



Essex Association of Change Ringers

www.eacr.org.uk

Registered Charity No 292250

NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



April-May-June 2022



April/May/June/July 2022 Events

APRIL				
Surprise Minor Practice	Saturday	2 nd April	10.00am-12/12.15pm	Henham
Fifth South East England Youth Striking Contest [SECON]	Saturday	2 nd April	TBC	Writtle
Essex Ringing Course	Thursday-Saturday	7 th -9 th April	All day	Coggeshall
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	5 th April	7.30pm-9.00pm	Henham
Stansted Practice	Saturday	23 rd April	10.30am-12noon	Stansted
Young Ringers Practice	Sunday	24 th April	4.30pm	TBC
MAY				
Association AGM	Monday	2 nd May	10.30am	Chelmsford Cathedral
Surprise Minor Practice	Saturday	7 th May	10.00am-12/12.15pm	Henham
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	10 th May	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	13 th May	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
District Meeting and Method Striking Competition	Saturday	21 st May	Meeting 9.30am followed by competition	Great Parndon
Stansted Practice	Saturday	28 th May	10.30am-12noon	Stansted
Young Ringers Practice	Sunday	29 th May	4.30pm	TBC
JUNE				
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	10 th June	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	14 th June	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC
Surprise Minor Practice	Saturday	18 th June [TBC]	10.00am-12/12.15pm	Henham
Ridgeman Trophy	Saturday	18 th June	TBC	TBC
Ringing World National Youth Contest [RWNYC] Practice	Sunday	19 th June	4.30pm	TBC
Stansted Practice	Saturday	25 th June	10.30am-12noon	Stansted



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Ringling World National Youth Contest [RWNYC] Mini-Outing	Sunday	26th June	PM	TBC
JULY				
Ringling World National Youth Contest [RWNYC]	Saturday	2 nd July	4.30pm	Exeter
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	8 th July	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
Association Striking Competition Finals	Saturday	9 th July	2.00pm	TBC
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	12 th July	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC
Surprise Minor Practice	Saturday	16 th July [TBC]	10.00am-12/12.15pm	Henham
Young Ringers Practice	Sunday	17 th July	4.30pm	TBC
Stansted Practice	Saturday	23 rd July	10.30am-12noon	Stansted



Annual Report 2021

Towers will have received their copies of the 2021 Annual Report. However, should you wish to access an electronic version, please use this link [Annual Report](#) .



Quarter Peal Day

The Quarter Peal day held on Saturday 12th March was a great success with all five being scored:

- Sue Evans rang inside to Reverse Canterbury at Matching supported by Mary Bone (C), Gary Howard, Ro Kelsell, Anne Donaldson and Ian Kerwin.
- Ken Heymer (1st on Tenor) rang the Tenor to Bob Doubles at Moreton supported by Anne Donaldson, Fred Bone (C), Gary Howard, Ro Kelsell and Ian Kerwin.
- Sheena Bigland rang inside to Bob Doubles at Henham supported by Liz Griffith-Jones (C), Sarah Coogan, Bill Griffith-Jones, Penny Brown and Patrick Draper.
- Cathy Lowe and Trevor Haynes rang the Treble and Tenor respectively (both 1sts) to Bob Doubles at Henham supported by Fred Bone (C), Mary Bone, Liz Griffith-Jones and Ian Kerwin.
- Simon Potter (1st in method) rang inside to Bob Minor at Henham supported by Mary Bone (C), Fred Bone, Roger Collins, Stephen Wood and Ian Kerwin.

I'm very grateful to all the people who made this possible and the general consensus is that we would should organise more of these days. I'm sure there are plenty of ringers in our district who would relish the opportunity to ring more quarters. They are a good way to consolidate what we have learnt and to treble and tenor too, so if anyone would like to ring a QP please get in touch.

I really appreciated being asked, and given the opportunity, to ring in four of the quarters which I thoroughly enjoyed. I know I'm not the Education Officer at the moment but if I can be of any assistance in organising educational events please let me know.

Ian Kerwin

iankerwin@btinternet.com



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NW District Meeting and Method Striking Competition

The next District meeting will take place at 9.30am at Great Parndon on Saturday, 21st May 2022 and will be followed by the Method Striking Competition. This date might seem a way off but hopefully you will now be thinking about your bands and methods and we look forward to as many bands as possible taking part, particularly as this will be the first District method striking competition since 2019!



Essex Ringing Course – 7th-9th April 2022

The three-day Essex Ringing Course will commence on the 7th April at Honeywood School, Coggeshall. Helpers are urgently required for this course and if you are able to assist please use this link <https://forms.gle/zuWrb14vhiYcJBnT8> to sign up. Helpers are also required to assist with the refreshments; again, if you are able to help, please contact Sharon Lacey at secretary@eacr.org.uk identifying your availability for any of the following sessions:

Thursday 7 April	10.00am – 11.15am	3.00pm – 4.15pm	5.00pm – 6.15pm
Friday 8 April	9.20am – 10.45am	2.45pm – 5.00pm	
Saturday 9 April	9.20am – 10.45am	3.15pm – 4.45pm	

Good luck to all the students and helpers for an enjoyable and successful course.



Association Annual General Meeting – Monday, 2nd May 2022

The Association AGM will take place at Chelmsford Cathedral on Monday, 2nd May 2022, timings as follows:

- 9:15am–10:15am - General ringing
- 10:15am–10:30am - Service Touch by the Master's invited band
- 10:30am – Service
- 11.45am (approx) Annual General Meeting to conclude by 1.00pm.
- Refreshments from 9:15am-10:15am and 11.30am-12.00noon.

As mentioned at the District ADM in January, the NW District will be responsible for providing the sidespersons and refreshments.

- **Sidespersons:** Four Sidespersons are needed 30 minutes prior to the start of the service to give out service sheets and hymn books and one of the Cathedral ringers will get the collection bags out. The same four people then also take the collection during the last hymn at the Service. They are then responsible for collecting the hymn books and any unwanted service sheets after the Service has concluded.
- **Refreshments:** Eight helpers required to arrive a little before 9.00am to set up the refreshments and to start the water heating, serve the refreshments and clear away.

So far, I have four volunteers so am clearly looking for at least eight more from across the District; please give this some thought if you are planning to attend the AGM. However, it is highly unlikely that I will be able to attend; I can source all the required provisions and make as many arrangements as possible prior to the AGM but it would help if someone would volunteer to oversee the arrangements on the day. Please contact me if you wish to discuss.



Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire

The Beyond Bob Double and Grandsire practices are also going well and some of the methods practiced so far are: St Nicholas Bob Doubles, Reverse Canterbury, St Simon's and St Martin's. The next practice will take place at Henham on Tuesday, 5th April 2022, all welcome.



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Stansted Practices

The Stansted 8-bell practices are becoming well established and take place every fourth Saturday of the month. At the March practice we rang Plain Hunt on 7, Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Triples. More experienced 8-bell ringers and back-bell ringers would be very welcome, also any experienced ringers who could offer to take a practice, spreading the load and experience. The next practice is at 10.30am on Saturday, 23rd April 2022.



Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Ringing

The main Jubilee celebrations take place over an extended Bank Holiday, with the late May Bank Holiday being moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June. The four-day celebrations will feature an extensive programme of events that showcase the best of British ceremonial splendour and pageantry.

Whilst the whole weekend lends itself to plenty of celebratory ringing, in collaboration with the Church of England and the Royal Household, it has been agreed that a focus for collective bellringing should coincide with the Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's on Friday 3 June. A BellBoard event has been set up at <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=14494> where you can record ringing over the course of the weekend's celebrations.

If you are looking for inspiration for what to ring, there are plenty of options listed in the [Composition Library](#) such as Jubilee Court Bob Triples, Royal Jubilee Surprise Royal, Queen Elizabeth II Surprise Minor, Queen Elizabeth Treble Bob Major, Platinum Bob Triples, Platinum Surprise Major, and many more.

After the Bank Holiday weekend, details of the ringing that took place for both the Accession Day and over the Jubilee Weekend will be collated and presented to Her Majesty with the grateful thanks of the bellringing community for her unique service to the nation and Commonwealth.

If you rang for the Coronations and have an interesting story to tell about it, please send me details at pro@eacr.org.uk They will be collated and will form part of press releases to engage the media with this rather unique take on the day in 1952 and shared with you over the coming months.

Vicki Chapman

Communications Office



Recruitment and Training Grants

A set of criteria has now been agreed for applications to be made for grants from the Association Recruitment and Training Fund. This is a new initiative to encourage the development and preservation of bell ringing in Essex. Districts, towers and individuals are invited to apply for grants to facilitate and enable training and ringers' skill advancement. The grants criteria and application form can be found on the EACR website [Recruitment and Training Fund - Essex Association of Change Ringers \(eacr.org.uk\)](#) – please contact Beth Johnson, Education Officer on education@eacr.org.uk in the first instance about making applications.



Communications and PR Workgroup

Also discussed at the ADM in January was the importance of each District within the Association having a representative on the Workgroup to enable the sharing of ideas and information from the Association and from within the Districts. So far, no-one has come forward from the District, but if you think that you would like to take on this role, let me know or contact Vicki Chapman on pro@eacr.org.uk to discuss.



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EasyFundRaising

If your friends and family are doing their shopping online, encourage them to do it all via #easyfundraising so the Essex Association doesn't miss out on any donations. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 4,300 retailers including John Lewis and Partners, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S and more by signing up FREE on https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/essexassociationofchangeringers/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox



District WhatsApp

If you would like to be added to the above, please let Sue Evans have your mobile number.



First Pealer's Club

Would you like to make the leap into this higher level of ringing? Do you aspire to peal ringing? Do you know a ringer who you think would be able to reach this milestone and might like some encouragement? To join the club ringers will need to have rung at least five quarter peals and when ringers have scored their first peal [or first inside] they will receive a certificate and pin to mark their achievement.

To sign up, contact Yvonne Towler on jytowler@btinternet.com (phone 01621 817212) or Beth Johnson, Education Officer on education@eacr.org.uk.



Heritage Open Days – 9th-18th September 2022

Hosting an open tower during Heritage Open Days is an excellent way to recruit and show your local community what bellringing is all about. This year's event takes place between 9th-18th September, with registration opening in March until 1st August. The theme this year is Astounding Inventions and provides ample opportunity to share the development of bellringing through the centuries including online ringing and simulators. To find out more and register your event go to

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/organising/how-to-get-involved>



Hatfield Broad Oak awakens!

Last year after lock down I was talking with Edna and she said they now had two church services a month; I thought maybe we could get enough people to ring for them which might generate a bit of interest to come and learn and start a weekly practice again.

Edna and I decided this could be a good opportunity so I joined the village Facebook page and started a bit of a campaign to recruit new ringers and Edna rallied the troops. I had a couple of people start but they couldn't commit the time but then before Christmas the ultimatum came - if no one came to learn then Sunday service ringing would stop - and with that, five new recruits stepped forward to give it a go.

We started teaching in late January; one has dropped out but I'm pleased to say the others are coming along nicely, with two attending the Essex course.

We are now practicing weekly on a Wednesday and could do with a few more regular, experienced ringers to help. Liz and Bill Griffith-Jones are coming to help us on the 4th Wednesday of the month; this is with method ringing in mind or anyone who is also starting to ring the treble or tenor to methods.

So if you fancy helping or want to ring something on the 4th Wednesday (27th April) let us know and come along any week at 7 30pm.

Ian Kerwin and Edna Halls



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The Fourth George Pipe 12-Bell Competition

The George Pipe 12-Bell Competition, founded by Ian Culham in 2018 in honour of George W. Pipe, was held at Waltham Abbey on Saturday 19th February, the first for two years as the 2021 competition was cancelled as we were in lockdown. Very sadly, George Pipe passed away shortly after the 2020 competition, but the 2022 event, at which his widow, Diana, was present, was a worthy commemoration of his considerable contribution to ringing.

Ironically, just as the last competition at St Mary-le-Tower in 2020 was threatened by Storm Dennis, Storm Eunice was a severe challenge in 2022, but one to which the ringers rose magnificently. On Friday 18th February, the competition the next day was in question because of storm damage and travel problems, but it went ahead nonetheless without any of the competing bands being unable to participate.

Four teams entered - The Norman Tower, Bury St Edmunds; St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; St Peter Mancroft, Norwich; and the hosts, Waltham Abbey. Hospitality centred on the Abbey Church Centre in the Abbey Gardens adjacent to the church. Here hungry ringers were provided with bacon and sausage rolls on arrival (with vegetarian alternatives available) followed by lunch and Southwold bitter, after they had rung of course! Coffee, tea and cake were also available all day in the Olive Branch café at the Centre. Both the venue and the catering were much appreciated. A big thank you to all, including District members, who worked so hard to provide hospitality throughout the day.

The bells can be heard very clearly at the Centre and the only drawback was the persistent rain that fell from about noon and meant that only the hardiest ringers could listen to the ringing outside! Waltham Abbey now boasts a fine Taylor's 12 with the 6th and 7th bells recast in 2019. The bells sounded at their best as the four bands completed the test piece, 264 Grandsire Cinques.

The judges, John Loveless and Linda Garton, were accommodated in a house across the churchyard from the church. They took some time to deliberate and then came over to the Centre to deliver their verdict. The winners were St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, but it was agreed that all four competing bands had performed very creditably. Thanks are due to John and Linda, for contributing their expertise and their comments to the day.

The results were:

1st Ipswich 85% 3h 35

2nd Norwich 73% 3h 41

3rd Bury St Edmunds 69% 3h 49

4th Waltham Abbey 57% 3h 38



Ipswich:

Gill Sparling, Amanda Richmond,
Lucy Williamson, Nigel Gale,
Ruth Munnings, Katharine Salter,
Colin Salter, Richard Munnings,
David Potts, Jonathan Williamson,
Nigel Newton, Ian Culham.



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Waltham Abbey:

Jane Walters, Andrew Beech,
Sam Beech, Jillian Laken,
Roger Pascoe, John Harpole,
Jim Laken, John Cousins,
Fred Bone, John Hall,
Andrew Barham, Dave Knott.



**Diana Pipe presenting the biography
of George W Pipe to Jane Walters**

We are so very grateful to all the loyal local 12 bell ringers who supported the Waltham Abbey band and congratulations to Dave Knott who rang in the competition for the first time. While coming a valiant 4th we were very pleased that we bettered our performance, scoring 55% in 2019 and 57% in 2022!

Diana Pipe presented certificates to each of the bands and was pleased to be part of the day. She also presented a copy of 'Shake my hand and I'll show you the ropes', a biography of George W Pipe written by John Loveless, to Waltham Abbey, the hosts for the day.

The occasion was a worthy celebration of ringing in East Anglia and of George Pipe who contributed so much to it. The celebration continues **on Saturday 18th February 2023, at a church to be confirmed.**

Jane Walters

Waltham Abbey

District Master	Mike Slowe	01279 861546	Mike.slowe@virginmedia.com
Deputy District Master	Trevor Haynes	01371 831533	trefor555@gmail.com
Treasurer	Fred Bone	01279 726159	nw-district-treasurer@eacr.org.uk
Secretary	Sue Evans	01277 896601	sue.evans.nwsecretary@gmail.com