

K. C. A. C. R.

Lewisham District Newsletter

October, 1992.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Sat 10th Oct Annual District Meeting at Bromley Parish Church
 3:00 - Ringing
 4:30 - Service, followed by tea* (approx 5:00) and meeting (approx 6:00)
 Evening ringing at Bromley Common (to be confirmed at meeting)
 * Names for tea to David Kingston (081-464-4891) by Wed 7th October.
- Sat 31st Oct County Dinner at Holy Trinity Primary School, Dartford
- Sat 7th Nov Call Change Competition at Eltham
 Handbell Concert at Bexley Church Hall (7:30 p.m.) (see below)
- Sat 14th Nov County Training Day based around Leeds
- Sat 21st Nov Ten-bell Practice at Greenwich (10:00 to 11:30 a.m.)
- Sat 12th Dec Raising & Lowering Competition followed by
 District Carol Service at Bexley.

Note - The practices at Erith, Hayes and Bromley Common have been cancelled due to the recent lack of interest and, in the case of Hayes, the clash with the County Training Day.

Handbell Concert

The West Peckham Handbell Ringers will be giving a concert in St. Mary's Bexley Church Hall (in Manor Road, opposite the church) at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 7th November. Tickets, £3:50, which include light refreshments, from Mary Andrews (0322 523071).

Come and see "the little man with the big bells" - our parishioners' description of Walter Dobbie!

Centenary Celebrations

A big thank you from the committee to all those who contributed towards making the Centenary Service at Lewisham an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Also thanks to all those who helped on the Open Day - another great success!

Centenary Project

As you should already know by now, the District has decided to raise money to add the remaining two bells to complete the octave at St. George's Bickley. Our target is about £10,000, so keep raising that money! Any suggestions for major fund raising events (and offers to organise them!) would be gratefully received. Any money raised should be passed on to Mary Andrews, Alex Britton or Andrew Young (cheques payable to *K. C. A. C. R. Lewisham District B.R.F.*).

THE DISTRICT BANK HOLIDAY OPEN DAY - A COMPLETE SUCCESS!

The day got off to a very prompt start. By the time Andrew Young had parked his car at Ash, just before 9.00am, the bells were already up and the second band were ringing. The tower had been opened up early and all were amazed at how many enthusiastic people were already there waiting to ring and be off to the next tower. Andrew very quickly sold all his day tickets and had to call in at Eynsford to scrounge some more from Alex Britton who, it was discovered, had sold a considerable number of his too. It meant that the day got off to a good start!!

Throughout the morning the route took the visitors to Eynsford, Farningham and Chelsfield where refreshments were laid on by the local band; followed by St Mary Cray and a string of other towers leading into the outskirts of London. At Bexley, which was chosen as the lunch time tower, take-away ploughman's lunches were served in the church hall. These were very much appreciated by those who were more concerned with the state of their towers than the state of their stomachs to worry about food. This was indeed a splendid idea but, although the visitors discovered them during the course of the ringing at Bexley, no one told any of the stewards who were at this point flagging after a hectic morning!

After lunch, car loads of ringers were busy toing and froing around the eastern side of the District between Crayford and Greenwich. Dartford created problems for some through a lack of parking space and the journey between Woolwich and Greenwich cost people a great deal of time due to an enormous traffic jam created by the weekend market. However, some came through unscathed, made it to Lewisham, and managed to grab Deptford and Greenwich on the way.

The turn out at Bickley was understandably large and ringing started early in order to accommodate all the visitors. The Star Guest, Ronald Dove (as in Dove's Guide), travelled all the way from Yorkshire by train just to ring. This was indeed a privilege for the District. He expressed his pleasure at ringing on the bells and insisted on paying for a day ticket.

And so the afternoon wore on into the evening and more frustrations cropped up for many of the keen visitors who became totally lost around the new Bromley one way system. At Biggin Hill one of the ropes broke causing a certain amount of consternation but all was put to rights very quickly and, considering it was the only one during the whole day (and there were no broken stays), no one really minded too much.

The long day ended, a few miles away from where it had started at Cudham where there was a surprisingly good turn out considering the length of the day and the lateness of the hour. Cudham must have some kind of reputation!!

The Stewards gathered in the Blacksmiths Arms in Cudham, after the final band of the day had rung down in order to have a de-briefing session and to count out the takings. In excess of £450 was recorded which surpassed every ones expectations and it was estimated that at least 70 people had joined the open day at some point which was very pleasing.

The visitors had come to join us from many areas and associations. One car load had made a 6.00am start from Codsall in Staffordshire in order to reach Ash for 9.00am. Others came from Norwich, Leicestershire and Hertfordshire, as well as areas much closer to home such as East Sussex and Essex. Some of our own County members joined us including Nick Davis the County Chairman and his wife and Tim and Diana Wraight from the Rochester District. Even some newly elected district members managed to ring at 19 of the 29 towers on the day.

The general comment from many of the visitors was that it had turned out to be a most enjoyable day which had been well organised. They were particularly pleased that even some fine weather had been laid on specially for them! Also people said how friendly and helpful all the stewards and local ringers had been and that they were made to feel welcome in the district. It was however pointed out that maybe photocopies of detailed maps showing the trouble spots such as Dartford, Greenwich and Bromley indicating one way systems and parking suggestions would have been useful. This comment was noted for next time.

Although all the towers were very close together in their timing two people did manage to have a ring at all the towers which was some achievement. Many visitors rang at most of them but ended up having to leave out one or two towers to make up for some lost time. In some cases some of the Stewards were a bit pressed for time and virtually ended up doing wheelies round the back streets to get to their next tower. Philip Irwin had the best idea; he did his stewarding on a motorbike!

....and on a personal note:-

A letter of thanks has been sent to all towers expressing my gratitude for all their co-operation on this occasion. It particularly stated how promptly all the towers were opened up enabling the day to run as smoothly as possible. Once again many thanks to all towers for your help and support. It was a very successful and most rewarding and enjoyable day for all who took part.

Also my thanks must go to Andrew Young, Alex Britton, Philip Irwin and Bill Lanyon for helping me with the stewarding. Particular thanks go to Bill who stood in for Peter Swift at very short notice, Andrew for producing the very popular day tickets and to Alex for dealing with all the publicity side of things.

Sonia Irwin

PHILIP A CORBY - K C A C R VICE-PRESIDENT.

Many of you will know that Phil, one of our greatly respected Vice-Presidents, passed away in June, and an appreciation (written by Frank Lewis of the Tonbridge District) appeared in our last newsletter, and this included details of Phil's funeral at Chiddingstone.

On Friday 11th September, a memorial service was held at the church of St. Botolph, Aldgate, where Phil was for many years Master of the ringers, and where he was very closely involved with the Sir John Cass Primary School and the Sir John Cass Foundation. This school is very closely linked with Aldgate church.

The Address was given by The Revd Malcolm Johnson (Rector of St Botolph's), who paid tribute to Phil and his life, Prayers were led by The Revd John Lee (Rector of Chiddingstone), and the Commendation and Blessing were given by The Rt Revd Dr David Say, who is known to many of us as being Bishop of Rochester until 1988, and who Phil often referred to as "Big David".

Among the congregation were the principal officers of both the Kent County Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths. Before the service the bells were rung by members of the Westminster Abbey Company of ringers, and afterwards by a number of invited bands, one of which was the K C A C R.

The following day, past and present members of the K C A C R General Committee met to ring a peal at Canterbury Cathedral in Phil's memory, which was of Grandsire Cinques and was duly scored in 3 hours and 16 minutes.

A fitting tribute to a great man who will be sorely missed by many people throughout the county and the country.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

Saturday 12th September 1992

CANTERBURY, Kent

Rung at the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ.

5015 GRANDSIRE CINQUES in 3 hours and 16 minutes

to a composition by T Hooley.

1. Dickon R Love
2. Peter F Romney
3. Catherine M Lewis
4. Nicholas J Davies
5. Ian F Young
6. Donald H Niblett (Conductor)
7. Alexander J Britton
8. Frank W Lewis
9. Nicholas J Chesson
10. Mark P Gilham
11. John B Keeler
12. Malcolm J Lodwick

Rung by Principal Officers and past and present members of the Kent C A General Committee in joyful memory and thanksgiving for the life of Philip A Corby, a Vice-President of the Association, and past County Chairman and General Secretary.

TOWER BELL QUARTERS

[1]	14/01	CUDHAM	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[2]	22/05	ERITH (CH CH)	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[3]	26/05	ERITH (CH CH)	1250 Belvedere Surprise Major
[4]	30/05	SIDCUP	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[5]	06/06	BICKLEY	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[6]	06/06	DEPTFORD	1260 Grandsire Triples
[7]	06/06	HAYES	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[8]	06/06	LEWISHAM	1260 Plain Bob Triples
[9]	07/06	EYNSFORD	1280 Cambridge Surprise Major
[10]	07/06	GREENWICH	1296 Plain Bob Caters
[11]	07/06	HAYES	1260 Doubles 3m/v
[12]	19/06	LEWISHAM	1260 Grandsire Triples
[13]	20/06	CHELSEFIELD	1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor
[14]	21/06	ST MARY CRAY	1269 Doubles 5m. including Stedman
[15]	28/06	BROMLEY	1260 Grandsire Triples
[16]	28/06	CRAYFORD	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[17]	29/06	EYNSFORD	1260 Plain Bob Triples
[18]	02/07	WOOLWICH	1260 Plain Bob Triples
[19]	05/07	EYNSFORD	1260 Stedman Triples
[20]	05/07	LEWISHAM	1250 Cambridge Surprise Major
[21]	09/07	BECKENHAM	1263 Stedman Caters
[22]	19/07	CHISLEHURST (ST N)	1260 Doubles 3m inc Stedman
[23]	19/07	ST MARY CRAY	1260 Stedman Doubles
[24]	22/07	ST MARY CRAY	1260 Plain Bob Minor

Ron Ockelford	First quarter [1]
Paul Showell	First away from cover [1]
Don Pointer	First of minor inside [24]
Sarah Farnham	First on 10 [21]
Martin Luffman	First Stedman Triples [19]
Janet Fox	First Stedman Caters [21]
Helen Normington	First Stedman Caters [21]
Bill Lanyon	First Triples as Conductor [18]
P R Jarvis	First of Cambridge [9]
Sylvia MacKenzie	First of Cambridge Major [9]
Matthew Hilling	First of Surprise as Conductor [9]
Jeremy Gilliland	First Plain Bob Minor [5]
"	First Plain Bob Triples [8]
"	First Plain Bob Caters [10]
"	First Cambridge Surprise Minor [13]
"	First Cambridge Surprise Major [20]
James Hardy	250th quarter [14]
Sara Phelps	50th quarter in 1992 [24]
Nigel Pointer	Circled tower five times [23]

PEALS

[1] 30/05 BROMLEY 5056 Yorkshire Surprise Major
[2] 13/06 PENGE 5040 Minor 6m.

Sonia Irwin's first in the method [1]
Rung by members of the KCACR Lewisham District as a pre-wedding
compliment to Jon Fox and Janet Costidell, members of the
St Mary's, Lewisham, band [1]

Ruth Hardy's first peal [2]
Alan Saunders' first peal of Minor [2]
James Hardy's first peal of Minor and as Conductor [2]

HALF PEAL

[1] 28/06 FARNINGHAM 2520 Minor 4m. St.Cl.,
Cam., Kent, Pl. Bob

HANDBELL QUARTERS

[1] 06/07 62 Chastilian Road Dartford 1260 Plain Bob Minor
[2] 12/07 64 Heathview Avenue Crayford 1260 Plain Bob Minor
[3] 16/07 131 Wren Road Sidcup 1260 Plain Bob Minor
[4] 30/07 All Saints Belfry Foots Cray 1260 Plain Bob
Doubles

Rupert Cheeseman's first on 6 in-hand [1]
Richard Pearce's first in-hand as Conductor [1]

David Macey's first on an inside pair [3]

First doubles in-hand for Rupert Cheeseman, Richard Pearce and
David Macey [4]

David Macey's first in-hand as Conductor [4]

First on 6 in the tower! [4]

Rupert Cheeseman's 100th quarter [4]

David Macey's 50th in the method [4]

Quarters of interest rung outside the District

[1]	28/04	POPLAR Ch.Ch. Cubitt Town	1280	London Surprise
				Major
[2]	28/05	SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL	1311	Stedman Cinques
[3]	21/06	SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL	1263	Stedman Caters
[4]	05/07	SOUTHAMPTON St.Michael	1260	Plain Bob Minor

Philip Irwin's first in the method and completing the standard eight [1]

Alex Britton's first in the method as Conductor [1]

Nigel Pointer's first on 12 [2]

James Hardy's first of cinques in the principle [2]

Nigel Pointer completes the family in the principle [3]

James Hardy and Nigel Pointers' 50th together [3]

Graduation compliment to Tracey Clayton BSc [4]

Information from 'The Ringing World' up to and including issue No.4247 for September 18, 1992.

Jim Rooke