

Mothers Union

Weds 14th November Exercises for all

Dorothy Toyn will show us an easy work out suitable for all to help keep us fit and healthy. Church Meeting Room 8pm

Sun 2nd December Advent Sunday. Our MU travelling cribs will be blessed & sent on their journeys from home to home until Christmas Eve. If you would like the crib to come to your home please speak to Jean Gilby.

For more details see either Rosemary Bolton or Ann Stephens-Jones.

And it all went like clockwork!

The discussion in the pub went something like this:

"Shall we go back to the first Saturday in October for this year's outing?"

"Yes – nobody's on holiday that day."

"Who's going to organise it?"

"Will you do it?"

"OK. Where shall we go?"

"What about Thrapston? It's about an hour's drive and there are several towers relatively close."

"OK. I'll have a look."

And so, Google Maps and Dove's Guide for Church Bell Ringers (an on-line publication listing all the churches in the world with four or more bells) become best friends as a suitable route is plotted and contact details of tower correspondents obtained. Five churches and a restaurant contacted; 6 positive replies. Details circulated internally and to friends who often join us and we are set to go. The only variable outside our control being the weather.

Thus it was that on a sunny Saturday in October we assembled at Thrapston, a very pleasant looking market town. Eight bells here, relatively light and easy to ring and a good start made to the day.

Onwards then to Ringstead, 6 bells but much harder to ring because of the amount of stretch in the ropes – this meant we needed to allow for a bigger time difference between pulling the rope and hearing the bell ring. This was also the saddest story of the day. We were probably the last people to ring on these bells before they were decommissioned. The bell frame needs some work done but the parishioners are fund raising for new toilets in the church so the bells have had to go to the back of the queue. We hope it is not too long before the work can be done and these fine bells sound again.



Next to the lovely church at Raunds, a cup of tea and an opportunity to catch up with those we have not seen since last year. A splendid ring of eight bells with a tenor (the heaviest bell) slightly lighter than the tenor at All Saints. Here we produced what was probably the best ringing of the day. Our fourth tower of was the little church in Spaldwick. These were difficult bells to ring, probably because they are hung on plain bearings rather than the more modern roller bearings. A notable feature of this church is the way in which building the tower has clearly stopped and been restarted. It is understood that this was because the Black Death came to the village while the tower was being built and all work stopped.

Our final tower was Great Staughton, a fairly heavy ring of six bells where, although the ringing was respectable, was not quite as good as earlier in the day, probably because tiredness was starting to creep in.

The last stop was the *White Horse* in Eaton Socon where we were expected and well looked after to round off the day with a meal together.

This year I was the elected organiser and would like to thank the ringers for their company as well as the incumbents who gave us permission to ring and the ringers who met us and made us so very welcome.

Alastair Stracey

Harlow Council of Christians and Jews

National Interfaith Week:

Tuesday 20 November 2012:

A Social Evening and Forum, for people of all faiths,
Harlow Synagogue, Harberts Road
7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Saturday 24 November 2012:

Harlow Jewish Community and Harlow CCJ invite people of all faiths to join them for the Morning Sabbath Service,
Harlow Synagogue, Harberts Road
10.15am for 10.30am start.

.....
Sunday 27 January 2013:

Holocaust Memorial Day Event,
Harlow Synagogue, Harberts Road
5.00pm for 5.30pm start.

Tuesday 19 March 2013:

Study Seder and Passover Meal,
Harlow Synagogue, Harberts Road
7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Tuesday 7 May 2013:

Celebrating Jerusalem, a Talk by Rabbi Irit,
Harlow Synagogue, Harberts Road
7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Wednesday 10 July 2013:

Christian Worship Opened Up, a Talk by Fr Michael Butler MA,
Mulberry Green Hall, Old Harlow
7.15pm for 7.30pm start.
Admission fees at CCJ meetings:
MEMBERS: £1

NON-MEMBERS: £2

For further information about CCJ events please contact Julia: on 01279 442901
email: hxjulia.johnson@btinternet.com

Love is?

Love can come in many forms on any given day
It can come when one least expects it,
Especially when you pray.

A guiding hand must be from above,
Who knows your sorrows and joys
This heavenly being must understand our ploys.

A kindly smile, a warm friendly hand is sometimes all we need
We all appreciate a kindly deed.

Yet with some people it can go deep into the heart of the receiver
It makes me think, even more, how much I want to be a believer.

And appreciate all God's many gifts from above
That only can be divine and bestowed to us in appreciative love.

Mollie Day

