



INVICTA

LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1998

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

Happy

diary to the look back to see

old year brought. One peal and quarters is my own personal total, a deputy master of this district and the first year as editor of this Newsletter.

It's at this time of year, when transcribing all the names and addresses from your old new one that I what the



twenty year as

Not too bad - what will 1998 bring?

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the people who have supported James Hardy and myself at the District events, practices and related happenings - please keep it up and encourage other ringers to support the district.

New

tunity to thank ported James



Thanks also to all the subscribers who helped me by renewing their subscriptions so promptly - your assistance has given the Newsletter a firm financial base for the future. Please also remember that this newsletter can only continue to function with your articles and stories. So please send me a few lines about any tower outing's, firsts in methods, special events or the like.

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Year

Dates for the Diary

Finally, I hope 1998 proves to be a prosperous year for you all.

Jeremy Byers

MASTER'S REPORT 1997

The programme that we drew up in January was intended to perform two functions:

1. To provide more practice at the 'basics' of ringing on six, eight and ten bells in preference to more complex subject matter.
2. To visit some of the towers less frequently visited by the Lewisham District in the past.

Attendance at the first four practices was excellent, and I believe that good progress was made by many who attended. For example, at Downe we had over 25 attendants.

However, as the year progressed numbers started to drop, until only the usual regulars were attending.

(Continued on page 2)

1998 District Calendar

10 th January	QDM The Annunciation & St Nicholas (evening) Chislehurst
21 st March	6 Bell Striking Competition St Mary Cray
25 th April	QDM Hayes
11 th July	QDM Cudham or Downe
26 th Sept.	County 6 Bell Striking Competition Farningham or Sidcup
10 th Oct.	ADM Beckenham
21 st Nov.	Call Change Competition Eltham
12 th Dec.	Carol Service St John's Erith

(Continued from page 1)

For example, there were only 7 members at Deptford.

This is a great disappointment to me, as I feel that whilst the 'regulars' continue to benefit from the events, those who probably need help the most are sadly absent on most occasions. I refer of course to those who are learning in the District.

It is also a shame that many of our more experienced ringers (who could offer so much to the less experienced), seem reluctant to find the time to assist, (or indeed to read their newsletter/programme and find out when they could). Surely it is the duty of all experienced ringers to 'pay back' a little of the enjoyment that they have gained through ringing by helping the continual process of training. It should not be necessary for any one ringer to attend every practice, since our membership is quite large - so if every member attended three or four events a year we would have no problem.

If people feel it would be helpful, I am quite willing to institute a rota of 'helpers'. However, I am not inclined to phone people up each time and browbeat them simply to ensure good attendance. That is not my job.

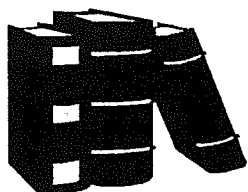
I have noticed that at most meetings over the past few years, new members have joined us, so I would be pleased to see some of these new faces at district practices.

If you have a problem with transport, please phone either Jeremy or myself and we will do our utmost to help.

We would welcome any suggestions regarding the content of the practices so that the District might cater for YOUR needs.

Finally, I would like to thank all of those members who have supported these events and supported me over the past year. And my special thanks go to Jeremy 'Jez' Byers for his help in both ringing room and pub!

JAMES HARDY



Bookshop Bargains

DISCOVERING BELLS AND BELLRINGING
by JOHN CAMP

4th edition 1997, Shire Publications, £3.95
ISBN 0 7478 0326 9

On receiving this new edition from the publisher, I got out my own 1977 second edition copy for comparison. The new edition is more attractive with full colour front

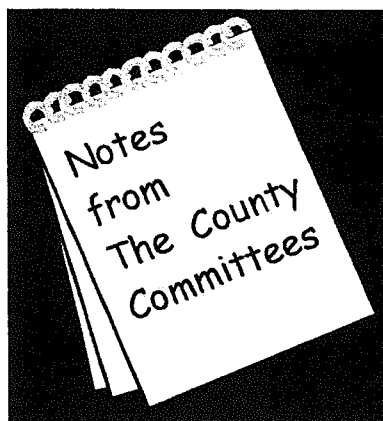
cover illustration, and more photographs within the text. It also has ten more pages, mainly because the print is larger (no bad thing, actually!), but keeps the same informative concise style. At the back it has a list of more books on bells and bellringing to encourage further reading. This book should certainly help newcomers to the belfry to get to understand the techniques and history of campanology. It is a shame that the picture on the front cover hardly makes a good recruiting poster! By the way, the price of the 1977 edition was just 50 pence.

STANDARD 70 compiled by JOHN N LONGRIDGE
first published 1982. 4th reprint 1993 no ISBN, £3.50

Running to nearly 70 pages, this book contains lots of ringing methods, from Plain Bob Doubles up to Bristol Surprise Maximus. A single line of the whole method is written out in one column, which may make for easier learning. But this is no alternative to 'Diagrams'. The main aim of the book is to provide conductors with a wide range of touches, and compositions for quarter peals and peals. Overall the book does look baffling (it must have been a headache for the proof-readers), one for the conductor and more ambitious ringer.

Jessica Vale

These are currently available from Jessica Vale on the bookstall - generally present at District Meetings and some practices throughout the year.



**Report on the
General
Committee
Meeting
29th November
1997.**

K.C.A.C.R. is now on
the Internet!

The page is run by
Frank Lewis who would

welcome material (news items/tower details etc)

Frank has also agreed to be handbook editor for one more year!!!

A competition to design new membership certificates was suggested and designs are invited from Districts.

You may have seen the article in the ringing World about the model of Hernhill Tower built by Rev. Will Mowl. It is

(Continued on page 3)

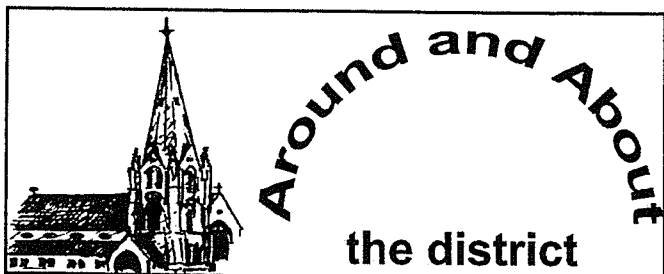
(Continued from page 2)

apparently very fine and has been given to the Association. Nick Davis is looking after it and it is available for fundraising events - be warned it is quite large and transport could be difficult.

On the subscription front the Treasurer reported that we were just breaking even. Subscriptions go up to £ 8 for 1998, but the General Committee will not recommend a rise for 1999. This means that fund raising events are important to keep money in the Bell restoration Fund.

A sub committee is to be set up to publicise "Ring in 2,000" From reports given it seems that some Districts are taking this very seriously and the "grouping" if towers seems to be effective.

Bill Lanyon



Mid Week Weddings

Sara Hardy has received the following names for a list of ringers who may be available to ring for mid week weddings within the district.

Mary	Andrews	01322-523071
Carol	Cornfoot	0181-462-5035
Carol	Eastough	01322-342995
Sara	Hardy	0181-659-2631
Mary	Hill	01322-335062
Roger	Long	0181-467-2062
Margaret	Macey	0181-302-4992
Diana	Morris	0181-306-1109
Don	Pointer	01689-836799
Jim	Rooke	01689-607166

If you have not already phoned Sara, please do so as she will be only too pleased to add your name to the list. Please note you are not making a commitment - simply going on a list of possible ringers available for mid week weddings. Sara's number is ☎ 0181-659-2631.

Carol Service

If you didn't make it to the Carol Service this year then you missed a good afternoon.

The District choir was once again in attendance, under the leadership of Alex Britton. The service took the usual

form of readings and carols. Our thanks to Alex who had spent a lot of time putting together both the music for the service and the organisation of the service sheets.

After the service the Bexley ringers kindly provided a most enjoyable tea - gratefully welcomed by both choir members and congregation alike.

Next year's carol service is provisionally booked for St John's Erith on 12th December - put it in the diary now.

Call Change Competition

Back on the 15th November five teams from around the district met to do battle for the annual call change competition trophy. After an hour or so's competition, a brief pause for our judges Mike

Trimm and Sam Hovey to make up their minds and the results were announced.

1. Crayford	22 faults
2. Beckenham	34 faults
3. Chelsfield	35 ½ faults
4. Eynsford & Farningham	37 ½ faults
5. Dartford	52 ½ faults

Congratulations to Crayford, many thanks to the Eynsford & Farningham band for their hospitality - the tea and biscuits were much appreciated. Indeed the Christmas fair across the road proved to be an excellent piece of organisation - I managed to come away with a couple of prizes from the bottle stall.

County AGM

The annual general meeting is set to be held at Upchurch on the 13th April 1998.

For lunch tickets (£5) and a list of towers open to ring at during the day apply to

Mrs Cathy Dixon
41 Rock Road
Sittingbourne
ME10 1JF
☎ 01795-477172

All orders by 1st April please, and cheques should be made payable to K.C.A.C.R.

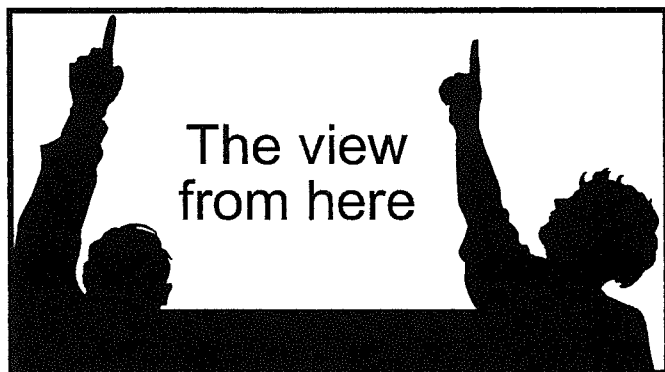
Covenants Update

13 Lewisham District members covenanted their subscriptions for 1997 and the tax repayment claim has been submitted. It should result in a refund of £ 28-73. I hope more people will covenant their 1998 subscriptions. Provided you pay tax at the basic rate, it does not cost you anything and it

can help higher rate tax payers reduce their tax bills. If 50 people covenanted in each of the six districts we could reclaim about £ 700 a year.

Covenant forms will be available at the January meeting and from Mary Andrews or myself.

Bill Lanyon



From our foreign correspondents in Oadby

Well, December has now arrived, and with it the Newsletter deadline - I hope our esteemed editor can find space for a late item! It is now three months since we moved from the District, and already we feel very well settled "up north". After all our problems during the sale of Farm Place, the actual move was relatively hassle-free, the more so because John and Mary took charge of the children, and brought them up to us the following day, by which time their room was more or less ready. The move to a larger house was long overdue, and we are enjoying the extra space, although it has posed one or two problems - we don't yet have enough furniture! Still we are getting there. Our new house (18 years old actually) doesn't need anything doing to it, but has plenty of scope for "personalising" it. It means that we have plenty to do around the place, but don't have to spend all our spare time knocking the place about, decorating, etc. Having said that we are well stuck in to doing Nicholas' room (in the design of the inside of a spaceship!), and hope to have that done by Christmas.

Every one has settled in to the new ways of life very easily. It was always a worry that the children might not settle, even though common sense said that they would. Well, our worries on that score were alleviated by the end of their first day at Woodland Grange School (5 min walk from us!). They love it, and we have difficulty keeping track of which friend's house they have gone to tea at! Diana, too, has taken to her new way of life - household operative - very well. There is plenty to do around the place, and she is enjoying the freedom to spend time cooking and baking, helping out at the school, etc. Andrew's work is slow getting started - the bureaucracy is appalling!! - but things are beginning to take shape. It is lovely to be able to cycle

to work each day!

We are now members of the band our local tower in Oadby, which are a very nice 12 cwt eight (a bit like Crayford). We have been welcomed there with open arms, as we now have a resident surprise major band, and are working up to 8-spliced - only the difficult ones to go now! They are a very friendly lot, and the children are made very welcome. Since the practice night is from 7 to 9 p.m., we all go along for the first hour or so, then one of us comes home with the children and the other stays to the end of the practice (and the pub!). We have also rung a couple of quarters with the University, at Knighton - another pleasant eight, and Andrew has been up to the Cathedral a couple of times - knocked a bit of rust off the surprise maximus (although there is still a lot more to be knocked off!).

All in all we are very happy with our move. I think it is fair to say that all we miss of Kent is our family and friends. However, we have had a couple of visits down to Erith, and have had a steady stream of visitors up here. We would remind all our friends down there, that Leicester is only 2 hrs away, and it is on the way to lots of places - do call in and see us (but not all at once!).

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas, and hope to see you in the New Year.

Love from

Andrew, Diana, Nicholas and Rebecca
(12, Berkeley Close, Oadby, Leicestershire, LE2 4SZ)

Ringling, e EMAIL & the Internet

Almost every day there's a story to about the Internet in the papers. Most television programmes have a web site reference something along the lines of "http://www.doc" which if you feel so inclined you can look up to discover more information.

So what's available for ringers.

For those with access to E-mail there are a couple of ringling discussion lists available to subscribe to. The "Ringers List", is a discussion forum for ringling related matters. Current subject matter includes requests for advice on

teaching blind ringers, requests for information about towers, methods, compositions etc. The alternative list, the "Ringers Chat list" has subject matter more suited to after ringing, down the pub type conversations. I did subscribe to this for a short time, however found it so tedious that I "unsubscribed" fairly quickly.

Those with web access (that's those who can access sites with <http://www.doc> type codes) have a number of sites to choose from on ringing matters

The Ringing World has a site giving out useful information, some articles, contacts for the Central Council and associations. This can be found at "<http://www.luna.co.uk/~ringingw/>"

Just to prove that the K.C.A.C.R are with it and up to date they now have a site at "<http://our-world.compuserve.com/homepages/fwcml/home-page.htm>". Frank Lewis administers this and will be pleased to accept contributions for the site.

At present there's an interesting range of information available on the KCACR - the training sub-committee have some information on training learners, there are details of E-mail addresses for members of the county who wish to have their E-mail addresses published, details of practice nights and reviews of bellringing and related happenings.

Finally another excellent source of ringing related information and ringers web sites is maintained by Roger Bailey on his homepage at "<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~rb/ringing.html>". This contains details of a great many association, individual ringers and tower web sites - a wealth of information should you want to find anything.

Hope those with Internet access have fun, those without, remember, all you need is a computer with a modem, an Internet Service Provider account and then simply sit back, surf the net and wait for the huge telephone bill to drop on the doormat.

Jeremy Byers

(To subscribe to the ringers list (you only need e-mail access for this) send the message "subscribe", leaving the subject line blank to "change-ringers-request@mit.edu")

Please remember that articles by Email are easy to send and easy for me to transcribe - Email me at jeremy.byers@virgin.net with any articles.

COPY DEADLINE

The deadline for the next issue is **Saturday 7th March**

KCACR Handbook 1998

TECHNICAL INFO FOR ADVERTISERS

The Handbook is AS, and we shall be printing 1600 copies, to be distributed free to all resident **members** of the KCACR. In addition quite a few are purchased by people outside the county for organising outings, grabs, peal tours etc. Advertising rates (up for first time in 6 years) are as follows:

Full page (120mm x 180mm) £30

Half page (120mm x 90mm) £20

Copy should be camera-ready (i.e. ready to print), although it may be possible to organise typesetting if required. Try to get copy as good as possible (photocopies of ads in newspapers/parish mags are NOT "good" in this context!). Remember that the final ad can only be as good as the artwork supplied.

Payment should be by cheque payable to the KCACR and sent to me. If possible, get the money up front. Each page costs around £12 to print, and if I have to keep chasing for payment this soon gets eaten up.

Last date for copy is **Friday 20 February 1998.**

Frank Lewis, Handbook Editor

**The January Quarterly Meeting will be at
The Annunciation, Chislehurst,
on Saturday, 10th January.**

**Ringling 3.00; Service 4.00;
followed by tea and business meeting.**

**Evening ringling will be at St. Nicholas.
Names for tea, please, to Roger Long,
telephone 0181-467 2062, by previous Wednesday.**

Record broken in Cathedral peal

LOCAL BAND MEMBER Matthew Hilling set a new record on Saturday 29 November, by becoming the youngest ringer to ring a single-handed peal on Exeter Cathedral tenor.

The plan had been to ring Stedman Cinques for this year's local band peal, but unfortunately, one of the band had to drop out at the last minute due to poor health, and Cathe-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

dral assistant ringing master James Grant offered to step down, to allow a ten bell peal to be attempted. The traditional step ladder was placed next to the tenor box, with glucose tablets and Lucozade to provide energy and refreshment. The bells were raised and Michael Mears said, "Go, Grandsire Caters", and a steady pace was set. The peal was completed in 4 hours 16 minutes. Matthew Hilling is 20.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

Exeter Cathedral

On 29 November 1997

in 4 hours 16 minutes

5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

(Composed by AJ Pitman, arranged by BV Mountjoy)

1 Fr Lester J Yeo

2 Frank D Mack

3 Peter L Bill

4 James Kirkcaldy

5 David P Macey

6 Timothy E Barnaby

7 Ian LC Campbell

8 Andrew P Nicholson

9 Michael EC Mears (C)

10 Matthew J Hilling

As a reminder to us in the Lewisham District, Exeter Cathedral tenor weighs 72cwt and is the second heaviest bell in the world hung for change-ringing (Liverpool Cathedral tenor at 82 cwt is the heaviest). Rumour has it that the energy providing glucose tablets etc were untouched by the tenor ringer during the peal, but were required by other participants at conclusion of the peal. Note also another member of the District on the fifth. David Hilling

And Finally

I would like to ask all tower captains and ringers involved in teaching children to ring to read the guidelines set out below. I would urge you all to consider that these are for the adults concerned protection as well as for any children who are learning to ring.

Guidelines on Child Protection in the context of bellringing

These guidelines have been prepared to provide a working document for Tower captains and those teaching children to ring. They are **not** intended to be exhaustive and should

be read in the context of the Church of England House of Bishops' Policy on Child Abuse and equivalent documents from other churches as well as the Government publication *Safe from Harm*, and the guidance issued by your diocese and parish church.

Introduction

Most dioceses have their own policy on child protection which tower captains should follow. Churches should also have an appointed person to whom any suspected cases of child abuse must be immediately reported. Tower Captains should find out who this person is. Some churches have a procedure for carrying out police or other checks and taking up references on anyone likely to be responsible for looking after children in the tower.

Suggested guidelines:

- **Always** have two adults present when children are being taught
- Invite parents of any trainees to come and watch a training session before allowing their child to start to learn. Require a parent to attend the first training session and ensure that the parent fully understands what is involved in learning to ring.
- Make sure a parent is responsible for delivering the child to and collecting the child from the tower.
- Ask parents to sign a "permission to learn to ring" form
- Keep an attendance register
- Be aware of the insurance position for children
- Never allow children up amongst the bells apart from an initial demonstration visit if it is safe to have one.
- For tower outings get parents to sign a detailed permission form. Organisers should be aware of Health and Safety and other issues: for example, it is inadvisable for a child to travel alone in a car with an adult.

Points to check:

- Church insurance - does the policy have a lower age limit? In some churches this is 12 years of age
- Is it possible to prevent inquisitive children from wandering up amongst "up" bells?
- Is there a tower Health & Safety Policy? Is it reviewed regularly? Is there an accident log book? Is there a first aid kit for minor accidents?
- Are you aware of any medical conditions affecting the children being taught? For example, epilepsy, diabetes
- Is there an attendance register
- Find out the name of the church's appointed person and the procedure to be followed in the event of a child making a disclosure about possible abuse. Always follow up such allegations, avoid detailed questioning of the child and never promise confidentiality.

QUARTER PEALS

RW PAGE

1997

[1]	24/05	BECKENHAM	1277	Grandsire Caters	97/1022
[2]	01/08	Southwark Cath.	1282	Cambridge Surprise Royal	97/ 946
[3]	03/08	EYNSFORD	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	97/ 946
[4]	04/08	FOOTS CRAY	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	97/ 946
[5]	04/08	ST MARY CRAY	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	97/ 946
[6]	09/08	BECKENHAM	1260	Stedman Triples	96/ 946
[7]	10/08	BEXLEY	1296	Cambridge Surprise Minor	97/ 957
[8]	01/09	ERITH CH CH	1260	Doubles 2m.	97/1012
[9]	05/09	BEXLEY	1260	Plain Bob Triples	97/ 981
[10]	07/09	BECKENHAM	1273	Grandsire Triples	97/ 984
[11]	07/09	CRAYFORD	1260	Doubles 2m.	97/1078
[12]	09/09	ELTHAM	1260	Plain Bob Triples	97/ 986
[13]	10/09	CHISLEHURST STN	1344	Plain Bob Triples	97/1033
[14]	14/09	BEXLEY	1280	Superlative Surprise Major	97/1058
[15]	28/09	BEXLEY	1260	Grandsire Triples	97/1201
[16]	12/10	CRAYFORD	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	97/1125
[17]	19/10	BEXLEY	1280	Plain Bob Major	97/1201
[18]	26/10	WEST WICKHAM	1440	St Clements and Plain Bob Minor	97/1176

Congratulations :

Lynn Pointer	1st quarter	[5]
Mike Christie	1st in method	[18]
Emma Harrison	1st Triples	[15]
Cathy Hall	1st as Conductor	[16]

[1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6] and [14] were rung to mark variously the weddings of Kerry Robinson to Alan Saunders, Ruth Hardy to Nigel Pointer and Pauline O'Meara to Len Morley.

[9] [10] [11] and [12] were rung in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales.

PEALS

RW PAGE

1997

[1]	03/08	BECKENHAM	5000	Spliced Major 2m.	97/ 951
[2]	08/08	BIGGIN HILL	5040	Stedman Doubles	97/ 929
[3]	30/08	BECKENHAM	5042	Spliced Surprise Royal 7m.	97/1029
[4]	27/09	BROMLEY COMMON	5088	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	97/1197
[5]	28/09	BECKENHAM	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	97/1197
[6]	29/09	CHISLEHURST STN	5120	London Surprise Major	97/1197
[7]	01/11	BROMLEY COMMON	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	97/1169

[1] and [7] were for the KCACR, [3] for the Surrey Association, [4] [5] and [6] for the Southwell Diocesan Guild and [2] was Non-association.

From Ringing World up to and including edition No. 4518 for November 28, 1997.

Jim Rooke

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

**Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held at Dartford on
Saturday, 11th October 1997**

The Chairman, Mr. J. J. Rooke, opened the meeting by welcome everyone.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. A. J. Britton and Mr. & Mrs. C. F. Jeal of Bexley, Mr. N. Wilkins of Chelsfield, Mrs. M. Macey of Fooks Cray, Mr. M. Jones of St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, Mr. A. J. Hill of Christ Church, Erith, Mrs. M. Heald of St. John's, Erith, and Mr. D. G. H. Hollis of Lewisham.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed on the proposition of Mr. R. Long, seconded by Miss P. Rooke.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary had received from the General Secretary:

An extract from Rochester Link, October, 1997, concerning ringing in the new millennium.

A Central Council Education Committee Report "Towards the Millennium"

A computer print-out giving subscription information for the District.

The Secretary said that she had up-dated the last named document and all were available for inspection after the meeting.

5. OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Ringing Master's Report was circulated at the meeting. Reports from the Press Representative and the Secretary had been printed in the Newsletter. Mrs. Eastaugh pointed out that the Craft Fair at Hall Place (Secretary's Report) had been held on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday not the Summer Bank Holiday as stated. This amendment was made and the Reports were accepted.

2.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Officers were all re-elected as follows:

CHAIRMAN

Mr. J. J. Hardy took the chair for the election of the Chairman.

Mr. J. J. Rooke was proposed by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Miss M. R. Andrews.

RINGING MASTER

Mr. J. J. Hardy, proposed by Mrs. M. J. Hill, seconded by Mrs. C. Eastaugh.

ASSISTANT RINGING MASTER

Mr. J. R. Byers, proposed by Mr. J. J. Hardy, seconded by Miss C. Hall.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. M. J. Hill and Mr. W. D. Lanyon, proposed by Miss M. R. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. N. Robins.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVE

Miss J. Vale proposed by Miss P. Rooke, seconded by Mr. D. E. Pointer.

SECRETARY

Miss M. R. Andrews, proposed by Miss P. Rooke, seconded by Mr. D. E. Pointer.

7. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The following new members were elected:

CHELSEFIELD

Mrs. Irene E. E. Foster, Mr. Norman F. Foster, Miss Caroline Poll (jnr.), Mrs. Elsa Sjovorr and Mrs. Anne Townsend.

Proposed by Miss P. Rooke, seconded by Mrs. A. Wilkins

DOWNE

Mr. Alan Fortt, Miss Bridget L. Robbie and Mr. R. D. Shaw

Proposed by Mr. D. King, seconded by Mrs. A. Dyer

3.

7. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

CHRIST CHURCH, ERITH

Mr. Christopher Backhouse as a junior member

Proposed by Mrs. M. J. Hill, seconded by Mrs. C. Eastaugh.

8. PROGRAMME FOR 1998

The following programme for 1998 was agreed subject to confirmation from the towers concerned:

10th	January	Quarterly Meeting at St. Nicholas, Chislehurst
21st	March	6-bell Striking Competition at St. Mary Cray
25th	April	Quarterly Meeting at Hayes
11th	July	Quarterly Meeting at Cudham/Downe
26th	September	County 6-bell Striking Competition at Farningham or Sidcup.
10th	October	Annual Meeting at Beckenham
21st	November	Call Change Competition at Eltham
12th	December	Carol Service at St. John's, Erith

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Training Sub-Committee

Mrs. Hill explained that, since Dr. Young had moved away from the area, the District was no longer represented on the Training Sub-Committee. Mr. Byers was prepared to take on this commitment in a year or two but in the meantime a volunteer was sought. Miss Wilkins made some enquiries of Mrs. Hill about what was involved and Mrs. Hill offered to talk to her about the matter after the meeting.

Weekday Weddings

Mrs. S. Hardy said she was compiling a list of people who were available to ring for weekday weddings and asked anyone who wished their name put down to contact her after the meeting.

4.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Welcome Pack for New Members

Mrs. Hardy reminded members that at the July 1996 meeting she had mentioned the Surrey Association Welcome Pack that was given to new members. This contained a Handbook, list of District practices, Association events etc. It was agreed that this should be raised at the General Committee Meeting.

Ringling Master's Report

Referring to his Report, Mr. Hardy said that the complaints in it were not aimed at the people who were attending the meeting. He went on to say that he had some ideas for local training; also that anyone who wanted help should let him know.

New Members

Miss Wilkins expressed the view that people should be at a meeting when they were proposed for membership. Although members generally agreed with this sentiment, it was pointed out that this was not always possible and that it was not a requirement of the Association's Rules.

Special Methods

Concerning attendance at practices, Mrs. Eastaugh felt that people were put off by special methods being mentioned in the programme. Despite the fact that 'all are welcome' was stressed, they still thought that the ringling would not be within their capabilities.

Weddings

The Chairman offered congratulations to the following on their recent weddings - Nigel and Ruth Pointer, Alan and Kerry Saunders, and Len and Pauline Morley.

Rule Change

The Secretary read an extract from a letter from the General Secretary dated 28th September regarding the rule change which had been discussed at the Association's Annual General Meeting on 31st March 1997. Everyone was in favour of this change.

Handbook Editor

The Secretary drew attention to the vacancy for a Handbook Editor and asked anyone interested to get in touch with the General Secretary.

Certificates

Mrs. Eastaugh asked whether the Association was currently issuing Membership Certificates. The Secretary said that she thought arrangements were being made for a new Certificate to be produced. This matter would be raised at the November Committee Meeting.

5.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Arts Fair

Mrs. Eastaugh said that if it was the District's intention to have a stand at the Hall Place Arts Fair in 1998, it would be financially advantageous to join the Arts Council. Mr. Byers suggested that it might be advisable to go somewhere else in the District rather than concentrate on the same part of the District. This was agreed and Mrs. Hardy said she would investigate the Live Craft programme.

Quiz Evening

Mrs. Correia drew attention to the Dartford Quiz Evening to raise money for their Bell Appeal the following Saturday evening.

Votes of Thanks

Mrs. Hill proposed votes of thanks to the Rev. Martin Henwood for taking the service, for the use of the bells and the Church Hall, to Mr. Brain Raynor for playing the organ and to Mrs. Correia and Miss Wansbury for preparing and serving an excellent tea.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting and members went to Crayford for evening ringing.