

New Editor, New Look



Welcome to the Winter 2017 issue. Firstly, a vote of thanks to Phil Jones, who edited LookTo so ably for the last few years. Phil decided before the AGM in October to pass the baton and the Chairman suggested that I might like to take on the task as I knew a bit about computers (and rather less about ringing!)

To introduce myself, I am Paul Burgess and I ring at Chevening. I've rung on and off (mostly off) since the late 1970's, learning the basics at Leigh and then joining the band at Speldhurst for a period in the early 1990's. I returned to ringing when I moved in opposite St. Botolf's 18 months ago and was caught looking around the church by Catherine Lewis!

As you may notice, I have taken the opportunity to re-vamp the look of the newsletter, largely to make it easier for me to edit and to distribute on-line – please let me know what you think of the new look and any items that you would like me to include in future issues.

Whilst there is a demand we will continue to distribute hard copies to each tower, however it was agreed at the October committee meeting that we should start to distribute LookTo electronically to any member in the district who would like to receive a copy.

To do this we are setting up a district email distribution list. Nobody will be automatically added to the list. If you want to subscribe, you will need either to email me or subscribe via the new district web site (more on this later). It would speed the process if Tower Captains would collect email addresses from their ringers who want to join the list and email them to me. The list will be used only to distribute LookTo and by the committee to announce events etc. (You will be able to unsubscribe at any time if you wish).

Additional Training Day

18th February 2017

PLAIN BOB TRIPLES AND MAJOR

For:

- Individuals who can competently ring touches of Plain Bob Doubles or Minor on an inside bell and wish to progress to ringing on higher numbers.
- Ringers who only occasionally get the opportunity to ring Plain Bob Triples or Major and wish to consolidate their skills

Aims:

- To build or consolidate ropesight and striking skills on 7 or 8 bells.
- To master plain courses of Plain Bob Triples or Major.
- To learn to ring touches. (This will not be attempted until plain courses have been mastered)

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..

There is a possibility of including a session focusing on calling touches in these methods. If you would be interested, please let me know.

Places should be requested from Mike Worthington at

tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk



District Officers and Tower Stewards

October 2016 to October 2017

Mike Worthington SEVENOAKS

District Ringing Master

mike@worthington33.freemove.co.uk

- Sevenoaks
- Sundridge
- Tunbridge Wells

Hamilton Woods TONBRIDGE

District Secretary

District Treasurer

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- Brenchley
- Goudhurst
- Sandhurst
- Tonbridge

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- Chevening
- Otford
- Penshurst

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- Horsmonden
- Kilndown
- Lamberhurst
- Speldhurst

Louise Nightingale HEVER

Committee Member

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- Cowden
- Hever
- Leigh



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- Edenbridge

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District Newsletter Editor

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- Seal
- Seal Chart
- Shipbourne
- Chevening

Phil Jarvis HADLOW

pr755jarvis@aol.com

- Cranbrook
- East Peckham
- Hawkhurst
- Hadlow
- Kemsing

Tonbridge District Events Calendar 2017

2017

07-Jan Speldhurst

21-Jan Hildenboro' V Hall
04-Feb Seal
18-Feb
04-Mar
18-Mar Edenbridge

DQM 3.00 Ringing; 4.30 Service; 5.00 Tea and Meeting; Ringing until 8.30

Trivia evening 7.15 prompt
Evening practice 7-9pm
Additional Training Day
Training day
Surprise major practice 7-9pm

25-Mar Westerham

01-Apr Herts

17-Apr Cranbrook

29-Apr TBA
06-May Lamberhurst
03-Jun
17-Jun
24-Jun Lewisham district
01-Jul Birmingham

DQM 3.00 Service 4.30; Tea 5.00, Meeting; Further ringing to 8.30.

SE Counties Youth Contest
KCACR AGM
County Surprise practice
6-bell Striking Competition 9.45am
Training Day
"Moving On" Training event – format TBA
County 8-bell Striking Competition (a.m.)
Ringing World National Youth Contest

08-Jul Penshurst

22-Jul Sandhurst
29-Jul TBA
12-Aug London
02-Sep
23-Sep Maidstone District
30-Sep TBA

DQM: Ringing 4.00; Tea and meeting 5.30; Ringing from approx 6.45; Short service. 8pm

Early evening practice 5.30 - 8pm
County Surprise practice
Joint Outing with Lewisham District
Training Day
County 6-bell Striking Competition
County Surprise practice

07-Oct Sundridge/Brasted

21-Oct Bletchingley
21/10-5/11
04-Nov Kemsing
18-Nov
02-Dec
09-Dec Hadlow

ADM: Sundridge ringing 3.00 – 4.00; Brasted ringing 3.45; Service 5.00; tea 5.30; ADM and ringing to 8.30

10 bell practice 7-9pm
Quarter Peal Fortnight
Morning practice 10.00 – 12.30
Additional Training Day
Training Day
Dist Carol Service 6pm: Ringing 4.30

2018

6 Jan '18 Sevenoaks

20-Jan Hildenboro' V Hall
03-Feb Hever
17-Feb Chevening
03-Mar

DQM 3.00 – 8.00 format TBA

Trivia evening 7.15 prompt
Evening practice 6 – 8 pm
Surprise major practice 7- 9pm
Training day

24-Mar Otford

07-Apr

02-Apr Ashford district

DQM: 09.45 Coffee; 10.00 Service; 10.20 Ringing; 12.15 Lunch and Meeting; Ringing to 14.00

SE Counties Youth Contest
KCACR AGM

County Youth Striking Competition – date TBA

Tonbridge District of KCACR

Annual District Meeting

**at St Mary the Virgin, Chiddingstone on Saturday 1 October, 2016
at 6:00 pm**

Present : Mike Bullett (Chairman), Ham Woods, (Temporary Secretary) and 34 others

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed members of the District and also the Rev'd David Grimwood of the County Committee.
2. **Apologies for Committee Members' absence:** None
3. **Vote of thanks:** The Chairman thanked the Rector, the Reverend Martin Beaumont, and the PCC of St Mary the Virgin's church for leading the service and for the use of the bells. He also thanked Mr Bob Wilson for playing the organ, the members of the District Committee for providing the tea and Stella Wooldridge for making arrangements.
4. **Minutes of the Meeting on 2 July at St Margaret, Horsmonden and matters arising:** The minutes were accepted and signed as correct by the Chairman and there were no matters arising.
5. **Proposed New Members:** Mrs Lynne Proudfoot of Westerham, Mrs Elizabeth Ruch and Mr Peter Ruch of Speldhurst and Samuel Chard of Sevenoaks as Junior were proposed as members and elected unanimously.
6. **Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman gave his annual report which will be included in the 2017 Handbook. It read: I have enjoyed my year as Chairman of the District. After some years of relative stability, the committee changed quite a lot a year ago, Angela Clark, as chairman, and Eric Roughley retired after many years and much hard work on the committee, as did Tiffy Lynch as ringing master while Catherine Heathcote had retired during the year to last October as a joint ringing master. As a result there were 4 new faces, Jen Thomas as ringing master (along with Mike Worthington who stepped up), Louise Nightingale, Phil Jarvis and Richard Dyson. Then during the current year Tony Cresswell resigned as District Secretary and Hamilton Woods has stepped into the breach to fill that role as well as retaining that of District Treasurer. I should like to record my thanks to all of the committee for all their hard work during the year and in particular thanks to Tony Cresswell for his work as District Secretary for 4½ years.

This year there is a further retirement. Phil Jones, who has been on the committee for 6 years and who has been our "Look To" editor for the last 4 years doing an excellent job in that role, is retiring and thanks are due to him in particular

for his work as editor. So far no one else on the committee has told me that they are not intending to allow their names to be put forward for the committee for the forthcoming year!

This does mean however that we are looking for people to fill the roles of District Secretary, who would also serve on the committee, and the *Look To* editor who would be welcome to serve on the committee but doesn't have to if he or she preferred to avoid that. I would also like an additional Member to join the Committee (without portfolio) to spread the load. Please therefore think hard and don't be shy about coming forward to offer your services.

As to the activities during the year, our quarterly meetings, evening practices, and social events have been successful. The big social event once again was the Trivia Evening last January, it is great fun and again raised over £1,000 for the County Bell Restoration Fund. The winning team was Chiddingstone, and they will set the questions next time. Again a successful outing to London took place jointly with Lewisham District and was very well attended by members of both districts.

Throughout the year training has been organised for those who requested more intensive help. Mike Worthington has worked hard arranging this and I thank him and all others who have been much in evidence helping out. Without such support training would not be possible.

At the County 8-bell competition unfortunately the piece was miscalled and although the second attempt went well with the faults of both attempts being added together it was inevitable that we did not win. We had eight teams entering the District 6-bell competition at Leigh where the method section was won by Hadlow who went on to represent our District at County level last Saturday. The result was very close and they came a very creditable 2nd.

One very encouraging development during the year has been the activities of the Youth Band. Jen Thomas has organised this, thanks to her, and 5 of our younger members were included in the Youth band that represented the county with great credit at the national competition in July: they also took part in the Farningham trophy and won the handbell section so congratulations to them for that!

Our magazine, Look To, has again attracted contributions from many members and we are very grateful to Phil Jones who works hard on its production each quarter.

Sadly, during the year we lost 2 members, Alan Kemp from Goudhurst and Lord Mayhew from Kilndown, known to all who rang with him as simply, "Patrick".

7. **120 Club Report:** Ray Taylor reported that for 2015/16 124 shares were sold and £678.35 was donated to the Bell Restoration Fund.

For 2016/17 (this season) 123 shares have been sold to date. The number of shareholders paying electronically has increased to 80% from last year's 71%

He thanked all who continue to contribute to the Bell Restoration Fund through this charity.

8. Quarter's events reported in Look to:

Evening practice	Kemsing
16 July	
County Surprise practice	Wrotham
30 July	
Joint Outing with Lewisham District	
6 August	
Training Day, Otford and Edenbridge	
3 September	
County 6-bell Striking Competition Farnborough	
24 September	

9. Quarter's events not reported in Look To:

Heritage Open Day and Challenge 500: Tonbridge did not open for Heritage Open Day owing to H and S concerns. Horsmonden opened and had a number of visitors. Otford rang in the Thursday Challenge.

10. Forthcoming Events:

Surprise major/minor practice at Hadlow 15 October
District Quarter Peal week 22 – 30 October
County Surprise practice at TBA 29 October
Afternoon practice at Kildown 5 November
Training Day 3 December
Carol Service at Tonbridge 10 December

11. KCACR meetings: Mike Worthington stated that the salient points from the KCACR General Committee were in *Look to* and available on the web.

13. Kent Mini-Ring: A questionnaire had been circulated from Doug Davis about the mini-ring. It will be re-circulated to towers. Although the bells are available they would have to be put in a frame/trailer costing a considerable amount. Mike Worthington said that the possible stumbling block would be finding people to commit, for a length of time, to storing the rig, maintaining it, transporting it to where it was to be used and recovering it.

14. Julie McDonnell Challenge: Caroline Stockmann explained the Julie McDonnell challenge, and it was generally accepted it is worthwhile to contribute to Bellringers Strike Back Against Cancer. The Doubles method, and a new Triples method now, too, if linked to the event on Bellboard, will count towards the challenge of (now) 130 QPs, which will raise minimum £45k. Towers were encouraged to have a go, whether as part of QP week or at any time up until Christmas.

15. Replacement for Catherine Lewis to run the bookstall: Catherine Lewis wishes to give up running the bookstall. It was thought that Catherine Heathcote would be a possibility to take it over.

16. KCACR Rule change proposed by Grimwood and Barnes: The Rev'd David Grimwood gave a brief history of how the Association operates leading to the definition of its primary purpose with a view to clearing the way for a radical change in the Association. A desultory discussion resulted. The rule change will be discussed at the County AGM

17. Election of District Officers and other Committee members

The nominations received were read out, being:

Chairman	Mike Bullett
Secretary	Ham Woods
Treasurer	Ham Woods
District Rep 1	Mike Worthington
District Rep 2	Richard Dyson
Ringling Master	Jen Thomas
Deputy RM	Mike Worthington
Editor of Look to	Paul Burgess
Committee members	Phil Jarvis
	Louise Nightingale

All were elected by show of hands. There was no-one opposed.

18. Any Other business:

Tony Cresswell said there should be some report on finances made at this Meeting as it had previously been minuted that this would be the case. It was not done.

Jen Thomas outlined the increasing problem of clashes of events and now there are youth events being fostered the problem is becoming more acute. Traditionally many events in the District are held on a first Saturday in the month when these youth events are now scheduled. She posited the idea that in the coming year the programme should not be so rigid and will suggest different timing for events.

Dan Jarvis stated that Maidstone had been reported as getting through a meeting in 15 minutes and wondered how this might be achieved here.

120 CLUB Draw: 19, Phil Jarvis; 109, Jeremy Lewis; 35, Sue Shepherd. Bonus draw, 17, Sandhurst.



Ringling at the ADM - not sure what offended the Chairman!

Tonbridge district completes Julie McDonnell Challenge!

A good number of ringers across the district have been involved in ringing one of the Julie McDonnell specially written 'methods', in support of Bell-ringers Strike Back Against Cancer. This initiative really took flight June 25th with a sponsored walk (and ring) to Canterbury, in which our own Isabel Pearce took part. Then variations/methods named after Julie were produced (the doubles and then triples by Kent composers Tim Attride and Daniel Brady respectively), and the ringing really took off. In November Louise contacted Caroline to ask about whether it was feasible to ring a JMD method at all the towers in Tonbridge district over a weekend, and whether Julie would join for this. Practicalities set in, but we decided we would ensure that doubles had been rung at all the 6-bell towers in the district by Dec 25th – in the end, culminating with the final five all on Dec 17th, in which Julie was delighted to take part. What was even more impressive was that each of these last 5 quarter peals had a different conductor!



Band 17th December in ringing order, left to right: Julie McDonnell (C), Phil Barnes, Dan Jarvis, Phil Jarvis, Richard Barclay, Louise Nightingale

We reckon at least 15 Tonbridge ringers were involved in these particular QPs, with 2 or 3 each from Lewisham, Maidstone, Canterbury and Rochester districts, as well as East Sussex. A couple were organised by the Ladies' Guild. And our own Tonbridge ringers have rung in at least 14 JMD QPs outside of our district so far. Each of the QPs has contributed to the target Julie's sponsors had set (initially 100, then 200... up to as many as possible over 400), probably each

'earning' up to c£1000, with many bringing in more than that if Julie herself rang, rang inside or conducted. On Dec 30th in the evening Julie put out a call to see if we could reach 500 JMD QPs in the year, and Michael and Caroline set off down to Brede to ring in two more quarters to finish the year. Julie was in pain from a recent procedure, and said she found it less painful standing, so better be ringing than sitting in pain – typical Julie! We may not have quite got to 500 (still being calculated), but we certainly gave it a good go. In terms of next challenges, in early 2017 we will want to ensure all Tonbridge 8-bell towers have been JMD-ed (Sevenoaks has recently rung its first, with Julie in the band), and we are also looking to ring extended pieces of JMD methods as called changes - so we can be inclusive of those ringers who would also like to be part of the effort, but have not yet reached full QP/method stage in their learning. It seems the sponsors want to continue the good work in raising funds to give second stem cell transplants to save children's lives – as these life-saving procedures are no longer funded automatically by the NHS in England. During 2016 £7m was raised (Euro 1m coming in on Christmas Eve, when Julie received a call in her hospital bed from a wealthy businessman in Ireland, who liked the cause, and her Irish name!) There will be some very public events in the New Year and (hopefully) press releases which we hope will help the general public to see what Julie believes with all her heart: that bell ringers are a warm, close and big-hearted community who will rise to the challenge when something important is at stake.

Caroline Stockmann and Louise Nightingale

If you would like to ring Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles, the blue line is inside the back cover (Ed)

120 Club Results

The results of the October draw, drawn at the ADM in Chiddingstone (double prizes)

1 st	19	Hadlow
2 nd	109	Brasted
3 rd	35	Cowden
Bonus	17	Sandhurst
Prize		

The results of the draw at the Tonbridge District afternoon practice on 5 November at Kilndown

1 st	44	Tunbridge Wells
2 nd	18	Otford
3 rd	39	Chevening

The District Carol Service



This year the service was held at the Town Church in Tonbridge, St Peter and St Paul, on Saturday 10th December and was held jointly with The East Grinstead and District Guild of Church Bellringers. About 25 members of the District and a dozen members of the Guild attended. As is customary the service was preceded by ringing for an hour and a half on the excellent 8 bells and ringing at every level was enjoyed by all. A service touch was rung by members of both the District and the Guild.

The congregation sang with great gusto and the lessons were read by members of both the Guild and the District. The service was taken by the Revd. Anthony Hammill who preached a short sermon, and the organ was played by David Fullman, and our thanks are due to them for their parts in it.

As is traditional, after the service mulled wine and mince pies, a very good combination, were served, and a most enjoyable time was had by all. Thanks to Emma and Phil Jarvis for the mulled wine and to those members of both organisations who provided the mince pies.

Thanks are also due to all members of St Peter and St Paul for their help in organising various aspects of the day.

All in all it was a most enjoyable occasion so do make a note of the date of next year's service which will be held at St Mary Hadlow on Saturday 9th December 2017, with ringing from 4.30 pm and the service at 6.00 pm, and do try to come along and join in. The more who come the more enjoyable it is!

Lord Patrick Mayhew of Twysden

The Tonbridge District of the KCACR were saddened to learn of the death of Lord Mayhew at the age of 86. He rang at Kilndown when he was Northern Ireland Secretary, accompanied by his bodyguards. Anyone who has been to Kilndown will remember that access to the ringing chamber is via a vertical ladder from which you step sideways on to the ringing floor. Only a tiny floor area is available to ring their 6. Patrick Mayhew was of a large build and, together with his "heavies", there was little room for other ringers. It was deemed that his car taking him to Westminster could be subject to attack from a sniper positioned in Goudhurst tower. This necessitated a regular presence among the bells by soldiers placed there for his protection. When he was encouraged to join the KCACR I sent him the application form for completion. Probably owing to his legal training, he refused to sign it until he had read the constitution and any further terms and conditions. We have lost a colourful and delightful character.

John Lee

Chiddingstone has been saddened recently by the untimely death of the former Rector, John Lee. John was introduced to Chiddingstone through the involvement of the churchwarden, Phil Corby, with St. Botolph, Aldgate, where John was a curate. He and Sue came with their two young children, and in time Sophie was born in the Rectory. They took part in all village life, and John became a devoted, loved and respected Rector of all the Parish – churchgoers and pubgoers alike. John gave great support to the two churchwardens, Philip Everest and Philip Corby, in undertaking a major restoration of the bells, completed in 1991, but unhappily he had to conduct their funerals – Philip Everest in 1990 and Philip Corby in 1992. John learnt to handle a bell, and always joined in the New Year ringing, but never progressed beyond tentative rounds. John left Chiddingstone to become Archbishops' Advisor on church appointments, and there were great tributes to him in an article and a long obituary in the Church Times. Many from his wider life joined villagers to pay tribute to John and to say goodbye to him at his funeral in the church of the village the family still called home.

Treble Bob Practice

The first Saturday in the 3rd month - it must be a Tonbridge District Training Day. Whereas I am asked to ring as a helper sometimes, which is always fun, this quarter was a change of perspective for me, as Mike Worthington suggested that I might like to be a student rather than helper for once. Why not? So, along with Jamie from Brasted and Michael from Sevenoaks and a very experienced band of helpers, we gathered at Ss Peter and Paul, Edenbridge for a morning of Treble Bob Hunting. The session was led by Catherine Lewis, who talked us through the theory, with attention on striking as much as the blue line, before the bells were raised and a first burst of Treble Bob Minor was attempted even before all of the helpers had arrived.

Bit by bit, we settled into the exercises, and before very long we were trebling to touches of Kent and Cambridge and feeling rather pleased with ourselves. These successes were followed by ringing inside bells to Little Bob as well as Barstow, and



more efforts were had with Cambridge. Sometimes there was a wobble or two - picture the small child learning to ride a bike, but without the crashes and tears - and when things didn't always go right, it wasn't always the students that were causing the problems (training days can be a good workout for helpers too!). But just when we thought the morning couldn't get any better it was time for coffee. And the most delicious coffee and walnut cake, courtesy of Jamie. When he's not ringing sophisticated methods, I predict he will be a contestant on Bake Off. Suitably refuelled, we practised more, with the finale being all three students ringing Treble Bob Major to a very satisfactory standard!

As always, a huge thank you to Catherine for preparing and leading the session and all of the helpers, for their time and energy - Stan, Ann, Louise, Mike, Anthony and Ray.

Training Event at Hadlow on 3rd December 2016

We had a wonderful day at Hadlow tower learning and improving rounds and call changes under the excellent direction of Mike Worthington.



Three students, Russell Edwards from Otford, my wife Janet Bowden and myself (Colin Bowden) from Staplehurst were provided with a short but very useful theory session followed by two 1.5-hour ringing sessions, interspersed by a coffee break (and cake provided by Mike).

All praise to our magnificent helpers, Ray Taylor (Hadlow), Alison Parsons (Hawkhurst), Ray Price (Leigh), Tom Winter and Becky Denne (Canterbury) and our own Sue Bassett (Staplehurst) for their kind assistance and also constructive advice.

The art of call changing seems quite simple and logical in theory, but doing it in practice is very different for us beginners (I speak for myself here!). However, with Mike's patient guidance I believe we are now a lot more proficient and hopefully will all move forwards to better ringing (and simple methods in the not too distant future).

Afternoon Practice Kilndown: Saturday 5th November

A select few braved the Kilndown ladder and gathered here this November afternoon. Jen Thomas had sped (well, within speed limits anyway) with young Jamie Austin from the **Kent Young Ringers'** practice in Rochester.

We were indebted to visitors from Dorset and practised numerous courses and touches of PB Doubles, Grandsire, Stedman, Little Bob Minor and St Clements. Good practice for those who were there.

The Cinque Ports Ringing Centre at Dover

Report of activities during 2016

Forty-eight Saturday morning practices were held during the year. The four closures were on 18th June for the Dover ringers' outing, 1st October for the Confederation of Cinque Ports Speaker's Day service, Christmas and New Year's Eve. Attendances ranged from nine on 23rd and 30th July to twenty-six on 12th November with an average of about fifteen, one more than last year. The overall total was 711, twelve more than last year's all time high of 699, but only nineteen towers were represented which was nine down on last year.

The local mid-week Treble Bob Minor group continued to use the Centre's facilities on occasions. We opened to the public on one of the Heritage Open Days as usual but visitor numbers were down again for the third year running. We welcomed 34 non-ringing visitors to our Saturday practices, 17 from overseas. Facebook group membership has grown by 6 to 33, and a regular following of the old page has been building up steadily.

Practices always begin with exercises to improve bell control, raising and lowering, and addressing handling faults. There was also a demand for teaching new recruits from local towers where no tuition is available.

This stretched our resources and we would have preferred to be training new teachers. Two young recruits for Dover were taught to handle the newly-acquired Saxilby dumb bell; one has now transferred on to a tower bell and his younger brother is in the process of doing so.

Methods we use regularly include Bastow, Cloister, Penultimate, and Ashford Little Bob. There is invariably a demand for Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire, but more recently for Bob Minor.

Peter Dale
5 January 2017



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FRASER'S BOOK CORNER

Season's Greetings

I looked amongst my books for something seasonal to write about, but in vain. So, instead, I've turned to a few pieces of ephemera.

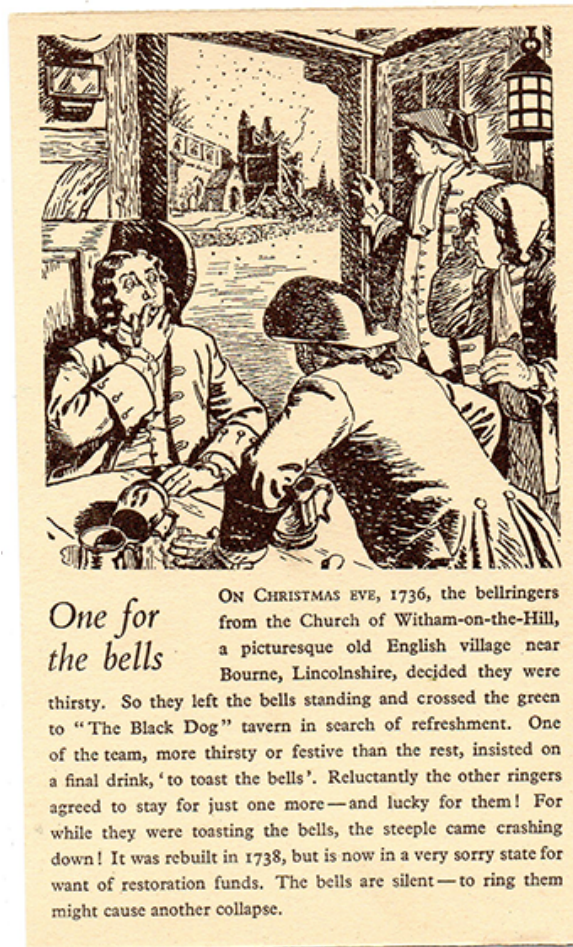
The first is a postcard, 'A Happy Christmas', published by Ernest Nister of London, but printed in Bavaria, and probably dating from the early 20th century. I wonder if the dogs are trying to chime The Dog Slow Course Minor? Yes, it is a method!



The next is a cartoon from 'Punch, or The London Charivari', and I believe it was printed in an 1841 issue. It is entitled 'Ringing in the the New Year at St. Stephen's', and the bells are marked 'Treasury', 'Home Office', 'Foreign Affairs', and 'Admiralty'. St Stephen's will almost certainly be the one in Westminster (8, 24-0-8 in D), but more than that I do not know. Any further information on either of these two items would be most welcome.



Finally, a sad Christmas Eve story with a happy ending, about the bells of Witham-on-the Hill in Lincolnshire. The story is told on one of a series of bell-related postcards produced by Arthur Bell and Sons Ltd., of Perth Scotland, to advertise their Bell's Old Scottish Whisky. The cards probably date from the mid 20th



On Christmas Eve, 1736, the bellringers from the Church of Witham-on-the-Hill, a picturesque old English village near Bourne, Lincolnshire, decided they were thirsty. So they left the bells standing and crossed the green to "The Black Dog" tavern in search of refreshment. One of the team, more thirsty or festive than the rest, insisted on a final drink, to 'toast the bells'. Reluctantly the other ringers agreed to stay for just one more - and lucky for them! For while they were toasting the bells, the steeple came crashing down! It was rebuilt in 1738, but is now in a very sorry state for want of restoration funds. The bells are silent - to ring them might cause another collapse.

Happily, the bells of St. Andrew's (6, 13-3-24 in F) are now ringing again. Having failed to find Christmassy items amongst my books, I thought I'd check this story in 'The Church Bells of the County and City of Lincolnshire' by Thomas North (1882). Sure enough, the story is there, and it apparently came from a cutting from 'The Stamford Mercury'. There is an additional comment - "Whether this is merely a tapster's tale, or the sober statement of a remarkable incident, we are not in a position to affirm". Details of Lincolnshire bells can be found in 'Lincolnshire Bells and Bellfounders', compiled and edited by John Ketteringham (2000, with a reprint in 2004 containing additional material, and a second edition in 2009).

KCACR General Committee

MATTERS FROM GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26th NOVEMBER 2016

- A new copy of the Sage Accounts software has been purchased and will be setup as soon as possible, hopefully using data from the previous version if it can be exported
- Access to the KCACR website had been given to various people to allow them to edit/add their own content to the site
- Requests for towers to check their information for the next Handbook will be sent out in the near future
- Tom Winter has taken over arranging a Module 2F ART course in the County from Catherine Lewis, if sufficient interest exists
- It was agreed that the Association will provide Kent Young Ringers who enter the RWNYS each year with t-shirts
- The Strood project is no longer going ahead, so the ex-Murston bells may be offered to the Keltek Trust as they continue to help with projects in the County
- Bell Restoration grants were awarded as follows:
 - Milton Regis – augmentation to 8 with rehang - £10k
 - Monkton – framework for 2 additional bells to complete the 6 - £6k
 - Otham – refurbishment of the oldest 3 bells - £1k
- 31 responses have been received so far from the Mobile Ring survey. An offer to provide the required steelwork for free has reduced the cost by approximately £2k to around £5k. Deadline for survey entries is 31st December 2016
- The County 8-bell Striking Competition 2017 will be held on Saturday 24th June, 9.45am draw, in the Lewisham District. Touch is a plain course of Yorkshire S Major
- The County 6-bell Striking Competition 2017 will be held on Saturday 23rd September, 9.45am draw, in the Maidstone District
- Catherine Lewis agreed to update the KCACR flyer produced some time ago
- Feedback from the Districts about the proposed rule change is mixed, this will be voted on at the 2017 AGM
- The General Committee meetings for 2017 will be held on 25th February, 22nd April, 26th August and 25th November

Doug Davis

Peals

Cowden, Wednesday, 21 December

5040 Doubles (3m), 1200 Grandsire and 1920 changes each of Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob.
1 Catherine M Lewis, 2 Steve Newlands, 3 Caroline S L Levy-Cooper, 4 E Lesley Barclay, 5 Nicholas Wilkins (C) 6 Michael J T Stuttard
First peal - 6. First inside - 2.
Rung in Advent for Christmas.

Chevening, Saturday, 15 October

5024 Derby Surprise Major

Composed by S Jenner

1 Ronald F Diserens, 2 Anne L Rueff, 3 Margaret E Oram, 4 Jacqueline M Barlow, 5 Thomas M Barlow, 6 Ian H Oram, 7 David D Smith, 8 Stanley Jenner (C)
In memory of Ted Wood, "Pap-Pop" to Amy, in whose memory the treble was cast.

Quarters

Kilndown Saturday, 17 December

1260 Julie McDonnell Doubles

1 Julie McDonnell, 2 Phillip Barnes, 3 Louise Nightingale (C), 4 Richard Barclay, 5 Daniel Jarvis, 6 Philip Jarvis

Rung as part of Tonbridge District Challenge to ring the variation at all 6-bell towers in the district 2/5

Sandhurst, Saturday, 17 December

1320 Julie McDonnell Doubles

1 Phillip Barnes (C), 2 Julie McDonnell, 3 Louise Nightingale, 4 Daniel Jarvis, 5 Philip Jarvis, 6 Richard Barclay

Rung as part of Tonbridge District Challenge to ring the variation at all 6-bell towers in the district. 1/5

Seal, Saturday, 17 December

1260 Julie McDonnell Doubles

1 Louise Nightingale, 2 Julie McDonnell, 3 Richard Barclay, 4 Phillip Barnes, 5 Philip Jarvis (C), 6 Daniel Jarvis

Rung as part of Tonbridge District Challenge to ring the variation at all 6-bell towers in the district.

6 - First (and last!) as tenor behind 4/5 Seal Chart,

Saturday, 17 December

1300 Julie McDonnell Doubles

1 Julie McDonnell (C), 2 Phillip Barnes, 3 Daniel Jarvis, 4 Philip Jarvis, 5 Richard Barclay, 6 Louise Nightingale

1 - 100th Quarter Peal of Julie McDonnell. This performance completes the Tonbridge District Challenge to ring the variation at all 6-bell towers. 5/5

Shipbourne, Saturday, 17 December

1260 Julie McDonnell Doubles

1 Richard Barclay, 2 Julie McDonnell, 3 Philip Jarvis, 4 Phillip Barnes, 5 Daniel Jarvis (C), 6 Louise Nightingale

Rung as part of District Challenge to ring the variation at all 6-bell towers in the district 6 - first as tenor behind. 3/5

Tonbridge, Sunday, 11 December **1260 Plain Bob Triples**

1 Steve Newlands, 2 Pam Thomas, 3 Steve Coaker (C), 4 Angela Clark, 5 Catherine Heathcote, 6 Jacqui Fletcher, 7 Michael Clements, 8 Gavin Knight. *For evening service.*

Sundridge, Wednesday, 7th December

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

1 John Barnes, 2 Lesley Barclay, 3 Caroline Stockmann, 4 Catherine Lewis, 5 Nicholas Wilkins (C), 6 Steve Newlands. *A birthday compliment to the conductor's aunt, Wendy Clifford, who is 87 today. 2: now circled the method*

Cowden, Monday, 5 December

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

1 Caroline Levy-Cooper, 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Louise Nightingale, 4 Richard Barclay (C), 5 Tiffy Lynch, 6 Andy Wickenden

Rung as part of the Tonbridge district challenge to ring the method on all six-bell towers by Dec 25th

Hadlow, Sunday, 4 December

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1 Janice Massy, 2 Ann Jenner, 3 Emma Jarvis, 4 Philip Jarvis, 5 Stanley Jenner, 6 Ray Taylor (C)

Leigh, Friday 2 December

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

1 Louise Nightingale, 2 Caroline Stockmann, 3 Lesley Barclay, 4 Tiffy Lynch, 5 Nicholas Wilkins (C), 6 Carl Nightingale

Rung as part of the Tonbridge district challenge to ring the method on all six-bell towers by Dec 25th

Edenbridge, Sunday, 27 November

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 James Baldock, 2 Lizzie Longhurst, 3 Caroline Levy-Cooper, 4 Jane Wroe, 5 Richard Dyson (C), 6 Scott Baldock

*Rung for Advent Carols and to celebrate the birthday of Lizzie Longhurst
First quarter peal - 1*

Sevenoaks, Sunday, 20 November

I280 Plain Bob Major

I Isabel Pearce, 2 Tessa Worthington, 3 Michael R Worthington, 4 Catherine Heathcote, 5 Alexander M Fishburn, 6 Alexander Runting, 7 Phil Jarvis, 8 Daniel Jarvis (C)

First Major - 5, 6. Rung for Evensong.

Hever, Friday, 18 November

I260 Plain Bob Doubles

I Steve Newlands, 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Robin Rouse, 4 Louise Nightingale (C), 5 Andy Wickenden, 6 Kevin Agate

Rung half-muffled to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the last day of the Battle of the Somme

Hever, Saturday, 5 November

I500 Stedman Doubles

I Tiffy Lynch (C), 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Louise Nightingale, 4 Jacqueline M Barlow, 5 Oliver Thompson, 6 Carl Nightingale *Marking the saving of parliamentary democracy and hoping another Guy Fawkes won't be necessary!*

Cowden, Thursday, 27 October

I260 Doubles (3m/1p) 180 Stedman and 360 each of Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob I Robin Rouse, 2 Caroline Levy-Cooper, 3 Louise Nightingale (C), 4 Tiffy Lynch, 5 Andy Wickenden, 6 Steve Newlands

Marking 30 years of bus de-regulation 6 - 50th Quarter Peal

Otford, Friday, 28 October

I260 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles

I Janet Whitehead, 2 Mike Worthington, 3 Jennifer Thomas, 4 Tessa Worthington, 5 Astrid Fairclough (C), 6 Zoë Worthington

Rung sending love and best wishes to Bobbie Fairclough, who would normally have featured throughout Tonbridge District Quarter Peal week, and welcoming Henry Sweeting, who came into the world yesterday.

Hadlow, Thursday, 27 October

I344 Eden Delight Major

I Emma Jarvis, 2 Ann Jenner, 3 Anthony Leves, 4 Philip Jarvis, 5 Ray Taylor (C), 6 Howard Rogers, 7 Daniel Jarvis, 8 Stanley Jenner

First quarter peal in the method to celebrate the birth of Eden Sophia Taylor-Bartlett, born 5th September 2016, first grandchild of Ray & Julie Taylor. Eden Delight Major: -5-6-2-236-4-1-2-3 lh2 b.

Hever, Wednesday, 26 October

I260 Doubles (5m/1p)

60 Stedman, 240 each Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury, St Martins, Plain Bob and St Simons

I Robin Rouse, 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Stephanie Rueff, 4 Richard Barclay (C), 5 Louise Nightingale, 6 Kevin Agate

Remembering the children of Aleppo

Cowden, Monday, 24 October

I260 Grandsire Doubles

I Emma Tamkin, 2 Caroline Levy-Cooper, 3 Steve Newlands, 4 Andy Wickenden, 5 Eric Roughley (C), 6 Robin Rouse

Kemsing, Monday, 24 October

I260 Doubles 60 Stedman, 240 Grandsire, and 480 each of St Simon's and Plain Bob

I Jenny Williamson, 2 Pam Thomas, 3 Dee Clift, 4 Fraser Clift (C), 5 Michael Williamson, 6 Ralph Harding

To celebrate the marriage, on 22nd October, of Daniel and Clare. Janet Eaton, Daniel's mother, was one of the original 1991 Kemsing band.

Cowden, Sunday, 23 October

I260 Plain Bob Doubles

I Ray Price, 2 Tiffy Lynch, 3 Caroline Levy-Cooper (C), 4 Steve Newlands, 5 Andy Wickenden, 6 Clive Lumsden

In memory of Philip Gansler, aged 43, of Waterfoot, Lancashire. Died on 6th October 2016. Friend of the Tenor.

Edenbridge, Sunday, 23 October

I260 Plain Bob Doubles

I Clive Lumsden, 2 Lizzie Longhurst, 3 Jane Wroe, 4 Andrew Wickenden, 5 Richard Dyson (C), 6 Ian Henderson

For Evensong and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Aberfan disaster

First quarter peal as Conductor - 5

Hever, Saturday, 22 October

I260 Plain Bob Doubles

I John Scott, 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Andy Wickenden, 4 Louise Nightingale, 5 Tiffy Lynch (C), 6 Kevin Agate
I - first on treble

Rung as a birthday compliment for Caroline Scott

Seal, Saturday, 22 October

1260 Doubles

300 Stedman, 360 Grandsire, 240 Reverse Canterbury, 360 Plain Bob

1 Fraser Clift, 2 Anthony Leeves, 3 Catherine Heathcote, 4 Howard Rogers, 5 Eric Roughley (C)

6 Phil Jones

For KCACR Tonbridge District Quarter Peal Week.

Seal Chart, Saturday, 22 October

1260 Doubles

60 Stedman, and 240 each of Grandsire, April Day, St Martin's, St Simon's, and Plain Bob

1 Anthony Leeves, 2 Eric Roughley, 3 Howard Rogers, 4 Fraser Clift (C), 5 Catherine Heathcote, 6 Phil Jones

For KCACR Tonbridge District Quarter Peal Week.

Hever, Sunday, 16 October

1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

1 Steve Newlands, 2 Robin Rouse, 3 Tiffy Lynch, 4 Louise Nightingale (C), 5 Andy Wickenden, 6 Carl Nightingale *Rung before Evensong to celebrate the announcement that Wendy Izod is to be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of Hever Benefice*

Cowden, Saturday, 15 October

1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

1 Steve Newlands, 2 Caroline Levy-Cooper, 3 Clive Lumsden, 4 Fraser Clift, 5 Louise Nightingale (C), 6 Carl Nightingale

3 - first in method. Rung for the 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings

Tonbridge, Sunday, 9 October

1440 Doubles (2m) 720 Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire

1 Steve Newlands, 2 Jacqui Fletcher, 3 Ray Price, 4 Stella Wooldridge, 5 Steve Coaker (C), 6 Hamilton Woods

Rung for evening service

Hever, Saturday, 8 October

1260 Stedman Doubles

1 Tiff Lynch (C), 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Louise Nightingale, 4 Phillip Barnes, 5 Oli Thompson, 6 Carl Nightingale

Hadlow, Sunday, 2 October

1320 Beverley Surprise Minor

1 Emma Jarvis, 2 Howard Rogers, 3 Philip Jarvis, 4 Daniel Jarvis, 5 Ray Taylor, 6 Stanley Jenner (C)

For Harvest Festival and Howard's imminent sexagenarianism.

Hever, Sunday, 2 October

1260 Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

1 Carl Nightingale, 2 Jane Rosam, 3 Tiffy Lynch (C), 4 Louise Nightingale, 5 Richard Barclay, 6 Steve Newlands

Rung to help Julie reach her target and to wish Joanna Wade a very Happy Birthday!



The Charmborough Ring

Thinking of an event to attract the public?

- Recruiting drives
- Training courses
- Public demonstrations

The Charmborough Ring is available for hire by ringers who want to promote ringing among the wider public and attract new recruits. It always draws enthusiastic observers and participants.

Hire charge, including transport within 50 miles of London, from £190 for 1 day to £320 for 5 days. Full details at: www.charmborough.org

Enquiries to: hiring@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 112616

**Keep up to date with all of
the
Tonbridge District &
KCACR news!
by regularly visiting the
KCACR website**



Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles

For those of you who haven't had the opportunity to take a look at the method, here is the blue line

120 Julie Mcdonnell Bob Doubles

Callender Bob with a Lichfield Single. This 120 is with the 5th obs, and shows the path of the 2nd to allow better understanding of the effect of the calls.

	<div>1 2 3 4 5</div> <div>2 1 4 3 5</div> <div>2 4 1 3 5</div> <div>2 4 3 1 5</div> <div>4 2 3 5 1</div> <div>2 4 5 3 1</div> <div>4 2 5 1 3</div> <div>4 2 1 5 3</div> <div>4 1 2 5 3</div> <div>1 4 5 2 3</div> <div>1 4 5 3 2</div> <div>4 1 3 5 2</div> <div>4 3 1 5 2</div> <div>4 3 5 1 2</div> <div>3 4 5 2 1</div> <div>4 3 2 5 1</div> <div>3 4 2 1 5</div> <div>3 4 1 2 5</div> <div>3 1 4 2 5</div> <div>1 3 2 4 5</div> <div>1 3 2 5 4</div> <div>3 1 5 2 4</div> <div>3 5 1 2 4</div> <div>3 5 2 1 4</div> <div>5 3 2 4 1</div> <div>3 5 4 2 1</div> <div>5 3 4 1 2</div> <div>5 3 1 4 2</div> <div>5 1 3 4 2</div> <div>1 5 3 2 4</div> <div>1 5 3 4 2</div> <div>5 1 4 3 2</div> <div>5 4 1 3 2</div> <div>5 4 3 1 2</div> <div>4 5 3 2 1</div> <div>5 4 2 3 1</div> <div>4 5 2 1 3</div> <div>4 5 1 2 3</div> <div>4 1 5 2 3</div> <div>1 4 2 5 3</div> <div>1 4 2 3 5</div>		<div>4 1 3 2 5</div> <div>4 3 1 2 5</div> <div>4 3 2 1 5</div> <div>3 4 2 5 1</div> <div>4 3 5 2 1</div> <div>3 4 5 1 2</div> <div>3 4 1 5 2</div> <div>3 1 4 5 2</div> <div>1 3 5 4 2</div> <div>1 3 5 2 4</div> <div>3 1 2 5 4</div> <div>3 2 1 5 4</div> <div>3 2 5 1 4</div> <div>2 3 5 4 1</div> <div>3 2 4 5 1</div> <div>2 3 4 1 5</div> <div>2 3 1 4 5</div> <div>2 1 3 4 5</div> <div>1 2 4 3 5</div> <div>1 2 4 5 3</div> <div>2 1 5 4 3</div> <div>2 5 1 4 3</div> <div>2 5 4 1 3</div> <div>5 2 4 3 1</div> <div>2 5 3 4 1</div> <div>5 2 3 1 4</div> <div>5 2 1 3 4</div> <div>5 1 2 3 4</div> <div>1 5 2 4 3</div> <div>1 5 2 3 4</div> <div>5 1 3 2 4</div> <div>5 3 1 2 4</div> <div>5 3 2 1 4</div> <div>3 5 2 4 1</div> <div>5 3 4 2 1</div> <div>3 5 4 1 2</div> <div>3 5 1 4 2</div> <div>3 1 5 4 2</div> <div>1 3 4 5 2</div> <div>1 3 4 2 5</div>		<div>3 1 2 4 5</div> <div>3 2 1 4 5</div> <div>3 2 4 1 5</div> <div>2 3 4 5 1</div> <div>3 2 5 4 1</div> <div>2 3 5 1 4</div> <div>2 3 1 5 4</div> <div>2 1 3 5 4</div> <div>1 2 5 3 4</div> <div>1 2 5 4 3</div> <div>2 1 4 5 3</div> <div>2 4 1 5 3</div> <div>2 4 5 1 3</div> <div>4 2 5 3 1</div> <div>2 4 3 5 1</div> <div>4 2 3 1 5</div> <div>4 2 1 3 5</div> <div>4 1 2 3 5</div> <div>1 4 3 2 5</div> <div>1 4 3 5 2</div> <div>4 1 5 3 2</div> <div>4 5 1 3 2</div> <div>4 5 3 1 2</div> <div>5 4 3 2 1</div> <div>4 5 2 3 1</div> <div>5 4 2 1 3</div> <div>5 4 1 2 3</div> <div>5 1 4 2 3</div> <div>1 5 4 3 2</div> <div>1 5 4 2 3</div> <div>5 1 2 4 3</div> <div>5 2 1 4 3</div> <div>5 2 4 1 3</div> <div>2 5 4 3 1</div> <div>5 2 3 4 1</div> <div>2 5 3 1 4</div> <div>2 5 1 3 4</div> <div>2 1 5 3 4</div> <div>1 2 3 5 4</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5</div>
"Bob"	"Bob"	"Bob"			

Embroidered KCACR clothing



Colours, sizes and prices

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 20-76-55 63346307. Catherine Lewis 01959 563767 cmlewis@btinternet.