



# LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Lewisham District On Line at [www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk)

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

JANUARY 2010

## Call Change Competition 2009

On 21<sup>st</sup> November, Farningham provided the venue for the call change competition. 9 teams took part, which was the most there had been for a number of years. Peter Sims (the County Chairman) and Sheila Phyll from the Ashford district came up to judge. Each team had to ring 120 changes and make at least 12 call changes.

The teams made it difficult for the judges as there was a high standard throughout and no one rang badly. After of plenty of thought though, (we were beginning to wonder if they'd just gone straight to the pub instead!) they came up with the following results:

1. Beckenham "George" 4
2. Erith CC 7
3. Beckenham "Dragon" 13
4. Chelsfield 18
5. Horton Kirby "Lesley" 24
6. Horton Kirby "Mick" 26
7. Crayford/Ash 27
8. Eltham 35
9. Crayford/Dartford 39



Congratulations to Beckenham on defending the trophy and thanks again to Peter and Sheila for giving up their time to come and judge it.

Rupert Cheeseman



L to R Roddy Horton, Rosemary Stretton, Ross Hartley, Lizzy Hartley, Terry Guntrip, , Jim Hardy.

Don't forget .....

*Quarter Peal Week*  
*12th–21st February 2010*



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## Chairman's Bit

Thank you for electing me your Chairman at the Annual District Meeting at St. Mary Cray in October. It is an honour and I hope I can justify and reward your faith in me!

It was very poignant that the venue was St Mary Cray as that was where my grandparents lived (my paternal grandfather was publican at the now closed Blue Anchor) and where my parents were married and I was baptised. I have many happy childhood memories of St Mary Cray and the large Rectory that stood at the bottom of Blacksmiths Lane which was demolished to accommodate the two tower blocks in the 1960s. I understand that there was also previously a bell foundry on that site run by the Hodsons. The back five bells at Chelsfield were cast by John Hodson in 1672.

I will be very happy to learn what people expect of their Chairman. I admit I didn't see a job description before agreeing to stand for the position. The simplistic view is that it involves keeping order at four meetings through the year but there is much more that can be done. Please make your views known.

It is also a strange coincidence that the next District meeting is at my home tower, Chelsfield. The Chelsfield ringers look forward to giving everyone a warm welcome and some of you may be experiencing, and hopefully enjoying, a ring on our augmented bells following the addition of three new trebles in 2009. The former treble is being rehoused through the Keltek Trust.

One item worthy of discussion at the January meeting will be how some money from the A G Hill Memorial Fund, currently held centrally by the KCACR, is allocated bearing in mind the intention was to provide instruction books for learners in the Lewisham District extended as far as possible to the rest of the County. To some extent, we are all learners! A lively debate looks to be on the cards.

By the time you will read this I hope you will have had a Happy Christmas but perhaps you will also be well on the way to breaking your New Year resolutions!

Nick



Who's this ringer in 1969?

Read on to find out.....

# Editorial



January again – how these months seem to fly by so quickly! We spend all that time getting ready for Christmas buying too much food, spending too much money and it's gone in a flash. Well I hope you all had a good one and I hope you have an equally good New Year.

It was great to see more teams entering the Call Change competition and congratulations to Beckenham 'George' for a resounding victory. The standard was very high this time and the judges took a long time deliberating – as Rupert said we thought they'd gone home!

Our next big event is the Quarter Peal week in February. Lets hope we manage to get at least one rung in each tower in the district.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in articles for this edition of the Newsletter – without your support there would be no Newsletter so without further ado I'll leave you to read and hopefully enjoy!

Suex

## 120 Club

This the main source of fundraising for the Bell Restoration Fund from the Lewisham District. Ash are having major works done in 2010 and have received a generous donation from the BRF. I expect to have something over £550 for the BRF at the end of March. The 120 club starts again in April and I will have forms available from the January meeting.

Draw held on October 10<sup>th</sup> at St Mary Cray (Annual District Meeting)

1 <sup>st</sup>	85	Jan Odell (Footscray)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	70	Alan Smith (Charlton Kings)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	93	120 club
4 <sup>th</sup>	106	120 club

Draw held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at Farningham (Call change Striking Competition)

1 <sup>st</sup>	65	Janis Roddy (Sidcup)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	48	Tony Fisher (Eynsford)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	89	Sue Cameron (Unattached)
4 <sup>th</sup>	82	Barry Macey (Footscray)

## In the newsletter this time...

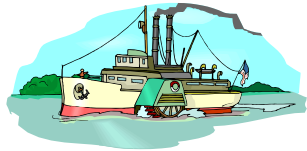
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# Eltham & Chislehurst Ringers Isle of Wight Weekend

There was an air of anticipation and excitement about the start of our weekend on the Isle of Wight as we met up at the ferry terminal in Portsmouth.



After landing in Fishbourne we headed straight to All Saints in Ryde for a ring of eight bells. It was then on to All Saints at Newchurch (a ring of six, the nicest and therefore my favourite) - these were ground floor bells, and one either stood outside in the open air, or walked thro' the ropes into the Church, where we were marooned whilst ringing took place. Some of us went back there on Sunday morning as they were short on regular ringers.

The Shanklin Hotel was superb as usual, lovely food the entire weekend, but 'Diane Ross' had a rather disappointing voice altho' she looked the part.

We awoke to rain on Saturday morning, but this soon cleared and we were able to do the usual walk along the coastal cliff top to Tennyson's monument in sunshine.



A selection of those who decided ringing wasn't enough danger and ascended Tennyson Down.

After a quick pub lunch sitting outside, it was then on to All Saints (a distinct lack of imagination in church names here) in Freshwater (the heaviest six on the Island).

Several of us had a good look around the Church yard which seemed to contain a good number of distinguished people including a one time Khedive of Egypt.

It was then on St Mary & St Rhadegund in Whitwell, which are a new six re-hung earlier this year.

Saturday night's entertainment was the 'Bee Gees Experience' and they were brilliant, I think most of us were up dancing that evening and suffering for it the next day!

Sunday morning was torrential rain and heavy gusts of wind, some went off to ring for morning service, others went shopping or just lazed around the Hotel until the rain cleared away at lunch time.

In the afternoon it was time for our second walk, which was at the very aptly named 'Godshill' more than half the walk was climbing almost vertically sometimes along an extremely muddy path. It was difficult not to slide back down, but the view at the top was worth it, and we passed some Llama's on the way up!



We finally got back to the car park & tea room just as it was getting dark, and some of us had a very enormous scrummy cake (it was a pity we did not have time for a return visit there).

That night we were entertained by 'Solent City Sounds' not a lot of dancing though - we were too worn out.

Monday morning dawned dry and sunny, just time for yet another walk for the most energetic (are we gluttons for punishment?) and then lunch at a nearby pub.

We decided to try for an earlier crossing and just two cars made it on to the 1.30pm ferry leaving the others at the terminal looking on forlornly as we sailed into the Horizon, ending a Brilliant weekend. Thank you Len for organizing it - here's to the next one!!!

Marnie Knight





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# Foundry Tales

## 4: Maintaining History

Every so often the Whitechapel Bell Foundry hits the national headlines (work on Big Ben, the 9/11 bell for New York, the Queen's visit), but most will have missed the latest story – the restoration of the “oldest ring of bells in the country”.

Being made of hard bronze, church bells can last for hundreds of years and it is not that unusual to find one or two bells dating from the 1600s, 1500s or even 1400s in a tower where other bells have been subsequently recast due to damage or poor tone. Single bells in smaller churches can be even older, and within the last few years we have had bells in for refurbishment dating back to the 1300s, 1200s and even one from the 1100s!

In mid 2006 we visited the church of St Lawrence in Ipswich to inspect their ring of bells that had been almost unused for many years due to the poor condition of the tower and of the bell installation. The 5 bells were from 3 different founders at 3 different dates, but remarkably all the bells were cast in the 1400s! It is most unusual for so many ancient bells to survive in one place and they are almost certainly the oldest ring of 5 in the country. Also, the oldest bell was cast in about 1440 in Aldgate by one of the earliest predecessors to the business and is the earliest “Whitechapel” bell that I have yet seen.

Although the bells had been refurbished and rehung a number of times in the past they had not been altered or tuned and still retained their ancient wrought iron clappers, they were however corroded on the inside which had deadened their tone. Cardinal Wolsey (1475 – 1530) lived in Ipswich as a young man and would have heard these bells, the sound of which had not altered to the present day.

In many cases one or more of the bells in a tower are tuned when refurbished, to improve the overall musical quality of the peal, but in this case the bells were listed for preservation, were not badly out of tune and were not too poor tonally, so no tuning was proposed. Often a ring of 5 bells will be increased to 6 when refurbishment becomes necessary, enabling 720 different “changes” to be rung rather than the 120 possible on 5. Even for rings of old bells we regularly cast bells using our old 19<sup>th</sup> century moulding gauges to get a good match tonally, but in this case we decided that adding an extra bell would ruin the uniqueness of the ring.

Also, a set of new modern cast iron clappers would normally

be provided, but although the old clappers were not at all well matched for size or proportions it was decided to offer new top ends, forged from genuine wrought iron, blacksmith fire-welded to the original bottom ends to maintain the original material and therefore the original sound. However, the frame and other fittings were a mixed up set and in a poor state.

The tower was a tall, slender structure with evidence of cracking throughout its height, with the bellframe mounted right at the top where the forces imposed by the bells have the greatest effect on the tower, making it sway and making the bells difficult to ring.

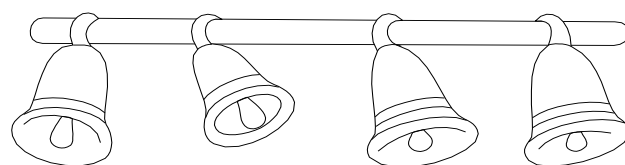
In order to reduce the stress on the tower, we suggested putting a new cast iron & steel frame in just above the first floor, carefully designed so that the largest bells swing in line with the strongest parts of the tower, leaving the old frame and fittings in place for posterity and moving the ringers downstairs onto a new gallery between the ground and first floors at a level where a floor had previously existed.

Following a re-quote in December 2007 we received an order in 2008 (church bell projects often take years to raise funds, make decisions, and gain permission, this one was quite quick!), enabling us to remove the bells from the tower in early 2009.

The bells were gritblasted internally to remove the worst corrosion, jet-washed and scrubbed externally to leave the original patina of age, and provided with specially designed fittings to make them perform like a modern peal. The clappers were re-used and the new frame designed and installed as proposed. Following a lot of building work the bells were finally re-installed in September 2009 and are now easy to ring, sounding out again and fit for another hundred years or more.

One of the oldest surviving “Whitechapel” bells, in the oldest peal of 5 in the country, still as heard by young Thomas Wolsey over 500 years ago!

Mark Backhouse



# NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

## ASH-BY-WROTHAM

*Practice Saturday 9:30am*

### SOUNDS OF SUCCESS

Hello from the bottom right hand corner of last issue's map. By the time this is in print, our bells will be paying their long anticipated visit to Whitechapel, for a spruce up, new running gear, tuning and re-hanging. My thanks to all who helped in the fund raising, bell lowering and like activities, thanks in anticipation for those who will help in the re-hang, tidy, clean and paint of the tower, not to mention the bits of building work that can be reached better while the bells are away. This of course means that we will be unable to ring during the District Quarter Peal Week. However, with a lot of help from Rupert, Cathy, Mark and Brenda an early quarter peal was rung on the 20<sup>th</sup> December. We were also pleased to be included in Dartford, Holy Trinity's tower tour.

We'll be supporting services while the bells are away with handbell ringing, and at the time of writing we're planning some visits to 'the Cinque ports ringing centre'. We are taking some of the congregation to visit the bells while they're at Whitechapel and there will be belfry working parties to clean up the bell chamber. Other planned treats for the Saturdays we won't have practice include visits to the 'Model Engineer's Exhibition' and the 'Ribblehead Viaduct'.

**Ash By Wrotham, Kent**

SS Peter & Paul

Sunday, 20 December 2009 in 0:43 (9½)

### 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 Brian Ashmore
- 2 Brenda Barton
- 3 Mark Backhouse
- 4 Cathy Cheeseman
- 5 Rupert Cheeseman (C)
- 6 John Stook

Before 9 Lessons and Carols.

Last quarter on the bells before they get taken out for rehang and retuning.

To kick off the Lewisham District Quarter Peal week... 9 weeks early! First quarter; 6. First quarter for 20 years!; 1. 50th quarter; 2.

John & Gabrielle Stook

## BECKENHAM

*Practice Thursday 19:50*



## BEXLEY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

## BICKLEY

*Practice Wednesday 19:30*

## BIGGIN HILL

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

### RINGING IN BIRMINGHAM(ALABAMA, OF COURSE!)

For the second time in 2009, and the first in 2010, part of Biggin Hill's band (Nancy and Doug) augmented the band at the only tower in Alabama. St Paul's, Birmingham, is a friendly tower, in a friendly city. Visitors are always welcome!! It's only an eight-hour-flight-two-hour-drive away!

And the driving is a real pleasure (once you find your way out of Atlanta!) Why, we wondered, looking at the interstate ahead, just as busy as an English motorway. Maybe it's the slightly slower speed. And no one seems to be in a hurry. No horns, no gestures. Or maybe it's just the laid-back South!

Just as many towers here struggle to keep a viable band going, so Birmingham's ringers are struggling. Of the many enthusiastic locals who first learned to ring on the new bells, a number have fallen away. The loyal core have come on wonderfully, but frustratingly slowly; for unlike English towers, their nearest assistance is 150 miles away! So they practice twice a week—quite a commitment. Now Jenne confidently calls Bob Doubles, Jeremy is calling Grandsire Doubles, and by visiting Marietta and Atlanta, triples quarters have been scored. They long to have their own triples band. Plans for a first "home" band (with a little Georgian help) peal are being made soon, too.

So, as they say in the South: Y'all come!

Nancy Gay

## BROMLEY

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

## BROMLEY COMMON

*Practice Thursday 19:45*



## CHELSEFIELD

*Practice Monday 20:00*

We continue with varied and usually well attended practices. Ringing is across the spectrum from Plain Hunt up to Grandsire & Stedman Triples and Cambridge S Major as well as, remembering our 6 bell roots, often including some Doubles and spliced Minor.

Nick Wilkins

## CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)

*Practice 1st Wednesday 19:3*

## CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)

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



## CRAYFORD

*Practice Tuesday 19:45*

## CUDHAM

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

Off we went at 8.45 a.m. on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> September on this year's tour of 5 towers. We had around 15 ringers right across the ability range although none of us fantastically expert. We just wanted to get to visit some stunning churches and to hopefully enjoy the chance to ring the bells and most of all – to have some fun. Frankly I believe we achieved all of the above, some of the ringing was good some not so, however everyone had the opportunity to have a go at all 5 churches.

We started at Biddenden on their lovely 8 bells, then on to Headcorn for their 8. It took 2 of us to get the tenor raised as the clapper has some kind of defect and it always goes up 'wrong' if only one person tries to raise it. On to Hollingbourne where there was some kind of street market -

some of the ladies went off in search of a bargain and came back with bikes, dinner services and trivets!!

Lunch was at the 'The George' in Leeds and pre-ordering the food worked out well. Excellent food and good value!

On to Ulcombe for tower 4, old memories for me because that was where I was taught to ring many years ago. And lastly to Boxley, - my word their tower is tall with fantastic views over the weald and beyond. Finally everyone back to 'The Blacksmiths Arms' for a well deserved rest. I think everyone had a great day out !

Laurence Bond

## DARTFORD

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*



## DOWNE

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

We've been filmed Again!

We have enjoyed ringing for the extra Carol Services leading up to Christmas as well as a December Wedding and of course there will be 'Ringing out the Old and Ringing in the New Year' to look forward to but in addition to these, on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> -12, we were Recorded for one of the BBC Midday TV Programmes. I wonder if any one will have spotted us! It was a fun session for which 3 of our working (slightly younger!) Ringers had to slightly reorganise their working schedules but they felt it was really worth it. We rang Backward Rounds which they hoped would blend with the Programme's Theme tune. With many thanks to Rev Eric Heselwood for allowing us to do this – we hope that we might have earned ourselves some 'Bell mufflers'.

Bridget Robbie

## ELTHAM

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

Firstly I am pleased to report that a quarter peal was successfully rung for the retirement of Father John Neal. Details are under this piece. And as promised last time, an article has been produced on the Isle of Wight trip (with thanks to Marnie).

On the ringing front, we were able to enter a team in the call change striking competition that contained THREE first time competition ringers. They did very well doing something new like that on bells which they had never rung before. We have already penciled the March competition date into our diaries :)

We are also hoping to have enough ringers willing and available to ring in the New Year, a tradition which had been put on hold while we were building our numbers back up. We may even have enough to ring for the carol service, an event we usually are short on due to it clashing with every other churches service.

Wednesday, 30 September 2009 in 45 mins (10-2-24)

#### **1400 Grandsire Triples**

- 1 Steve Fitton
- 2 Len Morley
- 3 Phil Stott
- 4 Diane Reynolds
- 5 Angus Ogilvie
- 6 Ian Mills (C)
- 7 David Holdridge
- 8 Len Dumper

Rung to say farewell to Fr John and Lesley Neal

Katherine Trill

### **ERITH (Christ Church)**

*Practice Monday 20:00*

Once again this year we took part in the Christchurch Christmas Tree Festival – held in aid of the Greenwich and Bexley Cottage Hospice. As usual we covered our tree with bells in all shapes and sizes. We aim for quantity rather than quality!

All our learners are making excellent progress – they are now ringing regularly on Sundays and graduating from rounds to Call Changes. The rest of the band are consolidating existing methods and learning some new ones. The very wet weather recently, leading to the ropes shortening, has meant that even some of our taller members have occasionally had to use a box.

We were delighted that our band came second in the Striking Competition, particularly as they had first to ring at Christchurch for a wedding and then get down to Farningham. And, on the subject of weddings, some of the band have been called on to help out for weddings at St. Clement Danes in London!

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*

### **HAYES**

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

### **HORTON KIRBY**

*Practice Thursday 20.00*

For the second year running we entered two bands for the Call Change competition held at Farningham and for the second year one of the bands had no peal ringers in it. This year though all the ringers were from Horton Kirby – one recalled from ‘retirement’ but all the rest regular Sunday service ringers. We feel this is quite an achievement since we are still one of the newest towers in the district. We felt we rang well but the standard was very high so although we only came 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> out of 9 we were very pleased with our attempts.

Progress in ringing continues especially with our young ringers – we have been known to have 12 ringers on a Sunday! We are still working on Bob Doubles and have managed plains courses with just HK ringers but haven’t been brave enough to attempt it on a Sunday yet!

Sue Allport

### **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

August saw our annual BBQ, held this year at Alys's new house in Cudham and we were again blessed with a glorious weather. We were joined by a couple of friends from Addington, Eric Godfrey and Ruth and John Perrin.

A bright blue sky greeted us on 7 November when 9 ringers, 2 partners and 2 dogs arrived at Edenbridge for a ramble, ring and pub lunch. We went on a circular walk taking us along the river Eden and through some



lovely countryside. We then rang at St Peter & Paul at Edenbridge, the 14 cwt ring of 8 are easy to handle and sound lovely.

Finally a well deserved meal in the local pub, although we waited an hour for it to be freshly cooked, it was well worth the wait.



Our regular practices continue, but we miss Alys who has now moved to Cudham and is unable to commit to regular practices. Brian, our learner continues to make progress ringing call changes.

Judith Fry

## WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD The Meridian Ringers



## The Ringing Master writes.....

It was good to see so many people at the ADM and hopefully this will continue into 2010 as attendances at district events during 2009 were distinctly variable. Keep an eye on the website for when events are taking place.

The district quarter week is coming up in February. I've already sent an initial email out to each tower but in the next month we'll need to get a firm idea of what each tower will be able to do and what help is required. This is so that we can reach our target of a quarter in each tower and as many firsts as possible. To this aim the first quarter has already been scored as Ash bells have now come out for rehangings and retuning.

Rupert



## Peals 1969 & 2009



On December 22nd 1969 a band of teenagers rang a peal at Sennen Church a mile from Land's End. It was the youngest band to ring a peal for the Truro Guild and the record stands today.

On the 22nd December 2009, 40 years later, 4 of the same band met at Sennen to ring a peal to mark the anniversary. One of the ringers could not be found (he may be in Italy) and sadly Tim Bell, who called the first peal, has died. We dedicated the peal to his memory.

I was lucky enough to be one of those who was found after being 'googled' and rang in both peals.

Lesley Barclay (née Evans)  
(Full report in April Newsletter—Ed)

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# The Training Officer's Manifesto

I know it's traditional for manifestos to be published *before* someone stands for election, but now I've been elected I'd like to run through some of the ideas and principles that I hope to bring to training in Lewisham District.

Firstly I like to thank David for his efforts as Training Officer over the past few years. As anyone who has been a student or helped on one of the training days will know they've helped many people make progress with their ringing (and we've also had a lot of fun into the bargain) and without David's hard work and dedication this wouldn't have happened.

Now that I've taken over as District Training Officer I'd like to outline a few of the ideas and principles that I hope to bring to training in the Lewisham District.

## Point 1: We are all Learners

All ringers are learning something even if they don't think they are they are. Never be worried that other ringers don't understand your problems, not only have they been through the process themselves but they're probably going through similar problems now, just while trying to ring something else. The idea that we're constantly learning leads neatly onto my second point...

## Point 2: Learning is a Continuous Process

There is a tendency for some ringers to think of 'learning' and 'ringing' as two different matters, 'learning' being what you do when you are given an objective (like learning Bob Doubles) and 'ringing' being what you do the rest of the time (at practice nights, District Meetings and the like). In reality ALL ringing is part of the learning process. Even ringing call changes on a Sunday morning, which most people wouldn't think of as a time for learning, gives you a chance to work on your striking and bell control. So learners should take advantage of every chance to ring, which brings me to my next idea...

## Point 3: Training Days are not Isolated Events

Ringers sometimes look at Training Days in isolation. Really they should be seen as part of a spectrum ranging from your weekly tower practice night, through District Meetings and Practices and on to District Training Days alongside big, residential training courses like the Hereford or Bradfield

ringing courses. Occasionally students turn up to training days not having rung the method that they were on the course for because they want to wait. This isn't helpful. Learners should take every opportunity they can find to practice something they want to ring as we've found this allows them to make most progress on a training day. This shouldn't discourage you from going on a training day to do something you haven't had much practice at; just don't hold back from something because you don't want to 'spoil' it. After all, if you make more progress than you expected we can always help you move on!

## Point 4: Progress is the Learner's Responsibility

There are a couple of ringers in the Lewisham District who have made really good progress with their ringing over the past couple of years. It is not a coincidence that they are amongst the most regular attendees at District events (of all types – meetings, practices and training days) and have frequently been to practice nights away from their home tower to get the ringing they require. This may not be practical for everyone but it does show you what can be achieved when a learner takes responsibility for their own ringing. Don't be afraid of going to other practice nights (although it is polite to ask the tower captain of wherever you're visiting if they mind). There is bound to be another tower either in the District or in one of our neighbouring Associations/Districts that can offer what you're looking for and would be happy to accommodate you. Some ringers feel they're being 'disloyal' to their home tower by doing this, but if you can become a better ringer by visiting another practice night, this will only help improve the ringing at your home tower too. One note of caution: When learning new methods it is important to have aim high. However, it is also important to be really comfortable in the basics before moving on to more complex ringing. For example, if you want to learn Plain Bob Doubles, you should ensure that you can ring Plain Hunt reliably. Attempting to ring something you're not yet ready for will only lead to disappointment and frustration. If you're unsure, ask your tower captain or another experienced ringer whom you ring with regularly for their advice.

## Point 5: Learners should have Objectives

Having a tangible objective to aim for is a really useful way to focus your learning and measure your improvement. Certainly the best progress I've made in my ringing career has been when I've set specific targets to push me on. Targets can vary

dependent on what stage you are at in your ringing career, it might be entering a band into a striking competition for example, but for people learning to ring methods the most appropriate objective is usually to ring a quarter peal. This is something the learner can do themselves (see point four above). If you're learning something from plain hunting to methods upwards, speak to your tower captain or another experienced ringer who you ring with regularly and pick a date when you want to hit your target (e.g. successfully ring a quarter peal). Find a tower and ask around to find a band, most ringers are happy to ring with learners if they're not already busy, after all people rang with us when we were learning the likes of Plain Hunt and Bob Doubles. Similarly if you need a conductor ask around. There are plenty of ringers in the district capable of calling quarter peals. The forthcoming District Quarter Peal Week would be an ideal time to do this, but any time of the year is fine.

So with that, happy learning! If you've got any queries on anything above or any other training related matters, my e-mail address is [training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk](mailto:training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk).

Dominic Meredith



## *The Cinque Ports Ringing Centre at Dover*

### “Calling Call Changes”

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010

13.00 to 16.30

at St Mary's, Dover

An afternoon course for those who have  
never called anything before and wouldn't  
know where or how to start.

Tel: 01104 823217 or email  
[ptdale@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:ptdale@dsl.pipex.com) to book a place.

Make a day of it and come as a helper to the  
morning ringing school from 10 to 12.

## Cinque Ports & The Ringing Foundation

The Ringing Foundation was formed in 2007 by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers; its principal objectives are given on its home page <http://www.ringingfoundation.com/> and include enhancing the quality and quantity of training through the creation of a structured learning process.

There was a report in the Ringing World recently about two Teaching Workshops in October, organised by the Foundation in London and Birmingham respectively. I was invited to give a short presentation and you may have seen a rather unflattering picture of me holding forth to the Birmingham audience.

I must admit it was preaching mainly to the converted because everybody there was concerned about low levels of recruitment, particularly of younger ringers, and the loss of so many ringers in the early stages. Everybody also accepted that learning to ring is somewhat of a lottery, with the quality of teaching in some areas being mediocre at best and often very poor indeed.

In fact, I wonder if we ever expect learners to succeed at their first attempt at any stage, and aren't we quite surprised if a learner thrust into Plain Hunt, say, for the first time gets it right? If that is the case then it is quite a damning indictment of our teaching tactics if we come to think about it. What is really needed to retain more of our recruits is a series of short, easily mastered exercises that take them gradually from one stage to the next.

In my presentation I examined the traditional teaching route of bell handling, rounds, call changes, plain hunt, and so on, and explained how the Cinque Ports Ringing Centre tries to remedy its shortcomings. There were nods of agreement when I said it was roller-coaster ride of successive failures because the hurdles at each stage were too high to manage at the first attempt.

With such a receptive audience it was easy for me to go into details of the philosophy behind our approach at the Cinque Ports. Many of the delegates at the workshops were already using similar techniques and I found it was a wonderful forum for exchange of ideas. To know more please go to <http://cccbr.org.uk/education/practicetoolkit/> and follow the link to Foundation Skills where there is a wealth of resources and ideas.

If you are currently teaching ringers or training a band, look out for a new Central Council publication “Teaching Tips”, due for publication soon. Of course you can always come to Dover on a Saturday morning to experience for yourself different ways of developing bell control and method ringing skills.

Peter Dale

# Ringling and Money

by Steve Coleman

## 10. Enjoying the Thought

My wife and I aren't rich exactly, but we've got a house and we've saved a bit – and ringling doesn't cost much – and somehow it looks as though there'll be Inheritance Tax to pay when we're both gone. So we'd like to leave £30,000 or so to belfry restoration – or perhaps give it while we're still alive – so what's the best way with all that?

J. & M. S.  
London

How splendid! And what better time to think about it than on a warm Summer's day in the garden. But that said, what you do with your money is, of course, entirely up to you. You can spend it now, save it for later, give some of it now, give some of it later, leave it to your relations or leave it to charity, and that's entirely your choice.

So I'm not going to try to persuade you to give it to charity, let alone to any particular charity. But if giving or leaving money to belfry restoration is what you want to do, here are some of the hows, ifs and buts of it all.

### Inheritance Tax

But first, since Inheritance Tax appears to be a factor in your decision, are you *sure* you'll be liable to it? Things have changed recently, and like all tax, it's far from straightforward. Essentially, though, for a single person there's no Inheritance Tax payable on the first £325,000 of their estate.

With a married couple – or two people in a civil partnership – no Inheritance Tax at all is payable on anything left to the surviving spouse or partner by the first one to die. What's more, if the first one to die leaves *all* their estate to the surviving one, then the surviving one inherits their nil rate band along with it. So when the second one dies, their estate will benefit from *two* nil rate bands.

What's more, those two nil rate bands will *both* be increased as the years go by. So although they amount to £650,000 *this* year, in later years they will almost certainly be more and perhaps a great deal more.

### Ifs and Buts

Needless to say, there are all sorts of complications. So if the first spouse or partner leaves *some* money to someone other than the second or a charity – but less than the nil rate band – then a *percentage* of of their nil rate band *won't* be passed on. But on the plus side, a widow or widower can use some or all of the nil rate band of their husband or wife who died many years ago.

It would take pages to explain it all, but the message is this. Don't just assume that Inheritance Tax will be payable on your estate. It may not be.

For that matter, don't just assume that Inheritance Tax *won't* be payable on your estate – perhaps because you've already given a lot of money and assets to your children and/

or grandchildren. Do-it-yourself attempts to avoid Inheritance Tax may not only be unsuccessful, they may even make you liable for more Income Tax. Be warned.

### The Figures

But let's suppose, you're sure you're going to be liable. In that case, for every £1,000 you leave above the threshold, your estate will have to pay £400 in Inheritance Tax.

Yet if you leave that £1,000 to a registered charity in the normal way, no Inheritance Tax at all will be payable on it. So that £30,000 you are thinking of leaving to belfry restoration, will be £30,000 in the hands of the charity but would be only £18,000 in the hands of an alternative, non-charitable, non-spouse beneficiary.

And that makes charitable bequests in your Will a good deal. For every, *effective* £600 *you* give, the Chancellor will give an extra £400.

### If not Liable to Inheritance Tax

Of course, if your estate turns out *not* to be liable for Inheritance Tax, your legacy of £30,000 will still be £30,000 in the hands of the charity. It just won't be quite so tax efficient.

And for many people that's an important point because they have deeply emotional – if largely irrational – views about tax. Such people applauded the Chancellor for supporting the credit boom that made their houses several times more valuable, but then bitterly resented the thought of paying Inheritance Tax on the increase. They were convinced that free care for the elderly should be an automatic right, but didn't expect anyone to be charged extra taxes to pay for it.

And if that's the way *you* feel and your estate is *not* going to be liable Inheritance Tax – but you still want the Chancellor to put his smallest shovel into your cash pile – you might like to consider giving *before* you go.

### While Living

And the simple comparison is this.

If you pay Income Tax and you give £100 to a charity *before* you die, the charity will actually receive – including the Gift Aid payment it gets from the Chancellor – £128. If you pay Income Tax at the higher rate, the Chancellor will actually give you a £25 tax rebate as well – see *Ringling and Money* 2.

If you're retired but not paying at the higher rate, the Chancellor *may* give you a tax rebate up to £12.50 – see *Ringling and Money* 8. So if your estate isn't going to be liable for Inheritance Tax and you pay any Income Tax at all, £100 given to a charity while you're alive will be worth at least £128 bequeathed to the same charity in your Will. And for many people that's an important point to think about.

And as ever, these are this year's figures – 2009/10 – and they may well be a little different in future.

### The Planning

*But* – and this is a very big but – *don't* let tax govern your financial decisions unless you're very bitter about it indeed. *Don't* become a financial King Lear. *Don't* leave yourself or your spouse with insufficient funds to pay for your latter years because you're determined to avoid tax.

At least, that's my *personal* advice. I've seen many people lose all their savings through making badly advised, tax-based investment decisions, and I've known many unhappy elderly people who have passed their savings on to their children and grandchildren, only to find those children and grandchildren being – in their eyes – insufficiently grateful. Be very careful.

### Dying Tidily

And my equally strong advice is that *everyone* should make a Will. *Everyone* should arrange to die financially tidily. *Everyone* should ensure that their loved ones are as properly provided for as possible and not saddled with horrendous financial complexities in addition to their grief. And sad thought though it is, when you make your Will, you also need to consider the *what ifs*.

### The What Ifs

For example, your spouse or partner may die before you, and your children may die before you too. You and all your children may die in the same car crash – or shortly afterwards.

While you're dancing the conga during your 75th wedding anniversary celebrations – with all your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren dancing along with you – the hotel may be destroyed by a massive gas explosion. So even if you want to leave every penny to relations, do include a provision in case they all die before you or shortly after you. Otherwise it could all go to the State.

Typically, you can include a clause which says that if none of your potential beneficiaries survive you by more than 28 days, your estate will go to a specified charity – or if that charity no longer exists, to such similar charity as your executors decide.

### The Legacy

And if you definitely want to leave money to belfry restoration – either as a specific amount or as a last ditch *just-in-case* – what then?

Well, it certainly doesn't need to be as much as £30,000. Association Belfry Repair Funds (BRFs) and tower rehang projects will be extremely grateful for a few hundred. For many people, £1,000 bequeathed will be a tiny fraction of their estate, but it will be a major sum to the recipient.

So whilst I'm not trying to persuade you, it always seems to me that we've all received a colossal amount of training, encouragement and fun from ringling – virtually for free – that



in any other activity would have cost us many thousands. We've also received a level of friendship and social support – often extending way beyond the ringing chamber – that non-ringers could only dream of. So in addition to all the friendship and support we each give back in our turn, leaving a little after we've gone seems a fair idea.

But the *amount* you intend to leave may well affect *who* you want to leave it to.

### The Options

So most people go for one of four options.

1. If they have a strong attachment to a particular tower, they leave it to the PCC of that tower.
2. If they have a strong attachment to a particular Branch, they leave it to that Branch's BRF – if they have one – or to the Branch itself if the Association as a whole is a charity.
3. If they have a strong attachment to a particular Association, they leave it to that Association's BRF.
4. If they want to leave money for the whole of the UK, they leave it to the Central Council's BRF.

And, of course, you could leave it for ringing without it being for belfry restoration at all. You could leave it to subsidise training courses, or to support a ringing centre, or to subsidise a Branch or tower outing. You could even leave it for your local band to have a slap up dinner.

So think very carefully what you want your money to do, and then ensure that your Will says that very clearly and specifically. That way, the charity that receives it will *have* to spend it as you want them to. Make sure, too, that you *are* giving it to a charity, or – as in the case of the slap up dinner – that you clearly realise that you aren't.

### Your Solicitor

That's what your solicitor is for. Tell him or her exactly what you want and then **read very carefully** what he or she has written. Definitely **don't** trust him or her to get it right first time.

I've no doubt there are many first rate solicitors around, but my personal experience is that I've never yet seen a Will that was correctly drafted at the first attempt.

And of course, if you change your mind later, you can change your Will too. Indeed, you can change it often, and for many people that's a real pleasure in their later years.

And even if you never change it, you can still enjoy *thinking* about it. You can experience the warm glow of imagining how much pleasure your bequest will create and how much good it will do too. You may not be there to witness it, but you can still get a good deal of fun from simply *enjoying the thought*.

*Steve is happy to answer all other Ringing and Money questions. His email is [stevecoleman@ringingbooks.co.uk](mailto:stevecoleman@ringingbooks.co.uk)*

Submitted by Peter Sims on request by the KCACR with acknowledgment to The Ringing World and Steve Coleman for the use of the article.

# Horton Kirby Star

This Christmas our tower at St Mary's Horton Kirby acquired a new festive decoration – an illuminated star. This is a copy of one that has been shining from the tower of St Nicholas, Southfleet for the last few Christmases.

Apart from being a traditional Christmas symbol, its creation revealed an unexpected bonus in the encouragement, support and help freely given by a host of people, many with no connection with St Mary's.

This generous assistance ranged from the initial advice given by the Rector of St Nicholas, David Houston, to help with making and assembling the star and the final installation on the tower by 'willing' volunteers. The project was completed in time to allow a 1<sup>st</sup> December switch on which coincides with the annual floodlighting of the church.

Two of our ringers Mick and JP deserve special mention for working on top of the tower and standing on the slippery base of the flagpole in gale force winds and pouring rain to attach the star to the flagpole. Unfortunately due to the awful conditions it was not possible to raise the star as high as we would have liked but plans are already afoot on improvements for next year!

Perhaps a chain of stars all along the Darent Valley!

John Chennery



Photo taken by Martin Bailey

# Dartford Ringers Outing

In January, we joined Crayford for an outing to Essex, which we all thoroughly enjoyed, so we decided to reciprocate by inviting them on an outing around Rochester and Sheppey. As we required some propping we also invited those from Ash who regularly ring with us and a couple from Horton Kirby who have rung at Dartford.

We wanted to arrange the outing around churches where Rupert had not rung so to split the work Brenda would choose the churches and work out the route and I would do the contacting. Brenda looked at the tower map, and chose 6 churches and worked out the route. However when I looked at the road map, there was a serious problem with her route i.e. no bridge to cross the Medway between Halling and Wouldham. A quick rethink swapped Wouldham for Upchurch, so we had Halling, Newington, Upchurch, Queenborough, Minster and Eastchurch. Newington already had a visiting band for the time we wanted so a further swap with them and Upchurch sorted us out.

And so it was on a lovely DRY, sunny November day that our group of 15 ringers met at Halling. The bells were already up so we wasted no time and got on with the ringing. Off to Upchurch next where we were greeted with words of welcome on a notice board, with instructions to leave the bells up for the next band, great, as we were already running a little late. These bells were muffled ready for the Remembrance Day services and sounded really lovely. Next stop was Newington and the bells were up, so straight on to ringing. Very nice bells, in an upper ringing room. We were asked to leave them up as they were going to be muffled that afternoon.



A welcome break for lunch at the Aviator, good food but we were by now quite behind our schedule so those who had finished eating went off to Queenborough and started proceedings while the rest of us finished our meal.

The ringing room there was quite small and the bells sounded quite loud. Off to Minster and half muffled ringing in a lovely open gallery, light and spacious compared with some we have seen. Our final ring was at Eastchurch which again was enjoyable, despite the



gargoyles leering down from the corners of the ringing room.

An unusual feature there was the base of the clock pendulum measuring time on the wall, black against white.



All in all we enjoyed our day, although with hindsight we had not really allowed enough time between towers, the Isle of Sheppey is much bigger than it looks and the distances round Rochester can be deceptive. We would have liked to go earlier in the year, say October before the clocks go back, but this poses difficulties with weddings. Nonetheless we had a good day out and are looking forward to the next.



Esther Correia

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*And remember .....*

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark. Professionals built the Titanic.

Talk is cheap because supply exceeds demand.

Politicians and nappies have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly and for the same reason.

Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

There will always be death and taxes; however, death doesn't get worse every year.

# Cudham Bells Restoration Project

## Part 3



Work on these bells continues, with a number of the ringers involved in the major part of the improvement programme. Lawrence Bond arranged for a block & tackle to be borrowed, and over the last six weeks or so, eight of the ten bells has

been dealt with, meaning that each has been lifted out of its bearings, the bearings thoroughly cleaned and re-greased, and then all put back together. The difference between the bells as they were, and once re-greased, is quite noticeable, and having put the effort in, perhaps we should have done it years ago.

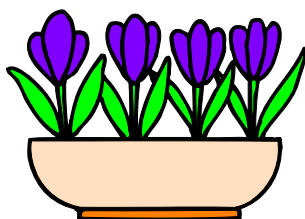
The bells are tightly packed within the tower, meaning that it was a bit tricky getting each raised and lowered again, but with two or three volunteers in a working party, then we were able to comfortably deal with two bells each day. There are now only the tenor & treble left to deal with – the treble should be easy enough, but the tenor has been left until last as it is tucked away in a corner, and not easily accessible.

One other job attended to was that the tenor rope was moved to fall the other side of the wheel, meaning that the ringing position is now below the clock, and much more visible to the other ringers. That meant cutting a fresh garter hole in the wheel, and creating a new hole in the floor. We also had to move the ceiling boss and stop up the old hole, to prevent yet more noise filtering down from the bells.

Moving the fall of the rope has improved the ringing “circle”, which at Cudham was more of a square anyway. With an acquired pulley block, adapted to allow passage of the sally, and advice from Mark Backhouse as to the mechanics involved, we have now got a tenor that is easier to ring (and will become easier still once it has been re-greased) and is more out in the open.

The rest of the improvement programme will now be left until Spring 2010 – when the weather should warm up a bit.

Jon Fry



# Quiz

.....for people who know everything.....

These are not trick questions. They all have straight answers. See how many you can answer without resorting to Google!

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.

2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?

3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?



4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?

5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe and the bottle is genuine, it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?



6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.

7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?

8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, tinned, processed, cooked or in any other form except fresh.

9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S'.





# District Events

District Training Day: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January. [Beckenham](#), St George. 10-4.  
Contact Dom on [training@lewishamdistrct.org.uk](mailto:training@lewishamdistrct.org.uk) for details.

District Quarter Peal Week: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February.  
All(!) District Towers.

Email [quarterweek@lewishamdistrct.org.uk](mailto:quarterweek@lewishamdistrct.org.uk) for details and help.

6 bell Striking Contest: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March, TBC.  
2.30pm draw.  
Method: 240 of any method(s).

District Training Day: Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March. [Beckenham](#), St George. 10-4.  
Contact Dom on [training@lewishamdistrct.org.uk](mailto:training@lewishamdistrct.org.uk) for details.

KCACR Annual General Meeting: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April, Rainham (Rochester District)  
See the [KCACR website](#) for details.

District Meeting: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010, [Ash](#), SS Peter & Paul (TBC)  
3.30pm Bells, 4.30pm Service then tea, meeting and evening ringing.  
Names for tea to [names4tea@lewishamdistrct.org.uk](mailto:names4tea@lewishamdistrct.org.uk)

## Out of the mouths of babes .....

These come from a Catholic primary school test where the children were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments.

In the first book of the Bible, Guinessis, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was Joan of Ark.

Noah built the ark and the animals came on in pears.

Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like Delilah.

Samson slayed the Philistines with the Axe of the Apostles.

Moses led the Jews to the Red sea where they made

unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

Solomon, one of David's sons had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 Decibels.

The Epistels were the wives of the Apostles.

One of the Opposums was St Matthew who was also a taximan.

Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotomy.





# KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS



## LEWISHAM DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held at St Mary Cray on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009

36 people attended the meeting. Peter Sims was present in his role as County Chairman.



#### 1. Election of Chair

In the absence of the District Chairman Rupert Cheeseman was elected to chair the meeting (Proposed: Dominic Meredith; Seconded: Rhiannon Meredith).

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Esther Correia (Dartford), Cathy Cheeseman (Crayford), Ross Hartley, James Hardy and Lizzie Duffey (Beckenham), Nancy Gay (Biggin Hill) and James Rooke (Chelsfield)

#### 3. Minutes of the District Meeting at Dartford

There were no matters arising from the minutes and they were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (Proposed: Lesley Barclay; Seconded: Sue Allport).

#### 4. Election of District Officers

The following members were unanimously elected as district officers

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chairman	Nick Wilkins	Lesley Barclay	Richard George
Secretary	Dominic Meredith	Rupert Cheeseman	Nick Wilkins
Membership Secretary	Rachel Backhouse	Liz Brett	Brenda Barton
Ringling Master	Rupert Cheeseman	Lesley Barclay	Sue Cameron

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
<b>Deputy Ringing Master</b>	Ross Hartley	Chris Webb	Rhiannon Meredith
<b>Training Officer</b>	Dominic Meredith	David Brown	Chris Webb
<b>District Rep</b>	Brenda Barton	Lesley Barclay	Nick Wilkins
<b>District Rep</b>	Sue Cameron	Rachel Backhouse	Sue Allport
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Sue Allport	Nick Wilkins	Brenda Barton
<b>Sales Rep</b>	Jim Rooke	Dominic Meredith	Nick Wilkins

## 5. Election of new members

The following new members were elected:

New Member	Tower	Proposed By	Seconded By
Rebecca Jones	Eltham	Pauline Morley	David Holdridge
Tiffany Jean Kelly	Eltham	Katherine Trill	Pauline Morley
Shelagh Norman	Eltham	Len Morley	Katherine Trill
Chris Goldsmith	Eltham	David Holdridge	Len Morley

## 6. KCACR Committee Meeting Report

Brenda Barton read out her report from the previous committee meeting:

The County public liability insurance has been raised to £2 million.

New KCACR clothing catalogue will shortly be available from the District Sales Rep.

The County Webmaster requested that more items be sent for the website.

Proposed amendments to the Association Rules are being looked at.

The posts of County Publicity Officer and County Training Officer remain unfilled.

It was agreed the rules of the County Eight Bell Competition be altered to read the same as the Six Bell; namely that the judges do not necessarily have to come from outside the Association area.

Information regarding the accident at Northfleet in July can be found on the county site. It has highlighted the need for ringers to ask to see the quinquennial report for their tower. Furthermore there should be a risk assessment completed for ringing and simple

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maintenance for each tower. A generic risk assessment form will be appearing on the County website for guidance.

The next meeting will look at the implications of the latest Child Protection Guidance notes which are due to be implemented late next year. Tower captains will receive a copy from their District Secretary.

The next County meeting will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> November.

The County Six Bell Competition was held at Lynsted (Canterbury District) on 26<sup>th</sup> September. Chelsfield represented Lewisham District and came a close third despite suffering from a broken rope during their test piece.

## **7. 120 Club Results**

	Number	Name	Tower
1 <sup>st</sup>	85	Jan Odell	Foots Cray
2 <sup>nd</sup>	70	Alan Smith	Charlton Kings
3 <sup>rd</sup>	93	120 Club	-
4 <sup>th</sup>	106	120 Club	-

## **8. Forthcoming Events**

The District Meetings for the next year are to be held on the following dates:

9<sup>th</sup> January – Ss Peter and Paul, Bromley (tbc)

17<sup>th</sup> April

10<sup>th</sup> July – St Martin of Tours, Chelsfield (tbc)

9<sup>th</sup> October – St George, Beckenham (tbc)

Rupert requested that all towers consider whether they could host the April meeting as currently no tower had yet volunteered.

The next District Training Day (due to be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> October) has had to be postponed. An alternative date will be found.

The District Call Change Competition will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November at Farningham.

The District Quarter Peal week has been set of 12<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February next year. The intention is that as many firsts as possible are rung during the week.

## **9. AOB**

The secretary outlined the new child protection guidelines which he has received from the KCACR. These will be sent around via e-mail. Paper copies can be sent out on request.

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Certificates for the District Striking Competition were presented.

Brenda Barton organised a raffle for the BRF which raised £?. There will be another at next year's AGM.

## **10. Vote of Thanks**

Rhiannon Meredith proposed a vote of thanks to the St Mary Cray band for organising the tea  
Reverend Chris Kitchener for conducting the service and Derek Longhurst for playing the organ.

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# Agenda

## **The Kent County Association of Change Ringers Lewisham District Quarterly District Meeting at Chelsfield, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual District Meeting at St Mary Cray on 10<sup>th</sup> October
3. Matters arising
4. Election of New Members
5. 120 Club Draw
6. KCACR Committee Report
7. A G Hill Memorial fund
8. Any Other Business
9. Vote of Thanks