LOOK TO WHERE OUN TO THE PARTY COUNTY OF COMMANDE

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT OF THE KCACR SUMMER 2016

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

THE LAST QUARTER HAS BEEN AN INTERESTING ONE! The usual quarterly meeting was held on 2nd April and is reported on in more detail elsewhere. At that meeting, following a decision about how and for what period the accounts of the District would be produced and presented to members, regrettably our District Secretary Tony Cresswell felt that he was not comfortable with the decision and as a result tendered his resignation. I have served on the committee during his tenure as District Secretary and am only too well aware that Tony has carried out his duties as secretary excellently for four and a half years and his diligence and attention to detail will make it a hard act for his successor to follow. Many thanks to him for all that he has done. Hamilton Woods has taken on the role of District Secretary on a temporary basis and I'm very grateful to him for doing so and this means that we are looking for a permanent replacement for Tony. Please contact me either by email, michael.bullett@ btinternet.com or phone, 01892 740020 if you would like more information. Don't be shy coming forward!

At the ADM in October we shall have a departure from the committee. Phil Jones has edited and arranged the production of *Look to* now for over four years and has indicated that the time has now come to pass this on to someone new. He has done a great job and many thanks are due to him for that. We are therefore looking for a replacement and a knowledge of word processing and/or publishing software would be very useful. Please contact me or Phil, lookto@kcacr.org.uk, for more information if you are even the slightest bit interested in helping out with this task.

Now to more normal matters. There have been two training sessions in the last quarter at which the students all made good progress and went back to their towers to make a bigger contribution to the ringing there. Thanks to Mike Worthington for his hard work in organizing these sessions.

The 6-bell District striking competition was held at Leigh on 7th May, this is also reported in more detail elsewhere, and congratulations are due to Otford for winning the change ringing competition and to Hadlow for winning the method competition. Hadlow now go on to represent the District at the final against the other KCACR districts which will be held at Farnborough in Lewisham District on 24th September and I wish them well. The competition was a fun morning but it would be improved by more teams taking part. This year there were eight, four in both competitions, so make a note to get your tower into the frame for entering next year! Thanks are due to Leigh for hosting the event and providing refreshment etc, and to Mike Worthington and Jen Thomas for running it and to Simon Alford who very kindly acted as judge – all in all a successful morning.

A 10-bell practice was held at Staplehurst on 11th June and was an enjoyable evening: the ringing was helped by the County Chairman Daniel Brady being there – thanks Daniel. As we have no 10 or 12 bell towers in the District, this is an opportunity to expand our ringing experience so don't be intimidated by the thought of 10-bell ringing as there will always be some for all levels of experience and people around to help you along.

In the next quarter there is an evening meeting at Kemsing on 16th July. I do urge you to get to some of these meetings – the ringing opportunities range from rounds to surprise methods, ie ringing for all. It also gets people out of their own towers and thus they can see what goes on elsewhere and learn from it – almost certainly more quickly than you would if you don't visit other towers. So I urge you to ring at towers other than your own – you will be welcome and you will improve your ringing! Mobility is good!

Also there is a joint outing with Lewisham District on Saturday 6th August. If past experience is any guide, this will be a good day with varied ringing for all levels to probably six towers and will be in the London area. This can be accessed using public transport and a travel card will take you through the whole day – details will follow later in the month. Please put it in your diaries!

I wish you all good ringing!



District Officers and Tower Stewards

October 2015 to October 2016

Mike Worthington SEVENOAKS

District Ringing Master

mike@worthington33.freeserve.co.uk

- Sevenoaks
- Sundridge
- Tunbridge Wells
- Westerham

Hamilton Woods TONBRIDGE

District Secretary District Treasurer hamwoods@kent2.co.uk

- Brenchley
- Goudhurst
- Sandhurst
- Tonbridge

Jen Thomas SPELDHURST

District Ringing Master

jennifermthomas@btopenworld.com

- Brasted
- Chevening
- Otford
- Penshurst

Mike Bullett SPELDHURST

District Chairman

michael.bullett@btinternet.com

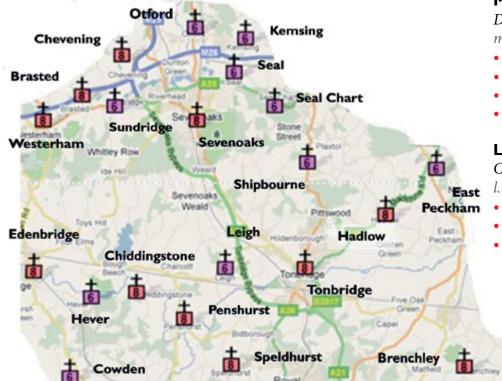
- Horsmonden
- Kilndown
- Lamberhurst
- Speldhurst

Louise Nightingale HEVER

Committee Member

l.b.nightingale@btinternet.com

- Cowden
- Hever
- Leigh



Richard Dyson EDENBRIDGE Committee Member

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- Chiddingstone
- Edenbridge

Phil Jones SEVENOAKS

District Newsletter Editor lookto@kcacr.org.uk

- Seal
- Seal Chart
- Shipbourne

Phil Jarvis HADLOW pr755jarvis@aol.com

Tunbridge Wells

Lamberhurst

- Cranbrook
- East Peckham
- Hawkhurst
- Hadlow
- Kemsing



Sandhurst

DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING

THE SECOND DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING OF 2016 was held on Saturday 2nd April at St Mary Magdalene, Cowden

S PRESENT:

Mike Bullett (chairman), Tony Cresswell (secretary) and 26 others.

- § Tony Cresswell proposed a vote of thanks during the tea for the Revd Marion Trask and the PCC of St Mary Magdalene, for leading the service and for the use of the bells. He also thanked the organist Isabel Pearce for playing for us, and Caroline Levy-Cooper and her team of Cowden bellringers for making the arrangements and providing such a sumptuous tea.
- § THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING had been circulated in advance and were approved on a show of hands.

S MATTERS ARISING

Mike Bullett raised the accounts issue and explained that the committee were recommending a move to a calendar year basis for the reporting. In future it was proposed that the accounts would be based on a 31st December year end and circulated in advance of the January DQM at which the treasurer would report. The meeting would be moved to the second Saturday of January if necessary to allow the treasurer time to prepare the accounts. As a proposal from the chair this did not require a seconder and was approved nem. con. on a show of hands. Mike B. explained that the committee did not see the need to have the accounts approved by the members but invited Tony to put forward his alternative view, which he did. There was lively debate of the necessity or otherwise of having the members formally approve the accounts. Points raised included the absence from the KCACR Rules of such a requirement on the District or even the Association; the positive and negative effects of approval or lack of it on the General Treasurer's and Independent Examiner's work; and the lack of any independent review of the District Accounts to reassure the members that the accounts were true. Tony proposed a motion requiring the accounts to be subjected to a vote of approval at the January quarterly meeting and this was seconded by David Cochrane; the motion was defeated by a large majority on a show of hands. Tony then announced that he did not feel able to continue as District Secretary when he did not agree with the way the District chose to conduct its financial affairs and promptly resigned.

Mike B. proposed a vote of thanks to Tony for his four and a half years' service as District Secretary, which received applause, and then invited him to continue taking the minutes in an informal role.

§ THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS WERE ELECTED

Nina Holley (Kemsing), Susan Stacey (Kemsing) and Indiana Winter (Speldhurst).

MATTERS TO REPORT

- * South East England Youth Striking Competition: Jen Thomas reported that a Kent team practice had taken place at Whitstable on Friday 1st April attended by herself, Dan Jarvis and 3 others from the District and 2 other young Kent ringers. A six-member call change competition band was formed including Dan, Jamie Austin, Stephanie and Alexander Runting and Rebecca Stuttard. The competition featured 7 teams from all over the south-east and a band who had travelled from Guernsey. The KCACR band rang 5th, were conducted by Rebecca and came second. Jen's report was met with loud acclaim and rousing applause.
- * Alan Kemp: Rosemary Southon had reported that Alan Kemp died recently. He had been a ringer at Tunbridge Wells and, since 1995 at Goudhurst. All stood for a minute's silence in his memory.

S FORTHCOMING EVENTS

County Surprise Practice: Daniel Brady confirmed that the next County Surprise Practice was pencilled in for 30th April at West Malling but yet to be finally confirmed.

Striking Competition & support for events: Mike B. issued a general request to all to support forthcoming events and asked Jen to speak about the District Striking Competition (Leigh 7th May). Jen encouraged all towers to enter the competition reminding all that those who have competed in the past have found it a very useful and enjoyable experience and reiterating that the teams might include up to two outsiders and that towers could enter both the method and call changes sections provided there were enough differences in personnel between the teams. The winning method band will go on to represent the District at the County 6-Bell Competition. Jen handed out copies of the rules.

KCACR General Committee Meeting – see report of major items in *Look to*. Mike Worthington reported that the AGM had decided to fund a plaque for Brasted commemorating Frank Lewis and his enormous contribution to ringing in the County as well as deciding to name the County's digital archive of ringing matter after him.

KCACR AGM – watch the website for more detail. Daniel Brady mentioned that there is no Training Officer at present and that one of three committee positions without portfolio is currently vacant, in case anyone is interested in offering their services. Mike B. reminded that Tonbridge District is hosting the 2017 AGM at Cranbrook.

§ SAFEGUARDING – this is on the agenda as a matter of routine but there were no issues to bring forward

from the committee and none arose from the floor. § ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- * Ringing for England: Mike B. reminded that St George's Day ringing was to be encouraged and asked that any plans should be reported in advance to Libby@RingingforEngland.co.uk
- * Queen's Birthday: He also referred to the Queen's birthday on 21st April, again encouraging ringing and reporting to Buckingham Palace, who would be delighted to receive reports and would respond. He also pointed out that the main commemorative effort was to be in association with the Queen's official birthday over the weekend of 10–12th June.
- * Apologies for absence: Tessa Worthington proposed that future quarterly meetings should do away with collecting apologies from non-attending members other than the committee (who should be expected to attend or offer apologies!) and this was agreed by the meeting.
- * Tower Handbooks: Fraser Clift questioned why there

was no tower copy of the handbook issued this year. Daniel Brady replied that it was routine to do so and that this was a mistake this year. Any tower needing another copy was invited to request one from the General Secretary but also asked to bear in mind the waste involved in the many unclaimed copies to be seen lying around in towers every year.

* Request for ideas for shortening DQMs: Mike B. asked for feedback from District members on ways of shortening quarterly meetings and asked about the possibility of dropping the service. It was pointed out from the floor that KCACR Rules require a service to be held 'if possible'. Dan Jarvis felt the services should be dropped or shortened to brief prayers. David Cochrane wanted the service to be retained and it was also pointed out from the floor that some members attend only for the service and the social aspects or even only for the service. Angela Clark suggested the committee circulate a questionnaire setting out ideas and seeking views and Mike B. agreed to do this.

COUNTY AGM

The AGM of the KCACR took place on Easter Monday, 2016 at Tunstall in the Rochester District.

An excellent mix of towers were open for ringing, both before and after the meeting and we were made most welcome, there were even refreshments available! Owing to high winds and the resulting road blockages, not all the towers could be reached in the time frame allotted, but a good number of ringers made it to the service.

The lunch was terrific, beef casserole and lots of puddings, with tea and coffee following the meeting.

Our own Caroline Stockmann from Sevenoaks has become Publicity Officer and was also elected as a Central Council representative, along with Phil Barnes. It was reported that membership cards will be issued to each member, along with the new Handbook. The purpose of this card is to prove member's insurance status, if asked, since some towers do not have their own public liability insurance.

In 2017 the Kent AGM will be held in our District, centred around Cranbrook.

* Angela Clark Tonbridge

FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

between now and the next edition of Look to

16th July Evening Practice 7pm Kemsing

30th July County Surprise Practice 10am venue tba

6th August Joint outing with Lewisham District

3rd September Training Day 7-9pm Staplehurst

24th September County 6-bell Striking Competition Farnborough

Ist October Annual District Meeting 3pm Chiddingstone

Deadline for the next edition of Look to Tuesday 13th September

Tonbridge District 120 Club

If you are new to ringing you may not have heard about the Tonbridge District 120 Club. This charity raises money for the Bell Restoration Fund by selling £10 shares. Part of the money raised is given back as prizes through draws at District events. The rest of it goes to the KCACR Bell Restoration Fund to help keep bells ringable in Kent. If you would like to participate you can download an application form and the club rules from the Tonbridge District page of the KCACR website, or contact me at ray.taylor@easynet.co.uk or on 07973 123 323.

124 shares were sold in 2015–6, generating £678.35 for the Bell Restoration Fund after deducting prize money and postage. Almost as much as last year – well done us! The last draw of the 2015–6 series takes place at the July Quarterly Meeting (today!) ... so I'm starting to organise the 2016–7 series. You'll receive a renewal form by email, by hand or by post if you had shares during 2015–6.

Online payments are becoming very popular. 61% of shares were bought and 83% of prizes paid using electronic transfer. A few people have chosen to set up a standing order. That means I don't have to make so many trips to the bank (thanks!) and saves a lot of 55p stamps. Please buy or renew shares before the first draw of the 2016–7 series, which will take place at the Annual District Meeting on 1st October. There is no limit on the number of shares that can be sold. More shares sold simply means a bigger donation to the BRF and more prize money!

As always, thank you very much for your support.

* Ray Taylor Tonbridge District 120 Club Treasurer

120 CLUB RESULTS

April

47 Tunbridge Wells; 10 Chevening; 33 Cowden May

15 Sevenoaks; 33 Cowden; 52 Sevenoaks

25 Hawkhurst; 106 Cranbrook; 14 Chevening



The Charmborough Ring

Thinking of an event to attract the public?

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- Training courses
 Public demonstrations

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Enquiries to: hiring@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 112616

COUNTY GENERAL COMMITTEE

Points from the April meeting

- § The accounts for 2013, 2014 and 2015 are all complete and are still with the auditor.
- § The domain name for the KCACR website has been moved to an alternative (cheaper) hosting company as it came up for renewal.
- § The handbooks were printed & distributed on time at the AGM at the end of March, and next year we plan to provide an extra copy to each tower to place in church.
- § An award of £150 was made from the Training Fund to Higham to help them install a simulator to allow them to increase their practice time whilst restricted under a noise abatement order from the local council.
- § It was agreed that, going forward, awards from the Training Fund up to £250 would be agreed by the Training Officer and one of the trustees (Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer) rather than the Training Officer alone.
- § The Publicity Officer is going to work to create some 'ready-to-go' publicity material that can be used within the County when events occur with media involvement.
- § An Association consent form for young ringers will be produced with the help of Nigel Spencer.
- § Kent Young Ringers will be entering a band into the Ringing World National Youth Competition for the first time this year on 2nd July in London.
- § Congratulations to the Kent Young Ringers band who came 2nd overall (1st ringing call changes) in the South East Youth Competition.
- § A grant of £1,000 was awarded to Downe for some maintenance work on the bells (total cost approximately £6,000).
- § Anyone who hasn't received a membership card should contact the General Secretary to request one.
- § A possible project for work on the bells at East Peckham is being considered.
- § The County 8-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 2nd July, 9.45am draw, in the Canterbury District. Tower TBC, but likely Herne.
- § The County 6-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 24th September, 9.45am draw, in the Lewisham District at Farnborough.
- § The County Youth Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 22nd October. Tower TBC, potentially Otford.
- § The upcoming dates of the General Committee meetings in 2016 are 27th August and 26th November.

Doug Davis, General Secretary

Quarterly Training Day – 3rd September 2016

As usual students may request training in any of our four "Standard" topics. These are:-

- Rounds and Call Changes
- Plain Hunt/Ropesight
- Plain Bob Doubles
- Grandsire Doubles

Please remember to check the course requirements (Getting the most from your training day) on the district training page at http://www.kcacr.org.uk/tonbdist/tdist_trg.htm and get back to me if you have any queries or need help meeting the requirements

ADDITIONAL TOPIC

I am again hoping to include at least one session entitled

Treble Bob Hunting:

For: Individuals who can competently ring touches of Plain Bob and/or Grandsire inside and wish to practice treble bob hunting prior to moving on to treble bob or surprise methods or

Ringers who can plain hunt competently and wish to begin learning to ring inside. For these ringers treble bob will form a skill building step, learning to dodge accurately in all positions before starting to learn methods. It would be expected that students had already rung a quarter peal plain hunting the treble.

Aim: To learn to dodge and strike dodges accurately in all dodging positions on 6 bells

Courses will be arranged subject to demand and availability of helpers. Please assist by making requests for places as soon as possible, as last minute requests are unlikely to be met. Places should be requested from Mike Worthington at tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk



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Raising & lowering at Brasted

Three extremely nervous students met at 9.30am on Saturday 19th March for a full day of lowering and raising a bell.

Catherine Lewis (despite all the demands on her time) gave up her day to help us students, first of all by taking us through the theory of raising and lowering – oh so much information to remember and to try and put into practice, so much we should all know but perhaps we do but without realising.

10am The first of our many helpers arrived and it was time to put our new-found knowledge to the test.

Anthony Leeves was my helper and my personal thank you for all your patience and especially explaining why and how my hands always landed up in the wrong place on the sally!

We were all struggling and longed for our coffeebreak, and to chat to our other compatriots, comparing on how we thought our day might be progressing.

12.30 Oh thank goodness – lunchtime! The Stanhope Arms served a wonderful lunch, which we all thoroughly enjoyed. During our break it gave us time to chat to our other helpers who had arrived a little later, and to get to introduce ourselves to people unknown to either Nancy Branson or myself.

2pm It was now time to resume our training. Ian from Penshurst, whom I think struggled the most during our first session, finally got everything right – not perfectly but certainly got the thumbs up from his helper – well done. Whereas Nancy and I were still finding it hard. Nancy suffering with blisters certainly didn't help, but we both were determined to master this mystery of raising and lowering a bell; why oh why do you experts make it look so easy?

At **3pm** I thought to myself I just cannot continue. Both Nancy and I had sore hands and our arms were aching but with Catherine's enthusiasm we did carry on and how pleased we were that we did.

Luckily it paid off; my final ring of the day, my very last attempt of raising and lowering and I got it *right*. I cannot express how proud I felt at that very moment. Nancy made just as good a progress and was just as delighted. I am sure she would like me to thank Eric, her helper, on her behalf for all his help.

From us all, a great big thank you to each and everybody concerned not only for giving up your day, but also for your patience and understanding; also to Catherine for all the organisation of the training day – it really was appreciated.

Only time will tell if we have improved enough to raise and lower in our home towers. Let us hope so.

* Dot Twiner Sevenoaks

Rounds & call changes at Hadlow



We three learners, Rachel, from Tonbridge; Lynne from Westerham and myself, Sam from Sevenoaks met in the lovely tower of Hadlow – much posher than St Nicks in Sevenoaks – there is carpeting on the stairs to the ringing chamber!

Jen Thomas talked through our programme and set out the theory part of the training. We learners are broadly at the same level of competence, just learning how to do call changes whilst concentrating on bell handling.

Our helpers, Angela Clark, Ray Price, Ann Jenner, Stan Jenner, Bobbie Fairclough and my dad, Nick patiently rang rounds and call changes so we could 'slot in' to the right place and be assured the only clipped bell was ours!

We stopped, fairly briefly, for coffee and cake – Ann's fruit cake was a big hit.

We three learners finished our session with greater confidence and ability; each of us achieved what we personally set out to achieve at the beginning of the session. We learnt a lot and also had a lot of fun, the photo speaks volumes

A massive thanks to Jen and helpers and a special mention for Ann's cake. *** Sam Chard Sevenoaks**

Treble bobbing at Speldhurst

On 4th June three of us 'reported in' at Speldhurst at 9.30 for a morning of treble bob training. The session was arranged by Mike Worthington but Tiffy Lynch was our instructor.

Tiffy started with half an hour of basics, although as she went on she highlighted certain things in a way that was entirely new to me. I felt this part of the session, which one sometimes feels is a bit unnecessary and 'let's get on with the ringing' to be anything but. During this first part she humorously used the phrase 'bring out your inner child' to emphasise some point and said that some of us would find this an

easier process than others, looking at me as she said it! I have got feelings you know, Tiffy.

Then on with the ringing. The three of us took turns treble bobbing to various methods. Tiffy was very helpful in pointing out the importance of really accurate striking and also of lengthening and shortening the rope rather than relying on the strength of our arms. She was pleased with our progress and after a much needed break for coffee got us onto ringing inside to Little Bob and then Kent Treble Bob Minor.

Never having rung it before or even looked it up I felt quite pleased with my first attempts. I found it helpful standing by Eric as he rang it and explained

exactly what he was doing at each blow.

I had done some treble bobbing before and wondered if I really needed the course. In fact I got an awful lot out of it and as a bonus got to ring Kent Treble Bob Minor. These training days are so worthwhile. One gets to pound away at one thing only, gaining sometimes almost a year's practice in the tower, in one morning. Tiffy's instruction was superb as she seemed to anticipate all our problems. She also made the morning great fun as well.

So, many thanks to Tiffy and all the helpers who generously gave up their Saturday morning for us.

* Robin Rouse Hever

District Striking Competition

The District Striking Competition took place on the morning of 7th May at Leigh. Eight teams took part, seven representing towers from the District and one youth team representing themselves. This was a good turnout and it was the first time for many years that a team of youngsters had taken part, a trend we hope will continue.

It was a perfect spring day – some consolation for the judge, Simon Alford from Warnham, who was briefly able to enjoy his surroundings between touches whilst sitting under his gazebo in the churchyard.

The draw took place at 9.45am with the call change and method competitions interspersed. Light refreshments were kindly provided by the Leigh ringers in the church room and consumed by participants at various locations around the churchyard when not ringing.

After all teams had rung there was a brief break for the judge to get his thoughts and comments in order before we all gathered in the church to hear the results.

Jen Thomas, the District Ringing Master, thanked Simon for coming to judge the competition and also expressed thanks to the Leigh ringers for hosting us.

The judge prefaced his comments with the observation that whilst the bells were easy to hear they were not necessarily easy to strike. In particular he highlighted that people had experienced some difficulty with both the treble and tenor throughout the morning. He explained the difficulty for judges of remaining consistent throughout a judging session and hoped he had managed to achieve this.

Summary of judge's comments

The treble seemed to cause most teams problems by clipping at one stroke; similarly, the tenor also caused many teams problems with either clipping or gapping, which led me to think it probably a little odd-struck. All teams improved as they rang their test piece,

Results

METHOD RINGING			
TEAM	RANG	FAULTS	
Hadlow	5th	93	
Sevenoaks	8th	105	
Speldhurst	6th	114	

Brasted 1st 184

CALL CHANGES RINGING				
TEAM	RANG	FAULTS		
Otford	7th	60		
Chevening	3rd	80		
Young Ringers	4th	85		
Edenbridge	2nd	109		

which is to be hoped for, but is nonetheless a mark of gaining experience and confidence.

BRASTED The trend was to gradually settle and improve over the whole piece, with the exception of around the end of the 3rd lead when a possible method mistake carried over into the 4th lead, causing many faults to be incurred. The last three leads produced their cleanest ringing.

EDENBRIDGE They didn't practise any changes during their two minutes. Only seven whole pulls before they started their changes perhaps wasn't long enough to allow them to settle properly. Most of the faults were clustered around where the changes were called, with the more accurate ringing generally being after the bells had settled into the new position.

CHEVENING Practised call changes in practice time. Got tangled halfway but improved.

YOUTH TEAM They did practise some changes during their two minutes. The ringing was generally quite good, with the best bit being just before half-way; unfortunately it fell away a little towards the end. Some pairs of bells seemed to consistently mis-strike around each other, being better when in a different order.

HADLOW Very stately – almost ponderous. Very good finish.

SPELDHURST Most faults clips rather than gaps. Very good finish.

OTFORD A few trips in the middle but improved towards end.

SEVENOAKS Felt like a good pace. Better at end. Final rounds the best ringing of day.

Simon Alford presented representatives from each team with their certificates and trophies:







Clockwise from top: The Young Ringers team, 3rd in call change section, represented by Rebecca Stuttard; Hadlow winners of change ringing section, represented by joint Tower Captains Howard Rogers & Phil Jarvis; the Otford team – winners of the Call Change trophy.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

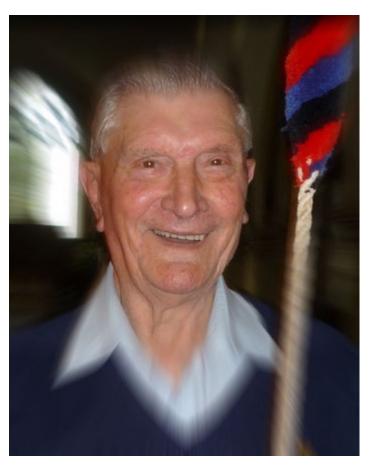
72 years of ringing at Sandhurst

On Sunday 24th April, Mr William Goodsell rang the bells at St Nicholas church for the last time, as a Vice-Captain and a regular member of the band of our ringers. During the previous week, he rang for Her Majesty's 90th Birthday and the lighting of the beacon in the church field as well as on St George's day. He has completed 72 years of bell ringing at the church, starting at the age of 14. As a boy, young Master Goodsell used to be a member of the choir and was asked by the then captain, if he would like to join the ringers. His other duties at church included pumping the wooden lever, which operated the organ bellows. In these latter years, he has tended to ring the tenor.

William's absence will be very much felt by us all, as he very rarely missed a single church service ring and always attended for extra duty at weddings, funerals and special services. His attendance record is certainly the best of the entire band. We do still expect William will join us for specialoccasions during the years to come.

We thank you William for all those years of dedicated ringing at St Nicholas.

* Richard Cutchey Captain, Sandhurst



The Cochranes go to the Palace

About a month ago I received a letter from Barnodo's asking me if I would like to go to a garden party at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the 150th year of Dr Barnodo's.

I was told to contact Barnodo's to put my name down and the letter said that only 250 Barnodo's boys, girls, and a guest and 250 staff and a guest could go. When the draw was taken, my name was chosen. I chose my brother Ian as my guest because I was not allowed to go alone. One of the staff of Barnodo's rang Ian to tell him that we had been invited to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party on the 12th May. It was confirmed two weeks before in writing. We had to put on our best suits and ties.

The day finally arrived. The weather was very good and it was the best day of the week. I caught the train to London and met my brother at Charing Cross station. We walked to the Palace, where we were told at the gate that it would not be open until 3pm. Fortunately the police let us in at 2.40pm. We had to show our identity to get into the garden and had to go into the Palace. It was lovely inside the Palace. We met some of our old Barnodo's boys and talked about old times and some staff of Barnodo's as well. The band was playing right until 6pm. We were not allowed to start the tea party until our President (HRH the Duchess of Cornwall) who was hosting the occasion, arrived. The national anthem was played, and then the Beefeaters lined up on both sides to flank the walk to the royal tent. We were then allowed to start the tea party. After tea, we were allowed to go around the gardens. Last of all, we talked to an old Barnodo's girl who is married and has twin girls. They were mirror twins (like us) but one difference in that Ian and I had



Ian, left, and David, right, with fellow invitee at the Palace. six toes and six fingers. The girls' age is seventeen and they look like two peas in a pod.

The party came to the end and we had to get out of the Palace grounds. We saw a policewoman with a machine gun and we went up to her and asked how she got a licence to use one of these machine guns. The answer she gave was she was '...much better than any of these men who is able to use a machine gun.'

We returned home by train, and Ian and I will remember that day for life.

* David Cochrane Sevenoaks

Look to

always needs your articles to fill its pages! Please send in your contributions on:

△ a write-up of your tower outing (+ photos) △ ringing tips & hints (anything from learning bell-handling to spliced surprise) △ questions you might have △ historical snippets △ anecdotes from a tower visit △ announcements

Please feel free to send a photo (electronically or hard-copy) with your article to

Phil Jones: lookto@kcacr.org.uk or to 1 Cedar Terrace Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3UD

The deadline for copy for the next edition is Tuesday 13th September 2016.

FRASER'S BOOK CORNER

Horse-heads, more Belfries, and 'Melancholly'

The title *Horse-heads Found in Elsdon Belfry* (*Look to* Spring 2016) is rather disturbing, and possibly needs some explanation. Apparently, during repairs in 1877, three horse-head skulls were found in a small sealed chamber above the single bell of the 15th century St Cuthbert's Church at Elsdon, in Northumberland. Edward C. Robertson, writing in 1882, surmises they were placed there as evidence 'of the victory of the Triune-God over Paganism', the horse-heads possibly being considered as emblems of pagan sun worship.

Other bell-related 'belfry' books are, if not as disturbing as the one above, pretty dry, and cover such fascinating topics as faculties, belfry protection, belfry offices, and belfry rules. There are exceptions, however, one being the Revd Ellacombe's *Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers* (*Look to*, 2012 3rd quarter). Although a very serious volume, it nevertheless makes interesting reading because of its portrayal of 18th and 19th century ringing behaviour.

Two more are, I feel, worthy of mention. The first is John Potter Briscoe's *Curiosities of the Belfry* (1883), but you'll have to curb your curiosity on this one for another time! The second, although totally factual, is the three-volume set of *The Bells and Belfries of Dorset* by Christopher Dalton, published in 2000, 2001, and 2005. These softback books are beautifully produced and illustrated, and are a pleasure to dip into if you have any interest at all in church and bell history.



Christopher Dalton died in 2008, in his late sixties. He was one of the foremost bell historians, a talented writer, and an expert photographer. I met Christopher once, when he came, with Chris Pickford and Heather, to Kemsing, to inspect the old frame and bell above the present ring of six. He produced a detailed report for us. Chris Pickford is another of our leading bell historians, and he and Heather rang for a time at Sevenoaks, as many of you will remember.

I finished the last 'Book Corner' with a bit of a laugh. If you are still finding it hard to enjoy your ringing, how about trying 'A Cure for Melancholly'? It appears in Robert Howlett's *The School of Recreation: or a*

A Cure for Melancholly. Doubles and Singles. I should think it needless to explain the Method of prick'd Peals, and give a large Definition of them, when their plain Demonstration might be sufficient; however, as the old Phraie is, Because 'tis s sual, fomething shall be said of this too. The Treble is the whole Hunt, as in the former, and leads four Times, and lieth behind as many, and twice in every other Place; the two Bells in the 3d and 4th Places continue dodging, when the Treble moves out of the 4th Place, until it comes down there again, and then the two hindmost dodge, 'till the Treble displaceth them, who maketh every double Change, except when it lieth behind, and then the double is on the four first, and on the four last when it leads. Every fingle (except when the Treble lies there) is in the 5th and 6th Places; or if possessed by the Treble, then in the 3d and 4th Places: Every Bell (except the Treble) lies four times in the fecond Place : But enough; A Word is enough to the Wife. See it here Decypher'd: 123456 | 245316 | 451236 | 156423 | 134652 | 125643 156432 134625 125634 243561 451263 213465 245361 bob. 415236

213450

231465

231456

234105

234156 452136

243516 4521631

423561

425361

115263

145236

423516 145263

425316 142536

165423

165432

1436;2

143625

162354 154263

154236

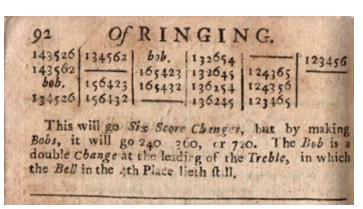
152463

152430

143526

163245

165254



Guide to the Most Ingenious Exercises (various editions, 1684–1736) (Look to, Spring 2015). I haven't yet fathomed out the method, and I suspect the CCCBR Methods Committee would have apoplexy with ten blows in the lead, amongst other things. Incidentally, the word in the second to last line above the numbers is 'wise', not 'wife'!

And if that doesn't do the trick, how about *A Peal of Laughter* (1990) by Blanche Hunt – a history of ringing at Fareham, Hants, I believe. It sounds like my sort of tower.

* Fraser Clift

Apologies for the typos in the last piece: Snowdon's (para 1/line 12), advertisement (2/8), postage (3/8), Witney (3/10), and snowflakes (5/9) are the corrections.

RINGING DURING THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2016

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PEALS

Hadlow Thursday 21st April in 2h 52 5024 Cambridge Surprise Major Composed by John S. Warboys Emma Jarvis 1, Ann Jenner 2, Howard Rogers 3 Ray Taylor 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Daniel Jarvis 6 Stanley Jenner [c] 7, Richard Edwards 8 То celebrate the 90th birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II

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Chevening Sunday 5th June in 2 hrs 36 min 5040 Stedman Triples

David Kirkcaldy 1, Elizabeth Barnes 2, Tiffany Lynch 3 Jacqueline Barlow 4, Ian Mills 5, Phillip Barnes 6 Mark Chittenden-Pile [c] 7, William Stungo 8 Rung during the annual open gardens event at Chevening House.

500th peal: 2 First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor.

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QUARTER PEALS

Hadlow Hunters Lodge Tuesday 22nd March 1260 Double Bob Minor

1–2 Ann Jenner; 3–4 Ray Taylor; 5–6 Stanley Jenner [C]

Sevenoaks Monday 28th March **1250 Superlative Surprise Major**

Tessa Worthington 1, Caroline Stockmann 2 Ann Jenner 3, Michael Worthington 4, Fraser Clift 5 Daniel Jarvis 6, Philip Jarvis 7, Stanley Jenner [c] 8 First in method: 2, 6 & 7

Speldhurst Monday 28th March **1280 Lincolnshire Surprise Major**

Composed by Matthew Durham
Anthony Leeves 1, Frances James 2
Caroline Stockmann 3, Jacqui Fletcher 4
Daniel Jarvis 5, Philip Jarvis 6, David James 7
Andrew Brown [c] First in method: 3 & 5

Brasted Tuesday 29th March 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Noeni Austin 1, Alexander Runting 2 Bobbie Fairclough 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4 Catherine Lewis 5, Juliet Austin 6 Compliment to the treble ringer on the eve of her 12th birthday. First off cover: 1

Leigh Tuesday 29th March 1320 Norwich Surprise Minor

Cory Fernmoor 1, Janice Byrne 2, Stella Wooldridge 3 Fraser Clift 4, Eric Roughley 5, Anthony Leeves [c] 6

Otford Thursday 31st March 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Laura Byrne 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2 Catherine Heathcote 3, Catherine Lewis 4 Anthony Leeves [c] 5, Janice Byrne 6 First quarter peal: 1.

The band would like to associate Eric Roughley with this quarter peal; Eric has played a large part in teaching Laura, but was unable to ring because of flu.

Hadlow Sunday 3rd April 1260 Plain Bob Minor

Stanley Jenner 1, Ann Jenner 2, Emma Jarvis 3 James Evans 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Howard Rogers [c] 6

Sevenoaks Sunday 10th April 1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Tessa Worthington 1, Caroline Stockmann 2 Ann Jenner 3, Michael Worthington 4, Isabel Pearce 5 Philip Jarvis 6, Stanley Jenner [C] 7, Michael Stuttard 8 First in method: 2

Rung in celebration of the forthcoming 20th wedding anniversary of 2 & 8, on 13th April.

Otford Monday 11th April

1260 Doubles (4M) 240 St Simon's Bob; 240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place; 300 Grandsire; 480 Plain Bob Bobbie Fairclough 1, Caroline Levy-Cooper 2 Eric Roughley 3, Fraser Clift 4, Anthony Leeves [c] 5 Janice Byrne 6

To celebrate the birthdays today of Reyd Richard

To celebrate the birthdays today of Revd Richard Worssam (Vicar of St Bart's) and Clive Lumsden (60). First in 4 methods: 2

Edenbridge Thursday 14th April 1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Janice Byrne 1, Jennifer Thomas 2, Ray Price 3 Catherine Lewis 4, Stella Wooldridge 5 Eric Roughley [c] 6, Anthony Leeves 7 Andy Wickenden 8 First in method: 2 & 8; first triples inside: 3

Hever Saturday 16th April 1260 Grandsire Doubles

Clive Lumsden 1, Jane Rosam 2, Louise Nightingale 3 Alison Wilson 4, Eric Roughley [C] 5 Carl Nightingale 6 First in method: 4 Rung to congratulate Simon Wilson, husband of 4,

after his passing out parade for the Metropolitan Police on 15th April.

Brasted Sunday 17th April 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Noeni Austin 1, Jennifer Thomas 2, Bobbie Fairclough 3 Juliet Austin 4, Catherine Lewis 5, James Austin 6

Hever Sunday 17th April 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Carl Nightingale 1, Jane Rosam 2, Oliver Engleback 3 Louise Nightingale [c] 4, Andy Wickenden 5 Kevin Agate 6

Remembering Norman Engleback, father of 3 & former Hever ringer

Hever Thursday 21st April 1290 Doubles 90 Grandsire; 1200 Plain Bob Robin Rouse 1, Jane Rosam 2, Caroline Levy-Cooper 3 Louise Nightingale [c] 4, Alison Wilson 5 Kevin Agate 6

To celebrate the 90th birthday of нм Queen Elizabeth II



90 Rounds and Call Changes to Queens & back
Robin Rouse 1, John Scott 2, Jane Rosam 3
Chris Joynes 4, Louise Nightingale 5, Kevin Agate 6
Rung before the lighting of our beacon as part of Hever
village celebrations for the 90th birthday of HM Queen
Elizabeth II

Kemsing Thursday 21st April 1260 Doubles 60 Stedman; 240 Grandsire; 480 St Simon's; 480 Plain Bob Jenny Williamson 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Dee Clift 3 Fraser Clift [c] 4, Michael Williamson 5 Martin Whitehead 6 То celebrate the 90th birthday of нм Queen Elizabeth II

East Peckham Saturday 23rd April 1296 Cambridge Minor

Emma Jarvis 1, Jacqui Fletcher 2, Howard Rogers 3 Ray Taylor 4, Daniel Jarvis 5, Philip Jarvis [c] 6 For St George's day

Cowden Saturday 23rd April 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Susan Shepherd 1, Caroline Levy-Cooper 2 Andy Wickenden 3, Steve Newlands 4 Eric Roughley [c] 5, Clive Lumsden 6 Rung to celebrate St George's Day and to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare.

'Cry God for Harry, England & St George.'

Otford Saturday 23rd April

1272 St George Bob and The Dragon Bob Minor
720 St George Bob; 552 The Dragon Bob
Bobbie Fairclough 1, Howard Rogers 2, Fraser Clift 3
Stella Wooldridge 4, Tiff Lynch [c] 5, Pam Thomas 6
For St George's Day. Also for the 400th anniversary of
the death of William Shakespeare (but not including an
abortive 60 of Stratford Bob)

Otford Monday 25th April 1260 Plain Bob Minor

Alexander Runting 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2 Janice Byrne 3, Jennifer Thomas 4, Catherine Lewis 5 Fraser Clift [c] 6

Rung to celebrate the life of Beryl Mary Worssam, mother of Richard, Vicar of Otford, following her funeral service.

Kemsing Wednesday 27th April 1260 Plain Bob Minor

Rupert Cheeseman [C] 1, Sue Cameron 2, Dee Clift 3 Fraser Clift 4, Andrew Sinclair 5, Helen Webb 6 In celebration of the life & amazing wit of Victoria Wood, taken far too soon.

Hadlow Sunday 1st May **1260 Stedman Triples**

James Evans 1, Ann Jenner 2, Philip Jarvis 3 Emma Jarvis 4, Terry Barnard 5, Stanley Jenner 6 Daniel Jarvis [c] 7, Ray Taylor 8 First in method: 1

Rung to celebrate the birth of Maya Jessica Bubb (17.04.2016), first grandchild of Gordon Bubb, steeple keeper at Hadlow tower.

Keep up to date with the District & KCACR news! visit the KCACR website www.kcacr.org.uk





Hever Monday 2nd May 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Alison Wilson 1, Louise Nightingale [C] 2, Jane Rosam 3 Andy Wickenden 4, Carl Nightingale 5, Kevin Agate 6 First inside: 5

Rung to welcome Finley Michael Wood to the world, born 3rd April 2016, nephew of 2 & 5

Edenbridge Sunday 8th May **1260 Plain Bob Triples**

Lynda Johnson 1, Helen Goldstraw 2, Jane Wroe 3 Rosalind Cowsill 4, Roger Cowsill 5, Richard Dyson 6 Anthony Leeves [C] 7, Scott Baldock 8 First triples inside: 1 & 2 Rung for Ascension and to celebrate 20 years of ringing for Helen Goldstraw

Brasted Sunday 15th May 1344 Plain Bob Major

James Austin 1, Jacquiline Barlow 2 Bobbie Fairclough 3, Juliet Austin 4, Jennifer Thomas 5 Thomas Barlow 6, Catherine Lewis [c] 7 Phillip Barnes 8

First major: 1. In memoriam Alan Phipps.

Speldhurst Monday 23rd May **1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples**

Emma Tamkin 1, Stella Wooldridge 2 Jennifer Thomas 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Eric Roughley 5 Michael Bullett 6, Anthony Leeves [C] 7, Janice Byrne 8 First on 8: 1

Otford Sunday 29th May
1260 Doubles 540 Grandsire; 720 Plain Bob
Juliet Austin 1, Ann Bainham 2
Michael Worthington 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4
Astrid Fairclough 5, Bobbie Fairclough 6
Rung to celebrate the Ruby Wedding Anniversary, yesterday, of Sheila & Doug Dickerson

Leigh Tuesday 31st May 2016 in 1h 4min
1916 Doubles (3m) 16 changes of Bastow Little Court;
100 Grandsire; 1800 St Nicholas Bob
Ray Price 1, Stella Wooldridge 2, Frances James 3
Richard Young 4, David James [c] 5, Bob Philpotts 6
Rung to commemorate the Centenary of the Battle of
Jutland during the First World War, in which many
thousands of men died. Arthur John James,
Grandfather of the conductor, served aboard HMS New
Zealand and survived despite his turret taking a direct
hit. (St Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors)

Hadlow Sunday 5th June **1260 Grandsire Triples**

Ann Jenner 1, Emma Jarvis 2, Philip Jarvis 3 Howard Rogers 4, Terence Barnard 5, Ray Taylor 6 Stanley Jenner [c] 7, James Evans 8 In affectionate memory of Alan Phipps, who has supported our practices over many years.

Hever Sunday 5th June 1260 Stedman Doubles

Tiffy Lynch [C] 1, Jane Rosam 2, Louise Nightingale 3 Catherine Lewis 4, Richard Barclay 5 Carl Nightingale 6

Rung as a token of our gratitude to Jennifer Christie for her hard work and dedication to St Peters, Hever for many years. First in method: 2 & 3

Kemsing Monday 6th June 1260 Doubles 60 Stedman; 240 Grandsire; 480 St Simon's; 480 Plain Bob Jenny Williamson 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Dee Clift 3 Fraser Clift [c] 4, Michael Williamson 5 Ralph Harding 6

Rung in memory of Arthur Slade, the third Kemsing man to die in World War One, who died on this day one hundred years ago.

Edenbridge Saturday 11th June 1260 Plain Bob Triples

Helen Goldstraw 1, Lizzie Longhurst 2, Jane Wroe 3 Jane Rosam 4, Louise Nightingale 5, Richard Dyson 6 Anthony Leeves [С] 7, Carl Nightingale 8 First one-handed and triples method: 2 Rung to celebrate the 90th birthday of нм Queen Elizabeth II

Brasted Sunday 12th June 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, James Austin 2 Michael Worthington 3, Tessa Worthington 4 Catherine Lewis [c] 5, Juliet Austin 6 Rung to celebrate the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen

Chevening Sunday 12th June 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Ann Jenner 1, Tony Cresswell 2, Fraser Clift 3
Ben Rogers 4, Stanley Jenner [c] 5, Jane Nielson 6
Rung for the confirmation service, during the Patronal
Festival, and in honour of Queen Elizabeth II on her
official 90th birthday weekend.

Cowden Sunday 12th June 1290 Doubles (3m) 30 Grandsire;

240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place; 1020 Plain Bob Jane Rosam 1, Caroline Levy-Cooper 2 Louise Nightingale [C] 3, Tiffy Lynch 4 Andy Wickenden 5, Carl Nightingale 6 Rung after the thanksgiving service for the 90th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth 11

Hever Sunday 12th June

1290 Doubles 90 Grandsire; 1200 Plain Bob
Carl Nightingale 1, Caroline Levy-Cooper 2
Louise Nightingale [C] 3, Jane Rosam 4
Richard Dyson 5, Kevin Agate 6
Rung to complete a wonderful weekend of parish events in celebration of the 90th birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Kemsing Sunday 12th June 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Janet Whitehead 1, Jenny Williamson 2
Bobbie Fairclough 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4
Michael Williamson 5, Dee Clift 6
Rung to celebrate the official 90th birthday of
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11

Sevenoaks Sunday 12th June 1344 Plain Bob Triples

Composed by Donald F. Morrison Caroline Berry 1, Caroline Stockmann 2 Michael Worthington 3, Tessa Worthington 4 Catherine Lewis 5, Astrid Fairclough 6 Tiffy Lynch [c] 7, Phil Jones 8

Rung to celebrate the official 90th Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

First on 8 bells 1 50th quarter peal: 2

Speldhurst Sunday 12th June **1260 Grandsire Triples**

Elizabeth Ruch 1, Zena Seal 2, Peter Ruch 3 Alan King 4, Michael Bullett 5, Catherine Heathcote 6 Anthony Leeves [c] 7, Crispin Saunders 8 In celebration of HM the Queen's 90th birthday. The ringer of the 3 rang a peal for the Queen's Coronation in 1953.

MILESTONES

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

James Austin

First major

First on 10 Grandsire Caters rung at Staplehurst

Noeni Austin

First off cover

Caroline Berry

First on 8

Laura Byrne

First quarter peal

James Evans

First Stedman Triples

Helen Goldstraw

First triples inside

Daniel Jarvis

First Lincolnshire Surprise Major First Superlative Surprise Major

Philip Jarvis

First Superlative Surprise Major

Lynda Johnson

First triples inside

Caroline Levy-Cooper

First in four methods

Lizzie Longhurst

First one-handed & triples

Carl Nightingale

First Plain Bob Doubles inside

Louise Nightingale

First Stedman Doubles

Ray Price

First triples inside

Jane Rosam

First Stedman Doubles

Caroline Stockmann

First Lincolnshire Surprise Major First Superlative Surprise Major Single Oxford Bob Triples 50th quarter

Michael Stuttard

First inside on 8 rung at Chelsfield

Emma Tankin

First on 8

Jennifer Thomas

First Single Oxford Bob Triples

Andy Wickenden

First Single Oxford Bob Triples

Alison Wilson

First Grandsire Doubles

Embroidered KCACR clothing

Colours, sizes and prices November 2015



T-shirt (R180M) £18

XS: As below, but not Convoy grey

S - 2XL: Azure blue, Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy grey, French navy, Light Oxford, Pure gold, Purple, Sky, White, Winter emerald, Yellow

3XL - 4XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, French navy, White

Short sleeve polo shirt (539M) £18

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, French navy, Light Oxford, Pure gold, Purple, Sky, White, Winter emerald, Yellow. 3XL - 4XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, Classic red, French navy, Light Oxford, White. 5XL - 6XL: Bright royal, French navy, White

Classic sweatshirt (762M) £21

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Burgundy, Classic red, Light Oxford, French navy, Purple, Bright royal, Sky, Winter emerald 3XL - 4XL: Bottle green, Bright royal, French navy

Full/Quarter zip fleece (870M/874M) £29/£28.50

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy grey, French navy

New Hoodie straight no zip (575M) £28

XS - 2XL: Apple, Black, Bottle green, Candy pink, Classic red, Light Oxford, Lime, Orange, French navy, Fuchsia, Purple, Bright royal, Sky, Turquoise, White, Yellow

New Hoodie shaped no zip (265M) £25

XS - 3XL: Apple, Black, Bright royal, Classic red, French navy, Fuchsia, Purple, Sky, White

New Hoodie shaped full zip (266M) £27

XS - 3XL: Black, Bright royal, Classic red, French navy, Fuchsia, Light Oxford

Other items

Children's sizes, women's sizes (more fitted and usually less suitable for ringing) and other items are in the catalogue, which is usually available at District Quarterlies.

NB Bright red is more orange and Classic red is more "blue".

Ordering: An order is usually sent after each quarterly providing there are enough items. Otherwise there may be delay. Orders always welcome. Payment with order, can be by cheque/cash to me, 27 Main Road, Sundridge, Sevenoaks TN14 6EF or bank transfer to 20-76-55 63346307. Catherine Lewis 01959 563767 cmlewis@btinternet.com