



# LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Lewisham District On Line at [www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk)

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

OCTOBER 2005

## WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR

After 20 editions and 5 years of producing the newsletter we now feel that it is time to give someone else a go.

Unfortunately, despite giving a years notice, nobody has yet come forward to us to take on the job. Hopefully, someone will volunteer at the district meeting as we feel that it would be a shame if the newsletter was just to stop. It currently gets sent to each tower plus another 40 people subscribe to it and another unknown number look at it via the district website. So it is certainly appears to be popular.



The use of email, to both chase people for articles and receive them, has made formatting and producing the newsletter much easier and quicker. Thankfully there has not been much space filling required and it is mainly just an editing job. We would like to thank the district for contributing their articles and it has been a pleasure to produce if at times a little frenetic!



We very much want to see someone take on this task and can pass on templates and tips to make life easier. Perhaps a couple of people may like to jointly take it on?

Rupert and Cathy

## 120 CLUB

We are now halfway through our first year. If you haven't won yet don't despair you still have time!

July 7<sup>th</sup> drawn at quarterly meeting at Deptford

1st	60	Dorothy	Crayford
2nd	40	Deryck	Dartford
3rd	70	Megan	Cudham
4th	50	John	Chelsfield

September 14<sup>th</sup> drawn at Foots Cray practice

1st	116	120 Club	
2nd	57	Barry	Foots Cray
3rd	79	John	Horton Kirby
4th	99	120 Club	

Next draw at the District AGM at Crayford on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Rachel Backhouse



Jeff and Lisa getting married at Foots Cray

# Chairman's Bit

As my first year as district Chairman nears its end, it is customary to look back over the last year's events and reflect. Unfortunately my thoughts are drawn to the three times I have called for a minute's silence before each of the meetings I have chaired. Sadly we will be standing again at the forthcoming Annual District Meeting to mark the passing of Lyn Briers and Steve Gill.

So rather than looking back, I suggest that we look forward and towards the future. The forthcoming ADM

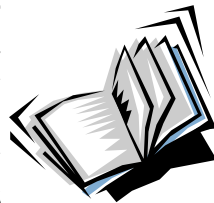


gives all members an opportunity to express their views, appoint a new committee and help with the planning of next years events, particularly venues for district meetings and competitions.

I would encourage you all to come to express your views and if at all possible make your towers available for district events.

## FUTURE OF THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

In my mind the most notable matter that needs to be discussed at the ADM is the future of the district Newsletter. After several years of loyal service to the district, Rupert and Cathy have decided to take a rest from editorship.



At the time of writing no one has stepped forward to replace them.

As a former editor myself, I feel that the Newsletter is a good way of conveying news, events, minutes of meetings and generally a good way of making the district more cohesive. Please, if you feel the same way and fancy having a go at editing (no previous experience required) let Rupert know that you are interested.

The alternative is that this **will be the last District Newsletter.**

So having made my point, it leaves just a few lines to say "Thank You" to all the officers for their hard work this year, for all the members being so gentle with me at District Meetings and my particular thanks to Chris Webb for efforts in making my job as Chairman so easy with all her helpful notes to go with the agenda.

Finally please come to the Annual District Meeting - I look forward to seeing you.

Jeremy Byers

**PS** In response to the criticism received on the first draft article of this article, I would add this following few lines which may raise a smile on the secret of a happy marriage.

"An elderly couple were asked the secret of their long and happy marriage, and the wife explained: "In our house, my husband makes all the major decisions and I make all the minor ones. For example, he decides such things as what we should do about East-West trade, crime in the streets, the war in Iraq, welfare cheating, and any increase in taxes. I take care of the minor things such as to which house we buy, what kind of car we drive, how much money we spend, and how we raise the children."

## Irish Medical Dictionary

Artery  
Bacteria  
Barium  
patients die  
Benign  
eight  
Caesarean Section  
Catscan  
Cauterize  
Colic  
Coma  
Dilate  
Enema  
Fester  
Fibula

The study of paintings  
Back door to cafeteria  
What doctors do when  
What you be after you be  
A neighbourhood in Rome  
Searching for kitty  
Made eye contact with her  
A sheep dog  
A punctuation mark  
To live long  
Not a friend  
Quicker than someone else  
A small lie

(Continued on page 3)

# Editorial



Welcome to our 20th and final Lewisham district newsletter. Thanks to everyone who has contributed over the last 5 years - it would not have been possible to create such a high quality publication (even if we say so ourselves!) without you. I hope that you support the new editor as well as you have us.

For those that have not seen it yet the district website, [www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk), underwent a complete overhaul at the end of July. If any one has anything that they'd like put on there then please email it to Rupert.

This Saturday is the ADM, held this year at Crayford. The venues for next years meetings and competitions will need to be sorted out (see page 16 for the dates). So please give some consideration to volunteering your tower especially if you have not hosted an event for a while. The officers for the coming year will also be elected.

So that's it finished then. :-)

Rupert and Cathy

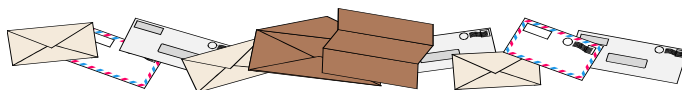


(Continued from page 2)

Impotent	Distinguished, well known
Labour Pain	Getting hurt at work
Medical Staff	A Doctor's cane
Morbid	A higher offer
Nitrates	Cheaper than day rates
Node	I knew it
Outpatient	A person who has fainted
Pelvis	Second cousin to Elvis
Post Operative	A letter carrier
Recovery Room	Place to do upholstery
Rectum	Nearly killed him
Secretion	Hiding something
Seizure	Roman emperor
Tablet	A small table
Terminal Illness	Getting sick at the airport
Tumour	One plus one more
Urine	Opposite of you're out
2 x Condoms	To be sure, to be sure!

## In the newsletter this time...

Wanted: Newsletter Editor	1
Chairman's Bit	2
Editorial and Contents	3
County 6 bell striking competition	4
Trafalgar Bicentenary Ringing	5
Mary retires after 40 years	5
News from the towers-	
Bromley	6
Crayford	6
Dartford	6
Eltham	7
Erith (Christ Church)	7
Foots Cray	7
Horton Kirby	8
John L Morris	8
Lyn Briers RIP	9
Steve Gill RIP	10
Chislehurst and Eltham walk to Bodiam	11
Peals and Quarter Peals Rung In The District	12
Minutes of the DM at Deptford	13
County Meeting 20.8.05	15
Agenda for ADM	16



The new editor (hopefully there will be one) will, be seeking articles, pictures, jokes, cartoons, reports and tower news for the next issue. Please support them as well as you've supported us over the last 5 years.



Thank you from me to those that took part in JPA Day. Ian Mills arranged two quarters at Eltham and Chislehurst. Details can be found on my web page at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ccaajpa/> but thanks to those that took part, and to Ian who organised them.

John Adams

# County 6 bell striking competition

An amusing event occurred with David Baverstock turning up as judge and Alice Baverstock (his sister) ringing for Beckenham not knowing that David was going to be there.

Results were basically clear first and second and last and we were in the middle - 4 faults separated 3rd, 4th and 5th.

Bearsted does however have a village cricket team which was playing on the village green - beer and cricket - what more can you want!

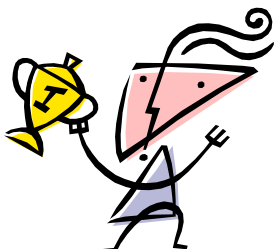
Jeremy Byers



On the bright sunny Saturday afternoon of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2005 the six Districts were represented at Bearsted for the 6 bell striking competition. The judge, David Baverstock, who rings in the City of London, assisted in ringing up the bells and then calling a 120 of Grandsire Doubles in order to assess the difficulty of the bells.

The draw took place and the three Districts who were at that point in time with full teams started the ringing. The other three Districts gradually arrived. Maidstone District kept everyone supplied with cups of tea and ample food, ensuring that sufficient was retained for the judge and the county Chairman who was busy stewarding in the tower.

After the ringing had concluded and the judge had made his decision the results were given. The general comments were that the bells were odd struck in that the 2 was slow at hand and the 4 slow at back and for those ringing Bob Doubles the tenor was difficult when the four blows behind were struck. Most teams took the whole of their practice session to settle and also part of their selected test piece. Remarks on the individual teams showed that the speed of ringing



varied from a peal speed of 2 hours 41 minutes to 3 hours 10 minutes. Those who rang too fast struggled to maintain consistency but likewise those who rang too slowly found the tenor was trying to ring faster than the treble!

The results were finally given in the usual reverse order but Rochester District were judged the outright winners and were presented with the Trophy. Certificates were handed to all teams. The Chairman, Eric Roughley, thanked David Baverstock for coming to judge and the ladies of Maidstone District and the local ringers for arranging the tea.

<i>posn</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>rang</i>	<i>tower</i>	<i>faults</i>
1st	Rochester	3rd	Meopham	80
2nd	Maidstone	4th	All Saints, Maidstone	96
3rd	Ashford	2nd	Ashford	121
4th	Lewisham	1st	Beckenham	123
5th	Canterbury	6th	St Dunstan, Canterbury	125
6th	Tonbridge	5th	Tonbridge	143

Margaret Funnell



## District practice at Southwark

31<sup>st</sup> August 2005

Nearly 30 ringers ventured out of Kent for the district's annual trip to London. The standard of ringing was generally good on what are not easy bells. There were plenty of people ringing here for the first time but everyone rang at least rounds on 12. Grandsire Caters, Little Bob Royal and the new front eight were also rung. There was the chance to go up on the roof and enjoy the views over London as the sun set.

Going over to The Market Porter for a drink or two afterwards rounded off the evening nicely.

The Southwark bellringers hold practices approximately every fortnight to which everybody is welcome. Details of forthcoming practices can be found on the Southwark Bellringers Website at [www.southwark-bells.org.uk](http://www.southwark-bells.org.uk)



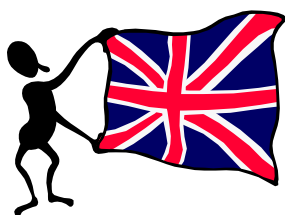


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# Trafalgar Bicentenary Ringing

The Public Relations committee of the Central Council has prepared a press release covering the worldwide plans for the ringing in celebration of the bicentenary of the British victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. This appears below. Please modify this as necessary to publicise your celebration ringing plans to your local press contacts, giving a contact email address and including information about where visitors can hear, and perhaps see, ringing in your area.

Also available for downloading is a poster to advertise your local ringing arrangements in the church porch and on other notice boards (be patient if you haven't got broadband, since this is a longish document). This poster may also be modified to form a certificate to record the names of the ringers after the event.



You are also encouraged to register your ringing plans on the SeaBritain2005 website at [www.seabritain2005.com/register](http://www.seabritain2005.com/register) so that visitors to that website will be aware of your celebration ringing. SeaBritain 2005 is a national maritime celebration with festivities and events throughout 2005 and beyond. It celebrates the ways in which the sea touches all of our lives, whether we live by the coast or inland.



The press release is as under:

## Bells Ring for Battle Bicentenary

Bells all over the world will ring out on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October in celebration of the 200th anniversary of Britain's greatest naval victory, the Battle of Trafalgar. To mark this important occasion, the National Maritime Museum Nelson Commemorations Committee is co-ordinating the national Trafalgar Festival. This celebration culminates in Trafalgar Weekend (21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2005) which commemorates the bicentenary of the battle and the heroism of Vice Admiral Horatio Nelson and the gallant crews of his outnumbered fleet which

scuppered Napoleon's plans to invade Britain.

As in 1805, when church bells rang out the news of Nelson's victory, bells will play an important part in this year's celebrations. The Nelson Commemorations Committee, in conjunction with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, is co-ordinating the ringing of bells throughout the world on 21 October and over the following weekend to mark this special anniversary.

"The first ringing of the day world-wide, will take place whilst most of us in the UK are still in bed!" said Richard Offen, co-ordinator of the international ringing. "The bells of Nelson Cathedral, New Zealand, will be rung at noon local time. This will be followed by the bells of St Mary's Basilica, Sydney and the Swan Bells, Perth, Western Australia. At the other end of the international time zones, among the last bells to sound that day will be those of Stanley Cathedral in the Falkland Islands. International coverage indeed!"



Hundreds of bell towers have already indicated that they will take part and many are planning to ring special commemorative peals or quarter peals for the occasion.

"For centuries bells have played a huge part in the celebration of important events, so it's fitting that they should play a major part in this commemoration" explained Judith Rogers of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. "The bells of St Paul's Cathedral in London will be rung following a formal wreath laying at the tomb of Lord Nelson which is timed to start at 11am and a full peal will be rung there in the evening. We hope that bells will ring around the country to make this a celebratory weekend to remember!"

Further information can be obtained from: Judith Rogers, Chairman, Public Relations, CCCBR [prchairman@cccbr.org.uk](mailto:prchairman@cccbr.org.uk)

# NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

## BROMLEY

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

On 24<sup>th</sup> September, we rang a peal of Plain Bob Major at Bromley Parish for Frank Gates 90th birthday.

David Kingston

## KCACR

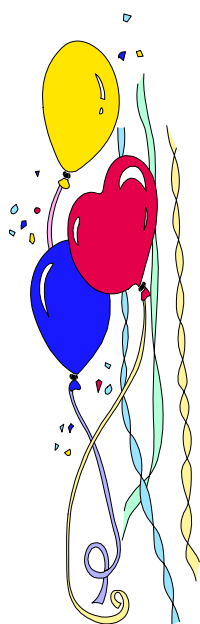
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2005

Bromley, SS Peter & Paul

5040 Plain Bob Major in 3 hrs 1 min

Comp: Cornelius Charge (arr. IG Mills)

Treble	Dickon R Love
2	Christine Webb
3	Rosemary K Tuhey
4	David Kingston
5	David S Brown
6	Mark Backhouse
7	David Holdridge
8	Ian G Mills (C)



## CRAYFORD

*Practice Tuesday 19:45*

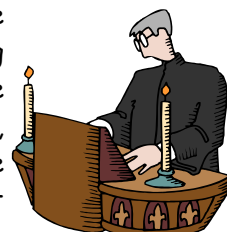
We are struggling at Crayford; the numbers of people who can ring method have depleted, so on a good day and with a fair wind - not of course forgetting our very welcome visitors, we might venture as far as Grandsire or Stedman doubles.

In as far as the home grown band is concerned, we tend to stick to call changes, Plain Hunt and Bob Doubles.



Recruitment is a thorny problem and is an issue that faces all of us. For those in the News Shopper area as many of you will have probably seen, there is a local societies slot. It may be worth considering a joint venture, so we could publish details of practice nights and times. We are going to do an SOS to the parish mag, but the

only thing about this is, that to some extent we are preaching to the converted and to coerce people into coming along, to my mind, is not the best way of recruiting or retaining people. We have found that in the past, while we get some interest, people soon fall away because ringing, by its nature, is not instant enough for a lot of people.



There is a confirmation class soon to run on Tuesday nights, which falls conveniently on our practice night and we shall be asking to do a slot and arrange a tour of the tower. This might generate some genuine interest - 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wish'd'.

On a more positive note, congratulations are due to Trevor Warner, who scored his first quarter 'inside' to Plain Bob Doubles, on his first attempt, and to Esther Correia who scored her first on the treble to celebrate her 70th birthday. We shall look forward to welcoming you at the forthcoming AGM.

Andrew Sinclair

## DARTFORD

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

Not much to report from Dartford. In common with several local towers we are struggling to keep going. We are still only ringing on the 3rd Sunday evening for Choral Evensong so the offer made in the last issue for anybody who wishes to ring a quarter to take up the 5.30-6.30p.m. time slot on any Sunday other than the 3rd still stands.

We are still going to Swanscombe on the 1st Wednesday, with them coming to us on the 3rd. It continues to work well, giving each of us the opportunity to ring something more than rounds and call changes, while learners get a steadier band round them than they would at a "single" tower. Mark and Rachel Backhouse come over to help us on the 4th

Wednesday, and we are slowly making progress in Bob Doubles. Now that Deryck has retired and will be able to get to practices we hope to speed up the progress. We are very grateful to Mark and Rachel for their continued help and for giving up their time.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> October there was a Service for the remembrance of those of the parish who had died during the past year. This included our own ringer Peter Rose. We rang half muffled and his widow was able to attend. Joyce is still in a wheelchair for outings, still suffering from a fall before Peter died but she enjoys getting out and meeting people.

Esther Correia

## ELTHAM

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

Like most towers, we have experienced occasional shortages of ringers over the summer holiday period. However, we have managed to practice every week, and ring on Sundays. Touches in a range of methods have been rung, including Cambridge Minor, Grandsire Triples, and Plain Bob Major: one week we even managed a plain course of London Minor.



A couple of quarter-peals have been rung: one of Lincolnshire Major for John Hawes' 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, and one of Bristol Major for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Adams learning to ring. A peal of 8-Spliced Major was also rung by a visiting band.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, instead of our usual practice, we welcomed members of the congregations of churches in Eltham, as part of a week of joint events. The church provided ample drinks and food downstairs, while we took small groups up into the ringing chamber for a short talk and demonstrations of ringing. Although we haven't so far had anybody wanting to learn to ring as a result, it was useful PR and gave us a rare chance to socialise with the congregation.



David Holdridge

## ERITH (Christ Church)

*Practice Monday 20:00*

Nearly all of our ringers turned up at 5pm on Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> to ring in celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ending of the Second World War. We rang rounds and call changes, followed by Grandsire Triples. Earlier in the day, we rang half-muffled for the Sunday service, in memory of all who lost their lives in the London bombs on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Christchurch took part in the 'Open House London' event over the weekend of September 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. We had the Tower open for several hours on both days and attracted about 35 visitors. Some came from outside the area, but quite a few lived locally and said how much they enjoyed listening to the bells. A few were unaware that there were actually people pulling ropes in the tower - they thought it was a recording! We suggested that they might like to come and try their hand at ringing, but sadly did not have any takers.

Elizabeth Brett

## FOOTS CRAY

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

With help we continue to practice most weeks. Our learners are doing well and ring for most services. The highlight of the last few months was their visit to Southwark Cathedral at the end of August for the District Practice. They all managed the bells quite well and thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the top.

We are really grateful to all our friends who have dropped in to give us a hand - Dominic, Sue & Mick, Frank Rogers, Rupert and in particular Rachel Backhouse, who has visited us every second Wednesday of the month and who has been really supportive. If I've missed someone out I'm sorry. All help is gratefully received.

Two of our ringers, Lisa and Jeff, got married on 24<sup>th</sup> September at Foots Cray. The service was



followed by the bride and groom stopping for a brief ring on their way out of the church.

We wish them every happiness in their lives together.

Margaret Macey

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September

1260 Doubles (5 methods: 240 each of Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury, St Simon's, St Martin's and 300 of Plain Bob) in 35mins

Treble	Ros Farmer
2	Rachel Backhouse
3	Rupert Cheeseman (C)
4	Dominic Meredith
Tenor	James Hardy

Rung to celebrate the forthcoming marriage of Lisa Cook and Jeff Marshall.

## HORTON KIRBY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

Our young ringers continue to progress and some are now trebling well to Grandsire and Bob Doubles. We're hoping to set up an in house training session to bring everyone onto Bob Doubles and I'm sure the girls will overtake us very quickly!

We are at the moment planning our next outing. We are going to venture over the water..... into Essex. One of our ringers comes from there (well someone has to!) so we thought we'd let him show us around. We are hoping to ring at a variety of 6, 8 and 10 bell towers.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> September the long awaited redecoration of our church begins and so there will be no services until December. (Oh joy! A lay in on Sunday!). Although the church will technically be closed during this time, we should still be able to ring on Thursday evenings and as always any visitors are warmly welcomed. If this changes I will send an email out to the district.

This will not affect us hosting the Call Change Competition (I am assured!) but it could be a bit messy in the church. Hopefully there will be lots of bands entering this year.

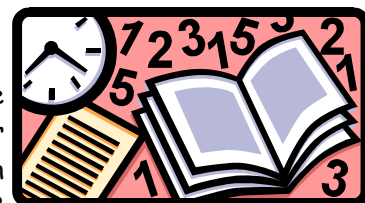
Sue Allport

# John L Morris

The note in the last Newsletter about John may have only struck a chord with Mary Andrews, as much of John's early ringing was at Bexley, where there were several keen young ringers in the 1950s.

John learnt to ring at The Annunciation, Chislehurst in 1947. His progress was rapid: he rang his first peal at Foots Cray in March 1948 and conducted his first peal for his 13th birthday a year later, calling Bob Major from an inside bell. Only eighteen months later he rang in the 12,740 Bob Royal at Prittlewell, Essex.

When his tutor left the district, John joined the band at Bexley, which meant a 12-mile round trip twice on Sundays and for practice night; he was a valued member of the band, soon becoming a reliable conductor.



As a practical ringer he was an excellent striker and completely safe in any method: he rang 202 peals in methods up to Spliced Surprise Major and Stedman Cinques. He had produced many interesting compositions. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and represented the Society on the Central Council for the first time at the meeting in Chelmsford in 1957. Clearly with his great abilities, both practical and theoretical, he would have become a leader of the Exercise.

John attended Eltham College from 1947 to 1955 and suffered some ill-health in these years. He went on to obtain a B.Sc. degree at London University in 1958 and started his first job teaching at a school at Addington, Surrey; John had only been there one week and while at the school he collapsed and died at the tragically early age of 22.

Ian H Oram



# Lyn Briers RIP

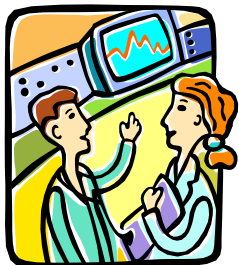
Lyn Frances Briers: born 8<sup>th</sup> August 1946 - died 9<sup>th</sup> August 2005, aged 59, after a wonderful birthday celebration weekend with her family.

Lyn was the second daughter of Joyce and Alee Morris, and was raised in West Thurrock, Essex.

On leaving school, she worked as a cardiographer at nearby Orsett Hospital, but soon went to St. Georges Hospital, Hyde Park, London. She trained as a Cardiological Technician and remained there for 6 years, working with many leading cardiologists and technicians.



Lyn then moved to the National Heart Hospital, London W1 for 7 years, heading the 'pacing' section of the Cardiac Department. Here she worked alongside many of the prominent cardiologists in the country, including Donald Ross, Richard Sutton, and Tony Rickards. She was co-author of a number of research papers on 'pacing', presented at international meetings, and was involved in the implantation of the first British experimental nuclear powered pacemaker.



As a very active member of the Society of Cardiological Technicians, she edited the Society's Journal for a number of years, and contributed to the development of technical education. In recognition of this Lyn was granted Fellowship of the Society.

After starting a family with husband Fred, she was able to 'keep involved', working part for 15 years on pacing research, and some clinical work, with Professor Richard Sutton at the Westminster Hospital. They had worked together over many years since they both had trained at St. Georges Hospital.

During this time she also threw herself wholeheartedly into supporting local education: assisting at the Playgroup in Ash; as Parent Governor

of New Ash Green First School, and subsequently of the Middle School, particularly giving support to and championing the cause of, numerous 'special needs' children (including taking the County Council to the 'Ombudsman', and winning); also as classroom assistant when time permitted, running the Macrame Club, and helping to run the student's Gym Club.



For several years, Lyn assisted with the production of the New Ash Green monthly publication 'The Argus', that had an enviable reputation in its time. She also served for a short while on the PCC of the Church.

As Tom and Franki (to whom she was always 110 committed) grew towards adulthood, she took on, in 1993, the more than full time challenge of Head of the Cardio-respiratory Department at Medway Maritime Hospital, Gillingham, working alongside Consultant Cardiologist Dr David Thompson. With Lyn's guidance and boundless energy, the department has developed over the past 12 years to become a highly skilled team with an extensive training programme, resulting in some of the best academic results in the specialty, and winning the Hospital's 'Department of the Year', and 'Best student of the Year' Awards, with Lyn personally receiving 'Mentor of the Year' and 'Employee of the Month' Awards in recent times.



Her personal support and caring friendship to thousands of her patients left her colleagues and family in awe.

In her spare time (!) Lyn established in 1999 the 'Medway Pacemaker Support Group', a patient self support organisation. She was Chairman during its formative years, was an active supporter until very recently, and had seen it flourish and develop beyond her dreams.

In 2002, Medway City Council presented Lyn with a 'Pride of Medway' Award, in recognition of her contribution to the community.



Outside her work, numerous other commitments and hobbies kept her from sitting still, including; supporting her mother, with holiday cover and at Christmas time, in running a sheltered housing scheme; supporting her husband in various fundraising and community activities with the 'Round Table' organisation; providing make-up, costume and care for Act One - Scene One youth music drama company; and assisting with residential music and drama weeks for the disabled at the Orpheus Centre, with Syd Ralph and Richard Stilgoe.

At home she delighted everyone with her never-ending macramé, crochet and tapestry work, her superb cooking, and amazing 'green fingers' in the garden, care of numerous pets (including successfully sewing one of the geese together again after a fox had attacked it!), and she gave tireless support to her children as they strived to achieve their dreams. Her wise counsel and loving support was always abundant to all she knew - relatives, friends, patients and anyone else she met. In all aspects of her life, she was always courageous and selfless ; her ideals and her ethics inspired many. She was fearless - except, of course, when it came to spiders - for which she had an uncontrollable fear!

Recently, inspired by one of her very young patients, Lyn instigated and promoted the creation of a 'Sculpture Court' called 'Antonia's Playground' at Medway Maritime Hospital, to brighten the outlook of many patients. The courtyard now delights in 23 nearly full size ceramic 'children playing' and it is overlooked by the children's wards, and maternity and cardio-respiratory departments. This was completed in June this year, under the guidance, and including some work, of a close friend, internationally known sculptor Megan di Girolamo.



Of course, Lyn has also been involved in bellringing at Ash Church for many years, including training many young people and adults, and being Tower Captain here until recently.

Although her illness was diagnosed in May 2003, she was determined and able to work full time until Easter this year. As her illness progressed in recent months she stopped work to receive chemotherapy treatment, but this did not prevent her from giving support and care to everyone with whom she was involved.

Last, but by no means least, she was, throughout, a dedicated and loving friend, mum, and wife.

We will all miss her greatly, and give thanks for her wonderful and inspiring life.

Lyn's family  
(as read out at her memorial service)

Ash-by-Wrotham, Kent  
SS Peter & Paul

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2005 in 41 mins (9cwt approx)  
1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Treble	Liz Rolph
2	Geoffrey Mills
3	Rupert Cheeseman
4	Andrew Sinclair
5	Alex Britton (C)
6	Deryck Jones

In joyful celebration of the life of Lyn Frances Briers (8.8.1946 to 9.8.2005), rung "open" directly after her memorial service.



I am sorry to have to let you know that Steve Gill, who rang at Sidcup and Cudham died yesterday afternoon (26<sup>th</sup> September). The funeral is on Tues 4th Oct at All Saints Foots Cray at 11am. Ringers welcome. I expect some ringing may be arranged for Cudham and/or Sidcup at some point.

Steve was about 70 and used to be a train driver. He was a very reliable Sunday and wedding ringer. He rang the tenor mostly, and had done so to a few quarters at Cudham, but we rarely managed to persuade him to ring inside.

Megan Smith



# Path...what path?

Eltham and Chislehurst Ringers Walk  
Bodiam to Northiam and back again  
3<sup>rd</sup> September 2005

13 Eltham and Chislehurst ringers and friends eventually all made it to the National Trust car park at Bodiam for another one of Peter's monthly(ish) walks. Shorts were definitely the order of the day providing you dodged the regular patches of nettles!

The walk started by crossing the river and then the Kent and East Sussex steam railway. No trains were in sight but we heard one as we climbed gently uphill away from the line.



Peter got the route from Country Walking magazine. The walk was described as "gently undulating on well-defined footpaths" with 40 stiles and being suitable for "anyone who doesn't mind stiles". They were definitely correct about the stiles, the walk being regularly broken up by them, but the well defined footpaths was more open to debate. It

was at this point that we took our first diversion of the day. Peter's sat-nav told him that we'd gone wrong but otherwise we wouldn't have known that we were not still on the footpath. After getting over a barbed wire fence we managed to get ourselves back on the correct track.

Lunch was at Northiam. Unfortunately, we got there just after the area suffered a power cut so hunger had to be sufficed with sandwiches and ploughmans. It came back on just in time for us to leave. It did however mean that we could see down the well that was in the floor in the middle of the pub.

Helen had hurt her ankle in the morning so it was

lucky as we left the pub that a taxi happened to drop some people off in the village. The option of taking it back to Bodiam was taken and so 13 became 10.



After leaving Northiam, the footpath did its disappearing act again. According to the technology it should have been there but it definitely wasn't. To make matters worse the plants growing in



the field were 4' tall and as dry and rough as anything. Not good for the legs. More wading through long grass and we got back onto the footpath again.

A few wind falls were collected as we walked through an apple orchard. We resisted the temptation of a beer in Ewhurst Green though and instead crossed back over the railway and ended up back at the National Trust tearoom at Bodiam Castle for a well earned drink and bit of cake. All in all a very enjoyable day.

Rupert Cheeseman



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### PEALS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
18 June 2005	Chislehurst Ann.	5152	Kemnal Surprise Major	05/646
16 July 2005	Eltham	5056	Spliced Surprise Major 8m.	05/741
24 August 2005	Chelsfield	5040	Surprise Minor 17m.	05/893
24 August 2005	Downe	5040	Surprise Minor 13m.	05/893
4 September 2005	St Mary Cray	5040	Spliced Surprise Minor 36m.	05/918

The peal of Kemnal Surprise Major at Chislehurst was the first peal in the method and was rung for the KCACR as was the peal at St Mary Cray. The second peal was non-association. The peals at Chelsfield and Downe were rung for the Cumberlands.

### QUARTERS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
19 April 2005	Woolwich	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	05/699
15 May 2005	Chislehurst St N	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	05/701
15 May 2005	Erith Ch Ch	1260	Grandsire Doubles	05/726
24 May 2005	Woolwich	1260	Doubles 2m.	05/723
12 June 2005	Crayford	1260	Doubles 4m/p.	05/651&
878				
18 June 2005	Lewisham	1320	Cambridge Surprise Minor	05/652
03 July 2005	Eynsford	1260	Plain Bob Minor	05/701
04 July 2005	St Mary Cray	1992	Spliced Surprise Minor 29m.	05/751
19 July 2005	St Mary Cray	1320	Cambridge Surprise Minor	05/774
23 July 2005	Chelsfield	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	
19 August 2005	Ash-by-Wrotham	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	05/851

Congratulations to :

Paul Lucia who rang the Treble to Grandsire Doubles at Erith Ch Ch for his 1st quarter.

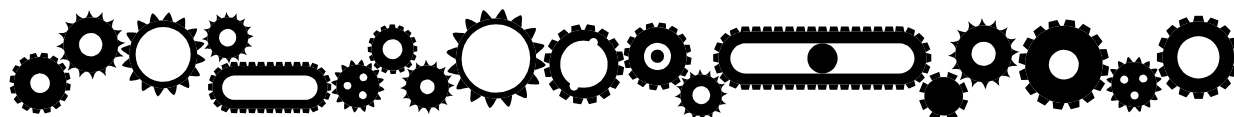
Annabelle Wilkins who rang the Treble to Plain Bob Doubles at Chelsfield for her 1st away from Tenor cover.

Brenda Barton who rang her most methods (4) on the 2nd in the quarter of Doubles at Crayford.

David Brown, Christine Webb, David Kingston and Jim Hardy who rang their most methods (29) in the 'quarter' at St Mary Cray which was also Nigel Pointer's most methods as Conductor.

From The Ringing World up to edition No. 4926 September 23, 2005.

This is the last time I intend to produce these figures whether or not the Newsletter continues in its present form. I have been doing it for some 14 years since taking over from Andrew Young at the end of 1991. It has become obvious that not all the quarter peals rung in the District are published in the Ringing World or Campanophile so my list is not representative. Although I include those I am made aware of even before they appear in the RW, last year the Handbook showed 100 tower bell quarters and I only found 79 and I don't think I miss that many. On the other hand one quarter at Chelsfield that I included in the returns to Chris Webb for the Handbook did not appear in it! I would be happy to pass copies of my archive files in Works DB format to anyone who is interested.



Jim Rooke





## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS LEWISHAM DISTRICT



Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at St John's Deptford on  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2005

*The meeting stood to observe a minute's silence in memory of James Pailing of St Nicholas, Chislehurst.*

### 1. Apologies for absence

18 people attended the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Sara Hardy, Ross Hartley and Rhiannon Meredith (Beckenham), Nancy Gay (Biggin Hill), Philippa Rooke (Chelsfield), Roger Long (St Nicholas, Chislehurst), Rupert Cheeseman (Crayford), Esther Correia (Dartford), Carol Eastaugh (Christchurch Erith), Margaret Heald (St John's Erith), Margaret Macey (Foots Cray), Nigel and Penny Parsons (Greenwich), Cathy Cheeseman (unattached).



### 2. Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at SS Peter and Paul Bromley on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2005

The minutes were approved on the proposal of James Hardy seconded by David Brown.

### 3. Matters arising

#### KCACR's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The District Secretary asked towers to notify her if any special ringing had taken place to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary so that she could forward the details to David Manger.

#### 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar

Freda Cannon said that David Hilling was organising a peal attempt at Greenwich on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005. Anyone who was interested in ringing in the peal was advised to contact him.



### 4. KCACR Committee Report

At the KCACR Committee Meeting held in May 2005 the following items were raised:

#### County Public Liability Insurance

The County Secretary advised that she had managed to put a new public liability policy in place, which appears to cover minor work in the tower. Once the policy schedule was received details would be placed on the County website. Members needed to be aware that many insurance companies including the Ecclesiastical Company are going to remove tower by tower maintenance from individual church policies and no companies wish to deal with any work carried out above 3 metres, due to risk assessment.

#### Publicity Officer

Peter Dale had offered to fill this position and he had been duly appointed.



### 5. Events

The next district practice is on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July from 7p.m. to 9p.m. at West Wickham. The Annual District Meeting is at Crayford on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Other events in the county include: the Dover Regatta 6-7<sup>th</sup> August; County 6 bell competition at Watlingtonbury at 4 p.m. on 24<sup>th</sup> September when Beckenham will represent the district.

There are some County training events organised. The District Secretary said that she had e-mailed posters to all towers with an e-mail address and would be posting the remainder.

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Outside the county there is the Ringing Roadshow at Newbury Racecourse on 10<sup>th</sup> September. The District Secretary has some posters that she will circulate to towers by e-mail where possible or by post.

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 5p.m. all towers are asked to ring to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II.

## **6. Bell Restoration Fund**

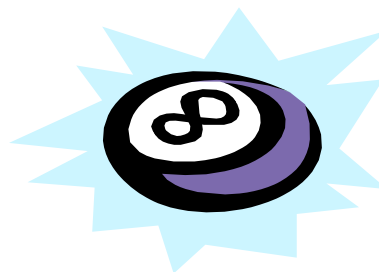
### 120 Club

Rachel Backhouse said that two people were needed to certify the annual returns she needed to make to the local authority and that it might make the process more straightforward if two officers were specified rather than the names of two individuals. James Hardy proposed that the District Chairman and the District Secretary should certify the returns. Nicholas Wilkins seconded this proposal and the motion was carried.

Rachel Backhouse reported that she had sold tickets worth £940 and she expected that the 120 Club would make between £200 and £300 in its first year when the setting up costs had to be borne.

The fourth draw was held. The winning numbers were:

£20.00	60
£10.00	40
£10.00	70
£5.00	50



### Raffle

Pauline Morley confirmed that she had taken on the organisation of a raffle to be held at District Meetings with the profits going to the Bell Restoration Fund. She asked members either to donate items or money to purchase items. The raffle held at this meeting raised £35.

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

The following new member was elected:

ELTHAM

Marnie Elizabeth Knight proposed by David Holdridge, seconded by Len Morley



## **8. Arrangements for James Pailing's funeral**

Mark Jones advised that James Pailing's funeral was to be held at Bickley at 12.30 p.m. on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

## **9. Deptford's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations**

Graham Long said that a special service to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St John's Deptford, attended by the Bishop of Southwark would be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July. It was planned to ring the bells from 2p.m. and any help from ringers in the District would be welcomed.

## **10. Bromley Parish**

The District Secretary reported that Bromley Parish bells would be out of action for about 10 weeks while work was carried out on the tower.

## **11. Vote of thanks**

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Reverend Christine Bainbridge for taking the service, to Graham Long for playing the organ, to Ken Deller for doing the reading and to all those members of the parish who provided a splendid tea.



# KCACR Meeting 20.08.05

## Helmores Memorial Clock

This clock is kept in Canterbury Cathedral and was purchased in 1950 in memory of Canon FJO Helmore in recognition for his work to the KCACR. The clock is currently in need of repair, the Dean and Chapter at the Cathedral have offered a donation of £200 towards the £550 bill, the meeting decided that the clock would be funded from KCACR funds since it belongs to the association.



## County Ringing Master

The idea was floated that the association could benefit with the appointment of a County Ringing Master, it was felt it would be useful to have an experienced ringer with a wide knowledge of ringing within the association to co-ordinate county ringing events such as competitions and also to be able to feed into the Training Committee areas where training on a County level could benefit. After much discussion representatives were asked to take this matter to their districts to discuss and possibly make recommendations about the terms of reference of such a post before reporting the districts findings to Catherine and Frank Lewis who will co-ordinate this.

## Training Sub-Committee Report

Report was received detailing progress made at the "County Elementary Ringing School". It was also reported that Catherine Lewis intends to stand down at the next AGM, as a consequence a new Training Officer is required.

## Publicity

The Publicity Officer reported that all towers had been encouraged to ring for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, it was hoped to publish a poster on the website for any towers who had participated to be able to formally record that



the bells were rung.

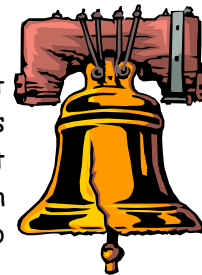
## Membership Database

The Membership Secretary, Graham Cottle, has asked if each district can nominate someone (secretary or membership secretary would be appropriate) who would take responsibility for electronically collating all information within each district and passing to him electronically. He already has the format, he just needs someone to make contact so that he can trail the system to overcome any "bugs" or problems.

## Bell Restoration Grants

Bromley Parish were awarded a grant of £500 towards the cost of the bellworks already identified. The cost of work to the louvers was at the time of the meeting unknown. As a consequence Bromley can, if they wish, apply separately for a grant towards this work.

Goudhurst had also made a request but this was deferred because it was felt they had failed to consult correctly and had made their decision based on one quotation. It was also felt the Restoration Sub Committee, if given the opportunity might be able to make some savings on the price of the job.



Following on from this a discussion took place about the correct procedure for applying for a grant. As a consequence guidelines will be publicised to clarify this issue.

## AGM possible Date Change

Traditionally the AGM has always been held on Easter Monday. It was suggested that in the modern world the association might benefit from holding their AGM on the same day each year, the suggested date being the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in April. It would be easier to get the handbook out to members prior to the meeting so that members might be prepared prior to attending the meeting. It was also felt that many people are on holiday over the Easter period, and by holding the meeting on the same day each year

a better attendance might be encouraged.

Districts are asked to discuss this at their ADM's and feed back in the November meeting via their representatives.

### Events

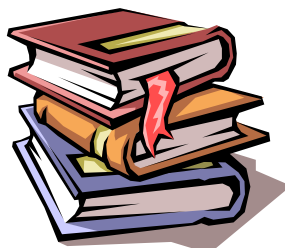
8 Bell competition will be hosted by Maidstone District on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006, venue to be advised, draw will take place at 2pm, method will be a course of Superlative.



Essex Trophy - KCACR will not be entering a band this year due to difficulty in co-ordinating ringers.

6 bell competition, change of venue, will now be held at Bearsted on September 24<sup>th</sup> 2005, draw at 3.45pm.

Course "Putting the Bobs in" being organised for October 29<sup>th</sup> 2005.



Course "County Elementary Ringing School" being organised for March 31<sup>st</sup> 2005.

Len Morley

## UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Oct District Practice: Eltham (tbc). 7-9:00

Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Nov District Practice: Beckenham (tbc). 7-9:00

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Call Change Comp: Horton Kirby. 2:30 draw

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Carol Service: TBA.

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Jan District Meeting: TBA. 3pm bells, 4:30 service

Please contact Jim (020 8659 2\*\*\*) or look on the web site [www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk) if you want to find out the venues and are not on the district egrouop. To become a member of the egrouop send an email to:

[lewisham\\_district-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk](mailto:lewisham_district-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk)

# Next District Event

**Annual District Meeting  
St. Paulinus, Crayford  
on Saturday 8th October**

Bells 3.00 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.

Names for tea to  
Rupert Cheeseman on 01322 439\*\*\*  
or [rupert@crayford42.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:rupert@crayford42.fsnet.co.uk)  
by Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October please.

## AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at St John's Deptford on Saturday 9 July 2005
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. KCACR Committee Meeting report
5. Reports: Ringing Master  
Secretary  
Membership Secretary
6. Election of Officers:

Chairman	Retiring
Ringing Master	Jeremy Byers
Assistant Ringing Master	James Hardy
District Representatives	Rhiannon Meredith
	Sara Hardy
	Len Morley
Press Representatives & Newsletter Editors	Rupert & Cathy Cheeseman
Sales Representative	Jim Rooke
Secretary	Christine Webb
Membership Secretary	Mark Jones
7. Election of new members
8. Programme for 2006
  - Sat 10th Dec 2005 Carol Service
  - Sat 14th Jan 2006 District meeting
  - Sat 4th March Striking competition
  - Sat 8th Apr District meeting
  - Sat 8th Jul District meeting
  - Sat 14th Oct Annual District meeting
  - Sat 18th Nov Call change comp
  - Sat 9th Dec Carol service
9. Bell Restoration Fund
  - 120 club draw
10. Any other business
11. Vote of thanks

