



Ontario Guild of
English Handbell
Ringers

CLAPPER CHATTER

February 2018

FESTIVAL 2019

SAVE THE DATE!

Make sure to save the date and new location! Both have been revised since the announcement made at Festival 2017.

June 6 - 8, 2019
Fanshawe College, London, ON.

Watch this space for more details ...

[Please Help Us By Completing a Short OGEHR Festival Survey](#)

The bi-annual OGEHR Festival has been held since 1985. Events evolve over time and it is important to occasionally revisit the format, timing and key elements to ensure we are still meeting our members' wishes. Attendees of the 2017 Festival were asked for their opinion on the frequency of the bi-annual festival and we would like to poll the remaining OGEHR members for their opinions. There are several additional questions that we would like festival goers to consider as well.

Newcomers - If you have never attended a festival, we'd like to hear from you as well! All answers will be tallied and considered for the 2021 Festival. Your input is appreciated. Names are not required to complete the survey. If you completed a survey at the Fall Workshop, thank you!

Janis Cowie, 2019 Festival Chair

Survey link:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/38CYNNN

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK TO THE ONLINE SURVEY, OR DETACH AND COMPLETE
THE BACK PAGE OF CLAPPER CHATTER**

HIGHLIGHTS

Festival 2019 save-the-date
B-ring on Summer
Festival Survey

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

SUBMISSIONS

Clapper Chatter welcomes your submissions. All submissions must be received by the following deadlines: September 30 (October issue), January 31 (February issue), May 31 (June issue).

FORMAT

Text in Microsoft Word and high resolution colour photos in .jpg format are preferred.

REPRINT PERMISSION

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DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in Clapper Chatter are not necessarily those of the Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers, nor does the appearance of products or services in advertisements constitute an endorsement by OGEHR.

ADVERTISING

Ad sizes and rates are available on request. Advertising must be submitted by the submission deadlines listed above. All final ad artwork must be saved in Adobe Acrobat PDF format. When preparing ads, use high resolution images and fonts, and set the Acrobat Preferences to embed the fonts and images at their original high resolution quality.

CLAPPER CHATTER EDITOR

Please send all submissions to:
Helen Coxon — Clapper Chatter Editor
hcoxon@sympatico.ca
416-420-9660

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MORE ON SUBMISSIONS

A newsletter thrives or dies based on its content, so we need your input! Do you have a concert coming up, a review of a performance just accomplished, a significant event in the life of your bell choir, or a favourite piece of music that you would like to recommend to others? Send it in! Anything is fair game (subject to editorial review.) Accompanying photographs are encouraged, as they really liven things up.

Clapper Chatter will be published in two formats: in full colour on the website, with a link sent out via the email tree, and hard-copy in black and white mailed out to those who are not on the email list. If you are one of the latter, why not sign up for the email tree and get the full Clapper Chatter experience?

We want your feedback. Let us know what you like, or don't like, or would like to see, by emailing Helen at hcoxon@sympatico.ca

Submission deadline for the next issue: May 31, for publication June 15

A Clapper Chatter subscription is included with Individual and Honorary OGEHR memberships. In addition, one subscription is included in the flat-fee component of the Affiliate membership fee, and is mailed to the Organization contact person for each Organization from which there are OGEHR Affiliate Members, to be shared amongst those Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members may receive their own personal copy of Clapper Chatter by purchasing a one-year subscription for \$15, or a half-year subscription for \$10. To subscribe, Affiliate Members may send a request, with the appropriate fee, to the OGEHR Membership Secretary, J.-C. Coolen, at 5 Naylor Lane, Ajax ON L1S 7S7, (905) 683-5757, membership@ogehr.ca. Clapper Chatter is also distributed electronically via a download link sent out in the Thursday evening email digest.

President's Column

J.-C. Coolen

Engagement and Development – It's Fun!

I had such a great time at the Central East Playdate in Peterborough on January 27! I got to hang out and have a great time with some of my Bowmanville ringers, as we travelled together and then rang together at the event (Hi, Debbie, Jan, Elspeth!). I got to reconnect with lots of friends who used to ring with me, but now ring in and/or direct other choirs (Hi, Meg, Ken, Cheryl, Margo!). I got to (re)connect with fellow directors in my area (Hi, Bob!). I got to learn from some of our best Ontario directors who led us in ringing (Hi, Kim, Lisa, Debbie!). I got to meet new friends (Hi, Susan!). I got to help everyone, together, make beautiful music on one of the day's pieces (Thanks, everyone!). And—I got to ring, ring, RING some great bell music! I left the Playdate so stoked, so happy, so reenergized; I can't wait for the next one!

Your Guild is working hard to “foster dynamic member **engagement** and provide inspiring ringer and director **development**” (our Vision), and the Central East Playdate is a pulsing example of what this can be, and how we all benefit from these two goals. Every person who engaged in that event—planners/organizers, conductors/clinicians, choir directors, ringers, bell roadies—not only experienced their own full and custom set of benefits, but by participating, each person enhanced the event for everyone else! But, at the end of the day, the Playdate showed that being engaged with the Guild and developing as a ringer (and/or a director) is just plain **fun!**

Thank you, Cheryl McFarlane, Margo Tant and your team for organizing the Playdate so that we all could benefit from the event. Thank you, Kim Leitch, Lisa Kyriakides and Debbie Fingas, for your leadership that helped us grow as ringers and as directors. And thank you, each and every Playdate attendee, for creating a stimulating, educational, and fun, experience that made the day great for everyone!

Didn't make it to the Playdate, and want to experience what you missed? Check out OGEHR's www.ogehr.ca *b-Ring on Summer* event in Toronto on May 26. For extra fun this spring, check out Alloy Fusion's Spring Ring in Cobourg on April 20-21 <https://www.alloyfusionbells.com/spring-ring>. Looking ahead to next fall, plan to attend one (or more!) of OGEHR's Fall Workshops in London, Toronto and Ottawa—and don't miss OGEHR's biggest event, the 2019 Festival in London (June 6-8).

If you'd like something closer to home, work with your Area Representative and one or more choirs near you to create something that meets your needs where you are—the Guild is ready to help you make it happen! And, if you'd like to help create or run any of the Guild programs or activities that benefit us all, please let me president@ogehr.ca or Marg Merkley, Chair of our Nominating Committee, vice-president@ogehr.ca know, and we'll be happy to help you find a role where you can do just that!

Engagement and development is fun! Come and join us!

Nomination News

"Experience the Magic" - by Volunteering

OGEHR has had an amazing group volunteering throughout the 2017 - 2018 year. The following people have given of their time and talent to sit on one of the many committees that help promote handbells in Ontario. We are most appreciative to all of you!



Ruth Baker • Cathie Banks • Graham Beer • Jennifer Bell • Nancy Bell • Janet Benedict • Joan Bolam • Gail Bowes • Rob Cairns • Karen Campbell • KC Cann • Joan Cobbold • Barb Cogan • J.-C. Coolen • Janis Cowie • Helen Coxon • Anne Cummings • Lynne Current • Terry Head • Naomi Kelley • Yasmine Kheraji • Maddy Lang • Kim Leitch • Mary Loree • Cheryl McFarlane • Debbie McMackin • Judy King • Kathleen King Martin • Mark Matterson • Margaret Merkley • Merran Neville • Barbara Peaker • Randy Mills • Barbara Neal • Barbara Peaker • Nathalie Poirier-Cox • Judy Queen • Shirley Reinders • Nancy Ross • David Rugar • Jennifer Schafer • Marjorie Slinn • Debi Sproule • Man-Yee Sun • Margo Tant • Sandra Thompson • Ken Whatman • Linda Wilson • Lloyd Winfield

Over the next few months the Nomination Committee will be working on filling the 2018 - 2019 slate for terms that are vacant and coming due. Please consider getting involved at some level within your Guild - by staying in the same role you presently fill, getting involved with a different aspect of OGEHR, or coming "on board" for the first time. We welcome your contributions and input. Our aim is to help you find a good fit that meets your skills and interests with the needs of our Guild. A specific role, that of Webmaster, is one that we would really like to see filled. All positions and terms of reference can be viewed at <https://ogehr.ca/about-us/committees/>

With thanks,

On behalf of the Nomination Committee

J.-C. Coolen, Sandra Thompson, Joan Bolam

Value Added

The OGEHR Board is looking for opportunities to add value to your OGEHR membership. We are pleased to be able to offer you two at this time. If you have any other ideas we should look into, please contact Margaret Merkley at margandpetermerkley@gmail.com.

1. 10% off all music in stock at Hear Them Ring



Hear Them Ring

Barbara Peaker

Everett, Ontario, Canada

+1 (519)-940-1862

barbara_malmarkbells@yahoo.com

Just let Barbara know you are an OGEHR member!

2. \$20 rental coupon at all Long & McQuade Music Stores



These coupons will be available for pick-up at all OGEHR events. Next two events:

Alloy Fusion, Cobourg; April 20th and 21st
OGEHR AGM May, 26th



Join with fellow choirs and lone ringers for an afternoon of ringing fun and dessert.

On Saturday, May 26th, 2018 between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., ringers are invited to come and share performances of their piece(s). Lone ringers are invited to come and join with other choirs or form a choir and try the Mystery Ring.

Coffee, tea, and desserts will be provided.

Join us after the performances for the OGEHR Annual Meeting.

Location:

St. John's York Mills Anglican Church
19 Don Ridge Drive, Toronto (close to the 401)

To confirm your attendance, contact Margo Tant at blwvpo@gmail.com or 705-743-2914.



Under the Stars is our inaugural concert. Scratch that--"concert" doesn't begin to describe the spectacle that will unfold! Leave planet Earth behind as you thrill to other-worldly music, taking part in a voyage far from the here-and-now, traveling through space and time on a cosmic journey! And bring some warm clothes...

5:30 Doors open

6:00 Banquet

7:30 Concert

9:00 Guided star gazing (outdoors)

Tickets are \$60 inc. tax

Groups of 8 save 10% (\$54 per ticket) so bring some friends!
Tickets available for purchase at www.alloyfusionbells.com

MUSIC IN REVIEW

LONDONDERRY AIR (G+)

arranged by Donald E. Allured (level 3)

We are working on this gem to play March 17th at Irish Night at St. Andrew's.

We have added a few low notes to the bass in several places. Also, we have the chimes playing the melody bars 25-33 and 37-40 for a lovely effect. We tried malleting the bass 41-57, also soft marring but I think we'll play as written eventually.

It's really quite a beautiful arrangement and the dynamics are well-marked. It's growing on us and we are sure our listeners will leave humming the tune.

SILVER BELLS (Ab+) arranged by Ralph E. Stiles (level 3-)

This Christmas piece fit in well with our outreach concerts in 2016 and 2017.

This year we tried playing the first page with basses malleting the eighth notes and it lightened everything. When we played at schools we shortened it : bars 16-48.

Keep the treble shakes soft or even eliminate them if they get overbearing. Our audiences were smiling and humming along.

"The Bells of St. Andrew's"

submitted by Helen Simeonov, Music Director
St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Scarborough

THE FIRST NOEL, arr Kevin McChesney

I have worked for several years with a group of 6-7 ringers, which has really limited the repertoire we could perform, so imagine my delight this Fall, when I found myself with no fewer than 10 players – hello three-octave repertoire! But how to pick music that would be interesting for my seasoned ringers, but not too much for my neophytes?

Well, it took a little while, but back in May I had looked through the OGEHR Lending Library for inspiration, and there I found something that fit the bill beautifully.

The piece is a setting of The First Noel by Kevin McChesney (Choristers Guild CG.CGB199, published in 2-3 and 3-5 octave versions.) The tune The First Nowell isn't, to be honest, one of my favourite carols, but Kevin has set it with a running eighth-note accompani-

ment that really lifts it into the realm of something special. The melody is mostly carried in the lower treble bells, with occasional ornamentation from the upper 6s. The verse and response repeats, more or less, three times, different at each repetition.

It's a Level 2 piece – no key changes and few accidentals, but the inclusion of LV and echo techniques meant that my established ringers were happy. I won't say that all my new ringers hit every note, but the overall effect was quite lovely. I highly recommend it for Advent and Christmas.

Helen Coxon

Director, Jubellation
Royal York Road United Church, Toronto

MILESTONES - celebrating our achievements

Way to go, Anita!



Anita Crump has been ringing with the bell choir at Thornhill United Church for several years. She played her first solo with me at the piano, at our November concert.

Ethel Briggs, Director of Music

HPO's "Home for the holidays" extravaganza evening

Excerpts from a review by Danny Gaisin, Ontario Arts Review

The mark of a top-drawer orchestra is its ability to successfully interpret a range of genres and under diverse conductors. The Hamilton Phil' exhibited both these talents in presenting a cornucopia of familiar melodies of the season, under the guest baton of **Lucas Waldin** of the Edmonton Symphony.

Regardless of one's religious background or affiliation, the ubiquitous Christmas music is familiar to anyone with a radio or a visit to the mall or grocery store. To make an on-stage reprise thoroughly enjoyable surely is the mark of genius. Last night's concert

certainly achieved this accolade for three different aspects – aural; visual and imaginative.

The Philharmonic's musicians were enhanced by the twelve members of The Bronze Foundation; a handbell performing unit. The sound is unique and certainly suited to this time of year, and ... (the group) also manage to perform with an exceptionally interesting sense of visual style. Their opening presentation was Carmen Dragon's arrangement of 'The First Noël'.

Post interval was ushered in by a dramatic procession of the Bronze Foundation members entering from the Hall's rear and ringing a theme until all were on stage. For a rendition of Leroy Anderson's 'Sleigh Ride', the HPO was augmented by the full complement of the Hamilton Phil' Youth Orchestra, totally filling the First Ontario Place stage.



The bell ringing BRONZE FOUNDATION

Waldin, Bambrick, the HPYO and the bell-ringers then drafted the entire audience as a choir for some popular carolling; then a standing ovation and some insistent curtain calls. This was truly an upbeat evening and Waldin's expressed good wishes for the season and the New Year was heartfelt and mirrored the other 100-plus folks on stage.

Full review available at <https://ontarioartsreview.ca/2017/12/17/hpos-home-for-the-holidays-extravaganza-evening/>

Welcome, New and Reinstated Members

We welcome new and reinstated Members of the Guild! We're glad to welcome you, or welcome you back, into the Guild family.

We encourage all Members of the Guild to reach out to the new Members in your vicinity. Welcome them personally, and offer your support, encouragement and assistance to them as they grow and develop as handbell musicians.

J.-C. Coolen

New Member

Individual

Central East

Meg Leonard (Minden ON)

Affiliate

East

Bridge Street United Church (Belleville ON)

Mary Ann McAllister (Belleville ON)

Karen St. Germain (Belleville ON)

Edith Rankin Memorial United Church (Kingston ON)

Teri Thayer (Kingston ON)

Knox Presbyterian Church (Vankleek Hill ON)

Bill Hall (Vankleek Hill ON)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Ottawa ON)

Shelley Hodgkinson (Ottawa ON)

Dominique Moreau (Gatineau QC)

St. Paul's United Church (Perth ON)

Carol Husband (Perth ON)

Central East

Alloy Fusion (Cobourg ON)

Kate Davis (Gores Landing ON)

James Fingas (Cobourg ON)

Elsa Mead (Port Hope ON)

Andrew Randall (Cobourg ON)

Bowmanville Seventh-day Adventist Church (Bowmanville ON)

AylaWynn Lehmann (Oshawa ON)

Melisa Mosomi (Courtice ON)

Trinity United Church (Cobourg ON)

Kyra Fingas (Cobourg ON)

Roma Klufas (Grafton ON)

Central

King City United Church (King City ON)
Susan Beharriell (King City ON)
Maria Ehnes (King City ON)

Mount Albert United Church (Mount Albert ON)
Cathy Barker (Newmarket ON)

St. John's York Mills Anglican Church (Toronto ON)
Carol Dunn (Toronto ON)
Sarah-Sechung Kim (Toronto ON)

St. Matthew's United Church - Bells of St. Matthew's
(Richmond Hill ON)
Linda van Leeuwen (Woodbridge ON)

Trinity Anglican Church (Aurora ON)
Alison Collins (Aurora ON)

Trinity-St. Paul's United Church (Toronto ON)
Susan Craig (Toronto ON)
Lois Fallis (Bond Head ON)
Lily Gibson (Toronto ON)
Mary Marshall (Toronto ON)
Ella Taylor-Walsh (Toronto ON)

Vaughan Community Church (Vaughan ON)
Sae Lon Lee (Toronto ON)

South

Dublin Street United Church (Guelph ON)
Heather Kidston (Guelph ON)

Wellington Square United Church (Burlington ON)
Jane Kops (Burlington ON)

West

Oakridge Presbyterian Church (London ON)
A Young Kim (London ON)

Wesley-Knox United Church (London ON)
Mallory Brennan (London ON)
Heather McKee (London ON)

North East

Trinity United Church (Collingwood ON)
Ben Tsui (Collingwood ON)
Heather Tsui (Collingwood ON)

Org'n Flat Fee (Aff)

Central East

Alloy Fusion (Cobourg ON)

Reinstatement

Individual

South

Frances Quarrington (Freelton ON)

Affiliate

East

St. John's Lutheran Church (Pembroke ON)
Jean Lopushanski (Pembroke ON)

Central

King City United Church (King City ON)
Ingrid Elliott (Alliston ON)
Dorothy Gillies (Alliston ON)
Jean Kell (King City ON)
Evelyn McLachlan (Nobleton ON)

Richmond Hill Christian Community Church (Richmond Hill ON)

Helen Chan (North York ON)
Catherine Lai (Thornhill ON)
Tiffany Leung (Richmond Hill ON)
May Ng (Markham ON)
Beracah Yeung (Richmond Hill ON)

South

Dublin Street United Church (Guelph ON)
Mary Cowbrough (Guelph ON)

West

Metropolitan United Church (London ON)
Ruth Baker (London ON)
Bill Burdick (London ON)
Lauren Burdick (London ON)
Rob Cairns (London ON)
Laurel Hoover (London ON)
Sydney Jones (London ON)
Kennedy Kimber-Johnson (London ON)
Madeline (Maddy) Lang (Kitchener ON)
Jane Macdonald (Dorchester ON)
Sara McDougall (London ON)
Kathy Milligan (London ON)
Debbie Obokata (London ON)
Barb Sadler (London ON)
Clara Tuckey (London ON)

North East

Knox Presbyterian Church (Meaford ON)

Wendy Calvert-Morris (Meaford ON)
Laura Lucas (Ravenna ON)
Eleanor Smith (Meaford ON)

Trinity United Church (Collingwood ON)
 Barb Andrews (Collingwood ON)
 Maryellen Burgess (Dundalk ON)
 Kathryn Colantonio (Collingwood ON)
 (Ethel) Su Cook (Collingwood ON)
 Heather Ferguson (Collingwood ON)
 Laura Gravel (Stayner ON)
 Cathy MacDonald (Blue Mountains ON)
 Beverley (Bev) Mayberry (Stayner ON)
 Frances (Fran) Reid (Collingwood ON)
 Patti Watson (Wasaga Beach ON)
 Janet Young (Collingwood ON)

Org'n Flat Fee (Aff)

East

St. John's Lutheran Church (Petawawa ON)

Central

King City United Church (King City ON)

Richmond Hill Christian Community Church
 (Richmond Hill ON)

West

Metropolitan United Church (London ON)

North East

OGEHR BOARD AND OFFICERS CHANGES

Please make note of the following changes:

1. Cheryl McFarlane has stepped down as Central East rep. The position is currently vacant.
2. Address change for Shirley Reinders to 280 Nelson St W., Meaford, ON N4L 1K5

It's not too late!....

If you missed the registration deadline for the Spring Ring in Cobourg on April 21, don't despair. You can still sign up to participate (just), though it will cost you an extra \$10.

Spring Ring Registration

Take advantage of this one day festival experience this spring! A fantastic clinician, handbell friends, workshops and a concert - don't miss out! Register as a full choir or as an orphan.

We are thrilled to announce that Barbara Peaker from hearthemring.com will be attending the event as a vendor, so this is a great way to get some shopping done without shipping fees!

Go to www.alloyfusionbells.com to register.



OGEHR Festival Survey

The bi-annual OGEHR Festival has been held since 1985. Events evolve over time and it is important to occasionally revisit the format, timing and key elements to ensure we are still meeting our members' wishes. Attendees of the 2017 Festival were asked for their opinion on the frequency of the bi-annual festival and we would like to poll the remaining OGEHR members for their opinions. There are several additional questions that we would like festival goers to consider as well. **Never Attended? - If you have never attended a festival**, we'd still like to hear from you! All answers will be tallied and considered for the 2021 Festival. Your input is appreciated. Names are not required to complete the survey.

Please print (electronic version) or detach (hard copy) this page, and send the completed survey to:

Janis Cowie
2019 OGEHR Festival Chair
1406 Saginaw Crescent, Mississauga, ON L5H 1X5, or scan and email to jlcowie@rogers.com

Did you attend the 2017 OGEHR Festival? ___ Yes ___ No

1. What is your preference for frequency of Festivals:

- Every 2 years (current format)
- Every 3 years

2. What length of festival would you prefer:

- 2.5 days (current format)
- 2 days
- 1 evening and 1 day

3. What days would you prefer the festival to be:

- Thursday, Friday, Saturday (current format)
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- Thursday, Friday
- Friday, Saturday
- Saturday, Sunday

4. Site Preference (check one or two)

- University/College (current format)
- Private school
- Conference centre
- Hotel
- Arena
- Other (Suggestions welcome) _____

5. What are the top 2 elements that are important to your decision to attend the Festival:

- Location (geographic area)
- Affordability
- Level of music
- Accommodations
- Accessibility required
- Workshops

Comments _____

6. If you did not attend the 2017 Festival, the key reason was:

- Was not available for the dates
- Could not take time off work/school
- Geographic location was too far
- Not interested in the music
- Too expensive
- I don't attend festivals

Comments

7. **If you've never attended a festival**, what are the top 2 elements that would affect your decision to attend:

- Level of music
- Location (geographic area)
- Meeting other ringers
- Affordability
- Workshops

Comments

General Comments

Thank you for your participation!