

# Look to



The Newsletter of the Tonbridge District of the KCACR

2010 Third Quarter Edition

## The Quarterly Meeting

The second meeting of 2010 was held at Brasted [8, 9-2-2 in G<sup>b</sup>, Anti-clockwise]. Alex Staff writes:

The second quarterly meeting of 2010 took place on a sunny but fresh afternoon at Brasted, with ringing master Catherine Heathcote and assistant ringing master Tim Lynch coordinating proceedings.

The service unusually began in the ringing chamber as Brasted's lay reader, Judith Seaward, dedicated a peal board recording a peal rung in 2008 to commemorate the life of Bob Sherlock. The service continued in the church.



Judith Seaward, lay-reader at Brasted, dedicates the tower's first formal peal-board, of a peal rung for long-serving tower captain, Bob Sherlock.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Judith Seaward for taking the service and to Paul Hewlett, the organist. Thanks were also due to the PCC of St Martin's Brasted for the use of the bells, and to the Brasted ringers for the provision of tea.

## Forthcoming Events...

Between now and the next edition of the *Look to*:

### Evening Practice

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

East Peckham [6, 14 cwt in F, GF]

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

### Joint Outing with the Maidstone District

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

To London

### Training Day

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

*Rounds and Call Changes, and Plain Bob Doubles*

### County 6-Bell Striking Competition

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

Lewisham District

### Deadline for the next edition

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

### Annual District Meeting

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010**

Tonbridge [8, 19-1-0 in E]

3:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Tea also included a surprise for district secretary Tessa Worthington, who felt somewhat ganged-up on. To celebrate a closely-guarded birthday, Bobbie Fairclough produced a spectacular cake, depicting Tessa on her birthday motor scooter. Great minds think alike, and various ringers in the know must have all been struck by the same thought, when they stumbled across the same card depicting a girl on a scooter. The meeting also heard that Jen Thomas' endeavour to sell greetings cards had raised roughly £ 23 for the BRF.



Also to be seen on the website: Frank Lewis says not to count the candles.

The meeting included discussion of various ways in which the District Striking Competition could be better managed and made to be more streamlined, including the issue of scratch bands. This year's competition would be handed to a "chairperson" (the district ringing master) to ensure the speedy smooth running of the event, with the hope of a satisfactory model emerging for the future, chiefly to reduce the amount of waiting around that the competition involves.

Donations to reasonably expect from visitors were discussed, as was the charging of – effectively – one extra rope when appointing wedding fees, in order to pass this amount to the KCACR BRF's "Spliced Fund".

Also to note is that the District's hosting of the 2011 KCACR AGM on Easter Monday will now be at Speldhurst village hall.

The meeting saw the election of five new members to the association: Janice Byrne from Penshurst, Sheila Parish, Kathy Staff and Peter Tappenden from Edenbridge, and Helen Longley from Tonbridge. Chairman Jane Nielson welcomed them to the association and expressed her appreciation of a large number of new members being elected, even at one of the traditionally quieter meetings during the year.

The meeting closed with the 124-Club draw, with congratulations to Tonbridge's Angela Clark, Chevening's Tony Cresswell and Kieth Matthews of Colyton (formerly Edenbridge).

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**If you would like to add to your band's profile in your church, why not put a copy of the **Look to** on your bookstall?**

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## Disaster-struck: Striking competition

*Frank Lewis writes:*

The District striking competition tried to take place at Sandhurst [6, 12-1-10 in F<sup>#</sup>, anti-clockwise] on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010 when six teams took part (four fewer than in 2009). This year we had the rather novel idea of mixing the call change bands with the method people.

The judges were David and Pam Manger from Frittenden in the Ashford District, who judged the bands as they came along, some ringing methods and some ringing call changes.

However, when the fourth (method) team had rung just over 200 changes of their 240 there was an almighty crash from somewhere above and the fourth stopped striking. A quick check revealed that the clapper had broken just below the staple, so that was to be the end of ringing for the day. An emergency pow-wow was convened and it was decided that the competition would have to be written off and a new date fixed for a replay. Details of this event will be published as soon as arrangements can be made, so watch this space.

The chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the judges, the vicar for the use of the bells, and to all others who had worked to make a successful, albeit different, event — especially the local ringers who played tea ladies for the afternoon.

## Joint summer outing with the Maidstone District

*Frank Lewis records the following details:*

The Maidstone District's suggestion of holding a joint event is taking shape. As far as the *Look to* knows, all the organising is being done over the boarder, and all the Tonbridge District needs to do is turn up! The Maidstone District are taking us to London for the day, to ring at six city churches. This includes a chance for some 12-bell ringing at the new twelve at St Magnus-the-Martyr [12, 26-3-9 in D] and St Michael Cornhill [12, 42-0-6 in B], along with St Olave Hart Street [8, 11-3-23 in G] which features on the Saydisc album of change ringing.

Timings and lunch venues are still being arranged, so the best thing to do is keep an ear to the ground by keeping an eye on the KCACR website. We are asked for £ 5 to cover donations, with the remainder going to the BRF.



## 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](http://www.charmborough.org)

Enquiries to: [hiring@charmborough.org](mailto:hiring@charmborough.org)

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 112616

## Forthcoming Training Events

### Rounds and Call Changes, and Plain Bob Doubles

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010

### Plain Hunt and Grandsire Doubles

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010

If you see a training event that catches your eye, book straight away! This allows the event to be as promptly and as best organised as possible. Contact Catherine Heathcote to book a place or request a training event:

- 01892 785 577
- [catherineheathcote@btinternet.com](mailto:catherineheathcote@btinternet.com)

**Visit the KCACR website to keep up to date with the Tonbridge District and KCACR's news!**

[www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

## 120 Club

The 120 Club (more the 124 – and rising – club) draws for the first quarter of 2010:

|              |     |                 |
|--------------|-----|-----------------|
| <b>April</b> | 5   | Tonbridge       |
|              | 115 | Chevening       |
|              | 66  | Colyton (Devon) |
| <b>May</b>   | 54  | Leigh           |
|              | 119 | Chevening       |
|              | 124 | Lamberhurst     |
| <b>June</b>  | 45  | Hadlow          |
|              | 56  | Seal Chart      |
|              | 98  | Sevenoaks       |

Anyone over 16 can buy shares in the Tonbridge District 120 Club (registered charity) at £ 10 each. It's not restricted to KCACR members or bell ringers. If you would like to buy a share then please contact *Ray Taylor*:

- 07973 123 323
- [ray.taylor@easynet.co.uk](mailto:ray.taylor@easynet.co.uk)

Or download an application form from:

- [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

## Edenbridge Tower Outing

Edenbridge and friends didn't stray too far from home on their most recent outing, as tower captain *Richard Dyson* reports.



*The day began on a fabulous morning in Chevening.*

With a fantastic bright and sunny spring morning to encourage us, a band from Edenbridge [8, 14-0-7 in F<sup>#</sup>] congregated at Chevening [8, 10-1-13 in G], reinforced by several friends from Lingfield [8, 16-2-0 in F<sup>#</sup>], Cowden [6, 7-2-15 in A], Hever [6, 9-0-25 in A<sup>b</sup>] and Caterham [8, 12-2-23 in F<sup>#</sup>] and a couple of former band members up for the day. A warm welcome and we were up and away at Chevening – a delightful ring of 8, the relatively light bells at the front end catching a couple of unsuspecting ringers briefly unawares, but a lovely start to our day.



*Being greeted by the Otford belfry bat!*

In no time at all it was time to lower the bells and trundle off to Otford [6, 10-1-7 in A<sup>b</sup>, GF], to add another District tower not previously rung by several of the band. Lunch was superb – for those who have not rung at Otford, the experience is enhanced further if you are able to have lunch at the Crown, just across the road. Suitably refreshed, we prised ourselves from the pub and up the road to Kemsing [6, 4-1-5 in D, GF].



The outing party sat around an L-shaped table at the Crown in Otford.

A delightful church, and lovely bells; for many who had not visited Kemsing before, and were uneasy about such a light ring, they were very pleasantly surprised. For those whose earlier energy was fading, the opportunity to sit on a bench just outside the church to enjoy the warm sunshine as well as the ringing was welcomed. And so to the final tower of the day; heading back towards Edenbridge, we stopped at Sundridge, and acquitted ourselves well with a variety of ringing.



Tackling Kemsing.

All ringers rang at least one tower that they hadn't visited previously (some added four new towers to their list) and it was lovely to get to know the District a little better, particularly our close neighbours. We were grateful to our fellow District towers for accommodating us and making us very welcome.

## Margaret Louise Archer, RIP.

*Elizabeth Cutchey of St Nicholas, Sandhurst, informs the Look to:*

Margaret joined the Sandhurst ringers in about 1964. She was a very accomplished ringer and a joy to be with. Margaret died 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and is greatly missed by all St Nicholas' ringers.

## Around the District

*Frank Lewis bears glad tidings:*

We're delighted to be able to report that Tony Cresswell and Carole Scott from Chevening announced their engagement on 11<sup>th</sup> May. A wedding is planned for late summer.



To be shortly spliced.

Congratulations to you both! Tony, you'll have to be more careful about falling out of towers now!

A quarter peal of *Baldrick Little Differential Caters* was rung at Bletchingley [10, 16-1-22 in E, GF] by some of their friends to mark the occasion. (The method is not half as hairy as one might imagine since it's basically *Little Bob Caters*, but for technical reasons it can't be called that!) Another quarter, this time of *Plain Bob Doubles*, was rung at Otford [6, 10-1-7 in A<sup>b</sup>, GF] on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May, with Carole on the treble.

### Frank Lewis says...

St Martin's, Brasted, ringers now have their very own website. Give it a burst and let the webmaster know what you think!

- [www.brastedringingco.org.uk](http://www.brastedringingco.org.uk)

### Tessa Worthington bears no grudges!

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all involved in the Askulduggery and surprise for my 60th birthday at the Brasted meeting. The myriad of cards, Bobbie's beautifully crafted cake and the chance to celebrate the occasion with so many of you – it will stay with me for quite some time. I have duly noted the main culprits and will utilise this knowledge at some future date.

I fell off my scooter in the first week; with my recently acquired maturity, I will endeavour to stay upright from now on.

### Elizabeth Cutchey passes on birthday wishes:

**W**illiam Goodsell's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday is on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Bill has been ringing at St Nicholas Sandhurst since he was 14 years old.

### As does Frank Lewis:



*Harassed but triumphant, left to right: Frank Lewis, Bobbie Fairclough, Andrew Wickenden, Richard Dyson, Caroline Levy-Cooper and Catherine Lewis.*

**M**ark Mead of Hever [6, 9-0-25 in *Ab*] hit the ripe old age of 90 on 15th May, and a quarter of *Plain Bob Doubles* was rung to mark this occasion. It was a very good quarter, but not without its excitements. It was rung immediately after a wedding and there was a photographer stationed in the ringing room photographing the proceedings through the wrought iron grill looking down into the church. This was fine, but once the bride and groom had reached the west door she started taking photos through the west window and yelling instructions to the guests down below. After she'd left a local ringer came into the ringing room

with another photographer, saying in a loud voice how good the ringing was. Finally, as if this wasn't enough, someone tried to set the intruder alarm, which of course went off. Hey ho, these things happen!

Anyway, congratulations Mark – can we come along to your century?

### Frank Lewis also says Catherine Heathcote got herself one of these:



*One bellframe painter.*

**W**hen some serious maintenance work was carried out at Lamberhurst [6, 13-0-7 in *F#*] back in 2006 it was realised that some serious painting work was needed too. However tower captain Catherine Heathcote didn't fancy taking on the task herself so, after trying (fruitlessly) to get the job done for free, she opted for persuading the PCC to pay for some of the work to be done for cash.

## Quarter Peals

### Rung during the first quarter of 2009

**Chiddingstone** 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010

#### 1260 Grandsire Triples

Janice Byrne 1, Stella Wooldridge 2, Fraser Clift 3, David James 4, Michael Bullett 5, Nicholas Butcher 6, Eric Roughley (C) 7, Pamela Thomas 8.

*With best wishes to Nigel Lucas for a happy retirement after 45 years as landlord of The Castle Inn, Chiddingstone. First of triples: 1*

### Rung during the second quarter of 2009

**Tonbridge** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2010

#### 1260 Stedman Doubles

Jacqui Fletcher 1, Fraser Clift 2, Hamilton Woods 3, Catherine Heathcote 4, Tim Lynch (C) 5, Angela Clark 6

*For Evening Service.*

**Sevenoaks** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010

**1360 Plain Bob Major**

Frank Lewis 1, Tessa Worthington 2, Jennifer Thomas 3, Howard Rogers 4, Eric Roughley 5, Ray Taylor 6, Anthony Leeves (C) 7, Peter Dickinson 8  
*For Tessa's 60th birthday.*

**Hadlow, Hunters Lodge**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010

**1260 Double Bob Minor**

Ann Jenner 1-2, Ray Taylor 3-4, Stanley Jenner (C) 5-6

**Leigh** Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010

**1320 Cambridge S Minor**

Pam Thomas 1, Nick Wilkins 2, Bobbie Fairclough 3, E Lesley Barclay 4, Stella Wooldridge 5, Tim Lynch (C) 6

**Horsmonden** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010

**1260 Grandsire Triples**

Bethany A L Gerrish 1, Jacqueline M Barlow 2, Tina D Bastow 3, Alison M Gerrish 4, Debbie Parker 5, Graham D Heath 6, Darren W Elphick (C) 7, Paul G Bastow 8

*Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Rene Gilder, R.I.P.*

**Tonbridge** Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

Mary Smalman-Smith 1, Angela Clark 2, Hamilton Woods 3, Tim Lynch 4, Rhoda Willson (C) 5, Gordon Hill 6

*For Evening Service. 1st quarter: 6.*

**Kemsing** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

Dee Clift 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Jenny Williamson 3, Fraser Clift (C) 4, Michael Williamson 5, Godfrey Croughton 6

*70<sup>th</sup> birthday compliments to Jenny and Godfrey.*

**Hawkhurst** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2010

**1288 Grandsire Triples**

Pam Thomas 1, Madeline Reeder 2, Bobbie Fairclough 3, Fraser Clift 4, Alison Parsons 5, David Lyddiatt 6, Stuart Piper (C) 7, David Beeken 8

*Rung as a 100th birthday compliment to Frank Elliott, MBE and Polar Medal – climber, mountaineer, explorer and gentleman. Frank served this country as a member of Her Majesty's*

*Overseas Civil Service, working variously in the Antarctic, the Falklands, Swaziland and India.*

**Kemsing** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**1260 Doubles (1 principle/3 methods)**

60 Stedman, 240 Grandsire, 240 St. Simon's, 720 Plain Bob

Godfrey Croughton 1, Jenny Williamson 2, Rebecca Prinsloo 3, Michael Williamson 4, Fraser Clift (C) 5, Ralph Harding 6

*100<sup>th</sup> quarter on the bells, rung by a Kemsing band, with five of the ringers having rung here since the bells were installed in 1991.*

**Sevenoaks** Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**1260 Stedman Triples**

Anthony Leeves 1, Jennifer Thomas 2, Peter Dickinson 3, Eric Roughley 4, Catherine Heathcote 5, Stanley Jenner 6, Tim Lynch (C) 7, Tony Cresswell 8

*Rung before the Sevenoaks School Leavers' Service with best wishes to all who leave the School today and in memory of Amy Cresswell (daughter of the tenor ringer) who would have been in their midst. First Stedman as cover: 8.*

**Edenbridge** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010

**1260 Grandsire Triples**

Bethany A L Gerrish 1, Alison M Gerrish 2, Tina D Bastow 3, Graham D Heath 4, Malcolm J Hitchcock 5, Malwyn A Williams 6, Darren W Elphick (C) 7, Paul G Bastow 8

*23<sup>rd</sup> birthday compliment to Bethany Moores, niece of the 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

**Speldhurst** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010

**1260 Grandsire Triples**

Penny Gerrard 1, Stella Wooldridge 2, Janice Byrne 3, Catherine Heathcote 4, Eric Roughley (C) 5, John Palmer 6, Anthony Leeves 7, Alan King 8.

*A birthday compliment to Helga Merrick. First of Triples inside: 3.*

**Chiddingstone** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010

**1250 Cambridge Surprise Major**

Rosemary Hodge 1, Louise G Pink 2, Frances P Bradford 3, Alex Staff 4, Roy M Cox 5, Hugo L Tracey 6, Alan D Pink (C) 7, Peter M J Bradford 8  
*First Cambridge Surprise Major: 6.*

## Milestones

### Congratulations to...

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>First Quarter</b>                     | Gordon Hill    |
| <b>First on the trebel</b>               | Sarah Pullen   |
| <b>First Stedman as cover</b>            | Tony Cresswell |
| <b>First of Cambridge Surprise Major</b> | Hugo Tracey    |

**See your name in print!**

The **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 (and a photo or two!)
- Your ringing tips and hints (anything from learning bell-handling to spliced surprise) and questions you might want answered
- Historical snippets from your tower
- Anecdotes from an interesting practice you attended on holiday
- Other announcements

Always feel free to send a photo (electronically or hard-copy) with your article to Alex Staff:

- [what\\_moriarty@hotmail.com](mailto:what_moriarty@hotmail.com)
- Leydens Cottage, Hartfield Road, Stick Hill, Edenbridge, Kent. TN8 5NH

**The deadline for copy for the next edition (third quarter 2010) is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Anything submitted after this time may still have a chance for inclusion, but cannot be guaranteed space.**