

BELL-RINGING

RINGING AT ALL HALLOWS CHURCH, BROADWOODKELLY In 1705 it was recorded that All Hallows had five bells. The tower now houses six bells that with their hangings weigh nearly 2 tons. They were all cast by Messrs Gillett & Johnson of Croydon in 1931. More historical details are included in our little book on All Hallows church, which is available from the Churchwardens or in the church. The bells are rung for Sunday services and for weddings and other special occasions, as they have been for several hundred years.

BELL RINGERS Bell-ringers are a true cross-section of society. **All** backgrounds, **ages** and occupations are represented, bound together by their common interest in ringing. In addition to exercising the mind and body, bell ringing is an excellent social activity. **No qualifications are necessary**; ringers do not have to be big, strong or musical, although a sense of rhythm helps. Ringers do not have to be church members, although many are. Many ringers belong to one church and ring in another, and many towers arrange 'ringing outings', to visit and ring at other churches.

ABOUT CHURCH BELL RINGING Church bell ringing is a thriving ancient English art that still plays an **important part in community life**. Nationally there are about 40,000 ringers who regularly ring for Sunday services as well as for special occasions, anniversaries and weddings. ***But more ringers are always needed. Everyone is welcome to learn***, no matter what their age or abilities. So if you are interested, read on. The present method of ringing began in England in the 17th century. Before this bells were rung randomly, as still happens on the Continent. Now bells were mounted on full wheels, allowing them to rotate through a full 360 degrees to produce each sound. This revolutionary approach meant that heavy bells could be precisely controlled with minimal physical effort. This heralded the start of 'change ringing', the ringing of bells in pre-defined patterns, which continues to this day.

We know that there are some in the parish who ring elsewhere, but it would be wonderful if we could have some **Broadwoodkelly ringers**, ringing the bells of All Hallows Church ...

If you are interested in learning to ring (and we very much hope you are), please feel free to speak to Max Clover on 01837-83929, or Frank Pidgeon on 01837-83327.