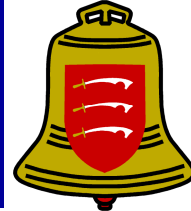


Rounds & About

(Charity Number 292250)



Essex Ringing Course

12th—14th April 2007



A 3 day non residential course based at Honynood School, Coggeshall.

Tutor Groups on offer are:

- Call Changes
- Plain Hunt
- Treble Hunt
- Plain Bob Doubles Inside
- Plain Bob Minor Inside
- Grandsire
- Treble Bob Hunt
- Stedman
- Cambridge Surprise Minor
- Change Ringing on Higher Numbers

Other ringing-related lectures including change ringing on handbells, rope splicing, and achieving good striking are available to students and helpers.

Helpers are also required for each group.

For a brochure and application form please send a stamped self-addressed envelope (C5 size) to:

Mrs Vicki Chapman, 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 9PF.

Or visit the EACR website at

www.eacr.org.uk/essexcourse

(Closing date for applications is 15th February 2007)



Dinner 2006

The Annual Dinner for members, guests and friends - including visitors from Germany - was held at the County Hotel on 7 October. After a splendid meal, Revd Canon Roger Mason spoke about relations between ringers and the clergy, stating that newly ordained clergy find ringers "fearsome"! He urged us all to work together and reminded us that bells speak the voice of God. The toast to the Essex Association was proposed by Colin Newman, who entertained us with extracts from his diary on peal ringing and ringers. The Association's strength is in its members - all of us - and we must work together to keep it strong. The Master concluded the formal part of the evening by referring to some of the highlights of the Association year and presenting Life Member certificates to Peter Sloman and Maurice Downs. The speech sweepstake was won by Sarah Brewster.

An "old codger" from Writtle, also known as Phil Stephens, entertained us with jokes, stories and his special Stedman boots. The raffle raised £138 for bell restoration.

Mary Bone

AGM 2007

Nominations for Association officers (Master, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Property Trustees, 2 Independent Examiners and 5 representatives to the Central Council) must be received by the Secretary by 1 February 2007.

Nominations may be made at a district meeting or can be sent directly to reach the Secretary before the deadline; please remember to include the name of the proposer and seconder.

Information about any nominations for Life membership of the EACR will be available at the Annual District Meetings.

Elections will take place at the 2007 Annual General Meeting on 7 May, Bank Holiday Monday, at Chelmsford Cathedral.

Notices of motion for the AGM (items for debate or proposed rule changes), sponsored by at least 2 members, must also be received by 1 February.

Mary Bone

The Education Fund

The Association's Education Fund was established in 1990. Grants from the interest received are given towards the cost of the fees for attending ringing courses (not just the Essex Ringing Course). Application forms are available from either the Association or District secretaries and should be returned to the Association Secretary.

Junior members of the Association receive an automatic reduction in the fees for the Essex Ringing Course.

Danbury Diary

The Executive Committee met at Danbury on 14 October. There was a lengthy agenda which followed the order established in 2005 to ensure that there was more time to listen to and discuss the district reports.

These were followed by preliminary feedback on the discussion document prepared by Adrian Semken and Adrian Malton (and circulated to all towers in the Spring). There will be further debate on this at the next meeting in February.

All the appointed officers reported to the Committee on their activities before appointments were made for 2007. The position of Chaplain is temporarily vacant as Revd Canon Roger Mason is retiring. Vicki Chapman was appointed as Education Officer; Libby Laurence is now formally Public Relations Officer.

There were five applications for bell restoration grants (Wormingford, Chigwell, Hempstead and Nazeing, plus a supplementary application from Kelvedon). The meeting also ratified a grant offer to Chigwell from the Tovell Bequest.

The Committee agreed to hold the next Annual Dinner in Chelmsford on Saturday 6 October 2007.

Mary Bone

Essex Association Training Day

An Association training day will be held on Saturday 10th February 2007 2pm - 5pm at Coggeshall Church.

The training subject is 'Teaching the Teachers' and is for anyone who needs some pointers on how to teach basic bell handling, tips on running an effective practice night and tower management.

The session is for both new teachers and experienced ones.

If you would like to be a student at this session or for more information please contact Vicki Chapman on 01245 358040

or email vicki@cvevrc.co.uk

Newsletter Publication Costs

The cost of publishing the newsletter has significantly increased this year.

In April this year the printers charged a cost of 4.1 pence per sheet of paper. However the printers had a price increase on the 1st June 06 due to machine and paper price increases and the cost has now risen to 7.7 pence per sheet.

So in order to keep the costs of the newsletter down, I propose that each tower will only receive one copy of the newsletter instead of two copies from the next publication (Apr 07).

Additional copies of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Association website or can be provided upon request.

If you have any queries or comments relating to this issue, please contact the editor. Contact details are on the final page at the bottom.

2006 Essex Trophy

This year's test piece, for the competition held in Haslemere on 09 September, was a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

The results were as follows:

		SCORE
1st	Surrey Association	86%
2nd	Essex Association	79%
3rd	Hertford County Association	75%
4th	Guildford Diocesan Association	65%
5th	Sussex County Association	55%
6th	Middlesex County Association	50%

The judges were Paul Mounsey and David Dearnley.

Next year's competition is to be hosted by the Surrey Association on 08

North Eastern District Walking Treasure Hunt.

Organised by Jean Oehlich and Celia Free.

14 Teams turned up on Saturday 23rd September, a lovely hot autumn day. We did two sessions, 10am (to enable those teams to ring for weddings in the afternoon) and 2pm. Teams from 6 different towers plus 5 teams made up of people who read the notice in the local paper, did the walk. Only one team got completely lost, everyone else completed the course.

The winning team, Mrs Stobbard (not a bellringer) won a box of celebration chocolates by getting all the answers correct.

Paul Bray, Anne & Claire Turner (Kirby-le-Soken) came 2nd with one incorrect answer (which Paul still claims should be correct!).

A total of £78.00 was raised for The Association Bell Restoration Fund and I would like to thank all those who took part and made it an enjoyable day.

Celia Free

Mill's Family (and friends) Reunited

Like so many of the best events, this one came about quite by chance. With falling numbers, practice nights at St Michael's Thorpe-le-Soken became irregular over the past year or so. The newly elected Master and Secretary of the NE District of the Essex Association of Change Ringers set themselves the task of trying to periodically arrange visitors to help out and keep the bells (and the local ringers) active.

It so happened that a special practice was arranged for Monday 8 May and during the course of the evening the visitors' attention was caught by an old and dusty photograph in the corner. This was of the band that rang a "Mills Family" peal way back in May 1956. Actually the band was made up of two unrelated Mills families – the "Bures" Mills (Les, Emily and their son Don) and the "Thorpe" Mills (Percy, his daughter Marian and son Michael). Both families were stalwarts of their home churches with Les and Percy the respective Tower Captains. It occurred to the interested visitors that the 50th anniversary of this special event was only a couple of weeks away.

The availability of the bells for the anniversary weekend was confirmed that same night and Michael was reminded of the anniversary on Wednesday when we met to ring for the BBC Radio Essex walkers at Langham. By the following Saturday when we met again at the District Striking competition. Michael had already contacted his sister Marian and Don who is still a member of the Bures band. With Les, Emily and Percy sadly no longer with us, Marian's husband Peter (a Mills by marriage) was drafted in as a legitimate Mills-by-marriage replacement with Gordon Clarke and David Sparling making up the numbers.

And so, 50 years and 1 day after the 1956 peal, the surviving three participants met once again to mark the occasion by ringing a very enjoyable quarter peal using some of the same methods as in the original peal.

Original peal:-

19 May 1956, St Michael's Thorpe-le-Soken in 2hrs 36 mins
5040 of Minor in 5 methods consisting of 1 extent of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St Clements and 3 extents of Plain Bob Minor.

1. Percy Mills
2. Marian Mills

3. Michael Mills
4. Emily Mills
5. Leslie Mills
6. Donald Mills (c)

Rung as a wedding compliment to George and Diana Pipe married at Bedfield, Suffolk the previous week.



Left to Right: Rev David James (Vicar of Thorpe-le-Soken), Marian Mills, Michael Mills, Don Mills (C), Leslie Mills, Percy Mills, Emily Mills.

Quarter peal

20 May 2006, St Michael's Thorpe-le-Soken in 43 minutes

1260 Minor in 3 methods consisting of 720 Cambridge Surprise, 360 St Clements and 180 Plain Bob.

1. Gordon Clarke
2. Marian Wood (née Mills)
3. Peter Wood
4. Donald Mills

5. David Sparling
6. Michael Mills (c)

Rung to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Mills Family peal. With the band's best wishes to Gordon on his 72nd birthday and to George and Diana Pipe who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary the previous weekend.



Left to Right: Gordon Clarke, Marian Wood (née Mills), Peter Wood, Don Mills, David Sparling, Michael Mills.

Woman's Hour 60th Anniversary

A peal of a new method was rung by an all women band at All Saints, Terling on Saturday 23rd September in honour of the programmes 60th birthday. The method was named Woman's Hour Celebration Surprise Major.

5056 Woman's Hour Celebration S Major

1. Janice S Spalding
2. Vicki L Chapman
3. Rowena L Marshall
4. Carol Brown
5. Susan J Rothera
6. Sue Page
7. Christina D A Brewster
8. Katharine J Salter (c)

Woman's Hour Celebration S Major

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(back l-r) Sue Rothera, Sue Page, Christina Brewster, Katharine Salter,
(front l-r) Janice Spalding, Vicki Chapman, Rowena Marshall, Carol
Brown

Association Register Little Baddow News

Births: Congratulations to: Arthur & Eileen Redfern (Wivenhoe) birth of Arthur Conner Wallace on 29th June 2006 and Katrina & Neil Bond, Wendy reports that Little Baddow is now ringing again on Thursdays and on Sunday mornings as detailed in the Annual Report. Those who did not like the ladder and trapdoor access will be pleased to hear that ringers may now ascend a beautiful oak staircase.

Birthdays: Congratulations to: Alison Nash (40); Roger Butt (70); Alan Wells (70); Peter Childs (75); Pat Platt (70).

2007 Subscriptions

Wedding Anniversary: Congratulations to Trish and Phil Stephens of Wiston who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 14th August and Adrian & Sophie D'Silva who celebrated their Ruby Wedding anniversary in September.

Ringing Members:	£8.00
Friends & Junior Members:	£4.00
Life Members:	£100.00
Non-Resident Members:	£8.00

Wedding: Congratulations to Christina Fleckney and Andrew Brewster who were married on 1st September.

Deaths: We regret to report the deaths of Mrs. Pam Eves, wife of Peter Eves of Chelmsford Cathedral. (Pam was the first Associate Member of Post Harvest Supper Ringing at Kelvedon was interrupted recently when the EACR Charles Turner of Feering/Coggeshall, Kenneth Blunt of Great Holland, Dr. Lewis Castleden of Great Dunmow and Rosemary Barnes (Formerly St Leonard at the Hythe Colchester) several car loads of ringers rushed to the assistance of a member who had the misfortune to back his car onto a hummock at inky-black Inworth car park. With the aid of plenty of brawn and a trusty bellrope complete with sally (too dark to see the colour), the vehicle was hauled back onto terra firma and the driver escorted to his home by the ringers. I'm pleased to report that this new wracking experience culminated in drinks all round. Congratulations to the following ringers:

SE District Surprise Practices for 2007

David Demsey	(08/07 Felsted)
A R Carpenter	(16/07 Hornchurch)
Robert Myles	(21/07 Chigwell)
Emily Newton	(27/08 South Weald)
Pat Platt	(06/09 Henham)
Mark Spalding	(17/09 Gt Totham)
Lee Adams	(27/09 Clavering)
Rajesh Sidhu	(1/10 West Ham)

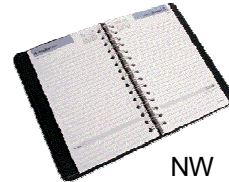
The SE district will hold Surprise Practices on Fridays: 26th January; 23rd February; 30th March; 27th April; 28th September; 26th October and 30th November. These will take place at Terling starting at 7:45pm.

Great Baddow Monthly Practice

First Quarter inside: Vicky Lefevre (15/07 Felsted)
The Great Baddow ringers will continue to hold their very successful monthly practice on the first Friday of the month throughout 2007. All are welcome to attend.

First peal: Carol Wilkinson (08/09 Arkesden)

Dates for your Diary



Dec	25 Merry Christmas!	
	30 5th Sat Practice, Sawbridgeworth	NW
Jan	01 Happy New Year!	
	06 District ADM, Felsted / Stebbing	N
	06 District ADM, Maldon	SE
	12 District Practice, Stansted	NW
	13 District ADM, Bures & Wormingford	NE
	13 District ADM, TBC	SW
	20 District ADM, Rochford	S
	25 Surprise Practice, Great Holland	NE
	26 Learners Practice, Steeple Bumpstead	NW
	26 Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	27 District ADM, Hatfield Heath	NW
	30 5th Tue Practice, Saffron Walden	NW
Feb	03 Executive Committee Meeting, Danbury	
	09 District Practice, Stansted	NW
	10 Association Training Day, Coggeshall	
	17 Advanced Practice, Braintree	N
	22 Surprise Practice, Great Holland	NE
	23 Learners Practice, Thaxted	NW
	23 Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	27 District Practice, Black Notley	N
Mar	03 District Meeting, Coggeshall	N
	09 District Practice, Stansted	NW
	17 Advanced Practice, Braintree	N
	23 Learners Practice, Thaxted	NW
	29 Surprise Practice, Great Holland	NE
	30 Surprise Practice, Terling	SE
	31 5th Sat Practice, Sawbridgeworth	NW
	17 District Training Morning. Great Bentley TBC	NE
Apr	12-14 Essex Ringing Course, Coggeshall	

The next edition of Rounds & About is planned for April 2007. Please send contributions to Bryan Morrissey at Jireh, 30 Turner Avenue, Lawford, Manningtree CO11 2LG or by email to