

NW DISTRICT NEWSLETTER, JANUARY 2012

ESSEX RINGING COURSE

AT COGGESHALL, THURSDAY TO SATURDAY
12th – 14th APRIL 2012

There are less than 3 weeks to get your application in for this now (deadline 17 Feb), so if you want a place on any of the sessions, please contact Mary Bone on 01279 726159 as soon as possible.

There are lots of choices again, from basic tuition for new learners to advanced methods for those who want to move on - for details, go to the EACR website at www.eacr.org.uk/course, or send an sae to Mary at 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9DB. (Helpers are also required).

A NEW REGIME.....!

At our Annual District Meeting, the following changes were agreed to the programme of practices and events from April onwards. You are probably aware that we have a lot of new learners across the District, and we hope the new systems will enable us to use our resources to offer more focused help to those areas where it is most needed.

Learners Practices, 7.45-9.00pm

Instead of visiting towers on the 4th Friday all around the District, from April on we shall now VISIT THOSE TOWERS WHICH ASK FOR A PRACTICE NIGHT 'BY REQUEST'.

If local ringers arrange to get their learners there (either on the 4th Friday or possibly on their own practice night) we will provide teaching.

You can combine more than one tower, and can also cover handling, ringing up or down, or any basic methods. Please call or email any of the Officers below, and we'll take it from there.

District Practices, Stansted, 7.45-9.00pm

We will continue with these on:

Friday, 10 February, and

Friday 9 March.

We may then set up a system for people to log in if they are coming so we know we have enough, and also offer 8-bell quarter peals to anyone who would like to try something with a strong band around them.

We would like to stress again that these practices are for ANYONE who wants to start to ring on 8 - not just experienced ringers! - trebling on 8, or Plain Bob Triples etc. are most welcome.

Surprise Major and Surprise Minor Practices

These will in future be advertised directly to the email list by Liz Griffith-Jones, with the venue for the Surprise Major practice for each month on the 2nd Saturday. The Surprise Minor will continue at Henham on the 3rd Saturday afternoon; and as before, please let Liz know directly if you will be attending. (lizgj@aol.com or 01279 850351).

PLEASE DISPLAY THIS ON YOUR TOWER NOTICE BOARD

Striking Competitions and District Meetings

The METHOD COMPETITION will be held at Henham on Saturday 28 April, together with the April District Meeting. Details later, but tower captains can start to sort their bands now! The CALL CHANGE COMPETITION (and October District Meeting) will be held on Saturday 27 October on the new ring of bells at Willingale, which should be well up and running by then. Our thanks to the Willingale ringers for agreeing to host this, and we very much look forward to ringing there.

DISTRICT OUTING

Our Outing this year, on SATURDAY, 26 MAY, will be a walking tour of the bell towers in Ipswich. We will go to the 12-bell ring at St Mary-le-Tower, and the 8-bell at St Margaret's, plus several others and a pub lunch, so do note the date - . we'll be asking for names shortly, but you're welcome to book a place now - (carolwilkinson9@aol.com or 01799 550488).
AND PLEASE SEE ATTACHED POSTER!

DIAMOND JUBILEE RINGING

We expect that many towers will ring as we traditionally always do for important Royal occasions. The actual Jubilee day is TUESDAY 5 JUNE, but of course any time over the 4-day Bank Holiday or any other time is fine - even better if tower captains can put an item (and photo?) in their local Church magazine, Parish News, local paper etc., so that people will know what you're ringing FOR, with a contact number - we have found that this is a good way to get new recruits! If your Church would like some ringing for the Jubilee, and you don't have a band, ring the Secretary as below, and we will see if we can help.

OLYMPICS RINGING

Similarly, there are events in our area for the Olympics (a Saffron Walden spectacular on 19 May, and Waltham Abbey Town Show on 24 June, where we are having ringing demos) and ringing when the Olympic Torch comes through Essex on 7 July - more details later, but it's time to plan for them now, so contact our Master, Roger Collins, as below if you can help, or alternatively, if you need help or advice on how to join in.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

This year, we elected 16 new members, a healthy situation, and welcome to them all. Our Treasurer, Penny Browne, has details of some important changes to membership and insurance - in future, ALL members need to pay a subscription if they want to be covered for ringing, including over 65's now.

There is also a new Membership Information form, which we hope all existing ringers will complete, as it will for the first time give us a clearer picture of our overall Essex membership, and also provide details which will comply with our Charity status etc. Penny will be contacting individual towers to process this in due course.

Attached is the Programme for 2012, and a Ringing Outing poster - please pass these on to any members in your tower who may not receive them direct, and display on your Notice Boards, thanks!

NW DISTRICT OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

MASTER: Roger Collins 01799 521991 (or nw-district-master@eacr.org.uk)
DEPUTY MASTER: Mike Slowe 01279 861546
SECRETARY: Carol Wilkinson, (carolwilkinson9@aol.com or 01799 550488 or 07972 141782)
TREASURER: Penny Browne (pennybrowne@hotmail.com or 01799 599431)

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