



# LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

October 2006

## David Hollis

A tragedy occurred in the tower of St Georges Church, Beckenham at around 9.25 p.m. on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. During the practice, Mr David G Hollis, aged 82, who was a long standing member of the band, suddenly collapsed and died. An ambulance was called immediately, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation given in the tower.

Paramedics arrived very quickly, and despite their valiant efforts for over 40 minutes, nothing could be done. David was pronounced dead upon arrival at Lewisham Hospital, where he had been an ear, nose, and throat surgeon for many years.

David was a very experienced ringer, having learnt to ring some 59 years ago. He was tower captain of St Mary's Lewisham, and over the years rang regularly at Greenwich, Woolwich, Deptford and Southwark Cathedral. He was a member of the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths, and of the Medical Guild.

He had just conducted a lovely touch in his favourite method, Stedman Triples, as he did most weeks. He had set his bell, but before he had a chance to tie up his rope, he collapsed. This was particularly shocking, since he had shown no sign of feeling unwell and had been his normal self all evening.

David was a particularly kind and intelligent gentleman. We will miss him greatly, and the thoughts and prayers of the ringers of the St Georges Guild go out to David's family at this sad time. We would like to thank the emergency services and our Rector, Rev. Malcolm Hancock for their skill and dedication, and for the professional way that they responded to a difficult task in an awkward location.

David's funeral is to be held at 2.30 pm in the Dulwich College Chapel where he worshipped, which is next to the Dulwich Art Gallery.

Some ringing has already taken place in memory of his life and in thanksgiving for his life, and more is planned.

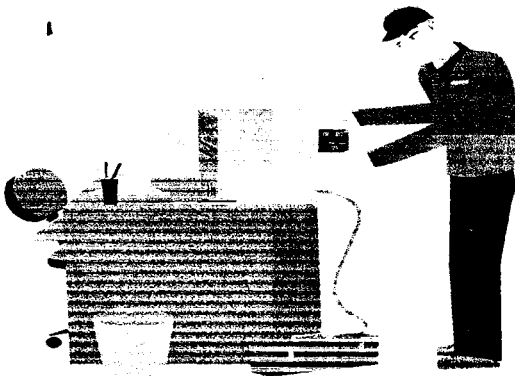
May he rest in peace.

James J Hardy.

2007-2008

This edition of the newsletter is my final one as editor. Hopefully it will not be last the last edition of the newsletter ever.

As such, a new newsletter editor is required to continue to produce (not write!) the newsletters for next year. It is surprisingly easy to do. All that is required is a couple of emails to ask for articles, and then a couple of hours once every three months to put the articles together in a readable arrangement. You do not need a great deal of



skill in the IT department either—just the basics will be more than sufficient. If you are interested in taking up the post of District Newsletter Editor, then please make yourself known at the ADM on Saturday 14th October. I have a couple of editions from this year saved on my computer, so it really is a matter of cutting and pasting the new articles in!

Thanks to those who have contributed over the past year, and I wish my successor good luck in their new role!

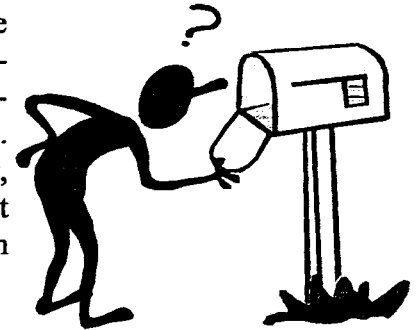
Thanks,

Ross Hartley



# The Chairman's Section

Unfortunately, the Chairman was unavailable for interview this month. You, dear reader, will have to wait until the next edition for a statement.



# 120 Club Results

8th July 2006 (Dartford, district meeting)

- 1st: June Dance (Dartford)
- 1st 112 120 club
- 2nd 66 Rachel Backhouse (Christchurch, Erith)
- 2nd 26 Graeme Jefferson (Dartford)
- 3rd 105 120 club
- 3rd 63 Jeff and Lisa Marshall (Footscray)
- 4th 108 120 club
- 4th 33 Jan Odell (Footscray)



23rd September at Greenwich (district practice)

- 1st 37 Mick McDonnell (Horton Kirby)
- 2nd 1 Andrew Sinclair (Crayford)
- 3rd 99 Andrew Boyd-Bell (Hitchin)
- 4th 102 Liz Brett (Christchurch, Erith)

- Rachel Backhouse

# ODD BOB'S CORNER

## WORDSEARCH

B	K	F	L	I	G	Y	N
L	N	O	R	U	Z	E	O
R	E	W	O	T	N	T	E
F	T	G	W	T	F	S	G
L	E	A	O	F	O	E	D
I	N	R	L	R	S	P	U
G	O	T	P	A	T	E	G
H	R	E	Q	M	A	L	L
T	L	R	Q	E	P	B	A
S	B	B	I	H	L	E	X
C	L	A	P	P	E	R	M
L	Q	I	T	P	G	T	U
A	R	E	D	V	H	Z	F
P	S	L	U	E	I	Z	F
C	R	O	W	N	R	C	L
S	S	E	C	I	L	P	S
Y	E	L	L	U	P	W	O
R	E	B	M	A	H	C	P

Can you find all these words?

- Tower
- Staple
- Frame
- Stay
- Knot
- Lower
- Crown
- Flight
- Clapper
- Muffle
- Splice
- Sally
- Slider
- Tenor
- Treble
- Pulley
- Garter
- Sole
- Gudgeon



WHO'S EAR IS THIS?  
(Answer at the foot of this column)

Thanks to John Stook's wife and daughter (sorry—you didn't supply their names!) for the wordsearch!

(The ear belongs to Mr. Andrew Sinclair)

## In the newsletter this time...

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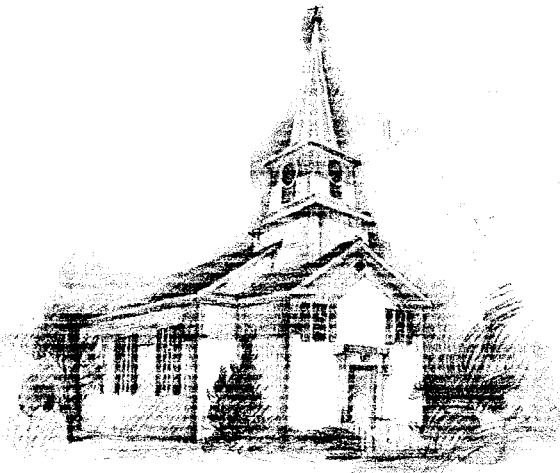
Quasimodo walked into a bar.  
Quasimodo : I'll have a Whisky please.  
Bar Tender : Bells OK?  
Quasimodo : Mind your own business!

And here is one for all you handbell ringers out there :

A noted comedian was recently flying overseas. He decided to strike up a conversation with his seatmate.  
"I've got a great handbell joke. Would you like to hear it?"  
"I should let you know first that I am an handbell ringer".  
"That's OK. I'll tell the joke slowly..."

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# Erith ringers' outing to Essex



On Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> ten members of the band ventured into foreign territory north of the river for our outing this year – visiting three towers in Essex. With two of our number leaving for University (Robert Backhouse was continuing up to Cambridge later that same day!) it was our last opportunity this year for such an outing.

North Ockendon was our first stop – a lovely church situated down a quiet country lane (although the M25 runs close by!). The church, St Mary Magdalene, has a ground floor ringing chamber and six bells which are hung anti-clockwise. It took a little while to adjust to looking the other way but we got used to it and rang a range of methods to cater for all those present. A Coffee Morning was

taking place in the church at the time so we had an audience!

The next tower was St Giles and All Saints, Orsett, situated in the heart of the village. This is a very old church and the floor of the Ringing Chamber has a significant slope – the tenor is hung at the highest point making it difficult for tall ringers! Ringing up was a bit of a shock - the bells are hung just above the ringing chamber and sounded very loud! (Originally, ringing was from the ground floor, but this is now a kitchen!). However, they were nice bells to ring and we managed a variety of methods.

Our final tower was St Martin of Tours in Basildon. As some of you may know this is a new tower, separate from the church and constructed largely of glass! As it is situated in the centre of the shopping area, the local 'yobs' must regard it as an attractive target – the huge plates of glass which make up the walls are broken on a fairly regular basis (one was broken when we visited). We had been warned to wear suitable clothing as it can be very hot. The local band practice on a Saturday morning and we joined them for the final hour. Initially, it felt like ringing in a goldfish bowl, but we soon got used to it. When we were not ringing, it was interesting to watch passers-by stop and listen and, sometimes, applaud! We joined in some simple rounds to help the Basildon learners as well as joining the Basildon band in several methods.

We finished at lunchtime so that Robert could get to Cambridge. The rest of us either went straight home or found a pub for lunch. All in all it was a very enjoyable morning and an interesting experience. Thanks to Rachel for making all the arrangements.

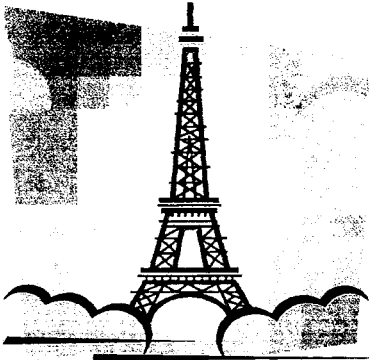
Elizabeth Brett  
Christchurch, Erith



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# Notre Dame

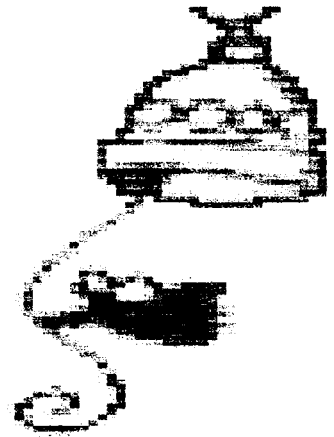
## The bells! The bells!



Notre Dame is one of the must-see sites in Paris and a trip up the towers is well worth doing provided you have a reasonable head for heights and don't mind climbing about 400 steps. For safety reasons only 20 people are allowed up the towers at intervals of 10 minutes. We joined the queue at 9.15am and were in the first batch allowed in at 10.00 by which time the queue was beginning to get long.

Notre Dame originally had 20 bells – 8 in the North tower (middle notes), 2 Great bells (low notes) in the South tower, 7 in the spire (high notes) and 3 clock bells. Most of these were destroyed in the Revolution in 1792 and the church now has 11 bells – 4 in the North tower (still middle notes), one Great Bell in the South tower and 6 clock bells in the spire.

The photo shows the Great Bell (or the Emmanuel, Louis, Therese bell to give it its full name) in its wooden frame. The frame was originally built in 1423 and was re-built from oak in 1845. It is 80ft high and weighs 170 tonnes. The wood absorbs and deflects the vibrations caused by the bell to prevent cracking of the sculpted stone of the tower.



All the religious bells are baptized and are usually known by their first name: Emmanuel was the forename of a grandson of Louis XIV, as well as that of a chaplain of Notre-Dame who was responsible for the casting of the bell. Louis, from Louis XIV, sponsor and patron. Thérèse, from Maria Theresa of Austria, Infanta of Spain, Queen of France who named the bell. On the 14th July 1682, the bell was hoisted with ropes to the top of the south tower passing through the oculi (hatches in the vaults) inside the tower.

The bell is rung during major religious ceremonies. Originally this was by a system of ropes operated by around 16 men. A pedal mechanism consisting of two seesaws fixed at the ends of the beam and operated by 8 men was used from 1851 to 1930. An electric motor has been used since 1930 with more efficient motors since 1953.

### Technical Details:

Note F sharp

Cast by Florentin Le Guay.

Composition : bronze (approximately 78 % copper and 22 % tin)

Weight 13,000 kg for the bell

474 kg for the iron clapper

Diameter: 2.61m

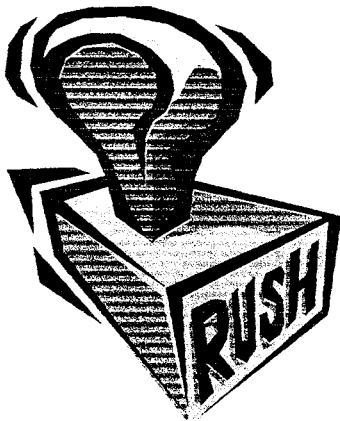
Les Brett  
Christchurch, Erith

# News from

# the towers

## BROMLEY COMMON

Earlier this year we had to cancel a large number of practices for the age-old reason of reduced numbers. However, we have recently welcomed into our band two learners (Karen and Steve) and Jeanette Crouch,



who has recently moved into the area. The learners are making good progress. Jeanette is an experienced ringer from Rochester Cathedral who somehow manages to combine ringing at

Bromley Common and Rochester. With her experience and help from our regular visitors we have been able to ring various methods including Kent Treble Bob Minor (this being a first at Bromley Common for many years.)

Regular weekly practices and fortnightly Sunday ringing have been re-instated but always check if coming along. We have a push button in the front porch for use when the side door in Southlands Road is locked. Access is always via the side door.

Chris Lawrance

## ELTHAM

Despite the usual summer depredations, we managed to scrape together enough to ring most Sundays and Tuesdays in July and August, although a sudden flurry of late summer holidays meant that September was a bit short of numbers.

The main news is that Peter Skinner finally rang his first peal, of Plain Bob Major, at Eltham on 26<sup>th</sup> August. This was the third attempt, two previous attempts of Grandsire Triples with Peter on the treble having been lost - though no fault of his own. So this time we played safe and rang Plain Bob Major, with Peter inside. The peal was also arranged to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my own 1<sup>st</sup> peal - 26<sup>th</sup> August 1986 - and was called by Jim Belshaw of Kensington, who was the conductor on that first occasion too. Since it would seem to be a number of years since one of our own ringers rang their first peal on these bells, I think it is worth recording the full details:

Kent County Association of Change Ringers  
**Saturday 26 August 2006**  
St John the Baptist, Eltham  
**5008 Plain Bob Major**  
Arr J W Belshaw  
In 2 hours 48 mins

Treble. Stephanie J Pattenden  
2. Rupert J Cheeseman  
3. David Holdridge  
4. Edward G Mould  
5. Peter J Skinner  
6. Janet E Archibald  
7. James W Belshaw  
Tenor. Ian G Mills

5 - First peal  
Rung on the 20th anniversary of D. Holdridge's first peal

It has been observed that this could have an adverse effect on our performance in the Call Change Competition, since Peter will now have to be counted as one of the three peal-ringers!

David Holdridge

## HORTON KIRBY

We have had quite a busy few months as more of our ringers have gained in confidence and bell control and rung in their first quarters.



Jon Pettyfer rang the treble and then the tenor in his first two quarters, while Terry Elcock and Martin Bailey rang the treble for their first quarters away from the tenor. Then, after our outing in September, Hannah Elcock, one of our young ringers, trebled to her

first quarter with her Dad providing a good steady tenor for her, making it the first 'family' quarter in our tower. One quarter involved, for the first time, 5 home ringers which is quite a mile stone for us.

We now have six young ringers with another starting this week. There are also younger brothers and sisters trying to grow a bit faster so that they can come and join in the fun. They really do seem to enjoy the ringing and have their own little club. Two more will be attempting their first quarters this month.



We had another very successful outing in September when we ventured down to Birchington and apart from the parish church (with a dodgy ladder) we rang at the Quex tower. That was a fantastic experience because only one or two of us had ever rung on 12 bells before. Then it was on to Whitstable to the lightest bells we had ever been to. They seemed very strange at first, more like toy ones, but as we got the hang of them we rang quite well!

The next stop was of course lunch which most of us had on the beach in the sunshine next to the pub. It was such a beautiful day again – someone up there must like us because we always seem to be so lucky with the weather.

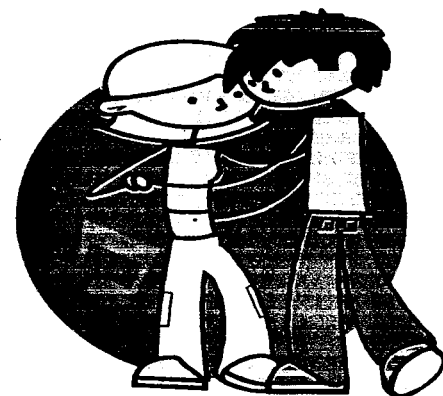
We ended the day nearer to home ringing at Shorne and then Chalk which are so like our own bells that it was a pleasure to ring them. We also were able to go up onto the roof to see the amazing view.

Every one was so welcoming at each of the towers that the whole day was a pleasure. Thanks must go to Nick Wilkins for his help, not only with our outings but also with our quarters, and to Lesley who drove us around all day!

One last piece of news is that we have now been given the go ahead from the PCC to begin fund-raising for 2 more bells so please watch this space! The first event planned is a 'Dance' for want of a better word, to

the Ian Petrie Big Band on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2007. This is an excellent band with a huge repertoire from folk to Dire Straits and much more in between. They are great to listen to or dance to with a bit of barn dancing thrown in as well. We hope that many of you in the district will be able to support us in this venture.

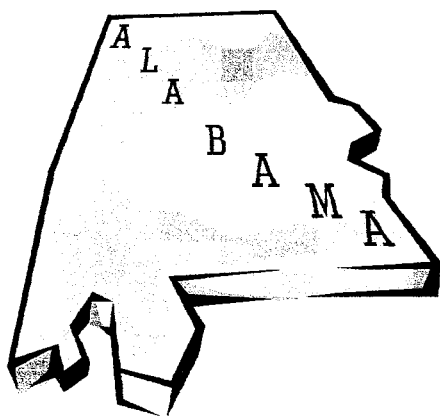
Sue Allport



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# BELLS OF BIRMINGHAM USA!!

Some months ago Mark Backhouse confirmed an exciting rumour that I'd heard in Loughborough—a ring of “proper” bells was going to my home town, the first in Alabama. I had known of chimes (mostly electronic), the odd real bell, and a fine carillon, but nothing touched by rope and human hand.



Thrilled, I searched the web. I knew of the church, the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Paul, downtown; but of a website I could find no trace. Nothing. Blank. I e-mailed family. No one had heard anything. I searched the local daily paper's website. Silence.

So on this summer's annual family visit I went there. Yes!! In the middle of a building site in the middle of a city block rose an unfinished tower, and—yes!—sallies hung down behind red-clay-dusted plastic sheeting. A delighted Stephan Calvert (Director of Music and inspirer of bells) showed me around and we talked choirs and bells for a comfortable hour. With some caution I said that I had two daughters, both ringers of modest ability, now living in Birmingham—I couldn't promise anything—but...

The following Saturday, in 90+ F heat and 100% humidity, Jenne and I turned up at St Paul's where Mike, flown in weekly from Kalamazoo, Michigan, was training some of the 25 or so learners, one-to-one. With his permission, Jenne and I each took a trainee.

Very serious and slow is the training. Preparing a band from scratch, hundreds of miles from the next tower, means that safe handling is essential before even rounds can be attempted. But the dedication and enthusiasm of the budding ringers is delightful. We dripped with sweat; builders and dust blew in from outside; a cacophony of bells and machinery assailed our ears; a thunderstorm offered more wet and some coolness; everyone was smiling, when not frowning with concentration; everyone took Jenne's name and number. After two hours we had to take our leave. They rang on, their schedule hourly lessons in twos or threes from 5 pm on Friday, all day Saturday, and Sunday afternoon, when Mike flew back home.

Back in Biggin Hill I wondered how they were getting on (Jenne is notoriously bad at e-mailing), so I was glad to see on Hilary's web page that BOTH of them are now going on Saturdays to train, and that (reading between the lines) it appears Mike does not have to give up so many weekends now.

Oh, and Jenne's husband Jeremy is learning too!

From Hilary's blog

(As you can tell, she has not rung for several years, and she has lost no time in becoming Americanised!):

*Saturday*

*Morning started earlier than it should've, when Jenne and I left to go teach bellringing at a church down-*



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town. The belltower is still under construction (no walls or air-conditioning yet!) but they've been practising every Saturday since the first of June. They have a ring of 8, and they seem to be nice bells. The ropes are a bit short\* - I can't reach one at all when it's set at backstroke - so when the official guy comes down on the 15th he can lengthen them a bit.

\* (Hilary is vertically challenged!)

I was kinda worried that I would be too out of practice myself, but it's even better than riding a bike - it all came back instantly. Jenne had to leave around 10.30 to get to work, but I stayed on for a while longer. We were invited to lunch with the 2 guys arranging everything. Some tasty sandwiches later, we were back for the next session. (They have learners s c h e d u l e d A L L D A Y ! ) .

It feels good. I have missed ringing, and the camaraderie you get. It's fun, and I look forward to doing more... tomorrow and next weekend and next weekend... (I suspect I might feel it in my shoulders tomorrow though!)

#### Sunday

Jenne and I were scheduled to teach ringing from 5-6 today. As before, the session turned out to be slightly longer (by about 30 mins this time). When I started putting up the 4, the first pull unnerved me - it actually hurt! And my arms definitely feel it now. It must be from all the teaching, because it never felt like this when I was learning: all the corrections I have to make, the missed catches, and taking over if the bell starts coming down again... all I can say is this is the best triceps workout I've ever had!

Good advertising! Fun, food and fitness!

If you ever think of grabbing some American towers, Atlanta has two, Marietta is less than an hour away, and three hours (not far in American terms) to the east is Birmingham—straight interstate run from downtown Atlanta to downtown Birmingham. They'll be delighted to see you.

Contact Stephan Calvert [baconandbach@yahoo.com](mailto:baconandbach@yahoo.com)

### Quarter Peals rung in memory of David Hollis

**Beckenham Guild**  
Beckenham, Kent  
St George

Sunday, 1 October 2006 in 0h 48min (14cwt)  
**1296 Stedman Triples**

1. Nigel Pointer
2. Christine M Webb
3. Alice M Baverstock
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. David S Brown
6. Jeremy R Byers
7. James J Hardy (c)
8. Ross E Hartley

Rung half muffled in fond memory of David G Hollis who died at practice on Thursday. May he rest in peace.

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**Kent County Association**  
Greenwich, London  
St Alfege

Monday, 2 October 2006 in 49 mins (23-2-14)  
**1259 Grandsire Caters**

1. Ross E Hartley
2. Nigel Pointer
3. Peter V D Swift
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. David H Kingston
6. David P Macey
7. Alexander J Britton  
(C)
8. James J Hardy
9. Nigel R Parsons
10. Jon Fox

Rung "open" to celebrate the life of David G H Hollis, who died on 28/9/06.

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# The Cinque Ports Ringing Centre at Dover

## SATURDAY MORNINGS FOR BEGINNERS

From 10 am to 12 midday

These practices have been held for the last three years every Saturday morning, with very few exceptions. During that time they have helped many ringers, including a few from the Lewisham District. It isn't necessary to book but it would help to know in advance if we need to arrange extra help, for touches of Grandsire or Plain Bob Doubles for example. Please consider using this facility; clients from the Lewisham District have told us that it is worth a journey of an hour or so each way to get so much quality learning time.

The equipment we use is:

- the "front" 6 bells fitted with silencers, largest 9½ cwt.
- a simulator that generates bell sounds of a "natural" six, synchronised with the actual bells.
- a CCTV camera in the bell chamber and a monitor in the ringing room.
- a camcorder.

Sessions are quite informal and offer a learner:

- time to gain confidence in handling a bell, much more so than is normally available to them on a weekly practice night.
- help in identifying and correcting handling faults.
- exercises to improve bell control.
- assistance in raising and lowering a bell.
- a chance to practise exceptional ringing, such as "firing".
- extra practice in rounds, call-changes, and elementary method-ringing.

On a typical Saturday morning:

- the first half-hour is devoted to bell-handling and control techniques, either individually or working in pairs. The simulator is normally off.
- the simulator is then switched on for rounds, whole-pull-and-stand, setting at back stroke, firing, and so on.
- there's a ten-minute coffee break at about 11 o'clock
- the final session is for rounds and call-changes, kaleidoscope exercises, and method ringing on 5 or 6 bells, according to demand.

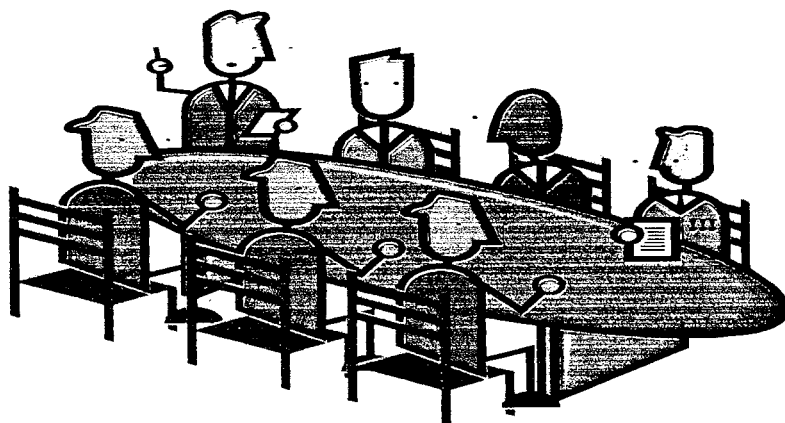
Donations of, say, £1 per hour per adult or 50p per junior are requested to cover the cost to St Mary's for the Centre's use of the bells. A map showing car parks in Dover is available on request.

Enquiries to: Peter or Barbara Dale, Tel: 01304 823      email: [ptdale@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:ptdale@dsl.pipex.com)

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**AGENDA FOR ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD  
AT ST. GEORGE, BECKENHAM ON SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 2006**

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Holy Trinity, Dartford on Saturday 8 July 2006
- 3) Matters arising from the minutes
- 4) KCACR Committee Meeting report
- 5) Reports:        Ringing Master  
                      Secretary  
                      Membership Secretary
- 6) Election of Officers:                      **Retiring**  
    Chairman                                  Jeremy Byers  
    Ringing Master                             James Hardy  
    Assistant Ringing Master                Rupert Cheeseman  
    District Representatives                  Sara Hardy  
                                                          Len Morley  
    Press Representatives &                  Ross Hartley  
    Newsletter Editors  
    Sales Representative                      Jim Rooke  
    Secretary                                    Christine Webb  
    Membership Secretary                    Mark Jones
- 7) Election of new members
- 8) Programme for 2007
- 9) Bell Restoration Fund
- 10) 120 club draw
- 11) Any other business
- 12) Vote of thanks



## **KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS**

### **LEWISHAM DISTRICT**

**Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Holy Trinity Dartford on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

*The meeting was chaired by David Brown in the absence of the Chairman.*

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

26 members attended the meeting with apologies for absence received from David Holdridge (Eltham), Sara Hardy & Jeremy Byers (Beckenham), Nicholas Wilkins (Chelsfield), Andrew Sinclair (Crayford), Yvonne Wright (Sidcup), David Hilling (Eynsford), Cathy Cheeseman and members of the Greenwich and Woolwich bands.

#### **2. Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at St John's Erith on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

The minutes were approved on the proposal of James Hardy, seconded by Rupert Cheeseman.

#### **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. KCACR Committee report**

##### Proposed increase in the peal fee

This was deferred to the next County AGM. There were two proposals: to increase the peal fee to 50 pence and to have a County Peal Book, or to limit the increase to 40 pence. James Hardy commented that the experience of the College Youths had shown that it was both expensive to have a peal book written up and difficult to find someone to undertake this task. His view was that it was not a good use of the money raised through peal fees and, in any event, a 50 pence peal fee was not an unreasonable amount to charge.

##### Bell Restoration Fund

The secretary reported that no further progress had been made on restoring the charitable status of the Bell Restoration Fund, although the County Secretary had written to the Inland Revenue on a number of occasions.

##### Restructuring of the Association

The sub-committee discussing this had recommended no change.

##### Child protection

Because of the disparity in the way measures are implemented, an attempt was to be made to coordinate the requirements between dioceses and ultimately towers. Nigel Spencer from Hythe, who has some professional knowledge, was to be approached to help with this.

##### Handbook

In the absence of a Handbook Editor Frank Lewis had agreed to oversee it for the coming year. Anyone interested in taking on this role was invited to contact Frank Lewis to act as his 'apprentice' this year.

##### Essex Trophy

James Hardy, the District Ringing Master had been asked to put together a band to represent Kent. This year's competition was to be held at Haslemere on Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Training Coordinator

James Hardy, who has taken on this role for the county, explained that his aim was to try to encourage Districts to take on more of the basic training themselves and that more specialised training, such as courses on conducting, would be organised at County level. He was hoping to organise a basic training day for ringers in the Lewisham District later in the year.

### Association Prayer

There had been a suggestion that the Association Prayer should be modernised. The view of the meeting was that this was unnecessary.

## **5. District Events**

The Chairman reminded members of forthcoming District events. The next District practice would be at Shoreham on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and the Chairman urged members to attend as numbers were often depleted during the holiday season. The Annual District Meeting was at Beckenham on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Members were reminded that a number of District Officers would be standing down at this time and others would be required to take on these roles. Those standing down included the District Ringing Master, the District Secretary, the two District Representatives and the Newsletter Editor.

## **6. Bell Restoration Fund**

The draw for the 120 Club took place. This was the first of the double draws agreed at a previous meeting, giving participants eight chances to win.

This year 106 shares have been sold, an increase on the previous year.

## **7. Election of new members**

The following new members were elected:

### **SHOREHAM**

Peter John Warr	Proposed by Frank Rogers	Seconded by Philippa Rooke
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### **CUDHAM**

Simon Wilson	Proposed by John Fry	Seconded by Alison Dyer
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The following election of a non-resident life member prior to a handbell peal on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006 was ratified:

Kristine Fowler	Proposed by Dickon Love	Seconded by Christine Webb
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## **8. Memorial fund in memory of Lyn Briers**

Gabrielle Stook of Ash told the meeting that money was available to set up a fund in memory of Lyn Briers with the aim of preventing towers in the District going out of union. This generous offer was welcomed and there followed some discussion about the County rules for towers being in union, namely that the tower must have one practising member and the most frequent reason for towers going out of union was the lack of any local ringers. It was agreed to defer further action on establishing this fund until the next meeting and meanwhile James Hardy would discuss with Gabrielle Stook the best way of achieving her objectives.

**9. Taylors Eayre and Smith Foundry Open Day**

The secretary drew attention to a poster she had received advertising the open day at Taylors Eayre and Smith bell foundry on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

**10. Vote of thanks**

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Jean Couch for taking the service, to Richard Apsley for playing the organ and to Esther Correia and the Dartford ringers for providing a splendid tea.