



Rounds & About



EACR Newsletter, Issue 44, December 2002
Charity Number 292250

Danbury Diary

The Association's autumn Committee meeting was held at Danbury on 5th October. As usual, we heard reports from all the officers and sub-committee convenors - particularly important as this is the meeting at which appointments are made for the next year.

The Committee approved a suggestion for a membership application form. There was lengthy discussion on proposals for a 'probationer' membership category and for changes to the striking competition rules. Please ask your district officers for further information on these issues - we need lots of feedback to guide any decisions.

David Sloman submitted a report on a number of bell restoration projects; members were pleased to hear that Ford End bells have been rung recently.

The Committee approved grants to Burnham-on-Crouch (work on headstocks, pulleys, etc. is in progress) and to Kelvedon (replacing the 6 bells in a new 8-bell frame).

Iris Lewis was appointed as Public Relations Officer for 2003; her contact details are on p88 of the Annual Report.

Fred Bone stood down as Education Officer as his duties as a director of The Ringing World Ltd are too time-consuming. Please contact the Master if you might be interested in this post.

A short report such as this cannot do justice to the amount of work done by all the district and committee officers during the year - they are always pleased to chat about their work and welcome offers of assistance!

Mary Bone

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Bits & Bobs

Annual Dinner 2003

We have been lucky to obtain a provisional booking for the 2003 Dinner at the County Hotel, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, on Saturday 4th October. We will need a minimum of 75 confirmed reservations by the beginning of May. Further details will be included in the Spring Newsletter. Please book the date in your diary **NOW!**

Education Fund

The Association's Education Fund was established in 1990 as a capital fund. Grants from the interest received are given towards the cost of the fees for attending the Ringing courses (not just the Essex Application Course). Application forms are available from either the Association or District secretaries and should be returned to the Association Secretary.

Basildon

The bells at St Martin of Tours were dedicated by the Bishop of Chelmsford at the end of a special Choral Evensong marking the 40th anniversary of the consecration of the church on 10th November 2002. Only the tower was dedicated at the time of the Queen's visit to Basildon in 1999.

Nominations

Written nominations for Association officers (Master, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Property Trustees and 2 Independent Examiners), proposed and seconded by individual members, must be received by the Secretary by 1st February 2003. Nominations do not need to be made at a district meeting and can be sent directly to reach the Secretary before the deadline. Information about any nominations for Life membership of the EACR will be available at the Annual District Meetings. Elections will take place at the 2003 Annual General Meeting, which will be held on 5th May, Bank Holiday Monday, at Chelmsford Cathedral.

Mary Bone

Tower Handbook

As part of the 125th Anniversary celebrations, the Northern District will be producing a tower handbook. This book is to act as a guide to churches and bells in the Association and to assist with planning visits. You have all been asked to forward information for inclusion in this book. The deadline for returning this is the end of January 2003, so make sure you're included.



The 13th Essex Ringing Course will be held between the 24th and 26th April 2003. That is the Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Easter.

On offer will be the usual range of groups based on ringing from rounds and call changes, advancing through Bob Doubles and Bob Minor to more advanced methods such as Treble Bob and Surprise. There will be a maximum of 6 students in each practical group and each group is supported by a team of helpers all being lead by the Group Tutor.

Further details can be found in the Course Brochure which, together with application forms, will be available by Christmas. The brochure can be obtained from Vicki Chapman, 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford CM2 9PF, or from the EACR website at www.eacr.org.uk. Please remember to enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope. The closing date for applications is 16th February 2003. Early application is recommended but as the allocation of places depends on what the demand is, there can be no guarantee of a place.

In order for the Course to be successful helpers are also needed to assist at all levels during the practical ringing sessions. If you would like to be a helper please volunteer - don't wait to be asked.

Vicki Chapman Course Administrator

And the Winner Is ...

The Ringer of the Year competition ends on 30th December. Your entry should be completed, countersigned by your Tower Captain and returned to Fred Bone before the closing date - 31st January 2003.

Essex Trophy

This year's inter-Association competition for the Essex Trophy was held at Watford on 14th September. The draw time had been re-arranged after some last-minute withdrawals and most of the Essex team were glad of the extra time to negotiate the one-way system and the multistorey car parks. Five teams competed, all ringing a course of Pudsey S Royal. The Guildford DG team were placed first with 32 faults; Essex came fourth with 70 faults.

Many thanks to the Hertford CA for organising the competition and to the Watford ringers for their hospitality. The Winchester & Portsmouth Guild have kindly volunteered to host the 2003 competition.

Blah, Blah, Blah!

Now that data for the Tower Handbook is starting to come in thick and fast we need to ensure that the information presented is consistent. **YOU** would be the ideal candidate to help with editing the information, just think about how much you'll get to know about each tower in the Association! Contact Charlotte Mackle on 01440 785527, go on you know you want to!

The Essex Dinner 2002

The Annual Dinner of The Essex Association was held on Saturday, 12th October at The Courage Hall, Brentwood. Seventy four members and guests attended an excellent evening, despite the change of venue to a rather southerly location!

The evening began with an orderly and very British queue for drinks (which unfortunately meant there was no time for refills before the meal began). The food was very well received. Between courses we were entertained by a magician who delighted even the more cynical amongst us and provided a diversion from the usual topics of conversation.

The Master, Stephen Nash, proposed the toast to The Church. He noted that having pranged his car attending the two previous dinners, his wife would be driving him home this year! In reply The Dean of Chelmsford, Canon Peter Judd, told an amusing tale about the importance of timing and his experience in a choir rowing eight.

Christopher Pickford, Master of The Ancient Society of College Youths, proposed the toast to The Essex Association, looking at the assembled company to define Essex Man!

Stephen Nash then presented certificates and thanked John Armstrong and Dennis Ellisdon, who were elected Life Members this year. Renée Armstrong won the sweepstake for guessing the length of the speeches.

Kent Major was rung on handbells by an all male band; we look forward to a ladies band next year (see below)... Get practising Mary! The raffle made £126. Drinking and socialising continued into the late evening.

Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation of a splendid event. We look forward to next year.

A Northern Correspondent



www.eacr.org.uk www.eacr.org.uk www.eacr.org.uk www.eacr.org.uk



see more dinner pictures at www.eacr.org.uk

Dagenham Ringers Bid Farewell

Dagenham ringers made a fitting tribute to the outgoing Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey on 27th October.

Dagenham Parish Church has played a pivotal role in the former Archbishop's life. It is the church he attended in his teenage years and where he became a Sunday School teacher. He married in the church forty-two years ago and his parents are buried in the churchyard.

Dr Carey returned to Dagenham Parish Church to deliver his valedictory sermon just days before he stepped down as the 103rd Archbishop.

To mark the occasion the Dagenham band rang a quarter peal of Stedman Triples.

Dr Carey did not confine his visit to the church: he also found time to visit the Cross Keys pub next to the church. Dagenham ringers are regular frequenters of the pub after their weekly practices. The ringers were delighted when the landlady of the Cross Keys showed them the plaque which was presented to the pub to mark the visit of the Archbishop.

Iris Lewis

Quarter Peals

It is time to dust off that form in your belfry, ensure that it is filled in with all the details of Quarter Peals rung in your tower during 2002 and return it to the Peals Secretary by 15th January 2003.

A new form, for 2004, is enclosed with this Newsletter.

Prompt return of the forms does speed up the preparation of the Annual Report and provides a useful crosscheck with the Ringing World information.

Name that Beer!

As part of the 125th Anniversary celebrations, the Association will be launching an Anniversary beer, courtesy of our friends at Mighty Oak Brewing Company. The brew will be available for private purchase, or at your local (if you tell them to get some in), but you'll have the chance to sample it first by entering our competition. Simply think of a name for the celebration brew. Send your entry (you may enter as many times as you like) to Vicki Chapman at the address at the back of this newsletter. Make sure you include your name, home tower and a contact telephone number (very important as we won't be able to tell you if you've won). If you're feeling particularly arty, why not have a go at designing a pump clip with your suggested name on it too. The winner will be notified by telephone and the prize will be... a polypin (approx 36 pints) of the new brew, complete with pump clip. Please note, if you are under 18, you will also need to tell us your age and a suitable alternative prize will be given. Closing date for entry is 1st August 2003.

Name:

Home Tower:

Telephone Number:

Age (if under 18):

Name of Beer:



Association Register

- Births:** Congratulations to Andrew and Ruth Bond (Barking) a daughter, Sophia - born 28 August
- Birthdays:** Congratulations to Letitia Hughes (Hornchurch) who was 18 in August and to Steven Clarke (Wormingford) who was 21 in August, Diane Carpenter (Takeley) who was 60 in August, Mike Gibson (Tollesbury) who was 75 in August, Phil Stephens (Writtle) who was 60 on 31st August, Doreen Robinson who was 70 in September, Don Robinson (Southminster) who was 80 in September.
- Weddings:** Congratulations to Diana and Paul Bareham on their wedding in September and to Alan Gisby and Catherine Stanway (Langdon Hills) who were married on 12th October.
- Anniversaries:** Congratulations to Geoff and Sally Walker (Chigwell) who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in August.
- Deaths:** We regret to report the deaths of Eric Sparling, Wivenhoe who died 25th June also Eric's wife Jean who was a member in the 1950's who died on May 20th 2002; and Geoffrey Isgar, Life Member Great Holland who died 5th August 2002.

That's a First!

The following ringers are to be congratulated for ringing their first Quarter Peal.

Kate Walker (19/08/02), Claire Turner (26/08/02), A P Carter (07/09/02), Allan Ellis (08/09/02), Stephanie Gant (29/09/02), Gill Musto (15/10/02).



Repair, Restore or Augment?

The 125th Anniversary Group are looking for a project to be launched in 2004, as an anniversary gift from the Association. We are looking for augmentation projects, rehangs or restorations that will have at least applied for a faculty by 2004. As an Association we would also be able to offer help with manual labour such as the removal of bells, frame painting and handy work. Some special fund raising would come from the 125th Anniversary Group, however the successful candidate would need to ensure that they were able to meet the costs of the project.

If you think you know of an ideal project, please contact Vicki Chapman at the address on the back of this newsletter for more information and an application form.

DIARY

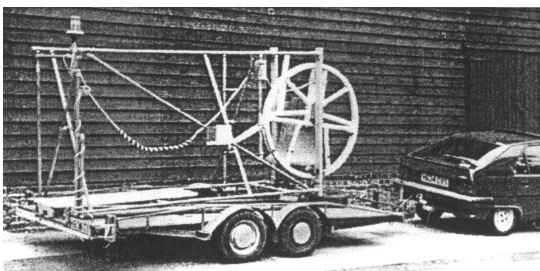
2003

January	4	ADM - Finchingfield & Great Bardfield	Northern
	4	ADM - Chelmsford	South-Eastern
	11	ADM - Colchester, St Peter	North-Eastern
	11	ADM - Epping	South-Western
	15	Have you returned your tower's Quarter Peal Form for 2002?	
	18	ADM - Fobbing	Southern
	25	ADM - Hempstead & Radwinter	North-Western
February	1	Executive Committee Meeting - Danbury	
March	8	District Meeting - Coggeshall	Northern
April	24 - 26	Essex Ringing Course - Coggeshall	

Home wanted.

Your District Officers may have told you that the Property Trustees are looking for a new home for the Demonstration Bell. The problem has since become more acute and a new home is required from the end of December. If you could help in any way (either with storage yourself, or knowing someone who would store the equipment, free of charge) then please let the Association Officers know.

The bell on its trailer is approximately 2.2m wide, 5.4m long and 2.4m high and weighs nearly a tonne.



The next edition of *Rounds & About* is planned for April 2003. Please send contributions to Vicki Chapman at 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, CM2 9PF. Tel: 01245 358040, or E-Mail vicki@cvevrc.co.uk by 1st March 2003.

Contributions will be included on a first come, first served, basis. The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse publication. Inclusion does not imply agreement with or approval of the article by the Editor or the Essex Association of Change Ringers.