



*KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE
RINGERS*

ASHFORD DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Price £1 - free on the web

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ASHFORD DISTRICT OFFICERS

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Newsletter Editor	Peter G Sims – As above	
Bookstall	Daniel Lavender	
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J Castell Library	Held at Lydd Tower	

Some articles in this Newsletter may have previously appeared on the KCACR website www.kcacr.org.uk that we highly recommend to all KCACR members as an ideal way of keeping up with current affairs within the KCACR and ringing in general. Our thanks to them for allowing us to reproduce any items.

From the editor

Winter is now behind us, the temperatures are rising and the nights are drawing out. Now is the ideal time to start getting out and visiting other towers for their practice nights. You will be amazed at how it will help advance your ringing if you are still struggling with some of the basics. If you are one of the more advanced ringers, it may well help to transform another tower's practice night. We are all one or two ringers short for a decent touch of, or even just a plain course of, that we haven't been able to ring for ages!

Peter Sims

Forthcoming Meetings/Events 2017/2018

Whether you are a Rounds ringer or a Surprise ringer, an Association member or a non-member, you are welcome to ring with us at any of the meetings listed below. We look forward to ringing with you!

Date	Where	
8 April	BIDDENDEN (8)	Business Meeting*
20 May	KINGSNORTH (6) 4.45pm draw. Running tea	Striking Competition
17 June	DISTRICT OUTING to ESSEX	<i>Details and times to be advised</i>
15 July	HEADCORN (8)	Business Meeting*
16 September	PLUCKLEY (6) (tbc) 10.30am start	Call Change Competition
21 October	BENENDEN (12)	ADM*
18 November	LYDD (8)	Ringing Meeting 5 – 9pm, tea 6.30 – 7.30pm
16 December	DYMCHURCH/NEW ROMNEY (tbc)	Carol Service
20 January	HYPHE (10) (tbc)	Business meeting*
17 February	TBA (6)	Morning ringing 11.00 – 12.30
17 March	ROLVENDEN (8) (tbc)	Ringing Meeting 5 – 9pm, tea 6.30 – 7.30pm
21 April	FOLKESTONE (8)	Business Meeting*

Unless otherwise noted above, all events consist of ringing from 3.00 to 4.15pm, with a service at 4.30pm. The service is followed by tea (and a meeting where marked with *) and then evening ringing usually until 9pm.

Ringers of all standards (from rounds to spliced surprise) are very welcome and will happily be catered for. If you are trying to learn a new method then this is an ideal opportunity to ring with an experienced band and to have someone 'hovering behind' to guide you through if necessary. Please tell one of the Ringing Masters what you would like to ring and they will try to arrange something to suit you.

NB As we are continuing without any Ringing Masters, the Chairman will be nominating a volunteer to run the ringing session by session, so please let them know what you would like to ring (and don't be surprised if you get 'asked' to volunteer!).

Basics and Beyond Programme 2017

There is the realisation from the District Committee, that on occasion we've been rather overwhelmed by success in terms of the numbers of both learners and helpers.

Please note the following:

- 1) places will be limited to 6 in each group on a first come first served basis with a waiting list for cancellations and possibly to run a second tower according to demand.
- 2) Learners must ask for/confirm their place at the latest by a week before the given date. I will be the coordinator and communication preferred is email on richardhbourne@hotmail.com but my phone numbers are 07768149681 & 01580712005.
- 3) Tower Captains, would you please encourage your learners of all ages and abilities to apply and assure them that the sessions are relaxed and non-threatening.
- 4) Helpers. I'm concerned to use your time efficiently. We will have 6 helpers per morning. If you would send me your availability asap for the following dates I will confirm with six of you in good time a request that you come to a specific practice. The dates are: May 6th, September 2nd and November 4th. venues to be agreed.

Richard Bourne

Other Events

- 17th April 2017** KCACR AGM hosted by Cranbrook (Tonbridge District)
- 24th June 2017** County 8-bell Striking Competition will be held in the Lewisham District, 9.45am draw, touch is a plain course of Yorkshire Surprise Major
- 23rd Sept 2017** County 6-bell Striking Competition will be held in the Maidstone District, 9.45am draw

120 Club

<i>Draw</i>	<i>1st prize £60</i>	<i>2nd prize £30</i>	<i>3rd prize £20</i>
December 2016	126 Sue Childs, Tenterden	001 Andy Phyll, Non ringer	043 Pam Manger, Frittenden
<i>Draw</i>	<i>1st prize £30</i>	<i>2nd prize £20</i>	<i>3rd prize £10</i>
March 2017	024 Hythe Tower	075 Janet Bayne, Wye	110 Phil Wilkin, Wye

Tickets for 2017 are now available from Mike Godfrey, Alan Bournier, Frank Wenham and Peter Sims. Cost is £10 each with 10 draws in the year. All profits go to the County Bell Restoration Fund. Although the 10 monthly draws started again at the March meeting, you can join at any time during the year at a proportional rate.

Safeguarding News

As previously advised to KCACR County Committee and reported by Chris Mew in the RW, all ringers who have to have DBS checks - Captains and Trainers - will be required to attend Safeguarding training organised by Dioceses.

I have been in touch with 3 of our 4 Dioceses, including a meeting with Canterbury Diocesan Safeguarding staff, which Tom Winter (County Training Officer) also attended.

Training for ringers who require DBS clearance is now being arranged by Dioceses and will begin during the coming months; ringers will be included in the "parish volunteer" groups. Many others, including priests, have to have separate training organised and this initiative presents a major task for Dioceses. National guidance has recently been amended - ringers will now be required to attend just 1 half day course, C1, with a preparatory course C0 and follow up C5 now being undertaken online. Other ringers may complete C0. These courses are not available yet.

Southwark advise me that a course will be held in May – no detail on their website yet. Canterbury are organising events on an Area Deanery basis, dates to be fixed. I have no detail from Rochester yet, but know they will begin training this year. I believe generally parish volunteers will be contacted by parish priests and/or disclosure officers regarding attendance. There will usually be 30 to 40 attending. It is a Diocesan responsibility to provide courses and arrange attendance - Tom and I will liaise with Dioceses in due course to assess whether there is a need for them to provide training for Tower Captains and trainers who were unable to attend courses. And....

Canterbury need to recruit some more trainers to run their courses. They would be pleased to hear from ringers who have relevant experience from working in, for instance, Social Service Departments, and/or training skills. Please contact Tom or me for relevant contacts if you are interested. This work is paid.

I would be pleased to hear from District Secretaries as and when this training starts to become available.

Nigel Spencer
CP/Safeguarding lead

KCACR Subscriptions 2017

Subscriptions for 2017 are as listed below and were due on 1st January 2017.

If you haven't already paid them, please pay them to me in person at Meetings or send them to me – address below.

Cheques/P.O.'s etc., made payable to K.C.A.C.R. If you require a receipt by post please include a stamped addressed envelope. Alternatively you may collect your receipt at a subsequent meeting.

Practising members: Adult - £10.00 Life Membership - £150.00 Up to 18 and over 65 - £5.00

Non-resident Life Members - £7.50 Associate members, not less than £1.00.

THE FULL ADULT SUBSCRIPTION RATE – CURRENTLY £10.00 – is payable by BOTH MALE and FEMALE MEMBERS between the ages of **18 to 65**.

Practising members are urged to maintain continuous membership for the following reasons:

- So that you have continuous Insurance cover provided by KCACR for all your ringing activities
- Practising Members aged 65 or more with 25 years unbroken practising membership are entitled to FREE MEMBERSHIP [Rule 4.(i)(b)]

Donald Holden – 134 Church Road, Willesborough, TN24 0JQ

Quarter Peal Database

KCACR's Quarter Peal Secretary (Anthony Leaves qpsec@kcaacr.org.uk or 01892 531104, address see Handbook) would like to hear from you if there is an error in the data recorded or where you can provide additional data where records are incomplete.

Recently the QP Secretary has added data notified to him regarding 45 QP records from 1998 to date, where the data was incomplete. Anthony hopes that this might result in someone being able to provide additional data.

So any error, any omissions, please let Anthony know and he'll amend database entries accordingly.

KCACR Publicity Panels

If your tower is hosting an event to publicise ringing the KCACR publicity panels are worth borrowing. They are light, portable, and easy to assemble (see KCACR website for the pretty pictures).

If you want to borrow them contact Tim Munt at tim@muntonline.com 01622 891724 or 07590 918994.

New Members

If you are thinking of proposing new KCACR members PLEASE ensure you use the current nomination form (**version 2.8**). Completing the new form requires a bit of forethought and planning as nomination forms must (if the proposer or seconder is not an elected District Officer) be countersigned by a relevant District Officer. The Officer must be in a position to confirm that the nominee is able to ring rounds unassisted and lower a bell.

Nomination forms are available to download from the KCACR Web Site or direct from Pam Manger.

Tower Roundup

Appledore

We practice every Friday evening from 7.30 until 9pm, when we adjourn to The Black Lion. Visitors are always welcome, although we would like a call before if there will be a lot of you. We ring for Sunday service at 10am. There is no service on the fifth Sunday of the month, so no ringing then. We also have a lively social calendar so come along and get involved.

Ashford

All ringing is strictly by arrangement. Quarter peals for services on Sunday evenings and ringing for special occasions/services (as requested by the church authorities) by invitation only. Contact Claire Walker on portersmill@yahoo.co.uk, 07759 633903

Benenden

We practice by arrangement on Wednesday evening, so check before you come: karenlebon57@gmail.com
12-bell practice 1st Friday of the month, by arrangement. Service ringing 9 am Sunday.

Biddenden

Sunday Service ringing takes place every 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at 9.00am and every 2nd & 4th at 10.30am. Practice night is Tuesday at 7.45pm. All visitors are welcome.

Brabourne

Alan Bournier is the new contact for Brabourne. Phone 01303 812604 or email jbournier@pobroadband.co.uk Practice night is Friday 7.30 til 9.00pm.

Brookland

Practice night Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.00pm. No practice at the moment due to lack of people. If you would like to join us please let us know and we will see if a band of 6 can be found. Tower Captain Ken Abrey ken.abrey@talktalk.net

Cheriton

Sunday morning ringing takes place from 8.50 to 9.25; practice night remains Wednesday 7.30 to 9.00 - and an extra ringer or two is always a help! Richard Wilsher (tel: 01303 211364; email: richard.wilsher@gmx.co.uk) is now tower captain in place of David Frowd who is now vice-captain after serving for 10 years as captain, and our tower secretary is now Glynis Burbery, 23 Alexandra Corniche, Hythe CT21 5RW (tel: 01303 264070; email: geburbury@hotmail.co.uk).

Folkestone

Sunday Service takes place at 1030h. when we ring from 1000 - 1025h. We continue to practice on Tuesdays 1930h to 2100h by arrangement.

Frittenden

Practice night is every Monday 7.30 to 9.00pm. Sunday service ringing 8.45 to 9.30am.

Great Chart

Service ringing on the 1st & 3rd Sundays from 9:00-9:25am. Practice night remains nominally Wednesday 7:30-9:00pm but we have too few regular attendees to practice every week at the moment. Kennington hold practices here on 1st & 3rd Mondays. Contact gfcoker@ntlworld.com to check.

Ringing times and short notice updates for Great Chart can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/site/bellsgfc/>

Headcorn

Practice night is every Thursday at 7.30pm. Sunday service ringing is at 9.15am.

Hythe

Practice night Friday 7.30-9.00pm. Sunday morning service general ringing 8.50 - 9.30am. Sunday evening service general ringing 5.50-6.30pm. Note quarter peal attempts take place on most 2nd & 4th Sundays for evening service. Contact Maureen Poole to check in advance (mapoole24@gmail.com or 07749049338)

Hothfield

Ringing takes place on the 1st Sunday of the month at 10:30am. Practice by arrangement. Contact Martin Luffman ml_154@hotmail.com and 01233 611889.

Kennington

You can find details of practices and Sunday ringing times at <https://sites.google.com/site/bellsgfc/> or contact gfcoker@ntlworld.com

Service ringing from 11:00am (after the service so a bit variable). Practice Monday 7:30-9:00pm – 1st & 3rd Mondays we practice on 8 bells at Great Chart. Contact gfcoker@ntlworld.com.

Little Chart

There is no regular Sunday ringing nor practices at Little Chart. We ring at occasional Sunday Services – all welcome to join us. Details of Sunday ringing times can be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/bellsgfc/> or contact gfcoker@ntlworld.com

Lydd

Practice night Monday evenings (except on Bank Holidays) 7.30pm - 9.00pm. Sunday morning ringing at 10.00am - 10.30am. Tower Captain Margaret 01797 367606

Lympne

The tower secretary is Mrs Annie Anderson, Pilgrim Cottage, Church Road, Hythe. Tel 01303 267594. Ringing times are: Practice - Monday 07.30, Sunday – 10.15 for 10.45 service.

Pluckley

We hold our practice on Thursday night 7.30pm - 9pm. Please email e.jeech8@btinternet.com to confirm beforehand. Following the practice, we adjourn to the Black Horse. Sunday service ringing is every Sunday except the 5th Sunday off the month. 10.30am - 11am.

Sevington

No practice and no service ringing at present. Updates can be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/bellsgfc/> or contact gfcoker@ntlworld.com Please note, although these are a light 4 (tenor 8cwt) they have a long draft, are not the easiest of bells to ring and are not recommended for learners.

Smarden

Sunday Service ringing takes place every 1st Sunday at 10.15am and every 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday at 8.45am. Practice night is Wednesday at 7.45pm. All visitors are welcome. On odd occasions recently, due to lack of numbers when key people are away, we have had to cancel practice, so it is worth checking in advance with Tim Munt on tim@muntonline.com

Stone-in-Oxney

There are currently no practices at Stone-in-Oxney. Please ring Frank Wenham on 01233 758362 for further information. Stone always ring for Evensong on the first Sunday of the month, 17.15 to 18.00.

Tenterden

We practice every Monday from 7:30- 9:00pm. Sunday service ringing is from 9:00 - 9:30am. Visitors are very welcome.

Woodchurch

Practices are on Wednesday 18.00-19.00 but best to call Julian West in advance on 07887 748692 or julian.west@tiscali.co.uk

NB: If there is no entry for your tower it's presumably because nothing is going on! Likewise, if the information is wrong, it's because nobody bothered tell us of any changes. Please keep us informed of what you are doing and any changes, then we can pass on the correct information. Ed!

The following appeared in The Ringing World dated 3rd March 2017

50 Years Ago

The Ringing World, 3 March, 1967

Selected by the Ringing World Editor

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL SOCIETY

This society was re-formed after a lapse of three years, in December, 1964, under the excellent captaincy of Mr. P.F.T. Smith and vice-captaincy of Mr. J.C. Britton, both masters at the school. Experienced ringers in the Society were few and many started learning to handle a bell by visiting three churches in rotation – St. Michael's, Maidstone, Holy Cross, Bearsted and St. Peter's, Aylesford.

As our members became better ringers they joined local bands and now the majority ring regularly for Sunday Services and are valuable assets to their local band.

In the summer of 1965 we were offered the opportunity to ring every week at St. Nicholas', Leeds: this use we gladly accepted as it gave us a permanent base.

The year's ringing was brought to a fitting end by an 'all-school' band ringing the first quarter peal for the Society at Hollingbourne in January, 1967.

P.R.K.

Training Update & Opportunities

Cinque Ports Ringing Centre:

The centre is based at St Mary's church, Dover. Practices take place every Saturday morning 10.00 – 12.00. Sessions are relaxed and informal with a coffee break at 11.00 and donation of £1 (50 pence juniors) per hour to cover costs. The centre can also offer Modules 1 & 2 of the ITTS training scheme. Contact Centre Manager (Peter Dale) or Course Secretary (Barbara Dale on barbaradale@fastmail.fm 01304 823217 or have a look at the KCACR web site for full details.

Silencing Bells For Teaching Purposes:

See KCACR website for a very useful guide on silencing bells and 3 different suggestions. Some of the pictures give you a whole new respect for tyres, inner tubes and ropes!

On Line Glossary of Ringing Terms:

All you ever wanted to know but were afraid to ask in case others laughed at you (what is a Burdette? Q set? Nottingham 8? Scissor dodges?) then go to the KCACR website and check out John Harrison's glossary of ringing terms.

Method Practices at Hythe – 4th Friday of each month

Every 4th Friday of the month the focus will be on “mid range” methods such as Stedman, Cambridge etc. Practices will be tailored according to the wishes and abilities of those present on the night. Learners are welcome from 7.30 on other Fridays in the month. To gain entry to the tower remember to press the buzzer on the left hand side of the West door if you arrive a little late. For more information contact Maureen Poole (mapoole24@gmail.com 07749049338).

Countywide Email List

County has set up a county wide email mailing list and details appear on the KCACR website. To sign up go to <http://eepurl.com/bvXRJD>. The intention is to use this approach to broadcast news, updates and any information that will be useful to ringers across the County. Everyone is encouraged to sign up.

Funding Opportunities

Heritage Lottery Fund

Does your tower have any anniversaries coming up? If you think this fund might help you publicise ringing and help recruit members then have a look at the Heritage Lottery Fund Website (p.s. Claire Walker used to work for them and would be happy to help towers talk about possible applications).

Bell Restoration Fund (KCACR)

See the KCACR website or the full guidelines for a Bell Restoration Fund grant application and practical assistance. The main message is to contact the KCACR Bell Restoration Officer BEFORE quotations are considered / requested.

Grant monies are available for up to 5 years from the date of offer, then lapse and a new application would be required.

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

Minutes of the Annual District meeting held at Frittenden on 15th October 2016

Welcome to members and visitors: The meeting was attended by 29 Ashford District members and the Chairman welcomed Liz Shearman from the Canterbury District.

Vote of Thanks: David Manger thanked the Rev. Fred Olney for taking the Service and his wife Angela for playing the organ, and the Frittenden ladies for an excellent tea.

Apologies for absence: These were received from Lynn Hatton (Saltwood), Gay Quearney (Appledore), Keith and Liz Hammond, Chris Lowry, Chris and June Teesdale and Sue Childs (Tenterden), Sally and Jeremy Potter (Aldington), David and David H Gower who left after tea, Sue Atkinson and Dave Robinson (Folkestone) and John Dawkins.

Minutes of the ADM held at Ashford on Oct 17th 2015: Because of unforeseen circumstances, the record of the proceedings of this meeting was not made available to the new Committee. These minutes, a brief resume written from memory by the incoming District Secretary were accepted by those present. There were no matters arising.

Minutes of the last meeting: These were read and accepted as correct.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

District Officers reports including an interim Treasurers report: These are all attached in the Minute book.

Election of Officers: The following officers were elected on a show of hands.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	Peter Sims	David Manger	Daniel Lavender
Deputy Chairman	Richard Bourne	Peter Sims	Donald Holden
Secretary	Pam Manger	Peter Sims	David Wilkinson
Treasurer	Donald Holden	Pam Manger	David Manger
District Representative	Pam Manger	David Manger	Daniel Lavender
District Representative	Richard Bourne	David Manger	Daniel Lavender
Assistant Secretary		Position not filled	
Ringling masters		Position not filled.*	
Youth representative		No volunteer forthcoming.	

*D. Manger proposed and D. Wilkinson seconded that a Ringing Master be arranged at each event – the meeting agreed.

Other posts filled by volunteers or co-option.

Newsletter production.	Sheila Phyll and Peter Sims to continue.
120 club and raffles	Peter Sims to continue to organise.
Bookstall	Daniel Lavender to hold the bookstall.
Tea Committee	Mary Marshall and Sally Potter to organise.
Clothing representative.	David Gower prepared to stand for one year.
John Castell Library Custodian.	Lydd tower happy to look after the Library.

David Manger explained the history of the John Castell Library for those new to the Association.

Election of new members: no new members were elected.

Proposed programme of towers for the rest of 2016 and 2017/18: This was presented to the meeting and accepted.

KCACR Matters: Rule change: The details of this are attached to the Minute Book. Many of the members felt that the reworded aims of the Association were over simplified. Following a show of hands, none of the members liked the new wording, four didn't care and the rest wanted it to remain unchanged.

KCA mobile ring: The ring of bells donated by Rev. David Cawley, with the intention of producing a mobile ring for the County was discussed. Rod Lebon felt it was essential that a recruitment package should be in place if the ring was to be useful. David Manger and Chris Cooper thought that it could be of use but that backup was essential in the form of a committed group of helpers. Younger members wanting to tow the ring might have to obtain a special driving licence. People with experience of mobile mini-rings felt that very few recruits would be gained. On the whole the idea received a very lukewarm reception.

KCA website: This was introduced to members and those who had used it felt that it was an improvement but it took time to become familiar with it. It has a facility available to District Secs. so that they can add events to it.

Firsts: There were no first performances reported.

Any Other Business: The Newsletter was discussed as it was felt that the on line copies were not being looked at and no more fresh material was coming forward. Some members felt that a paper copy was more likely to be read, especially if it was taken to the belfry. It was decided to produce a December issue. The Secretary promised to ask all her contacts to think about producing material for it. David Wilkinson promised to provide a quiz.

Mary Marshall asked if anyone had spare ropes that they could give to Little Chart.

John Dawkins still did not have a Membership card.

Rod Lebon invited members to a Benenden ringing outing on Sat Oct. 21st.

Forthcoming Events: Nov 5th, Basics and Beyond Practice at Appledore, 10am.

Nov 19th. District meeting, Smarden. 5pm until 9pm with tea between 6.30 and 7.30pm.

Dec 17th. Carol Service at Willesborough starting at 3pm.

The meeting closed at 19.30 and ringing continued until 20.45pm.

The raffle raised £40.

MATTERS FROM GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25th FEBRUARY 2017

- The 2016 accounts have been completed and now just need to be audited. An auditor is being sought to be appointed at the AGM.
 - All ringers in the Association using social media should be asked to be mindful what they post online, as even private comments could be taken & picked up by the media
 - The new website is being actively updated by some of the Districts, and the membership database is also being well used
 - The Handbook is on track all bar a couple of outstanding items that are due to be with the Editor before 12th March 2017
 - The meeting was reminded that we all need to ensure we follow the good practice of there being more than 1 person in the tower when work is being done
 - The Kent Young Ringers are putting in their request enter the RWNYS in Birmingham this year, entry fee has been paid. Jen Thomas is also organising a band for the SE Youth Competition later in the year.
 - All plans are in hand for the AGM at Cranbrook on Easter Monday, and the details are now on the website. The Handbook Editor is not seeking re-election.
 - 33 responses were received from the Mobile Ring survey. In general, those who responded felt it was a good idea to have a mobile ring. Following some discussion, it was decided that the project will go ahead and further details will be presented at the AGM.
 - Following a request for consideration, it was decided that the Association would not contribute towards the St. Paul's Cathedral fundraising effort
 - Following a request for consideration, it was decided that the Association would not send an annual donation to the Ringing World at this time
 - The Committee agreed that the Association would support the Central Council PR Committee's Armistice Day 2018 initiative, including a planned recruitment campaign using dedicated ringing schools across the County
 - 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
 - The General Committee meetings for 2017 will be held on 22nd April, 26th August and 25th November
- Doug Davis



The Cinque Ports Ringing Centre at Dover

The first of our “drop-in clinics” for beginners was in January 2004 and twelve years later our Saturday morning sessions are still going strong, albeit catering for a much wider clientele. Practices start at ten o’clock and the first half-an-hour or so is for beginners. It’s an opportunity to practise handling a bell, setting it, and raising and lowering, but we don’t teach bell handling from scratch. There’s usually some rounds-based exercises before a break for coffee and the last hour is reserved for change ringing. We finish at twelve o’clock

Attendances in 2015 ranged between eight and twenty-two, the average weekly attendance over the forty-nine practices being fourteen. Five of the six Districts and twenty-eight towers were represented, including two from outside Kent. Methods rung included Ashford Little Bob, Bastow Minimus and Minor, and Cloister. Part of our remit is Public Relations and we welcomed a total seventy-nine non-ringing visitors during the year, including forty-one on a Heritage Day and many from overseas.

There’s a common misapprehension that we still cater only for beginners but in fact they are now in the minority. Once they have sufficient bell control we regard them as learners rather than beginners and introduce them to simple methods. By breaking things down into small steps, each with a high chance of success, plain courses are mastered quite quickly. However, we are also trying to cultivate ropesight but we don’t always have a band capable of touches.

So, when we appeal for more support, we are not asking towers to refer beginners to us. There is a desperate need for the learners to have around them some steady ringers who will not fall apart after a bob is called. Let us hope that in 2016 more help does become available and the method ringing for learners really takes off.

Peter Dale

Ashford District Bookstall

Since taking over the bookstall, sales have increased with the new 10th edition of Doves Guide being the best seller. I would like to thank everyone who has bought something from me in the past.

Daniel Lavender
Ashford District Bookstall

Sticky Back KCACR Logo	15p	Method Construction	£3.00p
Stick Front KCACR Logo	50p	Method Splicing	£3.00p
Place Notation	50p	Teaching Unravelled	£3.00p
One-Per-Learner	84p	The Learning Curve Volume 1 1999-2001	£3.00p
The Follow-on Book	84p	The Learning Curve Volume 2 2002-2003	£3.00p
The Ringer's Exercise Book	84p	The Learning Curve Volume 3 2004-2005	£3.00p
Beginners' Grandsire	£1.00p	The Learning Curve Volume 4 2006-2007	£3.00p
Beginners' Plain Bob	£1.00p	Doubles & Minor for Beginners	£3.00p
Criblines 1	£1.00p	Judging Striking Competitions	£3.50p
Criblines 2	£1.50p	Learning Methods	£3.50p
Organising an Outing	£1.50p	Splicing Bell Ropes Illustrated	£3.50p
Service Touches	£1.50p	Triples & Major for Beginners	£3.50p
Simulators and Teaching	£1.50p	Quarter 500	£3.75p
Sound Management	£1.50p	Standard 70	£3.95p
Teaching from Rounds to Bob Doubles	£1.50p	Getting it Right	£4.00p
Towards Better Striking	£1.50p	Grandsire	£4.00p
Doubles Collection	£2.00p	KCACR Handbook 2013	£4.00p
Kadeidoscope Ringing	£2.00p	Collection of Plain Minor Methods	£4.00p
One Way to Teach Bell Handling	£2.00p	Ringing Skills	£4.00p
Raising and Lowering in Peal	£2.00p	Teaching Tips	£4.00p
Starting a New Band	£2.00p	Treble Dodging	£4.00p
Teaching Beyond Bell Handling	£2.00p	Tutors Handbook	£4.00p
Tower Captains Handbook	£2.00p	Bell Club	£5.00p
Beginners' Guide to Change Ringing on Handbells	£2.50p	Standard 8 Surprise Major Methods	£6.00p
Change Ringing on Handbells	£2.50p	The Ringer's Handbook	£6.95p
Conducting Stedman	£2.50p	Listen to Ringing CD	£8.00p
Organising a Bell Restoration Project	£2.50p	Listen to Ringing Live CD	£9.00p
Ringing Basics for Beginners	£2.50p	The New Ringer's Book	£9.50p
Ringing Circles	£2.50p	Bellhandling DVD	£10.00p
Will You Call a Touch Please, Bob?	£2.50p	KCACR Tie	£10.00p
Conducting and Coursing Order	£2.95p	Diagrams 2011 (blue)	£12.00p
A Schedule of Regular Maintenance	£3.00p	Dove's Guide (10 th edition)	£15.00p
Collection of Principles	£3.00p	The Tower Handbook	£16.00p
Major Compositions	£3.00p		