

Canterbury District Newsletter

Issue 184

October 2022

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From the Editor

The Newsletter is distributed by email every three months, and is also available to view on the Association website (www.kcacr.org.uk), in the **Canterbury District** section.

If you have any ringing-related news from your tower that you would like to feature in the newsletter, please send them to me at cantdistrictnews@gmail.com, or have a word with me if you see me at a meeting. It would be appreciated if all items could be with me no more than a week before the next Quarterly Meeting

Jane

Cover Image:
St Dunstan's, Canterbury
Taken from the internet

Chairman's Message

Hi everyone

I hope you all are doing well and keeping covid safe.

Well it's that time of year again when we have our annual meeting; I hope we can get back to some sort of normality soon so I'm hoping to see lots of you at the meeting.

Please give some thought if you would like to stand for any job on the committee.

Looking forward to seeing you all

Best wishes

Mike

Ringling Master's Message

Please see at the end of this newsletter the provisional schedule of district practices that I have worked out so far, up to March 2024.

All are welcome to these practices so please spread the word!

Ben Legg

District News

H.M.S. Josephine or Campanologists Go Crazy On A Canal

A play in seven acts, of true events lightly embellished, by Paul Davis

Dramatis Personae

The crew of *H.M.S. Josephine*:

Admiral Len Huckstep	_____	A grizzled veteran, famed for his victories
First Mate Andy Brett	_____	Even more grizzled, famed for nought else
Chief Engineer Malcolm Smith	_____	Able to mend any fault, when sober
Zoologist Claire Stay	_____	Expert anatidae acquirer and skein spotter
Tiller Girl Sarah Smith	_____	Provided entertainment to the crew (no, not like that!)
Cabin Boy 'Tall' Paul Davis	_____	His lack of skills are made up for by...erm...
Galley Slave Jane Huxley	_____	Furnished fantastic feasts from foul fare
Stowaway Paul Curtis	_____	Wanted for indecent acts (in both senses of the phrase)

The crew of *H.M.S. Sceptre*:

Captain Lesley Jones	_____	A supremely skilful sailor, spouse of:
First Mate William Jones	_____	A bygone Birmingham bridge builder

Dramatis Loci

Place	Church	Bells
Napton on the Hill	S Lawrence	6, 11-0-11 in F
Braunston	All Saints	6, 15-1-6 in F
Weedon Bec	S Peter & S Paul	8, 14-3-2 in F
Cosgrove	S Peter & S Paul	6, 10-0-26 in G
Blisworth	S John the Baptist	6, 12-2-25 in F
Priors Marston	S Leonard	6, 14 in F

Act 1

SCENE – The church of Saint Lawrence, at Napton on the Hill, Warwickshire.

Our play begins in the (relatively) far north of the Kingdom of England, noon on Friday 2nd of September. The crew assembled (in dlibs, drabs and dregs) after many a harrowing journey from deepest, darkest Kent, arriving at the church in a timely manner, eager to ring, in perhaps a less



than timely manner. Brilliant rays of sunshine sent pillars of golden light through the clouds, as if to give the motley mess of a mob its blessing on the forthcoming voyage. Dark clouds on the horizon suggested that all would not be well for long, however.

After an inspection by the admiral, (i.e. tea taken with great gusto within the church) the crew took their measure of the first tower of the journey. The ropes were rather long, the sallies rather low, a commonality to all towers on the voyage. A breath-taking view of the country around the Hill did not distract the galley slave on this occasion, such that a wonderful ring was enjoyed by all. To commemorate the event, the local captain was requested to produce a portrait of the crew: what felt like two hours later, the function of the camera was figured out, allowing the crew to finally take their leave.

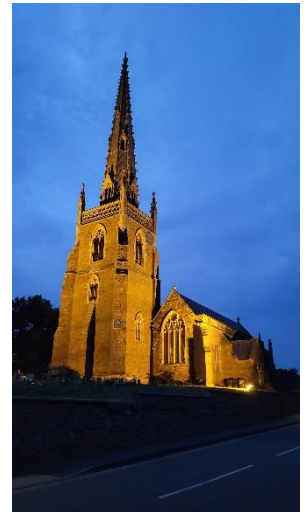
The carrack HMS Josephine was docked alongside many a fine vessel of the royal navy at Port Napton, down from the Hill. The docks bustled with activity: goods were loaded, no-entry signs ignored, dogs barked and crews embarked. Amidst the hurly, burly, hustle and bustle, rascalion Paul Curtis stowed away on board, only to be instantly spotted (and given a scolding) by a dockworker, for putting his pole where he should not (as 'twere). Unsurprisingly, this would not be the last mischief the stowaway would get up to (or with). The chief engineer took the wheel (already three sheets to the wind) and HMS Josephine set sail, beginning her glorious voyage.



The stowaway steers HMS Josephine with surprising skill through Braunston Junction

After a pleasant five-mile journey (as a particularly confused crow flies) the ship arrived at Braunston at five in the afternoon. The church stood over the canal, next to an overly proud windmill (sans sails) that definitely did *not* look like a soldier's soldier. The tiller girl used her wiles (i.e. she said hello) to persuade a nearby sailor to come up to the ringing chamber, whereby she explained what was going on while the others wrestled with ropes. The bells were a tad heavy going but sounded splendid.

Night had fallen by the time the crew departed the church, a short walk returning them to the ship. Games of supreme skill were played, those of Bingo and Beetle Drive: the former proved difficult to follow when the stowaway shouted out random words.



Act II

SCENE – Braunston Junction, Northamptonshire

With no ringing to interrupt the day's sailing, our undistinguished crew were about their feet in a typically tardy, torpid manner on Saturday morning. The chief engineer weighed heavily on matters while the boat was filled with water, so much so that the ship almost capsized. With the stowaway at the wheel (much to everyone's confusion) the Josephine departed Braunston on a sometimes sensible course, to the first of thirteen locks.

Great behemoths of brick, concrete, wood (and other materials besides), the locks sou'-east of Braunston were an intimidating sight for sore eyes (and an unnerving sight for even perfectly fine eyes). In the face of this seemingly insurmountable challenge the admiral gave a rousing speech (i.e. he sat back and let the others get on with it): the crew leapt into action and proceeded to get in one another's way, their eagerness to work hampered only by their lack of all other skills. By the time the sixth lock had been successfully circumnavigated however, the gang had gained (what might generously be called) a sense of good teamwork.

At this point, the giant mouth of the Braunston canal tunnel was spied from the crow's nest: a snaking subterranean salient over two thousand yards in length, the tunnel is so narrow that only the bravest of pilots would dare enter it. As such, the stowaway made his excuses and shoved the cabin boy towards the wheel. The Josephine crept nervously into the tunnel: darkness descended over the crew, the sepulchral silence broken only when the cabin boy's head hit the tunnel roof.

Inch by centimetre the ship sailed deeper into the damp depths of the tunnel, a single light affixed at the bow the only guide (and not even that when the crew got their heads in the way of it). Several times did another ship appear from the inky blackness, passing like two ships in the night (possibly the most needless use of a simile ever). Many of these fellow travellers appeared to be in a hurry, as no sooner did they part ways did they proceed with all haste, sending great gouts of foul-smelling fumes (yes, even fouler than the fumes from the men's toilet) into the tunnel. A dusky light ahead gradually grew until – at last! – the ship emerged into dazzling daylight.

The day's work was not yet over: a short journey brought the Josephine to the next set of locks, the final six of the thirteen. Many locks can handle two ships at once, to save time and water: a carrack moored nearby was therefore encouraged to accompany the Josephine. The admiral regretted this decision immediately: the other crew were clearly ne'er-do-wells and slovenly to boot, such that the Josephine's crew appeared absolutely angelic by comparison. Their ship was slow to set sail and enter the first lock,

delaying the Josephine’s own progress. By far the worst offense was that they did not assist in operating the locks: no help was needed (needless to say), the crew by this point having become almost proficient at lock-work, but even a token show of effort would have eased unrest.

After a few locks of this carry on, the admiral was eager to make way, so was greatly pleased to see a lone ship ahead. The same Law of the Seven Seas that had blighted the Josephine with the miscreants now gave leave to join the ship ahead. The ship in question was HMS Sceptre, a stunning caravel crewed by two. Despite their far smaller contingent, the pair happily helped those on the Josephine pass through the remaining locks. The captain showed supreme seamanship, manoeuvring the caravel with precision, in stark contrast to the cabin boy’s ‘pray and cover your eyes’ approach. The final lock of the group cleared, the Josephine sailed onwards with good speed, southwards towards the village of Weedon Bec, where it set anchor for the evening.

Exhausted from the day’s excursions, food was ordered by telegraph from a nearby inn that specialised in everything, representing cuisine from across the world. The admiral, stowaway and cabin boy duly disembarked to collect the gang’s grub. The latter discovered a great wealth of treasure near the inn, this fortune spent frivolously as only the youth are inclined to do (i.e. I spotted a dropped £10 note and later bought some hob nobs). The cabin boy hauled the food back to the ship in great spirits, the crew feasting forthwith upon all manner of animal, mineral and vegetable. Their stomachs full, bodies weary, one and all settled in for a good night’s rest.

Act III

SCENE – Weedon Bec, Northamptonshire

The crew staggered to their feet at the sound of the cockerel, as their services were required for a service. Located so close to the canal ‘twas almost within it, the local church was reached by the plucky posse after the shortest of sojourns, alarming an unaware local who had arrived to unlock it.

The bell chamber being on the ground floor, fully open to the church proper, the resultant ringing was openly admired by the parishioners: a round of applause came at the end of some Grandsire Triples, something never expected at St Stephen’s, Canterbury (especially with the stowaway involved).



Filled with great satisfaction at the ringing so far, the first mate took the treble, only for the treble to toll for him: the flighty bell flicked the rope every which way while Andy frantically tried to take control. Once the touch was over, the first mate vacated the church as hurriedly as humanly possible.



The stowaway paid for his passage by serving a superb fry-up (Bacon? What bacon?), the crew eating in shifts so that the ship could be made ready. With the tiller girl at the tiller, the Josephine set sail in ship

shape (for once), a course charted south and east for fifteen miles. Cosgrove was the destination, though this port could not be reached without first crossing through Blisworth Tunnel. Over three thousand miles long, it is the third-longest navigable tunnel in the kingdom, the only saving grace being that (unlike Braunston Tunnel) Blisworth Tunnel is straight. The hatches were battened in preparation for foul air, the bow lantern lit and the cabin boy ducked, before the ship slipped inside. After a seemingly endless, eerie endeavour, the Josephine emerged into daylight once more, having come away the victor against the brick walls.



The tiller girl guides HMS Josephine into Blisworth Tunnel, the chief engineer by her side.

Immediately upon leaving the tunnel the ship came to the first of seven locks near Stoke Bruerne. Their eyes still pained from the return of the sunshine after the long darkness of the tunnel, the team took to shore, where they turned windlasses, pulled gates and lazed idly for each lock in turn. The HMS Sceptre was greeted in the lock, the tiller girl immediately making friends and learning that the crew were named Lesley and William Jones, lately from Shropshire. By the time that the final lock had been cleared much conversation had passed, an invitation given for the crew of the Sceptre to join those of the Josephine at Cosgrove church on Monday.

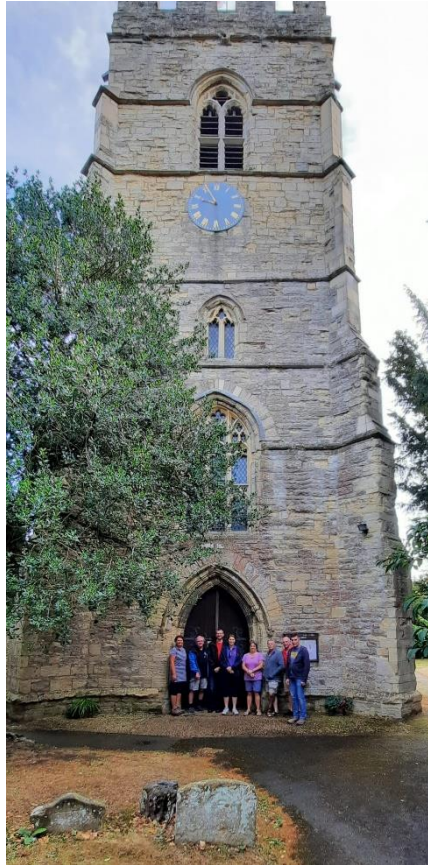
The destination was still some distance away, so the tiller girl hurried the crew onwards, sails at full and the rum served early, allowing the ship to reach Cosgrove in good time. The day ended as usual with a fine repast provided by the galley slave, followed by a gamut of games: first was Pit, which involved a great deal of shouting. The admiral's considered opinion of Pit was presented with his usual use of subtle understatement, which prompted the crew to try another game: Uno Flip was confusing, although – thanks to being played after Pit – was received with forbearance.

The crew retired to bed after a long day, though sleep was spoilt by a thunderous downpour and violent flashes of lightning: although the storm had broken before dawn, it was a sign that the weather was worsening.

Act IV

SCENE – Cosgrove, Northamptonshire

After an unhurried start to the day, the crew departed the moored ship and headed towards the local church. The route involved taking a tiny pedestrian tunnel underneath the canal, much to the cabin boy’s displeasure. The church itself was hidden behind trees a short walk uphill, the village around it showing all the signs of refined civility that the Josephine’s crew lacked.



The bells were once again of good quality, albeit rather long and heavy for the cabin boy’s noodle-like arms. The crew of the Sceptre arrived at the church in good time and were shown the ropes (both literally and metaphorically). First Mate William displayed great promise, tolling a couple of bells with little trouble. With the ship’s itinerary shared, the two crews parted once more: hopeful of a reunion, though mindful of the vagaries of ocean-going travel.



The admiral overseeing affairs at Cosgrove Lock, HMS Sceptre alongside.

Coffee cake and coffee gave the crew the vim and vinegar (and coffee) necessary to commence the day’s sailing. The Josephine dawdled down, the intermittent sun enough to keep the crew’s mood bright. Enroute, an exploratory expedition into the jungle alongside bore blackberries galore, used for the evening’s crumble. A later lot was used by the zoologist to make jam, which went in a jiffy. With everything shipshape and Bristol fashion (whatever that is) the admiral called for an unscheduled stop at the vibrant, interesting, historic city of Milton Keynes, to obtain provisions. Those of the Sceptre had the same thought, such that Josephine set anchor just behind: much discussion was had about the Jones’ previous adventures, resulting in nautical documents of all shapes and sizes being unearthed for examination: when one map almost flew away in the wind, focus was put back upon the reason for docking. Goods of all kinds (including the aforementioned hob nobs) were loaded onboard, purchased from a nearby general market known as Tesco.

With the cabin boy at the wheel, the Josephine sailed onwards towards Soulbury, although it is here that the voyage took a turn for the worse: such was the relaxed activity at the wonderful Milton Keynes that

there was now no time to dilly-dally or delay. Soulbury provided one of few means for the Josephine to turn around, ready for the voyage home, yet the night threatened to arrive imminently and with it cessation of all ship activity (as per the Laws of the Seven Seas). If Soulbury could not be reached that eve, the journey homewards would be one of haste to reach Port Napton in time, never mind the whys and wherefores.

The Josephine hurried southwards with utmost urgency, though poor wind (i.e. moored boats we had to slow down to pass) was a common concern. Dusk had fallen by the time the ship sailed into Soulbury harbour, somewhat short of the desired destination yet in position to draw on water, at least. Keeping the water tank topped up was of vital importance, as the men were smelly enough even after their shower.

Act V

SCENE – Three Locks, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

Behind schedule somewhat, the crew were up early on Tuesday 6th of September: two locks needed to be navigated twice, as the Josephine only had room to turn about beyond them. The carrack circled round with only a few bumps and was soon on her way back north, at full speed.

With the wind at her back, HMS Josephine raced across the sea, a downpour doing little to deter the dogged crew's determinism. Disaster had struck though: the ship's supplies of latrine paper were running dangerously thin (as they always had: anything thicker than tissue paper caused trouble with the loos). The chief engineer and tiller girl therefore braved the deluge of rain to explore Milton Keynes in search of the cheapest paper possible. On their return (laden with dangerously good-quality products) the storm had ceased: the Josephine sailed onwards, only to run into a seething squabble of ships at Cosgrove lock.

There was little to be done but wait as ships ahead moved slowly through the lock: the tiller girl imparted her wisdom upon those of the carrack HNLMS Onzin (hailing from Amsterdam) to little avail. Such was the need to get ahead that the nescient Netherlands number were left behind as soon as possible, rather than wait for them in each lock. Despite this only the first five of the seven locks at Stoke Bruerne were crossed before the coming night forced the ship to make anchor. That said, the Schedule had called for the ship to reach the first lock only, so lost time had been made up for and more, much to the admiral's great pleasure.

After such a frantic day's sailing the crew was treated to a pasta meal with garlic bread, followed by jelly and fruit. Floored by the fantastic feast, the crew managed some bingo and beetle drive before heading to bed before the tenth bell.

Act VI

SCENE – Stoke Bruerne, Northamptonshire

The day began with an easy start: the last two locks at Stoke Bruerne were crossed, supplies loaded and rubbish unloaded at the final lock. Everything in order, HMS Josephine continued northwards with the cabin boy at the wheel, sending the ship through the Blisworth Tunnel as fast as he dared. This allowed the Josephine to make the perilous passage in 42 minutes: a sign declaring that the tunnel could be crossed in 25 minutes took the wind out of the cabin boy's sails.

On the other end of Blisworth Tunnel was – appropriately enough – the village of Blisworth, where the crew came ashore. In good time, the garrulous gang wandered around until the first bell, when it was time to head to church. A ground floor ring that had been augmented from 5 to 6, the bells were loud and heavy going, although sounded lovely. The chief engineer called a touch of Cambridge Minor for a second time, but after another failed attempt gave up on the method altogether.

After lashings of tea and cake the ship sailed onwards at a saunter towards Weedon Bec, arriving just as the heavens opened in the late afternoon. When the rain had cleared several of the sailors made their excuses to explore Weedon, specifically the nearby public house. Returning only slightly sozzled, the sailors joined the others for sausages and mash.

With bellies full, the tiller girl provided great entertainment: the gang split into two teams, each with their own design of paper aeroplane, which were flown as far down the length of the ship as possible. Due to cannon, rope and barrels of rum getting in the way, the distances reached were paltry: Messrs Paul and Paul achieved the greatest length by some ways, much to the satisfaction of their shared team.

Flights of fancy were followed by feats of fortune, as each member was provided with a lottery ticket: as was his due, the admiral did rather well for himself, earning a princely sum of ten whole pounds. The day ended with a round of true or false questions that proved educational to all (butterflies can only see the colours red, green and yellow?!).



Act VII

SCENE – Weedon Bec, Northamptonshire

The final full day of sailing would be a long one, with thirteen locks and a tunnel to navigate, the ship required back at Port Napton before the day’s end. Despite this the ship moored at the second to last lock before the Braunston Tunnel, as the crew were intrigued and interested by the establishment named Anchor Cottage Crafts. A small building made smaller still by the cornucopia of creative commodities, the shop was almost emptied by the excited ensemble. Artistically-painted watering cans, mechanical owls, carved birds and – most importantly – several ice creams, were loaded on board.

The Josephine weighed anchor and continued on to Braunston Tunnel: at the wheel the cabin boy, determined to pass through the narrow passage far faster than before. All sails were unfurled and unnecessary cargo jettisoned: the ship shot through the tunnel like a cannonball, the 2,000 yards crossed in 21 minutes, two passing vessels capsized in the wake of the speeding ship.

Although the final group of locks were busy, superb sailing by the chief engineer saw the ship back to Port Napton in terrific time, between the fifth and sixth bells. The Josephine settled against the pier with nary a bump (in stark contrast to the end of last year’s voyage) and the crew prepared to disembark.



From left to right: the stowaway, first mate, admiral, zoologist, chief engineer and tiller girl.

The ship returned to its home port did not mean that the adventure was over: the crew retrieved their carriages and travelled south to the village of Priors Marston. Accustomed to apathy, the horses took some persuasion to move but soon everyone was away to the final tower. Although the distance was short, such was the secluded nature of Saint Leonard’s church that it was reached only with great difficulty. The welcome of the locals made amends for this hardship, as vats of tea and barrels of biscuits were provided. The bells were alike to Wickhambreaux in all the worst ways: hung counter-clockwise, odd-struck and hard work. That the local band managed to ring anything was testament to their perseverance. In time Priors Marston was bid adieu, somewhat sooner than necessary. The carriages returned to Port Napton, save for the stowaway’s brougham, which whisked him directly to Canterbury.



Without further delay, the triumphant team took themselves to the King’s Head, a public house that purported to deliver delectable delicacies (though all that glitters is not gold). Having espied ducks, geese, heron, flamingos and pigeons with ease during the voyage, it was naturally the zoologist who spotted none other than the sailors of the Sceptre! Needing little encouragement from the team, the tiller girl persuaded the Jones’ to join those lately of the Josephine. Though a few faults were found with the food, so great was the company that this did not spoil the evening’s enjoyment. After much repast the patrons were persuaded to leave by the impatient proprietors, the two groups bidding fond farewell to the other.

HMS Josephine was boarded for a final night’s sleep. At dawn the remaining seven began the long journey southwards home, tired but filled with happy memories. Truly no greater enjoyment was seen, than that upon the Josephine.

CURTAIN

Paul Davis

Bellringing Wedding

After cancelling her wedding several times during the lockdown, one of our most recent ringers, Amy married her Craig on 4th August.



Amy decided that she wanted to ring at the end of the service in her wedding dress. Her father Steve, a ringer from Rochester was also to ring. What's more, her new husband, Craig, who was not a ringer wanted to ring as well.

David our teacher took him in hand about 3 weeks before the wedding. Due to a busy schedule, he only had a few lessons. With nerves on the day, he managed to ring back strokes with David.

Amy rang rounds with her father, Steve, before leaving the church for the photos.

A truly joyous occasion.

We were all invited to the evening reception at Preston Court where a lovely time was had by all.





Wendy Durrell

Quiz Night - Birchington

All Saints Birchington are organising another Quiz which will be held on:

Saturday November 19th 2022

At

Church house in Birchington

starting at 7pm

Tables of 8 max

cost will be £7 per person

inc nibbles

Please contact

Mike Little to book a table

07986332005 or 01843791117

please leave a message if I miss you call



Brain Law - R.I.P. 14 May 1945 – 26 May 2022

Brian Law a long-standing member of Petham and Waltham was taken ill in October 2021 and much to his annoyance was never fit enough to return home to his flat in Waltham. He finally lost his battle at the end of May 2022 in the QEQM Hospital Margate.

Brian first learnt to ring in his early teens and was normally found 'bonging' behind at the back. This was a great help to a band that rung a lot of doubles! Brian was a keen member of the Canterbury District serving as a district rep for quite a few years. When it came to competitions, Brian could normally be found in the belfry as steward, carefully watching his watch to make sure you did not go over your allotted practice time.

On Tuesday 26 July 2022 the villages of Petham and Waltham came together to celebrate Brian's life in a short service, informal prayer and of course the bell ringer's hymn; however, the old ancient and modern hymn book was nowhere to be found and Toby (surprisingly) did not know the tune off by heart, therefore it was sung to the tune Stand up, Stand up for Jesus! The short service was conducted by Rev David Cawley in a way that did Brian justice.

We are sure that Brian had the last laugh and was playing around in his normal way, as his name was mentioned at the beginning of the prayers, all the lights went out and the organ bellows fell silent. At the end of the prayers the electric came back on in time to sing the hymn.

Invites to attend this service of remembrance were sent to all villagers and when we arrived to ring the quarter peal beforehand a handful were already seated. By the time we finished, forty-one minutes later, the church was packed, and a rousing round of applause was given to us. Brian was obviously a very valued member of village life.

David was itching to start the service, but we were concerned that not everybody had arrived as unfortunately a previous church warden of Waltham had fallen over in the road outside. The police had arrived and blocked the road so that nobody could drive down to the church. Thanks to Dr Tom Brett for staying with the patient and putting his medical knowledge use! If it wasn't for Tom, the ambulance would have been hours arriving!

Whilst this was going on outside, the service was on hold so that the local band could have some general ringing. This was greatly appreciated by the villagers who again applauded in thanks.

After the service everyone was invited back to Wendy's for drinks and nibbles with some of us having to go the long way round as the road was still blocked outside. Wendy and the local ringers had arranged an amazing spread and our thanks go out to them all for their hard work and hospitality

Kent County Association

Waltham, Kent

St Bartholomew

Tuesday, 26 July 2022 in 41m (8-2-2 in A)

1260 Doubles (3m)

480 each Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place, Plain Bob; 300 Grandsire

- 1 Cathryn M Hills (C)
- 2 Lynnette Gosling
- 3 Paul H Curtis
- 4 Leonard A Huckstep
- 5 Philip M Hills
- 6 Jane E Huxley

Rung to celebrate the life of Brian Law, Tower Captain here and Petham for many years followed a gathering of villagers and ringers for informal prayers and the bell ringers hymn.



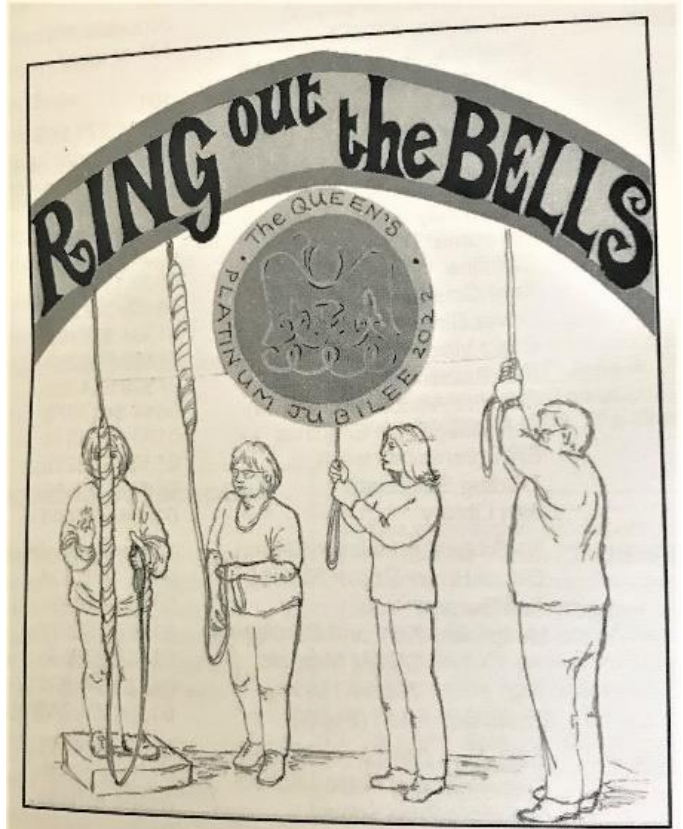
St Nicholas Church, Ash-next-Sandwich

We are fortunate to live in a village where the inhabitants appreciate the bells being rung and where their absence is noticed and commented on. We made it onto the front page of our Benefice Parish magazine in June, in the form of a line drawing made from a photograph. This was accompanied by a message of thanks from the village to the bellringers, which was much appreciated. There may be those among you who can identify the ringers portrayed!

It is unfortunate that more of the villagers are not willing to come up and join us as it is becoming increasingly difficult to form a band. However, we were able to muster the troops to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 4th June 2022. A quarter peal of 1260 Plain Bob Doubles, in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee, was rung. There was a scarecrow competition and trail in the village, and the door to the tower was presided over by our very own Grandsire of Ash, who claimed to be a 'Bellringer for every Royal Occasion'.

Sadly, a more sombre occasion soon presented itself and the village heard us tolling the bells half-muffled in memory of Her Majesty the Queen on 9th September, with open general ringing on 11th September in celebration of the accession to the throne of King Charles III. The tenor was also tolled by Nigel Miller and Robert Pilcher, preceding the state funeral of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2nd.

Weddings have resumed following the pandemic and we have rung for three this summer. Finally, the hand bell ringing that started during the pandemic has continued in a low keyway with monthly meets, with tea in the garden.



Airlie Fray + Judi Pettman

The Unexpected

Dining out in a restaurant one evening and being rushed off to hospital the following morning wasn't expected. It wasn't something I'd eaten but unfortunately a rather serious situation that demanded attention from the neurology unit at Kings College Hospital. I would like to express my gratitude and thanks for all the good wishes and kind sympathy received since from members of the District and other ringing friends.

Recovery is tantalisingly slow so I shouldn't be ringing for some time, although I'm prepared to try a short touch in defiance of instructions to take things easy. In the circumstances I'm lucky even to be thinking about returning to normal activities but two in particular can't resume too soon; I'm denied the pleasure of wine drinking and have had to surrender my driving licence. Perhaps somebody can help me with an unforeseen problem presented by the latter.

I have several credits in my Eurotunnel account that expire at the end of December. Of course without a car I'm unable to use them, so may I offer them to anyone who would like a day trip to France on me. Otherwise they'll be lost. If you are interested it would be advisable to let me have some alternative dates as the tunnel will get busier as Christmas approaches. Contact peter.dale@btinternet.com or 07754 884943 for details.

Thank you again for all the kindness shown to me in my convalescence.

Peter Dale

Minutes of Past Meetings

The KCACR Canterbury District Quarterly Meeting Saturday 9th July 2022 at St Nicholas at Wade

Ringling began at 3pm. The Service at 4.30 was conducted by Annette Paul with Susan Record playing the organ. Tea was served in the Church by the St Nicholas ringers.

1. Welcome In the absence of the chairman Rev David Cawley welcomed everyone to St Nicholas.
 2. Apologies for absence received from Dennis Brandrick, Mary and Tony Bridges, Enid Dixon, Philip Elderton, Airlie Fray, Becky Holliday, Jo Horton, Jane Lawrence, Mike Little, Belinda Moyna, Teresa Proudlock and Fiona Sperring.
 3. Minutes of the last 3 meetings printed in the newsletter were taken as read on a proposal from Freda Parker seconded by Felicity Lewis.
 4. Matters Arising There were no matters arising.
 5. Election of New Members From St Nicholas at Wade, Graeme Law, Hermione Paul and Thomas Paul all proposed by Peter Paul and seconded by Mike Little. All were elected by the membership.
 6. Presentation of Certificates Certificates were presented to Joe Aust and Charlie Staywell. Others for Sarah Manly, Eleanor Aslett and Fiona Sperring were handed to their fellow band members.
 7. The Collection This amounted to £38.50 all of which was given to St Nicholas.
 8. Forthcoming Events:
 - Saturday 6th August The District outing to Surrey has been postponed until next year. Due to building work the tower at Quex is unavailable. There will be no event in August.
 - Saturday 10th September Bye meeting at Chartham Ringing at 3pm, Service at 4.30pm followed by tea and meeting. Evening ringing to be arranged. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.
 - Saturday 8th October Annual District Meeting at St Dunstons. Ringing at 3pm, Service at 4.15pm followed by tea and meeting. Evening ringing to be arranged. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.
- A nomination form for the committee will be emailed out after the September meeting and included in the October newsletter.
- Saturday 12th November Call change competition at Littlebourne. Ringing at 11am Service after the competition. Lunch will available throughout the ringing. There will be short meeting at which the results will be announced. Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

This will be the first of the morning meetings for winter 2022/2023.

An entry form and copy of the rules will be in the October newsletter.

10. Members achievements Jo Aust rang his first quarter peal inside at St Nicholas at Wade on July 4th and Charlie Staywell rang his first quarter peal on the tenor.

11. Any Other Business With the district call change competition coming up in November it was requested that the test piece be sent out to towers in the near future so that they can start practising early. It was also asked how many peal ringers were allowed to be in the band.

Peter Paul, Tower Captain at St Nicholas at Wade, thanked everyone for attending and their generosity for giving all the collection to St Nicholas and also for giving as much as they did for the tea. It was much appreciated.

It was suggested that at the ADM members should review what roles are required in the current climate. Perhaps there should be a District Safeguarding Officer and a District Training Officer appointed to the committee. This will be put on the agenda for the ADM.

12. Vote of Thanks Malcolm Barden gave the vote of thanks to all those involved in the organisation of the meeting. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.



District Quarter Peals

Quarter Peals rung from 26 June to 30th September 2016 are as follows:

Date	Place		Changes	Method	Conductor
26/06/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Paul N Davis
26/06/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1259	Grandsire Caters	Mark Chittenden-Pile
26/06/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Paddington Bear Doubles	Tim Attridge
27/06/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	St Martin's Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge
02/07/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1376	Cambridge Surprise Major	Andrew M Hills
03/07/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (4m/p)	Cathryn M Hills
03/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Fearn Doubles	Tim Attridge
04/07/2022	St Nicholas	St Nicholas at Wade	1280	Plain Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge
06/07/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (6m/v/p)	Andrew M Hills
10/07/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (4m/v)	Cathryn M Hills
10/07/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1344	Stedman Triples	Andrew M Hills
10/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Crystal Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
11/07/2022	St Peter	Bekesbourne	1280	Plain Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge
17/07/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1280	Doubles (7m/v)	Andrew M Hills
17/07/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1264	Plain Bob Major	Andrew M Hills
17/07/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1272	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Andrew M Hills
17/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Sapphire Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
24/07/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (11m/v)	Cathryn M Hills
24/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Wooden Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
25/07/2022	All Saints	Petham	1320	Pink's Doubles	Tim Attridge
26/07/2022	St Bartholomew	Waltham	1260	Doubles (3m)	Cathryn M Hills
26/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Porcelain Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
31/07/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Andrew C Brett
31/07/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (6m)	Leonard A Huckstep
31/07/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Plain Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge
03/08/2022	St Peter the Apostle	St Peter in Thanet	1280	Plain Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge
06/08/2022	St Mary the Virgin	Wingham	1250	Spliced Surprise Major (3m)	Andrew M Hills
07/08/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1440	Plain Bob Minor	Andrew M Hills
07/08/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	Marmalade Sandwiches Doubles	Tim Attridge
14/08/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (3m/v)	Leonard A Huckstep
14/08/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Silk Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
16/08/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Copper Wedding Doubles	Tim Attridge
17/08/2022	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	1260	St Nicholas Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
21/08/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (8m/v/p)	Leonard A Huckstep
21/08/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (8m/v/p)	Andrew M Hills
21/08/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1272	Plain Bob Minimus	Tim Attridge
27/08/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1344	St Simon's Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
28/08/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1280	Doubles (7m/v)	Andrew M Hills
28/08/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1283	Erin Caters	Andrew M Hills
28/08/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Wellington Boots Doubles	Tim Attridge

Date	Place		Changes	Method	Conductor
04/09/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Andrew M Hills
04/09/2022	St Peter the Apostle	Broadstairs	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Sarat White
04/09/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Lace Wedding Doubles	Tim Attride
09/09/2022	St James	Sheldwich	1296	Spliced Minor (2m)	Barnaby Larter
09/09/2022	St Mary the Virgin	Chislet	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Alan Andrews
09/09/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1259	Grandsire Caters	Andrew M Hills
10/09/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1320	Kent Treble Bob Minor	Andrew M Hills
11/09/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (3m)	Cathryn M Hills
11/09/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Endeavour Doubles	Tim Attride
16/09/2022	St Mary of Charity	Faversham	1260	St Clement's College Bob Minor	Adam Moore
18/09/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (3m)	Leonard A Huckstep
18/09/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1280	The Longest Reign Doubles	Tim Attride
19/09/2022	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	1260	Plain Bob Triples	Cathryn M Hills
19/09/2022	St Dunstan	Canterbury	1260	Doubles (7m/v)	Leonard A Huckstep
19/09/2022	St Alphege	Canterbury	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Andrew M Hills
19/09/2022	All Saints	Birchington	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Tim Attride
21/09/2022	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	1344	St Martin's Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
25/09/2022	St Mary	Teynham	1260	Doubles (3m)	Barry Roberts
25/09/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	1259	Grandsire Caters	Mark Chittenden-Pile
27/09/2022	St Mary the Virgin	Ashford	1260	St Simon's Bob Triples	Mark Chittenden-Pile
28/09/2022	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thane	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Freda Parker
30/09/2022	St Peter and St Paul	Boughton under Blea	1260	Doubles (1p/4m)	Adam Moore

District Peals

Peals rung from 26 June to 30th September 2016 are as follows:

Date	Place		Changes	Method	Conductor
19/08/2022	All Saints	Whitstable	5040	Surprise Minor (7m)	John B Keeler
20/08/2022	St James	Sheldwich	5056	Yorkshire Surprise Major	Stephen A Wheeler
18/09/2022	Cathedral	Canterbury	5015	Grandsire Cinques	Andrew M Hills

Canterbury District Officers

As of the 2021 Annual District Meeting, the officers of the Canterbury District currently stand as follows:

Chairman	Mike Little	01843 791117	quexmaster@hotmail.com
Secretary	Tony Martin	01227 769686	canterburysecretary@kcacr.org.uk
Treasurer	Cathryn Hills	01795 533809	(No calls after 8pm please)
Assistant Secretary	Rev. David Cawley	01227 479871	davidl.cawley@btinternet.com
Ringling Master 1	Ben Legg	07818 434350	benlegg87@hotmail.com
Ringling Master 2	John Haimes	07714 860399	johnhaimes@hotmail.com
District Rep	Jo Horton	01227 711138	jo.horton1260@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Jane Huxley		cantdistrictnews@gmail.com
120 Club Promoter	Phil Elderton		120clubcanterbury@gmail.com
Extra Three	Len Huckstep	01227 362733	lenhuckstep@gmail.com
Extra Three	Michael Keeler-Walker	01227 720121	mckeeler@hotmail.co.uk
Extra Three	Claire Stay		claire.stay@mac.com



Make Sure to check out the District Facebook Page at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/canterburydistrict/>

Forthcoming Events

Annual District Meeting

Saturday 8th October at Canterbury St Dunstons

Ringling from 3pm, Service at 4.15 followed by tea and meeting.

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Call change competition.

Saturday 12th November

Draw at 10.45pm. Ringing at 11am. lunch will be served during the competition. There will be a short meeting at which the result will be announced. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Rules of the competition and an application form will be printed in the October Newsletter.

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Carol Service and Christmas Social

Saturday 10th December at Birchington.

More details will be announced at the ADM on October 8th.

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Quarterly Meeting

Saturday 14th January 2023 at Chartham

Ringling at 11am, Service at 12.30pm followed by tea, meeting and further ringing.
Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

This replaces the meeting planned to be at Wingham.



Dear All,

At the ADM in October I took over the running of the 120 club again. Last time I ran the club, I admit there were some issues regarding the draws, getting winnings to people and renewals, to which I can only apologise.

I have in discussion with (and the assistance of) the rest of the committee put some procedures in place to ensure the draws take place at each meeting when they are due to take place, and also winnings will be available immediately in cash at the meeting. If the winner is not there then by having address a cheque can be posted without delay.

Due to members leaving the area (or sadly no longer with us), there are lots of gaps in the numbers. Also to ensure I have members full up to date details so winnings can be posted if necessary, we have decided to do a **COMPLETE RELAUNCH OF THE CLUB** as if starting from scratch in April. So the membership year will now run from April to March. I am not usually in the country in October / November when the renewals would usually be done, so moving the year so renewals in Feb / March will be better for me, and also not another Christmas time expense for you!!

So if you wish to join the **NEW** 120 club, please fill in the application form attached. Can be individual or as some towers have done have a tower fund entry. It is still only £10 a year per number for the 9 draws. This year the Christmas Draw jackpot of £100 was won by Herne Tower fund and the second prize by Petham Tower fund.

If you have a request for a specific number please put in the space provided.

If you would prefer to send payment electronically please email me and I will provide the account details (it is a new account so the old HSBC account no longer works).

If you have any questions please contact me. I have setup a new email address which is 120clubcanterbury@gmail.com

Please support this club as all profits (which is subs minus prizes (I don't take any admin expenses)) goes straight to the BRF.

Many thanks,

Phil Elderton

Nomination Form

Canterbury District Officers for 2019/2020

From..... Tower.....

Chairman.....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as Chairman.....

District Secretary.....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as Secretary.....

District Representatives (Two)

(1).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Representative.....

(2).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Representative.....

District Ringing Masters (Two)

(1).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Ringing Master.....

(2).....

Proposed by..... Seconded by.....

I am willing to stand as District Ringing Master.....

This form must be signed by the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee.

It would be appreciated if completed forms are returned to the District Chairman, Mike Little or to the District Secretary, Tony Martin, as soon as possible please.

The Kent County Association of Change Ringers Canterbury District Call Change Competition

The 2022 Call Change Striking Competition will be held on
Saturday 12th November at Littlebourne.

The draw for the order of ringing will take place at 10.45am.	1 2 3 4 5 6
Competition ringing to start at 11am with the service at 12.30pm	2 1 3 4 5 6
followed by a short meeting at which the results will be announced.	2 3 1 4 5 6
Lunch will be available during the competition.	2 3 4 1 5 6
	2 3 4 5 1 6
The District Secretary must be notified of teams wishing to take part	3 2 4 5 1 6
by Saturday, 5th November and any team that is unable to attend for	3 4 2 5 1 6
the whole competition should inform the District Secretary as soon as	3 4 5 2 1 6
possible.	4 3 5 2 1 6
	4 5 3 2 1 6
The test piece for this year will be as shown to the right.	5 4 3 2 1 6
Full copies of the rules are available from the District Secretary on	5 4 3 1 2 6
request and in the newsletter.	5 4 1 3 2 6
	5 1 4 3 2 6
Please complete the entry form and return it to the District Secretary,	1 5 4 3 2 6
Tony Martin 31, Bramley Avenue, Canterbury CT1 3XW, Tel: 01227	1 5 4 2 3 6
769686	1 5 2 4 3 6
canterburysecretary@kcacr.org.uk	1 2 5 4 3 6
	1 2 5 3 4 6
Names for lunch to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01227	1 2 3 5 4 6
720121 as soon as possible please.	1 2 3 4 5 6

<u>KCACR Canterbury District Call Change Competition 2022</u>	
<u>Entry Form</u>	
Tower	
Team Organiser	Telephone: <hr/>
	E-mail
Team Members	

All entry forms **must** be returned to the District Secretary by Saturday, 5th November, 2022.

KCACR Canterbury District

District Call Change Competition Rules

(Adopted at the ADM in October 1990, amended at the ADM in October 1998, further amended at the ADM in October 2006 and further amended at the ADM in October 2014).

1. Each competing band shall comprise of six persons who ring regularly at a tower in the Canterbury District of the KCACR.
2. No more than three ringers in any entry may have rung a peal.
3. No person may ring for more than one entry.
4. If necessary up to two ringers may be from another tower in the District.
5. The changes may be called by a person other than those who are ringing.
6. Two minutes trial rounds and changes will be allowed before the test piece at the end of which the bells shall be set. A whole pull is to be rung on the treble to indicate to the judges that the band is ready.
7. A set piece of at least 20 changes will be provided in advance and this must be rung by all entries.
8. The competition organiser may halve the length of the test piece stated in rule 7 if
 - a) More than 12 teams have entered the competition
 - b) The competition is unduly delayed.In event that the test piece length is altered due to a delay after the competition has started then the bands that have rung the full length shall only be judged on the first half of their test piece and any marked rounds.
9. There shall be at least four whole pulls between each change and after the final change before stand is called.
10. A band may ring up to ten whole pulls of rounds, which will not be marked, before starting the test piece.
11. Judging will begin at the first change of the test piece or after 10 whole pulls of rounds. All subsequent rows will be marked.
12. Bells failing to stand at the end of the test piece will not incur faults.
13. There shall be two judges whose decision in the case of doubt will be final.



**CANTERBURY DISTRICT
KCACR**

<u>District Practices</u>			
Date		Tower	Focus
Sat 29 Oct 22	7:30-9:00pm	Sheldwich (8)	Surprise Major
Sat 3 Dec 22	9:30-11:00am	Sandwich (6)	Plain Hunt and Plain Bob
Sat 28 Jan 22	7:30-9:00pm	Elham (8)	Surprise Major
Sat 11 Feb 23		Sturry (6)	Plain Minor
Mar-23		Waltham (6)	Basic Doubles
Sat 29 Apr 23	7:00-8:30pm	Boughton under Blean (8)	Surprise Major
Sat 20 May 23	10:00-12:00noon	St Laurence-in-Thamet (10)	10-bell ringing
Jun-23		Herne (8)	Conducting call changes
Sat 15 July 23	7:30-9:00pm	St Stephen's, Canterbury (8)	Surprise Major
Sat 26 Aug 23		Waterloo Tower, Quex Park (12)	Social ringing and barbecue
Sep-23		Teynham (6)	Conducting basic methods
Oct-23		Throwley (8)	Surprise Major
Sat 25 Nov 23		Lyminge (8)	Plain Triples
Jan-24		Selling (8)	Surprise Major
Feb-24		Littlebourne (6)	Doubles Variations
Mar-24		Monkton (6)	Surprise Minor