ringers have enabled us to do this and have considerably improved our ringing in rounds on 12. We have rung on 10 or 12 bells on half the Sunday mornings and on the other Sundays we rang on 8 except one when we rang on 6. While we have concentrated on improving our ringing in rounds and call changes, we have rung at least Grandsire Triples on almost all Sundays and on 1 Sunday we rang Grandsire Cinques with the help of visitors as well as Grandsire Caters on another.

Our practices have also been well attended with an average of 16 attendees and never less than 10. Our newer ringers have also extended to ringing Bob and Grandsire Doubles on the Treble and inside, as well as Plain Hunt mainly on 5 and 7 but once on 9. The standard of ringing has improved so they are now ringing these methods on Sunday mornings. While we have concentrated on developing skills in Rounds, Plain Hunt and Bob and Grandsire Doubles, we have also rung touches of Cambridge and Yorkshire Major as well as Bristol Surprise Major and Little Bob Royal.

To maintain our skills in method ringing, Fred Jackson has arranged a further successful practice on a Friday at the Cathedral for more advanced ringing. We have also had the first Christmas peal on the bells since 2018. This was of Grandsire Cinques rung by members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association. We also enjoyed a Christmas meal out together at Cicchetti in Radyr on one Tuesday night when we were unable to practice. This was a very enjoyable evening including a Christmas bell related quiz-all arranged by Caroline Barratt-many thanks Caroline. We look forward to more events and progress in 2026.

Bob Woodward

Llanishen

We continue to practice most Mondays with help from ringers from several local towers, for which we are most grateful. We continue to see Bob regularly as he recovers from illness, although the rain has affected the feel of the rope on the second bell, which he mainly rings nowadays.

The 2026 wedding season has already commenced with one in February.

By the time you're reading this, we'll have hosted February's Association Daytime Practice and hope those who came enjoyed their morning's ringing.

Lilly and Leigh (St. Mellons) are now trebling to plain courses of Bob Minor.

Hilary Brown (Newport), who lives just up the road from the church continues to send her mother, Donna Jones, down to ring with us. However, we can't get Hilary to send herself down, despite hints!.

Roger Harpole

Llantwit Major

We had a very eventful evening on the 28th November when 20+ members of the Church Youth Club (ranging from 6- 13 years of age) visited the tower. The members were divided into groups of 5 and were allocated a session to climb the steep steps and enter the bellringing



chamber. Peter Grace engaged them in the simple theory of ringing whilst Kathryn Rhodes and Sue Gordon demonstrated the procedure. Each member had a turn of chiming with Hilary and were infatuated and delighted with their performance. Towards the end of the evening one of the child's parent requested a go and was very surprised at the complexity of ringing. It was a very successful and enjoyable evening. Hopefully, this will motivate and encourage a future new band of youths.





Hil and I (Sue Gordon) recently had the pleasure of visiting Quito Cathedral in Ecuador. Sadly, structural damage occurred to the bell tower in 1859. Therefore, no bells to ring and the historical bells were on view at ground level.

The run up to Christmas was pretty hectic- a few weddings, memorial services as well as the regular Christmas Services.

Our Grand Finale of 2025 was our annual Christmas meal for the tower ringers and their partners which this year, took place in "The Plough and Harrow"

Monknash. As per usual, this proved to be a very enjoyable merry evening.

We continue to ring every Sunday morning and practice Thursday evenings at 7.30. Visiting ringers are most welcome. Please notify Hilary Evans if you wish to attend.

Sue Gordon

Sully

Ringling Practices continue on Thursday evenings and we are pleased to have Joe Thompson, one of the young Penarth learners, ringing with us regularly now. He has recently begun ringing the tenor behind quite competently to Plain Bob Doubles.

On Monday 1 December the regular Spliced Surprise Minor group achieved their goal of ringing a quarter in 12 methods as follows:-

1296 Spliced Surprise Minor (12m) in 40 minutes Contains 288 Durham; 216 Cambridge; 144 Ipswich & Norfolk; 96 Beverley; 72 Bourne, Hull, Primrose & York; 48 Berwick & Surfleet; 24 Hexham; 41 com.

Composed by Michael Maughan

Helen C Kerbey 1, Peter S Bennett 2, Anne D Hayman 3, Robert P Bruce 4, Alwyn R Lewis 5, Julian C Parker (C) 6.



The band had a very pleasant meal afterwards at The Captain's Wife in Sully.

I was pleased to welcome once again the Penarth ringers to join me for ringing on Christmas morning which over the years has become a tradition with a photo afterwards (see Penarth report). It was also nice to welcome Clint Haseldine, a ringer from Edinburgh who has family connections with two of the congregation.

On Sunday, 18 January 2026 the following quarter peal was rung:-

1260 Doubles (4m) - in 40 minutes: 60 & 2 extents each of Stedman, Grandsire, Reverse

Canterbury and 4 extents of Plain Bob Christopher E Saunders 1, Martin Batten 2, Helen C Kerbey (C) 3, Ellis N Thomas 4, Julian C Parker 5, Valerie Batten 6. Rung after the Sunday morning service.

We also had scaffolding up recently to get rid of the growth of vegetation on one of the tower window sills. This seems to be an ongoing battle that we have!

Julian Parker

Penarth

Since November we have successfully rung 5 quarter peals: Yorkshire Surprise Major, Plain Bob Triples, Rutland Surprise Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Finley Delight Minor. Finley Delight is a new method, named to celebrate the first birthday of Finley, grandson of Val and Martin Batten.



At Christmas we rang as usual at Sully (St Augustines doesn't have a Christmas morning service), in our Christmas Jumpers. A full complement of Saunders turned out – enough to ring all the bells on their own.

We held a dedicated learners' session in January on the simulator. It focused on technique and handling. Everyone learnt a lot and we'll be repeating it in February.

Songs of Praise was recorded recently at St Augustines. We offered to ring, and at 08.30 on a Wednesday morning, we were recorded ringing rounds. The rounds will hopefully be heard (and was shown) at the beginning of the episode, which is airing on St David's day. The band included 2 of our learners. (And we also got to meet Aled Jones!)

Sarah Greenway



Cadoxton

Ringling continues weekly Wednesday evenings for practice and Sunday Morning Services. We rang quarters for the Christmas tree festival and the Christmas Carol services and the services on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. We have a small but committed band of 9. and are also lucky to have regular visitors to our practice giving us a wide variety from call changes, doubles, minor and surprise. We had our tower AGM in January and Alwyn remains our faithful leader!

Last year the BMG visited and found an issue with rust on the frame and damage to the wheel on the tenor. The repair work will be happening as soon as possible, and we are grateful to the Association BRF who are assisting this project. We aim to get some fundraising started too.

Yvonne John

Dyffryn

The Cadoxton ringers continue to ring for Sunday morning services at Dyffryn on 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month and keep the bells ticking over

Yvonne John

Merthyr Tydfil

A quarter of Grandsire Triples was rung Sunday 7th December prior to the Carol service and a Peal of Xmas SM on Tuesday 23 December. We continue to practice at Merthyr on Tuesday evenings (but can be cancelled due to low numbers so always check with me before coming) numbers are low and heavily dependent on visitors. Although we only ring for special services due to the low numbers, we do have a couple of learners and regular practices certainly help. So, a big thank you to Craig & Cheryl who do support us. We also have the pleasure of welcoming Leon Shacks to the tower. Leon learnt to ring in the Bristol area and has been out of ringing for 20+ years, but it was like riding a bike, he was ringing doubles methods, up and down on the first night.

For anyone who has visited in the last 12 months you will be aware that the tower can get very damp and we sadly have a growth of dry rot (also in the church too).

The wardens are aware and taking action. A building surveyor has been in and we may have to stop as an when work takes place. As yet we are unsure of the dates.

Yvonne John

Newton Nottage

It has been a busy and enjoyable few months in the Newton Nottage Tower. December involved plenty of ringing, including for the Nine Lessons and Carols service and on Christmas morning. We were especially pleased that David W was able to join us for the festivities! Our new ringers continue to make excellent progress. It has been wonderful to see their commitment and steady improvement. They have all quickly become an important part of the group and we are very glad to have them with us. One small highlight this winter has been the arrival of our new ringing tops! Our ringers will now be wearing burgundy - who knew tower fashion could be such a talking point? Behind the scenes, we remain deeply grateful to Andy for his recent help with essential tower maintenance to raise the low ropes on

bells 5 and 7. It has made a noticeable improvement to bell control and we appreciate the time and skill that goes into these unseen but vital tasks. Huge thanks also go to Yvonne, Andrew and Rebecca for their continuous support at group practices; their guidance is invaluable and warmly appreciated by all.

As we move towards spring, we're looking forward to lighter evenings and plenty more enjoyable ringing together.

Rhian Mulligan

Radyr

Ringing at Radyr continues to go well both on Sunday mornings and Thursday evening. It's great to have a growing number of visitors from other towers joining our practice. Since my last update, we're pleased to welcome a new learner, Heather, and Cian was elected a member of the Association at the recent branch AGM.

Although it now feels a long time ago, we had a lot of ringing in the run up to Christmas, including a couple of quarter peals of Plain Bob Doubles, one of which was Stephen Adams first quarter inside.

Along with a number of other towers a number of us have purchased new Association T-shirts; I'll try and get a photo for a future Look To! We've even given the tower a bit of a spring clean - both the ringing room and the bell chamber.

Andrew Gainsbury

Pontypridd

Since the last Newsletter, with the help of ringers from Penarth and individuals from other towers, we helped to spread the Christmas Cheer last December, by ringing for the opening of the St. Catherine Christmas Fayre. Praise and compliments were received from shoppers and passers-by alike. We also held our first Xmas Dinner for our small homegrown, band and teacher-helpers, in a local restaurant in the town. More recently we have hosted a Surprise Major Practice and the Llandaff Branch AGM which was both lively and productive.

Now we are in a new year, our two new members have continued to progress and have been nominated to join the Llandaff Branch of the Association.

We are currently focused on Safeguarding through the Certificated Courses provided and hope to attract younger learners in its wake.

The Bell Tower has suffered a lot of water ingress over the past few months; the walls and edges of floorboards having become damp and the ropes stiff and challenging.

Higher up in the bell tower work on the town clock continues due to the endeavours and commitment of the horologists and steeple-keeper, who give selflessly of their time to keep the clock ticking and get the hands moving again so that we can hear the tuneful Westminster Chimes. Thus far they have stripped the clock right down, cleaned and greased every part and are in the process of reassembling it.

Onwards and Upwards!

Cheryl Lavington

Coity

Another busy time for the ringers in Coity Tower! With our beginners coming along leaps and bounds. During the Christmas period we were fortunate to ring for the annual carol service which was attended by Bishop Mary. We also had a full tower to ring on Christmas morning as Coity home comers lent their skills. We continue to practice on Wednesday nights at 7pm and for worship on Sunday morning at 9am for the 9.30 service. Please call our tower captain, Philip Williams on 01656 729617

Philippa Coulson

Association Clothing

We are pleased to say Association Clothing is now available to order. See the website for the order form.

<https://www.llanmon.org.uk/association/association-clothing>

Or contact Yvonne John for more information – clothing@llanmon.org.uk

or Tel: 07779 925015

Llandaff Branch 8 bell practices

The branch 8 bell practices are held on the 1st Mondays of the month at 8 bell towers around the branch. They have been generally well attended and ringers are given the opportunity to stretch their 8 bell ringing, whether it be rounds and call changes or all the way to Surprise Major. What we ring varies month to month as do our numbers. This practice is valuable to providing all ringers of different levels an opportunity to ring something they might not be able to in their own tower. The last practice in Penarth was on the simulator and I think those who hadn't rung with the simulator quite enjoyed it. We had 14 in attendance which was great. Please can I ask you to remember to confirm your attendance when you plan on coming as I very nearly called the Penarth one off as very few had confirmed, the main reason is to allow for people travelling or tell them to stay home and not have a wasted journey.

Yvonne John

BELL MAINTENANCE GROUP UPDATE

The last month of 2025 was an inspection of the 6 bells at Peterston-Super-Ely where we tightened 4 stays. The Peterston ringers asked the BMG to investigate the tenor bell at Pendoylan which was not ringing well. We discovered that the bearings were moving around within their housings. We recommended that this bell not be rung until the problem was fixed. This the BMG did in February 2026. We also stripped down and serviced a pulley box at Peterston-Super-Ely and renewed a couple of stay bolts there the same day. Also in February, following a plea for help and advice two of the group went to Porthkerry and re-aligned the clapper on bell 3 by fitting a shim between the top of the crown staple stirrup and the inside of the bell's crown.

January, we inspected the peals of bells at Bassaleg and Llanedeyrn. Please see the Monmouth Newsletter for more details.

If any member of the L. and M. has a bell maintenance query or would like their peal of bells inspected (free of charge) then please do get in touch with me and the BMG will do its best to help.

Joy Kipling

bmg@llanmon.org.uk

200 Club Results

November

| Prize | Number | Name |
|-------|--------|------------------------------|
| £30 | 92 | Ken Phillips (Usk) |
| £15 | 20 | Sheila Denison (Ex Newport) |
| £10 | 113 | Simon Lockhart (Shirenewton) |
| £10 | 21 | Keith Denison (Ex Newport) |
| £10 | 122 | Sue Bradshaw (Rumney) |

December

| Prize | Number | Name |
|-------|--------|----------------------------------|
| £60 | 97 | Helen Millard (Ebbw Vale) |
| £30 | 124 | Jane Dumont Jones (Rumney) |
| £20 | 194 | Gemma Wheeler (Newport) |
| £20 | 8 | Mike Jackson (Cowbridge) |
| £20 | 119 | Sian Howells (Friends & Family)) |

January

| Prize | Number | Name |
|-------|--------|------------------------------|
| £30 | 133 | Martin Batten (Penarth) |
| £15 | 104 | Mike Penney (Shirenewton) |
| £10 | 28 | John Hopkins (Llantarnam) |
| £10 | 199 | Lindsay Horth (Caerleon) |
| £10 | 113 | Simon Lockhart (Shirenewton) |

Branch AGM

The meeting at Pontypridd started with a good training session to help some ringers to master Plain Bob Doubles led by Chris Kipling, this was followed by some general ringing, a short service and the usual ringer's tea before the AGM itself.

A few changes to the Branch officers were made including Chris Kipling being elected as the new Ringing Master for the branch. We all thank Peter for all his work during his term as Ringing Master. On a particular note, was that after a prolonged discussion, members voted to accept the proposal to close the Branch bank account and merge the remaining funds into the main Association bank account. Towers will be asked to wait to submit their annual subscriptions from members until after the Association AGM in April. (No increase in subscriptions is envisaged for 2026). Obviously banking details will be forwarded to towers in due course.

One other item that all members should be aware of is the Church in Wales obligations to ensure we are compliant with Safeguarding requirements as they apply to us in the bellringing area. More will soon come from the Association on how to implement the Safeguarding measures.

Andrew Linguard

Association Website Services

Mailing Lists

If you haven't already done so, please consider subscribing to our various Mailing Lists to keep in touch with what's going on. Choose as many or as few as you wish:

<https://www.llanmon.org.uk/ mailing-lists> See the note at the top of the form about changing existing subscriptions of you wish to.

Members Contact Details and Preferences

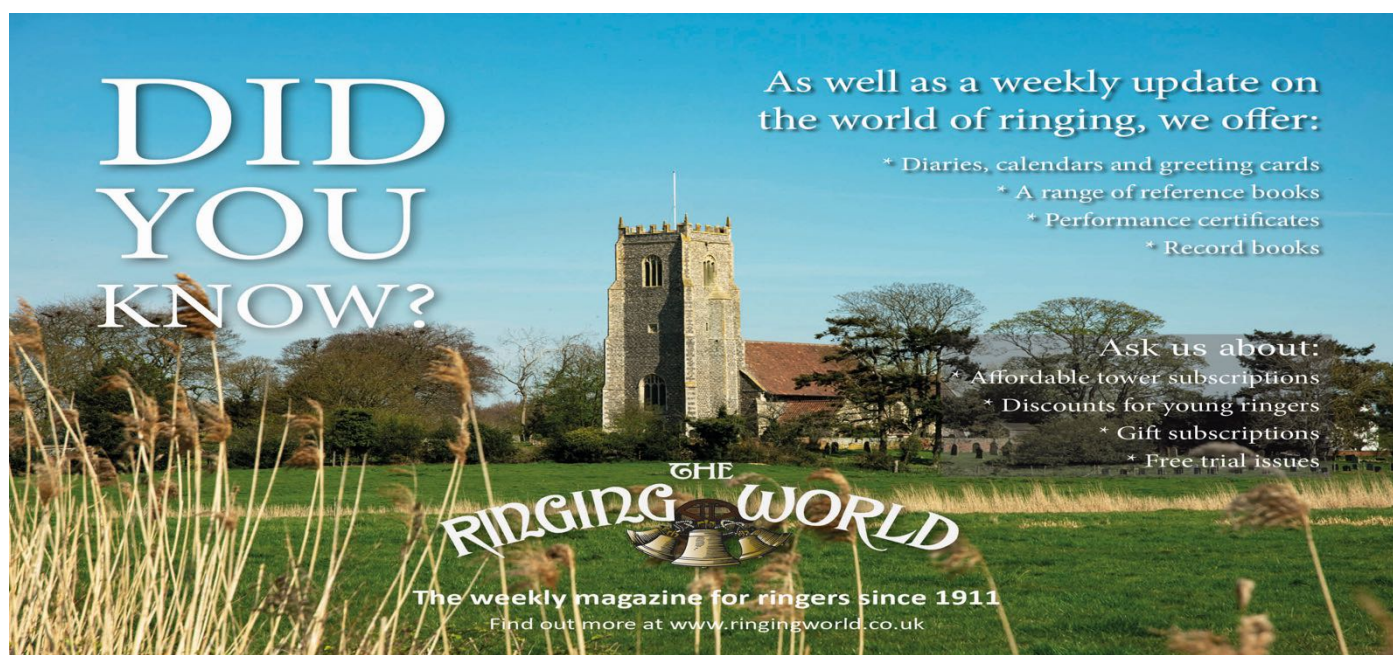
If you haven't already done so (or wish to update previously provided information), please help us to help you by providing your contact details and preferences for receiving the Annual Report, etc.:

<https://www.llanmon.org.uk/members/updated-members-details>

Details provided will be used solely for Membership Admin and matters personal to you regarding your Membership. They will not be used for routine contact or mail shots, etc. That is the role of the Mailing Lists.

Any questions then please ask!

John Vesey, Webmaster, Llandaff & Monmouth DACBR webmaster@llanmon.org.uk



DID YOU KNOW?

As well as a weekly update on the world of ringing, we offer:

- * Diaries, calendars and greeting cards
- * A range of reference books
- * Performance certificates
- * Record books

Ask us about:

- * Affordable tower subscriptions
- * Discounts for young ringers
- * Gift subscriptions
- * Free trial issues

THE RINGING WORLD

The weekly magazine for ringers since 1911
Find out more at www.ringingworld.co.uk

Save the Date!



Llandaff



Monmouth

Association AGM

Saturday 18th April 2026

Michaelston Y Fedw – CF3 6XS

Open Ringing 3.00 - 4.00 pm

Service 4.00pm

Bring and share tea 4.30pm - 5.15pm – (please bring a small plate) a bar will be available

AGM – 5.15 - 6.30pm

Potential open ringing if people want it after the meeting.

Please note AOB is not permitted from the floor and must be submitted by the 29th March to secretary@llanmon.org.uk

Apologies for absence to Pauline Morris, secretary@llanmon.org.uk by Tuesday 14th April please.



Llandaff and Monmouth Tower Open Day 4th May 2026

**Raising money for the
Bell Restoration Fund**

On Monday 4th May 2026, 18 towers across the Llandaff and Monmouth branch areas will be open for ringers - starting in the east at Magor (9:30am), and finishing in the west at Pen Y Fai (6:30pm) - to raise money for our Bell Restoration Fund.

We are planning to include the newly augmented ring at Llantrisant, and the privately owned ring at Peterstone Wentloog as highlights of the day.

Tickets for the day will be £25 (£20 in advance until 20th April), or £2 per individual tower.

For more information, and to buy tickets in advance, visit www.llanmonopenday.org.uk

Further details will be shared on Facebook and by email to advance ticket holders closer to the day.







WANTED: NEW BELL RINGERS!

 **Come Ring With Us!** 

 **Help Keep Our Bells Ringing for the Future**

With so few new ringers currently in training, our team is at a turning point. To keep this beautiful tradition alive in our parish, we *urgently* need new recruits!

 **Why Try Bell Ringing?**

-  **Great physical activity**
-  **Fun mental challenge**
-  **Wonderful sense of fellowship**
-  **No experience needed — we'll teach you!**
 -  **All ages welcome**
-  **Friendly, supportive, relaxed training**

 **Curious About the Bell Tower?**

If you've ever wondered what goes on up there — or know someone who might — get in touch!

 **Contact: Rhian Mulligan**

 **Email: newtonnottagebellringers@gmail.com**

Or join us for a colourful, cheerful look around:

 **Mondays, 7:45 p.m.–9:00 p.m.**

Become Part of Something Special

Join a centuries-old tradition that brings joy to worshippers and the wider community. Come along, have a go, and add your ring to the melody