



The Kent County Association of Change Ringers

Maidstone District

Maidstone District

Chairman: Elizabeth Barnes
Secretary: Terry Barnard
www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk

Minutes

For the **Quarterly District Meeting** held on
Saturday 9th April 2016 at **St Mary, Stansted.**

The Chairman opened the meeting by inviting Graham Heath to say a few words about Martin Pring.

Eulogy

Martin learned to ring at Compton Abbas in Dorset. Introduced to ringing by his father who was the tower captain, he and his father used to walk the 3 miles to the church across fields.

When Martin moved to Kent he joined the team at Aylesford and was a ringer there for many years. 26 years ago, following a move to Maidstone, Martin joined the team at All Saints.

Unfortunately the last few years were plagued by cancer for Martin, but he always stayed positive. Following a major operation earlier this year, Martin was recovering and adapting well and was hopeful of a return to ringing. As the last few weeks passed, the prognosis changed each time I visited him, but he never lost his positivity and we had some great chats about ringing.

Martin sadly passed away on Easter Saturday, very peacefully at home with his family around him.

Martin won't just be remembered as a loyal bell-ringer with 50 years membership to KCACR, but for the kind hearted gentleman he was.

Rest in peace dear friend.

The Chairman asked all present to stand for a few moments silence for Martin. His funeral is on Thursday 14th April at the Union Street Methodist Church in Maidstone at 2pm.

Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Adam, Debbie and Daniel Brady; Roy and Sally Ann Barclay; Jack Velvick; Chris and Sue Bassett (all Staplehurst); Richard Young and Bert Boxall (Yalding); Ian and Hilary Parker (Bearsted); Sue Brooks (Snodland) and Sue Payne (East Malling).

45 members signed the attendance book.

2016/QMB01 Minutes and any matters arising from previous meeting:

2016/QMA 9th January 2016. The Chairman remarked on the success of the ringing competition at East Sutton on 12th March with 6 teams taking part in the call change contest and 3 in the striking competition. We had new winners of the call change contest with a combined Suttons team, with Staplehurst once again winning the striking competition.

There were no other matters arising. The minutes were agreed and signed.

2016/QMB02

Election of new members:

Name	Tower	Proposed	Seconded
Deborah Ann Rowe	Bearsted	Ian Parker	John Wale
Clive David Ticehurst	Lenham	James Davis	Sharon Wilcox
Nell Weatherley	Lenham	James Davis	Sharon Wilcox
Alison Champion	Mereworth	Douglas Bratt	Barry Evans
Jilly McAleese	Mereworth	Douglas Bratt	Barry Evans
Isla Britchford	All Saints	Graham Heath	Kath White
Christine Fox	All Saints	Graham Heath	Kath White
Jean Margaret Gunn	Stansted	Keith Foxwell	Dawn Foxwell

All 8 were duly elected.

2016/QMB03

Forthcoming events

The Secretary outlined the next few events. These were:

- 1.) County Surprise Practice at West Malling on Saturday 30 April from 10-12noon. Methods will be from the Standard 8 and Glasgow Surprise.
- 2.) District 10 bell Practice at All Saints Maidstone on 14 May from 10-12 noon. All are welcome even if not an experienced 10 bell ringer.
- 3.) District Practice at Chart Sutton on 11th June from 10-12noon.
- 4.) County 8 bell Competition on 2 July – venue TBC in Canterbury District.
- 5.) District Quarterly Meeting at Nettlestead on 9 July from 10-12.30 with short break for business meeting at 11am.
- 6.) District Barbeque on 13 August – likely to be in the Ulcombe area.

James Davis reminded everyone that the “Ringing for England” Campaign had proposed all churches should again ring to celebrate St George’s Day. For this year the Campaign has suggested that church band together to ring consecutively to create a “Rolling Ring” throughout the day.

2016/QMB04

Any Other Business.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Stansted ringers for the use of the bells and the wonderful new hall, and for the welcome refreshments. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.17.

Terry Barnard
District Secretary
11th April 2016

Signed as a true record by the Chairman
on

(Date) _____