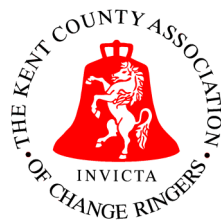


Look to



THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT OF THE KCACR : WINTER 2020

On the ropes with...

Jacqui Fletcher Tonbridge

What is your line of work and training outside bell ringing?

I am a swimming teacher but before having children I trained as a pathology lab technician.

How long have you been ringing?

51 years.

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

A school friend was a ringer and visited different places. It seemed like an exciting pastime.

Were there any other ringers in your family?

Not at the time but I do have a cousin who learnt some years ago.

Did you have much awareness or any particular perception of ringing before you took it up?

None at all.

Who taught you how to ring and handle a bell?

I can't remember his name but he was a ringer at St Michaels in Basingstoke. I learnt on the unique 9 at All Saints.

Which methods did you learn first?

My first method after plain hunting was Plain Bob Minor.

Did you visit other practices when learning and in your early ringing days?

Once I felt confident and could ring a variety of methods I used to ring most days of the week. By this time I had moved to Ashted, Surrey and regularly rang at both Epsom towers and at Leatherhead, with occasional visits to Ewell and Stoke D'Abernon.



Do you think there are any ways in which the ringing culture differed in your early days compared to now?

I think there is possibly more equality between the sexes. Females are encouraged as much as males to call, conduct etc, and even to ring tenors!

As a joint tower captain what do you find to be the main challenge in this role?

Ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to practice what they are learning.

Can you relate any of your funniest ringing moments to date?

Probably the rope breaking at Burwash on the



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October 2019 to October 2020

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- Sevenoaks

Lynne Proudfoot

EDENBRIDGE

Committee member

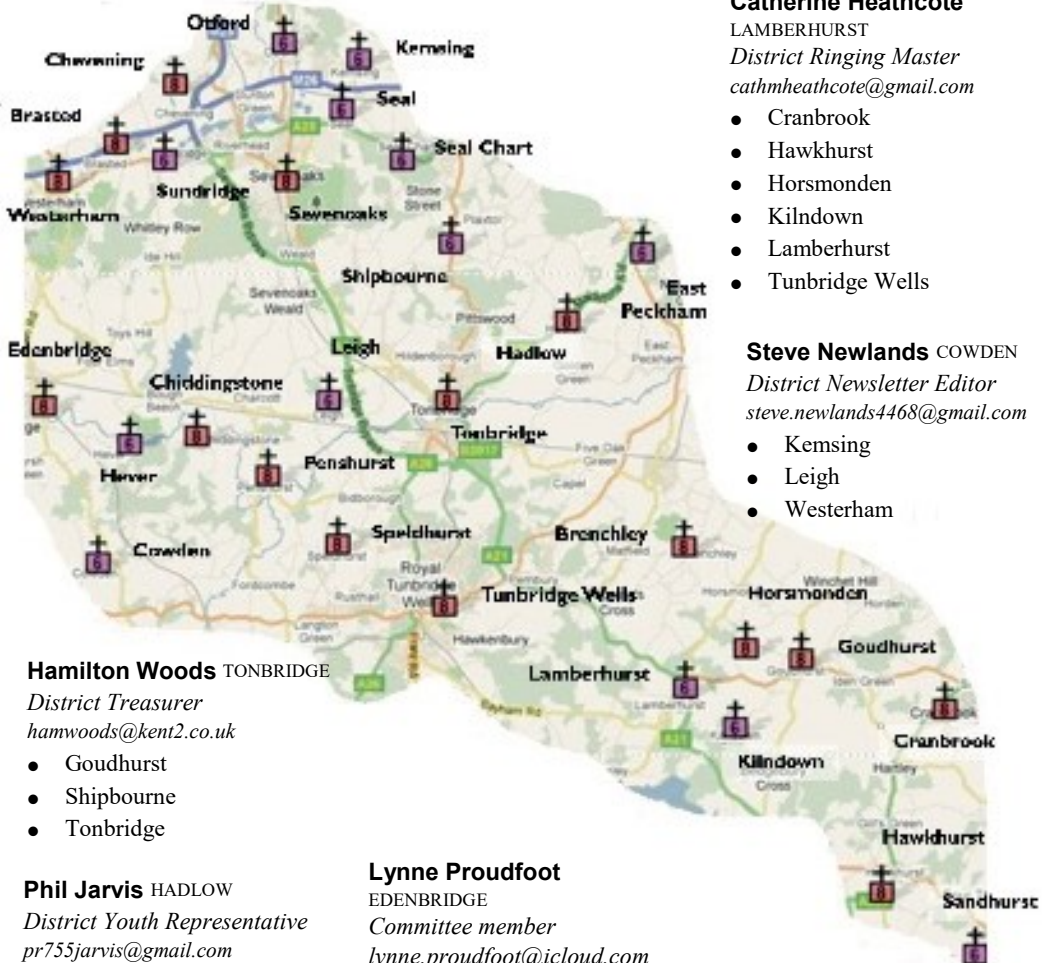
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- Brasted
- Chevening
- Otford

Catherine Lewis

District Training Officer

tondist.training@hotmail.co.uk



On the ropes..... (continued)

final catch after lowering, and landing on a heater with legs in the air.

What has been your most alarming ringing moment?

Turning up to ring at Wheathampstead and discovering that we rang from the chancel crossing with not a rope guide in sight.....terrifying!

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

Turn up to practice regularly; learn your methods thoroughly at home and watch other more experienced ringers.

Do you enjoy ringing quarters or peals, or both?

I enjoy ringing quarter peals. Peals I find rather daunting, and these days, difficult to concentrate on for 3 hours plus.....old age I guess!!

Do you have any preferred or favourite methods?

I do enjoy Surprise methods but anything that is well struck is always a pleasure to ring.

What has been your most satisfying ringing achievement to date?

Learning to ring Glasgow and ringing it with a very exacting band. (Can't ring it now!)

Do you have any favourite ring(s) of bells?

I think it has to be St Peter Mancroft Norwich. They were my first ring of 12.

Are there any ringing ambitions still to be fulfilled?

I should like to get Bristol into my brain cell AND keep it there.

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

I enjoy the challenge of striking the bells well, and the social side is always a bonus.

And finally.....

If you had to choose between tickets to the Bolshoi ballet, dinner with Rafael Nadal, or an opportunity to ring a quarter peal of your choice at St Paul's Cathedral, which would it be?

Well.....since I have no desire to ring at St

Paul's Cathedral (no....really) and tennis is a once a year gawp at Wimbledon, it would have to be tickets to the Bolshoi....in Moscow of course!

A QUESTION OF RINGING.....



Can you identify this District ringer, pictured at Christmas in their local pub having just won the Residents Association Christmas Jumper Competition?

Answers and captions are invited for the Spring issue. Top prize — a Saga summer weekender with the ringer in Ibiza, to include a foam party.

Keep up to date with the District and KCACR news!

Visit the **KCACR Website**



www.kcacr.org.uk

TRAINING MATTERS - Treble Bob Hunting at Brasted - Sat 7th Dec

What is treble bobbing I wondered when I was firmly steered towards this training day. Is it anything like apple bobbing I wondered. Well, it is in that I felt initially as though I was trying to grasp something which kept on evading me....but then I feel like that most of the time when I'm bell ringing. Treble bobbing training is a way of learning how to execute bobs with the treble. Pretty obvious you might think, and so did I. I can count my places, I thought, I know where I have to bob, and as a fall back I know in what order the bells come at me. (Sorry, I really did think that out loud!) However, what I failed to think about is that when you are executing a bob some strokes are quick and some are slow.

This was one of the first points made by our trainer Catherine Lewis. When she started to explain the pattern of quick and slow strokes, I immediately thought I was in training for Strictly Come Dancing. (I do have rather a flighty brain.) Once we started to ring though I began to wish that I had held onto my brain rather more firmly, because if you don't grasp the importance of the quick and slow strokes, your rope sight is lost, and you forget everything you ever knew about counting your places, and your fall back is so far behind that it is lost forever. However, as is always the way on these training days, Catherine Lewis and the helpers Fraser and Dee Clift, Pam Thomas, Alison Parsons, Jamie Austin, and Alexander Runting, showed huge patience, tolerance and good humour, and I eventually grasped the principles. We did eventually move onto ringing a few leads of Kent.

I attended this training day with Kate Hargrave. On the way there Kate and I spent a few minutes discussing how we would cope with the bells being hung anti clockwise, rather than the clockwise direction which we are used to. We coped, and I only tried to ring in a clockwise direction once! This was a very informative and fun training session. I had volunteered to bring some refreshments and the biscuits and liqueur chocolates (these especially) went down very well. When I asked someone for advice regarding an article about a training day for Look To, he said "always mention the refreshments" Brasted Church is beautiful, the bells are lovely, and everyone was great. It was a joy having Kate with me, so thank you to everyone.

❖ *Roberta Weatherley, Penshurst*



TRAINING MATTERS - Plain Hunt at Speldhurst - Sat 7th Dec

Two students, myself and Paul Britton from Shipbourne, plus a band of very patient experienced ringers climbed the spiral stone steps leading into the cold bell tower at Speldhurst. There was to be no hiding as the team, led by Emma, introduced us to the excitement of Plain Hunting and Ropesight! (well it's exciting if you've only ever rung rounds and call-changes!)

Fortified by ginger cake and mince pies we began to learn how to count places, to slow down and speed up and even occasionally to spot the rope we were meant to be following! We had a very worthwhile morning and went back to our towers feeling very proud that we could say that by the end of the morning we'd rung Grandsire! (ok it wasn't strictly true but we're sticking to our story!). Many thanks to Emma and her team for literally standing by us!

❖ *Carolyn Barnard, Westerham*

Committee plea : There were three training courses held on 7th December, the third being Plain Bob Doubles at Edenbridge, which was very productive but also held one student short. To be of maximum value to as many students as possible it would be appreciated by trainers and helpers if students could let it be known as early as possible if they cannot make a training day once they have been allocated a place, so that the Training Officer is able to find a replacement.

Quarterly Training Day - 7th March 2020

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

There will also be a special topic for people who can already ring "inside" to raising and lowering :-

- **Leading** up and down in peal

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, although last minute requests are always worth a try!**

Places should be requested from Catherine Lewis at : cmlewis339@gmail.com or Tel 01959 563767



A Ringing Reminder.....

Many thanks to Isabel Pearce of Sevenoaks for sending in this photo (left).

The notice hangs in the ringing room at Tredington (6) in Warks, and was spotted whilst she was on the Ladies Guild SE District ringing weekend away. An aim that is surely shared amongst most towers, but perhaps none the worse for being spelt out!

TRAINING MATTERS - Training in 2019 - a summary and thanks

Firstly we need to thank Mike Worthington for all the work he has put in to keep our Tonbridge District training “days” running for the best part of five years. He has done a brilliant job – and with flawless efficiency. And even added an “extra” now and again too. Just so many thanks Mike.

There were 4 District Training “Days” in 2019 : March (2 groups), June (2 groups), September (1 group) and December (3 groups). In total 19 students were involved, with each group concentrating on one area - Rounds and Call Changes, Ropesight / Plain Hunt, Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles or Treble Bobbing.

We are extremely fortunate in the Tonbridge District that so many capable people are prepared to put so much work into these events. Around 170 ringer hours have been spent training/helping in 2019. And further hours silencing bells and ensuring simulators are in working order. Very many thanks to all.

There have been changes and improvements along the way, but things have been going on roughly like this, since 27 February 1988! It is indeed a wonderful record.

For anyone, who hasn’t experienced one of these events, each group usually involves 3½ hours training for 3 students, plus a coffee/cake break, with a trainer and 6 helpers. Practical work is usually done on a simulator, so we don’t have to worry about the neighbours. Students pay £7, which is generally shared between the KCACR Training Fund and the tower the group visits.

For 2020 training details, look out for fliers at District meetings or practices, and posters in your towers.

❖ **Catherine Lewis**, District Training Officer. cmlewis339@gmail.com Tel 01959 563767

BRIAN COOPER

A band rang at Penshurst following the Memorial Service for Brian Cooper on Saturday 23rd November, a former Penshurst ringer, who died in October at the splendid age of 92. The church was packed for the occasion. Brian is shown as Tower Secretary in the 1993 Handbook, although never a member of the KCACR.

Brian and his wife Janet have not rung for a number of years, but during the 1990s when first Mike Collin and later Alan Broad served as Tower Captain at Penshurst, Brian frequently helped out with ringing for weddings and always on New Year's Eve when there was a large gathering in the church.

An authority on wine, Brian, with others, published "Drinking Wine - A Complete Guide with Ratings". He frequently organised tastings as well as wine appreciation classes.

Our sympathies go to Janet.

❖ **Angela Clark**, Tonbridge

LINCOLNSHIRE TOWER PUSH!



Whilst on a ringing weekend in Lincolnshire last autumn, some District ringers visited Surfleet, (pictured). Built in the 13th century, the church rewards ringers with an interesting ring of 12 with a 12cwt tenor, and is known for its quite dramatic tower lean, which is nearly 2 metres out of perpendicular. It is thought that soon after the construction of the spire the foundations began to sink into the Fenland soil, so creating the problem, and even more of a sense of being “on stage” when ringing!

❖ **Steve Newlands**, Cowden

AROUND THE DISTRICT - Sundridge Tower Open Day

During National Heritage Week, Sundridge church put on an exhibition of the history of the spire and bells. At the end of the week we had an open tower day, during which our two local schools, Sundridge & Brasted and Ide Hill, sent their year six pupils along to learn about bells and ringing. Groups of four came up to the tower accompanied by a teacher, where we showed them a model of bell and frame, demonstrated raising and lowering a bell, to which a video cam had been attached, and rang some rounds. Those that wanted to had a go at ringing the Sanctus bell. The children were entertained in church with bell related quizzes, games, puzzles, and bell themed refreshments.



In the evening, groups of adults came along, when we repeated our earlier demonstrations, but this time also letting those that wanted to, to have a go at ringing. We owe huge thanks to Adam Seale for setting up video cam, Catherine Lewis for her teaching, Margaret Webb, Barbara Lockey and everyone who helped make this day a success and lastly Bob Ogley for his excellent article in the Sevenoaks Chronicle promoting our day and for bell ringing in general.

❖ *Maggie Amos, Sundridge*

120 CLUB RESULTS (5 OCTOBER)

- 108 - Catherine Lewis, Brasted
- 92 - Jen Thomas, Brasted
- 132 - Emma Tamkin, Speldhurst
- 13 - Carole Rumsey, Brasted (Bonus draw)

120 CLUB RESULTS (16 NOVEMBER)

- 56 - Caroline Stockmann, Sevenoaks
- 132 - Emma Tamkin, Speldhurst
- 14 - J Westacott, Chevening

120 CLUB RESULTS (7 DECEMBER)

- 5 - Angela Clark, Tonbridge
- 93 - Alan Dunster, Brenchley
- 2 - Tessa Worthington, Speldhurst

Keep up to date with the
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Visit the KCACR website
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New peal board at Tunbridge Wells



The above peal board now hangs in Tunbridge Wells belfry for all to see. It was made by a local tradesman in Horton Kirby to commemorate this important anniversary. Most of those involved have connections, both past and present, with St Peters.

The bells are not “an easy ring”, there is no longer a resident band (despite much past activity) and they are only really rung once a month for family service with the support of ringers from other towers.

However, this was by all accounts a very well struck quarter peal and a worthy tribute to the bells which were installed and rang out at the end of the First World War.

❖ *Tessa Worthington, Speldhurst*

10 Bell Practice at Bletchingly

It's a fact of life if you live in the Tonbridge district that you need to travel outside the district to find a ring of 10 to practise on. The latest district 10 bell practice was held on 16th November at Bletchingly, a nice ring of 10 which reward the travel.

16 people attended and we were guided through a varied programme of ringing by the dynamic team of Catherine and Emma who thoughtfully incorporated pretty well everything that the assembled company could manage. This included call changes, Plain Bob Caters and Royal, Grandsire Caters and several courses of Stedman Caters. Catherine had also provided laminated diagrams of Cambridge Royal for those who needed them. We attempted a half course and nearly succeeded, but not quite.

For a district with no ring of 10 the ringing was very creditable. What we missed, though, were less experienced ringers for whom this friendly ring of bells would have provided a good opportunity to ring something on 10.

❖ *Mike Worthington, Speldhurst*

Quarter Peal tribute at Sevenoaks

David and Ian Cochrane both rang in a very special quarter peal at Sevenoaks on 15th December, the details of which are below.

Sevenoaks Sunday 15th December 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

David Cochrane 1, Tessa Worthington 2, Michael Worthington (C) 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Isabel Pearce 5, Ian Cochrane 6.

Rung in celebration of the life of Miss Eileen Bourne of Palmers Green who died aged 95 and whose funeral was held at Southgate on 12th December.

Miss Bourne brought up twins David and Ian Cochrane during their early childhood at Barnardo's and they maintained contact with her for 76 years.



AROUND THE DISTRICT

District Carol Service at Westerham



The District Carol Service at Westerham on Saturday 14th December was well attended. Ringing included call changes, Plain Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, and plain hunt on 7, amongst a range of other methods. Unfortunately 10 minutes before ringing was due to end before the service the tenor slipped its wheel, so ringing continued on the front 6. Special thanks are due to the Ringing Masters Catherine Heathcote and Emma Tamkin, to Emma and Phil Jarvis for providing the mulled wine and mince pies which were much appreciated by all, to Rev. Kevin Barnard for conducting the service, and to all those who made readings.

❖ *Steve Newlands, Cowden*

Quarter peal fortnight

The District Quarter Peal fortnight ran from Saturday 19th October to Sunday 3rd November to incorporate half term, and saw a total of 17 quarters successfully scored across 11 District towers. An additional quarter was rung at Farningham, which although outside the District did include 5 District ringers for Plain Bob Minor!

A total of 12 firsts were also accomplished, many by younger and new ringers, and these are amongst those listed in the Milestones section.

Congratulations to all, as well as thanks to all the towers and ringers who took part, as there were also several attempts which although weren't successful still provided good practice!

Tonbridge District - Top Towers by Quarter Peals rung in 2019

Following on from last year's look at the District towers ranked by most number of quarter peals rung, here is the list for 2019.

1. Tonbridge 27
2. Speldhurst 20
3. Hadlow 17
4. East Peckham 13
5. Edenbridge 13

(Source : KCACR website / Bellboard)

Collectively a total of 173 quarters were rung in the District in 2019. Well done also to leading District ringer Janice Byrne of Penshurst, who rang 120 quarter peals last year!



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: hire@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 1126164

CARRY ON CLANGING!

Thanks to our spotter this issue for the following contribution : -

• Tonbridge practice, a lady ringer returning after a long absence grabs hold of the treble rope and expresses her apprehension with - "Apologies if this all goes wrong when I pull off" to which the swift retort comes "you'll be fine, you never lose it, and you don't need that much in your hand either"

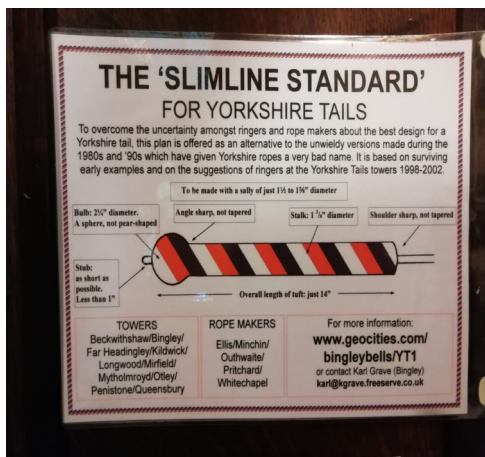
AROUND THE COUNTRY

Yorkshire Tail Ends at Kildwick

Clive Lumsden of Cowden, has kindly sent these interesting pictures from a holiday and visit to Kildwick tower in North Yorkshire.



A local band member is pictured showing one of the Yorkshire tail ends. They used to be widespread in Yorkshire towers, but are now believed to be in less than a dozen across the county. Clive said they took a little getting used to at first, but were very comfortable to ring with. Rare praise from a proud Lancastrian!



Look to

Always needs your articles and contributions to fill its pages!

- a write up of your tower outing (+ photos)
- ringing tips & hints (anything from learning bell handling to spliced surprise)
 - questions you might have
- historical snippets
- anecdotes from a tower visit
- announcements

Please feel free to send a photo with your article to:

steve.newlands4468@gmail.com

The deadline for copy for the next edition is Saturday 21st March 2020

KENT YOUNG RINGERS - Kent Young Ringers Contest - Sturry - Sat 2nd Nov

The 4th KCACR Young Ringers' Contest was held at Sturry (on the outskirts of Canterbury) on a very wild and wet afternoon.

24 youngsters aged from 9 to 22 gathered after battling the wind and the rain from the far reaches of Kent. A wonderful tea and very welcome hot drinks greeted us inside the church where Trevor Arnold had set up his Maypole Mini Ring. We found a little spot for the judge... as suitable as possible, given the weather; the draw took place and an afternoon of really lovely ringing got underway. The ringers of Kent should be very proud of the standard of ringing being produced by our younger generation. Various activities were on hand to occupy us while not ringing: the Maypole Mini Ring (two teams took advantage of this to practise their test piece, having not been able to practise beforehand!), a tricky Wordsearch, a quiz devised by Adam Moore, handbells in the very warm porch, biscuits to decorate with various methods and bell motifs as well as hanging around the door to listen to the competing teams.

Full teams from the Canterbury, Lewisham and Tonbridge Districts entered along with a band made up of 3 ringers from each of the Maidstone and Rochester Districts. These four teams rang Call Changes and we also entered a scratch band made up of a Young Ringers representing each of the 5 Districts at Sturry and one other drawn from volunteers. This band rang a method, to challenge the more experienced ringers. We were VERY pleased to welcome 11 ringers taking part in the contest for the first time: Phoebe, Morgan, Dylan, Merrick (Canterbury), Ellis, Sam, Nathan (Lewisham), Caitlin (Rochester), Callum, Emily and Liam (Maidstone) and Olivia (Tonbridge).

The identity of the judge as Daniel Jarvis, taking a weekend out of his university studies in Liverpool, was revealed and introduced to the assembled throng of teams and supporters.

Daniel explained his system of marking and proceeded to give the results. The teams representing the Districts were awarded the following results:

Canterbury: 70%:
Lewisham: 75%
"Maidchester": 84%

**and the Trophy winners were
Tonbridge with 86%!**

The Method ringing band was awarded 81%, slotting right in the middle of the District teams.

Certificates were presented to the teams and the Reverend David Cawley presented the trophy to the Tonbridge team. Congratulations to them and many thanks to everyone for taking part.

The afternoon continued with 9 Young Ringers and 4 adults at St Stephens Canterbury where we rang Rounds and Call Changes, Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Doubles, Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples, Kent and Yorkshire Major and the day was rounded off with a very convivial hour over pizza before wending our way homewards.



Rev. David Cawley presents the trophy to Jamie Austin and the winning Tonbridge team (above)

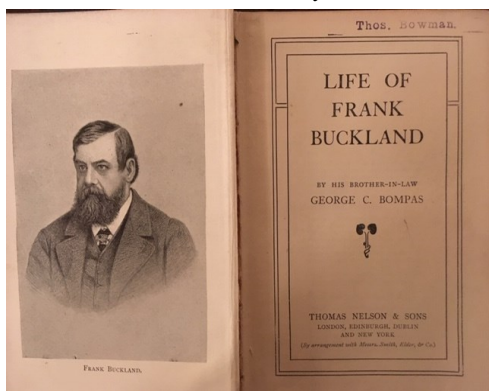


Dan Jarvis keeps a low profile while judging the competition outside in his vintage Mini (left)

❖ *Jen Thomas, Brasted*

"By Candlelight"

Some of life's pleasures (for me!) come at the most unexpected times, and often in the most unusual places. I would never have guessed that a few lines, indexed as 'Ross Church bells', in a book whose title has no campanological connection, would provide so much. The volume in question is entitled 'Life of Frank Buckland', written by his brother-in-law George C. Bompas (Thomas Nelson & Sons, London, Edinburgh, Dublin, and New York, no date, but late 19th C.) To be truthful, I didn't come across this book by chance, but through Roger Barnes of Church Green Books, Witney, Oxfordshire.



I've mentioned Roger once before, but an encore won't go amiss. Roger and his wife Margaret, run this second-hand shop in the lovely market town of Witney. As the name suggests, the shop is on The Green, with the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin (8, 16-3-11 in E) a few hundred yards (a few hundred metres!) away at the head of The Green. The shop is a traditional type, with a range of subjects, and prices ranging from £0.75 to over £1,000. One of its specialities is 'bells and ringing', which is how I came to know it. Roger is Tower Captain at Ducklington, Oxfordshire (6, 4-2-11 in B).

To return to the book, it gives, in 3 pages out of nearly 400, a glimpse into ringing conditions in the latter part of the 1800s, and also, in modern parlance, a few examples of (unintentional) misinformation!

Frank Trevelyan Buckland was born on 17th December, 1826, at Christ Church, Oxford, and died in 1880. He was the eldest son of the Very Reverend William Buckland, DD, who was

Canon of the Cathedral at this time. Later in his life his father became Dean of Westminster. With his parents living so close to the bells of Christ Church (12, 31-0-23 in C sharp) in his early years, and later those of Westminster (6 bells at the time, in 1919 8, . 28-2-0, and in 1971 10, 30-1-5 in D) he will have been well aware of the sound of church bells, but he was clearly (see later) not a ringer.

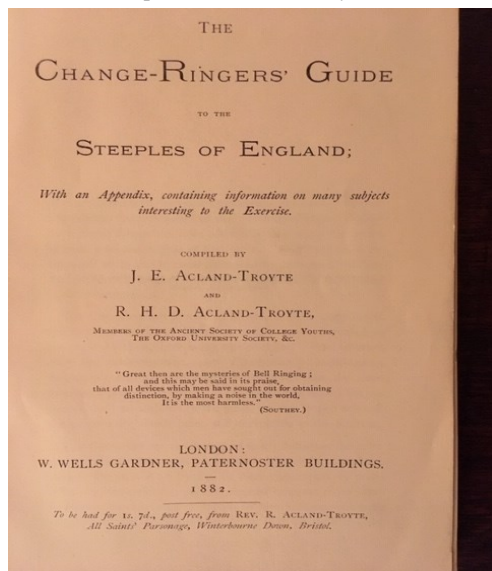
His childhood instilled in him a passionate love of nature, his house and garden being full of snakes, frogs, guinea pigs, a pony, a fox, rabbits, ferrets, hawks, owls, the magpie, a jackdaw, tortoises, toads, and dogs, cats, and poultry. The dead were represented by numerous fossils, and the candles on the sideboard "stood on ichthyosauri's vertebrae". Following Winchester and Christ Church, Oxford, he qualified as a doctor and surgeon. He worked first at St. George's Hospital, London, and then as an Assistant-Surgeon in the Second Life Guards. On being turned down for promotion in 1860 (the system having just changed from promotion within the Regiment to seniority in the Brigade) he resigned his commission "to devote himself to literature and practical natural history". The latter turned out to be the study of fish culture.

In December 1874 he was chairing a nine-day inquiry into the bye-laws for the Wye Fishery, in Ross-on-Wye, and one evening, whilst looking at the shops there, he heard the "magnificent" bells of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin (8, 24 cwt in 'The Change-Ringers' Guide to the Steeples of England', compiled by J. E. and R.H. D. Acland-Troyte, 2nd edition 1882, W. Wells Gardner, Paternoster Buildings, London - the first 'Dove'. Ross is not recorded in the 1st, dated 1879. The first edition of 'Dove' (1950) gives 24 3/4 cwt. in D, whilst the latest states 20-1-4 in E flat).

"Having but once before seen a church belfry, when they were ringing a peal, I determined, if possible, to get up into the belfry. With some difficulty, having no light, we found the little door at the base of the tower, and, after shouting awhile, a man came down with a candle in an ancient horn lantern. I then went up and up and up some very narrow and much worn stairs, till I arrived at the belfry. Imagine a largish room quite square, four bits of candle burning a dim light, from the ends of a very primitive chandelier made up of laths, a creaky floor, a roof of antiquated timbers, an old man and a charity boy

FRASER'S BOOK CORNER

(a pupil at a charity school, a learner?) on a form in the middle, the solemn tick, tick, tick, of the church clock, and eight men each standing by a rope, and you will have some idea of the scene which presented itself to my view".



Just imagine what life must have been like with only candles for lighting, and no heating. Gas and electricity were only beginning to be available in the second half of the 18th century, and costs were very high - it is doubtful many churches had either until well into the 1900s.

"The chief of the ringers gave me a very kind welcome; and after giving some mysterious orders to the ringers, who went each to his rope, at a given signal off went the merry bells, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, again and again for about five times. The leader then cried loudly, "Bob"! and the bells instantly altered to (as I understood afterwards) 2, 1, 3, 5, 4, 7, 6, 8; then to 3, 2, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; and so on for a considerable time, interspersed with the orders loudly given every now and then "Single"! "Bob"! till at last the poor bells seemed suddenly to recover their senses, and away they went loudly 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; and then "Halt!!". This peal-ringing was evidently hard work, but the music was beautiful. It was a peal of "Grandsire Triplets", whatever that may mean. Grandsire, I believe, is the name of a man who was a great authority on bell-ringing. An inscription on the wall was pointed out to me with evident pride, which

reads as follows :- 'February 11, 1851, was rung in this tower a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triplets, containing 5,040 changes, in three hours and two minutes, being the first true peal rung in this country"

You'll probably spot all the oddities, but I'll just make a few observations. The 'great authority' referred to would have been Fabian Stedman. I thought that the move of the 3 in the second change was a mistake, and that 'jump leads' were a fairly recent innovation, but reference to 'The History and Art of Change Ringing' (1931) by Ernest Morris shows that jumping two bells, let alone one, was prevalent in the early days of ringing. Morris states that this class of composition 'is not recognised to-day'. Frederick Sharpe, in 'The Church Bells of Herefordshire' (Volume IV, 1972) records that the peal board says it was Grandsire Tripples (sic), and that it was 'the first true peal ever rung in this county'.

Incidentally, 'The Change-Ringers' Guide' (op cit) lists 'Grandsire' against Ross.

As was the case with many towers in those days there would only be one or maybe two methods practised. On the opposite page to Ross, it is noted against Havant in Hampshire "Grandsire. Only the Plain Course done!"

I could go on about the Buckland book, but Christmas and cards and carol services and candles call, and besides which your editor will lambaste (or turkeybaste?) me for writing too much. So, I shall 'halt' now, and wish all my readers (is there anyone there?) a peaceful, prosperous and pleasant New Year.

❖ *Fraser Clift, Kemsing*



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: hiring@charmborough.org

The Charmborough Bell Trust is registered charity No. 1126164

RINGING DURING THE 4TH QUARTER OF 2019

PEALS

Goudhurst Monday 16th December

5056 Plain Bob Major

Arranged by Stanley Jenner

Svetlana Sokolova 1, Steve Newlands 2, Catherine Lewis 3, Pam Thomas 4, Ali Ducker 5, Adam Moore 6, Nicholas Wilkins 7, Daniel Jarvis (C) 8.

Rung in memory of Maureen Weston, a member of this church, the community choir and Ready-Call, who died on Wednesday 11th December.

Also remembering Rev. Stanley Evans who passed away yesterday.

First peal on 8 : 1 and 2

QUARTER PEALS

Tonbridge Sunday 13th October

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Composed by Mark T Elvers

Janice Byrne 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Laura Byrne 3, Jacqui Fletcher 4, Catherine Heathcote 5, Pam Thomas 6, Darren Elphick 7, Michael Birkbeck (C) 8.

For the Confirmation of Rose Boniface, Cari Griffiths, Robert Kidson, Peter Little, Hannah Minton, Kerry Reichen-Miller and Jonathan Wood, and for the canonisation of John Henry Newman today.

Haver Tuesday 15th October

1260 Doubles

660 Grandsire, 600 Plain Bob

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

First including Grandsire : 2

Speldhurst Sunday 20th October

1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Andy Wickenden 1, Catherine Heathcote 2, Michael Worthington 3, Nick Byrne 4, Louise Nightingale 5, Eric Roughley (C) 6, Emma Tamkin 7, Carl Nightingale 8.

For evensong

Hadlow Monday 21st October

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Ann Jenner 1, Peter Richardson 2, Eric Roughley 3, Tess Hargrave 4, Janice Byrne (C) 5, Ray Taylor 6, Stanley Jenner 7, Gordon Hill 8.

First inside to triples : 4

Hadlow Thursday 24th October

1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Emma Jarvis 1, Ann Jenner 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Caroline Stockmann 4, Philip Jarvis 5, Howard Rogers 6, Thomas Barlow 7, Stanley Jenner (C) 8.

Rung in celebration for the life of John Barnes.

Seal Chart Saturday 26th October

1260 Doubles

60 Stedman, 240 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob
Bobbie Fairclough 1, Dee Clift 2, Lesley Barclay 3, Fraser Clift (C) 4, Catherine Lewis 5, Phil Jones 6.

Rung in very fond memory of Dot Twiner, a ringer at this church, who passed away on 28th December 2018. Annette MacKellar, Eric Roughley, Mick Hodder, and Charlotte Sinclair would like to be associated with this quarter.

Sevenoaks Saturday 26th October

1260 Grandsire Triples

Composed by R William Willans

Ann Jenner 1, Howard Rogers 2, Janice Byrne 3, Philip Jarvis 4, Caroline Stockmann (C) 5, Michael Stuttard 6, Catherine Heathcote 7, Anthony Leeves 8.

For and on the birthdays of John S Barnes and the 5, and in celebration of and thankfulness of the life of John S Barnes, friend to so many of the ringing community.

Farningham Sunday 27th October

1260 Plain Bob Minor

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Dee Clift 2, Ann Saunders 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Jamie Austin 5, Fraser Clift (C) 6.

Remembering Anne Fleetwood – wife of Colin Fleetwood, a ringer at Otford.

Haver Sunday 27th October

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Jack Read 1, Jane Rosam 2, Stephanie Barclay 3, Alison Wilson 4, Richard Barclay (C) 5, Simon Wilson 6.

First away from tenor : 1

In memoriam John S Barnes.

Sevenoaks Sunday 27th October

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Isabel M Pearce 2,
Michael Worthington (C) 3, Catherine Lewis 4,
Tessa Worthington 5, Zoe Worthington 6.

*Rung by family and friends in anticipation of the
forthcoming marriage of Jeremy Worthington to
Lucy Hill on 2nd November.*

Tonbridge Sunday 27th October

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Graham Edwards 1, Caroline Stockmann 2, Ray
Price (C) 3, Jacqui Fletcher 4, Pam Thomas 5,
Gordon Hill 6.

First quarter on treble : 1

Birthday compliment to 5 for 28th October.

Edenbridge Monday 28th October

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Kate Hargrave 1, Ann Jenner 2, Ray Price 3,
Peter Richardson 4, Janice Byrne (C) 5, Anthony
Leeves 6, Stanley Jenner 7, Richard Dyson 8.

First of triples : 1

Westerham Monday 28th October

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Elaine Merrylees 1, Pat Phipps 2, Graham Heath
3, Barry Roberts 4, Julian Lees 5, Doug Davis 6,
Darren Elphick (C) 7, Richard Young 8.

*With grateful thanks to Elaine for stepping in
after meeting one short.*

Cowden Wednesday 30th October

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Lucy Hargrave 1, Jennifer Thomas 2, Steve
Newlands 3, Janice Byrne (C) 4, Catherine
Heathcote 5, Kate Hargrave 6.

First away from tenor : 1

Kemsing Friday 1st November

1260 Doubles

300 Grandsire, 480 St Simon's, 480 Plain Bob
Janet Whitehead 1, Bobbie Fairclough 2, Dee
Clift 3, Fraser Clift (C) 4, Catherine Lewis 5,
Martin Whitehead 6.

*Rung in celebration of the life of Anne Fleet-
wood – wife of Colin, an Otford ringer.*

Speldhurst Friday 1st November

1260 Doubles

300 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob

Eric Roughley 1, Roberta Weatherley 2,
Anthony Leeves 3, Steve Newlands 4, Janice
Byrne (C) 5, Kate Hargrave 6.

First mixed Doubles inside : 2

Chevening Saturday 2nd November

1260 St Clement's College Bob Triples

Composed by Lynn Scales

Janice Byrne 1, Darren Elphick 2, Steve
Newlands 3, Jacqueline Barlow 4, Peter
Richardson 5, Thomas Barlow 6, Adam Brady
(C) 7, Tony Cresswell 8.

First in method : 3, 5, and 7

Hever Saturday 2nd November

**1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place
Doubles**

Jack Read 1, Jane Rosam 2, Stephanie Barclay 3,
Alison Wilson 4, Richard Barclay (C) 5, Philip
Lindsay 6.

First quarter peal : 6

First in method : 4. Rung for All Souls Service.

East Peckham Sunday 3rd November

1440 Plain Bob Minor

Lucy Harvey 1, Michael Stuttard 2, Amber
Cusick 3, Howard Rogers 4, Philip Jarvis 5,
Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

Hadlow Sunday 3rd November

1344 Stedman Triples

Composed by James P Ramsbottom

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

First in method : 1

Edenbridge Sunday 10th November

1260 Grandsire Triples

Clive Lumsden 1, Eric Roughley 2, Ray Price 3,
Julie Richardson 4, Louise Nightingale (C) 5,
Peter Richardson 6, Emma Tamkin 7, Carl
Nightingale 8.

*Rung before the service of Remembrance and
Town Parade. Lest we forget.*

Cowden Monday 11th November

1260 Doubles

*540 Grandsire, 720 Reverse Canterbury
Pleasure Place*

Carl Nightingale 1, Jane Wroe 2, Clive Lumsden
3, Catherine Lewis 4, Louise Nightingale (C) 5,
Douglas James 6.

Lest we forget.

Brasted Sunday 17th November
1344 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Composed by Jack R Pease

Amber Cusick 1, Catherine Lewis 2, Frances James 3, Fraser Clift 4, Philip Jarvis 5, David James 6, Nicholas Wilkins 7, Jamie Austin (C) 8.

First of Yorkshire and first of Surprise Major as Conductor.

Tonbridge Sunday 17th November

1296 Plain Bob Minor

Stella Wooldridge 1, David Pye 2, Ray Price 3, Angela Clark 4, Steve Newlands 5, Philip Jarvis (C) 6.

Rung to celebrate the wedding of David Pye and his fiancé Ms Ying Wang who is originally from Shenyang in North Eastern China.

First in method : 3

Oxford Monday 18th November

1304 Minor

584 Plain and Little, 720 Plain, 9com, atw
Jamie Austin 1, Stephanie Runting 2, Catherine Lewis 3, Christopher Trafford 4, Alexander Runting (C) 5, Rupert Cheeseman 6.

First of Spliced : 2

Hadlow Saturday 23rd November

1288 Plain Bob Triples

Composed by Thomas A Winter

Tess Hargrave 1, Stephanie Runting 2, Laura Byrne 3, Sam Chard 4, Lucy Harvey 5, Alexander Runting 6, Adam Moore (C) 7, Jennifer Thomas 8.

First triples inside : 4

The band wish to associate Jamie Austin with this performance, who was due to ring but was unfortunately indisposed.

Kilndown Sunday 24th November

1296 Plain Bob Minor

Emma Jarvis 1, Lucy Harvey 2, Catherine Heathcote 3, Steve Newlands 4, Ray Taylor 5, Philip Jarvis (C) 6.

First quarter on the bells since the installation of the new staircase to the ringing chamber.

Kemsing Monday 25th November

1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor

Michael Stuttard 1, Caroline Stockmann 2, Jacqueline Barlow 3, Julie Harrison 4, Darren Elphick (C) 5, Thomas Barlow 6.

Cowden Tuesday 26th November

1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Catherine Lewis 2, Fraser Clift 3, Steve Newlands 4, Anthony Leevs 5, Janice Byrne (C) 6.

First in method : 4

Cowden Saturday 30th November

1296 Bourne Surprise Minor

Steve Newlands 1, Amy Wallace 2, Shona Clark 3, Barry Roberts 4, Darren Elphick 5, Neil Jones (C) 6.

Hever Saturday 30th November

1299 Doubles

480 Plain Bob, 819 Grandsire

Serafina Wilson 1, Jane Rosam 2, Stephanie Barclay 3, Richard Barclay (C) 4, Alison Wilson 5, Jack Read 6.

Rung for St Andrews' Day and to mark the retirement of Revd Wendy Izod.

Kilndown Saturday 30th November

1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

Amy Wallace 1, Shona Clark 2, Barry Roberts 3, Catherine Heathcote 4, Neil Jones 5, Darren Elphick (C) 6.

Lamberhurst Saturday 30th November

1296 Annable's London Surprise Minor

Catherine Heathcote 1, Amy Wallace 2, Shona Clark 3, Barry Roberts 4, Darren Elphick 5, Neil Jones (C) 6.

On the Feast of St Andrew.

Hadlow Sunday 1st December

1260 Stedman Triples

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

Seal Chart Saturday 7th December

1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor

Emma Tamkin 1, Lucy Harvey 2, Howard Rogers 3, Jamie Austin 4, Laura Byrne (C) 5, Philip Jarvis 6.

First of Cambridge Minor inside : 2

First of Cambridge Minor as conductor

Tonbridge Sunday 8th December

1260 Middlesex Bob Triples

Jacqui Fletcher 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Steve Newlands 3, Emma Tamkin 4, Nick Fulford 5, Catherine Heathcote 6, Philip Jarvis (C) 7, Ray Price 8.

First in method : 3, 4, and 5.

Rung to welcome Cameron Patrick Hill, born 4th December, grandson to Gordon and Peggy.

Sevenoaks Sunday 15th December

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

David Cochrane 1, Tessa Worthington 2, Michael Worthington (C) 3, Catherine Lewis 4, Isabel Pearce 5, Ian Cochrane 6.

Rung in celebration of the life of Miss Eileen Bourne of Palmers Green who died aged 95 and whose funeral was held at Southgate on 12th December.

Miss Bourne brought up twins David and Ian Cochrane during their early childhood at Barnardo's and they maintained contact with her for 76 years.

Speldhurst Sunday 15th December

1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Julie Richardson 1, Jacqui Fletcher 2, Frances James 3, Peter Richardson 4, Christopher Horseman 5, Emma Tamkin (C) 6, Daniel Jarvis 7, Catherine Heathcote 8.

For evensong.

Wishing Eric Roughley a speedy recovery. First as conductor in method.

Tunbridge Wells Saturday 21st December

1260 Erin Triples

Christopher Cooper 1, Alison Parsons 2, Alan Turner 3, Neil Jones 4, Roderic Bickerton 5, Hugo Tracey 6, Alan Pink (C) 7, John Harding 8.

30th Birthday compliment to Hugo.

Edenbridge Sunday 22nd December

1260 Grandsire Triples

Julie Richardson 1, Jane Wroe 2, Nick Byrne 3, Robin Rouse 4, Peter Richardson 5, Louise Nightingale (C) 6, Andy Wickenden 7, Carl Nightingale 8.

Tonbridge Sunday 22nd December

1260 Single Oxford Bob Triples

Emma Jarvis 1, Jacqueline Barlow 2, Steve Newlands 3, Jacqui Fletcher 4, Darren Elphick 5, Emma Tamkin (C) 6, Philip Jarvis 7, Ray Price 8.

First in method : 3

Rung for evensong and in memory of Rev Stanley Evans, who died on 15th December, RIP.

East Peckham Tuesday 24th December

1252 Nativity Surprise Minor

Composed by Barnaby R Larter and Daniel R Jarvis

Emma Jarvis 1, Jamie Austin 2, Adam Moore 3, Philip Jarvis 4, Barnaby Larter 5, Daniel Jarvis (C) 6.

Chiddingstone Friday 27th December

1288 Plain Bob Triples

Arranged by Matt Dawson

Anna Hargrave 1, Daniel Jarvis 2, Tess Hargrave 3, Lucy Harvey 4, Amber Cusick 5, Louise Nightingale 6, Jamie Austin (C) 7, Carl Nightingale 8.

First trebling to triples

Otford Saturday 28th December

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Bobbie Fairclough 1, Daniel Tierney 2, Catherine Lewis 3, Fraser Clift 4, Jamie Austin (C) 5, Juliet Austin 6.

First quarter inside : 2

Rung to celebrate the 45th Wedding Anniversary of the treble ringer today.

Sevenoaks Tuesday 31st December

1260 Plain Bob Triples

Anna Hargrave 1, Amber Cusick 2, Tess Hargrave 3, Lucy Harvey 4, Laura Byrne (C) 5, Jamie Austin 6, Adam Moore 7, Sam Chard 8.

First triples as conductor.

**Keep up to date with the
District and KCACR
news!**

**Visit the KCACR
Website**

www.kcacr.org.uk



MILESTONES

CONGRATULATIONS TO :

Anna Hargrave

First quarter inside
First trebling to triples

Tess Hargrave

First including Grandsire
First inside to triples

Kate Hargrave

First of triples

Lucy Hargrave

First away from tenor

Laura Byrne

First Cambridge Surprise Minor as conductor
First triples as conductor

Jack Read

First away from tenor

Graham Edwards

First quarter on treble

Roberta Weatherley

First mixed doubles inside

Daniel Tierney

First quarter inside

Steve Newlands

First peal on 8
First Kent Treble Bob minor
First St Clement's College Bob Triples
First Middlesex Bob Triples
First Single Oxford Bob Triples

Peter Richardson

First St Clement's College Bob Triples

Adam Brady

First St Clement's College Bob Triples

Philip Lindsay

First quarter peal

Alison Wilson

First of Reverse Canterbury

Lucy Harvey

First of Stedman Triples
First Cambridge Minor inside

Ray Price

First of Plain Bob Minor

Jamie Austin

First of Yorkshire and first of Surprise Major as conductor.

Stephanie Runting

First of Spliced

Sam Chard

First of triples inside.

Emma Tamkin

First Middlesex Bob Triples
First Single Oxford Bob Triples as conductor

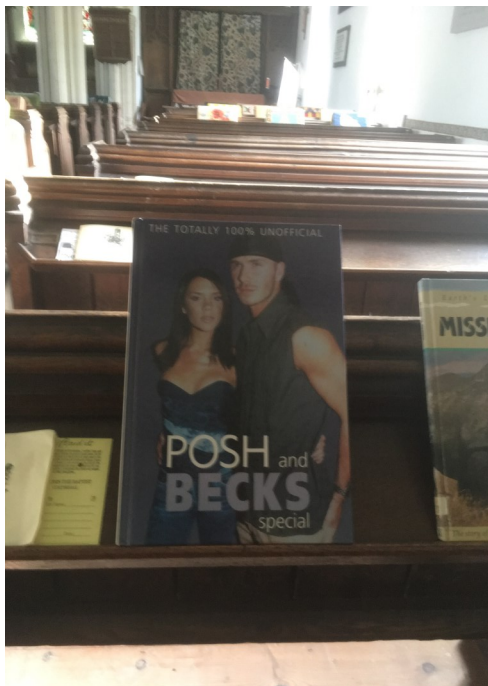
Nick Fulford

First Middlesex Bob Triples

Svetlana Sokolova

First peal on 8

NORMAL FOR NORFOLK ?



Seen in the back pews at Coltishall (6) a thoughtfully placed library area, for when those sermons get to be a bit too much, including "The Totally 100% Unofficial Posh and Becks Special". Genuine mid 90's vintage.

DEAR FABIAN

Look To readers will be relieved to know that after scouring the land the editorial team have at last found someone to replace Angela Clark as our ringing Agony Aunt since she was poached by Cosmopolitan at the beginning of last year.

Being a ground breaking and progressive title as ever, we have decided to allow a chap to break through the glass ceiling. However he is on a trial period of two issues on the proviso that feedback from readers is positive. His name is Fabian (by pure coincidence) but sadly his surname isn't Stedman. He's a local lad though, who used to go to Tonbridge School, and is the grandson of a famous cricketer. His advice may be a little more masculine in tone than Angela's, which is another reason for the trial period.

Anyway here goes with his first letter.

A District ringer writes :

Dear Fabian,
I sometimes get very anxious just before the start of a potentially tricky quarter peal, and wonder "Why am I doing this?" and "Have I bitten off far more than I can chew?"
Please can you give me some advice and help?
Anon

Fabian writes :

Dear Anon,

I can sympathise, as all ringers have had those feelings, but be not of faint heart! I would suggest taking some inspiration from Cliff Robertson in the WW2 film 633 Squadron.

As the Mosquitos approach the Norwegian coast, despite getting permission over the radio from HQ to abort the mission, as Squadron Leader he decides against, with the immortal line:

"Blue leader to all sections. Ling destroyed. Enemy anti aircraft intact. Keep your eyes open. We're going in."

I feel confident this approach could work for you. Good Luck!

Fabian



FORTHCOMING EVENTS.....

Between now and the next edition of Look to : -

Sat 18th January **Trivia Quiz Evening** - Hildenborough Village Hall -

7.15pm prompt

Sat 1st February - **Evening Practice** - Cowden - 6pm to 8pm.

Sat 15th February - **Surprise Minor/Major Practice** - Sevenoaks 7pm to 9pm.

Sat 21st March - **10/12 Bell Practice** - Benenden - 10am to 12pm

Sat 4th April - **District Quarterly Meeting** - Horsmonden, 9.45am Coffee,

10am morning prayer, 10.15am ringing, 12.15pm Lunch and business

Meeting, ringing until 2pm.

Embroidered KCACR clothing



Colours, sizes and prices January 2020

F: (Ladies option) - usually more shaped and less spacious

T-shirt (180M) £16

XS: As below, but not Convoy grey

S - 2XL: Azure blue, Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy grey, French navy, Light Oxford, Lime, Pure gold, Purple, Sky, White, Winter emerald, Yellow

3XL - 4XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, French navy, White

Short sleeve polo shirt (539M/F) £21

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy Grey, French navy, Light Oxford, Lime, Pure gold, Purple, Sky, White, Winter emerald, Yellow.

3XL - 4XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, Classic red, French navy, Light Oxford, White.

5XL - 6XL: Black, Bright royal, French navy, White

Classic sweatshirt (762M) £22

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright red, Burgundy, Classic red, Light Oxford, French navy, Purple, Bright royal, Sky, White, Winter emerald

3XL - 4XL: Bottle green, Bright royal, French navy

Outdoor Full or Quarter zip fleece (870M/F or 874M) £29 / £28

XS - 4XL: Black, Bottle green, Bright royal, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy grey, French navy

Outdoor Fleece Gilet (872M/F) £27

XS - 2XL: Black, Bottle green, Burgundy, Classic red, Convoy Grey, French navy, Bright royal

Hoodie no zip (265M) approx. £25

XS - 3XL: Apple, Black, Bottle green, Classic red, Light Oxford, Lime, French navy, Fuchsia, Purple, Bright royal, Sky, White

Hoodie full zip (266M/F) £31

XS – XL, XXL – 3XL (M Only): Apple, Black, Bright royal, Bottle Green, Classic red, Convoy Grey, French navy, Fuchsia, Light Oxford, Lime, Purple, Sky, White.

4XL (M only): Black, French Navy, Light Oxford

Rugby Shirt (FR100) £29

S-4 XL : Black, Burgundy

Children's range is or will be on the website.

Catherine Lewis

☎ 01959 563767

✉ cmlewis339@gmail.com