



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 2014

8 Bell Trophy Retained Again

Despite the forecast of rain, five bands arrived at Tonbridge on 5 July for the County 8-Bell Striking Competition 2014 — Ashford District unfortunately not being able to make it this year. For the first time (in a while at least) the competition was scheduled for the morning so as to prevent clashes with weddings and other afternoon events, and actually I think this worked very well.

The judges, Stephen Coaker and Phil Barnes, both of ASCY fame(!) were strategically placed in Tiffy's car in the church car park having decided that the weather didn't fare well enough for them to sit outside. As it happened, the rain never came.

The first band to ring was the Maidstone District, starting at just after 10am. All throughout the ringing tea, coffee and a grand selection of biscuits and cakes were being served by the Tonbridge Catering Committee. By the time all the bands had rung, it was about 11.30am with the Lewisham District rounding off the day.



It took the judges about 30 minutes to finalise the results. County Chairman Mike Little kicked off proceedings by thanking the ringers and helpers at Tonbridge both for hosting the event and for the wonderful refreshments. He then welcomed the judges and handed over to them to deliver the results as shown below:

Band 1 (Time: 8m 25s) - Plenty of rounds to begin with, and very good ringing considering they were the first band of the day. Consistently good with the odd clip and gap.

Band 2 (7m 42s) - Quite fast, felt rushed and inconsistent as a result. Big method mistake caused problems and never really recovered.

Band 3 (7m 59s) - Consistent mistakes throughout with clips, gaps etc. A method mistake was well recovered from.

Position	Rang	District	Faults
1st	5th	Lewisham	46
2nd	1st	Maidstone	50
3rd	3rd	Canterbury	75
4th	4th	Rochester	76
5th	2nd	Tonbridge	120
6th		Ashford	DNS

Band 4 (8m 00s) - Tenor was slightly slow and some method mistakes in the first part. Inconsistencies meant the faults racked up.

Band 5 (7m 41s) - Plenty of rounds at the beginning which allowed them to settle. Overall a very good standard of ringing throughout.

Doug Davis

(This completes 4 wins in a row. The winning piece of ringing can be found on the District website - Ed)

District officer e-mail directory

Website:

www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Chairman:

Rupert Cheeseman
chairman@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Secretary:

Sue Cameron
sec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Rachel Backhouse
memsec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Ringling Master:

Ian Mills
master@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Assistant Master:

Cathy Cheeseman & Diane Reynolds
ringing@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Training Officer:

Vacant (but covered by Ian, Diane & Cathy)
training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

District Representatives:

Chris Davine
rep1@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
Natalie Slator
rep2@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Sales Representative:

Shelagh Norman & Chris Goldsmith
sales@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Newsletter Editor:

Rupert Cheeseman—Jan & July & Oct
Sue Allport - Apr
newsletter@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Chairman's bit...

Summer is here, even if as I write this, it's raining! Although I'm also currently waiting for a bride who is half an hour late so maybe this is just like summer...

The KCACR AGM on Easter Monday seemed to go well. The chicken, rice and peas was a particular success. ☺ A special thanks goes to Julia and her catering team. I don't know how they did it for the money but it did mean that we could give a healthy donation to Lewisham tower to go towards a new set of ropes and also some to the Kent BRF. Thanks as well to all the towers that opened up in the morning and afternoon and to everyone else who helped on the day. Thankfully though we now don't need to do it again for another 6 years!

The District 8 bell band extended their winning run to 4 with victory at Tonbridge. The change of time to the morning did not put us off and it was another fine piece of ringing on bells that can be awkward. Thankfully though there were no pigeons flying around the ringing room like there had been when we'd gone there to practice!

Please come along and support the upcoming District practices and meetings. Everyone is welcome and they are what you make them.

Rupert



Editorial



Firstly, apologies that the look of the newsletter isn't quite as polished as usual. Work and life has meant that I haven't had as much time to do it as I'd have liked. It's also meant that I didn't have time to get it professionally printed. The upside of that is that it is in colour this time. ☺

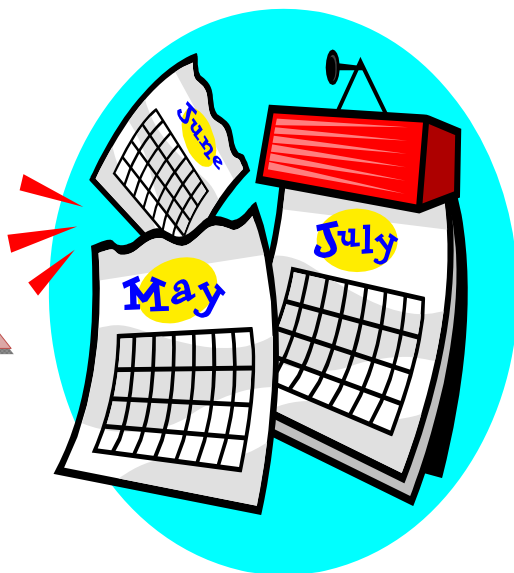
Thanks to everyone who has contributed this time. Hopefully, there will be plenty of tower outings over the summer that people will be able to send in reports for inclusion in the next newsletter in October.

And if anyone is interested in taking over the newsletter please contact me if you want any more information about what's involved as I'm still looking to give it up in October.

Cheers

Rupert

**S
A
L
E**



Calendars reduced to **50p each**, with lovely photos of Kent churches. I want to get rid of them!

Chris Goldsmith

In the newsletter this time...

County 8 Bell Striking Competition	1
District Officers E mail Directory	2
Chairman's bit	2
Calendar Sale	3
Farningham Trophy	4
News from the Towers	
Ash	6
Crayford	7
Eltham	7
Erith, Christ Church	7
Erith, St John the Baptist	8
Farnborough	8
Hayes	8
The Meridian Ringers	9
Ordination of women	10
Simon Sleath	11
120 Club Report	11
Upcoming District Events	12
County Training	13
Minutes of April District Meeting	14



Farningham Trophy 2014

A tower bell competition, hand bell tune ringing, bbq, refreshments, conviviality - and great weather all contributed to a pleasant Trophy competition at Farningham on Sunday 22 June.

The competition was inaugurated in 2008 following restoration of Farningham's bells. The actual trophy is a bowl turned by Sylvia Mackenzie's brother from one of the old wooden headstocks and is adorned with bolt holes. The trophy reposes on a wooden base made by Jim Hardy.



A tune ringing contest on twelve hand bells, 'music' courtesy of Mark Backhouse, took place with practice sessions running alongside Trophy tower ringing. From Dvorak's New World Symphony, the piece was an excerpt from the slow movement often referred to as 'Hovis brown bread' from the old ad on tv.

With trophy ringing completed and the judges having taken refreshment, all moved into the church and the Trophy teams augmented by a team from the church rang Hovis brown bread on the hand bells. Notes due to be rung on the half beat - sometimes were. All teams completed the piece; Crayford singing it at the same time as ringing it and that was a bonus. Judges from Trophy ringing (Rhian Bagshaw and Peter Joyce) and churchwarden Gerald Roome



Bands at all levels are encouraged and the rules

require at least two members in each band to be ringing close to their level of competency. This helps to even things up and to provide challenge all round for newer ringers and for those more experienced - and resulted in a range of methods being selected.



assessed the performances and announced - highly commended and in second place was the Crayford team - and that the winner was Christ Church Erith.

Comments and results from the Trophy judges followed:

Band 1 - Clippy though nice

Band 2 - Practice time used well. Nice piece.

Band 3 - Good rhythm, piece marred by method issues late on

Band 4 - Some inconsistency. Knew last lead of the course well. Worthy effort.

Pos'n	Rang	Band	Method	Faults
1st	1st	Crayford	St Martin's Doubles	47
2nd	2nd	Eynesford & Farningham	Call Changes	70
3rd	3rd	Sevenoaks & Brasted	Cambridge S Minor	74
4th	4th	Erith, CC	Grandsire Doubles	90



Prior to presenting the trophy, churchwarden Gerald recalled the 2008 restoration, its fund raising and how, after very efficient removal of the bells on a Saturday morning, he had been one of the overnight watchers guarding the bells stored at the adjacent property until the Monday. He recalled the one security challenge to the bells which was from a passing fox that sniffed around and moved on.

Rupert Cheeseman received the trophy from Gerald amid applause and promised to guard it for the two years until the next Trophy competition. Thanks went to bbq supremo Tony, refreshments supremo Caroline, music supremo Mark and to all participating.

David Hilling



NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

ASH-BY-WROTHAM

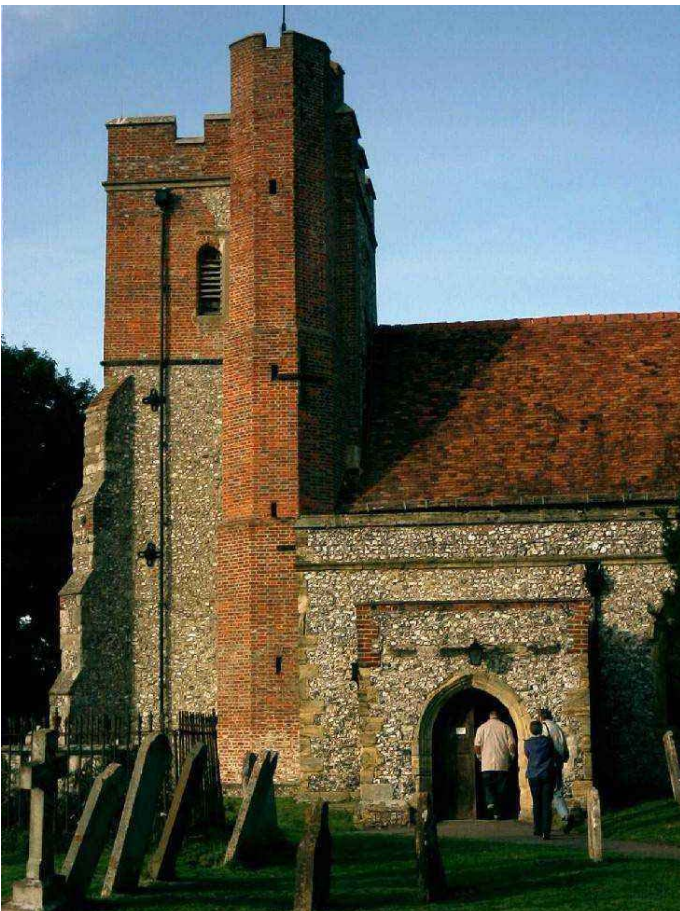
Practice Saturday 9:30am

Sunday 10am

It is with regret that we announce the time has come for us to move on. We'll shortly be moving to Devon, John's home county and, where Felicity has been working for the past two years. We shall miss the many friends we have made in the ringing community over the last 15+ years.

Devon ringing will present a whole new challenge and any advice or introductions will be welcome. Between ourselves and Felicity we'll have some spare beds for West Country visitors. Our details are available, contact us on current mobiles and e-mails, which will be valid for a while.

Ash Tower will need help, support and prayers in the coming weeks as they take up the challenge of reorganisation and transition. Our thanks for the help, support, training and friendship freely shared over the years. We have many good memories to take with us.



By the time this is published we hope to have enjoyed a farewell Ringers Tea and been enabled to ring with many of you (in fact after a few hitches The Stooks finally left in May - Ed).

Brian Ashmore has now taken on the role of tower captain. Tuesday daytime and Saturday morning practices continue and there are plans for some more advanced Monday evening ones.

Gabrielle Stook

BECKENHAM

Practice Thursday 19:50

Sunday 9am

BEXLEY

Practice Thursday 20:00

Sunday 9.30am

BICKLEY

Practice Wednesday 19:30

Sunday 10am

BIGGIN HILL

Practice Tuesday 20:00

Sunday 10am

BROMLEY

Practice Tuesday 20:00

Sunday 10am

BROMLEY COMMON

Practice Thursday 19:45

Sunday 5.30pm

CHELSEFIELD

Practice Monday 20:00

Sunday 10.45am & 5.45pm

CHISLEHURST

(Annunciation)

Practice Wednesday 19.30—20.00

Sunday 9.30am

CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)

Practice Wednesday 20:00

Sunday 8.45am



CRAYFORD

Practice Tuesday 19:45

Sunday 9.20am

Unfortunately, we are normally one short to ring Kent or Cambridge on a practice night but I did organise a band to ring a quarter of Cambridge minor for Sue who had been on the Hereford Ringing Course to learn it.

Sunday 4th May 2014

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor in 42mins

1. Rhiannon Meredith

2. Sue Cameron

3. Lizzy Duffey

4. Jeremy Byers

5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)

6. James Hardy

Rung by student and helpers on the Hereford Ringing Course, with special thanks to Frank Seabright and Group H. Also, birthday compliments to Colin Jeal and Ruth Pointer.

1st surprise inside; 2.

Rupert



CUDHAM

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

Sunday 10.30am

DARTFORD

Practice Wednesday 20:00

Sunday 8.50am & 3rd

Sunday 5.30pm

DOWNE

Practice Monday 20:00

Sunday 9am



ELTHAM

Practice Tuesday 20:00

Sunday 9.15am

Eltham are arguably one of the best light eight in the District - if not in the whole of London (or at least so I am told). We practice regularly on a Tuesday evening from 8pm to 9:30pm and visitors are always welcome. The last few months have been uneventful, but we have had good attendances for Tuesday practice nights if not always Sunday service ringing.

During holy week we had our AGM and plan to be much more active with quarter peals this year.

Tom Baird

ERITH (Christ Church)

Practice Monday 20:00

Sunday 9.30am

Next year sees the centenary of the tower and bells at Christchurch Erith. The church was built in 1874 but it was another 40 years before it reached its present form. The foundation stone just to the left of the tower doors, was laid on June 13th 1914. The tower was finished a year later and the first peal on the bells was on June 5th 1915 immediately after the dedication service.



The tower and the bells were paid for by the vicar of the day, Canon Boulden, at a cost of £5776.4s which we believe equates to around £1.5million in current terms! The clock cost £250 and was paid for by public subscription.

We are currently thinking of ways to mark this event and hopefully we will have a better idea of our plans for the next newsletter.

Rachel Backhouse

ERITH (St John the Baptist)

*Practice 1st Wednesday 20:00, then Thursdays 20:00
Sunday 9.30am*

Following our taster sessions in late November, we now have five learners. We have continued to hold practices on most Saturday mornings from 9.00 - 10.30am.

We have even managed to have six bells ringing on some Sundays (the ringing may not be even, but at least we are showing that the Church is open for worship.) We are grateful to Mark, Deryck, Bethany and Esther who have been supporting us.

Our Thursday practices are not so frequent as it depends how many ringers are available. We have therefore decided to try and keep the first and third Thursdays as practice nights as far as possible. Thanks again to Julia, who has taken over from John and Gabrielle in keeping everybody in touch.

Margaret Heald

EYNSFORD

*Practice 1st (Surprise Major) & 3rd Friday 20:00
Sunday 1st & 3rd 8.45am*

FARNBOROUGH

Sunday 9.30am

If not too late can you just mention that Farnborough still ring on Sundays at 9.30am and practice occasionally on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings by arrangement and every other Sunday afternoon. Best to check first.

Also, at our ringers AGM on 6th July, Ros Scarlett was elected as Secretary and Jacqui Moore was elected as Publicity Officer.

Nick Wilkins

FARNINGHAM

*Practice Wednesday 20:00
Sunday 2nd & 4th 8.45am*

FOOTS CRAY

*Practice Wednesday 20:00
Sunday 9am (not 1st)*

HAYES

*Practice Tuesday 20:00
Sunday 10am & 6pm*

Ringling at St. Marys Hayes is only a very occasional event nowadays. We do not have a Tower Captain or a Deputy Tower Captain and with just 2 or 3 ringers left we are only able to ring for weddings and perhaps 2 to 3 major Church

services a year with the much needed help of other local towers. Mainly we depend on ringers from St Lukes, Bromley Common but this is not always possible.

In 2014 there will be 7 or 8 more weddings as it is a popular Parish Church and I usually struggle to get a full band together. We ring for half an hour before the wedding and then about 15 minutes afterwards and it is usually only simple things like rounds, call changes and a bit of plain hunt.

At the moment the practice on Tuesday evenings has been discontinued but there is a possibility that St Lukes might hold a few practice nights at Hayes in the near future. This would be ideal as it would ensure that everything was in good working order.

We desperately need someone to take over as Tower Captain who could also encourage and train more ringers. If anyone is interested do contact me on 01689 824373 or 07715372091 or at valeriebracey@sky.com

Thanks

Val Bracey

HORTON KIRBY

*Practice Thursday 20.00
Sunday 1st 10.30am 2nd & 3rd 9am
(subject to variation)*

LEWISHAM

Practice 5th Wednesday

PENGE

Ringling by arrangement

ST MARY CRAY

*Practice Thursday 19:30
Sunday 9.30am*

SHOREHAM

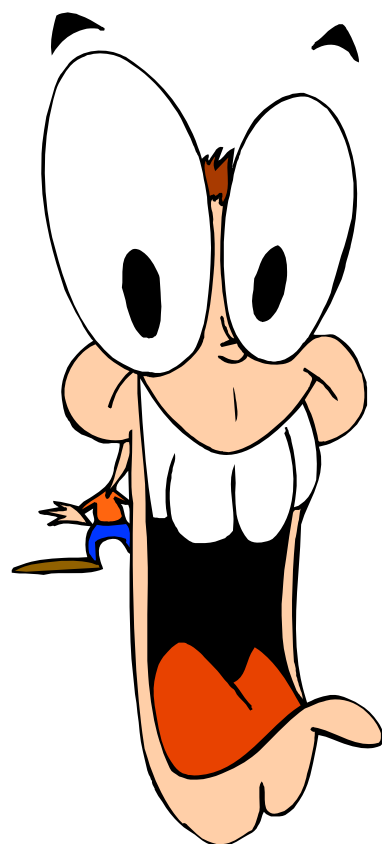
*Practice Monday 20:00
Sunday 10am*

SIDCUP

Practice Wednesday 20:00

WEST WICKHAM

*Practice Wednesday 20:00
Sunday 9.15am*



WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD

The Meridian Ringers

Our normal practice night is Wednesday, 8pm-9.30pm, at Greenwich, but occasionally at St. John's, Deptford or Woolwich if Greenwich is not available. We have some reasonable turnouts at practice nights, sometimes ringing all 10 bells, some triples, minor and some additional doubles methods and some work on Treble Hunting Minor. We are usually doing some service ringing for the monthly Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month) at Greenwich and very occasionally for Evensong at St. John's, Deptford. We also rang for The Deanery Confirmation Service recently, at Greenwich.

We are now ringing at Woolwich again about once a month on a Monday 8-9.30pm – all welcome; it is best to check our website to see when we'll be ringing there in the future.

After a gap of several months, we are pleased to announce that we have started ringing again at St. John's, Deptford. We recently rang for the funeral of the Lay Reader at the church and also had a practice night there in June as Greenwich was being used for a concert.

We have recently had two new recruits starting to ring with us, Emma and JJ, who are both making excellent progress.

At Greenwich, to complement our new carpet we have some new [second-hand] curtains and the church authorities have now completed fitting the new heating and air cooling in the ringing chamber. Alan Munden recently picked up some extra bits from Tower Essentials – some warning signs and, particularly, a splendid new spider for the ropes.

On the May Day Bank Holiday The Docklands Ringers organised a quarter peal day and we hosted two of these,

with some of us ringing, at Woolwich and Greenwich.

Woolwich

Monday 5th May 2014

A Quarter Peal of 1260 Plain Bob Triples in 45 minutes

Treble	Jim Odell
2	Gill Harris
3	Graham Long
4	Morag Todd
5	Michael Evans
6	Kevin Turner
7	Jonathan Slack (conductor)
Tenor	Alan Munden

In memory of Ann Maguire, teacher murdered, Leeds 28th April 2014

Greenwich

Monday 5th May 2014

A Quarter Peal of 1260 Plain Bob Doubles in 43 mins

Treble	Pauline Symons *
2	Kevin Turner
3	Trisha Shannon
4	Graham Long (conductor)
5	Morag Todd
Tenor	Joe Tilley

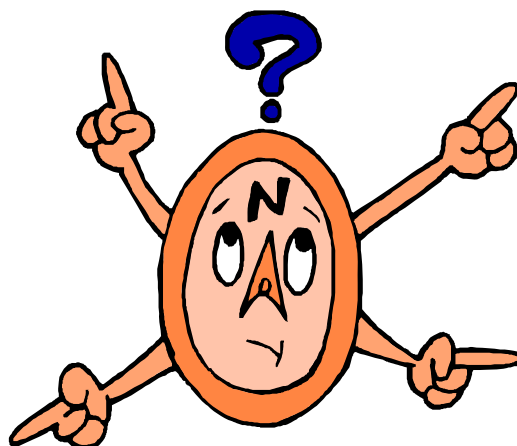
*Pauline Symons, a ringer at Lewisham, First Quarter

There was also a peal of Swindon Surprise Royal rung by a visiting band on 31st May.

At the time of writing, we are planning a Mini Weekday Outing to Faversham, Newnham and Teynham with a lunch also booked in. We will be joined by some of the Bexley ringers for this on Thursday 26th June.

We hosted the Royal Navy Guild of Bellringers on 9th July who are coming to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the Act of Longitude. They rang quarters at Greenwich and Woolwich, with

lunch at The Ashburnham Arms in between. I'm now an Honorary Member as I had to step in at last moment at Woolwich due to an injury!!



Armed Forces Guilds of Bellringers
Greenwich, Greater London
St Alfege
Wednesday, 9 July 2014 in 50 mins (23 cwt)

1260 Grandsire Triples

- 1 K Joan Barton
- 2 Jenny Jones
- 3 Christine Baldock
- 4 John Verity
- 5 Anna Gawley
- 6 Trevor W Groom
- 7 Mark Robins (C)
- 8 Steve Lowman

To mark the 300th Anniversary of the Act of Longitude,
enacted 9th July 1714.

Rung on the back eight, by members of the Royal Naval and
Royal Air Force Guilds of Bellringers and guests.

Also present: Christina McGilligan-Fell, Director of the John
Harrison Foundation.

Armed Forces Guilds of Bellringers
Woolwich, Greater London
St Mary Magdalene
Wednesday, 9 July 2014 in 46 mins (12 cwt)

1260 Plain Bob Triples

- 1 John Verity
- 2 Anna Gawley
- 3 Christine Baldock
- 4 Trevor W Groom
- 5 Graham Long
- K Joan Barton
- 7 Mark Robins (C)
- 8 Steve Lowman

Rung to mark the 300th anniversary of the Act of Longitude,
enacted 9th July 1714.

A birthday compliment to Graham, and thanks to him for
stepping in at the last minute, when one of the band was
indisposed.

And we rang a date touch too

Greenwich, St Alfege
Tuesday, 8 July 2014 in 1 hr 4 mins
(Tenor 8½ in A)

Date Touch of 1714 PB Minimus,
Grandsire Doubles, PB Doubles

- 1 Hazel Bing
- 2 Roxy Hughes
- 3 Gillian Harris
- 4 Andrew Sinclair
- 5 Graham Long (c)
- 6 Alan Munden

To celebrate the 300th Anniversary of
the Act of Longitude in July 1714.

Also, birthday compliments to several
local ringers in July.

To welcome the new Curate, Rev.
Caroline Ridsen.

Also, a fond farewell to Roxy
Hughes who is leaving to study
medicine at Kingston-upon-Hull.

Just to remind people that Freda
Cannon, our Tower Captain
Emeritus, is now resident at
Fairmount Residential Care
Home, Mottingham Lane,
Mottingham, SE9 4RT Tel: 020
8857 1064. She would welcome
visitors at any reasonable time.
Alan picks Freda up to bring her
to Greenwich so she can go to
Evensong also hear us ringing.



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

www.meridianbells.webs.com

Graham Long

Ladies Guild

Westminster, London, St Clement Danes

Saturday 3 May 2014 in 43mins

1260 Plain Bob Minor

- 1 Angela Venn
- 2 Sue Cameron
- 3 Patricia Davidson
- 4 Susan Bailey
- 5 Helen Webb
- 6 Janet K Wyatt (C)

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ordination of women
to the priesthood.

We caught a snatch of this as we processed along the Victoria
Embankment holding up traffic left right and centre on our
way from Westminster Abbey to St Paul's.

My mother is 3rd from the right in the front row!

Rachel



Simon Sleath 1971-2014

In Memory of Simon Sleath

Tower Captain of St Mary's, Downe.

January 2nd, 1971- April 22nd 2014

Simon started his Bell Ringing career at the age of 14, in his local Church, All Saints, in his home town of Sapcote in Leicestershire.

We in Downe, were an enthusiastic band of Bell Ringers, jogging along and telling ourselves, "well that wasn't too bad" - knowing in our



hearts that we should be making a bit more progress, could we become a stronger Band of Ringers? Could we achieve more? We hoped so, but we seemed to have got a bit stuck! To move on, we needed some good Ringers to help us on our way and then, who should move into the Village but Simon! He came and introduced himself as a Ringer hoping to join us. To say we were 'over joyed', is putting it mildly. Simon's quiet determination and skill in Ringing, his aptitude and ability, certainly moved us on to achieve better things.

So he brought with him many years of experience. He was patient and had a way of explaining, what initially seemed to be a complicated method, in such a simple way that the whole mystery of change ringing was unfolded for me; everything fell into place when I could see the shape of the changes.

He had a ready smile, a cheeky grin & a keen sense of humour, features that go a long way with all of us!

We are so pleased that his son, Samuel, is following with his Father's enthusiasm. Indeed, such was his determination that, after only a few lessons he rang for a few minutes before his Father's Thanksgiving Service.

Are we really saying goodbye? Not really. Every time I ring down at the end of a session, I remember, how Simon told me I should be doing it. So hopefully, the skills he taught us will remain with us.

Thank-you Simon, for all you taught us.

Bridget Robbie

120 club 2014-15

April draw

Held at Bromley Common District Meeting on April 12th

1 st	1	Chris Goldsmith
2 nd	26	Deyck Jones (Dartford)
3 rd	58	Chris Webb (Bromley)
4 th	77	Ian Mills (Eltham)

May draw

Held Dartford District Practice on 17th May

1 st	38	Ros Farmer (Foots Cray)
2 nd	68	Philippa Rooke (Chelsfield)
3 rd	70	John Barnes (Chelsfield)
4 th	57	Chris Webb (Bromley)

June draw

Held at Farningham Trophy on 22nd June

1 st	97	Natalie Slator (Erith CC)
2 nd	116	Deryck Jones (Dartford)
3 rd	32	Jim Rooke (Chelsfield)
4 th	39	Foots Cray tower

112 shares have been sold this year. The rest can still be purchased for £10 and gain you entry to the last 7 draws.

Rachel Backhouse



Lewisham District Events 2014

- Sat 12th Jul Quarterly Meeting: Dartford, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
- Fri 25th Jul District Practice: Chislehurst, St Nicholas, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 9th Aug District Outing (with Tonbridge District) Probably London by train
- Sat 16th Aug District Practice: Cudham (tbc), 10.00am - 12.00
- Sat 6th Sept Ringing Roadshow: Newbury Racecourse For more details see the Ringing Roadshow website www.cccbr.org.uk/pr/roadshow/ Tickets now available. £10 in advance. £12 on the day
- Sat 20th Sept District Practice: Farnborough, 7.00 - 9.00pm
- Sat 13th Sept Essex Trophy 10 bell County Striking Competition: Maidstone, All Saints
- Sat 27th Sept County 6-bell Striking Competition: Kennington (Ashford District).
- Sat 11th Oct Annual District Meeting: Horton Kirby, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30pm Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
- Sat 18th Oct District Practice: Shoreham, 10.00am - 12.00
- Fri 14th Oct District Practice: St Mary Cray, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 15th Nov District 6-bell Call Change Competition: West Wickham, 2.30pm draw.
- Sat 13th Dec District Practice: Biggin Hill, 7.00 - 9.00pm

2015

- Sat 10th Jan Quarterly Meeting: venue tbc, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
- Sat 24th Jan District Practice: Erith, Christ Church, 10.00am - 12.00
- Fri 20th Feb District Practice: Horton Kirby, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 21st Mar District Practice: Chislehurst, Annunciation, 7.00 - 9.00pm
- Mon 6th Apr KCACR Annual General Meeting: Marden, (Maidstone District)

Everybody is welcome to all of these. What is actually rung will be tailored to who turns up.

Please check the district website www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk nearer the event in case of any last minute changes or phone or email Ian master@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

For the latest county and news from other Districts see the KCACR web site at www.kcacr.org.uk

If you would like to join the Lewisham District email group to get reminders/updates of district events please visit http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/lewisham_district or

email lewisham_district-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk

County Training

There hasn't been a training committee as such for many years, so I'm in the process of forming a new one and am asking each District to nominate representatives. The business will be conducted mainly via email, perhaps by telephone conferences, and possibly an occasional face-to-face meeting.

More pressing though is the need to do something about the lamentably poor teaching practices that prevail in the majority of towers in the County. This can't wait for a training team to be formed so on my own initiative I've arranged an ITTS Module 2 course to be held on Saturday 23rd August at Dover. It's intended primarily to follow on from the three Module 1 courses already held in Kent, but I should stress that Module 1 is not a prerequisite; it's open to anyone with the appropriate skill level and commitment to teaching. The ITTS Tutor will be Graham Nabb, Director of the Kington Ringing Centre in Warwickshire. The poster and an application form accompany this article.

ITTS does have its flaws, but I propose to arrange more courses across the County nevertheless. Success depends upon local organisers and teachers' mentors following up the day course, which doesn't always happen in practice. If we are to roll out a series of Module 1 courses then I want to be sure that there is a pool of good mentors. With that in mind, I have arranged a mentoring evening for Thursday, 14th August, at Kennington Community Centre. Pip Penny, the architect of ITTS, has offered to take time out of her break in Kent to present this two-hour seminar. Details and an application form are in this newsletter, and will be on the KCA website. If you have the experience and are willing to pass on your skills then please make a note of this date now.

Peter Dale
19th May 2014

ITTS Mentor Development Workshop Thursday 14th August 2014

Presented by Pip Penny, Chairman of the A.R.T.

Course fee: £12

St. Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road,
Kennington,
near ASHFORD, Kent, TN24 9LH
Registration: 6.15 pm
Workshop commences: 6.30 pm (finish 8.30 pm)

Further details from Peter Dale ptdale@dsl.pipex.com

Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTS)

Module 2: Teaching elementary change ringing

Date: 23rd August 2014

Location: St Mary's, Dover

Programme for the Day

Arrive 10.15 at the church (10 min walk from car parks)

10.15 – 10.30 Arrival and registration

10.30 – 10.45 Welcome & Introduction

10.45 – 11.20 Theory 1: Importance of foundation skills

11.20 – 12.20 Practical 1: Skill development

Lunch

13.30 – 14.10 Theory 2: Building a Band

14.10 – 15.10 Practical 2: Teaching Plain Hunt

Tea

15.20 – 16.00 Theory 3: Running a good practice

16.00 – 17.20 Practical 3/4: Easy steps to Bob Doubles/Unusual Methods

17.20 – 17.45 And Finally.... Summary, what next, Q&A's

Course Fee £15 payable upon booking

Tower donation (£5), lunch, and refreshments payable on the day

Presenter for this course -

Graham Nabb, ART Tutor and
Director of the Harry Windsor Ringing Centre,
Kington, Warwicks.



THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS
LEWISHAM DISTRICT



Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Bromley Common on 12th April 2014

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Esther Correia & Brenda Barton (Dartford), Chris Goldsmith and Shelagh Norman (Greenwich), Cathy Cheeseman (Crayford), Liz and Les Brett (Erith CC)

2. Minutes of last meeting (11th January 2014)

Agreed as a correct and accurate record of meeting

Proposed: Lesley Barclay, Seconded: Rupert Cheeseman. Voted unanimously.

3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

Nil.

4. Election of New Members

No nominations.

5. 120 Club Draw

	Prize	Number	Name	Tower
1 st	£20	1	Chris Goldsmith	
2 nd	£10	26	Deryck Jones	Dartford
3 rd	£10	58	Chris Webb	Bromley Parish
4 th	£5	77	Ian Mills	Eltham

6. Update from County Meeting held on 22nd February 2014

KCACR report on the meeting; presented by Natalie Slator and Chris Davine.

- Mrs Lewis has suggested that the profit of £1000 raised from the sale of calendars should be used for an education project.
- Mr Lewis needs more information to put on the Website.
- The Ringing Foundation (RF) are requesting all Associations to contribute £1 per member in order to help fund their Training Schemes. A copy of their letter is being sent to District Secretaries for discussion. This was circulated and some feedback received. Mark Backhouse had done some research on this and gave an update to the meeting.

The RF was set up in 2007 by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) and all directors are members of CCCBR. Its objective is to support change ringing through enhanced public awareness, the training of ringers, and to raise funds. It is a charitable trust and is independent of the CCCBR, so can act on its own initiative. The ultimate aim is to recruit and train 700 ringers each year, at least 500 of which are younger people.

To improve the learning experience and increase retention, training needs to be structured, using modern

teaching methods backed up by professional help and guidance. The Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTTS) has been developed as a modern system to train ringing teachers and "Learning the Ropes" (LTR) is a modern system for training ringers.

The Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) was established in March 2012 as the management organisation for ITTTS and LTR. ART is a membership organisation, members having passed ITTTS courses. The directors include some RF directors.

In August 2012, the RF approved a grant of £26K to ART to administer the ITTTS and LTR up to the end of 2014. The RF funding pays for employment of a part time administrator and office facilities to support ART operations. This aids accurate record keeping, data collection, trend analysis, communication, consistency of standards and planning.

At the end of 2012, 47 teachers had passed at least level 1 of ITTTS, and 129 new ringers had passed at least level 1 of LTR. By the end of 2014, 200 teachers should have passed ITTTS level 1, with 500 new ringers at various stages with LTR.

In Kent and London, just 8 ringers have passed ITTTS level 1 (teaching handling), with 2 at level 2 (teaching changes), and 1 tutor.

To continue beyond 2014 and continue to expand ART operations greater funding is necessary, rising to £50K per year by 2020. Including recruitment costs, grants and other activities, the RF budget is £48K next year, rising to £135K per year by 2020. As well as donations and grants, the RF is looking to existing ringers to regularly support their funding for the future, £25K next year rising to £80K per year by 2020. **Assuming 30,000 ringers and a final take-up rate of better than half, this is £2.00 each next year, rising to £5.00 each per year by 2020.**

It is anticipated that there will be lively discussion at the County AGM as to whether KCACR accepts to donate £1 per member in the next year and continue to donate the increased costs per member each year. Will this have an impact on the cost of Membership of the KCACR? This may have the negative effect of reducing membership as the costs increase to cover this ongoing expense.

- The portable bells that have been donated to the County are hoped to feature at the Ringing Roadshow in Newbury on 6th September.
- The bell due to go to Minster is still being stored at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Not all on the County Committee are in favour of it going to Minster.

7. Kent County AGM at Lewisham 21st April 2014

Rupert repeated the request for offers to either help at towers on the tour route or at the meeting venue for a variety of jobs. Those volunteering their assistance are requested to please contact Sue or him. There is a final planning meeting on Monday 14th April at the St Mary's Centre. So far just over 40 lunch tickets have been sold. All were encouraged to attend the AGM whether helping or not.

8. AOB

- An article covering the Striking Competition held at Eynsford on 1st March is on the website and in the Newsletter. A better turnout of five teams entered, up from the two last year. Chelsfield beat Beckenham by one point to come first and represent the District at the County competition at Kennington (Ashford District) in September.
- The venue of the County 8-bell competition has been changed as Brenchley can no longer host it. Details of the new venue await.
- The latest edition of the Newsletter will be the last from Sue Allport as she is finding it progressively more difficult to put together. The meeting thanked Sue for her contribution as editor for the last few years. Rupert was due to put together the next edition anyway, but this was a stop-gap for this year only. Any volunteers to take it over from October please contact Rupert for details.

- Sue drew people's attention to the very good article in the newsletter on the latest Ladies Guild South Eastern Branch (whose name recently changed from Kent Branch) outing to Wye and their ADM. She invited any ladies interested in joining this active group, which is particularly well supported by Lewisham District members, to get in touch. The next event is a practice at St Clement Danes on Sat 3rd May, all welcome.
- Rupert made a request on behalf of Val Bracey of Hayes for offers of help to ring for weddings as their band is very short of members. Please look out for requests for help on the email group and contact Val if you can assist.
- Upcoming Events:

Mon 21 st April (Easter Monday)	KCACR AGM at Lewisham
Fri 25 th April, 8 - 9.30pm	District Practice at Sidcup
Sat 17 th May, 10am - 12 noon	District Practice at Dartford
Sat 21 st June, 7 - 9pm	District Practice at Crayford
Sun 22 nd June, 12 noon draw	Farningham Trophy & BBQ
Sat 12 th July	QDM at Dartford (back to usual timings)
Fri 25 th July, 8 - 9.30pm	District Practice at Chislehurst, St Nicholas
Sat 11 th October	ADM at Horton Kirby
Sat 15 th November, 2.30pm draw	Call Change Competition venue TBC

For the full programme, up to March 2015, see the District Website.

9. Vote of Thanks

Sue Cameron gave a vote of thanks to Dr Paul Wright, Priest in Charge, for his interesting service. He gave away the fact that he had learned to ring as a teenager at St Paulinus so perhaps a challenge has been set to get him back on the end of a rope. Thanks also to Frank Roddy, the organist, for accompanying the service from his loft, high above us.

Thanks were given in advance to the Bromley Common band for the tea that was soon to be served and for hosting us for the afternoon. The only regret was that she could not enjoy it due to having to rush off for the Meopham Ringers Dinner later that evening.

10. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be at Dartford on Saturday 12th July 2014 where timings will be back to the usual format. (3.30pm ringing, 4.30pm Service, 5pm tea then meeting and evening ringing)

Everyone has the right to miss a dodge ever now and then.

Just don't abuse the privilege!

A dodge requires the full cooperation of **2** people

- not just the wishful thinking of one and the hard work of the another

Please check your changes as mistakes cannot be rectified later.

The Management