



# January-February-March 2022

**Welcome to the first quarterly District Newsletter  
And wishing everyone a Happy New Year**



## **District Carol Service 2021 - Thaxted**

This year's District Carol Service was held on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at St John the Baptist with Our Lady and St Laurence, Thaxted. Open ringing commenced at 3.00pm followed by the Service at 4.00pm. Unfortunately, due to the Covid situation, we were unable to provide refreshments. It was, however, a thoroughly enjoyable event, attended by about 50 ringers.



So thank you to all those involved in the organisation, to those ringers who attended and to the hand bell ringers for their entertaining music.



## **District Bob Doubles Training Day**

The one-day Bob Doubles training day took place at Henham on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021, providing a good opportunity for the five students to progress their skills, with plenty of support and encouragement from the helpers.



## **NW District Annual General Meeting**

The ADM will take place on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 3.00pm. This was due to go ahead at St Christopher's, Willingale, but given the current Covid situation [again!] this has been changed from a face-to-face meeting to a virtual meeting. Documentation and Zoom details have now been circulated and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.



## **Quarter Peal Day**

A Quarter Peal Day is to be held on either the 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022, with a firm date to be decided at the ADM. Ian Kerwin is keen to encourage ringers to do a first QP on the treble or tenor but if you would like to ring a QP of any method, please do let Ian know. A good number of ringers are also required to conduct and provide support, so again, please let Ian know. Ian hopes to have a provisional list of potential QP ringers, conductors and helpers by the AGM so please do consider putting yourselves forward to help make this a successful day.



# Essex Association of Change Ringers

[www.eacr.org.uk](http://www.eacr.org.uk)

Registered Charity No 292250

## NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



### NW District Meeting and Method Striking Competition

Looking ahead to the above, the meeting and competition will take place on the morning of Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022. It seems a long way off but we all know how time flies by, so make sure the date is in your diaries. Further details to come in due course.



### Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Ringing

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HM Queen Elizabeth II's accession. Churches will be holding a special Evensong service to mark the actual day the Queen will have reigned for 70 years. Whilst the main celebratory events are planned for June, the opportunity to mark this day with collective bellringing would be welcomed by the Church of England. A BellBoard event has been set up, [70th Anniversary of HM Queen's Accession](#), to record your ringing on this day.

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. It was disappointing to note that despite the relevant parties being informed of our intentions, it was not included in the recent announcement of plans by the government. I shall continue to pursue that! 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. The timing of the Service has not yet been confirmed but is likely to be in the morning. As more definite information is released, it will be shared across the usual formats. Again, a BellBoard event has been set up, [Platinum Jubilee Celebrations for HM Queen](#), 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.

Thank you to those who have contacted me with stories recalling bellringing that took place on Coronation Day, there have been some really fascinating stories. They are being collated and will form part of press releases to engage the media with this rather unique take on the day and shared with you over the coming months.

**Vicki Chapman**

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Public Relations Officer



### Essex Ringing Course

The Essex Ringing Course will take place from 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Honywood School. Information regarding this Course is now available at <https://eacr.org.uk/education/course.html> Applications for students opened on the 3rd January 2022 and the closing date for applications is the 11th February 2022.

Helpers are needed for all groups. Please apply using the helper application link at

<https://eacr.org.uk/education/course.html>.



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### Payment of Membership Subscriptions

Subscriptions to the Association were due on 1st January 2022. Rates remain the same - £8 for ringing members (i.e. all members or prospective members aged over 18 on 1st January 2022) and £4 for junior or associate members. Payments may continue to be made to your District Treasurer direct by cheque or cash. If paying by BACS/Bank Transfer it is important that you ensure the payment reference includes your name/tower (where possible).

Please also remember it is important to inform the Association Treasurer [treasurer@eacr.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@eacr.org.uk) and District Treasurer, Fred Bone [nw-district-treasurer@eacr.org.uk](mailto:nw-district-treasurer@eacr.org.uk) when payment has been made. This saves both the Association and District Treasurer time in chasing up individuals. If making a bulk payment for a tower, for example, then please give full details of all the people covered by the payment.

As payment by bank transfer becomes more popular it can be difficult to match up a payment against a particular member without all this information – please do send the email promptly after payment.

Finally, if you are paying for someone else please do check they haven't already paid their own subs!

*Account details:*

*Account: Essex Association of Change Ringers*

*Sort Code: 60-05-13*

*Account No. 22177035*

*Andrew Brewster*

**Association Treasurer - Essex Association of Change Ringers**



### 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](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/essexassociationofchangeringers/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox)



### Stansted Practices

The first Stansted practice took place on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022, well attended by 14 ringers. The practice was taken by Mary Bone and the methods rung were Cambridge Surprise Minor, Grandsire Doubles [touch], Rounds and Call Changes on 8, Plain Hunt Triples and Plain Bob Minor [touch]. A really good morning's ringing but more helpers who could ring the back bells needed. The next practice is at 10.30am on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022.



### Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire - Willingale

Reverse Canterbury was practiced at the 4<sup>th</sup> January session. The next practice will take place on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022, look out for further details.



### District WhatsApp

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



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### First Pealer's Club

#### Would you like to make the leap into this higher level of ringing?

In the past five years only five first peals have been rung in Essex whereas from 1984 to 1990, on average 14 ringers a year rang a first peal and many went on to be regular peal ringers. We'd like to think we can find ringers in Essex who would become valuable peal ringers for the future and so we are launching the First Pealer's Club. Yvonne Towler, who has rung over 1300 peals for the Association, will mentor new peal ringers, give them guidance as to what to do to train for their first peal and provide bands for their practices and attempts. 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 you'll need to have rung at least five quarter peals. Sign up now by contacting Yvonne or Beth - details below. When you score your first peal (or first inside) you'll receive a certificate and pin to mark your achievement.

Ringing jargon: What is a peal? A piece of ringing consisting of at least 5000 changes. (Prior to 2019 the convention was that seven bells and below required at least 5040.) The ringing must be "true", according to certain definite rules laid down by the Central Council of Change Ringers and so the peal conductor must check his/her composition is good. A peal generally takes around three hours.

Contact Yvonne Towler on [jytowler@btinternet.com](mailto:jytowler@btinternet.com) (phone 01621 817212) or Beth Johnson, Education Officer on [education@eacr.org.uk](mailto:education@eacr.org.uk).



### 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 \(eacr.org.uk\)](http://www.eacr.org.uk) – please contact Beth Johnson, Education Officer on [education@eacr.org.uk](mailto:education@eacr.org.uk) in the first instance about making applications.

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