

# THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

## LEWISHAM DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting, Bromley Common, St Luke, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2014

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Received from Esther Correia & Brenda Barton (Dartford), Chris Goldsmith and Shelagh Norman (Greenwich), Cathy Cheeseman (Crayford), Liz and Les Brett (Erith CC)

#### 2. Minutes of last meeting (11<sup>th</sup> January 2014)

Agreed as a correct and accurate record of meeting

**Proposed:** Lesley Barclay **Seconded:** Rupert Cheeseman

#### 3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere Nil

#### 4. Election of New Members No nominations

#### 5. 120 Club Draw

	Prize	Number	Name	Tower
1 <sup>st</sup>	£20	1	Chris Goldsmith	Greenwich
2 <sup>nd</sup>	£10	26	Deryck Jones	Dartford
3 <sup>rd</sup>	£10	58	Chris Webb	Bromley Parish
4 <sup>th</sup>	£5	77	Ian Mills	Eltham

#### 6. Update from County Meeting held on 22nd February 2014

KCACR report on the meeting; presented by Natalie Slator and Chris Davine.

- Mrs Lewis has suggested that the profit of £1000 raised from the sale of calendars should be used for an education project.
- Mr Lewis needs more information to put on the Website.
- The Ringing Foundation (RF) are requesting all Associations to contribute £1 per member in order to help fund their Training Schemes. A copy of their letter is being sent to District Secretaries for discussion. This was circulated and some feedback received. Mark Backhouse had done some research on this and gave an update to the meeting.

*The RF was set up in 2007 by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR) and all directors are members of CCCBR. Its objective is to support change ringing through enhanced public awareness, the training of ringers, and to raise funds. It is a charitable trust and is independent of the CCCBR, so can act on its own initiative. The ultimate aim is to recruit and train 700 ringers each year, at least 500 of which are younger people.*

*To improve the learning experience and increase retention, training needs to be structured, using modern teaching methods backed up by professional help and guidance. The Integrated Teacher Training Scheme (ITTS) has been developed as a modern system to train ringing teachers and "Learning the Ropes" (LTR) is a modern system for training ringers.*

*The Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) was established in March 2012 as the management organisation for ITTS and LTR. ART is a membership organisation, members having passed ITTS courses. The directors include some RF directors.*

*In August 2012, the RF approved a grant of £26K to ART to administer the ITTS and LTR up to the end of 2014. The RF funding pays for employment of a part time administrator and office facilities to support ART operations. This aids accurate record keeping, data collection, trend analysis, communication, consistency of standards and planning.*

*At the end of 2012, 47 teachers had passed at least level 1 of ITTS, and 129 new ringers had passed at least level 1 of LTR. By the end of 2014, 200 teachers should have passed ITTS level 1, with 500 new ringers at various stages with LTR.*

***In Kent and London, just 8 ringers have passed ITTS level 1 (teaching handling), with 2 at level 2 (teaching changes), and 1 tutor.***

***To continue beyond 2014 and continue to expand ART operations greater funding is necessary, rising to £50K per year by 2020. Including recruitment costs, grants and other activities, the RF budget is £48K next year, rising to £135K per year by 2020. As well as donations and grants, the RF is looking to existing ringers to regularly support their funding for the future, £25K next year rising to £80K per year by 2020. Assuming 30,000 ringers and a final take-up rate of better than half, this is £2.00 each next year, rising to £5.00 each per year by 2020.***

It is anticipated that there will be lively discussion at the County AGM as to whether KCACR accepts to donate £1 per member in the next year and continue to donate the increased costs per member each year. Will this have an impact on the cost of Membership of the KCACR? This may have the negative effect of reducing membership as the costs increase to cover this ongoing expense.

- The portable bells that have been donated to the County are hoped to feature at the Ringing Roadshow in Newbury on 6th September.
- The bell due to go to Minster is still being stored at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Not all on the County Committee are in favour of it going to Minster.

## **7. Kent County AGM at Lewisham 21st April 2014**

Rupert repeated the request for offers to either help at towers on the tour route or at the meeting venue for a variety of jobs. Those volunteering their assistance are requested to please contact Sue or him. There is a final planning meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April at the St Mary's Centre. So far just over 40 lunch tickets have been sold. All were encouraged to attend the AGM whether helping or not.

## **8. Any other Business**

- An article covering the Striking Competition held at Eynsford on 1<sup>st</sup> March is on the website and in the Newsletter. A better turnout of five teams entered, up from the two last year. Chelsfield beat Beckenham by one point to come first and represent the District at the County competition at Kennington (Ashford District) in September.
- The venue of the County 8-bell competition has been changed as Brenchley can no longer host it. Details of the new venue await.
- The latest edition of the Newsletter will be the last from Sue Allport as she is finding it progressively more difficult to put together. The meeting thanked Sue for her contribution as editor for the last few years. Rupert was due to put together the next edition anyway, but this was a stop-gap for this year only. Any volunteers to take it over from October please contact Rupert for details.
- Sue drew people's attention to the very good article in the newsletter on the latest Ladies Guild South Eastern Branch (whose name recently changed from Kent Branch) outing to Wye and their ADM. She invited any ladies interested in joining this active group, which is particularly well supported by Lewisham District members, to get in touch. The next event is a practice at St Clement Danes on Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> May, all welcome.
- Rupert made a request on behalf of Val Bracey of Hayes for offers of help to ring for weddings as their band is very short of members. Please look out for requests for help on the email group and contact Val if you can assist.
- Upcoming Events:

Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> April (Easter Monday)	KCACR AGM at Lewisham
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> April, 8 – 9.30pm	District Practice at Sidcup
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 10am – 12 noon	District Practice at Dartford
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> June, 7 – 9pm	District Practice at Crayford
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> June, 12 noon draw	Farningham Trophy & BBQ
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> July	QDM at Dartford (back to usual timings)
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> July, 8 – 9.30pm	District Practice at Chislehurst, St Nicholas
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> October	ADM at Horton Kirby
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> November, 2.30pm draw	Call Change Competition venue TBC

For the full programme, up to March 2015, see the District Website.

## **9. Vote of Thanks**

Sue Cameron gave a vote of thanks to Dr Paul Wright, Priest in Charge, for his interesting service. He gave away the fact that he had learned to ring as a teenager at St Paulinus so perhaps a challenge has been set to get him back on the end of a rope. Thanks also to Frank Roddy, the organist, for accompanying the service from his loft, high above us.

Thanks were given in advance to the Bromley Common band for the tea that was soon to be served and for hosting us for the afternoon. The only regret was that she could not enjoy it due to having to rush off for the Meopham Ringers Dinner later that evening.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Next meeting will be at Dartford on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014 where timings will be back to the usual format. (3.30pm ringing, 4.30pm Service, 5pm tea then meeting and evening ringing)