

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

LEWISHAM DISTRICT

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting, St Mary's, Downe 18th April 2015

20 people attended representing 9 towers, 1 unattached member.

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Margaret Heald (Erith St John), Liz & Les Brett (Erith Christchurch), Esther Correia & Deryck Jones (Dartford) and Graham Long and the Greenwich band who have a wedding this afternoon.

2. Minutes of last meeting (10th January 2015)

Posted on website and circulated in the Newsletter. Proposed: Ian Mills; Seconded: Diane Reynolds.

3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere – It was noted that Deryck Jones and Bethany Kirrage (Dartford) attended the ITTS training in March at Headcorn.

4. Election of New Members

| New Member | Tower | Proposed by | Seconded by |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Brian Maclaren | West Wickham | Judith Fry | Jon Fry |
| Maddy Baxter | Crayford | Rupert Cheeseman | Andrew Sinclair |
| Debra Say | | | |

All were elected unanimously and it was good to see that two had attended the meeting. Debra was welcomed back to the Association after a period of absence. All were encouraged to come along to future district events.

5. Training Events

Ian outlined the four training events this year. The first is scheduled for 23rd May concentrating on Raising and Lowering. A venue is yet to be confirmed. If you would like to attend as a student, please contact Ian. If you are available to assist, Ian would love to hear from you. Further details will be emailed out and be posted on the website.

6. KCACR report on the meeting held on 28th February 2015

- A proposal for a new membership category, "Members in Training", was discussed but not agreed.
- It was agreed that the six bells donated to the Association by Revd David Cawley would be named the "KCA Mobile Ring" or similar.
- It was agreed that the Handbook would be published either without accounts or with unaudited accounts depending on what was received from the Treasurer by 15th March.
- The following grant application was considered and awarded to Walmer: £1,500.
- A proposal to order KCACR badges to sell through the bookstalls was not agreed.
- It was agreed that we would order more KCACR membership certificates and arrange for new 50-year certificates to be printed based on the same design.
- It was agreed that Catherine Lewis would arrange for a reprint of a flyer about the KCACR and ringing.
- The 2015 County 8-bell Striking Competition would be held on 4th July at Headcorn, draw at 2.45pm; method will be Little Bob Major.
- The 2015 County 6-bell Striking Competition would be held on 26th September at Godmersham, 2.45pm draw.
- The 2016 AGM to be held in the Rochester District will be at Tunstall on 28th March.

KCACR AGM report on the meeting held on 6th April 2015

- The amended Association rules were voted on and adopted, albeit with a couple of minor adjustments to satisfy the odd objection.
- Key new officer elections were the posts of Chairman, where Daniel Brady takes over from Mike Little, Treasurer, where Margaret Funnell pops back out of retirement to take on the

thankless task of Treasurer, and Handbook Editor, where Tim Munt steps into Graham Coker's shoes.

- Christine M Webb gained her 50 year membership this year but was unable to attend in person, her certificate was collected by Sue to pass on.
- There was a special proposal and presentation made at this year when Tom Barlow was proposed by Ashleigh Horton of Marden to become a Vice President of the Association. He had no idea he was being put forward for this post and when everyone present voted unanimously for him Tom accepted his certificate from the Chairman to a standing ovation of applause. Very well deserved!

7. Events Update, results and forthcoming events

- Striking competition took place in March with two bands taking part which was disappointing. The two horse race staged at Farnborough, was won by Chelsfield who will go on to represent the district in September's County competition.
- There was a discussion lead by Philippa Rooke from Chelsfield as to how we could generate more interest in future. Several suggestions were put forward, ranging from Holding both the Striking and Call-change competitions on the same day; Holding the competitions in the morning as it may be that more people would be available leaving the afternoon free for other things; Holding a 45 min – 1 hour district practice beforehand so teams would have a better chance to ring on the bells before ringing in the competition. This suggestion would be particularly beneficial to the Call-change competition as the fear of less experienced bands ringing on strange bells may be reduced this way.
Earlier reminder of the event
If ringers from towers where not enough members were available to make a whole band to join up with other ringers in same position to make scratch band.
A ringing league, with rounds held on practice nights, the same judge would have to be available to attend several mini heats.

- Upcoming district practices

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|
| 25/04/15 | District Practice | Bromley | 10 – 12 noon |
| 15/05/15 | District Practice | Farningham | 8 – 9.30pm |
| 23/05/15 | Training | TBC | TBC |
| 20/06/15 | District Practice | Chelsfield | 7 – 9pm |
| 04/07/15 | County 8 Bell | Headcorn | 2.45pm draw |
| 11/07/15 | QDM | Erith CC | 3.30pm onwards |

- Centenary of Erith Christchurch bells in July 2015, monthly open days are taking place. See pamphlets in your newsletter for more info.
- A venue for the October ADM is required as unfortunately Bromley Parish can no longer host us because they were gazumped by an event by the Organists. They have made advance booking in the Church calendar for the rooms in October 2016!

8. 120 club draw

| Dec | Prize | No | Name | Tower |
|-----|-------|----|----------------|----------|
| 1st | £20 | 37 | Deryck Jones | Dartford |
| 2nd | £10 | 62 | Unsold | BRF |
| 3rd | £10 | 30 | Natalie Slator | Erith CC |
| 4th | £5 | 77 | Ian Mills | Eltham |

Thanks were given to Rachel for managing the 120 club which raised £572.06 last year.

9. AOB

Ian Mills gave notice that after 4 years as Ringing Master, he would be stepping down in October. Rupert reminded everyone that his compiling the Newsletter was a temporary measure and he welcomed a volunteer to take over.

10. Vote of Thanks

Brenda Barton thanked Rev John Musson for taking the service, John Castle the organist, and of course the Downe band for providing very tasty refreshments.

Next meeting will be Saturday 11th July 2015 at Erith CC.