

Society of Sherwood Youths – Established 1672

The Society of Sherwood Youths and its probable predecessors, the Northern Youths have been an integral part of the ringing around the Nottingham area since the 17th century. They gave the bells to augment St Peter's to the old eight and they raised the funds for one of the two new trebles at St Mary's when it was augmented to a twelve in 1980.

During the 18th century a William Doubleday Crofts arrived in Nottingham and started to ring with the Society. He was an accomplished heavy back-end ringer, conductor and a nationally respected composer.

This year is the bicentennial anniversary of his death. He is buried in the NW corner of St Mary's Churchyard.

In 1924 the tower captain of St Mary's, Albert Coppock, great-grandson of James Coppock who rang with Crofts, revived the Society after it had been eclipsed by the emergence of the Midland Counties Association.



Many Nottingham ringers and some from further afield are members of the Society which continues to hold regular meetings and Annual Dinners in most years in memory of Crofts.

The Society, which is non-territorial (not attached to any specific church or tower), aims to provide a social opportunity for a good standard of ringing.

It is hoped that this flyer will encourage local ringers to understand the part that the Society has played both locally and nationally and perhaps consider attending meetings from time to time.

Further details about the Society, its calendar, activities and history, especially that of William Doubleday Crofts, can be found on its website at www.sherwoodyouths.org.uk. Alternatively any of the current officers, Tom Langton (Master), Tony Lees (Secretary), Peter Hawcock (Treasurer) or David Marshall of Plumtree (Steward) will be able to give you information.

William Doubleday Crofts
~1737 to 29 Nov 1809