

# THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

## LEWISHAM DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held via Zoom, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022

17 people attended representing 10 towers

The meeting opened with Debra Say asking if there were any objections to the meeting being recorded to help with taking the minutes. No objections were raised.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dave Gyles (Ash), Maurice Cook (Dartford), Frank Cottey (Ash), Margaret Heald (Erith, St John's), Jim Rooke (Chelsfield).

#### 2. In Memoriam

A minute's silence was held in memory of Donald King and Bridget Robbie, both of Downe.

#### 3. Minutes of Annual District Meeting held at Erith, St Johns on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Posted to the County website and circulated via email to the District e-group.

Rupert Cheeseman advised that Zoe Applegate who was elected in October 2021, was in fact already a member, having been elected previously in October 2020.

Agreed as a correct and accurate record.

Proposed: Natalie Slator Seconded: Liz Morris. Voted unanimously

#### 4. Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere

Nil

#### 5. Election of New Members

New Member	Tower	Proposed By	Seconded By	Competency Assessed By
Samuel Sleath	Downe	Caryn Newell	Jon Fry	Rupert Cheeseman
Andrew Correia	Dartford	Graeme Jefferson	Maurice Cook	Rupert Cheeseman

Andrew Correia was being re-elected after an absence of a few years. Both were elected unanimously and both were also attending the meeting, so were welcomed to the Association with David Holdridge commenting that we hoped to ring with them in person soon.

#### 6. KCACR

**Webpage & Survey** - The County will be organising a survey to find out what members want from the Association but are still finalising the questions. This will be discussed again at the next General Committee meeting and brought back to Districts later in the year.

**Annual General Meeting - Officer Vacancies/Hosting** - A number of County Officers have given notice they will be standing down at the AGM in April so vacancies will exist for Chairman, Treasurer, Training Officer, Central Council Rep, Public Relations Officer, Health & Safety Officer and Librarian. Anyone interested in taking on any of these roles should contact the General Secretary.

With regard to hosting the April AGM, Lewisham District has been asked if we could potentially host a scaled down in-person AGM and the committee have agreed that we would be prepared to do so, once again at St Nicholas Chislehurst, subject to their agreement. There will be no meal provided, no alcoholic drinks for sale and no open towers.

**Festival of Ringing** - This event planned to take place at Benenden in 2021 keeps being postponed and the Spring 2022 date has now been cancelled too. Dates are now being considered in May or June, possibly incorporating the inter-District competitions but we await further details.

**Other** - Ringing recruitment equipment (cameras, TV monitor and other equipment to facilitate watching the bells), are now available on loan from the KCACR. Contact Doug Davis for details.

E-bell loan scheme - the KCACR has purchased ten pairs of e-bells that are available on loan. Please contact the County Chairman for details.

The idea to produce Kent County certificates for the Duke of Edinburgh tolling has been abandoned. Individual Districts or towers are encouraged to produce their own if they wish. We will not be pursuing this as a District but towers may want to produce their own certificate.

Young Change Ringers Association - this is the new National Association and the KCACR have said if any young ringer wants to join, they can apply to have their subscriptions paid by the County. This policy will be reviewed in 18 months. Fees are £15.

The Memorial service held at Rochester Cathedral in November 2021 to remember ringers who had died over the previous two years will now become an annual event. Philippa Rooke mentioned that the timing was not good being the first weekend in November, as many churches already hold a memorial service that weekend which prevents some ringers attending the Rochester event. Natalie Slator was asked to take our concerns back to the General Committee for discussion on 26<sup>th</sup> February.

## 7. Events

**District Practices** - We have managed a few monthly practices recently concentrating on ground floor, relatively Covid safe towers and all have been well attended. The next practice is at Downe on 12<sup>th</sup> February and Diane Reynolds will be organising practices for the rest of the year in the next few weeks ready for inclusion in the new handbook.

**District Competitions** - Our call change competition was postponed in November 21 as is our 6-bell method competition which would usually take place in March 22. We need to reorganise both before the inter-District competition in September so the District Officers will discuss holding these in the summer, possibly June before the main wedding season, but avoiding any ringing events planned for the Platinum Jubilee once we know what that entails.

**County 8-bell/6-bell Competitions** - The 8-bell competition is due to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> June provisionally at Chiddingstone. The test piece is Stedman Triples and we expect to enter a District band. The 6-bell competition is planned for 24<sup>th</sup> September possibly at Saltwood. Rules were changed in February 2021 and can be found in the Handbook.

**Training** - Tom Hinks was unable to be at the meeting but had sent details of planned events. January – new content on the YouTube channel focussing on Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles and trebling to methods, February – another handbell training session at Bromley, date to be confirmed, March – possibly a handling workshop at Beckenham depending how high Covid numbers are then. In his role as Youth Officer, Tom highlighted a successful young ringers practice at Downe on 21<sup>st</sup> December that all enjoyed. Ringing included Call Changes, Plain Hunt and Plain Bob Doubles. A second practice for young ringers is planned for 15<sup>th</sup> February, details to follow, all young ringers welcome.

## 8. 120 Club Draw

Liz and Les Brett made the draw on screen as follows:

	PRIZE	NUMBER	NAME	TOWER
1st	£20	42	Unsold	BRF
2nd	£10	112	Unsold	BRF
3rd	£10	30	Graeme Jefferson	Dartford
4th	£5	75	Unsold	BRF

As is usual, there will be no draw in February so the next and final draw for this year will be at the District Practice in March. All towers are asked to encourage their members to renew or purchase shares for the new year using the application form which can be found on the website and if possible, pay by bank transfer, details again on the website.

## 9. Any Other Business

**Handbooks** - Tower contacts will already have received an email from Debra with information on how to update their tower details for the 2022 Handbooks. Any membership queries should be sent to Rupert. Any births, marriages, anniversaries or obituaries also need to be uploaded either by the tower contact or sent onto Debra to do. Obituaries should be no more than 1500 characters and the deadline for all handbooks updates is 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Personal copies of the 2022 Handbook can now be ordered via the KCACR website with one copy per tower being issued automatically.

**Membership** - Annual subscriptions are due now and most members should have received an email reminder. Renewals need to be done via the KCACR website; any problems please contact Rupert. Cost is £15 for adults up to age 80, £7.50 for 18 or under and free for over 80's. Life members and over 80's still need to log into their membership records and confirm they are still active ringers, even though payment is not required.

**Newsletter** - The Newsletter is being finished now and will be distributed as a paper copy at the February District Practice.

Philippa Rooke mentioned an email had arrived during the meeting to say that Jean Pailing, former ringer at Chislehurst and wife of Jim Pailing, had sadly passed away. It was agreed she would be formally remembered at the next Quarterly Meeting in April.

A general discussion then took place regarding ringing for the Platinum Jubilee. Some towers are going to need help due to a lack of ringers and it was agreed that it might also be a good idea to perhaps aim to ring a quarter peal in every tower during June. This is something the District Committee will take away to discuss further.

**Date of next proposed meeting – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April**