



# 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)

APRIL 2010

## Margaret - Now where do we start

**Margaret Eleanor Macey**

**20<sup>th</sup> January 1945 to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

Margaret was born in Bridgewater Somerset on January 20<sup>th</sup> 1945 only daughter of Vernon and Marie Morris. Her parents moved to Bexley Lane in 1946 and it was here that her brother Martin was born in 1947.

Margaret attended Royal Park Primary School and then won a place at Dartford Grammar School for Girls.

Her family attended All Saints and in the 1950 Margaret joined the choir. After grammar school she decided to pursue a career in teaching and went to a college in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire in September 1963. At Easter 1966 she got engaged to Barry and they married here at All Saints on August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1968. They bought a house in Merlin Road, Welling and lived there until February 1976 during which time their two boys were born, Peter in October 1972, and David in September 1974. Towards the end of 1974 they decided to look for properties in Sidcup and went after a house in Wren Road only being beaten to the sell by half an hour. That number was 133, six months later they bought 131.

She returned to full time teaching going back first to Royal Park and then other schools St Peter Chanel, Dulverton, Burnt Oak Lane and Chatsworth and a few more. In 1986 Barry became Churchwarden and Margaret supported him 100%. His fellow Churchwarden

for the majority of his term was Roger Cass and with his wife Jan the four of them visited many Greek islands in the summer holidays. Older church members may recall the articles in the church magazine entitled

Wardens Afloat when they spent time on a narrow boat in the Stoke on Trent area. Some of the situations we got into helped cement a very strong relationship over the last 35 years.



In the early 80's Margaret returned to Bell ringing saying it was something to do on a Saturday while Barry went to football at Portsmouth. She rang her first quarter peal on April 30<sup>th</sup> 1985 and her first peal in 1987. In the early days she enjoyed racing round the countryside seeing how many towers she could ring at in a day, She was encouraged by many people and they have remained long established friends. When Veronica Eagle left Foots Cray in 1990 Margaret became Tower Captain. It was a

difficult job to recruit ringers but she remained up beat and could always rely on local ringers to fill the gaps at weddings. Margaret was extremely supportive of the Lewisham District, whether it be attending District events, meetings or organising the Ringers' choir for the annual carol service. She attended many ringing courses as a helper, most notably the Hereford Ringing Course, which runs for a four day period after Easter for students

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**Margaret.....**

who wish to increase their ringing knowledge. The practical sessions were hard work and the evenings very lively, I am told.

To those going to Hereford this Easter, think that Margaret is still with you, enjoy the event and raise a glass or two, or three in her memory.

Up to November 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 Margaret had rung at 3249 different towers, that is dedication for you.

In 1993 for our Silver Wedding we visited Egypt but unfortunately Margaret was taken ill with a mild stroke in the second week. She made a full recovery. We had intended to go back again but the years rolled on and we never made it.

For our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary we spent a week on the island of Madeira a beautiful place and we were saddened to see on the television the devastation due to the heavy rain and mud slides.

As mentioned earlier she was a choir member for nearly sixty years and took part in many big events at All Saints and also at Rochester. She has seen Rectors come and go, Churchwardens come and go, and she has remained a rock to the end. She would be very pleased to see so many people here to celebrate her life.

A few years ago she took over as administrator to the joint parishes of St James and All Saints, and threw herself fully into this highly responsible post.

She was overjoyed when Cordelia who was 4 last October was born to Peter and Kirsty and it is hoped that she will be here at some time today.

Margaret will be missed by so many people she did so much to help others without thinking about herself. She was full of life, a kind lively person, fun loving, generous, full of encouragement, an inspiration, marvellous friend, these were some of the comments people kindly put in their cards. We were on course to reach 50 years together when the cruel hand of fate took her away.

May she rest in peace.

*Eulogy given by Barry Macey at the service of Thanksgiving for Margaret's life on 26th March 2010.*

# Editorial



Thank you once again to everyone who has sent in articles and news for this edition—especially those of you who contribute every time. I really do appreciate it.

This newsletter is a bit of a mix of news—some happy with personal achievements in the Quarter Peal week or tower success in the Striking Competition but also sad with losing a good friend to the Lewisham district in Margaret Macey—or ‘Aunty Margaret’ as some of you knew her.

She will be greatly missed by everybody. I didn’t know her well but I know she helped our new recruits to learn the art of bell ringing when our tower was being restored for the Millennium. She wasn’t keen on our tower stairs (not many are) but she still came along to our early practices when she could. We tried to repay her a little by helping out at Footscray for a while on those scary tiny bells!

She was very supportive to me personally when I first took on the task of Newsletter Editor. She said she was really pleased that it was going to continue as it would be a shame for it to stop and she sent me news for it when she could.

I think she would be quite moved with all the tributes paid to her and all the ringing that has been done in her memory. I hope you all enjoy reading about it.

*SueX*

## Answers to the Quiz For those who know everything.....

- 1.Boxing
- 2.Niagra Falls—the rim wears back about 2 feet a year.
- 3.Asparagus & Rhubarb—yes it is a vegetable.
- 4.Strawberry
- 5.Bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small and wired in place for the whole growing season.
6. Dwarf, Dwell & Dwindle.
- 7.Period, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces & ellipses
8. Lettuce
9. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, stockings, skis, skates, snow shoes & stilts.

Sorry ..... no room for questions—I hope you kept January’s Newsletter!!

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## Calling all Young Ringers

For all you under 30’s there is a Facebook Group you may be interested in called ‘Young Bell Ringers in the UK ’ and also a website designed especially for you at [www.youngbellringers.tk](http://www.youngbellringers.tk)

# 

## **Foots Cray, Kent**

Sunday, 28 February 2010 in 32 mins (3 cwt)

**1260 Doubles (4m/1p)** (360 each St Martins, St Simons, Plain Bob;  
120 Grandsire and 60 Stedman)

- 1 Garry S Barr
- 2 David P Macey (C)
- 3 Alexander J Britton
- 4 Jeremy R Byers
- 5 James J Hardy

Rung following morning eucharist in celebration for the life and contribution (Tower Captain, chorister and Parish Administrator) to All Saints church of Margaret Macey (20/01/1945 - 27/02/2010). RIP.

## **Beckenham, Kent**

Sunday, 28 February 2010 in 0h 42m (14)

**1273 Grandsire Triples**

- 1 Helen J Valuks
- 2 Christine M Webb
- 3 Ross E Hartley
- 4 Rhiannon M Meredith
- 5 Roderick R Horton
- 6 Alexander J Britton
- 7 James J Hardy (c)
- 8 Elizabeth Duffey

Rung in fond memory of Margaret E Macey who died yesterday. Jeremy Byers and Dominic Meredith wish to be associated with this quarter peal.

## **Southwark, Surrey**

Cathedral Church of St Saviour and St Mary Overie

Sunday, 28 February 2010 in 61mins (48cwt)

**1346 Cambridge Surprise Maximus**

- 1 Mariko Whyte
- 2 Chistopher N McCarthy
- 3 Heather M Forster
- 4 Jonathan R Slack
- 5 Dominic D Meredith
- 6 Michael J Uphill
- 7 Rupert J Cheeseman
- 8 Michael J Palmer
- 9 Cathy L A Cheeseman
- 10 Luke O Camden
- 11 Ian G Mills
- 12 Peter Valuks (C)

Rung in memory of Margaret Macey.

First Maximus: 1, 5.

## **Crayford, Kent**

Tuesday, 2 March 2010 in 0:42 (11-2-15)

**1260 Doubles (3m)**

(3m: 360 Reverse Canterbury, 480 Grandsire, 420 Plain Bob)

- 1 Alison Warner
- 2 Brenda Barton
- 3 Cathy Cheeseman
- 4 Andrew Sinclair
- 5 Rupert Cheeseman (C)
- 6 Trevor Warner

Rung in celebration of the life of Margaret E Macey and as a 10th birthday tribute to Nick MacCormack, nephew of the 4.

## **Bristol, Bristol**

SS Phillip and Jacob

Wednesday, 3 March 2010 in 0:45 (19cwt)

**1280 Spliced Surprise Major**

(4m: 512 Rutland, 256 each Cambridge, Yorkshire and Superlative;  
32 com)

- 1 Richard Webster
- 2 Steph Rueff
- 3 Emma L Pym
- 4 Simon Percy
- 5 Tom Pelham
- 6 Matt Dawson
- 7 Ed Marchbank (C)
- 8 Jack Aylward

First spliced: 3 & 5

Most spliced: 2

First spliced as conductor.

Rung in memory of Margeret Macey of Foots Cray.

## **Benenden, Kent**

Friday, 5 March 2010

**1280 8-Spliced Surprise Major (BCRSNLPY)**

- 1 Pat Phipps
- 2 Julian R. Lees
- 3 Karen Lebon
- 4 Louise G. Pink
- 5 Paul A. Barton
- 6 Ian Wiltshire
- 7 Alan Pink
- 8 Richard H. Edwards (c)

First 8-spliced: 2

In memory of Margaret Macey (27/02) - Foots Cray

## **Nutfield, Surrey**

St Peter and St Paul

Friday, 5 March 2010 in 43m (11-2-2)

**1272 Chester Surprise Minor**

- 1 Alan Streeter
- 2 Kate Desbottes
- 3 Anne Rueff
- 4 Andrew Holland
- 5 Richard Wallis
- 6 John Hawes (c)

Dedicated to the memory of Margaret Macey of Foots Cray.

## **Chelsfield, Kent**

Sunday, 7 March 2010 in 42m (11)

**1260 Grandsire Triples**

- 1 Nancy Gay
- 2 Bob Pruden
- 3 Clare Pruden
- 4 Lesley Barclay
- 5 Philippa Rooke
- 6 Nicholas Wilkins(c)
- 7 Jim Rooke
- 8 Keith Burton

To celebrate the birth of Daniel Joseph Boulton, grandson for the tenor ringer. Also to celebrate the life of Margaret Macey.

**Maidstone, Kent**

All Saints

Tuesday, 16 March 2010 in 3hrs 9mins (32 cwt)

**5080 East Riding Surprise Royal**

Composed by: D F Morrison No 4081

- 1 Ian G Mills
- 2 Michael J Uphill
- 3 Diana R Wraight
- 4 Karen Lebon
- 5 Mark Chittenden-Pile
- 6 Damien S Smith
- 7 Peter W Dickinson
- 8 David W Grimwood
- 9 John B Keeler (C)
- 10 J Alan Ainsworth

Rung in memory of Margaret Macey

**Erith, Greater London**

St John the Baptist

Saturday, 20 March 2010 in 3h3 (15)

**5024 Bristol S Major**

Composed by: David G Hull (No 13)

- 1 Simon J Davies
- 2 Nicola J Turner
- 3 Colin M Turner
- 4 Elizabeth A Barnes
- 5 David P Macey
- 6 Stephen A Coaker (Cond)
- 7 David J Dearnley
- 8 Paul N Mounsey

Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Macey.

**Foots Cray, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 38 mins (3 cwt)

**1260 Grandsire Doubles**

- 1 Matthew J Hilling
- 2 Anne L Rueff
- 3 David P Macey (C)
- 4 Alexander J Britton
- 5 David P Hilling

Rung prior to the service of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Macey.

**Chelsfield, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 0:42 (10-3-14)

**1260 Grandsire Triples**

- 1 Helen J Valuks
- 2 Steff Rueff
- 3 Philippa Rooke
- 4 Lesley Barclay
- 5 Cathy Cheeseman
- 6 Jonathan Slack
- 7 Rupert Cheeseman (C)
- 8 Jim Rooke

Rung in celebration of the life of Margaret E Macey on the day of her funeral

**St Mary Cray, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 41 mins (12)

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

- 1 Brenda Barton
- 2 Mark A S Jones
- 3 Sue Cameron

4 Nigel Pointer

5 James J Hardy (C)

6 Elizabeth Duffey

Rung in memory of Margaret Macey, before the service of Thanksgiving for her life.

**Crayford, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 0:43 (11-3-15)

**1260 Plain Bob Triples**

- 1 Sue Cameron
- 2 Brenda Barton
- 3 Cathy Cheeseman
- 4 Rupert Cheeseman (C)
- 5 Jeremy Byers
- 6 Andrew Rodliffe
- 7 Richard Pearce
- 8 Trevor Warner

Rung in thanksgiving of the life of Margaret E Macey whose funeral took place earlier today.

1st on 8: 1, 50th together: 2 &amp; 4

**Eynsford, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 41 (10)

**1250 Superlative S Major**

- 1 Mark Backhouse
- 2 Rachel Backhouse
- 3 Christine Webb
- 4 Alan Saunders
- 5 Richard Barker (1st in m.)
- 6 David Brown
- 7 Rupert Cheeseman
- 8 David Hilling (C)

Rung in memory of Margaret Macey on the day of her funeral.

Local ringer Geoff Mills and wife Peggy remember Margaret fondly. Geoff was unable to ring due to a holiday booking.

**Horton Kirby, Kent**

Friday, 26 March 2010 in 44m (5)

**1282 Cambridge S Major**

- 1 Daphne Paterson
- 2 Matthew Hilling (C)
- 3 Diane Reynolds
- 4 Lesley Barclay
- 5 Dominic Meredith
- 6 Martin Luffman
- 7 Ian Mills
- 8 Nick Wilkins

Rung in memory of Margaret Macey on the day of her funeral.

**St Mary Cray, Kent**

Sunday, 28 March 2010 in 41 mins (12)

**1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

- 1 Clare L Osmond
- 2 Nigel Pointer (C)
- 3 Rhiannon M Meredith
- 4 Jeremy R Byers
- 5 Dominic D Meredith
- 6 Colin Osmond

First on six - 1 &amp; 6

Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Macey.

Rosemary Stretton would like to be associated with this quarter.



# Margaret Macey Remembered

## These are a few personal memories of Margaret through my journey in bell ringing which started about 17 years ago

It is safe to say that Margaret Macey came in to my ringing life fairly early!

My memories are I that I met her no more than 20 minutes in to my first handling lesson at Beckenham.

She walked up the stairs and introduced herself with

"You must be the new learner I've heard all about" and that was how our friendship started.



It taught me a salutary lesson that ringing is a very small community with a very good grape vine!

Over the coming months, as I put names to faces and towers, I learnt that Margaret was actually tower captain at Foots Cray and was one of many regular Beckenham visitors. She was always made most welcome even though senior members of the Beckenham band at the time did wind her up about her own tower with comments about her "Foots Cray Flowerpots" which always elicited a stern rebuke.

My next memory is of Margaret and Barry's Silver Wedding. During their subsequent holiday in Egypt, Margaret suffered a stroke which left her unable to write, barely speak and more importantly unable to ring.

Our friendship grew as I became a minor member in the team who helped with her rehabilitation – she was determined to get back to ringing and my involvement was to act as "chauffeur" on Friday nights to Eynsford practice. The evenings generally ended up with us sitting in my car outside "Wren Road" chatting about life, the world and the ringing universe – it got to be a joke that I should turn the engine off as we were often out there up to an hour and we might annoy the neighbours!



Margaret went on to make a full recovery ringing surprise major and royal (high level ringing on 8 and 10 bells) and occasionally coming up to Southwark Cathedral to ring on 12 just to show her support at district events, but she openly admitted that she didn't really enjoy the "Southwark Experience".

Other memories include bumping in to Margaret and Gary Barr on my first grab day – first they were in front of us in the queue, but soon, only a couple of towers later they were

behind us. Thank goodness for the lunch break which allowed them to catch up? Margaret I later learnt was an inveterate tower grabber who clocked up over 3,000 towers in her career – no mean feat.



I know one of her great loves was "The Hereford Ringing course" which has inevitably become part of my ringing life too. I remember going in my first year as a nervous helper – Margaret was there with an encouraging comment, later as I got to know some of the regulars I was invited to the "infamous" gin parties, where who should I meet but Margaret.

She was involved in the organisation of the "Pre-Hereford" tours where ringing friends met to ring and "prepare" for the coming Hereford course. Margaret was sometimes called rather disparagingly "Auntie Margaret" (I have to say it was always said with affection) but despite this ribbing, she always had a smile.

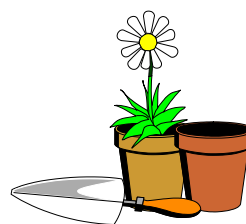
More recently as part of our life in the larger family of ringers we have both shared the privilege of standing as god parents for Rebecca Hardy – if you are up there listening Margaret I promise to do better.



I am sure that all of you here today have your own memories and I know that I have only scratched the surface of Margaret's many ringing achievements but throughout the years I have been privileged to know Margaret she always had time for a chat, a word of encouragement, a joke and managed somehow to link the various ringing generations together so old or young, experienced or beginner we all had fun and a laugh together.

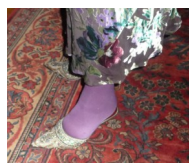
I am sure, as with everyone else here, we will all miss you so very much, but whatever happens in the years to come, in my mind the bells of Foots Cray will always be "Margaret's Flower Pots"

Jeremy Byers



# Eltham & Chislehurst Ringers Dinner

These feet were clad for dancing!  
That was the motto of most of the ladies, and some of the men, at this



year's Ringers Dinner. Although as you can see, opinion differed over what made for appropriate footwear.



However before the twisting and shaking could begin, there was the small matter of the meal. This year we attended the Bull's Head in Chislehurst, where we were giving the use of the downstairs restaurant. It was a *bit* of a challenge settling everyone into the centre of the horseshoe arrangement as only one side's chair could be pulled out at a time, but eventually everyone was in.



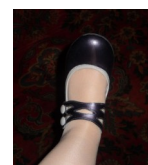
And then they could get up again to go and get their choice of meal!

There were no complaints about the food though. Very generous portions of tasty chicken casserole & dumplings, meatballs or ratatouille. All with salad and bread. Some of us may also have had a nip of wine or two. In

fact it's a miracle we were able to leave our seats to dance. No dancing until after the formalities though. A summary of the year was prepared and delivered by the Eltham Tower Captain David Holdridge. And then the main organiser, Jean Pailing, pulled raffle numbers out of a bag to re-home the assorted bottles, box and plants (my apologies to those who only ended up with one of my spider plants!). She then received a surprise prize herself.



And then the moment we'd, mostly, all been waiting for as the tables were moved away and the singers tuned up to deliver their medley of old time favourites. It took a while to warm up but soon a strong contingent had the Bull's Head a-rockin' and a-rollin'. Much to the amusement of the sensible few who took to the sofas and one or two intrigued pub goers.



Elizabeth Trill

## Training Day - January 2010

At first we were a little apprehensive about attending a training day, and wondered what would be involved. Having been ringing for about 16 months we still feel like beginners, so would we be the only beginners learning basic ringing and holding everyone else back?

Well, we needn't have worried! Everyone we met, tutors and helpers and students were friendly and welcoming (it's a ringers' trademark!) and all the other students felt the same as us – that they would never master the method they were currently practising.

The students were a cross-section of abilities ranging from one who had just started ringing, one needing help with call changes, to a more advanced ringer 'polishing' her skills and doubling as a helper. For everybody, it seemed the experience of ringing in a band of 'experts' who focus on your specific needs is a sure way of improving ringing technique.

The training day took place at St George's in Beckenham with 10 bells, giving the chance to ring on the back or front 6, and was organised by Dominic Meredith, who did a fabulous job of keeping everyone on track and dividing the ringing fairly between the students. Their only problem was that the tower was FREEZING – invest in a heater, please! But on the plus side, they had chocolate biscuits in the tea breaks.

Without mentioning names, every helper gave us tips and advice that we found really useful and encouraged us to feel that we were actually making progress.

We would definitely recommend attending a training day to ringers of whatever ability, look forward to attending another training day ourselves, and look further forward to the time when we can be helpers!

Shelagh Norman & Chris Goldsmith, Eltham

## THE MERIDIAN RINGERS (Greenwich, Woolwich and Deptford)

*Auctioned to ring for 60th Birthday Celebration!*

In November 2009, one of our ringers, Dan Cocker, asked if we would consider being an auction lot for his firm's Christmas Function. The company, Allen & Overy, one of the foremost law firms in the City of London, do a lot of fund raising for The British Red Cross. The idea was that we would be auctioned to ring a quarter peal to celebrate a particular occasion that the successful bidder wanted to mark. We were expecting a modest sum, but were astounded when Dan told us that our lot had reached £500 - one of the highest bids of the evening.

The successful bidder was Luke Muchamore who wanted to mark his father's 60th birthday celebrations in March 2010. The Muchamore family live in Watford, so we eventually decided to arrange the quarter peal in the City of London, rather than at Greenwich. Dan kindly arranged the tower for us - for various reasons, we settled on St. Botolph without, Bishopsgate, London. Many thanks to John Adams, the Tower Captain, for helping with this. The bells at St. Botolph's are not the easiest to ring, not least due to the fact that the tenor of the 1782 Patrick and Osborn ring of eight is currently cracked and that the bells are quite noisy inside the tower.

We decided to go for safety and settled on a quarter of Plain Bob Doubles on the front six. We met Aubrey, who was celebrating his 60th birthday outside - he was only told what Luke had arranged a few minutes beforehand - he thought he was having a family celebration in The City and was quite amazed as to what was going to happen in the next hour!

A nicely struck quarter was duly completed - witnessed by the Muchamore clan in the spacious ringing chamber. After the quarter, we gave each of the Muchamore family their first ringing lesson on backstrokes. The quarter also marked the fact that our Tenor ringer had just collected his Freedom Pass!!

Afterwards, we were obviously, in true ringers' style, intending to mark the occasion by visiting a local hostelry after the event - Dan suggested that due to the fact that Thursday nights in the Liverpool Street area can be rather crowded and chaotic, he would arrange refreshments back at Allen & Overy's catering suites. We had a wonderful time there - they even laid on bottles of London Pride for us - as well as the canapés, wine and other snacks, whilst looking out over the City, Canary Wharf and the O2 - we couldn't quite make out Greenwich church - maybe it can be seen in daylight?

It was a splendid occasion and in the process we managed to raise a fair sum for charity - I trust we will be auctioned off again next Christmas.

St Botolph without Bishopsgate, London  
Thursday, 11th March, 2009 in 45 minutes

### 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Daniel R Cocker
2. Graham Long
3. Jim Odell
4. Jeremy Gilliland
5. Bill Lanyon (C)
6. Alan Munden

Rung by The Meridian Ringers in celebration of the sixtieth birthday of Aubrey Muchamore. Also, to celebrate the tenor ringer's 60th birthday.

200th quarter peal: 2

**Graham Long**



Graham Long, Bill Lanyon, Jim Odell, Aubrey Muchamore, Alan Munden, Jeremy Gilliland, Dan Cocker

## Training Dates

The next three district training days will be on

**22<sup>nd</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> August and 23<sup>rd</sup> October.**

If you are interested in attending any of these please contact me at [training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk](mailto:training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk).

Dominic Meredith, Training Officer



# NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

## ASH-BY-WROTHAM

*Practice Saturday 9:30am*

Greetings from Ash  
We have been busy in the last 3 months.

Immediately after Christmas, we spent a cold but sweaty and filthy few days getting our bells out of the tower and into safe storage. The first working day we then took the bells to Whitechapel where they will be tuned, fitted with cannon retaining headstocks and be re-hung



Lowering the four with all new running gear. In mid-January we took ringers and congregation to see the bells in the foundry.



A visit that was enjoyed by all and certainly gave new and non ringers an insight into the complexities of the bells. One member of the party unfortunately missed the

experience by being taken ill at the foundry and had to be taken by ambulance for a 3 day stay in

Tuning the two the Royal London, he's now back on his feet. Since then we have been getting regular updates (thanks Mark) and soon we will be picking up the bits for the frame reinforcement.

In the absence of the bells, we have had regular working parties in the tower and several trip to the tip, as well as visits from the builder. We are grateful to Erith, Holy Trinity Dartford and the Cinque Ports Ringing Centre for allowing us to join in their practices will we are bell-less. Still, the bells should be in their proper place in time for a rededication service scheduled for May the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 pm. All are very welcome. If you wish to ring after the service please let me know in advance so I can get a running order together. It would be a kindness to include one or more of the local band to help us progress. 720 or 5 minutes a slot. If you can give an indication of what you will be ringing that would also be helpful.

Cheers from the bottom right of the map  
John and Gabrielle

## BECKENHAM

*Practice Thursday 19:50*

## BEXLEY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

## BICKLEY

*Practice Wednesday 19:30*

## BIGGIN HILL

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

## BROMLEY

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

## BROMLEY COMMON

*Practice Thursday 19:45*

## CHELSEFIELD

*Practice Monday 20:00*

## CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)

*Practice Wednesday 19.15*

## CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## CRAYFORD

*Practice Tuesday 19:45*

Practice night continues to be generally well attended. For the first time in years we recently spent an entire evening ringing on 8 bells - mixing between Plain Hunt, Plain Bob and Grandsire Triples. Cambridge minor can also occasionally be attempted along with plenty of Plain Bob Doubles. We rang a quarter for Quarter Peal Week. Brian ringing a good one for his first inside. We also rang a couple of quarters in memory of Margaret.

At the end of February we went on a tower outing to East Kent. We had an enjoyable day visiting Sellindge, Stowting, Elham and Kennington. We ended up in the pub earlier than expected after a lock out at Little Chart.

Rupert



## CUDHAM

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

Quarter Peal Week this year saw the local band at Cudham score its first "unaided" quarter for an awful long time - some say the first in living memory. We gathered together on the Friday evening, and set about a simple quarter of Plain Bob Doubles, as that's about the limit of our collective abilities at the moment.

After a bit of an early wobble, the ringing settled down, and we were looking good for a quarter in a reasonable time..... but then it all fell apart rather rapidly, and efforts to keep it going didn't really work. So, we stopped after half an hour's effort, and decided to start again. As many of us had successfully rung the quarter at Downe earlier in the week, we really could not afford to give up so easily.

This time, everyone was a lot more confident, and the striking was more assured than before. It seemed to me that the calls came round so much quicker, and the quarter came round in 47 minutes. With that scored, we may well try something more adventurous next time, which we hope will be achieved a lot sooner than the gap since the last quarter by an all local band

We have got an 11 year old recruit who is learning to handle a bell at the moment and we are hoping that the Guides (who are celebrating their centenary this year) will produce some volunteers to learn to ring so that they can ring at Cudham for the Centenary church service - We have told them that they need to get their finger out !! If they manage it there is an appropriate badge that can be earned, not sure which one though!!

Jon Fry & Lawrence Bond

## DARTFORD

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## DOWNE

*Practice Thursday 20:00 & 1st Monday Joint Practice with Cudham at Downe*

The ringers at Downe are improving well, now that practice night has moved to Thursdays, but a full quarter for Quarter Peal Week by a completely local band would be a bit of a stretch for most. However, with help from their neighbours at Cudham, a band was assembled on the Monday, with one - John Bowers - from Downe, and the remainder from Cudham.

Our target was a simple Plain Bob quarter, and the band soon settled down to their task, with good striking, and no real

calamities along the way. The quarter was scored after 48 minutes, with two "firsts", and as John admitted afterwards, his first for "over forty years", which I think is a pretty good achievement in itself.

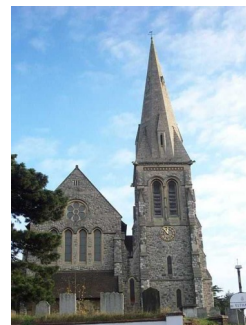
The rest of the band are steadily making good progress, using a method called Nervous Breakdown, to work towards ringing Plain Bob confidently. Most can now get through a plain course of this adapted "method", and we hope to move on to Plain Bob once all are content with their own progress with that - hopefully later this year. Tower captain Simon Sleath has a kidney transplant op scheduled for April, and if that is successful, then he hopes to return to ringing more often, which will only benefit the band."

Jon Fry

## ELTHAM

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

By the time you read this we will, like so many others, have held our AGM during Holy Week. At which we will have lots of positive things to report - not least being the news that we managed to get 5 people ringing their first quarters in quarter peal week. OK I'll stop boasting about that now, although thanks to Len for organising everyone and everyone who rang around the first timers.



I think that officially now means we no longer have any learners. However we haven't sat back on our laurels. Just because the ringing chamber is now cosy on a Sunday, we still want to maintain our profile. So we intend to have a Tower Open Day to introduce ourselves to the members in our church to whom we are currently little more than noise makers!

And on the social side we are as ever active, with an article on our annual dinner elsewhere in this newsletter (sorry no prizes for guessing who the feet belong to).

Katherine Trill

## ERITH (Christ Church)

*Practice Monday 20:00*

Ringling is now a family affair for the Scarths! Tom Scarth has been ringing here for many years. A few years ago, his daughter Eloise started and is becoming a very competent ringer. Last year Tom's wife Shirley and son Anthony decide to join them and they are now regular Sunday ringers. They are mastering call changes and have started to ring Plain Hunt.

We attempted a Quarter Peal (Reverse Canterbury Doubles with 6, 7, 8 cover) during our practice on February 15<sup>th</sup> as part of the Lewisham Quarter Peal Week but unfortunately the attempt failed near the end!

We took part in the Striking Competition at Dartford in March.

Elizabeth Brett

## ERITH (St John the Baptist)

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## EYNSFORD

*Practice 1st (Surprise Major) & 3rd Friday 20:00*

The first Friday major practice at Eynsford in March enjoyed an attendance record with 22 people present. The ringing chamber just about coped. Various Surprise methods were rung as well as some Double Norwich and, of course, some Stedman Triples.

At the recent E&F AGM Martin Luffman stood down as Tower Captain after 8 years in the role and David Hilling was elected. Tony Fisher continues as Secretary.

Two recruits, mature chaps, are applying themselves well. They could well help us to mount a challenge in the call change competition later this year.

David Hilling

## FARNINGHAM

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

See the notice for the 2010 Farningham Trophy on Sunday 27 June, the church's Patronal Festival. Book the date, enjoy a rural Sunday afternoon in the Summer - and have some fun in the handbell tune ringing contest.

David Hilling

## FOOTS CRAY

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## HAYES

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

## HORTON KIRBY

*Practice Thursday 20.00*

When I first thought about writing our news I didn't think there was much to report but I realise now that there is quite a bit.



We continue to strive with Bob Doubles, one step (or should I say bell) forward and two back but Lesley was rewarded for all her hard work when a couple of weeks ago we rang it, almost blow perfect on Sunday morning – even though Karen was still jet lagged from her trip to New Zealand. A feat which I must say we haven't attempted since!

On the social side we had our Christmas meal in a local pub with lots of friends – only one ringer couldn't make it and that was an achievement in itself if you only knew the difficulties there were finding a date. It was a good evening and the meal was excellent. A definite plus was that most of us could walk or stagger home afterwards.

In March we had our annual dance with The Ian Petrie Band. The mix of rock and roll and barn dancing goes down very well and it's always a sell out – the foods pretty good too!

Last Thursday as it was holy week we spent the evening cleaning the ringing room so it is now nice and shining – for a couple of weeks anyway until the spiders wake up and start spinning again. Must try putting some conkers in there.....

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*

## WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD

**The Meridian Ringers**



# Genus - Bellringer, Species - Organiser

We all know that bell ringing is a rather strange hobby and that campanologists or as we like to be known, ringers, come in all shapes, sizes, and abilities

Within the Genus Bellringer, there are several species that have been classified:

Sunday Service Ringer  
Mad Peal Ringer (anything over 100 peals qualifies you)  
Tower Grabber  
Composer  
Conductor

And of course within these species are sub species such as 3 & 4 bell tower grabber, Steadman only peal ringer, etc.

Of course the one species that I have left out is "organiser".

Inevitably within a tower there is normally one organiser, or if you are really lucky there are a couple, who fight it out to arrange your life, book dates in your diary that you haven't even thought of and are a mere distant thought. I'm normally worrying about Monday on Monday, let alone next Saturday in three and a half months time when we're going out for "X" quarter peals, lunch and a good time. What they forget to tell you is that "X" is a large number so you will end up with sore hands, there's an early start, conveniently relegated to the small print of the offer and a long trip to Greater Widget's Bottom an anti clockwise 6 which are really rare (and of course nearly unringable – Stowting may be their true name, but of course I couldn't possibly comment!).

The "Organiser" can actually become a person with immense power, you don't wish to offend them as you may not be invited EVER again, and indeed I have seen ringers prostrating themselves in penitence (normally in the pub) when they have forgotten to turn up to an event (normally a peal).

The other trick to watch for is the approaching organiser – normally on about the 2<sup>nd</sup> pint post ringing. They approach with diary in hand and extract a faint promise to attend the next event – the following day normally results in an email arriving through the beer induced haze swirling around your head confirming that you did indeed agree to ring in 6 months time – don't forget!

All this is said in jest, but the reason for writing were the comments overhead from two organiser's prior to district quarter peal week which ran along the lines, "I am really not looking forward to this", "18 quarters and 160 ropes with ringers names on" "we're three ringers short and we've tried everyone" "bl\*\*dy \*\*\*\*\* hasn't organised a thing" "bl\*\*dy \*\*\*\*\* has only just got to me about the tower"

"so and so can't have us a 11-30 am, they've got a service but we can go at 5-30" etc .

To the guys reading this who may well know who I am referring to – thanks for all the hard work. It was worth it and please do it again.

Jeremy Byers

PS If you are ever pestered by organiser's please remember the two letter word "No" - I dare you to use it and live!!  
.....

## Farningham Trophy

**Sunday 27th June 2009**  
**Draw 2.30pm**

Enjoy this sociable event and the delightful  
Farningham Bells.

All bands accommodated  
Call changes, doubles or minor.

Handbell Tune ringing contest

BBQ & refreshments

Contact David Hilling with indications of  
interest and for rules

[dphilling@btinternet.com](mailto:dphilling@btinternet.com)



## Ringin' Master says...

Thank you to everyone who took part in Quarter Peal week and helped make it such a success. 34 quarters were scored altogether and there were attempts in 27 of the 31 district towers. Unfortunately an attempt at Greenwich had to be cancelled due to the start of works to install a mobile phone mast and quarters were lost at West Wickham, Erith CC, Hayes, Beckenham and Chelsfield. Of the 34 scored, 27 had at least one home tower ringer in the band.

Over 90 ringers took part with 81 successfully scoring and 9 people ringing their first quarters. So special congratulations to John, Bryony, Rebecca, Simon, Tiffany, Jonathan, Chris, Jon and Shelagh and may you ring many more! There were 33 firsts of one sort or another. Helen rang in the most quarters with 16 closely followed by David and myself. There were 10 different conductors.

Plain Bob Doubles was easily the most popular method rung. Other notable performances were a district band ringing Bristol Maximus at St Magnus, London S Royal at Beckenham, ringing two quarters of Surprise Major at Horton Kirby and Bromley at the same time and the first by an all Cudham band "for years".

Full details of all the quarters rung can be found on the Quarter Week page on the district website. Any feedback would be welcomed on how things could be improved for next year.

There was a better turn out than in previous years for the District Striking competition with 5 teams entering on the back 6 (mostly!) at Dartford. Beckenham broke Chelsfield's winning run and go on to represent the District in the County competition in September.

And finally, the District lost one of its most loyal members in February when Margaret Macey died after a short illness. I've know Margaret for most of my ringing life. She was always great company, be it in the tower or the pub, and could be relied upon to help out whenever she could. There are so many things I will remember Margaret for; haring around the countryside on a grab day, talking long into the night at the Hereford Ringing Course and of course ringing on her unique Foots Cray bells in their pigeon loft being just a few of them.

Rest in peace 'Aunty' Margaret.

Rupert

## Chairman's bit...

At the time of preparing these few words, I'm not certain of the venue for the next Quarterly Meeting. Ash had intended to host the meeting but I understand the bells were not expected to be back in action in time and Rupert was trying to secure Bromley Parish. We will see.

What I am certain of, however, is that the intended date of the Quarterly Meeting, 17th April, coincides with Nancy & Doug's wedding at Biggin Hill. I'm sure everyone will join me in wishing Nancy & Doug all the best for their future together. The attendance at the Quarterly Meeting may be depleted due to ringing friends attending the wedding but that is fully understood.

Since the last QM at Chelsfield on a snowy Saturday in January, there has been a successful quarter peal week and striking competition at Dartford. Well done to all the achievements in the quarter peals and to Beckenham for winning the striking competition. Beckenham go forward to the final of the KCACR which is to be hosted this year by the Lewisham District so we will be interested to hear which tower in our District has been chosen to host the event.

We have all been extremely saddened to learn of the sudden death of Margaret Macey of Foots Cray. Margaret was very popular and most helpful to ringers in the District and further afield and will be very badly missed by everyone but most of all to her family to whom we pass on our condolences."

Nick





# Lewisham District Quarter Peal Week 2010

## Quarter Peal No: 1

ASH BY WROTHAM, Kent  
At SS Peter & Paul  
Tenor: 9 ½cwt in A  
On Sunday, 20 December 2009 in 43 minutes  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Brian Ashmore
2. Brenda J Barton
3. Mark D Backhouse
4. Cathy L A Cheeseman
5. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)
6. John Stook

Before 9 Lessons and Carols. Last quarter on the bells before for rehangng and retuning. To kick off the Lewisham District Quarter Peal week... 8 weeks early! First quarter; 6. First quarter for 20 years!; 1. 50th quarter; 2.

## Quarter Peal No: 2

BECKENHAM, Kent  
At St George  
Tenor: 14 -2-18 in F  
On Friday, 12 February 2010 in 44 minutes  
1260 Plain Bob Triples

1. Rosemary A Stretton
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Christine M Webb
4. Jonathan R Slack
5. Dominic D Meredith
6. Jeremy R Byers
7. David P Macey (C)
8. David S Brown

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week and as a get well compliment to Margaret Macey.  
1st on 8; 1.

## Quarter Peal No: 3

FARNINGHAM, Kent  
At SS Peter & Paul  
Tenor: 9 -2-23 in Ab  
On Saturday, 13 February 2010 in 40 minutes  
1260 Plain Bob Minor

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Benedict V Valuks
3. Cathy L A Cheeseman
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)
6. Ian G Mills

## Quarter Peal No: 4

EYNSFORD, Kent  
At St Martin  
Tenor: 9 -2-13 in F#  
On Saturday, 13 February 2010 in 45 minutes  
1288 Grandsire Triples

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Ian G Mills (C)
3. Geoffrey S Mills
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. Rupert J Cheeseman
6. Cathy L A Cheeseman
7. Diane J Reynolds
8. Benedict V Valuks

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week and as a Get Well compliment to Margaret Macey.

## Quarter Peal No: 5

SHOREHAM, Kent  
At SS Peter & Paul  
Tenor: 9 -1-16 in G  
On Saturday, 13 February 2010 in 40 minutes  
1260 Grandsire Doubles

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Cathy L A Cheeseman
3. Benedict V Valuks
4. Philippa J Rooke
5. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)
6. Geoffrey S Mills

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st Grandsire; 3.

## Quarter Peal No: 6

ERITH, Kent  
At St John the Baptist  
Tenor: 15 cwt in F#  
On Saturday, 13 February 2010 in 45 minutes  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Margaret Heald
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Benedict V Valuks
4. Rachel A Backhouse (C)
5. Mark D Backhouse
6. Cathy L A Cheeseman

## Quarter Peal No: 7

DARTFORD, Kent  
At Holy Trinity  
Tenor: 9 -2-16 in G  
On Sunday, 14 February 2010 in 43 minutes  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Deryck W Jones
2. Brenda J Barton
3. Rupert J Cheeseman
4. Andrew Sinclair (C)
5. Berkeley M Ferro
6. John Stook

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st as treble.

## Quarter Peal No: 8

CITY OF LONDON, London  
At St Magnus the Martyr  
Tenor: 26 -3-9 in D  
On Sunday, 14 February 2010 in 56 minutes  
1344 Bristol Surprise Maximus

1. David P Hilling (C)
2. Roderick R Horton
3. David P Macey
4. Alexander J Britton
5. Gwen Rogers
6. Nigel Pointer
7. James J Hardy
8. Christopher N Sheasby
9. Ian G Mills
10. Peter Valuks
11. Colin J E Wyld
12. Philip Rogers

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week by a resident band.

**Quarter Peal No: 9**

BECKENHAM, Kent

At St George

Tenor: 14 -2-18 in F

On Sunday, 14 February 2010 in 44 minutes

1259 Grandsire Caters

1. Elizabeth Duffey
2. Rupert J Cheeseman
3. Christine M Webb
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. David K Kingston
6. David S Brown
7. David P Macey (C)
8. Cathy L A Cheeseman
9. James J Hardy
10. Jeremy R Byers

For evensong, Lewisham District quarter peal week and as a birthday compliment to Mark Jones.

First on 10: 1.

**Quarter Peal No: 10**

BROMLEY COMMON, Kent

At St Luke

Tenor: 15 -1-8 in F

On Sunday, 14 February 2010 in 46 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Minor

1. Jeanette Richardson
2. Jackie Duke
3. Nigel Pointer (C)
4. Alastair Scott
5. Ken Gristwood
6. Chris Lawrance

For Lewisham District Quarter Peal Week.

First Minor; 2,4,5.

**Quarter Peal No: 11**

ELTHAM, London

At St John the Baptist

Tenor: 10 -2-24 in G

On Sunday, 14 February 2010 in 41 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Bryony Holdridge
2. Diane J Reynolds
3. Leonard G A Morley
4. David Holdridge
5. Ian G Mills (C)
6. Rebecca Jones

Rung for Lewisham District Quarter Peal Week.

1st attempt; 1 &amp; 6.

**Quarter Peal No: 12**

WOOLWICH, London

At St Mary Magdalene

Tenor: 12 -3-6 in G

On Monday, 15 February 2010 in 45 minutes

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Jason W Hughes
3. Sheila M Cheesman
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. Rupert J Cheeseman
6. Jeremy D Cheesman
7. David P Macey (C)
8. Benedict V Valuks

**Quarter Peal No: 13**

LEWISHAM, London

At St Mary

Tenor: 21 -1-14 in Eb

On Monday, 15 February 2010 in 47 minutes

1260 Grandsire Triples

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Dominic D Meredith
3. Rupert J Cheeseman
4. Benedict V Valuks
5. Sheila M Cheesman
6. David P Macey (C)
7. Jeremy D Cheesman
8. Jason W Hughes

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.

1st blows of Grandsire Triples; 4.

**Quarter Peal No: 14**

DEPTFORD, London

At St John

Tenor: 14 -0-18 in F

On Monday, 15 February 2010 in 44 minutes

1280 Plain Bob Major

1. Benedict V Valuks
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Sheila M Cheesman
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. Jeremy D Cheesman
6. Rupert J Cheeseman
7. Jason W Hughes
8. David P Macey (C)

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.

1st Major; 1. 1st Major inside; 2.

**Quarter Peal No: 15**

PENGE, London

At St John the Evangelist

Tenor: 9 -1-21 in Ab

On Monday, 15 February 2010 in 43 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Sara C Hardy
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Rhiannon Meredith
4. David P Macey (C)
5. Peter Valuks
6. Dominic D Meredith

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.

**Quarter Peal No: 16**

DOWNE, Kent

At St Mary Magdalene

Tenor: 10 -0-1 in G

On Monday, 15 February 2010 in 48 minutes

1320 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Simon Wilson
2. Alison Wilson
3. Rita Cox
4. Laurence Bond
5. Jon Fry (C)
6. John Bowers

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.

1st quarter; 1. 1st inside; 2. 1st quarter for 'about 40 years'; 6.

**Quarter Peal No: 17**

CRAYFORD, Kent

At St Paulinus

Tenor: 11 -2-15 in F#

On Tuesday, 16 February 2010 in 42 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Carol Eastaugh
2. Brian Ashmore
3. Brenda J Barton
4. Cathy L A Cheeseman
5. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)
6. Andrew Sinclair

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st inside; 2.

**Quarter Peal No: 18**

ELTHAM, London

At St John the Baptist

Tenor: 10 -2-24 in G

On Tuesday, 16 February 2010 in 41 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Tiffany Kelly
2. Phil Stott
3. Jean Pailing
4. David Holdridge
5. Ian G Mills (C)
6. Steve Fitton

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st attempt; 1.

**Quarter Peal No: 19**

BIGGIN HILL, Kent

At St Mark

Tenor: 6 -1-24 in B

On Tuesday, 16 February 2010 in 37 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Doug Fisher
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Nancy Gay
4. Benedict V Valuks
5. David P Macey (C)
6. Matt Allan

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st on working bell; 1. 1st as cover; 6.

**Quarter Peal No: 20**

BROMLEY, Kent

At SS Peter &amp; Paul

Tenor: 16 -2-8 in F

On Tuesday, 16 February 2010 in 42 minutes

1260 2 Methods Doubles  
(2m: 660 Grandsire, 600 Plain Bob)

1. Jonathan Payne
2. Chris Lawrance
3. Christine M Webb
4. David K Kingston
5. David S Brown (C)
6. Dominic D Meredith

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st quarter; 1.

**Quarter Peal No: 21**

ELTHAM, London

At St John the Baptist

Tenor: 10 -2-24 in G

On Tuesday, 16 February 2010 in 42 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Chris Goldsmith
2. Katherine Trill
3. Angus Ogilvie
4. David Holdridge
5. Ian G Mills (C)
6. Leonard G A Morley

Rung for Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st attempt; 1.

**Quarter Peal No: 22**

BECKENHAM, Kent

At St George

Tenor: 14 -2-18 in F

On Thursday, 18 February 2010 in 44 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Triples

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Ross E Hartley
3. Elizabeth Duffey
4. Rhiannon Meredith
5. Dominic D Meredith
6. James J Hardy
7. David P Macey (C)
8. Terry M Guntrip

For consolidation and Lewisham District quarter peal week.

**Quarter Peal No: 23**

ST MARY CRAY, Kent

At St Mary

Tenor: 11 -3-21 in G

On Thursday, 18 February 2010 in 42 minutes

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. James Lessey
2. Rupert J Cheeseman
3. Nigel Pointer (C)
4. Don E Pointer
5. Cathy L A Cheeseman
6. Jon P Richards

For Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
1st attempt; 6.

**Quarter Peal No: 24**

BECKENHAM, Kent

At St George

Tenor: 14 -2-18 in F

On Thursday, 18 February 2010 in 52 minutes

1440 London (No.3) Surprise Royal

1. Christine M Webb
2. Jeremy R Byers
3. Roderick R Horton
4. Dominic D Meredith
5. David K Kingston
6. David P Macey (C)
7. David S Brown
8. Ross E Hartley
9. James J Hardy
10. Peter Valuks

First London S.Royal: 4 & 5.

**Quarter Peal No: 26**

HORTON KIRBY, Kent  
 At St Mary  
 Tenor: 5 -2-26 in Bb  
 On Friday, 19 February 2010  
 1280 Bristol Surprise Major

1. Geoffrey S Mills
2. Nigel Pointer
3. Christine M Webb
4. Rachel A Backhouse
5. Mark D Backhouse
6. David S Brown
7. David P Hilling
8. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)

1st in method; 5 and as conductor.

**Quarter Peal No: 27**

CUDHAM, Kent  
 At SS Peter & Paul  
 Tenor: 10 -0-21 in A  
 On Friday, 19 February 2010  
 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Megan Smith
2. Rita Cox
3. Jon Fry (C)
4. Laurence Bond
5. Alison Wilson
6. Simon Wilson

.First 'all Cudham ringers' for years 1st as cover.

**Quarter Peal No: 28**

BIGGIN HILL, Kent  
 At St Mark  
 Tenor: 6 -1-24 in B  
 On Saturday, 20 February 2010 in 35 minutes  
 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Nancy Gay
2. Helen J Valuks
3. David P Macey (C)
4. Benedict V Valuks
5. Ross E Hartley
6. Jeremy R Byers

**Quarter Peal No: 29**

WEST WICKHAM, Kent  
 At St John the Baptist  
 Tenor: 13 cwt in F#  
 On Saturday, 20 February 2010 in 43 minutes  
 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Helen J Valuks
2. Judith H Fry
3. Dominic D Meredith
4. Ross E Hartley
5. Jeremy R Byers
6. David P Macey (C)

First Surprise: 2. 75th quarter peal: 1.

**Quarter Peal No: 30**

DARTFORD, Kent  
 At Holy Trinity  
 Tenor: 9 -2-16 in G  
 On Sunday, 21 February 2010  
 1260 2 Methods Doubles  
 (2m: 600 Reverse Canterbury, 660 Plain Bob)

1. Esther Correia
2. Brenda J Barton
3. Andrew Sinclair
4. Cathy L A Cheeseman
5. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)
6. Graeme Jefferson

After morning service, for Lewisham District quarter peal week and as a compliment to Holy Trinity Ringer June Dance on the birth of her 4th Grandchild.

**Quarter Peal No: 31**

FOOTS CRAY, Kent  
 At All Saints  
 Tenor: 3 -1-27 in E  
 On Sunday, 21 February 2010 in 36 minutes  
 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. David P Macey (C)
2. Clare L Osmond
3. Helen J Valuks
4. Benedict V Valuks
5. Jason W Hughes

First inside; 2. First on 5; 3 & 4.

**Quarter Peal No: 32**

SIDCUP, Kent  
 At St John the Evangelist  
 Tenor: 8 -3-22 in A  
 On Sunday, 21 February 2010 in 38 minutes  
 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Sam Pavey
2. Helen J Valuks
3. Benedict V Valuks
4. Rupert J Cheeseman
5. David P Macey (C)
6. Jason W Hughes

**Quarter Peal No: 33**

BEXLEY, Kent  
 At St Mary the Virgin  
 Tenor: 7 -0-18 in A  
 On Sunday, 21 February 2010 in 40 minutes  
 1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

1. Brenda J Barton
2. Rachel A Backhouse
3. Mark D Backhouse
4. Cathy L A Cheeseman
5. Andrew Sinclair
6. Rupert J Cheeseman (C)

**Quarter Peal No: 34**

ELTHAM, London  
 At St John the Baptist  
 Tenor: 10 -2-24 in G  
 On Sunday, 21 February 2010 in 41 minutes  
 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Shelagh Norman
2. Leonard G A Morley
3. Caroline Ogilvie
4. Diane J Reynolds
5. Ian G Mills (C)
6. David Holdridge

For Lewisham District quarter peal week.  
 1st attempt; 1.

# Lewisham District 120 Club Report

## 2009 - 2010

### Income

Shares sold 104 £1040-00  
Prizes not taken 15-00

### Expenditure

Prizes £450-00  
Bexley Council Fee 20-00  
Expenses (postage etc) 4-86

Totals £1055-00 £474-86

BRF contribution for 2009-10 **£580-14**

**'December'** draw held at Chelsfield District Meeting  
January 9<sup>th</sup> 2010

1<sup>st</sup> 89 Sue Cameron  
2<sup>nd</sup> 82 Barry Macey (Footscray)  
3<sup>rd</sup> 85 Jan Odell (Footscray)  
4<sup>th</sup> 116 120 club

1<sup>st</sup> 67 Pauline Morley (Eltham)  
2<sup>nd</sup> 20 Yvonne Wright (Sidcup)  
3<sup>rd</sup> 57 Deryck Jones (Dartford)  
4<sup>th</sup> 64 Ken Gristwood (Bromley Common)

**January** draw held at Chelsfield District Meeting  
January 9<sup>th</sup> 2010

1<sup>st</sup> 63 Chris Lawrance (Bromley Common)  
2<sup>nd</sup> 113 120 club  
3<sup>rd</sup> 104 120 club  
4<sup>th</sup> 15 Ian Nurdin (Ash)

**March** draw held at Dartford Striking Competition  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010

1<sup>st</sup> 42 Mick McDonnell (Horton Kirby)  
2<sup>nd</sup> 7 Peter Warr (Shoreham)  
3<sup>rd</sup> 25 Liz Brett (CC Erith)  
4<sup>th</sup> 91 Melissa Cheeseman (Crayford)

We will start again for 2010-11 at the April meeting. Please consider joining and help our district contribute to the BRF. This was our 5<sup>th</sup> year and we have now passed on over £2500 to the fund.

It costs £10 for 1 year with 10 draws a year and at least 4 prizes (£20, 2 by £10 and £5) each time (double the number of prizes in July and December). The only restriction is that you must be aged at least 16 to hold a share in your name. Forms always available from me or they can be printed off from District Website.

Rachel Backhouse

# Striking Competition

Dartford was the venue for the 2010 Striking Competition. Most bands rang the back 6 which proved to be a fair challenge for a striking competition and overall the ringing was of a high standard all day. Jonathan Slack (Stepney) and Matthew Rayner (West Ham) had agreed to be the judges. Once they had had a trial ring and been ensconced in one of the rooms in the church hall the competition began. Each band had 2 minutes practice and rang 240 changes of a method of their choice.

Once everyone had rung, the judges quickly agreed on the order and, after the 120 club draw, made the following comments about each band.

**Band 1** - Positive piece of ringing. Slightly slow handstroke leads.

**Band 2** - After trying bells surprised a band tried minor. Positive piece of ringing that got better as it went on.

**Band 3** - Grandsire good idea to ring as sounds nice. Again leading caused the problems.

**Band 4** - Surprised that they rang the front 6. First part of each course ok but couldn't keep it up.

**Band 5** - Some leading was slow. Ringing got more confident. Slight trip in middle.

The results were then given as follows:

Position	Rang	Tower	Method	
1st	2nd	Beckenham 'George'	Cambridge S Minor	93%
2nd	3rd	Chelsfield	Grandsire Doubles	90%
3rd	1st	Crayford	Plain Bob Doubles	88%
4th	5th	Beckenham 'Dragon'	Plain Bob Doubles	86%
5th	4th	Erith Christ Church	Reverse Canterbury	46%







# THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS



## LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Chelsfield on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Apologies for Absence

19 people attended the meeting. It should be noted that the weather was extremely poor and the committee would like to thank those who made the effort.

Apologies for absence were received from David Macey and Helen and Peter Valuks (Beckenham), Chris Webb and David Brown (Bromley), Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman (Crayford) and Esther Correia (Dartford)



### Matters arising from the minutes

Jim Rooke said that he hadn't received the new clothing catalogue mentioned in the last KCACR Committee Report at the October meeting

The raffle held at the October meeting raised £48. Brenda Barton mentioned that there would be another raffle at the next Annual Meeting and that she would collect prizes at forthcoming District Meetings.

Pending this amendment the minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.  
Proposed: Ross Hartley; Seconded: Lesley Barclay.

### Election of new members

The following new member was elected:

New Member	Tower	Proposed By	Seconded By
Naomi Valuks	Beckenham	Helen Valuks	David Macey

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## 120 Club Results

Due to the inclement weather, the December 120 Club draw was delayed until the January Quarterly Meeting

	Number	Name	Tower
1st	89	Sue Cameron	Unattached
1st	67	Pauline Morley	Eltham
2nd	82	Barry Macey	Foots Cray
2nd	20	Yvonne Wright	Sidcup
3rd	85	Jan Odell	Foots Cray
3rd	57	Deryck Jones	Dartford
4th	116	120 Club	
4th	64	Ken Gristwood	Bromley Common

	Number	Name	Tower
1st	63	Chris Lawrence	Bromley Common
2nd	113	120 Club	
3rd	104	120 Club	
4th	15	Ian Nurdin	Ash-by-Wrotham

## KCACR Committee Meeting Report

Brenda Barton reported that District reports were awaited from the Lewisham and Maidstone Districts. It was agreed that these would include an item on training in the District.

Following the recent auditing of the 2008 accounts it was decided that endowment funds be handed back to the relevant tower/district. It was noted that the A G Hill Memorial Fund fell into the category (see below).

The webmaster requested more articles for publication.

The Child Protection Rules and Policy are being redrafted.

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The Bell Restoration Team's risk assessment procedures have been modified. The template for risk assessment has not yet been modified.

The Central Council are organising a course entitled 'Teaching People to Tech Bell Handling' on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010. No venue was mentioned.

The Training Officer and Publicity Officer roles are still vacant.

The KCACR display boards are now kept at Leeds. Contact Tim Munt if you wish to utilise them. A diary will be appearing on the website.

#### Competitions:

The Essex Trophy team is being organised by Ian Mills. Please contact him if you are interested in being in the team.

The County Eight Bell Competition will be held in Canterbury District (possibly at Eastry) on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

The County Six Bell Competition will be held in Lewisham District on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

If your tower is interested in hosting either the Six Bell Competition this year or the Eight Bell Competition next year please mention it to the committee.

If you or a member of your tower is approaching their 50 year membership please notify the District Secretary.

The rules state each district has to appoint a Secretary and two District Reps. The County Committee suggested they needed to know when one of these positions was going to go unfilled.

The next KCACR Committee meeting will be on 27<sup>th</sup> February.

The Ringing World centenary is in 2011. They are requesting that all London towers be open on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011. There was no definition forthcoming for what exactly constitutes a London tower.

### **A G Hill Memorial Fund**

Rachel Backhouse gave a history of the fund, which amounts to just over £100 and was left to buy books for the learners of Lewisham District. A debate was held on what to do with the money.

Rachel suggested that we buy three copies of the most useful of the Central Council publications, to be held at three towers across the district.

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Ross Hartley said that most towers probably had some of those books and suggested the fund should be used to fill gaps in each tower library.

Brenda Barton mentioned she had found 'Ringing Circles' very useful and suggested we buy one copy of this book for each tower.

Lesley Barclay expressed the opinion that every tower should get something from the fund.

The meeting decided that the money should be spent on books. Proposed: Mark Backhouse; Seconded: Sue Cameron. It was decided that each tower should be contacted by the District Secretary to see what books they have and a final decision would be made in April.

## **AOB**

### **Handbook Returns**

The Secretary reminded everyone that KCACR handbook forms should be returned to him by 22<sup>nd</sup> January at the latest

### **District Quarter Peal Week**

The Secretary also asked that towers forward their plans for District Quarter Peal Week to the organising committee ([quarterweek@lewishamdistrict.org.uk](mailto:quarterweek@lewishamdistrict.org.uk)) so that they can coordinate extra ringers if any are needed.

Lesley Barclay asked if the Quarter Peal Week was going to be an annual event and if so, could it not be held in half term week next year.

Mark Backhouse drew attention to the fact that, as their bells will be out of action during the Quarter Peal Week, Ash-by-Wrotham had rung two quarter peals early, as their contribution to the event.

### **County Subs**

Rachel Backhouse reminded everyone that county subs are now due.

### **120 Club**

Rachel Backhouse announced the 120 Club will be restarting in April and tower will be receiving entry forms shortly.

### **Date of January Meeting 2011**

Sue Allport asked that the District Meeting in 2011 be moved back a week (to the 15<sup>th</sup> January) to allow more time for production of the newsletter. The meeting generally approved of this idea and it was agreed that it would be raised at the Annual Meeting in October, when meeting dates are set.

### **Training Day**

The Training Officer appealed for more helpers for the training day on the 16<sup>th</sup> January.

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## District Call Change Competition Trophy

The Secretary raised the point that the District Call Change Competition Trophy (The Arthur Richards Trophy) was looking rather tired and had almost run out of room on it's base for any more winners. He suggested that the trophy should either be refurbished or replaced.

Jon Fry said a number of West Wickham ringers remember Arthur Richards and expressed an opinion that the original cup should be kept. The meeting agreed with these sentiments.

Ross Hartley proposed that a £10 entry fee be levied at the District Call Change Competition this year and the funds used to refurbish the cup and provide a new base to take the additional winners. The meeting passed this proposal by vote. Proposed: Ross Hartley; Seconded: Mark Backhouse. The Secretary agreed to have a quote prepared for the work.

## Vote of Thanks

The meeting expressed a vote of thanks to Ann Blatcher for conducting the service, to Gwen Bowen for playing the organ and to the Chelsfield band for organising the tea.

Proposed: Jim Rooke; Seconded Sue Allport.

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# The Charmborough Ring

## Thinking of an event to attract the public?

- Recruiting drives
- Training courses
- Public demonstrations

The Charmborough Ring is available for hire by ringers who want to promote ringing among the wider public and attract new recruits. It always draws enthusiastic observers and participants.

Hire charge, including transport within 50 miles of London, from £190 for 1 day to £320 for 5 days. Full details at:  
[www.charmborough.org](http://www.charmborough.org)

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

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 112616



# AAAD - Know the Symptoms! Please read

Thank goodness there's a name for this disorder.  
Somehow I feel better, even though I have it!

Recently, I was diagnosed with A.A.A.D.D. -  
Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder.

This is how it manifests:

I decide to water my garden.

As I turn on the hose in the driveway,

I look over at my car and decide it needs washing.

As I start toward the garage,

I notice mail on the porch table that

I brought up from the mail box earlier.

I decide to go through the mail before I  
wash the car.

I lay my car keys on the table,

Put the junk mail in the garbage can under the table,

And notice that the can is full.

So, I decide to put the bills back

On the table and take out the garbage first.

But then I think,

Since I'm going to be near the mailbox

When I take out the garbage anyway,

I may as well pay the bills first.

I take my cheque book off the table,

And see that there is only one cheque  
left.

My extra cheques are in my desk in the  
study,

So I go inside the house to my desk  
where

I find the can of Coke I'd been drinking.

I'm going to look for my cheques,

But first I need to push the Coke aside

So that I don't accidentally knock it over.

The Coke is getting warm,

And I decide to put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold.

As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke,

A vase of flowers on the counter

Catches my eye--they need water.

I put the Coke on the counter and

Discover my reading glasses that

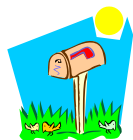
I've been searching for all morning.

I decide I better put them back on my desk,

But first I'm going to water the flowers.

I set the glasses back down on the counter,

Fill a container with water and suddenly spot  
the TV remote.



Someone left it on the kitchen table.  
I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV,  
I'll be looking for the remote,  
But I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table,  
So I decide to put it back in the den where it  
belongs,

But first I'll water the flowers.

I pour some water in the flowers,

But quite a bit of it spills on the floor;

So, I set the remote back on the table,

Get some towels and wipe up the spill.

Then, I head down the hall trying to

Remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day:

The car isn't washed

The bills aren't paid

There is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter

The flowers don't have enough water,

There is still only 1 cheque in my cheque  
book,

I can't find the remote,

I can't find my glasses,

And I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got  
done today,

I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all  
day,

And I'm really tired.

I realize this is a serious problem,

And I'll try to get some help for it,

But first I'll check my e-mail....

Do me a favour:

Pass on this message to everyone you know,

Because I don't remember who I've sent it to.

Don't laugh -- if this isn't you yet, your day is coming!!

