

Canterbury District

Newsletter

Issue 171

October 2017

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From the Editor

The Newsletter is distributed by email every three months, and is also available to view on the Association website (www.kcacr.org.uk), in the **Canterbury District** section.

If you have any ringing-related news from your tower that you would like to feature in the newsletter, please send them to me at cantdistrictnews@gmail.com, or have a word with me if you see me at a meeting. It would be appreciated if all items could be with me no more than a week before the next Quarterly Meeting

Jane

Cover Image:

*Taken from a postcard of Canterbury
Cathedral before the scaffolding*

from Len Huckstep

Chairman's Message

Hi Folks

Well this year is really flying and we come again to the ADM at St Dunstons, this is the time of year when we look back over what we have done and what we failed at I think we have had a fair year but there is more we can do with the support of you all.

At the ADM we elect a new committee and it is everyone's chance to have their say on how things are in this district and even county level.

So I look forward to seeing you all at Canterbury and hope for a good meeting.

Best Wishes

Mike

Secretary's Message

The general committee have decided that there will be fewer printed copies of the handbook produced next year since it is now available online and can be updated on a regular basis.

The KCACR will therefore only provide one copy for every tower. Anyone else wanting a printed copy will be able to place an order from December and these will be available for collection at the AGM as normal. I will pass on the details of how to order a copy when I receive such information.

In the meantime I will shortly be contacting all towers asking for a list of current paid up members in an effort to get the next handbook as accurate as possible.

Best wishes

Tony

District News

St. Andrew's Ringers Wickhambreaux - Mystery Tour

On an August Saturday where the weather didn't know whether to rain, storm or shine, nine foolhardy Wickhamites and three honoured guests decided to follow the Captain's madcap idea of going on a mystery tour. Having never before wandered out of the Canterbury District, this outing was a first for the band in many ways. Due to the towers being a closely guarded secret, the days before the outing were rife with speculation about what far off lands were to be visited. Some suggested the exotic climes of Ashford and after one pint too many there was even the mention of Sheppey.

None did guess correctly however, and after gathering at dawn (or several hours after) outside the Rose at Wickhambreaux, everyone was bundled into a couple of cars. Fortunately the drivers knew where to go, for in a clandestine operation earlier that week, had already been given location details in a sealed brown envelope.

An hour later, and not before one driver had mistaken a dubious looking roadside carpark for a motorway turnoff - everyone arrived generally unscathed at the attractive church of Sundridge, Kent. The bells at Wickhambreaux which are best described as 'rustic' are also anti-clockwise. Therefore, it was only natural that it took a couple of goes to even out the ringing on bells which, although a tad late, were easier compared to what most were used to. Everyone rose to the challenge, and all pushed themselves in consolidating their learning and trying new things.

Onwards the band marched for just a couple of miles to Chevening, home to the Grace and Favour Residence of the Brexit Three. All agreed the bells were delightful and everything progressed well with a mixture of ringing on 6 and 8 bells. The ringing room was pretty smart as well giving rise to suggestions that maybe after 114 years the ringing-room at Wickhambreaux might be due its regular spruce up.

Off to Shoreham next which must be in the running for one of Kent's prettiest villages. It was soon agreed by all that the bells were a far better six than eight with the two trebles quickly dispensed with. Definitely not as easy going as the previous towers, the band was on more familiar ground here. "This is more like it" was heard at least once.

Lunch at the Kings Arms down the road was long overdue and all descended on the tasty food like men and women possessed. It was all washed down by a well-deserved drop of Adnams. The schedule was pretty tight and, as mentioned in the July Canterbury District News, two ringers known across the district for always sleeping together in the car after lunch on ringing outings (steady! - Ed.) were sadly disappointed.

Feeling fatter, drunker and definitely more sleepy, the waifs and strays of Wickhambreaux trotted down to the final tower of Otford. A ring of six cast for the millennium, the bells rang like a dream - you could even watch them on a telly. Everyone gave as good as they got before it was time to nip back home in a journey that was more akin to being on a runaway train. On the way back one ringer noted that it was, "Funny how all the towers we rang at today all ring the wrong way round!" Everyone nodded sagely and looked forward to things going back to normal.



Michael Keeler-Walker

THE OLDEST BELL – St Dunstan’s Canterbury

Len Huckstep recently drew my attention to an article in a recent St Dunstan, Canterbury, Parish Magazine concerning the historic ring of Bells, which have been a part of my life since Jim Stockbridge taught me to ring there nearly 60 years ago.

The 5th Bell is of course the oldest and of great historic interest. As the writer of the article says, it was cast by William le Belyetere (which effectively means William the Bell Founder) in Canterbury c1325. “It is believed”, says the article “to be the oldest church Bell in the country still in regular use.” This is a pretty substantial claim! However, it is not the oldest Bell in use in the country, or even in Kent, though if one modifies ‘in use’ to read ‘hung for full circle ringing’ it may fairly claim to be one of the oldest.

If the term ‘in use’ is expanded to include Bells hung for chiming (after all, they are still ‘in use’) then there are a number of Bells in the Diocese of Canterbury, in comparison with which St Dunstan’s 5th is something of a latecomer. Here in the Diocese of Canterbury there are three very ancient Bells: that of Whitfield, near Dover and the two Bells of Iwade near Sittingbourne, which all date from c1150, possibly earlier, along with a disused Bell in Coldred church, the parish next to Whitfield. All these four Bells are of archaic shape – some call them “flowerpot” Bells. They also feature abnormally large canons, and are of somewhat archaic tone! The Whitfield bell and the two at Iwade were rehung for swing chiming about 40 years ago and are very much in use. The Coldred one is on view, having been replaced by a new Bell.

Another three Bells, of slightly later date, perhaps early 13th century are to be found in the villages up behind Dover. All of them are more recognisably bell-shaped, and of better tone. Best known of this group is the Bell in the Yew-tree at Barfreston: the church has never had a conventional belfry. At Lydden, the Bell dates from about 1200. Both of these are in use, that at Lydden having been rehung. There is also a disused bell of c1200 in the church at Sutton-by-Dover. To these must be added the single Bells of c1280 at the adjacent villages of Kingsdown-by-Sittingbourne and Norton. Both are in use.

The earliest *inscribed* bell in the diocese is the smaller bell of the two at Stodmarsh, from c1250. It is of somewhat archaic shape with the inscription on the shoulder. Next in line, and a much more sizeable bell, is the treble of the three at Snargate, c1280. The tenor at Snargate, which is inscribed + SANCTE DVNSTANE, dates from c 1300.

After these ten *in use* (12 if you count the two disused bells as well) come the bells by William le Belyetere. Eight were recorded for *The Church Bells of Kent* by Stahlschmidt in 1887, Subsequently the tenor at St George the Martyr Canterbury was destroyed in the Blitz of Canterbury; the tenor from Kingston being badly cracked is now to be found on display in the Canterbury Heritage Centre in the Poor Priests’ Hospital; and the 2nd at Postling has been found not to be by William le Belyetere. This leaves five bells definitely his work (six if you include the ex-Kingston tenor). All of these five are in use: in addition to St Dunstan’s 5th, there is the tenor at Bridge, the tenor at St Peter, Canterbury, the 2nd at Patricxbourne and the tenor at Postling. Which of them is the earliest is not possible to say: all were cast c1325 and along with the ex-Kingston bell have similar features. In the Canterbury Diocesan ‘Bell League’ those *in use* are 11th equal in point of age. Patricxbourne 2nd and B ridge Tenor are unringable, while those at St Peter Canterbury and Postling were rehung ‘dead’ some years ago.

So yes, St Dunstan’s 5th is the oldest bell in use for *full circle ringing* in Kent, but it is in a group of five cast here in Canterbury by William le Belyetere which are 11th equal in point of age, being preceded by at least ten other bells, *all in regular use for chiming* – Whitfield, Iwade (2), Barfreston, Lydden, Norton, Kingsdown, Stodmarsh, and Snargate (2).

I think the chronology of the present ring of six at St Dunstan's works out thus:

1325 – A ring of 3 by Wm le Belyetere. To-day's no 5 was the "Greate" Bell.

1503 – The two smaller (predecessors of present 3rd & 4th) also the Wakerell (Sanctus) Bell were recast by Richard Kerner, of Canterbury.

1605 The old 'middle' Bell (present 4th) was again recast by Joseph Hatch of Ulcombe.

1629 – The ring was augmented to four by the addition of the present 2nd Bell, by Joseph Hatch.

1660 – The old 'little' Bell (present 3rd) was again recast by Thomas Palmer I of Canterbury at his Foundry in St Dunstan's, near to the site of the present Canterbury West Station.

1676 – The ring was augmented to five by the addition of the present magnificent Tenor Bell, cast by Thomas Palmer II – his only Bell, and he needs no finer memorial.

1777 – The 2nd was recast a third time, by William Mears, to be the present 3rd, and a further Treble was "ADDID TO THIS PEAL BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION" to complete the present ring of six.

1936 – The Bells were tuned, quarter-turned and rehung with all new fittings in two new teak frames (1, 5 and 5 above) by Mears & Stainbank.

David Cawley

St Lawrence, Godmersham

A Quarter Peal was rung here on the 14 September 2017 which was the 200 anniversary of the death of Jane Austen who often worshipped in this church, the new ten pound note with her image and Godmersham house were issued this day also.

The Picture below show the band after their achievement.

1260 Doubles

540 Grandsire 360 Rev .Canterbury
360 Plain Bob Doubles

1. David Cawley
2. Lynnette Gosling
3. Mathew Hubbard
4. Paul Curtis
5. Len Huckstep (cond)
6. Brian Law



St Alphege Church, Whitstable has a new roof!

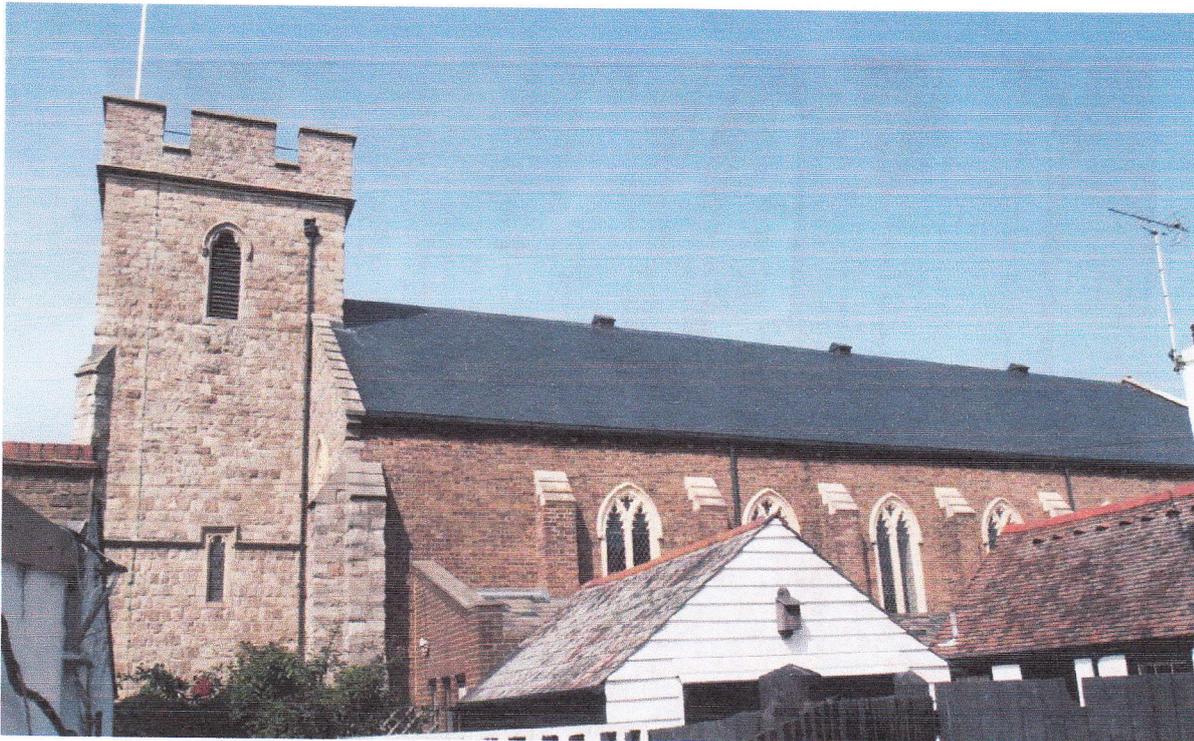
The old slate roof was the original one, put up in 1845 when the church was built, but for some years it had been causing concern. Some of the slates were laminating, the nails were rusting and the wooden battens were gradually rotting away. After every episode of stormy weather, there would be a scramble to make good dislodged slates. On one memorable Good Friday, four intrepid firemen performed a valuable service by installing temporary plastic sheeting over a large hole caused by the previous night's gale. Something had to be done.



The 'Raise the Roof' appeal was launched in the summer of 2014, and encompassed all kinds of fundraising events, from Fun Runs to Thrift Balls, from concerts to coffee mornings. Grant-awarding bodies were also applied to and the whole community was encouraged to get involved.

By May this year, the church was in a position to commence the work. As far as the ringers were concerned, there was very little disruption to the normal routine of practice nights and Sunday ringing. However the project did involve re-leading the tower roof and improving safety by repositioning the access ladder through the bell chamber to the top of the tower. An additional proposed repositioning of the lower ladder from the ringing room up to the bell chamber was rejected, after the ringers made representations concerning soundproofing provisions. The bell frame is also now safely connected to the new lightning conductors.

Now preparations are underway for a 'New Roof Celebration.' The splendid new slate roof is complete and the ringers are pleased to have a gas-assisted hatch cover to the tower roof, rather than having to contend with the old heavy, leaded wooden cover. With the improved safety provisions, we should even be able to invite visitors right up to the top in future, in order to enjoy unparalleled views of the town and coast, and perhaps those famous 'Whitstable sunsets.' A celebratory quarter peal is also planned.



St Alphege, Whitstable, Kent - Friday, 22 September 2017 in 44 minutes (3-1-13 in G)

1260 Grandsire Triples

- 1 David L Cawley
- 2 Isobel J Legg
- 3 Matthew D Hubbard
- 4 Susan J Hubbard
- 5 Susan E Record
- 6 Keith A F Record
- 7 Benjamin J H Legg (C)
- 8 John F Legg

25th quarter as conductor: 7.

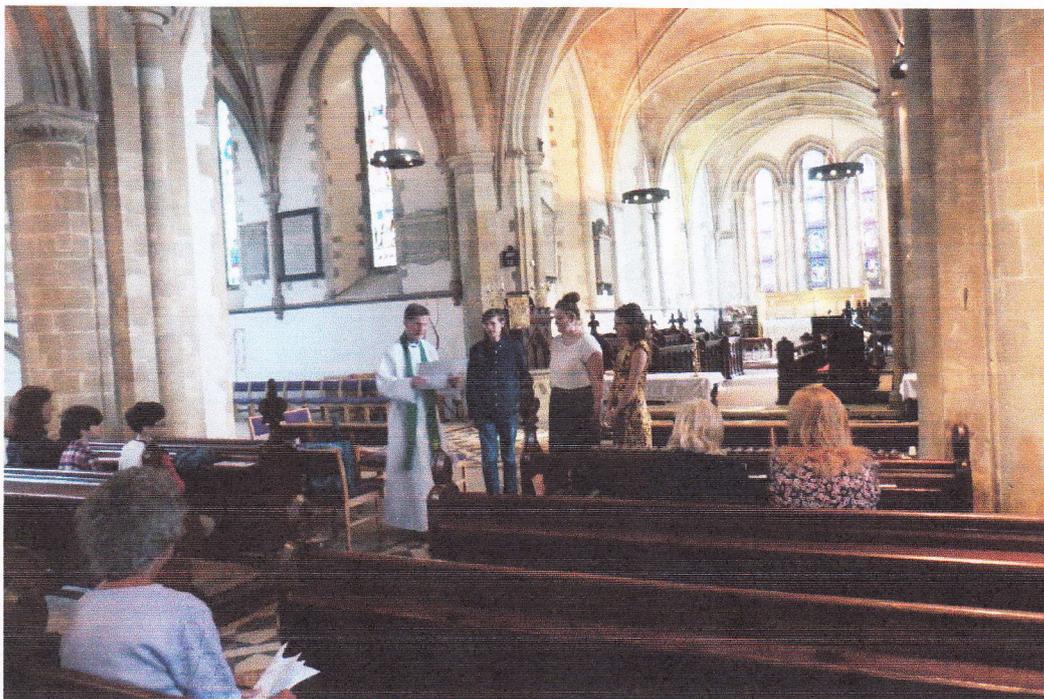
Rung to celebrate the completion of the new church roof.

The only quarter peal ever rung at St Alphege to include all three of the tower's Ringing Masters - David Cawley (1969-1970), John Legg (1970-2014) and Benjamin Legg (2014-present).

St Mary the Virgin, Minster

Three new learners at Minster receiving there Level 1 for Bell Handling certificate from the Vicar Richard Braddy. This now means they have 'Safe and competent bell handling including raising and lowering a bell'.

Tony Goodman

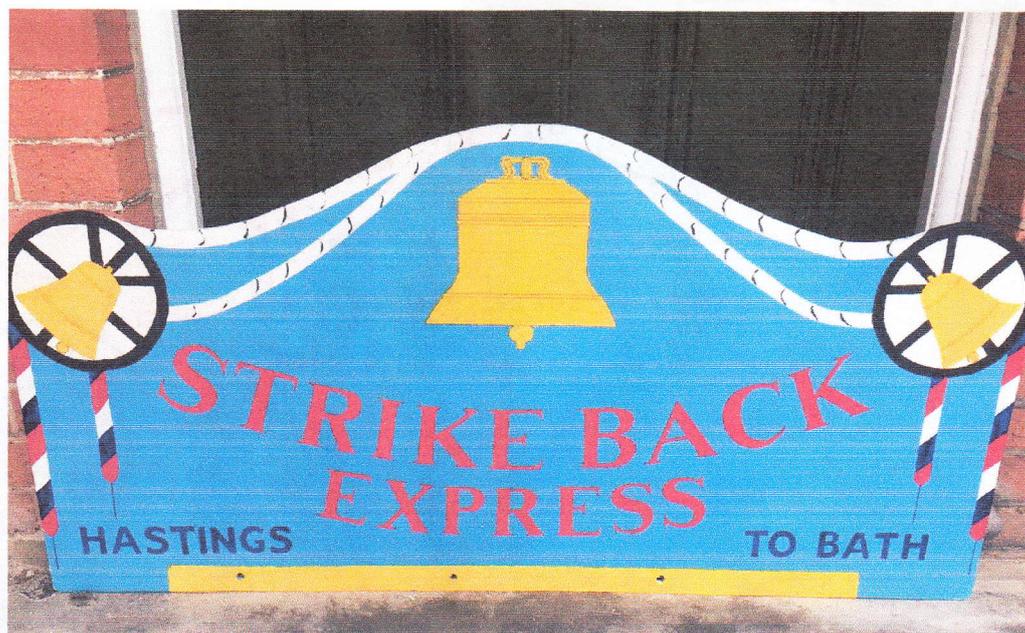


All Saints, Birchington

Few of you will have avoided hearing about Julie McDonnell and the “Strike Back Against Blood Cancer” campaign which the Bellringers here are supporting. On the 29th July, four of us from Birchington went on a day’s outing to Bath on the “Strike Back Express”, a specially-chartered 1950’s diesel train on which there were just over 100 ringers plus families and friends.

We had the pleasure of ringing at two towers in Bath – we could have grabbed a third, but it overlapped with our more basic need to eat, so we gave that one a miss. However, the day was not just about ringing, as just over £5,000 was raised for the charity – about half the cost of a stem-cell transplant.

Part of this sum was raised directly by the Birchington ringers, who successfully bid for one of the train’s Head-Boards, specially designed and painted by Janette Gallini. This will now take pride of place in the tower, as Alan Pink (a leading light / ringer in the campaign) and his wife Louise brought it with them when they and some other guests came to ring at Birchington on Saturday, 19th August.



Eythorne' s New Band

When I go out I do like visiting villages and churches. I went Barfrestone near Dover and it does have a bell and its hung in a tree outside, I kid you not.

I did have a look round the church and found a community magazine and on the last page there was a letter asking lots of questions and one was "Why do the bells (Eythorne) not ring on a Sunday" as there was no email address I wrote and sent the letter Snail Mail, I said "the bells probable don't ring as they probably don't have any ringers, but give me 5 people and ill train a band" within 2 days I had a reply saying they would love to have a band.

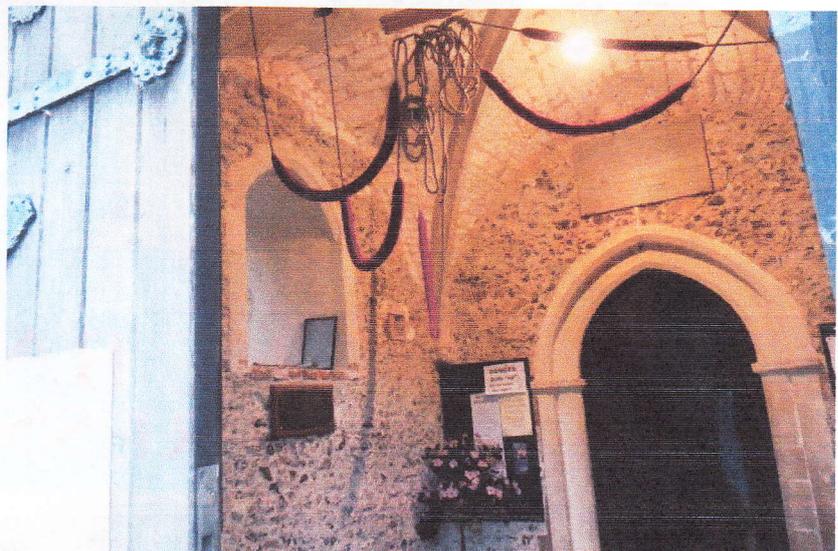
So, a letter went into the magazine asking for ringers and would be ringers. I was amazed at the people that wanted to learn to ring, and a few ringers as well, we had about 8. So, we (Peter Dale and Andy (St Dunstan's) started teaching the new band on Fridays, and their progress was very good and they have now rung for a service, there were all taught under the ART Learning the Ropes Scheme.

So after years of the bells being silent they are ringing and the village loves them, no tower has to be silent.



Before we started Brian Butcher did come over and give the bells an MOT.

Tony Goodman



Chilham Ringers Change Practice Night

In the lead up to the Chilham Ringers canal holiday week (to be reported next month), practice night was changed from Mondays to Wednesday, from 7.30 to 9.00 pm, (interested persons always welcome). This was so that experienced ringers from nearby towers could attend practices from time to time to improve our skills, & this certainly benefited our canal tour ringing.

Since then our tower captain Philip Bedford, his deputy Clare Bellis & Chartham captain Bill Evans have had great success in teaching some teenagers (none are Chilham residents unfortunately) who are learning bell handling & simple change-ringing like ducks taking to water. So Wednesday is our permanent practice night.

Although Philip Bedford's other commitments have led him to leave our church choir after his farewell concert, he is continuing to inspire change-ringing to ever higher complexity which regularly attracts experienced visitors to our practice nights. In complete contrast, when only Philip and Mark Harding turned up on 10th September they rang four bells between them, a rope in each hand!

We were sorry to lose our most talented young ringer, Charles Blummers who departed for Bristol University on 17th September where he doubtless will hone his skills with their Ringing Society. The four Bedfords & he rang a farewell Quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles.

Chris Godfrey

Bells for Ypres

The success of the project to install a peal of English change-ringing bells in Ypres has been widely publicised on ringing sites and in the media. My cousin and I went to Loughborough in April to see the bell bearing our grandfather's name being cast, and in June we returned there to see the fully-assembled installation on display.

On a sunny August day I joined a group of ringers accompanying the bells on the cross-channel part of their journey to Belgium. We saw them briefly at Dover docks as they were driven on to our ferry, carried by two 1915 lorries on an enormous low-loader trailer. They were destined for an overnight stay in a secure compound near Ypres, while we headed for our hotel and a few beers with old ringing friends.

The following day's weather was not so pleasant however; the rain set in at Tyne Cot cemetery, just as the old lorries were about to commence their tour of WW1 sites. Undeterred, we continued with the planned itinerary led by Alan Regin whose knowledge of ringers lost in the war is encyclopaedic. Prayers were said at each location, hand bells were rung, and songs from WW1 were sung, while the steady drizzle added a certain poignancy to these simple acts of remembrance.

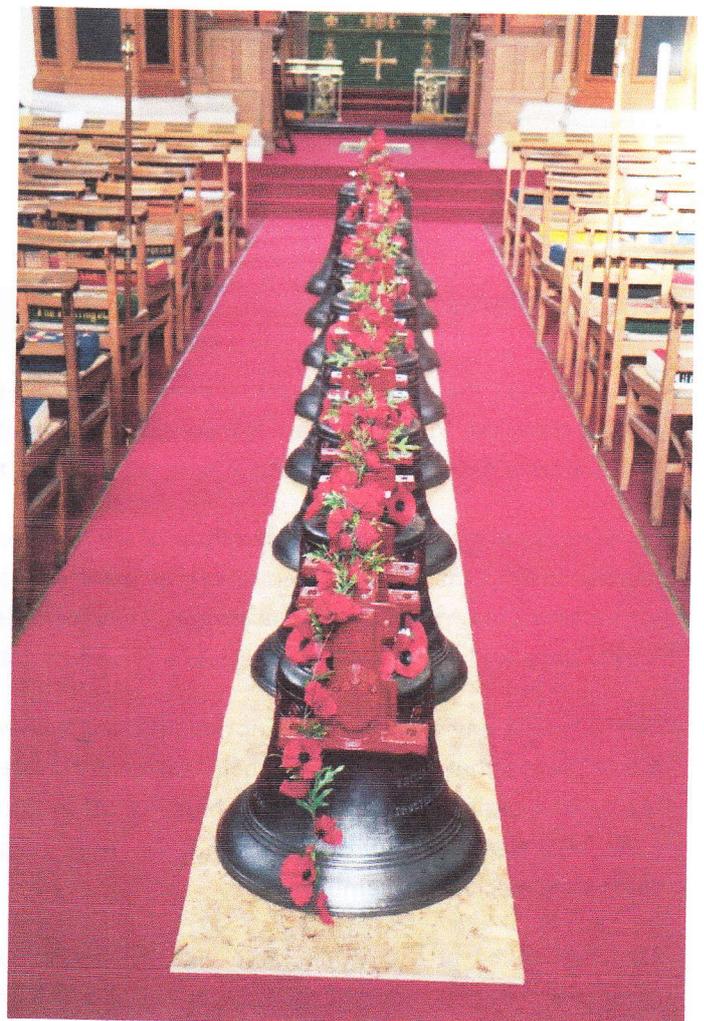
The tour ended at the Menin Gate with the lorries and their precious load on display during the Last Post ceremony. Representatives from John Taylor's bell foundry laid wreaths in memory of those Taylor family members and foundry workers lost in the Great War.

The bells' significance for the people of Ypres was evident by the crowds around the lorries in the Grote Markt in the following morning's sunshine. It was a once-in-a-lifetime sight watching the bells being taken into the St George's Memorial Church and lined up down the aisle. The dedication service in the afternoon was the most moving of any I have experienced. Every bell has scarlet poppies embossed around the crown and carries an inscription commemorating the fallen. The priest moved along the row of bells, blessing and anointing each one in turn while its sponsors read out the dedications.

Work in the tower is currently being carried out in readiness for the dedication service and inaugural ringing on 22nd October. So tight is the schedule that it carried on out of sight and earshot throughout the service. Sound control is already in place and the ringing chamber will be wood-panelled and home to the project's book of remembrance. Fortunately the original bells were installed so high in the tower that there's ample space below them for the new bells, so both traditional continental chimes and English change-ringing may be heard from the same tower.

Initially St George's is bound to attract many visiting ringers from this side of the Channel but in the longer term there are plans for recruiting and training a local band. The KCA, and this District in particular, is well placed to assist in this being the closest ringing organisation to mainland Europe.

Peter Dale

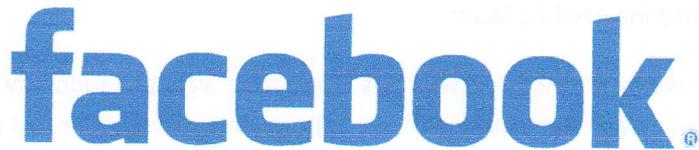


St Mary's, Chilham

Many of you who came to the Slightly Serious Concert at Chilham a couple of Saturdays ago were as disappointed as we were that a power cut and the strictures of 'Health and Safety' meant that we had to evacuate the church after only a taster of what was to come. So many people, audience and performers alike, came up to me afterwards to ask if we could re-schedule the concert. Well we've managed it. Almost all the performers can come on Sunday afternoon 15th October (when it should actually be light!). So that is when it will be - 4.30pm on Sunday 15th October.

If you didn't know it was on in the first place, well it should have been, and still will be, my last Slightly Serious Concert at Chilham. Nearly all the Chilham Ringers plus lots of their friends will be performing in some form or other: handbell tune ringing, singing, jazz piano, a teenage baroque quintet playing 2 piano concertos, drummers, a professional classical guitarist (who was the only one to perform two Saturdays ago, and will be coming again) - and free booze & food, and free entry! Here is the programme to whet your appetite.

Philip Bedford

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in a bold, blue, lowercase sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the right.

Make Sure to check out the District Facebook Page at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/canterburydistrict/>

Call change competition

It is always an interesting experience attending a striking competition as a judge to know exactly what you will expect – nice ringing, weather and refreshments! This time was no different and I was delighted to be able to help Donald Niblett with the judging of the Canterbury District Call Change Competition at Great Mongeham.

I would like to take this opportunity to put my thoughts from the day down on paper for reference to the teams who took part and any other aspiring entrants. It is not necessarily an easy thing to do to raise your band and to have your ringing judged by highly critical ears so I would like to thank all those teams who entered for doing so and hope they use the comments in a constructive way

The standard competition touch which all teams ring has an elegant structure calling the back bells down to the front until you get to back rounds and then calling the little bells back to the front to produce rounds. In most case this was rung well, particularly back rounds and the row 125346. We thought there may have been some odd-struckness on bell three or four compared to the other bells which added challenge.

Our marking system for each team was to provide half a fault for a clip or hesitation or a whole fault for a clash or very large gap. I would like to say we agreed on the order of all the teams and had very similar scores for each team. So here are the comments and score for each team:

Team one rang consistently throughout and mostly had good changes from row to another. Towards the end of the piece these seemed to be anticipated with the previous row picking up blemishes to prepare for the new changes. They rang the changes 543216 and 125346 well and did not incur any whole faults in their piece. This team were let down by their leading with many slow backstroke leads which didn't let the ringing flow but the bells were rung accurately. They incurred 22 faults.

Team two started their piece well with the first two rows being rung well, but suddenly had extreme difficulty as the treble neared the back. I'm afraid it was quite difficult to judge this part of their test piece which was a shame as the second half was much better. I was impressed that the conductor got everyone back in place by change 43521. They were able to ring back rounds well and also 125346 near the end of the piece. This team accrued 73 faults.

Team three set off at the briskest pace of the day and had some very confident rounds to start and executed all changes of rows well. Again change 543216 was rung well. This was the first team to have a little difficulty mixing little and big bells up, had some slow handstroke leads and odd clips and gaps between changes. This was a nice piece to listen to as they certainly got the measure of the bells but missed some of the fine detail which is ultimately where the faults were picked up. We gave this team 34 faults.

Team four never really seemed to settle and appear to struggle with bells three and four together which incurred lots many faults. The change 514326 was rung very well and all the changes were performed well. Problems began to arise at the handstroke after the changes were performed. This team rang steadily and consistently apart from this. This team received 52 faults.

Team five rang fairly consistently but seemed to have a few issues with mixing the little and big bells at the back of the change which seemed to be from stretching out some of the changes. This team also rang 543216 well but suffered from missed blows here and there and the odd clash. The transition from change to change was managed well. They incurred 42 faults.

The results were awarded as team one (St Stephen's) in first place, team three (Lyminge) in second place, team 5 (Scratch 1) in third place, team four (Scratch 2) and team 2 (Thanington) in fifth place.

I would like to thank everyone for ringing, the ringers of Great Mongeham for allowing us use of the bells and providing tea and everyone who entered.

Andrew Hills and Donald Niblett



Left to right back row, left to right front row:

- James Futcher (Bell 3)
- Paul Davis (Bell 5)
- Jamie Carmichael (Bell 6)
- Toby Huitson (Bell 2)
- Jane Huxley (Bell 4)
- Enid Dixon (Bell 1)

120 CLUB

KCACR Canterbury District

Minutes of Past Meetings

Quarterly Meeting

Saturday 8th July 2017 at St Peter-in-Thanel.

Ringling began at 3pm under the guidance of Ben Legg. The Service at 4.30 was conducted by Rev. Brian Sharp with Susan Record playing the organ. Tea was served in the Church Hall by the St Peter ringers.

1. Welcome. The chairman, Mike Little, welcomed everyone to St Peter-in-Thanel.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Peter Dale, Rebecca Denne, Rev. Stanley Evans, Jo Horton, Len Huckstep, Belinda Moyna, John Paramor, Freda Parker, Zoe and Malcolm Story and Tom Winter.
3. Minutes of the last three meetings as printed in the newsletter were taken as read on a proposal from Rev. David Cawley seconded by Susan Record.
4. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.
5. Election of New Members
No new members were proposed for election.
6. Presentation of Certificates.
There were no certificates for presentation.
7. The Collection amounted to £27.50 with £13.75 given to St Peters and £13.75 to the BRF.
8. Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 12th August

Get Together at Quex. This will be a social event where everyone can help arrange whatever they wish to do. The BBQ was likely to be set up but people needed to contact Hazel Basford and David Sheekey as the chairman would not be in attendance this year.

Saturday 9th September

Call change competition at Great Mongeham. Draw at 2.45pm. Competition ringing at 3pm, Service at 5pm followed by a short meeting, at which the results will be announced. Tea will be available during the competition. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

The chairman suggested that all bands should enter. An entry form and copy of the rules are in the July newsletter.

Saturday 14th October

Annual District Meeting at St Dunstons. Ringing at 3pm, Service at 4.15pm followed by tea and meeting. Evening ringing at St Stephens. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

This was the opportunity for members to have their say about district activities and vote for next year's committee.

A nomination form will be emailed out after the September competition and included in the October newsletter.

Saturday 11th November

Bye meeting at Sheldwich. Ringing at 11am Service at 12.30 followed by lunch, meeting and further ringing. This will be the first of the morning meetings for winter 2017/2018.

There will be a minutes silence at 11am for Armistice Day.

9. The 120 Club.

Results of the draw were:

1st	£35	63	Bill Evans	Chartham
2nd	£20	52	Romany Cowans	Bekesbourne
3rd	£10	84	Chris Godfrey	Chilham

10. Members achievements.

The district band was placed fourth at the county eight bell striking competition.

11. Any Other Business.

The bells of St Dunstons are due to be collected from the Loughborough foundry on Monday 10th July and will be refitted ready for ringing as soon as possible.

Throwley had three new recruits. They were asking for help in training them on the second Tuesday of each month.

St Peters had lots of recruits and would welcome help on Mondays.

Margate also needed help on Wednesdays.

The secretary had received two requests in the last three months for help ringing for weddings. The wedding parties had been told that there were not enough ringers available so the bells would not be rung. They had found the county website and asked for help which the general secretary had passed on to the district. It was suggested that towers in this situation should contact members of the district committee for assistance.

12. Vote of Thanks

Keith Record gave the vote of thanks to Rev. Jan Durrans for use of the church and bells and all those involved in the organisation of the meeting.

Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

Striking Competition

Saturday 9th September 2017 at St Martin, Great Mongeham

With only three bands entered no draw was made and ringing began at 3.30pm. Two scratch bands were put together for those ringers who attended but were not in a band. The service was conducted by Rev. Peter Hambrook with Toby Huitson playing the organ. Tea was served in the Church by the Great Mongeham ringers during which the meeting took place.

The Chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Great Mongeham.

1. Election of new members
No new members were proposed for election.
2. Presentation of Certificates
There were no certificates to present.
3. The Collection was not taken during the Service.
4. Forthcoming Events

Saturday 14th October Annual District Meeting at Canterbury, St Dunstons. Ringing from 3pm, service at 4.15pm followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please. Evening ringing at St Stephens.

A nomination form for next year's committee will be emailed out to all towers after this meeting and will be included in the October newsletter the deadline for which will be 27th September.

Saturday 11th November Bye Meeting at Sheldwich.
Ringing from two minutes after 11am, service at 12.30pm followed by lunch and meeting. Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

NOTE: This is the first morning meeting for winter 2017/2018.

Saturday 9th December Carol Service and Social at St Stephens, Canterbury.
Ringing at 3pm, Carol service at 4.30pm followed by the social in the church hall. Tickets £10 adults, £8 children will be available at the ADM in October. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Saturday 13th January Quarterly Meeting at Faversham.
Ringing from 11am, service at 12.30pm followed by lunch and meeting. Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

5. 120 Club Draw
This will take place at the ADM in October.

6. Proposed rule changes at the 2018 AGM

Details of the proposals will be emailed to all towers after this meeting. They will be discussed at the ADM on October 14th.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

8. Results of the Competition

The chairman introduced the judges, Donald Niblett and Andrew Hills who thanked those towers who had entered a band. They had awarded faults and half faults for each row. After general comments about each band the marks were as follows:

1st	Canterbury St Stephen	rang	1st	22 faults
2nd	Lyminge	rang	3rd	34 faults
3rd	Scratch band two	rang	5th	42 faults
4th	Scratch band one	rang	4th	59 faults
5th	Thanington	rang	2nd	73 faults

The cup was presented to the St Stephens band.

9. Vote of Thanks

Andrew Heatlie proposed the vote of thanks to all those involved in organising the competition and to the two judges. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

District Quarter Peals

Quarter Peals rung from 1st July to 30th September 2017 are as follows

Date	Rang At	Changes	Method	Conductor
3-Jul-17	Monkton (St Mary Magdalene), Kent	1272	Minimus (6m)	Clare Larter
9-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Pietermaritzburg Doubles	Michael Little
15-Jul-17	Boughton under Blean (SS Peter and Paul)	1250	Spliced Surprise Major (4m)	Neil Jones
15-Jul-17	Selling (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1250	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	Neil Jones
15-Jul-17	Sheldwich (St James), Kent	1344	Rutland Surprise Major	Andrew Hills
16-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	St Kenelm Doubles	Michael Little
18-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Fourteenforty Doubles	Tim Attridge
19-Jul-17	Dover (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1260	Western Heights Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
22-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Illustrious Doubles	Tim Attridge
22-Jul-17	St Peter-in-Thanel, Kent	1260	Mixed Doubles	Mike Little
23-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	St Frederick Doubles	Tim Attridge
24-Jul-17	Sturry (St Nicholas), Kent	1296	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Philip H Larter
26-Jul-17	Thanington (St Nicholas), Kent	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Tony Martin
28-Jul-17	Sheldwich (St James), Kent	1260	St Simon's Bob Doubles	Philip H Larter
30-Jul-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Little Linford Doubles	Michael Little
30-Jul-17	Canterbury (St Stephen, Hackington), Kent	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Jane E Huxley
1-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Little Wyrley Doubles	Tim Attridge
3-Aug-17	Selling (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1280	Yorkshire Surprise Major	Ian Oram
4-Aug-17	Westgate on Sea (St Saviour), Kent	1320	Plain Bob Doubles	William N Evans
5-Aug-17	Selling (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1260	Bob Doubles	Barry Roberts
5-Aug-17	Sheldwich (St James), Kent	1260	Bob Doubles	Barry Roberts
5-Aug-17	Birchington (Waterloo Tower, Quex Park)	1296	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Andrew M Hills
6-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Brathay Doubles	Tim Attridge
6-Aug-17	Canterbury (St Stephen, Hackington), Kent	1260	Plain Bob Major	Alex Britton
6-Aug-17	St Laurence in Thanet (St Laurence), Kent	1380	Doubles (2m)	Thomas A Winter
7-Aug-17	Chilham (St Mary), Kent	1250	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	Clare Bellis
8-Aug-17	St Laurence in Thanet (St Laurence), Kent	1260	Grandsire Caters	Thomas A Winter
9-Aug-17	Selling (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1280	Bristol Surprise Major	Andrew M Hills
11-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	3m Doubles	Tim Attridge
15-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Pirate Radio Doubles	Michael Little
16-Aug-17	Dover (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1260	Alkham Valley Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby

Date	Rang At	Changes	Method	Conductor
20-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Chapel Stile Doubles	Tim Attride
20-Aug-17	Canterbury (St Stephen, Hackington), Kent	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Jane E Huxley
21-Aug-17	Sheldwich (St James), Kent	1296	London Surprise Minor	Philip Larter
24-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1320	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Michael Little
25-Aug-17	Chartham (St Mary), Kent	1260	Grandsire Doubles	William N Evans
26-Aug-17	Birchington (Waterloo Tower, Quex Park)	1260	Doubles (1p, 2m)	Tony Martin
27-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Grandsire Triples	Michael Little
29-Aug-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Princess Of Wales Doubles	Michael Little
3-Sep-17	Canterbury (St Stephen, Hackington), Kent	1260	Mixed Doubles	Adam C Redgwell
9-Sep-17	Waltham (St Bartholomew), Kent	1260	Doubles (5mv)	Cathryn M Hills
10-Sep-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Stockingfield Doubles	Michael Little
10-Sep-17	Canterbury (Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ)	1260	Plain Bob Royal	Andrew M Hills
10-Sep-17	Walmer (St Mary (The Granville Tower)), Kent	1260	Grandsire Triples	Andrew M Hills
11-Sep-17	Boughton-under-Blean (SS Peter and Paul)	1260	Plain Bob Triples	Philip Larter
11-Sep-17	Chilham (St Mary), Kent	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Philip Bedford
14-Sep-17	Godmersham (St Laurence the Martyr), Kent	1260	Doubles (3m)	Leonard A Huckstep
14-Sep-17	Boughton under Blean (SS Peter and Paul)	1280	Yorkshire Surprise Major	Ian Oram
15-Sep-17	Thanington (St Nicholas), Kent	1260	3m Doubles	Tony Martin
16-Sep-17	Petham (All Saints), Kent	1260	Doubles (4mp)	Cathryn M Hills
17-Sep-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Julie McDonnell Doubles	Tim Attride
17-Sep-17	Canterbury (St Stephen, Hackington), Kent	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Claire Stay
17-Sep-17	St Laurence in Thanet (St Laurence), Kent	1260	Julie McDonnell Doubles	Clare Bellis
17-Sep-17	Westgate on Sea (St Saviour), Kent	1260	Julie McDonnell Doubles	Dorothe Steidinger
18-Sep-17	Canterbury (St Dunstan), Kent	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Jane E Huxley
18-Sep-17	Ospringe (SS Peter and Paul), Kent	1260	St Martins Bob Triples	Darren Elphick

Date	Rang At	Changes	Method	Conductor
20-Sep-17	Dover (St Mary the Virgin), Kent	1260	Grandsire Triples	Owen C R Webster
22-Sep-17	Whitstable (St Alphege), Kent	1260	Grandsire Triples	Benjamin J H Legg
24-Sep-17	Birchington (All Saints), Kent	1260	Xema Doubles	Tim Attride
24-Sep-17	Canterbury (Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ)	1289	Stedman Caters	Andrew M Hills

District Peals

Peals rung from 1st July to 30th September 2017 are as follows:

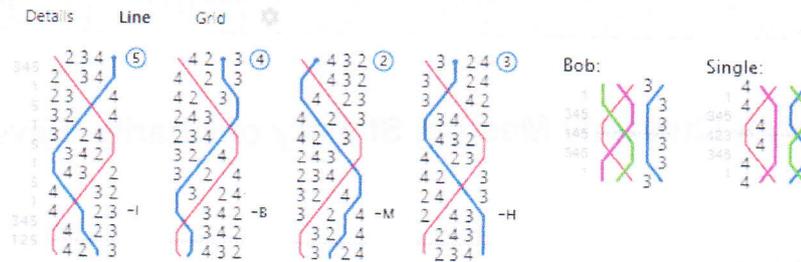
Date	Rang At	Changes	Method	Conductor
12-Jul-17	Boughton under Blean (SS Peter and Paul)	5024	Glasgow Surprise Major	John B Keeler
16-Sep-17	Birchington (Waterloo Tower, Quex Park)	5040	Grandsire Triples	Mark Chittenden-Pile
7-Sep-17	Boughton under Blean (SS Peter and Paul)	5184	Spliced Surprise Major	John B Keeler

Special Methods

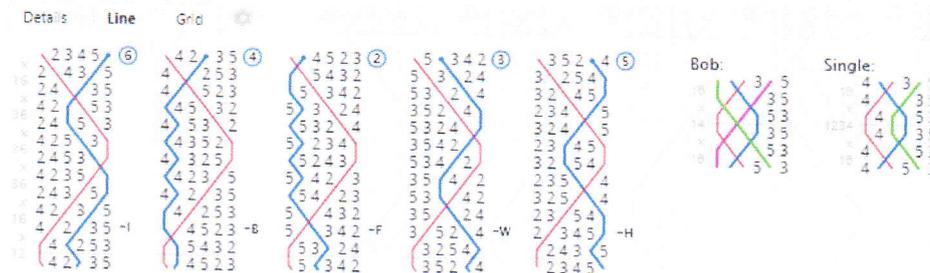
All diagrams from www.rsw.me.uk/blueline

Saturday 14 October – ADM St Dunstan's, Canterbury

Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

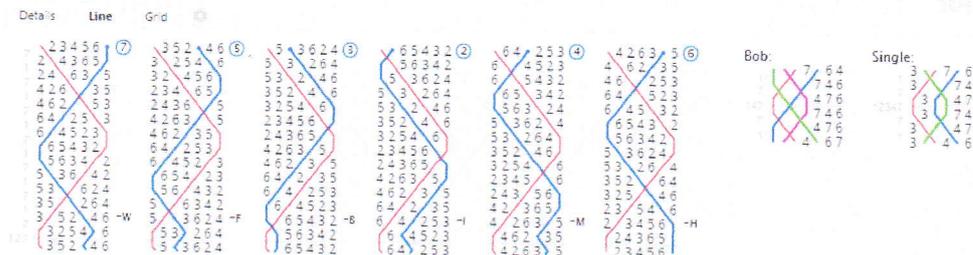


St Clement's College Bob Minor

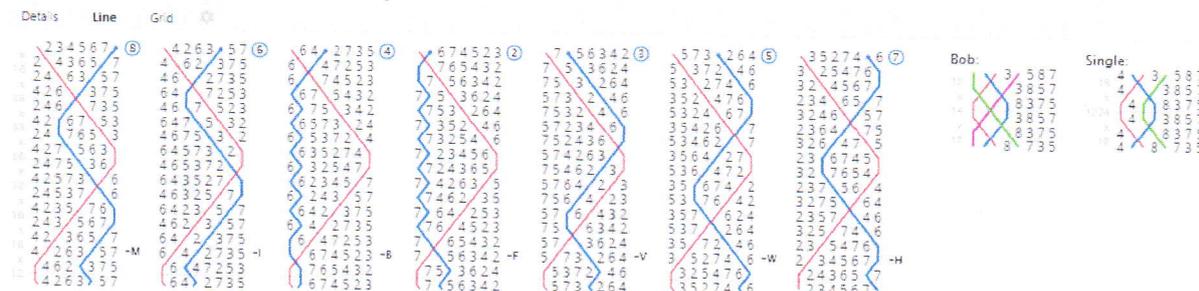


Saturday 11 November – Bye Meeting St James, Sheldwich

Plain Bob Triples



St Clement's College Bob Major



Saturday 9 December – Christmas Social St Stephen’s, Canterbury

No special methods, just come along and enjoy!

Saturday 13 January – Quarterly Meeting St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Grandsire Triples

Details Line Grid

Bob: Single:

Plain Bob Major

Details Line Grid

Bob: Single:

Canterbury District Officers

As of the 2016 Annual District Meeting, the officers of the Canterbury District currently stand as follows:

Chairman	Mike Little	01843 791117	quexmaster@hotmail.com
Secretary	Tony Martin	01227 769686	canterburysecretary@kcacr.org.uk
Treasurer	Cathryn Hills	01795 533809	(No calls after 8pm please)
Competition Secretary	Andrew Hills	01795 533809	amhills@hotmail.co.uk
Ringling Masters	Ben Legg	01227 264203	ben@leggs87@hotmail.com
	Tom Winter	07791 945217	thomas.winter@outlook.com
District Reps	Brenda Davies	01227 738492	bdavies5040@gmail.com
	Jo Horton	01227 711138	jo.horton@which.net
Newsletter Editor & Press Rep	Jane Huxley		cantdistrictnews@gmail.com
120 Club Promoter	Phil Elderton	07492 787789	120clubcanterbury@gmail.com
Committee Members	Len Huckstep	01227 362733	lenhuckstep@gmail.com
	Michael Keeler-Walker	01227 720121	mckeeler@hotmail.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

Annual District Meeting

Saturday 14th October at Canterbury, St Dunstons.

Ringling from 3pm, service at 4.15pm followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please. Evening ringing at St Stephens.

A nomination form for next year's committee has been emailed out to all towers and is included in this newsletter.

Holiday Practice

Wednesday 25th October at Canterbury St Stephens from 10.45 until 12.30pm.

Wednesday 27 December at Canterbury St Stephens from 10.45 until 12.30pm.

Wednesday 3 January at Canterbury St Stephens from 10.45 until 12.30pm.

Bye Meeting

Saturday 11th November at Sheldwich.

Ringling from 11am, service at 12.30pm followed by lunch and meeting. Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

NOTE: This is the first morning meeting for winter 2017/2018.

Carol Service and Social

Saturday 9th December at Canterbury, St Stephens.

Ringling at 3pm, Carol service at 4.30pm followed by the social in the church hall. Tickets £10 for adults and £8 children will be available at the ADM in October.

Quarterly Meeting

Saturday 13th January at Faversham.

Ringling from 11am, service at 12.30pm followed by lunch and meeting. Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Nomination Form
Canterbury District Officers for 2017/2018

From..... Tower.....

Chairman.....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as Chairman.....

District Secretary.....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as Secretary.....

District Representatives (Two)
(1).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Representative.....

(2).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Representative.....

District Ringing Masters (Two)
(1).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Ringing Master.....

(2).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Ringing Master.....

This form must be signed by the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee.

It would be appreciated if completed forms are returned to the District Secretary, Tony Martin, or to the District Chairman, Mike Little by 7th October, 2017 AT THE LATEST, please.



Canterbury District Christmas Social

St Stephen's Hackington
on
Saturday 9 December

Come and join us for a

Quiz for All



Ringling: 15:00 – 16:30
Carol Service: 16:30
Food to be served: 18:00
Quiz: 19:30



Bring Your Own Drink + Glass
Adults £10 Under 16's £8