

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

The following gives additional information on access and ringing at certain of the Scottish towers and is of particular relevance to those planning a tour of Scotland. Consideration of these details at an early stage will avoid unnecessary correspondence for all. Organisers should bear in mind that the seven Cathedrals and five town churches have many services and other activities, most of which take precedence over ringing, and a patient approach will be appreciated.

ABERDEEN -ST MACHAR'S

Bells generally available but not Friday evenings.

ALLOA

No ringing before 11.00am

DUNDEE OLD STEEPLE

Daytime ringing (Mon-Sat) limited to one hour. This includes bank and public holidays. Peals restricted to early evening, finishing by 9.00pm (plus possibly Sunday daytime) and are limited to one per year. Most convenient car parking is in the Overgate car park (No 25 - closes early evening after the shopping centre shuts) or Yeaman's Shore (no. 28 - free in the evenings). See City Council map at <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/visitorparking/parkmap.htm>.

There are working chimes in the tower and these must be turned off before ringing. There are clear notices displayed in the ringing room. The light should be *green* for ringing (chimes disabled) and turned back to red when the bells are down and stationary.

The tower is open to City Council employees and others so the bells MUST be left down whenever the ringing room is unattended.

DUNDEE ST PAUL

Occasional evening ringing can be accommodated, but must end by 21.00 hours. Allow time for parking, no street parking.

DUNBLANE

Open evening ringing is not usually possible to arrange except for Services and other Church functions. Our evening practices take place with muffled bells.

DUNKELD

Bells generally available. Avoid Sundays for peals.

EDINBURGH STS ANDREW & GEORGE

The Church is located in the city centre, at the east end of George Street, next to the George Hotel. It is close to train and bus stations. There is on-street pay and display parking (expensive) in George Street and the surrounding area until 6.30 p.m. (except Sundays). The nearest car park is in the St James Centre.

Due to our close proximity to shops, hotels and offices we normally restrict weekday ringing to between 5pm – 9.00pm.

Service ringing and practices are suspended for three weeks during the Christian Aid Sale and preparation period (normally from the last Monday in April until the second Sunday in May.) Practices are suspended in August during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Occasional Tuesday practices are curtailed due to events in the church, visitors are advised to check before travelling a distance.

Please see our website for further details.

EDINBURGH ST CUTHBERT

Weekday ringing only in evening after 5.00pm. Generally no ringing during the Edinburgh Festival - second weekend in August to first weekend in September. Allow time for parking.

EDINBURGH ST MARY

Weekday ringing outside office working hours. No parking in Cathedral car park - permit holders only. Metered street parking.

EDINBURGH FETTES COLLEGE

Fettes College is a boarding school and during term time the bells are generally not available during the week or on Saturday mornings. The best times for visiting ringers are from 2.00 to 4.00pm on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Terms are as follows; end first week January to last week March; third week April to first week July; beginning September to third week December.

Outside term time ringing is possible if access can be arranged and dates just after and before terms are most likely to meet with success.

GLASGOW

Not evenings. Limited street parking.

INVERARAY

Saturdays preferred. Weekday ringing constrained by school hours. No evening ringing. Peal attempts Saturday only.

INVERNESS

No evening ringing last week in July; Inverness Tattoo week. Ringing prior to weekday 5.30pm evensong preferred.

STIRLING

Not Sundays and arranging access between 5.00 and 7.00pm is difficult. Limited street parking during daytime hours; Castle car park is nearest.

RJH: January 2000