

## Dates for your Diary (From the website)



<b>AUGUST</b>	30	Open Day, Hornchurch to Theydon Garnon	SW
	24	District Meeting, Henham	NW
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	4	Business meeting, Witham	N
	5-12	Quarter Peal Fortnight	NE
	11	<b>Essex Trophy Striking Competition</b>	
	11	Call Change competition, Theydon Garnon	SW
	18	District Meeting, Hutton	S
<b>OCTOBER</b>	2	<b>Association Annual Dinner, Chelmsford</b>	
	9	<b>Association Committee Meeting, Danbury</b>	
	16	Autumn Meeting, St Peter's, Colchester	NE
	16	Young Ringers Outing or Dist. Training Day	SE
	16	Quarterly Meeting	SW
	23	District Meeting, Ashdon	NW
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	13	Quiz Night, Stebbing	N
	13	Quiz Night, Tendring	NE
	20	District Meeting, Orsett	S
	27	<b>Association Training Day, Henham</b>	<b>NW</b>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	4	Carol Service, Gt Dunmow	N
	4	Barn Dance, Terling	SE
	11	District Carol Service, Ardleigh	NE
	11	District Carol Service, S Weald	S
	11	Carol Service, Fryerning	SE
	11	District Social, Wanstead	SW

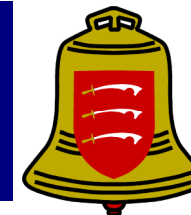
## Practice Dates for your Diary (cont.)

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	25	Surprise Major Practice, Gt Holland	NE
	25	District Evening Practice, Brentwood	S
	26	Learners' Practice, Radwinter	NW
	26	Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	27	Six Bell Practice, Felsted	N
	30	5th Tuesday Practice, Saffron Walden	NW
<b>DECEMBER</b>	7	10-bell Practice, Hornchurch	SW
	10	District Minor Practice, Gt Bromley	NE
	10	District Practice, Stansted	NW
	11	Joint Surprise Practice, Earls Colne	N/NW

The next edition of Rounds & About is planned for December 2010. Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to **Mrs Anne Bray, 7 Darcy Close, Kirby Cross, Frinton-on-Sea CO13 0RR** or by email to [arbray@ymail.com](mailto:arbray@ymail.com) or call 01255 679312 by 1st November 2010.

## Rounds & About

(Charity Number 292250)



### Association Annual Dinner

The Association Annual Dinner will be held at the County Hotel, Chelmsford on Saturday 2nd October.

We have a slightly different format for the menu this year. When sending in your payments, please specify which starter, main and dessert you would like: This year we have 3 choices per course:

**STARTER 1** - Warm Goat's cheese & Tomato Tartlet, Aubergine Caviar, Roquette Salad (v)

**STARTER 2** - Ham Hock & Sage Terrine, Balsamic Reduction, Apple Compote (GF)

**STARTER 3** - Salmon & Prawn Fish Cake with Lemon Cream

**MAIN 1** - Beef Bourguignon with Herb Dumpling & Fondant Potatoes

**MAIN 2** - Fricassee of fresh peas and broad beans, gnocchi, artichokes (v)

**MAIN 3** - Pan Fried Salmon Fillet, Lyonnaise New Potatoes, Bernaise Sauce (GF)

**DESSERT 1** - Chocolate fudge brownie with Chantilly cream, chocolate sauce

**DESSERT 2** - Lemon Tart with blueberry compote

**DESSERT 3** - White chocolate panacotta, dark chocolate sorbet (GF)

Once you've decided what to eat, the next step is to send me a cheque (payable to EACR) for £32 per person, including the menu choices and a self addressed envelope (so I can send you your tickets). Then sit back and wait until the day arrives, get dressed up and turn up for a great night out.

If you have any other specific dietary requirements, let me know, The County Hotel are keen to ensure everyone has something they will enjoy.

You have until 1<sup>st</sup> September to get your choices and payment to me to guarantee your seat. Don't delay, send it today!

Vicki Chapman

Hon Gen Sec

20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, CM2 9PF



**WOW 100 - Girl Guides Centenary Event**  
**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July**



Many ringers have been Brownies, Guides and pack leaders in their lifetimes. Many still are, or have young ones in their families who are actively involved in the Guiding movement. So it came as no surprise to be invited by Girlguiding Essex North East to take part in their Centenary celebration day.

The event was called WOW100 and the idea was for all guiding members to have a chance to celebrate their centenary without the guiders having to organise and run any of the activities. All members from Rainbows aged from 5 to Trefoil Guild members - no upper age limit - were invited to attend. The guest list was made up of their ambassadors and people in the community who actively support them and promote them.



Some of our helpers, from l-r Vicki Bennett, Gill Sparling, Dave Culham, Steve Cheek, Katie Dunmow, Valerie Darkins, Alistair Donaldson and Charmaine May



Wendy Godden, assisted by Jane Belsham, working her own particular brand of 'lapping' magic with some eager participants

There were over 3,000 visitors brought to the event at the Tendring Showground in a convoy of 50 coaches, and girls could take part in a multitude of different activities ranging from jazzercise in the main arena; parachute games; a display by True Colours Majorettes Juniors and Seniors; Priors Studio Street Dancing; Curtain Call Theatre Workshop; together with a Punch and Judy show; circus skills; caving; water painting; crafts and of course the Mini Ring and handbells.

It was a very windy day which made using the mini ring particularly challenging, and the whole day was definitely an exercise in going with the flow, but that's what makes these events such fun. There were so many young people all in one place at the same time with only one thing on their minds – fun!

**Practice Dates for your Diary** (From the website)

**AUGUST**

13	District Minor Practice, Gt Bromley	NE
13	District Practice, Stansted	NW
14	Joint Surprise Practice, Hatfield Broad Oak	N/NW
21	Eight Bell Practice (Advanced), Braintree	N
26	Surprise Major Practice, Ardleigh	NE
26	District Evening Practice, Brentwood	S
27	Learners' Practice, Steeple Bumpstead	NW
28	Six Bell Practice, Wethersfield	N

**SEPTEMBER**

4	District 10-bell Practice, Coggeshall	NE
7	10-bell Practice, Hornchurch	SW
10	District Minor Practice, Gt Bromley	NE
10	District Practice, Stansted	NW
11	Joint Surprise Practice, Helions Bumpstead	N/NW
15	District Practice, Little Waltham	SE
18	Eight Bell Practice (Advanced), Braintree	N
18	10/12-bell Practice, Waltham Abbey	NW
24	Learners' Practice, Great Parndon	NW
24	Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
25	Six Bell Practice, Wethersfield	N
30	Surprise Major Practice, Ardleigh	NE

**OCTOBER**

6	10-bell Practice, Walthamostow St. Mary	SW
8	District Minor Practice, Gt Bromley	NE
8	District Practice, Stansted	NW
9	Joint Surprise Practice, Toppesfield	N/NW
16	District Practice, Braintree	N
16	District Afternoon Practice, S Benfleet	S
22	Learners' Practice, High Ongar	NW
22	District Practice, Great Totham	SE
28	Surprise Major Practice, Gt Holland	NE
29	Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
30	Six Bell Practice, Felsted	N
30	5th Saturday Practice, Sawbridgeworth	NW

**NOVEMBER**

5	10-bell Practice, West Ham	SW
12	District Minor Practice, Gt Bromley	NE
12	District Practice, Stansted	NW
13	Joint Surprise Practice, Stansted M'tfitchet	N/NW
15	District Practice, Galleywood	SE
20	Eight Bell Practice (Advanced), Braintree	N

## Association Register

### Births:

Frances Hill (Mistley) and her husband Chris are the proud parents of Amy Louise, born on Saturday 29 May  
Jo & Ken Elliott have a new grand-daughter, born 31<sup>st</sup> May  
Anna Elizabeth Jones

### Deaths:

We regret to announce the death of the Reverend WJT Smith, vicar of Boreham 1965 – 1990, who passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> May. Revd. Smith, the author of the hymn 'Glad bells ring loud and clear', was an Associate and Friend of the Association for very many years and will be remembered for his good works in the parish and his research into the history of St Andrew's.

We also regret to announce the deaths of:

Alan Peacock, a ringer at Nazeing  
H Malcolm Oliver (Colchester St. Peter, former NE District Master)  
Joan Tilley of Galleywood

### Anniversaries:

Congratulations to David & Jennifer Millin (Shrub End), who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 6 June.

Congratulations to Rev. Nicholas Davis (Shrub End) – who celebrated 25 Years in the priesthood on 30 June 2010.

### Birthdays:

Significant Birthday congratulations to:  
Tom Monk and Len Bullock - 80  
Mary Coe - 60

Donald Heath - 70  
Steven Waters

## New Simulator at Radwinter

**Radwinter St Mary** is now equipped with a simulator for all eight bells, and is available for 'silent' practice. One off or regular sessions can be booked for any time or day except Monday evenings.

**Also a regular Simulator Practice** on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, starting 7.45pm. (Linda says this will include kaleidoscope ringing to help develop method ringing skills, and simulator exercises and games to improve handling, striking, listening and rhythm without the complication of ringing a method or disturbing the neighbours! The aim is to be a supportive self-help group with open discussion of difficulties and how to solve them). Open to all, especially learners.

To book or for more information on either of the above, ring 01799 599339 or email: [linda@nottages.co.uk](mailto:linda@nottages.co.uk)

While we weren't actively trying to recruit, some of the older girls did find the mini ring and hand bells really interesting and took away leaflets and information sheets, telling them how to find out more. We also gave information to pack leaders, so if they would like to arrange a follow-up visit to a church, they will be able to do so.

While we were there, I gave an interview to DJ Bushra, who broadcasts a show on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month on saintfm 94.7, called 'The GENE Radio Show', Girlguiding Essex North East's very own radio show <http://www.saintfm.org.uk/listenlive.html>.



**Wethersfield ringer and Guider, Esther Pilgrim (right) and friends Lian Milbourn (Left) and Erin Gore (Middle) – Esther is a dab hand on the mini ring, and actually ended up as an impromptu helper – thanks Esther!**

Janet Edwards also introduced me to Bob Russell, the MP for Colchester, who said that he found the mini ring absolutely fascinating. He had never seen anything like it before. Bob is seriously committed to the welfare of the three Colchester churches with ringable peals - St Peter, North Hill; St Leonard at the Hythe and All Saints, Shrub End. We had quite a conversation about the social and ringing welfare of each of the parishes which fall in EACR's NE District. He came back to see me later on and we exchanged business cards with a view to arranging taking part in some forthcoming display opportunities, so that's something else exciting to look forward to.

So again we had a very busy day, which took lots of organisation over a long period of time, but was ultimately extremely rewarding. I must extend my thanks to Julie Down and Janet Edwards from Girlguiding Essex North East for their help in getting us there and their very kind donation towards EACR's funds. Thanks must also go to the merry band of helpers which came from across three different EACR Districts including Alistair Donaldson; Vicki Bennett; Angie Pannell, Katie Dunmow, Valerie Darkins; Allan and Maureen Cansdale (all from Northern District); Wendy Godden; Charmaine May and Jane Belsham (all from SE District) and Gill Sparling; David Culham; Steve Cheek; Anne Turner (all from NE District).

Tracey Southgate (PRO)

## The Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place on Bank Holiday Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010 and as usual the Cathedral bells were available for general ringing prior to the service before the invited band rang the service touch. Refreshments were served during general ringing and between the service and meeting.

The service was conducted by the Precentor, Revd Canon Simon Pothén; lessons read by the Master and Revd Ian Joryz, our Chaplain. The address was given by the Revd Canon Ivor Moody, Vice Dean at the Cathedral. The Boreham Choir sang the anthem "Hosanna to the Son of David" by Telemann.

At the AGM members approved the accounts and annual report. The Treasurer reported on his investigation into the provision of Personal Accident Insurance and support was given to continuing with the extended cover as detailed by the Treasurer.

The Rules Sub-Committee gave a comprehensive presentation into the work they have so far carried out with re-drafting the Association's Objects and Rules. A draft version is to be submitted to the October Executive Committee with a final version is to be submitted to the February Executive Committee so that they may be approved at the 2011 AGM.

A Motion was put to the meeting regarding the suspension of members whose name appears on the Sex Offenders Register. After a reasoned debate, the Motion was carried by 78 votes in favour, 55 against with 3 spoilt papers.

Discussion about the Annual Dinner took place and from a show of hands and general support from the floor. The Principal Officers agreed after the meeting to go ahead with the dinner on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at the County Hotel, Chelmsford. Details elsewhere in this newsletter.

After the Master had announced that the 8 Bell Striking Competition Touch would be 264 Gainsborough Little Bob Major, to a sharp intake of breath, towers in the Southern District were open for ringing in the afternoon, with tea at Eastwood.

I would like to thank everyone involved in the day's arrangements, particularly the Cathedral staff, Owain Jones and Simon Harvey of the Boreham Choir, and the Southern District Officers.

Vicki Chapman, Hon Gen Sec

The Basildon team of bell ringers put on an exhibition about the history and art of bell ringing, took visitors on a tour of the tower and right up to see the bells. Visitors were also encouraged to have a go – the challenge part behind the weekend.

Quite often, members of the public are absolutely fascinated by the science, the sights and sounds, the heritage and rich social life which accompanies bell ringing and leave enthused. It is hoped that they are then encouraged to take up bell ringing as a hobby and service to their local church and community.



Roger showing Susan the ropes



Members of the Basildon ringing band from l-r John Harpole, Rector Esther McCafferty, John Whitt, Julia Fry, Roger Hobson and Tony Lowe



*“I took part in the London 2012 Open Weekend challenge”*

**St Martin’s Bell Tower - Basildon**  
24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> July 2010

“Someone from the Council mentioned it to the Rector, who then promptly gave me all the forms the fill in”. That’s how St. Martin’s Basildon tower captain Roger Hobson describes getting involved in the London 2012 Open Weekend Challenge.



The iconic glass tower of St Martin’s, Basildon

To bell ringers from across Essex, who are members of the Essex Association of Change Ringers, trying to attract new recruits to the exercise is nothing new. The London 2012 Discovering Places Weekend was another excellent opportunity. It was decided to open the tower to welcome visitors from 10.00-13.00 on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July and from 14.00-17.00 on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2010.



St Martin’s tower captain Roger Hobson (right) with visitors Ralphie Cowen and Susan Nightingale – their friend Cathy King was downstairs watching a demonstration)

## Striking Competition Finals

The Association striking competition finals were held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, hosted by the North Eastern District. Nine teams entered the 6-bell competition at Tendring. The results were:

1st	Chelmsford Cathedral	Plain Bob Minor	37 faults
2nd	Dagenham	Plain Bob Doubles	83 faults
3rd	Writtle	Grandsire Doubles)	89 faults
4th	Sawbridgeworth	Grandsire Doubles	90 faults
5th	Kirby le Soken	Plain Bob Doubles	105 faults
6th	Langdon Hills	Cambridge Surprise Minor	111 faults
7th	Prittlewell	Plain Bob Doubles	113 faults
8th	Hornchurch	Plain Bob Doubles	150 faults
9th	Braintree/Felsted	St Martin’s Bob Doubles	179 faults



**Chelmsford Cathedral (l to r): Vicki Chapman, Hazel Steed, David Rothera, Sue Rothera, John Steed, Colin Chapman.**

After tea and the 6-bell results the inter-district 8-bell competition was held at Great Bentley. The test piece was 264 Gainsborough Little Bob Major. The South Eastern District won the trophy with 75 faults, 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern (103), 3<sup>rd</sup> South Western (126), 4<sup>th</sup> Northern (149), North Eastern and North Western Districts did not complete the test piece.

Our judges for both competitions was Linda Garton and John Loveless. We’d like to thank them, the North Eastern district officers and friends for making all the arrangements and the ladies at Tendring for a wonderful tea.

At the Ridgman Trophy 10 bell competition held at Great St Mary’s, Cambridge on 19<sup>th</sup> June, the Essex Band (Vicki Chapman, Mary Bone, Katrina Bond, Ann Clinton, Roger Collins, John Harpole, John Hall, Fred Bone, Colin Chapman (c) and Brian Meads) were placed a 5<sup>th</sup> out of 9 teams. The competition piece was half a course of Cambridge Royal.

The Essex Trophy inter-Association 10-bell competition will be held at Coggeshall on 11<sup>th</sup> September. Please do come along and support the Essex team and listen to some excellent 10 bell ringing.

Vicki Chapman, Hon Gen Sec

## NE District at the Tendring Show Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Back in January, Gill Sparling received an invitation for us to take part at the Tendring Show in the summer, and we were lucky enough to bid successfully for Charity Tradestand space, saving us a considerable sum of money. The Show's President, Martin Carr is himself a member of the Suffolk Guild and obviously understands completely our need to promote bell ringing as cost effectively as possible, at every possible opportunity.



*Tendring Show President, Martin Carr going through his paces on the Maplestead Mini Ring*

Many NE members nip in and out of Suffolk and vice versa, so there has always been a bit of a mutual appreciation society going on. Martin actually made a bee-line to come and see us before the Show officially opened, and we are grateful for his support and encouragement.

It was a blistering hot day, and stand organisers and visitors were warned over the public address system to ensure they kept well hydrated, or run the risk of paying the St John's Ambulance crew a visit! I set up our gazebo and display material on the Friday evening, and Alistair Donaldson kindly brought over the Maplestead Mini Ring for us to use on the Saturday.

*John Malster giving a member of the public a lesson on the Maplestead Mini Ring*



## NE District Handbell Training

We had been suffering from the Essex Ringing Course doldrums; being (as we saw it) on the cusp of cracking handbells, we were feeling frustrated about not taking it further. Experienced handbell ringers seemed rare on the ground, and the methods rung even more rarified. So when we chanced upon the news that the NE District was organising a course of 5 Sunday afternoons with experienced helpers, it was a Sign!

Brushing up on our notes, we arrived at Kirby-Le-Soken Primary School bright-eyed. There was a moment of trepidation as we wandered through the playground and past the school changing rooms, realising that we were about to start at the beginning again; if not entering the kindergarten, at least we were venturing on the nursery slopes of handbell ringing.

The course was hosted by Anne Bray and David Sparling. After a brief introduction where we confessed our skill level (of lack thereof – some had been keen quarter peelers in their youth) we split into two groups with at least one experienced handbeller in each, and then proceeded to simmer our brains down to mush as we tried all positions for Bob Minor. After an hour, we staggered back to the Staff room for a welcome tea break, discussing our experiences, before sallying forth for another hour. Some interesting comments came from the tutors: that we should try to move around the positions and not get stuck in 5-6; that we should not think too much but get used to the rhythm and let the body take over; that sublime touches could evaporate faster than Stedman in Summer.

Now the course is at an end, where do we go from here? Well, we can now bludgeon our way through a plain course, so it has to be touches next. And after that? Well, a quarter would be nice. How does that old joke go about the driver asking for directions? "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" Practice! Practice! Practice!

Handbells anyone?

Ian Hamilton

*The NE District are planning to run another set of handbell afternoons on Sundays in November. To express an interest please contact Gill Sparling or Anne Bray.*

## Life Membership

Any nominations for life membership must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary by 1 December (rule 7(iii)) and should include details of the candidate's Association activities.

Guidelines were agreed by the Committee in February 1986 as follows: "... To honour a member for work undertaken throughout the district and promotion of work throughout the Association." Further advice on the criteria is available from the Association Master or Secretary or from your district officers.

Vicki Chapman, Hon Gen Sec

## Association Training Day

This year's training day is on Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010, 9.30am – approx. 4:30pm and is based in the North West District with the initial meet at Henham.

The groups on offer are:

Preparation for Method Ringing – improving your basic skills  
Plain Hunt Doubles and Ringing the Treble to Plain Doubles Methods  
Plain Bob Doubles and Minor  
Grandsire Doubles

To apply for a place, download an application form from [www.eacr.org.uk](http://www.eacr.org.uk) training page or send an SAE for an application form to: Liz Rayner, EACR Education Officer, 33 Harcourt Road, Stratford, London E15 3DX.

Forms will be available from both sources from August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010 onwards. Limited spaces available; first come, first served. The closing date for applications is 5<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

Helpers are also required; please contact Liz on 020 8534 6726 or e-mail: [education@eacr.org.uk](mailto:education@eacr.org.uk). If you would like to contribute further to the day by assisting with conducting in the groups running when the group tutor requires it please add this when you get in contact.

### That's a First

Congratulations to the following ringers

**First Quarter :** Trevor Beale (16/5/10 Felsted)  
Mitchell J F John (27/12/09 Hornchurch)  
Sue Butler (30/6/10 Chrishall)

**First Peal :** James A C Prior (16/5/10 Romford)



**Congratulations** to Helen and Shirley Green on reaching their quarter century of bellringing! Mother and daughter, they both started 25 years ago at Littlebury, and they and some local friends rang a Quarter Peal on 25th July to celebrate.

We had a team of wonderful helpers, who were worked really hard all day long, giving demonstrations on the mini ring and handbells, with the last enquiries still being taken after 5pm. Everyone was truly exhausted at the end of the day, and Andrew Burgoyne's ice cream round was very well received – thanks Andrew!



*Steve Cheek, Dave Culham and Philip Erith warming up on the handbells*

Once again, we've attracted at least a dozen serious enquiries about learning to ring, from adults and youngsters alike and ranging geographically from Mistley, to St Osyth and Colchester. Many more visitors took away our promotional literature, so you never know, there may also be some ad-hoc tower visits too. We also met a couple of people who haven't rung for about 30 years, and wanted to know how to get back into it.

By chance we met with the late Dickie Furminger's daughter Jacky Adamson, who has just moved back into the area. That's particularly pleasing, as NE is hosting their annual call change competition, with a trophy for the winning team dedicated to Dickie's memory on 17<sup>th</sup> July. Hopefully Jacky will be the guest of honour.

Yes, it was hard work organising the day and yes, it was hard work on the day itself. But the rewards speak for themselves. My thanks to Gill Sparling for all her help with the arrangements, and to Alistair Donaldson for the use of the Maplestead Mini Ring and his handbells. Last but by no means least, the fabulous team of helpers, without which it simply would not be possible, including Steve Cheek; David Culham; John Malster; Phil Erith; Anne Turner; Jean Oehlich; David and Gill Sparling; Andrew Burgoyne; Bevan Willgress; and Guy Nelson.

Tracey Southgate, Public Relations Officer

## Record Peal Celebration

The Ringers of the Record Peal of 22,400 Plain Bob Major, St. Michael's Church, Kirby-le-Soken, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 1960.



Lt. Col. Norman V. Harding Lt., Howard W. Egglestone O., Frank B. Lufkin (conductor) T., Peter J. Eves S., Walter Arnold, tenor, Ronald W. Stearns, treble, Alan R. Andrews A., Dennis A. Symonds S. The greatest number of changes rung by one set of ringers on church bells. Rung in 11 hours 45 mins.

On 9 April 1960 a record peal of 22,400 Plain Bob Major in 11 hours 45 mins, was scored at St. Michael's Kirby-le-Soken by a band led by Frank Lufkin as a preparation attempt leading to the "Great Race" to 40,320.

A celebration peal was scored 50 years to the day:

**Kirby Le Soken**, Essex, St Michael  
Friday, 9 April 2010 in 3h (9 cwt)

### 5056 Plain Bob Major

Composed by: J Armiger Trollope

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1 Matthew S Brown        | (Frank Lufkin's Grandson)   |
| 2 Terry Earle            | (Terry was asked to ring in the original but was away serving with the RAF)   |
| 3 Peter J Eves           | (Rang in the record length)   |
| 4 James L Towler         | (Heard the end of the record length and reportedly climbed the tower to boast to Howard that he had rung 2 peals that day as opposed to Howards 1.)<br>(Rang in an earlier long length attempt with Norman Harding) |
| 5 Barrie Hendry          | (Rang in the record length)   |
| 6 Howard W Egglestone    | (Alan Andrews' Granddaughter)   |
| 7 Katharine J Salter (C) | (Alan Andrews' Grandson-in-law)   |
| 8 David G Salter         |   |

Rung on the 50th anniversary of the then record peal of 22,400 Plain Bob Major. Peter Eves and Howard Egglestone rang the same bells that day. Matthew Brown and Katharine Salter are grandchildren of Frank Lufkin and Alan Andrews who rang in the original peal.



## NE District Young Ringers Ring and Ride Day



On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 four Young Ringers from Layer de la Haye, Ellie Read, Tom Kinghorn, Ricky Wollington and I, together with 3 adult helpers went on Ring and Ride outing. The first place we went to was Tendring Village Hall where we were introduced to Tracey (the organiser of the outing). We also met a few helpers. We had John Keeble (Layer de la Haye Tower Captain) to help out as well. Our first church was just across the road and we rang for 45 minutes. The tower had 6 bells and had long ropes which we were not used to, but we all did very well.

Front row l-r Ellie Read, George Vant, Ricky Wollington and Tom Kinghorn. Back row l-r Diana and Martin Piper, John Keeble

At about 11 o'clock we got on our bikes and began to ride to the next tower. We rode for 6 miles and most of us were out of breath and beginning to get quite tired. Kirby-le-Soken was our second tower and it has 8 bells. Again it has longer ropes than we are used to, but we still did exceptionally well. This was our first ever practice on 8 bells.



Looking very pleased with ourselves having just rung on 8 for the first time at Kirby-le-Soken

After that we walked over the road to the pub for lunch. Straight after lunch we set off on yet another long bike ride. This one was only 4 miles long and we arrived at Thorpe-le-Soken, our last tower. We all had a go at Plain Hunt and we were very good at it.

Then last, but by no means least, we rode back to Tendring Village Hall and had a piece of cake each. Our bikes were loaded back into the van and we went home. We all enjoyed the day and hopefully will do it again. I would like to say a very big thank you to all the people who helped us throughout the day. Everybody was very kind and we all learnt a lot from the experience.

By George Vant aged 15 (Layer-de-la-Haye)