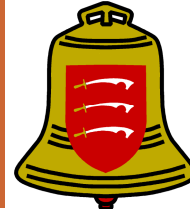


Rounds & About

(Charity Number 292250)



Dinner Time !

The Association's Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday **6** October 2007 at 7 for 7.30pm, again at the County Hotel, Rainsford Rd, Chelmsford. The County is a splendid central location so the evening promises fine surroundings, good food and good company.

The meal will be followed by the speeches - speakers include the President of the Central Council as well as, of course, the Master - and the speech sweepstake. This year's entertainment will be by SongCycle, the singing, cycling and fundraising group from St Thomas' Brentwood, who are highly recommended by Chris Bailey! And there will be plenty of time for socialising informally while the bar is open. As usual there will be a raffle in aid of the Bell Restoration Fund and donations of prizes will be very welcome.

Menu details and a booking form are on the website or can be obtained from the Secretary. A vegetarian main course is available and special diets can be catered for - please specify when ordering your tickets.

Additional tickets may still be purchased from Mrs Mary Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9DB at £27.25 each (£12.25 for those who have already paid a deposit). Please enclose your payment (cheques payable to EACR) and SAE with your order, and include names for the seating plan. The deadline is **25** September.

Diamond Geezer

Congratulations to SE District Master, Peter Childs, who this year is celebrating 60 years as a member of the Essex Association.

Thanks

I am now enjoying my “retirement” and managing to find something to occupy all my spare time! I thoroughly enjoyed my time as Treasurer and am pleased to have been able to put something back into ringing.

My grateful thanks to everyone for my wonderful “retirement” presents which will take pride of place in our display cabinet. I can confirm that the tankard has been duly christened. At present, I am not sure what I shall put the vouchers towards but probably an ornamental feature for the garden.

Once again, my thanks to everyone who has helped me over the years.

Andrew Taylor

Association Training Day

This years training day is on Sat. 24th November 07, 9.30am - approx 5pm and is based at Leyton Church (SW District)

The groups on offer are:

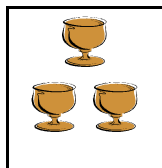
- Plain Hunt Doubles & Minor
- Plain Bob Doubles & Minor
- Grandsire Doubles & Triples
- Cambridge Surprise Minor

To apply for a place, send an SAE for an application form to Vicki Chapman, EACR Education Officer, 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, CM2 9PF. Limited spaces available, first come, first served. Closing date for applications is 3/11/07. Helpers are also required, please contact Vicki on 01245 358040 or email vicki@cvevrc.co.uk

Quarter Peal Month

November is Quarter Peal Month. Also, The Queen's Diamond Wedding Anniversary is celebrated on 20th November, 2007. Please can we ring to celebrate this milestone for our monarch.

St Nicholas guild Of change ringers



HARWICH

February has seen the marking of the centenary of the tragic sinking of the SS Berlin off the Dutch Coast on 21 February 1907. 127 passengers and crew lost their lives. Many were local people or had local connections.

To mark the tragic event, a band of ringers rang a full peal on the bells of St Nicholas in Harwich lasting just under 3 hours. On 2 March 1907 8 local ringers formed the band; Treble - Bertie Bolton, 2nd - Arthur Redwood, 3rd - William Gillingham, 4th - Arthur Turner, 5th - George Thompson, 6th - Charles P Ramplin, 7th - James Notts, Tenor - Charles Clark. The bells were fully muffled. This means that leather pads were fixed to the clapper to deaden the sound. It results in a haunting dull tone. Full muffles are usually reserved for State funerals and national solemnities.

One hundred years on the event was marked by a member of the current band of ringers tolling the Tenor bell, fully muffled. 127 strikes of the bell were made, one for each of those who perished. It was a simple but important reminder of the event and of the fact that the town bears the loss of many to the power of the sea.

A board containing the names and details of the 1907 peal is hung in the ringing chamber of St Nicholas and enquires are being made as to the cost of getting it restored. A further smaller plaque will mark the centenary tolling of the bell. Unfortunately the bells are not up to being rung for a full peal at present and a restoration appeal is about to be launched.

For further information, please contact:
Tracey Southgate, 4 Sweden Close, Dovercourt, Harwich, CO12 4JU.
Tel Mobile: 07946-322967 Tel Home : 01255-507357,
Monday 5th March 2007

Training workshops at Coggeshall

Two more training workshops are coming up soon at the Coggeshall Ringing Centre.

Sat 8 Sept 10.00-13.00

Improving your calling and Conducting.

For those who have tried calling simple touches, and want to know how to put people right!

Leader: Brian Meads

Sat 3 Nov 10.00-13.00

Change ringing on Handbells - Moving on from Plain Hunt.

For those who want to make progress in Plain Bob. (You should already feel confident in Plain Hunting your pair)

Leader: Paul Cammiade

Places are still available on both workshops. To cover expenses there is a fee of £5 per person per workshop. For an application form see the Training page of the Association web site, or contact Janet Edwards, 181 High Street, Kelvedon, Colchester, CO5 9JD , Phone 01376 573412 , E-mail janet@ajsplace.fsnet.co.uk .

David Sparling did a wonderful job at our session in May on the 'Cambridge Six', keeping us hard at it, but still making it a very relaxed and enjoyable occasion. Go on, give our other sessions a try!

Brian Meads

Romford

The bells have been removed from the tower as restoration work commences.

Work will not be completed until October or November.

Mary Bone

Foxearth

Due to building works, the bells at Foxearth are temporarily unringable.

WANTED!

Both the Master, Stephen Nash, and the Secretary, Mary Bone, have given notice that they will not stand for election next year. Our Independent Examiners, John Tipping & Wendy Godden, have also stated that this will be their last year examining the Association's accounts.

The officers would be happy to talk to anyone considering standing for any of these positions. Nominations must be received by the Secretary before 1 February 2008 and the elections will take place at the AGM in May.

AGM Day

The Cathedral bells were kept busy to a variety of methods before our Annual Service on 7 May. The service was conducted by the Ven David Lowman, Archdeacon of Southend, who also gave the address. The prayers were led by Revd Janet Donaldson, ringing member of the Association. The anthem sung by the Boreham choir was Richard Shephard's *Out of the Stillness*, and this year's ringing hymn was *Into thy house, O gracious King*.

At the AGM the Accounts and Annual Report were approved. Andrew Brewster was elected Treasurer and the Master, Secretary, Property Trustees and Independent Examiners were re-elected unopposed. After a paper ballot, John Armstrong, Fred Bone, Brian Meads, Adrian Semken and David Sparling were elected as our representatives to the Central Council for the triennium beginning in May 2008. Andrew Taylor was elected a Life Vice-President of the Essex Association and Gordon Lucas was elected a Life Member.

Ringing after lunch was at a number of North-East District towers, beginning at Ardleigh and with tea at Kirby-le-Soken.

I would like to thank all those involved in the day's arrangements, especially Archdeacon Lowman, the Cathedral staff, the Boreham choir, Simon Harvey (organist), and those who prepared and served tea at Kirby.

Book next year's date in your diary now: Bank Holiday Monday 5 May 2008.

Mary Bone

Letter to Editor Ringing World Re 21st World Scout Jamboree

Sir – It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Bell Ringing will not be represented at the centenary 21st World Scout Jamboree to be held in Chelmsford later this month.

Together with the Central Council PR Committee the Essex Association of Change Ringers (EACR) have been negotiating with the Scouts to provide a mini-ring, hand-bell lapping, information stand and hand-bell demonstrations during the Jamboree. The Jamboree is expected to be attended by 40,000 scouts from all over the world resident at Hyland's Park with an additional 40,000 day visitors over the two week period of the event.

Late last year we were asked to support the Scouts and promote bell ringing by providing bell ringing attractions at the Jamboree. As the Scout organisation is made up a mixture of permanent staff and volunteers they have found organising such a large event a challenge. Negotiating with them over a pitch, security for the equipment and personal injury and other aspects has not been easy. As more volunteers became involved, more conditions were imposed and overcome, not least of which was access for the volunteers to man the attractions. As you can imagine, with so many young members, security is a major concern and access for the exhibitors has been outsourced. The outsource company is charging £10 per exhibitor attendee to cover security checks and procedures. This last hurdle was thrown at the EACR only 4 weeks prior to the event.

To man the mini-ring, hand-bell lapping, stand and hand-bell demonstrations would have required about 20 volunteers a day from the EACR – a total of 160 volunteers over the period of the event. Those volunteers who had already stepped forward had offered their time, energy, experience and equipment, but felt that the access fee was going a bit far. There were insufficient funds in the EACR and CCBR PR budgets to make a significant reduction to the fee. The Scouts tried to get this fee waived, but the outsource company would not agree terms. This fee, together with the tight time frame which was left to the PR committees to drum up volunteers to man the equipment and demonstrations, meant that we had to withdraw.

Rounds & About

We are extremely sad and disappointed that we will not be at the Jamboree to continue the long association between the scouts and bell ringing, but will be ringing as many quarter peals and peals in the surrounding towers during the event to ensure that bells will be heard. In addition, the Central Council is working with the Scout organisation to encourage bell ringing to feature in the badge programmes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Wendy Godden (Little Bad-dow) and Peter Robson (Central Council) for all their tenacity, energy and help with the negotiations.

Finally, please can we request that as many peals or quarter peals are rung at towers throughout the country and the world on or around the 1st August to celebrate the centenary of the Scouting Organisation.

Libby Laurence,
PR Officer,
EACR.

Life Membership

Any nominations for life membership must be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 1 December (rule 7(iii)) and should include details of the candidate's Association activities.

Guidelines were agreed by the Committee in February 1986 as follows: "... To honour a member for work undertaken throughout the district and promotion of work throughout the Association."

Further advice on the criteria is available from the Association Master or Secretary or from your district officers.

MB

The Chelmsford Cathedral Teddy Parachute & Table Sale

Held on Saturday, 16th June, raised almost £4,000, a figure which is to be doubled by an extremely generous **mystery donor**, making a total of nearly £8,000 towards the cost of the works. Profuse thanks go to all contributors (and mystery donor) and special credit goes to those terrified Teddies and their nervous nannies.

Striking competition news

The Association striking competition finals were held on 7 July, hosted this year by the Southern District. There was a full turn-out of twelve teams, two from each district, for the 6-bell competition at Orsett; four teams rang Plain Bob Doubles, three chose Plain Bob Minor, and five teams rang Grandsire Doubles. The results were: 1st Chelmsford Cathedral (25 faults); 2nd Kirby-le-Soken (45); 3rd Prittlewell (52); 4th Dagenham; joint 5th Coggeshall/Rayne & Sawbridgeworth; 7th Writtle; 8th West Ham; 9th Bocking; 10th Colchester St Peter; 11th Saffron Walden; Downham (incomplete).

After tea at Orsett and the 6-bell results the inter-district 8-bell competition was held at South Weald. The Master had selected a set touch of Forward Major as the test piece. The Southern district won the trophy with 45 faults; 2nd South-East (64); 3rd South-West (80); 4th North-East; 5th Northern; 6th North-West. Our judges for both competitions were Stephen Day, who learnt to ring at Orsett, and Simon Rudd, another Essex boy. We'd like to thank them, the Southern district officers for making all the arrangements and, especially, the Orsett ringers for tea!

The Essex Trophy inter-Association 10-bell competition will be held at Bletchingley on 8 September, hosted by the Surrey Association.

A Good Days Ringing

On Saturday 28th April the North East District had a car outing to Suffolk attended by twenty people.

Starting at Eye at 9:15am which was a bit of a cold start but as the day went on the sun came out and made a pleasant day. Going on to Thornham Magna and Stoke Ash before stopping for a long lunch at The Four Horseshoes at Thornham Magna.

We then went on to Wickham Skeith, Bacton and finishing at Great Ashfield at 5pm.

Method ringing consisting of:

Triples:- Plain Bob: Stedman: Grandsire.

Major:- Cambridge

Minor:- Plain Bob: Single Oxford: Double Bob: St Clements: Kent: Cambridge

Doubles:- Reverse Canterbury: St Martins: St Nicholas: Plain Bob: Grandsire: Stedman

The ringing and striking was to a very good standard. Everybody had an enjoyable day and looking forward to next years outing.

Underpinning Project at Kirby-le-Soken

Over the past few years huge cracks and falling masonry have required parts of the church and churchyard to be roped off at Kirby-le-Soken. This is because the south wall has started to move at a different rate to older parts of the building. An extensive project to underpin the south wall began in July and ringing has had to be temporarily suspended while this work takes place.



A total of £130,000 is needed and fund raising is already well underway. If anyone would like to help save St. Michael's please send your contribution to:-

Rev. Peter Coley, The Rectory, Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross, Essex, CO13 0LT

Please make cheques payable to:- ***St Michael's Restoration Fund***

300th Anniversary of building of United Reformed Church at Little Baddow

On the 3rd June, Little Baddow United Reformed Church celebrated the 300th Anniversary of the building of their Chapel. Nothing exceptional in that you might think, but we in the Parish Church get on very well with our Chapel brethren and the ringers at St Mary the Virgin were asked if we would like to ring a quarter peal to add to their celebrations. Not needing to be asked twice, we happily obliged and a quarter of Plain Bob Doubles was rung on the 3rd of June by the following Little Baddow band:-

1. Janet Hegner
2. Charmane May
3. Wendy Godden
4. Mark Button
5. Charles Cope (C)
6. Richard Godden

As the quarter was rung immediately prior to the Celebration Service at the Chapel - 300yds up the road, we put a notice on our church gate to ensure that people went to the right church for the Service.

Dickie Furminger Trophy 2007

The North East District held their second Call-Change competition for the Dickie Furminger Trophy at Great Bentley on Saturday 23rd June.

We were pleased to have four teams plus an 'unofficial scratch band' entering the competition this year and delighted that so many members came along to support the event.

We are very grateful to Steve Nash and Adrian Semken who were our judges, they announced the following results:

- First – 'Scratch' band
- Second – Wormingford & Thorrington
- Third - Kirby-le-Soken (B)
- Fourth – Great Bentley
- Fifth – Kirby-le-Soken (A)

Since the make up of the scratch band was outside the rules of the competition, the trophy was presented to Barry Gibbons & Steven Clarke from the Wormingford and Thorrington band.

We would like to express our thanks to Roger Carey-Smith who prepared a wonderful barbeque which was enjoyed by all (despite the damp weather!). Thanks to everyone who supported the event.

Gill Sparling
NE District Secretary

Stansted tower update

Repairs have now been completed to the tower door of Stansted church following the recent break-in so the weekly Wednesday practices and the monthly second Friday district practices can recommence.

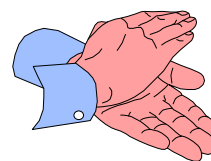
Liz Griffith-Jones
NW District Secretary

That's a First

Congratulations to the following ringers

First Quarter :

Andrea Tebbutt (Gt Parndon 10/03)
Poppy Crooks (Finchingfield 03/05)
John Pearson (Felstead 13/05)
Frances Coles (Kirby 29/05)
Paul Ellis (Danbury 10/06)
Emily Mayo (Rayne 10/06)
Andrew Hood (Tollesbury 28/06)
Laura Clark (Finchingfield 12/06)
John Parsons



Congratulations!

First Inside:

Bradley Hill
Ian Finlayson
Charlotte Slater
John Elliot

Association Register

Births: Congratulations to Steve and Alison Nash, a daughter, Isabelle May Nash born 09 May 2007.



Birthdays: Congratulations to: Peter G Brown - 60
Helen Saddleton, Ingatestone - 40
Richard Pusey, Ingatestone - 60
Marion Barrett, Tollesbury - 60
Peter Woods - 70

Wedding: Congratulations to Anne Turner & Paul Bray (NE District), married 3rd August 2007.

Deaths: We regret to report the death of Gillian Warren of Wanstead. Brian Murray, father of Yvonne Towler of Inworth. Brian was a long-standing Friend of the Essex Association. Lily Monk, long-time ringer at Great Waltham. Jean Hall of Eastwood. Alf House, former Tower Captain of Rayleigh.

Dates for your Diary



September		District Quarter Peal Month	NE
	05	District Practice, Halstead	N
	08	Call Change Competition, Leyton(tbc)	SW
	13	District Practice, Little Baddow	SE
	14	District Practice, Stansted	NW
	14	District Minor Practice, Great Bromley	NE
	15	Advanced Practice, Braintree	N
	16	Walking Treasure Hunt	NE
	22	District Meeting & Harvest Supper, Bradwell-on-Sea	SE
	27	Surprise Major Practice, Great Holland	NE
	28	Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	28	District Meeting, Littlebury	NW
	29	District Training Day	SE
	29	5th Saturday Practice, Sawbridgeworth	NW
	October	06	Association Annual Dinner, County Hotel, Chelmsford
12		District Practice, Stansted	NW
12		District Minor Practice, Great Bromley	NE
13		Executive Committee Meeting, Danbury	
15		District Practice, Maldon All Saints	SE
20		District Meeting, Chigwell Row (tbc)	SW
20		Autumn District Meeting & 10 bell practice, Great Tey & Coggeshall	NE
20		Advanced Practice, Braintree	N
25		Surprise Major Practice, Great Holland	NE
26		Learners' Practice, Matching	NW
26		Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
27		District Meeting, Fyfield	NW
27		District Meeting, Finchingfield	N
27		Evening Ringing, Wethersfield	N
30		5th Tuesday Practice, Saffron Walden	NW
November		District Quarter Peal Month	N
	09	District Practice, Stansted	NW
	09	District Minor Practice, Great Bromley	NE
	10	Evening Ringing, Dagenham (tbc)	SW
	10	Quiz Night, Gestingthorpe	N
	15	District Practice, Purleigh	SE
	17	"The Quiz With Fizz", Boreham	SE
	17	Quiz Evening, Tending	NE
	17	Advanced Practice, Braintree	N
	23	Learners' Practice, Henham	NW
December	24	Association Training Day	SW
	30	Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	08	District Carol Service, Bishops Stortford	NW
	08	District Carol Service, Danbury	SE
	08	District Social Evening, Epping (tbc)	SW
	08	District Carol Service, Langham	NE
	14	District Minor Practice, Great Bromley	NE
	14	District Practice, Stansted	NW
15	Carol Service, Great Easton	N	

The next edition of Rounds & About is planned for December 2007. Please send contributions to Bryan Morrissey at Jireh, 30 Turner Avenue, Lawford, Manningtree CO11 2LG or by email to bdm@pempo.co.uk or call 0206 392959 by 1st December 2007.