

Around & About

Items to be included in Around & About

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Campanology on the Common

The Hartley Handbells (from Murwillumbah) played in a free public campanology (handbell ringing) concert in the Murwillumbah Knox Park Band Rotunda on Sept 10, 2006. The weather looked like it would rain (and indeed did rain [heavily] later in the afternoon). The 30 or so patrons who braved the threatening elements thoroughly enjoyed the hour-long concert that, being on a Sunday afternoon, consisted of mainly sacred items, although a couple of secular classical pieces were added for variety. The use of the venue was courtesy of the Tweed Shire Council. The Hartley Handbells have been ringing for only a few years (however prior to that, campanologist Dr Lionel Hartley was a builder of barrel organs and his wife and fellow campanologist, Rosemary, was a piano teacher). They said in their introduction that their main motivation for playing is that of having fun together! They use a 20-note set of imported "Precision" brand "off-the-table" bells. They prepare all their own musical arrangements and backing music and their repertoire is quite varied. Dr Hartley also played a solo rendition of the welsh tune *Ar Hyd y Nos* at an absolute frantic pace and in just two-and-a-half minutes rang over 1200 ring changes! Many patrons afterwards asked about future free public concerts and were referred to the website www.geocities.com/hartleyhandbells.



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TILT TRAY HIRE