



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS www.kcacr.org.uk

JULY 2005

WWII Remembered 10th July

This date is to be the day of commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War II in Europe. Ringers have been asked by the Ministry of Defence to mark the occasion by ringing at 5 o'clock on that Sunday. The President of the Central Council, writing in *The Ringing World* of 18th February 2005, said:

"Bellringers will be pleased to receive notification of the commemoration event planned for 10th July. . . . Though we all understand the importance of such a commemoration, there are also many who remember the events of 60 years ago and for whom this commemorative ringing will hold a much deeper significance."

"The Central Council wishes to encourage bands throughout the country to ring at 5pm on Sunday 10th July as requested by the WWII 60th Anniversary Commemoration Team Chief of Staff."

"Given that the ringing is to take place on a Sunday, it would be nice if ringers would endeavour to make sure that the general public understand the significance of this particular ringing through parish magazines, newsletters and local media."

To this end the PR Committee of the Central Council has designed a suitable poster to be fixed on church notice boards, tower doors, or wherever, to indicate to the public at large why the bells are ringing.

Peter Dale

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at SS Peter & Paul Bromley on Saturday 9th April 2005
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. KCACR Committee Meeting report
 - County insurance
 - Appointment of Publicity Officer
5. Events
 - County
 - 6th-7th August Dover regatta
 - 24th September County 6 bell competition at Watringbury
 - District
 - 8th October Annual District Meeting at Crayford
 - District practices
 - Other
 - 5pm Sunday 10th July ringing to commemorate end of World War II
 - 10th September Ringing Roadshow at Newbury racecourse
6. Bell Restoration Fund
 - 120 club
7. Election of new members
8. Any other business
9. Vote of thanks



Chairman's Bit



If you missed the district practice on Saturday 7th May at Horton Kirby then you missed a good evening. Some may say that this remark is somewhat biased as I was running it, but so what it's a free country and we can agree to disagree!

So what made it so special? Answer the bells and the people there.

The bells are a lovely light six that go well so that removed any problems that put people off when they go to ring at heavier, or harder going bells.

However, whatever you say about the bells it was the people ringing them that made the difference. We had a nice mixture of ages and abilities which allowed me to try and make sure that everyone there got a good go at everything they wanted to. I realise that the more experienced ringers ended up ringing a lot but it is my view that the best way to progress is to put a strong band around people so that they can learn what it feels like to ring in a band ringing with good rhythm and hopefully in the right place (well that was the plan - it doesn't always work).

As a result we rang a lot of

- Call Changes
- Bob Doubles
- Bob Minor
- Grandsire Doubles

And for the more advanced

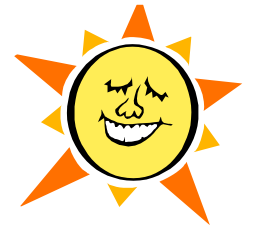
- Kent Minor
- Stedman Doubles
- Cambridge Minor
- Spliced minor

So if you are trying to learn to ring call changes, tenor behind to a method, plain hunt or any of the above methods and have been struggling at your home tower, why not make a date to come to the next district practice?



We promise to

- Be friendly
- Try and help you progress
- Have some fun



All we ask is that you come prepared to join in, come with a goal in mind (that makes it easier for the person running the practice) and don't mind sitting back for a little while when other people are having a go.

District Practices are not designed to be scary or elitist - they are there to help everyone progress. If there is a special method for a practice, this **DOES NOT** mean that you aren't welcome if you can't ring it. It is simply a way of trying to get everyone to focus their efforts on one method or groups of methods, which makes organising the ringing easier. If you can't ring the special method please tell James or Rhiannon what you can ring and want to practice - that way you can get what you want out of the evening.

I look forward to seeing you at more district practices in the future.

Jeremy Byers

PS If you were at the practice and felt you didn't get a chance to ring what you wanted, please go to the next one and James and Rhiannon will try (ringers and number of bells permitting) to organise it so that you can ring it.

Next District Event

District Meeting
St John the Evangelist, Deptford
on
Saturday 9th July

Bells 3:00p.m. Service 4:30p.m.

Names for tea to
Graham Long on 077 2982 9***
or graham.long@priory.bromley.sch.uk
by **Wednesday 6th July please.**

Editorial



The summer is finally here and so it must be time for our penultimate newsletter. We still have not had anyone come forward interested in taking it over. Please give it some thought over the Summer as it would be a shame to see it die out after October.

Jeremy makes some good points about district practices. They are good places in which to get more, or better, practice at methods that you are learning in your own tower. We went from one extreme to the other with the recent practices, with only 9 attending the last one at Lewisham. Anyone really is welcome to attend them. The next one is at West Wickham on 16th July. General ringing will also take place at the district meeting at Deptford on 9th July.

Details of future district practices will appear on the district web site www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk, via the egroup or by contacting Jim or Rhiannon so keep an eye out for them coming to a tower near you (which in a district this size is any of them!).

Please remember that we have been asked to ring at 5pm on the 10th July to commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War II in Europe.

Rupert and Cathy

Tea with the Mayor

The Bexley Borough Bellringers were very surprised to receive an invitation for two ringers to a reception to be held in the Mayor's Parlour on 2nd May. After some discussion between towers it was agreed that we should be represented by Mary Andrews and myself.

We had expected it to be a large gathering with representatives from many of the organisations that John and Carol Eastaugh had met during their year in office. Although the latter part was true, it turned out to be a fairly small group that had been invited (around 30), so we felt very honoured indeed to have been asked.

We were formally announced to the Mayor and once everyone had arrived John made a short speech. He hoped that we would use the evening not just to try and do justice to the buffet but also to network and make new contacts and he listed the organisations who were represented.

We had a very pleasant evening and met people from Rotary, the Sea Scouts (as they involve their cadets in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme we were pleased to be able to suggest bellringing as a possibility), and a very interesting charity called (I think, and I apologise if this isn't quite right) Habitat for Humanity, who help provide housing and public buildings in developing countries. Their current project is to provide a school and six houses in Tanzania. As the couple involved knew three ringers from Crayford we also had some common ground.

A most enjoyable and worthwhile evening but I'm afraid we didn't make much in the way of inroads into the food!

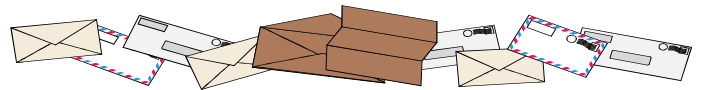
Rachel Backhouse

In the newsletter this time...

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The Page 16 Quiz Answers

1. Seven Seas 2. Split level 3. Forgive and forget 4. Downtown 5. Lucky break 6. Apple pie 7. See threw blouse 8. First aid 9. West Indies 10. Six feet underground 11. Tricycle 12. Reading between the lines 13. Cross roads 14. Three degrees below zero 15. Just between you and me 16. One in a million 17. Broken Promise 18. Life begins at 40 19. Jack in a box 20. Growing economy 21. Making up for lost time



We will as usual, be seeking articles, pictures, jokes, cartoons, reports and tower news for our last issue. Get them in early!

**COPY DEADLINE -
23rd September 2005**

to

Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman
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Erith
Kent
DA8 1PG

☎ 01322 439***

✉ rupert@crayford42.fsnet.co.uk

✉ cathy.cheeseman@virgin.net

ISLE OF WIGHT

Eltham and Chislehurst Ringers' 2005 weekend
in the Isle of Wight
18/03/2005 - 21/03/2005

Fifteen ringers and friends from St John's Eltham and St Nicholas Chislehurst spent a long and happy weekend on the Isle of Wight, for what is becoming an annual event, masterminded by Len Morley, with walks designed and led by Peter Skinner.



A misty Isle of Wight

While the mainland basked in sunshine and record temperatures, the Isle of Wight remained coyly wrapped in mist, at least around the coast, with only occasional tantalising glimpses of the sea. However, the higher ground - Tennyson Down, Godshill churchyard and the Tennyson trail - escaped the mist and time spent there in the sunshine ensured that the weekend finished with most of the party sporting healthy tans.

This year, ringing took second place to walking and exploring. For the first time, the whole party visited Osborne House, where an excellent guide succeeded in making even the wealth of fake marble and Victorian knick-knacks seem interesting. The low point had to be the room filled with furniture made from dead animals, whereas the high points, at least this visitor, were the excellent paintings and the magnificent cedars and cork oaks in the grounds.

The more energetic members of the party added swimming in the hotel pool, sometimes twice a day, to the extensive walks; our evenings were spent in



Godshill churchyard

consuming delicious four-course dinners, drinking, talking, dancing and playing Pictionary, table tennis and darts in the hotel's games room.

Thanks to all those who helped with the organisation, and to our valiant drivers who fearlessly negotiated the narrow lanes of the Island without once getting lost. We are already looking forward to next year.

Caroline Ogilvie



The tennyson trail

The Boomer

No visit to Vienna is complete without going to the St Stephen's Cathedral (Stephansdom) which was built in the 1300's on the site of an earlier basilica which had been destroyed by fire. The cathedral has one of the biggest bells in the world known as the Pummerin or "Boomer".

This was originally cast in 1711 from the cannon used by the Turks during the siege of Vienna in 1683 and



weighed in at 22,511kg. Unfortunately it was damaged beyond repair, along with extensive damage to the cathedral itself, by a fire resulting from allied bombing near the end of World War II. It was recast in 1951 and now weighs 21,383kg or almost exactly 21 tons with a diameter of 3.6m (12 feet); it sounds the note C2. It was re-hung in 1957 and is rung at midnight on New Year's Eve to welcome the New Year. It is also rung on other occasions such as the death of

the Pope and again at his funeral. A trip in the tiny lift up the North Tower to see the bell is well worth the €3.50 as it also gives good views of the cathedral roof with its 500,000 glazed tiles and of the city itself.

Koln Cathedral has a bigger bell and the biggest in the world is the Tsar bell in Moscow which weighs in at 198 tons. After it was cast in 1733 it was badly damaged when an 11 ton piece broke off. It has never been rung and is on display in the Kremlin in Moscow.

Les Brett



John L Morris

A book has come into my possession today giving the Peal Records for a John L Morris.

It is beautifully set out and I can only say it is the equivalent of records such as those produced by Record Keeper but done manually. The analysis is very detailed and those who rang with him include: Bert Audsley, Mary Andrews, Pat Braund, Phil Corby, Edwin A Barnett, Edwin Barnett and many more. Eventually I think it will go to the KCACR archives but if any one would like to have a look first please contact me on 07790 571***.



Margaret Macey



NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

ASH-BY-WROTHAM

Practice Saturday 9:30am

BECKENHAM

Practice Thursday 19:50

BEXLEY

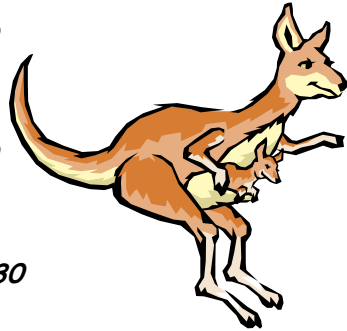
Practice Thursday 20:00

BICKLEY

Practice Wednesday 19:30

BIGGIN HILL

Practice Wednesday 20:00



Last Sunday the vicar told me that a visitor from Australia was in the congregation. She had heard the bells the previous Sunday morning, and had been determined to come to church the next Sunday. Then, at Safeway, I fell into conversation with a friend who said, "I always sit in the garden on Wednesday night and listen to the bells (A good thing he has cloth ears, perhaps!) and think of you and the wonderful message the bells send out." A third friend, who has endured a long spell of illness, said a week or so ago, "The bells sounded so beautiful today. When I couldn't come out but I heard the bells it was like the love of all the people at St Mark's was being sent to me."

However meagre our abilities, however simple the rounds and call changes we might ring, the message is heard! Halleluia!

Nancy Gay

BROMLEY

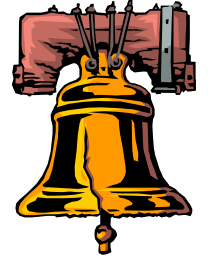
Practice Tuesday 19:30 by arrangement

We have had to change our practice arrangements and it is now Tuesday at 7:30 by arrangement.

The bells will also be out of action for a few weeks while repairs are done on the tower. At the moment

there is nothing more definite to report.

David Kingston



BROMLEY COMMON

Practice Thursday 19:45

CHELSEFIELD

Practice Monday 20:00

CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)

Practice 1st Wednesday 19:30

CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)

Practice Wednesday 20:00 (1st Wednesday at Annunciation)

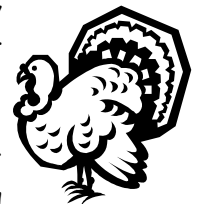
CRAYFORD

Practice Tuesday 19:45

The poet and novelist Vita Sackville-West was chided by her husband, Sir Harold Nicolson, for a recurrent phrase she used in her letters to him - 'Another quiet day at Sissinghurst' - so much so, it became a family joke. The sentiment expressed in this phrase is something we can readily identify with at Crayford, for it has been a quiet time of late. It would be even quieter without our regular visitors Brenda and Carol and we are very grateful for their support. Visitors are always welcome and we ring what we are able to.

We've rung several quarters, the last being on the 12th June, when we rang four doubles methods (a first for Brenda) - Stedman, Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. It was very respectably rung with few mistakes. We have also had a rapid increase in weddings this year; nothing like Chislehurst, but just over twenty and this is a big improvement on past years.

I am deserting the ship for a fortnight and disappearing off to Turkey; having



recently completed my degree, I need a break from everything, including ringing - really, for such disloyalty I ought to be shot!

Andrew Sinclair

CUDHAM

Practice Monday (except 1st) 19:45 Joint Practice with Downe

DARTFORD

Practice Wednesday 20:00

You will all doubtless remember that one of our ringers, Peter Rose, died suddenly last November. Two years ago we applied for and gained a Mayor's Volunteer's award for Service in the Community for Marian Wansbury, another of our ringers. We were going to apply for one for Peter last year but did not receive the paper work so we decided to try this year.

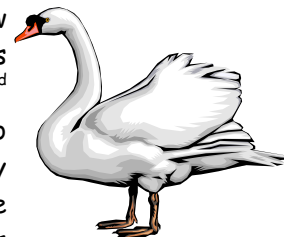
A special meeting of the awards committee agreed that there was always a first time for granting an award posthumously. So we went ahead and at the end of April were told that we had been successful and that his widow could collect the medal and certificate at the ceremony on May 6th. Unfortunately for me, I was on holiday then so Brenda took Joyce to the council chamber, enjoyed the "nosh and chatter" and watched Joyce (still very dependent on her wheelchair as a result of a fall last August) proudly collect the award. This was doubly enjoyable for Brenda as her husband was also receiving an award and was taking his sponsor as his permitted guest.



Since Peter's death we have lost 3 other members, Andrew Boyd-Bell and Helen Keogh (KCACR members and still in the London area) and our most promising learner who moved to the Orkneys, all moving to get jobs elsewhere. As a result of this reduction in numbers we decided reluctantly to reduce Sunday evening ringing to once a month, - 3rd, before Choral evensong. Should any band wish to take advantage of the remaining Sundays to ring either generally or a quarter peal before evensong, time slot 5:30-6:30p.m.

please feel free to contact me on 01322 220*** (I am having problems with my email at the moment, can receive but not send).

Similarly, because of low numbers, Swanscombe and us are combining on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, us to Swanscombe on the 1st and they to us on the 3rd. So far, we began in May and this is



working well. The message is therefore that should anybody experience a burning desire to try out our bells to see if their terrible reputation is justified, you will be very welcome, but should check with me first to see whether we are operating as any of our band going on their hols will severely affect our ability to ring. Re: the reputation, we did have some very favourable comments on the Tower Open Day in January.

Esther Correia

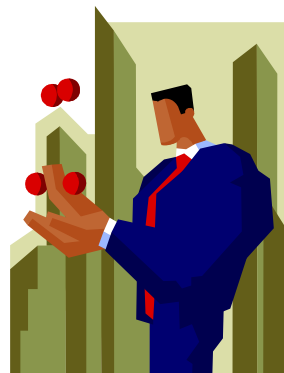
DEPTFORD

DOWNE

*Practice 1st Monday 20:00
Joint Practice with Cudham*

ELTHAM

Practice Tuesday 20:00



There has been a noticeable increase in the number of people attending practices during the last couple of months - sometimes the tower has seemed quite crowded! This has enabled us to ring Cambridge Minor on a fairly regular basis, along with Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Major, and even occasional plain courses of Stedman Triples. On Sundays we are still heavily reliant on help from the Chislehurst ringers, though.

In May, we rang two quarter-peals of Plain Bob (Doubles and Triples) with more or less local bands, for the KCACR 125th Anniversary. A visiting band rang a peal of Bristol Major in April (which I ended up ringing in myself, having gone along to let them in, and had my arm twisted when they met one short!) A further peal attempt later in the month was



unfortunately unsuccessful.

Finally, as usual the tower social club has been very active, with walks in Kent and Essex being much enjoyed by those who have taken part. In July, a trip to the Lake District for a week has been organised.

David Holdridge

ERITH (Christ Church)

Practice Monday 20:00

One of our learners, Paul Lucia, rang his first quarter peal (on the Treble to Grandsire Doubles) on May 15th. This quarter was rung for the 125th Anniversary of the KCACR. Paul, like his two brothers before him, is making good progress and rings regularly on Sundays.



A visitor from South Korea attended part of our practice night on 27th June. The Reverend Professor Won Young Sohn is staying in the Parish and was interested to find out about bellringing.

Jim (as he likes to be known in England!) even took part - pulling the backstrokes in Rounds (under the watchful eye of Mark Backhouse).

Our two student members, Christopher and Adrian, are now home from University for the summer, which gives us the opportunity for more varied ringing on practice nights.

Elizabeth Brett

ERITH (St John the Baptist)

Practice Wednesday 20:00

EYNSFORD

Practice Friday 20:00

FARNINGHAM

Practice Wednesday 20:00 by arrangement

FOOTS CRAY

Practice Wednesday 20:00

GREENWICH

Practice 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesday 20:00

HAYES

Practice Tuesday 20:00

HORTON KIRBY

Practice Thursday

LEWISHAM

Practice 5th Wednesday

PENGE

Ringing by arrangement

ST MARY CRAY

Practice Wednesday 19:45

SHOREHAM

Practice Monday 20:00

SIDCUP

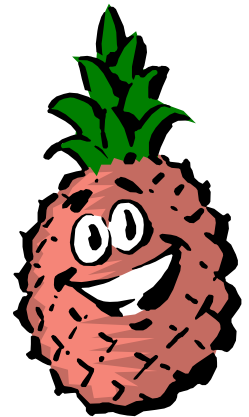
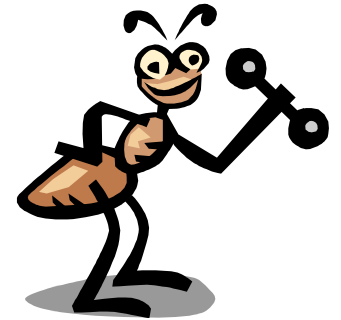
Practice Wednesday 20:00

WEST WICKHAM

Practice Wednesday 20:00

WOOLWICH

Practice 1st Wednesday 20:00



WEST WICKHAM GO EAST

Saturday 21st May saw a dozen or so members and friends of the band set off on the annual West Wickham Ringing Outing, which this year centred around Canterbury.

We began at St Stephen's in Canterbury, a very nice ring of eight, and despite most of the band being used to only six bells, we rang a very respectable course of Plain Bob Major and then Grandsire Triples. The next tower was St Nicholas, Sturry; again a very nice ring and plain courses of Cambridge and Norwich were achieved on these light bells. Sturry bells had a reputation some years ago of being somewhat wayward to ring well, but extensive work a while ago now has corrected that and they go very well indeed.

We then moved to St Vincent in Littlebourne. The church is being re-plastered and extensively redecorated internally so after negotiating the scaffolding, dustsheets and tools, we were met by this slightly challenging ring of six. Although they only weighed 10cwt, they needed a good pull to keep the ringing flowing. We stopped for a good home-made lunch in the village at the King William, where the landlord only took over recently and is evidently a keen cricket fan.

Our next stop was St Mary's Chartham, where antirrhinums provided colour to the top of the tower. These bells were a lovely ring of six, although rather heavier than those we'd experienced in the morning, in an idyllic setting. Again, alongside more traditional methods, we tried our hand at Cambridge, Norwich, and a course of Stedman.



The next tower, St Michael's, Throwley was unfortunately off my Ordnance Survey map, so with Alys as leader, six cars set off on a rally through narrow Kentish lanes, negotiating some with thick grass down the middle. We had to avoid mothers and children in pushchairs on quiet afternoon strolls and cyclists, until we finally arrived at the church which luckily had been left open for us. The tower inside can only be described as sparse, but the bells went well, despite being the heaviest of the day and we ended

with a course of Little Bob Major.

It was a successful day, with a good pick of towers and on occasions some very good striking, which we are not renowned for. It was also great to get all our ringers, both old and new together. Thanks go to Nick Wilkins for his support - his expertise allowed us to expand our repertoire on the day.

Judith Fry



Cinque Ports Ringing Centre

In order to retain the status of being "recognised by the Central Council" a Ringing Centre is required to submit an annual report of its activities. 2004 was quite an active year for Dover and we hadn't realised just how active it was until the time came to compile the report. On the report form is a tick-box to apply for the Worshipful Company of Founders' annual prize, awarded to the Centre that is deemed to have made the greatest contribution to ringing.

To our amazement our speculative little tick in the box has brought fame, recognition, and most importantly - money! Representatives from the Worshipful Company will be coming to see the Centre later this year for a formal presentation of the cheque. In the mean time we shall be planning some form of ceremony, and deciding how best to use the £500 to further good practice in teaching ringing.



What did we do to impress the judges so much? Here are some extracts from our report that may give some idea of our activities.

Achievements during 2004 including type and

frequency of courses:

Weekly "clinics" in basic skills started in January 2004 and continued throughout the year. Only five Saturday mornings were missed for church festivals and other events. The band at St Peter-in-Thonet has now moved on to standard methods after coming regularly to the early clinics.

We ran three pre-booked courses, in Kaleidoscope Ringing, Stedman, and Surprise respectively. The latter was held at Lyminge, the first use of a tower away from our base at Dover. A trial run of a "teaching the teachers" project has helped to establish a new band at Walmer.

Comparatively new ideas such as Kaleidoscope and other novel teaching strategies, using Bastow and Cloisters for example, are filtering through to other towers.

In collaboration with the Kent County Association, the Centre ran a public relations exercise during the weekend of the annual Dover Regatta. Of the estimated twenty thousand people at the Regatta, over five hundred visited the mobile belfry.

How did we measure our success?

45 students representing 16 towers from four of the six districts in the County have attended Saturday morning sessions. The 20 tutors and helpers came from 9 different towers, although it is difficult to draw a distinction as students from earlier sessions may return as helpers.

Favourable feedback from client towers gives an informal assessment of the extent to which fresh ideas are being adopted. The Centre continues to monitor the situation at Walmer and provides assistance there when required.

The Saturday morning beginners' "clinics" have run for 18 months now and are now wearing rather thin; some new initiatives are needed urgently to regain their earlier popularity. Someone did whisper "Stedman" and "Cloisters", but don't be put off by that. We don't want to frighten away beginners, who are our prime clients, so we'll explore those possibilities very gently. Please make more use of the practice opportunities at Dover each Saturday morning. Come to learn or to help, but do come - use it, or lose it!

Peter Dale

Dover Regatta 2005

Even though the organisers of the Regatta haven't allocated us any seafront space this year, a full programme of ringing is still on offer, and we would like the bells at St Mary's to be in use throughout the weekend if possible.



It would be good to start proceedings with a peal attempt on the Friday evening, and we are happy to offer this to the first band to apply. The timetable proposed for the rest of the weekend is as follows:

Sat 6th Aug: Three quarters in the morning, starting at 10, 11, and midday.



General ringing from 3 to 4:30

Quarters in the afternoon, to start at 4:30, 5:30, and 6:30. (The quarter at 4:30 is already booked.)

Sun 7th Aug: Service ringing 9:45 to 10:45

Quarters starting at 12:15, 2:30 and 3:30

The Regatta closes with a service on the seafront at about 5pm.



It would be great if nine quarter peal bands representing all six Districts could make use of all the times available. There have already been two enquiries, one confirmed, both from the same District!

Each day of the Regatta offers the traditional programme of maritime events in the harbour, with a variety of shore-based activities for all the family. The aim is to sustain public interest by varying things from year from year. Let's hope that our efforts in the town will encourage the organisers to have us back at the Regatta site next year.

As the Regatta is replacing the Canterbury District's August meeting, we are offering general ringing on the Saturday at the usual meeting time from 3 to 4:30. Tea can be taken on the seafront; either bring your own picnic or patronise the multiplicity of refreshment stalls! Enquiries about the peal and available times for quarters to me please, pandbdale@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 01304 823***.

Peter Dale

PEALS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
12 February 2005	Bromley	5056	Superlative Surprise Major	05/529
09 April 2005	Beckenham	5040	Percy's Tea Strainer TP Royal	05/429
09 April 2005	Chislehurst Ann.	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	05/429
09 April 2005	Eltham	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	05/415
23 April 2005	Bickley	5088	Freehouse Surprise Major	05/454

QUARTERS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
21 February 2005	Woolwich	1288	Grandsire Triples	05/340
27 February 2005	Eynsford	1260	Grandsire Triples	05/312
02 March 2005	Woolwich	1410	Plain Bob Doubles	05/340
06 March 2005	Beckenham	1440	London No 3 Surprise Royal	05/335
08 March 2005	Horton Kirby	1260	Plain Bob Minor	05/437
13 March 2005	Crayford	1260	Doubles 2m.	05/310
20 March 2005	Crayford	1260	Grandsire Triples	05/386
20 March 2005	Erith Ch Ch	1260	Grandsire Doubles	05/383
30 March 2005	Farningham	1260	St Martins and St Simons Doubles	05/389
02 April 2005	Eynsford	1284	Plain Bob Major	05/389
03 April 2005	Farningham	1260	Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles	05/389
10 April 2005	Crayford	1260	Plain Bob Triples	05/414
16 April 2005	Bickley	1344	Plain Bob Triples	05/436
17 April 2005	Farningham	1320	Cambridge Surprise Minor	05/437
23 April 2005	Beckenham	1296	Cambridge Surprise Minor	05/458
15 May 2005	Chelsfield	1260	St Nicholas Doubles	05/533
16 May 2005	Beckenham	1280	Bristol Surprise Major	05/532
22 May 2005	Eltham	1260	Plain Bob Triples	05/604

Congratulations to :

Mike Medway who rang the Treble in the Plain Bob Doubles at Woolwich for his first attempt. This was also Graham Long and Bill Lanyons' 50th quarter together.

Les Brett who rang the 5th at Christ Church, Erith to Grandsire Doubles for his first inside.

Trevor Warner who rang the Tenor in the Grandsire Triples at Crayford for his first on 8. Andrew Sinclair circled the tower in the same quarter.

Lesley Barclay whose quarter of Plain Bob Minor at Horton Kirby was her first of Minor as Conductor.

From The Ringing World up to edition No. 4913 June 24, 2005.

Jim Rooke





KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS



LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at SS Peter & Paul Bromley on Saturday 9th April 2005

The meeting stood to observe a minute's silence in memory of Richard Bing of Woolwich.

1. Apologies for absence

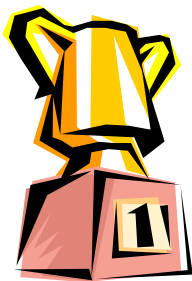
24 people attended the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Sara Hardy and Ross Hartley (Beckenham), Andrew Sinclair (Crayford), Les Brett and Mark Backhouse (Christchurch, Erith), Margaret Heald (St John's, Erith), Marian Wansbury (Dartford).



2. Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at St George's Beckenham on Saturday 8th January 2005

Subject to the deletion of 'the' before Mark Jones in item 11, the minutes were approved on the proposal of Rhiannon Meredith seconded by Len Morley.

3. Matters arising



District 6 bell striking competition

The Chairman congratulated Beckenham on winning the 6 bell striking competition. They will now represent the district in the County 6 bell competition at Wateringbury on 24th September. He also thanked Chelsfield, Eynsford and Farningham, Eltham and Crayford, for each entering a team in the district competition.



Young Ringers' Group

Rhiannon Meredith reported that a poster about the Young Ringers' Group was enclosed with the current copy of the District Newsletter. Members were urged to encourage young ringers in their tower to contact her. An outing with a picnic lunch was planned for Saturday 23rd July, to take place in the local area.

Proposed Rule Changes

Jim Rooke reported that the proposed rule change, to set out minimum standards for membership, was defeated at the County AGM.

Training

Jim Hardy reported that he planned to hold a Plain Bob training day aimed at younger ringers.

4. KCACR Committee Report

Len Morley reported on various items discussed at the last KCACR Committee Meeting.

County Insurance Policy

The maintenance of bells was no longer covered under the County's insurance policy; cover was restricted to ringing activities only, though it was possible that individual church insurance policies might cover routine maintenance.

KCACR's 125th Anniversary

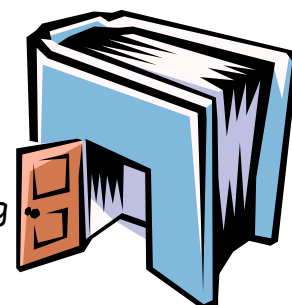
Members were reminded of the service in Canterbury Cathedral on 14th May, to be followed by a lunch, for which there were still tickets remaining. The County Secretary had asked for a nomination from each district for an usher at the service. Anyone interested should contact the district secretary, as should anyone who was interested in joining the choir on that day. It is hoped that as many towers as possible will organise some special ringing to commemorate the anniversary, quarter peals if possible. David Manger is collating the details but it would be helpful if details could be sent in the first instance to the district secretary, who will forward them in one batch.

125 in 2005

Recruitment and retention of ringers

The committee looking at this agreed there was no easy solution. Some suggestions included:

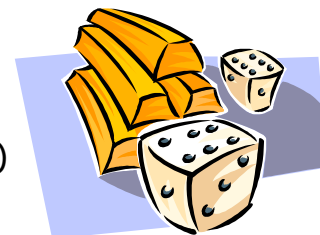
- Make recruitment a continual process
- Involve as many people as possible, tower open days/tours, use local website if available, new publicity boards, posters
- Have hands on computer facilities
- Training the trainer courses
- Allocate a mentor to each learner
- Give the learner specific time during a practice
- Provide learner with books/exercises for when they were not ringing
- District training courses



5. Bell Restoration Fund

Rachel Backhouse reported that she had sold 89 out of the 120 shares in the 120 Club and hoped to raise approximately £400 for the BRF this year. The first draw was held. The winning numbers were:

£20.00	42
£10.00	46
£10.00	1
£5.00	102 (unsold number, so the money remains in the fund)



6. Events

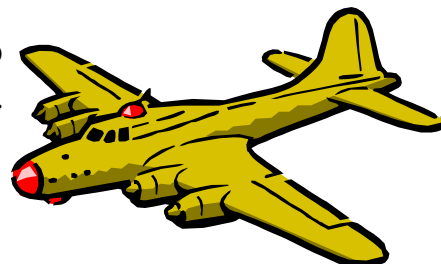
The next district practice is on Saturday 16th April from 7p.m. to 9p.m. at the Annunciation, Chislehurst. The next quarterly meeting is on Saturday 9th July 2005 at Deptford.

Other events in the county include: an Ashford District concert at Pluckley at 7.30 p.m. on 4th

June; the Dover Regatta 6th 7th August; County 6 bell competition at Watringbury at 4p.m. on 24th September.

Outside the county there is the Ringing Roadshow at Newbury Racecourse on 10th September. The district secretary has some posters that she will circulate to towers. Also the Essex trophy competition is on 17th September.

On Sunday 10th July at 5p.m. all towers are asked to ring to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.



7. Election of new members

The following new members were elected:

CUDHAM

Sarah Taylor	}	proposed by Jon Fry, seconded by Jeremy Byers
Juliet Austin	}	

8. Insurance

James Hardy raised the issue of insurance, now that the existing County insurance no longer covered undertaking bell maintenance. He advised anyone undertaking any work above the ringing room to check if they were covered by their own church insurance. Until this issue was resolved he intended to postpone the proposed training course on basic bell maintenance. It was agreed that it would be helpful if towers could see a copy of the County policy to see exactly what the cover was. The district secretary agreed to contact Margaret Funnell, the County Secretary about this.

Other points raised included: the importance of mentioning insurance as part of any course on bell maintenance; if routine maintenance was covered it was important to have a definition of what the insurer regarded as routine maintenance; normal ringing activities such as tower outings were covered by the County's policy.

9. Newsletter

Rupert Cheeseman reported that no one had yet come forward to take over production of the Newsletter and he urged someone to do so as he and Cathy Cheeseman were giving up their role as Newsletter Editors this autumn.

**New Editor
required soon!**

10. Web site

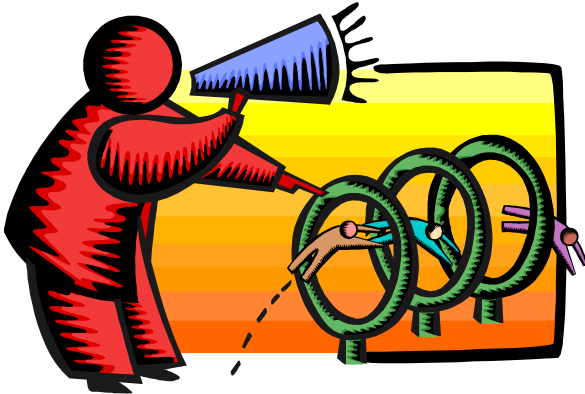
Rupert Cheeseman reported that he was about to update the district web site.

11. 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar

Dominic Meredith urged towers to ring to commemorate this anniversary on 21st October and over the weekend of 21st-23rd October.

12. Vote of thanks

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Reverend Michael Camp and the Reverend Alison Newman for taking the service and for the use of the bells, to Mark Jones for playing the organ and to the Bromley ringers for providing tea.



KCACR Meeting, 7th May

A much shorter meeting than normal, the main items are as follows:-

New appointments

Publicity Officer	Peter Dale
Auditor	Philip Gorrod

Bell Restoration

No grant applications, reported that there may possibly be major works required at Hearne and work to a single bell at Westbrooke.

125 Anniversary Service

All arrangements in hand, all tickets for lunch sold.

Insurance

Problems are still being experienced obtaining cover for major bell restoration works. Applications have been made to a variety of Brokers, contact has been made with contractors, voluntary organisation's, bell founders and other associations. It was agreed that the subject should be raised at the Central Council Meeting due to be held shortly since this problem will

affect all associations where major bell restoration works take place. The difficulty in obtaining insurance seems to centre around risk assessment where work is undertaken above 3 meters above ground level, it was reported that Whitechapel Bell Foundry was struggling with this issue, their insurance had risen 300%.

KCACR still have in place a policy which covers members for minor maintenance work and bell ringing. Minor maintenance work is classified as such things as stay, rope replacement, if a faculty is required for anything it becomes major work and therefore outside the current policy limit.

The Bell Restoration Committee have suspended all major works and are advising Churches that if they can obtain insurance the work will be undertaken at their tower.



Forthcoming Events

Chartum - a quarter peal will be rung on 27th August 2005 by District Officers as part of their festival.

6 Bell Competition will be at Wateringbury, 3.45pm draw, please note that parking is difficult, there is a car Park in Wateringbury about 5 minutes walk away.

Musical Evening at Pluckley on 4th June all proceeds to go to BRF, details on website.

Other matters

Hazel Basford produced a secretary's watch that was used by Canon Hellmore in 1891 when he was Secretary of the association. It was decided that it should be repaired so tht it can be used by subsequent secretaries.

Lewisham District are currently holders of the 10 bell trophy. Ashford District seek an opportunity to challenge all Districts in the County for the trophy. Lewisham District are to decide the venue, date and method and host the event.

Len Morley

120 Club

Thank you to everyone who has supported the District 120 Club. I have sold 94 shares so far, if anyone else would like to purchase shares then please get in touch! The results of the first three draws are as follows:

April 9th drawn at Bromley Parish

1st £20 42 Margaret Macey Foots Cray
 2nd £10 46 Rhiannon Meredith Beckenham
 3rd £10 1 Mary Andrews Bexley
 4th £5 102 No winner, money returned to 120 Club

May 6th drawn at Eynsford

1st £20 104 No winner, money returned to 120 Club
 2nd £10 81 Pauline Smith c/o CC Erith
 3rd £10 8 David Kingston Bromley Parish
 4th £5 76 Mick McDonnell Horton Kirby




June 11th drawn at Lewisham



1st £20 76 Mick McDonnell Horton Kirby
 2nd £10 32 Rupert Cheeseman Crayford
 3rd £10 90 Judith Cheeseman c/o Crayford
 4th £5 91 Melissa Cheeseman c/o Crayford

The next draw will be on July 9th at the District Meeting at Deptford when all prizes will be doubled.

Rachel Backhouse

The Page 16 Quiz

1. C C C C C C C Answer: Seven Seas	2. LE / VEL	3. GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET
4. T O W N	5. L U C K Y	6.  3.1415926
7.  BLOUSE	8. AID ← AID AID	9.  W E S T

10. GROUND FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET	11. CYCLE CYCLE CYCLE	12. R E A D I N G
13. R O R O A D S D S	14. O — M.D. Ph.D. B.Sc.	15. YOU JUST ME
16. MILONELION	17. PRO / MISE	18. 1, 2, 3, ..., 38, 39, 40 LIFE
19.  JACK	20. ECONOMY	21. G N I K A M LOST LOST LOST LOST 

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

Sat 9th Jul District Meeting: Deptford. 3pm bells, 4:30 service, tea, meeting and evening ringing.

Sat 16th Jul District Practice: West Wickham. 7-9:00

Sat 13th Aug District Practice: TBA. 7-9:00

Wed 31st Aug District Practice: Southwark Cathedral. 6:30-8:30

Sat 10th Sept District Practice: TBA. 7-9:00

Sat 8th Oct ADM: Crayford. 3pm bells, 4:30 service

Sat 15th Oct District Practice: TBA. 7-9:00

Sat 12th Nov District Practice: TBA. 7-9:00

Sat 19th Nov Call Change Comp: Horton Kirby. 2:30 draw

Sat 10th Dec Carol Service: TBA.

Please contact Jim (020 8659 2***), Rhiannon or look on the web site www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk if you want to find out the venues and are not on the district egroup. To become a member of the egroup send an email to:

lewisham_district-subscribe@yahoo.co.uk