



# THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION



## OF CHANGE RINGERS

### LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held at Bexley on 8th October 2011

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Rachel Backhouse (Christchurch, Erith) Nancy and Doug Fisher (Biggin Hill) Ross Hartley and Jeremy Byers (Beckenham) Esther Correia, (Dartford).

#### 2. (a) Minutes of the last meeting

Item 4 - Election of new members: Phoebe Bellfield was proposed by Nancy Fisher and Seconded by Doug Fisher.

Item 6 – Rupert Cheeseman said that the rule for new members to be able to lower a bell has been adopted at the County Meeting. So from April 2011 a new member must be able to ring rounds and safely lower a bell. This should be verified by a District Officer if the proposer or seconder is not a member of the District Committee.

The minutes were adopted.

Proposed: Sue Allport Seconded: Dominic Meredith.

#### 2. (b) Officers Reports

Chair: Nick Wilkins referred the meeting to his report in the Newsletter P2

Secretary: Lesley Barclay explained the way the Training Library has been set up by the A G Hill Memorial Fund. The books were all on display and towers encouraged to select 2 or 3 books for their tower as appropriate. There is a log to sign for the books.

Membership Secretary: Mark Backhouse (for Rachel)

Total membership – 159 adult, 37 senior, 13 junior, 11 life members, 1 associate member, 3 25 year members and 3 university members. 21 new members this year (an increase)

Ringling Master: Rupert Cheeseman read out the following report.

It's been another successful year in the district. 2010 ended with a quarter peal having been rung at all the towers in the district, an achievement that has certainly not been done for a while if at all. The district 8 bell band scored a comprehensive victory at the County striking competition at Chelsfield. The trophy is now making a tour of the district.

After variable attendances at district events over the previous few years, this year's calendar tried to make sure that there was only one event per month be that meeting, practice, competition or training day, so as to limit overkill. It seemed to work for the practices which were well attended at Crayford and Horton Kirby. Maybe we should have a discussion later over whether people think that the balance is now right or whether there are now too few?

Downe hosted the call change competition which a combined Crayford and Dartford band won. The 6 bell method competition ended up being a two horse race at Bickley that Beckenham won. They went on to come a close 4th in the County final in September with top 4 only separated by 4.5 faults.

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Quarter peal week was held in February this year and although not as many were rung as for the inaugural one last year there were still a good number of firsts scored. Next year the County are proposing having a KCACR quarter peal in June. This is to coincide with the national celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee.

A new initiative this year was a district ringing outing with the Tonbridge District. This took place in London in August. It was well supported and hopefully everyone who came along had a good day. 5 towers were rung at and the day culminated at the new 12 at Cornhill. I would certainly feel that it is something worth doing again next year.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has made my 5 years as Ringing Master an enjoyable experience and please continue to support my successor at all the various meetings, practices and competitions.

Assistant Ringing Master: Ian Mills

Lewisham District won the county 8 Bell striking competition at Chelsfield

The county 10 bell competition was postponed (Rochester and Canterbury Districts couldn't agree a date) It will now be held on 25th February next year. The winning District will go on to represent Kent in the Essex Trophy. Ian organised a Kent band for this trophy last year and they came second at St Albans.

(Peter Simms thanked Ian Mills for organising this and said it would be held in Sussex next year and competition date was 8th September 2012)

Training Officer: Dominic Meredith referred us to his report in the Newsletter P11. Dom drew our attention to the idea of a ringing up and down in peal morning and the fact that the new ringers for the new bells at St Giles, Farnborough will need a lot of teaching and help is required. Nick Wilkins added that the Farnborough prospective ringers are learning handling at Chelsfield on Sunday afternoons.

District Representatives: Brenda Barton and Sue Cameron. See item 5.

Sales Representative: Jim Rooke said the books were all here today and he is awaiting a new clothing catalogue. Cathy Cheeseman offered to action this by contacting Helen Webb.

Newsletter Editor: Sue Allport thanked people for contributing articles and asked for them to be as early as possible for the next one as she would be in Australia for much of December. Nick Wilkins thanked Sue for all her work producing the Newsletter and its high quality – the meeting clearly agreed.

### **3. Election of District Officers**

Peter Simms took the Chair Nick Wilkins left the room having agreed to stand.

Chair - Nick Wilkins  
Nick returned to Chair.

Proposed by Lesley Barclay and seconded by Sue Cameron

Secretary – Lesley Barclay

Proposed by Sue Allport and seconded by Brenda Barton

Membership Secretary – Rachel Backhouse

Proposed by Sue Cameron and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman

Ringing Master – Ian Mills

Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Dominic Meredith

Deputy Ringing Master – David Macey

Proposed by Helen Valuks and seconded by Rhiannon Meredith

Training Officer - Dominic Meredith

Proposed by Rhiannon Meredith and seconded by Helen Valuks

District Representatives

Sue Cameron  
Brenda Barton

Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman  
Proposed by Rupert Cheeseman and seconded by Cathy Cheeseman

Sales Representative - Jim Rooke

Proposed by Ian Mills and seconded by Sue Cameron

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Newsletter Editor – Sue Allport

Proposed by Mick McDonnell and seconded by Elizabeth Brett

All Elections were unanimous.

Thanks were given to Rupert for his five years service as Ringing Master.

#### 4. Election of new members

Eddie Coode - Bexley (re-election following break in membership)

Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Brenda Coode - Bexley (re-election following break in membership)

Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Angela Jackson Smith - Bexley Proposed Mary Andrews and seconded by Margaret Bellinger

Bethany Pointer – St Mary Cray Proposed James Hardy and seconded by Dominic Meredith

#### 5. KCACR Committee Report

A rule change will be proposed at the next County AGM regarding the timing of when and how much the subscription split between the BRF and General Fund is agreed. There is an historical problem where £10k was not in the General Fund but in the Bell Restoration Fund. The money could not be moved because of the charitable status of BRF. The books are balanced but a rule change is required to prevent similar problems in the future.

500 pin badges will be available with KCACR logo.

Central council meeting in 2014 is in Kent. Hotel in Maidstone already reserved: Tudor Inn Hotel.

There has been a rule change proposed by the general committee to clarify the wording of Rule 9 (iii) ‘the quarterly meeting of each District immediately before the General Committee Meeting in November or December shall be the ADM at which 2 District Reps are to be elected to serve on the General Committee, and a District Secretary’ (the positioning of the “;” being deemed important as some thought District Secretaries were supposed to attend Committee meetings when it was generally felt this was not the case)

Mr Keeler wrote to the committee about the handbook and the missing peals and pagination errors. The handbook editor apologised for the mistakes which were the result of the wrong file being sent to the printers by mistake and they will be rectified next year.

The Treasurer raised the matter of an independent examiner as they need someone.

Grant applications: 4 were given including £10,000 for St Giles Farnborough. Horton Kirby’s request for £500 was rejected but will be raised again at the next meeting.

8 Bell Competition rules need amending or adding to. Two minutes practise was considered unfair. Suggested new rules to be proposed at the next meeting.

County Quarter Peal week will be from 1 to 10 June 2012.

#### 6. 120 Club Draw

	Number	Name	Tower
1 <sup>st</sup>	99	Freda Cannon	Greenwich
2 <sup>nd</sup>	40	Terry Elcock	Horton Kirby
3 <sup>rd</sup>	11	David Hilling	Eynsford
4 <sup>th</sup>	20	Daphne Paterson	Eynsford

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## 7. AOB

- i) Brenda Barton said that there was no raffle this year at AGM but there will be one next year but she needs some prizes donating.
- ii) Rhiannon Meredith, a Trustee for the Margaret Macey fund, said applications close on 5<sup>th</sup> November – forms are on the website. (Please see 2 page article in the Newsletter pages 12 & 13)
- iii) Ringing for the Olympics. Kent/Essex/Middlesex group fizzled out (BB)  
No decision made – Ian Mills to investigate.
- iv) David Macy – Lewisham have requested help to get their bells ringing. They asked for someone to talk to their congregation. Shelagh Norman offered to do this.
- v) **Dates** for District Meetings 2012  
January 14<sup>th</sup> - Eltham  
April 14<sup>th</sup> - host required  
July 14<sup>th</sup> - host required  
October 13<sup>th</sup> AGM - St Giles Farnborough

Call Change competition at Sidcup on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> November London ringers' carol service at St Gile's, Cripplegate. Everybody welcome.

## 8. Vote of Thanks

Nick Wilkins proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Paul Spreadbridge for conducting the service and Roger Chapman for playing the organ. The Bexley band were thanked for the tea.

**Next meeting at Eltham on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

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