



# LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk) OCTOBER 2016

## Chelsfield back to winning ways

A lovely sunny September morning greeted the teams as they gathered at Farnborough for the striking competition on Saturday 24th September. Judges Paul Flavell and Linda Foddering arrived in good time, and found a nice seat in the sunshine just far enough away from the church so as not to see who was ringing when!



The draw took place at 9.45am for the 5 bands that were complete, the Maidstone District and Kent Young Ringers teams having to be placed 7th and 6th respectively whilst they waited for the rest of their team members to arrive. Competition ringing got underway promptly by 10am and all the bands had done everything they could shortly before midday, all the while being kept refreshed with tea, coffee and goodies in the church which most enjoyed basking in the sun in the churchyard.

When the judges were ready Doug Davis, Hon. General Secretary welcomed everything and thanked them for taking part. Before handing over to the judges, Alexander and Jamie from the Kent Young Ringers made a point of thanking everyone for allowing them to be part of the competition, and said that they had all learned something from the experience. Striking Competitions are a daunting prospect for many, so it was very brave of the younger ringers to grab the chance to take part - well done!

Linda started by thanking Nick Wilkins for asking her to be a judge, and then thanked Paul for agreeing to judge with her. She also thanked Farnborough and the Lewisham District for hosting and providing the refreshments.

Paul & Linda then delivered the results as follows, noting that the standard of ringing was extremely high throughout:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Rang</u>	<u>Score</u>
1st	Lewisham District (Chelsfield)	2nd	91%
2nd	Tonbridge District (Hadlow)	3rd	89%
3rd	Rochester District (Bobbing)	4th	87%
4th	Ashford District	1st	86%
5th	Maidstone District	7th	82%

Unfortunately the Canterbury District band (who rang 5th) had a mis-call early into their test piece and came round 2 leads short of 240 changes, so were not placed. The Kent Young Ringers team (who rang 6th) unfortunately didn't complete their test piece which was stood up at the 2nd attempt, so also weren't placed.

Paul Flavell presented Nick Wilkins from the winning team with the trophy, then Doug Davis

thanked the judges for all their hard work and presented Linda with a plant & bottle of wine and Paul with a bottle of wine.

Here's looking forward to next year in the Maidstone District!

Doug Davis



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## CHAIRMAN'S BIT...

.It's a cliché but I can't believe a whole year has passed since the last Annual District Meeting. I hope it has been a good one for you. In August I joined the joint Tonbridge/Lewisham District outing to London which was a great success. It was lovely to see so many of our District taking part, and we think around 40 people came across the day. The bells and churches were interesting and being able to walk between towers was a bit of a novelty. A big thank you to Diane Reynolds for organising such a successful trip - next year it's Tonbridge's turn!

On 20 November we'll hold the District Call Change Competition at Sidcup and I encourage you all to come along even if you can't enter a band. Of course it would be even better if you can! Don't worry about not doing very well, just practising and trying to strike bells as well as possible is a good thing. Perhaps we can try 'speed dating' for towers if you don't have enough ringers. Let me, Sue Cameron, Nick Wilkins or Diana Reynolds know if you're interested but need more help to participate.

Philippa Rooke



# Editorial



Thanks as normal to everyone who has made the effort to contribute to the newsletter this time.

It's good to see that plenty of towers have got out of there own towers and been on outing over the summer. It's always good to go somewhere different and experience new bells. There was a really good turn out from the district for the annual outing to London. I hope that everyone who came enjoyed themselves.

Mary Andrews, our district secretary for many years, celebrated her 80th birthday over the summer. Congratulations Mary.

Hope to see as many people as possible attend District Practices over the next few months. They'll be tailored to whoever turns up so please make the most of them.

*Rupert*



## In the newsletter this time...

Chelsfield win again	1
Chairman's bit	2
Editorial	3
New Membership Secretary required	3
News from the Towers	
Bromley Common	4
Bexley	4
Chislehurst, St Nics	5
Crayford	5
Cudham	5
Erith, Christ Church	6
West Wickham	7
The Meridian Ringers	7
District Outing to London	9
Eltham and Chislehurst Outing	10
Sylvia Mackenzie	11
Minutes of April District Meeting	12

## New Membership

## Secretary required

After nine years (I think) as district membership secretary I will be standing down in October. The job mainly involves data entry and banking of monies (either through NatWest or the Post Office) with the bulk of the activity being in the first two or three months of the year.

Please consider if you could take on this post or approach someone else who you think could. It would be really good to see representation from a tower that hasn't been home to a district officer in the last few years.

Rachel Backhouse



# NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

## BROMLEY COMMON

*Practice Thursday/Friday 19:45*

*Sunday 5.30pm*

There will be no weekly practices at Bromley Common on Thursdays in October and November. Instead we will ring on Fridays at the same time ie 7.45pm to 9.15pm. Please check first if intending to come along. Sunday evening ringing is unaffected.

Chris Lawrance

## BEXLEY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

*Sunday 9.30am*

In August, Mary celebrated her 80th birthday. A number of quarters were rung to mark this occasion and she hosted a ringers lunch party on the following Saturday. Eddie had iced a lovely birthday cake for both her and Brenda, who also recently turned 80.



Another long term stalwart of Bexley, Percy Hicks, celebrated his Diamond Wedding Anniversary in September. A quarter was rung for this which was also a first Grandsire for Angela.

In July, the ringers ran tower tours up to the ringing room with ringing demonstrations as part of the church fete. The Mayor even had a go!

Rupert

Wednesday, 10 August 2016

1280 Plain Bob Major in 41mins

1. Diana Wraight
2. Philippa Rooke
3. Jacqueline Barlow
4. Ian Oram
5. Thomas Barlow
6. Cathy Cheeseman
7. Daniel Brady
8. Alex Britton (C)



Specially organised to celebrate the 80th birthday today of Mary Andrews - Tower Captain at this tower for many years, and the first lady Vice President of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers.

Happy birthday, Mary!

Crayford, St Paulinus

Wednesday, 10 August 2016

1280 Grandsire Doubles in 42mins

1. Brenda Barton
2. Sue Cameron
3. Debra Say
4. Peter Skinner
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. Andrew Sinclair

With 80th birthday compliments for today to Mary Andrews.

Thursday, 18 August 2016

1280 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Angela Jackson-Smith
2. Brenda Coode
3. Eddie Coode
4. Andrew Sinclair
5. Graham Long (C)
6. Alan Munden

Rung to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mary Andrews, long serving Tower Captain at Bexley. After the quarter, Mary joined in to ring a touch of 180 PB Doubles.



Thursday, 22 September 2016  
1260 Grandsire Doubles in 42mins

1. Brenda Coode
2. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
3. Angela Jackson-Smith
4. Debra Say
5. Andrew Sinclair
6. Eddie Coode

Rung to celebrate the diamond wedding anniversary of Percy and Barbara Hicks. First Grandsire; 3.

## CHISLEHURST

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*  
*Sunday 8.45am*

Thomas Wilding celebrated his 18th birthday in September and so a quarter peal was rung to mark it.

Saturday, 24 September 2016  
1260 Spliced Doubles (2m: 640 St Simon's and 620 St Martin's, 53 c.o.m) in 44mins

1. Neville Wilding
2. Thomas Wilding
3. Nigel Pointer
4. Peter Skinner
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. Andrew Sinclair

With 18th birthday compliments to Thomas.  
First spliced and in methods; 2.



## CRAYFORD

*Practice Tuesday 19:45*  
*Sunday 9.20am*

Practices continue to be generally well attended and we are grateful for our regular visitors. We are currently working on Julia McDonnell Doubles in

order to ring a quarter of it for her Bellringers against Cancer fund raising effort. As well as the usual staples of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Reverse Canterbury. We've even managed to ringing Plain Bob Triples on occasions.

We've rung quarters to mark some major milestones since the last newsletter. Brenda and Mary had significant birthdays in August and I notched up 30 years of ringing (where does the time go!!).

Rupert

Tuesday, 30 August 2016

1270 Doubles (3m/v: 120 Queen Elizabeth II, 640 Plain Bob and 510 Grandsire) in 42mins

1. Sue Cameron
2. Brenda Barton
3. Debra Say
4. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
5. Andrew Sinclair
6. Peter Skinner

With belated birthday compliments to Brenda for 4th August.

Sunday, 18 September 2016

1330 Doubles (2m: 750 Grandsire and 580 Plain Bob) in 43mins

1. Esther Correia
2. Brenda Barton
3. Sue Cameron
4. Andrew Sinclair
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. Debra Say

Rung before High Mass and to mark 30 years since Rupert first handled a bell on Tues 9th Sept 1986 in this tower.

## CUDHAM

*Prac Monday 20:00 (except 1st) 19:45 Joint Prac with Downe*  
*Sunday 10.30am*

Cudham Ringers on Tour!

It is not often that we have any news to contribute to the Lewisham Newsletter so it is with excitement that we report that we have been out of our tower!

We started our day at Colemans Hatch. One of those places that you drive through, but rarely stop

at. The church was a really pretty country church and the ringing chamber had a carpet that once seen will never be forgotten. The 8 bells were light and rang nicely.

We followed this up by some serious ringing chamber envy at Hartfield. They have recently spent a lot of money doing up their bells and it was a real pleasure to ring there. Their clock has an enormous pendulum which swings behind the ringers in a dedicated space of its own. Their sound proofing was magnificent, but as we Cudham ringers are used to being deafened by our bells, meant that they sounded a bit too quiet for us!!

Withyham was next on our list, the heaviest bells of the day with a 15cwt tenor. They sounded magnificent, were a pleasure to ring, and the church had some stunning tombs. Withyham had particular significance to one of our ringers, whose sons were married in this church. To be able to ring the bells there had been a long held ambition and it was nice to play our part in making this happen.

We followed this up with a plentiful lunch at The Fountain in Cowden. Cowden itself is a really pretty village and the Fountain was well worth the visit. Jolly good food, generous portions and reasonably priced. The beer (Harveys) was well kept and much enjoyed.

Ringling at Cowden was a good way to burn off the calories. They have very long ropes, and are very lightly set, which made for some entertaining starts and finishes to our ringling. We did manage Bob minor and some good Grandsire while we were there so we left on a high.

Our last tower was Chevening. Fresh flowers in the ringling room, beautiful views and 8 very nice bells made this the perfect ending to our day. We managed some Plain Hunting on seven bells with the tenor behind and Grandsire here too. It is always a relief at the end of the day to know that we haven't broken anything or disgraced ourselves.

Alison Wilson



## ERITH (Christ Church)

*Practice Monday 20:00  
Sunday 9.30am*

Linda Miller, a music professor at Pacific Lutheran University in Washington State, USA was recently awarded a bursary to find out about change ringling. Linda already uses

handchimes and handbells for tune ringling classes but now wants to develop into simple change ringling. So in mid August she and her husband Bob came to London for a week hosted by Alan and Kathryn Hughes, owners of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Whilst they did all the normal tourist things, Linda also spent some time at the Foundry discussing handbells and music.

So that Linda could understand the whys and wherefores of change ringling it was thought useful if she could have some idea of tower bell handling and thus be able to understand the limitations of changes. Linda and Bob came to Christchurch Erith on the Tuesday

evening of their trip to see the bells and Linda had a crash course in bell handling. She was an exceptionally quick learner and well co-ordinated and within an



hour she was successfully putting both strokes together correctly. We didn't really want her to go back to America, we wanted to keep her! Crayford were kind enough to allow us to visit their practice later that same evening so that Linda could see and hear some change ringling and she rang a few backstrokes in rounds. She has gone home with much food for thought, an assortment of web links and a desire to know more.

At the end of August Mary and Peter Beadle celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Shirley had asked if we could ring to mark the



occasion and Eloise kindly provided us with the instructions for a Cornish call change sequence of 120 changes known as 'Wedding'. (Sadly there doesn't seem to be an 'Anniversary' or 'Diamond'). Sixty changes each seemed most appropriate for the occasion! We were pleased with our performance and it goes to prove that well struck call changes can be a pleasure to ring.

Sunday, 28 August 2016

120 wedding doubles call changes in 25mins

1. Shirley Scarth
2. Eloise Scarth
3. Matthew Smith
4. Rachel Backhouse
5. Mark Backhouse (C)
6. Adrian Lucia

Rachel and Mark Backhouse

## WEST WICKHAM

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

*Sunday 9.15am*

We continue to have regular practices on Wednesdays and ring for Sunday morning services. Unfortunately since losing 2 experienced ringers our Surprise practices have been far and few between but we have managed one this year with the help of Addington tower.

In August Kathy organised our annual barbeque and every year we are blessed with a sunny day, thanks go to Kathy.

1st October saw our annual outing, this year we stayed local and went to Farningham, Eynsford, Otford, Ightham and Seal Chart. All lovely rings of bells, although Seal Chart was a challenge for a few of our ringers with its low ceiling.



Judith Fry

## WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD

### The Meridian Ringers

Our normal practice night is Wednesday, 8pm-930pm, at Greenwich, but occasionally at St. John's, Deptford or Woolwich if Greenwich is not available. We usually have good attendances at practice nights, sometimes ringing all 10 bells, some triples, minor and some additional doubles methods and some work on Treble Hunting Minor. We have been busy with quite a few weddings this summer.

We usually ring for the monthly Choral Evensong at Greenwich and also for Evening Worship at St. John's, Deptford once a month [check the website for dates]. We occasionally ring at Woolwich but, again, it is best to check our website for the dates.

One of our ringers, Dan Cocker was married to Ania Osinska in Warsaw, Poland on 6th August - Jim and Jan Odell and Alan and Liz Munden were able to travel to Poland to represent us. Some of us were ringing for a wedding that day so we did the following:

Deptford, St John

Saturday, 6 August 2016

Rounds and call changes

1. Shelagh Norman
2. Chris Goldsmith
3. Graham Long (C)
4. Mike Medway
5. David Connearn
6. John Bonney

To celebrate the wedding of Dan Cocker (Greenwich ringer) and Ania Osinska married in Warsaw, Poland this morning.

A quarter is also to be arranged to mark this in due course.

Sadly, on the previous day, some of us went to St. Michael's Maidstone for the funeral of Jeanette Ardley, the widow of one of our former ringers, Revd Canon John Ardley who died in 2004. A very good half muffled quarter of Grandsire was rung by the Maidstone ringers - Graham was able to ring in a

touch before the quarter and met up with Tom Barlow who taught him to ring in Eastbourne in 1968.

Roger Booth suggested some ways to improve the sound inside the ringing chamber at Woolwich as the bells are rather loud. Eight of us went there on 17th August and installed this - it proved to be successful and we tried out all eight bells ringing and there was a vast improvement. We aim to ring there a bit more now.

We have been having some Beyond Bob Doubles sessions alongside the Docklands Ringers and some progress has been made, especially with Reverse Canterbury. We plan to ring a quarter of this in the next few weeks.

We have recently had another two recruits and our other learners are making good progress.

The University of London Society are celebrating their 70th Anniversary and are planning to ring quarters at the 70 nearest towers to St Olave's, Hart Street.

They rang a quarter of Stedman Triples at Woolwich, 22nd September and a quarter of Grandsire Triples at St. John's, Deptford, 2nd October [details of both are on Bellboard]. The ULSCR were due to attempt a quarter at Greenwich but had to postpone due to some ringers being unavailable. They hope to go for one in November.

We therefore used the slot they had booked and rang a quarter ourselves to mark Graham Long's 60th birthday [actually this was in July].

Greenwich, St Alfege

Monday, 26 September 2016 in 45mins (8-2-14 in A)

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1. Shelagh Norman
2. Roger Booth
3. Gillian Harris
4. Graham Long (C)
5. Jim Odell
6. Alan Munden

60th birthday compliments to Graham Long.

The Vicar at St Alfege, Greenwich - Revd Chris Moody - celebrated his 40th Anniversary as a Priest this Michaelmas tide. We marked this with a well struck quarter peal:

Greenwich, St Alfege

Sunday, 2 October 2016 in 48mins (12-0-1)

1260 Plain Bob Doubles (768 cover)

1. Hazel Bing
2. Andrew Sinclair
3. Eddie Coode
4. Graham Long (C)
5. Jim Odell
6. Angela Jackson-Smith
7. Shelagh Norman
8. Alan Munden

David Connearn joined for some general ringing afterwards on 9 bells, which including firing 40 times.

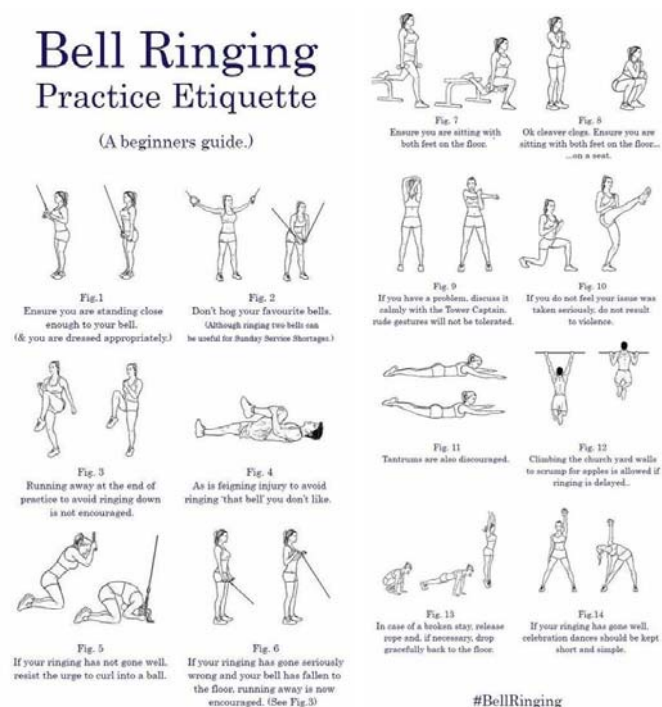
To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Ordination as Priest of The Revd. Chris Moody, Vicar of St. Alfege's since 2005. Chris served his curacy at parishes in the Southwark Diocese, was Chaplain at King's College London (1982-87), Vicar of St. Anne & All Saints, South Lambeth (1987-1984) and Team Rector of Market Harborough (1994-2005).

Everyone is most welcome to any of our ringing events - please check our website for further details  
[www.meridianbells.webs.com](http://www.meridianbells.webs.com)

Graham Long

## Bell Ringing Practice Etiquette

(A beginners guide.)



#BellRinging



# District Outing to London

This year the annual joint Tonbridge/Lewisham District outing to London was organised by the Lewisham District to a variety of towers including St Botolph without Bishopsgate, Christ Church Spitalfields, St Botolph without Aldgate, St Katherine Cree and St Olaves, Hart Street. Around 44 people attended the event with a variety of ringing taking place catering for all abilities.

Bishopsgate appeared more challenging as there was a substantial amount of tower

movement, the rate of which felt quite unnerving at times. The bells themselves also took a bit of getting used to and they sounded very loud in the ringing room. The ringing settled down however throughout the duration, with some nicely struck Bob Triples and Stedman Triples sounding particularly good.

Spitalfields was personally my favourite tower; the back bells having gorgeous hum notes and the bells themselves handled very well. Upon getting them down from backstroke a well struck plain course of Stedman Triples was rung followed by a mixture of plain hunt, Bob Triples and rounds and call changes. A superbly struck 3 leads of Bristol was rung, which prompted a big



round of applause at the end - the hum and tuning of the bells was quite something! Surprisingly most of us managed to fit into the relatively large

space in the ringing room with some counting around 44 people overall.

The bells at Aldgate were the heaviest of the day, with a tenor of 25cwt. They sounded very nice

though there was noticeable tower movement and some odd handling difficulties at times, though quite something when rung well; some Stedman and Grandsire was rung particularly nicely. However, it was to everyone's great amusement that it took me a few rounds to finally pull the

tenor off after a little assistance, followed by a round of applause when I managed to set it again!! Jamie Austin also lowered the tenor with Mark Backhouse's assistance, unfortunately Jamie's hands took a painful turn for the worst!



The lighter bells of the day were at St Katherine Cree and St Olaves, both with pleasant rings of 6 and 8 bells. There were some onlookers at St Katherine Cree, from the tower door, who watched and seemed to take a small interest in the ringing taking place. The treble at St Olaves also proved quite a challenge, with the stay taking quite a bashing at times, though they were a delightful light 8.

Overall, everyone enjoyed the day and we all learned a lot and gained valuable experiences from the bells and other people. Many thanks to all who partook and organised the outing! .

Alexander Runting

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# Eltham and Chislehurst Tower Outing

Last year, we were lucky enough to be joined for several months at the Eltham Tuesday night practice by David Chesson, tower captain at St John the Baptist, Wittersham, in the Ashford District. When his time in London came to an end, we agreed that it would be an excellent idea for us to visit his part of Kent on our next outing. He kindly offered to make use of his local knowledge and contacts to secure us a range of local towers, as well as appropriate venues for lunch and tea - very important elements in a successful day out.

All too soon the agreed date of Saturday 3 September arrived. An early start of 9:00 am at Biddenden was somewhat alleviated by the provision of coffee and biscuits before the ringing started. Even so, the part closure of the M20 (caused by a collapsed footbridge earlier in the week) meant that not everyone made it in time to ring on this fine 22-cwt eight.

A short distance down the road was our next tower, Tenterden, even heavier at 27-cwt. Here we managed methods up to Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major, along with rounds and call changes for the less experienced. Some of the band also stayed on to ring for the start of a wedding in the church, while the rest went on ahead to open up at the next tower.

Fortunately, the bride arrived promptly at 11:30, enabling us to arrive in good time at Rolvenden, the last tower before lunch. Here, we managed the unusual feat of locking ourselves into the ringing room, when a ringer who shall remain nameless slammed the door a little too hard, allowing a wooden latch on the outside to drop into place, effectively trapping us. Fortunately, some deft work with a coathanger enabled the latch to be raised, freeing us

just in time for lunch.

Lunch had been pre-booked at the Star in Rolvenden, just down the road from the church. Excellently prompt service by the pub staff enabled everyone to be fed and watered in plenty of time, with good portions of food and local beer. There was even time for pudding for those who had room.



After lunch, we moved on to Wittersham, our host's home tower. Here, we stretched ourselves to attempt Double Norwich and Cambridge Major; neither of which was entirely successful, it must be admitted. However, Plain Bob and Grandsire were more satisfactory.

The final tower, Rye, was actually over the border in East Sussex. Careful planning meant that we had time to park and get to the church in time to ring. Even at the end of a busy day we didn't disgrace ourselves, and managed some good ringing on another fairly heavy set of bells. We finished the day in traditional style with

tea, scones and cake, at the historic Fletcher House tearoom right next to the church.

Particular thanks should go to David Chesson, for his exemplary organisation, and also to Ruth Corney and Sam Cave from Kensington, who joined us for the day and helped us to ring a wider range of methods than we'd otherwise have managed, as well as adding some useful extra ballast on some of the heavier bells!

David Holdridge



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# Sylvia Mackenzie

Fifty years of contribution at Eynsford and Farningham

A gathering was held at Eynsford in the Summer to thank Sylvia Mackenzie for her tremendous support to the E&F band for over fifty years. Sylvia has had to retire from ringing due to Alzheimer's with which she has been coping for several years. Many in the District will know Sylvia. She has been a keen and loyal local ringer, always ready to contribute in teaching sessions and in preparing District meeting teas - she has been a keen cook. Sylvia has a very



neat ringing style, providing a great example to learners. When the band held cycle outings, it was Sylvia who took all the rucksacks, wet gear and extra clothing in her car so that the rest of the band could cycle unladen.



Sylvia started ringing aged 9 and was taught by her father who was a local farmer at Ash in Surrey. Two of her older brothers, Brian and Peter, were also ringers (and sadly they too have both suffered from



Alzheimer's). Sylvia moved to the area in 1961 soon after she married George who was a local GP until 1993. Sylvia kept up ringing whenever she was on holiday including visits to Canada and Australia. The ringing list of towers in UK and abroad was always near at hand. Son, Dr Duncan, is also a ringer and although he doesn't have a tower near to his Yorkshire home, he always likes to ring at Eynsford or Farningham when he visits parents George and Sylvia.

David Hilling and George Mackenzie







**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS**  
**LEWISHAM DISTRICT**



**Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting, St John the Baptist, Eltham 9th July 2016**

21 people attended representing 8 towers, 2 unattached members.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Received from Rupert Cheeseman (Crayford), Lesley Barclay (Horton Kirby)

**2. Minutes of last meeting (9<sup>th</sup> April 2016)**

Posted on website and circulated in the Newsletter. Proposed: David Holdridge; Seconded: Nick Wilkins. Accepted by the meeting.

**3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere - Nil**

**4. Election of New Members**

New Member	Tower	Proposed by	Seconded by
Andrew D Howell	Coulsdon	Alex Britton	David Holdridge
Caroline Wilson	Chislehurst, St Nicholas	Peter Skinner	Rupert Cheeseman

Andrew was elected as a Non Resident Life member prior to a Peal on 11<sup>th</sup> June at Bexley.

**5. KCACR report on the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016**

- The accounts for 2013, 2014 and 2015 are all complete and are still with the auditor
- The domain name for the KCACR website has been moved to an alternative (cheaper) hosting company as it came up for renewal
- The handbooks were printed & distributed on time at the AGM at the end of March, and next year we plan to provide an extra copy to each tower to place in church
- An award of £150 was made from the Training Fund to Higham to help them install a simulator to allow them to increase their practice time whilst restricted under a Noise Abatement Order from the local council
- It was agreed that, going forward, awards from the Training Fund up to £250 would be agreed by the Training Officer and one of the trustees (Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer) rather than the Training Officer alone
- The Publicity Officer is going to work to create some 'ready-to-go' publicity material that can be used within the County when events occur with media involvement
- An Association consent form for young ringers will be produced with the help of Nigel Spencer
- Kent Young Ringers will be entering a band into the Ringing World National Youth Competition for the first time this year on 2nd July in London
- Congratulations to the Kent Young Ringers band who came 2nd overall (1st ringing call changes) in the South East Youth Competition
- A grant of £1,000 was awarded to Downe for some maintenance work on the bells (total cost approximately £6,000)
- Anyone who hasn't received a membership card should contact the General Secretary to request one

- A possible project for work on the bells at East Peckham is being considered
- The County 8-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 2nd July, 9.45am draw, in the Canterbury District. Tower TBC, but likely Herne
- The County 6-bell Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 24th September, 9.45am draw, in the Lewisham District at Farnborough.
- The County Youth Striking Competition 2016 will be held on Saturday 22nd October. Tower TBC, potentially Otford.
- The upcoming dates of the General Committee meetings in 2016 are 27th August and 26th November

## 6. Events Update, results

- A full report on The Farningham Trophy which took place on 26<sup>th</sup> June can be found in the newsletter. It was won by the home band with well struck rounds and call changes. Crayford came a close second.
- The National Youth Contest took place in London on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. The Kent band came a very respectable 10<sup>th</sup> on their first time of entering. They are already looking forward to entering again next year.
- The County 8 bell striking competition also took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July. It is fair to say that most entrants would not have been eligible for the Youth contest! Lewisham District came a close second to the hosting district, Canterbury.
- At the last meeting the venue for the October AGM was still being sought. Since then Beckenham have agreed to host us on the 10<sup>th</sup> October.



## 7. Upcoming Events

- |               |                             |            |              |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 30/07/16      | County Surprise Practice    | Wrotham    | 10 - 12 noon |
| 30/07/16      | District Practice           | Chelsfield | 7 - 9pm      |
| 06/08/16      | Joint Outing with Tonbridge | London     |              |
| 20/08/16      | District Practice           | Cudham     | 10 - 12 noon |
| 08 - 11/09/16 | Heritage Weekend            |            |              |
| 10/09/16      | Rochester District Outing   | Oxford     |              |
| 08/10/16      | Annual District Meeting     | Bromley    |              |
| 12/11/16      | District Practice           | Sidcup     | 10 - 12 noon |
| 19/11/16      | Call Change Competition     | TBC        |              |
- The Chairman and Ringing Master will explore the possibility of Sidcup hosting the CC Comp, teams could consider attending the District Practice the week before to get used to the bells. May encourage more teams to enter.
  - Lewisham District will be hosting the County 8 bell Striking Competition in 2017 so consideration needs to be given as to a suitable tower. The Ringing Master to pursue.

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## 8. 120 club draw

	Prize	No	Name	Tower
1st	£20	90	Deryck Jones	Dartford
1st	£20	39	Janis Roddy	Sidcup
2nd	£10	73	Deryck Jones	Dartford
2nd	£10	1	Mary Andrews	Bexley
3rd	£10	21	Ken Springate	Erith CC
3rd	£10	87	Rob Backhouse	Erith CC
4th	£5	32	Hannah Clark	Hayes
4th	£5	67	Pauline Smith	C/o Erith CC

## 9. AOB

- Rupert Cheeseman had left a message (he'd had to go and ring for a wedding at Chislehurst) to thank all the people who submitted articles for the newsletter and do keep them coming.
- Philippa Rooke reminded everyone that the Officer roles are up for election in October with notice that after 9/10 years Rachel would not be re-standing for the Membership Secretary role. There is a short article in the newsletter with an outline of the role. The Chairman and Secretary agreed to re-stand for their roles should no one else step forward.

## 10. Vote of Thanks

Jon Fry thanked Rev Jim Bryson for taking the service, Herman Jordaan the organist, and of course the Eltham band for providing very tasty meal and cakes.

Next meeting will be Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at Bromley Parish.

# Upcoming District events

Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	District Practice: Erith, Christ Church, 7.30 - 9.00pm
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	County Surprise Major Practice: TBC, 10.00am - 12.00
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	District Practice: Sidcup, 10am-12
Sat 19 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Call Change Comp: TBC, 2.30 draw.
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	District Practice: TBC, 8 - 9.30pm
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Quarterly Meeting: TBC, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to <a href="mailto:names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk">names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk</a>
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	District Practice: TBC, 8 - 9.30pm
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	District Practice: TBC, 7 - 9pm
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	District 6-bell Striking Competition: TBC, 2.30pm draw
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	District Practice: TBC, 8 - 9.30pm
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr	KCACR Annual General Meeting: TBC, (Tonbridge District)