



snippets@ringingworld.co.uk

## Ringing World Christmas crossword prize winner



Wendy Smart of Hedge End, Southampton pictured with her Taylors Eayre & Smith town crier's bell – the prize for our Christmas Crossword competition.

We hope to feature photos of the other prize-winners shortly.

## Remembering D.L.S.

On 15th January 2008 representatives from six districts of the The Ladies' Guild attended a beautiful service at St. Margaret's, Westminster, in remembrance of one of their honorary members, although alas work on the tower meant no bells.

It was 50 years to the day that a memorial service had been held at St. Margaret's following the death of Dorothy L. Sayers (1893-1957), so it was fitting that an anniversary memorial service was arranged in the same place, by the Dorothy L. Sayers Society.

A full church participated in a moving ceremony, with beautiful music and readings. Dorothy Leigh Sayers had studied ringing and visited many towers in research for writing her detective novel *The Nine Tailors*. In 1937 she was the guest of honour at the Ladies' Guild Silver Jubilee dinner held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London and the Guild holds in its archives a menu signed by her. It was at this dinner that she was elected an honorary member.

The present day members who came to support the occasion had travelled long distances coming from Cumbria, Jersey, and North Norfolk as well as those slightly closer who came from the East Midlands, Kent and

the Central District. The service was an example of perfect timing, and beautiful music from the St. Margaret's Choir, the Oxford Bach Choir, who sang a modern setting of one of her poems and a superb young violinist, Helena Buckie, who played unaccompanied Bach.

There was a selection of readings from Dorothy L. Sayers's work representing all stages in her life. The address was written by the author P. D. James who was unfortunately too ill to give it herself but was movingly read by Christopher Dean the Chairman of the Society.

We may not have been able to ring the bells but one of the readings was taken from *The Nine Tailors* and repays another look to remind ourselves of how well she understood our art:

*The bells gave tongue: Gaude, Sabaoth, John, Jericho, Jubilee, Dimity, Batty Thomas and Tailor Paul, rioting and exulting high up in the dark tower, wide mouths rising and falling, brazen tongues clamouring, huge wheels turning to the dance of the leaping ropes. Every bell in her place striking tuneably, hunting up, hunting down, dodging, snapping, laying her blows behind, making thirds and fourths, working down to lead the dance again. Out over the flat wide wastes of fen, over the spear-straight, steel-dark dykes*

*and the wind-bent, groaning poplar trees, bursting from the snow-choked louvres of the belfry, whirled away southward and westward in gusty blasts of clangour to the sleeping counties went the music of the bells. Up and down went the shadows of the ringers upon the walls, up and down went the scarlet sallies flickering roofwards and floorwards, and up and down, hunting in their courses, went the bells of Fenchurch St. Paul.*

From *The Nine Tailors*  
by Dorothy L. Sayers

JANET STEVENSON  
National President,

The Ladies Guild of Change Ringers

## February RW subscription expiry?

Direct Debit instructions for payment  
in March must be received by  
22nd February please.

## Olympic artist at Bow

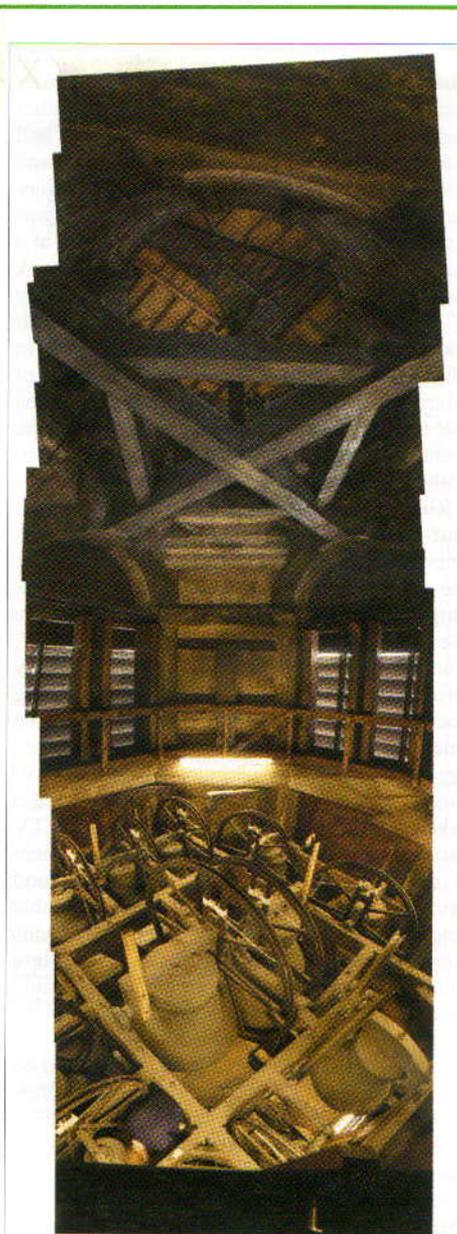
In the middle of 2007 I was contacted by Clare Newton who is producing a photographic montage display for the 2012 Olympics. She is trying to portray the east end of London, being the area in which much of the Olympic activity will take place. She was interested in St Mary le Bow because of its "iconic" status in relation to the east end of London.

Since that initial contact we have spent many hours in the tower capturing the large number of photographs required to produce the montages. One of the sets of photographs is of the ringers, another of the bells in action. Because Clare uses only natural light, the results produce an interesting effect with the moving bells.

Clare is currently photographing a wide number of London scenes including many places not normally seen by the public, such as inside service tunnels.

Clare has shown a tremendous amount of interest, not only in the tower & bells but with the art of ringing and she is hoping that her work will benefit the Exercise as well as achieving her objectives in relation to the Olympics.

SIMON MEYER  
Tower Secretary,  
St. Mary le Bow, London



## Long or short draft ?



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sweatshirt or bodywarmer.

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