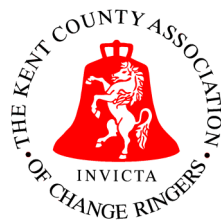


Look to



THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT OF THE KCACR : SUMMER 2019

On the ropes with...

Stan and Ann Jenner Hadlow

What was your line of work outside bell ringing?

Stan. I worked for an investment bank in the City (before investment banking became unmentionable). I had a number of different jobs there, ranging from investment analyst to publication editor, ending up as Personnel Director.

Ann. Secretary, until our children were born.

How did you both meet?

We met through ringing.

What attracted you to ringing and how did you get started?

Stan. I wasn't attracted to ringing, but my father (who was a ringer) kept trying to recruit me : to keep him quiet I agreed to give it a try.....

Ann. Through a friend.

Did either or both of you come from ringing families?

Stan. My father rang, and his father before him.

Ann. No

Who taught you how to ring and handle a bell?

Stan. Although I lived near Edenbridge, there was no one there who could (or would) teach so, after ringing just backstrokes for some time, Ernie Ladd taught me to handle at Tunbridge Wells. I went to school in Tonbridge, so caught the bus to TW on Wednesdays after school.

Ann. Ernie Ladd

Which method did you learn first?

Stan. Grandsire Doubles

Ann. Bob Minor



Which tower(s) did you mainly ring at in the early days?

Stan. Edenbridge, but I used to go with my father to the practice at Limpsfield Chart, where they had a good six-bell band. I also used to go regularly to Tonbridge District and East Grinstead Guild meetings.

Ann. Tunbridge Wells and Edenbridge.

When did you start to ring hand bells?

About 15 years ago.

Do you agree with the common perception that hand bell ringing is even more difficult than tower bells?

Handbell ringing is a completely different technique. It requires a lot of concentration and



Tonbridge District Officers and Tower Stewards

October 2018 to October 2019

Louise Nightingale

COWDEN

District Chairman

L.b.nightingale@btinternet.com

- Cowden
- Chiddingstone
- Penshurst
- Leigh

Richard Dyson

EDENBRIDGE

District Secretary

tondist@gmail.com

- Edenbridge
- Sevenoaks
- Sundridge

Daniel Jarvis

HADLOW

District Ringing Master

dr093jarvis@aol.com

- Brenchley
- East Peckham
- Goudhurst
- Hadlow
- Kemsing

Richard Barclay

HEVER

Deputy Ringing Master

rj2.barclay@gmail.com

- Cranbrook
- Hawkhurst
- Hever
- Sandhurst
- Tunbridge Wells

Emma Tamkin

SPELDHURST

Committee member

emmatamkin@hotmail.com

- Seal
- Seal Chart
- Speldhurst

Hamilton Woods

TONBRIDGE

District Treasurer

hamwoods@kent2.co.uk

- Shipbourne
- Tonbridge

Jen Thomas

BRASTED

District Youth Representative

jennfermthomas@btopenworld..com

- Brasted
- Chevening
- Otford
- Westerham

Steve Newlands

COWDEN

District Newsletter Editor

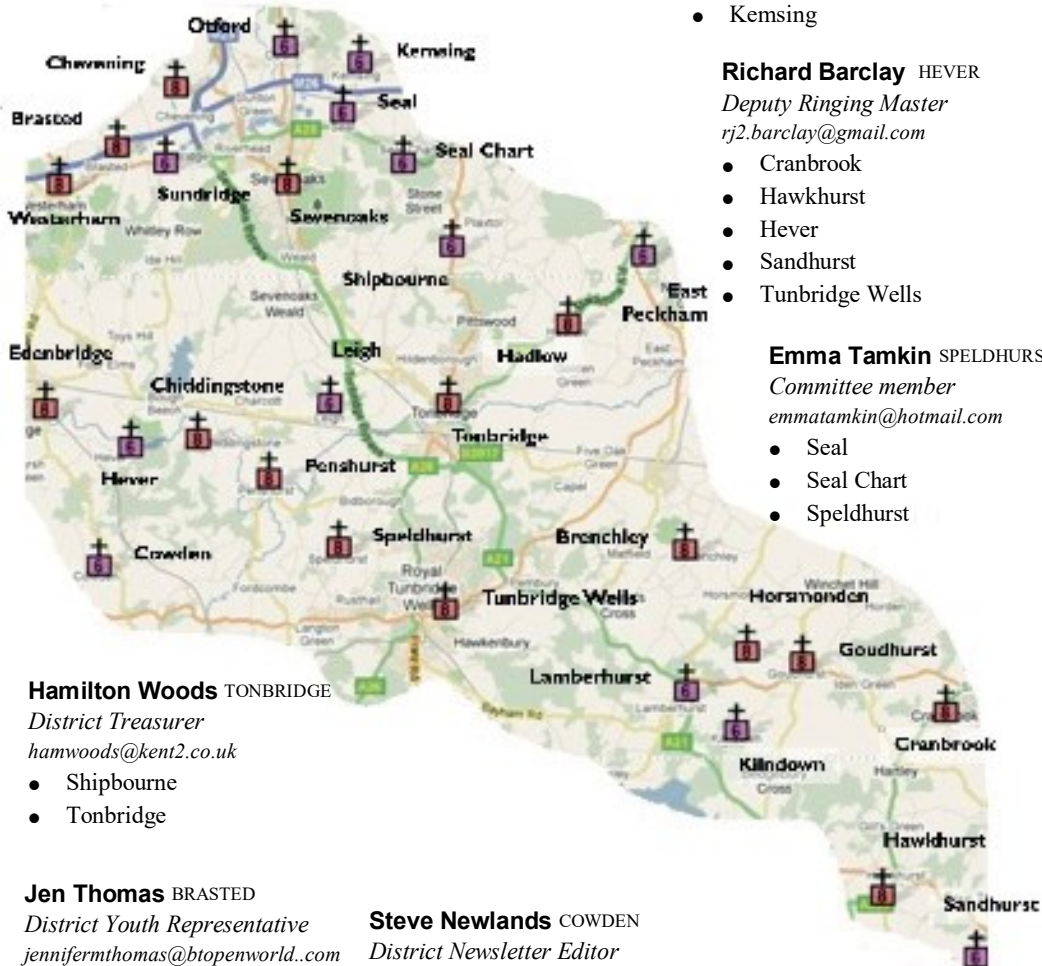
steve.newlands4468@gmail.com

- Horsmonden
- Kildown
- Lamberhurst

Post vacant

District Training Officer

tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk



On the ropes..... (continued)

we certainly find it difficult. We don't really consider ourselves to be proper handbell ringers.

In what main ways did the ringing culture differ in your early days compared to now?

Communication : most arrangements were made by post as few people had telephones ; postcards were widely used to arrange peals.

Transport : few ringers had cars in the early to mid 1950s so public transport or cycling were the normal ways of getting around.

Dress was much more formal : we both remember ringing at Tunbridge Wells with a senior lady member of the band who sometimes rang in a hat. It was common for men to ring wearing ties, and women always wore dresses or skirts : as fashions changed, mini-skirts caused some raised eyebrows – mini-dresses even more so, as they went up at backstroke.

Can you relate your funniest ringing moment to date?

We both recall a peal attempt (for Glasgow Surprise Major) at Chislehurst when an elderly male member of the band's trousers fell down, much to his embarrassment, although he was wearing a very long shirt. Younger members of the band found it hard to contain their amusement and, in the end I had to call stand.

What has been your most alarming ringing moment?

Stan. Probably waiting to start a peal attempt at Liverpool Cathedral (see below) ; I've never seen so many experienced ringers so nervous. These days, catching hold to ring with any band of strangers induces the same sensation.

Ann. Ringing at St Paul's at a College Youths' practice when it was very rare for women to be invited to ring there.

What would be your key tip or piece of advice for beginners?

Stan. Try to acquire and develop a good handling style and don't be afraid to change it if advised to by someone whose opinion you trust. I changed mine when I had been ringing for a few years and, had I not done so, I would not have been able to ring some of the big bells to peals which I was subsequently fortunate enough to do.

Ann. Keep trying!

Can you tell us your peal and quarter peal totals, or do you not keep a record?

Neither of us keeps a record of quarter peals. Peal totals: Stan 1625, Ann 912; we've rung 887 together.

Is there a peal method composition of which you are most proud for any reason?

Stan. Not particularly, although one has become popular with conductors – a peal of Uxbridge Surprise Major which I composed and called in 1965 which is true to a lot of similar methods, and which is still rung many times each year.

Do you have any preferred or favourite method(s)?

Stan. I'm very fond of Bristol Surprise.

Ann. Stedman

What has been your most satisfying ringing achievement to date?

Stan. If I had to pick one, it would probably be ringing in the first (and, I think, still the only) peal of Bristol Surprise Maximus at Liverpool Cathedral. However, taking part in a peal of Stedman Cinques at St Paul's in 1972 which was the first on the bells to contain non members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (and only the 25th peal on the bells - there have now been 116) was also memorable.

Ann. A silent and non-conducted ladies' peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Sevenoaks and a ladies' peal of Stedman Cinques at Shoreditch (both many years ago!).

Do you have a particular favourite ring of bells?

Stan. No.

Ann. Edenbridge

Are there any ringing ambitions still to be fulfilled?

Stan. I'd like to call a few more peals before I lose my marbles completely.

Ann. To keep ringing as long as possible!!

What do you find to be the most personally enjoyable aspect of ringing?

Stan. Taking part in sustained periods of really rhythmic ringing (which is, of course, only achieved through successful teamwork and is a very fragile thing).

Ann. Really well-struck ringing, and also the social side.

On the ropes..... (continued)

And finally.....

If you could choose to have dinner with any politician, musician, composer or writer, who would it be and why?

Stan. Although there are people in each of those categories whom I admire (with the exception of modern politicians) I'd rather have dinner with friends.

Ann. Emma Kirkby (soprano), because I love her voice and would enjoy hearing about her singing career.

120 CLUB RESULTS (6 APRIL)

124, Astrid Fairclough, Sevenoaks
105, Alan Dunster, Brenchley
139, Kate Hargrave, Penshurst

120 CLUB RESULTS (18 MAY)

90, Jen Thomas, Brasted
75, Steve Newlands, Cowden
13, Carole Rumsey, Brasted

120 CLUB RESULTS (1 JUNE)

28, Graham Scrine, Chevening
116, Sandhurst Bellringers, Sandhurst
110, Sandhurst Bellringers, Sandhurst

TRAINING MATTERS - Grandsire Doubles at Speldhurst - Sat 1st June

This was my fourth training morning I had attended and was surprised to find it was only myself and my daughter as the two learners. We met at Speldhurst church with our trainer for the morning Janice Byrne, for a half hour theory session to begin with and then the team of six helpers arrived.

It never ceases to amaze me that people so kindly give up their Saturday mornings to support and encourage learners, we felt very privileged.

We started by ringing plain courses and by putting into practice what we had covered in the theory session and then slowly progressed to adding bobs.



This remained the extent of my morning but how wonderful it was to be able to spend so much time on the end of the rope, concentrating on one method. My daughter however picked it up in no time and progressed to St Simons and began having a go at treble bobbing to Cambridge Minor! At no stage however was I made to feel I should be doing similar, we were encouraged at our individual levels. It was so beneficial to us both that the morning could

incorporate both our individual needs all thanks to the wonderful trainer Janice Byrne and the patient willing helpers.

As with all good training mornings cake, cookies, tea and coffee was shared half-way through; on all accounts a very enjoyable and valuable morning.

A huge thank you to our trainer Janice Byrne and helpers Anthony Leeves, Steve Newlands, Ray Taylor, Alison Parsons, Fraser Clift and Jen Thomas.

❖ *Kate Hargrave, Penshurst*



At Otford on 1st June, Jenny Cowan and I covered Grandsire Doubles. At first, it seemed a daunting task. However with the kind helpers' assistance, we were well on the way to learning it. We tackled plain courses quite quickly and before we knew it, the touch with bobs had arrived! After 90 minutes ringing, it was time for a well-deserved coffee break! This was made all the well better by Catherine's delicious home-made brownies. After this, we learnt a touch with bobs and singles, and by some miracle we had rung it by the end of the session! Many thanks to Catherine Lewis, Angela Clark, Bobbie Fairclough, Gordon Hill, Alex and Steph Runting and Ham Woods.

❖ *Daniel Tierney, Otford*

Quarterly Training Day - 7th September 2019

As usual students may request training in any of our "standard" topics. These are:

- Rounds and call changes
- Plain hunt / Ropesight
- Plain Bob Doubles
- Grandsire Doubles
- Treble Bob Hunting

Please remember to check the course requirements (Getting the most from your training day) on the Tonbridge district training page on <http://kcacr.org.uk/getting-the-most-from-your-training-day/> and get back to me if you have any queries or need help meeting the requirements.

Courses will be arranged subject to demand and availability of helpers. **Please assist by making requests for places as soon as possible, as last minute requests are unlikely to be met.**

Places should be requested from Catherine Lewis at : tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Ton up for Angela's Mum!

On 18th April Dorothy Drew, mother of Angela Clark of Tonbridge celebrated her 100th Birthday. Angela and Dorothy are pictured reading the congratulatory card from the Queen. A sparkling quarter peal was rung at Tonbridge on 28th April to mark the very special occasion.

Tonbridge Sunday 28th April 1260 Grandsire Doubles

Jacqui Fletcher 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Angela Clark 3, Steve Newlands 4, Howard Rogers (C) 5, Janice Byrne 6.

Rung for the 100th Birthday of Dorothy Drew, mother of Angela.



Stan Jenner elected as a Vice President of the KCACR

At the AGM on Easter Monday the KCACR Chairman proposed Stan Jenner as an elected Vice President. Stan was first elected to the Association in 1953, and learned to ring at Tunbridge Wells before becoming Tower Captain at Edenbridge and later at Tonbridge. He has fulfilled various posts in the Tonbridge District : Ringing Master, District Representative and Chairman (twice); and at Association level he was CC Rep for 12 years, Report Secretary and Auditor. His accomplishments as a ringer are a credit to the Association. He is one of the finest ringers produced by the Association, a prolific conductor, and composer of elegant peals. The proposal at the AGM was seconded by Thomas Barlow, and Stan was elected unopposed.

SEECON - Saturday 6th April at Horton Kirby

Preparations and admin done; cakes and biscuits enticingly displayed; bells raised for judges to ring; judges then ensconced cosily in a campervan just beyond the church; people of all ages streaming into the church from 9am, some a little apprehensive, but all eager to meet up with their teams and do their best.

At 09:45 precisely, the Chairman of the Kent County Association, Dr Phillip Barnes, welcomed the 6 teams able to come on the day: Bucks and Berks, Essex, Guildford, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Bell-shaped numbers were drawn out of the bag and the first team climbed the slightly challenging staircase to the ringing room.

While the 6 teams sounded out their test pieces throughout the morning, the members of the other teams could occupy themselves in several ways :

1. Indulge in a spot of change- and tune- ringing on handbells in the Lady Chapel in various corners of the church; this was a very popular activity.
2. Find the answers to 20 questions by exploring the church, churchyard, neighbouring land and village hall area.
3. Keep appetites at bay by eating lots of cake!
4. Saunter down the road to the Village Hall to try their hand on the Madams Court Mini Ring kindly brought along by Martin Hooker.



An efficiently delivered "Fish and Chip" style lunch in 2 sittings hit the spot between noon and 1:30 before the hall was filled with lively teenagers and their various companions gathering eagerly to hear the results.

Our judges for the day, Andrew Hills, from Canterbury and Matthew Jerome from Cuxton,

AROUND THE DISTRICT

SEECON at Horton Kirby (cont'd)

(both graduates of Kent Young Ringers) made their appearance after being kept a closely guarded secret until this morning and both commented on the morning's ringing. They were impressed with the determination of all the young ringers entering the contest and with the overall good standard.

Their two main suggestions for most people were to make sure the tenor was "covering" the ringing rather than just coming last and to ensure the targeted musical changes were good.

One team rang Grandsire Triples, with all the others ringing Call Changes including Queens and Tittums or Queens and Whittingtons.

The final results were:

1st Sussex	76% (Grandsire Triples)
2nd Kent	72%
3rd Essex	64%
4th Berks & Bucks	53%
5th Guildford	48%
6th Surrey	40%

Phillip Barnes then presented the teams with their certificates, 1st, 2nd, 3rd for Sussex, Kent and Essex and participant certificates and mini eggs for everyone. The judges received bottles of Kent beer and everyone who had contributed to the smooth running of the day was warmly thanked.

More ringing at Farningham, Eynsford and Chevening was the order of the afternoon.



Kent Young Ringers team (2nd placed)

Well done to everyone and roll on next year's contest when Essex will be the hosts.

CAPTION COMPETITION



Thank you to Bobbie Fairclough, tower captain at Otford who supplied this picture of their Steeple Keeper sorting out some spare ropes. Caption entries are invited, the top two to be published in the Autumn issue.

FELLOWSHIP OF RINGERS QUIZ

The answers to Nick Fulford's quiz from the Spring 2019 issue are :-

1. Duomo Cathedral in Florence, Italy.
2. Peace bell in Hiroshima, Japan.
3. Chiang Mai in Thailand (Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep Temple).
4. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Sofia, Bulgaria.
5. Daegu, South Korea.
6. Chiddingstone, Kent. Bell 6.

Keep up to date with the District and KCACR news!

Visit the KCACR Website



www.kcacr.org.uk

AROUND THE DISTRICT - District Striking Competition at Seal Chart

On 18th May, ringers from around the district met at Seal Chart to compete in the call changes and method striking competitions. A lovely sunny morning and a friendly group of local ringers greeted us, and the morning began with the draw for each competition. Bands from Hadlow, Tonbridge, Speldhurst and Sevenoaks each rang the small, but challenging bells to compete for the honour of representing the district at the 6 Bell County striking competition in September. Hadlow came away with the method prize, and an inexperienced but brave band from Hever won the call change competition. Many thanks go to Seal Chart for hosting and to Neil Jones from Rochester Cathedral for judging. We hope to see many of you at Seal in September to support Hadlow!



Hadlow winning call change team (l to r : Ann Jenner, Emma Jarvis, Dan Jarvis, Ray Taylor, Stan Jenner and Phil Jarvis). Judge Neil Jones' comments and overall marks were as follows :

Hadlow : Rang first. Nice start, took time to settle. Last 3rd few faults. Occasional hesitation. Peal speed 2.42. 29 faults

Tonbridge : Rang second. Back stroke lead held up, upset rhythm. 2nd extent better, more settled. Handstrokes lagging in part. Peal speed 2.40. 50 faults.

Speldhurst : Rang third. Faster. 3/4 slowed down the rhythm. Faults in 1st section. Settled, once got going. Peal speed 2.20. 34 faults

Scratch team : Rang fourth. Never really settled, uneven rows. Peal speed 2.10. 105 faults

Sevenoaks : Rang fifth. Measured piece. Took a few leads to settle down. Little bells not enough room over big bells. Open back stroke leads. Peal speed 2.50. 53 faults

Call changes

Scratch team : Rang first. Confident start. Good queens. Handstroke leads weaker when treble not leading. Not rushed. 32 faults.

Hever : Rang second. Shame that first 120 needed to be judged, settled late on. Bells found it difficult to adjust at change. 105 faults.

♦ *Steph Rueff, Hever*

PLAY THEM BELLS! (with apologies to Bob Dylan)

“Quarter Peal? - Me?- I don’t think so! “ This my standard response when anyone suggested that someone like me (late starter – aware of my shortcomings) could possibly ring in a QP without letting everyone down horribly. So, finding my name in ‘Look to’ as a first time quarter pealer was amazing. OK, I had succeeded as a result of a cunning plan to fit a rookie ringer into the band (on 6 together with 7 and 8 as cover) nevertheless, there I was as part of The Band, The Occasion (Armistice Day) and the experience for me was fantastic, particularly since the ring was dedicated to my Grandfather.

So how did I reach this milestone? Good fortune found me in a supportive and, importantly, sociable band, ringing with people who wanted to share their pleasure of bell ringing. There were outings and visits to local towers where I was always encouraged to join in – this gave me the confidence to even ask to ring at any place my husband and I visited on holiday (special mention for Wareham in Dorset– thanks for a great evening - loved the pub). Lewisham District did a tour of Oxford – gorgeous! I thought I’d just go for the fun of it and watch but NO! Once again I was made to feel part of the “Band” – a word I would never have previously associated with the art of bell ringing – but one which perfectly fits the groove. Bell ringing is a performance! I was beginning to realise that this new hobby was more than a sum of its parts – it had wormed its way into my life. By the time a Quarter Peal was suggested, I was smitten - almost drunk on the excitement of doing something I never thought would be possible. Primed as I was however, it has taken some pretty hard work by those stalwarts around me to prepare for the event and this is what I’d like to think about in this article.

As an ex teacher I think I know about teaching and learning but nothing prepared me for being the equivalent of a three year old on their first day at Nursery – not even a five year old with attitude – just a small person who had next to nothing to bring to the table except wide eyed trepidation. It’s an important aspect for ringing teachers to factor in – that older ringer’s minds, whilst not exactly fossilised, are stuffed to the gills by other learnt skills, expertise in different spheres and life in general and that getting through all that stuff has to be approached with resolution if it’s to get through at all! Shouting

doesn’t work – neither does crying and pleading – perhaps the odd bribe but in general it has to be a belief that there is a ringer in there somewhere and the key to finding that person has to be uncovered somehow. In my case the key was enjoyment and fun – not that I expect to be laughing and joking throughout but that this is something I’m prepared to do in my spare time because I get pleasure out of it. Enjoyment helps you deal with the black moments thinking you’ll always be useless and what’s the use of trying. Believe me, I’ve had my share of those but the band around me always had some encouraging words even if it was only that they loved the cake I’d bought in as an incentive for them to keep on trying to make me into a bell ringer!

Whatever you’re teaching I believe that techniques must always be a means to an end, not an end in themselves. So for example there’s no point endlessly teaching English Grammar without giving pupils a chance to enjoy a good book or asking children to sit on the edge of a pool and learn the theory of swimming but never actually get wet. Somehow you’ve got to encourage the student to write a story or jump in the water! Similarly, a slice of bell ringing technique, perhaps not perfectly executed in situ but good enough under the circumstances, can provide a sense of real achievement and a bit of praise for that effort makes all the difference and gives you the confidence to try harder next time! A “jump in the water” moment for me was the QP suggestion – how would I know if I could swim if I didn’t try? One more thought; all that stuff that older ringers carry around in their heads can sometimes contain transferable skills. I have utilised some horse riding skills of mine to great effect on occasions such as:

- Always let the rope slip through your fingers if nag/bell tries to break away, but grab firmly when you reach the end of the rope and don’t let go!
- Control a spirited animal/bell through the head collar/rope by feel – there’s a relationship between hand and rope that enables some very fine tuning and, most of all, anticipation of what just might be about to happen!
- Galloping v walking – which is more exciting?

Have a go at that quarter Peal – even though you think you might not be able to hang on. If you fall off, get back on and try again – the rush of endorphins when you feel the wind in your hair is well worth the effort!

♦ Lynne Proudfoot, Edenbridge

STORY CORNER

A Cowden ringer's memories of his first year's of retirement.

"Last night I dreamt I went to "The Golden Daffodil Sunshine Home For Your Twilight Years" again".

I took early retirement from my company at the age of 58 in May 2003, amidst fond farewells from everyone, and immediately took up my long pre arranged place at The Golden Daffodil Sunshine Home For Your Twilight Years at Eastbourne.

I had decided that this was the place for me after reading in the company pension fund booklet the vital importance of retirees not endangering their chances of a long retirement by indulging in any sort of physical or mental activity. The emphasis in the booklet was on complete rest and inactivity.

I quickly settled in the home and followed my former company's advice to the letter. Soon I found getting about a bit of a strain and it was easier just to sit between meals. I avoided all mental activity and apart from finding a slight difficulty sometimes in remembering my name or the country I lived in, I thrived. I got used to watching daytime television in the communal lounge - I say watching because of course the sound was never on.

I made friends and one resident, Dolly, was quite taken with me. We used to sit side by side in the window. She used to knit and sometimes the end of her knitting needle accidentally (?) used to caress my thigh. Although I quite liked her, I wondered whether the relationship had much future as she was 96 and I was 58.

I was deeply imbedded in the Golden Daffodil. I found the outside world so stressful and I looked forward to nothing more than dozing in my chair in the communal lounge with my only concern being that Dolly didn't forget herself with that knitting needle.

So how did I come to leave my retirement nirvana and go on to become the man (and ringer) I am today? Well, one day there was a terrible fire at The Golden Daffodil Sunshine Home For Your Twilight Years. Dolly carried me out to safety but then I asked her if she

could just pop back into the blazing inferno for my cap. She waddled back in and I never saw her again, nor unfortunately my cap, new from Locks of St James's.

With Dolly cremated in the inferno I couldn't face a new home, so somehow I subconsciously edged back into mainstream life and became the man and ringer I am today. But sometimes, after walking through a churchyard on a winters evening after a practice, I imagine I can hear the ghostly sound of knitting needles going, "Click click - click click - click click".

❖ **Robin Rouse, Cowden**
(with apologies to Daphne du Maurier)

Keep up to date with the District and KCACR news!



Visit the KCACR Website

www.kcacr.org.uk

CARRY ON CLANGING!

Thanks to our spotters this issue for the following contributions : -

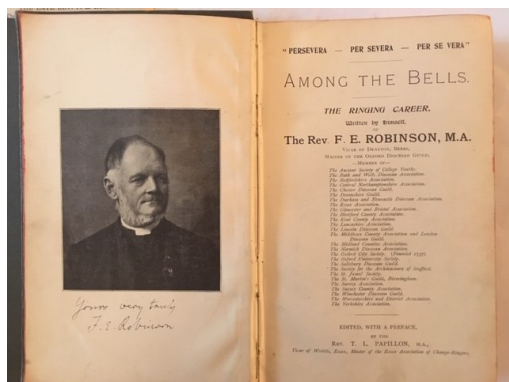
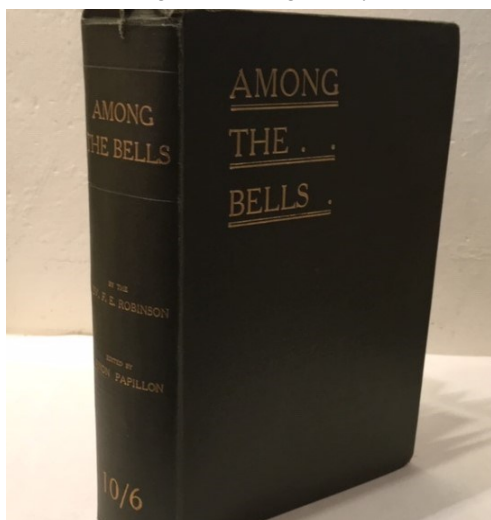
- Speldhurst practice, and a band member seeks advice on calling a simple touch of Grandsire triples. "Just go in and out three times!" comes the helpful response. "Well that's more than I can manage these days!" quips the tower captain *sotto voce*, and with a twinkle.
- A Penshurst wedding in June, and a dashing, smartly attired young male photographer rather takes a lady ringer's fancy. At an opportune moment during the service he discreetly asks her where he might find the church lavatories. Eagerly directing him to the door, and upon eyeing the expensive long lens hanging around his neck, she finds herself enquiring as she shows him in "Would you like me to hold it for you?"

I learnt to ring at fourteen, and gave up in my early twenties. When I restarted some twenty five years later, in Kent in 1991, and was asked about my earlier ringing, I was somewhat surprised by the number of people who assumed I'd rung lots of peals. Well, I hadn't, and I still haven't. I've never been a great peal ringer, or, before anyone can comment, a great ringer. In fact, I'm not sure I've even got a complete record, but I think the number is around twenty. About ten years ago one of my friends, on a ringing tour in Wirral, came across my name on a 1966 peal board in St Nicholas in Wallasey. I looked in my little loose-leaf folder where I keep some records, but this one wasn't there. I then mentioned the peal to a West Kirby (Wirral) ringer, and learned that I was the 'last man standing', which was not a cheerful thought!

As for quarter peals, I haven't have a clue how many I rang in those far off days. I purchased the CCCBR Ringing World (RW) dvds (1941-70, 1971-2000) a few years ago, mainly for reference, but I thought I'd also check my peal and quarter totals. Alas, at that time, quarters were not often submitted, and in the 4th September 1959 issue, for example, where my first peal was recorded, there were only 61 quarters printed as against 88 peals. Not one of my early quarters has been listed, and I've never got round to checking my peals!

These days quarters are readily available, for Kent on Anthony Leeves' KCACR Quarter Peals Record site, and nationally on Bellboard (and previously Campanophile) and printed in RW.

Someone who did keep records of his peals was The Reverend F. E. Robinson (FER), and he actually published details of nearly all of these. He was born in 1833, and died in 1910, and rang his first peal in 1859, having learnt to ring a few years earlier.



His book, 'Among the Bells' (title page, and frontispiece of FER, illustrated), was originally published in twenty parts, from 1904 to 1909. Each part cost 6d (2 1/2p), which in today's money would be about £3. On completion of the parts, the book version could be purchased for 10s 6d (52 1/2p, now about

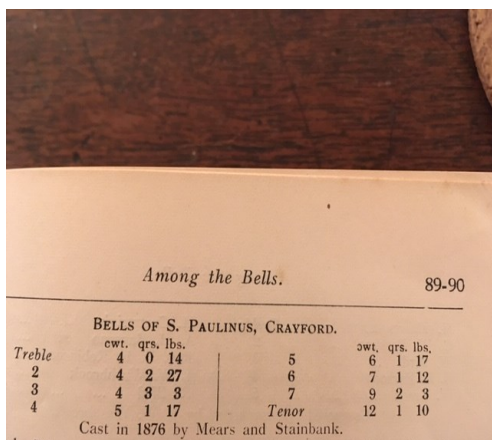
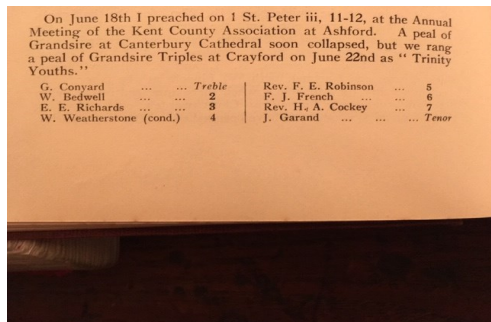
£60), or a case for binding at 1s (5p) "from any newsagent, or 1s 2d post free from the author".

The book runs to 637 pages, plus, in some copies, up to nine pages of advertisements. The latter includes six bell foundries, only one of which, John Taylor, exists today. The remaining five are John Warner, Mears and Stainbank (Whitechapel Bell Foundry - bells now being produced by The Westley Group), Charles Carr, Llewellyns & James, and Gillett and Johnston.

According to his book, FER rang his 1000th peal in 1905, becoming the first person to achieve this milestone. His book is a treasure trove of information on his peal ringing, and the churches and bells and people involved. He rang a few peals in Kent, the most notable being the first peal of Stedman Triples at Canterbury Cathedral, on the occasion of the CCCBR Annual Meeting over the Whitsun weekend in 1905. The band was selected by The Reverend Helmore, the Secretary of the KCACR, and he rang in the peal. FER had rung before at Canterbury in 1888, on the occasion of the KCACR Annual Meeting at Ashford, but the peal of Grandsire "soon collapsed". A few days later he rang

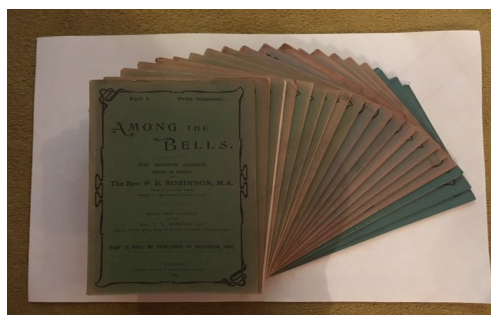
FRASER'S BOOK CORNER (cont'd)

Grandsire Triples at Crayford (illustrated).



The book must have sold fairly well, because a second, undated, edition was produced sometime in WW1. The Preface states that "in reprinting the letter-press ... it has been impossible to reproduce all the illustrations ... the copper plates from page 65 to page 96 inclusive having been "commandeered" during the war for their metal". As a result these pages, without illustrations, are double-numbered 65-66 to 95-96 - a unique volume? The Crayford bells are listed on page 89-90 (illustrated). The weights differ slightly from the present weights because the bells were retuned and rehung by Mears and Stainbank in 1926.

In total, FER rang 1236 peals (page 617), or was it 1,261 (page 618), or maybe 1241 (page 618)? Then on page 619 he records two unrecorded peals! In the January 9th, 1998, edition of RW John Eisel, then CCCBR Librarian, wrote an amazingly detailed article about FER's peals, based on his research of RW, and many newspapers of the time. With a number of omissions, errors, and false peals, he concludes that FER's peal total was probably 1256. However, notwithstanding all his exhaustive research, he concedes that there may still be adjustments to be made - considering how miserable my own record keeping is, I feel I can forgive the mistakes made by FER!



I started this piece with a false assumption by others. In the Winter 2014 edition of 'Look to' I was described in a report on the Tonbridge outing by 'Cub Reporter' (but known!) as 'Fraser, late of Smashem and Leggitt, Tower Grabbers extraordinary', which generated some amusing, and fairly rude, comment! I've never broken a stay, but, as I age and get crotchier and less co-ordinated, I guess it's still possible. I've rung at only around 200 different towers over nearly forty years of ringing - knowing my record keeping you wouldn't expect me to be more precise, would you? You may have noticed recently on the KCACR website that Janet Croughton, wife of Godfrey, died recently. Godfrey was a founder member of the Kemsing band, and very closely connected with the installation of the bells. He rang until a few years ago, as did Janet, following her marriage to him in 1996. Janet, who rang from an early age, rang at nearly 5,000 towers throughout the British Isles (out of a total of around 6,000), and Godfrey, only starting in 1991, is only a couple of hundred behind - now those are some records!

❖ Fraser Clift, Kemsing

RINGING DURING THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2019

PEALS

Chevening Sunday 2nd June **5040 Chevening Alliance Major**

Arranged by S Jenner

Ann Jenner 1, Anne Rueff 2, Margaret Oram 3, Jacqueline Barlow 4, Daniel Jarvis 5, David Smith 6, Colin Wyld 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

1400th peal : 2

For Chevening Garden opening. First peal in the method.

Kemsing Wednesday 26th June

5040 Minor

720 Original, 1440 changes each; St Clement's College Bob, Single Canterbury Pleasure Bob, and Plain Bob

Amber Cusick 1, James Austin 2, Laura Byrne 3, Adam Moore 4, Barnaby Larter 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

First peal on tower bells for the KYR.

To celebrate the new KYR strawberry plant.

QUARTER PEALS

Hadlow Friday 5th April

1344 Spliced Surprise Major

Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Superlative, Yorkshire, 35com

Terence Barnard 1, Ann Jenner 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Julie Richardson 4, Peter Richardson 5, Janice Byrne 6, Thomas Barlow 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

Hadlow Sunday 7th April

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Stanley Jenner 1, Lucy Harvey 2, Ann Jenner 3, Emma Jarvis 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Howard Rogers 6, Ray Taylor (C) 7, James Evans 8.

First triples inside : 2

Hawkhurst Sunday 7th April

1260 Grandsire Doubles

Hannah Ringer 1, David Lyddiatt 2, Alison Parsons (C) 3, Steve Newlands 4, David Beeken 5.

First quarter peal : 1

Rung half muffled in memory of Joseph Ringer, grandfather of treble. 14th March 1923 – 12th March 2019.

Speldhurst Saturday 13th April

1260 Grandsire Triples

Penny Gerrard 1, Alan King 2, Elizabeth Ruch 3, Peter Ruch 4, Emma Tamkin 5, Michael Bullett 6, Anthony Leeves (C) 7, Crispin Saunders 8.

With best wishes to Alan King on his 70th birthday.

Edenbridge Sunday 14th April

1290 Doubles

450 Grandsire, 840 Plain Bob

Caroline Levy-Cooper 1, Robin Rouse 2, Jane Wroe 3, Andy Wickenden 4, Richard Dyson (C) 5, Lizzie Longhurst 6.

For evensong and Palm Sunday.

First conducting two methods : 5. First in two methods : 3

Tonbridge Sunday 14th April

1280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major

Composed by Donald F Morrison

Steve Newlands 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Frances James 3, Janice Byrne 4, Jacqui Fletcher 5, Philip Jarvis 6, David James 7, Adam Brady (C) 8.

For Palm Sunday evening service.

East Peckham Thursday 18th April

1260 Minor

720 Childwall Bob, 540 Plain Bob

Tess Hargrave 1, Laura Byrne 2, Janice Byrne 3, Jamie Austin 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

First of minor : 1

Rung half-muffled in solidarity with France for the fire of Cathedral Notre-Dame.

Tonbridge Thursday 18th April

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Jacqui Fletcher 1, Peter Richardson 2, Steve Newlands 3, Pam Thomas 4, Adam Brady 5, Stephen Coaker (C) 6, Robert Lane 7, Ray Price 8.

Rung half muffled in solidarity with Notre-Dame following the devastating fire.

Speldhurst Sunday 21st April

1260 Grandsire Triples

Penny Gerrard 1, Julie Richardson 2, Peter Richardson 3, Louise Nightingale 4, Emma Tamkin (C) 5, Stella Wooldridge 6, Chris Horseman 7, Carl Nightingale 8.

Speldhurst Tuesday 23rd April

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Steve Newlands 1, Tess Hargrave 2, Peter Richardson 3, Janice Byrne (C) 4, Anthony Leeves 5, Kate Hargrave 6.

First quarter inside : 2. For St George's Day.

Chevening Friday 26th April

1312 Shildon Surprise Major

Ray Taylor 1, Ann Jenner 2, Anne Rueff 3, Jacqueline Barlow 4, Margaret Oram 5, Ian Oram 6, Thomas Barlow 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

The rest of the band congratulate the conductor on his election as a Vice President of the KCAACR.

Edenbridge Friday 26th April

1280 Spliced Surprise Major

Cambridge, Yorkshire, Superlative Rutland
Ann Jenner 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Margaret Oram 3, Anne Rueff 4, Ian Oram 5, Thomas Barlow 6, Ray Taylor 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

East Peckham Saturday 27th April

1296 Minor

576 Cambridge, 720 Plain Bob
Amber Cusick 1, Adam Moore 2, Laura Byrne 3, Jamie Austin 4, Phil Jarvis 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

Cowden Sunday 28th April

1260 Doubles

600 Grandsire, 660 Plain Bob
Carl Nightingale 1, Steve Newlands 2, Caroline Levy-Cooper 3, Andy Wickenden 4, Louise Nightingale 5, Robin Rouse 6.
Rung for the Feast Day of St George.

Tonbridge Sunday 28th April

1260 Grandsire Doubles

Jacqui Fletcher 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Angela Clark 3, Steve Newlands 4, Howard Rogers (C) 5, Janice Byrne 6.
Rung for the 100th Birthday of Dorothy Drew, mother of Angela.

Otford Wednesday 1st May

1260 Doubles

420 Grandsire, 360 St Simon's, 480 Plain Bob
Janet Whitehead 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Janice Byrne (C) 3, Fraser Clift 4, Catherine Lewis 5, Martin Whitehead 6.
In memory of John Callan who's funeral was held today.

Hadlow Sunday 5th May

1280 Plain Bob Major

Emma Jarvis 1, Lucy Harvey 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Ann Jenner 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Howard Rogers 6, Ray Taylor 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.
First major inside : 2. For Compline.

East Peckham Monday 6th May

1260 Minor

720 Single Canterbury Pleasure Bob, 540 Plain Bob
Amber Cusick 1, Jamie Austin 2, Adam Moore 3, Alexander Runting 4, Phil Jarvis 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.
Rung to celebrate the announcement of The Duke and Duchess of Sussex's baby.
The band wishes the 2nd ringer good luck in his GCSE French Speaking Exam the next day.
Dedicated to the new East Peckham strawberry plant

Speldhurst Tuesday 7th May

1260 Stedman Triples

Elizabeth Ruch 1, Ann Jenner 2, Anthony Leeves 3, Janice Byrne 4, Stella Wooldridge 5, Ray Taylor 6, Stanley Jenner (C) 7, Crispin Saunders 8.
With this quarter peal Elizabeth fulfils a promise made many years ago to her friend John Chilcott.

Kemsing Wednesday 8th May

1260 Doubles

300 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob
Janet Whitehead 1, Jenny Williamson 2, Dee Clift 3, Fraser Clift (C) 4, Michael Williamson 5, Martin Whitehead 6.
Rung in fond memory of Janet Croughton (formerly Stannard), a ringer at this church for over 15 years.

Brasted Saturday 11th May

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Nicholas Wilkins 1, Michael Worthington 2, Diana Wraight 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Graham Heath 5, Anthony Leeves 6, Michael Birkbeck 7, Alexander Runting (C) 8.
First Surprise Major as conductor.

Hadlow Monday 20th May

1280 Cornwall Surprise Major

Ray Taylor 1, Ann Jenner 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Janice Byrne 4, Pam Thomas 5, Thomas Barlow 6, Anthony Leeves 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

Tonbridge Sunday 26th May

1344 Plain Bob Major

Janice Byrne 1, Anthony Leeves 2, Steve Newlands 3, Laura Byrne 4, Catherine Heathcote 5, Jacqui Fletcher 6, Philip Jarvis 7, Adam Brady (C) 8.

For evening service and St Bede, died 26th May 735

Speldhurst Tuesday 28th May

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Tess Hargrave 1, Angela Clark 2, Mike Worthington 3, Steve Newlands 4, Janice Byrne (C) 5, Peter Richardson 6, Anthony Leeves 7, Crispin Saunders 8.

First of triples : 1

Kemsing Tuesday 28th May

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Janice Byrne 1, Michael Williamson 2, Steve Newlands 3, Fraser Clift (C) 4, Tess Hargrave 5, Lucy Hargrave 6.

First quarter peal : 6

Kemsing Thursday 30th May

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Isabel Pearce 2, Sue Cameron 3, Shirley Raynor 4, Lesley Barclay (C) 5, Fraser Clift 6.

Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Janet Croughton, a Ladies' Guild Member, by her friends.

East Peckham Friday 31st May

1440 Original Minor

Amber Cusick 1, Laura Byrne 2, Stephanie Runting 3, Jamie Austin 4, Adam Moore 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

Rung open in memory of Amber's strawberry plant that died in between this and the previous quarter.

First in method : 1,2,and 3.

Hadlow Sunday 2nd June

1260 Grandsire Doubles

James Evans 1, Emma Jarvis 2, Lucy Harvey 3, Howard Rogers 4, Philip Jarvis (C) 5, Ray Taylor 6.

For compline. First in method : 3

Speldhurst Sunday 2nd June

1320 Shifnal Alliance Major

Michael Bullett 1, Emma Tamkin 2, Laura Byrne 3, Peter Richardson 4, Julie Richardson 5, Catherine Heathcote 6, Janice Byrne 7, Anthony Leeves (C) 8.

For evensong.

Hever Tuesday 4th June

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Kate Hargrave 2, Steve Newlands 3, Janice Byrne (C) 4, Anthony Leeves 5, Gordon Hill 6.

First quarter inside : 2

Cowden Sunday 9th June

1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

Caroline Levy-Cooper 1, Robin Rouse 2, Andy Wickenden 3, Louise Nightingale (C) 4, Carl Nightingale 5, Steve Newlands 6.

Rung before service to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy.

Otford Tuesday 11th June

1260 Plain Bob Minor

Anna Hargrave 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Bobbie Fairclough 3, Thomas Barlow 4, Janice Byrne 5, Nicholas Wilkins (C) 6.

First minor : 1

Chevening Saturday 15th June

1344 Plain Bob Major

Anthony Leeves 1, Emma Tamkin 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Stephanie Runting 4, Darren Elphick 5, Sven Wraight 6, Alexander Runting (C) 7, Craig Homewood 8.

To celebrate Stephanie finishing her A levels and moving on in life!

Otford Saturday 15th June

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Daniel Tierney 1, Michael Worthington 2, Dee Clift 3, Bobbie Fairclough 4, Fraser Clift (C) 5, Sam Chard 6.

Rung for the St Bartholomew's Church Fair.

Brasted Sunday 16th June

1260 Doubles

600 St Simon's, 660 Plain Bob

Jenny Cowan 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Alexander Runting 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Jamie Austin (C) 5, Juliet Austin 6.

Thinking of Judith Seaward as she copes with a broken leg.

Sevenoaks Sunday 16th June

1260 Grandsire Triples

Nicholas Chard 1, Shirley Raynor 2, Michael Worthington 3, Tessa Worthington 4, Caroline Stockmann 5, Isabel Pearce 6, David Hilling (C) 7, Michael Stuttard 8.

Rung in celebration of the life of Joy Bache.

Kemsing Wednesday 19th June

1280 Grandsire Doubles

Jenny Williamson 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2,
Michael Williamson 3, Fraser Clift 4, Paul
Stannard (C) 5, Dee Clift 6.

*Rung for the service to celebrate the life of Janet
Croughton and her 23 years as part of village
life in Kemsing with Godfrey.*

Tonbridge Sunday 23rd June

1280 Superlative Surprise Major

Emma Tamkin 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Shona
Clark 3, Pam Thomas 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Robert
Lane 6, Stephen Coaker 7, Darren Elphick (C) 8.

Rung in memory of David Pullen.

Edenbridge Sunday 30th June

1260 Grandsire Triples

Robin Rouse 1, Caroline Levy-Cooper 2, Emma
Tamkin 3, Richard Dyson 4, Louise Nightingale
(C) 5, Andy Wickenden 6, Hugo Tracey 7, Carl
Nightingale 8.

*Rung before Patronal Festival Evensong
Service.*

MILESTONES

CONGRATULATIONS TO :

Hannah Ringer

First quarter peal

Richard Dyson

First conducting two methods

Jane Wroe

First in two methods

Tess Hargrave

First of minor
First quarter inside
First of triples

Anna Hargrave

First of minor

Lucy Hargrave

First quarter peal

Kate Hargrave

First quarter inside

Alexander Runting

First Surprise Major as conductor

Lucy Harvey

First triples inside
First major inside
First quarter of Grandsire Doubles

Amber Cusick

First Original minor

Laura Byrne

First Original minor

Stephanie Runting

First Original minor

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.....

Up until the next edition of Look to : -

27th July - Evening Practice - Tunbridge

Wells, 6pm to 8pm

10th August - Joint outing with Lewisham

**District - London, towers details as emailed
to members**

**7th Sept - Training Day Towers and
courses to be confirmed via email**

**28th Sept - KCACR County 6 bell Striking
Competition - Seal, start time TBC**

5th October - Annual District Meeting -

**Hadlow, 3.30pm to 5pm ringing,
service, tea, ADM business meeting,
further ringing to 8.30pm.**



The Charmborough Ring

Thinking of an event to attract the public?

- Recruiting drives
- Training courses
- Public demonstrations

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

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

Enquiries to: hirings@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 1126164