



NEWSLETTER

MAY-JUNE 2019



May 2019 Events

- Monday, 6th May 2019 [Bank Holiday]: EACR AGM – Chelmsford.
- Friday, 17th May 2019: Surprise Major Practice at Felsted – 2.00pm-4.00pm.
- Saturday, 18th May 2019: NW District Meeting and Method Striking Competition at Nazeing – 9.30am.
- Sunday, 19th May 2019: Young Ringers Practice.
- Friday, 24th May 2019: Stansted Practice – 7.45pm-9.00pm.



June 2019 Events

- Saturday, 1st June 2019: 10 Bell Practice at St Mary's, 8 Church End, Walthamstow E17 9RJ – 10.30am-12noon. **PLEASE NOTE VENUE CHANGE FROM WALTHAM ABBEY TO ST MARY'S**
- Friday, 21st June 2019: Surprise Major Practice at Felsted – 2.00pm-4.00pm.
- Friday, 28th June 2019: Stansted Practice – 7.45pm-9.00pm.
- Sunday, 30th June 2019: Ringing World National Youth Contest mini-outing.



July 2019 Events

- Saturday, 6th July 2019: RWNYS at Liverpool.
- Saturday, 13th July 2019: EACR Striking Competition.
- Friday, 19th July 2019: Surprise Major Practice at Felsted – 2.00pm-4.00pm.
- Sunday, 21st July 2019: Young Ringers Practice.
- Friday, 26th July 2019: Stansted Practice – 7.45pm-9.00pm.



August 2019 Events

- Saturday, 10th August 2019: District Ringing Outing.
- Friday, 16th August 2019: Surprise Major Practice at Felsted – 2.00pm-4.00pm.



REMINDER..... NW District Meeting and Method Striking Competition

The NW District Meeting will take place at 9.30am at Nazeing on Monday, 18th May 2019, followed by the Method Striking Competition. Hopefully, Tower Captains have already decided to enter a band for this competition but if this competition hasn't been mentioned in your tower, please speak to your Tower Captain. Five bands took part last year and it would be good if we could increase this number. Responses to previous requests have so far been very muted, so don't forget to let me know as soon as possible if your tower is planning to enter a band. The finals of the 6 bell competition take place on Saturday, 13th July 2019. The agenda for this meeting, together with the minutes of the previous meeting, can be found at the end of the newsletter.



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EACR 140th Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday, 6th May 2019 at Chelmsford Cathedral. The arrangements will follow the traditional pattern:

- 9.15am-10.15am: General ringing;
- 10.15am-10.30am: Service Touch by the Master's invited band;
- 10.30am: Service;
- 11.45am [approximately]: Annual General Meeting to conclude by 13.00h.

The general ringing at the Cathedral is open to everyone and will cater for all levels of experience. There will be refreshments in the Cathedral before the service and again afterwards whilst the meeting is set up. The Preacher will be the Venerable Vanessa Herrick, Archdeacon of Harlow, and the new Chaplain, Rev Paul Watkin will lead the prayers. The service will also be supported for the first time by St Leonard's Choir, Lexden, Colchester.

The AGM will begin as soon as the Cathedral has been rearranged. There is a very full and interesting agenda [agenda and minutes of the 2018 meeting are included in the 2018 Annual Report] so do go along and have your say on the matters raised.

Afternoon ringing will be in the North Eastern District. Tea will be held at the Village Hall opposite St Edmund K&M Church, Tendring. If you have not ordered your tea tickets in advance, these can be purchased on the day at £4.50.



Spring Ringing Course

The Spring Ringing Course took place over eight consecutive Saturday mornings at Henham during February and March, for six students. The course covered call changes, Plain Bob Doubles and Grandsire.



Helpers Needed

Helpers are always required to assist on both the Spring and Autumn courses. There are a good number of extremely knowledgeable ringers in the District and if you are willing to spend some time providing advice and passing on the benefit of your experience, please contact Ian Kerwin on iankerwin@btinternet.com for your name to be added to the helpers list.



Saturday Afternoon Practices

The additional Saturday afternoon practices held by Ian Kerwin at Willingale after the Saturday morning Spring Ringing Course again proved very successful and the sessions were extremely well attended.



65th Annual Essex Dinner

This year's dinner will be held at Benton Hall Golf and Country Club, Wickham Hill, Witham CM8 3LH. on Saturday, 19th October 2019. Alan Regin MBE, Steward of the CCCBR Rolls of Honour and Revd Paul Watkin, EACR Chaplain, have been confirmed as speakers. Early Bird tickets at £30 are only available until Monday, 6th May 2019 after which the price will be £34. Further details of menu and order form can be found on the EACR website.



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Association Training Day 2019

Some way off, but a reminder for your calendar, that the Association Training Day will take place in the North Western District on Saturday, 23rd November 2019.



Association Carol Service

Also some way off, there is no District Carol Service this year as it is the year for the Association Carol Service which takes place once every five years in one of the districts. This year the Carol Service will be held on Saturday, 7th December 2019 at Coggeshall, with ringing from 3.00pm and the service commencing at 4.30pm.



2019 Essex Course – 11th-13th April 2019

Another successful Essex Course took place at Honeywood School, Coggeshall from the 11th-13th April 2019. Hopefully, all the students involved progressed and a big thank you to everyone involved in any aspect of the course for all their hard work.



New and Returned Ringers

Are you aware of any new and returned ringers in your towers who are not on my circulation list for the newsletters/information etc? If so, please ask them to contact me to ensure they are kept informed as to what is happening in the District.



Media

To join EACR notices email: EACR-Notices-subscribe@yahoogroups.com



Tower Talk

The latest issue of Tower Talk can be found on [Read Tower Talk magazine](#) and contains a number of interesting features.

One item in the magazine is a survey about lapsed ringers to see why they lapse and how they might be enticed back. If you know of any ringers who are currently lapsed or have returned to ringing, please could you forward to them the survey link: [Lapsed or returned ringers survey](#)



Concert at St Michael's, Bishops Stortford

A concert will be held at 7.30pm on Saturday, 18th May 2019 at St Michael's, Bishops Stortford, by the Three Valleys Male Voice Choir. Tickets, including refreshments are £10.00, available at the door, or contact Dick Prime on fp38@hotmail.com. The proceeds will go to St Michael's Bell Restoration Fund.



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New CCCBR Website – Coming Soon!

The current website is the result of hard work from lots of volunteers over a number of years and has hundreds of pages of content. Some of those need updating to reflect latest structures or guidance, and some need to be archived/deleted. Rather than try to update the existing pages we felt it easier to start from scratch. However, we didn't want to throw away any of that hard work that is still needed so used analytics from the website to make sure we recreated the pages that are most visited.

We recognise that we may have missed some useful and important material when creating this new site, so will keep the current site running in parallel for a period of time allowing you to access the existing content. During this time we will monitor what is being accessed and migrate it to the new site, where appropriate.

This is where you come in Ahead of the launch we would value your feedback on the new website:

- Can you navigate it easily?
- Can you find the information you need most?
- General thoughts and observations.

The launch date is set for 1st June 2019 and whilst we are aiming to squeeze as much as we can in this first release, some updates may have to wait for future releases.

Visit:

<https://newdev.cccbr.org.uk>

and let us know what you think by emailing:

cmlead@cccbr.org.uk

Louise Nightingale

Communications and Marketing Workgroup Lead



Westley Award for Belfry Maintenance

All ringers, including new ringers such as those recruited through the Ringing Remembers campaign, depend on the bells and towers that they ring being in usable condition. Good bells usually mean that it is easier to develop ringers' skills and, in particular, help retain new recruits. So are you or one of your band getting involved in belfry maintenance? If so, then a new award for people involved in maintenance of tower bells is for you! The Stewardship and Management Workgroup of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers is launching an award for people who have recently become involved in belfry maintenance, are developing their own skills and those of others. The first award will be made at the September 2019 CCCBR annual conference to be held in London. The winner will receive £100 and a certificate.

Full details and an application form can be found on the CCCBR website:

<https://cccbr.org.uk/workgroups/stewardship-management/westley-award>

The closing date for nominations is noon on 28th June 2019.

Alison Hodge

CCCBR Stewardship and Management Workgroup Lead



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Heritage Open Days 2019

Want to do something different this September with your tower and bells?

Well, you can! Heritage Open Days is back. Across two weekends from 13th-22nd September, it's a chance to get people into your tower, publicise yourselves and you can take advantage of Heritage Open Days publicity for free. And you can partner with other local participants to promote your event too.

This year is 25 years of Heritage Open Days and it has a special theme: PEOPLE POWER. The ability of local communities, groups and individuals to evoke change. What's this got to do with ringing? Well, many of our bells were funded by people power, our local communities often fundraised to buy the bells that we still ring. Our local communities are still involved in lots of ways – we are part of our local community!

There's also a mini-project as part of HOD called 'Unsung Stories', looking at bringing to life stories [individual and collective] that haven't been highlighted before. Does your tower have a unique story? Would it make good publicity for you? HOD can commission artists to work with local organisers to really make that story stand out. To get involved is easy, follow the link: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk>

Emily Ashton

PRO@eacr.org.uk



WALTHAM ABBEY 7th BELL

It was a great shock when the 7th bell lost its tone suddenly on Easter morning (yes, I was ringing it!) and now sounds like a bucket. Eventually a crack was found on the sound bow so the bell is now unringable. The 7th is the pivot bell and is used in all the combinations of bells that we ring: 6,8, 10 and 12. So we are in mourning. We can ring the front six which we have done for a quarter peal since the tragedy occurred.



The bell is dated 1806 and is one of the three original Bryant bells incorporated into the ring of 12. The 10 cracked and was recast in 1957 so, when repairing the 7th we shall be looking very hard at the 6th, the remaining bell, which was ringing on Sunday! We will keep you updated.

In the meantime, the next NW District practice will take place at St Mary's, Walthamstow [10]. There will be ringers from the tower to join us as well as they are having an open day. Tower tours from 12noon if anyone wants to go up to the tower roof afterwards.

Jane Walters, Waltham Abbey

Sue Evans

Secretary – North Western District

District Master	Ian Kerwin	07837 170816	iankerwin@btinternet.com
Deputy District Master	Mike Slowe	01279 861546	Mike.slowe@virginmedia.com
Treasurer	Fred Bone	01279 726159	Fred.bone@dial.pipex.com
Secretary	Sue Evans	01277 896601	Sue.evans.nwsecretary@gmail.com



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North Western District Meeting
9.30am - Saturday, 18th May 2019

All Saints, Betts Lane, Nazeing, Waltham Abbey EN9 2DB

Agenda

No.	Item
1	Welcome and apologies
2	In Memoriam
3	Minutes of Annual District Meeting held on 26 th January 2019 and Matters Arising
4	Election of New Members
5	Training and Education
6	New Tower Contacts
7	Any other business
8	Date of next meeting and Call Change Competition: Saturday, 5 th October 2019 at Sawbridgworth.



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North Western Annual District Meeting

Saturday, 26th January 2019

The Abbey Church Centre, Waltham Abbey

Minutes

No.	Item	Discussion
1	Welcome and apologies	<p>Ian Kerwin welcomed 41 ringers and friends to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies received from: Ro Kellsell, Claire and Ella May, Brian Rew, Pat Ormes, Bryany Bartrum, Edna Halls, Penny Browne, Roger Hughes-Penney, David Sparling, Linda Bullough, Alan Padgett, Gerald Pearson, Colin Holman.</p>
2	In Memoriam	David Osgood, Thaxted; Christine Rushbrook, Great Chishill.
3	Minutes of the NW District Meeting held on 6 th October 2018	<p>The minutes of the meeting were approved, proposed by Sheena Bigland, seconded by Mary Bone.</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>
4	Election of Members	<p>The details of all new member applications were read out by Sue Evans. All members were elected en bloc, proposed by Bill Griffith Jones, seconded by Denise Kerwin. See Page 5 for detail.</p>
5	Officers' Reports	<p>[a] District Master: previously circulated. Following a request from Roger Pascoe. Ian Kerwin agreed to provide a resumé of the ART courses he had attended. No other points raised.</p> <p>[b] Secretary: no points raised.</p> <p>[c] Treasurer: Ian Kerwin referred to the number of members in 2018 of 170+, which, given the number of people at the meeting, highlighted the lack of attendance at the meetings and competitions. Almost half were not on the District email list, so possibly were unaware of this meeting, and only a fraction of the membership were on the Facebook page. Out of 43 towers in the District, only 12 towers were represented at this meeting. Margaret Padgett suggested that the unrepresented towers should be contacted to encourage attendances at meetings and competitions.</p> <p>[d] Education Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Ian Kerwin expressed his concern at the difficulty in achieving sufficient student and helper numbers at the Spring and Autumn Ringing Courses. The Spring Ringing Course now has sufficient students and will commence on Saturday, 9th February for eight weeks. For the same eight weeks, Ian Kerwin will hold Saturday afternoon practice sessions on the simulator at Willingale for bell handling, ringing up and down, rounds, etc. Ian Kerwin asked that students who would like to attend the Autumn Ringing Course in October/November to let him know in advance what they would like to practice.➤ The Essex Ringing Course will take place from 11th-13th April 2019



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No.	Item	Discussion
		<p>and the deadline for applications is 15th February 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ [e] Maintenance Officer: Bill Griffith Jones had undertaken hardly any maintenance work during the year, so very little to report. During the next year Bill Griffith Jones would be working with Mike Slowe and Ian Jolley with a view to them taking over from him. For safety reasons, it was vital when work was being undertaken that there were always at least two people working at any time in the tower, never working alone. If any towers required any maintenance this year, please let either Bill, Mike or Ian know and either the work could be undertaken by them or referred to the most appropriate contact.
6	Election of District Officers	<p>Andrew Kelso took over the meeting for the election of the District Master.</p> <p>[a] District Master: there being no other nominations, Ian Kerwin was proposed by Liz Griffith Jones, seconded by Jane Walters, agreed by all, and duly elected as District Master.</p> <p>Ian Kerwin thanked Andrew Kelso and resumed his place as District Master.</p> <p>[b] Deputy Master: there being no other nominations, Mike Slowe was proposed by Jim Sams, seconded by Mary Bone, agreed by all and duly elected as Deputy Master.</p> <p>[c] District Secretary: there being no other nominations, Sue Evans was proposed by Jane Walters, seconded by Margaret French, agreed by all and duly elected as District Secretary.</p> <p>[d] District Treasurer: there being no other nominations, Fred Bone was proposed by Margaret French, seconded by Clive Moore, agreed by all and duly elected as District Treasurer.</p> <p>[e] Education Officer: there being no other nominations, Ian Kerwin was duly elected.</p> <p>[f] Maintenance Officer: there being no other nominations, Bill Giffith Jones, Mike Slowe and Ian Jolley were duly elected.</p> <p>[g] Public Relations Officer: there being no other nominations, Ian Kerwin was duly elected.</p>
7/8	Ringing and Social Programme 2019	<p>Previously circulated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was agreed that the District Meeting, followed by the Method Striking Competition, at Nazing on Saturday, 18th May 2019 would commence at 9.30am. ➤ Penny Browne had offered to organise a District ringing outing, probably in the Suffolk area, on either the 10th or 17th August 2019. After preferences were expressed, it was agreed that this would take place on the 10th August 2019. ➤ Members were requested to identify any amendments/changes to the programme to Sue Evans. A final version would be re-issued. ➤ Please contact Ian Kerwin if you have any suggestions for a District social event.
9	New/Existing Tower Contacts	<p>Any changes in tower contacts to be notified to Sue Evans to ensure correct details are held.</p>



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No.	Item	Discussion
10	Any other business	<p>[a] EACR Officers: Andrew Kelso explained that all Officer posts were open for election, nominations required by 1st February 2019. The Association General Secretary post was currently held on an interim basis and as yet no nominations had been received. This was an extremely important role. If anyone felt they may be interested in being nominated for this post, look at the job description on https://eacr.org.uk/misc/job-descriptions/assoc-secretary.pdf or contact Andrew Kelso to discuss on master@eacr.org.uk. Potential nominations were required to be a member of, and keen to support, the Association.</p> <p>[b] Quarter Peal Reports: A reminder that the deadline for QP reports was 15th January 2019.</p> <p>[c] 2019 Subscriptions: Ian Kerwin questioned why, when subscriptions were due in January, ringers were given until April to pay. A reminder that all new members were required to complete the application form and pay the subscription before they could be elected as a member.</p> <p>[d] Association and District Carol Services: The District Carol Service had been arranged to take place at Thaxted on Saturday, 14th December 2019. However, as Andrew Kelso explained, the last Association Carol Service, held every five years, was due to be held this year, and consideration needed to be given as to whether the Association service went ahead, whether Districts preferred to continue with their own services, or whether both services would be considered. Toppesfield had been provisionally booked for this service on Saturday, 7th December 2019. The Association service would be hosted by the Northern District, who would not be holding their own District Carol Service. Various opinions were expressed, in the main:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ given that the NW District Carol Service had only been resurrected two years ago, it would be a shame to lose the momentum to what had become a very welcome event;▪ some members may consider Toppesfield too far to travel, particularly from the other end of the District, although some present members confirmed their attendance;▪ some members would not attend two carol services; conversely, some present members confirmed they would attend both. <p>Following this discussion, it was agreed to cancel the District Carol Service this year and as many members as possible to attend the Association Carol Service. It was suggested that the District Carol Service in 2020 could possibly be held at Thaxted.</p> <p>[e] Essex Ringing Course: Mary Bone informed the meeting that she had volunteered as District Co-ordinator for helpers at this year's course. Many helpers were required for this course to enable all the groups to be well supported and asked that any ringers who were able to offer their help at the course to speak to her after the meeting and their contact details would be added to the helpers list.</p> <p>[f] Great Chishill: Mary Bone reported that an inspection by David Sloman and Nigel Taylor had taken place at Great Chishill with the</p>



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No.	Item	Discussion
		<p>intention of augmenting a difficult 5-bell to a 6-bell ring.</p> <p>[g] Waltham Abbey 10/12 Bell Practice: taking part next Saturday, 2nd February 2019 from 10.30am-12noon. There were no District ringers other than those from Waltham Abbey at the last practice and all ringers would be welcome.</p> <p>[h] Ian Kerwin thanked Waltham Abbey for their warm welcome and for hosting today's events and the delicious refreshments. Ian Kerwin also thanked Sue Evans, Mike Slowe and Fred Bone for their work throughout the year.</p>
11	Date of next meeting and Method Striking Competition	Saturday, 18 th May 2019 at Nazeing.