

## A Miscellany of (Little) Bells

When plans were being drawn up for the Grand Day Out, there was a discussion about having Towers open on the way to and from Harrogate, after all, the day is about ringing. This was discounted, as what is better than having the Bells at the same location as the rest of the event?

Although we couldn't build a new tower at the showground and install a nice 32cwt 10 for you to enjoy (we didn't have enough time for that – at least that is a good excuse!), we have arranged to have some bells at the other end of the scale. There will be two mini-rings for you to enjoy. They are the Lichfield Mobile Belfry (6 bells) and the Beverley and District's own Mini-ring (8 bells).

For those of you who haven't yet rung on a mini-ring, the experience is different from ringing on most Tower Bells (I say most as there are now several sets of Tower Bells which are what would have been classified as mini-rings a few years ago) and requires a slightly different approach, mainly because of the speed and weight of the bells. However, it only takes a few moments of familiarisation to get into the swing of things.

Those who have not rung at all before will have no problems, and within minutes will be ringing on their own.

Both rings will be available for individuals and bands to have a go at something a little different, and there will be experienced stewards in attendance to guide you through the first few pulls.

During the day, there will be demonstrations of 'perfect' ringing on both rings, and the Lichfield Belfry is to be used for a striking competition.

We shall also have the YACR Wombel – a one bell mini-ring – available. Look out for a future article about that.

### [Here are some more details of the Lichfield Mobile Belfry](#)

The Mobile Belfry contains an excellent peal of 6 bells cast in 1998 at the world-famous Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

Bell Number	Diameter		Note	Weight	
	[mm]	[in]		[kg]	[lbs]
1	280	10.9	B	19.3	42.6
2	292	11.4	A	19.7	43.4
3	300	11.7	G	20.4	45.0
4	315	12.3	F#	23.1	50.9
5	340	13.3	E	28.4	62.6
6	370	14.4	D	34.7	76.5

You can see the size of the bells in the photograph.



The Belfry is totally self-contained, and its design means that the ringing, although quicker than most, is the same as Church based bells. The unique design means that you can watch the bells as they are rung, as well as hear them clearly.