

NW DISTRICT AUGUST 2008 NEWSLETTER

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Back by popular request so put this in your diary now!

NW DISTRICT QUIZ EVENING

Date: Saturday 1st November

Place: Church House, Sawbridgeworth

Time: 7.00pm for prompt start at 7.30pm

Cost: £6.00 per person to include a light supper in the interval. Bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles

Teams of 6 or 8. Make up a team from your tower or come along and we will make teams up on the night.

Entries to Liz Griffith-Jones by Wednesday 29th October please to help us with catering arrangements

*Do support this event as it is our major fundraiser of the year for the BRF.
Donations of raffle prizes would be most welcome.*

Looking to the Future

The new Association Master, Brian Meads, is asking the districts to help carry out a comprehensive survey of the current state of ringing in Essex and to establish the views of members on what services the Association should be providing to improve the long-term prospects for ringing in Essex. This initiative is prompted by concerns that the membership profile is ageing rapidly and that a high proportion of towers are going to find it difficult to maintain Sunday service ringing.

Brian is proposing the setting up of a working group to design and carry out this survey and report back to the Association. He wants an enthusiastic person in each district, not necessarily a district officer, to be on the working group. We are asked to come to the October committee meeting ready with a named representative to take on this role. The group will also include the senior officers of the Association.

If you are interested in being involved in this important new initiative and would like more details of the proposals please contact any of the district officers.

Practice dates from September to December

Learners' Practices – 7.45 to 9pm

Roydon on Friday September 26th (tbc)

Hempstead on Friday October 24th

Epping Upland on Friday November 28th

District Practices

These are held at Stansted on the second Friday of the month from 7.45 to 9pm.

September 12th, October 10th, November 14th and December 12th

PLEASE DISPLAY ON YOUR TOWER NOTICEBOARD

Fifth Tuesday practice at Saffron Walden

Tuesday 30th September from 7.45 to 9.00pm

Second Saturday Surprise Major Practice

Please check the monthly emails for venues for this practice. The September practice will be held at Ashdon on Saturday 13th from 2.30 to 4.30pm.

Third Saturday Beyond Bob Minor Practice

These are held at Henham from 10am to 12 noon every third Saturday. The September practice will be on Saturday 20th. Do come along if you would like to widen your repertoire. Beyond Bob Minor doesn't necessarily mean Surprise Minor – there are a host of neglected plain bob methods to be explored. Please give Linda Bullough a ring on 01799 599339 if you intend coming as a learner.

Striking Competitions

We hosted the Association Striking Competitions on Saturday 5th July. Two NW district bands, Sawbridgeworth and Saffron Walden, rang in the 6 bell finals at Henham coming 7th and 11th respectively. This competition was followed by tea at Henham – a splendid spread thanks to all the hard work of NW District members.

The action then moved on to Hatfield Broad Oak for the 8 bell contest. The test piece was a plain course of Superlative Surprise Major. The winners were the South Eastern district but our band produced a very good piece of ringing and were delighted to come second. As it is unusual for us to come anywhere but last this was most gratifying. Many thanks to Chris McCarthy of Bishops Stortford and Owen Claxton of Ipswich for judging both competitions.

EACR Annual Dinner Saturday 4th October

Details of the dinner are given in the accompanying Rounds and About. Do join us to make up a NW District table.

Saturday 25th October District Meeting at Bobbingworth and Moreton

Please note the change of venue for this meeting

3.30 – 4.15 Ringing at Bobbingworth

4.30 Service at Moreton followed by tea, meeting and further ringing at Moreton

Association Training Day – Saturday 22nd November

This is based at Stebbing in the Northern District this year. Groups on offer are Plain Hunt, Plain Bob Doubles, Cambridge and Raising and Lowering. Details of how to apply are given in the Rounds and About newsletter, and as places are allocated on a first come, first served basis do get your application in early.

District Carol Service Saturday 13th December at Takeley

Do join us for our District Carol Service held jointly with the Bishop's Stortford district of the Hertfordshire County Association. Ringing from 5.30pm, service at 6.00pm followed by refreshments. Takeley may only have four bells but it will make a lovely setting for our carol service, and we are assured of a very warm welcome from the vicar, Revd Laurie Bond

Remember – to get the most up to date news on district events you need to be on the district email list. To join just email Liz on lizgj@aol.com. To join the EACR notices list send a blank email to EACR-Notices-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and reply to the request-for-confirmation you will receive by return