

Ringing out an Old Friend

Not only was Harry Grant a wonderful servant of the Church, he was also a great supporter of the Bells. He was Churchwarden when we had all the refurbishment done on two of the Bells and his patience dealing with the Bell Adviser and Bell Founders got the work done.

The Bell-ringers felt we would like to mark the passing of a good friend in a special way, and so we decided on a half-muffled peal. In order to do this you have to cover one side of the clapper (the metal ball that hits the inside of the Bell)

with material. You can get proper sets of muffles made of leather that fit on, but we haven't got a set. So Michael Brookes and I tied and taped pieces of carpet to the clappers, which works just as well. You just have to be careful to put the muffles on the same side of each bell so that the first stroke is loud and the second one muffled.

For a full muffled peal you would cover both sides of the clapper but in my opinion this does not produce such a unique sound.

John MacVicker

Being a School Governor

Having been connected, in some way or other, with primary education since the age of three it seemed a logical step to say "Yes" when I was asked to be a school governor. This request came after I had retired as a Church of England Primary School Headteacher in Preston Lancashire.

This experience showed me how important governors are and what responsibilities they have. Now-a-days governors have an even more responsible role, working with the Headteacher, in the running of their school and strategic planning for the future.

When I was asked to be a governor at Wychwood School, I was pleased to say "Yes" as I saw it as a way to be part of the community and to give back some of the blessings I had enjoyed as a teacher

and Head. Wychwood Primary School, as you know, is a Church of England School, and as such has a unique and special ethos, which underpins all the decisions taken for the future of the school and most importantly the children's welfare.

Being a governor therefore has meant that I have tried to take extra care when making decisions. The work load seems to have increased over the years but with a well -organised committee system the work is shared.

I am standing down this year. I can truly recommend this voluntary work. It is stimulating and rewarding and most of all it is a privilege to be part of a group of dedicated people whose main aim is the nurture and care of our children.

Kathleen Walker

Mobile Library Service

A new timetable for the mobile library service comes into effect on 2nd June. The library will now visit Shipton on Mondays rather than Thursdays. The revised times are: 15:05 at Old Prebendal House, 15:40 at St Michael's Close and 16:05 at Bowerham.