



LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Lewisham District On Line at www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS www.kcacr.org.uk

JULY 2018

Barbeques and bells

The Eynsford and Farningham band hosted the Farningham Trophy competition in splendid sunshine on Sunday 24 June. Seven bands participated and the judges were Liz and Phil Barnes of Wrotham. Throughout the afternoon there were light refreshments as well as a bbq providing tasty sausages in baps.



Also taking place was a fun handbell tune ringing challenge where the piece was the bell ringers' hymn and practising continued through the afternoon. A group from the church joined in and the test pieces were rung - with the melody being evident sometimes! Philippa Rooke was the judge and the prize was the

vast kudos of coming in first. That accolade went to Crayford with the Kent Young Ringers second.



Tower bell judges Liz and Phil then provided tips and comments on aspects of striking and announced the results.

1st	Eynsford & Farningham D	57 faults
	Call changes, clean transitions, nice ringing	
2nd	Kent Young Ringers	71
	Doubles, positive, no major errors	
3rd	Eynsford & Farningham J	76
	Call changes, nice rhythm, lingered on inaccurate rows	
4th	Crayford	82
	Doubles, no major errors, some rows too stretched out	
5th	Chelsfield	87
	Minor, some good though bad patch, inconsistent leading	
6th	Brasted	92
	A little shaky, good leading, bell in seconds place often slow	
7th	Sevenoaks & Cowden	dnf
	Minor, restart needed, ringing okay until second crunch	

The Trophy is a bowl turned from an elm headstock removed during the Farningham 2008 restoration and it comes complete with bolt holes! It was

presented by churchwarden Gerald Roome to Jo Colston a member of the winning band. Others in the E&F D band were Daphne Paterson, Dave Horne, Jack Barker, David Hilling and Mark Baldwin.



David Hilling



District officer e-mail directory

Website:

www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Chairman:

Philippa Rooke

chairman@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Secretary:

Sue Cameron

sec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Rupert Cheeseman

memsec@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Ringing Master:

Nick Wilkins

master@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Assistant Master:

Diane Reynolds

ringing@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Training Officer:

Lesley Barclay

training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

District Representatives:

Chris Davine

rep1@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Natalie Slator

rep2@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Sales Representative:

Shelagh Norman & Chris Goldsmith

sales@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Newsletter Editor:

Rupert Cheeseman

newsletter@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

120 Club:

Liz Brett and Deryck Jones

120club@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

CHAIRMAN'S BIT...


Following the results of the County survey of ringing last November, the new County Chairman, Dr Phillip Barnes, has hosted a couple of meetings for the District Chairmen, Ringing Masters and Training Officers, to talk generally about how to move ringing forward at District and County level.

Lots of interesting ideas were put forward, and we'll be working on these over the next year or so. One thing Phill is keen for us to consider is more 'cross-border' collaboration between Districts, to pool resource and expertise, which seems sensible!

We've been tasked with finding out what resources are available in our own Districts, so if you're not able to be at Crayford on 14th July, please email me at chairman@lewishamdistrict.org.uk to say whether you have a simulator, (even if you don't use it), learners practices, joint practices, special practices for learning something specific, or anything else you think might be helpful to know.

And don't forget, if you do have something you'd like to learn but can't manage it at your own tower let our Training Officer, Lesley Barclay, know on training@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Philippa Rooke



Improve your ringing @ Tulloch

Tulloch, Inverness-shire is the venue for 2 separate, identical weeks in September aimed at ringers who can already handle a bell in rounds and want to polish their style, get some extra practice raising & lowering, have the mystery removed from call changes, make a start at plain hunting and/or work towards ringing inside for bob doubles.

We have 2 easy-to-ring peals of bells & patient friendly ART tutors.

Sept 10 - 14th & Sept 17 - 21st 2018

Course from 10am – 5pm, Mon – Fri for only £50 (plus a donation towards daily lunch/coffee & tea please)

There are plenty of outdoor pursuits locally to occupy non-ringing spouses – river side walks, hill climbing & canoeing etc & the autumn colours on the trees will rival New England☺

Please see: www.tullochbells.com

If this sounds like fun (& I hope it does) please email me

helen@tullochfarm.co.uk

Editorial



Thanks to everyone who has made the effort to contribute to the newsletter this time.

I'm a bit short of both time and things to say this quarter so I'll just include a reminder not to forget the various upcoming district meetings, practices and the outing to London. And also start thinking about getting a band together for the Call Change Competition in November.

Cheers,
Rupert

120 club

The first draw was held at the April District Meeting. There are 10 draws during the year. Shares are £10 and each draw has four prizes - £20, £10, £10, and £5, with double the number of prizes in July and December. All profits go to the Kent County Bell Restoration Fund. You do not have to be a Kent member or even a ringer to purchase shares, but shares cannot be sold to anyone under 16. Application forms are available from me or may be printed off the District website. Share numbers will be allocated sequentially. If you wish to have particular numbers, please indicate this. However, preferred numbers cannot be guaranteed.

Liz Brett

April 2018 District Meeting, Erith St John.

1 st	£20	Lesley Barclay	Horton Kirby
2 nd	£10	Brenda Barton	Dartford
3 rd	£10	Unsold	BRF
4 th	£5	Unsold	BRF

May 2018 Practice night, Erith, Christ Church

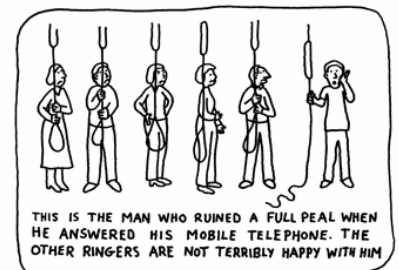
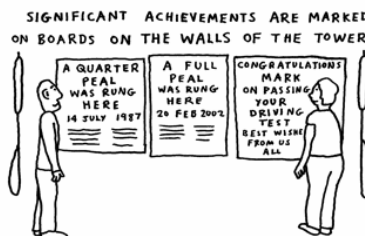
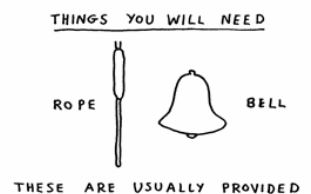
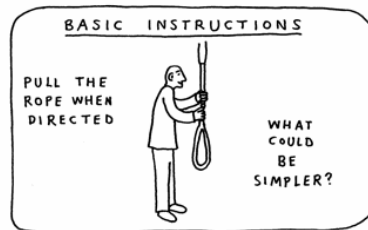
1 st	£20	Unsold	BRF
2 nd	£10	Margaret Heald	Erith, St John's
3 rd	£10	Unsold	BRF
4 th	£5	Natalie Slator	Erith, CC

In the newsletter this time...

Farningham Trophy	1
Chairman's bit	2
Editorial	3
120 club	3
News from the Towers	
Bromley Common	4
Crayford	4
Farnborough	5
The Meridian Ringers	5
Crayford Outing	6
County 8 bell competition	7
District Outing to London	9
Minutes of January District Meeting	10
District Events	12

THE BELL - RINGERS

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR NEW RECRUITS



CartoonChurch.com

June 2018 Farningham Trophy

1 st	£20	Sue Allport	Horton Kirby
2 nd	£10	Natalie Slator	Erith, CC
3 rd	£10	Margaret Heald	Erith, St John's
4 th	£5	Deryck Jones	Dartford

NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

BROMLEY COMMON

We held an Open Tower morning on Saturday 23rd June. There was a steady flow of visitors that included members from our link Church of St Augustine and from Hope Church with whom we now share the church. Others attended out of curiosity for the rare chance to climb the tower of a local landmark. We explained what bellringing was all about, when and why we ring and demonstrated the raising, lowering and ringing of a bell. Visitors had the chance to ring a bell, with assistance. Although it was not possible to show visitors the bells we were able to demonstrate the various moving parts with the aid of an excellent model bell on loan from West Wickham.

Our monthly eight bell practice, started nearly a year ago, has proved to be a success and will resume after our summer break. Methods rung to date have included: Stedman Triples, St. Clements Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, Erin Triples, Plain Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples.

Chris Lawrance

CRAYFORD

In the April newsletter we reported that we had gained five new learners as a result of a recruitment initiative and it is very pleasing that we have only lost one, with the remaining four making good progress with rounds and call changes. Carol has been ringing a little longer than the other three and is now ringing with us regularly on Sunday mornings and we are happy to be proposing her for election as a member of the KCACR at the quarterly meeting being held at Crayford.

Practices continue to be well attended with the support of friends from nearby towers and with all in attendance we are now able to ring Surprise Minor and Triples more regularly.

We entered a band for the Farningham Trophy ringing Crayford Doubles which is a variation we first rang and named last summer. For anyone interested, it's a variation of St Martins with a Plain Bob Bob and a

London Single and although it only needed a reminder and practice for three of us, one of our band, Dave, had to learn it from scratch after an absence from ringing of more than forty years. We came fourth in the competition but were pleased that we got through the entire 240 changes without a single method mistake. We have since rung a quarter peal of this variation with Dave ringing inside, to mark the 50th birthday of our vicar.

At the same competition we managed to win the fun handbell competition, although we've no idea how – thanks Philippa! The test piece was Unchanging God (Belfrey Praise) - the bell ringers hymn.

Our fairly regular quarter peals have suffered a little in the past three months due to various band members being on holiday but we have managed to ring three:

Monday, 23 April 2018

1260 Doubles (11m) in 42mins

(11m: 120 each St Remigius, Huntley, Winchendon Place, St Nicholas, Reverse Canterbury, St Osmund, Eynesbury, St Martin's, St Simon's, Plain Bob and 60 Grandsire)

1. Sue Cameron
2. Peter Skinner
3. Debra Say
4. Andrew Sinclair
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. David Gyles

Rung on St George's Day and to celebrate the birth of the new prince to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge
Most methods: 2.

Tuesday, 15 May 2018

1296 Doubles (2m/p) in 42mins

(1p/1m: 66 Stedman, 1230 Grandsire)

1. Andrew Sinclair
2. David Gyles
3. Peter Skinner
4. Sue Cameron
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. Neville Wilding

Rung to celebrate the life of Colin Jeal (1921-2018) whose funeral took place today. Colin was a long time ringer at this church, St Mary's, Bexley and Christchurch, Erith.

And also remembering Norah Cheeseman whose funeral was yesterday.

Unchanging God (Belfry Praise)

1	2							1	2	2								1
		3	4						4	3	7	3	4					
6	6		5	6				6		6								6
8	7		7	8	8	7	8	8	7	8	7	7	8	7				8
			10	10		10		10		10		10						
				11	12	11	12	11		11		11		11				

			2															
3				4				3										4
6	5			6	6			5	6									6
	8	7	7	8	8	8	8	7	8	7	7	8						8
								10	10									
				12	11	11	11	12	12	11	11	12	11					11

			2	1		1	1	2	2	1	2							
4	4	4	3					4	4	4		4	3	4				4
	5	6		6	6	6		5	6	5								6
7	8		7	8	7	8	8	7		8	7	8	7	8				8
								10		10								
				11		11	12					11	11		11			11

1										2	1							
	3		4	4		4	3											
6	5	5	5	6	6	6	5		5	6	6							6
8	8	7	7	8		8	8		7	8	8	7	8					8
	10	10								10								
				12	12	11	11		11	12	11	11	11	12	11			

Sunday, 8 July 2018
1260 Crayford Doubles in 42mins

1. Brenda Barton
2. Sue Cameron
3. David Gyles
4. Debra Say
5. Rupert Cheeseman (C)
6. Andrew Sinclair

Rung to celebrate the 50th birthday today of Fr Paul Prentice, vicar at this church.
1st in variation; 3.

Debra Say

FARNBOROUGH

Whilst there's no regular weekday evening local practice at Farnborough we are now ringing regularly on Wednesday afternoons from 3.30pm. If anyone is interested in coming along, please let Nick know to check, with holidays imminent, that there will be ringing on the Wednesday of your intended visit.

Also remember that there's a District Practice at Farnborough from 7.45-9.15pm on Wednesday, 25th July.

Nick. (07802 652211)

WOOLWICH, GREENWICH & DEPTFORD

The Meridian Ringers

There is not a lot to report this time but we have continued with our normal ringing pattern, with our normal practice night on Wednesdays, 8pm-9.30pm, at Greenwich, but occasionally at St. John's, Deptford or Woolwich if Greenwich is not available. We usually ring for the monthly Choral Evensong at Greenwich and also for Evening Worship at St. John's, Deptford once a month [check the website for dates]. We occasionally ring at Woolwich for practices.

Ringing for the Sunday morning Choral Eucharist Service at Greenwich is continuing on a regular basis. We have some good attendances at practice nights, sometimes ringing all 10 bells, some triples, minor and some additional doubles methods and some work on Treble Hunting Minor. Our learners are making good progress and have achieved Levels 1 & 2 on the Learning the Ropes scheme.

Last July, two of our ringers, Hazel Bing and Bill Lanyon, were able to collect their Freedom passes – we rang a belated quarter peal to celebrate this.

Greenwich, St Alfege

Friday, 4 May 2018

1260 Doubles (3m/p) in 42 minutes (8-2-14)
(60 Stedman, 120 Grandsire, 1080 Plain Bob)

1. Brenda Coode
2. Bill Lanyon
3. Eddie Coode
4. Jim Odell
5. Graham Long (C)
6. Hazel Bing

Belated compliments for the 65th birthdays of Hazel Bing and Bill Lanyon. An enjoyable lunch followed in the Kings Arms.

All of The Meridian Ringers continue to send their best



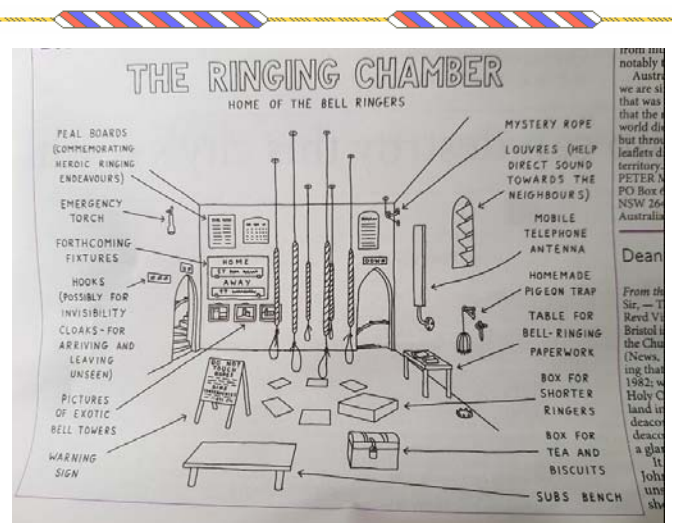
The quarter peal band in The Kings Arms; l-r: Eddie, Graham, Jim, Bill, Hazel, Brenda

wishes to Alan Munden who is currently undergoing treatment. It was a pleasure to welcome him back to do a bit of ringing on Sunday 10th June for the service of Confirmation & Choral Eucharist at Greenwich.

Everyone is most welcome to any of our ringing events – please check our website for further details.

www.meridianbells.webs.com

Graham Long



Bats in the Belfrey... well the stairs!

"Let's arrange a tower outing" said Rupert one Tuesday evening in January and we all knew what that meant – he'd obviously found a few towers which he had never rung at, fancied a tower grab and wanted some help! It had actually been over two years since our last tower outing, so we were happy to oblige him and the date was set for Saturday 21st April. As it turned out, this was the weekend that summer arrived early, so we couldn't have chosen a better date.

The first tower was at the 13th century church of St Peter & St Paul at Newchurch, 3 miles inland from Dymchurch, known as the church with the bent tower. The bell tower was a late 14th century addition but being built on reclaimed silt, it started leaning when the second stage was completed. It needed to be buttressed to reinforce the structure, although the final stage added in 1480 was built perpendicular to the ground, giving the tower its distinctive bend. This is a ground floor ring of six (10-3-1) with a reasonably long draft but we managed some respectable ringing of various doubles methods. Those not ringing were able to check out an interesting display at the back of the church detailing the history of the church and village in what is still a largely agricultural area, symbolised by an old plough inside the church.

After Newchurch, we headed twelve miles west to the village of Stone in Oxney and the church of St Mary the Virgin, an anticlockwise, 13cwt ring of six. It was quite a climb up a spiral staircase to the ringing room but once up there, the windows afforded the most spectacular view over the surrounding countryside on a gloriously sunny morning. Being anticlockwise was strange and took a little time to adjust to, but we continued successfully from the previous tower with a selection of doubles and minor. As we discovered, this tower also had a 'hidden treasure' in the form of a bat hanging underneath one of the steps!



Our final stop before lunch was a further three miles

west to St John the Baptist at Wittersham, a lovely sounding ring of eight (16-2-8) where we probably produced our best ringing of the day of Plain Hunt on 7, Plain Bob Triples and Stedman Triples.

By now we were all in need of well-deserved refreshment, so we headed off to The George and Dragon at Headcorn where we had reserved tables in advance. There was plenty of time for eating, drinking and socialising and we all enjoyed a very nice lunch, despite one of our party ending up 'wearing' a pot of tartare sauce which the waitress dropped in spectacular fashion, resulting in the wall behind also being splattered in sauce!

After lunch, our first stop was at the very small, rural Grade II* listed church of St Margaret in Broomfield which was on a hill in the middle of a field. It was here that Sue Cameron joined us with the beautiful cockapoo puppy she was dog-sitting for the weekend and all of a sudden, the ringing didn't seem to matter as we oohed and aahed over this bundle of energy (no not Sue- Ed).

This is a ground floor ring of six that was augmented from three bells to five in 2015 with a sixth being added in 2016, which partly explained why Rupert had never rung here before. We always knew these would be tricky bells being so light (3-3-2) but nothing prepared us for quite how tricky they were. When your best ringers are saying something feels wrong here, that's enough to discourage the less experienced and it's fair to say the ringing here was not the best quality.



There had been another visiting band that same morning who by chance, we bumped into at the last tower of the day, and talking to them about Broomfield, they actually found the bells there impossible to handle and had given up, so that made us feel better about our attempt. It wasn't until the following week that we discovered the reason for that strange feeling on the two when we found out the rope had been fed back through the wrong hole on the wheel at some point.

County 8 Bell Comp

On the morning of Saturday 30th June the County 8-bell Striking Competition was held at Aylesford, a lovely village on the banks of the Medway near Maidstone. When we arrived early at 9.20am we found the coffee was ready, the cakes were out and the toilet available – what more can you ask for? It was a scorching hot day, like the two weeks before it, so the judges (Dr Andrew Kelso, Master of the Essex Association, and David Hengeli) sat on deckchairs in the big churchyard away from all the bands and tried not to get sunburned. A monitor had been set up with CCTV from the bellchamber, and a noticeboard outside the porch explained to passers-by what was going on.

The new County Chairman, Phil Barnes, got things underway with the draw. As usual, he asked representatives of the Districts to step forward, but we were only witnesses as he asked Tom Barlow, as a County Vice President, to actually do the draw. For the first time in a few years all six Districts had fielded a team which was good to see. Lewisham were hoping for an early slot as several of the band were due to ring in a quarter at Chislehurst at 11.30am for a ringer's wedding and Tom managed to draw us first so no 'fiddling' was necessary.

Our band – Rupert Cheeseman, Peter Swift, Philippa Rooke, Nick Wilkins, John Barnes, Bob Pruden, Colin Wyld and Jon Fry – made their way up the winding wooden staircase and to our chosen bells. The bells at Aylesford are a 13.5 cwt eight set in a lovely Norman tower. They have a fairly long draft and are a little oddstruck in the middle but they go well. We had a practice there a week before the competition which helped us to get the measure of them, but it's still a little daunting to have to go first! Also the test piece was 211 Erin Triples, which several of us weren't used to ringing – I had never rung a touch before our practice so that was also slightly nervewracking. We had 5 minutes practice time, and Colin our conductor explained he was going to stop within



So feeling a tad deflated, we moved onto our last tower of the day which was St Nicolas at Leeds, a 17½ cwt ring of ten which we knew would stretch our ability as a



band to the limit ringing on all ten. We did manage some Grandsire Caters which whilst not being the best striking ever, we did manage to get through and was an achievement for those of us who are not familiar with ringing/ropesight on higher numbers. Some respectable Stedman Triples rounded off the day before walking to The George Inn to enjoy a welcome drink in the garden and make the most of a lovely warm and sunny late afternoon.



At the post-outing analysis on Sunday morning, we all declared it was a perfect day, even if the ringing wasn't completely perfect itself, full of laughter and friendship and thanks are extended to Rupert for organising the trip. Just one question – can you identify a few more towers you've not rung at yet so we can have another outing soon?!

Debra Say



that so we could confer, then restart. Our steward Emma had to run down and check that this was considered to be within the rules as it's not explicit, but we were given the go-ahead and off we went.

It's never easy to tell how you've rung in a competition – I concentrate really hard on where I am in the method, or I can hear every little fault and my brain makes them sound much bigger than they are. After we finished we agreed that it was the best we'd rung the test piece and that was all we could ask for. We went downstairs and outside for the obligatory team



photo, then most of the band went off to Chislehurst for their prior commitment.

I now have to confess that I didn't listen to most of the rest of the bands! My goddaughter Steph Rueff was at the competition as a supporter for the Tonbridge District and we were having a long-overdue catch up. I did go for a walk round the village and out to the beautiful 14th century bridge across the Medway during the last band's practice and test piece and I can report that they were extremely good.

Thankfully the judges were listening better than me and gave detailed comments before delivering their verdict. Andrew Kelso opened by saying they'd enjoyed a really lovely morning listening sitting in the hot sun in the churchyard. The bells have a bit of oddstruckness in the middle which all bands handled really well. He asked everyone to remember this is just ringing! The world will not stop turning if there is a fault or a fire up, you're meant to enjoy it.

He then gave comments for each band:

Lewisham – test piece 7mins 45sec – this was slightly hesitant ringing, it seemed faults led to faults - don't think about them, move on. The ringing had a steady pace, with a good strong start and commendable solid tenor ringing. Minor inconsistencies throughout.

Ashford – 7m 17s – this band had inconsistent backstroke leading at times, which is often a problem in Erin. The ringing was confident, and the band rang well together. Unlike the previous band, the faults didn't propagate faults. The ringing showed strength of

purpose.

Tonbridge – 7m 8s – the judge suggested this band should focus on consistent ringing, they had inconsistent lengths of rows, more even rhythm would help striking. They took the opportunity to start the practice several times, but perhaps they should spend longer ringing one attempt. A quick recovery from method errors. The judges were slightly worried when listening to the practice, but the test piece was much better. They used all the 20 whole pulls of rounds at the beginning to settle which was very good

Rochester – 7m 50s – this was the slowest ringing of the day, it was deliberate,

consistent with a high proportion of clean rows. There was very rapid recovery from minor trips – these seemed to focus the mind. A very good piece of ringing

Canterbury – 7m 5s – [this band had fired out during their test piece and started again] Incredibly unlucky to break down, and made a strong comeback after the fire-out and a brilliant end. The fire out probably cost them at least a place.

Maidstone – 7m 16s – this band struggled to find a pace in the practice but their test piece was really excellent. They settled into their ringing like a good peal band

Andrew explained the judging had been quite difficult as there were not many bad bits to pull out, and the top three bands were very close.

David then announced the scores, as follows:

Rochester 32 faults
Maidstone 34 faults
Ashford 35 faults
Lewisham 52 faults
Canterbury 65 faults
Tonbridge 81 faults

So the Lewisham District passed the trophy to the Rochester District – except that they couldn't because it had been left behind at a certain Newsletter Editor's house! (I'd passed it back to the County Assistant Secretary to deal with!! – Ed) Fortunately his wife rang for the winning band so, as Phil Barnes put it, they'll just have to slide it across the dresser...

Philippa Rooke

Lewisham & Tonbridge Districts'

Outing to London

Saturday 11th August 2018

A public transport tour with ringing at 5 towers:
(Please check all transport suggestions!)

09:45 - 10:45 **St Alphege, Greenwich** 10 bells
23-2-14 in D SE10 8NA

(16 min walk through Foot Tunnel, **or** 2 min DLR +8 min walk)

11:15 - 12:15 **Christ Church, Isle of Dogs** 8 bells
10-3-27 in F# E14 3BW

(5 min DLR +8 min walk **or** 12 min bus+ 4 min walk **or** 43 min walk)

12:15 - 13:45 Time for lunch: suggest West India Quay, Ledger Building
(17 min walk **or** 3min DLR +5 min walk)

14:00 - 15:00(TBC) **All Saints, Poplar** 10 bells
23-3-6 in D E14 0EX

(5 min bus + 3 min walk **or** 20 min walk)

15:30 - 16:30 **St Anne, Limehouse** 10 bells
12-3-25 in E E14 8HH

(15min DLR +20 min walk **or** 1hr 22 min walk!)

17:00 - 18:00(TBC) **St John, Deptford** 8 bells
14-0-18 in D SE8 4DL

Tower donations: £5 for the day / £1.00 per tower

It would be very helpful to have an idea of numbers beforehand:

Please fill in the Doodle Poll online:

<https://doodle.com/poll/xibmqsxnavdg2riz> (copy & paste into Google)

or contact Nick Wilkins (Lewisham District Ringing Master)

by email: nickwilkins36@gmail.com or text: 07802652211

See you there!



INVICTA

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT



INVICTA

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting, St John the Baptist, Erith, 14th April 2018

17 people attended representing 9 towers plus 1 unattached member

The meeting commenced with a minute of silence to remember Ken Deller (Greenwich) and Colin Jeal (Bexley) who passed away since our last meeting in January.

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Alex Britton, Chris Goldsmith and Shelagh Norman (all unattached).

2. Minutes of last meeting (13th January 18 at Greenwich)

The minutes were on the rear of the newsletter distributed at tea and will be added to the website. Proposed: Les Brett; Seconded: Jim Rooke.

3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere – Nil

4. Proposed Rule change at the AGM

There were two rule changes put to the vote at the County AGM. The first, concerned the structure of the County and Districts to being headed by a Master rather than Chair and Ringing Master was not carried. Amongst those present it was felt that had it been split into two rule changes separating the County and District it may well have gone through for the County structure. The second rule change related to reducing the size of the county committee. This was passed after a minor amendment to include the Bell Restoration Officer as part of the committee. Vice Presidents are no longer included in the General Committee and only three of the five Central Council Reps and one of the two District Reps may attend any one meeting.

5. Election of New Members

New Member	Tower	Proposed by	Seconded by
Jasmine Hutton (Jnr)	Bromley Parish	Helena Mattingly	Tom Hinks
Jonathan Hutton		Tom Hinks	Helena Mattingly
		Witness to lowering	Philippa Rooke
David Gyles	Ash	Julia Kilfoyle	Brian Ashmore
		Witness to lowering	Rupert Cheeseman

6. KCACR report on the meeting held on 25th February 2017

- The Association Training Officer stood down ahead of the meeting.
- The accounts are ready for the AGM in April. Expenses are increasing, so with healthy BRF and Training funds it is likely a recommendation of 100% of subs to go into the General Fund will be presented to the AGM.
- The handbook is almost ready for final production, with an approximate order of 400 printed copies being required instead of 2,000. 61 people pre-ordered a copy of the Handbook.
- Storage facilities for the Bell Restoration trailer is still being sought, making progress on the mobile ring impossible at present.
- The Youth Competition has taken off and as such David Cawley agreed to pay for a trophy – the General Secretary will arrange for something suitable.
- A Grant Application had been received from Stockbury with regards to help for work on the tower there. £2,000 was awarded.

- The census in November 2017 went well and analysis is almost complete. We had a response rate of 65%. Almost ¼ of Sundays at the towers that responded during November were silent (no ringing at all). Further details will be published soon. **Sec Note** :- a further breakdown of results for the Lewisham District are being sought to see if there are any towers that need more assistance.
- Catherine Lewis has agreed to lead the Management Committee for the mobile ring to move the project forward.
- Plans for the AGM are in place, details on the website. We are seeking a Training Officer, a Handbook Editor, a Chairman and a replacement Central Council Rep. We may also need a General Secretary, and the Treasurer is only looking to do 1 more year.
- The County 8-bell Striking Competition 2018 will be held on Saturday 30th June 9.45am draw at Aylesford and the method will be Erin Triples.
- The County 6-bell Striking Competition 2018 will be held on 22nd September 9.45am draw at Upchurch.
- The Youth Competition will be held on 3rd November in the Ashford District, venue TBC. Jen Thomas is really getting the Youth group up and running with a Youth practice on the 4th Saturday of the month. They are taking part in youth competitions on a regular basis.
- The General Committee will meet in 2018 on 28th April, 28th July and 24th November



"Oh yeah? Maybe this rings a bell..."

7. Report on previous events and & upcoming events

The **Striking competition** took place in February at Downe with four bands taking part. The competition was won by Eltham who will go on to represent the district in September's County competition. Finally a tower has wrestled the trophy from Chelsfield! Full report in the newsletter.

Quarter Peal Week was very successful with half the towers in the district ringing. Full details can be found in the newsletter.

County AGM roundup.

- Dr Philip Barnes is the new Chair of the County.
- There was no increase in subscriptions this year but there may be a proposal for next year as more and more members move in to the reduced price or free categories.
- Handbooks can still be purchased for £4 or are free online with your password which can be found on your membership cards – Look for the 'Existing Members' link. It was proposed and agreed that next year a hard copy would be free for all members, but on request only.
- The upper age limit for the insurance has been extended from 75 to 80.
- There are some ringing remembers leaflets available. Caroline Stockmann wasn't 100% satisfied with them, but they were created by an outside agency who weren't open to suggestions to make them more appropriate.
- Doug Davis decided during the meeting to not stand for re-election. After a hiatus in the meeting Susan Bassett with assistance from Cathy Cheeseman was elected to replace Doug in the General Secretary role.
- Margaret Funnell announced that she would stand down from the treasurer role at the next AGM and the Handbook Editor position remained vacant.

8. Future Events

28th April	District Practice	Beckenham	3pm - 5pm
24th June	Farningham Trophy	Farningham	1pm onwards
30th June	County 8 Bell Competition	Aylesford	9.45am draw
14th July	QDM	Crayford	3.30pm – 7pm
11th Aug Lewisham)	Joint Tonbridge/Lewisham Outing (Poplar, Limehouse, Cubit Town, Greenwich, Deptford and		
11th Nov	Battle's Over, please register at http://brunopeek.co.uk		

9. 120 club draw

	No	Prize	Name	Tower
1st	48	£20	Lesley Barclay	Horton Kirby
2nd	46	£10	Brenda Barton	Dartford
3rd	103	£10	Unsold	BRF
4th	106	£5	Unsold	BRF

10. Any Other Business

Margaret Heald asked if anyone was able to assist with an inspection of the bells as she was unable to do so. It was suggested that Brian Butcher, Bell restoration officer would be the best person to contact, to see if he could assist John Bonney who has attended some bell restoration courses.

11. Vote of thanks

Debra Say thanked the vicar, Rev Rob Radcliffe for taking the service and Margaret and her band for providing a very nice tea and allowing us to ring their bells.

Next meeting – Saturday 14th July 2017 at St Paulinus, Crayford.

Lewisham District Events 2018

- Sat 14th Jul Quarterly Meeting: Crayford, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
- Wed 25th Jul District Practice: Farnborough, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 11th Aug District outing to London (details elsewhere in newsletter)
- Mon 17th Sep District Practice: Erith, Christ Church, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 13th Oct Quarterly Meeting: Ash, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk
- Sat 17th Nov District 6-bell Call Change Competition: TBC, 2.30pm draw
- Sat 12th Jan Quarterly Meeting: Sidcup, 3.30pm Bells, 4.30p.m. Service, tea, meeting and evening ringing. Send names for tea to names4tea@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

Everybody is welcome to all of these. What is actually rung will be tailored to who turns up.

Please check the district website www.lewishamdistrict.org.uk nearer the event in case of any last minute changes or phone or email Ian on master@lewishamdistrict.org.uk

For the latest county and news from other Districts see the KCACR web site at www.kcacr.org.uk

If you would like to join the Lewisham District email group to get reminders/updates of district events please visit http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/lewisham_district or email lewisham_district-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk