



THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF
CHANGE RINGERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Easter Monday 22nd April 2019

2.30pm

at Chilham Village Hall CT4 8DB



AGENDA

1. **Welcome by the Chairman**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Minutes of the 2018 AGM** at Willesborough, 2nd April 2018
4. **Matters arising** from the Minutes
5. **General Secretary's Report**
6. **Treasurer's Report** and allocation of Subscription Funds (Rule 4(c)).
7. **Peal Secretary's Report**
8. **Quarter Peal Secretary's Report**
9. **Librarian's report**
10. **Officers' Reports:**
 - 10.1 Bell Restoration
 - 10.2 Handbook
 - 10.3 Health & Safety
 - 10.4 Publicity
 - 10.5 Safeguarding
 - 10.6 Training
 - 10.7 Webmaster
 - 10.8 Youth Officer
11. **Rule Change Proposals from General Committee:-**
 - 11.1 Subscriptions

Existing Rule		Proposed alteration
4.(e)	Members aged 65 years or over, Members 18 years and below and those Members in full time education shall pay 50% of the annual subscription.	Members aged 18 years and below shall pay 50% of the annual subscription.
4.(f)	Members aged 65 years or more with 25 years unbroken practising membership shall be entitled to free membership.	Delete entirely and replace with; Members aged 75-79 years shall pay 75% of the annual subscription. Members aged 80 years or over shall be entitled to free membership.
4.(h)	A member over the age of eighteen may at any time secure membership for life by paying a subscription equal to 15 times the current annual subscription. The proportion to be allocated to the Bell Restoration Fund shall be as prescribed by the General Committee in the year of payment.	A member over the age of eighteen may at any time secure membership for life by paying a subscription equal to 20 times the current annual subscription. The proportion to be allocated to the Bell Restoration Fund shall be as prescribed by the General Committee in the year of payment.

11.2 Quorum

	Existing Rule	Proposed alteration
5	Eight members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the General Committee.	Six members shall form a quorum at any meeting of the General Committee.

12. Practising Members Subscription 2020

13. Election of Officers

13.1	Chairman		
13.2	General Secretary	13.9	Bell Restoration
13.3	Treasurer	13.10	Health & Safety
13.4	Peal Secretary	13.11	Publicity
13.5	Quarter Peal Secretary	13.12	Safeguarding
13.6	Handbook Editor	13.13	Training
13.7	Librarian	13.14	Webmaster
13.8	5 Central Council Representatives	13.15	Youth Officer

14. KCACR Mobile Ring

15. Election of Vice Presidents – Margaret Funnell & Stanley Jenner

16. Certificates of 50 Years' membership

17. Forthcoming Events

- 17.1 Association 8-bell competition at Tunstall – 29/06/2019 – Plain course of Turramurra Surprise Major.
- 17.2 Essex Trophy 2019 at Christchurch, Southgate – 14/09/2019 – Stedman Caters.
- 17.3 Association 6-bell competition at Seal – 28/09/2019.
- 17.4 Essex Trophy 2020 at Ashford – 12/09/2020.
- 17.5 Association 8-bell competition in Tonbridge District – 20/06/2020.
- 17.6 AGM 2021 in the Maidstone District date to be agreed.

18. Any Other Business

19. Date of AGM 2020 – Easter Monday 13th April 2020 in the Lewisham District.

20. Vote of Thanks

REPORTS

3. Minutes of the 2018 AGM held at Willesborough

(Subject to adoption by the AGM to be held in the Canterbury District in 2019)

The meeting was hosted by the Ashford District. The service was held in the parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Willesborough and attended by members and friends. Towers were open before the service and after the meeting. An excellent lunch was served in the church before the General Meeting commenced.

1. Welcome. The Chairman welcomed 117 members and visitors and David Grimwood opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Hazel Basford (Birchington, Quex Park), Tom Winter (St. Lawrence in Thanet), Alice Holden (Willesborough), Rosemary Holden (Willesborough), Jennifer Holden (Willesborough), Steve Goodsell (Deal), Chris Cooper (Ashford), Jay Ford (Bredgar), Tim Ford (Bredgar), the Rodmersham band, Allen Collins (East Sutton) and Liz Barnes (Wrotham).

3. Minutes of the AGM held at Cranbrook on Easter Monday, 17th April 2017. The minutes were taken as read being in the handouts, Handbook and displayed on the website. It was proposed and seconded that they be approved, all agreed, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes. None.

5. General Secretary's report. The General Secretary's report was printed in the Handbook on Page 16 and in the handouts. He commented that it had been a busy and challenging year. The Chairman thanked the Secretary for making the last 3 years easy for him.

6. Treasurer's report. The Treasurer advised that the accounts were in the handbook (pages 10-12) and all were currently with the Auditor. She commented that our expenses are rather higher than our income hence next year we may need to think about raising subscriptions. Pat Phipps commented that some expenses had risen substantially in the past year. The Treasurer advised that Central Council expenses were high due to the meeting being in Edinburgh, and that the Officer's Expenses included a sum towards the mobile ring thus making this seem higher. The Secretary also mentioned that room hire costs had increased as we were now hiring a venue away from Leeds Tower Room. Pat Phipps then commented on the cost of the handbook suggesting that £4 per copy was high and couldn't see how this could be justified. The Chairman commented that the General Committee will need to review this next year. Another comment was made suggesting that Young Ringers' expenses should come from their account, and the Chairman responded that there is no Young Ringers account. The Secretary also commented that some items can come out of the Training Fund as per the guidelines, whereas others can't and hence come out of the General Fund. Tim Wraight observed that the Training Fund doesn't seem to get used so perhaps we shouldn't put 25% into that account this year. Margaret proposed that her report and the accounts be adopted.

7. Division of Subscriptions. Margaret proposed that 100% of subscriptions should be paid into the General Fund this year as both BRF and Training funds were healthy. Caroline Stockmann seconded the proposal, all were in favour apart from 1 against.

8. Peal Secretary's report. Dr Phillip Barnes advised his report was published in the Handbook from Page 85. He commented that it was a good year for peal ringing, notably because it wasn't just the usual peal bands involved. He also noted that all the compositions rung for the Association since 1996 are now on Complib. He then proposed adoption of his report which was seconded by David Grimwood. Jackie Barlow then asked if anything was going to happen to peal fees with the changing situation of the handbooks. He responded by saying that the peal fee pre-dates the start of the free handbook, but thought it was an appropriate time to review these.

9. Quarter Peal Secretary's report. Mr Leeves advised his report was printed in the Handbook from Page 72. He commented that it had been a record year, and congratulated Mike Birkbeck on ringing 3,000 and Jackie Barlow on ringing 1,000. There had also been a steady stream of firsts through the year including 9 first as conductor. He also said it was encouraging to see quarter peals starting to be rung by the Kent Young Ringers. He proposed adoption of his report, seconded by Mike Birkbeck.

10. Librarian's report. Hazel Basford was not present but had nothing to report.

11. Officers' reports

a) Bell Restoration. Brian Butcher's report was on pages 17-19 of the handbook. Only one item needed an updated which was Otham where the 4th has been found to be cracked so they are still in progress. Brian proposed adoption of his report, seconded by Phil Barnes.

b) Webmaster. Doug Davis advised that the new website continues, and made note that handbooks are available through there this year. The other Districts apart from Tonbridge and Canterbury are not really making use of the ability to add information to the website. He also asked for any comments or suggestions for the website to be sent to him. Other than that, nothing to report. Mike Rannard asked if anything was known about the replacement for the Dove's Guide iOS app, and the Webmaster confirmed it was well underway with Dropbox integration being worked on. It will appear on the Central Council website when it is available. Doug then proposed adoption of his report, seconded by Margaret Funnell.

c) Handbook Editor. The Chairman commented that handbooks were available today, and that by asking for members to pay for it this year the print run had been vastly reduced. Tim Wraight commented that the handbook had been free since being voted for in 1990. He proposed that the free handbook should be reinstated as free from next year. Pat Phipps commented that she didn't think handbooks should be ordered for those that don't want them, but it seemed sensible to simply ask who did want one. The question was asked as to how much had been saved on the production cost of the handbook this year, and the Secretary advised that he thought we had made approximately £700. Peter Sims commented that handbook waste had been discussed many times at the General Committee, and that it had been suggested on numerous occasions that towers should be asked how many copies they need but this has never happened – and this would be a sensible way forward. Michael Keeler-Walker commented that his ringers wondered what they got for their membership fee each year and thought that the handbook should be request only for those that want them. He also said that this was a similar feeling gained from those present at their ADM. He then also proposed that the handbook move to a request model next year and be reinstated as free to those members that want it. Phil Barnes commented that, as noted by the Treasurer, without charging for the handbooks as we have done this year

our available funds would be even less and in fact subscriptions would have likely had to increase. As such he advised those present that there would be a cost to providing the handbook for free. The Chairman commented that given we are putting 100% of subscriptions into the General Fund then we should be able to afford to do that this coming year and reminded everyone as to why the decision was made to charge for it this year. Sue Bassett commented that she supported the long-term aim to move away from printed handbooks and asked where members would find their access password for the online handbook, and the Secretary advised there would be new membership cards this year which have these on. A couple of other comments were made in a similar vein, someone saying that they thought the way this had been done was clumsy. The Secretary then commented that we didn't have a Handbook Editor this year, so everyone was lucky there was a handbook at all. The Chairman then asked for a vote to be taken on the proposal to make the handbook free to all members but that they would have to actively request a copy, all were in favour apart from 3 abstentions. Catherine Lewis suggested Thanks should be given to the Secretary who had pulled the handbook together.

d) Health & Safety. Peter Sims advised that his report was on Page 19 of the handbook. He mentioned that the only query he'd had last year was about lone working in the tower. He reminded everyone that we should always have someone with us when working in the tower. The only other thing he wanted us to think about for the coming year was about how we determine our fitness to ring from a health point of view. Age, physical or mental health could all be factors that mean we may not be safe to ring, and these things need to be kept an eye on by ourselves and others. He then proposed the adoption of his report, seconded by Brian Butcher.

e) Child Protection. Nigel Spencer advised that his report was on Page 16 of the handbook, his only real comment being that Safeguarding Training is being rolled out by the dioceses and will likely be available during the coming year.

f) Training. Tom Winter stood down from the role earlier in the year and had not provided any report.

g) Publicity. Caroline Stockmann advised a good relationship had been built with BBC Radio Kent with 3 items going out with them in the past year. They are keen to continue to promote ringing, so people should let her know if they have an opportunity to discuss. She also talked about the Ringing Remembers campaign and encouraged people to get their learners to register and proposed adoption of her report, seconded by Lesley Barclay.

h) Youth. Jen Thomas advised that there are a lot of youngsters around now, up to 17 attending the regular Saturday practices. The report is on page 17 of the handbook. Phil Larter offered congratulations and thanks to Jen for the fantastic work she is doing. Jen's report was seconded by Ben Legg.

Daniel Brady proposed that we adopt all the reports en bloc, and all were in favour.

12. KCACR Census. Phil Barnes talked about the survey that had been carried out in November 2017. He thanked everyone who had put the effort in to take part, and a 65% response rate was actually very good. 153 towers responded, 19 didn't ring once on a Sunday in November. Slightly more worrying was that 36% of towers had at least 1 'silent Sunday'. Some towers claimed that there weren't services to ring for, however this may not be entirely true based on a quick look at church websites. Of the towers that could ring at least once on a Sunday, 53 had enough ringers to ring every bell and 77 had too few. On average, there was 0.9 of a ringer per bell. There are 1661 bells in the County, compared to our active membership of 1450 – showing the need for recruitment.

13. Proposed Rule Changes. Daniel Brady suggested he stand down from the Chair for this part of the meeting. Phil Barnes proposed Chris Bassett take the chair for this part of the meeting and all were in favour.

Proposal 1: Replace 'Chairman' with Master

Daniel Brady as proposer of this change summarised his thoughts behind it. Following the 2017 AGM he wondered which Association Officers have responsibility for delivering the aims of the Association and found there was a distinct lack of someone to 'establish, maintain and encourage service ringing in the Association area' – we don't have to have anyone elected at Association or District level to look after ringing in this way. Hence the proposal to have a Master who is responsible for overseeing ringing both at District and Association level. Questions and comments were then invited from the floor.

Some comments included: changing 'Chairman' to 'Master' was unnecessary/irrelevant; not having someone responsible for something usually means it doesn't happen; it's too much work for one person, better to spread the load; a different name for the role helps us to realise we have to think differently, look at a more strategic approach as a whole rather than in District 'silos'; important to break down the invisible barriers between Districts; there are different skills required to chair meetings compared to running ringing so difficult to combine these roles.

The proposal was put to a vote: 41 in favour, 66 against and 6 abstentions. The proposal was not adopted.

Proposal 2: Reduce the size of the General Committee

Doug Davis summarised his thoughts behind this proposal. He commented that General Committee meetings can be a challenge due to the number of people attending – at most up to 34 people could be there at any time, and this can cause delays in getting things done (sometimes years, as in the case of the Mobile Ring). The number would be reduced to 22, making it simpler to do the business of the Association.

Some comments included: drafting amendment now required to replace 'Master' with 'Chairman' in this proposal; some felt that the Bell Restoration Officer should still be a Committee member; some felt that the number of District Reps should be reduced to 1; Vice Presidents coming off the Committee will lose all the experience that they have; should also reduce the number of CC Reps that attend any one meeting to 3; perhaps the Youth Officer should come off the Committee and just report to it; people who are elected to the Committee should be responsible and attend regularly; there should be a clear distinction from a governance perspective around proposals for work and approvals for that work to be done.

Following the comments and discussion, drafting amendments were proposed:

- The word 'Master' to be replaced with 'Chairman' in this proposal
- Only 1 District Rep should be on the Committee from each District – all in favour, carried
- CC Reps changed to 3 of the 5 attending any one meeting – all in favour, carried
- Bell Restoration Officer remains as a Committee member – majority in favour, carried
- Youth Officer to be removed from the Committee – no seconder, so motion lost

Final Committee would be:

Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Training Officer, Youth Officer, 3 of 5 CC Reps, 1 District Rep, Bell Restoration Officer (total 15). This was put to the vote: proposed by Doug Davis, seconded by Daniel Brady – 1 abstention, proposal adopted.

Chris Bassett then stood down from the Chair and Daniel Brady resumed his role for the remainder of the meeting.

Mike Bullett commented to the meeting that he would be encouraging the Tonbridge District ringing master to become the District Rep.

14. Election of officers. The following officers were elected:

<u>Post</u>	<u>Nominee(s)</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Secunder</u>
Chairman	Phil Barnes	Phil Larter	David Grimwood
General Secretary	Sue Bassett	Phil Barnes	Mike Little
Assistant Secretary	Cathy Cheeseman	Phil Barnes	Mike Little
Treasurer	Margaret Funnell	Alan Driver	Arthur Vidgeon
Peal Secretary	Phil Barnes	Steve Davis	David Grimwood
Quarter Peal Secretary	Anthony Leeves	Mike Bullett	Eric Roughley
Handbook Editor			
Librarian	Hazel Basford	Stephen Marsh	Ann Davies
<u>Sub-Committee Officers</u>			
Bell Restoration	Brian Butcher	Keith Osborne	Chris Cooper
Training	David Grimwood	Graham Heath	Steve Davis
Publicity	Caroline Stockmann	Doug Davis	Catherine Lewis
Webmaster	Doug Davis	Daniel Brady	Phil Barnes
Health & Safety	Peter Sims	Sheila Phyll	Tim Munt
Child Protection	Nigel Spencer	Maureen Poole	Brian Butcher
Youth	Jen Thomas	Jamie Austin	Nick Wilkins

The Treasurer gave 1 years' notice, as did the Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer. Initially as there was no nomination for a General Secretary, an adjournment of 10 minutes was taken to allow discussion to take place and a suitable candidate be found. As a result, the role of Assistant Secretary was added.

The role of Handbook Editor was left vacant.

15. Certificates for 50 years' membership. The following members were congratulated on their long membership by the Chairman and received their certificates if they were present: Martin Davies, Peter Swift, Chris Bassett, Ray Lucas, Sylvia Lucas, Nicholas Butcher and Peter Silva.

16. Forthcoming events.

County 8-bell Competition – 30th June AM at Aylesford

17. Any other business.

1. Ali Ducker made a statement about the situation around her role and subsequent request to leave the role of Ringing Master in the Rochester District, and some further statements were made by Mike Rannard, Phil Larter, Richard Bushell, Sven Wraight and Tim Wraight. Margaret Funnell responded to these comments with her own statement. At the end of these, comment was made that this was not a matter for this meeting.

2. Phil Barnes asked those present to take note of the new rules being proposed by the Central Council and give any comments to the Central Council reps.

3. It was asked if we could aim to have a microphone at the next AGM.

4. Neil Jones talked about Ray Morgan Bob Triples which had been named in memory of Ray Morgan of Rochester Cathedral who had passed away from Motor Neurone disease recently and asked those present to ring this method and raise money for the MNDA if possible.

5. Jen Thomas commented that there is now a Kent Young Ringers page on the website with all their events, as well as a Kent Young Ringers page in the handbook.

6. Dan Jarvis asked if the General Committee could review Life Membership and subscriptions.

7. Mike Bullett asked if there was to be any more guidance on GDPR. Daniel Brady had previously sent out details that should cover everything.

8. It was asked if the KCACR was considering anything related to clauses being added to contracts around new planning/housing developments to help prevent noise complaints. Daniel Brady advised there is guidance on the Central Council website about this.

The Chairman then offered a vote of thanks to all those involved in organising and supporting today's AGM.

5. General Secretary's Report 2018

Being new to the job, I have found the past year interesting, but thankfully not as challenging (so far!) as I had feared when I tentatively stepped into the breach at the 2018 AGM. Grateful thanks are due to the support of all Members and, in particular, my predecessor, Doug Davis. He handed over the mantle in a well-organised, easy to follow state and gave good advice or prompts throughout the year as necessary. Having reduced his voluntary workload somewhat, he has focussed on much needed Website improvements and once again produced the Handbook when no one else came forward. An Assistant General Secretary was elected at the 2018 AGM and Cathy Cheeseman has been a stalwart assistant, taking on the GDPR work, minuting meetings and assisting with emails.

The General Committee was reduced in size by agreement at the 2018 AGM to 15 members. It is streamlined and focussed; meets four times a year with sub-groups to carry forward agreed actions. Sub-groups have focussed on Bell Restoration, Finance, Training, Youth activities and projects which include the Kent Mobile Ring, Youth Trophy, Website and Publicity. A Complaints Procedure was adopted, Quorum Rule change proposed, a Peal Fee Review undertaken, and suggested Role Descriptions were circulated to assist District organisation. Research and planning for the future was undertaken to support Young Ringers, improve Training and fiscal governance. The Chairman and Treasurer made recommendations for subscription changes to improve funding of the Association, to be voted upon at the 2019 AGM. Following changes in the Association's insurance policies last year, updated details are printed in this Handbook.

Progress in any of these areas would not be possible without the best efforts, drive and energy of those who were elected to the General Committee, ably led by Phil Barnes. It is hoped that any vacancies arising in 2019 will be filled without difficulty at the AGM to enable the standing down of two long-standing and hard-working officers; Margaret Funnell and Nigel Spencer. Margaret and another long-standing supporter of KCACR, Stanley Jenner, were nominated as Vice Presidents. Six members received 50-year Membership Certificates signed by The Archbishop Justin Welby.

Sue Bassett, Honorary General Secretary

6. Treasurer's Report 2018

See next three financial reports.

<u>THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS GENERAL ACCOUNT AND TRAINING ACCOUNT</u>			
<u>for year ending 31st December 2018</u>			
	2018	2017	2018
Income			
Subscriptions	9,744.50	10,446.00	0.00
Books/clothing	283.52	666.23	0.00
Other income/sales **	112.16	209.96	6,826.68
Handbooks	473.79	247.92	11,167.47
Other items/KYR	1,347.11	5.50	412.15
Peal fees	489.00	501.00	50,690
Advertising	608.66	730.00	5227.130
	13,058.74	12,806.61	1516.08
Expenditure			
Books etc.	1,469.63	229.76	
Handbook	1,075.00	2,294.00	35.00
Room hire	419.50	124.75	
Insurance	2,077.24	1,909.80	25,165.20
Officer's expenses	345.73	2,333.91	
District expenses	386.48	1,022.40	25,165.20
Advertising	0.00	0.00	
General expense	859.86	1,291.34	
Central Council expenses	1,102.45	1,581.58	
Central Council subscriptions	200.00	150.00	
Transfer as per AGM*	5,223.00	4,837.50	
Depreciation/Bank fees	55.00	0.00	
Net cost AGM	100.00	0.00	
KYR	1,272.11	0.00	
Net income	14,586.00	15,775.04	5294.68
	(-1527.26)	(-2968.43)	
Funds from	2017 28,133.63	2016 28,133.63	172.80
Net income	2018 (-2968.43)	2017 (-2968.43)	70.00
General Fund balance	2018 23,637.94	2017 25,165.20	905.16
			18.45
			2418.75
Expenditure			
Training			250.00
KYR Shirts & RWNYC			176.00
Balance at 31/12			8453.84
			11011.87
			90.00 Grants
			265.34 KYR Shirts

* 25% of subscriptions each to BRF and Training

** £10.66 added to balance

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS BELL RESTORATION FUND REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 261294
for year ending 31st December 2018

	2018	2017	2018	2017
Incoming Resources			Fixed assets	
Subscriptions	2611.50	2418.75	Equipment	374.14
Donations Individual	208.50	267.75		400.17
PCCs	100.50	393.47	Current Assets	
Others/Legacies	1077.00	312.95	NatWest Current A/c	43997.81
Spliced Fund	1279.88	2217.50	CCLA Deposit A/C	102720.63
Social Events	731.62	632.15	Cash held by Districts	60.00
120 Clubs	3286.60	2738.80	Debtors	127.89
Raffles	1040.22	601.10	Total Assets	147280.47
Collections	342.88	186.34		138828.65
Other/Clothing	688.44	100.00	Current Liabilities	
Investment Income	507.93	286.81	Creditors	56.91
			NET ASSETS	147223.56
TOTAL INCOME	11,875.17	10155.62		31.91
Resources Expended				138796.74
Grants Given			Represented by	
Otham	1000.00	Canterbury, St Dunstan	Available Funds	
Lydd	490.00	2500.00	Grant Commitments	108,217.45
Chilham	1516.11		Milton Regis	10000.00
			Monkton	6000.00
Total	3006.11	2500.00	Minster in Thanet	8000.00
Other Expenditure			Penshurst	10000.00
Travelling/expenses	307.21	620.00	Otham	1000.00
Tool hire/maintenance	54.00	100.72	Lydd	490.00
Depreciation	80.03		Chilham	1516.11
Other unknown write off	1.00		Stockbury	2000.00
Total Resources Expended	3,448.35	3220.72		39006.11
				35000
Net incoming/outgoing	8,426.82	6934.90	Bell Restoration Fund	
			at 31/12	2018 147223.56
				2017 138796.74
Movement in funds				
Balance brought forward 1st Jan	138,796.74	131861.84		
Net incoming/outgoing	8,426.82	6934.84		
Balance carried forward 31/12	147,223.56	138796.74		

DISTRICT ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2018														
GENERAL FUND	ASHFORD		CANTERBURY		LEWISHAM		MAIDSTONE		ROCHESTER		TONBRIDGE		TOTAL	
	No	£	No	£	No	£	No	£	No	£	No	£	£	
Adult Full Year	87	870.00	111	1110.00	106	1060.00	105	1050.00	113	1130.00	110	1100.00	632	6320.00
Adult Half Year	2	10.00	4	600.00	1	5.00	5	25.00	6	30.00	1	5.00	15	75.00
Life		0.00											4	600.00
Life & 25 years	40	15.00	34	35.00	27	75.00	55	55.00	26	50.00	35	75.00	183	15.00
Junior Full Year	8	45.00	7	35.00	15	75.00	11	55.00	10	50.00	15	75.00	66	335.00
Junior Half Year	2	5.00	6	30.00					1	2.50	1	2.50	4	10.00
Full Time Student													6	30.00
Student Half Year			79	395.00					45	225.00	63	315.00	401	2005.00
Senior Full Year			3	7.50	3	7.50	3	7.50	1	2.50			7	17.50
Senior Half Year														
TOTAL	214	1320.00	241	2170.00	212	1447.50	258	1532.50	202	1440.00	225	1497.50	1318	9407.50
Practising Members														
Advance			7	55.00					1	150.00			8	205.00
Arrears			1	1.00	1	7.50	2	6.00	4	4.00	15	36.50	30	62.00
Associate	7	7.00									4		23	
Non Resident Life	19													
Donations														
TOTAL	240	1327.00	249	2226.00	213	1455.00	260	1538.50	207	1594.00	244	1534.00	1379	9674.50
SALES														
Books & Publications				160.00		58.17		137.00		27.04		254.95		637.16
Clothing														
Other Items														
TOTAL				160.00		58.17		137.00		27.04		254.95		637.16
BELL RESTORATION FUND														
Donations		43.00		25.60		40.00		150.00		260.00		100.00		618.60
Spliced Fund		430.00						588.00				261.88		1279.88
Fund Raising														
Social Events														
120 Club		1000.00		255.00		617.43		670.00		496.20		731.62		3286.60
Raffles		129.02		41.00				37.00				744.17		374.00
Collections		67.94		227.29								10.65		1040.22
Other/Clothing										70.00		33.44		342.88
TOTAL		1669.96		548.89		657.43		1445.00		826.20		2255.76		7403.24

7. Peal Secretary's Report for 2018

The Association rang a total of 115 peals during 2018, all on tower bells, and including our first peal on mainland Europe. Although this is 17 fewer than in 2017 it is similar to the number in most recent years. Six members rang their first peal during 2018. Congratulations to all of them!

Amongst other personal milestones for resident members during 2018, Stephen Davis rang his 250th and David Grimwood his 1000th peal while Nicholas Wilkins conducted his 100th peal. Phillip Barnes and Diana Wraight each completed their 600th peal for the Association. Various ringers celebrated multiple peals together with John Keeler: 200 for Dickon Love, 250 for Liz Barnes, 400 for Phil Larter, 500 for both Phil Barnes and Anne Rueff and a heroic 800 for David Grimwood.

Aylesford and Chelsfield both celebrated the 100th peal on their bells and a peal was rung at Snodland to celebrate the completion of structural works on the church and tower.

The last four years have seen a number of peals commemorating ringers and others lost in the First World War and 2018, being the centenary of the Armistice was a special year in this regard. An Association band rang a peal on the memorial bells at St George's, Ypres which was dedicated to the memory of all those members who gave their lives in the Great War. There were six peals rung to commemorate the Centenary of the Armistice and three others through the year remembering various fallen ringers.

The Association rang the first peals of Horton Kirby and Selling S Major, Jacob and Royal British Legion D Royal this year. Additionally, the Association rang its first peals of multi-Spliced Treble Bob Minor; St Martin's Bob Triples; Booth, Celtic Manor and Ickleton Surprise Major; and of Kinloss Surprise Royal.

The compositions from 2018 may be found on the Composition Library website at <https://complib.org/collection/10538> and those for previous years by searching for "KCA Compositions" from the Library home page (<https://complib.org>). Conductors are advised to use that site for older compositions to avoid errors that may have crept into the printed record.

Phillip R J Barnes

8. Quarter Peal Secretary's Report 2018

1,155 quarter peals were recorded within the Association area in 2018, just 41 down on 2017's record year. Royal occasions marked with quarter peals included the birth of Prince Louis and the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. Quarter peals were rung in memory of and in celebration of the lives of several Association members who died during the year, including Rhian Bagshaw, Derek Chatfield, Frank Matthews and Owen Webster. There were again quarter peals rung to mark the centenaries of the death of ringers and other individuals in World War I and a large number of quarter peals was rung for the 100th anniversary of the Armistice. The celebrations for 175 years of ringing at Sidcup included many quarter peals.

The Society of Kent Young Ringers was very active ringing quarter peals.

Joint leading towers were Ashford and Birchington (All Saints), each ringing 65 quarter peals in 2018. Neil Jones was again the leading conductor, calling 119 quarter peals. The Canterbury District had the highest number of quarter peals, the Tonbridge District had the highest average per tower and the Rochester and Tonbridge Districts had the highest percentage of their ringable towers recording a quarter peal.

Congratulations to the 48 ringers who rang their first quarter peal (30 in 2017), and to the five firsts as conductor.

Mike Little rang his 2,000th quarter peal. Neil Jones and David Manger rang their 1,000th as conductor.

There were 143 conductors in 2018 (162 in 2017). Eighteen handbell quarter peals were rung (5 in 2017).

One 2018 date touch was rung, and a 2160.

Several methods and variations were rung to a quarter peal for the first time and named by the band.

Anthony Leeves

9. Librarian's Report

No written report was made for 2018 but the General Committee was made aware that some 50 archive and other boxes contained Peal books, committee minutes and other valuable historical material. Hazel Basford would be willing to work with a group to look at possibilities for its future security. Appropriately skilled people would be needed to draw up an acquisitions policy, consider insurance, create an online catalogue and prepare information for the website. Proposals to be brought back to the General Committee in 2019.

10.1 Bell Restoration Report 2018

- **Charing** Rope guides have been fitted to the intermediate floor to hopefully stop the problem of ropes landing on the floor.
- **Chilham** The old tenor was taken out on May 1st, transported to Matthew Higby's works on the 2nd, where the headstock was fitted to the replacement bell which was returned for fitting on Thursday 3rd. All tower work by KCACR. The replacement bell came from an unwanted heavy ring of 6 at Child Okeford in Dorset. Four of the ex Murston bells were used here in the replacement lighter ring of 6.
- **Faversham** The site visit planned for 29th November was postponed as the bells could not be rung. The spire structure has now been given the all clear and the meeting is planned for February. The conservation lobby have ruled that the frame is suitable for re-use and there is a proposal from them to 'restore' using the existing fittings. I have replied to the DAC and the architect concerned that I consider it a waste of some £40,000 of the parish's money to do such a job which will have little effect on the 'go' of the bells.
- **Folkestone St Peter** Single bell re-fitted c/w new solenoid clapper.
- **Higham** All ground pulleys re-furbished or replaced.
- **Milton Regis** These bells have been removed and will be rehung and augmented by Whites and probably complete by the time this report comes out.
- **Kilndown** Inspection and maintenance. The bells are not rung regularly. Some good news is that the vertical ladder access to the ringing chamber may be replaced with stairs. The bells were installed in 1958 and hang in a 2-tier frame with 2 and 4 above. The 4th is also drawn across the clock room which probably makes it the worst bell in the tower. There is also quite a bit of tower movement which probably does not improve the 'go' of all.
- **Lenham** New stay fitted.
- **Lower Hardres** Single bell, that had not been used for a long time, brought back into use as a swing chiming bell.
- **Lydd** 4th clapper re-fitted.
- **Monkton** The 2 new trebles have been installed by KCACR and were rung by the locals for the first time on Christmas morning.
- **Otham** The 4th was found to be cracked which delayed completion.
- **Rochester Cathedral** There is a proposal to augment the bells to 12 and provide an additional bell to form a light 8.
- **Sandwich** Fourth clapper re-fitted and new slider. General maintenance.
- **Shepherdswell** Inspection of single bell re clapper problem. (DAC)
- **Swalecliffe** Single bell removed. (DAC)
- **Temple Ewell** Inspection of single bell pending on access.
- **Tunstall** Inspection and maintenance.
- **Wormshill** Rope boss fitted to tenor. General maintenance and 2 ropes spliced.

Brian G Butcher, Bell Restoration Officer

10.2 Handbook – No written report.

10.3 Health & Safety Report 2018

I have had 1 query since the last meeting regarding the fitness of ringers to be allowed to ring. Concern over a ringer who has had 'passing out' problems, possibly due to an imbalance of medication, but has been told not to drive for at least 3 months by their medical team. Should this person be allowed to ring and potentially put themselves and others at risk whilst doing so? The Tower Captain was going to have a quiet word with the person, and I haven't heard any more.

Peter Sims, Health & Safety

10.4 Publicity Report 2018

In the spring I stood down as CCCBR PRO for personal reasons but carried on with a couple of projects to completion - one being the Blue Peter coverage of the National Youth Striking Competition. Kent and Sussex Young Ringers came together at Magnus the Martyr in London early July, to help Tom Hinks teach the Blue Peter presenter the ropes. Dickon Love was also instrumental in the organisation, and it was great that our friends from Sussex were the overall winners!

The programme was finally aired in early 2019, and hopefully will have been effective in publicising ringing amongst young people.

The 100-year anniversary of the end of World War 1 took place in November, and the Ringing Remembers campaign was a huge success, exceeding its target of 1400 new ringers and in fact more than doubling it! It was a long time in creation, starting in August 2016 when I wrote to colleagues on the CCCBR PR Committee suggesting on the back of Clyde Whittaker's ideas for 'Armistice 100' that we use it as a recruitment campaign, as I felt nothing else as compelling would be coming up over the next years. There was very divided opinion, but some of you will remember I then brought it to the KCACR committee and there was huge enthusiasm from our Association, so much so that you said we'd go ahead anyway.

Fortunately, the Ringing Remembers campaign launched (inter)nationally, and Vicki Chapman and others involved did a great job. Thanks to all those across Kent who have spread the word and taken on new learners. Thanks also for all the ringing on Nov 11th!

We were featured in November in Kent Life, Index and Canterbury Index. The journalist was very interested in hearing about Christmas ringing in Sevenoaks, the Tunbridge Wells area, as well as Canterbury and Ashford areas and may come back to feature in the future.

The relationship with BBC Radio Kent has continued, and after Jacqui Barlow was introduced to them, they featured a special peal recognising one of the World War 1 fallen, including a great interview with Phil Barnes and others.

Caroline Stockmann, Public Relations Officer

10.5 Safeguarding Report 2018

During 2018 I provided advice to the Chair on a follow up to a matter which had been resolved in 2017. No tower-based matters of concern about behaviour were drawn to my attention. I attended one District meeting.

Training was this year's theme, with several tower captains contacting me to clarify what was required of ringers. Some variations in practice between Dioceses caused a degree of confusion and misunderstanding by Parish Officers. By the end of the year it seemed established that the online course C0 was recommended to but not required of all ringers and C1 expected to be completed on line by lead ringers who then attended a half day C2 course.

Chris Mew, CCCBR national lead, encouraged David Grimwood and me to establish bespoke ringers-only presentations of the C2 course with Rochester Diocese – 2 well received courses were delivered in the autumn. Discussions were initiated with Canterbury to have similar arrangements there in 2019.

Looking ahead, our Code of Practice will be reviewed in the coming year, partly to add Training as an item, and partly to emphasise that all Tower captains should have a DBS check via their parish, even if there are no young ringers present at the time of checking – something generally understood but not in one case drawn to my attention. And, although a handover period may be required, I am not seeking re-election having allowed "a few years" to creep up to fourteen. A fresh look at this important aspect of the ringing experience will benefit the Association.

Nigel Spencer, Safeguarding

10.6 Training Report 2018

The first priority was to find out what training is already in place, and what resources are available.

Working with the Association of Ringing Teachers would bring some structure and consistency into training being offered to Association members, and would build on those who have started or completed courses. The Training Fund will cover the fees for members participating in ART courses, an offer that has been taken up by members. Four courses have been arranged for 2019 so far, with a possible further course and workshop to be finalised. The fees will be covered by the Association Training Fund.

Two safeguarding courses for the C2 certificate were arranged in the autumn specifically for ringers and were well attended. I am grateful to Nigel Spencer for enabling these in partnership with the Diocese of Rochester. Two courses in partnership with the Diocese of Canterbury are planned for 2019.

Simulators can be very helpful in training and coaching, and the Association is building up a list of which towers have them installed.

Some of the Districts arrange training sessions, and it would be helpful if these were available to all Association members, although geography will no doubt limit the appeal! My aim is to work strategically, building on the energy and activity in the towers where it is present, and finding ways of strengthening areas where ringing is weaker.

Members are encouraged to contact me about any training needs or possibilities they would like to explore, at training@kcacr.org.uk.

David Grimwood

10.7 Webmaster Report 2018 – No written report.

10.8 Youth Officer's Report 2018 - Highlights of the year:

11 quarter peals on Tower bells* rung for the Society of Kent Young Ringers: 10 of various Doubles and Minor methods, and then the year ended with Plain Bob Major at Edenbridge.

Overnight trip to Surrey and Sussex; ringing at 10 towers, which included a quarter peal at Newdigate, staying in the Youth Hostel at Holmbury St Mary, where members of the unsuspecting public were treated to handbell quarters! The youngsters were complimented on their ringing, and everyone had a great time.

3 striking contests: our own **KCACR** Inter-district contest at Kingsnorth in November where the Tonbridge District came away with the magnificent new Trophy.

Earlier in the year the team entered the **SECON** at Warnham, coming a very close second place to Sussex, and the **RWNYC** in London; the youngsters rang very well here, but sadly didn't make the final. The standard of ringing for the team is constantly improving.

Filming for Blue Peter: 6 Kent Young Ringers rang at St Magnus the Martyr along with 3 from Sussex, while the presenter, Lindsey Russell, tried her hand at handling a bell under the watchful eye of tutor, Tom Hinks. At the RWNYC a week later she joined in with a team made up of reserves from Derbyshire, Kent and Sussex, in a mini contest to see if she could fool the judges as to which team she was ringing in. This was a fascinating experience and the resulting broadcast can be seen on the Young Ringers' page of the KCACR website, with good shots of all of our ringers in the training session and again in the "Contest".

We have had **outings** to the westernmost towers of Kent, the Canterbury area, including the cathedral, and enjoyed a fun afternoon and BBQ at Quex Park.

This has all been on top of our usual **monthly sessions** at Aylesford, Hollingbourne and Marden, with an extra treat at Staplehurst.

A total of **43 young ringers** have joined in with the ringing and contests this year.

*Kent Young Ringers appear to have rung in a total of **404** other successful Quarter Peals and **36** Peals during 2018, with "**1st Q**" for 9 Young Ringers: Ed Bale, Liam Corette, Lucy Harvey, Alasdair and Elliot Bedford, Matthew Hibbin, Max Shiraishi-Owner, Katie White. **Amber Cusick** deserves special mention: she rang her first QP in January (P B Doubles) 2 single-handed Q Peals while convalescing from an injury, her first peal in October and ended the year with her 10th Q Peal: P B Major. Other notable firsts can be viewed on Bellboard: Dan Jarvis, Barnaby Larter, Adam Moore, Jamie Austin, Ellen Jones.

Dan Jarvis is top of the Young Conductors' leader board, having called 55 QPs and 2 peals; Adam Moore has called 12 QPs, Barnaby Larter 9 QPs, Jamie Austin 5 QPs and Matt Jerome 1 QP. Very many thanks to all those who enable these opportunities and nurture Young Ringers. Watch this space for 2019!

*3 (mad) Young Ringers have treated spectators to 23 quarter peals (and a peal) in a variety of Minimus methods on handbells in a range of locations: see Bellboard for details and to enjoy the footnotes! Many thanks to everyone for making tower and transport arrangements.

Jennifer Thomas, Youth Officer

14. Kent Mobile Ring



How did it all begin?

In 2014 the Association gratefully accepted a 0-2-21 ring of 6 (valued at approx. £12,000) from the Reverend David Cawley.

The General Committee discussed various options relating to how the bells could be put to good use for the Association over the course of a number of meetings and ultimately concluded that, given their weight, the most suitable way forward was to create a mobile ring.

In 2016 there was a countywide survey giving general approval to the Mobile Ring idea.

Why do we want a mobile ring?

"We can take it where we want it, stand round it and ring it. It can draw people into ringing" Jo Horton

How and where might it be used?

For: Fun **F**, Fund Raising (for its own maintenance / the KCACR / charities) **FR**

Public Relations **PR**, Training **T**, Recruiting **R**.

The list below gives many possible uses, most of which were suggested in the Survey.

On most occasions it'll be able to serve several, if not all, of the listed purposes. Some might occur incidentally.

Local events as an extra attraction (**F FR PR T R**)

Village/Church/School/Charity Fetes/Fairs, Open Gardens,....

For KYR (F T)

Fun practices (suggested by a KYR member in the 2016 survey)

Using simulator for concentrated practice prior to striking competitions (done at a tower at a far end of the county for SEECON 2019)

Peals, Quarters (F FR PR)

Presentations for non-ringing organisations (FR PR T R)

Schools, Scouts, Youth Groups, U3A....

County Shows

Training events as a tool (PR T R)

To provide an extra tower without extra travelling

To use simulator (if we have one) for multiple, single station use, as at Worcester

Other Ringing Events (F PR T R)

Striking Competitions (sound arrangements permitting)

AGMs, social occasions

social events for keen small children who are as yet not quite big enough for tower bells

Celebrations local or personal (F FR PR T R)

Weddings, Funerals, where there are no tower bells

Golden Weddings, Silver Weddings, any kind of celebration

(People will pay for quarters, on Village Green perhaps, especially for local fundraising)

Anywhere within reason (F FR PR T R)

Any capable member would be able to borrow it.

At AGM 2017 a KCACR Mobile Ring Proposal was provided, with Phil Gay (heavily involved with the design, build and management of the Lichfield Diocesan Mobile Belfry) giving those present a feeling for how a project such as this would unfold. It was agreed that the Association would put £5000 towards the cost of the project. This was based on:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| • Fittings only from Matthew Higby | £3000 |
| • Trailer | £2000 |
| • Metalwork supplied locally | Free |

A small workgroup was formed following the AGM (Doug Davis (Chair), Catherine Lewis (Financial/Admin) & Brian Butcher (Technical)) and held an initial meeting on 19 June 2017 to put some plans on paper.

Some notes from this meeting:

- Brian Butcher advised that an offer of a free second-hand trailer (only needing new tyres and a new coupling) had been made. It was agreed that this option would be investigated by Brian, as this could provide a substantial cost saving to the project. However, on inspection it was found to be unsuitable, and therefore a new trailer was purchased for £1,402 on 26 Sept 2017.
- Various physical issues were raised that perhaps needed considering before work should progress, e.g. lighting, weather protection, electrical supply, simulator, provision of built in notice board etc.
- It became clear at this meeting that agreement on a way forward could not be reached, with differing views from all parties.
- It was agreed that far more detailed technical plans were needed before work could progress.

At this point, the project was put on hold until agreement could be reached about a way forward, and around the same time the offer of free metalwork, supply and building, became unavailable.

In April 2018 the General Committee meeting, appointed Catherine lead on the project going forward.

In May 2018 the opinion of a suitably qualified mechanical engineer was sought on the plan to tow the bells on the road carried, as in the existing sketches, at ringable height on the trailer. In a document produced in July 2018, this design was not recommended in its current form.

In November 2018 we received a quotation from Matthew Higby, to build a mobile ring, using our bells and trailer.

My idea would be to have a smaller version of a hydraulic 4-post garage lift, permanently fixed to the bed of an "off the shelf" flatbed trailer. My aim from turning up at the site to actually ringing, would be less than 30 mins - and there would be no complicated construction methods or heavy lifting involved.

A ring of six bells, complete with frame and a single full-sized dumbbell (4ft wheel) would travel flat on the bed of the trailer, and would be hoisted into place (approx 2 meters off the floor) when in use. The ringers would stand around the sides and back of the trailer to ring - and would have very little obstructions within their line of sights. The dumbbell would be rung from one side at

the front of the trailer and there would be a full hookup to enable this to be used with headphones - independently of the ringing peal.

His costings for this come to just under £21K +VAT*

In January 2019 there was an, apparently unsolicited, offer to David Cawley from Taylor's, saying we are willing to donate the fittings for the KCACR bells, providing that we are given a free hand to make them. Thereafter Brian is welcome to send the trailer here for the bells to be fitted to the bellframe.

Preferred Option

In February 2019 the General Committee agreed that Matthew Higby is their preferred contractor to build the Kent Mobile Ring.

[Matthew is the acknowledged expert on little bells, both tower bells and mini rings. He produced the Charmborough Ring in 2005 and has been developing and improving techniques ever since. One of the results is that normal double-handed ringing will work on our bells.]

If the Association agrees this decision, then the considerable uncertainty there has been over this project will be resolved.

How should we proceed?

There are many more issues to be considered. Some are things that Matthew wouldn't necessarily supply. Much research has been done, but decisions will need to be made on, for example:

- weather protection for bells and ringers
- visibility of the bells
- power and lighting
- overall appearance – needs to be a positive addition to any venue, day or night, rain or shine
- possible additional dumbbell (suggested by Matthew)
- possible simulator kit
- different levels of sound, half muffling
- provision for PR – eg notice board, holders for leaflets
- boxes for very young ringers – where should they be kept?

Some are major, some relatively minor, but they all need addressing before any practical building begins.

KMR Committee

We need a committee to work on all this. We could use a plan which the KCACR has used effectively in the past, and invite each District to provide a member. This would not prevent further people with appropriate skills joining too. We have at least 12 months to work on these issues, because Matthew cannot start work sooner than a year after we place the order.

Funding

We have Matthew's quote above for just under £21K +VAT (£25,200). However he has voluntarily put time into our project already, and needs a firm order and a deposit of a third of the figure above (ie £8,400) before he can begin detailed planning with us.

We have over £3000 left from the £5000 funding provided at the 2017 AGM.

The General Fund does not have further available funds at the moment. The Bell Restoration Fund does have surplus, but, for very good reasons, we cannot use it.

Extra fundraising is needed before we can commit ourselves. I (Catherine) am happy to lead this and make it happen. The final cost is almost certain to be above the basic quotation, but we should be able to cope with that. Fundraising continues until we do!

Some funding bodies require that a project is not begun (ie an order placed) until a grant is promised. This may cause further delay, but it could be worth it. It may not make any difference to us anyway

Fundraising ideas:

- Open Days (the opening lots of towers kind)
- a whole county Barn Dance (as Dinners seemed to get too expensive) .
- Sponsored peals/quarter peals/long length
- Association-wide 100 Club
- Break down mobile ring into components which people can then 'donate' the cost of
- Auction off the first official ring/quarter peal/peal on the completed mobile ring
- Justgiving page to allow people to just donate if they so wish
- Ask Districts to direct all of their fundraising for 12 months to the mobile ring project

- Seek grants from anywhere possible (Central Council possibly)
- Young Ringers could do a handbell quarter peal challenge for sponsorship – how many can they ring in a day maybe
- Plus some exciting, slightly hair-brained ideas, that may just be possible
- and some that are so good we're keeping them under wraps for now!

Until we have the authority to fundraise there is little point in working on ideas or further planning

Suggested Proposal

That this meeting:

1. authorises fund raising for the Kent Mobile Ring
2. authorises an order to be placed with Matthew Higby as soon as suitable funding is available or promised (as judged by the General Committee)

Doug Davis

Catherine Lewis