



Ring for the King



Ian Kerwin and I would like to thank everyone in the NW District involved in ringing for the coronation of King Charles III on or around the 6th May 2023. It was a truly magnificent response from across the District, from the group organisers to the ringers who participated, and everyone's input was much appreciated. We hope you enjoy this snapshot of the weekend's ringing – the photographs and narratives, certainly captured the mood of the occasion!

Ian Kerwin
NW District Master

Sue Evans
NW District Secretary

Group 1 – Willingale, Fyfield, Bobbingworth, Moreton, High Ongar, North Weald

This week's issue



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A star turn for Willingale!

Rounds, call changes, Kings and Queens. Orb and Sceptre, Kaleidoscope, Plain Bob Doubles and Fyfield rounds rung at the following towers:

Fyfield: Allan Cook, Valerie Noon, Jim Noon, Peter Davenport, Brian Rew, Roger Berry.

Bobbingworth: Roger Berry, Ken Heymer, Bob Mead, Peter Holmes, Paul Neville, Janet Leverich, Ivan Haynes, Claire Cambridge.

High Ongar: Kay Parkinson, Bill Parkinson, Valerie Noon, Jim Noon, Peter Holmes, James Leverich, Roger Berry, Allan Cook.

12/19 May 2023

Ring around the rowan tree

A band of Willingale, Essex, ringers rang for the King's Coronation between 10am and 10.30am on Saturday 6th May. They pulled off in Kings and proceeded to ring a mix of call changes and plain hunt. Following the presentation of a Ring for the King lapel badge to each ringer they assembled for photos before the Rowan tree that would be ceremonially planted and a plaque unveiled during the village's Coronation Big Lunch in the churchyard on Sunday. A Rowan tree was selected as it will not grow too big and will have colourful blossoms and berries.

St Christopher Church was a blaze of red, white and blue in the bunting as well as the flower arrangements inside and the Union Flag flying high on the tower.

Another band rang on Sunday morning prior to the special Sunday service enabling a few extra learners to also receive their badge. They will ring again for Rogation and Bell Sunday Service on the 14th May and for Pentecost on 28th May when they celebrate the anniversary of the restoration of the St. Christopher's bells.

GEMMA CROUCHMAN



Willingale Bell Ringers in front of the tree planted for the Coronation

Willingale Doe, Essex. 6 May, Call Changes: Pat Ormes, Sue Evans, Gemma Crouchman, Kieran Kerwin, Brian Rew, Peter Tottman. Pulled off in Kings, King's & Queens, Call Changes & Plain Hunt.



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Moreton: Roger Berry, Ken Heymer, Bob Mead, Peter Holmes, Samantha Hopkins, James Leverich, Ivan Haynes, Claire Cambridge.

North Weald: Roger Berry, Ken Heymer, James Leverich, Janet Leverich, Ivan Haynes, Claire Cambridge, Bob Mead.

Group 2: Epping Upland, Nazeing, Roydon, Great Parndon, Harlow Common, Waltham Abbey



Epping Upland

Lewis Bateman, Jim Sams, Sally Horsnell, Paul Neville, Mike Slowe, Marcus Sams, Perry French, Susan Clarke, David Knott, Margaret French



Nazeing

As above including Brian Starling and Gary Lauderdale.



Roydon

Jane Walters, Ben Gaigher, Tom Smith, Rosemary Iles, Scrap Iles, Tony Collier.

Waltham Abbey

21 ringers gathered to ring to celebrate the Coronation at Waltham Abbey on Saturday, 6th May, including our five newest ringers, and rang Rounds and Call Changes on 12 bells. We rang first for Beth and Simon Whellams as they left the church following their marriage (Simon was in my Sunday Club group sometime ago!). Then we rang for the King. Call Changes included Kings, Queens and Sceptre. At the end of the afternoon we toasted the King with some fizz! We rang on Sunday for the special service for the King and Royal Family.





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On Monday 8 May we embraced the Volunteering Day. We invited the community to come and listen to the bells while enjoying a cream tea during the afternoon. The weather, despite dire forecasts, was kind and the rain held off. The band turned out willingly to ring and we again rang 12 for rounds and call changes. We ended with 720 of St Simon's and Plain Bob Doubles. Ringing friends kindly volunteered to run the refreshments and we were overwhelmed with the response, so great that we had a scone crisis! Quickly overcome!! The setting was ideal with the Abbey Gardens looking at their best and the bells carry well there. So, a good day which raised over £350 for our new clapper fund.

So, a good weekend for us all.

Jane Walters

Group 3 – Sawbridgeworth, Churchgate Street, Matching, Hatfield Heath, Hatfield Broad Oak, Great Hallingbury



Sawbridgeworth

Back row: Andrew Jolley, Ian Jolley, Fred Bone, Mary Bone, Clive Moore, Sharon Lacey, Debbie Cubitt, Kate Jolley.
Front row, Natalie Chalcraft and Ro Kelsell.

Churchgate Street

Benji, Caleb, Carina and Pete Bowman. Rob Carrington. Donna Cushway. Anne Donaldson. Ann Ebdon. Debbie Ellis. Gary Howard. Jen Munton. Josh Raraty



Matching

Mark Clanford, Jean Prevost, Joe Perry, Charlotte Parsons, Shaun Firth

Great Hallingbury: Chiming by Brian Beaumont.



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Hatfield Heath

Our Ring for the King band at Holy Trinity, Hatfield Heath on Coronation day.

Our conductors managed to call the bells into the tunes “Queens” and then “Kings” twice. We celebrated with Prosecco and cake. We had many positive comments from village residents.

Group 4- Bishop’s Stortford, Farnham, Manuden, Henham, Stansted, Takely, Bush End

We had a marvellous day ringing at Farnham, Manuden, Henham, Stansted Mountfitchet, Takely and Bush End, even though the heavy downpours were intent on soaking us as we moved from church to church! We enjoyed lunch at The Cock, Henham, and our last venue was Bush End, a straight line of three bells, all of which had no stays – certainly an experience. As can be seen from the photographs, a large group of enthusiastic ringers!

There was a good cross selection of ringing throughout the day: general ringing: call changes, Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minimus, Plain Hunt on 7, Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Cambridge Surprise Minor. Altogether, an amazing and pleasurable day.

Sue Evans

Bishop’s Stortford

Claire May, Suzanne Knight, Andrew Westwood, Chris Brolly, Dave Mortimer, Shelley Lambert, Kate Maguire, Anne Sloan, Veronica Brand, Phil Schinkel, Rod Sayers.



Associated with this performance were Jerry Piron and Jonathan Knight.

Farnham

Shelley Lambert, Sarah Coogan, Sue Evans, Liz Griffith-Jones, Chris Brolly, Anne Brolly, Dave Mortimer, Terry Rist, Steve Lee, Oliver Lee, Sally Freeman, Jonathon Knight, Jerry Piron, Nick Hughes, Bill Griffith-Jones, Sheena Bigland, June Brennan, Glenn Brennan, Lynn Hodgson, Gail Ellis, Andrew Westwood.





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Manuden

We had a very successful ring, we rang rounds for 10 minutes and the ringers were: Ken Pratley, Peter Manser, Chris Thickitt, Alison Cole, Natalie Bowie, Jeff Bowie, the last three were the learners. We followed this by allowing villagers to chime a bell and 30 did this. The sad news is that at the end of the ring we managed to break a stay on the third so I will be writing to Bill and Nick to try to get some advice and help to fix it. The badges were greatly appreciated.

Ken Pratley



Stansted Mountfitchet

As Farnham including David Jackson, Susan Fox, Ali Poulter, Ron Sambridge, Steve Poulter, Debbie Bowen, Chris McCarthy, Colin Holman.

Takeley: Nick Hughes,
Colin Holman, Oliver Lee,
Chris McCarthy, Ian
Kerwin



Bush End

A brilliant gathering, I think everyone enjoyed it!

Edna Halls

Group 5 – Thaxted, Radwinter, Hempstead, Steeple Bumpstead, Helions Bumpstead, Ashdon, Hadstock

Here in our little corner of Essex we rang together with Thaxted and Steeple Bumpstead ringers and all had a turn at Rounds on 6 or 8 depending on the church. We rang up and down in peal and always included a session of plain hunt or a course of something; we rang Stedman at the last church to finish off.

Lunch at The Swan in Thaxted and then rang for a wedding at Thaxted, followed by Ring for the King. We then rang for a wedding at Hellions Bumpstead followed by Ring for the King and finished up at Steeple Bumpstead (an apt name to finish on with steeple in the title).

Kevin Nicholas



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Thaxted

Bryany Bartram, Kevin Nicholas, Carol Allors, Charlie Smith, Lowie Bingham, Rosie Moule, Denise Kerwin, Ian Kerwin, Corey Vost, Steve Ashley, Cathy Lowe, Anna Lee, Oliver Eggerton, JohHall, Stuart Brundritt, Barry Mills, Trevor Haynes.



Steeple Bumpstead

David Buckley, Gilly Buckley, Jean Camp, Simon Colebrooke, Annette Hall, John A Hall, Nancy Hatch, Chris Hughes, Barrie Mills, Margaret Piotrowski, Dee Robertson.

Until a few months ago, Steeple Bumpstead did not have enough bellringers to ring for a service. Weddings had to be covered by bringing in ringers from other towers. Suddenly, we not only had a sudden increase in people showing an interest in learning, but several lapsed ringers wanting to return. Morning and evening teaching followed and on Coronation Day, all the band, new and old, were able to ring, with some assistance, at their home tower: many also joined in the day's ringing around the district – up to seven different towers. This is quite an achievement for people who

had not touched a bell rope before the start of the year. This is a photo of most of us (a couple are missing) after the day's ringing. Next project: all to ring unaided for Christmas services!

John Hall



Ashdon

Bryany Bartram, Kevin Nicholas, Corey Vost, Tony Rucker, Bowii Rucker, Brenda Gosling, Jim Gosling, Victoria Moriarty, Owen Moriarty, Lizzie Green, Stuart Brundritt.

The first public performance for this new band with nine new ringers!



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Hadstock

Patrick Draper, Janice Snell, Marion McDonald, Sam Rickards, Jude Hannam.

Ringers also included Denise Kerwin, Ian Kerwin, Steve Ashley.



Group 6 – Saffron Walden, Littlebury, Elmdon, Heydon, Great Chishill, Chrishall



Littlebury

A band of ringers from Holy Trinity, Littlebury rang to celebrate King Charles III coronation at noon on Saturday, 6th May. The band consisted of Helen Green, Sue Butler, Janice Lambeth, Isabelle Page and Nick Eldred. We rang rounds, call changes and Kings.

Then on Monday 8th May, as part of the “Big Help Out” initiative, we held a “come and try bellringing” session. We had a really good turnout of villagers keen to give ringing a go as well as some American visitors who were fascinated to learn how the bells are rung and the basics of call changes were demonstrated. We are hoping the four or five new ringers might come off the back of this session.

Isabelle Page



Elmdon

Mary Bone, Fred Bone, Ollie Clinton, Ann Clinton, Sue Cooper, Rosemary Dean, Fiona Dyer, Tilly Dyer, Jules Foster, Jo Lerpiniere, Andrea Quigley, Mark Whitehead.



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Heydon

Ann Clinton, Ollie Clinton, Sue Cooper, Rosemary Dean, Fiona Dyer, Tilly Dyer, Jules Foter, Fred Kuenzi, Jill Kuenzi, Jo Lerpiniere, Phil Maynard, Sue Maynard, Andrea Quigley, Mark Whitehead.

Great Chishill

Mary Bone, Fred Bone, Ollie Clinton, Ann Clinton, Sue Cooper, Nick Couchman, Rosemary Dean, Jules Foster, Tessa Gent, Helen Green, Fred Kuenzi, Jo Lerpiniere, Sue Maynard, Phil Maynard, Jane Osgathorp, Isabelle Page, Simon Potter, Andrea Quigley, Mark Whitehead



Chrishall

Mary Bone, Fred Bone, Ollie Clinton, Ann Clinton, Sue Cooper, Nick Couchman, Rosemary Dean, Jules Foster, Fred Kuenzi, Jo Lerpiniere, Sue Maynard, Phil Maynard, Jane Osgathorp, Andrea Quigley, Mark Whitehead

Group 7 – Wendens Ambo, Newport, Rickling, Clavering, Arkesdon, Langley

Wendens Ambo: Rachel Arnold, Penny Browne, Roger Collins, Patrick Draper, Helen Green, Hugh Maddams, Christopher McCarthy, Simon Potter, Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Cambridge Minor

Newport: Rachel Arnold, Penny Browne, Roger Collins, Patrick Draper, Hugh Maddams, Christopher McCarthy, Simon Potter, Grandsire Doubles, Reverse Canterbury

Rickling: Rachel Arnold, Penny Browne, Roger Collins, Helen Green, Caroline Mackrill, Hugh Maddams, Christopher McCarthy, Isabelle Page, Simon Potter, general ringing



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Clavering

It was really lovely ringing, including a number of learners with them! Loads of lovely comments from general villagers too.

Carol Wilkinson

Thanks very much for all your work around arranging the bell ringers and sorting out the bell tower for them etc. There were many appreciative comments at the Sunday evening service both from those present and reporting on comments from neighbours, who really enjoyed hearing them.

Revd Margaret Davis

Clavering



Langley: Mary Bone, Fred Bone, Ollie Clinton, Ann Clinton, Sue Cooper, Rosemary Dean, Fiona Dyer, Tilly Dyer, Jules Foster, Fred Kuenzi, Jo Lerpiniere, Sue Maynard, Phil Maynard, Andrea Quigley, Mark Whitehead



And lastly –

These mugs were presented with thanks to the **Henham** bellringers from St Mary's Church at a special coronation service on Monday, 8th May 2023. Such a thoughtful gesture

Call changes, Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles were rung by:

Sheena Bigland, Jo Pimblett, James Pimblett, June Brennan, Glenn Brennan, Lynn Hodgson, Bill Griffith-Jones, Liz Griffith-Jones.