

Newsletter

REACH

January 1994

Lewisham District

District Practices

-Sara Phelps

The programme for district practices during the first part of the year is shown here. Remember these are your practices - whatever your ability, so if you want to ring rounds and call changes or practice your surprise major (or anything in between!) then please come along. The success of the practice depends on people being there. If you want to ring something in particular please let me know.

The practices marked as provisional will be confirmed nearer the time.

If anyone wants to ring a quarter in a particular method, but is having difficulty arranging a band or a tower, then get in touch - I might be able to help out with some names.

15 January	Bromley	District Practice	10.00 am
5 February	Beckenham	District Practice	6.00 pm
5 March	Eltham	District Practice	10.00 am (prov)
16 April	Chislehurst (St Nicholas)	District Practice	10.00 am
7 May	Bickley	District Practice	10.00am (prov)

Programme 1994

-Mary Andrews

8th January	Quarterly Meeting at Woolwich. Bells 3.00 Service 4.30. Names for tea to Bill Lanyon, 071-358 0164 (work no.) by previous Wednesday.
12th March	Six-bell Striking Competition at Crayford.
9th April	Quarterly Meeting at Chelsfield.
2nd May	Car Treasure Hunt*
14th May	Joint Meeting with the Maidstone District, towers - Ash and ? Stanstead
9th July	Quarterly Meeting
8th October	Annual Meeting at West Wickham
	Call Change Competition at Sidcup
12th November	Carol Service at Erith
10th December	

* To be confirmed

It is not possible for us to go to Cudham and/or Downe for the summer Quarterly Meeting on 9th July. An invitation from a tower, preferably a 'country' one, for that date would be most welcome. To avoid weddings, the meeting - like the one at Chelsfield - will start with a service touch prior to a 4.30 service. This will be followed by the business meeting, tea and evening ringing.

From the Editor

Welcome to the January 1994 edition of the Lewisham District Newsletter. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year! This is the first Newsletter I have produced having taken over from Andrew Young who has been editor of the Newsletter for a number of years. Thank you Andrew for all your hard work.

A brief introduction - my name is Sally Gentry and I am a Crayford ringer and have been ringing there for 16 years. Michael my husband is also a ringer and is captain of the tower at Crayford.

As you know this is your newsletter and for it to be worthwhile I need articles for it. So reach for your pens and get writing! There must be lots happening around the district and I am sure we must have some budding journalists amongst us. Send all your articles to me at my home address 1 Milton House, Bexley Lane, Crayford, Kent, DA1 4DF.

Cathedral Practice

- Sara Phelps

Many people from this district come along to the practices at Southwark Cathedral - several members of the Cathedral band are resident in this district. Contrary to popular belief, practising at Southwark is not all Surprise Maximus - as many people will tell you! We do ring a reasonable variety of things on 12 bells and visitors, whatever their ability, are always welcome there. If there are several people who would like to go along, we have the opportunity of having either a district 12 bell practice there or a joint practice with the Cathedral band.. (This approach has been followed by the LCA and the Surrey Association and it seems to have worked quite well.) Please think about this and let me know whether you are interested. I have a list of dates for the Cathedral practices if anyone would like them.



Subscriptions

-Mary Andrews

Subscriptions for 1994 become due on 1st January. The new rates are £5 for adult members and £2 for Junior members and those over 65 years. The gold star for the first to pay was awarded to Eltham in November, and they also gave a generous donation to the Centenary Fund.

1993 Call Change Competition



Results

It was pouring with rain on 13 November when eight teams entered the 1993 call change competition at Farningham. Our judges, Frank and Catherine Lewis, certainly seemed to be in for a wet afternoon!

A few people were brave enough to listen to some of the ringing from outside, but most were staying near the tea and coffee which the local ringers provided.

In giving the results and making some general comments on each piece, Catherine said that she considered that the most important thing was the quality of the leading. Getting that right made everything else a lot easier.

Well done to everyone who entered and I hope that those towers who didn't/ couldn't enter a band this time will be in a position to do so next year. Our thanks go to Frank and Catherine for judging and for their constructive comments and also the incumbent for the use of the bells and the Farningham ringers for making all those cups of tea!

1.	Beckenham	19 Faults
2.	Eyns. & Farningham	25 Faults
3.	Crayford	34 Faults
4.	Foots Cray	63 Faults
5.	Bickley	71 Faults
6.	Chislehurst (St N)	76 Faults
7.	Bexley	78 Faults
8.	Eltham	86 Faults

Centenary Fund - Mary Andrews

Generous donations have been received from a number of towers in the District and individual members have worked hard in arranging various fund-raising events, which have been well supported. Sadly, however, about half of the towers in the District have not contributed to this Fund. If your tower is in this category, do consider either making a cash donation or arranging a fund raising event during 1994.

REPORT ON GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING- HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 1993

Bill Lanyon
District Representative

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

At the District Meeting at Dartford the District voted on various proposals outlined by Alex Britton. Not all districts had discussed these proposals and a slightly revised set of proposals is to be produced and circulated. Therefore, no report was given at the General Committee Meeting of the District's views.

CHARITABLE STATUS

This is not yet agreed with the Charity Commissioners but it is still looking as if charitable status will be granted as from 1 January 1994.

COUNTY DINNER

This will be held on 29 October 1994 at Tudor Park, Bearsted. Tickets are likely to be rather more expensive than in past years - circa £20 each.

TEN BELL STRIKING COMPETITION TROPHY

The current holders, Ashford District announced their readiness to accept challenges for the trophy.

INSURANCE

The survey on insurance showed that the vast majority of towers are quite comprehensively covered by insurance with the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company. Some towers were with other companies.

There were however, some glaring gaps in cover :-

- A few towers reported that they had no insurance.
- The insurance is on the basis of covering ringers attached to a tower. Unattached ringers are probably not covered.
- Age limits are applied. Typically, cover is restricted to ringers aged between 11 and 75 but these limits vary, even between policies with Ecclesiastical

It is clearly essential to check your tower's policy and find out exactly what is and what is not covered.

District trophies, books etc are not covered by the Association. The whole question of insurance is to be followed up at Association level.

PUBLICITY

The new porch card should now be available.

BELL RESTORATION FUND

The fund has made substantial grants in recent years and funds are running low. District were invited to consider fund raising ideas, eg one wedding per tower per year to the BRF. Also bequests in Wills. The bequest from Bert Luck has enabled the BRF to support a lot of work.

Peal Report

-Jim Rooke

Peals 1993

[1] 07/08 CUDHAM	5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal
[2] 08/08 FOOTS CRAY	5040 Doubles 10m.
[3] 28/08 ELTHAM	5040 Grandsire Triples
[4] 11/09 LEWISHAM	5152 Yorkshire Surprise Major
[5] 12/09 DARTFORD	5040 Stedman Triples
[6] 14/09 BECKENHAM	5031 Stedman Caters
[7] 25/09 BECKENHAM	5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal
[8] 26/09 WEST WICKHAM	5040 Plain Bob Minor
[9] 23/10 LEWISHAM	5000 Spliced Plain Major 2m.
[10] 28/10 BROMLEY COMMON	5184 Ealing Surprise Major
[11] 13/11 WOOLWICH	5024 Tyburn Surprise Major

Congratulations to :-

1st Stedman *Martin Luffman* [5]

50th peal *Matthew Hilling* [9]

and in the peal of Cambridge Royal at Beckenham [7]

1st peal *Sarah Farnham*

1st on 10 *Ruth Hardy, Rupert Cheeseman and Nigel Pointer*

1st Surprise *Ruth Hardy*

1st Royal and 1st on 10 as conductor *James Hardy*

1st Surprise Royal and 25 th peal *Sara Phelps*

1st Cambridge Surprise Royal *David Kingston*

Quarter Peals 1993

[1] 23/06 FOOTS CRAY	1269 Doubles 5m. inc. Stedman
[2] 03/07 BROMLEY	1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major
[3] 01/08 CHISLEHURST ST N	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[4] 06/08 WEST WICKHAM	1440 Plain Bob Minor
[5] 28/08 ASH BY WROTHAM	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[6] 03/09 BROMLEY COMMON	1260 Grandsire Triples
[7] 05/09 BECKENHAM	1260 Doubles 4m.
[8] 26/09 HAYES	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[9] 27/09 CHISLEHURST ANN.	1250 Lincolnshire Surprise Major
[10] 28/09 BROMLEY	1320 Plain Bob Doubles
[11] 01/10 WOOLWICH	1280 Bristol Surprise Major
[12] 10/10 FARNINGHAM	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[13] 17/10 CHELSFIELD	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[14] 30/10 CHELSFIELD	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[15] 10/11 WEST WICKHAM	1260 Grandsire Doubles

and a quarter rung outside the District of note :

[16] 15/08 SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL 1311 Stedman Cinques

Congratulations :-

1st attempt *J R Byers* [7]

1st quarter *Martin Clitheroe, Ragnild Green and Edward Robinson* [10], *Emma J Hilling* [12] *Shirley Stephenson* [13]

1st on a working bell *Michael Murray* [3]

1st inside *Jeremy Clitheroe* [10]

1st minor *Chris Lawrence* [8]

1st major and 1st surprise inside *Sam Hovey* [9]

1st in method *Sam Hovey* [11]

1st Stedman Cinques *James Hardy* [16]

Most methods *Mark Jones* [1]

Circled tower and 50th doubles *Nigel Pointer* [1]

75th together *Sara Phelps and Alan Saunders* [7]

Completes a quarter at every ringable tower in the Lewisham District *James Hardy* [11]

Information taken from The Ringing World up to and including No. 4311 for December 10, 1993.