



Canterbury District  
**Newsletter**

**Issue 189**

**January 2024**

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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](http://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](mailto: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:  
*Canterbury Cathedral*  
*Taken from the internet*

## **Chairman's Message**

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Hi Everyone

I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year and where did 2023 go? It seemed to go very fast or is it just me getting older!

All the meetings went well last year and were well attended. Thanks to everyone who came or helped to organise the meetings. I must single out the social at Herne and thank all involved in organising this very successful evening and to congratulate the District on 60+ members and friends who came and supported us.

Now moving on to 2024 I look forward to seeing you all at the Cathedral for our first meeting and would encourage all to come along.

Best Wishes

Mike

## **Secretary's Message**

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You should all now be aware that the KCACR has introduced a new membership database this year.

In previous years district secretaries had access to their part of the database and could amend members records. I have been told that I have read only access to the new database so have lost the facility to make such amendments.

Members must now access their own records, update them if necessary and pay their subscriptions each year.

In the meantime, I hope you all had a good Christmas and look forward to seeing you at district meetings in 2024.

Tony

## Ringling Master's News

### District Ringing – October-December 2023

It has been a positive end to the year, albeit with a few hiccups along the way. At the ADM there was no change of Ringing Masters – so you have us for another year. A couple of our events did not go off as intended but we were **fortunate to have a good list of who was planning to attend** so were able to send out urgent notices to those affected. This does emphasise the importance of letting the Ringing Masters know if you are planning to attend a practice (or if you are unable to) – if there look to be too few attending the practice may be cancelled, or if there are last minute changes we can let people know.

The ringing at meetings has covered a broad range and we have usually been able to ring something for everyone – but do let us know if there is something you would like to ring. We would encourage ringers at all stages to join in the ringing at meetings as it is an excellent opportunity to gain experience, and the Ringing Masters are happy to find you some support if you think you need it.

**October – Annual District Meeting:** (St Dunstan's, Canterbury) We had 12 attend the afternoon ringing and 8 at the evening session. During the afternoon we rang from Call Changes through to Cambridge, whilst the evening ringing gave us some more method ringing.

(Rounds+CC \* 1, Plain Hunt 5 \* 2 multi-courses, Reverse Canterbury 5 \* 1 touch, Kennington 5 \* 1 touch, Grandsire 5 \* 1 touch, Stedman 5 \* 1 touch, St Clements 6 \* 1, Cambridge S 6 \* 1.  
Grandsire 5 \* 1 touch, Stedman 5 \* 1 + 1 touch, Plain Bob 6 \* 1 touch, Kent TB 6 \* 1, Cambridge S 6 \* 1)

**October – S Major Practice:** (Throwley) Unfortunately we could not get enough to make this practice viable and we had to cancel. The feedback we got encouraged us to schedule a replacement practice in November).

**November – Meeting:** (Thanington) Falling on Remembrance Day we had the opportunity to ring half-muffled with 11 attending in the afternoon and 7 or 8 in the evening. We were delighted to welcome a new face from the local band. A full range of ringing was covered and it was pleasing to be able to ring touches of quite a few methods. Unfortunately, a course of St Clements did not come round during the afternoon ringing, but was the only loss of the day – and we managed several courses in the evening.

(Rounds+CC \* 1, Grandsire 5 \* 2 touches, St Martin's 5 \* 1 + 1 touch, Kennington 5 \* 1 touch, Stedman 5 \* 2 touches, Plain Bob 6 \* 2 touches.  
Rounds+CC \* 1, Stedman 5 \* 1 touch, St Clement's 6 \* 3, Cambridge S 6 \* 1 touch)

**November – Plain Triples Practice:** (Lyminge) The Ringing Master due to run the practice was not having a particularly good start to the day as he had got it into his head that the practice was starting at 10:30 rather than 10:00 – fortunately the Chairman stepped in and got things started. When I finally arrived we had a healthy 14 present and focussed our ringing on Single Oxford, St Simon's, and St Clement's Triples (there were no takers for the more oddball methods). We managed two touches of Single Oxford – a third attempt came to grief.

(Grandsire 7 \* 1 touch, Single Oxford 7 \* 3 + 2 touches, St Simon's 7 \* 3, St Clement's 7 \* 2).

**November – S Major Practice:** (Throwley Ospringe) The cancellation of the October Surprise Major practice was a disappointment to many and we were asked whether it was possible to arrange another. We managed to get Throwley again and were all set to go when we heard, the day before, that the tower door lock had jammed. We were fortunate that Ospringe were able to host us at very short notice – and again the **benefit of having a list of attendees** was proven. We just reached a viable number (9) attending and had some very successful ringing. Unfortunately, I forgot to make a record of exactly what we rang but recollect:

(plain courses Cambridge S, Yorkshire S, Superlative S; bob courses Cambridge; half course spliced Cambridge S + Yorkshire S).

**December – Christmas Social:** (Herne) A good crowd turned out (I think it peaked around 14) and it was good to see two new faces from SPiT – we hope they enjoyed themselves and we will see more of them in the coming year. We rang quite a bit of Rounds & Call Changes and Plain Hunt on 5, but also managed a touch of Grandsire Triples and a half-course of Cambridge Minor to finish.

(Rounds+CC 6 \* 1, Rounds+CC 8 \* 4, Plain Hunt 5 \* 3, Grandsire 5 \* 1 touch, Cambridge S 6 \* 1 half-course, Plain Bob 7 \* 1, Grandsire 7 \* 1 touch.

Thank you to all those who have supported District Ringing through the year. It was good to see some new faces come along and we hope to see more of you next year. Whilst we have been able to ring a broad range of methods at pretty much all meetings we are very much dependent on who comes up the tower – so please do join us and help the District be a positive contributor to ringing in our area. 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](mailto:CanterburyRingingMaster@kcacr.org.uk)*

## **District Ringing – Looking Forward (January – April 2024)**

We start the year in style with a Quarterly Meeting at **Canterbury Cathedral** – ringing should be starting at 15:30. The need to fit in with the other activities going on at the Cathedral means arrangements are slightly different from normal. As the Cathedral will be bustling with many other visitors, or those attending the 17:30 Evensong, access to the tower will be policed – so it is strongly advised that you **let the District Committee know names of those attending ahead of time**. The door to the tower is inside the cathedral to the left of the shop stall by the South Door entrance. The tower is quite a climb (over 70 steps) so come prepared. We are also likely to be running the ringing slightly more formally – in particular we be placing bands with more care and will only be allowing more experienced ringers to ring the front and back bells. That aside, we will be catering for all levels and we should have plenty of experienced ringers on hand to give helpful advice. We will be handing things over to the Cathedral ringers around 17:00, so there will be time to get back down and seated for Evensong. After our meeting the bells are available until 21:00 – but we shall check at the meeting how many are interested in ringing again. **Please check notices from the District Secretary for other details about attending this meeting.**

Later in **January** we will be holding a **Surprise Major** practice at **Sheldwich**. It would be good if we could try to ring something a bit different as well our regular methods. Our suggestion is **Cornwall Surprise Major** but we do need enough to commit to learning the method – so please do let the District Ringing Masters know if this is of interest to you.

In **February** we are meeting at **Ash** so a chance to ring more things on 10. We are holding a practice on **Doubles Variations** at **Littlebourne** later in the month. We would be interested in hearing from people about **what they would like to see covered** – introductory things, like April Day, built on simple base methods and common calls, or more adventurous base methods and calls (or something in between) – **let us know**.

The District Call Change Competition planned for **March** is being held at **Sandwich** And the District Practice at **Monkton** this month will be focussing on **Surprise Minor**. This could include those making first steps (Cambridge) or those looking to move on from Cambridge. If you have an interest in this area do get in touch with us ASAP and **let us know what you would like** to see included.

Looking a little further ahead we have the **April** Quarterly Meeting at **Hernhill** and a **Surprise Major** practice a little later (but have not yet formalised where and when).

We are in the process of **filling in the plan for future** District Practices out to March 2025 – so **now** is a good time to let the District Ringing Masters know about **anything you would like to see included**. A summary of the forthcoming District Practices is below, and the District Meetings/Competitions can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

<b>Forthcoming District Practices</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Tower</b>	<b>Focus</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 7:30-9:00pm	Sheldwich (8)	Surprise Major
24 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 10:00-11:30am	Littlebourne (6)	Doubles Variations
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 10:00-11:30am	Monkton (6)	Surprise Minor
<b>TBD</b> April 2024 7:30-9:00pm	TBD (8)	Surprise Major

The following is very provisional information, towers, dates, times have not been confirmed and the topics are under review. Please do let us know your thoughts.

<b>Future District Practices</b> (very tentative information)		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Tower</b>	<b>Focus</b>
<i>May-24</i>	<i>Bekesbourne (6)</i>	<i>Plain Hunt on 5 and 6</i>
<i>Jun-24</i>	<i>Faversham (10)</i>	<i>10-bell ringing</i>
<i>Jul-24</i>	<i>Herne (8)</i>	Surprise Major
<i>Aug-24</i>	<i>Waterloo Tower, Quex Park (12)</i>	<i>Social ringing and barbecue</i>
<i>Sep-24</i>	<i>Teynham (6)</i>	<i>Conducting basic methods</i>
<i>Oct-24</i>	<i>Hernhill (8)</i>	Surprise Major
<i>Nov-24</i>	<i>Canterbury, St Stephen (8)</i>	<i>Plain Major</i>
<i>Jan-25</i>	<i>St Peter-in-Thamet (8)</i>	Surprise Major
<i>Feb-25</i>	<i>Chartham (6)</i>	<i>Plain Bob Doubles (and Grandsire Doubles?)</i>
<i>Mar-25</i>	<i>Petham (6)</i>	<i>Call changes</i>

Stuart Palin / Ben Legg, Canterbury District Ringing Masters

*email: [CanterburyRingingMaster@kcacr.org.uk](mailto:CanterburyRingingMaster@kcacr.org.uk)*

## District News

### The Ash Dash (and friends) – 2023

“Let’s go to the Romney Marsh” is what was suggested at our AGM for our “dash” this year and the organiser was appointed. Well, by the end of August, I hadn’t seen any plans, so I decided to take the task on myself. Looking at the Marsh and the potential towers, I turned the map around and decided we would go abroad to the Isle of Sheppey instead - Eastchurch, Minster, Queenborough, returning to main land Kent for lunch at Iwade, followed by Bobbing and Teynham for afternoon ringing.

Very quickly, I had got confirmation that we could ring at 4 of the towers but Eastchurch failed to communicate with me so as it turned out we didn’t have such an early start to our day. We haven’t that many ringers at Ash, and experience has shown that outings can be very tiring if you need to keep ringing all the time. I therefore began to put out feelers for a few more people to join with us and the “Dash” very quickly became “Ash Dash and friends”. We were delighted to be joined Alison Gerrish and Malwyn Williams from Milton Regis, Anne and Andy from Chartham (this being their very first experience of a tower outing), Tony from Thanington, Len, Jane, John and Jake.

The morning was a bit damp when we set off from home but on reaching our first tower the rain had gone.

#### **Minster**

Our first ring of the day was a challenge for some. Overall they are a very nice sounding six, even if the rope circle is pretty huge!



The church at Minster is quite an impressive building and, as the name suggests, it was founded in the Anglo-Saxon times as an abbey dedicated to St Mary and St Sexburga. The establishment was closed during the Reformation. However impressive remains still survive in the form of the gatehouse (which is now a museum) and also parts of the Abbey church which still includes some Saxon archways in the nave! The tower is a curious looking structure as it was clearly never finished. It has a wooden pyramidal roof to it, which holds the bells. There are six bells, tenor weighing 10-2-0cwt (533kg) and ringing out the note of G. They were cast by four different founders,

ranging in date from 1663 (third, fifth and tenor) by William Hatch of Ulcombe, 1883 (second) by Gillett and Bland of Croydon, and finally 1929 (treble and third) by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel.

#### **Queenborough**

Jackie from Eastry met with us here. Her journey had been quite a challenge for her, so she didn’t join in the ringing, but was looking forward to her lunch! This is a nice little six, which everyone enjoyed.

A small town on the Isle of Sheppey, Queenborough is situated two miles south of Sheerness. Like Sheerness, it also has a port and according to local history it is where Admiral Lord Nelson picked up many of his seafaring skills. Also, as a bit of a juxtaposition, in Saxon times Queenborough was known as "Cyningburh" which meant "King's Town". Bit strange considering it now has "Queen" in it! The Church of

the Holy Trinity is the only medieval building left in Queenborough and from the outside it looks like it'll just be a run of the mill church. It's quite small but the interior does not let it down. The nave contains a 17th century wooden ceiling with beautiful painted motifs across it which was the work of a Dutch painter. Sadly, it was damaged in a fire in the 1930s and is now faded and darkened. The tower is thought to date from either the 12th or 14th century, though more likely the 14th century given the Decorated and early Perpendicular Gothic motifs within it. The tower holds a 5-2-22cwt (289kg) ring of six bells, tenor in B. The treble was cast in 1911 by Mears and Stainbank of London, the middle four were cast in 1667 by Anthony Bartlet and the tenor was recast in 1934 by Mears and Stainbank. They were last overhauled in 1984 by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Overall they are a very bright and melodious despite the hotchpotch of founders.



**The Woolpack at Iwade**

Having checked out this pub a couple of weeks before our trip, this was our venue for lunch. 19 of us sat down to eat and we were very well served by Alli and her team.



This was a pleasant stop off at a very nice pub. Everyone had a good rest, a good chinwag and enjoyed a drink with some excellent fresh food.

This was a good opportunity to take a few photographs of everyone enjoying their lunch and drinks. The small church in Iwade was of interest to me as it has two bells dating from 1199! Unfortunately, I was not able to chime them, but I'd have loved to have done.

**Bobbing**

Our third tower, another very nice little ring of six. We were greeted by the churchwarden who kindly offered us tea, coffee and biscuits from the kitchen while we rang. We had a most enjoyable visit.



The little Church of St Bartholomew at Bobbing sits right next to the main road and has a squat little tower. Despite that, it's a very attractive building. These were a ground floor ring of six bells, tenor weighing 8-2-21cwt (441kg) ringing out the note of Ab (though it sounds more like A). The front five date from 1804 and were cast by Thomas Mears of Whitechapel in London, and the tenor was recast in 1935 by Mears and Stainbank, also of Whitechapel! The fifth bell is apparently cracked according to Dove's Guide, but you wouldn't have thought so upon hearing the bell in person. They were a particularly nice ring of six, with the tenor crowning the ring beautifully with its mellow harmonic sound. Definitely recommend these to any

visiting band, they're easy to ring, easy to hear (except when the ringers waiting for a turn are being noisy!), and sound fantastic.

The group photo for the record, taken at Bobbing as Allison and Mal were not able to stay to ring at our last tower..



## **Teynham**

Our final tower of the day has a unusual route to the ringing chamber- it's a bit scary! But the bells are nice.



The Church of St Mary in Teynham lies absolutely MILES outside of the village, in the middle of a number of orchards, which makes for a really striking and picturesque setting. The church is unusually large and ornate for such a remote area and it is apparently where an Archbishop's palace once stood, which would explain the size and detailing of the building. It reminded me somewhat of St Mary of Charity in Faversham, albeit not anywhere near as modified and rebuilt as the church in Faversham. The tower access was unusual as well, as you have to go into a vestry at the bottom right of the tower, climb an almost vertical wooden ladder and then scuttle along an

equally challenging wooden walkway to a door in the wall of the tower. And then you're in the ringing chamber!

The church holds a 10-3-7cwt (549kg) ring of six bells, tenor in Ab. The treble, third, fourth and tenor were cast in 1743 by Robert Catlin of Holborn, London, and then the second and fifth were cast in 1924 and 1899 respectively by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, London. Overall, these were very enjoyable - they were a nice ring.

## **Final words**

This report has been a joint effort - I asked Jake to do a report for me, which he kindly did and provided photos. I have included his work here. Also some of the photos are Judi's. Thanks to both of you.

Thanks also to our experienced ringers for helping and stepping in when it was needed, and for those who ran the towers for me.

Lastly, thank you all for coming on the "Dash" I hope you all enjoyed the day. Where to next year?



Marilyn Barden

## **Cake inspector Jul-Nov 2023**

### **8 July – Lyminge**

Another fantastic spread with a range of sandwiches, savouries and rather good quiche slices. Some nice sandwich variations too, and the cheese sticks elicited admiring murmurs of approval. There were chocolate macaroons, chocolate and raspberry brownies with a lovely light texture, shortbread, ginger loaf and a gluten-free lemon loaf with a really zingy flavour.

Today's Inspector's Choice though could only be the homemade strawberry sponge cake: simply seasonal, flavoursome and light.

### **9 September - Quex Park**

A sizzingly hot and sunny early September day out in the countryside near Birchington. Some lovely gingery biscuits, which, it was noted, resembled a famous brand of teatime fare, but these were home-made, as indeed a taste test (or two) proved beyond any doubt. Cheese scones, vanilla cake squares and more, including home-made goodies from a well-known ringer's kitchen in Ash.

### **14 October - St Dunstons**

Another great spread by Len's ladies (and gentlemen), with many delights. Egg mayo mini buns, vege-sausage rolls, several different sandwiches, crisps, quiche.... and that was just the savouries.

The coffee cake (made by Phil's mum) had a lovely light texture, and the flavour was very well-balanced.

The Victoria sponge with vanilla icing was also a definite hit on my table. Ringers clustered around the late arrival of Becky's Gypsy tart like bees around a pot of honey: they clearly like tarty things(?!). The chocolate cake was a revelation; a slice in the Inspector's mandatory doggy bag did not reveal its secret until sampled later at home. Only then did it become apparent that it was choc orange! <3 And I had a creme egg-themed mug for my tea too.

PS One other district recently wrote that their ADM was well worth attending as they had cake. Really? Do they mean to say that they sometimes don't? Outrageous! Maybe someone needs to tell them that in the Canterbury district we have cake at every meeting!!

### **11 November – Thanington**

A select number of ringers today, but a warm welcome from Thanington. A selection of savouries including delightful homemade mini cheese scones and sandwiches. Some very good dark choc squares too, plus shortbread fingers and more.

Today's Inspector's Choice went to the iced cupcakes decorated with sprinkles and choc chips in the mix. All was polished off eagerly by the assembled company.

The Cake Inspector

## **All Saints' Whitstable and Friends Bellingringing Outing** **Berkshire, Oxford. 30th October to 3rd November 2023**

Following previous great ringing trips, Maureen Cook, All Saints and Jane Huxley, St Stephens instigated a ringing trip over a year ago. Maureen's cousin Janette and husband Philip Roberts organised the ringing as knowledgeable of the area. Jane organised the hotel and payments.

On a rather wet Monday, 22 intrepid bellringers and 8 guests arrived at 'Littlecote House' Hungerford, Berkshire. A beautiful historic Tudor manor set in acres of amazing countryside and gardens. Fully decorated for Christmas!!!! At the 6pm evening meal set in an allotted area we exchanged greetings, tales of travel, parking and rooms set in the four floored modern wing. We had all downloaded a detailed booklet produced by Philip of the next three-day event.

### **Day 1.**

9am a shared car departure for Redbridge Park and ride, Oxford, for three lovely towers within central Oxford. Good ringing at, St Mary Magdeline (10) 7-1-12, St Thomas the Martyr (10) 11-2-6, St Giles (8) 14-0-1. All spiral staircases. Good ringing of Grandsire triples, Bob triples, Plain hunt on 7, Rounds and Call changes to accommodate various abilities. A box was required by some for heavier bells. We also had time to explore Oxford with some cutting it fine for the evening meal!



**Day 2.**

St Michael & All Angels, Highclere (8) 11-0-27. Beautiful church and the local Bell Captain very informative.

St Nicholas, Newbury (10) 21-2-1. A LOCKOUT, poor Len was unable to captain the heaviest tower due to a misunderstanding of where to meet the key person.

After coffee most travelled to Hungerford for a long lunch break and worshipping the sun by the canal or went back to the hotel.

St Lawrence, Hungerford (8) 12-1-8, beautiful setting by the canal. We disturbed a swarm of ladybirds, crawling and swooping over us through ringing.

St Mary, Chilton Foliat (5) 9-1-12. A steep ladder to the chamber with a latch door. Bells rather heavy set. We left in the dark again.

**Day 3.**

St Michael & All Saints, Lambourne (8) 20-2-0, race horse country.

St Mary the virgin, Childrey, (8) 12-0-4. A small ground floor chamber from a direct outside entrance.

The afternoon was spent at Philip's tower, St Matthew, Harwell (8) 16-1-26 and Janette's tower, All Saints, Chilton, (6) 7-2-3, light bells.

The last two days we had good ringing of Rounds and Call Changes, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Triples, Plain Bob on 7, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman and Cambridge.



We enjoyed good food, fun moments, laughs and singing. There was entertainment or quiet chats in the evening. Brian won an evening quiz, congratulations. Some non-ringing guests enjoyed the hotel steam train outing or the many hotel activities/facilities.

We all look forward to another memorable adventure!!!! Thank you all for participating, with sincere gratitude to Jane, Janette and Philip.



Pat Miller



## New KCACR Lapel Pin Badges

Recently some of the new members at Ospringe and Faversham expressed interest in the KCACR Lapel Pin Badge I was sporting after a District event, so I said I would find out if they were still available.

Having checked with our local purveyor of ringing goods (Claire) and a few other likely sources it became apparent that nobody had seen any of these for sale in a long time. Speaking with Val Cooper, who runs the Association “merchandising” (<https://kcacr.org.uk/association/clothing/>), she thought these might be something of wider interest and said she would look into getting some new ones made.

Interestingly the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) has a catalogue of metal bell ringing badges, originally started by Chris Ridley in 2002. This takes a little bit of finding as it requires some scrolling through drop down menus to get to it:

<https://cccbr.org.uk/resources/library/badge-catalogue/>.

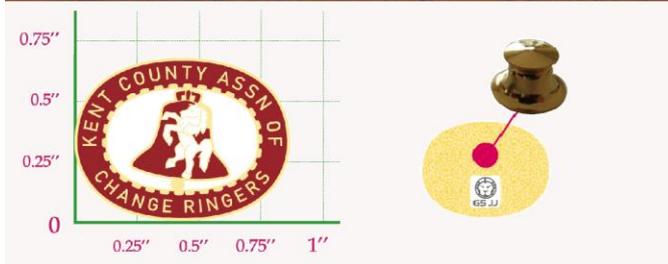
There are notes on a wide range of badges from numerous societies, including the KCACR. There are some quite differing styles and some, unlike the KCACR badge, have undergone significant changes over time.

The KCACR badge was first conceived in 1950, becoming available to the membership during 1951 for the princely sum of 3/- (15p for those too young to remember – and about £3.90 in today’s money). Up to now there have been five versions of the badge each following the general design of the 1950 version; the most notable deviation being an experiment in blue in the early 1970s which was not well received by the membership.

Val used GSJJ (<https://www.gs-jj.com/>) to set up the new design and produce a batch of 50 badges which are now available to today’s membership. The price for orders of 1-3 badges is £3.50 each including p&p, for orders of 4 or more it is £2.50 for each badge and p&p at cost. Whilst you can order direct from Val (see the KCACR website for details), also check whether Claire has any available to buy directly from her stall.

This sixth version is similar in shape and colouring to Version C, but with some differences in the details. The badge is secured in place using a locking back stud which took me a short while to figure out how to get off. I subsequently discovered a YouTube video explaining how to do it – but I found it easier to squeeze the gap between the top and bottom ledges of the stud between my thumb and forefinger so that they force the two bits apart then twist and jiggle the stud off.

It is good to see the badges available again and relatively inexpensive – check whether Claire has any on her stall. With GSJJ as supplier it looks as though it will not be difficult to get further supplies quite quickly if there is the demand.



Stuart Palin

## **Canterbury Colleges Society of Change Ringers and Friends Outing November 2023**

Members of the Canterbury Colleges Society of Change Ringers, along with several invited friends, gathered at Sheldwich on a bright but chilly morning in late November, in eager anticipation of ringing at the first venue of the forthcoming day's outing. The Canterbury Colleges Society of Change Ringers is a ringing association for the students, staff and alumni of the four major higher education institutions in Canterbury: the University of Kent, Canterbury Christ Church University, the University for the Creative Arts (Canterbury campus) and Canterbury College. Currently, the Society consists of a small but dedicated group of active students, reinforced by a few supportive alumni, and is looking to attract both existing ringers and new learners to build on the existing foundations. A ringing outing had been proposed in order that the Society's existing members, who are not all able to meet regularly together at the same towers, could spend time consolidating friendships while enjoying ringing a diverse range of bells. After much arranging and emailing on my part as organiser, the schedule for the day had been finally confirmed a couple of days beforehand, a sufficient number of participants to make the outing practical had been secured, and Sheldwich had been settled upon as a suitable starting point, as it is not too far from the residences of all the participants and therefore getting up very early on a Saturday morning to embark on a long journey to the first tower would not be necessary!



*The tower of St James, Sheldwich.*

The substantial parish church of Sheldwich, a rather fragmented village about three miles south of Faversham, is dedicated to St James and dates in part from the eleventh century. The tower contains a pleasant 7cwt eight, easy to ring and much in demand for peals and quarters by visiting bands. The bells were cast as a complete ring in 1998 by Whitechapel, supported by lottery funding as a Millenium Project, in order to replace an older ring of six which had been unringable since 1906. Our intrepid band made its way up to the open gallery and, after a few brief introductions detailing names, connections (or not!) with higher education in Canterbury and ringing experience, given that not everybody present had previously met, embarked upon the day's ringing, under

Adam's experienced guidance. Apart from one abortive plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor, which unexpectedly for some participants morphed into a plain course of Ebor Surprise Minor\* shortly after commencing, the ringing was confident and included a touch of Plain Bob Doubles, a plain course of Plain Bob Triples, and a long touch of Plain Bob Major which was brought round with what Andrew termed a "magic bob" at the end! After ringing the bells down, we returned the church's impressive key and journeyed south across the rolling North Downs towards our next destination of Little Chart, some four miles northwest of Ashford.

*\*A plain course of Ebor Surprise Minor is effectively a touch of Cambridge Surprise Minor with a bob at every lead, silent and unconduted.*

Little Chart's original medieval parish church, dedicated to St Mary the Virgin and the Holy Rood, received a direct hit from a V-1 flying bomb in 1944, with only the badly damaged tower and parts of the chancel wall left standing. The villagers removed the bells and stored them by the nearby railway line. Although the fourth bell was stolen, the five remaining bells were removed to Taylor's in 1955 and recast into a new 6cwt ring of six. The replacement brick-built church, dedicated more simply to St Mary the Virgin, along with its new bells, was consecrated the following year by Geoffrey Fisher, the then Archbishop of Canterbury. To this rather unusual building we made our way, where the ringing was presided over jointly by Isabel and Katie. Some Spliced St Simon's and St Martin's was managed amongst other Doubles methods, and we also righted our mishap at Sheldwich by successfully completing a plain course of Cambridge Minor, although our catch after ringing the bells down perhaps left something to be desired! Upon leaving Little Chart, we travelled for ten miles in a westerly direction to reach the next tower on our itinerary.



*St Mary the Virgin, Little Chart.*

The Parish Church of St Mary, Frittenden was that next port of call. The medieval church was largely rebuilt in the early Victorian era, and the tower, topped by an impressive spire, contains a fine-sounding 15cwt Gillett and Johnston ring of eight cast in 1928. Andrew took charge of the ringing here, which included Triples of the Plain Bob and Grandsire varieties, along with some more Cambridge Minor. Certain taller ringers forwent ringing the treble at this tower, due to the fact that the rope passes through a boss fixed to the underside of the clock case, not very far above a ringer's head, while others chose to ring this bell sitting down!



*Ringling the treble at Frittenden, Adam seems a bit dubious about how far he can stretch up at backstroke!*

*Later on, Scott prepares to ring the same bell from a sitting position!*

After concluding our ringing we posed in the churchyard for a group photo, before saying goodbye to Isabel, Katie and Scott, who had to leave us at this point due to other commitments. The rest of us then headed in the direction of the village pub, The Bell & Jorrocks, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch with much conviviality, and took in Jake’s final film degree submission, *Chalice*, a spooky ten minute horror.



St Peter and St Paul, Headcorn.

The final destination on our tour was the village of Headcorn, about eight miles southeast of Maidstone, where the imposing Grade I listed parish church, dedicated to St Peter and St Paul, houses a suitably grand 21cwt ring of eight, comprising bells cast by various founders at different dates. Although we had lost three members of our party prior to lunch, our numbers were bolstered by the arrival of Toby, an alumnus of Kent, who came to join us for this last session of the day which involved an extended stay compared to our other visits, due to the fact that we had arranged to join a practice already scheduled for Kent Young Ringers, the KCACR’s youth division. Kent Young Ringers practices are usually well supported, but some late withdrawals meant that the attendance of our outing party enabled the practice on this

occasion to go ahead. More Triples methods were rung, including the first Stedman of the day, interspersed with some call changes, Plain Hunt and cake(!), all under the practiced direction of Jen Thomas, KCACR Youth Officer, before we all headed home after a thoroughly enjoyable day.

We are always happy to hear from anyone who is currently eligible to be a member of the Canterbury Colleges Society of Change Ringers, or will prospectively be coming to Canterbury as a student or staff member. For more information, please contact me via email at [benlegg87@hotmail.com](mailto:benlegg87@hotmail.com)



L to R: Emily Higgs (Kent), Benjamin Legg (Christ Church alumnus), Harry Saddleton (Kent), Adam Moore, Andrew Meyer (Kent), Barnaby Larter, Katie White (Kent), Isabel Hopper, Jake Reid (Christ Church), Scott Pearce. Not pictured: Toby Huitson (Kent alumnus).

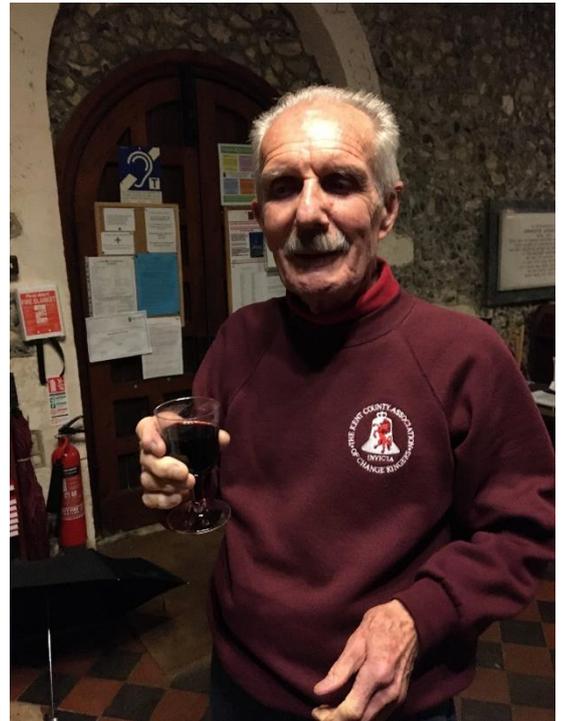
Ben Legg

## **St Peter's, Bekesbourne**

Sadly, we lost our oldest ringer in 2023. Roger Nichols joined us at St. Peter's Bekesbourne, after an open day in 2005 soon after the restoration of our bells. He was 70. He was a faithful ringer, turning up for practice nights come rain or shine, ringing for services and weddings.

Peter has been a staunch member of our church and ringing family ever since. He gave up with shoulder problems in the last few years and is sadly missed.

Wendy Durrell



## **The Young Bell Ringers' Cycling Tour 2024**

At the end of July this year the members of the tour will take up residence for the week at the Keynes College campus in Canterbury. During that week they plan to cycle five circular routes radiating out from the campus and, crucially, to ring at the towers along their way. Hence the purpose of this missive – to pacify the fears and seek the cooperation of local ringers along our routes.

The first tour, 51 years ago, was arranged for the young ringers my wife and I had taught at our then parish, Tetbury and Shipton Moyne, but over the years the clientele has expanded and now includes people from a wide area. Sadly, the "Young" in YBRCT has become a little misleading! We have all ages and pensioners now predominate - we have no members under twenty. One could speculate why "teenagers no longer join us, but it is a sad reality. Maybe the dreaded "child protection" plays a part?

A wide range of ringing abilities exist within the group but all are able to ring safely and competently within their own limitations. We are a sociable group and enjoy meeting local ringers and welcome them to join us for any part of our itinerary. You can keep informed of our progress and our prestigious past on our website <ybrct.org.uk>

So I hope you will all smile kindly at me when you receive my email requesting to ring at your tower? Arranging the Itinerary for the tour is a major military operation as timings and distances are crucial when we are all on bikes (though mine is now electrified).

Geoff Stickland (Revd and very much retired)

## **St Nicholas, Ash**

What a year it's been at Ash. Apart from the excitement of the Coronation and the challenges of getting everyone compliant with Safeguarding requirements, we also had to face the consequences of three more of our 'regulars' moving away from the area during the year, leaving us reliant on the faithful few to keep the bells ringing. None of us are in the first flush of youth, and, in common towers, our current numbers are not sufficient to sustain an active band in the medium term.

At our AGM, we therefore came to a decision to hold a 'taster' day in September for potential new recruits – a short presentation in the church, followed by a visit to the tower and an opportunity for everyone to 'have a go' at backstroke. The village is generally very supportive of ringing, and in our minds were hoping that we might be lucky to gain maybe one possibly two new recruits, so were pleasantly surprised to see eight people turn up on the Saturday morning. Of those, three expressed a wish to 'learn the ropes', and a further recruit joined around a month later. Enquiries to Diocesan House established that DBS checks were needed for our two teachers, and we are now holding regular sessions for our four learners, who have all completed their Safeguarding training and have been welcomed as valued members of the band.

I am not able to teach myself, but am following progress with keen interest, favouring a calm, steady approach following an exciting practice session a month or so ago when we lost two stays within 10 minutes of each other! Lessons learned all round, I am pleased to say. Fortunately, Bob was quickly on the case, Nicholsons provided splendid service in getting new stays to us and we were back in action very quickly.

Our four learners are making excellent progress, and Malcolm also took the opportunity to attend the recent ART M1 course at Staplehurst in December. He found it quite intense, but was impressed with the way the course was structured, and the many suggested training exercises which can be used to encourage good bell handling. He would recommend it to anyone looking to refresh their teaching skills or starting to teach for the first time.

We are now moving into a new phase, with a separate weekly practice planned for our learners in the New Year. We hope it will not be too long now before we can bring our new recruits to District meetings, and start to introduce them to the wider world of ringing.

Marilyn Barden



Thank you to all those of you who played the 120 club last year. We made a small profit of £140.

The new draw year starts from the January Meeting.

If you would like to rejoin for the next year to be entered in the 10 draws of the year, there are several ways.

1. Either post a cheque (KCACR Cant Dist 120 Club)
2. By cash for £10 per number to me at 53 Wilfred Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 7RD.
3. Bank transfer to 30-92-93 68654660, (KCACR Cant Dist 120 Club) or come and see me at the January meeting.

Any queries please contact me by email [120clubcanterbury@gmail.com](mailto:120clubcanterbury@gmail.com)

Below is the list of winners for draws this year. Prizes were 1<sup>st</sup> £20, 2<sup>nd</sup> £15, 3<sup>rd</sup> £10. December 1<sup>st</sup> prize was £50. The more members the higher the prizes.

Month	1st	2nd	3rd
<b>Jan-23</b>	9 - Brian Kennett	10 - Sarat White	11 - Adam Redgwell
<b>Mar-23</b>	5 - Lyminge Tower	20 - Peter Freeman	36 - Zoe Story
<b>Apr-23</b>	23 - St Dunstans	26 - Becky Holliday	44 - Ash Tower
<b>May-23</b>	24 - Becky Holliday	29 - Tony Martin	53 - Gill Moon
<b>Jun-23</b>	57 - Janet Pain	66 - Amanda Hills	55 - Adam Moore
<b>Jul-23</b>	47 - Judi Pettman	40 - Mick Cairns	13 - Phoebe Pateson
<b>Sep-23</b>	50 - Andy Brett	5 - Lyminge Tower	26 - Becky Holliday
<b>Oct-23</b>	32 - Susan Record	50 - Andy Brett	51 - Andy Brett
<b>Nov-23</b>	42 - Malcolm Smith	8 - Maureen Cooke	5 - Lyminge Tower
<b>Dec-23</b>	19 - Jane Huxley	55 - Adam Moore	2 - Maureen Cooke

Phil Elderton

## **Minutes of Past Meetings**

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### **KCACR – Canterbury District – Annual District Meeting** **Saturday 14 October 2023 at Canterbury, St Dunstans**

Ringling began at 3pm under the guidance of Stuart Palin. The service at 4.15pm was conducted by Jenny Walpole with Susan Record playing the organ. Tea was served by the St. Dunstans ringers in the church hall.

The Chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to St. Dunstans. He then asked members to stand for a period of silence in memory of Chris and Janet Godfrey of Chilham who died recently within 13 days of each other.

**1. Apologies for Absence** were received from Debbie Aris, Hedley Basford, Rev. David Cawley, Andrew Corby, Airlie Fray, Becky Holladay, Tom Hooley, Susan Lillywhite, John Paramor, Freda Parker, Gill Robinson, and Zoe and Malcolm Storey.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting** were taken as read on a proposal from Sally Bullock seconded by Fiona. The chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising.

**4. Election of New Members.** From Herne, Tracey Colley was proposed by Susan Record and seconded by Keith Record. From Sandwich Gillian Lamond, Rowena Pearce and Lesley Pellegrino were proposed by Sally Wall and seconded by Jo Horton. All four were elected members of the Association.

**5. The Collection** amounted to £26.80 and all of this was given to St Dunstans Church.

**6. Chairman's Remarks.** The chairman wished to say very little but had been impressed with the numbers attending meetings this year, with their capabilities and also with the pleasant social atmosphere.

He wished to thank the committee without whose efforts nothing would be achieved. He also wished to thank the work of Rev. David Cawley, Len Huckstep and Michael Keeler-Walker who were all standing down this year.

**7. Secretary's Report.** The secretary also wished to be brief as there were lot of items on the agenda to get through. He went on to say that it had been a difficult year organizing meetings at towers who know nothing about the association and whose members won't visit other towers to improve their ringing. There is an area of the district around Dover and Deal in which this is common. However since January this year there have been 26 new members elected at district meetings.

The secretary wished to thank the incumbents, churchwardens and ringers of the towers visited and also the membership who supported all the events.

**8. Treasurer's Report.** Cathryn reported that the 120 club had posted a profit of £135 for this year and that Claire's bookstall was bringing in money as well.

**9. Ringing Master's Report.** This year has seen a return to normal patterns of ringing with a full schedule of District meetings, practices, and competitions – all of which have been well supported by the

membership. A major ringing event during the year was, of course, the coronation of their majesties King Charles and Queen Camilla and many of the towers across the District participated in the event.

The year started with a tentative resumption of evening ringing after last year's ADM and we are pleased to be able to report that this post-meeting ringing continued throughout the year; though it is noticeable that there is a drop off in numbers compared to the afternoon ringing. Meeting ringing has catered for all levels up to Surprise Minor on 6 bells and Stedman Triples/Grandsire Caters on 8-bells and above.

Monthly District Practices have followed a structure of quarterly Surprise Major practices with other practices covering different themes in between. Practices have been well attended with those aimed at Plain Hunt/Plain Bob on 5, Plain Hunt on 9, and Raising and Lowering in Peal being very heavily subscribed. We are currently exploring ways in which we might be able to better address such ringing interest – though it is worth emphasising that District Meetings always ring rounds, call-changes, and basic methods and so are a good opportunity to practice these.

In August a District Outing to the Surrey area was organized by Claire Stay and attended by 25 members. We visited 5 towers with a pub lunch at The Woodman, Ashstead. The day was hugely enjoyed by all and our thanks go to Claire for her work in arranging the day particularly the very detailed instructions.

The District performed well in the County 8-Bell Competition at Lypne and the County 6-Bell Striking Competition at Monkton, but was not represented in the new County Call-Change Competition also at Monkton at the same time. A District band repeated last year's success by winning the 8-Bell competition, and the Sturry band won the 6-Bell competition. Jo Horton of Sturry also donated a trophy for presentation to the winners of the County Call Change competition. Thanks are due to those members who represented the District; and to the band at Monkton, and other supporting members, who hosted the county competitions on behalf of the District.

Ringers from across the Canterbury District have participated or helped with many of the Kent Young Ringers and Kent MINI-Ringers events during the past year. The District was able to enter a full band into the KCACR Youth Striking Competition, held at Stansted on 18<sup>th</sup> February, and came a very creditable 3<sup>rd</sup>. We would like to encourage any towers with young ringers to get involved with Kent Young Ringers – they can meet and ring with others of a similar age and have opportunities to participate in many different events both locally and nationally.

Throughout the year details of District Ringing are reported in the District Newsletter along with what is planned for the following quarter. Announcements for District Practices are also communicated by email to tower contacts and published on the Canterbury District Facebook page.

In conclusion we should like to thank all those who have supported District Ringing and hope you will continue to do so. We would also encourage those who have not participated in District Ringing to give it some more consideration. District Meetings in particular are an opportunity for members of all abilities to practice, meet others sharing their interest in ringing, and make new friends.

**10. 120 Club Report.** The draw was as follow:

1st	£30	32	Susan Record	Herne
2nd	£20	50	Andy Brett	Goodnestone
3rd	£10	51	Andy Brett	Goodnestone

**11. Report from the County including competitions and rule change.** Malcolm reported that he had attended all general committee meetings bar one when Ben deputised. He had updated the district committee at their meetings. There was a lot of routine items but six main topics were discussed.

1. The new membership database was in place and Doug Davis was migrating information over to it from the old system. A guide to its operation will be produced.
2. Risk assessments have been written and these are on the website.
3. There had been a change to the county competitions. A new county call change competition had been introduced where teams with no affiliation could enter. It had not been well supported with three teams plus an entry from the young ringers who visited Monkton that day.
4. Safeguarding had generated a lot of discussion. Safeguarding officer Emma Jarvis and Chairman Neil Jones wished to make it easier for ringers but the Canterbury Diocese had laid down their own rules. The diocese will carry out an audit later in the year. Two towers have been shut down for not being compliant with the rules.
5. Association rules have to be put to the members at their ADMs but this is a lengthy process. A substantial offer of financial help had been lost because of this. The committee wished to change the rule so decisions could be made quicker by them. They will need to get the views of members on this.
6. A potential change to the membership application process had been suggested. A paper was circulated to committee members with lots of replies but this has not been discussed as yet. People can apply online but need support and to be proposed and seconded.

**12. Safeguarding.** Bro Austin was perturbed that towers had been closed down and this needs to be resolved. Malcolm said that the Diocese had eased the rules to make it easier for members without computers. People could now do the basic training as a group with the person logged on getting a certificate with the other sanctioned by them. The diocese has been reluctant to co-operate with the association. In the past we have attended training together, particularly tower captains, but the diocese will not do this now. Tower captains have been added to the course for PTOs. There was to be an audit in the autumn but this is not likely to be done just yet but possibly occur next year.

Jake Reid asked why ringers appeared to be singled out. Susan Record suggested that the safeguarding people will not engage with ringers. The chairman suggested that this had all kicked off with the drive for new ringers for the Coronation and he had been told that towers will be shut if they don't comply. If members had any doubts about what to do they should raise the matter with their parish safeguarding officer and vicar. The question was asked about what would happen about ringers visiting a tower which had been closed to the local band.

**13. Election of Officers for 2024.**

Post	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Mike Little	Len Huckstep	Cathryn Hills
Secretary	Tony Martin	Jo Horton	Claire Stay
Assistant Secretary	Andrew Hills	Malcolm Barden	Jo Horton
Treasurer	Cathryn Hills	Stuart Palin	Andy Brett
Ringling Master	Benjamin Legg	Claire Stay	Peter Freeman
Ringling Master	Stuart Palin	Claire Stay	Peter Freeman
District Rep	Malcolm Barden	Len Huckstep	Cathryn Hills
Youth Co-ordinator	Benjamin Legg	Stuart Palin	Adam Moore
120 Club Organiser	Philip Elderton	Cathryn Hills	Andy Brett
Newsletter Editor	Jane Huxley	Philip Elderton	Len Huckstep
Extra Three	Claire Stay	}	
Extra Three	Adam Moore	} Peter Freeman	Marilyn Barden
Extra Three	Maureen Cooke	}	

The chairman thanked everyone who had agreed to be a member of the committee.

**14. Towers for 2024/25.** The following programme had been suggested by the committee at their meeting in June.

Month	Tower	Meeting
January 13th	Canterbury Cathedral	Quarterly Meeting.
February 10th	Ash next Sandwich	Bye Meeting.
March 9th	Sandwich	Call Change Competition
April 13th	Hernhill	Quarterly Meeting.
May 11th	Lynsted	Striking Competition.
June 8th	Westgate	Bye Meeting.
July 13th	Lyminge	Quarterly Meeting.
September 14th	Bekesbourne	Bye Meeting.
October 12th	St Dunstons	ADM.
November 9th	Newnham	Bye Meeting.
December 14th	Ospringe	Carol Service and Social.
January 11th 2025	Wingham	Quarterly Meeting.
February 9th 2025	Whitstable St Alphege	Bye Meeting.
March 9th 2025	Teynham	Bye Meeting.

With the introduction of the monthly district practices the committee felt that there was no need for a ringing school in February so two additional meetings were added to the programme.

No towers had yet been approached.

**15. Time of Meetings.** Having meetings starting at 2 pm was thought to create problems particularly for competitions if towers had weddings. On the other hand it had been noticed that more people stayed and rang after the meetings with the earlier start time. It was proposed by Andrew Hills, seconded by Adam Moore that the times should stay at 2pm. This was agreed by the members present.

## **16. Forthcoming Events.**

**Saturday 21st October** – District Surprise Major Practice at Throwley from 7.30 to 9pm. An email had just gone out with members asked to let the ringing masters know if they were likely to attend.

**Saturday 11th November** - Bye Meeting at Thanington Ringing from 2pm, service at 3.30pm followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to [namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible please.

**Saturday 18th November** – District Plain Triples Practice at Lyminge from 10 to 11.30am. Members were asked to let the ringing masters know if they were likely to attend.

**Saturday 9th December** - Carol Service and Social at Herne. Ringing from 3 to 4.30pm. Service at 5pm Followed by hot food and a festive quiz. Tickets £15. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Please let Claire know by 1st December if you wish to come. Members were asked to take posters to their home towers.

**Saturday 13th January** - Quarterly Meeting at Canterbury Cathedral. Ringing from 3 to 5pm when the Cathedral band will take over for evensong at 5.30pm. Further ringing after 7pm. Names for tea to [namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible please.

**Saturday 20th January** – District Surprise Major Practice at Sheldwich from 7.30 to 9pm. Please let the ringing masters know if you are likely to attend.

**17. Any Other Business.** Jo Horton proposed that we only held a service at quarterly meetings. Andrew Hills pointed out that we were having difficulties with the church over safeguarding so was this the right time to withdraw services from meetings dates. The meeting decided to return to this topic in a year's time.

Ben mentioned the county six bell competition rule about regular Sunday service ringers and suggested that the district ought to change its rule to match the county rule. Andrew again asked it was the right time to distance ourselves from the church. Malcolm said that he could see Ben's point but does it matter if we still meet the county criteria. Cathryn quoted the objects of the association as encouraging Sunday service ringing so this would go against this objective. Ben proposed the removal of the Sunday service wording with Jake seconding. The vote was lost.

**Vote of Thanks.** Mike Little gave the vote of thanks to everyone involved in organising the Annual Meeting.

## **KCACR – Canterbury District – Bye Meeting** **Saturday 11 November 2023 at St Nicholas, Thanington**

Ringling took place from 2pm under the guidance of Stuart Palin. The service at 3.30pm was led by Rev. Nick White with Susan Record playing the organ. Tea was served in the church by the local ringers and friends.

The chairman, Mike Little, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Thanington. Members then stood for a minutes silence for Tony Goodman from Minster who died on 25th October. His funeral will be on Friday 17th November at 10.45 at Thanet Crematorium.

**1. Apologies for absence** were received from Debbie Aris, Bro Austin, Mick Cairns, Rev David Cawley, Callum Dyson, Elaine Hartnell, Ben Legg, John Paramor, Freda Parker, Gill Robinson, Malcolm and Zoe Story.

**2. Election of new members.** From Thanington Leanne Jones proposed by Tony Martin and seconded by Jane Huxley. Leanne was elected by those members present.

**3. Presentation of Certificates.** There were no certificates to be presented.

**4. The Collection.** Amounted to £26.23 all to go to Thanington Church.

**5. Forthcoming Events.** Saturday 18th November District Plain Triples practice at Lyminge. 10 - 11.30am. Stuart said they had just enough to run this but more help and pupils would be welcome.

**Saturday 25th November** Surprise Major practice at Throwley 7.30 to 9pm. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

**Saturday 9th December** Carol Service and Social at St Martin, Herne. Ringing from 3 - 4.30pm. Service at 4.30pm. Hot food at 6pm followed by a festive quiz at 7.30. Tickets £15. Bring your own glasses and drink. Names to Claire by 1st December please. There will be a vegetarian option and any raffle prizes would be welcome.

**Saturday 13th January 2024** Quarterly Meeting at the Cathedral. Ringing from 3 to 5pm when the Cathedral band will take over for Evensong at 5.30. Further ringing after 7pm. Members asked about access for parking. This would probably not be available. The time of the meeting was to be decided later.

**Saturday 20th January** District Surprise Major practice at Sheldwich. 7.30 to 9pm. Stuart suggested that new methods could be tried if requested.

Saturday 10th February Bye Meeting at Ash next Sandwich. Ringing from 2pm, Service at 3.30 followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to [namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible please.

**6. 120 Club Draw.** In the absence of Philip the draw will be held over to December.

**7. Any Other Business.** The March meeting will be the call change competition.

Stuart mentioned that if any members didn't receive details about district ringing from their tower contact they could be added to the ringing masters mailing list and receive information direct.

Hernhill had applied to use the county display boards but had not received a reply. It seems that towers need to apply via the public relations officer email address. Malcolm would raise this matter at the next committee meeting as the boards were not in very good condition.

A new set of lapel badges had been obtained by the county and will cost £2.50 each plus postage and packing. Any requests for county clothing need to be ordered soon if required for Christmas.

The chairman announced that Margate bells were back up and running and wondered if they could apply for a grant from the BRF. Apparently they can and Malcolm will follow up any application with the county committee.

**8. Vote of Thanks.** Sally Bullock gave the vote of thanks to Rev. Nick White for use of the church and bells and everyone involved with organising the meeting. Members showed their appreciation in the usual way.

## District Quarter Peals

Quarter Peals rung from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 are as follows

Date	Dedication	Place	Duration	Changes	Method	Conductor
01/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	39m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Thomas Hooley
01/10/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	41m	1272	Cambridge Surprise Minor	Andrew M Hills
01/10/2023	All Saints	Birchington		1280	Denton Doubles	Tim Attridge
07/10/2023	St Mary of Charity	Faversham	45m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Adam Moore
07/10/2023	St Mary	Chilham		1250	Spliced Surprise Major (4m)	Andrew M Hills
08/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (11m/v/p)	Andrew M Hills
08/10/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1260	Pennywell Doubles	Tim Attridge
13/10/2023	All Saints	Petham		1296	Stedman Doubles	Andrew M Hills
15/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	42m	1320	Plain Bob Minor	Jane E Huxley
15/10/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (8m/v/p)	Andrew M Hills
15/10/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1280	Frome Doubles	Tim Attridge
18/10/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Dover	47m	1344	St Laurence Bob Triples	Andrew J Corby
20/10/2023	St James	Sheldwich	48m	1302	Plain Bob Triples	Adam Moore
21/10/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	39m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Cathryn M Hills
22/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	45m	1409	Doubles (8m)	Andrew M Hills
22/10/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	52m	1306	Stedman Cinques	Andrew M Hills
23/10/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Ospringe	46m	1312	Spliced Surprise Major (4m)	Andrew M Hills
23/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Leonard A Huckstep
27/10/2023	St Bartholomew	Waltham	43m	1260	St Clement's College Bob Minor	Mark Chittenden-Pile
27/10/2023	All Saints	Petham	40m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Mark Chittenden-Pile
27/10/2023	St Martin	Herne	45m	1260	Mixed Doubles (3m)	Barry Roberts
27/10/2023	St Mary	Chartham	47m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Mark Chittenden-Pile
27/10/2023	St Peter	Bekesbourne	40m	1260	Single Oxford Bob Minor	Mark Chittenden-Pile
28/10/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	52m	1264	Plain Bob Major	Mark Chittenden-Pile
29/10/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (11m/v/p)	Paul N Davis
29/10/2023	All Saints	Birchington	39m	1280	The Guinea Pig Club Doubles	Tim Attridge
05/11/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (4m/p)	Leonard A Huckstep
05/11/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	The Hinges Doubles	Tim Attridge
06/11/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	St Ninian Doubles	Tim Attridge
10/11/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Newnham	43m	1260	Buxton Bob Minor	Adam Moore
12/11/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Ospringe	43m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Adam Moore
12/11/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury		1260	Doubles (4m/p)	Andrew M Hills
12/11/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	56m	1311	Stedman Cinques	Andrew M Hills
13/11/2023	St Saviour	Westgate on Sea	45m	1260	Elford Doubles	Tim Attridge
15/11/2023	St Nicholas	Ash next Sandwich	50m	1287	Stedman Caters	Andrew M Hills
19/11/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (4m/p)	Leonard A Huckstep
19/11/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	44m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Andrew M Hills
19/11/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Vera and Peter Doubles	Tim Attridge
20/11/2023	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thanet	50m	1260	Austrey Doubles	Tim Attridge
24/11/2023	St Michael	Hernhill	41m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Barry Roberts
26/11/2023	St Mary	Teynham	43m	1260	Doubles (5m)	Barry Roberts
26/11/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (6m/v/p)	Jane E Huxley
26/11/2023	All Saints	Birchington	37m	1260	Christus Rex Doubles	Tim Attridge
27/11/2023	St John the Baptist	Margate	45m	1260	St Simon's Bob Doubles	Tim Attridge

Date	Dedication	Place	Duration	Changes	Method	Conductor
02/12/2023	St Peter and St Paul	Ospringe	48m	1344	Superlative Surprise Major	Andrew M Hills
03/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	42m	1260	Doubles (5m/v)	Andrew M Hills
03/12/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	The Pilgrims Hospice Doubles	Tim Attridge
08/12/2023	St Mary the Virgin	Selling	41m	1260	Stedman Doubles	Adam Moore
10/12/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	43m	1260	Grandsire Triples	Paul N Davis
10/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	50m	1282	Cambridge Surprise Royal	Andrew J Corby
10/12/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	'cos It's Sunday Doubles	Tim Attridge
16/12/2023	Holy Cross	Goodnestone	40m	1260	Doubles (6m/v)	Andrew M Hills
16/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (2m)	Andrew M Hills
17/12/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Paul N Davis
17/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	40m	1260	Doubles (5m/v)	Andrew M Hills
17/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	42m	1260	Doubles (10m/v)	Cathryn M Hills
18/12/2023	St James	Sheldwich	44m	1264	Plain Bob Major	Stuart C Palin
20/12/2023	St John the Baptist	Margate	45m	1260	Plain Bob Minor	Simon P Friend
20/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury		1320	Grandsire Cinques	Andrew J Corby
23/12/2023	Holy Cross	Goodnestone	40m	1260	Doubles (6m/v/p)	Cathryn M Hills
23/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	78m	1923	Stedman Cinques	Andrew M Hills
24/12/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (11m/v/p)	Cathryn M Hills
24/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	50m	1280	Cambridge Surprise Major	Andrew J Corby
24/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	35m	1260	Grandsire Doubles	Andrew M Hills
24/12/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	One More Sleep Doubles	Tim Attridge
25/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	40m	1260	St Nicholas Bob Doubles	Andrew M Hills
26/12/2023	St Stephen, Hackington	Canterbury	43m	1260	Stedman Triples	Andrew M Hills
28/12/2023	Waterloo Tower, Quex Park	Birchington	45m	1260	Ollie's 100th Doubles	Tim Attridge
28/12/2023	Waterloo Tower, Quex Park	Birchington	42m	1260	Lammas Doubles	Tim Attridge
29/12/2023	St James	Sheldwich	43m	1260	Doubles (3m)	Adam Moore
30/12/2023	St Dunstan	Canterbury	41m	1260	Doubles (3m/v)	Andrew M Hills
31/12/2023	St Laurence	St Laurence in Thanet	48m	1260	Kennington Doubles	Freda Parker
31/12/2023	All Saints	Birchington	38m	1260	Tom Wood Doubles	Tim Attridge

## District Peals

Peals rung from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 are as follows

Date	Dedication	Place	Duration	Changes	Method	Conductor
06/11/2023	St Nicholas	Worth	2h 41	5040	Surprise Minor (12m)	Peter G C Ellis
19/11/2023	All Saints	Petham	2h 33	5040	Surprise Minor (7m)	Andrew M Hills
29/12/2023	Canterbury Cathedral	Canterbury	3h 19	5100	Stedman Cinques	Andrew M Hills

## Canterbury District Officers

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As of the 2023 Annual District Meeting, the officers of the Canterbury District currently stand as follows:

<b>Chairman</b>	Mike Little	01843 791117	quexmaster@hotmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Tony Martin	01227 769686	canterburysecretary@kcacr.org.uk
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cathryn Hills	01795 533809	(No calls after 8pm please)
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Andrew Hills	01795 533809	amh1115@outlook.com
<b>Ringling Master 1</b>	Ben Legg	07818 434350	benlegg87@hotmail.com
<b>Ringling Master 2</b>	Stuart Palin		canterburyringingmaster@kcacr.org.uk
<b>District Rep</b>	Malcolm Barden		malcolmbarden@aol.com
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Jane Huxley		cantdistrictnews@gmail.com
<b>120 Club Promoter</b>	Phil Elderton		120clubcanterbury@gmail.com
<b>Extra Three</b>	Maureen Cooke	07745 126853	maureendcooke@gmail.com
<b>Extra Three</b>	Adam Moore		adam8993@gmail.com
<b>Extra Three</b>	Claire Stay		claire.stay@mac.com



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

## Forthcoming Events

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### **Quarterly Meeting**

Saturday 13th January 2024 at the Cathedral. Ringing from 3 to 5pm when the Cathedral band will take over for Evensong at 5.30. Further ringing after 7pm.

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### **District Practice**

Saturday 20th January Surprise Major at Sheldwich. 7.30 to 9pm. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

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### **Bye Meeting**

Saturday 10th February at Ash next Sandwich.

Ringling from 2pm, Service at 3.30 followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to [namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible please.

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### **District Practice**

Saturday 24th February Doubles Variations at Littlebourne 10 - 11.30am. Contact the ringing masters for more details.

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### **Call Change Competition**

Saturday 9th March at Sandwich.

Ringling from 2pm, Service at 3.30 followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to [namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:namesfortea@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible please.

The venue is to be confirmed.

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### **District Practice**

Saturday 30th March Surprise Minor at Monkton 10 - 11.30am. Contact the ringing masters for more details.