

Look to



THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT OF THE KCACR SUMMER 2014

Farewell to the Willsons



As a number of ringers will now know, the long-dreaded move of Martin and Rhoda Willson to the Southampton area, more specifically Romsey, could no longer be put off when they completed the sale of their house in

Tonbridge on 19th May 2014, although this did do quite a lot to relieve Rhoda and Martin's nerves! Their last practice at Tonbridge before following Rhoda's work from London to Southampton was Friday 16th May, on which evening the practice ended early, and a small reception was held in the Man of Kent pub, near to Tonbridge parish church.

A number of ringers associated with Tonbridge at one time or in one way or another were able to attend. During their time at Tonbridge, Rhoda has served as deputy tower captain and been involved in teaching bell-handling, and Martin has served as steeple keeper, practically supporting the band in the tower and, we learn, on occasions at home as well! Readers of *Look to* may recall photos of the clapper of Tonbridge's tenor strapped to Martin's bike, heading off on a day-trip by train to Whitechapel for repairs!

It fell to tower captain Tiffany Lynch to say a few words at the reception. She pointed to Rhoda and Martin's contribution to practices, service ringing and monthly Sunday evening quarter peals at Tonbridge, and their regular organising of Tonbridge's outings. The best available estimates, based on their son Thomas being a baby when they arrived in Tonbridge and being 18 now, suggest that they have supported ringing in Tonbridge for the past 18 years. Since the sale of their house was agreed only a week before they moved, a bottle of port was presented to them in

appreciation for their work at Tonbridge, with a promise of greater things to come, which were otherwise missing due to the short notice!

Rhoda and Martin then spent a layover week with relatives in Salisbury before continuing to Romsey. Their temporary flat there does necessitate having various things in long and short-term storage, but as a condolence it enjoys a view of the majestic Romsey Abbey [8, 22-1-23 in Db] where they will be ringing on Wednesday practice nights and other times in the week. Ringers who ring at Tonbridge, but especially the Tonbridge band, look forward to visits in the future. But for the present, Rhoda and Martin, we will miss your presence on Friday evenings and other times terribly, and wish you all the best and every success establishing your life in Romsey.

Auf das Wiedersehen.

❖ Alex Staff

DISTRICT EVENTS...

between now and the next edition of *Look to*

Evening Practice Seal Chart (6)

Saturday 19th July

District Outing joint with Lewisham

Saturday 9th August *details to be confirmed*

Training Day

Saturday 6th September *contact Tiffy Lynch or Catherine Heathcote to express interest.*

Brenchley Flower Festival

Saturday 27th September, 3-5pm

County 6-bell Striking Competition

Kennington, Ashford District

Saturday 27th September

Annual District Meeting Horsmonden (8)

Saturday 4th October, 3-8.30pm

Deadline for the next edition

Friday 19th September

District Officers and Tower Stewards

October 2013 to October 2014

Mike Worthington SEVENOAKS
Committee Member
mike@worthington33.freemove.co.uk

- Sevenoaks
- Sundridge
- Westerham

Tony Cresswell CHEVENING
District Secretary
tondist@gmail.com

- Chevening
- East Peckham
- Hadlow
- Otford

Eric Roughley SPELDHURST
Committee Member
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- Brasted
- Chiddingstone
- Speldhurst
- Tunbridge Wells

Mike Bullett SPELDHURST
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- Cowden
- Leigh
- Haver

Tiffany Lynch TONBRIDGE
District Ringing Master
tiffany@tiffanylynch.net

- Brenchley
- Kemsing

Hamilton Woods TONBRIDGE
District Treasurer
hamwoods@kent2.co.uk

- Goudhurst

Angela Clark TONBRIDGE
District Chairman
angelaclarkbuttons@btinternet.com

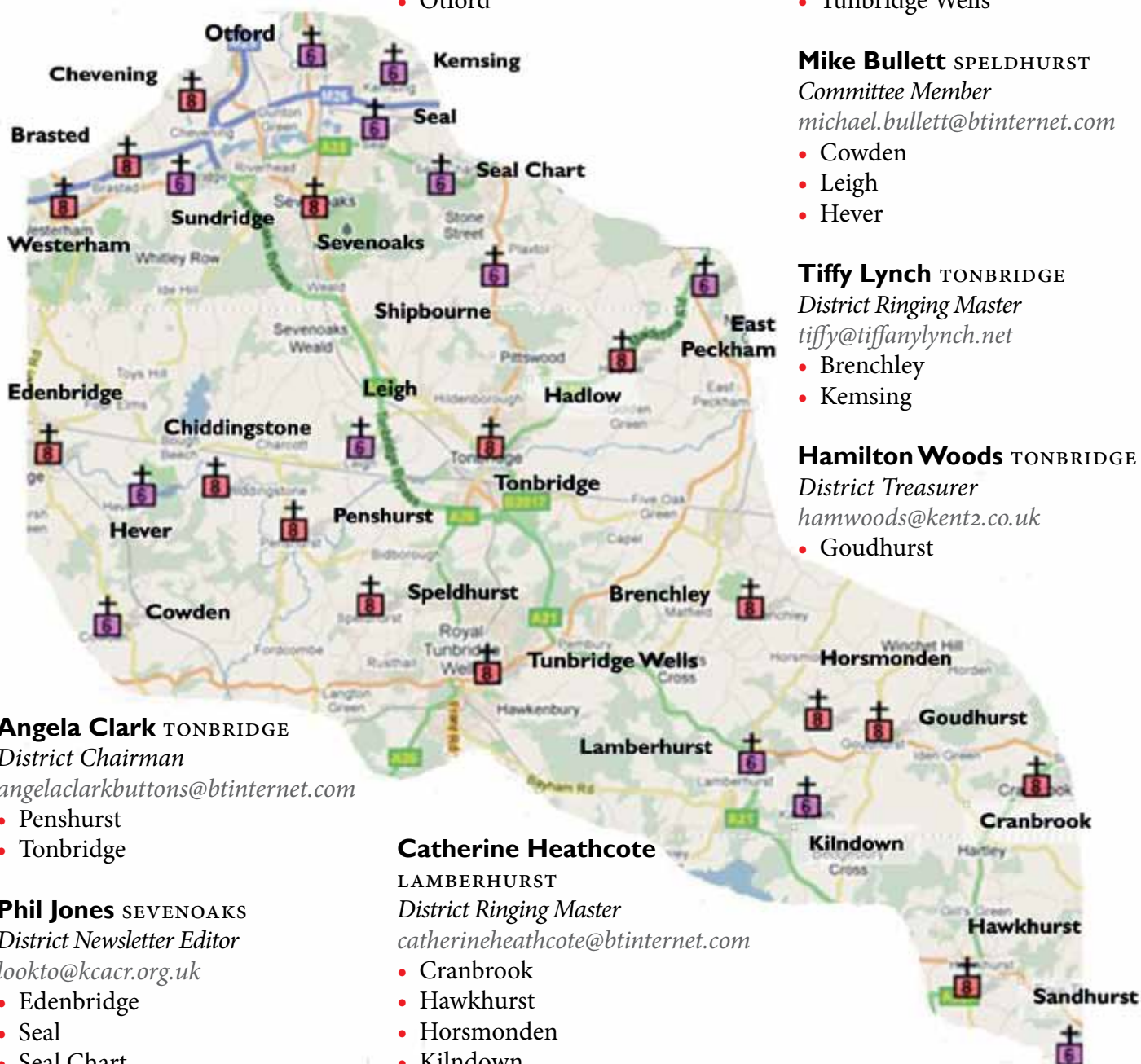
- Penshurst
- Tonbridge

Phil Jones SEVENOAKS
District Newsletter Editor
lookto@kcacr.org.uk

- Edenbridge
- Seal
- Seal Chart
- Shipbourne

Catherine Heathcote
LAMBERHURST
District Ringing Master
catherineheathcote@btinternet.com

- Cranbrook
- Hawkhurst
- Horsmonden
- Kilndown
- Lamberhurst
- Sandhurst



DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING

THE SECOND DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING OF 2014 was held at St Mary, Westerham on Saturday 5th April with 26 attendees.

✚ After opening the meeting, our Chair Angela Clark welcomed everyone and, to loud applause, congratulated Lucile Corby on celebrating her 90th birthday on 24th February.

✚ A vote of thanks was proposed by Mike Bullett to the Vicar, Paul McVeagh and PCC of Westerham for the use of the church and bells with thanks to Revd Andrew Reid for preparing and leading our service, Michael Barlow for playing the organ and to Elaine Merrylees and the ringers of Westerham and Sundridge for the lovely tea.

✚ New members were elected: Gavin Knight (Tonbridge), Christine Smith (Lamberhurst), and Steve Newlands (Cowden).

✚ The February Evening Practice at Otford was well attended as was the Surprise Minor/Major Practice at Sevenoaks where there was some good ringing.

✚ Catherine Heathcote reported on the March Training Day [ITTS-1] at Speldhurst. Although the instructors were provided by the Ringing Foundation, all other arrangements (which had been considerable) had been made by herself. It was a very successful course with 19 'trainee' teachers of various levels of experience attending; about one third were from Ashford District and several were from beyond Kent. Everyone thought the course, which is half lecture and half practical, was well worth attending and thanks go to Speldhurst for their hospitality and constant refreshments. The next stage is for the teachers to train novices under the supervision of mentors in order to gain accreditation; the teachers have packs of badges and certificates to award their trainees as they progress to ringing rounds and call changes. A further stage, teaching to ring methods, would be covered in ITTS-2 but there are no plans at present for further courses at either level.

✚ The 6th September Training Day clashes with the Ringing Roadshow at Newbury. The training day will be organised if enough potential students come forward.

✚ FUND RAISING: It was noted that compared with the other Districts of KCACR, Tonbridge District raised much more money per head of membership and certainly sold more RW calendars. The committee is looking into whether some of our fund-raising might be channelled into other projects than the BRF, especially recruiting, training etc, given that this District probably has a worse demographic problem than most. In the discussion it was suggested that the District – having the expertise at Edenbridge where the Jubilee 'barge' ring was produced – might com-

mission a mini ring which could help to raise the profile of ringing and as a means of recruitment.

✚ PAYING ORGANISTS: This has occasionally been a source of difficulty and the committee is looking into the matter. Westerham ringers stated they always paid their organist but this year the organist returned the fee and said he accepted the commitment as part of his contract with the church.

✚ SAFEGUARDING: Tony enquired whether any issues/difficulties relating to Safeguarding had emerged recently – there were none. Margaret Webb and Catherine Lewis had recently attended a course and Catherine passed on the following advice:

- It is essential that before receiving any confidences from a child or vulnerable adult you must mention that, should the circumstances require it, you will be obliged to inform relevant authorities.
- Listen but do not put leading questions (which might 'spoil' the 'evidence' that might have to be given later).
- As soon as possible, make notes and inform any relevant authority or, in default of others, Social Services.

✚ ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Catherine Heathcote will not be seeking re-election come the AGM in October. This was accepted with regret.
- Ham Woods asked that any money handed to him as treasurer should be in an envelope clearly marked with name, tower and purpose (eg subscription, splice fund etc).

✚ The meeting finished at 6.50pm and was followed by ringing until 8.30.



**Keep up to date with all of the
Tonbridge District & KCACR
news!**

**by regularly visiting the
KCACR website
www.kcacr.org.uk**



THE COUNTY AGM

Chairman Angela reports

Committee members from our District, Tiffy Lynch and myself, attended the AGM held on Easter Monday at St Mary's church hall in the Lewisham District.

Towers open for ringing included St Nicholas Chislehurst in the morning where we luckily met six others and rang some nice Bob Major on this ground floor ring. The church is extremely popular for weddings and the local band are kept busy on weekdays as well as weekends.

The service at midday was well attended and the roast chicken lunch was excellent. The Catering Department of Lewisham District are to be congratulated for their organisation and cooking skills.

Graham Coker, Handbook Editor, operated a superb system of distribution for the 2014 edition which is a first class publication. He has agreed to undertake this work next year, despite various threats by the wife relating to the time he is forced to devote to the task.

After years and years undertaking the job of General Secretary, Margaret Funnell has at last been able to hand over to Doug Davis. Margaret was presented with a basket of flowers and we wish Doug well in the post.

Our own Caroline was in attendance wearing her Independent Examiner's hat and was able to keep the meeting on the straight and narrow in relation to charitable status. She then went on to win a raffle prize, so it was worth her journey to Lewisham on a Bank Holiday.

We rang after the meeting at St Mary's and as we lowered the bells, the rope on Ringing Master Ian's bell broke with the coils descending on his head just as he called 'catch'.

Farborough proved to be a popular tower on the way home, these lovely little bells are a delight to ring. We had a lovely day and look forward to going to Marden next year.

❖ *Angela Clark*

COUNTY GENERAL COMMITTEE

Points from the April meeting

§ It was agreed that, as a County, we are interested in the work of the Ringing Foundation but are not yet willing to agree to the £1 per member per year additional charge in favour of focusing on local training initiatives

§ The 2015 AGM 2015 was confirmed as being at Marden in the Maidstone District.

§ The committee are in favour of continuing to have meetings in the Tower Room at Leeds; however other offers have been made and can be considered in future if required.

§ Following a request from the Child Protection Officer it was agreed that the minutes from the AGM on 21st April would be amended accordingly by Margaret Funnell.

§ Comments made regarding rules at the AGM on 21st April were to be taken back to the rules subcommittee for further review and additional adjustment as necessary.

§ The division of subscriptions was agreed as 50% General Fund, 25% BRF and 25% 'held' for training/education.

§ More youth-oriented ringing/events will be arranged going forward, with Phil Larter agreeing to be the central point of contact.

§ All arrangements are in place for the CC Meeting at the end of May.

§ The committee have accepted the offer of bells from David Cawley and will now ask Brian Butcher to investigate costs associated with creating a mobile ring with them.

§ The County 8-bell competition is now at Tonbridge instead of Brenchley, draw time still 9.45am.

§ Catherine Lewis agreed to get a re-quote for the enamel badges from her preferred supplier as there was significant interest in these being available.

§ The dates of the future general committee meetings were agreed as 30th August 2014, 29th November 2014 and 28th February 2015

❖ *Doug Davis, General Secretary*

TRAINING DAYS

The next training day (6th September) clashes with the Ringing Roadshow at Newbury.

If enough potential students come forward, a training day will be organised.

If you are interested, contact the District Ringing Masters – either:

Tiffy Lynch (tiffy@tiffanylynch.net) or Catherine Heathcote (tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk).

120 CLUB

Hopefully by now all ringers in our District know about the Tonbridge District 120 Club and that its purpose is to raise money for the restoration and maintenance of bells in Kent, not just to give ringers the opportunity for a flutter! An impressive 126 shares were sold in the 2013-4 series of the Tonbridge District 120 Club so, after prizes and expenses, we have raised another £680 for the KCACR Bell Restoration Fund. Well done us! Towers in our District that have recently undergone restoration or maintenance include Chiddingstone, Sandhurst, Seal and Seal Chart. You can find out more on page 18 of the KCACR 2014 Handbook. For those of an accounting persuasion, I am reliably informed that our 2013 TD120 contribution of £630 was submitted to KCACR even though it somehow failed to appear on page 26 of the KCACR 2014 Handbook.

Please buy/renew shares at £10 each before the ADM at Horsmonden on 4th October. You will receive a reminder from me soon if you currently have shares. If not, you can find out more about the Club, or buy shares, by visiting the Tonbridge District page on www.kcacr.org.uk or by contacting me on ray.taylor@easynet.co.uk or 07973 123 323.

Thanks again to everyone who supports this charity. Over 60% of shares were paid for by electronic transfer last year, so my special thanks go to those who have helped reduced my paperwork, postage and visits to the bank!

❖ *Ray Taylor, Tonbridge District 120 Club Treasurer*

120 CLUB RESULTS

April: 111 Sevenoaks, 125 Cranbrook, 85 Leigh

May: 65 Hadlow, 21 Hadlow, 125 Cranbrook

June: 125 Cranbrook, 85 Leigh, 2 Sevenoaks

Training Matters

Peter Dale writes on his plans for the ITTS (Integrated Teacher Training Scheme) in Kent

There hasn't been a training committee as such for many years, so I'm in the process of forming a new one and am asking each District to nominate representatives. The business will be conducted mainly via email, perhaps by telephone conferences, and possibly an occasional face-to-face meeting.

More pressing though is the need to do something about the lamentably poor teaching practices that prevail in the majority of towers in the County. This can't wait for a training team to be formed so on my own initiative I've arranged an ITTS Module 2 course to held on Saturday 23rd August at Dover. It's intended primarily to follow on from the three Module 1 courses already held in Kent, but I should stress that Module 1 is not a prerequisite; it's open to anyone with the appropriate skill level and commitment to teaching. The ITTS Tutor will be Graham Nabb, Director of the Kinton Ringing Centre in Warwickshire. [see next page]

ITTS does have its flaws, but I propose to arrange more courses across the County nevertheless. Success depends upon local organisers and teachers' mentors following up the day course, which doesn't always happen in practice. If we are to roll out a series of Module 1 courses then I want to be sure that there is a pool of good mentors. With that in mind, I have arranged a mentoring evening for Thursday, 14th August, in the Ashford area. Pip Penny, the architect of ITTS, has offered to take time out of her break in Kent to present this two-hour seminar. Details are on the training page of the KCACR website, but if you have the experience and are willing to pass on your skills then please make a note of this date now.

❖ *Peter Dale*

Sarah Hope (Brasted) was a trainee at the June Bob Doubles training morning at Brasted

Three novice ringers had a sense of school day *déjà vu* during the morning of 7th June at the Brasted Tower. Catherine Lewis, as always, quickly assessed our somewhat limited capabilities and with infinite patience worked on our individual sticking points and coaxed us a little further along the path of enlightenment.

The morning sped by and each of us came away with an increased sense of knowledge and confidence. I think I speak for all those yet to come to grips with the complicated art of campanology when I say: 'Long may this feeling continue'.

The six bells we sweated on were muffled and the computer simulator was set up to save the ear drums of the local community. A refreshing mid-morning energy boost was supplied by Frank Lewis via an invigorating cup of coffee and Tessa Worthington in the form of tasty sugary treats (one particular chocolate and rice crispy concoction was well worth turning up for alone).

Thank you also to all the other unnamed helpers for kindly donating their time and for their infinite patience, wisdom and tact.

❖ *Sarah Hope*

Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTS)

Module 2: Teaching elementary change ringing

Date: 23rd August 2014

Venue: St Mary's, Dover

From 10.15 to 17.15

Course fee £15 payable when booking
plus £4 tower donation including coffee & tea, payable on the day
Lunch not included.

Presenter: *Graham Nabb*

(ITTS Tutor and Director of The Harry Windsor Ringing Centre, Kineton, Warwicks)

This one-day course is only the first part of Module 2 and consists of:

- four practical sessions, with innovative and enjoyable ways to take a learner from ringing rounds to their first methods.
- Theory sessions about how to get the best from ringers and build a strong motivated band
- Information about Learning The Ropes, a progressive teaching scheme for use with learners.

Attendance should imply some commitment to complete the rest of the Module. This will involve Teachers working with appointed Mentors for some time after the course. They will also be required to answer a set of on-line multiple-choice questions, as will any Mentors seeking Module 2 recognition.

Entry level qualification is to have rung at least a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor on an "inside" bell.

Booking Procedure

either complete the on-line Application Form, mail it to training@kcacr.org.uk and make a BACS payment directly to ART (details on the form)

or complete a hard copy of the form, make a cheque payable to "KCACR", and post it to Peter Dale, (ITTS Course), 9 Chisnall Road, River, Dover, CT17 0RH.

The course fee of £15 per delegate must be paid at the time of booking.

Closing date: Monday 21st July 2014. There are only twelve places so early booking is advised. Programme details are available from training@kcacr.org.uk

St George's Day, 2014



For the fourth consecutive year, District members rang a quarter peal of St George's Bob Minor and The Dragon Bob Minor on St George's Day (see *Quarter Peals*). This time, the bells were those at Downe, and the ensuing lunch was at *The George and Dragon* opposite the Church. The Dragon has come second on each occasion, and this time lost by 720 to 540.

Previous fun has been had at Kemsing/Ightham (2011), Kemsing/Chipstead (2012), and Leigh/Speldhurst last year. We will have to venture even further afield in the future as we run out of different G & D eateries at which to dine.

The picture shows most of the happy band (but see below) in Downe, following the ringing – Anthony had to leave immediately after the quarter. We were all rather taken aback on finishing to learn that the Downe Tower Captain, Simon Sleath, had died the previous evening, aged 42. He had apparently been very ill for some time. The Downe ringers only heard this sad news whilst we were ringing, and they were very pleased that the bells had been rung that morning.

❖ *Fraser Clift*



The Cowden band following their Ringing for England on St George's Day.

In praise of Mobel

On the 5th June I rang a quarter of Bob Doubles, inside. 'That's great' you might say and 'several others were rung in the district that week... so what?' The difference being that it was me and those who know me will know quite what a miracle this was!

I started bell ringing because of an appeal for ringers in our local parish magazine. As keen as I was, I was also completely terrified and certainly did not have a natural aptitude or indeed ringing style! I was quite honestly dreadful and it took a full two years to overcome my terror and shaking knees!

As our tower does not have weekly services to ring for, I rang at other towers to practice and gradually gained confidence and a reasonable ringing style. At the same time the Hever band also began to progress and with the steady guiding hand of Alex Staff, the return of an experienced ringer and the addition of a few new ringers, our horizons widened and we increased our aspirations beyond plain hunt.

With the support of other local towers we organised several Bob Doubles training days. As good as these were there was also a need for lots of practice to consolidate the learning. With the best of intentions, 5 or 10 minutes here and there on practice night won't have given me the confidence to attempt the quarter so soon. This is where Mobel (or Mabel or Abel!) came into its own. Several people told me just how useful it was and at first it had me flummoxed – it all went so fast... So I just set the peal time as slow as possible and bashed out plain courses for a couple of weeks whilst gradually reducing the peal time. With gaining

confidence out went the peal time again and I began touches. I soon became used to hearing 'Bob' and could react without my brain freezing. The peal time came down and my confidence soared. I really do believe that without Mobel I would not have been able to get through the quarter.

I would recommend Mobel (or similar simulators) to anyone who goes into a complete panic and finds that their mind goes blank every time someone shouts 'Bob'! I was able to practice at a time convenient to me and not always when tired at the end of day. Plus, I didn't have the pressure of having other people around me and feeling stupid when I went wrong, I could just start again. The only downside is that there are many methods available and I now find myself tapping away at Grandsire... and who knows I might even learn what 'Single' means!

Very usefully Plain Hunt is also included for those at the beginning of their ringing career.

Why not give it a go?

❖ *Jane Rosam*

FOR THE UNINITIATED:

Abel a ringing simulator for Windows PCs

Mabel a ringing simulator for the Apple Mac, intended primarily for home use.

Mobel a ringing simulator for Apple iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad; available from the Apple App Store.

Mobel – 'a belfry in your pocket' – is intended for use when you're on the move, at towers or ringing meetings, in the pub or travelling. It's 'a belfry in your pocket'.

More information on the AbelSim website:
www.abelsim.co.uk

All AbelSim's profits go to charities, including The Ringing Foundation.

The Central Council AGM: 'Been There – Got the T-Shirt' A Steward's Eye View

It was back in the Autumn last year, at some sort of bellringing gathering, but I can't quite remember which, that I first heard mention of the fact that the Central Council's AGM in 2014 was going to be hosted by the KCACR, and a request for volunteers was made. That sparked my interest and intrigue as to what exactly goes on at these meetings?

And so it was that on Saturday 24th May I was a steward for the Route B Bellringing Tour for the CCCBR delegates and visitors from other bellringing associations. At the first tower, Brenchley, I asked a few people where they had travelled from and was surprised at the replies – Devon, Bristol, Cheshire, Shropshire, West Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Essex, Vancouver and Philadelphia!

I was stewarding with two others, and our job was to run the ringing in three of the eight different towers on Route B during the day, checking day tickets, collecting payments, running the ringing and helping out if extra ringers were required. Thank goodness there were plenty of people capable of ringing Double Norwich!

The level of ringing was very high and at Brenchley touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Double Norwich and Plain Bob were rung. Incidentally, there was a pile of yellow, hot-off-the-press 2014 KCACR Handbooks on a table in the middle of the ringing chamber and one visitor remarked that its content was much, much

better than her local association's equivalent, so congratulations to those responsible for compiling ours. Also at Brenchley, from my perch on the back of a pew, I spotted a carrier bag full of old bicycle inner tubes, which could only be for Frank Lewis's as yet unpatented method for silencing a bell.

Each tower was available for one hour and we found that there was a tremendous rush of people at the start of each hour and then numbers dwindled. Our second tower of the day was Marden, but there was time to have a spot of lunch at the Unicorn pub beforehand, where we noticed quite a few of the visiting ringers also eating – ready to dash to the church at the appointed time (in what was by that time, pouring rain). The last tower of the day was Staplehurst, where we had to take over from other stewards who were rushing to deal with the ringing at Maidstone. Unfortunately by the time we got there too few people were available to ring all ten bells.

I thoroughly enjoyed my day, even though I did not get to see what actually goes on behind closed doors at the meetings, which were due to take place over the next two days. The KCACR has hosted the Central Council's AGM six times – the first time being in 1905. If anyone feels inspired to help out next time, you have a few years to wait!

❖ *Caroline Levy-Cooper*

Never be first – The District Six-bell Striking Competition at Shipbourne

The third of May was a lovely spring day and what could be a better venue than St Giles, Shipbourne for the District Six-bell Striking Competition? Everything was perfect; the weather, the time, the place, the bells, the refreshments, especially the refreshments put on by the Shipbourne band. Absolute idyll.

But for the Tonbridge method ringing band doom was at hand. They were drawn to ring first – disaster; for it is said that the band to ring first never, ever wins a striking competition. But is this just an Old Wives' Tale?



Ringling under way.

Competing were Tonbridge and Sevenoaks ringing methods and Tonbridge, Hever and Sevenoaks ringing call-changes. Ian Mills and Diane Reynolds from Lewisham District had kindly agreed to judge the competition and Catherine, our Ringing Master, laid out the rules, gave the orders and marshalled everyone with military precision. Things ran like clockwork.



Tessa Worthington giving the call-change trophy a final clean. As said, Tonbridge method band rang first (PB doubles) and the judges commented they had a positive start, good rhythm and pretty steady but with a number of slips. They acquired 52 faults.

Second to ring was Hever call-change band with the judges saying they put on a good performance which improved as they went along but a number of faults especially with the hand-stroke leads which gave them 41 faults.

Next was Tonbridge call-change band which after a positive start had a few hiccups but included some very good ringing to amass 32 faults.

Fourth to ring was Sevenoaks call-change band which, the judges said, started well but ran into a few problems especially when the treble was away from the lead and they ended up with 42 faults.

Sevenoaks method band rang last and they, the judges said, had a hesitant start with a few method mistakes quickly recovering to produce some very good ringing at the end and with only 32 faults.



ABOVE: Astrid Fairclough being presented with the method trophy for the Sevenoaks band by Diane Reynolds.

BELOW: Gillie Bone being presented with the call-change trophy for the Tonbridge band by Ian Mills.





ABOVE: Judges Ian Mills & Diane Reynolds with District Chairman, Angela Clark.

TOP RIGHT: The Sevenoaks band

RIGHT: The Tonbridge band

So for method ringing it was Sevenoaks followed by Tonbridge and for call-changes the order was Tonbridge, Hever, Sevenoaks.

Gillie Bone received the call-change trophy on behalf of Tonbridge and Astrid Fairclough was presented with the method ringing trophy for Sevenoaks. Congratulations should also go to Hever for entering and putting on such a sterling performance – congratulations.

Was it the curse of ringing first which robbed the Tonbridge method ringing band of the trophy or was it down to the fact that the previous evening they had had their annual tower dinner where the wine flowed freely well into the night?

❖ *Cub Reporter*



Look to

always needs your articles to fill its pages! Whoever you are, wherever you ring, whatever you ring, feel free to commit pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, and 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 from your tower 🔔 anecdotes from a tower you visited on holiday 🔔 other 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 Friday 19th September 2014.

World War I – The Great War

It is nearly 100 years since the outbreak of World War I. No war is nice, but this was a particularly nasty one, with estimates of up to 10 million dead, and 20 million wounded, many occurring in the most obscene conditions imaginable.

H. G. Wells argued, in a series of articles at the start of the War, that defeat of German militarism could bring an end to war. These were published in book form by Frank and Cecil Palmer of Red Lion Court, London, EC.

THE WAR THAT WILL END WAR

H. G. WELLS
Author of "The War in the Air,"
"The War in the Sea," etc.



LONDON
FRANK & CECIL PALMER
RED LION COURT, E.C.

Subsequently he used the expression 'the war to end war' in 'In the Fourth Year', published in 1918. Sadly wars continue to take place.

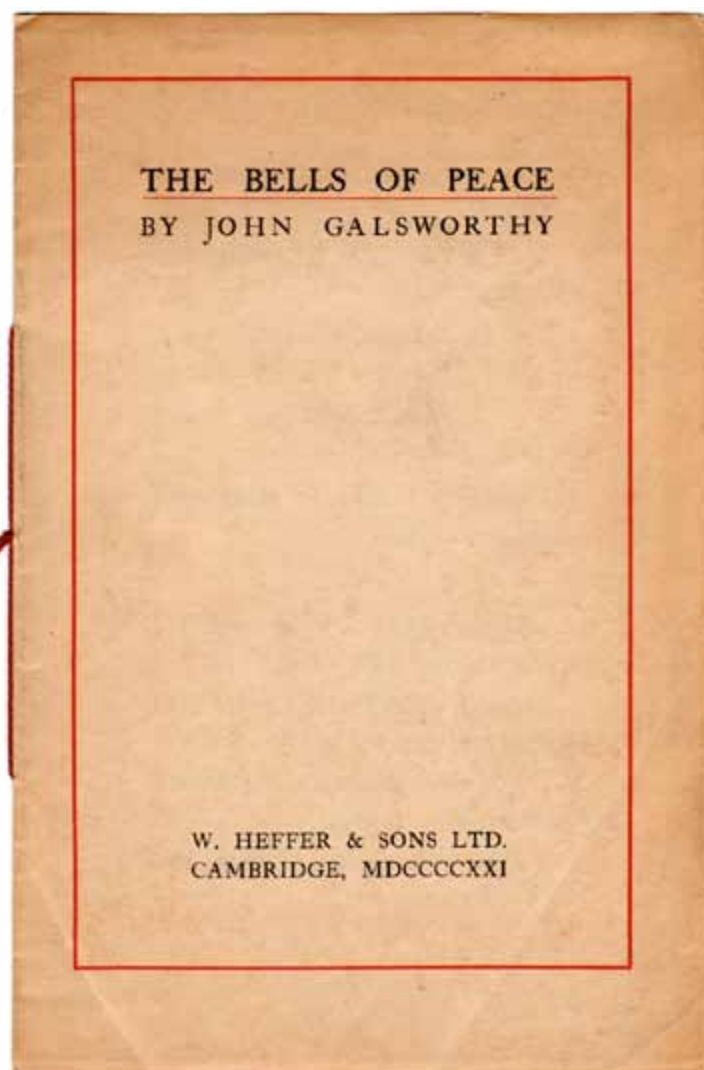
There has been much in the media over recently about the war, including the writings of the 'war poets', and there has been reference to the ringing of bells to commemorate the dead, to celebrate happier times, and to warn of danger. John Galsworthy,

although not a 'war poet' (he was passed over for military service, being 47 at the start of the fighting), served as a medical orderly in France, so he knew of the horrors from first hand experience. In June 1920 he wrote a poem entitled 'The Bells of Peace'. This was published in 1921 by W. Heffer and Sons Ltd of Cambridge, in a limited edition of 1,000 copies.

The opening and final (6th) verses are:

Lilies are here, tall in the garden bed,
And on the moor are still the buds of May,
Roses are here – and, tolling for our dead,
The bells of Peace make summer holiday.

Bells of remembrance, on this summer eve
Of our relief, Peace and Goodwill ring in!
Ring out the Past, and let not hate bereave
Our dreaming dead of all they died to win!



As one who was born towards the end of the Second World War, and who missed National Service by a few years, I have no experience of fighting. I find it hard to imagine how I would have coped. Reports suggest that, at the front, amongst other things, cigarettes were pretty important! There, and at home, I guess humour was also essential, as illustrated in the cartoon I found pasted in to a copy of Troyte's *Change Ringing*.

❖ Fraser Clift



Too much information?

Your intrepid cub reporter has been investigating the background to stories and came across a steeple-keepers invoice for expenses of some time ago. No doubt this was as a result of a treasurer being 'difficult' in not coughing up dosh requested and requiring a more full explanation and an invoice for the amounts being claimed. The note to the treasurer included:

ITEM: Two $\frac{3}{4}$ inch Whitworth nuts bought of SGL Seal for re-securing the wheel side gudgeon of the fourth bell. List price is 28p each. However if an invoice was not required the price was to be 51p for the two owing to the fact that 51p was all that could be mustered in change and the storeman at SGL had no change and could not be bothered to go up to the main office for the cash box and invoice book. 51 pence was accepted. It was considered beneficial to the tower that an invoice was not demanded from SGL. No invoice.....£0.51

ITEM: Bottle-screw hook connection for adjusting chime pull-off. Originally bought some time ago for use with a snazzy wire connection to anchor my television aerial but not yet used owing to a continuing bout of apathy. I will let you have it for a good price – a snip at 50p. No invoice.....£0.50

ITEM: Three tungsten element electric light bulbs each of 100 watts electric power consumption with the commensurate light output obtained by means of a special visit to Messrs Homebase to ensure an invoice was obtained. Invoice obtained; however the car was subsequently cleared out by one's good partner while waiting in Bligh's Meadow car park, Sevenoaks, and the invoice was deposited in the attendant gash can. Invoice may be retrieved from the said gash can in Bligh's Meadow or more probably from the local dump.....£0.99

ITEM: Approximately 1000 miles car travel collecting items and attending the tower, forgetting the keys and having to go back home to collect them, not having the right tools and having to go and get them, and not getting things right a multitude of times to undertake maintenance and repairs.....Make me an offer.

There is no indication of whether these explanations of expenses resulted in a positive result for the steeple-keeper

❖ *Cub Reporter*

RINGING DURING THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2014

PEALS

Tonbridge Sunday 18th May in 3h 1m
5088 Yorkshire S Major composed by N. J. Pitstow
Nicola Turner 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Colin Turner 3
Catherine Heathcote 4, Colin Salter 5, David Salter 6
Nicholas Wilkins [c] 7, Ian Mills 8
To congratulate Howard Rogers on successfully completing his year as Mayor of Tonbridge & Malling.

HALF PEALS

Eynsford Wednesday 23rd April in 1h 29m
2528 Plain Bob Major composed by B. D. Constant
David Hilling [c] 1, Elizabeth Barnes 2,
Isabel Pearce 3, Rebecca Stuttard 4, Rhian Bagshaw 5
Catherine Lewis 6, Frank Lewis 7
Michael Worthington 8



*For St George's Day.
First half peal &
longest length: 4*
FROM L TO R:
Frank Lewis
Liz Barnes
David Hilling
Rebecca Stuttard
Rhian Bagshaw
Catherine Lewis
Mike Worthington
Isabel Pearce

QUARTER PEALS

Cowden Thursday 27th February
1260 Plain Bob Doubles
Robin Rouse 1, Michael Stuttard 2
Caroline Levy-Cooper 3, Alan Turner [c] 4
Rebecca Stuttard 5, Hugo Tracey 6
[Apologies for omitting this from the last issue – ed.]

Otford Tuesday 8th April
1300 Plain Bob Doubles
Isabel Pearce 1, Tessa Worthington 2
Bobbie Fairclough 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4
Mike Worthington 5, Martin Whitehead 6
In thanksgiving for the life of Revd David Casiot
Sevenoaks Wednesday 9th April

1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Eric Roughley 1, Tessa Worthington 2
Catherine Lewis 3, Fraser Clift 4
Michael Worthington 5, Catherine Heathcote 6
Anthony Leeves [c] 7, Frank Lewis 8

Tonbridge Sunday 13th April

1260 Stedman Doubles

Tiffany Lynch [c] 1, Catherine Heathcote 2
Hamilton Woods 3, Jacqui Fletcher 4
Rhoda Willson 5, Gordon Hill 6

For Palm Sunday evening service.

*Also celebrating the birth of Aiman John Hill on
14th March 2014, first grandson for Gordon and Peggy.*

Lamberhurst Tuesday 15th April

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Frank Lewis 1, Tessa Worthington 2
Catherine Lewis 3, Tiffany Lynch [c] 4
Michael Worthington 5, Catherine Heathcote 6
*Rung half muffled, remembering the life of Helen
Honnywill whose funeral was held today.*

Brasted Sunday 20th April

1260 Doubles (1p/2m)

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Rebecca Stuttard 2
Caroline Stockmann 3, Fraser Clift 4
Catherine Lewis [c] 5, Frank Lewis 6
For Easter Sunday.

Sevenoaks Monday 21st April

1260 Grandsire Triples *composed by Daniel Brady*

Isabel Pearce 1, Caroline Stockmann 2,
Tessa Worthington 3, Rebecca Stuttard 4,
Rhiannon Meredith 5, Jack Gunning [c] 6,
Michael Worthington 7, Michael Stuttard 8
First Grandsire Triples: 2

Downe Wednesday 23rd April

1260 Minor (2m): St George Bob & The Dragon Bob

720 St George, 540 The Dragon
Bobbie Fairclough 1, Fraser Clift 2
Stella Wooldridge 3, Anthony Leeves 4
Howard Rogers 5, Tiffany Lynch [c] 6
*For St George's Day and in celebration of the life of
Simon Sleath, Tower Captain of Downe, who died
yesterday aged 42.*

Sevenoaks Monday 5th May

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

Caroline Stockmann 1, Elizabeth Barnes 2
Phillip Barnes 3, Michael Worthington 4
Anthony Leeves [c] 5, Jack Gunning 6
First of Treble Bob: 1

Otford Wednesday 7th May

1260 St Clement's CB Minor

Eric Roughley 1, Yvonne Cooper 2, Bobbie Fairclough 3
Frank Lewis 4, Catherine Lewis [c] 5, Fraser Clift 6

Tonbridge Sunday 11th May

1320 Cambridge S Minor

Angela Clark 1, Tiffany Lynch[c] 2, Hamilton Woods 3
Jacqui Fletcher 4, Rhoda Willson 5, Howard Rogers 6
For evening service.

Sevenoaks Sunday 11th May

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Jack Gunning [c] 1, Rosina Cole 2, Isabel Pearce 3
Tessa Worthington 4, Michael Worthington 5
Phil Jones 6 *Before confirmation service.*

Tonbridge Tuesday 13th May

1260 Grandsire Triples

composed by R. William Willans
Anthony Leeves 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Fraser Clift 3
Jacqui Fletcher 4, Tiffany Lynch [c] 5
Stella Wooldridge 6, Howard Rogers 7, Ray Taylor 8
*Rung before the Council's Annual Meeting to mark the
end of the Mayoral Year for Councillor Howard Rogers,
outgoing Mayor of the Borough of Tonbridge & Malling.*

Sandhurst Saturday 17th May

1260 Doubles (9m)

*120 each of St Remigius Bob, St Nicholas Bob,
Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place,
St Simon's Bob, St Osmund Bob, St Martin's Bob,
180 Plain Bob, 240 Grandsire.*
Eric Roughley 1, Catherine Heathcote 2, Fraser Clift 3,
Stella Wooldridge 4, Anthony Leeves [c] 5, Alan King 6

Sevenoaks Sunday 25th May

1260 Plain Bob & Grandsire Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Fraser Clift 2
Astrid Fairclough [c] 3, Isabel Pearce 4
Tessa Worthington 5, Mike Worthington 6
Rung in memory of Norman Oldale.

Sevenoaks Monday 26th May

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Jack Gunning [c] 1, David Cochrane 2,
Janice Byrne 3, Tessa Worthington 4,
Michael Worthington 5, Rebecca Stuttard 6

Otford Wednesday 28th May

1260 Doubles *300 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob*

Janet Whitehead 1, Juliet Austin 2,
Tessa Worthington 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4
Mike Worthington 5, Bobbie Fairclough 6
Rung to celebrate the life of Richard Venables.

Tunbridge Wells Thursday 29th May

1260 Grandsire Triples

Hugo Tracey 1, Peter Bradford 2, Frances Bradford 3
Alan Millidge 4, Oliver Thompson 5, Alan Turner 6
Alan Pink [c] 7, Andy Wickenden 8

*Rung for Ascension Day, and to celebrate the 71st
birthday of Ian Cochrane, a ringer at this church.*

Speldhurst Sunday 1st June

1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Penny Gerrard 1, Catherine Lewis 2, Janice Byrne 3
Stella Wooldridge 4, Anthony Leeves 5
Eric Roughley [c] 6, Frank Lewis 7, Crispin Saunders 8

For Evensong.

Also a birthday compliment to Nicholas Butcher.

Otford Wednesday 4th June

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Eric Roughley 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Fraser Clift 3
Catherine Lewis [c] 4, Tony Cresswell 5, Frank Lewis 6

Hever Thursday 5th June

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Louise Nightingale 1, Jane Rosam 2, Alex Staff [c] 3
Hugo Tracey 4, Alison Wilson 5, Kevin Agate 6

First inside: 2

*Rung to celebrate the birth of baby Daryl on 3rd June,
son of Hever bell ringers Ana & Daryl Roxborough.*

Tunbridge Wells Saturday 14th June

1287 Grandsire Triples *composed by Dennis Chapman*

Alan Turner 1, Colin Friend 2, Mike Wigney [c] 3
Linda Foddering 4, Hugo Tracey 5, Gill Tomlinson 6
Tony Nunn 7, Louise Booth 8

Circled tower to quarters: 5. On Hugo's QP day.

Penshurst Saturday 14th June

1344 PB Major

*BBPPPP x 14. S for first B in part 1 and 8
composed by Tom Lawrance*

Mike Wigney 1, Linda Foddering 2, Louise Booth 3
Oliver Thompson 4, Colin Friend 5, Gill Tomlinson 6
Hugo Tracey 7, Tony Nunn [c] 8

On Hugo's QP day.

Hever Saturday 14th June

1272 Oxford Treble Bob Minor

Tony Nunn 1, Mike Wigney (C) 2, Gill Tomlinson 3
Louise Booth 4, Hugo Tracey 5, Colin Friend 6

First in method: 5. On Hugo's QP day.

Brasted Sunday 15th June

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Yvonne Cooper 2
Caroline Stockmann 3, Fraser Clift [c] 4
Ben Rogers 5, Rebecca Stuttard 6

*For evensong, & a birthday compliment
to Carole Cresswell.*

MILESTONES

Congratulations to:

Rebecca Stuttard

First half peal & longest length (23rd April)

Caroline Stockmann

First Grandsire Triples inside (21st April)

First of Treble Bob (5th May)

Jane Rosam

First inside (5th June)

Hugo Tracey

Circled Tunbridge Wells tower to quarters (14th June)

First of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (14th June)



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: hire@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 112616



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Embroidered KCACR clothing Colours, sizes & prices 2014

T SHIRTS (R180M) £15.50 XS: As below, but not Convoy grey

S, M, L, XL, 2XL: Azure blue, Black, Bottle green, Bright red (more orange), Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red (more 'blue'), Convoy grey, French navy, Light Oxford, Pure gold, Purple, Sky, White, Winter emerald, Yellow

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

SHORT SLEEVE POLO SHIRTS (539M) £17.50

XS, S, M, L, XL, 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 SWEATSHIRTS (762M) £21.00

XS, S, M, L, XL, 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) £29.00/£28.50

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

3XL, 4XL: in full zip only

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.

Ordering: Ordering by 3 weeks before a District Quarterly should enable delivery at the meeting. There will also be an order form at the meetings and an order sent off soon after. Orders in between may be subject to delay. Payment with order. If not at the meeting, please send to Mallans, 27 Main Road, Sundridge, Sevenoaks TN14 6EF (cheques to me) or to cmlewis@btinternet.com (bank account and sort code can be provided for electronic transfer).

Full information also available on kcacr.org.uk/clothing

Catherine Lewis (01959 563767)



KCACR Tonbridge District Invitation for Nominations Annual District Meeting Saturday 4th October 2014



The Tonbridge District of the KCACR elects its District Officers at its Annual District Meeting each October.

In the year October 2013 to October 2014 the Tonbridge District has had individuals undertaking the following elected roles at District and County level:

District Committee

Named elected positions:

- District Chairman
- District Secretary
- District Treasurer
- District Ringing Master (x2)

Other Roles

Elected District Representatives on the KCACR General Committee, not necessarily required to be on the District Committee:

- District Representative (x2)
- Editor of *Look to*

All members of the KCACR in the Tonbridge District are invited to propose individuals for any of the above position(s) for the year October 2014 to October 2015, for election at the Tonbridge District ADM on **Saturday 4th October 2014 at Horsmonden.**

If you would like to nominate a member of the KCACR from the Tonbridge District for a position, please:

- 1) Be a member of the KCACR from the Tonbridge District (!)
- 2) Ask them if they would like to be proposed!
- 3) Find a member of the KCACR from the Tonbridge District to second the nomination.
- 4) Send the names of these people and their home towers to the District Secretary.

You can fill out the nomination form on the back of this sheet and post it to:

Tony Cresswell, The Stables, Nizels Lane, Hildenborough, Kent, TN11 8NU

or send everyone's names and home towers via e-mail to: tondist@gmail.com

or bring it to the ADM, although it would be more helpful to know nominations beforehand.

Nominations received on or before Sunday 28th September 2014 will appear on the KCACR website in the week before the ADM.

Take a look in advance at who you can vote for when attending the meeting:

www.kcacr.org.uk ► District News ► Tonbridge District