



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1997

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

PAT BRAUND

It was with great sorrow that I learned from Sheila Braund of the death, from cancer, of Patrick on 23rd December. Percy Hicks and I had visited him in Farnborough Hospital the previous Tuesday. He was up and dressed, made us welcome, and we chatted happily for some fifteen minutes. His attitude towards his medical problems was very positive and he was looking forward to being home for Christmas and starting on a period of treatment thereafter. Sadly this was not to be.

Patrick learned to ring in his teens, while he was still at school. His election to the K.C.A. prior to a peal at St Mary Cray was ratified at a Quarterly Meeting at Cudham on 28th July 1956. He remained a member of the St Mary Cray band, where he was Tower Captain for many years, until he joined the Sidcup ringers in 1984. He was Secretary there for one year and Tower Captain thereafter. He served the Lewisham District as a Representative in 1982 and as Chairman from 1983 until 1987. In 1995 he took over as Editor of the District Newsletter.

In 1988, having discovered some handbells at St John's, Sidcup, Patrick developed an interest in tune ringing and founded the Ringers on the Green Handbell Team, which was affiliated to the Handbell Ringers of Great Britain. Members of the team enjoyed H.R.G.B. activities. They often rang for the residents in sheltered housing in Sidcup and also provided entertainment at many other local functions.

Patrick made his career in insurance and retired as a Lloyds Insurance and Re-insurance Broker in December 1994.

A committed Christian, Patrick was upheld by the prayers of his many friends during his illness. He will be very greatly missed by the congregation at St John's Sidcup, where he edited the parish magazine, and in tower and handbell ringing circles. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Sheila, his son, two daughters, and the other members of his family. May he rest in peace.

M.R.A.

A number of Quarter Peals have been rung since Pat's death, details of two of them are as follows:

23rd December 1996 at St Mary Cray

1269 changes of 4 mixed doubles methods (St Martin's, St Simon's, Plain Bob and Grandsire)

1. Matthew Hilling
2. David Macey
3. Nigel Pointer (C)
4. Jeremy Byers
5. James Hardy
6. Mark Jones

Rung half muffled in memory of Pat Braund

26th December at Bromley Parish Church

1260 changes of Stedman Triples

1. Nigel Pointer
2. James Hardy
3. Mark Jones
4. Rosemary Tuhey
5. Rupert Cheeseman
6. David Brown
7. David Kingston (C)
8. Jeremy Byers

Rung in thanksgiving for the life of Pat Braund

Crayford by 2 faults

On a chilly November afternoon, seven teams from various towers in the district prepared to do battle in the annual Lewisham District 6 Bell Call Change Competition held this year at St Mary Cray.

After the draw, and a short touch for our judge Michael Uphill (tower captain of Southwark Cathedral) the competition

started. After about an hour and a half all seven bands had completed their test pieces.

Michael gave us the results after a short period of reflection. He commented that overall the standard had been high, and that this was a good sign for the district as a whole. The specific comments in respect of each band proved to be very perceptive, Beckenham are now starting to get the hint about ringing too fast, whilst the Chislehurst band refutes all allegations of public house attendance.

The final results were as follows:--

1) Crayford	5	faults
2) Bexley	7	faults
3) Beckenham	10	faults
4) St Mary Cray & Fooks Cray	15 ½	faults
5) Chislehurst	16	faults
6) Chelsfield	21	faults
1) Chelsfield	25	faults

(Scoring was given as ½ a fault a row for uncertainty or a clip, 1 fault for anything more serious)

Congratulations to Crayford, worthy winners, and thank you to all other teams who took part. It was really pleasing to have so many entrants making a truly competitive event. Long may it continue!!!!

At this point in time it is worth advertising the 6 bell method competition on the 15 March 1997.

Please, if you entered the call change think about entering a team for the method competition -- you have plenty of time to practice!! For all those towers who did not enter this time, come and show us what you can do in March.

Finally thanks again to Michael Uphill for his adjudication, Nigel Pointer for organising the bells and all the members of the catering departments of the St Mary Cray and Fooks Cray bands for the excellent tea/coffee and biscuits.
J.R.B.

STUDENT CAPERS

Matthew Hilling and David Macey are studying and, of course, ringing in Devon. Matthew is in the second year of a three year course in Management Science with Information Technology at Exeter. David is in the third and final year of a Hotel Catering and Management course at Torquay.

In the few minutes available each week after studies (!), there is the possibility that they may be found in a bell tower. The Exeter Colleges Guild (of which Matthew is Master) practices and provides Sunday ringing at St. David's Exeter. The Guild is active also with quarters, outings, participation in

inter-university striking competitions, weekends away etc.

Peal ringing features prominently in our students' schedules, specifically heavy bell ringing - there is an abundance of heavy metal in the area. Recent achievements include:

1. 23 Nov Heavitree, Exeter 26cwt.
5056 Bristol S. Major in 3h 20m
7. David P. Macey
8. Matthew J. Hilling
2. 24 Nov Exeter Cathedral 72cwt
1313 Stedman Cinques in 66m
5. David P. Macey
12. Matthew J. Hilling
3. 30 Nov Exeter Cathedral 72cwt
5007 Stedman Cinques in 4h 7m
12) Matthew J. Hilling
12) David P. Macey
4. 7 Dec Congresbury, Somerset 34cwt
5120 London S. Major in 3h 37m
7. David P. Macey
8. Matthew J. Hilling

1, 2 and 4 were conducted by David Hilling.

No doubt our busy, confident and enthusiastic students will find a few more minutes in 1997 for West Country ringing.

D.P.H.

If you have any similar articles which you think might interest people please let me know - Editor



The Bell Doctor

Professor Ground Pulley writes.....

In each newsletter I hope to produce a small article about bell maintenance. If you or your tower have experienced technical problems then please write to me with your troubles and I will try to provide solutions!

Things to do during January and February.

With the wedding season fast approaching, you should check the condition of your ropes. Please make sure that you have spanners to fit all of your bolts, ready for the next issue.

Handy tip.

Adjustable spanners can save you money! Only buy specific spanners for sizes of nuts of which you have a large number. Where double nuts are fitted you may require two spanners.

In the next issue.....

Tightening your bolts..... please have those spanners ready!

✉ Please send your letters to:

Professor Ground Pulley,
c/o J Hardy,
68, Birkbeck Road,
Beckenham,
Kent.BR3 4SP
☎ or telephone 0181 659 2631

Jim Writes.....

(Encouragement, future events, proposed rule change, new competitions - can you afford not to read this!)

Having become District Master, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Jeremy, our deputy master, and myself to those who do not know us.

Jeremy began ringing in 1993 at Beckenham. His enormous enthusiasm led to him ringing his first quarter peal during the same year, and he has recently scored his 50th! Notable achievements include one quarter on the tenor at Southwark Cathedral and a peal at Beckenham in 1994 for my wedding. He is now part way through learning the 'standard eight' and has become a valued member of our band. His interests include ringing, food, beer and talking about ringing, food, beer etc. He also wields a pretty effective squash stroke!

Jeremy has kindly agreed to edit the newsletter as well as being deputy master.

I began ringing at Beckenham in May 1984, and became captain there in 1989. I rang my first quarter peal there in 1986 and I have since rung more than 170 quarters at Beckenham - proving that I have nothing better to do! (Although my wife, Sara, might disagree!)

No, seriously - I found that my ringing did not develop until I ventured into other towers, visited other practices and district events, and I have since encouraged other ringers to do the same as much as possible. I enjoy occasional peals, beer, food and my family and I also wield a pretty effective backstroke!

Into 1997.....

We have tried to put together a programme which will encourage the less experienced ringers in the district to try something new, as well as consolidating what they have already learnt. If you have just learnt to handle a bell, are learning call changes, or you are learning your first methods then the practices are for **YOU**. There is something for ev-

eryone. It should be noted that where methods are specified this does NOT mean that other things will not be rung if needed. If you want to try something that is not featured in the programme or you would like to ring a quarter peal of a particular method then please let Jeremy or myself know, and we will do our best to arrange something for you.

Ringling in the district has been promising this year for the more experienced members, some of whom have rung peals including Yorkshire S. Maximus at Bow, Pitmans 4-9 spliced surprise major series, Hortons 4-spliced, Yorkshire at Lewisham and many quarter peals, including two of Grand-sire Caters at Beckenham which were composed by David Macey. **If you have been involved in a ringing achievement we would like to know**, so please send the details or maybe a small article to myself or Jeremy. This applies equally to "firsts" of Bob Doubles, first insides and rare local quarter peals as well as to complex peals - so please let us know.

However, there is some cause for concern. For the less experienced ringers progress is difficult and opportunities must be made readily available for them. And I am worried about the apparent lack of new ringers throughout the Exercise. We must all try harder to encourage new recruits, especially younger people. We must all actively encourage ringers in our district and in our towers to attend district events. These events are of no use if they are not attended. I was however encouraged by the turn-out at the call-change competition, and I hope that the method competition will be equally successful.

As a result of discussions with some members of the district, I would like to propose the following rule change for the method competition which will allow bands who practice together to enter a joint band, even if they cannot have a joint Sunday service band for timing reasons. This would be allowed only if both towers clearly could not raise a band. I feel that this would help boost numbers for this competition. My proposed amendment is as follows:-

Rule 11.

a). In the event that two or three towers who regularly hold joint practices are unable to form individual bands due to insufficient membership numbers, they may form a joint competition band.

b). In the event of such a team winning the competition, the highest ranking 'single tower' team will represent the district in the County 6-bell competition.

Rule 11b is necessary in order to comply with rule 1 of the

Postal Subscriptions

If there is a "P" against your name on the address label of your Newsletter you have paid. If you have not paid would you please send £ 2-50 to Mary Andrews at 43 Wansunt Road, Bexley, DA5 2DH (cheques payable to Mary R Andrews) as soon as possible please.

County 6-bell rules which states that: "The competition will be open to one band from one tower in each district."

This is unfortunate, but at least our new rule would allow more people to participate in the district competition, which does, after all, promote good ringing. Please give this idea some thought, as I intend proposing it at the January meeting.

I was asked at the call-change competition to consider an "8 bell" competition for the district and I am currently formulating plans for this. It will be an informal competition, with rules allowing as many entrants as possible. Please forward any suggestions you may have to myself or Jeremy. (Polite ones only please!) More on this in the next issue.

It simply remains for me to thank my predecessor, Dr. Andrew Young, for all his hard work and to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Jim Hardy.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Do you want to advertise in the 1997 KCACR Handbook?

The Handbook is an A5 publication with a print run of 1500 copies, to be distributed free to all resident members of the KCACR. In addition quite a few are purchased by people outside the county for organising outings, grabs, peal tours etc.

Advertising rates (unchanged for 5 years) are as follow:

Full Page (120mm x 180mm) £ 25-00

Half Page (120mm x 90mm) £ 15-00

Copy should be camera ready (i.e. ready to print), although it may be possible to organise typesetting if required. Try to get copy as good as possible (photocopies of ads in newspapers or parish magazines are NOT "good" in this context!). Remember that the final ad can only be as good as the artwork supplied.

Payment should be by cheque payable to the KCACR and sent to the Handbook editor

Frank Lewis
Mallans,
Main Road,
Sundridge,
Sevenoaks,
TN14 6EF.

Copy deadline Friday 7th February 1997.

Composition Corner

In each edition we will be featuring a few simple compositions- try these handy service touches. They are easy to call and might add a little variety to your towers repertoire

100 Plain Bob Doubles

2345
3524
3542- Call 5th Out, Long 5ths
5234 twice
2453
2435-
4523
4532-
5243
2354
2345-

108 Plain Bob Minor

23456
23564-
23645- Call tenor Wrong, 4ths
34256 three times. Both bobs
34562- in each part can be
34625- replaced with singles-
42356 they must be replaced
42563- in pairs !
42635- A very useful touch
23456



Southwark Cathedral holds regular ringing practices, and the Cathedral Society generally gives visitors a warm welcome.

If you are interested in attending, the dates of the practices are:

8th January
29th January
2nd April
7th May

Practices are Wednesday at 6-30 p.m. and if the Cathedral is closed entry is via the doors nearest the Chapter House (which is at the North West corner).

40 Grandsire Doubles

2345

4523- Can also be called,

3245s S,B,S,B

4532-

2345s

Next issue: More short touches
Grandsire
Spliced S. Minor
Your compositions.
please send them in !

Carol Service Thanks

I would just like to thank all those who took part in and attended this years carol service. Particularly all choir members, Mark our conductor, Jeremy our organist and the hand-bell ringers. Thanks also to caterers who provided an ample spread after the service.

Margaret Macey

HAPPY NEW YEAR

After Pat Braund's untimely death, I have taken over the editorship of the newsletter with the able assistance of James Hardy and Fiona Price.

I must apologise if this first effort is a little delayed, however I haven't got into the hang of editorship!

The first point that has become immediately apparent is that 4/6/8 sides of A4 is a lot of blank paper to fill, particularly when you don't have any articles or letters to fill it with.

If you have any comments, letter, articles, thoughts, quizzes, or adverts (rates most reasonable) that you would like to put into this newsletter please send them to me Jeremy Byers at

✉ 2 Carlton Court
23 Beckenham Road
Beckenham
Kent
BR3 4PP

☎ 0181-289-5675

PS Copy deadline for the next issue is Saturday 8th March 1997.

Any Other Business

Notes from Mary Andrews

Striking Competition

The rules are attached at the back of this newsletter for the forthcoming competition.

Letters giving details about the competition will be available at the January Quarterly Meeting

Membership Database

Frank Lewis has sent us a copy of the proposals for the KCACR membership database which members might want to discuss at the next QDM. (details are attached)

Frank also writes in his covering letter

"Whilst writing may I remind you of the ad in the Ringing World of 6th December (page 1234) about the Central Council course at Cirencester on 3-5 February 1997. This is the second one to be held at this venue and I can really recommend it. The hotel on which it is based is a fine old coaching inn and the food is really something. Around a couple of dozen participants from all over the country attended the last one (none incidentally from Kent, although two of the helpers were) and it is a well worthwhile weekend. Time for applying is fast running out, but there are a few places left and it would be good to see a few Kent faces there this time, so may be you would mention this at your January meeting."

Central Council Bell Fund

Finally included in the newsletter is a proposal for a Central Council Bell Fund. on which the Central Council would like each district's comments.

A note from the District Master

Whilst I would always encourage people to visit other towers and help out, I feel that there is a particular need at present in the towers that were so loyally led and supported by Pat (i.e. Sidcup, Cudham and Downe). I ask you all to consider visiting these towers over the coming months and give support in numbers as well as expertise. A visit once a month (or more often if you can) from a few people will make all the difference.

Bob and Sally's Page

Hi there, children! It is now 1997 and the start of a new year. This can mean new things happen. We're sure some of you have made a New Year's Resolution. Good luck with keeping it. Something else has started. Yes, a page for you in the Lewisham District Newsletter. We hope you like it. We would welcome any of your own work so we can publish it - we're sure you would like to see your name in print! We look forward to getting your news. Also tell us your comments and ideas about this page. Remember to include your name, address, age and to which tower you belong in all things you send to us at: Bob and Sally's Page, Maplebank, Maplescombe Lane, Farningham, Kent DA4 0JY.

News Rounds

This bit is for any news you would like to share with others.

If your parents want to attend a Lewisham District Event and you don't ring, we are trying to provide activities for you to do. We can only do this if there is a separate area available and we know who to cater for. If your parents are thinking of coming, get them to ring Jeremy Byers on 0181 289 5675 or Fiona Price on 01322 862374 and we can discuss arrangements.

Sally has just reminded me to let you know what will be in the next edition. There will be more jokes, a recipe to make, and any work you send to us. Cheers, Bob

Wordsearch - Parts of a Bell

Can you find the listed words hidden in the grid? The words can go backwards, forwards, vertically, horizontally or diagonally. There will be a small prize for the person who can find the word not on the list. Send your answer with your details to the address above no later than 28th February 1997. The solution will be in the next edition of the Lewisham District Newsletter.

P	U	L	L	E	Y	B	O	X	W	I
K	T	S	L	I	D	E	R	I	T	H
C	S	O	B	E	L	H	E	D	J	A
O	T	U	G	C	B	O	P	W	I	P
T	A	N	F	M	S	W	P	H	L	N
S	Y	D	K	E	R	A	A	E	E	O
D	S	B	M	U	F	F	L	E	N	E
A	R	O	D	L	N	R	C	L	D	G
E	O	W	S	N	X	A	L	B	Y	D
H	P	I	T	P	K	M	O	F	Q	U
V	E	L	O	H	R	E	T	R	A	G

Bell	Rope	Frame	Sally
Garterhole	Slider	Gudgeon	Sound bow
Headstock	Stay	Muffle	Tailend
Pulleybox	Wheel		

Jokes

Q: What do you get if you cross a sheep with a kangaroo?
A: A woolly jumper.

Q: What do you get if you cross a sheep with a pylon?
A: An electric blanket.

Q: What do you call a blind deer?
A: No idea.

Q: What do you call a blind deer with no legs?
A: Still no idea.

Q: What is grey and has a trunk?
A: A mouse going on holiday.

Q: What is brown and has a trunk?
A: A mouse returning from holiday.

Those were a few jokes Bob and I know. Please send us your favourite ones and if we print yours we will send you a prize. Send it to us at the above address remembering to give us your details.

QUARTER PEALS

			<u>1996</u>		RW PAGE
[1]	21/07	CHISLEHURST ST.N	1264	Plain Bob Major	96/ 938
[2]	21/07	ERITH CH.CH.	1250	Yorkshire Surprise Major	96/ 942
[3]	21/07	FARNINGHAM	1260	Plain Bob Minor	96/ 939
[4]	31/07	CRAYFORD	1260	Grandsire Triples	96/ 961
[5]	11/08	BEXLEY	1260	Grandsire Triples	96/ 991
[6]	18/08	ERITH CH.CH.	1260	Minor 2m.	96/1059
[7]	22/08	CUDHAM	1259	Grandsire Caters	96/1059
[8]	01/09	EYNSFORD	1250	Yorkshire Surprise Major	96/1059
[9]	02/09	BECKENHAM	1282	Cambridge Surprise Royal	96/1058
[10]	08/09	BEXLEY	1280	Pudsey Surprise Major	96/1109
[11]	08/09	HAYES	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	96/1062
[12]	12/09	BECKENHAM	1277	Grandsire Caters	96/1207
[13]	14/09	WEST WICKHAM	1440	Plain Bob Minor	96/1135
[14]	22/09	EYNSFORD	1260	Grandsire Triples	96/1156
[15]	22/09	FOOTS CRAY	1260	Stedman Doubles	96/1208
[16]	22/09	HAYES	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	96/1084
[17]	09/10	WOOLWICH	1320	Doubles 5m.	96/1202
[18]	12/10	ST MARY CRAY	1260	Plain Bob Minor	96/1201
[19]	13/10	CRAYFORD	1260	Plain Bob Triples	96/1255
[20]	02/11	BIGGIN HILL	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	96/1199
[21]	17/11	CHELSFIELD	1260	Cambridge S. & P B Minor	-

Congratulations :

Richard King First attempt [16]
 Jennifer Gay First quarter [20]
 Felicity Hayden First on 8 [1]
 Mary Andrews First in method [10]
 S Campbell First as Conductor [20]
 Martin Luffman First minor as Conductor [3]
 Mark Jones First on 8 as Conductor [1]
 Nigel Pointer and Mark Jones 50th together [1]
 David Macey and Matthew Hilling 100th together [15]
 Nigel Pointer and James Hardy 225th together [18]
 David Macey Circled tower [14]
 Matthew Hilling Circled tower as Conductor [14]

PEALS

			<u>1996</u>		RW PAGE
[1]	03/08	BECKENHAM	5067	Stedman Caters	96/ 937
[2]	03/08	CHISLEHURST ANN.	5040	Stedman Triples	96/ 937
[3]	15/08	LEWISHAM	5152	Yorkshire Surprise Major	96/1105
[4]	17/08	BROMLEY	5152	Spliced Surprise Major 8m.	96/ 960
[5]	31/08	CHISLEHURST ST.N	5088	Spliced Surprise Major 5m.	96/1032
[6]	31/08	ELTHAM	5184	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	96/1032
[7]	07/09	BECKENHAM	5024	Spliced Surprise Major 4m.	96/1105
[8]	09/09	CRAYFORD	5072	Plain Bob Major	96/1034
[9]	14/09	CHISLEHURST ANN.	5152	Superlative Surprise Major	96/1054
[10]	21/09	DEPTFORD	5040	Grandsire Triples	96/1054
[11]	02/11	GREENWICH	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	96/1174
[12]	10/11	BECKENHAM	5000	London Surprise Royal (No.3)	96/1224

Congratulations :

Jon Fox First attempt [3]
 Cathy Hall First attempt [8]
 Clare Pruden First on 8 [9]
 Ruth Hardy First Surprise major [3]
 Rupert Cheeseman First as Conductor [8]

From Ringing World up to and including edition No. 4468 for December 13, 1996. E. & O.E.

Jim Rooke

STRIKING COMPETITION RULES W.E.F. 1997

1. All competitors must be regular members of the Sunday Service Band for which they are ringing and be paid-up members of the K.C.A.C.R. Members who wish to ring for a tower other than the one shown on the receipt for their current annual subscription must obtain the approval of the District Officers at least one week before the Competition.
2. Each band may spend not more than two minutes in preliminary ringing. The bells must then be stood.
3. Each band shall attempt to ring 240 changes.
4. Only one attempt by each band is permitted.
5. The choice of method is left to the discretion of each band.
6. Towers may enter more than one band, but no ringer may ring more than once.
7. A maximum of 20 whole pulls of rounds will be allowed before the start of the method. The judging will be on the actual 240 changes and any rounds at the end, plus any rounds over and above the permitted 20 whole pulls at the start. Failure to stand at the end of the test piece will not be faulted, but will be noted and taken into account in the event of a tie.
8. The names of those taking part (up to nine in all) must be given on the entry form.
9. **The entry forms for the Competition must be received by the District Secretary at least seven clear days before the date of the Competition. Neither late nor telephone entries will be accepted.**
10. A representative of each tower shall be available for the draw and the order adhered to, unless the band has a prior commitment for service ringing at their own church.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held at Beckenham on Saturday, 12th October 1996.

The Chairman, Mr. J. J. Rooke, opened the meeting by welcoming members, particularly the General Secretary, Mr. T. S. Wraight.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. & Mrs. C. F. Jeal from Bexley, Mr. N. Wilkins and Miss A. Wilkins from Chelsfield, Mrs. M. Macey from Foots Cray and Mr. R. D. Bing from Woolwich.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Finances

Dr. A. M. J. Young enquired whether anything had happened regarding the Association's accounts and whether the Secretary had received any reply to her letter to the General Secretary. The Secretary replied that she had not received a reply from the General Secretary but that they had spoken informally on the telephone. Miss Andrews went on to explain that the accounts for the last two years were with the Auditor and that there was every hope that they would be audited before the General Committee meeting in November.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary had received from the General Secretary the following addition to Rule 8:

(iii) The Chairman may, in exceptional circumstances, call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association, and he shall be required to summon such a meeting on receipt of a requisition signed by twenty Practising Members. Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given in The Ringing World no later than three weeks before the meeting.

This proposed addition to the Rules had been included in the District's October Newsletter. Dr. Young pointed out that, at present, there was no mechanism to call a special meeting, which was the reason for the proposed change. Mrs. M. Hill strongly supported the proposition as she felt that action to resolve the recent problems with the Association's accounts had been inadequate and the delay in getting anything done had been far too long. Mr. Wraight pointed out that some Districts felt that, to avoid possible problems with trouble-makers, the number 'twenty' should be amended to, say, 'fifty'. Another suggestion was that all Districts should take part in any such

2.

4. CORRESPONDENCE (CONTINUED)

decision to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting, i.e. ten members from each District would be the number needed. Miss Cannon proposed that we instruct our Representatives to put the feeling of the meeting to the General Committee and recommended that the rule change should be adopted. This was seconded by Miss J. Vale and accepted nem con.

Ring In 2000

The previous day, the Secretary had received a copy of a letter to the General Secretary from Mrs. Jane Wilkinson, the President of The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers about the plans for ringing all the bells in Britain at noon on New Year's Day 2000, and the consequent need for recruiting and training on a very large scale, ten thousand extra ringers had been suggested. Dr. Young commented that the idea of training an extra ten thousand ringers alarmed him. He stressed the need for all training to be done properly. It had been the experience of the Training Committee that in many cases the trainers themselves needed training. The following are some of the points that were made in the discussion that followed.

- a. That all bands should be focusing on the need to recruit and train.
- b. That a possible approach might be to offer re-training to ex-ringers.
- c. That an advertisement for ringers should be placed in the local press.

As Press Representative, Miss Vale, said that she would like to receive a copy of any material that was sent to the Press.

5. REPORTS

a. Ringing Master

The Ringing Master, Dr. Young, referring to the third paragraph of his report (which had been circulated) said that the District no longer held the six-bell Striking Competition trophy. He thanked everyone who had supported him during his time as Ringing Master. Dr. Young, who was not seeking re-election, was warmly thanked for his efforts on behalf of the District.

b. Secretary

The Secretary, Miss Andrews, whose report was circulated, said that she had nothing to add but that she would be happy to answer questions. Commenting on the towers in union in the Secretary's Report, Dr. Young said that there was a new band at St. John's, Erith and that he was hopeful that they would soon become members of the Association.

c. Press Representative

The Press Representative, Miss Vale, said that £100 worth of books had been sold during the year and £21 worth of other items. Half of the books had been 'One per Learner'. One order for sweat shirts etc. had been dealt with. She had been asked about having the Steve Coleman books on the bookstall but this was not possible in view of the cost of them. Videos had been reduced to

3.

5. REPORTS (CONTINUED)

C. Press Representative (continued)

£4.00 each and the Church Bells of Kent L.P. was 'open to offer'. Miss Vale said that she had not sent in any reports or press releases. She was prepared to do so if anyone felt that she should and was also prepared to help local towers with any press releases which they wished to write.

Miss R. Hardy asked if the videos could be put in local libraries. Miss Vale said that as she worked for the London Borough of Bexley Library Service she would look into this matter.

The Reports were accepted on the proposition of Mr. A. J. Britton, seconded by Mrs. M. Hill.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were elected:

Chairman	Mr. J. J. Rooke	P. Mr. J. J. Hardy	S. Mr. P. G. Braund
Ringing Master	Mr. J. J. Hardy	P. Dr. A. M. J. Young	S. Miss M. R. Andrews
Assistant Ringing Master	Mr. J. Byers	P. Mr. J. J. Hardy	S. Mr. D. E. Pointer
Representatives	Mrs. M. Hill) Mr. W. Lanyon)	P. Dr. A. M. J. Young	S. Miss P. Rooke
Secretary	Miss M. R. Andrews	P. Mr. A. J. Britton	S. Miss F. Cannon

7. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Ratification

The election, proposed by Dr. A. M. J. Young, seconded by Dr. P. V. D. Swift, prior to a peal at Lewisham, of Mr. Stephen E. G. Young was ratified on the proposition of Dr. Young, seconded by Miss Hardy.

The following new members from Eltham were elected:

Mrs. A. Osborn)	P. Mr. L. G. A. Morley	S. Mrs. P. O'Meara
Mr. J. Osborn (jnr.))		
Mr. R. Osborn (jnr.))		

4.

8. PROGRAMME FOR 1997

It was agreed that the Secretary should approach Bromley to see if the January Quarterly Meeting could be held there on 11th, that the April Quarterly Meeting should be held on the 12th and that the Secretary should find a suitable tower, that the Secretary should approach Shoreham to see if the July Quarterly Meeting could be held there on the 12th, possibly with members bringing their own tea, and that the Secretary should approach Dartford to see if the Annual Meeting could be held there on 11th October. Subject to confirmation, members were invited to Eltham for the Striking Competition on 15th March, were invited to hold the Call Change Competition at Farningham on 15th November and, again subject to confirmation, were invited to hold the Carol Service at Bexley on 13th December.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Carol Service

Mrs. S. Hardy asked that anyone who would like to sing in the District Choir for the Carol Service should give their name to her or to Mrs. M. Macey of Foots Cray.

Annual General Meeting 1997 - Choir

Mr. Britton said that he had been approached by Mr. Fred Asprey of the Maidstone District to ask if some of our members would be willing to help with the choir for the Annual General Meeting at Wrotham next year. Anyone interested was asked to let Mr. Britton know. It was suggested that this matter should be discussed with Mrs. Macey.

Mrs. Sonia Irwin

Dr. Young informed the meeting that Mrs. Sonia Irwin had married one and a half months ago and was now Mrs. Sonia Thompson. Several members of the District had attended the wedding. He went on to say that she seemed happily settled and sent her regards to members of the District.

Practice at Southwark

Mr. Hardy enquired whether members would be interested in a practice at Southwark on a Wednesday evening in November or December. This suggestion seemed popular and Mr. Hardy said he would make the necessary arrangements.

Vote of Thanks

Mr. Britton proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector of Beckenham, the Rev. Derek Carpenter for the use of the church, the bells and the hall, to the Lay Reader, Mr. Steffan Conway, for taking the service, to the Organist, Mr. Alan Saunders, who was one of the Beckenham ringers, and to Mrs. Sara Hardy and the Beckenham band for providing and serving an excellent hot tea.

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

RECEIVED 10.12.96

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Registered Charity No. 270036

Bell Restoration Funds Committee

FOR DISCUSSION
AT JANUARY Q. H.
JWA

John S. Barnes (Chairman)
Nigel E. Booth
Ken R. Davenport
Kate Flavell
Carol Hardwick
Norman A. Johnson
Ian F. Oram
Jackie Roberts
Alar R. Smith
Beverley A. Winter

7 Kings Avenue
New Malden
Surrey
KT3 4DX

8 December 1996

2 Chairman, Treasurer, All District Secretaries, All C.C. Representatives, and Bell Restoration Convenor.

Please let me have your own, and your Districts views of this proposal by Friday 7th February 1997. Thankyou.

Best Wishes

Tim Wraight 10.12.96

Dear Secretary

Proposal for a Central Council Bell Fund

The possibility of the Central Council establishing its own Bell Restoration Fund was discussed briefly at this year's Council meeting in Shrewsbury. Through an informal show of hands Council members indicated that it was an idea worthy of further examination and the matter was referred to this committee to progress. Members were, however, clear that such a fund would not seek to compete in any way with association funds, but would seek to attract money that would not otherwise go into bell restoration.

The purpose of this letter therefore is to seek the views of affiliated societies before the submission of a formal proposal to the 1997 Council meeting in May.

For some time the Council has held small amounts of money for bell restoration purposes. This money has mainly derived from legacies and donations from ringers who preferred to leave money to a central fund rather than or in addition to local funds. It has been used to make a series of small grants (generally under £1000) to parishes for bell restoration work.

Our proposal is that the Council's bell fund should be made more widely known, both to attract money from non-ringers which might not otherwise be available for bell restoration and to provide a suitable home for donations and legacies from ringers. We should particularly like to encourage ringers and non-ringers to leave money in their wills to local bell restoration funds and/or the Council's fund for bell restoration work. Compared with the sums many charities receive in legacies, relatively little is currently received in this way.

Our proposed means of making people more aware of the Central Council bell fund would be initially through occasional articles in the Ringing World, small advertisements in the Church Times and quality magazines and in correspondence with non-ringing organisations with whom the Council is in contact. We would re-emphasise that we would not be seeking to divert into the Council fund any money which might otherwise be available for local association funds.

We envisage the use to be made of a Central Council fund would be twofold:

(1) To continue to make grants to parishes for bell restoration, particularly to those ineligible for grants from the Manifold Trust (which only makes grants where bells have been silent for over 30 years); and possibly

(2) To consider providing loans or guarantees (when funds allow) to local association bell restoration funds, where trustees may wish to make offers or promises of future grants in excess of the money currently in their funds. In most cases the necessary money would probably come in before the grant is due to be made, but the offer of a loan from the Central Council fund would provide the necessary assurance that the association fund would not be entirely depleted.

I would therefore very much welcome your association's comments or suggestions on this proposal, and I should be grateful if you would kindly let me have them by Friday 14 February 1997 at the latest. If you envisage any difficulty in replying by this date, please let me know by Friday 10 January 1997.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Kate Flavell

KCABase – the KCACR membership database

Summary

A working group (Janice Leeke, Frank Lewis, Stuart Palin and David Sheekey) was set up at the November 1995 County Committee meeting to investigate the possibility of a computerised membership database by January 1997. Districts were also told of the proposals and asked to discuss them locally and send back their thoughts to the General Committee, which in most cases they did. The initial review is now completed and we believe it is feasible, and in the interests of the Association, to have such a system. The County Committee meeting in November 1996 studied the proposals set out in the review and gave the go-ahead for its implementation.

In setting up a system care must be taken to ensure the Association acts within the law and is able to support the system over a long period of time. We believe it is not necessary for the Association to register itself as a Data User under the Data Protection Act, but this does not mean we do not have to consider the Act, and we still have certain legal duties. A draft system has been set up and we are now ready to move on to the implementation stage.

We felt that a Membership Secretary should be selected, and David Sheekey, who was responsible for setting up the trial system, has agreed, with the approval of the General Committee, to take on this role during the inaugural stages in 1997. It is anticipated that he and the working group, together with the District Secretaries, will liaise during the year to iron out any problems and really get the system up and running.

Membership details

The database will contain information about each member and details about the structure of the Association, such as the towers in the Association's area, the District they belong to, and the officers of the Association. The basic information about members will be extended by linking them with any roles they fulfil, and towers they belong to. An idea of the sort of items we plan to keep is listed below.

Full name, title and initials: Principally to identify the member.

Address and telephone number: This information is really essential only for officers of the Association and tower secretaries (principally for recording in the Handbook). However to avoid complications of having to remove information when people leave office it is best to have a policy of recording such information for all members where they provide it (they will of course be free to decline the information or have it removed from the database on request).

Date of birth: To determine level of subscriptions due and 'junior' status for recording in the Handbook. The date of birth may also be required for covenanting purposes.

Primary tower: The tower the member considers him/herself to be primarily associated with, in particular for paying Association subscriptions.

Other towers: Any other towers with which they associate; this is primarily for generating Handbook information.

Date of election: For establishing benefits such as entitlement to Non-Resident Life Membership on removal from the Association area.

Category of membership: To determine any subscriptions due and matters such as voting rights.

Subscription paid: A record of the latest year for which subscriptions have been paid and date the subscription was paid.

Membership nomination form

To date the election of members has been an ad hoc affair with names recorded in minute books. If we are to record information about our members we have a duty to ensure it is correct, and we are also obliged by law to obtain their permission if we are to record it on a computer (and not be registered under the Data Protection Act). For junior members this is likely to imply that we will need the consent of their parent or legal guardian. A membership nomination form can be used to serve these purposes: we are provided with the information from a reliable source, and we can gain members' permission to record and use the data. A draft form has been produced and your District Secretary has a copy for inspection.

And finally . . .

If you have any queries or concerns about the implications of the KCABase for you, please feel free to contact your District Secretary or one of the members of the working group (all their phone numbers are in the Handbook somewhere).

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

1997 PROGRAMME

DATE	VENUE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 4 th January	St George's Beckenham	6-30pm to 7-30pm (Ringing from 7-30pm to 9-00pm)	Theory Session Plain Bob Everything (Doubles to Royal) Come and try Plain bob on higher numbers. Theory session before ringing so you can brush up on the method.
Saturday 11 th January	St George's Bickley and SS Peter & Paul Bromley	3-00pm Bells 4-30pm Service Evening ringing at Bromley Parish	District Meeting at St George's Bickley
Saturday 15 th February	SS Peter & Paul Farningham	7-00pm to 9-00 pm	Rounds and call changes Plain Hunt Plain treble to Method First Plain Methods
Saturday 8 th March	St Mary's * Downe		Plain Bob Doubles & Minor Grandsire Doubles Treble Bob to Method Kent Treble Bob Minor Cambridge Surprise Minor
Saturday 15 th March	St John's * Eltham		District 6 Bell Method Striking Competition
Saturday 12 th April	St John's * West Wickham		District Meeting Open Ringing after the meeting
Saturday 19 th April	To be advised		Plain Bob Doubles to Major Grandsire as well Treble Bobbing , Kent Treble Bob and Cam- bridge (Minor & Major)
Saturday 10 th May	To be advised		Treble Bobbing Kent Bob and Cambridge Major Cambridge and into the standard eight

* denotes To be Confirmed

If you have any queries, or would like further information on any of the district events please contact James Hardy (0181-659-2631) or Jeremy Byers (0181-289-5675) for more information.

