

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF CHANGE RINGERS
LEWISHAM DISTRICT**

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting, St Paulinus, Crayford 14th July 2018

17 people attended representing 8 towers, 2 unattached members and 2 non-members

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Margaret Heald (Erith St John), Liz & Les Brett (Erith CC), Ian Mills (Eltham), Chris Goldsmith and Shelagh Norman (unattached)

2. Minutes of last meeting (14th April 2018)

The minutes were on the rear of the newsletter distributed at tea and will be added to the website. Proposed: David Holdridge; Seconded: Chris Davine.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere – Nil.

4. Election of New Members

New Member	Tower	Proposed by	Seconded by
Ann Saunders	Unattached	Lesley Barclay	Nick Wilkins
Carol Brown	Crayford	Rupert Cheeseman	Andrew Sinclair

Ann is a returning ringer and both were in attendance and given a warm welcome.

5. KCACR

a) Report on the meeting held on 28th April 2018

- The Stockbury project grant can be administered once paperwork from those involved in the project submit paperwork.
- There is to be discussion between those involved in the Youth Striking Competition and David Cawley as to a suitable trophy which comes within budget.
- There have been changes in the number of people on the committee which means the quorum size needs to be reduced from the current 8.
- District reps need to report back how many members require a hard copy of the handbook. When we know how much money will be needed to print them, we can determine whether the peal fee should increase or not.
- Doug has volunteered to produce the handbook this year as there is still a vacancy for the handbook editor post.
- Job descriptions are to be drawn up for officer positions detailing the 'jobs' which need to be done to which Districts can add their own requirements. It is important that Association officers know who to contact at District level for information.
- Membership lists are currently on individual databases in each district. Data needs to be kept on a central database in order to comply with GDPR regulations. A nominated person in each district needs to update their membership list /data with consent given to hold data.
- Our membership fee needs to cover the cost of the handbooks, training courses, the Central Council fee and bell restoration. The current fee is not sufficient in the long term to cover these costs. There will be an explanatory note coming but Districts should have discussion at meetings to raise awareness of what the fee is spent on and the possibility of raising it in the future.
- The Central Council is undergoing many structural changes. Emails and publicity in the Ringing World detail the changes. Discussion at District meetings would be useful.
- Phil Barnes would like to have a discussion with District Ringing Masters and Chairman about training needs in their areas. A good target would be to have one ringer per rope across Kent. Targeted practices with towers joining together to support each other would help. We should value and welcome people with more experience than ourselves who come along to help.
- The young ringers in Kent have been having fun ringing together. It would be good to see them take part in events such as the Farningham Trophy or the 6-bell competition.
- There is no more progress on finding a secure place to store the mobile ring. The bells are at Taylors at the moment. The bells can be used for weddings, fetes and training events.
- A new complaints procedure has been adopted and will be published shortly.

- 'Ringing Remembers' and 'Battles Over' are two initiatives being promoted to showcase ringing on Remembrance Sunday at 7pm. Tower captains could liaise directly with their incumbents to arrange this. Please discuss at District meetings. Information will be sent out.
- County 8-bell – 30th June 2018 – Maidstone District (Aylesford), 9.45am draw, Erin Triples
- County 6-bell – 22nd September 2018 – Upchurch, 9.45am
- Youth Competition – 3rd November 2018 – Ashford District (Venue TBC), 1.45pm
- Would people be interested in regular Association wide 10 bell practices, maybe mid- week?
- Having an Association wide calendar with the website being used as a portal for each District to have its own pages would be a clear way forward to accessing and storing information easily.

b) County Chairman's group meetings feedback

- Two meetings bringing together the District Chairs, Ringing Masters and Training Officers have already taken place hosted by County Chair, Phil Barnes to discuss how to take ringing forward. It is Phil's aim to bring the focus back to ringing, recruiting new ringers and supporting them. He wants to explore how towers and districts can help each other especially across district borders.
- District Chair, Philippa Rooke would like to explore holding district committee meetings to increase coordination. These are regularly held in the other districts but have never featured in our district in her memory.
- An updated survey as to what training equipment/facilities we have in the towers in our district is to be launched. Where are the simulators? How easy is it to teach in your tower? Can you silence the bells easily and quickly?
- What are the ringing networks within our district and cross district?
- Training officer, Lesley Barclay said that as part of her role she had visited some towers already, sometimes with the assistance of others or solo. She requests that if you or any of your ringers would like a course on anything particular, please get in touch. If she can't organise one, she will seek out if anyone else is holding a suitable course that you can attend. One ringer requested assistance with rope-sight and joined a Ladies Guild session focusing on this aspect.
- A request to re-circulate information regarding the Ringing Remembers campaign where numbers of new or returning ringers since Oct 2017 are collated. The aim is to recruit more ringers than were lost in WWI.
- A quick show of hands of those present indicated that the majority present rang at more than one tower, supporting ringing around the District, County or neighbouring Associations.
- The question was raised as to what format the meetings of Lewisham District should take. Should we try other formats? Some districts have a short business meeting prior to or within a district practice. The rules just state that four business meetings should be held each year ideally. There must be a minimum of one meeting a year – ADM. Philippa requested that those attending take these questions back to their towers to canvass opinion. It will also be circulated to tower contacts. Lesley Barclay suggested we try it and see how it goes.

6. Events Update and results

- Seven of the eight ringers from the 2017 8 bell winning band rang again this year. Although we came fourth it was felt that the standard was the best rung during the practices. The judges' positive feedback made particular comment on the tenor ringing, which was rung by Jon Fry. The first three teams were very close. A full report can be found in the latest newsletter.
- Nick Wilkins advised the meeting that he had taken forward the suggestion from the last meeting to arrange some of the district practices to join with the weekly practice night for some towers requesting further assistance. Thus far, a practice has been held at Sidcup and one is scheduled for Wednesday 25th July at Farnborough and another at Erith CC on Monday 17th September.
- The monthly Surprise Major practices at Chelsfield on the second Weds of the month has now been re-defined and opened up to the District as a whole for those wishing to advance in Surprise Major. It will continue to extend across the district boundary with ringers from other districts being invited. The first one was attended by 11 people, which was pretty good considering it was competing with the England World Cup game!
- The Farningham Trophy took place on 24th June with seven teams entering, four from Lewisham District, plus teams from Brasted and Sevenoaks & Cowden and the Kent Young Ringers. An excellent day was had by all with one of the two Eynsford & Farningham bands taking the trophy and Crayford winning the hand-bell tune ringing competition. Thanks go to the County Chairman, Philip Barnes and his wife Liz who kindly judged.

7. Future Events

25 th July	District Practice	Farnborough	7.45pm – 9.15pm
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- 11th Aug Joint Tonbridge/Lewisham Outing (Greenwich, Isle of Dogs, Poplar, Limehouse, Deptford) Proposed itinerary **SEE newsletter for Doodle poll for attendance.**
- 17th Sep District Practice Erith ChCh 8pm – 9.30pm
- 13th Oct ADM Ash-by-Wrotham (now with WC facilities)
- 11th Nov Battle's Over, please register at <http://brunopeek.co.uk>
- 11th Nov Ringing Remembers; now sponsored globally by the UK government. As many kinds of bells to be rung at 12:30 in a similar manner to the Olympic campaign. Let's help each other out to ensure as many towers as possible ring out on this day.
- 17th Nov Call Change Competition Venue TBC 2.30pm draw
- 12th Jan QDM Sidcup

8. 120 club draw

	Prize	No	Name	Tower
1st	£20	57	Deryck Jones	Dartford
1st	£20	48	Lesley Barclay	Horton Kirby
2nd	£10	32	Hannah Barker	E&F
2nd	£10	88	Philippa Rooke	Chelsfield
3rd	£10	44	Meridian Ringers	
3rd	£10	117	Unsold	BRF
4th	£	31	Jack Barker	E&F
4th	£5	19	Julia Kilfoyle	Ash

In the absence of the 120 club balls a random number generating app was used. The drawn numbers have been emailed to the administrators.

9. AOB

- The Kent Young Ringers (KYR) are going from strength to strength, let's encourage all our young ringers to join them. Jen Thomas (County youth officer) has lots of events planned as well as taking part in both County and National Events. Just a week ago, the KYR came third in the National contest. The age for National competitions is 18 and under, but 25 for County events.
- Rupert thanked those contributing articles for the newsletter
- Nick Wilkins informed us that a sponsored peal was being attempted on Tues 14th August, 11am at Farnborough in aid of the London City Mission, any donations/sponsorship gratefully received.

10. Vote of Thanks

Nick Wilkins thanked the lay reader, Denise Morgan for taking the service, Nic Turner for playing the organ and the Crayford band for providing a very nice tea, he made particular note of the home made items. He also thanked them for allowing us to ring their bells.

Next meeting will be Saturday 13th October 2018 at St Peter and St Paul, Ash by Wrotham.