



# October-November-December 2022 Newsletter



## October/November/December/January 2022/23 Events Calendar

OCTOBER				
Association Management Committee Meeting	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> October	2.30pm	Danbury
District outing	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> October	All day	TBC
District Meeting and Call Change Competition	Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup> October	Meeting 9.30am followed by competition	Churchgate Street, Old Harlow
Association Annual Dinner	Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup> October	6.30pm	Benton Hall Golf and Country Club
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup> October	7.30pm-9.00pm	Henham
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	14 <sup>th</sup> October	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
Foundation Skills One Day Course	Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am-4.00pm	Henham
Stansted Practice	Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	10.30am-12noon	Hatfield Broad Oak
Surprise Minor	Friday	28 <sup>th</sup> October	7.30pm-9.00pm	Henham
Bob Doubles One Day Course	Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am-4.00pm	Henham
Young Ringers Practice	Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup> October	4.30pm	TBC
NOVEMBER				
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	8 <sup>th</sup> November	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	11 <sup>th</sup> November	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
Plain Hunt/Trebling One Day Course	Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup> November	10.0am-4.00pm	Henham
Stansted Practice	Saturday	26 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am-12noon	Stansted
Young Ringers Practice	Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup> November	4.30pm	TBC
Association Training Day	TBC	26 <sup>th</sup> November	TBC	TBC
DECEMBER				
Joint N/NW Districts Surprise Major Practice	Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> December	2.00pm-4.00pm	Felsted
Carol Service	Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup> December	Service 4.00pm. Ringing prior to service and refreshments after	Willingale
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> December	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC



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Registered Charity No 292250

## NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



JANUARY 2023				
Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire Practice	Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup> January	7.30pm-9.00pm	TBC
Annual District Meeting	Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> January	TBC	TBC
Stansted Practice	Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30am-12noon	Stansted



### NW District Meeting and The Stan Clark Memorial Call Change Striking Competition – Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Thank you to everyone who came to last Saturday's meeting and to those who participated in the Stan Clark Memorial Call Change Striking Competition. We were absolutely delighted to welcome 12 bands taking part and the results were as follows:

Place	Band	Faults
1st	Bishop's Stortford	8
2nd	Waltham Abbey	10
3rd	Nazeing/Epping Upland	17
4th	Sawbridgeworth	23
5th ]	Thaxted	26
5th ]	Great Parndon	26
7th	Henham	27
8th	Hatfield Broad Oak	28
9th	Old Harlow	30
10th	Saffron Walden [Wednesday]	38
11th	Moreton	50
12th	Willingale Ringing Centre	58



1<sup>st</sup> Bishop's Stortford



2<sup>nd</sup> Waltham Abbey



3<sup>rd</sup> Epping Upland/Nazeing



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Many thanks to Tony Crowther, Secretary - Hertford County Association of Change Ringers for judging the competition and for his valuable comments and to Old Harlow for organising all the refreshments.



### Events Calendar 2023/24

I will be pulling together next year's calendar in the next few weeks so if anyone has any events/practice dates they would like included please let me know.



### Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire

The Beyond Bob Doubles and Grandsire practices which take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month continue to be well attended by a small group of regulars who have progressed through a variety of methods. We will be ringing Double Oxford at the November at Henham so if you would like a challenge please do come along. Helpers are also very welcome.



### Stansted Practices

The Stansted 8-bell practices take place every fourth Saturday of the month, with a variety of methods being rung. More experienced 8-bell ringers, particularly 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 due to take place at 10.30am on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 at Hatfield Broad Oak.



### Recruitment and Training

For the rest of the year I'm planning to do as many Saturdays and Sunday afternoons as possible, many of which are already planned. Sunday afternoons at Willingale and Thaxted are one-to-one tuition on bell handling, ringing up and down. If any teachers or teachers that are learning to teach would like to help please let me know.

Next year is only round the corner, Sue is working on the events calendar, so to help Sue and I work on the training part of this could you have a think about what you might like. In the past for example, we have had a six week run on Saturday mornings concentrating on a particular topic, or the one day training courses.

I've had three good suggestions from Liz Griffith-Jones, Margaret French and Ken Heymer which we hope to develop for next year's programme. The training we arrange could help towards these ideas and make an interesting year's ringing.

Following on from the successful quarter peal day earlier in the year if anyone would like to attempt a quarter peal or just do more let me know, I'm sure there will be experienced ringers only too willing to help.

**Ian Kerwin – Education Officer**

[iankerwin@btinternet.com](mailto:iankerwin@btinternet.com)



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### Combined Practices at Ashdon and Radwinter

In the North-Eastern District, several towers are working closely together and are holding 'cluster practices'. These towers rotate practice nights to assist in ensuring they go ahead and this is proving successful. Discussions have been taking place to see if this same approach might work locally within the North-Western District, at towers where practices have either ceased or become infrequent.

To move things forward, a practice at Ashdon took place on Monday, 25th July. This was followed by a practice at Radwinter on Monday, 8th August, and further practices have been arranged. Following these, it is intended that practices will take place at Radwinter on the 2nd Monday and at Ashdon on the 3rd Monday of each month. Opportunities for 1st and 4th Monday practices are being explored and are welcomed!

Please come along if you can, you will be most welcome.

### Trevor Haynes - Thaxted



### Public Relations and Communications Group

Following our discussion at the May meeting, I'm pleased to report that Margaret French has agreed to represent the District on the Public Relations and Communications Group, so thank you, Margaret.



### Training Day – Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022

There are a range of courses this year on the training day at towers across the county, although most are in the NE District, the host district this year. By following this link you will find all the information for the courses and be able to book the one you decide is for you: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/eacr-training-day-2022-1174119>

We have this year increased the cost of the day to £15. The training day has been at a fee of £10 for many years and we want to make sure that the day can be self-funding, and to be able to use booking facilities such as Eventbrite which do incur a fee. In addition to the fee for the day, you will need to pay for your lunch which will most likely be organised at a pub local to the tower you are visiting, although individuals may like to bring packed lunches (but do remember this is in November). If the cost of the day is prohibitive for you, grants can be applied for via this link: <https://eacr.org.uk/education/recruitment-and-training-fund/>.

Booking is open now and closes on 5th November but do book as soon as possible if you want to join a course as the spaces are limited. If your Course is full please join the wait list. Although towers are specified for each course, it is possible that we may have to make changes but anyone who has booked will be notified.

If you can help on the training day, Ian Cresshull ([ian@cresshull.co.uk](mailto:ian@cresshull.co.uk)) would like to hear from you - thanks to Ian for agreeing to organise the helpers once more.

Thanks to all our tutors for agreeing to run a course on the day. If you'd like further information on the courses, please email me or give me a call - see below.

**Beth Johnson**

**Education Officer**

**[education@eacr.org.uk](mailto:education@eacr.org.uk)**





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### District Carol Service – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022

This year's Carol Service will take place at St Christopher's Church, Willingale at 4.00pm. There will be open ringing prior to the service and refreshments after the service. Further details to come nearer the time.



### Belfry Upkeep News Item

The Stewardship & Management Workgroup is pleased to announce *Belfry Upkeep*, an online document aimed at the Steeple Keeper – the person responsible for keeping the bells in order. The aims of the document are:

- To help you understand the installation in your tower;
- To describe the checks you should carry out to identify any problems;
- To advise you on the maintenance tasks that you should be able to carry out, possibly with expert advice or assistance;
- Most importantly, to help you recognise the tasks that require specialist knowledge from a Bell Hanger or other expert.

The document can be found at <https://belfryupkeep.cccbr.org.uk>

**Ernie de Legh-Runciman**  
Secretary  
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers



### District WhatsApp

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



### District Outing – Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022

We had a very enjoyable outing to Cambridgeshire on the 1st October with a bright sunny day to make it even better. The day started at Guilden Morden, greeted by tea, coffee and cake supplied by the tower captain. We made our way to, and rang at, Litlington and Bassingbourn where we had lunch at The Belle pub, and in the afternoon we rang at Meldreth and Melbourn. The mix of six and eight bell towers gave some interest to the day and for several ringers being their first outing gave them a flavour of all the different bells and places that they can ring at in the future.

**Ian Kerwin – Education Officer**



### 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)



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### Thaxted Bell Ringers Picnic

Clear blue skies and a hot sunny Sunday afternoon on the 7th August provided for a perfect afternoon at the Thaxted ringers picnic, hosted by tower secretary, Cathy Lowe. The afternoon commenced with delicious food, all prepared by Cathy and her daughter Rebecca.



After second helpings, we embarked on a series of activities, including croquet, table tennis and something string and cardboard including bell cut-outs! We finished with tea and inevitably a bell ringing discussion. A good time was had by all.

**Trevor Haynes, Thaxted**



### Are you good at talking about bellringing?

Then you might be the right person we're looking for. Our Communications Officer is responsible for co-ordinating publicity about the Association including talking to organisations and press about bellringing, and looking after our social media sites. They are often the first port of call for public enquiries and can source materials for displays, exhibitions etc.

The Communications Officer chairs the Comms & PR Workgroup to develop ideas for publicity and support districts and towers by providing guidance and resources. They are a Trustee and report to the Management Committee of the Association.

Our current Communications Officer has given notice to stand down from this role and would prefer someone take it up from our AGM in 2023 if a suitable candidate can be found in time for nomination submission. PR experience not essential, just the ability to co-ordinate and talk about ringing.

To find out more, or if this is you or someone you know, please contact [comms@eacr.org.uk](mailto:comms@eacr.org.uk)



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## Diane Carpenter's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

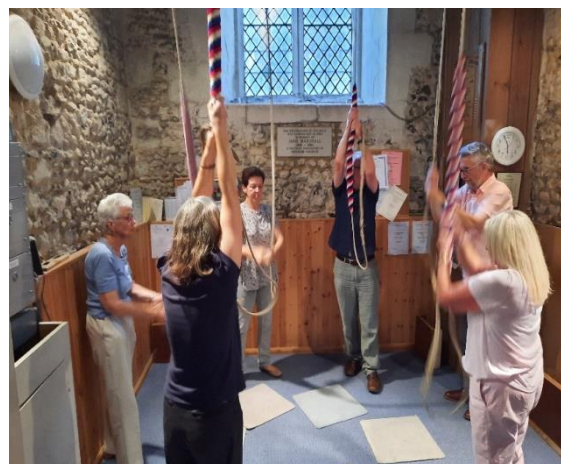


Congratulations to Diane Carpenter, who recently reached the grand age of 80. Di is a ringer of many years standing and a regular ringer at Henham and Felsted, also ringing at other towers.



It was only fitting, therefore, that on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, Di's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, organised by Liz Griffith-Jones and Sheena Bigwood, was celebrated in the village hall at Henham.

The evening started with a number of ringers taking part in an hour's ringing, culminating with an 80 call of Grandsire called by Ian Cresshull.



The ringers then moved on to join other guests for celebratory drinks and nibbles in the garden of the village hall, and, of course, catching up with old friends.



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The guests sat down to enjoy an absolutely delicious 'bring and share' supper.





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Di was presented two Wentworth was of Audley End depicting 'A Sunday of La Grande Jatte'.



with a birthday gift of wooden jigsaws, one and the other a painting Afternoon on the Island



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Di cut her birthday cake, beautifully made by Denise Kerwin.



It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and DI thanked everyone for coming along to help her celebrate such a big birthday.

*“Keep ringing . . . . .”*

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