

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Annual District Meeting, St Peter & St Paul, Ash 13th October 2018

25 people attended representing 9 towers, 2 unattached member and 1 from Rochester Dist.

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Maralyn Evans (Chislehurst), Ian Mills (Eltham), Margaret Heald (Erith, St John), Tom Hinks & Helena Mattingly (Bromley Parish), Debra Say (Crayford), Nancy & Doug Fisher (Chelsfield), Ann Saunders & Alex Britton (U/A).

2. Minutes of last meeting (14th July 2018 at Crayford)

Posted to website and circulated in the Newsletter. Agreed as a correct and accurate record once the 120 club winners were added (inc. in newsletter version). Proposed: Rupert Cheeseman Seconded: Lesley Barclay. Voted unanimously.

3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere – Nil

4. Election of New Members

New Member	Tower	Proposed by	Seconded by
Elizabeth Morris	Crayford	Rupert Cheeseman	Debra Say
Peter Morris			

A warm welcome was given to Pete and Liz who were present at the meeting.

5. Officer Reports

Ringling Master, Nick Wilkins. Practices have been held monthly and I am still trying to ensure that all the towers in the district are visited. I am keen to reach out to more ringers across the District as although the practices are generally well attended I was disappointed that only 6 ringers attended the practice at The Annunciation, Chislehurst. However, 20+ attended Farningham. Ringing is tailored to who attends so should be inclusive. The Chelsfield Surprise Major practice has recently been re-branded as a District practice but has more or less remained with the same ringers attending. If you'd like to ring Surprise Major come along on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 8 – 9.30pm where you will be made very welcome.

The Lewisham District entered the County 6 bell, 8 bell striking Competitions, and the Essex 10 bell trophy. The district call change competition was won by Crayford last November. Eltham won the district striking competition in Downe in March. I would encourage as many towers as possible to enter the district call-change competition in November and the striking competition in the New Year.

Nineteen quarter peals in 16 different towers were rung in Quarter Peal week 9th – 18th March.

I have concerns are the silent towers (5) identified in the County survey from November 2017. Some could just be that a return wasn't sent but how can we help our neighbouring towers?

The County young ringers are very active and as the district young persons' rep I encourage you to muster your young ringers to get involved. Jen Thomas is arranging lots of County wide activities.

Training Officer, Lesley Barclay. My main focus has been on basic bell handling and those starting out in ringing. I've visited towers and taught learners at my home tower, Horton Kirby. I will continue this focus even though I am standing down from the role.

The Chair formally thanked Lesley for all her hard work during her time in the role.

Newsletter Editor, Rupert Cheeseman. Thank you for all who contribute to the content of the newsletter, it is appreciated. The newsletter is what you make it, the more items submitted make a better newsletter. Rupert was thanked for continuing to compile it for us.

120 Club, Liz Brett. Liz informed the meeting that 103 of the 120 shares were sold this year and she will start selling the shares for 2019 from the January meeting. Despite the challenges set before her by Bromley and Sevenoaks Licencing, she eventually got there and is formally registered to administer the club.

6. KCACR Report from 28th July 2018 & Proposed rule changes

- Proposed Rule Changes - A number of rule changes for decision at the AGM 2019 Easter Monday 22nd April are envisaged. Details will be circulated to District Secretaries by 1st September 2018 for consideration at Annual District Meetings this October. To date the proposed rule changes relate to:-
- Quorum of General Committee to be reduced from 8 to 6 to reflect the reduced size of the committee agreed at last year's AGM.
- To ensure that at least two of the three BRF Trustees be present when grant decisions are made.
- Subscription category changes in order to generate sufficient funds to balance income against expenditure.

- Peal Fee Review – Decision deferred to 23rd February 2019 General Committee but understood that any excess peal fees would be used for the Training Fund. Full details from or comments to the Association Chairman Phil Barnes.
- Role Descriptions – The Chairman is developing a list of essential tasks that need to be undertaken at District Level with a suggested division of such tasks amongst the officers in a typical district.
- General Data Protection Regulations – To ensure the Association is fully compliant with the GDPR an annual check for consents would be undertaken at the same time as Membership Subscription renewals.
- Reinvigorating Ringing in Kent – Association Chairman Phil Barnes has met with District Officers to review and share information and ideas about what is happening in each district. Common issues emerged; importance of maintaining interest amongst ringers at every level of experience, training structures, activities across-district boundaries, improving basic ringing training, group teaching hubs, co-ordination of teaching and development of trainers. A second meeting focused on recruitment, effective teaching of bell-handling with the aim of one ringer per rope in the Association by the AGM 2021, proactive approach to training events, advanced practices and improved communication. Please contact Phil Barnes to support and engage with reinvigorating ringing in Kent.
- Mid-week 10 bell practices on Association-wide basis – Dates will be circulated shortly for bi-monthly 10-bell practices with an initial focus on Stedman and simple surprise.
- Treasurer Notice – Margaret Funnell reminds members that she would be standing down as Association Treasurer at the AGM 2019. Please speak with Margaret if you wish to know more and/or offer yourself for nomination to this important role.
- Training Officer – David Grimwood hopes to help increase the number of accredited Mentors in Kent to support those undertaking ARTS training courses. Course fee funding is available from the Association. A Leadership Skills Course is envisaged on 17th November 2018, location to be confirmed. David Grimwood encourages ringers to contact him with requests or ideas for training events and to share experience on recruitment and retention.
- Safeguarding – David Grimwood and Nigel Spencer have an impressive grasp of safeguarding issues. Dioceses are providing online Safeguarding training for all ringers through courses C0 and C1 and a half-day course C2 for those who are required to have a clear DBS check. Dates and venues for District C2 courses will be circulated shortly. The Rochester Diocese is organising C2 Safeguarding courses on Monday 1st October and Saturday 1st December (venues to be confirmed).
- Youth Activities – Kent Young Ringers have been extremely busy over the past three months – follow this [link](#) to the Kent Youth pages for details. Another quarter peal day is being organised by the young people on 6th August. A Young Ringers' Programme for 2019 is being drawn up. Work to create a Youth Competition Trophy is progressing. A practice band to take part in the County 6-bell competition is yet to be confirmed. A change in the competition rules may be needed in future for them to compete in their own right.
- Bell Restoration – Follow the [link](#) to the latest Bell Restoration Report by Brian Butcher. A grant of £490 was approved for the repair of the Lydd tenor clapper.
- Milton Regis Ringing Centre – Association support was requested to secure Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) to develop Milton Regis into a ringing centre. The Association has provided a grant for the rehang-ing project which is now well under way. Additional works are envisaged to provide social/teaching space with a kitchen and other facilities for wider community use. A letter from the Association would encourage HLF support for the Ringing Centre.
- Mobile Ring project – Follow this [link](#) to the full report on the project to date. Design work would continue and a full report was requested for the November General Committee to include detailed design and implementation proposals, confirmation that it was fit for purposes, storage and operation proposals to conform to the original agreed outline.
- Ringing for the Centenary of the Armistice – 11th November 2018 – Full details had now been circulated nationwide follow [links](#). Ringers should liaise with their local churches and communities in order to participate fully and appropriately.
- Ringing Competitions – A Kent band would take part in the Essex Trophy on 8th September at Horsham. The County 6-bell competition is on 22nd September 2018 at Upchurch, 9.45am draw. Kent Young Ringers will take part in an inter-District Youth competition on 3rd November 2018 at Kingsnorth, 1.45pm draw. Kent ringers up to the age of 25 would be eligible to take part.
- London Ringers' Advent Carol Service 03/12/2018 - 19:30 at St Giles in the Field, Holborn. Members of the KCACR have been invited to take part in this event. Please contact Margaret Peirce peircemargaret@aol.com_direct if you wish to attend.
- Frank Lewis Memorial Board – The design of the Peal Board was agreed and the cost had been mainly covered by donations. A full report would be contained in the next Handbook.
- South East England Youth Striking Competition – KCACR will be hosting this event on 6th April 2019. Six to eight teams from across the South East could be expected. Volunteers to help run the day will be needed – please contact Youth Officer, Jen Thomas to offer your assistance.
- AGM 2020 alternative date – It was suggested that the AGM be moved away from Bank Holiday Easter Monday from 2020. Doug Davis offered to write a proposal for the 24th November Committee, so please let him have ideas or views.

- Dates of next General Committee meetings - 24th November 2018. General Committee dates for 2019 were agreed as 23/02/2019, 27/04/2019, 27/07/2019 & 30/11/2019.

Points raised on some of the above points :-

- There are places still available for the C2 Safeguarding training taking place on 1st December – contact David Grimwood if you are a Tower Captain that still hasn't booked a place or you wish to attend.
- There are transferrable DBS checks, but they are more expensive.
- The only Job description/role requirements that have been received from the county Chair is that which relates to the Youth officer. Passed to Nick Wilkins our rep.
- The County Chair texted Philippa Rooke and Sue Cameron on Friday evening requesting 3 – 4 officers from the district make themselves available for a Leadership Training Course being held on 17th November. Unfortunately, this date clashes with our district Call-Change competition. In principle the idea is great, however not so easy in practice especially with this short notice.
- The membership fee changes were discussed. There is a full report in the latest newsletter for your information and the reasoning behind the changes. Insurance does not cover ringers beyond the age of 79. The view of those that spoke was that the price increase was inevitable and at the end of the day it is still a very small price to pay in comparison to subscriptions to other organisations/ hobbies. One question was raised asking if it is recorded anywhere when a member qualifies for free or reduced membership but pays the full price. One tower present has two members who pay by choice. Our membership secretary doesn't mark this up, just that they have paid. The current membership application requests DoB for new members who are claiming one of the discounted fees.
- Lewisham are due to host the County AGM in 2020 which may be the first year that the AGM moves away from the traditional date of Easter Monday. We will have to seek out a venue to host this meeting (approx. 100 attend). We don't know yet when it is proposed to move it to. Possibly November.

7. Election of Officers

Cathy Cheeseman (Rochester District) took the chair for the appointment of the Chair.

Role	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Philippa Rooke	Lesley Barclay	Natalie Slator
Secretary	Debra Say	Lesley Barclay	Nick Wilkins
Membership Secretary	Rupert Cheeseman	Chris Goldsmith	Shelagh Norman
Ringling Master	Nick Wilkins	Rupert Cheeseman	Natalie Slator
Asst Ringling Master	Diane Reynolds	Nick Wilkins	Lesley Barclay
Training Officer	Tom Hinks	Sue Cameron	Rupert Cheeseman
District Rep 1	Chris Davine	Liz Brett	Les Brett
District Rep 2	Natalie Slator		
120 Club	Liz Brett	Natalie Slator	Julia Kilfoyle
120 Club Asst	Deryck Jones	Julia Kilfoyle	Chris Davine
Newsletter	Rupert Cheeseman	Nick Wilkins	Shelagh Nornam
Sales	Chris Davine	Shelagh Norman	Chris Goldsmith
	Natalie Slator		

Philippa Rooke thanked Sue Cameron for her hard work as Secretary and Bethany presented her with a gift and card signed by many present. Sue thanked everyone for the kind and very unexpected gift. Philippa Rooke thanked those both standing down and those remaining in post, welcoming those new to their roles. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated. NB – only one Rep is actually required and only one can attend any County meeting.

8. Events update Previous and upcoming

- Eltham represented Lewisham at the County 6 Bell, unfortunately we came 6th.
- Thanks go to Nick Wilkins for organising the joint outing with Tonbridge District in the summer which was very well attended. Towers visited were Greenwich, Isle of Dogs, Limehouse, Poplar and Deptford. It is Tonbridge's turn to organise next year.
- The call-change completion will be held at Farnborough on 17th November with the draw taking place at 2.30pm. Please do enter a team or join with another tower if you don't have enough ringers.
- Venues are required for April, July and October district meetings. Sidcup are hosting in January. Graham Long has offered Greenwich for April or July. Those present were grateful for this offer and request the secretary request April as the first choice. **SEC NOTE** :- Graham Long emailed to request April.
- Natalie Slator will explore the possibility of Erith Ch Ch hosting in July or October.
- Remembrance Sunday ringing commemorating the centenary. Regular service ringing. National commemoration at 12.30pm OPEN. Battle's over 7.05pm open or muffled. Philippa Rooke will circulate a poll to see who is ringing at which times and if any require any assistance to enable more towers to ring.
- 19th October District Practice Eynsford 8 – 9.30pm

- 3rd November Inter District Youth comp TBC
- 10th November Remembrance ringing
- 14th November Surprise Major Practice Chelsfield 8 – 9.30pm
- 17th November Call change competition Farnborough 2.30pm
- 3rd December Advent Carol Concert St Giles, London evening
- 7th December District Practice Dartford **TBC** 8 – 9.30pm
- 12th January Quarterly Meeting Sidcup 3.30pm

9. 120 club draw

	No	Prize	Name	Tower
1st	72	£20	Jim Rooke	Chelsfield
2nd	84	£10	Mick McDonnell	Horton Kirby
3rd	22	£10	Janis Roddy	Sidcup
4th	42	£5	Chris Davine	Eltham

10. Any other business

- Clothing can be ordered from Catherine Lewis via the bookstore/sales reps.
- Rupert Cheeseman thanked the contributors to the newsletter

11. Vote of thanks

Shelagh Norman gave a vote of thanks to Susan Heads (local ringer) for taking the service and Jenny Paddy (wife of local ringer) for accompanying on the piano. A big thank you to the Ash band for laying on such a wonderful spread.

Next meeting – Saturday 12th January 2019 at Sidcup.

