

# **K.C.A.C.R.**

## **LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

### **APRIL 1993**

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Welcome to the April 1993 edition of the Lewisham District Newsletter. The Newsletter will once again be distributed to every tower in the District (via the tower secretary), so everyone in the District should know what is going on! (I still have not received money from some towers!). I am still short on information, articles etc for the Newsletter. If anything interesting has happened in your tower (e.g. an open day, an outing, work on the bells), let me know about it (see below for details).

This quarter has been less active than some recently, but the practices which have been held have been very successful. The January quarterly meeting at Erith was well attended. The tea of hot soup, followed by bangers, baked potatoes and beans was very welcome after the cold of the church (nobody could find the switches for the heaters!), and it gave our new Vicar, Rev. John Draycott, the chance to meet a few of the ringers. The meeting followed (see minutes at the end of this Newsletter), with evening ringing at Christ Church. Special practices, concentrating on just one or two methods chosen by members of the District, were held at Eynsford (Bristol Surprise), Crayford (London Surprise), Lewisham (Glasgow Surprise) and Eltham (Cambridge Surprise and Stedman), and a ten bell practice was held at Greenwich. It is very encouraging to see several ringers who, not so many years ago were struggling with Bob Doubles, now progressing to London and Bristol ..... it just shows what can be done with some application. You may feel that the special practices are going above your head! If so, why not put in a request for what you want to ring (to Peter, Sonia or Andrew). No reasonable request will be ignored! These are your practices! Ask and we shall do our best to arrange what you want; but if you don't ask nothing will happen.

#### **Program for early summer 1993**

April:	24	Quarterly meeting, Beckenham (see below)
May:	8	Special practice (Bromley Parish) 10am
	15	District practice, Deptford 7pm
June:	5	Special practice (Erith CC) 10am
	12	District 10 bell practice, Beckenham 10:30am
	26	Kent County eight bell contest (Chislehurst St N) 4.30pm
July:	3	Special practice (Dartford) 10am
	10	Quarterly meeting, Bromley Common

#### **April Quarterly Meeting**

4:30 Service at St. George, Beckenham, preceded by a service touch rung by a picked band.  
5:00 (approx) Quarterly meeting in St. George's Church Hall, followed by tea and general ringing at Beckenham (all levels catered for, so please come along)  
Names for tea to Sara Phelps (081-778-3787) by Wednesday 21st, please.

#### **Articles for the Newsletter**

I accept copy in almost any form (hand written, typed, word of mouth (but make sure I write it down!), 3.5" or 5.25" disk (preferably "Word Perfect" but ASCII will do)). Please send submissions for the next *Newsletter* to Andrew Young by 19th June, 1993, at the latest, but the sooner you can get items to me, the easier it will be to get the next issue out on time.

## In The Lewisham District

### Program for the remainder of the year

September:	4	Special practice (Woolwich) 10am
	11	District 10 bell practice, Greenwich 7:00pm
October:	2	Special practice (Chislehurst St N) 10am
	9	Annual District Meeting, Dartford
November:	6	Special practice (Erith St J) 10am
	13	District call change contest, Chelsfield
December:	4	Special practice (Bexley) 10am
	11	Carol service (Foots Cray)

### Lewisham District Centenary Fund

We are now over half way to our target of £10,000 for the addition of the two trebles to complete the octave at Bickley. Whilst that is obviously good news, it does mean that we still have £5,000 to go! We are actually probably a lot nearer our target, as I hope that all of you out there are doing your bit towards the fund. Let me remind you of the figures which I quoted when we launched the fund: If every member of the District raises £10 (i.e. 20p per week for the year) that will give us £1,900, and if every tower gives £50 (e.g £1 per wedding), that gives a further £1,500. That would leave us about another £2,000 to go, plans for which are well underway. I know of many personal fund raising schemes which are underway (e.g. 10p per pint drunk during the year; filling a pint pot with 20p pieces, donation half your wedding money for a year). Many of you will not manage as much as £10, some will manage more - my 10p per pint beer fund has reached an alarming £21!! But please do not leave it to everyone else. This is a District effort. May I remind you that before any decision was made on the idea of a Centenary Project all towers were informed of the proposal and that all members would be expected to contribute, and asked for opinions. I received no objections at that stage (either verbally or in writing) and on that basis we went ahead with the full support of all the District. I am sure that there are many other things going on which I do not know about. I know that many of our members are youngsters, with no regular income, for which £10 is a lot of money. However it can be done - one enterprising youngster promised to tidy and clean his room every week for a year, in return for which his parents made a contribution to the bell fund.

We are now getting to the stage where we may be in position to place the order within the next six months. However, for this we must know how much money has been raised and therefore how much is still needed. Therefore could I please ask that all money raised so far is given to either myself, Sonia, Mary or Alex as soon as possible. Thanks to each and all of you for your efforts - hopefully we should soon have a ring of eight to be proud of through our joint effort.

### Carols! Carols! Carols!

Yes I know it is a bit early, but here is advanced warning. Saturday 11th December is the date set for a Christmas Carol Service. I do not know yet what form it will take, so if you have any good ideas do let me have them. The service will start at 4:30p.m. at Foots Cray church, and I hope that the District choir will reconvene and produce the same exquisite sounds as previously. There will, of course be ringing and refreshments as part of the proceedings.

So book the date in your diary now, offer your services for singing and bear in mind that there will be some practices before the event.

Thanks a lot.

Margaret Macey (081-302-4992)

## 6-bell Competition

The six bell competition, held at St. Mary Cray produced another good entry, on a fine March afternoon. As the eight bands took their turn to try to impress the judges, those not ringing took the opportunity to soak up the warm sunshine or catch up on "the gossip", while bending a critical ear to the ringing in progress. Some even took advantage of all day opening, and visited the local to "calm their nerves". After some two hours of ringing there was considerable debate amongst "the experts" as to who had won, but our judges, Keith Matthews and Keith Wakefield, were in no doubt. In his summing up of the afternoon's ringing Keith Matthews commented that the ringing had been of a high standard throughout, and congratulated all who took part. Lewisham (29 faults) were placed first, followed by 2nd, Eynsford (35); 3rd, Bexley (38); 4th West Wickham (43); 5th, Chelsfield (48); 6th, Crayford (68); 7th, Foots Cray (84); 8th Erith (disqualified for falling off the blue line!)

Thanks to Keith and Keith for judging the competition, to the vicar and ringers of St. Mary Cray for allowing us to use the bells, to the local ringers for providing much needed tea and biscuits throughout the afternoon, and to all the bands for entering the competition.

## Sado-masochism in a quiet London suburb - or self-torture in a good cause!

A cold, snowy, windy night in February and one's mind turns to the fireside, warmth and the great decision - 'Morse' or 'Casualty' - neither demanding too much effort. But no, Alex and his Mum have been working hard to produce the mental stimulus we need to prevent our grey cells from dying too soon. So, consciences pricking, we don warm clothing and off to Bexley we all trip. By 7:30 we are assembled, more or less resigned to our fate, when Andrew calls an Extraordinary General Meeting of the District - and he is not joking! After amending the rules governing the trustees of the centenary fund the mental gymnastics begin.

So, what do you know about the U.S.A., T.V. trivia, British places, the last 20 years, Sport, T.V. themes of yesteryear, Words (well we all know lots of them, but will they be the right ones?), That's Showbiz, Science and Nature or Pot Luck? Can you remember the last 10 American presidents (*Yes, we could* - Ed) or the state where the first atomic bomb was exploded (*..er..No* - Ed). Who lives at 1313, Mockingbird Heights, which tanker broke up off the Breton coast in 1978 (no, not the Torrey Canyon)? What was Maggie Thatcher's majority in the 1979 election? But we all knew the name of Cecil Parkinson's lady friend. Sport found out the couch potatoes - the original name for table tennis was Gossamer, 36-0 is the record score for a single football match, and Nigel Short was only 11 when he qualified as National Chess Champion. At this point we were more than ready to partake of the splendid refreshments prepared by Mary, Sara and their helpers.

The mental Olympics began again with music, not the sort to soothe the savage breast but the sort which revealed to our team in particular our abysmal ignorance, although judging by the expressions on the rest of the faces around the hall, we were not alone. The screw turned even harder as we proceeded to ponder over the plural of 'talisman', the Arabic for 'desert', and what the Polish use for money. Films and Showbiz in turn revealed even more gaps in our vital knowledge. We knew that a cow has four stomachs, but not which animal has four knees. The knowledge that the ailment we have most in common with animals is tooth decay did little to ease the painful memories. However at the end of the evening we certainly knew more than at the beginning, and we left determined to acquire more useless (sorry I really meant to write useFUL) bits of information ready for the next session.

Seriously, it was a very enjoyable experience, won by Erith, and we thank Alex and Margaret very much for all the hard work they put in to provide us with a challenging and stimulating evening, enabling us to delay a little longer the inevitable decaying of those little grey cells ..... I wonder who used that particular phrase?????????

A Baffled Dartfordian

### **District Barn Dance**

Hopefully the District Barn Dance will be at Erith Church Hall, on Saturday 18th September. I had hoped that this would be confirmed by now, but alas no! So pencil it in for now .... details will be circulated as soon as possible.

### **Michael Anthony Sanderson**

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Michael Sanderson of Bickley. Michael was churchwarden at St. George's for many years and was a driving force behind the restoration of the church after the fire in 1989. Both he and his wife, Monica joined the new band at St. George's, and he was progressing well when ill health forced him to give up last autumn. Although many of you did not know him, his contribution towards ringing in the District through his efforts at St. George's was enormous, and will not be forgotten by the remainder of the band at St. George's nor by those involved in teaching the new band. The District was represented at his funeral, and a half muffled quarter-peal was rung on the bells at St. George's the following Saturday. I think that Michael would have appreciated the fact that this was the first quarter for one of the local ringers, Jeremy Clitheroe, the first of the locals to achieve this milestone.

I am sure that I speak for everyone in offering Monica and her family our best wishes and support in the months to come.

At St. George's, BICKLEY, on Saturday 13th February, 1993,  
A quarter peal of 1260 changes of PLAIN BOB DOUBLES was rung by:  
1 - Jeremy Clitheroe (First quarter)      2 - Jean Sanderson  
3 - Mary Andrews      4 - Sonia Irwin  
5 - Andrew Young (cond)      6 - Alex Britton  
Rung half-muffled in memory of Michael Sanderson.

On a much happier note, **welcome to the District** to George James Harry Mack, son of David and Jaqui Mack who arrived safely on 11th February (8lb 8oz). Congratulations David and Jaqui!

### **Weddings**

Once again the wedding season is upon us, which causes major problems at a number of towers. I have received a plea from Beckenham/Penge for individuals or bands (e.g. for a quarter peal) who would be able to help out over the summer.

At Erith we have a similar problem, and I am sure that we are not alone. It occurred to me that there may be people at other towers who might like to ring at a few weddings (a welcome boost to the pocket money). If there is anyone who could help out either on an occasional basis or more regularly an Beckenham/Penge they should contact Sara Phelps (081-778-3787) or anyone who would be able to help out at Erith or any other towers, they should contact Andrew Young (0322) 529964.

### **Change of address**

Veronica (Eagle) and family have finally moved in with Jim. The new address is "Eyrie", Broomfield Road, Kingswood, Sutton Valence, ME17 3NZ. Tel (0622) 843614. (If you leave me out of any fun and games there'll be big trouble!!!). Veronica Eagle

### **Around the towers**

Since no towers sent me any information, this feature takes a rest this quarter. Please send me details of your tower's activities for inclusion in the next issue, before 19th June.

## In The County

### **County A.G.M.**

This year's A.G.M. was held at Goudhurst in the Tonbridge District, with ringing available at many of the towers in the District. The County committee remained largely unchanged, except for a new man at the helm. Nicholas Davies stood down as Chairman after his three year stint, and Tom Barlow from Maidstone was elected as the new Chairman. In addition Sonia Irwin, recently co-opted on to the County publicity sub-committee, was elected as one of the "extra six" (who this year number only four) - Alex Britton (County Secretary) and Andrew Young (extra six) were re-elected to their positions.

No major decisions were taken, except to increase the annual subscription to £5-00, with a 60/40% split to the B.R.F. and the general fund. This means that the general fund receives the same as it did before (£2-00), but the contribution to the B.R.F. increases to £3-00, in order to try to maintain or increase the amount of financial support the County can give to bell restoration projects. The junior and OAP membership subscription was also increased (three times actually!) to £2-00 (I think!!!)

### **County Training Sub-committee.**

Two talks on the use of coursing orders, one at Wrotham and one at Ashford, given by yours truly, seemed to go very well. About thirty people attended each of the talks, about ten of which (at Wrotham) were from this District. Obviously I am not in the best position to report on the usefulness of the talks, but the feedback I have had seems pretty positive. Perhaps one of those who attended may like to write a report for the next issue of the Newsletter.

This year's training day is aimed at teaching raising and lowering. It will be held on 30th October. Peter Hurcombe (Sussex C.A.) has agreed to come and be our "guest tutor" for the day. Numbers will necessarily be limited, so to avoid disappointment, book your place now (contact Catherine Lewis).

The 1994 training day will be another bell maintenance day, at the end of October 1994. Further details will be available about this time next year.

The training sub-committee received a letter from Deborah Blagden requesting financial and practical help with bringing six Kilifi (Kenya?) ringers to England in August 1994 for an intensive 2-week ringing course. The committee decided that, although financial support was not appropriate, we should offer practical help with the course. Any one who would like more details should contact Alex Britton, Catherine Lewis or Andrew Young.

The Surprise Royal practices are held at Maidstone (All Saints) every other month (May, July, September, November). They are usually on the second Wednesday from about 7:30, but check the Ringing World or contact Andrew Young for any alterations to this schedule.

### **Central Council Education Committee Newsletter, Spring 1993.**

Rather than reproducing this Newsletter in full, I have summarised the points which may be of interest to our District members. Anyone who would like to see the full Newsletter, or who would like further information on any of the items should contact Alex Britton or Andrew Young.

The annual Central Council Ringing Course this year is to be held near Wakefield, Yorkshire from 23rd to 25th July. Details will be published in the Ringing World in March/April. The 1994 and 1995 courses will hopefully be in the Ely Diocesan Guild.

An Autumn Seminar is being arranged on "listening and hearing" and how they are taught in the belfry. Again details will appear in the Ringing World nearer the time.

Two new Central Council publications are close to completion. "Belfry Steps" deals with the first stages of ringing, whilst "Belfry Offices" contains a series of prayers for ringers. Both will be reviewed in due course.

The Central Council video on teaching bell handling is now near to completion and should be available later in the year.

The debate on Bell Simulators continues, and the Central Council offers would be users the chance of trying out the simulators which are available. The contact is Phil Gay, Woodlands, Keele Rd., Keele, Staffs. ST5 5AL (0782) 750038.

## CHELSEFIELD BELLS

On Sunday 4th October 1992 a final peal was rung on the bells. Five members of the band were Sunday service ringers at St Martins. During the following week members of the local band removed as many of the fittings as possible. An opening had to be cut in the substantial floor of the ringing chamber since no provision had been made for lowering the bells when the floor was installed in the early 1960's to create a vestry for the ladies of the choir.

On Saturday 10th, four members of the Association bell restoration team lowered the back five original 1672 bells to the floor of the church. They were taken to John Taylor's at Loughborough on transport kindly provided free by Bullivants, a local firm of haulage contractors. At the foundry the bells were quarter turned and fitted with metal canon-retaining headstocks, new bearings and new stays. The wheels were adapted to the new headstocks, and new clappers, ground pulleys and sliders and slider boxes provided for all six bells.

The bells were returned by Monday 20th December and raised and re-installed by a representative from the foundry assisted full-time by one of our ringers, John Virgo who gave up a week of his Christmas vacation, and part-time by Bob Pruden our Tower Captain. A short try-out on the following Saturday proved all was well, and as we began to raise the bells in peal for the first time for the service the following morning applause broke out in the congregation who, as those of you who know Chelsfield will appreciate, can both see and hear the activities of the ringers.

The first quarter was rung by a local band on 7th February, and the first peal on 14th February by five local ringers plus Andrew Higson from the foundry. The bells were re-dedicated during Evensong on February 28th by the Bishop of Tonbridge, the Rt. Revd. David Bartleet, the occasion having been marked that afternoon by the second peal on the bells.

In the February edition of our church magazine Alan Blake, the co-ordinator of the bell-restoration fund, was able to announce that the total cost of £11,000 had already been raised. Our thanks go to Alan himself, and for the donations and hard work from charities, organisations and many individuals that have made this possible.

QUARTER PEALS

1992

[1]	10/10	LEWISHAM	1287	Grandsire Triples
[2]	11/10	BECKENHAM	1273	Grandsire Triples
[3]	11/10	EYNSFORD	1260	Grandsire Triples
[4]	15/10	LEWISHAM	1260	Grandsire Triples
[5]	01/11	HAYES	1320	Kent Treble Bob Minor
[6]	08/11	EYNSFORD	1260	Stedman Triples
[7]	08/11	FOOTSCRAY	1260	St Simon's Doubles
[8]	28/11	ASH BY WROTHAM	1260	St Simon and St Martin Doubles
[9]	28/11	BICKLEY	1260	Plain Bob Minor
[10]	28/11	BIGGIN HILL	1320	Cambridge S. Minor
[11]	28/11	DOWNE	1260	Grandsire Doubles
[12]	28/11	FARNINGHAM	1260	St Clements Minor
[13]	28/11	HAYES	1260	Eynesbury and St Osmund Doubles
[14]	28/11	PENGE	1260	Plain Bob Doubles
[15]	28/11	SIDCUP	1260	Single Oxford Minor
[16]	28/11	ST MARY CRAY	1260	Single Canterbury Min.
[17]	28/11	WEST WICKHAM	1260	St Nicholas and Winchendon Place D.
[18]	29/11	BEXLEY	1260	Plain Bob Doubles
[19]	05/12	BROMLEY COMMON	1250	Yorkshire S. Major
[20]	13/12	EYNSFORD	1280	Cambridge S. Major
[21]	20/12	EYNSFORD	1260	Plain Bob Doubles
[22]	20/12	ST MARY CRAY	1260	Plain Bob Doubles
[23]	26/12	BROMLEY	1260	Grandsire Triples
[24]	28/12	BIGGIN HILL	1260	Plain Bob Minor

1993

[25]	03/01	ST MARY CRAY	1260	St Mary Cray Bob Minor
[26]	10/01	ERITH ST JOHN	1260	Stedman Triples
[27]	17/01	BROMLEY	1260	Grandsire Triples
[28]	18/01	EYNSFORD	1280	Bristol Surprise Major

[1] [2] & [4] were rung half-muffled in memory of Philip Irwin.

Congratulations to:

1st quarter	Angela Gilby [18] and Susan Hobday [22]
1st Treble Bob	Katie Parker [5]
1st Surprise Major	Veronica Eagle [20]
1st Stedman	Sylvia MacKenzie [6]
1st in method	Daphne Paterson [19]
	Margaret and David Macey [25]
	Margaret and David Macey, Ann Saunders, and David Bagshaw [28]
1st in method as	Matthew Hilling [6] [19] & [28]
Conductor	Nigel Pointer [25]
400th quarter	Sara Phelps [8]
25th together	Nigel Pointer and David Kingston [14]
100th together	David Macey and Sara Phelps [8]
50th on the bells	Nigel Pointer [25]

PEALS

1992

[1]	14/11	FOOTS CRAY	5040	Stedman Doubles
[2]	21/11	BEXLEY	5088	Lewisham S. Major
[3]	05/12	BECKENHAM	5040	Southover S. Royal
[4]	12/12	CRAYFORD	5040	Plain Bob Minor
[5]	12/12	GREENWICH	5100	Stedman Caters
[6]	27/12	EYNSFORD	5024	Cambridge S. Major
[7]	29/12	BROMLEY COMMON	5024	Higher Walton S. Major
[8]	29/12	CHISLEHURST ANN.	5088	Spliced S. Major 4m.

1993

[9]	03/01	CUDHAM	5040	Cambridge S. Royal
[10]	30/01	CHISLEHURST ANN.	5024	Spliced S. Major 9m.
[11]	14/02	CHELSFIELD	5040	Minor 5m.

Andrew wrote in detail about peals [2] and [5] in the last newsletter.

Congratulations to :

The band at Crayford [4]. It was the first attempt by Alison Warner and Sally Gentry, the first on six by Michael Gentry, the first in the method by Rupert Cheeseman, and the first as conductor by Richard Pearce and his 50th peal in 1992. It was the first peal rung solely by members of the Crayford Sunday service band for 25 years.

Martin Luffman: first Surprise inside, Matthew Hilling: first as conductor, and Richard Pearce: 100th peal [6].

Andrew Young: 100th peal [5].

Information taken from The Ringing World up to and including No.4274 for March 26,1993 and from the last newsletter for details of the "ten quarters in a day".

Jim Rooke.



KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Christ Church, Erith,  
on Saturday, 16th January 1993

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Murray of St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, Miss V. Burman, Miss D. Pratt and Mr. P. F. W. Rose of Dartford, Mrs. P. O'Mera and Miss R. Morley of Eltham, Mr. R. Cass, Miss R. Farmer, Mr. D. Grainge and Mr. D. Macey of Foots Cray, Miss F. Cannon of Greenwich, Mr. D. G. H. Hollis of Lewisham, Mr. J. F. Hills, Mr. G. D. A. Long and Mr. N. Pointer of St. Mary Cray, and Mr. W. Lanyon of Woolwich.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members were asked to amend Mr. Irwin's second initial to M. in the first paragraph. The minutes were then confirmed and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Any Other Business - Sponsored Quarter Peals for Bromley Organ Fund

Miss S. C. Phelps reported that all ten quarter peals had been successful and the band was congratulated on this achievement.

Newsletter

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that the Newsletter was being distributed to all towers in the District at a cost of £2.50 for the year (4 issues). Some towers had still not paid and he hoped they would do so as at present their copies were being subsidised by those who had paid.

Centenary Fund

The Chairman reported that approximately £2,300 had been collected for the Centenary Fund towards the target of £10,000.

4. REPORT ON THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT LEEDS ON 28TH NOVEMBER

Ten-bell Striking Competition

A report on the General Committee Meeting had been printed in the Newsletter. There was some discussion about whether or not a 10-bell Striking Competition should be held and, if so, how often. Mrs. Irwin, who had given the trophy when the Competition had been held at Greenwich, said that she would like a Competition held on a regular basis. Mr. Hilling agreed but felt that this should be separate from and not as an alternative to, or alternate with, the 8-bell Competition. He said he would like to such a Competition to be held every few years. Mr. Britton suggested that it should be held every 2 or 3 years.

2.

4. REPORT ON THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT LEEDS ON 28TH NOVEMBER  
(continued)

Association Dinner

There was some discussion as to whether the Association should hold an Association Dinner on a regular basis and, if so, whether this should be held in a central location or whether it should go round the Districts. Members felt that a Dinner should be held every two years and that it should go round the Districts.

Life Membership

Some members did not agree with the recommendation of the General Committee that the category of Life Membership should be discontinued. The view was expressed that some towers might wish to pay a Life Membership subscription for one of their members as a token of appreciation. A vote was taken on this matter and the suggestion that Life Membership should be retained received the support of the majority.

On behalf of the meeting the Chairman expressed appreciation to Mr. Lanyon for his report.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

6. TO GIVE NOTICE OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON  
27TH FEBRUARY

The Chairman explained that, in order to comply with the law, it was necessary for the Centenary Fund to have the same Trustees as the Bell Restoration Fund. According to the Rules of the Centenary Fund it was necessary to give one month's notice of a meeting at which a proposition would be made for the amendment of the Rules and this would be held prior to the Quiz Night at St. Mary's Bexley Church Hall on Saturday 27th February at 7.30 p.m.

7. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The following new members were elected:

Bexley	Mr. K. J. Charley (jnr.) )	P. Miss M. R. Andrews
	Miss A. M. Gilby )	S. Mr. A. G. Hall
Bickley	Mr. J. Clitheroe (jnr.) )	P. Mrs. M. Sanderson
	Mr. M. Clitheroe (jnr.) )	S. Mrs. G. Vickers
Eynsford	Miss E. J. Hilling	P. Mr. D. Hilling
		S. Mr. M. Hilling

3.

#### 8. HANDBOOK FOR 1993

The Secretary said that she had the amended printout for the Handbook with her. Anyone who wished to check the details for their tower could do so after the meeting. Very few towers had submitted a list of the quarter peals which they had rung during 1992.

#### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

##### Newsletter

Mr. David Hilling thanked the Chairman for all the work he had put in to producing the District Newsletter.

##### Chelsfield

Mr. Rooke informed the meeting that he recently been elected Secretary of the Chelsfield ringers.

##### Eight-bell Striking Competition

Mr. Long enquired whether a service should be arranged for the 8-bell Striking Competition which was to take place at St. Nicholas Chislehurst on 26th June. It was agreed that one should be held.

##### Woolwich Centenary

Mr. Bing informed the meeting that Christmas Eve would make the centenary of the installation of the present ring at St. Mary's Woolwich and he invited the District to hold the 1994 January Quarterly Meeting at that tower. Mr. Bing also mentioned that he would be arranging a coach outing, probably on the second Saturday in June, and visitors would be welcome.

##### Dartford - Trinity 2000 Appeal

Mr. Britton thanked all those who had been willing to sponsor the Vicar of Dartford who would be absailing down the tower as part of the celebrations to launch the Trinity 2000 Appeal. The service to mark this event would be held at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 7th February. There would be ringing before and after the service and visitors would be welcome.

##### Songs of Praise or Carol Service

A vote was taken on whether or not a Songs of Praise Service or Carol Service should be held. Members preferred a Carol Service and Mrs. Macey kindly offered to arrange this, including a ringers choir, at Foots Cray for 4.30 p.m. on Saturday, 11th December.

4.

#### Organization of Meetings

The Chairman said that the District Committee recommended that the meetings to be held in April and July should start with a service at 4.30 and that this should be followed by the business meeting and then tea, with general ringing after tea. A service touch by an invited band would be arranged. This was agreed. Mr. Dumper asked that the first part of the ringing should be for beginners and this suggestion was noted.

#### County Training Day

The Chairman said that he would be giving two talks on coursing orders. These would be given at two widely separate venues on 6th and 7th April. He also drew attention to the Raising and Lowering Day to be held on 30th October. This would be an Association Training Day with guest speakers, probably Mr. Len Palfry and Mr. John Wells.

#### Quiz Night, Bexley

Those who wished to attend the Quiz Night were asked to let the Secretary have their entry fee of £3.00 by the 20th February at the latest. Profit would go to the Centenary Fund. Mr. Britton assured the meeting that no ringing knowledge would be required and encouraged members to bring non-ringing friends.

#### Barn Dance

A Barn Dance would be held on 18th September in Christ Church Erith Church Hall. The catering would be in the hands of the Eynsford team.

#### Vote of Thanks

Mrs. Irwin proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. John Draycott for taking the service and for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for an excellent tea.

There being no other business members returned to the tower for further ringing.