

Rounds & About

(Charity Number 292250)



Essex Ringing Course



The 23rd Essex Ringing Course will be held on **4 - 6 April 2013**, based at the Honeywood School, Coggeshall.

Tutor groups on offer are:

- Improving foundation skills / Call changes
- Plain Hunt
- Treble Hunt/Advanced Plain Hunt
- Plain Bob Doubles inside
- Plain Bob Minor inside
- Grandsire Doubles / Triples
- Cambridge Minor
- Stedman Doubles / Triples
- Starting Plain Major
- Calling & Conducting touches

There will be an additional programme of seminars and practical sessions on a wide variety of ringing topics.

Helpers are also required for each group.

For a brochure and application form please send a stamped self-addressed C5 envelope to

Mary Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9DB

or visit the EACR website at www.eacr.org.uk/course.

Closing date for applications Friday **8 February 2013**

Essex Association 58th Annual Dinner 2012

The 58th Essex Association Annual Dinner was held in the Crystal Room of the County Hotel in Chelmsford. The venue is conveniently situated within a few minutes walk from the train station and a couple of minutes from Chelmsford city centre making it an ideal location for an Essex-wide dinner.

Brian Meads, the Master of the Association, welcomed all those present, although fewer in number than in previous years, and asked the Revd Vernon Ross to say Grace. We then sat down to a splendid three-course meal with the first class service, which lived up to all expectations.

Once the dining was over it was time for the toasts. The Master began proceedings by proposing the Loyal Toast. After a short break he then proposed a toast to the Church. The Revd Vernon Ross replied on behalf of the Church. He had been invited to speak at this year's dinner as Priest-in-Charge of St Christopher's, Willingale, the Association's newest ring of six bells.



The Revd Vernon Ross with the Master looking on

Philip Gorrod, Chairman of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, having found a handy pillar to lean on, proposed a toast to the Essex Association.

Philip ended his speech by saying the Essex Association was one of the foremost ringing societies around today but despite all our best efforts ringers were still so little understood and were on a par with Morris dancers and train spotters all best described as "a quaint but harmless bunch of nutters". However, it was very gratifying to see that not one but two bands of Essex youngsters had entered the Ringing World National Youth Competition in Birmingham this year.



Philip Gorrod after hearing it was last orders at the bar or beating a hasty retreat after having given his speech!

It was then back to the Master who proposed the toast to the Guests by formally welcoming Vernon and Francesca Ross and Philip Gorrod and Maggie Ross – but no relation to V&F apparently!



Fred Bone and Colin Chapman receiving Essex Course long service certificates from the Master

So the formal proceedings of the evening ended, the speeches sweepstake was won and the raffle was drawn. Peter Rayner of West Ham had to be the luckiest man in the room as his tickets came up seven times although he honourably asked for six re-draws! The Master admitted that he was colour blind and required some guidance with the ticket colours. Some confusion then arose when the Master called 238 white (when only yellow, green and pink tickets had been sold). However it transpired that some old tickets had been inadvertently left in the drum! Thank you to all those who generously supplied prizes and to those who bought tickets on the night.

Our lady guests were presented with beautiful orchids and one person on each table took the table decoration home.

So, with time left to catch up with friends, another excellent and enjoyable Essex dinner drew to a close and a good time was had by all. The Essex Association wishes to thank all attendees and guests and the County Hotel for looking after us. We look forward to being back again next year on the 5th October for the 59th Essex dinner.

Andrew Brewster
Social Committee

AGM 2013

Nominations for Association officers (Master, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Property Trustees and 2 Independent Examiners, Technical Adviser, Education Officer and PRO) must be received by the Secretary by 1 February 2013. Nominations may be made at a district meeting or can be sent directly to reach the Secretary before the deadline; please remember to include the name of the proposer and seconder. A form can be downloaded from the Association website.

In 2013 we are also due to elect 5 representatives to serve on the Central Council for a three year term starting in 2014. Nomination forms for these posts can also be downloaded from the Association website.

Information about any nominations for Life membership of the EACR will be available at the Annual District Meetings.

Elections will take place at the 2013 Annual General Meeting on 6th May, Bank Holiday Monday, at Chelmsford Cathedral.

Notices of motion for the AGM (items for debate or proposed rule changes), sponsored by at least 2 members, must also be received by 1 February.

Vicki Chapman
Hon. Gen. Sec.

A little bit of Scotland

Over 25 years ago, Sawbridgeworth ringers and friends visited Scotland for a ringing tour. A get-together to look at all the photos was held the next January, on the Sunday within the octave of Burns Night, and it seemed a good idea to ring a quarter peal of one of the methods we'd learnt for the tour – Alloa S Major.

Burns Night became a fixture in the tower social calendar and the method collections have been well used to discover appropriately named methods. There have been a few failures over the years and occasionally flu has meant we didn't have a band to ring a Scottish method but since the original 1986 tour we have rung Alloa (twice), Orkney, Inverness-shire, Dunbar, Paisley, Islay, Buchanan and Grampian S Major; Kelso, Coldstream and Caithness S Minor; Stirling, Old Man of Hoy, Edinburgh and Arbroath D Minor; Loch Lomond B Minor – as well as Cairngorm McWomble the Terrible D Major!

Watch BellBoard and *The Ringing World* to see what is rung in 2013!

Mary Bone

Ringin in the Olympics at Hornchurch

On Friday 27th July, along with people across the country, the bell ringers at St Andrew's, Hornchurch joined with the congregation and wider community to celebrate the start of the Olympic Games by ringing bells for 3 minutes starting at 08.12am.

Lots of people got involved so we were able to ring all 10 church bells, 12 hand bells and a number of other bells that people brought with them(including musical instruments, a fire bell, ornamental bells and mobile phone ring tones!) Cars driving along the High Street got involved by beeping their horns too.

It was a great way for people to get involved in London 2012 and special thanks go to Letitia Smith for organising the event and providing breakfast afterwards!

Later in the day at around 4pm, the Hornchurch bell ringers also rang a Quarter Peal to celebrate the start of the Olympic Games:

Hornchurch, St Andrew, 27th July

1260 Plain Bob Triples

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Gavin Lee | 5. Chris Pain |
| 2. Leonie Hughes | 6. Andrew Smith |
| 3. Letitia Smith | 7. Clive Stephenson (c) |
| 4. Gavin Carpenter | 8. Alan Street |

Rung to celebrate the start of London 2012



EACR at the Essex Country Show – Barleylands, 8th & 9th September 2012

I have spent my time this summer worrying about whether the outdoor shows we have taken part in are going to get called off because the site



conditions are too wet or too windy. Not this time. In fact the exact opposite was true. We enjoyed probably one of the hottest weekends of the year.

Flat pack furniture hasn't got a thing on this!

Now, where's the spanner?

Simon Higgins, Roger Hobson, Tony Lowe, Andy Martin and I met on site on Friday afternoon to set

everything up. Our stand was situated in pretty much the same place as it has been for the last couple of shows, so it felt like home from home.

Marion Squier (left) thought that she'd never get the hang of the mini ring, but she cracked it with help from Penny Sloman (right) It took us a couple of hours to set everything up to our satisfaction before we



called it a day. Again, Andy camped out on site which is useful for him and also makes sure the equipment has a guardian overnight. Early Saturday morning I arrived back on site to avoid the rush in the car park, open everything up and put the kettle on.

The Show officially opened at 10.00am each morning and it was pretty much non-stop activity for us until 4pm. We each managed to get a little break at lunch time to wander round the show to see the model boats,

steam engines, and monster trucks, together with visiting the various craft stalls.

Non-stop activity at the mini ring

Over the course of the two days we took positive enquiries across each of the 6 Association districts, with the highest concentration of these being on the Southern District, who will hopefully benefit from over 20 new recruits.

There was also an enquiry from a group of 6 scout troupes involving 200+ youngsters possibly having a training day on a mini ring, hand bells and tower bells. It will be interesting to see how that develops. There were also enquiries for other Guilds and

Associations including Suffolk, Surrey, Middlesex and Cambridgeshire which goes to show the wide catchment area that the Show enjoys.

We also met the Bishop of Bradwell who heard us first and came over for a little chat. This was a very pleasant surprise and he said he was glad we were having a very productive

weekend. He then went on to meet the organisers of the Churches Together in Essex Marquee elsewhere at the Showground and separate from us entirely.

So after yet another successful Show, all that remains for me to do is say a massive thank you to all my helpers, including Andy Martin, Simon Higgins, Roger Hobson, Penny Sloman, Peter Sloman, Jim Laken, Hilary Donaghue, Tom Pinnock and Marion Squier.



Tracey Southgate
Public Relations Officer
12th September 2012

The Association Bookstall is coming to an ADM near you!

January is the time when all the Districts have their Annual District Meetings. It is also customary for the bookstall to visit an ADM on each of the Saturdays in January and next year should be no exception so please note them in your diaries.

The bookstall will be in attendance at the following ADM's:

- 5th January – South Eastern District at Danbury
- 12th January – North Eastern District at Thorpe-le-Soken
- 19th January – Southern District at Basildon
- 26th January – North Western District at Radwinter

The New Ringer's book has proved very popular since its publication in 2011 and will once again be on sale, priced at £9.50.



During 2012, I sold the last remaining 13 editions of the old Red Diagrams book – the last copies we had – and I now have in stock the new Blue edition, which will be on sale in the New Year, priced £12.95.

'Diagrams' is the new edition (the 14th), replacing Christopher Groome's famous edition which he prepared in 1972. It comes in hardback and is pocket size. The blue lines shown for the 201 methods illustrated (increased from 116 previously) are all laid out as Jasper Snowdon, the Yorkshire Association's first President, did in his original work bearing the same title, which he published in 1881.

The new Diagrams is now published by the Yorkshire Association. I also currently have three other books published by the YACR which are on sale at the old suppliers price as follows:

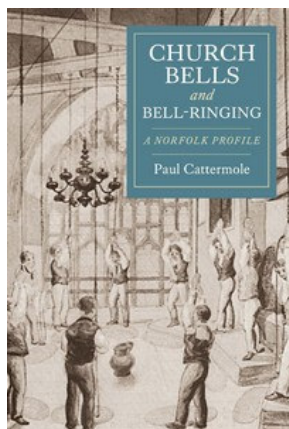
Inspired By Bells (YACR price £20) – bookstall price £16

Grandsire (YACR price £8) –bookstall price £4

Ropesight (YACR price £7) – bookstall price £3

Please look out for the bookstall and I look forward to meeting you all in January.

Christina Brewster
Bookstall Administrator



A new era of scholarship in campanological research and writing. 'RINGING WORLD

The beginnings of scientific chameringing now seem most likely, from the considerable body of evidence which has emerged, to have taken place in the eastern counties: and in this classic study Paul Cattermole examines the development of bell-ringing in one county, Norfolk, from the earliest records through to the present day. What he has to say is of general, rather than local, interest, but his information is necessarily drawn from local records. He explores bell-ringers' links with the church and with local communities, using documentary evidence dating back in some cases to the 14th century, and he studies in detail the technical development of church towers and bell frames, identifying and illustrating a number of early examples.

PAUL CATTERMOLLE, who died in 2009, was for many years Adviser on Bells to the Diocese of Norwich.

Available from:
Boydell & Brewer Ltd
Whitwell House
St Audry's Park Road
Melton
Woodbridge
Suffolk IP12 1SY
01394 610600

Northwest District Striking Contest Saturday 27 October

The 2012 Northwest District Striking Contest for the Stan Clark Call-Change Trophy took place on Saturday 27 October on the restored ring of six at Willingale. There were five bands competing which made for a great contest. Not only was this the first contest to be rung on the restored bells but for many of the ringers this was their first contest, so naturally there was a tension in the air.



Ringers on the new ringing floor are clearly visible from the nave floor thus enabling those waiting to ring or having rung to watch other bands perform.

Throughout the contest there was a great atmosphere as ringers mingled, chatted and enjoyed a scrumptious tea. But mainly the discussion was about how well the bands might have performed.

Bands waited with bated breath for the results. The judges commented favourably on the overall quality of the ringing and the bands listened intently to the judges' detailed feedback which all bands found very beneficial to their ongoing development.

The final results were:

Saffron Walden	21 faults
Willingale Friday	26 faults
Willingale Wednesday	26½ faults

A closely matched outcome to a wonderful afternoon. The trophy was presented by District Master Roger Collins. The two Willingale bands particularly enjoyed and benefitted from the contest. It gave us a target to aim for and show those who have encouraged and tutored us the fruits of their efforts. The development of the Willingale ringers is in a large part due to the support that we have had and continue to receive from so many people in EACR and NW District – we thank you all.



Anxious ringers wait their turn

Special thanks are due to Fred and Mary Bone for judging the contest and being so helpful and fulsome with their comments on each band's ringing.

The rules of entry for Stan Clarke Trophy are designed to encourage bands containing some less experienced ringers and the contest is an excellent target for bands to practice for and then participate. The Northwest District would like to see more bands participating so do look out for the date and venue of the 2013 context.

Peter Tottman

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2013

Annual subscriptions to the Association are due on 1st January 2013. Subscription rates remain the same as in recent years - £8 for ringing members (i.e. all members or prospective members aged over 18 on 1st January 2013) and £4 for junior members or friends.

Annual subscriptions are one of the primary sources of Association revenue and it is very important for members to pay their subscription promptly.

Please pay your subscription before April 2013 – it greatly helps the finances and the running of the Association.

Please note:

Subscriptions should be paid by 30th April 2013. Members not paying by this date shall not participate in or vote at meetings or ring peals for the Association until the subscription is paid.

Those members whose annual subscriptions are not paid by 31st December 2012 shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Association and their names shall not be published in the Annual Report.

Lapsed members may be readmitted to membership without election in the year following non-payment (i.e. 2013) if payment of the arrears and the current year's subscription are received by 30th April 2013. After this date lapsed members shall be re-elected in accordance with normal procedures.

Use of the Membership Form is now mandatory and no elections should take place without a completed form. The current form is downloadable from the EACR website.

If you have any queries about membership or subscriptions then please let me know.

**Andrew Brewster
Association Treasurer**

St. Mary's Walthamstow

Our original 18th century peal of 8 bells was rehung in 1896 with two additional bells to make a peal of 10. Since then the only major work carried out was to rehang them on new ball bearings in 1947.



The bells are now approaching the end of their life, so we have embarked upon a series of events to raise money to have them rehung with new headstocks, wheels, pulleys, etc.

The Village Residents Association gave us a stall at the Village Fete and Garden in July where we sold bric-a-brac and books. As it was a day when we had heavy rain all day, our sales were somewhat limited.

On September 1st we had originally booked the Charmborough Ring to give demonstrations, let people try their hand

at ringing a bell and hopefully recruit new ringers. Sadly we had to cancel this as the English Defence League announced they had planned an anti-Muslim march that would pass the site we had booked for the bells. In addition a group of local people planned a counter demonstration meeting on the same site and wanted us to only ring when they asked us to. After many meetings and phone discussions that included our MP and the Borough Police Commander, they were given an alternative site for their meeting.

After searching the internet the Rector found the Suffolk Guild Vesty Mini-Ring was available. A member of the congregation kindly agreed to collect the bells on Friday, so all was not lost.



As we now had a wedding to ring for, we were only able to use the bells for about three hours. However, it was a huge success and attracted many visitors on their way to and from Walthamstow High Street Market. In spite of setbacks we raised nearly £98 in donations as well as awareness.



We also had the tower open as part of the London Open House Weekend. We had plenty of visitors wanting the fantastic view from the tower and raised £200. Subsequently further donation of £240 has been received.

September 23rd was the day we had a concert in the church. This was by a local group of singers and musicians called Kuma Lisa. They perform Bulgarian Folk songs and music in a modern, jazz-like style. The performance was excellent. They very kindly offered to take only expenses so that the entire profit would be for our funds. This amounted to £600.

Dennis Hewitt

That's a First

Congratulations to the following ringers:

First Quarter: Nicole Brooks (South Weald)
James Tidman (Mistley)
Paul Shrubsole (Hornchurch)
James Laden (Prittlewell)

Association Register

We regret to announce the following deaths:

Mrs Jennifer Green, formerly Danbury
Mrs Edna Chalmers, formerly Terling.
Francis Goddard, formerly South Weald.
Mrs Phyllis Andrews formerly Bentley Common



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

5th November 2012

Response to Ringing in Essex For the Royal Jubilee

Dear Mrs Soutgate

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you for the letter and kind message which you sent on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, and for the splendid record of celebratory ringing in the County of Essex which you enclosed.

The Queen has been deeply moved by the wonderful response to her Jubilee, and Her Majesty was touched to hear that there were a total of thirty-seven quarter peals and ten full peals rung to commemorate this historic year, representing such an overwhelming amount of time, effort and skill.

I am to thank you very much once again for your kind thought for The Queen at this time, and hope you will understand that, because of the enormous number of messages received in the past few months, it has not been possible to reply to you until now.

Yours Sincerely Philippa de Pass

Lady-in-Waiting



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I send you my grateful thanks for the words of loyalty and support which you have so kindly sent on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of my Accession to the Throne.

ELIZABETH R

2012



Management Committee Meeting News October 2012

The Association's Management Committee, met at Danbury on 13th October. Our autumn meetings traditionally have a long agenda and this was no exception. The main business discussed included:

- The Secretary had received correspondence from Chris Mew regarding the recruitment, training and retention of ringers and will be asking Districts to contribute to a collective response due in December.
- Making donations to Chelmsford Cathedral and Boreham Choir for their services during our AGM in May.
- Discussion about the Annual Dinner and whether to hold another one next year.

Then followed reports from, and questions to, the District and appointed officers. Only after these reports are the officers appointed for 2013.

Andrew Brewster was thanked for presenting the interim accounts for January-August.

There were no new grant applications to review this time.

The Child Protection Adviser advised that checking procedures have changed when applying for CRB clearance. Contact Steve Nash for further information.

The Public Relations Officer, although not present in person, provided a summary of all the fantastic achievements that have been going on around the Association regarding Jubilee Ringing and Olympic Celebrations. Congratulations to everyone that got involved.

Do ask your district officers for further information on the meeting.

Vicki Chapman
Gen. Sec.



Dates for your Diary (From the website)

JAN

5	Annual District Meeting	Braintree	N	4:30
5	Annual District Meeting	Danbury	SE	4:30
11	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
12	Annual District Meeting	Thorpe-le-Soken	NE	4:00
12	Annual District Meeting	(tbc)	SW	
19	Annual District Meeting	Basildon	S	4:30
26	Annual District Meeting	Radwinter	NW	3:30
29	5th Tuesday Practice	Saffron Walden	NW	7:45

FEB

2	Association Committee Meeting	Danbury		2.30
8	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
9	Evening Practice	Belchamp St Paul	N	7:30
16	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
23	Beyond Bob Minor	Wethersfield	N	7:00

MAR

8	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
9	District Meeting	Witham	N	4:30
30	Joint Practice	tba	NW	

The next edition of Rounds & About is planned for April 2013.

Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to

Mrs Anne Bray, 7 Darcy Close, Kirby Cross, Frinton-on-Sea CO13 0RR or
by email to arbray@gmail.com or call 01255 679312 by 1st March 2013.