

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at St Paulinus, Crayford on 11th January 2013

(30 people in attendance)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Nancy and Doug Fisher (Biggin Hill), Karen Robinson and Lesley Barclay (Horton Kirby), Deryck Jones (Dartford), Jim and Philippa Rooke (Chelsfield), Alex Britton (unattached)

2. Minutes of last meeting

Two spelling corrections: under apologies, Jim Rooke (not Rook). Under proposal of non resident life member: Alex Britton (not Brittan). The minutes were then adopted. Proposed: Nick Wilkins, Seconded: Cathy Cheeseman, Vote unanimous.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Officer Reports Chairman – Rupert Cheeseman

This can be found under 'Chairman's Bit' in the newsletter.

Ringling Master – Ian Mills

This year there is a full schedule of practices building upon the success of those run in 2012. This year there will be not just six and eight bell towers; there will be ten and five bell towers too. The ringing will, as always be tailored to those who attend; everyone will be made welcome and are encouraged to come along. The events calendar is on the website and a copy in each newsletter. The next practice will be on 18th January at Beckenham 19:45 start.

Training – Dominic Meredith

Unfortunately Dom was unable to attend the meeting, Rupert kindly gave the meeting the following information prepared by Dom.

District Training Calendar 2013

There are currently four district training events organised for this year. If there is sufficient demand and a date can be found I will consider adding a fifth, probably sometime in August or September. Following last year's experiment with having training mornings before District Meetings I would like to continue this, with training events in the morning before the April and October meetings.

February's training day will be a specific bell-handling day on tied bells. We have had one day like this before and it went very well. It is intended for people who can handle a bell but have some faults they would like ironed out. For more information e-mail me at training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk.

The April training day (held before the District Meeting at Lewisham) is a new innovation and will be focused on ringing up and down in peal, initially on three bells. It is aimed at people who can already ring up and down safely and (reasonably) confidently but would like experience of ringing up and down in peal. It will be held at Beckenham unless a more suitable venue can be found (any offers?). Ringing up and down is likely to be hard work for the helpers if there aren't very many so the more people who can come along as 'rope fodder' the better.

The final two training days will be tailored to the requirements of the learners, as has been the case with previous training days. The October day is in the morning before the Annual Meeting.

Sat 9 th Feb	District Training Day – Bell-handling. Beckenham, 10:00am
Sat 13 th Apr	District Training Morning – Ringing Up and Down in Peal. Beckenham, 10:00am
Sat 9 th Jun	District Training Day – venue tbc. General training day
Sat 12 th Oct	District Training Morning – venue tbc. General training day.

One final point: I will be standing down as training officer at the October meeting. If anyone is interested in taking over the role and wants to find out more please feel free to ask.

Newsletter – Sue Allport

Sue told the meeting that she was finding the January newsletter increasingly difficult to produce due to it being published so soon after Christmas and the New Year. Sue proposed that there be only two newsletters a year, dropping the January and July editions. The lack of articles for publication was also another problem. Rupert advised the meeting that the newsletter is what we make it – if few articles are received then it will be very slim. David Holdridge said that he felt it was important to have the four editions even if some were smaller in content. This opinion was echoed by many in attendance. Rachel Backhouse commented that it was important to have the four editions

especially to advertise District Events and reminders such as Subs being due and 120 club draw. Sue assured the meeting that there would be an April edition.

120 Club – Rachel Backhouse

Rachel reminded us all that the new 120 club year starts in April, in fact some had been purchased already!

5. Election of New Members

New Member	Tower	Proposed by	Seconded by
Helen Sims	Ash-by-Wrotham	Brenda Barton	Gabrielle Stook
Julia Kilfoyle	Ash-by-Wrotham	Gabrielle Stook	Rupert Cheeseman
Bethany Kirrage	Dartford	Brenda Barton	Esther Correia
Jeremy Gilliland	Greenwich	Shelagh Norman	Christine Goldsmith

Election of non resident Life Members: Paul M Mason (Kettering) and Adrian Dempster (Nottingham). Proposed: Nick Wilkins, Seconded: Lesley Barclay Prior to the first peal on the bells at Farnborough.

All were elected unanimously.

6. 120 Club Draw

	Number	Name	Tower
1 st	74	Mick McDonnell	Horton Kirby
2 nd	19	Esther Correia	Dartford
3 rd	120	Christopher Backhouse	Erith Christ Church
4 th	116	120 Club	Bell Restoration Fund

Thanks were given to Rachel for running the 120 Club so efficiently (*and her glamorous assistant!*)

7. KCACR committee Report

24th November 2012 Margaret Heald and Dominic Meredith attended the meeting at Leeds. Margaret kindly updated the meeting as follows:

- 1) Minutes of Previous Meeting Change Ringing for the Future: Only Lewisham has a dedicated training officer. The other districts delegate training to their Ringing Master(s). The meeting concluded that district activities be included in what the county does for training.

- A sub-committee for Training is to be established.
- 2) Correspondence
- a) West Peckham
 - Tonbridge would like the tower transferred from them to Maidstone District. Maidstone are agreeable with this and it was approved by the committee subject to ratification at the next AGM.
 - b) 50 Year Membership Certificates
 - District Officers should find any members with 50 years of membership (the 50th anniversary of their membership passing before the AGM). The county secretary needs to have the names by the end of December, this is especially important this year as obviously we have a new Archbishop (who needs to sign the certificates). *(Secretary's Note:- Two nominations have been sent to County Secretary)*
 - c) Northfleet
 - Some aspects of the accident at Northfleet are still rumbling on. The suggestion has been made that a specialist be consulted. The meeting agreed to up to £1000 being spent on professional advice, with the proviso that the CCCBR Tower Stewardship Committee be consulted first.
- 3) District Reports
- Three district secretary reports needed for handbook (including Lewisham). The County Secretary would like them as soon as possible. *(Secretary's Note:- The Lewisham Handbook Report has been sent to the Handbook Editor)*
- 4) Treasurer's Report
- Gift Aid: Gift Aiding membership subscriptions would be problematic and possibly not worth it. It may be possible to Gift Aid part of the subscription if the old split between General Fund and BRF subs is restored. The issues will be investigated, including contacting the Tower Stewardship Committee and other Association which are already charities.
- 5) Officer/Sub-Committee Reports
- a) Webmaster
 - Website has moved service provider – no issues as yet. The Webmaster appealed for more content (if anything is going to the Ringing World it would be good to see it on the KCACR website first)
 - Training
 - The ITTS course which was due to run at Staplehurst was cancelled due to a lack of interest.
 - a) Publicity
 - A new ring of bells is going in at Strood.
 - b) Child Protection
 - The Child Protection Officer will be distributing laminated sheets with child protection guidelines and best practice *(Secretary's Note:- The CP officer has been in contact and will attend the April meeting)*
 - c) Handbook
 - Handbook returns will be sent out imminently. They should have a box to request the number of handbooks that a tower wants, rather than one per member.
 - d) Bell Restoration
 - Some interest in a tower maintenance day - including two from Farnborough and one from Bexley (possibly)
 - Three grants were made from the BRF, to Strood (£10,000), Monkton (£2,000) and Bobbing (£8,000).
 - e) Health and Safety

- There have been issues with ringers with underlying health issues. There will be a form put on the website to assess risk.
- 6) Specific Matters
- There have been problems with finding judges for County striking competitions. Districts should find a pair of standby judges (from within the District if necessary). Enhanced guidelines for organising competitions are to be issued.
 - AGM: The AGM will probably be held at All Saints' Birchington. Margaret Funnell will be standing down so a new County Secretary will be needed.
 - Ringing World Calendar 2014: The Ringing World Calendar in 2014 will feature towers from Kent. If anyone has good photos of Kent towers could they send them in for consideration. Further information will appear on the website. The KCACR will have 1000 copies of the calendar to sell, 343 need to be sold to ensure we don't make a loss.
 - CCCBR Meeting 2014: The CCCBR meeting will be based at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel in Bearsted, with other parts of the weekend at Headcorn church hall.
- 7) Striking Competitions
- a) County Eight Bell
 - Will be held on 29th June at Cliffe-at-Hoo. The draw will be at 2:45pm.
 - The method will be Plain Bob Major – Daniel Brady is to draw up a touch.
 - b) Essex Trophy
 - The meeting congratulated the band, who won for the first time in a long time.
 - Ian Mills is to be asked if he will organise the band for next year's competition.
 - c) County Six Bell
 - Will be held on 28th September at Lamberhurst (tbc). The draw will be at 2:45pm.
- 8) AOB
- The enthronement of the new Archbishop of Canterbury will be on 21st March (ticketed only). There will also be a service of celebration on 23rd March, which is open to all.
- 9) Next Meetings
- The meetings for the forthcoming year will be on:
 - 23rd February (committee)
 - 1st April (AGM)
 - 27th April (committee)
 - 21st August (committee)
 - 30th November (committee)

8. AOB

- Rupert advised the meeting that the KCACR will be hosting the Central Council Meeting in 2014 and as usual a logo will be designed for this event. There is a competition for young ringers (under 25) to design a logo. Details can be found on the poster in the Newsletter or on the County website.
- Ian Mills informed the meeting of a consultation taking place in relation to current ringing and recruitment being collated for the Kent Association by Peter Dale (Dover). There were two main questions being posed:-

Should the Association adopt the Integrated Teacher Training Scheme ITTS?

Should the Association set up funding to facilitate it?

Further to the above - Would Lewisham district be willing to organise a course?

The ITTS works in conjunction with the 'Association of Ringing Teachers' and has two modules. It is aimed at teaching young people to ring and to 'Teach the Teachers'.

There was a lively discussion with the following concerns being raised. Gabrielle Stook had concerns regarding Insurance cover of those not holding the ITTS certification. Will 'Grandfather Rights' be given to those already teaching?

Ian Mills and Cathy Cheeseman advised that there is quite an amount of comment, both for and against, in the Ringing World.

It was generally felt that this was a very in-depth subject and the answers could not be formulated at this meeting so Ian was asked, in his capacity of Ringing Master, to circulate an email out to the towers for further considered comment. He would collate the responses for onward reply to Mr Dale.

- Striking Competition – 2nd March 2013

Rupert reminded the meeting that a venue is needed. Nick Wilkins volunteered the 'back 6' at Chelsfield and would check that there weren't any conflicting events at the church on that day. An update would be advised to all towers regarding the venue via the Tower Contacts.

- Rachel Backhouse, Membership Secretary, reminded all towers that the Subs for 2013 are now due. The price remains the same £10 and £5 for Juniors, Senior Citizens and Students. Cheques made payable to 'Kent Association of Change Ringers' to be sent to Rachel ASAP please.
- There was a request for the Newsletter to be updated with Lewisham Tower practice night details. It is held on Monday evenings 7:30 – 9:00pm. Noted by Sue Allport.
- Sue Cameron advised the meeting that there was a new website aimed at non-ringers www.bellringing.org. It is informative, has an easy to read lay out and may be worth taking a look at for beginners and experience ringers alike. There is a link on it for follow ups to be made to those requesting further information.
- Sue thanked all the towers for the efficient returns for the 2013 Tower Handbook.

- Clothing and Ringing Resources are available from Shelagh and Chris - speak to them after the meeting.

9. Vote of Thanks

David Holdridge proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev Sarah Corry for conducting the Service and to Nick Turner for playing the organ. Rupert and the Crayford Ringers were thanked for hosting the meeting, the splendid tea and organising the bells.

Next meeting is at Lewisham on 13th April 2013.