

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS - LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Business Meeting held at St Nicholas, Chislehurst on Saturday 1st April 2023

26 members signed the register of attendance

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Andrew Correia and Lesley Barclay.
2. The news of the **death** of Penny Stenning from West Wickham on 24th February was notified by Judith Fry. Jon Fry described Penny as a stalwart, and paid tribute to her loyal membership of the West Wickham Sunday Service band for over 30 years. A silence was kept in Penny's memory.
3. The **minutes** of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. Three **new members** were proposed, and unanimously accepted by the meeting. They were welcomed to the Association by the Chairman.

		Proposed	Seconded	Assessed
Julie Furlong	Dartford	Maurice Cook	Graham Jefferson	Rupert Cheeseman
Hayley Snipp	Horton Kirby	Lesley Barclay	Zoe Applegate	Debra Say
Anthony Parsons				

5. A comprehensive **County Rep update** was provided by Debra Say:
 - a. An Extraordinary General Meeting and County AGM will be held on Easter Monday, 10th April, at Wrotham. Towers will be open en route before and after the meeting. The EGM is being held to consider changes to the wording of the BRF rules to make them less specific, which may open more opportunities for outside donations. The AGM starts at 2pm. It was noted that the Meeting will be streamed online for those who are unable to attend in person; full details of the day are on the KCACR website.
 - b. A special BellBoard event is being set up for any ringing for the King's Coronation on or around 6th May. Details are on the KCACR website; please link any Coronation ringing to the BellBoard event.
 - c. A County Festival of Ringing is taking place on 17th June 2023 in the Ashford District, probably at Lympne. It will include the inter-District 8-bell striking competition, which this year is 224 changes of St Clement's College Bob Major. A mini-ring and other activities will be there and attendance is being recommended as a "good day out"!
 - d. Details of how to hire, transport and assemble the new Kent Mini Ring will be available shortly from the County Website. Contact Doug Davis if you wish to borrow the ring, or if you're willing to volunteer to join a pool of ringers to assist with assembly.
 - e. The 2023 Choral Evensong and Ringer's Remembrance Service will held at Rochester Cathedral on Sunday 19th November at 3pm.
 - f. The Inter-District 6-Bell Competitions are to be held on 30th September 2023 in the Canterbury District. Following the previous request for discussion, the following actions have been taken:

- i. Method competition Rule 3 has been amended to “The Ringers taking part shall be members of the KCACR and ring regularly at the towers that they represent” (i.e. removing the requirement to ring at a tower for Sunday Service). Otherwise the method competition will be unchanged from previous years. It will be held in the morning of 30th September 2023.
 - ii. Feedback on the proposed County call change competition from the other five Districts was similar to ours – namely that there was little enthusiasm for an elite inter-District Call Change Competition. Where held, individual Districts currently aim for their Call Change Competition to encourage learners to participate, while still promoting good striking. Bands were also not prepared to travel long distances to ring call changes and as such the proposed 2022 competition had been cancelled due to lack of support. A long discussion ensued on future options for a County Call Change Competition, which led to a decision to try again but with an open competition, with Clauses 1-4 suspended and thereby enabling any six members to enter as a band. It’ll be open on a First Come, First Served basis, with a maximum of 10 bands able to enter. It will be held in the afternoon of 30th September 2023.
- 6. The **120 club draw**, the first of the new year, was held. The Administrators were pleased to announce that the 2022-3 Club had resulted in a donation being made to the BRF of £490. Ticket sales for 2023-4 have already exceeded last years, though there are some shares still available.

7. Any Other Business

- a. The meeting was reminded that the District Call Change and Striking competitions are to be held on the afternoon of Saturday 20th May at St Mary Cray. Deadline for entries is 6th May.
- b. The Chairman noted that unfortunately our Secretary’s current work commitments preclude him from attending many District events, and expected that a new volunteer would be required at the elections in October. He asked members to consider if they thought they would be able to take the role on, and to contact him for any more information.
- c. Maralyn Evans informed the meeting that a local Chislehurst charity had donated the cost of refurbishing St Nicholas’ set of handbells, but that the local ringers were required to introduce tune ringing on the handbells to local schools. Maralyn asked for any help that District ringers could give in training the local band in how to ring them. Possible local contacts were suggested by Dickon Love and Lucy Poole.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, Dickon Love invited the Rector of St Nicholas, the Rev Dr Jonathan Bauer, to bless a peal board which has recently been installed in the ringing room in memory of former KCACR member and Chislehurst ringer Mark A S Jones. A dedication course of Cambridge Surprise Major was then rung, which included six members of the original peal bands. The blessing was attended by several members of Mark’s family.