



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Lewisham District On Line at www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk

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

JANUARY 2012

Call Change Winners 2011



Judges Nick Hartley, left, and Peter Jasper with Philippa Rooke from the Chelsfield band

On Saturday 19th November, only 4 bands met up at Sidcup for the annual call change competition. It would have been three if there hadn't been a slight bending of the rules to allow Anne to ring for 2 teams. Peter Jasper and Nick Hartley from London had agreed to come along and judge. Once they'd had a ring and found a place to listen, the draw was made and the competition began. Each team completed their test piece while Yvonne kept those not ringing supplied with tea, coffee and biscuits.

Peter and Nick then gave their comments and the results. Peter started by saying how nice it was to be invited down to the wilds of Kent to judge the competition. He felt that all of the bands

should have been proud to have rung like that for Sunday service. He felt that from their brief try out that the bells were tricky and loud so he sympathised with the conductors. Nick then gave comments on each of the bands.

Team 1: The practice was confident and this continued into the test piece. Most faults were picked up in the leading and after the call changes.

Team 2: The test was better than the practice. The rounds at the beginning and end were very good but there was a crunchy patch in the middle.

Team 3: The faults were not all picked up for the same thing. Not as good as felt it could have been.

Team 4: No serious faults but lots of little ones which added up.

The results were then announced as follows:

Position	Team	Tower	Faults
1 st	1	Chelsfield	39
2 nd	2	Horton Kirby	57
3 rd	3	Eltham	64
4 th	4	Crayford / Dartford	68



Congratulations to Chelsfield for winning the call change competition for the first time in many years. Thanks again to Peter and Nick for giving up their time to come and judge it and to Yvonne for providing the refreshments and venue.

Rupert

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Chairman's bit...

Happy New Year to you all and I trust you had a Merry Christmas, perhaps with a fair amount of ringing to go with it?

I wonder how many New Year resolutions have been broken already?

For the first time in five years my son, James, has been at home for Christmas but only because he had a ski crash in November necessitating an operation and therefore no skiing for 8 weeks while he recovered so he returned to England to spend the Festive Season in Orpington.

So far we have escaped snow this winter in the south east and hopefully this will remain the case allowing a good turnout at the Eltham Quarterly Meeting. I recall that two years ago the organist for the service at Chelsfield that preceded the meeting had to be transported through the snow from their home to the church by a four wheel drive!

My Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd January, was spent at St Giles, Farnborough, with the KCACR removing a bell from the tower prior to the new bells going in, hopefully by Easter. More can be read about this in this Newsletter under Farnborough.

Sadly during the last quarter we, at Chelsfield, have been saddened to lose Sue Fisher who had fought bravely against ill health for many years. She had previously been tower captain at Hayes and will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her and especially her parents.

I look forward to seeing you all at Eltham.

NW January 2012



Editorial



Happy New Year to you all and welcome to the first Newsletter of 2012! I can't believe that another year has gone by already. This personally has been a memorable year for my family as just before Christmas our son got married in Sydney. This not only gave us the excuse for a first visit to Australia but me the opportunity to ring some bells on the other side of the world. Time was very limited so I was only able to ring briefly in one tower, St Philip's in Sydney, but I really enjoyed the experience. I took my niece along to see what happens and they very kindly gave her a little practice at backstroke. The other ringers were very welcoming and I managed some decent call changes on the 8 bells—a little thought provoking as just before we pulled off I found out that they call up! It all went well though with a little help from their tower captain and I went on to ring a plain course of bob doubles. I shall look forward to visiting them again when we are next in Sydney. Well that's my news so now you can enjoy everyone else's. Lots of towers seem to have been busy going on outings over the last quarter including ours so there are lots of reports to read. So sit back and enjoy and start thinking about what you can send in for the next edition!

SueX

Items from the last KCACR Meeting:

Requests were made for volunteers for the following:
Someone to collate the quarters rung in County
Quarter Peal Week: Friday 1st to Sunday 10th June

Nominations for County Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary

After the potentially fatal gas poisoning of ringers at Northfleet, it is advised that all towers install a CO2 monitor in their ringing rooms. One problem at Northfleet was that 3 ringers were rendered unconscious during Sunday Service ringing with all being taken to hospital.

There was due to be a qtr that afternoon, which may have been more serious as people would be more inclined to ring on despite feeling unwell or being aware that others were feeling unwell. Quite often ringers lock themselves in a tower for a qtr and this may hinder any rescue by the emergency services. Tower contacts are advised to download the appropriate 'Tower Location Poster' that was emailed to them in December and display it prominently bringing it to the attention of all ringers so that in the event of an emergency the postcode of the church can be quickly given to the emergency services.

Sue Cameron

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The irony of life is that, by the time

You're old enough to know your way around,

You're not going anywhere.



An Outing to Sussex

"Fancy another ringing outing in Sussex?", asked our friend Dawn. Is the Pope catholic? "Of course", we replied, "put us down for 2 places".

We were staying with Dawn the night before (we were going to a black tie dinner on Friday night) thus ensuring we'd be ready for an early start on Saturday morning.

After the obligatory bacon sandwich for breakfast, we drove to Keymer to catch the mini coach which was leaving at 9.30am.

After a quick hello again to the Keymer ringers, who we meet when we ring there on our holidays, we were off. First stop Holy Trinity, Cuckfield! This tower has a lovely 8 bells. We often ring there while staying with Dawn, and Libby welcomed us in.



Most of the ringers have rung on these bells so we were off to a good, comfort-zone start.

Next stop, St Mary Magdalene, Bolney with 8 bells, where we had previously rung last year on the Eltham & Chislehurst outing.

"Make sure you ring on the 2", said the lady doing the flowers.

"It's from 1400s". That done, it was off to St Peters,



Cowfold. Another tower we rang at last year with 6 bells. These bells proved a bit trickier, but nothing we couldn't handle!



After three towers, we were all ready for a spot of lunch, in a nice old pub in Steyning, where we enjoyed some delicious food, before ringing at St Andrews, Steyning, another 8. Back on the mini coach and this time off to the 8 bells of Holy Trinity, Hurstpierpoint, with a lovely view of the South Downs behind the church! Cue the



photography!

Next stop the very pretty village of Henfield, to the 8 bell tower of St Peter. Here we got to ring Plain Hunt on 7 (I was on the 6 – first time and I could see where I was! Chris). That made another three towers, so it must be time for some light refreshment! Tea was booked nearby in a farmyard setting. A walk past some geese and ducks and there were chickens hanging around for the cake crumbs. There weren't many to be had though!

Last stop was in the prettiest setting, Ditchling. With a pond, a lovely green leading up the hill to the church of St Margaret's and an old



timber house nearby. It was really perfect! This anticlockwise ring proved a bit tricky at first, but we still managed to Plain Bob quite effectively! Well, we were better than we have been before anyway. And when we came out the perfect setting had the perfect sunset! The experienced ringers amongst us had rung a range of methods and Stedman and a good time was had by all! So it's many thanks to the ringers of Keymer for letting us 'make up the numbers' on their outing. We'd be happy to do so next year too! And a great big thank you to Frances, the lady who organised the outing. The mini coach was just the icing on the cake, it avoided the chance of getting lost or being late, and Simon the driver still managed to ring at each tower, after he had let us out at the church and parked the bus. All this for £8 – we made that £1 each tower and £1 for the coach! A very reasonable day out! What more could you want? To be included in another outing next year, perhaps!



Shelagh Norman & Chris Goldsmith

KCACR Subs

Please note that subscriptions are due from January 1st. This year there is an increase (the first for many years) so please take note of the new rates. There is also a new category: 'In full-time education' to bear in mind when paying.

Adults	£10
Up to 18 yrs and over 65 yrs	£5
In full-time education	£5
Life Membership payment	£150 single
Associate Members	not less than £1
Non-resident Life Members payment	£7.50 single

120 Club

Draw held at Bexley on October 8th

1 st	99	Freda Cannon (Greenwich)
2 nd	40	Terry Elcock (Horton Kirby)
3 rd	11	David Hilling (Eynsford)
4 th	20	Daphne Paterson (Eynsford)

Draw held at Sidcup on November 19th

1 st	3	Len Morley (Eltham)
2 nd	8	Footscray Tower
3 rd	14	David Glenister (Eynsford)
4 th	80	Margaret Heald (Erith, St John)

120 club draw held at Eynsford December 9th

1st	9	Chris Goldsmith
1st	25	Yvonne Wright (Sidcup)
2nd	95	Deryck Jones (Dartford)
2nd	85	Chris Webb (Bromley)
3rd	110	David Holdridge (Eltham)
3rd	63	Julia Kilfoyle (Ash)
4th	40	Terry Elcock (Horton Kirby)
4th	91	Doug Fisher (Biggin Hill)

There has been a fantastic uptake for this year with 114 shares sold, our best year ever. Forms for 2012-13 will be available from January (to start in April) so please do carry on with your support.

Rachel Backhouse

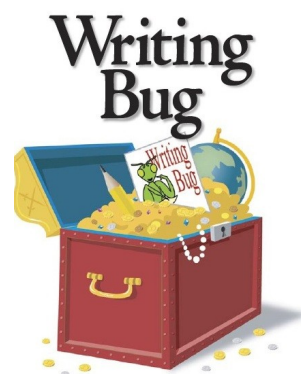
My Other Hobby...

As well as spending some of my spare time ringing I am also a member of The Write Place, (www.thewriteplace.co.uk) a creative writing school that meets every Wednesday at the Mick Jagger Centre in Dartford. Many of us have been successful in competitions and sold stories mainly to the women's magazine market.

We have recently embarked on an e publishing venture. We have compiled an anthology of ghost stories called *Things That Go Bump in the Night* which is available to download from Amazon price £3.16. (http://www.amazon.co.uk/Things-That-Bump-Night-ebook/dp/B0061G1TZW/ref=sr_1_5?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&) There is a wide variety of different stories and the contributors range from relative beginners to authors who have already had several short stories published. This is the first venture which aimed to involve all the students.

Earlier this year eight of the published authors contributed to a charity anthology of short stories called *Diamonds and Pearls* which raised money for *Against Breast Cancer*. This is also available on Amazon or direct from me (contact me on christine_webb@talktalk.net)

Christine Webb



I hope you won't mind me indulging in a bit of nepotism on the subject of book writing but our son surprised us all just before Christmas by telling us that he too had just had an e book published. 'The Wit and Wisdom of Silvio Berlusconi'- His best and worst quotes—is also available for download from Amazon http://www.amazon.co.uk/Wit-Wisdom-Silvio-Berlusconi-ebook/dp/B006HZATEY/ref=sr_1_7?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1325847759&sr=1-7 - Ed

NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

ASH-BY-WROTHAM

Practice Saturday 9:30am

BECKENHAM

Practice Thursday 19:50

BEXLEY

Practice Thursday 20:00

BICKLEY

Practice Wednesday 19:30

BIGGIN HILL

Practice Tuesday 20:00

BROMLEY

Practice Tuesday 20:00

BROMLEY COMMON

Practice Thursday 19:45

CHELSEFIELD

Practice Monday 20:00

Ringling has been much as normal, ringling twice on Sundays plus Monday evening practices and there was a good turnout to ring the old year out and the new year in. One difference has been regular teaching sessions for Farnborough ringers either on Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons prior to Evensong Service ringling. This has involved the help and cooperation of the Chelsfield ringers and the Rector at Chelsfield, Paul Spreadbridge for which thanks are due. Initial ringling was with borrowed silencers on the bells but now 'open' rounds are being tackled by some of the learners.

NW

CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)

Practice Wednesday 19.30—20.00

CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)

Practice Wednesday 20:00

CRAYFORD

Practice Tuesday 19:45

It's been a busy few months at Crayford with plenty of services to ring for between Remembrance and the run up to Christmas. I actually got organised and sorted the quarters

out well in advance so that everyone who wanted to, got to attempt at least one. In the end 18 ringers attempted 8 quarters and only one was lost. A good variety of methods were rung including Plain Bob, Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury, All Saints and St Nicholas Doubles (on Christmas Eve) and Grandsire Triples. The third annual date touch this year consisted of Plain Bob Minor and 6 other Doubles methods.

With these quarters and the rest we've rung over the year, we ended up ringling the most in the district, which hasn't happened for a number of years, and even crept into the top ten in the county.

Practices continue to be well attended with some taking their first steps into Plain Hunt, others making progress with Plain Bob Doubles and Stedman and other doubles methods for something a bit more advanced. We had up with 15 ringers on Christmas morning which is a number that certainly hasn't been seen for a while.

Finally, the New Year started with Richard and I celebrating our 40th birthdays by ringling a peal. Cathy thought it would be a good idea to name a new method as there wasn't already a method called "Rupert" so after successfully scoring it there now is one. It also meant we both finally circled the tower – it only took 22 years!

Kent County Association

Crayford, Kent

St Paulinus

Saturday 7 January 2012 in 2:47 (11-2-15)

5088 Rupert Delight Major

1 Cathy L A Cheeseman

2 Ruth Blackwell

3 David P Hilling

4 Richard A Pearce (C)

5 Jonathan R Slack

6 David Holdridge

7 Ian G Mills

8 Rupert J Cheeseman

With 40th birthday compliments to Richard (4th Jan) and Rupert (9th Jan).

Circled tower; 4 & 8.

1st peal in the method.

Rupert

CUDHAM

Practice Monday 20:00 (except 1st Joint Practice with Downe)

DARTFORD

Practice Wednesday 20:00

DOWNE

Practice Monday 20:00

ELTHAM

Practice Tuesday 20:00

A fairly quiet few months at Eltham, other than the excitement of Christmas, and we were all grateful Christmas Day was a Sunday this year, not like last year with two services in a row! We came third in the call change competition, thanks to Anne Townsend stepping into the breach to make up the band as Katherine was out of action with a damaged back. This is five places higher than last year and we'll take that as an achievement.

We have also seen a band manage a quarter of Stedman Triples. On the downside we have struggled to make numbers for Sunday ringing again some weeks, and so will have to consider another recruitment drive for 2012.

The only other excitement was a bell becoming stuck during ringing, much to Tom's consternation who certainly wasn't warned that could happen when being taught! The culprit proved to be a slipped Stay which fell out of position when a bolt broke, and wedged onto the frame. Awkwardly it was one of the bells used by the clock chimes, so there will have been some confused locals listening to an incomplete clock chime every 15 minutes for a while!

Katherine Trill

ERITH (Christ Church)

Practice Monday 20:00

ERITH (St John the Baptist)

Practice 1st Wednesday 20:00, then Thursdays 20:00

EYNSFORD

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

FARNBOROUGH

The existing 9.5 cwt G&J bell, along with its frame and fittings, was removed from the tower of St Giles, Farnborough on Monday, 2nd January in readiness for transport to Loughborough. There it will be serviced and used



in the trial assembly with the six new bells before installed in the tower. One bell has to be (re)cast and a provisional date of Thursday 16th February has been set for this. Readers will thus gather that the Faculty for the work has been obtained and the project is able to go ahead due to generous contributions from private donors plus the KCACR, The Friends of St Giles and the St Giles Tower Fund. Also, particular thanks are due to the KCACR 'heavy gang' for



removing the existing bell on Monday, 2nd January led by Brian Butcher and including Malcolm, Ivan and Frank Lewis. The spectacle of the bell being removed from the church and transported through the church yard was viewed by a number of Parishioners and Bank Holiday walkers as well as some of the Farnborough and Chelsfield ringers. The teaching of ringers has been going very well indeed, with plenty of interest and progress up to the stage of rounds. This has mainly been taking place at Chelsfield but with one session at Horton Kirby when 15 learner ringers attended! Could we be talking of an augmentation requirement soon!! A number of the learners are youngsters which is particularly pleasing although the learners cover all age ranges. Some healthy competition has emerged with bell control and one youngster who shall remain nameless has managed to set the treble at Chelsfield 14 times consecutively at backstroke and handstroke!

Any questions or queries, please contact Nick Wilkins.

Nick

FARNINGHAM

Practice Wednesday 20:00

FOOTS CRAY

Practice Wednesday 20:00

HAYES

Practice Tuesday 20:00

HORTON KIRBY

Practice Thursday 20.00

We were really pleased to get funding from the KCACR to help with our tenor recasting – finding we had to pay VAT caused an unexpected shortfall. We all went on an outing for the first time in four years. A report on this is elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Progress continues to be slow but steady and we are always grateful to our visitors especially Jim Rooke who help us to get more out of our practices.

We were all saddened at the loss of Nancy White one of our church wardens just before Christmas. Nancy has always been so supportive of the bells and our ringing and was on the original restoration committee. She will be greatly missed.

Sue Allport

LEWISHAM

Practice 5th Wednesday

PENGE

Ringling by arrangement

ST MARY CRAY

Practice Thursday 19:30

SHOREHAM

Practice Monday 20:00

SIDCUP

Practice Wednesday 20:00

WEST WICKHAM

Practice Wednesday 20:00

WILMINGTON

WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD The Meridian Ringers

Affiliated to the London Docklands Ringing Centre

Our normal practice night is Wednesday, 8pm-930pm, mostly at Greenwich, but occasionally at St. John's, Deptford or Woolwich (please check beforehand). Excellent après-ringing takes place at The Ashburnham Arms.

We have been very lucky to welcome two ringers, who have recently moved to the area, to our team – Stephen Bailey, an experienced ringer who has recently returned to the UK, having worked in New York [and rang at Trinity, Wall Street] for a couple of years. The other new ringer is Jenna Birley who has moved to the local area from Lancashire – she has not rung

for about six years until recently but has got back into the swing of things very quickly and is making good progress. We are also delighted to welcome Shelagh Norman and Chris Goldsmith who have transferred to become members of our team.

Several of us live some way from Greenwich and have other responsibilities at other churches which makes it difficult for us to ring for Sunday morning services but we have been managing to ring for the monthly Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month) at Greenwich, and the occasional service at Deptford. We also rang recently for Carol Services at St. John's, Deptford and Greenwich, for Midnight Mass at Greenwich, and rang to celebrate the New Year at 12noon on 1st January at Greenwich.

One of our ringers, Jim Odell celebrated his 60th birthday in November – he is enjoying semi-retirement now! We rang a quarter for this, Jim's brother-in-law, Graham Cuthbert from Harrietsham taking part, and Jim's wife, Jan from Footscray, also ringing afterwards, as follows:

The Parish Church of St. Alfege, Greenwich

On Monday 21st November 2011

A Quarter Peal of 1260 Doubles

(60 Stedman, 360 Grandsire, 840 Plain Bob)

In 43 minutes (Tenor 8 ½ cwt in A)

Treble	Jeremy Gilliland
2	Graham Cuthbert
3	Bill Lanyon (joint conductor)
4	Jim Odell
5	Graham Long (joint conductor)
Tenor	Alan Munden

60th birthday compliments to Jim Odell (22.11.11).

After the quarter, the band was joined by Jan Odell for a touch of 60 Plain Bob Doubles.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our Annual Christmas Dinner at The Ashburnham Arms on 13th January [we always hold this in January as it is always too busy in December!].

Everyone is most welcome to any of our ringing events – please check our website for further details:

www.meridianbells.webs.com.

GDL

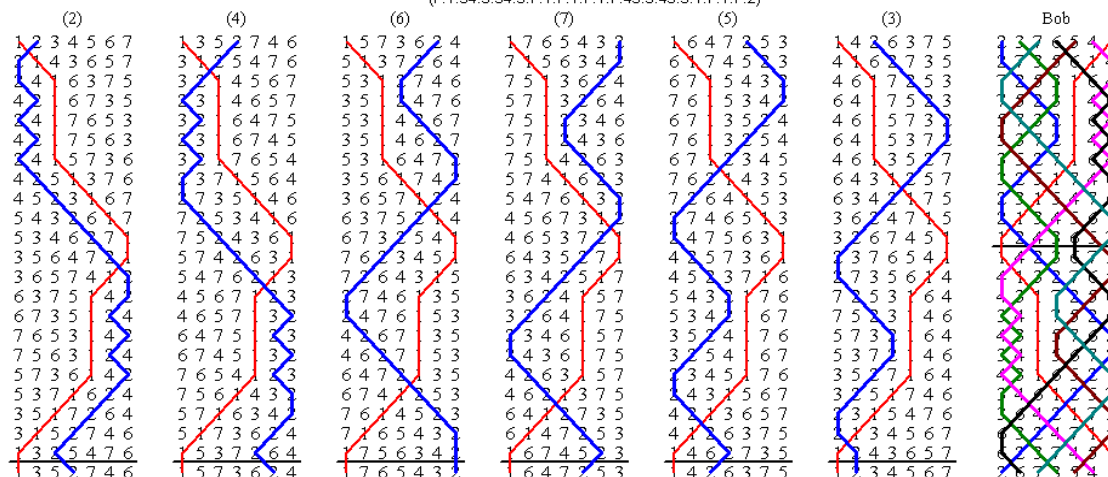
Welcome to 2012 - The Year of the Olympics

Some of you may have heard about the New Music 20X12 project, and may have listened to Howard Skempton's Five Rings Triples on BBC Radio 3. The Central Council would like to hear from anyone planning to perform this "piece of music" during the year. See <http://ccabr.org.uk/olympics/> for details. The piece looks remarkably like a method, but doesn't quite meet the Central Council rules, by virtue of one bell staying in the same place for five blows.

Anyway, this is what it looks like:

FIVE RINGS TRIPLES

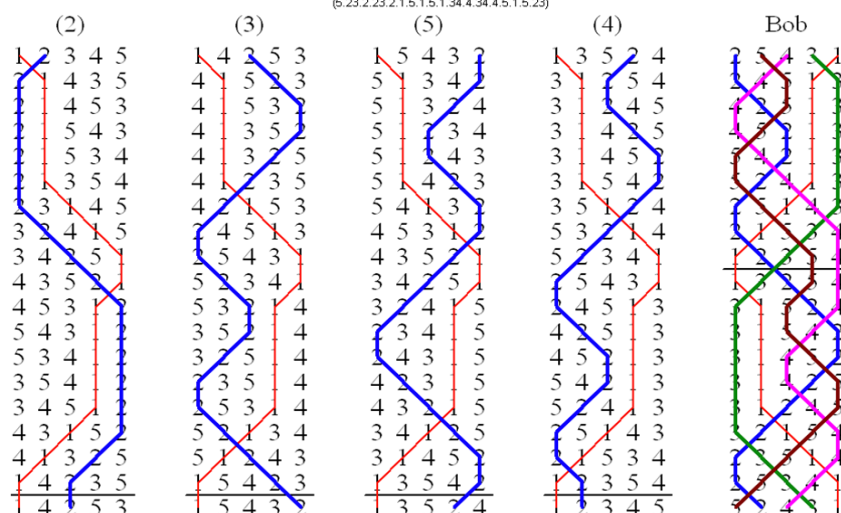
(7.1.34.3.34.3.7.1.7.1.7.45.5.45.5.1.7.1.7.2)



<http://ccabr.org.uk/olympics/five-rings-triples-v2.pdf>

FIVE RINGS DOUBLES 161011

(5.23.2.23.2.1.5.1.5.1.34.4.34.4.5.1.5.23)



Matt Dawson has created a doubles variant, and Howard Skempton has approved the use of the name Five Rings Doubles:

<http://ccabr.org.uk/olympics/five-rings-doubles.pdf>

The second way in which we can join in with the Olympics is to ring for the Olympic Torch Relay between 20th May and 27th July. The Torch Relay will be passing through the Lewisham District on at least two occasions, so there should be plenty of opportunity for volunteers to ring at towers along the route, to help the Torch on its way.

The third way we can help is to join in Martin Creed's ambitious "All The Bells" project at 8:00am on Friday 27th July 2012. See <http://www.allthebells.com/> for details.

For those who want more, there are twelve District Practices planned for 2012. Four will be on a Friday evening, four on a Saturday morning, and four on a Saturday evening, so hopefully everyone will be able to make it to some of them.

Hope to see you there.

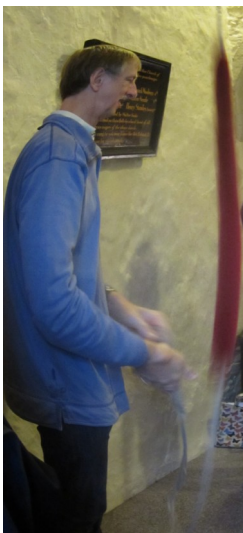
Ian Mills

An Outing for Horton Kirby

After a break of some 4 years we decided it was about time Horton Kirby ringers had another outing. Not for us a mad Wilkins' type dash but something rather more sedate. We (or mainly I) thought that a nice easy morning with just 3 towers followed by a pleasant pub lunch would be just the ticket. So we started where all good bell ringers should with a perusal of suitable

towers, not too distant, with nice country pubs serving good lunches! The morning began after a refreshing cup of coffee (for

some of us!) at Ightham Church, a nice light ring of 6 with an open gallery overlooking the lovely church. There were 8 HK ringers, Lesley, Terry, Martin, Issie, JP, Karen, Mick and me and to help ensure that locals didn't wonder what was happening to their bells Nick Wilkins and Jim Rooke came along to add some stability! I discovered the 'fish eye' view on my camera and snapped a particularly good shot of our esteemed Chairman – not sure he would agree but it has to be shown! After some general ringing of the usual rounds and call changes, grandsire and some bob doubles – some even with bobs- we moved onto our next tower, Wrotham.



Some of us had visited here before back in 2004 but as it was on the list of towers with a good pub nearby it was decided to visit again. It has a very nice Gillett and Johnston ring of 8, rather heavier than Ightham with a tenor of 20cwt. Those of you who know Nick will know that his favourite bells are G & J so as I was having a bit of nightmare ring here I think he was quite relieved when I sat out through a rather good rendition of plain hunt on 7 (I have the video to prove it). Not even snacking on cheese cakes (for some of us) could redeem my ringing so we all moved on to our last tower of the day at Birling.

I loosely say that we all moved on because it didn't quite happen like that. Some of us has forgotten our Sat Navs (and decent map books) so had to rely on following others (no name, no pack

drill!) Problem was that the others had put in the wrong post code! It did seem rather odd when we turned off the A20 towards Hadlow but as we weren't entirely sure where Birling was we thought who are we to know, this might be a short cut!



Mmmmmm! That wasn't the case and after stopping twice to readjust we decided to rely on our not very good map book and find our own way – I say that but actually we took a wrong turning at a roundabout and found ourselves on our own. After more turning round and then following instincts that were more than 30 years old from having lived in the area

once we finally found ourselves in Birling village. Parking conveniently in the pub car park (I'm not silly) we found Issie just taking in the lunch order – very good timing so we could add ours to the list. Then we thought we'd better head on up to the church and at least show our faces. Birling is a very nice country church with another nice light ring of 6 and a very small ringing chamber. As there were 12 of us by now, having been joined by Sue Cameron and Rupert we



couldn't all fit in. Fortunate for some who tried to avoid the very lightly set treble – I mean VERY lightly set treble! It was so light that you daren't even touch the rope until just before you started to ring. Although some of us were a little late we did manage to ring a touch of bob doubles that went quite well considering the treble and the fact that I was ringing it (I had to redeem myself somehow after Wrotham). I can't say what else was rung as I wasn't there but I'm sure it was very good!



Surrey Association

Training Day



After the obligatory group photo outside the church we moved onto the pub for lunch and very good it was too! The landlord had prepared a huge table for us so that we could all sit together, obviously most were 'below the salt' as is proper. The food was excellent – freshly cooked and well served by a poor overworked waitress rushed off her feet. All in all it was an excellent day and I'm sure we are all looking forward to the next outing – with Sat Navs!



Sue Allport

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St Nicholas, Charlwood

Would you like to go on a training day with Surrey? We were asked by Docklands District through links with Greenwich. Fantastic we thought and quickly answered in the affirmative, even though we had missed the deadline for replying, we thought it was worth a try.

An early start was involved, so an early night on Friday (for Chris!)

After setting the sat nav for Bletchingly, we set off in the misty morning. We met at the village hall there where tea was on offer while we searched for our names to find out which groups we were in.

As we were so late to apply we were flexible as to which group we would attend and on arrival found that we had both been signed up for Plain Hunt. Chris was in a group ringing at Charlwood and Shelagh's group were ringing at 2 churches at Newdigate and Horley.

We said 'Hello' to our tutor and helpers and found our lifts and were taken to our respective churches.

With 3 or 4 students, 5 helpers plus a tutor in each group, there was plenty of help and advice to be had. It seemed each tutor and helpers had a different piece of advice from the other to pass on. So there was a lot to remember. But for the students, it was all very useful. We each chose a 'buddy' to give us feedback after the ringing, which meant that time was not wasted talking when the next student could be ringing. Progress was built up on during the day, so that the last ring was the most successful for everyone. A satisfying feeling!

During the day there was plenty of opportunity to partake of refreshments provided in the form of tea, coffee, biscuits and chocolate. Lunch at the local pub, then, when we finally arrived back at the hall, the tables were groaning under the weight of cakes - for those who still had room!

We feel very lucky to have had this opportunity and would advise anyone thinking of attending training to take up the offers. There's so much to learn and so many willing and helpful people out there waiting to teach it! So now would be a good time to thank all the tutors, helpers and organisers for making the day so enjoyable and successful.

Enjoy it when you get the chance, and who knows you may eventually attend as a helper and be a buddy for another learner!

Shelagh Norman & Chris Goldsmith

Wilkins'

Low flying along the A12 towards Ipswich (Nick's ambitious timing is notorious), we eyed the day's itinerary apprehensively: seven towers in one day, hoofing between them in an unknown town with only a fuzzy map for guidance. (Post codes, Nick! We are in the GPS age!)

After parking as instructed at the football grounds, trying to home in on the not-too-distant sound of bells and finding ourselves on Bobby Robson Bridge thinking "This is wrong" we found a saviour, Boris. A teenager on his way home, he cheerfully detoured to guide us to our first tower... and stayed for three.

The belated party (Philippa, Jim, Anne, Doug and I) arrived at St Mary at Quay—once a mariners church and confusingly next to St Peter's church—just as everyone else was leaving. We grabbed hold cautiously and rang the rickety 6 to rounds. Doug found a disembodied head wearing a shower cap in the corner of the belfry (A poor striker having paid the penalty?) but we persuaded him to leave it where he found it. We just had time to admire the atmosphere of the still lovely shell of the 15th C church with its wonderful double hammer beam roof before hurrying away to tower two.

Ipswich is a marvel. No wonder it was a centre of peal ringing in the early 1900s. At every corner you can see two if not three towers or spires, and each twisting street is crowded with the most wonderful timbered and pargetted buildings. I wish we had had time to explore it more.



St Mary le Tower, down a lane past an exquisitely carved timbered building, is the fourth church to occupy the site: the

15thC church was re-modelled and almost completely re-built in the 19th C becoming the nearest thing Ipswich has to a cathedral. Its spire soars 60 metres above the roof and can be seen from almost anywhere in the town. Within, the 12 bells plus one semi-tone and a 16th C Sanctus (1553) match the massiveness of the church. The 35cwt tenor is a challenge to pull off and keep in time! And again we lesser ringers discovered how alien plain hunt is on 11 bells. Even call changes revealed a degree of number-blindness ("Where's the 7?" "Me, I think!"). Nevertheless a pleasing touch of Grandsire Caters was accomplished. Boris had a crash course in what it was all about, and with all of us marvelled at the peal boards, climbed up to look at the huge bells and crane upwards into the spire. "Bell ringing is living a bit of history," he said admiringly.

By then all had assembled: apart from us, the ringers for the day were Nick, Lesley, the Prudens—all five, Karen, Jean, Garry, Ian, Juliet, Bobbie, Fraser, Dee, Becca and Pam.

A zigzag away, past a grand palace and gardens (Morris dancers, nearly lost Doug!), is St Margaret's, 8, five of which were cast in 1630. Beautiful resonance and tone. The ringing room was snug, "spares" had to squish themselves into window recesses or perch on the ladder, and the 2 and 3 were likely to miss each other, being on opposite sides of the clock case. "Try not to make it like target practice!" implored Philippa during the Plain Bob triples. There were two interesting



toys on the table, a wood call changes "machine" reminiscent of a solitaire board, and a split page diagrams book that allowed you to mix'n'match front and back work. There was also a fine bench dedicated to "Simon", with St Simon's coded into the carved back. On the wall was a George board—a peal on St George's Day 1949 rung by 8 Georges, (conducted by George Symonds who rang and conducted until he was 98! History living.) composed by a ninth George and dedicated to a tenth!

There Boris left us, replete with chocolates and Karen's

Wanderers

famous bell biscuits, and we paid homage to the magnificent painted ceiling of the nave as we departed, too.

St Lawrence's was not hard to find. The tower is a merry flourish of fanciful brick and flint work and singing angels. Inside, we were startled to find, is a café and community centre, though the tall windows, fine roof, monuments and brasses and beatitudes written around the walls remind diners of its former importance—as do the bells! Half way up the high arch under the tower the ringing gallery is in full sight; as we began ringing forks were suspended in mid air, heads swivelled, the din of eating was quelled by dongs. Now these *are* ancient bells! Four cast in 1449 and the baby in 1490, the oldest ring of 5 in the country. Several of us climbed up to see the bells, now in a steel frame in what was once the ringing room, and on up to see the original oak frame, and stored wheels and paraphernalia. It was good to find that these bells are rung every Wednesday lunchtime and are much loved.



St Lawrence's

Lunch time! Most stayed at St Lawrence's, but D & I tried to find the ringer-recommended pub, and ended up in the vast but interesting Issac's on the quay. It's the first pub I've seen with a wedding chapel!

Disappointment followed: a lockout. Someone had the key to St Clements. The suspects were another ringing group in the town. Nick threatened to track them down so we could come back later. Universal groans. We were beginning to tire! On our way to the next venue, Nick did find the accused, only to discover that they had been locked out too. Who has the key? Will the vicar be able to get in tomorrow?

We left that dilemma to others and went on the lovely St Matthews, the last town church of the day. A beautiful painted screen, delicate ceiling supports and sunlight streaming through stained glass added grace. Some good Grandsire and Bob Doubles and a bit of spliced minor were rung under the archway inscription: "Let all things be done decently and in order". They were. We stopped to think of absent friends,

Richard recovering from eye surgery and Sue, still very unwell, wishing they could have been with us.

Then back to our cars for the short hop north to Grundisburgh. The startling brick tower (18th C) contrasted sharply with the medieval flint church.

This 12 were modern and very light (only 9cwt) and proved a challenge to tired ringers. Cambridge Royal was attempted. Not much better than the plain hunt But the interesting plaque (This Steeple was Built The Bells set in Order and Fixt. At the Charge of Robert Thing Gent. Lately Deceased A.D.1731-1732) and sundial ("Life pass like a shadow") on the



St Matthews

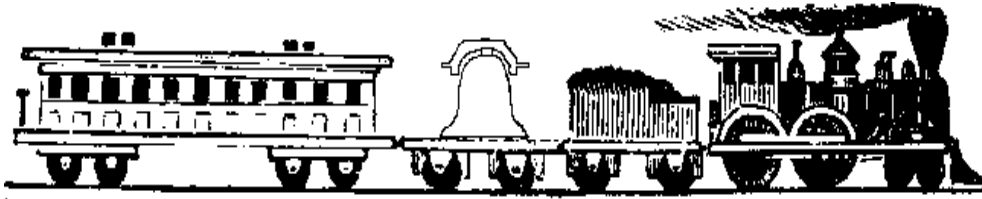
tower, the peal board in the form of a clock, the wall paintings and rood screen and the breathtaking double hammer beam angel ceiling more than made up for the "target-practice" striking (for some of us!).

Homeward bound. Light was fading fast as a few of us raced down the A12 and through lanes (following Nick!) to East Bergholt. There stands a glorious church with turrets and cupolas and crenulations, but only the stump of a tower. Some say it fell, but actually it was never built. Blame the reformation. But there are bells! On the north side of the church is a medieval bell cage, 1531, and five bells enormous bells—up. The bells are the heaviest peal of five in the world, and are rung by ringers standing by the frame and throwing them over by hand. Scary. ("I can see blood", quipped one. "Look, there's a JB carved here. John Barnes has been here", quoth another.) There were some terrible accidents and ringing was suspended for some years. But they sound out now. However you can't just turn up and ask for a ring!

In the King's Head we reflected over our pints that Nick had done it again—a great day's outing.

Nancy Fisher

St George's Beckenham Guild of Bell Ringers Annual Outing 1910 & 2011



This excerpt was taken from the record books of 1910: "On Wednesday August 17th the band journeyed to Hastings for their annual outing. Starting from Beckenham at 5.30 a.m. we arrived at Hastings at 8 o'clock and were soon busy with breakfast which had been arranged for us at Messrs Atkins and Cox's Restaurant...."

Sadly, the 1910 band missed out on ringing at both the towers that they visited! They returned to Beckenham at midnight. Suffice to say, the band is less keen to meet so early these days! Once again, the Guild was to Visit Hastings, but with a bit more ringing this time.

On 1st October 2011 the time came round once again for our annual ringing outing which, like last year (Brighton), was superbly arranged by Miss Rhiannon. It was attended by Myself, Lizzie Duffey, Miss Rhiannon (tour high commandant), Dominic "ticket monitor" Meredith, Rosemary Stretton, Jeremy Byers, Ross Hartley, Alice Baverstock, Alice's friend Eleanor and her son Robert (5 years old), David Kingston, Chris Webb and David Brown.

Last year, I had expressed concern at the idea of an outing by train. This concern was based on the belief that a trip to a financial adviser was often required before train travel. I was happily proved wrong, and Miss Rhiannon had found that by booking in groups of four, the fare for the whole day was less than £15 per person. By contrast, in 1910 £15 would have been a months wages for many people!

We assembled at Beckenham Junction at 07.50 and took the 08.00 train to the sleepy town of Orpington. From there, we took the 08.39 Hastings train, alighting at Battle. The first thing that greeted us outside the station was a multitude of conkers, which seemed highly appropriate in Battle. We walked up the hill to St Mary's where we had our first ring of the day on their 21 cwt ring of 8. We rang reasonably well on these enjoyable bells and then walked back to the station through the very pleasant and quite ancient street. By now the fine weather meant that it was really quite warm.

Our next train took us to Hastings, where we walked along the sea-front and up into the lovely "old town" to the church of St Clement. The bells here proved to be rather tricky and very loud in the ringing chamber (which was actually the back of the nave and very open). We attempted some Cambridge Major (bells 1, ringers nil) and some St Clements Minor (a draw). Overall, the bells came off better and it transpired that they are not rung often as they are difficult and complaints are frequently forthcoming from the neighbours.

Relieved to: a) stop ringing and b) leave the Church safely without a fierce group of locals throwing things and yelling "Oi geezer – dem bells is well loud and you is bang out of order innit" (sic.), we walked the short distance to our excellent lunch venue, The First In Last Out. This is not only a pub, but also a Micro-brewery (the FILO brewery). The beer was very good indeed as was the food. I had haddock goujons and fries, which is "posh" for fish fingers and chips. With some reluctance, we left the pub around 2.15 and walked to the next tower.

As we approached All Saints, the locals were just finishing their weekly (Saturday!) practice with apparently a fair degree of difficulty. It transpired that one of their number had given the stay of the 4th bell a monumental bashing. The stay gave out just as we arrived in the ringing room, the rope disappearing through the ceiling with a thud. I was duly dispatched with a local ringer to investigate the destruction, and in the process discovered that several of the stays looked quite dodgy! We decided to ring very carefully and not to do any bashing ourselves. I had the stay-less 4th for all touches, which included some Grandsire Triples and some Call Changes. The fact that these bells had scary fittings and were also pretty loud meant that we were happy to return to the relative safety of the bus stop.

The bus took us back to the station for a very modest fare (much cheaper than in London Boris!) where we took the 15.50 train to Tonbridge, having first consumed the

West Wickham Tower Outing

compulsory sea-side ice creams. We arrived in Tonbridge and walked down the High Street and over the river to SS Peter and Paul, a lovely 19 cwt ring of 8. We fared much better here, ringing touches of Grandsire, Yorkshire and Bristol. As we walked back to the station, we saw a hot air balloon coming in to land. Unfortunately, we missed our train by a few seconds – the guard waved and said sorry! The next train via Orpington was a way off, so we took another via Bat&Ball, Otford, Eynsford etc which took us over the beautiful viaduct at Eynsford, much to the delight of Robert (aged 5, who loves trains, railways etc) and over the viaduct at St Mary Cray. Changing trains again at Bromley South, we arrived at Beckenham Junction with enough spare time to fit in a visit to the George Inn for well-earned beers.



Finally, we reached our dinner venue, The Curry Cottage (serves curry, not made of it) where after the obligatory ("26 Cobras and 192 poppadums!?) group-curry-ordering-confusion, we enjoyed a hearty meal (and several Cobras) which was a fitting end to a very good day. Many thanks, once again, to Miss Rhiannon for her organising skills.

The following was inspired by our visit:

**Our band took a trip to Hastings,
Where the bells gave us quite a pasting,
So we left in a hurry and went for a curry,
Which happily was rather fine-tasting.**

© Jim "Laureate" Hardy.

On Saturday 8 October our annual outing took us to some local towers in Surrey.

Our first tower was Limpsfield .a ring of 6 which proved a challenging start, the bells rang slow and felt heavier than their 15 cwt. They had quite a "tinny" sound and the ringing chamber was very noisy, but we rang a wide range of methods from Grandsire to Cambridge.

Five minutes up the road and we were in Oxted, another ring of 6. The ringing chamber has a very low ceiling and the floor appeared to bow, which combined with the patterned carpet made me feel unsteady on my feet. Once we had mastered the art of ringing with such a low ceiling, Stedman and Double Oxford were rang. Hung on the walls were the "Ringers rules" which included fines for lateness and non-attendance in church.

Caterham on a Saturday lunchtime was perhaps not a wise move, arriving 15 minutes late we were greeted with a nice ring of 8, 12 ½ cwt, they handled well and we mastered Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples and a respectable Plain Bob Major. Lunch was at The Greyhound in Carshalton, the food was to a very high quality but we were let down by the service and waited over half an hour for dessert. Fortunately we had the keys to Carshalton tower so after a leisurely lunch we descended on Carshalton, a pleasant ring of 8, voted the favourite tower of the day. The ringing chamber had the advantage of an annexe, useful for teaching or for people not ringing to chat without disturbing anyone. The bells were easy to ring and to hear and a course of Stedman triples was rang by our "Stedman doubles" band.

Our last tower was close to home in Addington, a lovely light ring of 6 where we rang out latest addition to our repertoire, Primrose.

Judith Fry





THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION



OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Bexley on 8th October 2011

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Rachel Backhouse (Christchurch, Erith) Nancy and Doug Fisher (Biggin Hill) Ross Hartley and Jeremy Byers (Beckenham) Esther Correia, (Dartford).

2. (a) Minutes of the last meeting

Item 4 - Election of new members: Phoebe Bellfield was proposed by Nancy Fisher and Seconded by Doug Fisher.

Item 6 – Rupert Cheeseman said that the rule for new members to be able to lower a bell has been adopted at the County Meeting. So from April 2011 a new member must be able to ring rounds and safely lower a bell. This should be verified by a District Officer if the proposer or seconder is not a member of the District Committee.

The minutes were adopted.

Proposed: Sue Allport Seconded: Dominic Meredith.

2. (b) Officers Reports

Chair: Nick Wilkins referred the meeting to his report in the Newsletter P2

Secretary: Lesley Barclay explained the way the Training Library has been set up by the A G Hill Memorial Fund. The books were all on display and towers encouraged to select 2 or 3 books for their tower as appropriate. There is a log to sign for the books.

Membership Secretary: Mark Backhouse (for Rachel)

Total membership – 159 adult, 37 senior, 13 junior, 11 life members, 1 associate member, 3 25 year members and 3 university members. 21 new members this year (an increase)

Ringling Master: Rupert Cheeseman read out the following report.

It's been another successful year in the district. 2010 ended with a quarter peal having been rung at all the towers in the district, an achievement that has certainly not been done for a while if at all. The district 8 bell band scored a comprehensive victory at the County striking competition at Chelsfield. The trophy is now making a tour of the district.

After variable attendances at district events over the previous few years, this year's calendar tried to make sure that there was only one event per month be that meeting, practice, competition or training day, so as to limit overkill. It seemed to work for the practices which were well attended at Crayford and Horton Kirby. Maybe we should have a discussion later over whether people think that the balance is now right or whether there are now too few?

Downe hosted the call change competition which a combined Crayford and Dartford band won. The 6 bell method competition ended up being a two horse race at Bickley that Beckenham won. They went on to come a close 4th in the County final in September with top 4 only separated by 4.5 faults.

Quarter peal week was held in February this year and although not as many were rung as for the inaugural one last year there were still a good number of firsts scored. Next year the County are proposing having a KCACR quarter peal in June. This is to coincide with the national celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee.

A new initiative this year was a district ringing outing with the Tonbridge District. This took place in London in August. It was well supported and hopefully everyone who came along had a good day. 5 towers were rung at and the day culminated at the new 12 at Cornhill. I would certainly feel that it is something worth doing again next year.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has made my 5 years as Ringing Master an enjoyable experience and please continue to support my successor at all the various meetings, practices and competitions.

Assistant Ringing Master: Ian Mills

Lewisham District won the county 8 Bell striking competition at Chelsfield

The county 10 bell competition was postponed (Rochester and Canterbury Districts couldn't agree a date) It will now be held on 25th February next year. The winning District will go on to represent Kent in the Essex Trophy. Ian organised a Kent band for this trophy last year and they came second at St Albans.

(Peter Simms thanked Ian Mills for organising this and said it would be held in Sussex next year and competition date was 8th September 2012)

Training Officer: Dominic Meredith referred us to his report in the Newsletter P11. Dom drew our attention to the idea of a ringing up and down in peal morning and the fact that the new ringers for the new bells at St Giles, Farnborough will need a lot of teaching and help is required. Nick Wilkins added that the Farnborough prospective ringers are learning handling at Chelsfield on Sunday afternoons.

District Representatives: Brenda Barton and Sue Cameron. See item 5.

Sales Representative: Jim Rooke said the books were all here today and he is awaiting a new clothing catalogue. Cathy Cheeseman offered to action this by contacting Helen Webb.

Newsletter Editor: Sue Allport thanked people for contributing articles and asked for them to be as early as possible for the next one as she would be in Australia for much of December. Nick Wilkins thanked Sue for all her work producing the Newsletter and its high quality – the meeting clearly agreed.

3. Election of District Officers

Peter Simms took the Chair Nick Wilkins left the room having agreed to stand.

Chair - Nick Wilkins
Nick returned to Chair.

Proposed by Lesley Barclay and seconded by Sue Cameron

Secretary – Lesley Barclay

Proposed by Sue Allport and seconded by Brenda Barton

Membership Secretary – Rachel Backhouse

Proposed by Sue Cameron and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman

Ringing Master – Ian Mills

Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Dominic Meredith

Deputy Ringing Master – David Macey

Proposed by Helen Valuks and seconded by Rhiannon Meredith

Training Officer - Dominic Meredith

Proposed by Rhiannon Meredith and seconded by Helen Valuks

District Representatives

Sue Cameron
Brenda Barton

Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman
Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman

Sales Representative - Jim Rooke

Proposed by Ian Mills and seconded by Sue Cameron

Newsletter Editor – Sue Allport

Proposed by Mick McDonnell and seconded by Elizabeth Brett

All Elections were unanimous.

Thanks were given to Rupert for his five years service as Ringing Master.

4. Election of new members

Eddie Coode - Bexley (re-election following break in membership)

Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Brenda Coode - Bexley (re-election following break in membership)

Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Angela Jackson Smith - Bexley Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Bethany Pointer – St Mary Cray Proposed James Hardy and seconded by Dominic Meredith

5. KCACR Committee Report

A rule change will be proposed at the next County AGM regarding the timing of when and how much the subscription split between the BRF and General Fund is agreed. There is an historical problem where £10k was not in the General Fund but in the Bell Restoration Fund. The money could not be moved because of the charitable status of BRF. The books are balanced but a rule change is required to prevent similar problems in the future.

500 pin badges will be available with KCACR logo.

Central council meeting in 2014 is in Kent. Hotel in Maidstone already reserved: Tudor Inn Hotel.

There has been a rule change proposed by the general committee to clarify the wording of Rule 9 (iii) ‘the quarterly meeting of each District immediately before the General Committee Meeting in November or December shall be the ADM at which 2 District Reps are to be elected to serve on the General Committee, and a District Secretary’ (the positioning of the “,” being deemed important as some thought District Secretaries were supposed to attend Committee meetings when it was generally felt this was not the case)

Mr Keeler wrote to the committee about the handbook and the missing peals and pagination errors. The handbook editor apologised for the mistakes which were the result of the wrong file being sent to the printers by mistake and they will be rectified next year.

The Treasurer raised the matter of an independent examiner as they need someone.

Grant applications: 4 were given including £10,000 for St Giles Farnborough. Horton Kirby’s request for £500 was rejected but will be raised again at the next meeting.

8 Bell Competition rules need amending or adding to. Two minutes practise was considered unfair. Suggested new rules to be proposed at the next meeting.

County Quarter Peal week will be from 1 to 10 June 2012.

6. 120 Club Draw

	Number	Name	Tower
1 st	99	Freda Cannon	Greenwich
2 nd	40	Terry Elcock	Horton Kirby
3 rd	11	David Hilling	Eynsford
4 th	20	Daphne Paterson	Eynsford

7. AOB

- i) Brenda Barton said that there was no raffle this year at AGM but there will be one next year but she needs some prizes donating.
- ii) Rhiannon Meredith, a Trustee for the Margaret Macey fund, said applications close on 5th November – forms are on the website. (Please see 2 page article in the Newsletter pages 12 & 13)
- iii) Ringing for the Olympics. Kent/Essex/Middlesex group fizzled out (BB)
No decision made – Ian Mills to investigate.
- iv) David Macy – Lewisham have requested help to get their bells ringing. They asked for someone to talk to their congregation. Shelagh Norman offered to do this.
- v) **Dates** for District Meetings 2012
January 14th - Eltham
April 14th - host required
July 14th - host required
October 13th AGM - St Giles Farnborough

Call Change competition at Sidcup on Sat 19th Nov

Mon 28th November London ringers' carol service at St Gile's, Cripplegate. Everybody welcome.

8. Vote of Thanks

Nick Wilkins proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Paul Spreadbridge for conducting the service and Roger Chapman for playing the organ. The Bexley band were thanked for the tea.

Next meeting at Eltham on Saturday 14th January

David Kingston

It was with great sadness that I learnt of the death of David Kingston, aged 79, on Saturday 7th January, after a short illness. We had attempted the traditional Bromley Boxing Day quarter peal with David, Pitman's 4 spliced Surprise Major which had been going really nicely until it ultimately came to grief 6 leads from the end. His parting words were "we should go for that again!".

I understand he was taken ill the following morning. An initial 7 hour operation was unsuccessful and he was taken back into surgery during the night. His wife described his condition to Chris as a torn aorta. Unfortunately, he never came out of the induced coma.

As well as being a member of the KCACR and ringer at Bromley, David was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. He was elected a member in 1951, and had therefore just celebrated 60 years membership. The picture shows him shaking hands with the Master at the recent ASCY anniversary dinner. He was proud of this achievement and a framed copy had been hung on the wall of the ringing room at Bromley.



I personally had known David for over 20 years and he called my first peal in 1990 - Grandsire Triples at Crayford.

He was one of life's true gentlemen and he will be greatly missed.

Rupert Cheeseman

Kulula Airlines

Kulula is an Airline with Johannesburg . Their effort to make the in-flight announcements a bit more real examples that have



head office situated in airline attendants make an "safety lecture" and entertaining. Here are some been heard or reported:

On a Kulula flight, (there is no assigned seating, you just sit where you want) passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing, when a flight attendant announced,

"People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"

On another flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said,

"Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."



"As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane."



"Thank you for flying Kulula. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."

Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Kulula Airlines."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child travelling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are travelling with more than one small child, pick your favourite."



And from the pilot during his welcome message:

"Kulula Airlines is pleased to announce that we have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"



Proper technique for exiting aircraft.

After a real crusher of a landing in Johannesburg , the attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the Crew have brought the air craft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we will open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."