

KCACR VICE PRESIDENT RINGING QPs AGAIN!

After a long recovery period and easing himself back into ringing slowly but surely, VP Tom Barlow rang his first quarter peal since his operations on Saturday 26th December at St. Michael's, Maidstone. Well done Tom!

Kent County Association

On Saturday, 26 December 2015

Maidstone, Kent

St Michael and All Angels

Tenor: 6-1-24 in C

1250 Superlative Surprise Major

Composed by Q500

- 1 Christopher J Bassett
- 2 J Susan Bassett
- 3 Cathryn M Hills
- 4 Jacqueline M Barlow
- 5 Thomas M Barlow
- 6 Andrew M Hills (C)
- 7 Philip M Hills
- 8 Ian G Mills

Rung half muffled for the Martyrdom of St Ste

RINGING WORLD SURVEY

The Board of The Ringing World Ltd thinks it essential to have a full, informed consultation with as many ringers as possible, subscribers and non-subscribers, over several possible ways to a sustainable future for the business by means of a survey.

We are using *The Ringing World* and The Ringing World and BellBoard websites to ask for responses and further appealing to ringers via a couple of chatlists and Facebook. In order to extend our appeal to as many ringers as possible, this message has been sent out to you via associations and societies courtesy of the Central Council distribution list.

There is an on-line version and a paper version. The on-line version is at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/therwsurvey> and also accessible through our websites. A copy of the survey is available [here](#) and it can also be printed off from BellBoard or obtained from the Ringing World office. You are welcome to use whichever version you find most convenient; we would prefer you to use the on-line version if you can as this makes assessment of the results and detailed analysis much easier for us

If you have difficulties in filling in the survey, please email survey@ringingworld.co.uk . We have a small staff and need to minimise the number of questions they have to deal with by phone. It has not been possible, in the interests of keeping the cost of the paper version down, to have much space for the few free text answers. You may enclose an extra sheet with any further comments or reply via the above survey email address.

It is a comprehensive survey so the option is given for answering only certain key questions, though we hope that most responders will answer them all.

For those who are not familiar with The Ringing World or need a reminder, we have provided [a free PDF version](#) of a recent edition which you can access via BellBoard and our website.

Please encourage as many ringers as possible to respond.

The survey will close at the end of January.

Nigel Orchard
Chairman, The Ringing World Ltd.

SALIENT POINTS FROM RECENT GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The following is an abbreviated summary of the salient points of the meeting held on 28th November:

- The accounts for 2013/2014 are just about ready to be audited thanks to the work of the Treasurer with help from Caroline Stockmann
- Information for the 2016 handbook will shortly be requested by the Handbook Editor via District Secretaries and Treasurers
- Guidelines for the use of the Training Fund were finalised and agreed

- A grant of £2,500 was awarded to Canterbury St. Dunstan to rehang the back 3 bells on new gudgeons and bearings
- The membership database is now in place and nearly up-to-date, and will be used by District Treasurers to update membership records ready for the 2016 handbook
- It was agreed that we will provide membership cards to every member, to be printed by the Secretary and provided to District Secretaries to distribute
- A poster about the Facebook groups and County mailing list has been sent to District Secretaries, and an A5 copy will be included in every 2016 handbook
- Following the success of the inaugural Youth Striking Competition, Revd David Cawley is now preparing a trophy as a gift to the Association
- At the 2016 AGM in March, we will currently be seeking a new Training Officer and at least 1 new Central Council Rep for the next triennium
- The County 8-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 2nd July, 9.45am draw, in the Canterbury District. Tower, method and touch TBC
- The County 6-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 24th September, 9.45am draw, in the Lewisham District. Tower TBC.
- The dates of the General Committee meetings in 2016 were agreed as 27th February, 23rd April, 27th August and 26th November

Doug Davis

FRANK LEWIS 1936 - 2015



Frank learned to ring at Chichester Cathedral and rang his first peal in 1951. In 1952 the family moved to Reading and he lived close to the church of St. Mary's which had a very good band and in the same year Frank rang his first peal of Cambridge Surprise. He lived

in Reading until 1980 and took an active interest in the Oxford Diocesan Guild. He was also a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths Frank rang 523 peals of which 121 were on 10 or more bells and considered the highlights to be participation in the third and fourth peals of Bristol Surprise Maximus and the peal of Stedman Cinques he took part in at Liverpool Cathedral which was rung in 4hrs. 8mins.

In 1980 he moved to Kent and lived for a while in Kemsing. He moved to Sevenoaks in 1982 and is recorded as a member of the Sevenoaks band in that year. In 1983 Catherine and Frank were married.

Frank soon became involved in Tonbridge District activities and it can certainly be said that he enjoyed his ringing. As many of us know he was not very tolerant of poor striking and although he didn't say much it was clear what he was thinking. He gave his time to many towers in helping with maintenance tasks and his Strikeometer became renowned for improving the striking of many bells. It was a bit of a mystery, a bit like a divining rod, you were never quite sure how it worked but the results were good.

He was also a regular participant in the District Training days and it was always interesting to see him accepting Catherine's directions and then sort of complying by doing his own thing. Behind his sometimes dour appearance there was a wonderful sense of humour which helped to liven up these occasions.

Frank's work for the KCACR was phenomenal.

For the Tonbridge District:

 Ringing Master 1984-86, Chairman 1987-94, 2001-02, Committee member 2003. In addition he and Catherine provided the Mulled Wine for the Carol Service, helped with the Trivia evening and other ad hoc events.

For the Association:

 Handbook Editor 1986-97. Chairman 2001-03. Publicity 2002-03. Webmaster 2005-15. Central Council Rep. 1987-06, 2013-15. Maintenance Team 1991-2015. In addition he managed the advertising for the Handbook for many years. Chaired the Rules Revision committee (which to his great satisfaction produced the rules adopted in 2014), provided refreshments for General Committee meetings, etc..

Frank got a lot out of ringing but he certainly put a lot more into it.

Finally a personal note. I met Frank in 1982 and we got on very well, had lots of fun and never a cross word. I helped him with the Rules Revision, which was a bit of a dry task, but we always managed to have a joke. It was during these activities that went on for some years that I found Frank to be a master of time management and so he was to the end. Frank wanted to die at home but it became impossible for Catherine to tend him so it was arranged to transfer him to the Hospice. As they came to transfer him, he died. How appropriate.

Eric Roughley

COUNTY 6-BELL STRIKING COMPETITION

A nice sunny afternoon greeted the 5 teams who assembled at Godmersham in the Canterbury District for the County 6-Bell Striking Competition on Saturday 26th September. Unfortunately Ashford were unable to field a team this year.

The draw took place at 2.50pm and the first band from the Tonbridge District then headed into the tower to begin the days' proceedings. Brian Law was our able steward for the day, making sure all the bands kept within the rules. All of the teams had completed their test pieces by about 4.30pm and a short while afterwards the judges, Donald Niblett and Liz Barnes, joined everyone in the church to deliver their verdict.

Donald first thanked everyone for the invitation for him to come and judge the competition, commenting that it was especially nice to be able to sit in the warm sunshine. He said he had enjoyed the ringing very much, and was pleased to think that this was perhaps an indication of the level of Sunday Service ringing taking place across the County. He also commented that all teams did well, with every band improving in the 2nd half obviously after getting used to the bells as they went along. Liz Barnes then gave the results and comments as follows:

Position	District	Rang	Faults	Judges Comments
1st	Lewisham	4th	24	Peal Speed: 2h 54m A very nice piece of ringing, particularly the 2nd half.
2nd	Maidstone	2nd	40	Peal Speed: 3h 1m Much slower than the first band. Leading and covering were good, but the middle of the change tended to drag out.
3rd	Canterbury	3rd	44	Peal Speed: 2h 55m Good leading, but the bells in the middle of the change tended to fall in on top of each other with the tenor left dragging behind. A nasty crunch at one point but this didn't phase them and ringing improved afterwards.
4th	Tonbridge	1st	52	Peal Speed: 2h 48m Quite fast. Started nervously with inconsistent leading and the tenor dragging behind. Improved in the 2nd part.
5th	Rochester	5th	72	Peal Speed: 3h 6m The band couldn't seem to agree on a speed. There were rushed leads, and a nasty crunch around in the 3rd lead but they did recover well and improved in the 2nd half.

The judges then presented the trophy to the winning Lewisham District band, and the Chairman Daniel Brady thanked Donald and Liz for judging and presented them with some port and chocolate liqueurs. He then thanked the hosting tower for having us and for the wonderful (and plentiful) tea that had been provided throughout the afternoon.

Some photos of the event appear below. Click on the thumbnails to display a larger picture. If you hover your cursor on the left or right of a picture you'll see a "<" or ">"

symbol. Click on these to navigate. Users with touchscreens may not see the "<" or ">" symbol, but touching the right or left of the picture will still work.



ESSEX TROPHY RESULTS

The KCACR once again took part in the Essex Trophy 10-bell competition held at St. Nicholas, Guildford on Saturday 12th September. Unfortunately this year we couldn't retain the trophy, which was won by the Essex Association. The results were as follows:

Position	Team
1st	Essex Association
2nd	Guildford Diocesan Guild
3rd	Surrey Association
4th	Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild
5th	Sussex County Association
6th	Kent County Association

Well done to the team who took part, and better luck next year!

SALIENT POINTS FROM RECENT GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The following is an abbreviated summary of the salient points of the meeting held on 1st August:

- A minutes' silence was held to remember Frank Lewis who recently passed away
- Work on the accounts is well underway and the outstanding grants for Wrotham and Broomfield have now been paid

- Doug Davis is looking after the KCACR website for the time being in the absence of an official Webmaster
- Due to lack of interest, it is likely that the ITTS Module 1 course scheduled for 31st August and the ITTS Module 2 course scheduled for 19th September will be cancelled
- The grant application for Hollingbourne was reviewed but not increased, however an offer of a short-term loan will be made
- Following updated figures and information from St. Peter in Thanet, a maximum grant of £10,000 was agreed
- It was agreed that we should retain a separate Training fund, and final details around usage and process would be decided at the next meeting
- It was agreed that we would investigate the possibility of re-printing the bell handling posters available at the Central Council meeting in Hull
- The Youth Striking Competition this year will be Call Changes only and will be held on 24th October at Chalk
- It was agreed that a County Mailing list would be setup to help communication across the Association
- A membership database has been established and is in the early stages of being updated; Membership cards will also be looked at for the coming year
- It was agreed that a County Surprise Major practice would be setup and trialled
- The 2015 County 6-bell Striking Competition would be held on 26th September at Godmersham, 2.45pm draw
- The date of the final General Committee meeting in 2015 was confirmed as 28th November

Doug Davis

KCACR UPDATES MAILING LIST

In order to try and improve communication about County news and events and to complement our internet and social media presence, it was agreed at the last General Committee meeting that we would set up a County-wide email mailing list. This has now been done and all you have to do is sign up by heading to the link below.

[KCACR Updates Mailing List Signup](#)

Once we have a good base of subscribers, we will start to make use of it to provide updates, news and anything else that might be of interest to ringers across the County as a whole. Please do sign up and encourage all ringers within the County to do the same - the more subscribers, the better communication will be!

Doug Davis, Hon. General Secretary

KENT YOUTH STRIKING COMPETITION

The first Kent Youth Striking Competition, organised by Ben Legg from the Canterbury District, is confirmed and will take place at Chalk (Rochester District) on Saturday 24th October 2015. More details can be found on the [Kent Young Ringers](#) page.

COUNTY SURPRISE MAJOR PRACTICES

We will be starting a County Surprise Major Practice as of this October which will be held regularly on the 5th Saturday of a month where there is one. These practices are open to people from everywhere, and will rotate around the County, being held at towers on or near district borders. We hope to start out ringing methods from the "Standard 8", both individually and spliced, and we may extend this as time goes on.

The first of these practices is to be held on the 31st of October from 10-12 noon, hopefully at Wrotham, though this is to be confirmed.

Daniel Brady

Update: Wrotham is now confirmed for 31st October. Poster for your towers to follow.

PERFORMANCES IN MEMORY OF FRANK LEWIS

Since the recent passing of Frank on 22nd July 2015 many quarter peals and a peal have been rung to celebrate and remember his life, work and friendship. Details of those dedicated to him so far can be seen below:

<p>Welsh Colleges Society Farnborough, Warwickshire St Botolph Wednesday, 22 July 2015 in 38m (6-1-12 in B?) 1269 Norwich Surprise Minor Composed by Daniel Brady 1 Paul Lewis 2 Helen Foster 3 Iain D Scott 4 Tim Hine 5 Kevin J Rogers 6 Richard A Wolfgang (C) Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Frank W Lewis.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Bobbing, Kent Saturday, 25 July 2015 in 43 mins 1260 1p/doubles (2m) Stedman, Plain Bob & Grandsire Doubles 1 Doug Davis 2 Diana Wraight 3 Tim Wraight 4 Sven Wraight 5 Chris M Trafford (C) 6 Chris J Trafford Rung for the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Diana and Tim Wraight. Also, remembering Frank Lewis. RIP.</p>	<p>Chevening, Kent St Botolph Sunday, 26 July 2015 (10-1-13 in G) 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1 Kathy Butler 2 Tony Cresswell 3 Carole Cresswell 4 Ben Rogers 5 Stanley Jenner (C) 6 Jane Nielson In celebration of the life of Frank Lewis, and with thanks for all he did for Chevening ringers, the bells and St Botolph's church.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Birchington, Kent All Saints Sunday, 26 July 2015 1260 7m/2v Doubles 1 David Sheekey 2 Liz Shearman 3 Tim Attride 4 Thomas Brett 5 Michael Little (C) 6 Stuart Willmott Rung in celebration of the life of Eileen Thompson, loyal member of the church and long term friend to the treble. Also to Frank Lewis.</p>	<p>East Farleigh, Kent The Parish Church Monday, 27 July 2015 in 43 mins (7-3-0 in A) 1280 Aldenham Surprise Major 1 Eric Roughley 2 Ann Jenner 3 Jacqueline Barlow 4 Janice Byrne 5 Catherine Heathcote 6 Ray Taylor 7 Anthony Leeves (C) 8 Stanley Jenner In celebration of the life of Frank Lewis</p>	<p>Kent County Association Chartham, Kent St Mary Monday, 27 July 2015 in 45 min (13-1-25 in E) 1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor 1 Judy Young 2 Brenda M Davies 3 Clare Bellis 4 Charles F C Blümmers 5 William N Evans 6 Peter M Jasper (C) First quarter of minor for Charles. Rung in celebration of the life of Frank Lewis.</p>

	who rang many quarter peals with members of this band.	
<p>Kent County Association Otford, Kent St Bartholomew Tuesday, 28 July 2015 in 42 minutes (10-1-7) 1260 Doubles 60 Stedman, 1200 Plain Bob 1 Juliet Austin 2 Bobbie Fairclough 3 Catherine Lewis 4 Jacqui Fletcher 5 Fraser Clift (C) 6 Martin Whitehead Rung to celebrate the life of Frank Lewis, husband of Catherine, and good friend of Otford bells and ringers.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Stone in Oxney, Kent St Mary the Virgin Wednesday, 29 July 2015 in 44 mins (13 in A?) 1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob Doubles 1 Mary F Marshall 2 Owen C R Webster 3 Mike Godfrey 4 Karen A Edwards (C) 5 Frank R Wenham 6 Stephen J Davis Remembering Frank Lewis.</p>	<p>Chelsfield, Kent Wednesday, 29 July 2015 in 42m (11) 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor 1 Bobbie Fairclough 2 Catherine Lewis 3 Fraser Clift 4 John Barnes 5 Nicholas Wilkins (C) 6 Rupert Cheeseman In fond memory of Frank Lewis. Jim and Philippa Rooke and Lesley Barclay wish to be associated with this quarter peal.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Kemsing, Kent St Mary the Virgin Friday, 31 July 2015 in 38 minutes (4-1-5) 1260 Doubles 60 Stedman, 240 Grandsire, 480 St Simon's, 480 Plain 1 Jenny Williamson 2 Dee Clift 3 Bobbie Fairclough 4 Fraser Clift (C) 5 Michael Williamson 6 Ralph Harding Rung in memory of Frank Lewis, of Brasted. Frank helped enormously with the installation of Kemsing's bells in 1991, and with the training of the band. 150th quarter on the bells.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Aylesford, Kent SS Peter and Paul Friday, 31 July 2015 in 46mins (13-2-7 in F) 1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major 1 Alison M Gerrish 2 Julian R Lees 3 Jacqueline M Barlow 4 Pat Phipps 5 Barry A Roberts 6 Ray Morgan 7 Neil W Jones 8 Darren W Elphick (C) In thanksgiving for the life of Frank Lewis.</p>	<p>Farnborough, Kent Saturday, 1 August 2015 in 35m 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1 Jamie Austin 2 Nicholas Wilkins (C) 3 Catherine Lewis 4 Lesley Barclay 5 Philippa Rooke 6 Juliet Austin In fond memory of Frank Lewis who greatly assisted with the installation of these bells in 2012. First attempt - 1.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Speldhurst, Kent Sunday, 2 August 2015 in 45mins 1260 Grandsire Triples 1 Bobbie Fairclough 2 Janice Byrne 3 Fraser Clift 4 Anthony Leeves 5 Michael Bullett 6 Catherine Heathcote 7 Eric Roughley (C) 8 Crispin Saunders For Evensong. Also in celebration of the life of Frank Lewis who rang many Quarters at Speldhurst.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Hadlow, Kent St Mary Sunday, 2 August 2015 in 44 (12-3-0 in G) 1260 Plain Bob Minor 1 Emma Jarvis 2 James Evans 3 Janice Massy 4 Philip Jarvis 5 Ray Taylor 6 Howard Rogers (C) Rung half muffled in memory of our friend Frank Lewis on the eve of his funeral.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Brasted, Kent St Martin Sunday, 2 August 2015 in 3h 3 (9-2-22) 5056 Cambridge Surprise Major Composed by B H Taylor 1 David P Hilling (C) 2 Ann Jenner 3 Elizabeth A Barnes 4 Ronald F Diserens 5 Phillip R J Barnes 6 Michael R Worthington 7 David W Grimwood 8 Stanley Jenner Rung half-muffled in memory of Frank Lewis on the eve of his funeral at Brasted. Frank was Chairman of the Kent County Association from 1999 to</p>

		2002, steeplekeeper at Brasted and a great friend to many. R.I.P.
<p>Kent County Association Chart Sutton, Kent St Michael Monday, 3 August 2015 in 48 min (14cwt) 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor 1 Pat Phipps 2 Graham Heath 3 Richard Young 4 Doug Davis 5 Julian Lees 6 Darren Elphick (C) In fond memory of Frank Lewis on the day of his funeral. We hope he would have approved of the striking - we did our very best.</p>	<p>Brasted, Kent St Martin Monday, 3 August 2015 in 50 mins (9-2-2 in G?) 1260 Grandsire Triples Composed by from Parker's 12 part peal 1 Ann Jenner 2 Ray Taylor 3 Eric Roughley 4 Stanley Jenner 5 Michael Worthington 6 Howard Rogers 7 Anthony Leeves (C) 8 Catherine Heathcote Half muffled immediately after a memorial service for Frank Lewis (1936 to 2015), a ringer and tower secretary at Brasted, Kent County Association Central Council Representative, Webmaster and member of the Bell Restoration "heavy gang", past Kent County Association Chairman and Handbook Editor, and past District Chairman and District Ringing Master.</p>	<p>Non Association Biddenden, Kent At the Church of All Saints Tuesday, 4 August 2015 in 2h 56 min (23cwt approx) 5088 Oxford Treble Bob Major Composed by Graham A.C. John 1 James W Belshaw 2 Mark Chittenden-Pile 3 * Edward J W Manley 4 Roderic K Bickerton 5 * Phillip R J Barnes 6 # P Jonathan Franklin 7 + Stephen J Beckingham (C) 8 * Christopher J Cooper * First peal of Oxford TB + First peal of Oxford TB Major # First peal of Oxford TB Major on tower bells Especially arranged and rung to celebrate the centenary of the rehanging of the octave on their current fittings and recasting of 1,2,7 (with frame adaptations for 1,2) by Alfred Bowell of Ipswich. First peal in the method on the bells, despite having been an octave since 1784. Fastest known peal on the bells. Also remembering Frank Lewis (whose funeral took place yesterday) and his great life, work and witness, and stalwart service to the ringing fraternity.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Hever, Kent St Peters Wednesday, 5 August 2015 in 39 mins (9cwt) 1260 Doubles 60 Stedman, 240 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob 1 Robin Rouse 2 Jane Rosam 3 Caroline Levy-Cooper 4 Louise Nightingale 5 Fraser Clift (C) 6 Carl Nightingale Rung to celebrate the life of Frank Lewis</p>	<p>Kent County Association Dover, Kent St Mary the Virgin Wednesday, 5 August 2015 in 46 m (15-2-9 in E?) 1260 Grandsire Triples 1 Charles Blummers 2 Jacqueline M Barlow 3 Brenda M Davies 4 Pamela A Manger 5 Robert B Powell-Williams 6 David C Manger (C) 7 Stephen J Davis 8 Philip Bedford 1st quarter of Triples - 1. Remembering Frank Lewis.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Sevenoaks, Kent St Nicholas Sunday, 9 August 2015 in 46min (16-2-10 in F) 1260 Grandsire Triples 1 Juliet Austin 2 Astrid Fairclough 3 Isabel Pearce 4 Stella Wooldridge 5 Anthony Leeves (C) 6 Tessa Worthington 7 Michael Worthington 8 Phil Jones Rung in memory of Frank W. Lewis of Brasted, former member of the</p>

<p>who was a great help and support to Hever tower.</p>		<p>Sevenoaks band, luminary of the KCACR and long time friend of all participants. Greatly missed.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Seal Chart, Kent Sunday, 9 August 2015 in 38 mins 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1 Phil Jones 2 Isabel Pearce 3 Dorothy Twiner 4 Fraser Clift 5 Eric Roughley (C) 6 Roger Dean To celebrate the life of Frank Lewis who advised and assisted in the re-configuration of these bells.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Cowden, Kent Saturday, 15 August 2015 in 41 mins 1260 Grandsire Doubles 1 Stephen Newlands 2 Caroline Levy-Cooper 3 Andy Wickenden 4 Fraser Clift 5 Eric Roughley (C) 6 Clive Lumsden To celebrate the life of Frank Lewis who assisted with the re-hanging of these bells.</p>	<p>Kent County Association Maidstone, Kent All Saints Tuesday, 18 August 2015 in 3hrs 11mins (32-0-20 in C?) 5002 Bristol Surprise Royal Composed by M B Davies 1 Phillip R J Barnes 2 Anne L Rueff 3 Maurice F Edwards 4 Elizabeth A Barnes 5 Philip H Larter 6 David Kirkcaldy 7 David W Grimwood 8 Michael A Birkbeck 9 John B Keeler (C) 10 Ian G Campbell 400th of Bristol Surprise Royal - 10 Rung in memory of Frank W Lewis, rest in peace.</p>
<p>Kent County Association Crayford, Kent St Paulinus Thursday, 20 August 2015 in 0:42 (11-2-15 in F?) 1280 August Doubles 1 Mary Hayward 2 Brenda Barton 3 Sue Cameron 4 Andrew Sinclair 5 Rupert Cheeseman (C) 6 Debra Say Rung in memory of Frank Lewis, former chairman of the KCACR (among many other things!), who passed away last month. 1st in variation: 2 & 3.</p>	<p>Brasted, Kent St Martin Wednesday, 26 August 2015 (6-0-10) 1260 Plain Bob Doubles 1 Jamie Austin 2 Bobbie Fairclough 3 Fraser Clift 4 Catherine Lewis (C) 5 Anthony Leeves 6 Juliet Austin Remembering Frank Lewis.</p>	<p>Oxford Diocesan Guild Tilehurst, Berkshire St Michael Monday, 31 August 2015 in 46m (17-1-15 in E) 1260 Stedman Triples 1 Joanne P Druce 2 Eunice A Wark 3 Anna E Sherwood 4 D Giles Winter 5 Robert P Sherwood 6 Joanna E Knight 7 Colin G Newman (C) 8 Matthew Stone Remembering Frank Lewis former husband of 2, following the scattering of his ashes in Brasted churchyard on 29th August 2015. 1st Stedman - 3 1st Away from treble - 8</p>
<p>Kent County Association Sevenoaks, Kent St Nicholas Monday, 31 August 2015 in 45 mins (16-2-10 in F) 1264 Plain Bob Major 1 Isabel Pearce</p>		

2 Tessa Worthington 3 Mike Worthington 4 Caroline Stockmann 5 Jacqui Fletcher 6 John Palmer 7 Anthony Leeves (C) 8 David S James In loving memory of our friend, Frank Lewis.		
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FRANK LEWIS

It is with great sadness that I must let you know that Frank Lewis died on Wednesday 22nd July, peacefully at home as he'd wanted. He was 78.

The funeral will be at Brasted on Monday 3rd August at 1pm, following private cremation. All are welcome of course, and afterwards at *The Stanhope Arms* (right next to the church). Family flowers only, but donations for the KCACR Bell Restoration Fund are welcome to Catherine Lewis, 27 Main Road, Sundridge, Sevenoaks TN14 6EF.

TOM BARLOW

We have received the following message from Jacqui Barlow with news about Tom:

'I think everyone knows that Tom Barlow has had heart and breathing problems for some time. After further problems Mr Corefield from Maidstone Hospital recognised Pulmonary Hypertension and Tom was referred to the Hammersmith Hospital. Blood clots on the lungs were the cause of his breathing problems and hence the referral to Papworth Hospital, the only hospital in the UK to do the Pulmonary Endarterectomy Operation. The damage to his heart is not repairable! The operation took 10+ hours and involves cooling the body down to hypothermic levels (20 degrees), removing all blood from the body and clearing the hardened clots from the lungs. The body is then warmed up and the procedure is done again for the other lung. The actual op only takes about 15/20 minutes per lung, the longest the brain can be without oxygen. We were warned that some people do not bounce back from such intrusion of the body and brain and Tom was one of these.

He had to have a tracheotomy to aid breathing, an Ectmo Machine to take all his blood to do the work of his lungs (these are only in 5 centres in the country), a kidney machine and a ventilator. We have nearly lost him 3 times but the wonderful nurses and doctors here got him back. After 5 weeks in ICU he was back to the real world and went to a ward where rapid progress has been made. He is having to learn how to expand his new lungs and chest and also how to walk again. I came for 4 days and now after 6 weeks they are talking of sending him back to Maidstone for extensive Physio. He has no medication now except he is on 1 litre of oxygen which is very low compared to the 100% that he was on only just over a week ago.

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers. They have worked!! Also thank you to the ringers that have visited him.'

Update: Tom has since been back to Maidstone Hospital, and is now at Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital where he will undergo his physio

COUNTY 8-BELL COMPETITION 5 JULY 2015 AT HEADCORN

A warm and sunny day welcomed the ringers from all 6 Districts to this year's County 8-Bell Striking Competition at Headcorn, although the joys of traffic issues in Kent did delay the arrival of a few members of the bands! The judges – David Kirkcaldy and Cathy Howard – made the most of the weather and sat out across the adjacent field where the bells could be heard clearly.

The draw took place at about 3pm however 2 bands had requested earlier time slots to allow them to fulfil other commitments later in the afternoon. The first band to ring was the Lewisham District. Throughout the afternoon teas, coffees and a grand selection food were available in the church. It was about 5.30pm by the time the final band came down from the tower, the Canterbury District having rounded off the day.

It didn't take too long before the judges arrived in church to deliver the results. County Chairman Daniel Brady kicked off proceedings by thanking the ringers and helpers at Headcorn both for hosting the event and for the wonderful refreshments. He then welcomed the judges and handed over to them to deliver the results as shown below:

<i>posn</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>rang</i>	<i>points</i>	<i>judges' comments</i>
1st	Rochester	5th	21	This band got to grips with the bells straight away. There were a few blemishes with leading and a minor hiccup towards the middle, but this only lasted 1 change. The ringing felt comfortable, and had the 'nodding factor'! Peal speed 3h 5m.
2nd	Lewisham	1st	29	This band made the least use of their practice time. Ringing was a little uneven to begin with and some little errors crept in. Some serious blemishes. Took some time to settle, with errors continuing for a couple of rows. 2nd half improved markedly and came together well, with the last 2 leads being the best ringing of the afternoon. This piece was held together by the back bells. Peal speed: 3h 6m.
3rd	Canterbury	6th	30.5	This band rang too fast in practice and used all of their time. They stuck at that speed for the test piece and it was rushing away a little bit. Didn't feel in control with quick handstroke leads. Peal speed: 3h.
4th	Maidstone	4th	33.5	This band kept the judges on their toes! Novel use of the practice time (starting from Queens). A confident test piece, but with

				slight blemishes all the way through however pleasant to listen to. Peal speed: 3h 5m.
5th	Tonbridge	2nd	39.5	This band couldn't decide on a speed to ring during their practice time, but certainly found it for the test piece although some ringers had difficulty sticking to it. Some uneven leading, with the middle of the change dragging out. Very few rounds used at the start of this test piece. Peal speed: 3h 4m.
6th	Ashford	3rd	43	This band rang far quicker, and the judges thought it would be hard to keep up with the speed achieved during the practice. However the ringing of the test piece was much slower which seemed to be hard work for some ringers. Some uneven leads, particularly rushed handstrokes. The band didn't seem happy with the speed. Largest blemish occurred about halfway and the piece never really recovered. Peal speed: 3h 7m.

Congratulations Rochester!!

RINGING FOR VE DAY

In total one peal and 22 quarters were rung to mark the 70th Anniversary of VE day. In addition to these several towers rang rounds and call changes to mark the occasion. Daniel Brady has kindly collated details and the full list is available by clicking [here](#). Thanks for this Daniel — if anyone spots anything missing please let him know (chair@kcacr.org.uk).

THE TEWKESBURY SHIELD 2015 — WE WON!

Details of KCACR's first entry in the Tewkesbury Shield striking competition appear further down the page, but the important news today (2 May) is that we WON, and results were as follows:

	<i>posn team</i>	<i>peal speed</i>	<i>score</i>	<i>rang</i>
1	The Kent Couny Association	3h 17	85%	6th
2	St Martin's Guild	3h 23	78%	1st
3	Leicester Doicesan Guild	3h 28	76%	5th
4	Hereford Docesan Guild	3h 18	73%	9th
5	Southwark Cathedral Society	3h 35	71%	7th

6	Nottingham University Society	3h 20	68%	8th
7	Bath & Wells Diocesan Association	3h 33	62%	4th
8	Salisbury Diocesan Guild	3h 21	61%	3rd
9	Oxford Diocesan Guild	3h 28	55%	2nd

This comment from Alex Britton seems to sum it all up:

If I recall the comments correctly from the judges (Martin and Maggie Whiteley) they said we started well, took a few sixes to settle down and establish the rhythm, and then rang with great style and panache.

Some of us came down from the tower wondering if some of the bands who rang after us had rung better - such is the difference in the sound world between the ringing room and outside.

Personally, I'm still gobsmacked and pinching myself!! But very happy indeed :)

We don't have any further details yet, but many congratulations to all involved. A photo of the band appears below. More info hopefully to follow. In the meantime you may like to hear the ringing on YouTube by [clicking here](#). [Thanks very much to Mark for the video.]



The band in order of ringing, front left anticlockwise to back left: David Hilling (C), Clare Larter, Peter Swift, Alex Britton, Mark Chittenden-Pile, Jim Hardy, Colin Wyld, Phil Larter, Ian Mills, David Macey

RINGING FOR ENGLAND 2015

An update has been added to the Publicity page from Libby Alexander of Ringing for England, who has requested feedback.

Would tower correspondents around the County have a look at this item and get in touch with me or Libby please as soon as possible.

The more feedback that Libby receives, the more useful it will be to her — and the ringing community.

Helen Webb, PRO

KCACR AGM 2015

The County AGM this year was held on Easter Monday 6 April and was based at Marden. As usual the day comprised a service, lunch and the Annual General Meeting itself. Three routes of open towers heading towards Marden had been organised, and open ringing commenced at Marden at 11.00 am, culminating in a wonderful sounding service touch of Stedman Triples by an invited band prior to the service which was taken by Canon David Grimwood and Revd Stanley Evans.

Following the service, everyone moved on to the Memorial Hall and enjoyed a lovely three-course meal organised by the pub nearly next door. The meeting began at around 2.45pm, with a healthy 108 members in attendance.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and David Grimwood opened with a prayer.

The amended Association rules were voted on and adopted, albeit with a couple of minor adjustments to satisfy the odd objection.

Key new officer elections were the posts of Chairman, where Daniel Brady takes over from Mike Little, Treasurer, where Margaret Funnell pops back out of retirement to take on the thankless task of Treasurer, and Handbook Editor, where Tim Munt steps into Graham Coker's shoes. A vacant position on the Extra 3 was filled by Caroline Stockmann. Full details of County officers appear on the [Officers' page](#).

Eight members were due their 50-year membership certificates:

- Len Huckstep from the Canterbury District
- Christine Webb from the Lewisham District
- Brian Butcher and Pam Manger from the Ashford District
- Frank & Marjorie Matthews and Frank & Wendy Dadson from the Rochester District

Those who had made it to the meeting were presented with their certificates by the Chairman, while the other certificates were accepted on their behalf by District representatives and would be given to them at a later date.

There was a special proposal and presentation made at this year when Tom Barlow was proposed by Ashleigh Horton of Marden to become a Vice President of the Association. He had no idea he was being put forward for this post and when everyone present voted unanimously for him Tom accepted his certificate from the Chairman to a standing ovation of applause. Very well deserved!

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks given by Mike Little, followed by his handover of the chain of office to his successor, Daniel Brady.

Doug Davis

Some photos of the event appear below. Click on the thumbnails to display a larger picture. If you hover your cursor on the left or right of a picture you'll see a "<" or ">" symbol. Click on these to navigate. Users with touchscreens may not see the "<" or ">" symbol, but touching the right or left of the picture will still work.



THE TEWKESBURY SHIELD 2015

The draw for the Tewkesbury Shield 2015 has taken place, and the following nine teams are due to fight it out at the Abbey on 2 May: Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, Hereford Diocesan Guild, **The Kent County Association**, Leicester Diocesan Guild, University of Nottingham Society, Oxford Diocesan Guild, Salisbury Diocesan Guild, St Martin's Guild and Southwark Cathedral Society. We wish Ian Mills and his team the best of luck — after all he's led the band that brought the Essex Trophy to Kent three years in succession. No pressure there then.

This is the first time that KCACR has entered this competition, and we're grateful to David Bagley, local organiser, for some background to the Tewkesbury Shield.

The original idea was to have it as an eight-bell competition between the three local associations (Gloucester & Bristol, Hereford and Worcester), and it grew from that. There was never any intention to make it a 12 bell competition, even though there is a really good 12 in the tower.

For most of the duration of the competition, the three founding teams had an automatic right of entry, with the other teams being accepted on a first come, first served basis. This was changed to the other teams being drawn out of the hat in 2007. The rules were

changed again in 2012 so that the three founding associations no longer had a right of entry, with all nine teams being drawn out of the hat.

The Tewkesbury Shield has been going longer than the national 12-bell competition, but since it was only a local event for the first two years, it can't really claim to be the longest running national competition!

The standing orders and the rules will be distributed nearer the day, including the touch of Stedman Caters.

A brief history of the competition

The year 1971 marked the 500th anniversary of the battle of Tewkesbury. This was the decisive battle of the Wars of the Roses in which the Yorkists finally overcame the Lancastrians. 1971 was also the 850th anniversary of the consecration of the Abbey Church. This double event was marked by the Festival of Tewkesbury organised by the Theocsbury Charity Committee (Theocsbury is the old name for Tewkesbury, after Theoc, a 7th century hermit). The Festival consisted of many differing events, including flower shows, open air concerts, etc.

Some months later, the President of the Committee placed a notice in a shop window asking for suggestions as to how these two anniversaries could be marked every year in the future. One of the Abbey ringers, Roger Liddell, saw this notice and persuaded the tower captain, Harold Schofield, to take up this suggestion.



A meeting was held on 4 December 1972 between Harold and the Theocsbury Charity Committee at which it was agreed that an annual ringing competition should be held. Amongst the various mementos of the Festival had been a limited edition Spode plate. One of these plates was mounted in silver and presented to the Abbey Guild of Ringers as the competition trophy.

It was decided that the competition should be held as close as possible to 4 May, the date of the battle of Tewkesbury, and that the winners should be invited back to ring a peal on the bells on/ the nearest Saturday to the day of the consecration, which was 23 October in each year.

A committee consisting of the churchwarden, the tower captain, and a representative from each of the three local ringing associations, and from the Theocsbury Charity Committee was set up to organise the Shield.

In the same way that the Ashes trophy stays in the Long Room at Lords, the Shield itself remains in the Abbey Church, with the winning team receiving a photograph (which they can keep).

The first competition was actually held on 9 June 1973, and was judged by Peter Border, Rod Pipe, and John Gilbert (of Long Ashton). Each of the three neighbouring associations were invited to enter two teams of eight people to ring a test piece of 252 Stedman Triples. During evensong after the ringing, the Bishop of Tewkesbury dedicated the Shield which he later presented to the winning team, Gloucester & Bristol "A", and the event was reported in *The Ringing World* of 20 July 1973.

The 1975 competition was opened up to include invited guilds and associations, and the six teams were formed from the three local associations, the Oxford Guild (who were the winners), St Martin's Guild and the Bath & Wells Association.

The first three competitions were held on the back eight bells, with Stedman Triples, Cambridge Major and Erin Triples being rung. In 1976 the competition was extended to ring the back ten bells (Grandsire Caters), and it remains a ten bell competition to this day.

NO RINGING AT WILLESBOROUGH

Please note that Willesborough (Ashford District) church is now CLOSED until at least July/August due to refurbishment. The whole site is now classed as a building site with a strictly no access policy. This means that there will be no ringing at St Mary's until further notice.

TIME TRAVELLERS

KCACR members are probably well aware that our county provided the views for the 2014 Ringing World Calendar. I was excited to get my copy to see whether we had rung at any of the towers featured. When I saw all those beautiful scenes, a plan was born: that my husband Bill and I would ring at every tower of the month, in the month it appeared.

We started in January with an evening practice at Chevening. This entailed a long drive from our corner of Kent, not in the photogenic snow of Tony Cresswell's picture, but through bucketing rain. Eleven months later we successfully completed our mission just down the road from where it had all started, ringing in Sevenoaks for the carol service there in December. Once again we lacked the snow of Nick Chard's atmospheric photograph, but at least it wasn't raining! Out of all the twelve months, the June tower probably came closest to matching the picture in the calendar, as we were blessed with a perfect summer evening for our visit to Saltwood.

We ran up plenty of miles criss-crossing the county, ticking off a tower a month, from Brookland in the south to Edenbridge in the east, and even into Greater London for Bickley. Generally we rang at practice nights, where we were always made most welcome. Twice we rang for services, and twice we took our own band of friends to ring with us.

It all made for an enjoyable and memorable year of ringing. Our thanks go to all the talented people involved in creating a beautiful calendar, and everyone who rang with us.

Below are some shots of us posing with our well-travelled copy of the calendar, and the photographers for the months of January, April, May, July and December.



Clare and Bill at Chevening in January with Tony Cresswell (left)



Edenbridge in April with Andy Wickenden



Headcorn in May with Tim Munt



July at Bickley with Jeremy Clitheroe



And finally back to Sevenoaks with Nick Chard

Clare Bellis and Bill Evans

Thanks Clare and Bill for a fascinating story. We wonder if this kind of thing has ever been done before. Michael Portillo and his 1913 *Bradshaw* come to mind!

TOUCH FOR COUNTY 8-BELL COMPETITION

The test piece for the County 8-bell striking competition at Headcorn on 4 July 2015 will be a touch of 224 Little Bob Major, details of which are given below.

234567	F	W	M	B	V	H
357246			-	2	-	-
275346		S				S
234567	S	-				S

Contains 6 x 5678's, Queens and Whittingtons

ONLINE GLOSSARY OF RINGING TERMS

We're sure you already know what a Burdette is, but would you be prepared to define a Delight method in the pub after ringing? Have you thought about the Nottingham Eight recently (no, they're not terrorists)? What about Q-sets and scissors dodges? If you're beginning to feel there's an awful lot of ringing stuff you're missing out on, then John Harrison's glossary of ringing terms is a must for you.

John writes:

This is an online version of the comprehensive glossary in *The Tower Handbook*, which I wrote for CC Publications in the mid 1990s. Some pending corrections and additions have been made, but please [let me know](#) if you find any errors or inconsistencies.

Ringing uses many special terms, some of which are unique to ringing while others are ordinary words given a special meaning. The list contains some 650 entries, but is still not exhaustive, but we have tried to include most of the words and phrases you might hear used in the tower, especially practical everyday ringing terms. David Struckett's *Dictionary of Campanology* (1985), which lists some 600 terms about bells, bell history and ringing, with a list of bellfounders (with dates) and a bibliography of books on bells and ringing, proved a valuable source of inspiration for the original printed version of this glossary, but with conscious omission of some terms connected with bell history, bell archaeology or bell founding, and a few obsolete terms. Where we were uncertain about current usage of a term, we included it. In some cases, we used a simpler definition.

To visit this positive goldmine [just click here](#).

COUNTY SIX-BELL COMPETITION 2014

Five Districts took part in the competition on 27 September at Kennington, for which the draw took place at 2.00pm. The judges, Paul and Kate Flavell, had elected to sit in their car just outside the churchyard as this was the best place to hear the bells.

The day was fine so the bands could listen to the other competitors in the churchyard. A delicious tea was provided as a running buffet in the church hall by the local ringers.

The ringing was completed by 4.00pm after which we waited for the judges to come to their decision as to the winner.

Margaret Funnell welcomed the judges and then handed over to them for the results. Paul said that he was glad to see that the trophy was available to award to the winner as the last time he had judged one of our striking competitions he had to hand over a teacup to the winning band as the previous winner had forgotten to return it. He said that when entering a striking competition you should not rush leads, try to exude confidence and ring what you are comfortable with. He also said the bells were easy to hear and that the treble and second were odd struck and it was difficult to establish the right speed. The bells were rung slowly for a light weight six. He advised that the marks were given out of 484 and that they had marked hard as it was felt that these were bands that were the best in each District. **[The 484 is based on two marks per row of 240 changes, plus two more for a whole pull of rounds at the end - Ed]**

Kate then gave out comments on each band. Most bands did not have method mistakes but as the ringing was slow errors were more easily detected. She gave out the marks for the bands save for the first two which had to wait to see which of them was

successful. The band from St Martin of Tours, Chelsfield, of the Lewisham District were declared the winners and the trophy was presented to them.

Margaret then thanked the judges for coming and presented them with a small gift of two bottles of wine and thanked the Kennington band and the Ashford District for their hospitality.

<i>posn</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>rang</i>	<i>represented by</i>	<i>marks out of</i> 484
1st	Lewisham	2nd	Chelsfield	415
2nd	Rochester	1st	Meopham	405
3rd	Canterbury	3rd	Sturry	396
4th	Ashford	4th	Willesborough	390
5th	Tonbridge	5th	Sevenoaks	375



Chelsfield's tower captain, Philippa Rooke (l) receives the trophy from judges Kate and Paul Flavell



Lewisham District's winning team, l-r: Philippa Rooke, Lesley Barclay, Bob Pruden, John Barnes, Nick Wilkins and Jim Rooke

Margaret Funnell

Thanks Margaret for an amazingly quick writeup - Ed

THE ESSEX TROPHY 2014

Hat trick for KCACR

On a bright and sunny Saturday 6 September, five teams from across the Home Counties assembled at All Saints', Maidstone, for the 35th annual Essex Trophy 10-bell striking competition. The church was the hub of activity for the afternoon, with food and drink a-plenty accompanying the sound of the bells and the live video feed that had been set up by the All Saints ringers.

The draw was held promptly at 12.30pm and after a short delay whilst waiting for the 10th member of the first band to arrive the competition got under way. Overall it took about two hours for all teams to practise and then ring their test piece during which time many ploughman's lunches, cakes and pints of Goacher's Fine Light ale were consumed. A further half an hour or so went by at the end of the ringing whilst the judges, Phil Barnes and Ian Roulstone, gathered their thoughts.

Well done Team KCACR — yet again!!

posn	team	rang	faults	judges' comments
1st	The Kent County Association	1st	80	Peal speed 3h 15m. Slightly driven start but settled nicely. Faults picked up in seventh six of the first course along with a number of the other teams. Good start to second course, overall a very nice pace.
2nd	Essex Association	5th	135	Peal speed 3h 8m. Businesslike rounds, clips in the first few sixes with faults picked up in sixes 8/9/10 like others. Leading took time to settle but overall got better.
3rd	Sussex County Association	2nd	140	Peal speed 3h 20m. Good opening rounds. Faults picked up in the same place as the first band. Generally erratic ringing which didn't settle.
4th	Surrey Association	3rd	146	Peal speed 3h 25m. Good effort but slightly too measured so never really flowed. Faults picked up when the bells were spreading out, but improved as the piece went on.
5th	Hertfordshire County Association	4th	154	Peal speed 3h 19m. Good pace, but errors throughout with faults picked up through clips and inaccuracies.

The results meant that Kent had achieved a 3rd straight win with quite a clear lead from the other bands. However there was not much between the other four bands in terms of numbers of faults.

The judges were then thanked for their time and effort and presented with a bottle of wine each. Next year's competition will be held on Saturday 12 September 2015, and will be hosted either by Guildford or Essex.



Click on the thumbnails to display a larger picture. If you hover your cursor on the left or right of a picture you'll see a "<" or ">" symbol. Click on these to navigate. Users with touchscreens may not see the "<" or ">" symbol, but touching the right or left of the picture will still work.

Doug Davis

For a YouTube video of the ringing [click here](#).

The full Essex Trophy results are available on the EACR website at www.eacr.org.uk/essex trophy. Summary results are at the bottom of the page as before and a detailed table is available by following the "Full Results" link.

PRESENTATION TO STANLEY EVANS

At the Quarterly Meeting at Ash-next-Sandwich on 12 July 2014 Stanley Evans was presented with a certificate marking his 70 years' membership of the KCACR. For photos and more details [click here](#).

COUNTY 8-BELL COMPETITION 2014

Despite the forecast of rain, five bands arrived at Tonbridge on 5 July for the County 8-Bell Striking Competition 2014 — Ashford District unfortunately not being able to make it this year. For the first time (in a while at least) the competition was scheduled for the morning so as to prevent clashes with weddings and other afternoon events, and actually I think this worked very well.

The judges, Stephen Coaker and Phil Barnes, both of ASCY fame(!) were strategically placed in Tiffy's car in the church car park having decided that the weather didn't fare well enough for them to sit outside. As it happened, the rain never came.

The first band to ring was the Maidstone District, starting at just after 10am. All throughout the ringing tea, coffee and a grand selection of biscuits and cakes were being served by the Tonbridge Catering Committee. By the time all the bands had rung, it was about 11.30am with the Lewisham District rounding off the day.

It took the judges about 30 minutes to finalise the results. County Chairman Mike Little kicked off proceedings by thanking the ringers and helpers at Tonbridge both for hosting the event and for the wonderful refreshments. He then welcomed the judges and handed over to them to deliver the results as shown below:

<i>posn</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>rang</i>	<i>faults</i>	<i>judges' comments</i>
1st	Lewisham	5th	46	Plenty of rounds at the beginning which allowed them to settle. Overall a very good standard of ringing throughout.
2nd	Maidstone	1st	50	Again, plenty of rounds to begin with, and very good ringing considering they were the first band of the day. Consistently good with the odd clip and gap.
3rd	Canterbury	3rd	75	Consistent mistakes throughout with clips, gaps etc. A method mistake was well recovered from.

4th	Rochester	4th	76	Tenor was slightly slow and some method mistakes in the first part. Inconsistencies meant the faults racked up.
5th	Tonbridge	2nd	120	Quite fast, felt rushed and inconsistent as a result. Big method mistake caused problems and never really recovered.

Doug Davis

Some photos of the event appear below. Click on the thumbnails to display a larger picture. If you hover your cursor on the left or right of a picture you'll see a "<" or ">" symbol. Click on these to navigate. Users with touchscreens may not see the "<" or ">" symbol, but touching the right or left of the picture will still work. If you'd like to hear the winning entry [just click here](#)



For anyone interested in trivia, a photo of the trophy and a list of winners appears [below](#).

QUARTER PEAL UPDATE

Anthony Leeves, our quarter peal secretary, has produced a report on quarter peals rung during the first half of 2014. Some highlights of his report are listed below, but for the full list visit the quarter peal site itself.

- 452 quarter peals were recorded to 30 June, 21 up on the same period for 2013
- the leading tower (again) was Birchington with 33; this takes All Saints' to a total of 434 this century, beaten only by Ashford (547) and High Halden (517)
- the leading conductors were Mike Little and Rupert Cheeseman with 32 and 31 quarters respectively
- congratulations are due to the 10 people who rang their first quarter peal, and also to the two first-time conductors (down on last year's seven)
-

Remember that Anthony would be glad of any corrections to any of the data, however trivial.

EMAIL ADDRESSES ON WEBSITE

With the publication of this year's Handbook we have now updated email contacts for most Kent towers — the full listing may be accessed by clicking on "Tower listing" in the panel on the left.

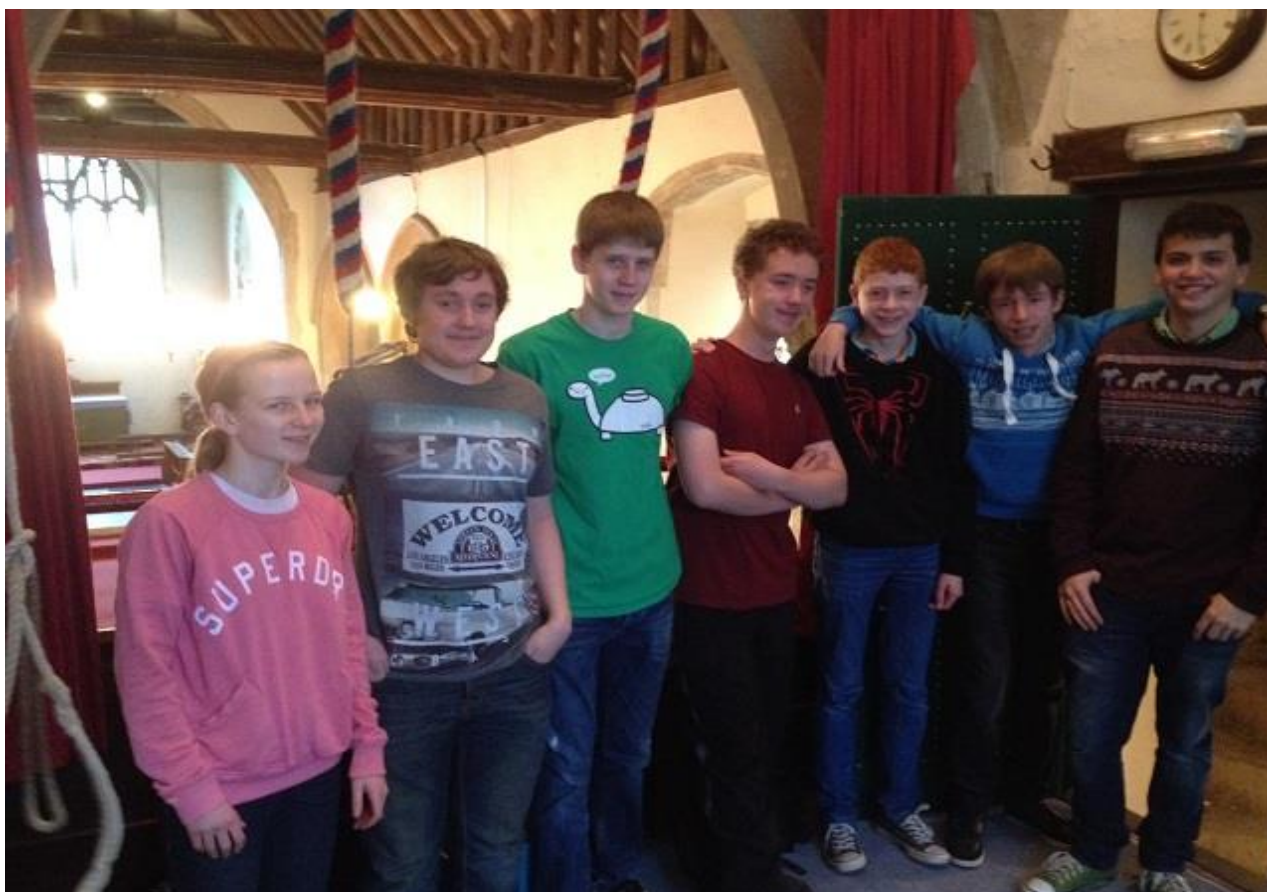
Two pleas:

- Will you please check the entry for your tower and let me know if there are any errors.
- If your tower doesn't have an entry, please consider adding one. Many people fixing outings, quarters, peals etc these days use email to make contact, and trying to locate snail mail addresses or phone numbers can be quite a problem.
- Finally, thanks to all those folk out there who've given their email details. We now have e-contacts for 91 per cent of KCACR towers, which is a great improvement on previous years. You'll notice that email addresses are not linked (ie not underlined and blue). If you want to use an email address, cut it and paste it to your email system. Apologies for the hassle, but this is done to try to prevent spam. If correspondents do start getting spam please let me know and I'll use another method.

Frank Lewis, [Webmaster](#)

KENT YOUNG RINGERS

Kent Young Ringers met for a practice at Sheldwich on Saturday 2 November 2013. This was the third official young ringers event and was attended by members from the Ashford, Canterbury, Lewisham and Tonbridge Districts. Enhanced by the large tub of sweets, ringing ranged from plain hunt on seven to Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Minor. Certainly there is a lot of potential within this group and we are aware that there are many other young ringers in the county who would benefit from ringing with people the same age. We plan to organise more events in the near future. If you use Facebook, please consider joining the Kent Young Ringers page and look out for future notifications. Future ideas include possible quarter peals, an outing and some ideas about national youth striking competitions!



Some of the band at Sheldwich on 2 November

Phil Larter

RINGING IN KENT FOR BIRTH OF PRINCE GEORGE

Click here for a [list of ringing](#) in Kent to mark the birth of HRH Prince George of Cambridge. This list is derived from BellBoard and is shamelessly lifted from (well, linked to) that site, and our thanks are due to *The Ringing World*. This is an experimental link, so please let webmaster know if your ringing doesn't appear, or there is any sort of error.

YOUNG RINGERS CENTRAL COUNCIL LOGO 2014

We had a reasonably good response to the logo competition and the winner has been selected. We are pleased to announce that Matthew Smith of Christ Church, Erith, is the lucky winner of the £30 first prize for his entry below. The 2014 organising committee, aided by professional graphic designer Phil Jones from Sevenoaks, liked the simplicity of this design, which also displays a sense of fun. Well done, Matthew, and thanks for

entering. There will be consolation prizes for the other entries, but we don't have the details of how they will be allocated — or when. We'll keep you posted.



6-BELL TROPHY

There is a note appended to the report on the 2012 6-Bell striking competition below saying that we'd run out of space for winners' names on the Trophy. This problem has now been rectified, and we are very grateful to Martin Willson of Tonbridge for extending the space on the Trophy to allow for probably another 40 years. Thanks very much Martin — it looks great.



QUARTER PEAL UPDATE

Quarter Peal Sec Anthony Leeves writes: I've just added a secretary's comment to the QP database listing the 45 quarter peal records from 1998 to date where the information is incomplete. For most of these I have tried to obtain the information from the towers, but they do not have the details. It's a bit unlikely that the information will ever come to light, but I thought it worth listing them just in case someone can supply the information. **He goes on to say,** Could you also mention that I am always pleased to be told of any incorrect details on the database or any quarters not recorded there.



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GARLICKHYTHE AND THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

While this is not strictly a Kent story, the ring of eight bells installed at St James Garlickhythe has some local connections. The bells were cast at Whitechapel just over the river from KCACR territory and were hung in a special frame built at Edenbridge. They were then installed on a barge at Gravesend before leading a flotilla of 1,000 boats on the River Thames on Sunday 3 June as part of the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. They have now been installed at Garlickhythe and there is a wonderful 27 minute film of the whole process on YouTube. Have a look by [clicking here](#).

BELLS FROM KENT NOW HUNG FOR RINGING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Following on from the news of the relocation of a bell from an antiques shop in West Malling to St Peter's College, Johannesburg, South Africa, to become the tenor of a light ring of six being installed there, we were intrigued to see on the front page of *The Ringing World* recently [19 October] that the bell from the Brasted back garden has also gone to St Peter's. Gives a new twist to that immortal phrase about "there's some corner of a foreign field that is for ever England".



The Brasted bell (Warner's 1887 and rumoured to be ex-Westerham fire station) in its previous rural home



The bells in their new home. The Brasted one is the third and is at the centre on the left, while the antique shop bell (Mears & Stainbank 1905) is the tenor on the far right



St Peter's College chapel

Thanks to John Kempe (bells photo), Richard Roberts (chapel photo) and *The Ringing World* for allowing use of their material

KCACR PUBLICITY PANELS

Several years ago the KCACR produced a splendid set of four easily portable display panels. These are intended to be used by anyone running any sort of event where publicising the art of ringing would be appropriate. For some unknown reason this fact has, until now (June 2012), never been mentioned on this website, although the panels have been viewable on the forms and documents page (to the left). A photo of the panels is shown below.



The current custodian of the panels is Tim Munt, who lives in Headcorn, and he will be happy to give you further details and to arrange for loans of the panels. He may be contacted on 01622 891724 (home), 07590 918994 (mobile) or by email at tim@muntonline.com.

COUNTY 10-BELL CHALLENGE 2012

Three teams gathered at St Laurence-in-Thamet for the 10-bell challenge on 25 February. The test piece was a plain course of Cambridge Royal with the last five leads marked. The tower stewards were MRFS and Brian Law, with the judge being Peter Niblett.

The full results were as follows:

<i>posn</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>rang</i>	<i>faults</i>	<i>peal speed</i>
1st	Lewisham	1st	21	3h 7m
2nd	Canterbury	3rd	31	3h 5m

3rd	Ashford	2nd	36	3h 6m
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A couple of photos of the event appear below. Click on the thumbnails to display a larger picture.



Peter congratulated all the ringers on the confident handling of the bells and the high standard of ringing by all teams; he enjoyed sitting in the sunshine and listening to the teams. He presented the Challenge Trophy to David Macey.

Phil Larter, speaking for the host District, thanked all the ringers for coming and especially the ringers of St Laurence for hosting the event.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Peter Sims, our Health & Safety Advisor, sends this covering note (revised on 17 November 2011), together with a sample risk assessment form. In addition to the .PDF version mentioned below, there is also an [Excel file](#), which users are able to modify to suit local needs.

Church authorities (PCCs and churchwardens) have a legal obligation to carry out risk assessments for all the activities in the church, including that of ringing and day-to-day maintenance of the bells. Apart from the legal requirement it makes sense to think of: "what things can go wrong, then trying to think of simple, sensible ways of preventing them". Avoiding accidents is beneficial to us all.

For most churches, the PCCs and wardens will not have sufficient understanding of ringing to be able to do this assessment properly, it is therefore probably best done by one of the ringers, but this should always be done in conjunction, and in full consultation, with the church authorities.

There are many, many ways of carrying out risk assessments. The [attached example](#) is based on the latest guidance from the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). The intention is to keep it simple and only consider the obvious hazards (things that can cause harm).

I have tried to give a worked example for a typical tower, but every ring of bells will be different, eg ground floor rings, those in the transept etc, all have their own sets of hazards although many are common to all towers. Please use the example as a guide, changing, adding or deleting as necessary.

The columns should be self explanatory, but the example lists most of the normal

hazards, with typical ways in which they can frequently be minimised (or ideally removed altogether).

If you think that you could sensibly do more on a particular item, add into the next column what is to be done — remember to keep it realistic and practical — rebuilding the tower to provide an alternative escape route in case of emergencies, may be desirable, but usually highly impracticable!

Don't forget to involve the wardens etc in making your recommendations for improvements where it involves them. Make sure at the end that they are given a copy, so that it can be included within the main church risk assessment and also so that they can implement and monitor the changes needed from them (repairs to steps, improvements in lighting etc).

Having completed the document, there is no reason why a copy can't be left on display in the tower if you want to but, at the very least, its findings in terms of what the ringers need to do should be brought to everyone's attention as necessary.

If you are still having difficulties, please [contact me](#) for further advice/guidance — my snail mail address is in the Handbook and on the officers page of this website.

In extreme situations, it should be practical to arrange for a special visit to assist or give advice (not to do it for you — unless you require a paid consultant!).

Peter adds a caveat (17 November 2011) following an incident at Northfleet in early November 2011, when all six ringers and three members of the choir had to be taken to hospital by four ambulances as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning from the boiler positioned on the ground floor below the ringing chamber.

Thankfully all are OK and were released from the hospital after five hours of surveillance.

It would appear that there was a major leak in the flue just above the boiler that was serviced on the previous Friday or Saturday! The whole thing is being investigated by the police and local EHO and being treated as a crime scene.

This has highlighted a very important omission in the tower risk assessment that I did and the draft on the website (rev3). I have added a small bit onto the end of the form, which is now renamed rev4. The links above now call up the new documents.

*Peter Sims, MCIQB, TechIOSH, RMaPS, MIIRSM
KCACR Safety Advisor*

KCACR MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION FORM

An updated version of the membership form (version 2.8) is now available from this site, and may be retrieved by clicking [here](#). This is only a slight modification of the previous version, but it takes into account the amended rule 4.

Note that this form is in PDF format and requires Acrobat Reader to access and print it. If you haven't already got a copy of Acrobat Reader it may be downloaded from a

number of Internet sites — or it often appears on CDs attached to computer magazines. If all else fails, get someone else to download it for you (they'll have to do your printing for you, too).

TOWER LOCATION SHEETS

Daniel Brady from Staplehurst has come up with a great idea. He writes:

Attached is a document similar to one I have produced for the Maidstone District. Each page has the location information for one tower. This is designed to help emergency services find a church as quickly as possible. While the Handbook does now have tower postcodes these sheets also have grid reference, latitude and longitude, just in case a postcode does not correctly pinpoint a tower. I propose that we encourage towers to display these sheets in the tower somewhere to cover the, hopefully unlikely, event that it needs to be used.

There is a page for every tower in the KCACR area, in a PDF file. [Click on this link](#) to open the file. You don't have to download or print the whole shooting match, but you can locate your tower and print just the one page you need. It's quite a good idea to have several copies, possibly one each for the ringing chamber, porch, vestry or wherever seems logical.

THE KCACR 8-BELL COMPETITION TROPHY

By some lucky chance webmaster just happened to have the KCACR 8-bell striking competition trophy in his kitchen early in September 2006 and he decided to take a photo — after all not everyone in the county has had a chance to see it yet. So here it is in all its glory, with a list of the holders of the trophy over the past 30 years. The trophy had to be expanded in 2009 and now looks rather different, so in the updated picture it's not sitting in webmaster's kitchen or on a tombstone in Chelsfield churchyard, but on Rupert Cheeseman's lawn [**thanks Rupert for the updated (and highly polished) photo**].

For those not too sure about the 8-bell striking competition, a few explanatory words might be in order. The 6-bell competition starts with a competition in each District, and the winners in each District represent that District at the County final. The 8-bell version, on the other hand, is organised around teams selected by Districts to take part, so there is no local contest.

The trophy

**The
winner
s**



1985
Ashford
1986
Lewisham
1987
Lewisham
1988
Lewisham
1989
Tonbridge
1990
Tonbridge
1991
Lewisham
1992
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Lewisham
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Ashford
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Canterbury
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Lewisham
2004
Canterbury
2005
Rochester
2006
Tonbridge
2007
Canterbury
2008

Tonbridge
2009
Ashford
2010
Canterbury
2011
Lewisham
2012
Lewisham
2013
Lewisham
2014
Lewisham

A LOO BY ANY OTHER NAME?



The Bishop of Rochester paid a visit to a KCACR church recently. One of the ringers spotted this juxtaposition of notices at the foot of the tower, and took a photo. Webmaster thought it was humorous enough to warrant posting to the website (though some might consider this a warped sense of humour). Of course we're not at liberty to divulge the location, but quite a few folk will recognise it instantly!

HANDBELLS AT RINGING WORLD CENTENARY

For those who weren't able to be there (or if you were there and would like to hear it again), this is a link to the fabulous [touch on 24 handbells](#) on 26 March 2011 at Central Hall Westminster.

. . . and just for fun (it is handbells after all) you might like to [give this one a go](#).

PORCH NOTICE ONLINE

For ages now the KCACR has had in its reams of paperwork available to ringers a porch notice card on which ringing times and contact details may be entered. These have always been (we think) free of charge and available from District bookstalls. For some reason, though, they've never been available online — until today that is. Thanks to Ian from Sandwich for what should really have been a no-brainer all along.

To access the porch notices (printed 2-up on A4) [simply click here](#). You can either download the file (PDF) or just print it as is.

COUNTY BOOKSTALLS ONLINE

A list of all books, CDs, ties etc available from District bookstalls around the county has been added to the site. There are in many instances links to the Central Council bibliography page. Click [here for access](#).

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection now has a separate page — see item on left.

THE JUBI PEAL

Walter Dobbie's portable Silver Jubilee ring (the Jubi Peal) is now being looked after by Charles Tassell at Ulcombe.

Requests to borrow this equipment should be made to Charles on 01622 858733 or email to charles@tassell.co.uk. There is no hire charge, but a donation to the BRF will be requested.



The Jubi Peal in action

HARD HAT AREA

The shot on the right shows a safety fence erected around building work at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Should we be proud that a ringer is being used to demonstrate safety measures? Or is the recent spate of dodgy publicity having the wrong effect?

Thanks to Brian Butcher for the photo.



CLOCHES DE VERRE



The photo on the left shows one of those typical French enamelled advertising panels, this one having a fairly topical content for ringers. We've come across ceramic (flowerpot to you and me) bells, but there must be a case [pun noted, but not necessarily intended] for producing bottle bells.

This particular panel is available for sale on one or two websites, and it looks as though it might be going for a couple of hundred euros.

Thanks to Fraser Clift of Kemsing for spotting this one

FRAMEWORK FOR TRAINING RINGERS

The Education Committee of the Central Council has produced a Framework to help bands, whatever their local circumstances, to take a more systematic approach to the way they train their learners. The Framework covers all angles, but is not prescriptive. Its headings cover all aspects relevant to training, and the statements under each heading describe objectives that good practice will achieve, but it's down to each band to decide how to get the best results.

The easiest way to use the Framework is as a checklist. For each aspect, does the way you do things take account of it? Is it practical (taking account of your situation)? Do you need to do anything about it? Could you explain why you do what you do, if anyone asked?

The Framework headings can also provide the structure for a written code of practice for your tower, if you ever needed to produce one.

An explanatory leaflet	Read this first — two sides of A4	Download
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	+ useful references	
The Framework itself	Use this. Two sides of A4	Download
A set of supplementary questions that may help you to think in more detail about each objective	Use optional, if needed. Eight sides of A4	Download

Articles describing the history and development of the Framework were published in *The Ringing World* on 21 October 2005 (p1010)*, 12 May 2006 (p446) and 9 June 2006 (p542).

*A copy (in PDF format) of this article is available [here](#).

If you have any comments or questions, please contact the Chairman of the Central Council Education Committee at edchair@cccbr.org.uk.

KCACR AND BELL RESTORATION FUND RULES

Know your rights! An up-to-date copy of the KCACR Rules is now provided on the website as well as in the annual Handbook. This will be modified as and when any changes are made, so the version here will always be the latest. To download your copy of the Rules as a PDF file click [here](#).

INSURANCE UPDATE

The following is a brief résumé of the Association's insurance cover.

The Association has two insurance policies to protect its members.

Personal accident insurance

This provides cover in the event that a member is injured in an accident, resulting in permanent or temporary disablement, or in death. The level of cover (as at March 2014) is as follows:

Age	<16	16-70	71-74	>75
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Temporary total disablement	nil	£100 per week	nil	nil
Permanent total disablement	£10,000	£10,000	nil	nil
Death	£1,000	£10,000	£10,000	£1,000

Age is unlimited but benefits are limited for those aged 75 or over, when the only benefit is the death benefit limited to £1,000.

Temporary total disablement has an excess of the first seven days, and cover does not extend beyond 104 weeks from the date of the occurrence of the accident.

Members are covered while ringing, instructing, inspecting, or doing work of any description on towers and/or bells and/or their fittings and framework anywhere in the UK, including travelling directly to and from the church or up to wherever there is a break in the journey. Learners who have not yet been elected members are included whilst under instruction by a member of the Association.

Public liability insurance

This gives protection against claims from third parties for compensation following accidental injuries to persons and/or damage to property. The policy held by the Association provides indemnity up to £2 million for any one occurrence, or series of occurrences arising from one event. Property damage is subject to a £250 excess.

Members are covered while ringing, instructing, maintaining, inspecting, or doing minor repairs on towers and/or bells and/or their fittings and framework anywhere in the UK. Minor repairs in this context consist of any works not involving removing the bells from the frame, and are restricted to internal work only. Member to member cover is no longer provided, but this should be covered under the Liability element of a member's household Contents policy since the member would be acting in a private capacity and any claim would fall upon this insurance.

Member to member insurance is now included.

Note from the General Secretary (Doug Davis)

The above is only an outline description of the general circumstances that could give rise to a claim, the persons covered under those circumstances, and the maximum levels of cover to be expected. Please direct any questions about particular scenarios to me (gensec@kcacr.org.uk) so that I can seek a definitive ruling from the insurers.

GUIDELINES FOR BRF GRANT APPLICATIONS AND PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

The KCACR Bell Restoration Officer has drawn up a set of guidelines to be applied by local fundraisers when applying to the KCACR for a grant towards work on bells.


KCACR can help with bell restoration in two ways

1. By practical help in doing some of the work or, in some cases all of the work, in the tower.
2. By financial assistance in the form of a grant.

For the full guidelines and the opportunity to download a PDF version, [click here](#).

THE CHURCH BELLS OF KENT

This is a site compiled and maintained by Dickon Love and contains details of all the towers within the area of the KCACR which have three or more bells hung for ringing. Each tower entry includes a tower picture, details of current and previous bells and tower history. In some cases there are links to tower home pages and pictures of the bells. There are also quite a few files of sounds of the bells.

So if you haven't visited CBoFK recently, then here's yer chance. Click here  to go there right away.

KCACR MEMBERSHIP — WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

[The following article by Peter Sims in an Ashford District Newsletter some time ago seems to answer a lot of questions we hear voiced from time to time. Any comments to webmaster or Peter would be appreciated. — Ed]

As a relatively long serving member of the Ashford District Committee and District Representative on the County Committee of the KCACR I am often asked questions like: Are there any benefits of me being a member? What do I get for my annual subs? Where does all the money go? or, Why can't I be a ringer without bothering having to join the KCACR? All very good questions and effectively asking, "What does the Association do for its members?"

For a normal member the fee is £10 per year (very cheap by anybody's reckoning — about 3-4 pints of beer, or 2-3 weeks average spend on the lottery). "But what do I get for it?" is the normal response. First and foremost the fact of being a member of a long established charitable ringing association — the only one that covers the whole of Kent, which in turn is part of the national Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. Maybe the objects of the Association should be used as a reminder of what it is all about:

The establishment, maintenance and encouragement of service ringing in the churches in its area: the recognition of ringers as church workers and the proper care and use of bells and belfries; the cultivation of the art of change ringing.

How do we go about trying to achieve this? The answer is: in a variety of ways, but primarily the ringers from the Districts meet on a monthly basis to share time together, practise things they might not otherwise be able to ring and generally share good news and bad news alike, encouraging and helping each other wherever practical. Many

members frequently go to other towers to assist at weekly practice sessions, and quite a few help out with Sunday service ringing at other towers in addition to their own.

But who gets my £10 per year? Around 50% of all subs goes immediately to the Bell Restoration Fund, whereby it is used to keep bells around the county in a suitable state for ringing. The latest grant was £4000 to Eastchurch - a small parish church with a population of a few hundred. Without this grant towards the overall cost of £16,000 for major works the bells would probably have fallen into a permanent state of disrepair. Fundraising for similar projects forms a significant part of our activities. Of the remaining £5 approx £1.50 is paid on insurance for all members. Insurance carried by individual churches for ringers varies considerably and in some instances doesn't even exist. The insurance via KCACR covers all paid up members for both personal accident (whereby the individual can claim for injuries they suffer as a result of ringing activities, including those suffered whilst travelling to and from ringing), or for public liability (whereby somebody may decide to sue a ringer as a result of some damage they feel has been inflicted upon them or their property during the course of a ringing activity). As most of you are well aware, in this increasingly litigious age, everybody thinks it is their right to sue for almost anything, so to have the knowledge of good insurance cover is very comforting. Full details of the cover should be available in your tower, but can be obtained from the District Secretary on request.

A further £1.50 is spent providing every member with their own copy of the KCACR Handbook. This was recently reviewed as "one of the best, if not the best, in the country". The massive work of preparing the Handbook ready for printing is done entirely on a voluntary basis. Approx 50p is spent on publicity and training material, particularly aimed at trying to encourage new ringers as well as generally spreading the news about bells and ringing. Another 50p is spent on officers' expenses attending national meetings (please note; nobody is paid by the Association and many of the officers pay their own expenses as well as giving up their time to attend these meetings). The final 50p is spent in a variety of ways, including postage, payment of auditors and general running expenses, Nobody derives any financial benefit from the Association and many give a great deal; this is typified by the fact that even this newsletter is paid for entirely by the generosity of various individuals - tower copies are distributed free and the money from any copies sold to individuals is donated to the Bell Restoration Fund. [**Peter is speaking about the Ashford District here, but most other Districts work in much the same way. — Ed**]

If you think the Association should be "giving more", the question is, "What more would you like and how much more are you prepared to pay for it?" The last time a significant increase in subs was put before the county membership at an AGM it was overwhelmingly defeated. If you feel strongly that the Association should be doing more, please speak out constructively. Perhaps the final question should not be, "What more can the Association do for me?", but, "What more can I do for the Association?"

WORLD WAR I RECORDS

Hazel Basford, our County Librarian, has put an enormous amount of effort into researching the lives and deaths of KCACR ringers during the First World War. How would you cope if half of your band was killed over a period of six months? How would you feel if many of your mates had disappeared, never to return? Have a look at Hazel's [report](#). It's an eye-opener. New items are slowly being added as they come to light. The latest (November 2002) offering is a poem about the Hayesmore brothers from Rolvenden.

WEDDING FEES

There has been some discussion in the County over the years of an idea for BRF fundraising. One suggestion (originating in the Ashford District) was that wedding fees should be raised by £10 (per wedding, not per rope), and that this additional sum should go to the BRF. This is not intended to be an edict from on high, but is an idea that might be discussed at a local (tower even) level. I have no idea how often Kent bells are rung for weddings, but even if it's only a couple of hundred times a year that could bring in a couple of grand for the BRF.

The scheme also has the great advantage of taking some of the burden off ringers — who after all should not always be called on to fund restoration work (so far as I know organists don't have funds to repair organs any more than choirs raise money for surplices and music). The load is spread much more thinly over a much larger catchment area — after all another tenner on top of the thousands reportedly spent on weddings shouldn't be too much of a problem for the folks being married.

Obviously approval for this sort of venture would have to be sought from the local vicar/PCC, but if the situation was explained by the local ringers, I doubt if there would be many problems. What do people feel about this idea? Think about it. Raise it at your District meetings. Discuss it at your tower meetings. Tell this site about it. **But do something.**

[It has to be said that, since this item was originally written, quite a few towers now do operate the so-called "spliced fund", and nearly £2000 was raised this way in 2011. But this still represents only about 200 weddings, so we could still do better.]

You can either email the webmaster (webmaster@kcacr.org.uk) or write to me at the address on the [officers page](#).