

PORTSMOUTH CHIMES

SUPPLEMENT

No 3, April 2008

Wendy Smart wins the Ringing World Christmas Crossword Competition 2007.

Readers of the Ringing World amongst you will have noticed that ringers from Hampshire won two out of the three prizes in the Ringing World Christmas Competitions. We were lucky enough to keep one of the prizes in the Portsmouth District. I entered all three competitions, and was very surprised and delighted to have won the Crossword Competition. The prize for this was a Town Crier's bell from Taylor Eayre & Smith, which arrived at the beginning of February. The bell is shown in the accompanying photograph along with a picture of me holding the bell.



Wendy Smart proudly holding her prize Town Crier's bell from Taylor Eayre & Smith

My bell ringing was started by a friend taking me on a bell ringing tour in 1999. Some very experienced people were ringing, and I was watching in delight as I listened to some complicated ringing. I promised to find out more.

I kept that promise and started ringing at my nearest tower in Botley, where I still ring. I help out at Curdridge too, and am Treasurer of the tower.



I will keep this bell to remind me in years hence of some wonderful times I have had from bellringing.

Wendy Smart

My thanks go to Betty Daysh for finding this article in a local paper recently.

100 YEARS AGO : 1907

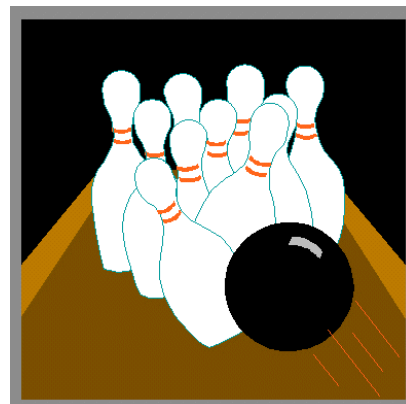
After a two-year silence, the bells of Upham Church were pealed again on Thursday.

After nearly 150 years of service, it was found the woodwork in the belfry was in a shaky condition, so it was decided to have them re-hung, by Messrs. Warner, of Cripplegate,



London, who found that the staging was no better than the tinder wood, and the marvel was that there had not been a collapse. It was necessary to re-cast the third bell, taking the cost to £87.

BOWLED OVER AT FAREHAM



On Wednesday 19 March some 25 Portsmouth District ringers and friends attended the ever popular district event, the 10 pin bowling get together at "Go Bowling" in Fareham. This is the third year running that we have attended this venue, the attendance was slightly down on previous years but was much enjoyed by all who attended.

The Portsmouth District conveyed some expert bowling skills, although we also had our fair share of bowling numpties (you know who you are, get more practice in for next year)! Amongst the more efficient were the likes of Mark Esbester, who scored a whopping 268, and Roxanne Peach, a mini-ringer (having never actually rung a bell heavier than 17lbs) who scored highest for the ladies with 197 points. The leading team was actually the under 20s, scoring in total 1026 points. Although it should be pointed out that they did have seven players (the other groups consisting of either four or five players each)! Between the two games, there was a nicely prepared buffet and the distraction of an arcade just around the corner, which certainly added to what was already turning out to be a very enjoyable evening.

