



THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS LEWISHAM DISTRICT

MINUTES OF QUARTERLY DISTRICT MEETING AT BROMLEY COMMON, SATURDAY 21 APRIL 2007

1. Apologies for absence

- 27 people attended the meeting.
- Apologies for absence were received from: David Kingston (Bromley), Philippa Rooke (Chelsfield), Sara Hardy (Beckenham), Doug Fisher (Biggin Hill), Les Brett (Erith Christchurch), Nick Wilkins (Chelsfield), Esther Correia (Dartford), Jeannette Crouch (Bromley Common).

2. Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting at Christchurch Erith on 31 January

The minutes were approved on the proposal of Jim Rooke, seconded by Chris Webb.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

- Mini ring for Olympics now purchased and available – contact Roger Booth to borrow it.

4. KCACR Committee Meeting report

- Handbook now published – if any corrections needed please tell Alice Baverstock. Looking to increase number of advertisers – there will be ideas on recruiting advertisers in the next district newsletter.
- Alice Baverstock will have a list of redundant churches for the district.
- The Ringing Foundation is a new ringing charity just set up aimed at looking after ringers and training (rather than a bell restoration fund)
- A “framework for training ringers” is on the Central Council website and Brenda Barton has copies.
- County 8 bell striking competition: districts are asked to give their views on whether should be set method or open method. There has previously been a set method and set touch. Variety of views were expressed including alternative compromise solutions of – alternating between these two options, or the host District for the competition selecting the method. A vote gave following distribution of views:
 Set method: 3
 Bands choose what they ring: 11
 Alternative compromise solution: 6

5. Election of new members

The following new member was elected:

New Member	Tower	Proposed By	Seconded By
Audrey Ludder	Chelsfield	James Rooke	Nancy Gay

6. 120 club draw

The draw took place and the winning numbers for this month were:

1 – 17	Graham Jefferson
2 – 64	Rachel Backhouse
3 – 120	Unsold
4 – 88	Unsold

7. Child Protection

- Nigel Spencer (01303 260***) County Child Protection Officer came to talk and find out about District child protection practice.
- Has been subject of recent debate. House of Bishops has published “Protecting God’s children” about child protection which includes parts relevant to voluntary helpers in church. Doesn’t mention ringers specifically but sections on voluntary workers apply to them. Also the Central Council has published child protection guidance specifically for ringers. Key difference between the two sets of guidance is that the Bishops guidance says everyone should have a CRB check. The Central Council suggest that only Tower Captain, vice captain and those involved in training are checked.
- There was a poll about the CRB check situation of towers represented at the meeting:
 - Towers where everyone has been asked to have CRB check: Chelsfield [1]
 - Towers where just few CRB checked: Bromley Parish, Beckenham, Foots Cray, Dartford, Biggin Hill, Eltham, Erith Christchurch, Crayford, Bromley Common [9]
 - Towers where no discussion but no under 18s: Greenwich, Woolwich [2]
- KCACR policy is to argue for following the Central Council guidance, but if the PCC insist to have everyone checked.
- Nigel pointed out that there is of course a serious issue here and CRB checking is not the real solution. All need to be alert to possibility of child protection offences or accusations and make sure that there is always more than one adult present when children are being trained. If this isn’t happening its important point out to people that they are laying themselves open to accusations (whether or not they are doing anything wrong).
- Rupert will put a request on the district website if other towers want to email information their situations or experiences.

8. Any other business

Event	At	Date
District practice	Deptford	28 April (evening)
District practice	Foots Cray	19 May (evening)
District practice	Greenwich	9 June (evening)
County training day – bell handling clinic	?	16 June
District training day – bob doubles and minor	?	23 June
Quarterly district meeting	Chelsfield	14 July

9. AOB

- It is Lewisham district’s turn to host the County AGM next year on Easter Monday 24th March. Main issue is to find a venue suitable for about 100? attendees. This will be an item for discussion at the next District meeting.
- County 8 bell competition – Lewisham district came 4th.
- District striking competition – disappointingly only 3 teams entered. Chelsfield won.
- There is a new arrangement for signing up for teas for district meetings using a generic email address on the district website. The secretary apologised for lack of a notice of this meeting in the Ringing World and will try to do better for next meeting.

10. Vote of thanks

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Cannon Michael Innsley for conducting the service, to John Castle for playing the organ and the Bromley Common ringers for the excellent tea.