



# LEWISHAM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter On Line at [www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk)

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

OCTOBER 2002

## Volunteers wanted

Towers will, as usual, be required to volunteer to host district events next year. So please give it some thought before the ADM especially if your tower has not hosted an event for a few years.

The dates for the diary are:

- 11<sup>th</sup> January - Quarterly Meeting
- 1<sup>st</sup> March - 6 Bell Striking Competition
- 12<sup>th</sup> April - Quarterly Meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> July - Quarterly Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> October - Annual Meeting
- 15<sup>th</sup> November - Call Change Competition
- 13<sup>th</sup> December - Carol Service

## Call Change Competition

St. Mary Cray

on

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Draw 2.30 p.m.

Ring 120 rows of call changes

Entries to Mary by 9<sup>th</sup> November

## QUIZ NIGHT

In aid of the BRF

Saturday 30th  
November 2002



St Paulinus Church Hall,  
Crayford



7.00 for 7.30pm start  
Teams of 6 to 8, £4 a head  
Bring your own eats and drinks.  
There will be tea and coffee at half time.

Due to a limit in the number of people allowed  
in the hall, places need to be booked in  
advance by contacting

## Next District Event

Annual District Meeting  
West Wickham

on

Saturday 12th October

Bells 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.

Names for tea to

Alys Helm on 020 8462 3\*\*\* or

[alys.helm@talk21.com](mailto:alys.helm@talk21.com)

by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October please.

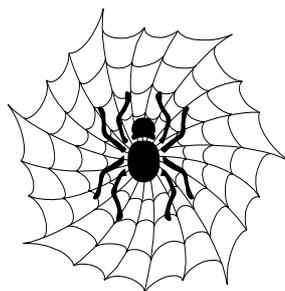
# Chairman's Bit

By the time you get to read this, the Annual District Meeting will probably already have happened - unless of course you are reading it during the meeting, in which case stop it, and start paying attention! Hopefully as many people as possible will be able to attend. It's a good chance to have your say about the way the District is being run. We on the Committee do what we think is best, but if you think we're getting it wrong, come along and tell us! Indeed, we're just as happy to listen to suggestions over a drink in the pub afterwards - especially if you're buying.

Looking forward to coming events, don't forget the Call Change Striking Competition in November. Last year, nine towers entered teams and it would be good if we could get into double figures this year. It really is worth repeating that it is the taking part that matters, not the winning: we're not all as fanatical about it as that tower captain in "Midsomer Murders" the other week. Wasn't the most unrealistic part of the programme the way they celebrated winning the competition by going back to do more ringing? Why on earth weren't they in the pub getting plastered like real ringers would have been! So if your tower hasn't entered for the last couple of years, why not try and get a team together this time.

A good way of practising striking in a particular method is to ring a quarter peal. Looking at the records of quarters in the County Handbook, it seems to be something that towers in the Lewisham District don't do all that often: apart from Chelsfield, which may be why they have a good record in the 6-bell method competition. If your tower is short of ringers to ring a particular method (and who isn't these days?), why not pool resources with another tower and have a joint effort. I'm also sure there are individual ringers out in the District who would be more than happy to come along and make up numbers if asked. My phone number's in the Handbook!

David Holdridge



## What's been happening - News from the Website

For the latest County and District news see the KCACR website at [www.kcacr.org.uk](http://www.kcacr.org.uk)

This has links to other ringing websites including James' District one at

[www.jameshardy.supanet.com/lewishamdistrictnews.htm](http://www.jameshardy.supanet.com/lewishamdistrictnews.htm) and the newsletter on line at [www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.lewishamdistrict.fsnet.co.uk)

### District Meeting at St. Nicholas, Chislehurst

The District Meeting at Chislehurst was attended by approximately 35 people and was mercifully short (hooray!). It followed the service and a most excellent tea (thank you to Mrs. Jones and co.). We rang Stedman and Call Changes before the service, and the general ringing after the meeting included Call Changes, Plain Bob Doubles, Stedman, Cambridge, Yorkshire and 8-spliced.

### District Practice at Chelsfield

The practice at Chelsfield on 20<sup>th</sup> July was well attended, (over 20) with many people downstairs as well as in the ringing room! We rang Plain Hunt on 5, Plain Bob Doubles, St Simon's Doubles, Cambridge S. Minor and Canterbury S. Minor. We also rang the last two spliced!

### District Practice at Southwark

The District Practice at Southwark Cathedral on July 31<sup>st</sup> was attended by 33 members and whilst the bells are extremely difficult, I feel we rang quite well. We rang Call Changes, Plain hunt on 11, Stedman Cinques, Cambridge Royal and Little Bob Maximus.



Thank you especially to the more experienced ringers who helped make this practice successful.

From The Lewisham District website

### REAL RINGERS -TEN FACTS

1. Real ringers don't eat quiche. Real ringers eat sandwiches, cheesy sticks, vol-au-vents, sausage rolls and, especially, cakes. A real ringer is quite adept at balancing a large pile of cakes on a small paper plate.
2. Real ringers don't ring Kent. For a real ringer Kent, the method, is rather like Kent, the county, to a French tourist - something you go through on the way to London.
3. Real ringers don't grab hold when a band is called for; they wait and see who else is ringing.
4. Real ringers don't ring tenors. There are two reasons for this: firstly, a Real ringer sees no value in hoiking a heavy bell around trying to avoid Thrashers who have no idea about striking and, secondly, it is usually grabbed by a Keen ringer who rates himself as a tenor ringer.

# Editorial



So another year has gone by and it's Annual District Meeting time again. As I've said on the front page it would be nice if towers would volunteer to hold some of next years events rather than the deathly silence that normally occurs when we get to that item on the agenda. Those towers that haven't held one for a while.... you know who you are!

As was mentioned at the last meeting the Crayford ringers will be holding a Quiz Night in aid of the Bell Restoration Fund (see advert on page 1). Please support us in this venture and try to make this a truly district wide event.

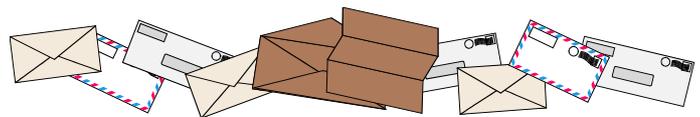
Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter over the last year. Keep the articles coming but getting them to me a bit earlier would be greatly appreciated.



5. Real ringers don't use ropesight. A Real ringer will stare fixedly at the floor to avoid catching sight of any Twitchers, Mumblers, or other ringing peculiarities who might cause a severe case of "corpsing". On occasions a Real ringer may deliberately look at a Hacker when the Hacker is following them; this often causes the Hacker to believe they are following the wrong bell and consequently leads to a trip or fire out.
6. Real ringers don't put things right, they stand it up at the slightest sign of trouble. There are, of course, exceptions to this - primarily the chance to cause acute embarrassment to a hapless Keenie or Hacker by drawing attention to their mistake. This is especially the case if it becomes apparent that they don't have a clue about the method as this affords the opportunity for some extensive character assassination.
7. Real ringers don't hold postmortems, they know who went wrong. Hackers hold postmortems to try and work out who went wrong first and knocked the others off their lines.
8. Real ringers don't ring peals. Few things can be more boring that spending three hours locked up in a tower when the weather is so cold that fingers and feet feel like blocks of ice after 20 minutes or it is a perfect summer's day when all right-minded people are sitting outside a pub supping ajar of ale.
9. Real ringers don't do tower grabs. Tower grabs are for the Keen ringer and the Ringing Bore (those who know the weight, key, foundry of every ring in the country and keep meticulous records of which bells they have rung in each tower).
10. Real ringers don't join (allegedly) elitist organisations; you only have to know a few of those who are members to understand why. Coincidentally "knowing a few members" appears to be one of the few prerequisites for joining.

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I, or my successor, will as usual, be seeking articles, pictures, jokes, cartoons, reports and tower news for the next issue. Get them in early!

**COPY DEADLINE -  
21st December 2002**

to  
Rupert and Cathy Cheeseman  
\*\* Church Road  
Erith  
Kent  
DA8 \*PG

☎ 01322 439\*\*\*

✉ [rupert@dartford26.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:rupert@dartford26.freeserve.co.uk)  
✉ [cathy.cheeseman@virgin.net](mailto:cathy.cheeseman@virgin.net)



ready for more afterwards!

Thank you to all who made this quarter peal possible, not least of which to those who took part.

Alex Britton

P.S. Jim Mr Ringing Master – I dare you to set it as a special method at a District Practice!!! [The one in November soon enough? Sorry Jim for not asking but I couldn't resist including it - Ed]

Details: -

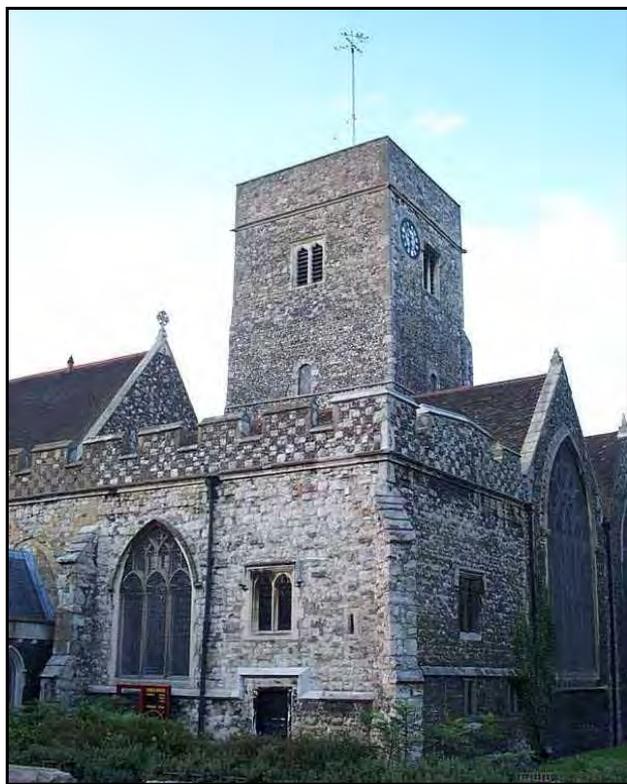
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2002

Holy Trinity, DARTFORD, Kent

1280 Dartford Surprise Major in 46 minutes

- |         |                  |
|---------|------------------|
| Treble. | Cathy Cheeseman  |
| 2.      | Rachel Backhouse |
| 3.      | Rupert Cheeseman |
| 4.      | Mark Jones       |
| 5.      | Mark Backhouse   |
| 6.      | Richard Pearce   |
| 7.      | James Hardy      |
| Tenor.  | Alex Britton (C) |

Rung for the Dartford Festival. First blows in the method for all the band. Believed to be first blows in the method on the bells.

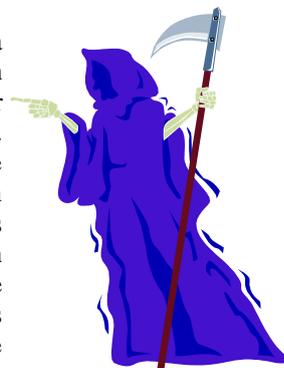


HOLY TRINITY, DARTFORD

# KCACR.ORG.UK

## Midsomer Murders

The episode based around a striking competition was shown on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September and, in our humble opinion, was pretty good. The inside of the tower shots were filmed at Bray in Berkshire, with additional material from Monks Risborough (sound) and North Stoke (tea and results), so the Oxford DG (your webmaster's original stamping ground) were pretty well represented.



Observant viewers will have noted (at least) John Harrison and John Wells in cameo appearances as members of some of the other competing teams. A fairly detailed writeup of the background to the shooting will be found on page 917 of The Ringing World for 2001 (and that's a fact you won't pick up from the RW site 'coz they haven't got the 2001 index up there yet).

## Ringers' grace before meals

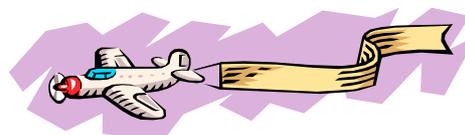


This is an occasional service provided for KCACR clerics at a loss for words when it comes to saying grace before a ringing event. This particular version was compiled by the Bishop of Norwich for the 2002 Central Council meeting.

Tenors and trebles, sallies and stays  
These are all part of our ringing ways  
Plain Bob and Grandsire, methods and peals -  
Ringers work hard, so deserve their big meals.  
So God bless our table, and we trust he will  
Bless all the members of our Central Council.

Bishop Graham (himself a "lapsed" ringer) preaches a pretty mean sermon and gives a very good after-dinner speech, so he won't have to rely on verse too much, but this grace did seem a bit different. Minor modifications for local use would be quite acceptable without breach of copyright.

From [www.kcacr.org](http://www.kcacr.org)



# NEWS FROM THE TOWERS

## ASH-BY-WROTHAM

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

## BECKENHAM

*Practice Thursday 19:50*

Surprisingly enough we have been doing some ringing - some may have thought we'd given up and gone into the building business.

Our practices continue to benefit from the regular attendance of visitors who allow us to extend our repertoire. Practice currently ranges from Rounds and Call Changes, via Bob Doubles, Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Surprise Major. Maybe some Royal on a really good night.

Current tunes for the more advanced end are Lincolnshire, spliced Lincolnshire, Cambridge and Yorkshire and even eight spliced. If you are ever at a loose end on a Thursday evening please come and join us. We can't always promise good ringing but we do try and there will certainly be a contingent who enjoy socialising in the pub afterwards.

Jeremy Byers

## BEXLEY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

## BICKLEY

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## BIGGIN HILL

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

Biggin Hill folk have noticed. You can hear the bells - everywhere! Cleaning the bell chamber of pigeon detritus and netting the previously boarded openings has also meant letting out more sound.

We also hope that locals will remember that Wednesday night is practice night and we cannot learn without making mistakes. Our mistakes will just be more public than before! So far the only comments have been of pleasure. Long may it last!

The disadvantage is that lack of sound-proofing for the ringing room means that I am voiceless by the end of a

session. I am sounding out (!) "experts" over how best to insulate - realising that most of the noise comes through the windows, open because of the heat (Another story - developments afoot.).

Even more important - Jenne Gay is back home from her sojourn in America. Another experienced hand on a sally is a huge help. (And, besides, the house was too quiet without her!)

Nancy Gay

## BROMLEY

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

## BROMLEY COMMON

*Practice Thursday 19:45*

## CHELSEFIELD

*Practice Monday 20:00*



We are just getting back into the groove after the summer holidays. Fortunately, because we are fairly numerous we managed to run worthwhile practices, including August Bank Holiday Monday, throughout the summer period, even with a few absentees on holiday each week.

We also maintained our usual Sunday Service ringing. Over recent months we have not only rung the bells on Sundays at 10.30 am for 11 o'clock matins and from 5.45 for 6.30 pm evensong but also, most weeks, run 'junior ringing' which involves younger ringers - age range mainly 8-11 years old - ringing, with adult assistance from 9.00 to 9.45am for the family service. This is proving popular with the youngsters and rewarding for the adults once we have overcome the shock of having no regular Sunday morning 'lie-in!' If there are any insomniacs out there who would like to join in the fun, let us know!

Nick Wilkins

## CHISLEHURST (Annunciation)



"WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?"

*Practice 1st Wednesday 19:30*

## **CHISLEHURST (St Nicholas)**

*Practice Wednesday 20:00 (1st Wednesday at Annunciation)*

## **CRAYFORD**

*Practice Tuesday 19:30*

You win some, you lose some - a review of the year

In the last year the St Paulinus ringers were 'relieved' to win the call change competition (on our own bells) and rather disappointed to come 4<sup>th</sup> out of 6 in the striking competition at Bexley.

Our Sunday service ringing and practice nights follow a similar up and down pattern. We (very) occasionally resort to Bob Minimus on a Sunday morning but most times manage Call Changes on eight and Grandsire Doubles.

Practice nights vary according to our visitors. Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Triples, even Stedman Triples on occasions intermingled with Plain Bob, St. Simons, St. Martins and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and even sometimes Cambridge Minor.

Visitors are always welcome. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have a good set of bells and a reliable and loyal band. May it ever be so.

David Osenton

## **CUDHAM**

*Practice Monday (except 1st)  
19:45 Joint Practice with  
Downe*

## **DARTFORD**

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## **DEPTFORD**

The ringers of Woolwich and Greenwich have been looking after the bells at Deptford for about 18 months. Our aim is to make sure that these bells still keep ringing on occasions. Also, we recognise that the historic documents in the tower must be cared for. In the past year, ringing has taken place on the following occasions:

September 2001 - Quarter

Peal [in memory of terrorist victims]

December 2001 - General ringing [practice night]

February 2002 - Celebration of Queen's Accession, this included a touch of 540 mixed doubles (longest length so far for one of our ringers).

June 2002 - quarter peal rung by the Beckenham ringers for the Jubilee

June 2002 - general ringing for the Queen's Jubilee

July 2002 - we were due to ring a quarter as best wishes to Canon April Keech, Vicar who has now moved to Hoxton. Unfortunately, there was a problem with keys and we had to ring the quarter at Greenwich instead - we were lucky that Freda had her keys with her!

August 2002 - Wedding

September 2002 - General ringing for Southwark Diocese Churches Open Day.

Some of you may have seen my article recently in the Ringing World (August 2002) concerning a peal rung by a band of octogenarians in 1952 - unfortunately, my invitation to find a band to repeat this to mark the 50th anniversary has come to nothing.

The bells were installed in 1874, there was minor rehangings in 1912 and not much has been done except running repairs since then. They are still on plain bearings but once oiled up they are not too bad. At the recent Southwark Churches Open Day, quite a few parishioners visited us and two or three have shown interest in ringing. As the bells are not particularly easy to learn on, we are hoping that they will join us at the practices at Greenwich.

There is an interregnum at the moment - if you would like to arrange to ring (this could be for quarter peals or general ringing) please give me a call 020 8244 4\*\*\* (H) 07729 820\*\*\*(M) or e-mail: [graham.long@priory.bromley.sch.uk](mailto:graham.long@priory.bromley.sch.uk)

Graham Long

## **DOWNE**

*Practice 1st Monday 20:00 Joint  
Practice with Cudham*

## **ELTHAM**

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

We were sorry to say goodbye to two of our ringers in August, John and Barbara Gerrard, who have moved to Nottinghamshire. They started learning to ring as part of our "Millennium" campaign, and soon became regular and reliable members of the band. During a farewell party at their house, they were presented with an engraved dinner bell



ST NICHOLAS, CHISLEHURST

and a tree for their new garden and a quarter peal was specially arranged and rung with the band's best wishes to them both. It is good to hear that they have already found a tower near their new home (Farndon, on the outskirts of Newark), and there is already talk of a ringing tour in the vicinity.

However, as if by magic, two ready-made new ringers turned up on the scene: Katherine Trill, recently moved to Eltham from Tewkesbury, and Jonathan Francis, just started studying locally. A very warm welcome to both of them: if only recruitment were always so easy!

We joined the Chislehurst ringers on a trip to North Essex and South Suffolk in September. Several people commented afterwards that this was the most enjoyable for several years, with a good range of methods being rung, culminating in three leads of Bristol Major at the last tower. Congratulations to Len Dumper and Roger Long for some good bells and for arranging it so that each heavy eight was followed by a light six!

Finally, in August some of us went for a walk along the White Cliffs of Dover. Some did more walking than others, but everyone had a good time on a brilliantly sunny day and for some reason no-one objected to the fact that there was no ringing involved!

David Holdridge

**ERITH (Christ Church)**

*Practice Monday 20:00*

**ERITH (St John the Baptist)**

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

**EYNSFORD**

*Practice Friday 20:00*

**FARNINGHAM**

*Practice Wednesday 20:00 by arrangement*

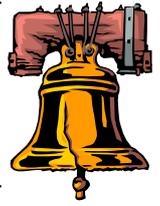
**FOOTS CRAY**

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

We, at Foots Cray, still struggle on. We're working on Plain Hunt to varying orders of numbers, Plain Bob Minimus, Cloisters and occasionally Plain Bob Doubles.

At one practice in August we knew that our two learners would not be present so I asked some experienced ringers to come and help with a Grandsire workshop for two of my ringers. They thoroughly enjoyed it and felt that it was very worthwhile but

unfortunately we have not had the right mix of people to continue the progress begun. However, I would like to say a big thank you to those who helped with this venture.



One of our experienced ringers is unable to attend practice for the next six weeks so if there is anyone out there who would be willing to join us they will be very welcome but please check with Margaret first. Unfortunately if I know there are only going to be four locals we delay the practice start till 8.15pm. A few weeks ago this resulted in a visitor waiting till 8.10pm and then going to another tower presuming we were not practising. So phone call first please. Look forward to seeing our visitors!

Margaret Macey

**GREENWICH**

*Practice 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesday 20:00*

**HAYES**

*Practice Tuesday 20:00*

At last we roused ourselves from our apathy and went on a little tower outing. That is not really true, the apathy I mean, because many Saturdays the band is busy ringing for weddings. Seven of us rung at Downe, joined by the Curate of St Mark's, who is a keen ringer but his church has no bells! St Mary's, Downe is only up the road really, but it was an opportunity for those of us who only attend our own church on a Sunday, to see inside of another and the ringing area at Downe is very impressive with its glass doors.

We jumped in our cars and made for Brasted, where the Vicar of St Martin's very kindly opened the church for us. This was another experience altogether! Up the stairs we were confronted with a nice cosy chamber, carpeted, coffee table with sweets on, (not that we had any) and the most intriguing series of cryptic (clueless?) messages. On reading them, we almost forgot to ring! Was there something like "have we left our brains behind"? We soon had to get our brains engaged because the silly bells were rung anticlockwise!

Thank you to both the towers, we enjoyed ourselves immensely. Our 'other halves' joined us at Brasted in time to spend a pleasant evening in the Stanhope Arms.

Mary Rowedder



ST ALFEGE, GREENWICH

# News from the Archives

A CRAYFORD man retired as captain of St. Paulinus Church bellringers at Christmas after a lifetime of ringing bells at the church.

Mr. **Edwin A. Barnett**, 59, who lived at Iron Mill Lane was the fourth generation of his family to become a bellringer at St. Paulinus.

He is shortly to retire from the Civil Service and moved to Wiltshire just before Christmas.

The family's campanology tradition started in 1889 when the first Edwin Barnett came to Crayford and became a member and ultimately captain of the ringing team.

The tradition continued with Mr. Barnett's grandfather and father and he started ringing as a schoolboy.

He took over from his father, Edwin J. Barnett, as captain in 1955 and earned himself a reputation as one of Kent's leading bellringers

He is a past president of the central council of Church Bellringers and chairman of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers.

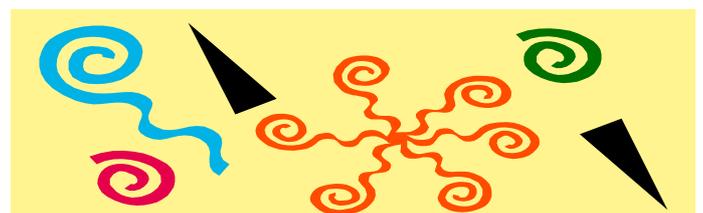
In 1958 he took charge of ringing at the church of St. Clement Dane in the London's Strand.

Mr. Barnett met his wife Olive through bellringing.

She was a member of the central council and formerly president of the Ladies Guild of Change Ringers.

The new captain of St. Paulinus' bells is Mr. William Bond, of Manor Road, Crayford, who started bellringing with Mr. Barnett when they were both schoolboys.

From the Erith Observer 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 1977



## HORTON KIRBY

*Practice Thursday 20:00*

Horton Kirby Ringers' 2002 AGM was held on 19<sup>th</sup> September. It was well attended - possibly because it was held in our local pub!

The main item of news is that practice sessions will be reduced to one per week - on Thursdays at 20.00 as per the handbook. Due to the large number of learners after the restoration, we have had two practices per week for nearly two years.

The officers elected / re-elected are:

Tower Captain - David Crowhurst  
Ringing Master - Lesley Barclay  
Secretary - Sue Allport (see page 15 for contact details)  
Treasurer - Julie Costley  
Steeple Keeper - Jon Pettyfer



Our next outing to five local towers will be on 12<sup>th</sup> October. This takes in most of the places where our original learners had help and it will be good to ring them again with more skill! A report will follow for the next newsletter.

David Crowhurst

## LEWISHAM

*Practice 5th Wednesday*

## PENGE

*Ringing by arrangement*

## ST MARY CRAY

*Practice Wednesday 19:45*

## SHOREHAM

## SIDCUP

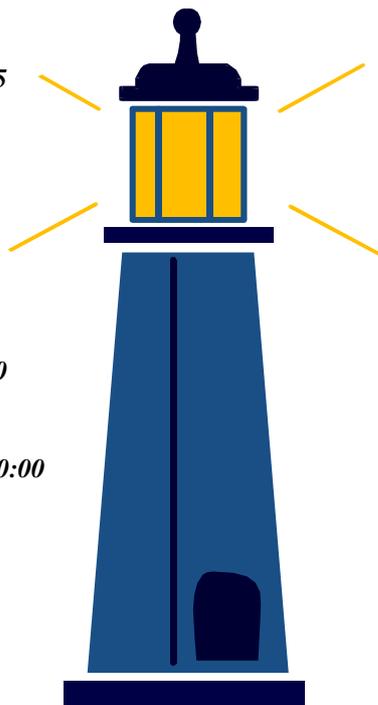
*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## WEST WICKHAM

*Practice Wednesday 20:00*

## WOOLWICH

*Practice 1st Wednesday 20:00*



# Two Towers to Two Counties

This year, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September was to be the date for the annual outing for the bellringers of St Nicholas, Chislehurst and St John the Baptist, Eltham. Despite fears that we would be short of numbers due to other towers picking the same day for theirs, this was not a problem. So, at 8:00, twenty willing ringers, closely followed by some more slightly less willing ringers, set off towards Essex and Suffolk.

After setting off, I quickly discovered that getting home at 4:00am and having three hours sleep is not suitable for me to successfully navigate someone through the Essex and Suffolk countryside, but we eventually arrived at Stoke by Nayland (8, 22-00-12) with some time to spare. It was nice to find that the bells were already up, and we quickly proceeded with Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob and some Rounds. Everyone then moved on to Polstead (6, 9-01-22), and after missing the turning twice we finally descended on the church, which was hidden very well from the main road (that's my excuse anyway!) The bells were very nice to ring and we successfully managed some Cambridge and London Minor, as well as Plain Bob Minor and Stedman Doubles. After failing to escape from the obligatory group photo at the back of the church, we moved on our third stop of the day. Reaching the top of the seemingly endless staircase at Boxford (8, 21-02-10) meant we could launch straight into Cambridge Major and then follow it Rounds, and some Triples methods.



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BURES

Although very odd struck, these bells sounded really fantastic from outside and we all left the church feeling very pleased... that lunch was the next stop.

The meals at the White Hart Inn were all very prompt and gratefully received by all, after being fed and watered we made our way to Wormingford (6, 8-00-00). This was the only tower where the bells were not left up for us, so after raising them (doing our impression of continental ringing), several methods were attempted, some less successfully than

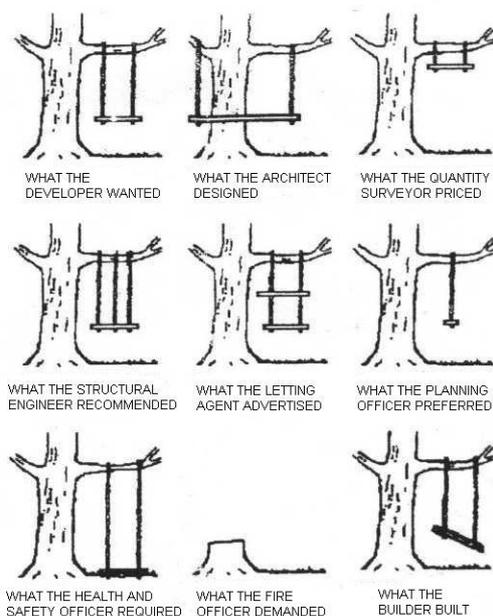
others...probably due to the previous pub visit at Boxford.

Next came a little surprise thrown in by our organisers, the anti-clockwise ring for the day at Bures (8, 20-00-00). Due to our very early arrival, we walked down the road and waited on the bridge that marked the Essex/Suffolk boundary; after realising this, we swiftly went to look at The Swan (in Suffolk) that we had booked for tea after our ringing session. After making our way to the church, I realised that the initial crunch was not to be a general sign of what to expect, because we attempted a half-course of Superlative and managed to get it round, due to several very experienced people guiding certain others through it (thanks Colin!)

After a short stop in the pub for a welcome break of tea and biscuits we made our way to the last tower of the day at Feering (8, 18-00-00) which was on the way home. At the pub, several people (including me) had been told to learn one lead of Bristol and just keep ringing it for a three-lead touch while those who knew the method did the difficult work. This was successfully rung, as was half a course of Cambridge and we finished our outing feeling very satisfied.

It was widely agreed that we had experienced the best ringing for a long time on the outing and I would like to reinforce everyones gratitude and appreciation of the hard work of Len and Roger in arranging the towers, the meals and the dry weather for the day.

James Tate



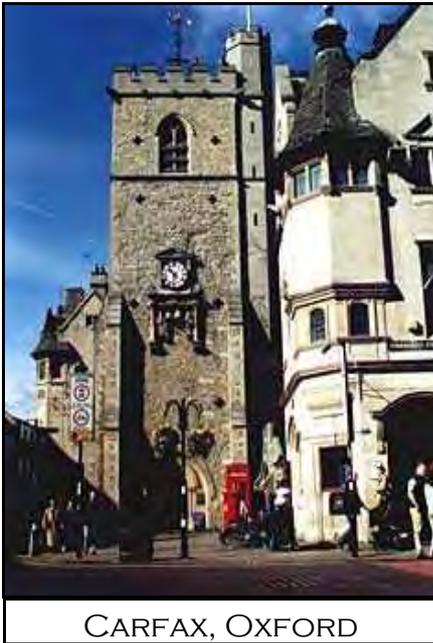
It's all a matter of Arbitration - but tremendous fun!

# Anyone for Oxford?

## Call Change Striking Competition Rules

On Saturday 14th September we set off to Oxford, with many ringing friends in support, for our long awaited ringing outing. It has been long awaited because it was necessary to book the circuit over a year in advance. Our contacts in Oxford, David and Katie Lane, took on all the hassle of arranging the ringing times and access details and it is the first ringing outing I have organised where I didn't have to make one phone call or send one letter! It was all done by e-mail with one point of contact. Many thanks to David and Katie for this as well as Steven Ivin and Bernard Stone who let us in the various towers.

We started off at the newly augmented 7cwt ten at Mary Mag. which were very good. When the tower was originally placed on the itinerary it was an eight but during August the Peter Border bells were added and the bells were great fun and easy to ring. Following that we rang on the superb 11cwt ten of St. Thos. and then the only eight of the day, Lincoln College (7cwt).



CARFAX, OXFORD

After suitable lunch time refreshment at the Turf Tavern we rang on the 19cwt ten at Magdalene College which are housed in a spectacularly large tower and then the 31cwt twelve at Christ College, otherwise known as the Cathedral. Opposite the Cathedral was our penultimate tower, the 11cwt six, St. Aldate, and we finished at that well known Oxford landmark, Carfax, a loud and demanding 15cwt six.

Once in Oxford all the towers were reached on foot and we were delighted to enjoy the company of a number of ringing friends from other Kent towers to increase our resources, particularly for ringing on higher numbers. They were the Parsons, Backhouses, Barclays, Jon Fry, Vernon Benning, Becky Towner and Jane Kennet. Thank you all. Methods rung included Erin Caters and Cinques and Little Bob Royal. One excited and enthusiastic Chelsfield improver and 'veteran' of the summer visit to Southwark Cathedral has been overheard boasting that he has now rung on more tens and twelves than he has on sixes and eights!!!!

Nick Wilkins

1.The Competition may be held annually for Sunday Service Bands within the Lewisham District.

2.Each tower shall normally be 'in union' with the Association. However, at the discretion of the District Officers, new bands may be allowed to enter for the first time only without being in union.

3.No band shall have more than three people in it who have previously rung a peal.

4.A tower shall be allowed to enter any number of bands but no ringer may ring for more than one band. If a ringer rings for Sunday Service at more than one tower then the home tower takes precedence.

5.Any tower wishing to enter, finding itself short of one ringer, can notify the District Ringing Master or Deputy Ringing Master, who can supply the extra member. The extra member must not have already entered the Competition.

6.The conductor shall call the changes from memory. No visual aids will be allowed.

7.Each team must ring call changes. No method will be permitted.

8.Call changes are to be made, on average, every fifth handstroke with the change made at the following handstroke.

9.Each team will be allowed two minutes practice rounds and call changes, (this will not be judged) standing the bells at the end of the rounds.

10.Each team will be judged on 120 rows, a handstroke and backstroke counting as two rows. A maximum of 12 whole pulls of rounds will be allowed for "settling down" before the start of the call changes. A steward in the tower will count the rows and inform the conductor when the required number has been reached. The conductor should then call 'stand' as soon as possible, having first - if necessary - brought the bells back into rounds. The opening rounds, up to 12 whole pulls, and the changes after 120 rows will not be judged. Failure to stand will not be faulted, but will be noted and taken into account in the event of a tie.

11.All ringing must be carried out with open handstroke leads. Faults will be awarded for closed handstroke leading.

**12.The entry forms for the Competition must be received by the District Secretary at least seven clear days before the date of the Competition. Neither late nor telephone entries will be accepted.**

13.The ringing will be judged by a competent judge from outside the District.

14.Any dispute or difficulty should be referred to the District Officers before the end of the Competition.

15.If a tower enters and subsequently has to withdraw, their entry fee will not be refunded.

16.The names of those taking part (up to nine in all) must be given on the entry form.

17.A representative of each tower shall be available for the draw and the order adhered to, unless the band has a prior commitment for service ringing at their own church.

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### PEALS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
02 May 2002	Foots Cray	5040	Doubles 12m.	02/793
01 June 2002	Chelsfield	5040	Minor 4m.	02/793
11 June 2002	Chislehurst, Annunciation	5088	Glasgow Surprise Major	02/710
13 July 2002	Beckenham	5088	Percy's Tea Strainer Treble Place Major	02/915
16 July 2002	Beckenham	5080	Spliced Surprise Royal 5m.	02/793
20 July 2002	Bromley	5152	Xenolite Surprise Major	02/822
20 August 2002	Beckenham		5000 Spliced Surprise Royal 4m.	02/915

All the peals were rung for the KCACR except the Percy's Tea Strainer, which was for the Friends of Dorothy Society.

### QUARTERS RUNG IN THE DISTRICT

Date	Place	Changes	Method	RW page no.
17 May 2002	Eltham	1260	Grandsire Triples	02/692
05 June 2002	Farningham	1320	Cambridge Surprise Minor	02/748
30 June 2002	Bromley	1260	Stedman Triples	02/741
04 July 2002	Woolwich	1260	Plain Bob Triples	02/773
06 July 2002	Woolwich	?	Grandsire Triples	02/802
07 July 2002	Chelsfield	1320	Plain Bob Minor	02/826
07 July 2002	Greenwich	1277	Grandsire Caters	02/850
13 July 2002	Greenwich	1260	Plain Bob Doubles	02/798
14 July 2002	Bexley	1260	Doubles 2m.	02/797
14 July 2002	Chislehurst, St Nicholas		1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor	02/826
14 July 2002	Crayford	1260	Grandsire Doubles	
14 July 2002	Eynsford	1260	Grandsire Triples	02/827
20 July 2002	Dartford	1280	Dartford Surprise Major	
23 July 2002	Lewisham	1260	Grandsire Triples	02/720
28 July 2002	Beckenham	1250	Cambridge Surprise Major	02/848
28 July 2002	Bexley	1260	Grandsire Triples	02/950
11 August 2002	Chelsfield		1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor	02/949
18 August 2002	Eltham	1260	Doubles 3m.	02/950

Congratulations to:

John Parker who scored his first quarter by ringing the Tenor to Doubles at Bexley.

Peter Skinner who rang the 3<sup>rd</sup> to Cambridge Minor at St Nicholas, Chislehurst for his 1<sup>st</sup> of Surprise.

Andrew Sinclair who rang the 3<sup>rd</sup> to Grandsire Doubles at Crayford for his 1<sup>st</sup> in method.

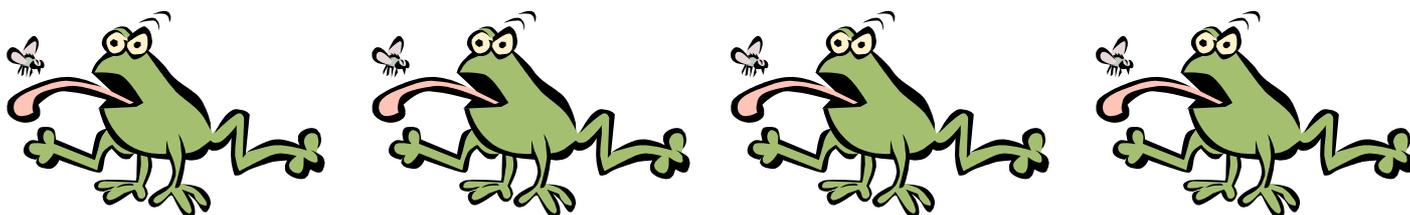
Rhiannon Meredith who rang the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Cambridge at Beckenham for her 1<sup>st</sup> of Major

Morag and Mike Todd who rang the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tenor respectively to Grandsire Caters at Greenwich for their 1<sup>st</sup> on ten bells and Robert Backhouse who rang his 1<sup>st</sup> of Caters inside in the same quarter.

Mark Jones who rang his 200<sup>th</sup> quarter and Dickon Love his 500<sup>th</sup> in the quarter of Cambridge Minor at Chislehurst.

From The Ringing World up to edition No. 4769 September 20, 2002.

Jim Rooke





## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS



### LEWISHAM DISTRICT

#### Minutes of the District Meeting held at St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2002

The Chairman, Mr. David Holdridge, opened the meeting by welcoming members, particularly Mr. Eric Roughley, the recently elected Chairman of the Association.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Monica Hanscomb from Biggin Hill, Mr. Nicholas Wilkins from Chelsfield, Mr. Alex Britton, Mrs. Nancy Robins, Mr. Andrew Sinclair and Mrs. Debra Say from Crayford, the Dartford Band, Mrs. Margaret Macey from Foots Cray, Mrs. Carol Eastaugh from Christ Church, Erith and Mrs. Lesley Barclay, Mr. David Crowhurst and Mr. Jon Pettyfer from Horton Kirby.



#### 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The following amendments were made to the minutes:

Page 2 Election of New Members - delete (jnr.) after Miss Louise Hanscomb's name.

Page 2 Any Other Business: Mr. George Rose - delete Miss Megan and insert Mrs. Margaret.

The minutes were confirmed and signed on the proposition of Mr. Len Morley, seconded by Mr. Jeremy Byers.

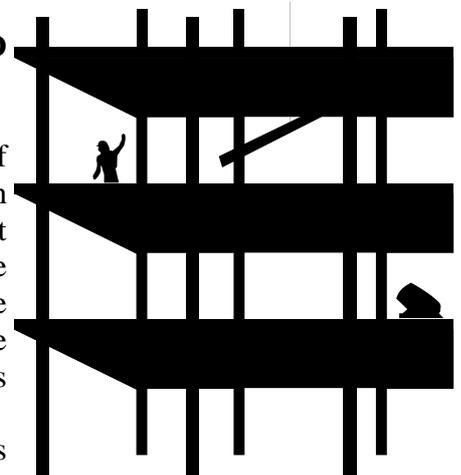
#### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Mrs. Nancy Gay enquired whether there had been any developments with regard to B.B.C. Bells on Sunday. The Secretary had received no further information.

#### 4. STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE AND ORGANISATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Len Morley, reminded members that a proposal to reduce the size of the General Committee and to allow Districts freedom to decide which officer(s) should attend meetings had come from this District's last Annual Meeting, and that he had represented the District on the Committee that had been formed to consider the matter in detail. The proposals had been set out in full in the Report to the General Committee on pages 14 and 15 of the current District Newsletter. A copy of this Report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Mr. Roughley was asked if he wished to comment. He said that it was



felt that a District would normally be represented at General Committee meetings by its Secretary but, if they were unable to attend, the Chairman or Ringing Master could replace them. Members were also reminded that there would four meetings each year, instead of two, which would improve communications with the Districts.

A proposal was put by Mr. Jim Hardy, seconded by Mr. Mark Jones that the proposals regarding the structure of the General Committee and the organisation of the Association should be accepted. A vote was taken and the motion was accepted nem con.

**5. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

The following new members were elected:

CHISLEHURST, ST. NICHOLAS	Mr. Ben Ashton Lloyd Jones		P. Mr. Mark Jones S. Mr. James Tate.
HAYES	Miss Valerie Ann Bracey Mr. Christopher Muggridge	} }	P. Mrs. Jean Thody S. Mr. Mark Jones

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Quiz**

On behalf of Mr. Alex Britton, the Secretary reminded members of this event, to be held at Crayford on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Full details would be available at the Annual District Meeting.

**Francis Murray of Chislehurst**

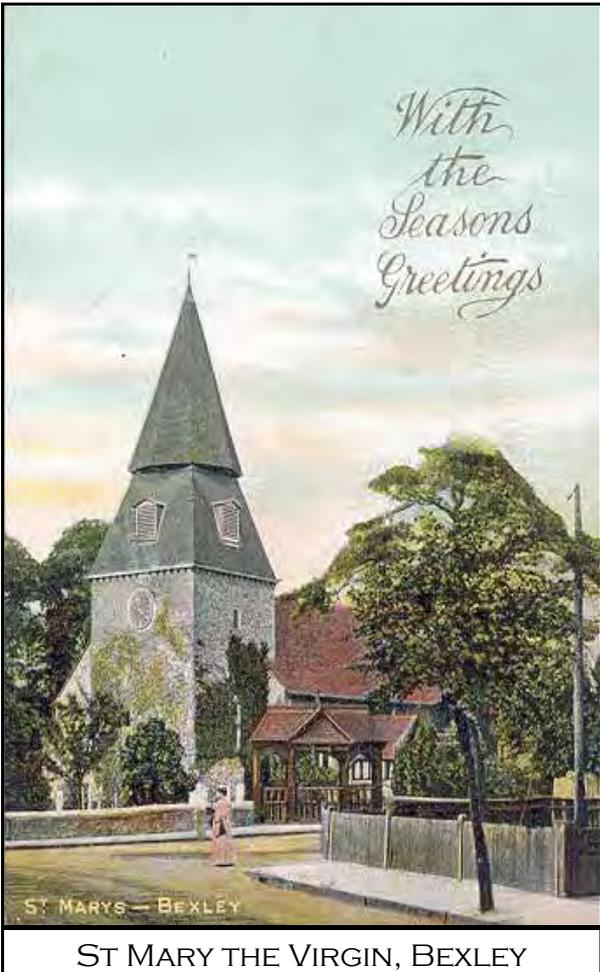
The Chairman drew members’ attention to a book written by Mrs. Jean Pailing, one of the St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, ringers, on Francis Murray. Fliers were available in the church.

**Meetings**

Members were reminded that the Annual District Meeting was to be held at West Wickham on 12<sup>th</sup> October. Invitations were sought for towers for the four business meetings, the Six-bell Striking Competition, the Call Change Competition and the Carol Service for 2003.

**Newsletter**

Mr. Rupert Cheeseman thanked all those who had contributed to the current Newsletter. The deadline for the next issue was the end of September. All towers should have received a white poster (Lewisham District Events 2002) and a yellow one (Training Sub-Committee 2002-2003).



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## Southwark Cathedral

Mr. Byers drew attention to a forthcoming practice at Southwark Cathedral at 6.30 on 31<sup>st</sup> July. Everyone was welcome.

## Docklands Ringing Event

Miss Freda Cannon gave details of ringing on the following day which had been arranged by the docklands ringers. This included a mini ring at Surrey Quays and ringing at Rotherhithe.

## Handbooks

Mr. Mark Jones said that he was still holding the Handbooks for Bromley Common and Bickley, also receipts for these towers. Assistance with delivery would be welcome.

## Bookstall

Mr. Jim Rooke said that he had the books etc. with him, although he had not set up his 'stall'.

## Vote of Thanks

Miss Cannon proposed a vote of thanks to the N.S.M. at St. Nicholas, the Rev. June Hurn, for conducting the service, to Mr. Mark Jones for playing the organ and to Mrs. Ireen Jones and her helpers for the excellent tea.



### Change of Contact Details

Please note that for the following two towers all correspondence and enquiries should be addressed to their new tower secretaries.

#### **Christchurch, Erith.**

Elizabeth Brett  
1\*\* Westwood Lane  
Welling, Kent  
DA16 \*HH

020 8383 1\*\*\*

Email: [elizabeth\\_brett@talk21.com](mailto:elizabeth_brett@talk21.com)

#### **St. Mary, Horton Kirby.**

Sue Allport  
\*\* Churchill Road,  
Horton Kirby,  
Dartford, Kent

01322 862\*\*\*.



### CHARLES ROWE 1915 - 2002

Charles, who died on 5<sup>th</sup> August, had been a ringer at St Martins, Chelsfield. He must have started in about 1951-1952, as a peal was rung here in January 1973 "in 21 methods to mark Charles's 21 years as a ringer at St Martins, Chelsfield". He did not ring any peals himself but rang about 37 quarter peals, the first being on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1958, and always ringing the Tenor behind to Doubles which he much enjoyed doing. He rang his last quarter I think on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1975 but was still ringing for a few years after I came to Chelsfield in 1979. He certainly qualified for free membership of the Kent County Association after 25 years continuous membership, during my time as secretary of the Chelsfield ringers.

Charles was for many years People's Warden at Chelsfield and on his retirement from that position was created Churchwarden Emeritus.

A half-muffled quarter peal was rung in his memory on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August by past and present members of the Chelsfield band, and the bells were also rung half-muffled for his funeral on 20<sup>th</sup> August, again by past and present members of the band.

# District Events and Special Methods

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct. Annual District Meeting: West Wickham, 3.15p.m. Bells, 4.30p.m. Service.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. District Practice: Woolwich, 7.00-9.00p.m.  
Special Methods: Call Changes, Grandsire Triples, Lewisham District Surprise Major.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov. District 6-bell Call Change Competition: St. Mary Cray, 2.30p.m draw.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. District Practice: Dartford, 7.00-9.00p.m.  
Special Methods: Call Changes, Plain Bob, Stanwell Little Bob Triples, Dartford Surprise Major (see page 4).

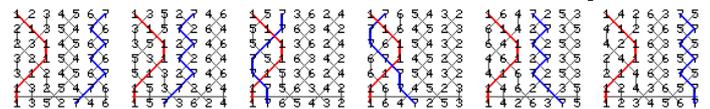
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. District Practice: Beckenham, 7.00-9.00p.m.  
Mulled wine and mince pies!!  
Special Methods: Call Changes, Plain Hunt on 9/10, Bristol S. Royal. (experienced 10-bell people please attend!!)

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. Carol Service: Erith, St. John the Baptist.  
The practices are specifically aimed at all abilities, so please

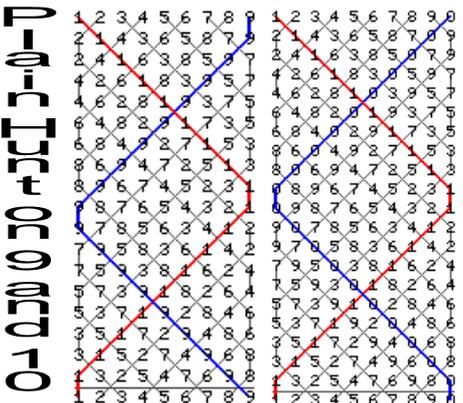
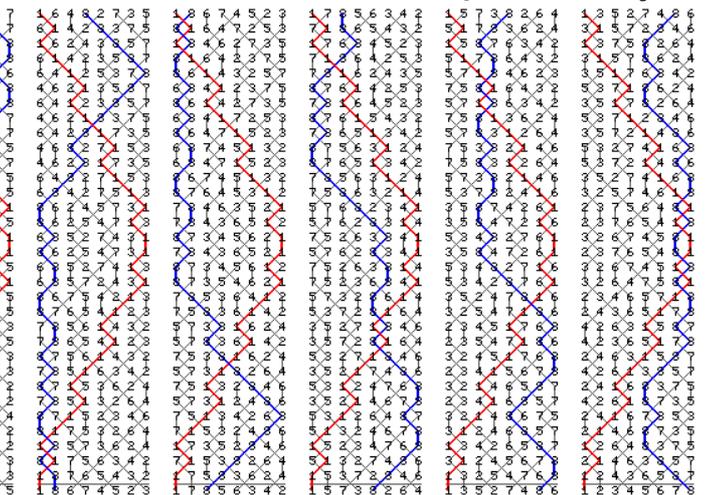
come along. The purpose of listing "special methods" is to encourage as many people as possible to look at the same thing in order to reduce the demand for different requests during practices which are subject to time limitations. It also provides an opportunity for individuals' requests for specific methods to be met, and rung with a band of pre-warned enthusiasts!

Please do not be discouraged, in any way, from attending a practice simply because you don't know the special method(s) or perhaps because they are a little too advanced for you. Practices will, as far as possible, be tailored to suit those who attend. If you would like to request a specific method or practice, please let James Hardy or Jeremy Byers know - either by email or 'phone or by asking!!

## Stanwell Little Bob Triples



## Lewisham District Surprise Major



## Bristol Surprise Royal

