



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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

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

JULY 2012

County 8 Bell Champions



.... **again!**

L to R front row Treble. Peter Swift, 2. Rachel Backhouse, 3. Rupert Cheeseman, 4. Dominic Meredith
L to R back row 5. Nick Wilkins, 6. Colin Wyld, 7. Ian Mills, 8. David Macey

This time, last year, a Lewisham District band scored a home win, at Chelsfield.

This year, the same band were aiming for an away win, to consolidate their home victory, in order to retain the trophy.

Single Oxford Bob Triples was the test piece this year, which explains why it has been rung so much at District Practices over the past six months; not just to provide extra practice for the striking competition band, but also to allow everyone in the District to get involved.

The weather was perfect for the competition at Marden, on 30th June - one of the few days this summer, without rain! After a warm-up practice at Edenbridge, and a splendid lunch at the Unicorn pub, in Marden (someone even managed two burgers!), we made our way to the church for the draw.

The Lewisham District band were drawn to ring first - a slot that most teams usually dread.

Despite the early draw, after our two minutes allotted practice time, the team started confidently with the test piece and soon settled into a rhythm, producing ringing that was better than that of any of our previous practice sessions.

The pressure started to mount, and inevitably, towards the end of the touch, we suffered a slight method mistake.

Fortunately, this was spotted immediately by Colin Wyld, and was corrected very quickly.

Had we rung well enough? What would the judge make of our method mistake? Would it make any difference to the result?

District officer e-mail directory

Website:

www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Chairman:

Nick Wilkins
chairman@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Secretary:

Lesley Barclay
sec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Rachel Backhouse
memsec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Ringling Master:

Ian Mills
master@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Assistant Master:

David Macey
ringing@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Training Officer:

Dominic Meredith
training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

District Representatives:

Brenda Barton
rep1@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Sue Cameron
rep2@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Sales Representative:

James Rooke
sales@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Newsletter Editor:

Sue Allport
newsletter@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

continued from front page

The advantage of ringing first is that you don't have to nervously wait until it's your turn.

The disadvantage is that you then have to listen to all the other teams, hoping they won't ring better than you. By the time all five teams had rung (the Rochester District didn't enter), I had no idea which team had won.

The judge, Richard Smith from St Mary the Great, Cambridge, was sure that although there was only one percent in it, the top two teams were in the right order.

The top team achieved faultless roll-ups, and the tenor ringer was singled out for doing a particularly good job.

Thankfully, our preparation paid off, and the Lewisham District band were the winners once again.

I would like to thank all the members of our team for putting up an excellent performance on the day, and for turning up to the practice sessions.

Also, I would like to thank everyone who has turned up to a District Practice and helped out by ringing Single Oxford Bob Triples.

The full results are as follows:

Posn	District	Rang	Score	Peal Speed
1st	Lewisham	1st	77%	2h 55m
2nd	Canterbury	3rd	76%	3h 4m
3rd	Tonbridge	2nd	63%	2h 49m
4th	Ashford	5th	48%	2h 58m
5th	Maidstone	4th	43%	2h 58m

Ian Mills
Lewisham District Ringing Master



The Trophy

(rear of the year?..... Ed)

Editorial



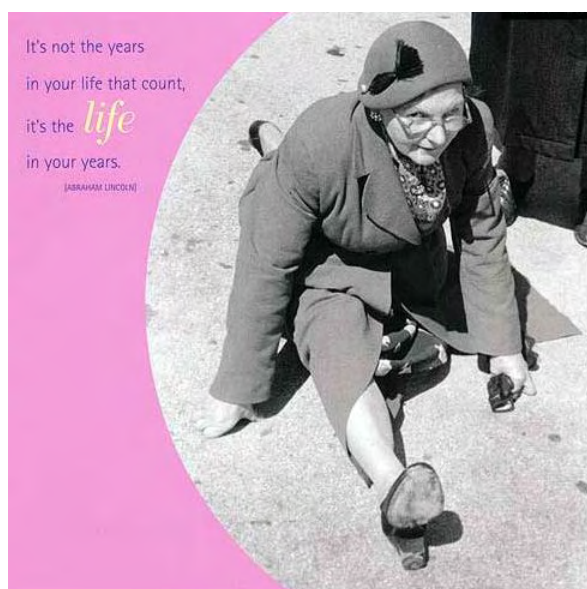
Well after a dearth of articles last time this Newsletter is crammed full—well almost! There is always that odd page or two that has to be filled and I trawl through my emails trying to find something suitable — unfortunately most are far from it but I hope you enjoy the old adverts I found if nothing else!

Well done to the Lewisham Band triumphing at the 8 Bell Competition for the second year running! Also very well done to Farnborough for taking part in the Farningham Trophy! As Carole pointed out in her article there are 32 towers in the district and they were one of only 4, plus a scratch band that entered. It is all in the taking part (never the winning) so congratulations to your tower.

We also have an article from David Macey on ringing on the 'Jubilee Peal' along the Thames—not sure if they got wet though—and one from a new ringer at Lewisham.

So don't let me hold you up any longer! Enjoy both this and the rest of your 'summer'.....?

SueX



In the newsletter this time...

County 8 Bell Champions	1
District Officers Email Directory	2
Editorial	3
Chairman's bit	4
120 Club	4
Celebrating the Olympics	5
Ringers advert	5
Bell Ringing Competition	5
News from the Towers	
Ash by Wrotham	6
Chelsfield	6
Crayford	7
Dartford	7
Downe	7
Eltham	7
Erith Christ Church	8
Farnborough	8
Horton Kirby	8
The Meridian Ringers	9
The Farningham Trophy	11
Royal Jubilee Surprise	12
My Ringing Journey	13
'Success is the Reward of Perseverance'	14
St Giles the Abbot, Farnborough	16
ITTS Courses in Kent	18
The Charmborough Ring at Horton Kirby	20
Minutes of the April District Meeting	22
Quarter Peal at Farnborough	24



The Chairman's bit

What a difference three months make!

In April I was lamenting the lack of rain and hosepipe ban and since then we've had almost unprecedented rain and the hosepipe ban has been lifted in most areas!

Despite the dull, cool and, indeed, generally damp Jubilee weekend we didn't let the elements spoil the celebrating of HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and I'm sure most ringers thought the River Pageant to be a highlight with the bells on the barge being seen by an audience of many millions. Well done to those that were ringing those bells including David Macey and Dickon Love.

Also, in April, there were 31 towers with five or more ringable bells in the Lewisham District and now there are 32! This is due to the new ring of bells at St Giles the Abbot, Farnborough being hung for ringing and, in fact, despite the bells initially having no stays or sliders, a QP was rung for the Jubilee on Friday, 1st June. This was part of the KCACR QP week and I'd be interested to know how many more towers in the District rang a QP. Kent QPs are being collated by the Canterbury District Secretary.

You will probably be first reading this at the July Quarterly Meeting at Cudham and I'm sorry that I will be absent from that meeting due to a holiday abroad.

However, the Farnborough ringers and I look forward to welcoming you to St Giles for the Annual District Meeting on 13th October. There's more information on the bell installation at Farnborough within this newsletter as well as an account of the Farnborough ringers experience in competing in the Farningham Trophy on 17th June.

In the meantime enjoy your summer, including the Olympics, and I look forward to seeing you all soon

NW June 2012



120 Club

Draw held at Chelsfield on April 14th

1 st	11	Philippa Rooke (Chelsfield)
2 nd	55	Len Morley (Eltham)
3 rd	4	Jim Rooke (Chelsfield)
4 th	101	120 Club

Draw held at Downe On May 18th

1 st	31	Tom Scarth (CC Erith)
2 nd	67	Pauline Smith (Charlton Kings)
3 rd	20	Ian Nurdin (Ash)
4 th	115	120 Club



Draw held at Lewisham on June 16th

1 st	102	120 Club
2 nd	112	120 Club
3 rd	69	Alex Britton (Unattached)
4 th	110	David Holdridge (Eltham)

Rachel Backhouse

Advice from a tree



Stand Tall and Proud
Go out on a Limb
Remember your Roots
Drink plenty of Water

Be content with your
Natural Beauty
Enjoy the View

Submitted by Sue Cameron



Celebrating the Olympics

Torch Relay

In the week before the OLYMPIC GAMES start many of our churches with bells will be near the TORCH RELAY route so I'm expecting lots of ringing.

On the 22nd JULY the FLAME starts in Redbridge and finishes in Bexley. My daughter will be carrying it through Barking & Dagenham; exact time and place not yet known but I will put it on District message. Hoping some of you can support/encourage her that morning....It'll be a great experience made better by a warm, excited & cheering crowd.



Are you looking forward to RINGING your BELLS on 27th July at 8am? I'll be at work (volunteer) so I'm taking a HANDBELL to ring at ExCeL.

Brenda Barton

**NEED HELP WITH RINGERS
FOR MIDWEEK WEDDINGS,
FUNERALS, SERVICES OR OTHER
EVENTS?**

**THE
MERIDAN RINGERS
MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU OUT**

We now have several ringers available to help out during the daytime for weekday events.

On Mondays and Fridays we have complete bands available, on other days some ringers are also available.

**For more details, please contact:
graham.long@staffpriory.co.uk**

Bell Ringing Competition

Sunday 17th June saw the hosting of an unofficial and light hearted Lewisham District Striking Competition (Bell ringing competition) at St. Peter and St. Paul Farningham. Nick Wilkins was keen for a St. Giles team to enter, so Nick was joined by Ros and Carl Scarlett, Rebecca, Hannah and Carole Fruin to form a "Band" although a number of other ringers would have liked to joined in, there was an unfortunate clash with Fathers Day, holidays and the London to Brighton bike ride!

Andy and Esther Fruin and Adam Scarlett were joined by three other ringers from other towers to form a scratch band. Out of 32 towers in the Lewisham District, we were one of only four entering a band, plus the scratch team. We had the most ringers taking part (9).

Although we were competing against a number of experienced bands (one ringer was the tower master for Westminster Abbey). We were congratulated on taking part and for having a



L to R Ros, Carole, Carl, Hannah, Rebecca, Nick

reasonable number of enthusiastic young ringers. The St. Giles band had steady Treble and Tenor ringers, which kept the pace going - thank you Nick on the treble and Ros on the tenor. As inexperienced ringers, we were only expected to ring "simple" rounds and call changes to our level, the more experienced bands rang more complicated tunes.

After the striking competition, each band entered into a hand-bell competition, something which none of us had experienced before, Nick gave us some sound advice, make sure the previous team hasn't swapped the bells around before we start (they had) and despite Nick trying to put us all off by doing a quick shimmy to swap one of his bells and Ros flinging one of her bells on the floor (the handle broke), we managed to get an almost recognisable tune and we all finished at the same time. For those of you who are interested the tunes were St. Peter and St. Paul. Thanks to Farningham tower for organising the event and the barbecue.

Carole Fruin

NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

ASH-BY-WROTHAM

Practice Saturday 9:30am

Ringing in the Reign

And didn't it throw it down! Ash Tower had four events centred round the Jubilee, fortunately some were indoors. Saturday...This was the moved 'Village Day'. It was cold and bleak in the morning and still overcast as the fete opened.

However we got out the handbells and waved them around. Very soon we had children on small



bells augmenting the handbell choir in rounds, probably 20 or so children and 10 adults over the course of the afternoon. The sun came out and we made a merry sound. Pictures of this made the Kent Messenger, and two of us were stopped with the 'I saw you' and chats about ringing. With a bucket collection and raffle for a flower arrangement £100 was raised for church funds, and with our reader in full clerical garb much general outreach occurred, as well as distribution of ringing leaflets.

Sunday...After service rings, the ringers gathered in the afternoon to support the River Pageant, whenever the barge was shown or bells heard, we grabbed rope and rang, call changes (Queens, what else?) PH and kaleidoscope, several times each. In between we refreshed ourselves with copious drafts of tea, assorted cakes and Julia's magnificent cheese scones. We wound down after 4.00pm as the pageant and



church were deluged. We hope people enjoyed the ringing as a supplement to the broadcast. Monday...We had the delight of a beacon on the tower roof, to much excitement, and following some test runs, and borrowed strong men to get canisters of gas up 60+ steps, great fun was had. We rang prior to the

beacon being lit. We were then able to give trial pulls to the large crowd, approx 120, which had gathered, from James, 4, to a mature parishioner, 70+. Each 'bell puller' was given leaflets and an invite to practice. One has already turned up to practice. Once the beacon was lit, we let off fireworks, and had a BBQ, selling out of burgers completely and all bar 3 bottles at the bar. Church funds had another little boost. Tuesday...We supplemented our usual practice, with 30 mins special ringing to link to the service at St Paul's. For some of us this was the 7th batch of ringing in 4 days and fingers were beginning to tingle.

Although we were unable to ring a quarter, we had a lot of fun, and were able to involve the public and the congregation in celebratory ringing.

Gabrielle Stook

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

Varied Monday practice night ringing has continued much as before with a range of abilities catered for. Practices have often started early to accommodate Farnborough ringers but how long this will continue for now that Farnborough's own bells have been installed remains to be seen. Visitors always welcome.

Nick Wilkins

CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)

Practice Wednesday 19.30—20.00



CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)
Practice Wednesday 20:00

CRAYFORD
Practice Tuesday 19:45

Practices continue to be well attended. The staple diet of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles is occasionally augmented to Plain Bob or Grandsire Triples when the right people turn up. Sunday's continue to be more of a struggle and we are grateful for Brenda and Esther making the regular trip up from Dartford once they've rung for their service. We rang a quarter for the Jubilee weekend and quarter peal week and plan to ring when the touch replay comes close to Crayford on the 22nd July. We entered the Farningham Trophy and came a respectable second to the home team in the main tower bell part. We won the 'fun' handbell tune ringing section – thanks Philippa (and Mark and Antony)!

Rupert Cheeseman

CUDHAM
Practice Monday 20:00 (except 1st) 19:45 Joint Practice with Downe

DARTFORD
Practice Wednesday 20:00

We are struggling to keep going, often start with 4 on Sundays and sometimes progress to 6. We managed to ring a Quarter for Q.P. Week with the help of Andrew and Rupert from Crayford and Sue Cameron. We dedicated it to QP, Diamond Jubilee, Prince Philip's Birthday and the vicar's Dad's birthday so earned Brownie points all round.

We have acquired 3 new ringers, via the advert in the local Magazine "Dartford Living".
Bethany is progressing nicely but the other 2 will take time to learn to handle their bell. One previous learner has also returned.

Brenda and I have continued to support Crayford on Sundays and Tuesdays and Ash in turn have supported us. Ash and I have also gone to St John's Erith and enjoyed doing different things there.

Brenda and I joined in the Farningham day and were pleased to do well in the competitions in the joint Crayford-Dartford band. We are still "fighting" the DAC over the clock chamber floor, hopefully the architect may help.....Was that a pig I saw up there in the blue yonder?

Esther Correia

DOWNE
Practice Monday 20:00

Our contribution to the Jubilee Ringing was at midday on Monday, June 4th, to herald the beginning of our Village Celebration Picnic here in Downe. We rang quite a few Call changes which needless to say, featured 'Queens' several times. Amongst our audience of people gathered in the Church to watch us ring, we had 2 local Councillors, Jo Johnson and Julian Benington' (Orpington and Biggin Hill) Our Picnic included entertainment from a newly formed Village Choir, singing, as well as several old favourites, our own Jubilee Song.

We continue as a good working band and feel that we are making some progress towards some more methods.

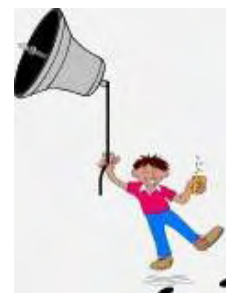
Bridget Robbie

ELTHAM
Practice Tuesday 20:00

It has been a reasonably quiet few months at Eltham. We have struggled to make numbers for Sunday ringing on occasion; on that note a big thank you to those from other towers who have helped us out on the Sundays when we were particularly short. On a positive note we have been able to welcome a new starter to our fold.
We got into the spirit of the Diamond Jubilee by ringing a quarter peal

Monday 4 June 2012
1260 Plain Bob Doubles in 40 mins

- 1 Diane J Reynolds
- 2 Tiffany Kelly
- 3 Stephen J Fitton
- 4 Leonard G A Morley
- 5 Ian G Mills (C)
- 6 Angus Ogilvie



We have been approached by Eltham College to talk to a group from their summer school, so we are in the process of trying to get something organised for that. We would like to get more interesting methods under our belt, so look out in future issues for announcements about which methods we'd love to have visiting ringers come and help us with once in a while. For now we're keen to see Stedman make an appearance more often so if anyone fancies some Stedman practice once week, let us know on t.h.baird@hotmail.co.uk and we will be able to pick a practice to commit to it.

Tom Baird

ERITH (Christ Church)
Practice Monday 20:00

We chose Saturday June 2nd as the time when the majority of our band could meet to ring for the Diamond Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II. To mark the occasion we had our photo taken for posterity.



Some of us went up to London the following day to stand in the crowd to watch the Jubilee Pageant pass down the Thames led of course by the bells for St James Garlickhythe mounted on a barge.

Anthony arrived home from university in Aberystwyth the week before the Farningham Trophy and announced that he had had one (unsuccessful) attempt at calling a touch of Plain Bob Doubles. A couple of successful touches later on practice night meant that we had our method and challenge sorted for the competition. As we don't tend to ring Plain Bob three of our band found themselves out of their comfort zone and managed to overcome their nerves on the day. Well done.

University term, GCSEs and working away from home have reduced our numbers on practice night. Our thoughts of a local band attempt at a quarter of Grandsire Triples have not made as much progress as we had hoped and has proved a huge challenge to all of our band.

Rachel Backhouse

ERITH (St John the Baptist)
Practice 1st Wednesday 20:00, then Thursdays 20:00

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

FARNBOROUGH

Now boasting entry in Dove's Guide as one of only two towers with 7 ringable bells!

Except for minor snagging work, the installation of the six new bells is complete and we are delighted with the result. The inaugural ringers AGM is to be held on Saturday 7th July and pending that, a decision has not yet been made about

practices and service ringing. It's likely that ringing practices will vary to accommodate and suit the local ringers and, perhaps will sometimes be on a weekday evening and at other times, either Saturday mornings or even Sunday afternoons. Intending visitors should ask me about ringing times and understand that, with all respect to people's enthusiasm, we will not want too many visitors at one time and people will have to be willing to assist the St Giles, Farnborough ringers with their learning.

Nick Wilkins

FARNINGHAM
Practice Wednesday 20:00

FOOTS CRAY
Practice Wednesday 20:00

HAYES
Practice Tuesday 20:00

HORTON KIRBY
Practice Thursday 20:00

Not a lot to report from HK. We have struggled bit on practice nights with low numbers but we've always been able to ring on Sundays which I suppose is the important thing. We had the Charmborough Ring at our Village fete which was good fun—about the only thing to stay on the ground in the very windy weather! There are photos of the event and a short article elsewhere in the Newsletter. Visitors are always welcome to practice night so if you have a spare Thursday do come along!

Sue Allport

LEWISHAM
Practice 5th Wednesday

PENGE
Ringings 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

The first half of 2012 has been very busy for The Meridian Ringers and the second half will also, no doubt, be quite eventful.

We had our Christmas Dinner in the second week of January – we can never seem to be able to fit it in around Christmas time, but actually it is quite nice having a celebration a couple of weeks into the New Year. For a change we asked our local landlord, of The Ashburnham Arms Greenwich to lay on a meal for us. We were not disappointed and had a super evening – thank you, Dennis!

David Hilling phoned me up and said he had some used ropes from Westminster Abbey to donate to a ring in the Lewisham District which had similar ringing weights etc for re-use – we have acquired the ropes and are in the process of putting them onto the bells at Greenwich. Interestingly, the ropes at Greenwich don't have a lot of wear as they are polypropylene above the sally, but some of the sallies are getting rather worn and thin. So getting the ropes from the Abbey has come at a very good time and will be the closest we'll get to ring at The Abbey, although maybe not as I'll allude to later.

We have been continuing to ring for the monthly Choral Evensong at Greenwich and have rung for several other services this year.

In early February, HM The Queen bestowed the honour of making Greenwich Royal Borough. We rang a quarter to celebrate this on the eve of the anniversary of the Queen's Accession

Kent County Association

Greenwich, London, St Alfege

Sunday, 5 February 2012 in 43mins (12cwt)

1260 PB Doubles

- 1 Shelagh Norman
- 2 Hazel Bing
- 3 Jim Odell
- 4 Graham Long
- 5 Stephen J. Bailey (C)
- 6 Alan Munden

To celebrate Greenwich being made a Royal Borough by HM The Queen, 3.2.12. Also, rung in memory of Richard Bing, late husband of Hazel (2nd ringer) who died 4.2.05. Also in memory of Betty Shackell, wife of former Curate of the church, Rev, Ken Shackell, whose funeral is to take place during February 2012. After the quarter Chris Goldsmith, Vicky Duguid, Jan Odell and

David Cloke joined for ringing on all 10 bells, including firing on 10 as part of the Greenwich celebrations which ended with a fireworks display at The Old Royal Naval College.

We rang a quarter to mark the death of Harold Rogers who was known to several of us ex- London County members – I actually ran with Harold, Olive and their son, Chris, when I was at college in Isleworth, although the tower I rang at was All Hallows, Twickenham.

Kent County Association

Greenwich, London, St Alfege

Monday, 12 March 2012 in 41mins (8 1/2 cwt)

1260 Doubles Grandsire & Plain Bob

- 1Hazel Bing
- 2Jim Odell
- 3Andrew Sinclair
- 4Graham Long
- 5Bill Lanyon (C)
- 6Alan Munden

In memory of Harold Rogers

In May, we made our annual trip to ring at Southwark Cathedral for The Archdeaonry of Lewisham & Greenwich service for the swearing in of Churchwardens and PCCs. We have done this now for about twenty years and it gives ringers the chance to experience ringing on a large ring of 12 – well done to Christine Goldsmith for ringing the 48cwt Tenor. Once again, The Archdeacon, Christine Hardman, was very appreciative of our efforts and rewarded us with drinks and excellent conversation in The Market Porter afterwards.

April 2012 marked the Millennium of The Martyrdom of St. Alfege [or St. Alphege, as spelt elsewhere] and the altar of St. Alfege, Greenwich actually marks the spot where Alfege was assassinated by the Scandinavian invaders who were terrorising the country in 1012. There were various celebrations which culminated with a Service at Greenwich, presided by The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams. We rang before and after the service and were joined by ringers from St. Alphege, Solihull, Birmingham – there are only about ten churches dedicated to Alfege throughout the world and three of those are in Kent! The Bishop of Bergen, Norway also attended this service and spoke very eloquently – it was a great shame that someone managed to steal his briefcase and laptop!

As part of The St. Alfege Millennium, the ringers from St. Alphege, Solihull arranged a ringing outing to London on 12th May. They rang firstly at Greenwich, followed by a splendid

lunch [and maybe too much Shepherd Neame!] at our local, The Ashburnham Arms. Then onto Deptford and Woolwich, and ending up at St. George The Martyr, Southwark. They were extremely appreciative of Alan Munden's guidance around the local area. Personally, I met them at Deptford and rang a very good touch of Bob Major with them – afterwards, one of their ringers, Philip Pope, announced to me that he used to ring in Eastbourne, where I learnt to ring, and we had rung together back in the late 1960s – I was very young then!!

Next, on to the ringing for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. We arranged to ring for this as well as making contributions to The KCACR Quarter Week. We rang a well struck Date Touch at Greenwich although we had intended to ringing spliced Minor and Doubles – unfortunately, three attempts of the Minor went awry so we settled for a compromise.

Kent County Association

Greenwich, London, St. Alfege

Thursday, 31 May 2012 in 1 hour 3 mins (8 1/2 cwt)

1952 Plain Bob Minimus and Doubles

- 1 Hazel Bing
- 2 Gillian Harris
- 3 Andrew Sinclair
- 4 Bill Lanyon
- 5 Graham Long (C)
- 6 Jim Odell

First Date Touch and Longest length (2)

Date touch rung to celebrate The Diamond Jubilee of HRH The Queen Elizabeth II.

For The Kent County Association Quarter Peal Week

On Sunday 3rd June it was the Thames Pageant event so we arranged to ring for this. Some of us were able to witness The Jubilee Peal ringing near Greenwich Pier.

Kent County Association

Greenwich, London, St Alfege

Sunday, 3 June 2012 in 50 mins (23 1/2 cwt)

1319 Plain Bob Doubles (768 cover)

- 1 Vicky Duguid
- 2 Hazel Bing
- 3 Bill Lanyon
- 4 Andrew Sinclair
- 5 Graham Long (C)
- 6 Shelagh Norman
- 7 Jim Odell
- 8 Alan Munden

Also general ringing (joined by Jan Odell) with firing on all 10. Touch of 120 Stedman Doubles: BL (C), GL, Freda Cannon, Tim Kellett, AS, AM

Touch of 240 Doubles: Chris Goldsmith, HB, GL, BL, AS (C), AM
To celebrate The Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen Elizabeth II, and to welcome The Jubilee Bells to Greenwich.
For The Kent County Association Quarter Peal Week

In June, one of ringers, Stephen Bailey, wanted to have his son, Noah, baptised at Greenwich. Unfortunately, on the date chosen there was a special *Handel with Hamper* performance which meant there was no Choral Evensong – The Vicar then suggested having the service the previous week – yes, this would be OK for us, except the Organist and choir wouldn't be available due to other rehearsals for the *Handel with Hamper* event. The Vicar then said we could do it as a Said Evensong with Baptism and hymns – I offered to play the organ for this, which he accepted and then said he'd also like to make this a Service of Thanksgiving for The Bellringers.

So on June 17th we had a splendid service and Noah was duly baptised. We went for a quarter peal of Plain Bob Triples, but sadly this fouled up at about 1100 changes, which was a great pity as it was an extremely well-struck performance. There then followed general ringing with some excellent Stedman Triples and ringing after the service. The feeling amongst us, and The Vicar, is that we should make this an annual service of Thanksgiving for Bellringers.

Coming up shortly we are to celebrate the 60th birthdays of Bill Lanyon and Hazel Bing – we also have several birthday celebrations at this time of the year. One of our ringers, Dan Cocker has arranged for a dinner at The Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London. We are also going to ring at St. Margaret's, Westminster – even nearer to The Abbey, as mentioned earlier, than the bell ropes?!

We have been contacted by Simon Lole, look him up on the web, about making some recordings of bells that a rock group called *Archive* – look them up as well – would like to use as introductory music and for other effects. We will be doing this in the middle of July – will be quite an experience! We'll also be ringing for St. John's, Deptford Anniversary celebrations on 15th July

Graham Long



The Farningham Trophy

17th June 2012

It was a blustery and challenging day for the hotdog cookers at the Farningham Trophy. The canopy fell apart within minutes of erection.

Fortunately once the gas-fired barbecue had been re-sited in the lee of the tower of St Peter and St Paul's the sausages started to sizzle.

On the day, five teams entered this prestigious event including a scratch team to involve the unattached. Despite your reporter's best efforts the team captains were too focused to offer him an interview before ringing.



The judges, Frank and Catherine Lewis, settled onto their bench in the graveyard and battle commenced.

The draw was tense and there were gasps of disbelief (from Nick Wilkins) as the Eynsford and Farningham team, including Bobby Fairclough, was announced. Crayford started the ringing with a team finely led by Rupert Cheeseman. They were followed by Erith led by Rachel Backhouse. Your reporter was the steward for this team. I was particularly impressed by the freestyle trebling and the rhythmic solidarity of the tenor. The Eynsford and Farningham team led by David Hilling followed. Rupert was stewarding and unsettled the team with comments about the legitimacy of the method that we were about to attempt.

He then tried to destabilise the team by allowing more than twenty whole pulls before we started the method. It can only be this that caused the fifth ringer to miss the bob in the second extent.



The Farnborough team followed. Many of these ringers have been ringing for less than a year and they performed magnificently in their first competition. Special mention in this team goes to Adam, Esther and Andy. The scratch team also performed very creditably-I was particularly impressed with the way Hannah Patrick performed in her first competition outing.



L to R Carl, Adam, Carole, Esther, Hannah, Rebecca, Philippa & Nick

While the church bells were being rung upstairs Mark Backhouse's handbells were brought into action downstairs and a hand bell ringing competition, judged by Philippa Rooke, ensued. Mark appeared to be in the first three teams. He swapped the bells around for the 4th team making the tune unrecognisable and loosened one of the straps for the 5th team causing the 7th bell to fly into the Bible. The competition was won by one of Mark Backhouse's teams!

Overall winners of the Farningham Trophy were..... Eynsford and Farningham. The trophy was awarded to deputy tower captain, Tony Fisher. In his gracious acceptance speech he once again stressed that the taking part was more important than the winning. He particularly congratulated the Farnborough team and the Scratch team for taking part.

Special thanks for putting on the event go to David Hilling (general arrangements), Tony Fisher (bbq), Sylvia (for her very special cupcakes) and Caroline Gould (tea and coffee)

Reported by Jack Barker.

Not Sponsored by "Normans Sausages"



Royal Jubilee Surprise

It was back in October 2011 when after a failed peal attempt at Bickley and walking to the pub for a pint, I was asked whether I would like to be one of the band ringing for the Diamond Jubilee River Pageant. Now, if I'm completely honest, I had no idea what this involved, when it was going to take place and assumed ringing would be at one of the river-side churches.



As more information emerged from our organiser, Dickon Love we realised we would not be ringing in a church, but on a barge. The bells were to be cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry for the church of St James's, Garlickhythe (near Cannon Street station), loaned to the pageant organisers and each of the bells would be named after senior members of the Royal family, with the largest Elizabeth, weighing in at nearly half a ton. The bells would then be affectionately known as the 'Royal Jubilee Bells'.

On Thursday 17th May the first try out on the bells occurred at a warehouse in Edenbridge in a specially constructed frame. The noise emitted in this enclosed space was nearly deafening so the use of ear defenders was essential - but the general consensus was that these newly cast bells were excellent. We were all very pleased with 'the go' of the bells but the true test would be ringing on the move on water.

We had our first try-out on the Thames itself on Saturday 26th May and at 10am, nine intrepid members of the Ancient Society of College Youths met at the O2 pier in glorious sunshine to board our barge, the 'Ursula Katherine'. The work boat, 'Steven B', pushed us from the dome into central London during which time we rang a few short touches, the look from bemused tourists on Tower Bridge and the Millennium Bridge was a sight to behold. We even received a round of applause as we passed under the latter bridge...was that because we had stopped ringing? The barge was then turned around to face down river for our trip back eastwards.

The pageant organisers wanted to hear the bells ringing non-stop from Blackfriars Bridge through to Tower Bridge to assess how audible they were from the banks, however, as a band we decided to ring a full peal, about 3 hours non-stop ringing, in order to get used to the 'go' of the bells on water. Everything appeared to be going well until we all realised that the wind was going to play a considerable part in how we were going to ring. Normally in a tower, when you pull the rope down, you know that you will be catching it right in front of you, however, on the barge, if the wind happened to catch the rope you could be taking a step or two to the left, right or ahead. The peal finished somewhere near Woolwich so a small vessel came to pick us up from the barge to return us to the dome.

The band had received instructions for Sunday 3rd June itself, which meant an 8am meet at the dome in order to pass through the security checks and allow time to be transported



up river to our mooring point at Albert Bridge. The band assembled on the pier under grey, rain-threatening skies with both a sense of excitement and trepidation. Once again, we rang some short pieces on the way up to make sure that everything was working correctly – thankfully no problems were encountered. It was a very surreal experience travelling up the Thames flanked by canal boats and all type of vessels. The banks of the Thames were already a sight to behold with crowds of people assembling in good time to obtain the best vantage points.

We arrived at our mooring point at about



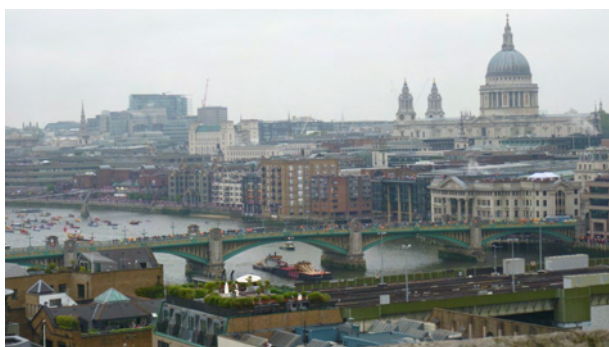
10am, so this meant a good four and a half hours to pass before we were due to start ringing. Fortunately our BBC celebrity for the day, John Barrowman (of Dr Who and Torchwood fame) kept us entertained. At 2.42pm we were told to start ringing so our big moment had arrived. We decided



that we would attempt a quarter peal and then short touches after this until we reached our berth. Despite the loudness of the bells and our position below the water-line we could still hear the cheering and noise from the banks. The standard of ringing throughout was of the highest quality and we were suitably satisfied with our performances as we reached the pier at 5.30pm.

It was an honour to partake in this once in a lifetime event and to be on the lead barge in the pageant was something that I will never forget.

David Macey



My Ringing Journey

Sitting in our cold St. Mary's Church last December 2011, our lay reader Marion Watson read a notice. She spoke about the church bells and the fact that someone was prepared to teach members of the congregation how to ring them at St. Mary's. The idea immediately caught my attention and I thought it would be a good idea for my son and I to do. Theo agreed with a bit of persuasion and we signed up.

In early January we met David, Ian and Dom our trainers. My first journey up the tower was very daunting, I had made the journey before but that was many years ago when I was having confirmation classes, and I had forgotten what going up to the tower was like. The enclosed, stone walled staircase was a little overwhelming, but with Theo in tow we took our time and reached the bell ringing room. I must admit I was not brave enough to climb the ladder to see the actual bells. We were given a demonstration which I enjoyed and then I decided to return.



From that day I have great respect for the bells, such heavy instruments controlled primarily by a length of rope. I began slowly learning all the actions, but not really understanding what was going on. Now I slowly understand where the bell is, and what it is doing when I pull the rope and catch the sally. Our trainers are extraordinary people, they give up their free time, are very encouraging, funny, and overall extremely patient. There are approximately six to ten of us who regularly practice and I can sincerely say we really enjoy it. I am steadily progressing as my confidence increases.

The many people I have met who have stepped in to train us when our regular trainers have not been available. Chris and Sheila who also come to our practices to help us, and ring the hand bells with us are amazing. They give up so much of their free time.

Learning to ring the church bells has allowed me to become a part of the wider church community. Faces of people I used to see in church I now know by name. Sorry to say, my son has not learnt to ring, as he has other commitments at practice times, which is a great shame as I feel he would be enjoying it as much as I am.

Ann Maloney

‘Success is the Reward of Perseverance’

Ladies Guild Centenary Outing 28th April 2012

It was 100 years ago this year that a group of ladies rang the first ladies only peal. It was a peal of Grandsire Triples, and took place on Saturday 20th July 1912 in Christchurch, Cubbitt Town, Isle of Dogs. Apparently it was a very hot day and the ladies had a little trouble initially and were obliged to shed some garments before completing the historic peal. They must have enjoyed themselves; however, as shortly after this historic event the Ladies Guild of Change Ringers was formed.

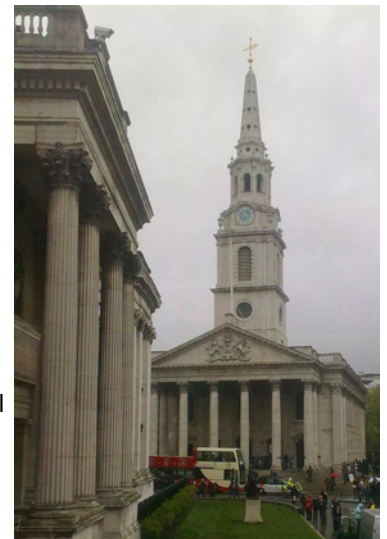


So it was then that on 28th April 2012 ladies of the Ladies Guild, from all over the country, most dressed in ladies guild t-shirts and sweatshirts, finished their day's tour, by ringing at this church on 28th April 2012 to mark the centenary of this remarkable feat. The title of this piece is taken from the celebratory peal board in the tower at Christchurch.



It was a very well organised day, with about 60 ladies (and several gentlemen) queuing at the six churches in various parts of London. People made some new friends as well as catching up with old ones met on

previous outings and the churches we visited were some of the most famous in London. Some made more famous by the nursery rhyme *Oranges and Lemons*. First on the list was St Giles in the fields where we started with quite a queue due to many of us arriving early eager to get started. However, this was an ideal opportunity to meet old friends, make new ones, and generally chat to like-minded ringers.



Next came St Martins in the fields, a bit daunting, but a fantastic location on Trafalgar Square opposite the National and National Portrait gallery. This was a beautiful tower with wood panelling and we were made very welcome; the bells



went very smoothly and we had plenty of room to stand. Outside the roads were being closed to the public for an international bike ride so we were able to stand outside and listen to other ringers ringing and a few pipers piping without too much traffic roaring past.

Swiftly onto St Clement Danes, the air force church, in the middle of the Strand. We were



very keen to ring here due to the fame associated with the nursery rhyme 'Oranges and Lemons' and in fact there was a plaque on the wall of the ringing chamber making reference to it. Again this was a

lovely church, lots of black wood and beautiful decoration.

We had been told earlier in the day that, presumably due to a mix-up, we could not ring at St Dunstan's at our allotted time of 2.00pm, but would have to wait until 2.45pm as there was to be a wedding at 2.00pm! After our initial dismay we realised that this left extra time for a spot of luncheon! before a

little trip on the tube to Stepney. It was here agreed that some of our party would ring the happy couple out and so a small group of us were allowed up the tower for this purpose. We now



settled down to wait for our cue to begin ringing - this was a novelty as the signal was given by pulling on a rope downstairs which was tied to a chair leg in the tower – when the rope was pulled, the chair fell and that was the signal! We eagerly watched the chair, a bit like a cat watching a mouse hole, until the chair flew across the floor and almost took us by surprise!

As we were now later than anticipated, we had to hurry to the next tower, St Alfege, Greenwich, which has 10 lovely bells. One of our party impressed Alan, who had come to open up, by pulling off and later standing the tenor without difficulty! Did he think we were weak women and not Ladies Guilders?



Finally we arrived early at the last tower of the day, Christchurch, Cubbitt Town, Isle of Dogs, where we were met by a lovely man who was just locking up and very kindly

showed us to the kitchen and offered us tea, coffee and biscuits. This was just what was needed, but as there were not quite enough for the 60 other ringers on their way, we quickly purchased some more supplies and made refreshments as people steadily arrived. This tower was a little snug for so many ringers who were anxious to have just one last ring and reluctant to leave the tower, even though there was a steady stream of new people coming up, however eventually everyone was accommodated and hopefully satisfied with the day.

So, a big thank you to the organisers of the day, we think it was a great success, despite the rain and grey skies; we certainly enjoyed it and look forward to the next Ladies Guild event.....



Shelagh Norman and Chris Goldsmith



How times have changed..... Ed

St Giles the Abbot Farnborough

The bell installation at Farnborough commenced as planned on Monday 21st May.



Taylor's of Loughborough, slightly confusingly, have two Paul Masons and it was Paul M Mason that arrived on the Monday equipped to start the building work, necessary before the bell frame could be installed. A range of willing volunteers assisted Paul with unloading his van and getting his equipment into the tower ready for serious work the next day. The work involved drilling out pockets to take the bell frame which was delivered separately by Andrew Mills a few days later and hoisted into the tower in sections where it was assembled and carefully levelled.

Paul also installed a new floor below the new belfry to provide sound insulation so the ringers aren't deafened and also thus creating an intermediate chamber.

Once the bell frame was bolted together and levelled, concrete had to be poured into the pockets in the wall where the beam ends rested and this needed to be overseen by the structural engineer as a condition of the Faculty. This was done on Monday, 28th May and the cement left to cure overnight. The cement pouring and the visit by the structural engineer was quite a logistical exercise as we had two funerals that day which we had to work around!

The bells were delivered by the other Paul Mason on Wednesday 30th May and it was going to be a race against time to get the bells ringable for the Jubilee weekend. With the

combined efforts of both Pauls and helpers on Thursday 31st May and after a considerable amount of hard work, the bells were deemed ringable, albeit the installation was not finished as the bells had neither stays or sliders, on Friday, 1st June. After a tentative course of Cambridge S Minor we rang the first touch on the bells, 1320 of Cambridge in 40 mins.

We were very pleased with the bells even in their unfinished state and then attention turned to the second phase of the job which was the fitting of the stays and sliders, the return to the tower of the 9cwt G&J bell, to again be hung for full circle ringing, and the fitting of an access ladder from the ringing chamber to the intermediate level.

Prior to the installation being finished off we had a weekday wedding for which experienced ringers were imported and the consensus was that the bells were excellent. A further two weddings had to be rung for on Saturday, 16th June and due to other competing events it wasn't possible to secure the services of six experienced outside ringers. We therefore resolved that a number of the St Giles ringers (new to ringing only last October) would ring which meant ringing the bells up in peal at the end of the wedding and then after 20mins



wedding ringing, ringing down in peal and, at no time, trying to set their bells as they couldn't! I think rarely, if ever, have such a number of inexperienced ringers managed such a feat by ringing six bells without stays or sliders as this is something that most experienced ringers have rarely done. They did very well and

also were pleased to earn some money!

The second phase of the bell installation resumed on Tuesday 26th June when the G&J bell was delivered to Farnborough to be reinstalled in the tower. It arrived together with its frame sides and fittings and fortunately there was a goodly gathering of helpers at the right time in the afternoon to unload it from the van and then trolley it to the base of the tower. It was then hoisted efficiently up to the new intermediate chamber where it had to be shunted across to the NW side of the tower and lifted into its pit. The installation of the six new bells meant it could no longer be lifted vertically straight up through the open trap doors to the belfry.

During Wednesday and Thursday the stays were fitted as were the new pendulum sliders which were then suitably adjusted. All this work was either done or overseen by the other Paul Mason from Loughborough. A number of helpers were enlisted on a daily basis to assist with various aspects of the work and great thanks are due to them. Some helpers were from other towers in the District and indeed from other Districts! Friday, 29th June saw final adjustments, checking of fittings and the 'go' of the bells and general finishing off and tidying up.

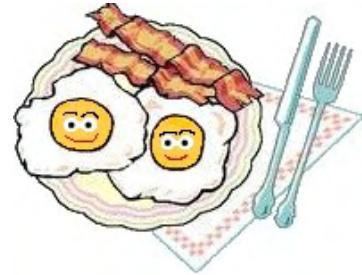
The inaugural St Giles Bellringers AGM is to take place on Saturday 7th July after ringing for a wedding when officers will be elected for the various posts.

I'd like to thank everyone connected with this exciting project; both with the physical bell installation work and also the teaching of the new and enthusiastic ringers and we are confident that everyone will enjoy ringing on these glorious new bells.

Nick Wilkins



Senior Special



We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the 'seniors' special' was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$2.99.

'Sounds good,' my wife said. 'But I don't want the eggs.'

'Then, I'll have to charge you three dollars and forty-nine cents because you're ordering a la carte,' the waitress warned her.

'You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?' my wife asked incredulously.

'YES!!' stated the waitress.

'I'll take the special then,' my wife said.

'How do you want your eggs?' the waitress asked.

'Raw and in the shell,' my wife replied. She took the two eggs home and baked a cake.

DON'T MESS WITH SENIORS!!!

WE'VE been around the block more than once



ITTS Courses in Kent

The Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTS) has been developed over the last four years with the aim of increasing the number of competent, skilled teachers of change ringing. To train and retain new ringers we need many more teachers with the ability to take recruits successfully on to becoming capable ringers. ITTS offers to the next generation of ringing teachers proper training in how to teach bell handling safely, and gives a structured approach to elementary change ringing.

During the first two years of ITTS a number of pilot courses were run, such as the one held last year at St. Laurence-in-Thamet. Since then the Scheme has attracted a much greater following. Both the Yorkshire and Surrey Associations have adopted it, and now Daniel Brady, our new Association Training Officer, is promoting it in Kent.

The Scheme has two modules: Module 1 is concerned with teaching bell handling; Module 2 considers ways of teaching elementary change ringing. To complete either one of these modules a new teacher is required to:

- register on line by giving their email address and a password.
- have as a Mentor an experienced ringing teacher to help them.
- attend a one-day course that will include modern coaching theory as well as the practical work in the tower.
- complete an on-line multiple-choice test.
- teach a learner to handle a bell, or run a successful practice, under the guidance of their Mentor.
- record in a personal record book the progress of each lesson
- be registered on-line by their Mentor as having completed the Module.

Three Module 1 courses are planned for August and September: the first will be at Dover on Bank Holiday Monday, 27th August; the other two will be at Staplehurst on 1st and 29th September respectively.

Please see the Training page on the KCACR website: <http://www.kcacr.org.uk/> Module 2 courses will follow early next year, if not before.

ITTS courses are sponsored by the Ringing Foundation and supported by the Central Council. Emerging from ITTS, and associated directly with it, is the newly formed Association of Ringing Teachers (ART). A new teacher who completes both ITTS modules is entitled to full membership of ART; those who complete just one Module may apply for associate membership.

If you have ever wanted to teach people how to ring but have been afraid to do so then please apply to me, or Daniel, for further details. The Module 1 course at Dover is filling up steadily and maximum attendance is limited by the size of the ringing room. Don't wait until it's too late but get your application in now.

Peter Dale
ptdale@dsl.pipex.com





Course for New Teachers
ITTS
Module 1
Teaching bell Handling
Moodle site - <http://itts.org.uk/>



Monday 27th August 2012 at St Mary's, Dover

(email: ptdale@dsl.pipex.com)

Saturday 1st & 29th September 2012 at All Saints, Staplehurst

(email: training@kcacr.org.uk)

Please arrive promptly for the Introduction at 10.00 a.m.

Teaching a skilled activity (theory) **10.15-10.30**

Practical session - The basic components **10.30-11.30**

Coffee

Practical session - Joining both strokes together **11.45-12.45**

Lunch

Becoming a good teacher- (theory) **2.15-2.30**

Practical session - Teaching raising and lowering **2.30-3.20**

Tea

Solving handling problems – (theory) **3.30-4.00**

Practical session - Solving Common handling problems **4.00-4.40**

4.45*General discussion*

Information about the Moodle site, data collection, role of mentors, etc.

End of course



The Charmborough

On 16th June Horton Kirby held its annual village fete on what was probably the windiest but fortunately not the wettest Saturday of the 'Summer.' The very strong gusts put paid to several gazebos and unfortunately the beer tent but the Charmborough Ring held fast. Well with several hundredweight of bells on board it could hardly do anything else!

Last year we decided to bring something new to the fete. Something that would both stand out visually and audibly and the ring fitted the bill perfectly. Unfortunately with the coming of the long holiday weekend it was decided to move the fete day from the 9th June to the 16th and we found that the ring was booked out to some one else. With just two weeks to go we heard that it was once again available but Lesley our Tower Captain was on holiday and most of the rest of the ringers were already seconded onto other stalls. So the panic started to find ringers who had nothing on at such short notice and who would be prepared to come and help us look after it. We were not disappointed and we had ringers from Crayford, Eynsford, Kemsing, Tonbridge, Dartford and Greenwich all turning up to help both with erecting the ring – no mean feat - and helping through parts of the afternoon.



Peter Blight arrived with ring at 10am

and the very neat process of erection began. Despite the softish ground due to all the rain that had fallen during the 'drought' the ring did not sink and was fully up in about an hour and a half. It was fascinating to watch Peter at work - you could tell he'd done this many times before such were his precise instructions to those helping.

When the ring was ready to go most of our ringers had to return to run our various stalls so we were really pleased when our helpers started to arrive. Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman and Frank Rodgers were there from the very start and their help was invaluable in getting the ring up and running and they stayed all the afternoon and helped to put it to bed too!



I'm not sure if the helpers were tempted by free burgers and hot dogs or whether it was just a desire to help – probably the latter when they discovered that 3 of the HK ringers were on the barbeque stall!

The afternoon was very successful and despite flying ropes at times it even quite small children held up noise. We have hopefully also said he first started to learn to doing something worse, made the village gave him details of our if he liked it. To my delight the when we arrived to open up and promised to return when Lesley So all in all it was a successful out to all our helpers – Fisher, Shelagh Norman, Brenda Barton – without all of Peter Blight for his invaluable help!



despite the windy weather (at least it stayed dry) was good fun. Lots of people came to have a go – by parents were able to pull a rope and make a acquired a new ringer for our tower! Kevin, who ring about 30 years ago because it got him out of mistake of telling me. I found out that he lived in the practice and hoped he would come along just to see following Thursday there he was on the doorstep more importantly he enjoyed the evening and was back.

venture and well worth the effort. Our thanks go Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman, Frank Rodgers, Tony Chris Goldsmith, Becca Prinsloo, Pam Thomas and whom it would not have happened – and also to

Sue Allport

Ring at Horton Kirby



Dodgy burgers?.....





THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION



OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Chelsfield 14th April 2012

One minute's silence was held to remember John Hills of Sidcup

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman, Sue Allport (Horton Kirby) Tom, Anthony and Eloise Scarth (Christchurch, Erith), Esther Correia (Dartford)

2. Minutes of the last meeting

With two amendments for name spelling of new members: Colin Auton and Annette Cutts both of Dartford; the minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Jim Rooke. Seconded: Les Brett.

3. Matters Arising

There were none.

4. Election of new members

Peter Matthew Smith (Junior) of Erith Christchurch. Prop: Shirley Scarth. Sec: Rachel Backhouse
James Newton Vick (Junior) of Erith Christchurch. Prop: Rachel Backhouse Sec: Mark Backhouse

Elected unanimously.

5. 120 Club Draw

	Number	Name	Tower
1 st	11	Philippa Rooke	Chelsfield
2 nd	55	Len Morley	Eltham
3 rd	4	Jim Rooke	Chelsfield
4 th	101	120 club	BRF

Last year £673.59 was raised for the Kent Bell Restoration Fund.

Thanks were given to Rachel Backhouse for running the 120 Club so efficiently.

6.i) KCACR Committee Report

21 present at meeting – 25th February 2012

Badges – not for 2012 Olympics and Jubilee due to cost but in place for 2014 Central Council visit to Kent.

Festival Committee considered Diamond Jubilee date but no attractive venue available. Put off until after 2014.

St George's Day ringing information circulated

Subscription rates on KCACR website

Handbook has some glitches! (It is due out at the beginning of May.)

Bell Restoration Lewisham District towers – Hayes needs repairs to soundproofing, Beckenham has a single bell needing attention but a 40 ft ladder is needed, Chislehurst needs to be inspected.

It was hoped Chatham bells would be ringing for Olympics.

Training Day for Maintenance to be advertised shortly at Speldhurst or Leeds.

Health and Safety advice is that ringers should always be told of tower access by a third party.

Dates for Competitions: 8 Bell – Marden 30th June
6 Bell – Inter district Chalk 22nd September
Essex Trophy – 8th September

6.ii) KCACR Annual General Meeting

Ashford District – Headcorn on Easter Monday 9th April

A very long meeting with discussion and voting on rules that were changed last year – remain the same.

Election of officers:

Chair – Mike Little

Hon. Secretary – Margaret Funnel (for one more year only)

Treasurer – Daniel Lavender (temp. post for 1 yr - Pat Phipps to help initially)

Training officer – Daniel Brady

Handbook – Graham Coker

Publicity – Doug Snozzwell

Two extra members on committee – Peter Simms and Alan Chandler

5 certificates for 50 years' membership were presented

MRFS – the Canterbury District Sec. will coordinate Quarter Peal's rung for the Jubilee. Will those conducting them send straight to MRFS -contact details on previous email to District or in the handbook.

7. AOB

Volunteers were requested to attend the Kent Committee meetings on April 28th – Leeds 9.30 start and 28th July. Sue Cameron and Brenda Barton were thanked for representing the District.

Ian Mills – dates to consider ringing for:

April 23rd St George's Day - 6pm (contact Libby @ Ringing for England)
2nd June – Coronation
5th June – Diamond Jubilee
21st 22nd 23rd July Olympic Torch Relay (Dominic Meredith to coordinate)
All the bells Project – 8am on Friday July 27th.
Events are all on the website

Fees for RW for QP's rung to celebrate the Jubilee to be coordinated by David Macey.
Conductors of these QP's please send the details to MRFS as above but fees to David please.

Bromley Common

St Luke's (Rochester Diocese) is likely to be sold after the retirement of the incumbent.
What will happen to the 8 Taylor bells? Some interest from the Hope Church but little known by the locals. Information to be shared with John Barnes and Brian Butcher.

A suggestion that the webmaster should be an officer of the district was followed by a formal proposal by Philippa Rooke that this be brought to the AGM in October.

Some consideration was given to the hosting of the Kent AGM two years hence. Chislehurst was thought to be a possibility.

8. Vote of Thanks

Ian Mills proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Paul Spreadbridge for conducting the service and to Gwen Bowen for playing the organ. The Chelsfield band were thanked for organising the bells, the hall and for the tea.

Meeting closed at 6.48

Next meeting at Cudham on Saturday 14th July

Farnborough, Kent

St Giles the Abbot

Friday, 1 June 2012 in 40m (3)

1320 Cambridge S Minor

- 1 Nicholas Wilkins (C)
- 2 Tony Fisher
- 3 Lesley Barclay
- 4 Paul M Mason
- 5 Rupert Cheeseman
- 6 Frank Lewis

To celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen,
for County QP week and the first QP (and touch) on the bells.



L to R Nick Wilkins, Tony Fisher, Lesley Barclay, Paul M Mason,
Rupert Cheeseman, Frank Lewis