

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER



PLEASE SEE
 MINUTES
 ATTACHED FROM
 LAST DISTRICT
 MEETING

EVENTS TO THE END OF 2016

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER: DISTRICT LEARNERS PRACTICE

at South Ockendon, 10am to 12noon.

As always, all learners welcome and, if you are a more experienced ringer, please come and help if you can.

THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER: 8-BELL DISTRICT SURPRISE PRACTICE

at South Weald, 7.30pm.

The special method will be Uxbridge. All competent and aspiring surprise ringers welcome.

SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER: CALL CHANGE COMPETITION & DISTRICT MEETING

at Prittlewell, 2.30pm draw for the competition, 4.30pm Service; 5pm tea followed by meeting, results and further ringing. Names for tea to Ann Porter on 01702 582881 by Thursday 17th November. Please let Alison know if you are entering a team.

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER: ASSOCIATION TRAINING DAY - HENHAM BASED

Details on the EACR website plus an appeal for helpers is out from Richard Wilson (07587 140804).

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER: CAROL SERVICE

at Thorpe Bay, 3.30pm. Come along for some festive ringing and seasonal cheer!

AND FOR YOUR 2017 DIARY...

SATURDAY 21ST JANUARY: ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AT BASILDON

3.00pm ringing, 4.30pm Service, 5.30pm Tea, followed by meeting. Please come along to hear what your officers have planned for next year. Any new members to propose? Let Alison have details before the meeting if possible, and make sure each new member has a completed membership form.

CONTACTS

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Are you on the Southern District's Email List?

If you are but have changed your email address, or you want to be added to the list, please contact your District Secretary, **Alison Nash** on: alison1nash@yahoo.co.uk or s-district-secretary@eacr.org.uk or give her a ring on 01268 490061!

NEWSLETTERS

Please send any reports, pictures, notices etc., to Beth Johnson at bethjohnson6710@gmail.com, or post to 67 London Road Brentwood CM14 4NN.

Newsletters are distributed at the end of Feb, April, August, October, and December – copy date for each on the 15th of the month.

Copies are sent to Tower Correspondents, preferably by email. Any member may request a copy via email by contacting Beth or the District Secretary.

FROM THE MASTER

With winter fast approaching, and with outdoor activities precluded by dark evenings, why not visit a practice that you would not normally visit? Most of the towers in our district have bands that are grateful for some extra ringers and assistance with progressing with methods or even call-changes.

During the year, I have visited most of the towers in our district, and have always been warmly welcomed, for which I convey my thanks. In most cases, I have been a useful addition to a practice.

Some ringers attend several practices a week to assist other towers, and a number of bands support each other. If you only generally ring at one tower, why not visit another practice? Find out what methods they ring, as you may be able to help them progress with their ringing, or you may have the opportunity to practise a method that you don't often ring.

POSITION VACANT: DISTRICT TREASURER

Mark Robbins will not be seeking re-election as District Treasurer at our Annual District Meeting, therefore although there will be a handing over process we need to elect a new District Treasurer on 21st January 2017 to continue with the smooth running of the District.

If you are interested in this position or you know of someone who may be suitable could you please let me know asap. No formal qualifications are needed – you only need to be in possession of a calculator.

Attached is the job description for District Treasurer as a pdf file.
Alison Nash

REPORT OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 1ST OCTOBER 2016

Key points :

The Association now has an oddstruckness meter, Nigel Taylor will be arranging demonstrations of its use for March 2017, anyone who is interested please contact Nigel. Also, anyone who would like to see how tower inspections are carried out, please contact Nigel.

Essex Ringing Course will be held 6-8 April 2017, fees will be £55 for adults and £25 for under 18s. This will be the first occasion that the Semken Scholarship (meaning no course fees) will be awarded to one lucky under-25 applicant from Essex. This scholarship has been set up in memory of the course founder Adrian Semken.

The Association is changing its bank accounts from CAF to NatWest due to excessive charges now being applicable to the CAF accounts.

Our Safeguarding procedures are being reviewed with the Diocese, to ensure they are fit for purpose in the light of new rules.

Association Training Day - Saturday 26 November 2016 at Henham. There is a plea for helpers, please contact Richard Wilson 01245 358765, 07587 140804 or education@eacr.org.uk if you are able to help.

Association Dinner - next year's dinner will be at a different venue to previous years and is likely to be on either 21 or 28 October 2017, confirmation of the date will follow once it has been booked.

Grants - Great Holland £440 for phase one approved.

- Wormingford - work all completed, no grant required
- East Hanningfield are now ringable
- Great Bardfield £550 approved

Young Ringers - plea for more young ringers to join the group that now meet on a regular basis. Anyone wishing to join please contact Christina Brewster.

Future significant ringing date - 11 November 2018 - Centenary of the Armistice

Steve Nash

PRITTLEWELL BELL RINGERS SUMMER OUTING AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 29TH AUGUST

As a learner bell ringer with just 9 months' experience, I was very excited about going on the Prittlewell summer outing, as it was going to be my first visit to different towers and ringing on different bells. The itinerary was to take us to 5 towers in Suffolk and Norfolk.

It was a beautiful hot and sunny day and our coach was completely full.

Our first stop was at Southwold, a large church with 8 bells. With so many ringers on the tour, we had to wait patiently for our turns. I was quite nervous at my first ring on an unknown bell but fortunately I had Penny Sloman standing behind me, she was reassuring and helpful, and all went well.



Southwold ringing - the author being assisted by Penny Sloman

Our second stop was Great Yarmouth where we had time for lunch and then ringing afterwards. After a quick meal and (of course!) an ice-cream on the busy seafront, it was back to the Minster to ring on 12 bells. This was an amazing experience for a novice like me – a wonderful sound and also an amazing sight in the large and light ringing chamber, with the ringers of the heavier bells standing on boxes. I was quite hesitant about ringing here but once again Penny was standing behind, encouraging me until I found my place in the rounds.



Great Yarmouth ringing

Continued over...

We then moved on to the 6-bell tower at Acle, a beautiful church with a thatched roof and a round tower. It is a ground floor ring and above our heads was a complex arrangement of steel girders, and when ringing it sounded like a group of people in clogs dancing on the ceiling! I found it quite hard to hear the bells when I was ringing, but from outside they sounded lovely.



Acle - left, round tower; below, thatched roof; right, girders in ringing room



Next stop was at Blofield, an 8-bell tower with the ringing chamber an open gallery at the back of the church. Feeling more confident now I rang the treble to rounds and call changes, I think it went okay.

We ended our tour at Debenham, arriving in the warm golden light of early evening. Another ground floor ring, Debenham has 8 bells and we all took our turns at ringing. After the tower was locked up for the night, we had a bit of spare time in the village, some visiting the local pub and some taking advantage of the chippy, fortuitously placed right opposite the church.

Then it was back to the coach and home again, after a wonderful day of ringing and socialising. As a learner, it gave me more confidence in ringing, a great opportunity to try out different bells, and also the pleasure of ringing with lots of new people and to put names to faces that I had previously just seen and read about in the pages of the District Newsletter.

Louisa Hennessy



Blofeld stained glass



Debenham



Debenham ringing

WILL YOUR TOWER HOST AN EVENT IN 2017? FROM YOUR SECRETARY

The District Diary for 2017 is now being compiled by Alison Nash, District Secretary. If you/your tower would like to host an event please contact me asap. The choices are as follows:

February District Practice: This always takes place on the 3rd Saturday of February - 18th February 2017. Ringing from 3-5pm.

March District Meeting: This would be the 3rd Saturday of the month - 18th March 2017. Ringing would need to start by 3.30pm, followed by a service at around 4.30pm, then a ringers tea and followed by the meeting.

Striking Competition - 20th May 2017 - already allocated.

September District Meeting: Again this will be the 3rd Saturday of the month - 16th September 2017. Ringing would need to start by around 3pm or 3.30pm, followed by a service if you wish, then a ringers tea, followed by the meeting.

October District Practice: This would again be on the 3rd Saturday of the month - 21st October 2017. Normally this is 3-5pm but there may be a clash with the Annual Dinner for 2017 which may be on the same date so this may need to be moved to 2-4pm. I will know, hopefully, in the next couple of months.

November District Meeting: This is also the Call Change Competition. Again this is the 3rd Saturday of the month - 18th November 2017. The start time for this is 2.30pm to allow the copious number of teams to ring their test piece before the service and to allow open ringing after the competition. This is normally followed by a service, then a ringers tea and then the meeting.

District Carol Service: This is on the 2nd Saturday in December so it does not clash too much with Christmas shopping. Ringing starts at 3.30pm, followed by the Carol Service and then seasonal refreshments, although for those who don't like mince pies, I normally request a few cakes/biscuits as well.

If you would like to host an event on, say for arguments sake, the September District Meeting but you have a wedding earlier on in the day, we can always try a little "massaging" of the timings - on any of the above dates.

If you are unable to provide a service for whatever reason there is no need to worry, we can miss that out and start the ringers tea a little earlier, or we can change the times to start a little later in the day.

Please contact Alison on either 07526 417787/01268 490061, or email her on alison1nash@yahoo.co.uk.

RINGING ACHIEVEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Gail Farrow for her first quarter at Bentley Common, Tuesday, 11 October 2016 – 1260 Plain Bob Doubles
1 Gail Farrow 2 Rowena L Marshall 3 Pattie Folkson 4 Alan Moody 5 John Cousins (C) 6 Alwyn Brock

Alwyn Brock for her first quarter peal of Minor inside at Bentley Common, on Monday, 10 October 2016 – 1260 Plain Bob Minor
1 Pattie Folkson 2 Rowena L Marshall 3 John Cousins 4 Alwyn Brock 5 Alan Moody 6 John G Harpole (C)

Ros Skipper for her first surprise major at Hornchurch, Sunday, 2 October 2016 – 1260 Cambridge Surprise Major - 1 Lionel S Woods 2 Ros C Skipper 3 John W Stephenson 4 Anthony M Faulkner 5 Paul Trueman 6 Jonathan R Slack 7 Paul J Bloomfield 8 Clive J Stephenson (C)

Samuel Beech for his first in method at North Ockendon, Sunday, 2 October 2016 – 1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles
1 Julia Jones 2 Samuel Beech 3 Stephen Nash 4 Andrew Beech (C) 5 Nigel Taylor 6 Clare Beech

Alwyn again for her 50th Quarter Peal at Langdon Hills, Sunday, 25 September 2016 – 1260 of 6 Doubles methods: 60 Grandsire, 240 each Plain Bob, St Martins, St Simons, Eyensbury and St Osmund
1 Alwyn Brock 2 David Belcham 3 Alan Gisby 4 Stephen Nash 5 Andy Martin (C)

Samuel again, for his first of minor at North Ockendon, Sunday, 4 September 2016 – 1260 St Clement's College Bob Minor
1 Samuel Beech 2 Helen Harpole 3 Clare Beech 4 John Harpole 5 Andrew Beech 6 Stephen Nash (C)

Nick Allen for his first triples as conductor at Rayleigh, Sunday, 28 August 2016 – 1260 Plain Bob Triples
1 David Buckley 2 Ros Skipper 3 Lydia Roberts 4 Jillian Laken 5 David Belcham 6 Jim Laken 7 Nick Allen (C) 8 Simon Smith

Marriage of the district master's daughter

On Saturday, 1st of October, my daughter, Alice married Jason Van Assen at Holy Trinity, Rayleigh. Apart from some rain before the service, the event was a spectacular success, and enjoyed by all.

Prior to the wedding, a band rang a quarter peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major.

Saturday, 1 October 2016 in 46m (16-1-14)

1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1 Julia V Montague Jones

2 Hilary Donoghue

3 Andrew Smith

4 Stephen G Halliwell

5 Paul A Cammiade

6 Andrew Beech

7 Stephen J Nash

8 Nigel S D Taylor (C)

Rung to celebrate the marriage this day of Alice Taylor (daughter of conductor) and Jason Van Assen.

I would like to heartily thank the ringers that rang in the quarter peal, and those that rang immediately before and after the wedding.

Nigel Taylor



BELL RINGERS STRIKE BACK AGAINST CANCER

from Kate Flavell, Public Relations Officer, Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

You may have read about, or indeed been involved in, some of the bell ringing activities inspired by **Julie McDonnell** and her **Bellringers Strike Back Against Cancer** campaign. However, many ringers around the country are not yet aware, and when they do hear about this initiative they want to get involved.

Julie McDonnell, a ringer of only two years, has had three leukaemias and now brain cancer. In amongst her various treatments she has initiated a bell ringing campaign, now with its own method variations (eg Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles). This has huge sponsorship from celebrities and businesses, as well as families affected by blood cancer, initially to raise funds and awareness for the Anthony Nolan Trust and DKMS (who both match stem cell donors with leukaemia sufferers) and now to fund, via a JustGiving page, second stem cell transplants in England through NHSBT.

The more quarter peals rung of Julie McDonnell methods, the more money is raised to help save the lives of children who need a second stem cell transplant, currently unavailable on the NHS in England. The sponsors have really taken to this initiative, which is in turn raising the awareness of bell ringing in a positive way in the public sphere.

Links to the methods are at <http://juliedmcdonnell.wixsite.com/sbabc> and although the initial target of 100 QPs by Christmas has been exceeded, the target keeps being increased (it is now 200), for exponentially more money (100 QPs earned £10k, and a further

£60k is pledged if 200 is reached). And, if all towers of the alphabet are rung at (J, V, Y and X are particularly challenging!), even more funds are secured. If Julie herself rings, then additional money is earned – and she has just conducted her first! Thus far the total funds from the Strike Back Against Cancer campaign have shot up to c£1m, all since June 25th, and as the cut-off is Dec 25th there is the possibility to get this to a much higher figure.

So, for those interested, all you need to do is:

- a) learn a new method
- b) organise and ring a QP with or without Julie
- c) link the QP on Bellboard to the event Bellringers Strike Back Against Cancer.

It is a great way for bell ringers to 'do their thing' and at the same time save lives, while raising awareness of the positive power of bell ringing and bell ringers.

Not every charitable cause will appeal to everyone, but this particular initiative, by a bell ringer, for bell ringers, is something special for ringers across the country. For more information about Strike Back Against Blood Cancer (SBABC) and the charities it supports click the above link as well as <https://www.anthonynolan.org/>, <https://www.dkms.org.uk/en>, and <http://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/>

Maybe some Southern District towers would like to be involved? For help with the method contact Steve Nash.

Essex Association of Change Ringers
Southern District

MINUTES
Meeting at Leigh-on-Sea
Saturday 17th September 2016

1. Welcome

The Master, Nigel Taylor, welcomed all present and invited everyone to print their name in the attendance book. There were 30 members present, including visitors – Emily Ashton (Goldhanger) Association Public Relations Officer, David Hengeli (Terling) and Robin Winkworth (Petersfield).

2. Thanks

The Master thanked the Rev. Neil Dalley, for taking the service and Roger Folley for playing the organ. He also thanked the Leigh ringers for the wonderful tea.

The service touch was a Plain Course of Stedman rung by Nigel Taylor, Stephen Nash, Don Stoneman, Beth Johnson, John Cousins, John Harpole, Jim Laken and Trevor Church.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the District Meeting held at Brentwood on 19th March 2016 were printed in the May Newsletter (No. 143), emailed to those on the District's mailing list and copies available at this meeting. There being no amendments they were signed as a true copy.

4. Matters Arising

Alison Nash, District Secretary, advised the meeting she had sent an email to Mark Robbins, District Treasurer, requesting if any money had been received from Brentwood from the March District Meeting as the Minutes at present state "The Collection – to be advised". *Note - £72.8.20 was received from Brentwood.*

The District Outing to Kent in June was not particularly well attended; a few more ringers would have been good, although it was a very enjoyable day. Thank you to those who supported the outing.

The Quarter Peal Day with a Difference on 16th April was a great success. Quarter peals scored, tea and cake; a great day was had by all. The meeting would like to thank Andrew Beech for organising this.

At present there are only 12 people, three of which are children, going to the Quiz Night at Downham. More people are needed to make this a successful evening. Tickets available from Julia Jones. *Note: The Quiz Night was cancelled due to lack of interest.*

5. Correspondence

A letter had been received from Vicki Chapman, outgoing Association Secretary, thanking the District for the AGM tea. Our thanks to Rayleigh for hosting this event for the District.

All correspondence received by the Secretary through Essex Notices is forwarded on to the District's email lists so that as many people as possible receive the Association news. Similarly, when correspondence is received from the Association Master, Secretary and Treasurer, where necessary this is also passed to those on the Districts email lists – currently 120 people.

6. Election of New Members

(a) New Ringing Members were elected as follows:

Kevin Gregory (Shenfield), proposed by Beth Johnson and seconded by Ray Jones.

(b) Friends of the Association - There were no friends elected.

(c) Non Resident Members - No Non Resident Members were elected.

7. Future Events

The next District event is the Surprise Practice at South Weald on 22nd September at 7.30pm.

The Annual Dinner is on Saturday 1st October at the County Hotel, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2PZ, starting 7 for 7.30pm.

District Afternoon Practice at Canewdon on 15th October. All welcome.

The Call Change Competition and District Practice at Prittlewell is on Saturday 19th November. It would be wonderful if as many teams as possible could enter the competition as only 3 teams entered the May Striking Competition.

The Association Training Day is on Saturday 26th November which will be held in the North West District this year. The day will start at Henham at 9.45am and finish around 4.30pm. The 3 groups will be (1) Treble Bob Hunt, (2) Grandsire Doubles, and (3) Trebling to Plain Doubles and Minor. Application forms can be found on the EACR website or from Richard Wilson, Association Education Officer, on 01245 358765. Closing date for applications is 31st October. If you are able to help please contact Richard on the above number or email him at "education@eacr.org.uk".

The Carol Service is on Saturday 10th December at Thorpe Bay starting at 3.30pm where seasonal refreshments will be available.

The Annual District Meeting is on Saturday 21st January 2017 at Basildon. Ringing starts at 3pm.

8. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from 16 members. A record of apologies can be found in the Attendance Book.

9. Any Other business

Julia Jones asked how much profit was received from the District Outing. As the Treasurer was not present, the Secretary will contact him to request the final amount. *Note: The final amount from the outing was £47.*

The meeting was asked "Do we still want a District Meeting in September"? This will be discussed at the Annual District Meetings.

Langdon Hills/Fobbing have asked to host the Striking Competition in May and the secretary has taken them up on their kind offer.

A request has been received to organise a few more surprise practices on a day apart from a Thursday. The secretary will try to organise this for the 2017 District Diary.

Jim Laken stated Nigel Taylor's daughter, Alice, was getting married on Saturday 1st October at Rayleigh and although a quarter peal had been arranged for the morning he invited ringers from the District to ring before and after the service.

Emily Ashton, Association Public Relations Officer, stated that if any tower wanted to host an open day she would be pleased to organise the publicity and a display in the church. Her contact details are 07774 906051 and her email is "pro@eacr.org.uk".

No collection was taken.

Raffle - £75.00

Tea - £42.00

There was further ringing after the meeting.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

CALL CHANGE COMPETITION

General

1. The competition shall take place at a tower within the District and shall be open to all ringers within the District.
2. The District Master, or a steward appointed by the Master, shall supervise the event. They shall be the only person with the ringers in the ringing room and shall check that the competition test piece is rung correctly in accordance with the rules.
3. The District Officers shall appoint one or two judges to assess the quality of the ringing, give comments and announce the results.
4. A trophy shall be presented to the winning team and shall be held in safekeeping until the next competition. The winning team may have this trophy suitably engraved.
5. If necessary, the District Master or their nominee shall give ruling concerning matters not covered by these rules, and any such decision shall be final.

Teams

6. In order to encourage less experienced bands to enter, towers which came first or second in the district 6-bell method competition may only enter this Call Change competition if the band contains at least three ringers who did not take part in the 6-bell method competition for the current year.
7. Each team shall be allowed no more than one substitute nominated on the day by the District Officers.
8. Towers with insufficient members under Rule 6 and other than the provision in Rule 7 may join with another tower and enter a joint team.
9. A ringer may only ring in one team. If a last minute substitution is required for another team and there are no spare district ringers available then, in this case, a ringer may ring in another team but only in agreement with the District Officers.

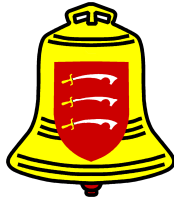
Practice

10. Two minutes of practice rounds and changes (not judged) shall be allowed after which the bells must be set.

11. Stopping the practice and restarting is allowed (e.g. to adjust ropes or use a box) - the steward will "stop the clock" at such points and will tell the team how much time remains of the two minutes before the team restarts. Ropes may also be adjusted and boxes changed at the end of the practice time.
12. Following the practice (including any final adjustments) the treble ringer should signal to the judges that the team is about to start the competition test piece by turning the treble over (not judged).

The Test Piece

13. The competition shall be rung on 6-bells with a covering tenor. Bona-fide 5-bell towers may ring without a covering tenor if they wish.
14. Each team must ring for 5 minutes (including opening and closing rounds). The Master or steward will announce when 5 minutes has been rung.
15. The test piece must start and end in rounds and contain the following 'named' changes: 142536 (Tittums) and 135246 (Queens). Any sequence of changes between these changes is allowed. The 'named' changes must be rung a minimum of 4 whole pulls, all other changes can be of any length.
16. All closing rounds will be judged. The duration of the closing rounds is at the discretion of the conductor, but must be a minimum of 1 whole pull. Opening rounds will be judged after the 5th whole-pull, i.e., from the 6th whole-pull onwards.
17. If during the first 60 seconds of the test piece, the ringing deteriorates irretrievably and is terminated by the conductor, then at the discretion of the Master or steward, the band may restart the test piece. The ringing should restart from rounds and consist of a further 5 minutes of ringing as specified in rules 14, 15 and 16. Faults shall be marked on the completed piece of ringing only, the aborted attempt not counting towards the final fault total.
18. At the end of the test piece, a team will not be penalised should any bell not be able to stand. However, in the event of two teams tying on faults/points then failure to stand the bells will be taken into account to achieve the final order of teams.



DISTRICT TREASURER Job Description & Responsibilities

Responsibilities

Rule 16 states:

“16.1 Each District shall hold at least three meetings yearly.

16.2 The first of the three meetings shall be the Annual District Meeting at which shall be elected four Officers. These shall be District Master, Deputy District Master, District Secretary and District Treasurer. All of these may represent the district on the Management Committee and shall be Charity Trustees. The General Secretary shall be notified, in writing, of these District elections immediately.

16.3 The quorum for District Meetings shall be 10 members of that District including at least two elected District Officers.”

Rule 11.11 states: “The DISTRICT TREASURERS shall be responsible to the Association Treasurer for collecting membership subscriptions, donations and other monies, maintaining an up-to-date District Membership List (including addresses) and making payments within their Districts, giving and receiving vouchers for monies passed, making prompt bankings and ensuring banking summaries are sent to the Treasurer, submitting accounts to the Treasurer not later than the 31st December. A statement of district accounts shall be prepared for presentation to their Annual District Meeting.”

District Officers are members of the Management Committee and are expected to attend the meetings of that Committee and participate in the decision-making processes. All members of the Management Committee are charity trustees under the Charity Act.

The Role

Whilst the role may vary slightly from District to District, the main tasks are as follows:

- Collect subscriptions
- Collect all money raised from raffles, social functions etc and pay into Association bank account as soon as possible
- Provide the Association Treasurer with details of payments made the Association bank account
- Keep District Accounts and submit to the Association Treasurer
- Maintain the District Membership List (including addresses)
- Encourage membership of the Association and the achievement of its aims and objectives.