

Canterbury District

Newsletter

Issue 187

July 2023

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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 Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge

Taken from the internet

Chairman's Message

Hi Everyone

Well at last summer has arrived as I write this it's hot and sunny hope this finds you all well!

I just want to say how pleased I am that our meetings have been well attended and especially the two striking competitions 9 and 7 team's – excellent.

I hope that members who are new to coming to our meetings will hopefully come again, so see you at the next meeting in July.

Best wishes

Mike

Secretary's Message

KCACR Membership Database

The county membership secretary recently emailed the districts with a message containing the following statement:-

What has become apparent is that the current membership system is not the easiest to use and is causing everyone a fair amount of pain during the first couple of months each year.

They will therefore be moving over to a new system using a commercially available tool used by Sussex and other organisations.

Existing data will be migrated over to the new system over the next few months so that it is ready to be used from January 1st 2024.

I have been asked not to add any new members to the existing system from July 1st.

If you have any new members ready for election during the next six months, could you please ask them to complete a paper application form, available from the KCACR website, and bring it to the district meeting where they are to be proposed for membership. Please do not complete an online application form as this may cause problems.

Thanks.

Tony

Ringling Master's Reports

District Ringing – April-Jun 2023

We have had a good and varied quarter of District Ringing events, which included 2 of our 10-bell towers being visited.

April – Meeting: (Faversham) Another good turnout of 18 for the afternoon ringing with a few drifting away before the evening ringing. Again it was good to see several new faces. Ringing on 10 did present a challenge but everybody worked hard to improve. We also rang a variety of methods at other stages.

(Rounds+CC * 5, Plain Hunt 9 & 10 * 2, Plain Bob 5 * 1 touch, Reverse Canterbury * 1*2-courses, Plain Bob 6 * 1 + 1 touch, Grandsire 7 * 1, Stedman 7 * 1, Grandsire 9 * 1.

Rounds * 3, Plain Hunt 5 * 1, Plain Hunt 9 * 1, Reverse Canterbury * 1, Plain Bob 5 * 1 touch, Stedman 5 * 1, Little Bob 6 * 1, Plain Bob 7 * 1, Grandsire 7 * 1, Cambridge S 6 * 2.)

April – S Major Practice: (Boughton-under-Blean) Other events and commitments kept several regulars away but we had a good group of 12 allowing us to practice Cambridge and Yorkshire including getting to grips with the calls in some bob-courses. A course of Bristol was a bit more challenging – but the band persevered and got it round. We also did a check-out of the upcoming County 8-bell competition test piece – a touch of St Clements College Bob. Good progress all round and something we can consolidate and build on at the next practice.

(Cambridge S * 2 bob-courses, Yorkshire S * 1 +1*0.5 + 1 bob-course, Bristol S * 1, [also St Clements CB – 8-bell competition piece])

May – Striking Competition: (Chislet) - *this is reported separately.*

May – 10-bell Practice: (St Laurence in Thanet) There were 17 of us for this 10-bell practice with the ringing keeping to Plain Hunt and Plain Bob on 9. We started with a couple of sessions of Rounds on 10 to get people warmed up and settled on the bells, before moving on to Plain Hunt on 9. We used multiple courses with some rounds in between to allow people to settle back down and take on board some advice before starting the next course. After getting everyone through the Plain Hunt we had our first outing of Plain Bob Caters. We continued with more Plain Hunt and Plain Bob. Ringing on 10 provided plenty of challenge but there was noticeable improvement as we went along, and hopefully the experience gained will help out at the St Laurence 10-bell practices.

(Rounds 10 * 2, Plain Hunt 9 * 6, Plain Bob 9 * 3)

June – Meeting: (Great Mongeham) After a bit of a quiet start numbers built up to 14 and in addition to the Rounds and Call Changes the afternoon ringing was entirely comprised of touches of various methods on 5 & 6. After the meeting the evening ringing continued with a mixture of touches and plain courses of different methods.

(Rounds+CC * 3, 120 Grandsire 5 * 1, 120 Rev Canterbury 5 * 1, 120 Stedman 5 * 2, 144 Plain Bob 6 * 1, 120 St Clements 6 * 1, 192 Cambridge S 6 * 1.

Plain Bob 5 * 1*3-courses, 120 Grandsire 5 * 1, 120 Rev Canterbury * 1, St Clements 6 * 1*2-courses, 100 Plain + Little Bob spliced * 1, Cambridge S 6 * 1)

June – County 8-bell Striking Competition: - *this is reported separately.*

June – Conducting Call Changes Practice: (Herne) We had a good turnout of 11 with 4 people wishing to get to grips with calling call changes. We started with a series of people calling changes on 6 from outside the circle – allowing them to concentrate on the calling aspects without worrying about ringing as well. Queens was the common theme, being not too many calls to make, but we also had Kings (Whittingtons) making an appearance. This was followed by a further series with the caller ringing as well – again often Queens, but Tittums making an appearance. To finish a couple of the more experienced callers had a go on 8 (Queens and Tittums).

Thank you again to all those who have continued to support District Ringing. It is good to see some new faces as we move around the District and we hope that you are tempted to come along to more meetings. As always do feel free to give feedback and suggestions to the District Ringing Masters, or just generally chat about ringing matters of interest to you.

Stuart Palin / Ben Legg, Canterbury District Ringing Masters
email: CanterburyRingingMaster@kcacr.org.uk

District Ringing – Looking Forward (July-October 2023)

For the summer months we start with the July Quarterly Meeting at Lyminge and a Surprise Major Practice at St Stephen's, Canterbury.

August has the District Outing organized by Claire (see elsewhere in this Newsletter) – however there isn't a District Practice event.

In September we have a Bye-Meeting at Wickhambreaux and a Raising & Lowering in Peal Practice at Quex Park; then we are looking at the October District ADM at St Dunstan's Canterbury with a Surprise Major Practice at Throwley.

With people going away on holidays it can be a tricky time for District events so we do hope that people will make an extra effort to support them if they are able to.

A summary of the forthcoming and future District Practices is below, and the District Meetings/Competitions can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

Stuart Palin / Ben Legg, Canterbury District Ringing Masters
email: CanterburyRingingMaster@kcacr.org.uk

<u>Forthcoming District Practices</u>		
Date	Tower	Focus
15 th July 2023 7:30-9:00pm	St Stephen's, Canterbury (8)	Surprise Major
26 th August 2023	-	-
TBC September 2023 TBC	Waterloo Tower, Quex Park (12) <i>(using a light 6)</i>	Raising and Lowering in Peal
TBC October 2023 TBC	Throwley (8)	Surprise Major

<u>Future District Practices</u> (tentative information)		
Date	Tower	Focus
25 th November 2023 TBC	Lyminge (8)	Plain Triples
TBC January 2024 TBC	Selling (8)	Surprise Major
TBC February 2024 TBC	Littlebourne (6)	Doubles Variations
23 rd March 2024 TBC	Monkton (6)	Surprise Minor

District News

The Canalerbury Tales

An overly-poetic account of a bell ringing outing.



THE PILGRIMS

Andy Brett	The KNIGHT
Paul Davis	The PARSON
Len Huckstep	The SHIPMAN
Jane Huxley	The MANCIPLE
Michael Keeler-Walker	The FRIAR
Malcolm Smith	The MONK
Sarah Smith	The CLERK
Claire Stay	The REEVE



THE BELLS

Place	Church	Bells
Flore	All Saints	6, 12–2–27 in F#
Cropredy	S Mary V.	8, 16–1–16 in F
Somerton	S James Ap.	8, 11–3–23 in F
Southam	S James	8, 15–1–25 in E

GENERAL PROLOGUE

When in May the skies overcast
 Shines one moment, the next rains fast),
 When flowers in full bloom delight
 And skylarks dance in their song-flight:
 Eight companions, ringers all,
 To Napton with effects did haul.
 Thence Oxford canal by ship wend,
 With bells on route they did contend.

Though none were on their first expedition,
 Before now there'd not this composition.
 A quest for leisure and revelry, shared the band,
 As was the district Canterb'ry, their homeland.

Allow me, while I've time and space
 Before these Tales commence apace,
 Of these pilgrims I should say,
 Their condition and quality:



*Numbers denote where a tale concludes.
 Churches are coloured in the order rung.*

With the Shipman I shall begin,
Captain of the bells 'dustbin'.
Leader of the canal troupe too,
For of boats, all things he knew.
His skill in reckoning the tides,
Currents and other risks besides,
Moons, harbours, pilots, he'd such dispatch
That none from Shetland to Scilly did match.

The skipper's rule of St Dunstan
Was assisted by a noble man:
A Knight, in fact, though long retired,
His prowess with steeds was much admired:
Travelling across the country of Kent
Guiding others, these kept content.
All his life to any, come what might,
He was a perfect gentle-knight.

The pilgrims' journey was well thought out,
Its triumph owed without a doubt,
(Shipman aside) to the Manciple,
A lady of faculties for-mid-able.
The bell captain of the church St Stephen,
She put all in order, and more even,
When procuring victuals was never rash,
Whether bought on credit or paid in cash.

St Stephen's ringing was aided by
The Parson, a towering guy.
In his diet he observed some measure:
No super-fluities for pleasure,
Only digestives, hobnobs and such.
All else offered, he declined to touch.
Jokes he told for others to laugh at,
Though said often, most did fall flat.



*Left to Right at St James Ap., Somerton:
Manciple, Parson, Shipman and Knight*



The good ship Aurora, moored at Somerton.

A Monk there was, the finest sort:
With bells and sails he had comport.
Demure, reserved, and indeed
Said no word more than was need:
'Cept when a drink or eight he'd down.
He knew the pubs in every town
And London ale could tell by flavour:
After, his tongue would be braver.

A charming Clerk was at his side,
Where his mouth shut, hers was wide:
With others she liked to laugh and chat,
To entertain was her habitat.
Highly beloved and intimate was she
With ringing folk within her bound'ry.
Further, her skills were critical,
For the church metro-political.

There was a Friar amongst the crew,
Captain of St Andrew, Wickhambreaux.
Bold in his speech, yet full of tact,
'Twas no manly attribute he lacked.
His house was never short of pies,
Of bacon, fish, in mass supplies,
Though none surpassed the utmost rage,
For his ardent love of a saus-age.

Last (though by no means least), there was,
A Reeve; a woman of great recourse.
She could judge merely by drought and rain
The yield to expect from seed and grain.
'Twixt one field and next she'd not desist:
A most devout horticultur-list.
With bells she too paid diligence,
Leading to ringing par excellence.

Now I've told you shortly, in a clause,
The rank, array, and the cause
Of these companions, eight in all,
I shall now commence to recall
The details of their great journ-ay.
Each pilgrim will have their day,
With which to de-light and regale,
Their own Canaler-bur-y Tale.



1. THE REEVE'S TALE

The Reeve was loathe to leave her abode:
Over family, she held full dominion.
Comfort and bliss, to her they owed:
The household obeyed her opinion.
Instructions to tend the land she gave
To her husband (faithful but carefree),
The Reeve then conveyed by this knave
To the meeting point next to Aldi.

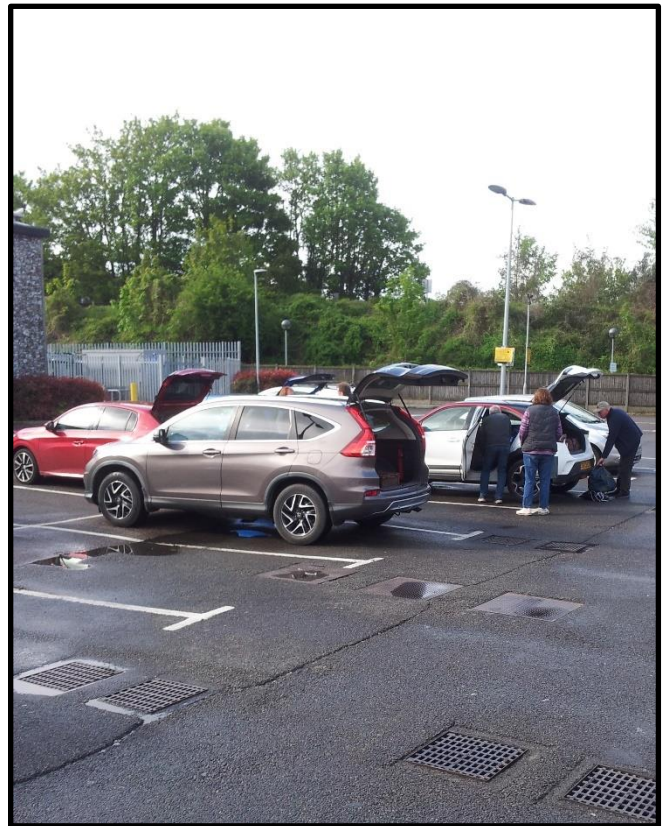


Three already at northern latitude,
The other five, a task set upon:
Luggage, food, suitcases, even more food
Had to be shared between each wagon.
Transport was given to Reeve and Parson;
Helpful Manciple the supplier.
With a crack of the whip all three were gone,
From darkest Kent to Warwickshire.

Long was the trip, fair the weather,
Early rest stop they did resort.
Finally they arrived, eight together
Although not at Napton port:
En route to the sprawling harbour
(Junction 16 on the M1)
The eight, at the village of Flore,
Did divert for bell-ring-ing fun.

All Saints' bells they sounded sweet
And more importantly rang well,
Though trouble the Reeve almost did meet
When took hold of the treble:
Though Doubles the method, no heed,
The Reeve near hunted to sixth place!
This mishap was 'minor' indeed:
Remaining rung with perfect grace.

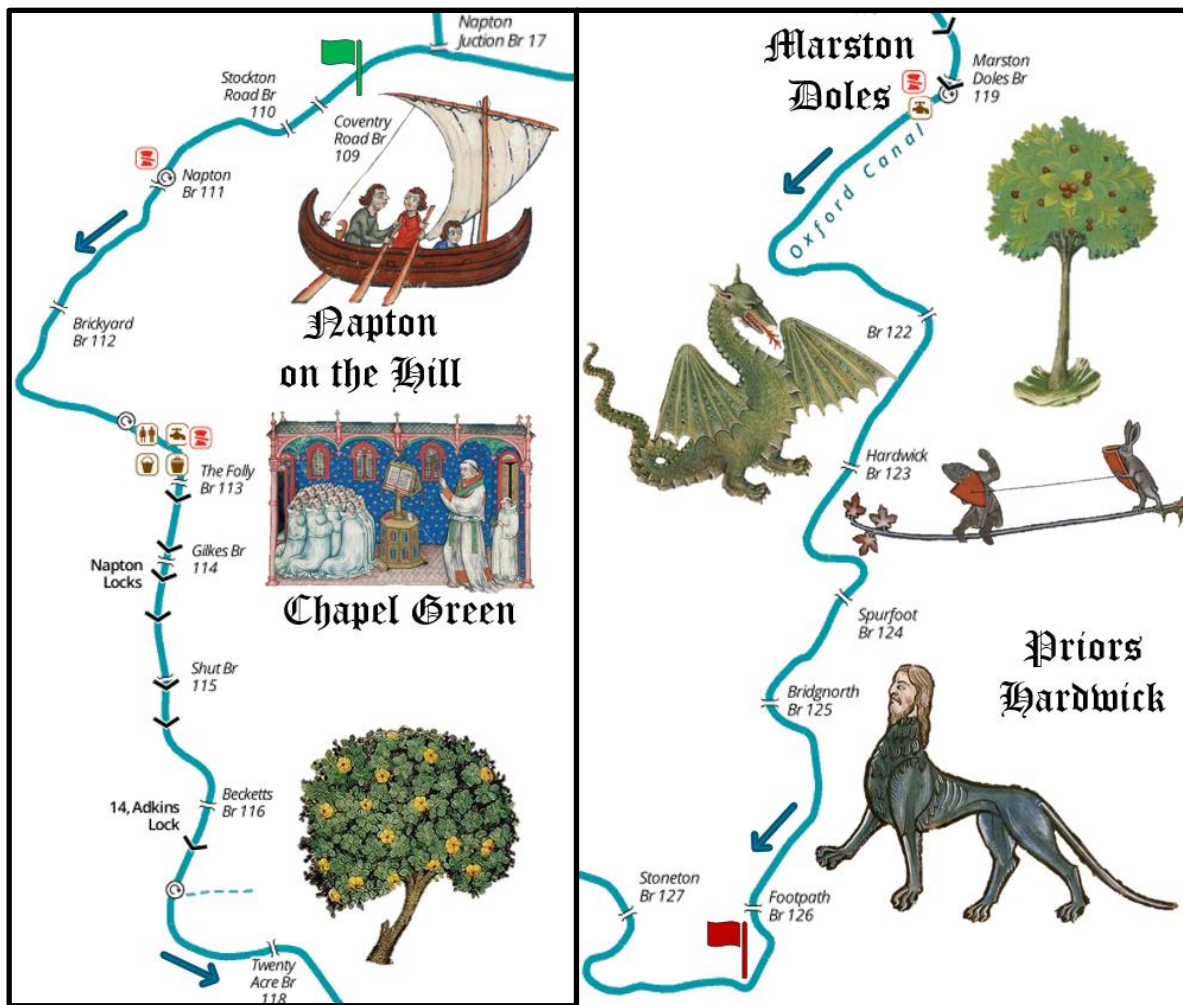
The pilgrims, their steeds climbed upon
Then for twelve miles they trotted,
To the grand sea-port at Napton,
Where they met the ship allotted.
The harbour had ships in plethora,
Carracks, hulks, knars and more.
Amongst them the cog Aurora,
At first sight the Reeve did adore.



Trying to fit everything in.



The pilgrims at All Saints, Flore



Friday's journey. Monsters are not depicted to scale.

The ship set sail – Shipman at helm
 While the passengers adjourned –
 The Reeve away from her hectic realm,
 A rest she enjoyed, well-earned.
 Marston Doles was the destination,
 The village four short miles away,
 Yet betwixt there and the dock at Napton
 Upon water nine locks did lay.
 Resolute, bold and dauntless,
 The crew stepped up to the task:
 Their teamwork, care and prowess
 Saw the ship make pace, quick as ask.

(A little later on the trip,
 For World Naked Gardening Day,
 Off her clothes the Reeve did strip,
 Parson behind, looking away.
 Further still, for fun assisted,
 She asked all else to plant ten seed:
 Set beside each, their name listed,
 The plants' progress noted by Reeve.)



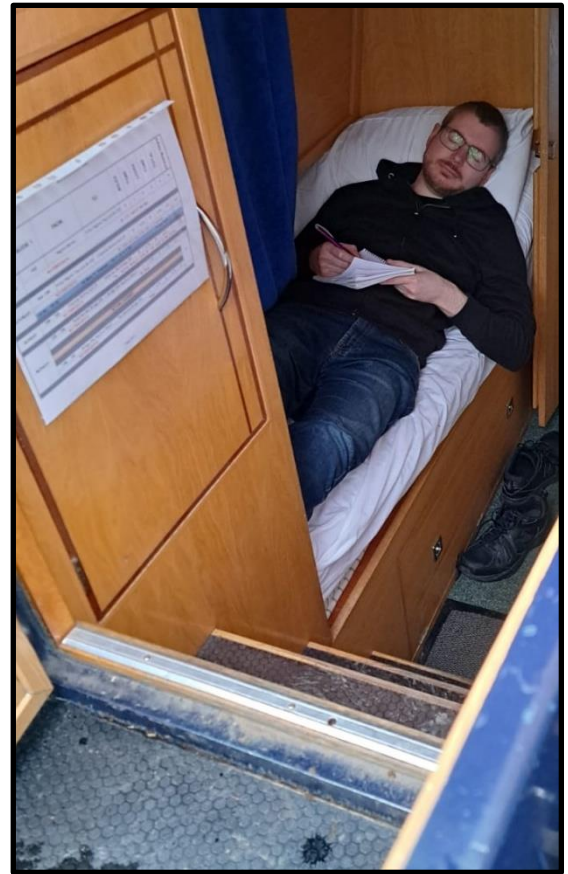
The Monk planting his seeds.

Goal met and more, the crew rest-ed
 From their afternoon of labour,
 A meal of scotch eggs and fresh sal-ed
 Reward for their endeavour.
 One of the meals was unlike the rest,
 For the Reeve had ovo-phobi-a,
 So inside her pork, bread-crumbed nest
 Was a large ball of mozzarella.

One by one, to rest, they all head
 (The Clerk, awake, she could not keep)
 After adjusting to her bed
 The Reeve soon fell to a sound sleep.

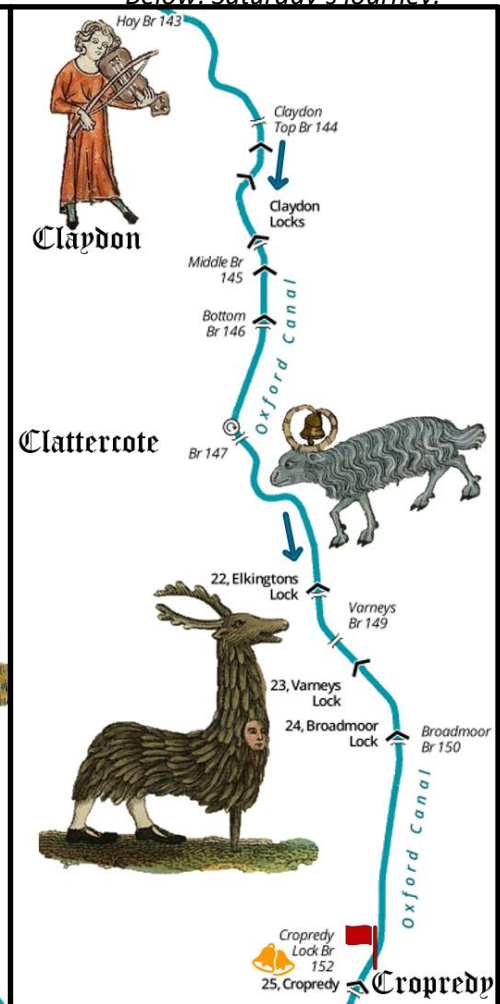
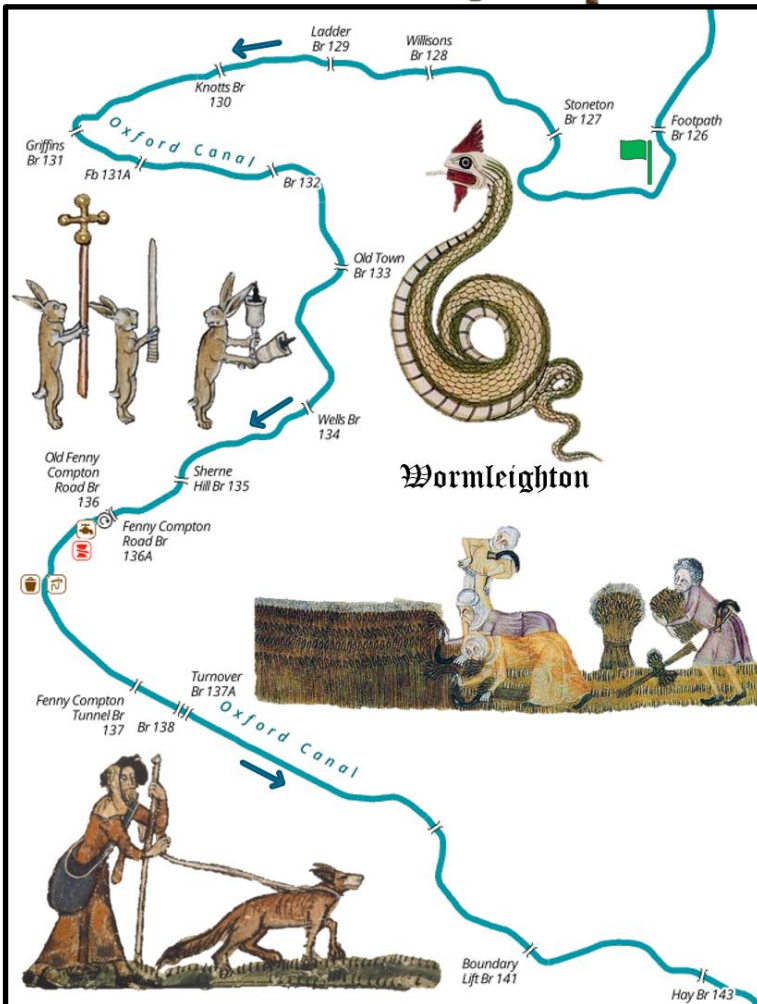
2. THE PARSON'S TALE

From restless dream the Parson woke:
 So short a bed did not fit folk
 As tall as he. To have such fate
 This fair morn was, unfortunate:
 T'was today a coronation,
 So to mark in celebration
 The crew agreed on the deal
 To ring a special Quarter Peal.



Above: The parson working hard.

Below: Saturday's journey.



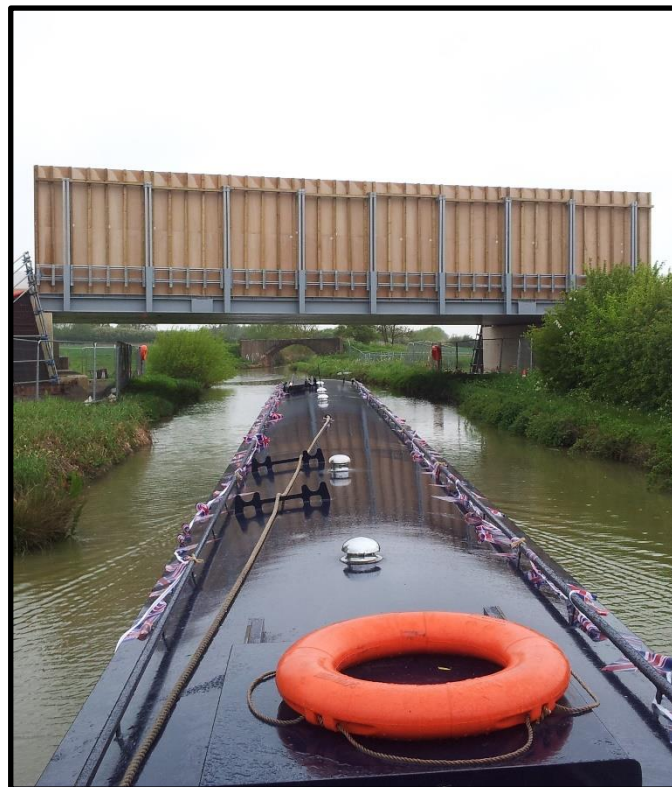
Grandsire Trip's was the me-thod
To con-duct the Par-son was prod,
Despite his fears of mis-step
Even after successful prep:
(Two tests he'd rung without error)
The Parson remained in terror
That his mind would suffer lulls
And so miss a bob, or singles.

Such thoughts were all the more
A most unnecessary chore:
The ship first had to reach the quay
At the vill-age of Cropredy.
Eight great locks and thirteen miles
Was the Day of Saturn's trials.
There was no rush to make their headway,
Time aplenty, like yesterday.

Eager to watch coronation
Switched on was ship's television.
Alas its reception was dire,
Unless the ariel fixed higher.
Instead it was lowered a smidge
So 'twas not hit by passing bridge.
After at failed TV they moan,
Many resorted to their phone.

Sailing south through the drizzling rain,
Crew inside, intent on card game,
Clerk at the tiller, relaxed,
Crew sporadically taxed
To open lock or avoid boat.
More often they would simply float
Onwards, refreshed with cake and tea
Until reached at last: Cropredy.

Moored up, the crew did fortify
Bellies with beef and onion pie.
Further, Shipman bought Gypsy Tart
Soon by them all, ta-ken apart.
The pilgrims, anew strengthened
By tea and a-bove mentioned,
Out of the ship and then walked in
The church of Mary, the Virgin.



Above: New and old bridges.

Below: The Friar watching the coronation.



Despite Parson's trepidation
 Quarter ended with elation.
 Though a ground floor ring and heavy,
 The bells so well hung, no levy
 Did they toll. For full disclosure
 A restart was needed, what's more:
 Near to the end, someone sinned,
 By emitting stinking bum-wind.

Exhausted, listless and weary
 The Parson was – even so – cheery,
 For having gone those extra miles
 To celebrate the new King Charles.
 That said, he sought never a-gain
 To witness a new British reign.
 After repast, to bed all went,
 Satisfied at their achievement.



3. THE MONK'S TALE

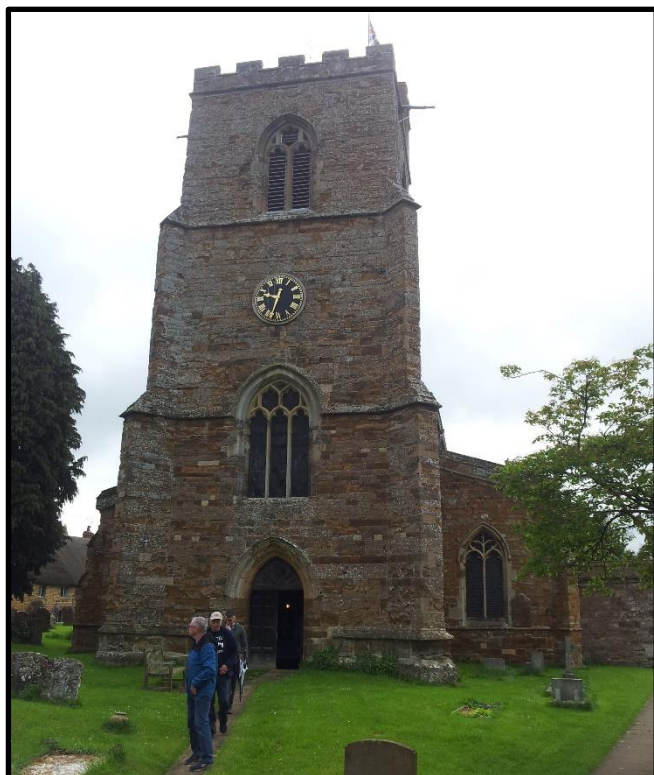
A crew were up far too early,
 Off the ship and onto dry land:
 Persuaded back to St Mary
 Supporting Sunday service band.
 When locals asked for help to raise
 Bells in peal (sixteen hundred weight)
 Monk to tenor, as knew his place:
 When asked to stand was rather late.
 Aside from this slight error, his,
 The Monk rang with perfect aplomb:
 Grandsire Trips after Called Changes
 Ticked truly merrily along.

The Day of Sun was well named:
 Dark clouds they had all expire.
 While some more water was attained,
 Spotted café, did the Friar.
 Monk, told to get bacon butty,
 Leapt to task: for knew he in life
 To be content and worry free
 One must obey and serve thine wife.



Above: The victorious QP band.

(Crowns not worn during the quarter)



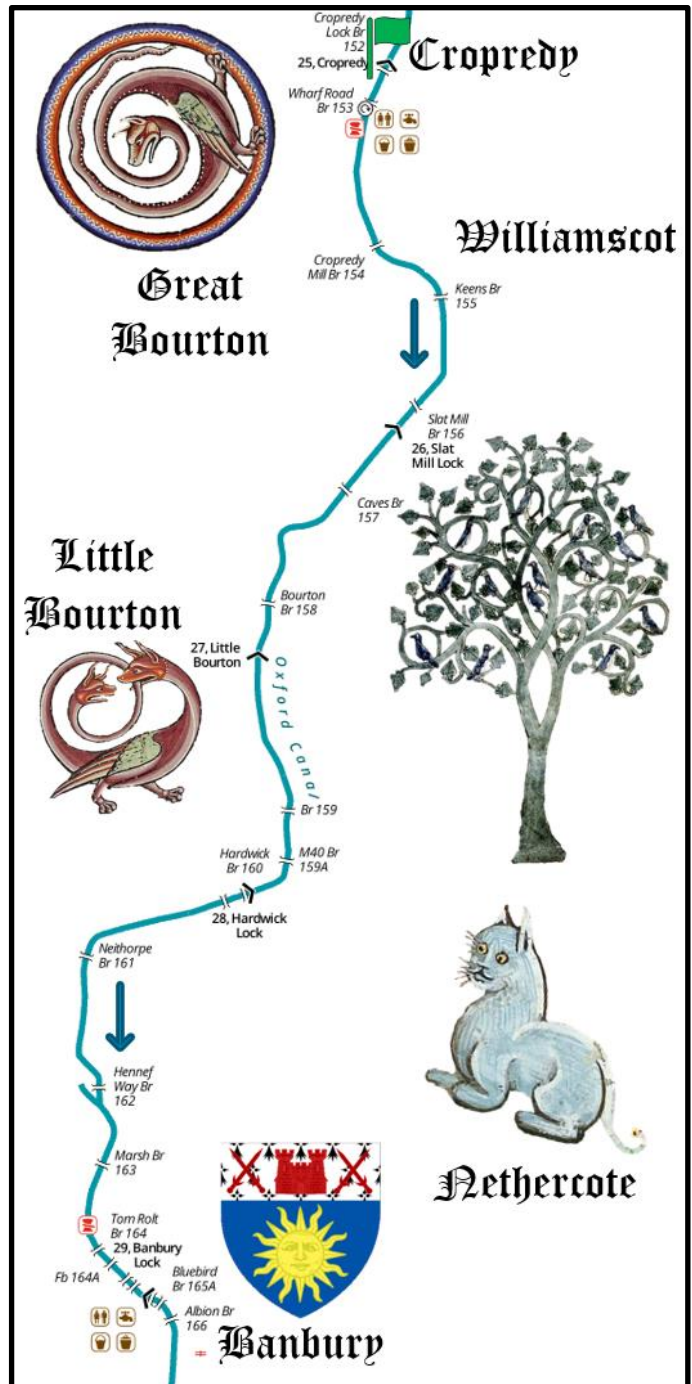
Onwards travel, fast the ship's flight:
 Stationed near tiller, the Monk would look
 Ahead for locks, where he'd alight.
 Otherwise, he would read a book.
 Somerton found, a place secure
 To halt Aurora, was hunted.
 The closest had a boat next door
 So further the Clerk demanded.

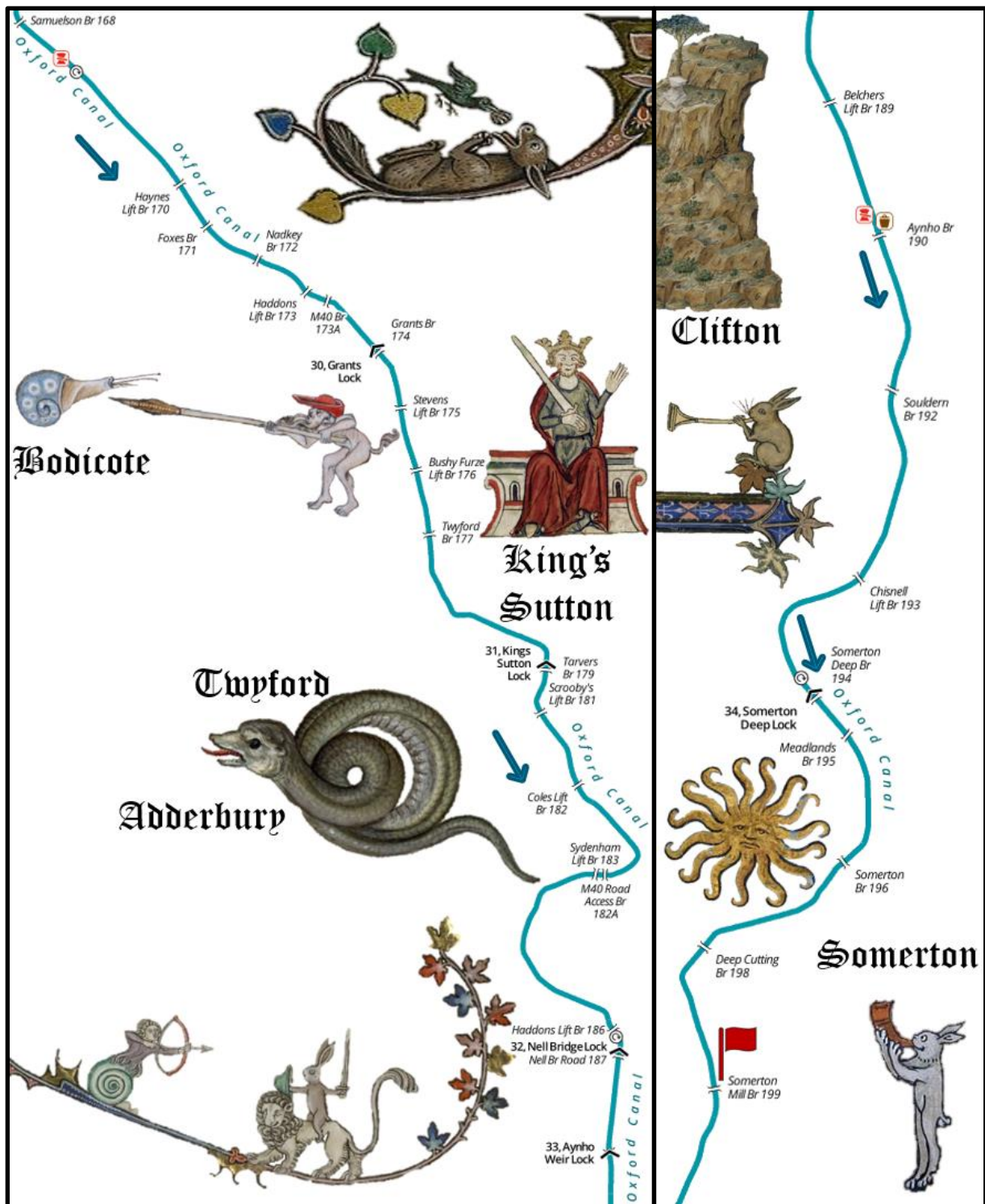
Faulty oven threatened supper:
 Who'd eat cold sausage casserole?
 Turned Manciple to slow cooker
 For aid, which more than met the goal.
 If room they had after the above,
 There was no cause to grumble,
 As following that was a desert of
 Rhubarb and ginger crumble.

After this delicious feast,
 The crew played games together:
 Bingo, the Monk, he much liked least
 But at 'Two and Eight' did better.
 Myriad joy the day had borne,
 Some toil, heaps of food and tea.
 Knowing more was on the morn,
 To bed, the Monk went happy.

Right: Start of Sunday's journey.

Below: The view from the tiller.





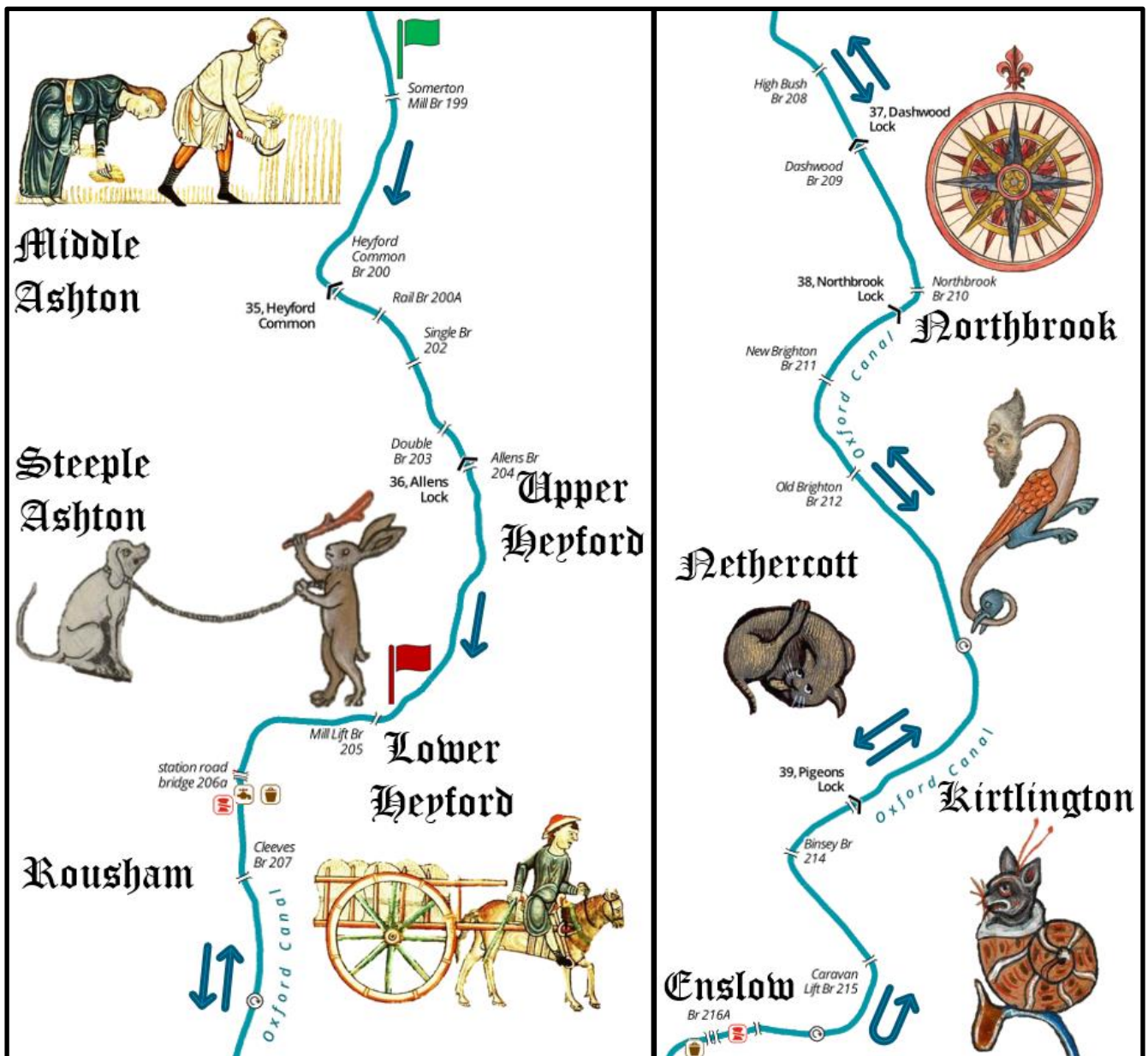
Sunday's journey, continued.

4. THE CLERK'S TALE

The Clerk rose on the Day of Moon
 Overjoyed that the time was soon,
 To celebrate his majesty
 With special afternoon cream tea.
 Withal work must complete before
 She could enjoy the meal in store:
 That day there was fur-ther to roam,
 To turn around and then head home.



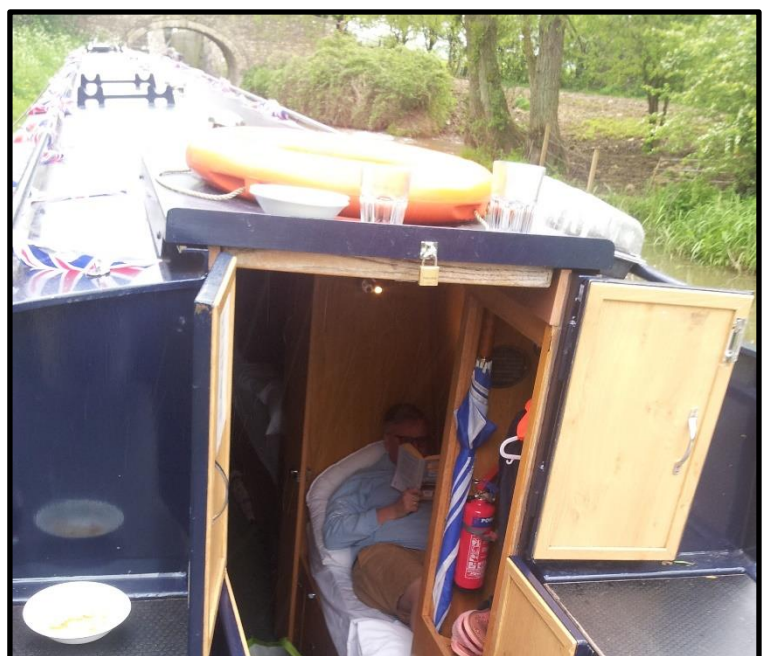
One of many lift bridges.



Monday's journey.

Shipman had attempted accord
 With the church of Lower Heyford,
 But much to their greatest dismay,
 The bell captain had passed away.
 With no one to let them make din,
 Instead the pilgrims had a lie in.
 Cooked breakfast made, the Friar
 (assisted by Knight) was the frier.

Thankfully time they could afford:
 When drawing water at Heyford
 So little was the pipe's pressure,
 No choice they but to take leisure.
 All back on board, the ship sped on,
 By Chronos time relentless drawn.
 The half-way mark, five miles to go,
 Was near the village of Enslow.



The Friar reading a volume of forgotten lore.


First winding point was far too short
 (Further sailing they needs resort),
 Second, the ship barely rated.
 Turning round, Clerk delegated:
 Parson at wheel, Monk pulling through muck,
 Aurora circled, almost stuck.
 No fear, the Clerk, but abject glee
 For now was the time for cream tea.

A feast of fancy was dined upon:
 Clotted cream, jam and homemade scon'.
 Artfully placed upon tiered plates
 Were mixed sandwiches and rock cakes.
 Battenburg and other gourmet
 Food was drunk with stand-in bubbly.
 The fulfilment, pleas-sure and joy
 Was more than had at the Savoy.

Worn out from eating tasty treat
 With piles of food still left to eat,
 The pilgrims turned to a game
 Friar tried his best to explain.
 After time his mind did rally –
 New Market confused with Alley –
 Clerk took lead, latter game begun
 Until the end, when Friar won.



5. THE FRIAR'S TALE

leep came slowly for the Friar,
 Restless in bed 'til gone midnight.
 Consolation for this quagmire
 Was that the Parson shared his plight.
 When get out bed he was made
 The Friar prepared for the day,
 Some tea with toast and marmalade
 Just the thing to get underway.

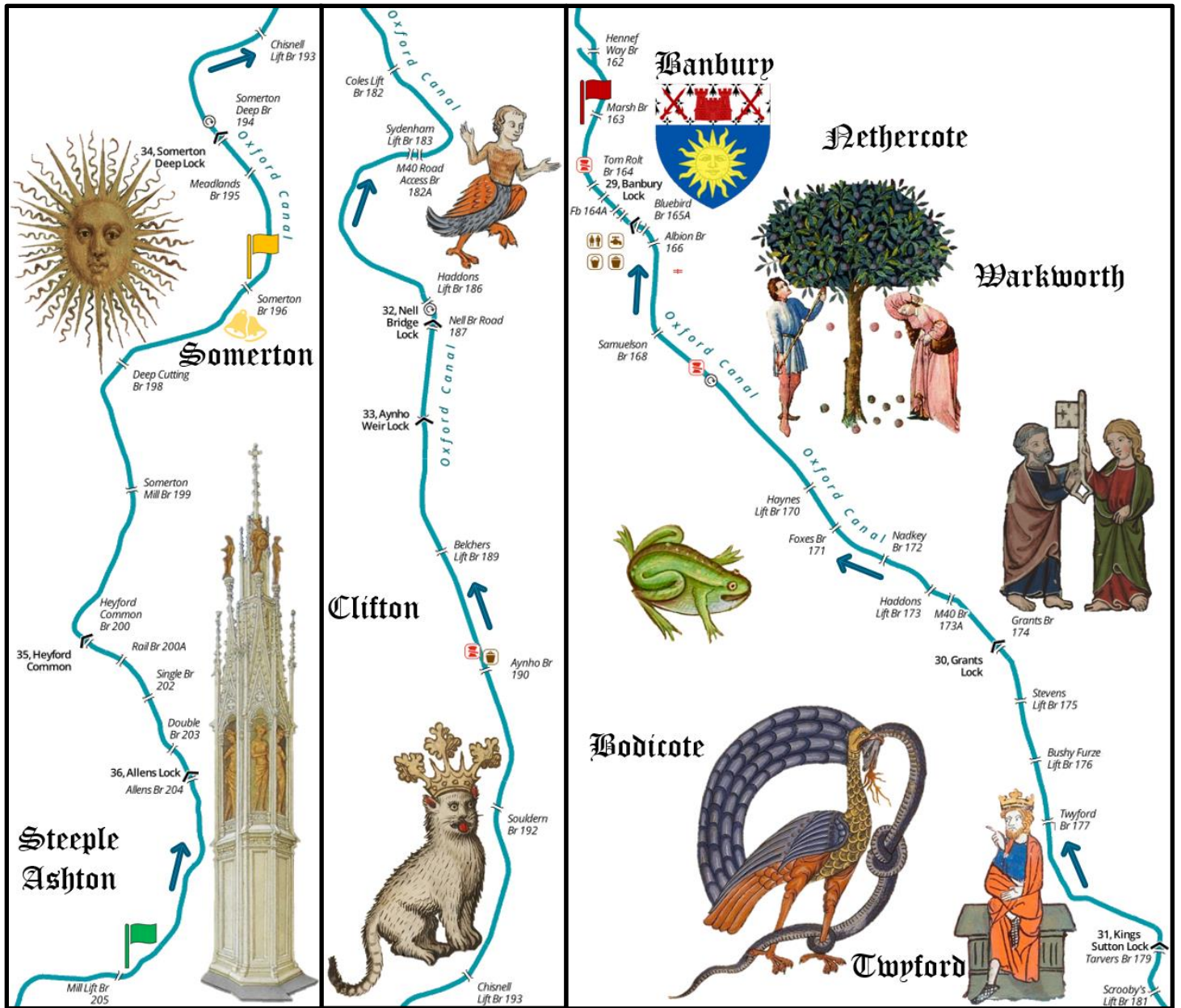
Grants Lock was the target arbit'ry
 For the ship to reach that evening,
 Twixt King's Sutton and Banbury.
 Before that there was more ringing:
 The church, Saint James the Apostle;
 The village, that of Somerton.
 Onto dry land themselves all haul,
 Reaching church on the hour of one.



Above: The pilgrims' afternoon tea.

Below: The Clerk enjoying tiller work.





Above: Tuesday's journey.

Below: Outside St James Ap, Somerton

Let inside by local learner,
 Haphazardly bells raised in peal,
 Changes called to get their measure
 Weight and sound enjoyed a great deal.
 Grandsire strangely went quite awry
 With Plain Bob Trips the crew saved face.
 Downwards changes Friar did try:
 Despite effort, he lost his place.

Ringin' done (more I'll not detail),
 All companions returned to ship.
 Northwards bound, Aurora set sail,
 The scattered locks passed at good clip.
 While sailing, Friar read a book
 (Charles Dicken's *Great Expectation*)
 But at ev'ry locale he'd look
 For news' latest publication.



Banb'ry reached for water, the crew,
 Nearby moored up for the day.
 His companions did Friar eschew,
 Wand'ring about just as he may.
 Back on board with a broadsheet,
 Royal photos were scrutinised:
 Comparing their achieved feat,
 Morals, stature, misdeeds and size.

A meal of pasta bolognese,
 Followed by biscuits and cheese,
 Put them almost into a daze,
 As all ate more than they please.
 As usual a game was played after feast,
 But Friar had paper to fin
 So such pursuit was not his choice. At least
 This time, canal, he'd not gone in.



Above: Pasta bolognese (and alcohol).

6. THE KNIGHT'S TALE

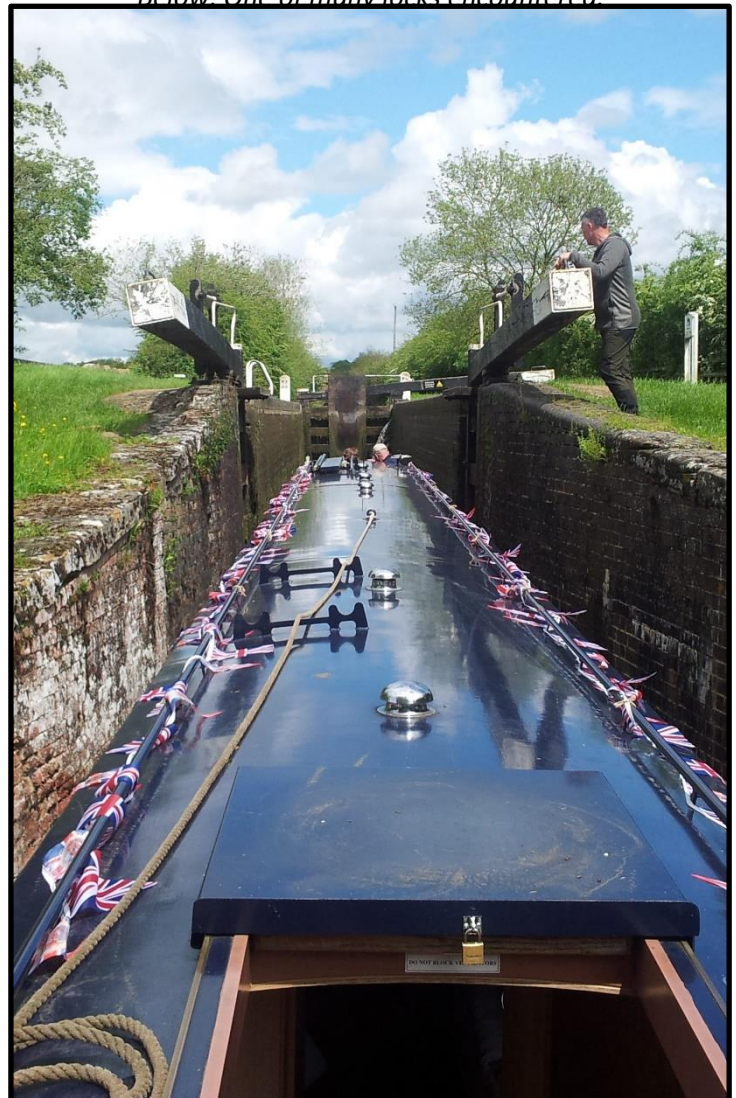
Let it not be said the Knight
 Could not persevere through plight:
 For he had agreed to the plan
 To share a bed with the Ship-man.
 This necessary arrangement,
 Was not normally unpleasant
 But 3am, Sunday, asleep in bed,
 By mistake the Shipman sat on his head!
 Knight was therefore fast to make way
 Up from his bunk this Odin's Day.

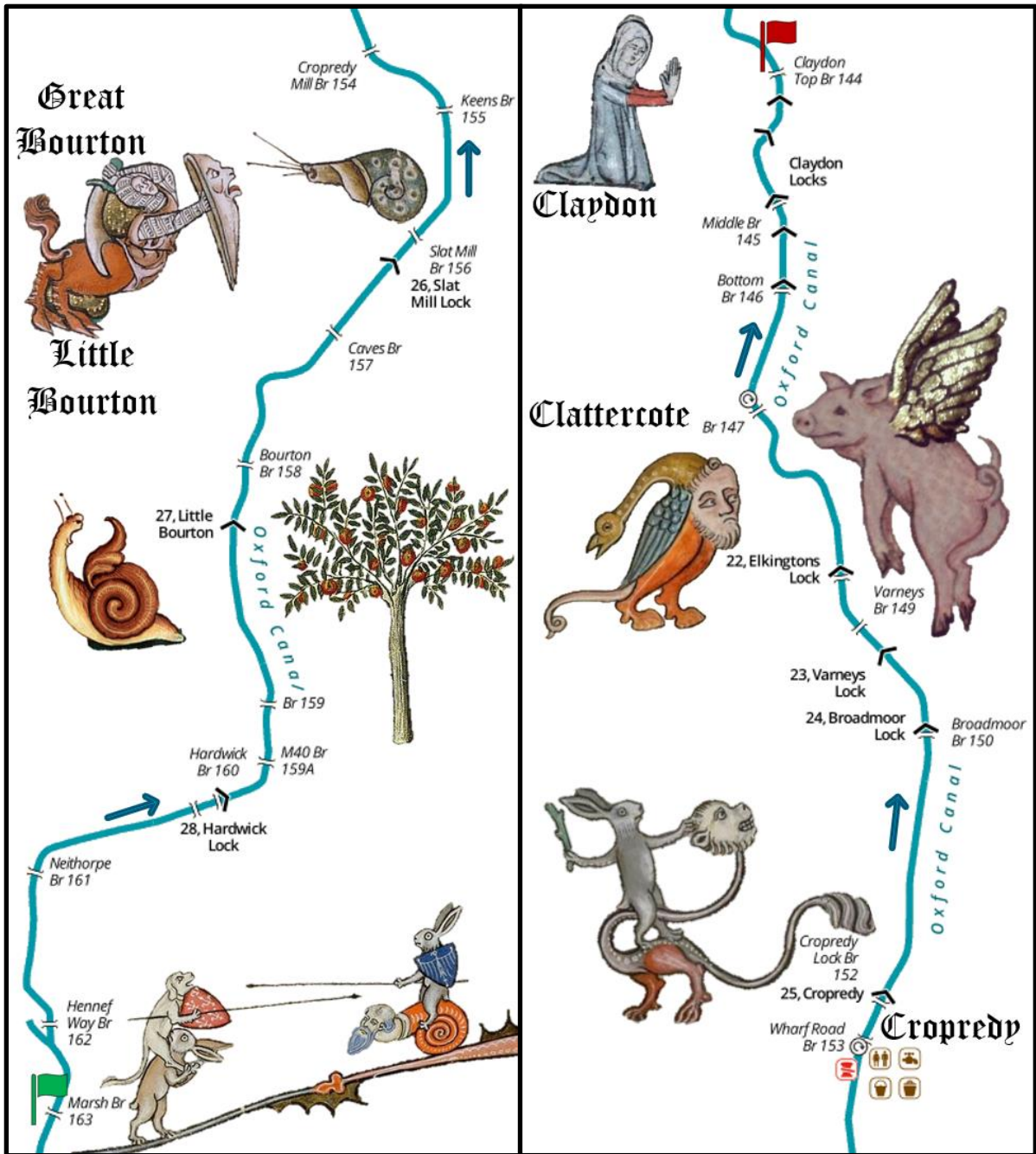


Having got ahead of schedule
 In Banb'ry 'twas time to 'refuel':
 Of into town the Clerk did pop,
 Dragging Monk though charity shop,
 Sadly nothing did she espy.
 Meanwhile aid found for Shipman's eye.
 Knight stayed onboard and called his wife:
 Assured her he'd avoided strife.

The new mission was to sail on
 From Banbury, north to Claydon
 The Knight learnt way back not to steer,
 A horseman, he, no gondolier.
 Instead, he moved gears with windlass
 So that, through locks, the ship could pass.

Below: One of many locks encountered





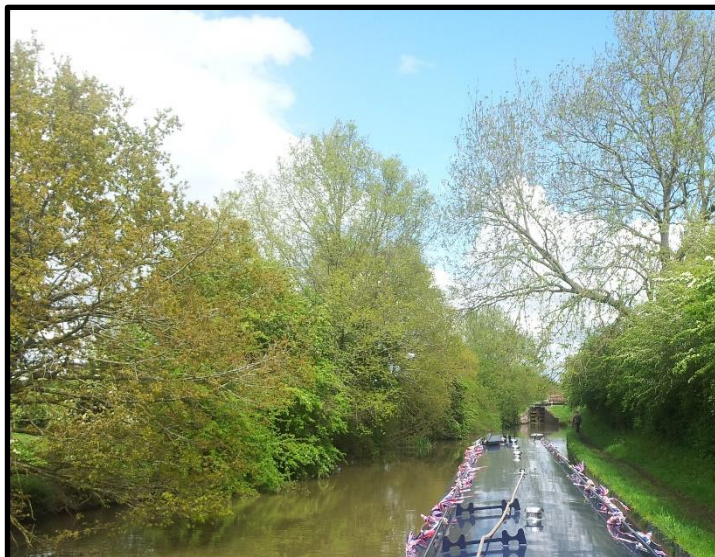
Greatly, it pains me to relay
 But on this same trip, the first day,
 When the ship had run aground
 Fast to help the Knight did bound.
 (Aurora's sails were not enough
 To free it from mud and stuff).
 Trying to help voyage sustain
 The ship's pole was broke in twain!

Make no mistake, Knight had his use:
 After many years of abuse
 Ship's oven refused to stay lit,
 Regardless of what crew did to it.
 Finally a solution found,
 Though needs someone to hang around.
 Poor Knight thusly given the job:
 To keep a hand upon 'his knob'.

Above: Wednesday's journey.

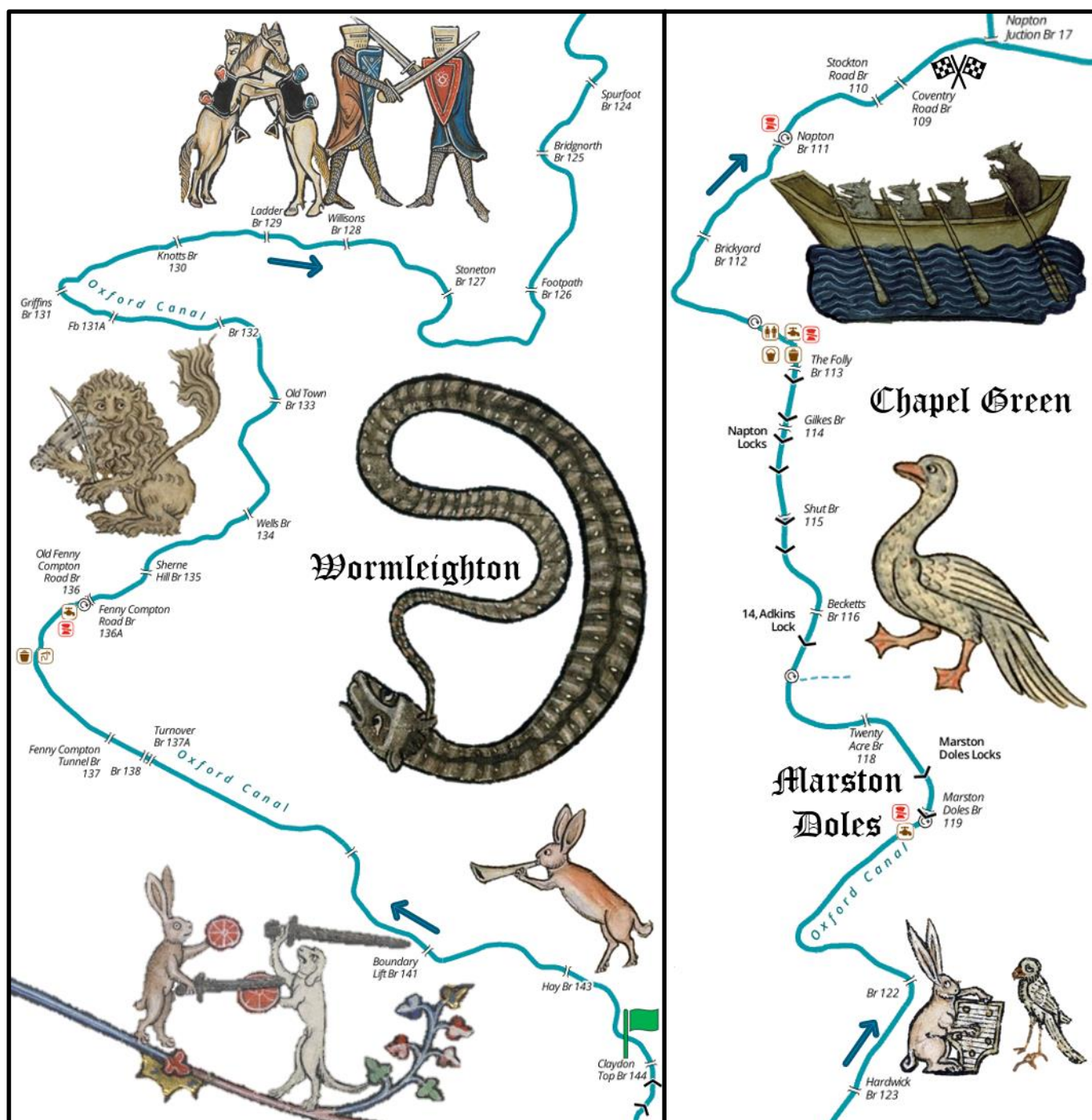


On reaching their planned mooring
 The Knight (worn out from lock sorting),
 Enjoyed Rummy Cub a great deal
 Before the crew sat down for meal.
 Into their stomachs they did cram,
 New potatoes, eggs, peas and ham.
 After this followed cake (coffee)
 Then another game of Alley.
 Cards were sat down and lights turned out,
 So all could watch bats dart about.
 Play resumed, his luck struck with blight,
 Enough had: good Knight said goodnight.



Below: Thursday's journey.

Above: A stretch of flora-laden canal.



7. THE SHIPMAN'S TALE



he Shipman woke on the Day of Thor,
Bones weary from past escapades,
His mind filled with thoughts of yore,

Of successful and failed voyages.

Not least was recent memory,

On Sunday got into bother:

Tried climbing out of boat when he

Failed to get his leg up over.

A perfect picture his face became

When Shipman realised his plight.

The mix of shock, surprise and pain,

For the others, made quite a sight!



As if above was not enough

On Monday Shipman, in his bunk,

Woke up partic-u-larly rough:

His eye had filled up with gunk.

Worsening conjunctivitis

Did Reeve's concern and care get her

Tending malady so that his

Eyes, by weeks end were much better.

Thursday's intent was of plain sailing,

To reach home port at certain time,

Without tarry, delay or dawdling,

The best to fend fruminous fine.

Further grounds to seek an end soon,

Were though the loos worked well indeed,

They caused all the crew now to swoon

As into tanks the toilets emptied:

Full they'd become of corruption,

The boat full reeked of 'undergrub'.

I say truly of this disruption:

'Twas the arse of Beelzebub.

With speed the Aurora departed,

At the Shipman's stern command.

The crew (upwind) downhearted

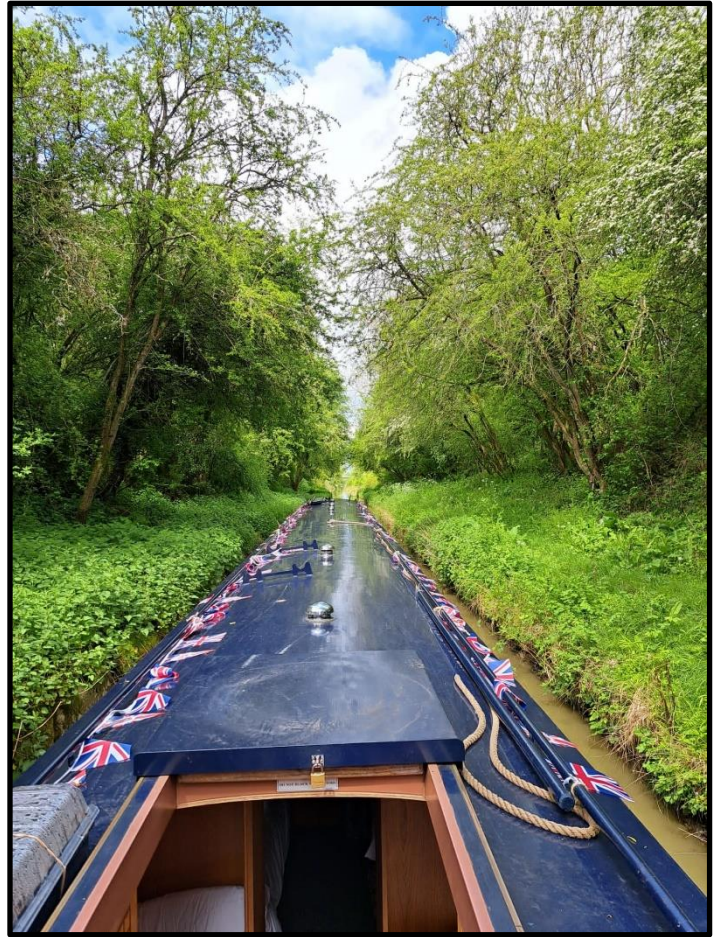
That the journey's wane near dawned.

Route well-known, sailors in their prime

The last fourteen miles and nine locks

Went without trouble, in good time,

Plus no harsh jolt at Napton docks.



Above: The Fenny Compton 'Tunnel'

Below: Returned to port.




Though sailing was done, further deeds
 Were prepared back upon dry land:
 The eight pilgrims, returned to steeds,
 Rode to the town Southam.
 St James (no apostle, this one)
 Was the church to which they headed.
 Despite zeal the eighth went up wrong,
 As the local had expected.
 Much to distraction, the Shipman
 On tenor wished length was further:
 As Doubles, this caused some bedlam
 (Still, rope not lost altogether...).

As soon as ringing was over
 Wishing old Christ Church friends to meet,
 Friar departed to Leicester,
 Curry waiting there to be eat.
 The seven went (saving troubles)
 To Bishop's Itchington chippy.
 Their plates soon loaded with food: shoals
 Of battered fish, chips aplenty.
 More than pleased with the repast
 (Southam's food wisely avoided),
 Games were played before the last
 Sleep onboard, the pilgrims headed.



Above: The pilgrims at St James, Southam

8. THE MANCIPLE'S TALE

 Friday, at the cockcrow,
 he Manciple prepared to go,
 o Canterb'ry. The boat emptied,
 Goods all transferred to waiting steed.
 Glum was she that holiday done,
 Further, that journey must begun
 To deepest, darkest Kent return
 Manciple, Reeve and Pars'n.

Fondest farewells, goodbyes galore
 Were given to the other four,
 Plus a salute to the Aurora,
 Before departing the marina.
 Though Kent was their destination,
 Diversion, they'd inclination,
 To visit a lakeside, first rate,
 Multi-nation conglomerate:

After a quick visit to the food hall,
 The three ventured into the maze, all
 In wonder at the crammed racks
 Of self-assembly flat-packs.
 The Manciple sought only what was necessary,
 The Reeve, meanwhile, piled high her trolley.
 In contrast the Parson – as was his lot –
 Exited the shop with nary a jot.

Wagon crammed 'til no room was free,
 Onwards the three made their journey.
 Her passengers safely home in Kent,
 The Manciple's home she swiftly went.
 Unpacking, relaxing, unwinding,
 Already fondly rem-in-iscing:
 Those blissful times that had just passed,
 When in May the skies overcast.

*Here ends the Canalerbury Tales compiled by Paul Davis, on whose soul Jesu Christ have mercy.
 Amen.*

An addendum is needed here:
On Tuesday 30th of May
Six pilgrims gathered to revere
The Knight's good lady wife's birthday.
Goodnestone church of Holy Cross
Was chosen for the Quarter Peal.
Near in her carriage, the Knight's 'boss'
Listened out for the ringer's zeal.

Methods of all sorts were called,
The Adm'ral's skill second to none.
All six their bells expertly hauled,
Such that success was sure to come.
Alas, near end issue arose:
The Reeve's sally had badly frayed.
This disorder grew all the worse,
Each time through ceiling hole conveyed.

Mere moments from the ringing's end,
No matter how hard the Reeve strained,
Her bell would not go as intend
So the peal could not be maintained.
Though good lady wife was carefree,
The Knight's despondence was great.
At this all were fast to agree,
For a second attempt, at future date.



Paul Davis

Westgate & Birchington

I'm sorry to tell you about the death of Stuart Willmott who rang at Westgate and Birchington for many years.

He was a big part of both bands and was always happy to cover all our quarters at Birchington and he would also ring in our peals at Birchington.

I was privileged to call his first peal in 2001 at Westgate.

Stuart was a quiet man with a wicked sense of humour but always ready to help anyone.

May he rest in peace.

Mike Little



St Laurance-in-Thalet

Monthly 10 bell practice takes place at St Laurence in Thanet on the first Tuesday of every month. We would appreciate some help from ringers who can already ring confidently on 10 bells, to assist the local Thanet ringers progress on call changes, plain hunting on 8, 9 and 10 bells and plain Bob caters. We would also welcome those who are just starting to ring on higher numbers of bells. We look forward to seeing some of you on the following dates

4th July
1st August
5th September
3rd October
7th November
5th December

Time 7:30pm to 9:00pm

Should you arrive to find the vestry door locked please ring 07732864076 to be let in.

Any questions you please contact Freda Parker on the number above.

Freda Parker

St Peter, Bekesbourne

Bekesbourne ringers rang for the King on Coronation Day. Call changes included Queens, Sceptre and Orb.

The ringers were :- Amy Mitchell, Danny Martin, Wendy Durell (caller), Chris Harper, David Durell, Ian Gillanders, Gill Moon (Captain), Joanne Watt and Peter Seager-Fleming.



Wendy Durell

Canterbury District Outing

“Canterbury District Outing is on Saturday 12th August so why not come to Surrey to have a ring on some wonderful bells.

At the end of this newsletter you will find the list of all the towers we’re visiting on the day with times and information regarding parking etc.

Parking charges were correct at the time this email was sent, but could have changed you know what councils are like.

As you can see we’re having lunch at The Woodman Pub in Ashted.

<https://www.emberinns.co.uk/nationalsearch/southeast/the-woodman-ashted/mainmenu#/>

Please could you let Claire know your menu choices by Saturday 29th July at the latest.
Her email is claire.stay@mac.com

If you have any questions about the day please message Claire and she’ll be sure to do her best to answer them for you.”

9:30 - 10:15am	St Barnabas, Ranmore North Downs Way RH5 6SP	8 Bells	20.5cwt
	Park for free on grass opposite Church 59 steps to ringing room		
10:45 - 11:30am	St Mary's, Leatherhead Church Road KT22 8BD	10 Bells	19cwt
	Park in car park behind church hall. PAY + DISPLAY (2hrs for £2.20 - RINGO or cash)		
	Not many steps to belfry.		
12:00 - 12:45pm	St Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon 78-80 Stoke Road Stoke D'Abernon KT11 3PX	6 Bells	3.75 cwt
	Free Parking in car park on left once you've turned off the main road. Short walk to church.		
	Not many steps, but VERY SMALL belfry - will need to take turns.		
LUNCH 1:15 - 3:15pm	The Woodman 238 Barnett Wood Lane Ashtead KT21 2DA		
	You MUST let Claire know your choices by 29th July at the latest. https://www.emberinns.co.uk/nationalsearch/southeast/the-woodman-ashtead/mainmenu#/		
3:30 - 4:15pm	St Mary's, Ewell London Road KT17 2AQ	8 Bells	12.5cwt t
	Either park for free on the London Road outside the church, or Church Street which is behind the church. If those are full, there is Bourne Hall car park which is a short walk - 2 Spring Street, Ewell KT17 1UG (£1.50 for 2hrs - RINGO or cash)		
From this final tower it is then straight forward to get onto A24 which will take you to the Reigate Road, A217 and then on to the M25 to come home to Kent.			

Cake Inspector – Spring 2023

15 Apr Faversham

A tea much enjoyed by all. Lovely egg mayo and cucumber sandwiches, cheese scones, homemade flapjacks and more. The veggie sausage rolls were a real hit across the board - even for the District Chairman, who exclaimed with a mixture of incredulity and complete astonishment 'They're vegetarian... and delicious!!' The magnificent brownies narrowly won today's Inspector's Choice : crumbly yet moist, gooey yet firm, with white chocolate chunks to boot for a little crunchy texture. Highly indulgent!

13 May Chislet

Competition day. In common with the Chairman and one of the Ringing Masters, the Inspector's chance to ring was with the judges afterwards, rather than in the afternoon. What a fantastic tea! Almost too much to mention. A selection of sandwiches, quiche, wotsits and crisps, and much more. The cubes with pepper and avocado were one of the best savouries the Inspector has ever tasted - colourful and healthy with a delicately balanced flavour. The cakes took up an entire table on their own. The marble cake was very popular, as was the one with cherry and white chocolate chunks - an original but very effective combination. Then there were various cookies with a gooey filling, lemon drizzle and some unexpectedly soft shortbread with a nice lemon edge, all homemade of course. Gluten-free cookies and cupcakes too. Definitely a tea to remember!

10 June Great Mongeham

A lovely tea. 'Something for everyone' was how one ringer put it. Some very good wraps in two flavours, with a wide selection of sandwiches, dips, and more. The sandwiches with celery chunks were original and very effective. A very good Victoria sponge cake with an interesting filling, and a very chocolatey gluten free choc cake, together with mini rolls and other delights. Lashings of tea, welcome on this hot afternoon. The small plates meant one simply had to go back for more...



KCACR Inter-District 8-Bell Competition



This year's County 8-Bell Striking Competition was held on 17-Jun-2023 at S^t Stephen's, Lympne (Ashford District) – an 11½cwt eight with churchyard views over the bay and the picturesque Lympne castle next door. The chosen test piece was a basic (WH) 2-course touch of *S^t Clement's College Bob Major*. Not a complex method, but one with some challenges and a need to maintain concentration to avoid method mistakes.

Earlier in the year an appeal sent out to Canterbury District ringers who normally frequented our District Surprise Major practices brought a pleasing response, with more than enough to give us a band and some reserves. This is in stark contrast to some other Districts that struggled to get people to ring – with Maidstone finding itself unable to enter a band.

A practice was held a couple of weeks before the big day and we are grateful to John and Annette Garner for arranging for us to use Boughton-under-Blean bells and opening up for us. The practice gave us a chance to ring through the test piece several times including with two of our reserves. As expected the method did not present serious challenges but did show the need to maintain concentration to avoid silly method mistakes.

The Band

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Sarah Smith | 5) Malcolm J Smith |
| 2) Cathryn M Hills | 6) Stuart C Palin (c) |
| 3) John E Haines | 7) Malcolm Barden |
| 4) Andrew M Hills | 8) Paul A Barton |

Resrvs: Benn Legg, Marilyn Barden,
Amanda Hills, Claire Stay

The Draw

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1) Ashford | 2) Rochester |
| 3) Lewisham | 4) Tonbridge |
| 5) Canterbury | |

On the day the band arrived in good time and the draw was held shortly after 9:45 am with five Districts entering; Canterbury drew the final slot. (Not the worst outcome – but does mean a lot of sitting around before ringing).

The weather forecast (BBC Weather App) had indicated that it was to be a hot sunny day – but it was distinctly overcast and threatening to shower; nevertheless reasonable enough to sit out in. With Ashford, the home team, going first it was all ears to try and discern some tips about the bells. They had a good even pace but with a few clips, it was sounding good. Unfortunately there was a serious contretemps around the middle of the test piece that went on for a bit before being recovered. A second piece of unsettled ringing occurred towards the end and a method mistake right at the end. Rochester also set off with a good measured pace, an early method mistake was quickly sorted and the rhythm maintained. There were a few other clips but then a major upset towards the end before recovering to bring it round. Lewisham seemed to have a quicker pace which they rang well but with the occasional hesitation. A method mistake in the middle of the first course was quickly corrected, but second and third mistakes also occurred later in the piece.

Whilst waiting for Tonbridge to take to the tower we had the pleasant surprise of being joined by Donald and Ruth Niblett who were brought along by Elizabeth and Philip. Many friends were delighted to see them out and about and have a chat with them.

When Tonbridge got started they sounded to have a noticeably quicker pace in their practice – and they kept to that for the test piece. It sounded like it was tricky to keep the striking even at the pace – but that aside there was only a minor trip in the second half of the test piece.

So now it was our turn to try and make something of all we had heard. As we headed into the church the rain decided to make a proper appearance (having been spitting two or three times during the morning). Would it put the judges off, or just put them in a bad mood?

The Band: Sarah, Cathryn, John, Andrew, Malcolm, Stuart, Malcolm, Paul.



Our five minute practice piece went well method-wise, but the bells were challenging and the band had to work hard to try and get to grips with them. To my mind our pace was a bit quick, possibly more like we had heard with Tonbridge; we definitely did not want to be any quicker. However the test piece started off at a similar pace and it seemed quite tricky to get the bells consistently striking well (it can be difficult to make a deliberate change of pace without disrupting the striking – sometimes you just have to go with what you have got). We only had one method mistake which was immediately self-corrected and had no lasting effect – this was particularly encouraging given how much focus was being put on trying to improve the striking as we went on. As we came round it was now a question of whether our lack of method mistakes did enough to offset the struggle with the bells. First indications from those listening outside gave some hope that the striking had not been as bad as it had seemed to sound from inside the tower (where it can be easy to become overly critical of every imperfection).

After a brief bit of further general ringing the bands wandered over to the village hall to receive the judges' verdict. Neil Jones thanked Brian Butcher and the Ashford District for hosting the competition and introduced our judges, David Kirkcaldy and Kathy Howard of the Sussex County Association. David opened with some general observations noting that the test piece was an "interesting" choice of method with some built-in traps – the long dodges on the front and the tenors missing from the back for several leads. Addressing each of the performances he noted that Ashford had a measured pace and kept the ringing together, though suffered a bit when the tenors were away from the back; they settled after some minor trips but then had a serious trip and did not fully recover for some time. Rochester settled well, a bit quicker than Ashford, but with a few trips dotted around (recovering quickly) and faults on the leads. A mistake late in the test piece persisted for a while before settling. Lewisham had a similar pace to Rochester with long spells of good ringing and recovering quickly from mistakes; the little bells tended to spread out at the back. Tonbridge seemed a bit more rushed (but their time was comparable with earlier teams) and dealt with the method well – faults being picked up through clips. For Canterbury he reported that most faults were picked up on small mistakes and quick handstroke leads, with some bell combinations not settling well in the front dodges; method mistakes were dealt with quickly.

The general comments did not give any indication of a clear winner – David and Kathy had been paying close attention to the ringing and nothing was getting past them. So, it was a suspenseful declaration of the marks. A short bit of relief for us after having avoided 5th and 4th places was cut short by also not getting placed 3rd leaving the big question had we done enough to secure 1st or were we pipped at the post? There was only one fault in it but we had managed to retain the cup.

The Results			
Rang	District	Faults	Place
1)	Ashford	78	5 th
2)	Rochester	64	4 th
3)	Lewisham	38	2 nd ★
4)	Tonbridge	45	3 rd ★
5)	Canterbury	37	1 st ★

So, congratulations to our team and with thanks to our reserves for their support. Well done to Sarah in particular for whom this was the first time she had represented the District in the 8-bell competition. Commiserations to our fellow competitors, well done for taking part and making the competition possible.



First 8-Bell Competition – a good way to start!

Stuart Palin

Minutes of Past Meetings

The KCACR Canterbury District - Quarterly Meeting Saturday 15th April 2023 at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Ringling began shortly after 2pm. The Service at 3.30am was conducted by Rev. Simon Rowlands with Patti Wayley playing the organ. Tea was served in the Church by the Faversham ringers.

1. Welcome. The chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Faversham.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mick Cairns, Rev. David Cawley, Maureen Cooke, John Haimes, Len Huckstep, Benn Legg, Felicity Lewis, John Paramor, Keith and Susan Record and Sarat White.

3. Minutes of the last meetings as printed in the April newsletters, were taken as read on a proposal from Adam Moore seconded by Paul Evans.

4. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

5. Election of New Members From Sheldwich, Catherine Lee, proposed by Paul Evans and seconded by Stuart Palin. Catherine was elected and welcomed by the members present.

6. Presentation of Certificates Certificates were presented to Amanda Hills, Catherine Lee, Karen Leigh, David O'Carroll and Juliet Thomas. Certificates for Linda Cregan, Phil Mace and Claire Madina were given to towers members for passing on to their recipients.

7. No Collection was taken during the service.

8. Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 29th April District Surprise Major Practice at Boughton under Blean. 7.00 - 8.30pm.
Contact the ringing masters for more details.

Saturday 13th May Striking Competition at Chislet. Draw at 2pm, ringing thereafter followed by service and meeting. Tea 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 are printed in the April Newsletter.

The chairman mentioned that nine band had taken part in the call change competition in March and it would be nice to see a similar number at the striking competition. A method does not have to be rung. Bands can ring plain hunt.

Saturday 20th May District Practice at St Laurence in Thanet. 10 bell ringing. 10 - 12noon.
Contact the ringing masters for more details.

Saturday 10th June Bye Meeting at Great Mongeham. Ringing from 2pm, Service at 3.30 followed by tea, meeting and further ringing. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Saturday 17th June County 8 bell competition at Lympne followed by a festival of ringing similar to last year.

June ??? District Practice at Herne. Conducting call changes. Date to be confirmed.
Contact the ringing masters for more details

Saturday 8th July Quarterly Meeting at Lyminge. Ringing from 2pm, service at 3.30 followed by tea, meeting and further ringing. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Saturday 15th July District Surprise Major practice at St Stephens from 7.30 to 9pm.
Contact the ringing masters for more details.

Saturday 12th August District Outing to Surrey, visiting Ranmore (8), Leatherhead (10), Stoke D'abernon (6), Epsom (8) and Ewell (8). First tower at 9.30am.

There will be more information about the outing in the next newsletter.

Stuart urged towers who would like some help with their ringing to contact the ringing masters who could organise something to suit them.

9. Members Achievements Debbie Aris had rung her first quarter peal at the first attempt at St Laurence on Good Friday.

10. 120 Club The organiser of the 120 club was not present so the draw was to be held over to the next meeting.

11. Report from the last county committee Meeting.

Malcolm reported firstly on the committee meeting held at the end of February A bequest from Brian Law of between 3 and 4 thousand pounds had been left to the county association. Ideas were being sought for an appropriate way to spend this money.

It was decided that the membership database was no longer fit for purpose. A new system was being looked at.

Up to now all county communication had been made via Mailchimp which had been free but is not now. Again a new system is to be used.

Regarding ringing for the coronation there is no national co-ordination. It has been left up to towers to arrange their own ringing if required.

Malcolm then moved on to the AGM on Easter Monday. An EGM preceded the AGM at which it was proposed and accepted that rule changes can be put forward to the AGM without first going through ADMs.

There was a change to the rules of the BRF. The chance of a grant had failed due to a rule requiring the BRF to support Christianity. The rule now is that the BRF just supports churches in Kent. This will benefit secular towers.

Subscriptions will stay at £15 per year. The proceeds will be divided up as 50% to the general fund, 25% to the BRF and 25% to the training fund.

Most officers were re-elected. Sue Bassett wished to stand down as secretary but was persuaded to stay on for one more year. Ideas for a replacement secretary were being sought.

The central council reps changed. They are now Phil Barnes, Caroline Stockman, Alastair Runting, Stephanie Runting and Neil Jones.

The Essex trophy will be held on 9th September at St Marys Walthamstow.

The county 6 bell competitions are planned for 30th September with the striking competition in the morning and the call change competition in the afternoon. The call change competition will be an open competition not tied to towers or benefices so members can put together their own bands. This may mean that numbers are restricted. It is part of a national initiative to promote call change ringing.

It was questioned whether it was too much for one tower to host ringing all day but that is what the county wish to do.

The association choral evensong at Rochester Cathedral in remembrance of ringers who have passed away has not been well attended. It will therefore be moved away from armistice day and held on 19th November.

The 2023 handbooks were available at the meeting and are at Faversham during this meeting.

Jen Thomas appealed for towers with young ringers to encourage them to join the Kent young ringers. The new message from the diocese about safeguarding was mentioned and the secretary was asked to contact all towers with the memberships thought on this matter.

12. Any Other Business.

Malcolm raised the problems created for non computer people by the safeguarding training being held online. All members were required to do the basic training module whilst tower captains and trainers had to go through the basic, foundation and leadership modules.

It was suggested that we talk to Michael Keeler-Walker to see if the diocese would do some in person sessions at Diocesan House.

Malcolm would see what the county's attitude to this was.

13. Vote of Thanks

Peter Freeman gave the vote of thanks to all those involved in the organisation of the meeting. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

The KCACR Canterbury District - Call Change Competition **Saturday 13th May 2023 at St Mary the Virgin, Chislet**

The draw for the competition took place at 2pm. The service was conducted by Sally Willins with Susan Record playing the organ. Tea was then served in the Church by the Chislet ringers. The Chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Chislet.

1. Election of New Members There were no new members to be elected.
2. Presentation of Certificates A certificate was presented to Amanda Hills elected on 11th March.
3. The Collection amounted to £39.12 all of which was given to Chislet.
4. Forthcoming Events

Saturday 20th May District Practice at St Laurence-Thamet. 10 bell ringing from 10 to 12 noon. Contact the ringing masters for further details.

Saturday 10th June Bye Meeting at Great Mongeham (6). Ringing from 2pm, service at 3.30pm followed by tea, meeting and further ringing if requested. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Saturday 24th June District Practice at Herne from 10 to 11.30am. Conducting call changes. Contact the ringing masters for more details

Saturday 8th July Quarterly Meeting at Lyminge. Ringing at 2pm, Service at 3.30 followed by tea, meeting and further ringing. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

Saturday 15th July District Surprise Major Practice at St Stephens from 7.30 - 9pm. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

Saturday 12th August District Outing to Surrey visiting Ranmore, Leatherhead, Stoke D'Abernon, Epsom and Ewell. A donation of £1 per member per tower will be requested. All towers have been confirmed and the lunch menu is available. More details will be in the July newsletter.

5. 120 Club Draw

Draw for April.

1st	£30	23	St Dunstons tower fund
2nd	£20	26	Becky Holliday
3rd	£10	44	Ash tower fund

Draw for May

1st	£30	24	Becky Holliday	
2nd	£20	29	Tony Martin	Thanington
3rd	£10	53	Gill Moon	Bekesbourne

6. Any Other Business Claire had the bookstall at the back of the church.

7. Results of the Competition

The chairman introduced the judges Alex Gray and Stephen Jakeman. Stephen commented on the ringing of each of the competing bands and then Alex gave the marks.

The results were as follows:

1st	Sturry	rang	5 th	7 faults
2nd	Canterbury St Stephens	rang	7th	13 faults
3rd	Canterbury St Dunstons	rang	1st	14 faults
4th	Lyminge	rang	2nd	33 faults
5th	St Peter-in-Thanel	rang	4th	44 faults
6th	Herne	rang	6th	50 faults
7th	Ash	rang	3rd	55 faults

The Sturry band were presented with the trophy.

8. Vote of Thanks

The chairman proposed the vote of thanks to the local community for use of the church and bells and to all those involved in organising the competition, to Stephen and Alex for judging and to Mark for acting as tower steward.

Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

The KCACR Canterbury District - Bye Meeting **Saturday 10th June 2023 at St Martin, Great Mongeham**

Ringing took place from 2pm under the guidance of the ringing masters. The service at 3.30pm was led by Rev. Peter Hambrook with Toby Huitson playing the organ. Tea was served in the church by the local ringers.

The chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Great Mongeham.

Members stood for a minute's silence in memory of Stuart Willmott of Westgate who died recently.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Debbie Aris, Andy Brett, Dennis Brandrick, Sally-Ann Bullock, Peter Dale, Cathryn Hills, Belinda Moyna, John Paramor, Susan and Keith Record, Gill Robinson, Debra Stickells, Malcolm and Zoe Story and the St Peters Band.

2. Election of new members There were no new members to be elected.

3. Presentation of Certificates A certificate was presented to Julie Mottershead of Great Mongeham.

4. The Collection was not counted but all donated to St Martin, Great Mongeham.

5. Forthcoming Events.

Saturday 17th June.

County Eight Bell Competition and Festival of Ringing at Lympe

Competition draw at 9.45am. Towers open in the afternoon:
Saltwood 2.30 - 3.30, Sellindge 3 - 4, Mersham 3.30 - 4.30pm
and Hythe 4 - 5 pm.

Stuart announced that a district band had been entered and had recently practiced at Boughton. Ashford and Rochester were entering bands but Maidstone were not.

Saturday 24th June District Practice. Conducting call changes at Herne from
10 - 11.30am. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

Ben said that this was for people who would like to practice calling or wished to learn how to call changes. Offers of help would be appreciated.

Saturday 8th July Quarterly Meeting at Lyminge. Ringing at 2pm, Service at 3.30
followed by tea, meeting and further ringing. Names for tea to
namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

This was all arranged apart from needing someone to lead the service and also an organist.

Saturday 15th July District Practice. Surprise Major at St Stephens.7.30 – 9pm.
Contact the ringing masters for more details

Saturday 12th August District Outing to Surrey visiting Ranmore, Leatherhead, Stoke
D'Abernon, Epsom and Ewell. A donation of £1 per member per
tower will be requested.

Claire said that all the towers had been booked and details sent to Jane for inclusion in the July newsletter. This included locations and car parks. There was also a link to the lunch menu at the Woodman All this information would be passed to Tony for distribution to tower contacts.

Saturday 9th September Bye Meeting. Venue to be confirmed later.

Freda Parker announced that next ten bell practice at St Laurence would be on Tuesday 4th July from 7.30 to 9pm.

6. Essex Trophy 09/09/23 at Walthamstow

This ten bell inter county competition was to be held at St Mary Walthamstow on 9th September. The Kent band was being organised by Doug Davis.

7. CCCBR research – Towards Better Striking.

The Central Council wished to improve the general standard of striking. To this end they were asking if there were any methods already being used which they could evaluate before producing some guidelines or training on improving striking. This request would be passed out to all towers with any replies going to the district or county secretary or direct to the central council president.

8. Any Other Business.

Ospringe were planning to have a clear out of the tower. There were many back copies of the ringing world from the 1980s to 2010s. People who wished to obtain these need to contact the Ospringe secretary as soon as possible.

The Kent mini ringers (under 12s) were meeting at East Farleigh on Saturday June24th from 10 until 12 with the Kent young ringers at Aylesford from 2 to 4pm on the same day.

Claire had the bookstall in the corner of the church.

9. Vote of Thanks.

Allan Chandler gave the vote of thanks to Rev. Peter Hambrook for use of the church and bells and everyone involved with organising the meeting. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

Ringling continued for a little while after the meeting.

District Quarter Peals

Quarter Peals rung from 1st April to 29th June 2023 are as follows:

Date	Place		Duration	changes	Method Rung	Conductor
02/04/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (4m/v)	Jane E Huxley
02/04/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (6m/v)	Cathryn M Hills
02/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1260	Sandford Doubles	Tim Attridge
07/04/2023	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thanet	47m	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Mike Little
09/04/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (11m/v/p)	Andrew M Hills
09/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Sulgrave Doubles	Tim Attridge
09/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	36m	1272	Plain Bob Minimus	Michael Little
14/04/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Chislet	46m	1260	St Clement's College Bob Minor	Adam Moore
16/04/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	39m	1260	Doubles (6m/v/p)	Jane E Huxley
16/04/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	42m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Andrew M Hills
16/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Epperstone Doubles	Tim Attridge
19/04/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	46m	1260	Hunslet Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
21/04/2023	St Michael	Hernhill	45m	1320	Spiced Minor (2m)	Adam Moore
23/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	40m	1280	George Of England Doubles	Tim Attridge
28/04/2023	St Mary of Charity	Faversham	50m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Barry Roberts
29/04/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	43m	1260	Doubles (8m/v)	Leonard A Huckstep
30/04/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	43m	1260	Grandsire Triples	Paul N Davis
30/04/2023	All Saints	Birchington	40m	1280	Sevalcliffe Doubles	Tim Attridge
02/05/2023	All Saints	Birchington	37m	1280	Vivat Rex Carolus Doubles	Tim Attridge
05/05/2023	St Michael and All Angels	Throwley	42m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Adam Moore
06/05/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Ospringe	42m	1260	Doubles (1p/4m)	Adam Moore
06/05/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Cropley	46m	1260	Grandsire Triples	Paul Davis
06/05/2023	Waterloo Tower, Quex Park	Birchington	43m	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Michael Little
07/05/2023	Holy Cross	Goodnestone		1260	Doubles (7m/v/p)	Cathryn M Hills
07/05/2023	St Peter the Apostle	Broadstairs	40m	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Simon Friend
07/05/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Seighford Doubles	Michael Little
07/05/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	38m	1296	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Andrew M Hills
14/05/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (7m/v)	Andrew M Hills
14/05/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1280	Standlake Doubles	Tim Attridge
14/05/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	50m	1296	Little Bob Royal	Andrew M Hills
17/05/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	44m	1260	Canterbury Pleasure Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
17/05/2023	St Mary and St Ethelburga	Lyminge	49m	1344	Spiced Surprise Major (5m)	Andrew M Hills
19/05/2023	St James	Sheldwich	38m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Adam Moore
19/05/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (11m/v)	Andrew M Hills
21/05/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (6m/p)	Claire Stay
21/05/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1280	Rousham Doubles	Tim Attridge
28/05/2023	St Mary	Teynham	41m	1260	Doubles (2m)	Barry Roberts
28/05/2023	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thanet	43m	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	Freda Parker
28/05/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	43m	1260	Doubles (5m/v)	Cathryn M Hills
28/05/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1280	Iffley Doubles	Tim Attridge
04/06/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Spiced Doubles (5m)	Andrew D Meyer
04/06/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	39m	1260	Doubles (8m/v/p)	Cathryn M Hills
04/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Ardingly Doubles	Tim Attridge
06/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	36m	1260	Stuart Willmott Doubles	Tim Attridge
08/06/2023	St Saviour	Westgate on Sea	45m	1260	Doubles (6m/v)	Thomas A Winter
08/06/2023	St Saviour	Westgate on Sea	44m	1260	Doubles (1m/2v)	Tim Attridge
11/06/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (6m/v/p)	Paul N Davis
11/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	37m	1260	West Hanney Doubles	Tim Attridge
11/06/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	45m	1280	Superlative Surprise Major	Andrew M Hills
12/06/2023	Waterloo Tower, Quex Park	Birchington	45m	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Tim Attridge
16/06/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Boughton under Bleau	40m	1260	Doubles (5m)	Claire Stay
17/06/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	49m	1296	Plain Bob Caters	Mark Chittenden-Pile
18/06/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (5m)	Claire Stay
18/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	37m	1260	Darwin Doubles	Tim Attridge
18/06/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	41m	1289	Grandsire Doubles	Andrew M Hills
19/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1320	Little Birch Doubles	Tim Attridge
21/06/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	45m	1260	St Mary The Virgin Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
25/06/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (4m/p)	Jane E Huxley
25/06/2023	All Saints	Birchington	37m	1260	Empire Windrush 75 Doubles	Tim Attridge
25/06/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	49m	1299	Stedman Caters	Andrew M Hills
26/06/2023	Holy Cross	Goodnestone	42m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Thomas Hooley
26/06/2023	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thanet	50m	1320	Aconbury Doubles	Tim Attridge

District Peals

Peals rung from 1st April to 29th June 2023 are as follows:

Date	Place		Duration	changes	Method Rung	Conductor
20/05/2023	Holy Cross	Goodnestone	2h 35	5040	Doubles (14m/v/p)	Andrew MHills
21/05/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	2h 44	5040	Minor (7m)	Andrew MHills

Canterbury District Officers

As of the 2020 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	Stuart Palin		canterburyringingmaster@kcacr.org.uk
District Rep	Malcolm Barden		malcolmbarden@aol.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

Quarterly Meeting

Saturday 8th July at Lyminge. Ringing from 2pm, service at 3.30pm followed by tea, meeting and further ringing if requested. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

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District Practice

Saturday 15th July Surprise Major at St Stephens.7.30 – 9pm. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

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District Outing

Saturday 12th August District Outing to Surrey visiting Ranmore, Leatherhead, Stoke D'Abernon, Epsom and Ewell. A donation of £1 per member per tower will be requested. All towers have been confirmed and the lunch menu is available. More details will be in the July newsletter.

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Bye Meeting

Saturday 9th September. Venue to be confirmed. Ringing from 2pm, service at 3.30pm followed by tea, meeting and further ringing if requested. Names for tea to namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible please.

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Annual District Meeting

Saturday 14th October at Canterbury St Dunstan.

Ringing from 3pm, Service ta 4.15 followed by tea and meeting.