

ROUNDS & ABOUT

Tonbridge District Newsletter No.20 January 2025

Please send news and snippets (ringing related) to angelaclarkbuttons@btinternet.com

Training

SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY 2025 - Training Day in our District

Angela Clark: I attended a Safeguarding training day at Hadlow. I did not anticipate it would be interesting, but it was. Emma Jarvis (KCACR Safeguarding Officer) was joined by Ruth Campbell and Neil Jones (in charge of the laptop). The discussions proved an eye opener and we all learnt a great deal.

Laurence Trim went to Edenbridge

I attended an excellent plain hunt / rope sight training session on Saturday 18 Jan. The session was hosted by the Edenbridge Tower and run by Ray Taylor. Three trainees (myself, Adey Grummet and Alison Wood) all benefited from the support, encouragement and kind words of the helpers (Special shout out to Tessa for the excellent half time Parkin!!!!). The session majored on “counting your place” while hunting - and ended with some trebling to Grandsire to improve rope sight (and further scramble our brains!!)”.



Ray’s helpers included: Caroline Levy-Cooper, Elaine Merrylees, Jane Kostelnyk, Mike Worthington, Tessa Worthington, and Sara Waldron.



Katie Malpass was training at Speldhurst Plain Bob Doubles

In advance of the session, Emma Tamkin sent us some prep by way of WhatsApp videos and notes, covering such important aspects as (experienced Bob Doublers may wish to skip this bit, to avoid being taught how to suck eggs)

- The Circle of Work – the four pieces of work in Bob Doubles. Whenever the treble is leading, that's when you are doing your work; the rest of the time, you are hunting your bell
- The Coursing Order – the order in which you are passing your bells. In each case, the first bell is your After bell (eh?), the last bell is your Course bell and the middle bell is your Dodging bell
- Counting your Blows to the Treble – tells you which piece of work is coming up
- Dodge – one place / stroke in the opposite direction to the one you're travelling in, with the emphasis on not just ringing under the bell you're dodging with but on striking over the bell under you

Armed with this, Deb Williams, Dmitry Zhuravlev and I turned up at Speldhurst on a freezing cold morning to try and put it all into practice, helped by Alison Parsons, Anthony Leeves, Jacqui Fletcher, Nick Byrne, Zena Seal and Andy Wickenden.

We each had what Emma called a panic ring to start off with (like the first pancake, which always ends up in the bin!) and then settled down to work our way round the Circle of Work, first on the 2 and then on the 3. By the end of the session, we all felt much more confident and that we had made some progress.

I would add that Deb and I had the advantage of having recently rung Bob Minimus at Speldhurst on several different bells and also Bastow Doubles, in which you ring 3-4 up, long 5ths and 3-4 down all compressed together, with no plain hunt in between or making 2nds, at Jen Thomas' session at Otford the previous week. I think these also helped with the Bob Doubles.

Thanks as ever to Emma and all the helpers for their patience and good humour.



Future Events

FUTURE MEETING DATES

1st February, Saturday, **Chiddingstone**. 10 am to 12 noon

1st March, Saturday, **Westerham**. 10 am to 12 noon

News

DISTRICT MEETING, BRENCHLEY, 4th JANUARY

ANGELA CLARK

A splendid total of 32 signed the Attendance Book for the first meeting in 2025 and we welcomed several ringers from other Districts of the KCACR. It was a bitterly cold day and not everyone was able to stay for the meeting. Emma Tamkin, Acting Chairman, ensured the business was conducted swiftly in the somewhat cold church where the flower ladies were changing the Christmas decorations for Epiphany.

The accounts were presented by Hamilton Woods and discussion took place regarding the KCACR AGM, this year it will be at Sevenoaks on 21st April.



MEMBERS ELECTED (or re-elected) were:

Nick Lucas (Lamberhurst); James Evans (Hadlow); Grania Bromley (Cowden); Gary Robinson (Westerham); Ed Shamwana (Hever); Danny Bishop (Brasted); Laura Byrne (Penshurst); Zoe Allen, (Penshurst)

The draw for the 120 Club was held with the following winners:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| £40 No.57 | CAROLINE STOCKMANN | SEVENOAKS |
| £30 No.68 | CAROLINE STOCKMANN | SEVENOAKS |
| £20 No.22 | MARTIN WHITEHEAD | OTFORD |

MORE WEDDING TALK

Here is a wedding picture of Mr and Mrs Fulford from Alaska in December.



Angela Clark



REHANGS

Tonbridge bells are due back in the Tower during March
Penshurst bells are scheduled to be bound for Loughborough soon
Sundridge bells are currently out of action awaiting the replacement of two clapper bearing bushes.

Angela Clark

COMMENTS FROM JEN THOMAS'S CHARGES AT SEAL CHART

Jen is proud of the progress the year 5's have made this year' The youngsters say:

Poppy - 'I enjoy ringing because I like making music with other people and it makes me feel good'

Jodie - 'I like bell ringing because ringing with my friends is fun and all of the other things you can learn like ringing back stroke and hand stroke and rounds. We all have fun together. My favourite bell would be the 6, in other words Tenor which is the heaviest bell in the tower'

Florrie - 'I love bell ringing because Jen makes it really fun and I've been ringing since January and now I'm allowed to ring on my own and Jen says that I ring the hardest bell.'

Hannah - 'I enjoy bell ringing, it has given me a lot more confidence to ring by myself, I love the sound of the bells when you ring rounds. It keeps your arms fit. (rounds is where you have 6 bells and they go in order 1,2,3,4,5,6). Jen is a great teacher.'

Edward - 'Bell ringing is a fun and satisfying thing to do and I love to watch people going up and down in progression. It is fun and joyful; everyone here is loving it and I want everyone that doesn't do it to just do it. You might not be the best at first but you will get better every time you go.'

Albert - 'St Lawrence, I just wanted to tell everyone why I committed to doing bell ringing. 1) It is exciting. 2) It is exercise. 3) It is fun in general and because my friends are here to support me when I make a mistake but the only reason I do it is because my brother did it so I want my generation to do it too.'

Cameron - 'Bell ringing is so fun. every Wednesday and Thursday Jen and Ashley give up their time so that we get to learn how to ring. Another positive is that it's completely free. You also learn a lot from it like commitment and determination. You also get to ring for school services and visit places like St Paul's cathedral. Please join us

