



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1996

The Editor:



Some of you may know that since the last issue of the Newsletter I have been visiting relations in New Zealand, and in the course of the visit have circumnavigated the world. It was an exciting and interesting trip, with some quite stark contrasts between the different places; for instance, Bangkok, with its magnificent temples and rather squalid shops and houses, is vastly different from the modern cleanliness of Sydney. New Zealand, with a country the size of the U.K. and only 3,500,000 people (and, so they say, 60,000,000 sheep!) has an air of spaciousness, although their road system is not up to U.K. standards, with some stretches of main roads still with only grit surfaces.

During the trip I managed to get to ring at two towers in Sydney, despite only being there for 2 nights! In New Zealand, where we spent four weeks, it was rather easier to manage a visit to all 6 "ringable" towers there. They say it's a small world, but imagine my surprise when, on entering the ringing room at Wellington Cathedral, who should be there but Rei Ngatai, whom many of you will know from her time spent in the Lewisham District. Unfortunately I was unable to fix up any ringing in Boston, where we stayed for two nights on the way home.

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Alan Hall, who was a good friend and helper to many of us. The District will be the poorer for his passing. An appreciation of Alan appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Quarterly Meeting

The next Quarterly Meeting will be at Crayford on Saturday, 13th April. Bells: 3.00 p.m.; Service: 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by the previous Wednesday to Mrs. Nancy Robins, Telephone: Crayford (01322) 551314.

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Alan Hall

His many ringing friends and acquaintances will have been saddened to learn of the death, on 18th February, of Alan Hall of St. Mary's Bexley. After suffering from diabetes for many years, Alan developed cancer of the larynx, which was inoperable. Within a short time of the diagnosis of this condition he suffered a cardiac arrest and, a few days later, died following a second arrest.

At the time of the restoration of Bexley bells and their augmentation to eight in 1938, Alan and his brother Dennis, both of whom were choirboys at St. Mary's, were taught to ring by the verger, the late Mr. Bert Holden. After a promising start to his ringing career - he called his first peal within 16 months of the re-dedication of the bells - Alan, who had served an apprenticeship at Halls of Dartford, joined the Merchant Navy in 1945. This afforded him the opportunity of ringing in Australia. He married in 1958 and took up employment with Crown Agents. For a few years, he was a member of the band at Dartford where his brother was Tower Captain, and was himself Tower Captain there for a short time before rejoining the Bexley band in 1977. His contribution to ringing at Bexley, where he was

a most conscientious and greatly respected member of the band, was considerable. He was always willing to help learners, particularly those embarking on method ringing and conducting. He called many quarter peals including Spliced Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Yorkshire Surprise Major, Erin Triples and St. Clement's College Bob Major, several of which were firsts for the entire local band. He was also a keen and competent handbell ringer. After his retirement in 1983, he used to join the Greenwich ringers on their practice nights and rang a number of quarters with them. He also rang regularly at Eltham on their practice nights, and helped with the training of the new band at Bickley.

In all he rang 27 peals, 23 on tower bells and 4 on handbells. He rang five peals before the Second World War and all but two of the remainder between April 1944 and August 1948. Alan had been a member of the Kent County Association since 1938, and had served the Lewisham District as a Representative from 1982 to 1986, and as Chairman from 1987 to 1989. He was also a Cumberland.

In Alan's memory, a peal of Glasgow Surprise Major was rung at St. Michael's Maidstone, and four quarter peals - Grandsire Triples at Beckenham, Plain Bob Triples and Stedman Triples at Bexley and Plain Bob Doubles at Crayford. Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at his funeral, held at Eltham Crematorium on Thursday 29th February.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife, Brenda, his son David, and his brother Dennis. May he rest in peace.

MRA

Association Sweatshirts etc.

Set out below are the sizes and prices of T-shirts. Polo-shirts and Sweatshirts duly printed with the County insignia:

T-shirts

Child: (26, 28, 30, 32 & 34") in Ash,
Black, Natural, Navy Blue, Red,
Royal Blue, White
S: Ash, Black, Navy Blue, White
M/L/XL: Ash, Black, Charcoal, Forest Green
Natural, Navy Blue, Oatmeal, Red,
Royal Blue, Sports Cardinal, White,
Yellow
XXL: Ash, Black, Navy Blue, Red, White

Polo-shirts:

Child: (26, 28, 30, 32, 34") in Black,
Bottle Green, Bright Red, Bright
Royal, Burgundy, Navy Blue, Sky
Blue, White, Winter Emerald
S/M/L/XL/
XXL: Birch, Black, Bottle Green, Bright
Red, Bright Royal, Burgundy, Navy
Blue, Raspberry, Sky Blue, White,
Winter Emerald, Yellow

Sweatshirts

Child/S/M/
L/XL/XXL: Birch, Black, Bottle Green, Bright
Red, Bright Royal, Burgundy, Light
Oxford, Navy Blue, Raspberry, Sky
Blue, White, Winter Emerald,
Yellow

	Prices (£)			
	<u>Child</u>	<u>S/M/L</u>	<u>XL</u>	<u>XXL</u>
<u>T-Shirts</u>				
White	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00
Colour	5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00
<u>Polo-Shirts</u>				
White	8.50	10.50	11.00	11.50
Colour	8.50	11.00	11.50	12.00
<u>Sweatshirts</u>				
White	10.00	11.50	12.00	12.50
Colour	10.00	12.00	12.50	13.00

Please send orders to: Dr. Sue Atkinson, 52,
Maxton Rd. Dover, Kent. CT17 9JL

Please note that orders cannot be guaranteed for a certain date as Sue needs a minimum order size of 10 items.

QUARTER PEALS

1995

[1]	05/11	ST MARY CRAY	1260 Plain Bob Minor
[2]	12/11	BEXLEY	1280 Cambridge Surprise Major
[3]	16/11	ERITH Ch.Ch.	1260 Plain Bob Triples
[4]	19/11	ERITH Ch.Ch.	1260 Plain Bob Doubles
[5]	25/11	ELTHAM	1320 London Surprise Minor
[6]	26/11	EYNSFORD	1264 Plain Bob Major
[7]	13/12	ST MARY CRAY	1280 Plain and Little Bob Minor
[8]	17/12	ERITH Ch.Ch.	1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor
[9]	23/12	BECKENHAM	1280 Spliced Surprise Major 8m.
[10]	26/12	BROMLEY	1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major
[11]	31/12	EYNSFORD	1260 Grandsire Triples

1996

[12]	07/01	WEST WICKHAM	1320 Doubles 3m. (St Osmund, St Simon and Plain Bob)
[13]	14/01	BEXLEY	1280 Yorkshire Surprise Major

Congratulations for:

1st attempt : Cathy Hall [1]

1st in method : Carol Easthaugh [4], Elisabeth Buist [11]

1st spliced : Carol Easthaugh [7]

1st Treble Bob inside : Carol Easthaugh [8]

1st major : D.W. Stoneham [6]

1st St Osmund for all the band [12]

1st 8-spliced : Margaret Macey and David Kingston [9]

1st spliced as Conductor : David Macey [9]

25th quarter in 1995 (aged 12) Hannah Saunders [8]

200th together Nigel Pointer and James Hardy [10]

PEALS

1995

[1]	11/11	BROMLEY COMMON	5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major
[2]	18/11	WOOLWICH	5024 New Cambridge Surprise Major
[3]	18/12	ST MARY CRAY	5040 Surprise Minor 7m.

1996

[4]	20/01	ELTHAM	5088 Spliced Surprise Major 4m.
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Only [3] was rung for the Kent County Association.

From Ringing World up to and including edition No. 4428 for March 8, 1996.

Jim Rooke

The Bellringer's Bedside Companion

and

The Method Ringer's Companion

For the benefit of any ringers who have not had the opportunity of seeing the extracts in "The Ringing World" from either of these excellent recently published books by Steve Coleman, We are including the advertising copy in the Newsletter. The books cost £ 14.95 each and there is a discount of 20% for 5 or more copies. Anyone who would like to take advantage of this should let Mary Andrews have £ 11.96, for each copy required. If any ringers wish to send in their own order, it should be addressed to Mrs. Sue Coleman, 46 Byfords Road, Huntley, Glocs. GL19 3EL. Cheques should be made payable to Sue Coleman.

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by
Steve Coleman

This beautifully bound and printed, 430 page, hard-back book, contains 52 chapters of advice, information and help.

It covers

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- * Ringing Safety
- * Ringing Teas
- * Slipping Wheel
- * Firing
- * Standing Behind
- * Method Learning
- * Call Changes
- * Ringing half-muffled
- * Ringing Panic
- * Arranging Outings
- * and much else besides.
- * Ringing Up & Down
- * Leading Up & Down
- * Ringing Etiquette
- * Tower Captaincy
- * Ringing left-handed

Price £14.95

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What Others Have Said

"Inspired"

"For my money it's the best ringing book ever written."

"Absolutely fascinating. A whole world of information that no-one ever told me about before"

"It only I had had this book 20 years ago."

"... so well written and so funny. My children keep asking what I'm laughing about"

"I found something stimulating on every page (and that, after being a keen ringer for 20 years!)"

Now Available

The Method Ringer's Companion

by
Steve Coleman

This beautifully bound and printed, 440 page, hard-back book, contains 47 chapters of advice, information and help, all written in Steve's easy-to-read, enjoyable and exceptionally clear style. It is the ordinary ringer's guide of how to ring all the widely rung methods on all numbers, from bob doubles upwards.

It covers

- * Plain Bob
- * The Other Doubles
- * Kent and Oxford
- * Surprise Minor
- * Striking
- * On the Wild Side
- * Grandsire
- * The Plain Minor
- * The Classic Triples
- * Surprise Major
- * Method Naming
- * and much else besides.
- * Stedman
- * Doubles Variations
- * The Basic Major
- * Listening
- * The Fun Methods

It is packed with clear and simple explanations, learning tips, ringing hints, diagrams, stepping-stone methods, and fascinating historical background.

Following my inclusion in the last Newsletter of extracts from a notebook (made up about 1826) of George Lansdell of Rolvenden, I am including a further offering. This is apparently a letter from a College Youth, and in some respects seems to be a "power struggle" between the "old" and the "new", as to who could, or should ring the bells at St. Mary-le-Bow.

Bow Bells

I beg leave to acquaint the inhabitants of St. Mary-le-Bow with an imposition that has been practised upon them since the erection of the new spire. It is well known that the practice of bell ringing has been reduced to a science for many years past, and the art is now in great perfection; but this scientific mode is not allowed to be performed upon Bow Bells; the committee in vestry, gentlemen of the parish, having been informed that it would have such an effect upon the tower as, in all probability, to cause the fall of the spire. The fact is, the persons (with the exception of one) who now ring at Bow Church are incapable of performing any of the scientific methods, and therefore imagine that, if any of them were to be rung there, the inhabitants would take a liking thereto and they be deprived of the situation, the music of the scientific methods being so superior to that which they perform



Now the method performed by the Bow Ringers is a bastard one, called 'set changes', and is rung as follows: Suppose the bells were to be in their natural position 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, the person who intends to call the changes generally begins with the hindmost bells and therefore calls aloud "eighth and ninth" - which means that the eighth bell is to take the place of the ninth, and vice versa; the bells will then strike 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 8, 10 and after ringing about thirty of these changes and repeating each twenty times, which will take half an hour, the peal is concluded; whereas in the same space of time, ten persons who understand the scientific methods could perform 700 changes, and not

one of them alike, and instead of changing only two bells at a time as is above shewn, would reverse the whole each time they had struck one round.

With regard to scientific ringing being dangerous to the spire, or any other part of the steeple, I beg to say that it is decidedly the reverse, and if any method is at all so, it is set changes, because in the course of ringing them several of the bells will act in conjunction, or, in ringing terms, swing one way, which must certainly cause the building to rock very much, particularly as one change is repeated so many times. In support of my assertion I beg to say that, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, there is a peal of twelve bells, the tenor weighing 48 cwt; the steeple is a mere shell compared with Bow, and the bells hang at least 30 feet higher than at the latter place, yet, whenever scientific ringing is performed, the steeple does not rock half so much as with set changes. Also at St. Saviour's, Southwark there is a peal of twelve bells, the tenor weighing 52 1/2 cwt (Bow is 53 cwt). This tower stands on four pillars, which form arches as high as the church roof, the walls of the building where the men stand to ring are but four feet thick (Bow are seven); it is also several feet higher than Bow, and altogether the bells are much heavier and more elevated, yet the scientific methods are invariably performed. In short, where the men stand to ring at St. Michael's and St. Saviour's is rather higher than that part of the tower in which Bow Bells hang - consequently the bells at the two former churches are about 25 or 30 feet higher than at the latter. I could also name several places where these favourite methods are rung, and set changes actually prohibited, such as Christ Church, Spitalfields and St. Martin-in-the-Fields each of which have twelve bells, also several others having ten and eight.

There are now four Societies in London practising the scientific methods - namely the Senior and Junior Cumberland Societies and the Senior and Junior College Societies, each of which have a great desire to perform upon Bow Bells, and have made several applications so to do, but which have been refused through the absurd notion that the spire would be in jeopardy.

The above Societies have been established many years, are governed by a master and stewards, subject to rules and articles similar to those of benefit societies, and therefore deserve every encouragement.

It is therefore hoped that the parishioners of St. Mary-le-Bow will see the trick that has been played upon them, and give directions to the churchwardens, to grant permission for the scientific methods to be performed whenever applied for.

I am, sir, A Senior College Youth

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.... and further medical advice:

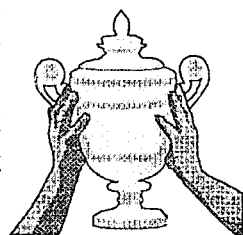
A cure for the tooth-ache
(knock-out drops?)

Allum reduced to an impalpable powder, two drachms; nitrous spirits of ether, seven drachms; mix and apply them to the tooth affected.

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District Striking Competition

On Saturday 16th March, four hopeful teams gathered at Cudham to compete for the District Striking Championship. Owing to the fact that Cudham Church is having the heating system renewed, the church was bitterly cold; but, no matter, the ringers at Cudham had laid on hot tea and biscuits (astutely charging 50p a head to go to the Boiler Fund!), and did brisk business throughout the afternoon. Although it was warmer outside than in the church, the judges, Tom Barlow and Roy Barclay from the



Maidstone District, needed a more comfortable position, so were dutifully housed in an upstairs room in the house of one of the Cudham ringers conveniently situated next to the church. To add weight to the contest Andrew Young persuaded (?) enough people into making up a scratch band, thus making 5 teams competing. Cudham bells are not the easiest to ring well, as on the back six at least, four are in a straight line, making observation difficult. However most bands coped with this well enough, the biggest difficulty being in coping with the "odd struck" bells.

After all teams (all incidentally ringing doubles) had completed (or given up!) their attempts, we awaited the judges decision. They gave some constructive and amusing comments on each of the bands and eventually announced the result, which was as follows:

- 1st: Beckenham with 37 faults
- 2nd: Bexley with 45 faults
- 3rd: Chelsfield with 47 faults
- 4th: Scratch band with 61 faults

West Wickham had scored 80 faults at the point where they stopped ringing after 180 changes.

So congratulations to Beckenham, who will again represent the District in the County Striking Competition later this year. Our thanks to both the judges for giving up their time, and to Cudham Vicar and Ringers for allowing the use of the bells and providing the much needed refreshments. Incidentally, you may like to know that, as a result of the "tea drinking" activities, about £ 30 is being passed on to Cudham's Boiler Fund.

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Car Treasure Hunt

The date fixed for this is Sunday 12th May, starting at 1.p.m. The cost will be £ 4.00 per car and entry forms will be available at the April Quarterly meeting, or from Patrick Braund at 25 Green Farm Close, Orpington, Kent. BR6 6DJ.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Christ Church, Erith, on
Saturday, 13th January 1996

The Chairman, Mr. J. J. Rooke, welcomed members to the meeting and invited everyone to stand in memory of Mr. Rupert Kift of Biggin Hill, who had died on 27th December.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Hall of Bexley, Mrs. M. Evans, Mr. A. Ogilvie and Mr. P. Skinner of St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, Mr. A. J. Britton of Dartford, Mr. L. A. Dumper of Eltham, Mrs. D. M. Young of Christ Church, Erith, Mr. D. P. Hilling of Eynsford/Farningham and Mr. I. G. Mills (Unattached).

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed on the proposition of Dr. A. M. J. Young, seconded by Mr. J. J. Hardy.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Carol Service

In view of the success of the Carol Service that was held at Farningham in December, it was agreed that another should be held, on 14th December. In connection with the service at Farningham, Dr. Young expressed thanks to the Eynsford/Farningham ringers for the local arrangements, also to the District Choir and to both of the handbell teams for their contributions to a most enjoyable event. In view of the delay in the start of the restoration work at Dartford, Mr. Britton had asked the Secretary to suggest to members that it would be prudent to choose another church for the Carol Service. Members were asked to think about this matter, which would be discussed again at the next meeting.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary had received:

- a. A letter from the General Secretary saying that Dr. Sue Atkinson had agreed to act as County Sweatshirt Sales Representative. Orders could be placed with Miss Jessica Vale, the District Press Representative.
- b. A booklet from the Central Council Education Committee giving details of the 1996 ringing courses.

2.

4. CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

c. Information about personal accident insurance. This would be dealt with under item 6.

5. REPORT ON THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT LEEDS ON 25TH NOVEMBER 1995

Mr. Lanyon read a report on the General Committee Meeting. A copy was given to the Secretary for the file and one would be given to Mr. Braund for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

Some members expressed surprise at the proposed 100 per cent increase in subscriptions that was to be put to the Annual General Meeting at Easter. In reply to a query from Mr. Byers, Dr. Young said that the reason for the suggested increase was the desire to maintain the existing level of grants from the Bell Restoration Fund. At present 50 per cent of each subscription went to this Fund. Members were encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting and make their feeling on this matter known. There was also some discussion about insurance. A note of some of the points raised about this subject are included in the next item.

6. INSURANCE

From the information that had been sent to the Secretary, the Chairman read the following to the meeting:

PERSONAL ACCIDENT

Assured: All resident members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers and their pupils

Cover: Injuries arising out of ringing, instructing, maintaining, inspecting or doing work of any description on towers and/or bells and/or their fittings and framework anywhere in Great Britain including direct journeys to and from the churches or up to wherever there is a break in the journey.

Sums Insured: Death	£10,000
Permanent Total Disablement other than loss as defined in Continental Scale	£10,000
Permanent Total Disablement as defined in Continental Scale attached*	
Temporary Total Disablement	£100 per week

3.

6. INSURANCE (continued)

Persons under 16:

Death Benefit	£250
Temporary Total Disablement	Nil

Persons over 65:

Death Benefit ONLY

Qualifications to original proposal:

1. Temporary Total Disablement not to exceed 75% of members average weekly wage.
2. Persons under 16 - includes Permanent Total Disablement £250.
3. Upper age limit brought down to 65 to tie in with Normal Retirement Date - the effect of this is that no weekly benefit is payable after age 65.
4. Temporary total Disablement not payable for first 7 days.

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Assured: The Officers and Members of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers.

Cover: Legal liability arising out of ringing, instructing, maintaining, inspecting or doing work of any description on towers and/or bells and/or their fittings and framework anywhere in Great Britain.

Including member to member liability.

Excluding major restoration projects. (still being discussed)

* The Continental Scale mentioned on the previous page under "Sums Insured" was supplied to the Secretary but not read to the meeting.

Mr. Braund said it would be better to extend the existing cover held by a church rather than that the Association should try to obtain insurance to cover specific jobs. There was no way in which everything could be covered. He also warned about the danger of double insurance.

4.

6. INSURANCE (continued)

Dr. Young said that he would like the District to write a letter to the General Secretary asking what were the advantages of taking out the proposed insurance, as opposed to that which already existed at individual churches. He also wondered what the position would be if a junior was injured while being taught to ring and the parents sued.

Mr. Hardy felt that since some towers were much more dangerous than others, it would be better that insurance should be dealt with locally. He also felt that towers that were arranging a major restoration should organize their own insurance before the work commenced.

Mr. Lanyon, in reply to a query, said that the General Committee had been taking advice from Mr. Ian Oram.

Mrs. MacKenzie enquired if it would be possible to have an insurance expert at the Annual General Meeting. She also wondered whether individual towers could opt in or out of the insurance arrangements made by the Association.

7. SUGGESTED ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO CALL CHANGE COMPETITION AND STRIKING COMPETITION RULES

In addition to the suggested additions/amendments to the Call Change Competition and Striking Competition Rules that had been proposed by the District Committee and set out in the current edition of the Newsletter, Mr. Hardy said he felt it was important that one person from each band should be available at the draw. It was pointed out that this could be difficult when bands were ringing for weddings and Mr. Hardy agreed that an exception might be made in such a case. It was also suggested that it might be wise to start the Competition later. In this connection, Dr. Young said that the needs of the judge(s) must be taken into account. Judging a Competition in a cold car in the dark would not be an attractive proposition. After some further general discussion, Mr. Hardy suggested that "a representative of each tower should be available for the draw and the order adhered to, unless the band had a prior commitment for service ringing at their own church". This resolution, together with the additions/amendments set out in the Newsletter, were formally proposed by Dr. Young, seconded by Mr. Bing, put the meeting and passed. There were 17 in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions. It was also agreed that the new Rules should take effect from the 1996 Call Change Competition.

A further matter in connection with competition ringing was raised by Mr. Hill who said that he was against the ringing of set pieces. Mr. Hardy, who agreed with Mr. Hill, said that he felt that part of the skill of the conductor in a Call Change Competition was in deciding what changes to call and which ringers could be relied upon to lead well. Dr. Young remarked that his comments, when he judged the last Call Change Competition, had been misconstrued by the writer of an article in the current Newsletter. He strongly agreed with the comments that had been made and felt it would be a retrograde step to adopt set pieces for such competitions.

5.

9. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS (The order of items 8 and 9 was reversed because some members had to leave the meeting before the end.)

The following new members were elected:

CRAYFORD	Mr. Jeremy Duckett	P. Mrs. N. Robins S. Mr. C. F. Jeal
ERITH (Christ Church)	Mr. David Rawlings) Mrs. Lorna Rawlings)	P. Dr. A. M. J. Young S. Mr. J. Hill
EYNSFORD	Mrs. Audrey Arthur) Mr. Julian Hemper) Mrs. Daphne Paterson*)	P. Mrs. S. MacKenzie S. Mr. M. Luffman

* re-election

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT SIDCUP ON EASTER MONEY, 8TH APRIL

The Secretary said that in his letter the General Secretary had asked her to remind members that nominations were required for County Chairman and Treasurer, and were welcome for any other positions. She also said that the response for volunteers to help at the A.G.M. had been poor. Anyone else willing to assist was asked to give in their name as soon as possible.

A suggested service had been drawn up by Mr. Britton and would be shown to the new Vicar of Sidcup. The new Incumbent was in touch with the parish although he would not be inducted until the beginning of March. Concerning the ringing arrangements, Dr. Young said that he had written to all the towers that he wished to have open and hoped that every effort would be made to reply to his request as quickly as possible.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

District Choir

Mrs. Macey congratulated all those who had sung at the Carol Service. She had been asked to provide a choir for the A.G.M. service and would be prepared to do this provided that she had 24 reliable volunteers by the end of the month. She had sent a letter about this matter to all Tower Correspondent and would telephone each Correspondent for a reply.

Centenary Fund

Dr. Young said that he had still not received the Centenary Fund tax return information from Mr. Gilham, the Association Treasurer.

6.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

Notices

Dr. Young drew attention to the fact that District notices should be displayed on tower notice boards. He found that this was not always the case. He asked members to make discreet enquiries when the absence of notices regarding District event was obvious.

Saturday Evening Practices

Dr. Young had circulated a questionnaire to towers, part of which concerned what members wanted from the District in the way of practices, training sessions, outings etc. In this connection Mrs. Eastaugh commented that, particularly for married people where only one partner was a ringer, Saturday evenings were not popular for practices.

Dartford

The Secretary had been asked by Mr. Britton to inform the meeting that Dartford church was closed for restoration work. There would be no Wednesday practices until further notice but the ringers hoped to have the use of the bells on the first Saturday morning of each month, starting on 3rd February. Anyone interested was invited to telephone the Tower Secretary or Mr. Britton for further details.

Lewisham

Mr. Hollis said that practices would be starting again at Lewisham on Wednesday evening of the coming week.

There being no further business, and votes of thanks having been given at tea time to the Vicar of Christ Church, The Rev. John Draycott, the Organist Mr. Jack Greenwell, and to the local ringers for preparing and service an excellent tea, the Chairman closed the meeting and members returned to the tower for further ringing.

Ringling Arrangements in the District (April to July)

April

Monday 8th County A.G.M. at Sidcup (2:30 p.m.)
Saturday 13th Quarterly meeting at Crayford (evening ringing)
Tuesday 16th Advanced practice at Beckenham (8:00 - 9:30 p.m.)
Look up Stedman Caters, Little Bob Royal, Cambridge Royal, Yorkshire Royal and/or London Royal.

May

Saturday 4th District practice at West Wickham (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
First hour - Plain Bob workshop : Second hour - General ringing.
Saturday 11th Advanced Practice at Eynsford (11:00 - 12:30 p.m.)
Look up Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, any of the standard eight and/or Glasgow.

June

Saturday 8th District Practice at Ash (General ringing 7:00-9:00 p.m.)
Wednesday 26th Advanced Practice at Southwark Cathedral (6:30 - 8:30 p.m.)
Look up Grandsire Cinques, Stedman Cinques, Little Bob Maximus, Cambridge Maximus, and/or Yorkshire Maximus.

July

Saturday 13th Quarterly meeting at Chelsfield (evening ringing)
Thursday 18th Advanced Practice (venue to be announced) (8:00 - 9:15 p.m.)
Look up Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, any of the standard eight and/or Glasgow.

