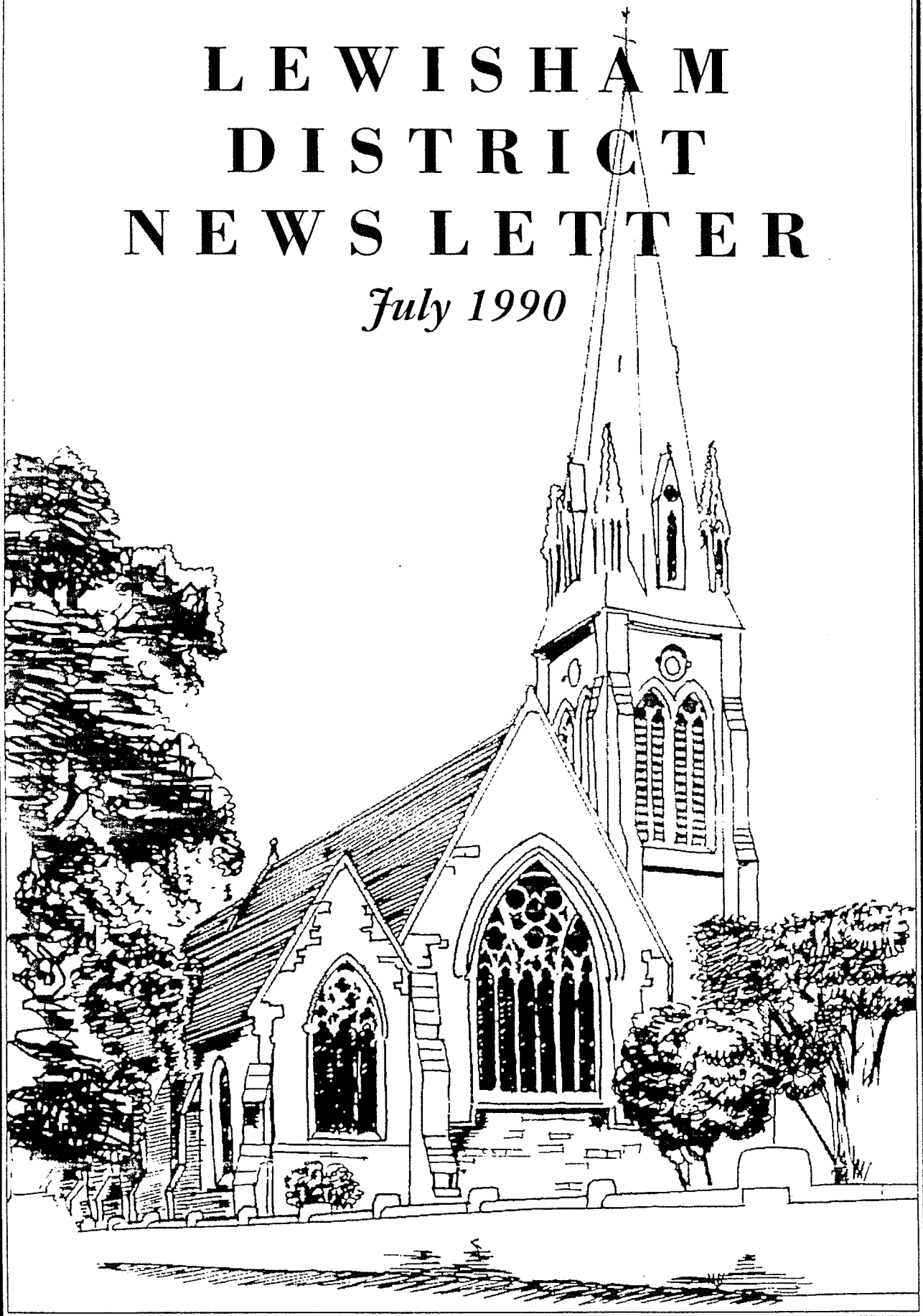


LEWISHAM  
DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER

*July 1990*



DISTRICT DIARY

Jul 28      Quarterly Meeting at CHELSFIELD  
Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in Church,  
followed by general ringing  
Aug 11      Barbecue at HOO (see below)  
Aug 25      District Practice at ASH-BY-WROTHAM (7:00-8:30)  
Sep 8        Surprise Practice at EYNSFORD (10:00-11:30)  
            [Special methods - Cambridge, Yorkshire, 2 to 8-spliced,  
            Glasgow]  
Sep 22      District Practice at DARTFORD (7:00-8:30)  
Sep 29)  
to )        DISTRICT QUARTER-PEAL WEEK  
Oct 7)  
Oct 13      Surprise Practice at CRAYFORD (10:00-11:30)  
            [Special methods - Cambridge, Superlative, 2 to 9-spliced,  
            Glasgow]  
Oct 13      Call-change competition at West Wickham (3 p.m. draw)  
Oct 27      K.C.A.C.R. Dinner

Advanced Notice

Nov 3       Annual District Meeting at BEXLEY  
Nov 17      K.C.A.C.R. Bell Maintenance Day (see below)  
Nov 24      Surprise Practice at ELTHAM  
Dec 8        Carol Service at CHISLEHURST (St. Nicholas)

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THIS AND THAT

Thanks to all those who helped with the running of the county A.G.M. in April, and to those who made their towers available for ringing on the day.

Thanks also to all who supported the Car Treasure Hunt. The event raised £52 for the Bell Repair Fund.

A K.C.A.C.R. Bell Maintenance Day is being arranged on Saturday 17th November. The venue is not yet decided, but it will probably be in the Leeds area. The day is primarily aimed at those who are practically involved in maintenance of bells and their fittings, but anyone else would be welcome. Alan Hughes (Whitechapel Bell Foundry) has agreed to be with us, and will start the day with a talk, followed by questions, at about 11:00a.m.. After lunch there will be practical demonstrations at local towers, and demonstrations of rope splicing. Places on the course are limited, and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Please contact Andrew Young ([0322] 529964) as soon as possible if you are interested, and in any case no later than 10th August. The cost for the day will be approximately £2-00.

The ringers at St. Werburgh's HOO are holding a barbecue on Saturday 11th August in order to raise money for the proposed restoration of their bells. Full details from Arthur Vigeon on [0634] 250265.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.

Report on the General Committee meeting held on Saturday 5th May 1990 in the Tower room of Leeds Parish Church. Tim Wraight (immediate past chairman) was in the chair due to Nick Davies (newly-elected chairman) not able to be present owing to a long standing engagement.

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There were seven apologies for absence, and the minutes were taken as read, subject to two minor alterations.

The Secretary had received a letter from Teddy Barnett saying thank you for the greetings sent by the KCA on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his first peal. Richard Offen and David Childs had also been written to.

Catherine Lewis was elected as convenor for the Training sub-committee; her husband, Frank, will be organising the ringing for the Surprise Royal practices at Maidstone. As these are held only every other month, it has been decided to arrange quarter peals of Surprise Royal in the intervening months. It was also announced that a Bell Maintenance training day is being considered.

The work on the publicity display boards has now been completed, and these were on display at the AGM at Beckenham. A new publicity project is being considered, and a budget may be asked for.

Discussion took place on the articles that had appeared in "The Ringing World" on the new mobile ring that had been proposed by the Central Council. Concern was expressed over the practicalities of transport, storage, and the 'exorbitant' cost. Is ringing, it was asked, really going to benefit from this kind of publicity, and should we express extreme caution to the Central Council? (Remember, the KCA has already had this sort of experience with the Jubi-peal being present at the Kent County Show - out of all the hundreds of people that have tried it there, only two or so are known to have gone into a tower). **The Lewisham District may wish to consider its view on this subject, at either the July meeting or the ADM.**

As for Bell Restoration work, inspections have been carried out at St.Laurence-in-Thamet, Horsmonden, and Leeds, by the bell-foundries. At Wormshill, efforts are being made to find two more bells to complete the ring of six. At Snodland, the bells will be retuned and rehung hopefully in the Autumn. A light ring of six is to be installed at Kemsing, subject to the structural engineer's report and the architect's drawings. The KCA has undertaken to dismantle the bells, overhaul the tenor (which is to be retained as a service bell), remove the treble frame and provide labour to assist the bell-hanger. Since the

last General Committee meeting there had been no more applications for grants to be made, although the grant to Sandwich had been paid, and the one to Greenwich shelved until the work starts, and the one to Chislet left in abeyance as they are still fundraising.

The meeting approved a proposal for £750.00 to be made available to purchase the following equipment to enable work to be done more easily: a set of metric spanners; a trailer for carrying the equipment; a hydraulic pallet truck; a second pull lift. Some of this may be obtained second hand.

#### Forthcoming events.

15/9/90; 10 bell competition for Essex trophy, to be held at St. Nicholas Guildford, test piece is a plain course of Yorkshire S. Royal.

29/9/90; County 6 bell competition final at Brabourne.

27/10/90; County Dinner at UKC Canterbury.

#### Any Other Business.

As there are a number of inaccuracies in the Handbook, the corrections will be published in "The Ringing World" and also on a corrigendum sheet to be circulated to all members.

It was decided to give 'official' (but not financial) support to the new Steeple Keeper at Sandwich to attend the Bell Maintenance course at the CC Ringing School in July at Northampton.

It was suggested that the price of the Handbook to non-members be printed, to avoid any confusion.

Discussion took place on how chimes and towers not-in-union should be listed in the Handbook. It was eventually decided to carry on as before, with chimes and unringables being listed separately.

Did you know, said Frank Lewis, that there is now an average of 6.5 members per tower in the KCA, whereas in the 1930's there were 9!

Before the meeting finished, thanks were expressed to the BRF committee members for all their hard work (especially at Sandwich), and to Tim Wraight for stepping in at the breach at short notice.

Alex Britton,  
Lewisham District Representative.

## So you want to ring Stedman

Many ringer who having become reasonably proficient in ringing Triples methods and as Grandsire and Plain Bob aspire to learn Stedman but are deterred from doing so because from what they have seen and heard they visualise that Stedman is incredibly difficult to learn and ring. These few notes are intended to reassure such people and to explain something about Stedman.

The fact is that the Stedman "blue line" compared with many other methods is not too difficult to learn but it must be learnt thoroughly. As for the ringing of Stedman, once the beginner has got used to doing the things peculiar to Stedman it also is not too difficult to ring. At the same time it must be said that it is very easy to go wrong (even the experts do) and difficult to put right. It requires the utmost concentration on the part of all the ringers in a Stedman bank and the lack of this is the cause of most "fire-ups".

Stedman is what is known as a principle ie all the bells do the same work, there are no hunt bells and thus no leads and lead ends as in plain triples methods. Instead of leads and we have sixes (six changes). This is because the basis of Stedman is the work done by the front three bells in plain hunting thereby producing six different changes. There are however two ways to plain hunt on three bells, forward hunting and backward hunting and these two ways are used alternately to produce the Stedman principle.

The Forward hunting is known as a Quick Six and the Backward hunting as a Slow Six.

### FORWARD HUNTING

<u>123</u>	
213	H
231	B
321	H
312	B
132	H
<u>123</u>	B

### BACKWARD HUNTING

<u>123</u>	
132	H
312	B
321	H
231	B
213	H
<u>123</u>	B

H = Handstroke    B = Backstroke

From this it will be seen that in a Quick Six the bells lead conventionally ie Handstroke and Backstroke but in a slow Six this is reversed and the leads are Backstroke and Handstroke.

At the end of each Six one of the three front bells moves up to dodge in 4/5 while one of the bell in 4/5 moves down to take its place.

If all this seems complicated it may be some consolation to know that when ringing Stedman and providing you follow the "blue line" it is not necessary to know whether you are ringing a Quick Six or Slow Six or whether you are forward or backward hunting. It is however useful to have some knowledge of how the principle is constructed.

For the newcomer to Stedman the first thing to do is to copy out a course of Stedman Doubles from one of the ringing text books or the Ringers Diary. The Six ends should be underlined noting that the course starts half way through a Quick Six with the first underlining coming under the new 23145. On the left hand side of the figures put are S (Slow) or Q (Quick) alternatively against each Six with the first complete six in the course doing S. Next line in the path of the Treble.

From this it will be seen that the treble goes straight to 4/5 where it double dodges 4/5 up then double dodges 4/5 down before moving down to thirds place to commence what is known as the Slow work. At this point and for the next five sixes mark each change on the right hand side of the figures with an H or B starting with 43152 to denote whether it is Handstroke (H) or Backstroke (B). This will enable you to tell at a glance when you have to lead right (H and B) or wrong (B and H) which is something you need to memorise when learning the slow work.

You also need to memorise the Stedman vocabulary used to describe the various parts of the slow work so that if someone attempts to put you right you will know what they mean. Sounding more like a dance routine than ringing the terms used starting from the beginning of the slow work are:

The first whole pull wrong, one blow in seconds place and whole pull right is known collectively as First Whole Turn  
The first single blow at lead (H) is First Half Turn  
The second single blow at lead (B) is Second Half Turn  
The whole pull right, one blow in seconds place and whole pull wrong is known as Last Whole Turn.

It will be seen from the "blue line" that having completed the Slow work and the subsequent dodging in 4/5 you hunt straight into lead, lead a whole pull right, then hunt straight back to 4/5. This is known as being a Quick bell or going in Quick and alternates with going in Slow. It is vitally important that the ringer knows without doubt when having 4/5 whether to be a Slow bell or a Quick bell by remembering which way (Slow or Quick) you were before dodging in 4/5 and then going in the opposite way. The result of trying to go in Slow instead of Quick and vice-versa (one of the easy ways of going wrong) is usually chaos on the front and a terminal end to the ringing.

Having learnt to ring Stedman Doubles you may be pleased to know that progressing to Stedman Triples is but a small step compared to what you have accomplished so far. The Stedman slow work is exactly the same whether it is being rung on 5, 7, 9, or 11 bells. The only difference between Doubles and Triples and indeed the higher numbers are extra dodging places. In Triples when leaving the front, either Slow or Quick, you double dodge 4/5 up, then 6/7 up 6/7 down with double dodges then double dodge 4/5 down.

Alterations and Amendments to the 1990 Handbook

NB. Changes in Officers as from Easter Monday, 1990.

The new Chairman is:-

N.J. Davies, Skinner House, 2 Skinner Road, Lydd,  
Romney Marsh TN29 9DD.  
Tele: 0679 21188.

The new Treasurer is:-

M.P. Gilham, 38 Surrey Road, Maidstone ME15 7HN.  
Tele: 0622 674835.

The new Librarian is:-

Mrs H. Basford, 1 Edge End Road, Broadstairs CT10 2AH.  
Tele:- 0843 63409.

Malcolm Lodwick has resigned as one of the C.C. Reps and has been replaced by Mrs D. Wraight. All other officers remain the same.

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District Alterations

Please add:-

Maidstone District Secretary is still Tim Munt.  
Tom Cullingworth's telephone number has changed to 0622 751005.

Please amend:-

Lewisham District Press Rep. Margaret Bellinger now lives at:-  
40 Iron Mill Lane, Crayford DA1 4RR.  
Tele:- 0322 58115

Lewisham District Rep. Alex Britton's telephone number is 0322 25822 and not as in the book.

KCACR BIENNIAL DINNER

UKC Eliot Dining Hall

Saturday, 27th October, 1990

Tickets are now available at £15-50 (excluding Wine) per head. Please send remittance (less deposit if already paid) and a stamped addressed envelope to the County Secretary as soon as possible. Numbers are limited.

## PEAL AND QUARTER-PEAL ANALYSIS

The data for this analysis are collected from the peals and quarters rung at towers in the District and published in the Ringing World from 6th April to 29th June. Anything rung by members of the District at towers outside the District are not included in the analysis, mainly because I will not necessarily notice them in R.W.. However, I would be pleased to include peals and quarters rung outside the District, if I am sent the details of them at least 14 days before the next copy date.

Andrew Young

### QUARTER-PEALS

[1]	4/2	EYNSFORD	1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
[2]	15/2	BEXLEY	1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
[3]	18/2	LEWISHAM	1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES
[4]	25/2	GREENWICH	1260 CAMBRIDGE S. & PLAIN BOB MINOR
[5]	26/2	FARNINGHAM	1320 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES
[6]	3/3	CHELSEFIELD	1320 CAMBRIDGE S. MINOR
[7]	4/3	BROMLEY	1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
[8]	4/3	HAYES	1260 DOUBLES (3M)
[9]	4/3	LEWISHAM	1250 CAMBRIDGE S. MAJOR
[10]	6/3	LEWISHAM	1260 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
[11]	23/3	DARTFORD	1320 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES
[12]	25/3	GREENWICH	1280 DOUBLE NORWICH C.B. MAJOR
[13]	28/3	GREENWICH	1260 PLAIN BOB CATERS
[14]	1/4	BECKENHAM	1296 LITTLE BOB ROYAL
[15]	6/4	ERITH (CC)	1260 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
[16]	8/4	CRAYFORD	1344 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
[17]	8/4	DEPTFORD	1260 STEDMAN TRIPLES
[18]	12/4	BEXLEY	1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
[19]	13/4	DARTFORD	1260 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
[20]	15/4	BEXLEY	1260 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
[21]	29/4	CHELSEFIELD	1296 CAMBRIDGE S. MINOR

First quarter-peal congratulations to Neil Paterson (treble to Plain Bob Doubles [11]), and to Caroline Gould for her first quarter off the tenor [5].

Rupert Cheeseman conducted his first quarter [11] and Richard Pearce conducted Grandsire Triples [7] and Plain Bob Major [16] for the first time. Richard and Rupert also rang firsts of Little Bob Royal [14], which was also Ruth Hardy's first in method, Alan Saunders' first Royal, and Jackie Mack's first on 10. Angela Long rang her first on 8, which was also G. Usher's first Plain Bob Triples [10]. Helen Montague rang her first on 10 [13], Alison Warner (treble), Daphne Paterson and Mike Gentry rang firsts of major, and Jane Paterson rang her first of Plain Bob Major [16].. Megan Fox and S.J. Strickland rang there most methods inside [8].

Two footnotes deserve special mention. The quarter of Plain Bob Doubles at Dartford [11] was rung by pupils of Dartford Grammar School. The quarter of Stedman Triples at Lewisham [3] celebrated David Hollis' 30 years of ringing at Lewisham.

### PEALS

7th May

SHOREHAM

5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

This peal was the first of major for Matthew Hilling, Jane Paterson, Martin Luffman and Rupert Cheeseman.



## WHAT SHALL WE DO IN NINETY-TWO?

Most of you will probably not be aware that when the Kent County Association of Change Ringers was formed in 1880, it consisted of only five districts: Ashford, Canterbury, Maidstone, Rochester, and Tonbridge. It did **NOT** include the Lewisham District. This is due to there being in existence at that time an organisation ringing in this area called the "Trinity Youths". When the K.C.A.C.R was being formed, an offer was made to these people for this area to be included in the new Association, and that it could be called the "Trinity Youths District", but the Trinity Youths, fearing absorption into the County Association and their consequent extinction, turned down the offer.

However, the Trinity Youths folded up in 1892. Although within the past ten years they have reformed and operate solely at Greenwich, in pre-1892 days their activities covered a large part of what is now the Lewisham District. So, presumably to stop ringing folding up in this part of the County, the Lewisham District was born and became officially part of the Association in 1892.

As the centenary of this is now only two years away, I think that we in the Lewisham District have some serious thinking to do. Firstly, do we want to let this occasion pass by and do nothing? If not (**and I sincerely hope not!**), what shall we do to celebrate this occasion? Secondly, how do we go about deciding what to do and when? This is why I am writing this article, to bring this to the general notice of the Lewisham District, and to put forward a few suggestions.

In answer to the second main question above (this is the easy one to reply to!), I think it would be best for a small sub-committee to be elected (at either the July meeting this year at Chelsfield, or the ADM at Bexley this year) to go away and think through carefully what they would recommend should happen, report their findings back to the next meeting, and generally oversee the arrangements for our Centenary year. This worked very well for the Sussex County Association in 1985 (their centenary year) and there is no reason why it should not work well for us, even though our arrangements might well be on a smaller scale. If this goes ahead, the sub-committee should, in my view, consist of all the District Officers plus a couple of volunteers, and the sub-committee should have powers to co-opt further people if necessary. I believe that the sub-committee should be elected at the time that I have suggested above so that there is enough time to arrange and decide upon everything properly. It is never too early to start planning for an event such as this, especially considering the importance of the occasion.

As for what actually happens, there are any number of suitable events that could be organised in celebration of our Centenary

in 1992. For example, a Centenary Dinner could be held somewhere in the District. We could host an inter-district 10 bell competition for the whole of the K.C.A.C.R. run on a similar basis to the 8 bell competition (could this be held at Greenwich perhaps, considering the strong connections there with our predecessors?). A Centenary Service could be held at the church where the first meeting was held and as close to the actual date as possible. One of our quarter peal weeks could be held, where we try to ring at least one quarter peal in each tower during that week. Further on from that, we could set ourselves the objective of ringing at least one peal in as many churches in the District as possible; could each of these peals contain as many local ringers as possible, and coincide with some sort of celebration connected with that church? We could hold an 'Open Day' in the District, i.e. where all of the towers are open at some stage for general ringing on a set route. This is an opportunity to raise money for the Bell Restoration Fund, as like other Open Days it could be advertised in "The Ringing World" and an entrance fee charged at each tower and day tickets being sold. An Open Day would require the co-operation of the whole District, though.

There are some other things that could be considered on a more ambitious note. To start with, Centenary Momentos could be produced. However, careful consideration should be given to the economics of this matter. It is not something that should be dismissed out of hand on the context that it is very likely that money could be lost. I feel that it is highly possible for it to be a success, just as long as the costs and the production are looked into very carefully. Profit could be made and put into the Bell Restoration Fund. This excellent opportunity to raise money for the BRF should not be lost.

We could also do something similar to that which the Sussex County Association did in 1985. As a Centenary Project, they raised money to augment East Grinstead to 12, giving Sussex its first ring of 12 ever. I am not necessarily suggesting that we do exactly the same thing here, although it would be a good idea to provide the Lewisham District with a ring of 12 if it is possible. If it is not possible, a similar idea could be thought of along these lines, then we would have a permanent reminder of 1992 and something of great use to ringing in the Lewisham District of the future. Again, this is something that should be carefully considered and not dismissed lightly.

I hope that with this article I have stirred the imaginations of District members. I have not set out to say we **SHALL** do this and we **SHALL** do that, but merely to put forth a few ideas that have been brewing in my mind for a long time. Please do see if you can think of anything else, and suggest it when the matter is brought up at District meetings in the near future.

Alex Britton,  
Lewisham District Representative.

Copies of the Handbook for 1990 were available for all paid-up members at the Quarterly Meeting at Foots Cray. If you have not received your copy do contact me to arrange collection.

An error, Alex Britton's telephone number (page 31) should read 0322 225822, and an omission to the list of quarter peals - at Penge on 17 May, 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor - have been drawn to my attention. My apologies for these. If there are other errors/omissions, please do let me know as soon as possible.

#### ELTHAM

The new Captain/Secretary is:

Mr. L. G. A. Morley,  
10 Phineas Pett Road,  
Eltham. SE9 6RH

Tel. 081 3190051

#### FOOTS CRAY

Mrs. Margaret Macey is now Tower Captain and the new Secretary is:

Miss Rosalind Farmer,  
13 Borwood Park,  
Orpington. BR6 9LD

Tel. 0689 57311

## LEWISHAM DISTRICT TREASURE HUNT MARK 5.

"The first clues are here at Ash Church. After that follow the directions carefully, and we will see you at ..... Well that's for you to find out!"

So began the question paper for the fifth District Treasure Hunt, in aid of the BRF, this time organised by Andrew and Diana Young. It was on Bank Holiday Monday 7th May, starting at Ash-by-Wrotham at 2pm. Almost everybody seemed to be there at the start time, except for yours truly having just rung a peal that morning at Shoreham and having to rush around for lunch and depositing people at various places!

About a dozen mindless carloads then proceeded to scavenge around Ash church looking for the answers to such questions as "18th century rebel without a cause?" and "How many generals under Baldwin?" (By the way, what is a Pyracanthas?!). We were even asked to find out who made a bellringing contraption in an old pigeon loft! All I can say is that it's a jolly good thing that Lyn Briers hadn't decided to clear out the noticeboard in the ground floor ringing room over the weekend! We were also warned that any 'difficult' clues had been composed by Nicholas and not Mummy or Daddy!

Along the way we also had to count all the Neighbourhood Watch signs along the route (causing me to doubt the validity of certain birth certificates when it comes to parentage). After Ash we were taken through some lovely Kent countryside, passing through such places as Stansted, Fairseat ('a lovely place for a rest'), Trottiscliffe, Ryarsh, Birling (where there was a full scale flower festival taking place with welcome ice cream being sold - very tasty!), Harvel (where an instruction to stop here had been omitted, causing almost everyone to lose points - well, it's a change from the organisers not knowing their left from right!), Meopham, Sole Street, Cobham ('a bacon roll'), Shorne, finishing up at Upnor, where my carload managed to confuse the Hill family from Erith into believing that we knew where we were going when we lead them into a wrong car park then racing off (unintentionally of course)! Upnor village has obtained some new skid marks on the road, where it was not realised that a junction was coming up. Sue and Stephanie from Hayes must have had their lives flash before them!

At Upnor, after solving more clues, everybody tucked into packed teas, then proceeded to Hoo St. Werburgh (the mystery tower) for general ringing. Then the results were announced, after everybody was knackered from the events of the day. Jacki Mack's carload came first, with the Hill family second, and Sue Fisher with Stephanie Webb third. All received prizes (mainly chocolates) and little 'trophies'. Many tired bodies then trailed home to the Lewisham District.

It only remains to thank Andrew and Diana (and Nicholas!) for all the hard work they put in, and as I was involved in organising last year's, I can well understand what that means. I personally can't wait for next year's Treasure Hunt!

Alex Britton.

.....STOP PRESS!!!!

This year's K.C.A.C.R. 8-bell inter-district striking competition was held on Saturday 30th June. It was hosted by the Tonbridge District, and took place at Westerham (8,23 cwt). The test piece was a touch of 209 Oxford Bob Triples, specially composed by the Association Chairman, Nick Davies. There were only five teams ringing instead of the usual six, because the Canterbury District were unable to raise a band. The Lewisham District band stood as follows:- Diana Young (Christ Church Erith) 1, Ann Saunders (Bexley) 2, Sonia Cartwright (Deptford) 3, Alex Britton (Dartford) 4, Nigel Parsons (Greenwich) 5, Colin Wyld (St.Nicholas Chislehurst) 6, David Hilling (Eynsford) 7, and Andrew Young (Christ Church Erith) 8. Our test piece was conducted by Colin Wyld.

The judges were Jeremy and Sheila Cheesman from Benhilton in Surrey, and they gave a clear and concise assessment of each team's ringing.

The results were as follows:-

1st	Tonbridge District	66 faults
2nd	Lewisham District	79 faults
3rd	Ashford District	100 faults
4th	Rochester District	106 faults
5th	Maidstone District	156 faults

Getting the trophy back has therefore eluded the Lewisham District for a second year!

It was decided at the April meeting that the District Quarter-peal Week will be held from 29th Sept. to 7th Oct. Details of arrangement will be sent to each tower in the near future. It was also suggested that this would be an opportunity to involve all members of the District in fund raising, and so I shall also be sending out some ideas for sponsorship for the week's activities.

In order to assist in contacting people within the District, it was suggested (at the April meeting) that we should compile a "District Telephone Directory". Nobody's phone number will be put on the list unless they specifically ask to be included. If anyone does wish to be included in the list can they please let me (Andrew Young) as soon as possible. It will be distributed to everyone on the list, and any others in the District who would like one.

At this time of year, many towers have difficulty raising bands for weddings. If anyone is regularly available for wedding ringing outside their home tower, this can be indicated on the 'phone list.

A band from the Lewisham District were placed second in the County 8-bell striking competition held on Saturday 30th June at Westerham. The Tonbridge District were the winners.