

# KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

## LEWISHAM DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Holy Trinity Dartford on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2006

*The meeting was chaired by David Brown in the absence of the Chairman.*

#### 1. Apologies for absence

26 members attended the meeting with apologies for absence received from David Holdridge (Eltham), Sara Hardy & Jeremy Byers (Beckenham), Nicholas Wilkins (Chelsfield), Andrew Sinclair (Crayford), Yvonne Wright (Sidcup), David Hilling (Eynsford), Cathy Cheeseman and members of the Greenwich and Woolwich bands.

#### 2. Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at St John's Erith on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006

The minutes were approved on the proposal of James Hardy, seconded by Rupert Cheeseman.

#### 3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

#### 4. KCACR Committee report

##### Proposed increase in the peal fee

This was deferred to the next County AGM. There were two proposals: to increase the peal fee to 50 pence and to have a County Peal Book, or to limit the increase to 40 pence. James Hardy commented that the experience of the College Youths had shown that it was both expensive to have a peal book written up and difficult to find someone to undertake this task. His view was that it was not a good use of the money raised through peal fees and, in any event, a 50 pence peal fee was not an unreasonable amount to charge.

##### Bell Restoration Fund

The secretary reported that no further progress had been made on restoring the charitable status of the Bell Restoration Fund, although the County Secretary had written to the Inland Revenue on a number of occasions.

##### Restructuring of the Association

The sub-committee discussing this had recommended no change.

##### Child protection

Because of the disparity in the way measures are implemented, an attempt was to be made to coordinate the requirements between dioceses and ultimately towers. Nigel Spencer from Hythe, who has some professional knowledge, was to be approached to help with this.

##### Handbook

In the absence of a Handbook Editor Frank Lewis had agreed to oversee it for the coming year. Anyone interested in taking on this role was invited to contact Frank Lewis to act as his 'apprentice' this year.

##### Essex Trophy

James Hardy, the District Ringing Master had been asked to put together a band to represent Kent. This year's competition was to be held at Haslemere on Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Training Coordinator

James Hardy, who has taken on this role for the county, explained that his aim was to try to encourage Districts to take on more of the basic training themselves and that more specialised training, such as courses on conducting, would be organised at County level. He was hoping to organise a basic training day for ringers in the Lewisham District later in the year.

### Association Prayer

There had been a suggestion that the Association Prayer should be modernised. The view of the meeting was that this was unnecessary.

## **5. District Events**

The Chairman reminded members of forthcoming District events. The next District practice would be at Shoreham on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and the Chairman urged members to attend as numbers were often depleted during the holiday season. The Annual District Meeting was at Beckenham on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Members were reminded that a number of District Officers would be standing down at this time and others would be required to take on these roles. Those standing down included the District Ringing Master, the District Secretary, the two District Representatives and the Newsletter Editor.

## **6. Bell Restoration Fund**

The draw for the 120 Club took place. This was the first of the double draws agreed at a previous meeting, giving participants eight chances to win.

This year 106 shares have been sold, an increase on the previous year.

## **7. Election of new members**

The following new members were elected:

### SHOREHAM

Peter John Warr	Proposed by Frank Rogers	Seconded by Philippa Rooke
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### CUDHAM

Simon Wilson	Proposed by John Fry	Seconded by Alison Dyer
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The following election of a non-resident life member prior to a handbell peal on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006 was ratified:

Kristine Fowler	Proposed by Dickon Love	Seconded by Christine Webb
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## **8. Memorial fund in memory of Lyn Briers**

Gabrielle Stook of Ash told the meeting that money was available to set up a fund in memory of Lyn Briers with the aim of preventing towers in the District going out of union. This generous offer was welcomed and there followed some discussion about the County rules for towers being in union, namely that the tower must have one practising member and the most frequent reason for towers going out of union was the lack of any local ringers. It was agreed to defer further action on establishing this fund until the next meeting and meanwhile James Hardy would discuss with Gabrielle Stook the best way of achieving her objectives.

**9. Taylors Eayre and Smith Foundry Open Day**

The secretary drew attention to a poster she had received advertising the open day at Taylors Eayre and Smith bell foundry on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

**10. Vote of thanks**

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Jean Couch for taking the service, to Richard Apsley for playing the organ and to Esther Correia and the Dartford ringers for providing a splendid tea.