



# EAACR

## NEWSLETTER

Registered as a Charity. No: 292250

No 23

December, 1995

TOWER :

### The Dinner & Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held at the Rivenhall Hotel and attracted almost 120 members. The Master, David Sparling, proposed the toast to the Church which was responded to by the Rev'd. Lawrence Pizzey, Chairman of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers. The toast to the Essex Association was proposed by Jane Wilkinson, Vice-President of the Central Council and Secretary to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and one-time Essex ringer. Following the toast to the newly elected Life Member Peter Childs, and Guests, the Master presented Peter with his Life Membership Certificate. We also took the opportunity of presenting David Sloman with a framed colour drawing of four Essex Churches, drawn by Helen Harpole. David had recently stood down after 25 years as one of our representatives to the Central Council. Following the meal and speeches the evening continued with dancing and socialising until midnight, when we reluctantly called it a day. Arrangements for 1996 are well underway, with a change in the venue which, apart from having a greater choice at the bar, also offers somewhere separate to sit and chat if the disco is not your cup of tea. Book the date in your 1996 diary, 12th October, and book early to avoid disappointment, especially if you're booking for a party.

□

# The Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee met for the second time this year at Danbury. Amongst the items discussed were the following:- Due to space constraints and environmental problems the Association Library is to move from the Essex County Library at Chelmsford. Colin Chapman and the other Trustees are finalising arrangements with the County Records Office for them to house our records. Watch the Newsletter for further information; The George Eve memorial bell is to be used in an augmentation at Margareting. Those of you who knew George would, I think, agree that he would approve of this augmentation of the present four to a five. It is hoped that the work will be completed early in the new year; The PRO, Janet Edward's report included news on just how many towers rung for VJ Day. Over 100 towers rung on the day, with many bands ringing at more than one tower - *well done*; The Report Editor, Adrian Malton, has had to stand down this year, as he now lives in Norfolk, so we now have a new one, Ann Chapman, who has been appointed this important job; The Ringing Simulator was given further discussion and the same problem arose, insomuch as just how do you administer, manage and move from tower to tower, a complicated piece of technology. One answer would seem to be build your own. Coggeshall has done just this using a Personal Computer dedicated to the task and permanently installed in the tower. The cost was around £146 which is good when you compare the cost of some of the others on offer. Details will be available in an article soon to be published in The Ringing World.

---



---

## The Ridgman Trophy (The True Story)

Well you know how it is, anybody can make a mistake, and I did. August's edition of the Newsletter contained a report of this competition. In that report I reversed the first and third places. It made little difference to the Essex Association, we still came second, but members of The Cambridge University Guild may have felt a little aggrieved. My apologies to them. The true result was really:-

1st. place	The Cambridge University Guild
2nd place	The Essex Association
3rd place	The Suffolk Guild

*I think!*



# Bell Sunday

## June 16th 1996

You will by now all have heard about Bell Sunday. The Bishop of Chelmsford has kindly given his support and permission to use 16th June 1996 as a day when we can celebrate in our churches the contribution bells and bell-ringers make to the life of the church.

This is a marvellous opportunity for ringers to improve relations with the clergy in their parishes. Some of us are lucky enough to get on well with our clergy, are included in all parish plans such as fetes, harvest suppers, and are told well in advance when bells are needed for special services and weddings. There are those, however, who are quite used to being telephoned on a Friday evening because the rector has forgotten there is a wedding on the Saturday and could you please ring? Do we, on the other hand, always inform the rector of our plans, welcome him to the tower, invite him on our outings, ask him to lead prayers before ringing?

I'm sure you will agree that there is always room for improvement and no room for complacency in any relationship and this Sunday will hopefully give us all the chance to work together and forge new links.

There is no set way to organise Bell Sunday. The whole idea is for the ringers to approach their clergy (who should all have received a leaflet in their November mailing) and for them to work out together what they are going to do in their parish. It could be that they decide to have some special prayers within their usual service, or ringers could lead the prayers, read the lessons, serve the coffee after service, or they could decide to hold a special event such as an Open Tower Day or Flower Festival. It really is up to each parish to work out what is best for them.

In the New Year there will be a resource pack available which will give ideas on appropriate hymns, prayers and readings and which will also give other suggestions which might be used. We do hope that you will all approach your church and 'do' something. There will also be a poster with space to advertise your own event.

Please let me know what you are doing when your plans have been made, as I shall be looking to get some media coverage for some of the events.

Janet Edwards.



# Give As You Earn (GAYE)

The Association is now registered with the Charities Aid Foundation. This means that if your employer operates a GAYE scheme, regular donations may now be made to the Association (or any other registered charity) by this method. GAYE is one of the easiest and most tax efficient ways of giving money to charity. The GAYE scheme ensures that your chosen charity receives a regular income and is not dependent on occasional donations throughout the year. Your involvement with the scheme will be treated in the strictest confidence by both your employer and the charity.

## How does GAYE work?

Money comes from your pay before tax is deducted. For example, if you agree to make a donation of £10 per month, £10 is deducted from your gross pay before the tax payable for that month is calculated. If you pay basic rate tax (25%) you will therefore save £2.50. Your chosen charity will receive the full £10 at a cost to you of only £7.50.

By taking advantage of this tax relief and grossing up the monthly payment, you can pass on this benefit to your chosen charity. For example, if you pay basic rate tax (25%) and you wish to make a net donation of £10 per month, you agree to pay £13.33 per month, the net effect on your pay-slip being £10 (£13.33 less the tax saved of £3.33).

The tax savings for a higher rate tax payer are correspondingly higher.

## How much?

The typical donor gives £10 per month but you can donate anything between £5 and £75 each month. Please note, however, that donations by this method cannot be used in place of a deed of covenant.

## How do I join?

You should speak to your personnel department who will let you have the necessary form.

## Can I stop if I want to?

At any time. All you need to do is inform your personnel department. Incidentally, you can also increase or decrease your donation at any time.

Your personnel department should be able to answer any questions which you may have on the scheme but please do not hesitate to contact me if you prefer.

**Andrew Taylor**



# Help Needed

at

## St. JOHN THE BAPTIST, EPPING

The enthusiastic band at Epping have been raising money for the last two years and have now placed an order with the Whitechapel Bell Foundry to overhaul the existing bells. Epping have always had a reputation for being difficult to handle so it has taken perseverance for the present hand, which started from scratch in 1988 after 10 years of silence, to reach its present standard of Plain Hunt and Plain Bob Doubles.

We can save £3,500 on the cost of the overhaul by providing labour to work with the Foundry. Could YOU spare us a few week-days (even one would be appreciated) between Tuesday, 28th May and 21st June, 1996? No experience necessary, as you will be working with the bell-hanger on site...just fit and able-bodied with a head for heights!

If you can help or wish to know more please contact Jane Walters, Tel: 01992 767873 or Nic Wold, Tel: 01992 574820 as soon as possible, so that we can co-ordinate the labour to provide two people daily, the Foundry's requirements. We invite you to a preliminary meeting on Saturday, 17th February at 10.30am at Epping. Please contact us before then.

Thank you.

Jane Walters, TOWER CAPTAIN.



## OUR NEW REPORT EDITOR

As you may know or have read elsewhere in this Newsletter we have a new Report Editor, Ann Chapman. The retiring Report Editor, Adrian Malton now resides in Norfolk, and could move again at short notice, so he felt it better that the Committee appoint someone else. Our thanks must go to Adrian for holding the post for 10 years, during which time he has held our attention by announcing the colour of the report cover at the last moment. Ann takes up the appointment in January 1996, so now is the time for you all to go through the 1994 report and check the entry for your tower or, indeed, any other entry. If you do find an error please put it, and the correction, in writing and give or send it to either Ann, your District Secretary or the Hon. Gen. Sec. Don't assume that someone else will find the error and report it, they're expecting you to. Ann's address is:- 1, Took Drive, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 5RJ. Telephone 01245 324461. The Hon. Gen. Sec's address is at the end of this Newsletter.

# The Essex Ringing Course

- 1996 -

The 3-day Essex Ringing Course, based at Honywood School, Coggeshall, will be held from Thursday 11th to Saturday 13th April. The well established format will be followed. Theory and practical sessions for individual groups, backed up with general interest lectures, with of course a presentation by a guest speaker. Details and full information of the group options on offer for this Course can be found in the Course brochure which is available from:-

A.G. Semken,  
117A, Tilkey Road,  
Coggeshall,  
Colchester,  
Essex. CO6 1QN  
☎ 01376 561183

**Closing date for applications is 7th February.**

Please provide an A5 Stamped Addressed Envelope for your Course brochure.

**Helpers** are also required to assist at the practical ringing sessions. This is a most vital part of the Course and involves ringing whatever the designated group is working at but does not necessarily involve any instruction or standing with a student. Helpers are welcome at the School and are entitled to attend any of the lectures etc. when their services are not required by their group, but they need only attend at the towers if they wish - this means two practical sessions a day of about 1½ hours each side of the lunch break. Please book the dates and offer to help the next generation of ringers! Offers of help to the same address **please**.

---



## The Essex Trophy

### 10-bell Striking Competition

The Association's team, led by Adrian Malton, did rather better this year, finishing 2nd out of the 6 that had entered. This year it was hosted by The Kent County Association at Leeds. The results were as follows

1st place	Hertford C.A.
2nd place	EACR
3rd place	Sussex C.A.
4th place	Guildford D.A.
5th place	Kent C.A.
6th place	Surrey A.

Next year we are to host it and plans are well advanced.



## Margaretting and George Eve

I have received several responses to Don Cobb's appeal in the Ringing World, one of which was a letter and a donation from Don Bedford, a former Essex ringer who now lives in Narberth in Dyfed. Others may find the letter of interest. He writes as follows:-

"Years ago, in the late 50s and early 60s, I was a ringer at Ingrave and also worked as a draughtsman at Christy & Norris, in Chelmsford, where I met Alan Gray in late 56 or early 57. Alan was a ringer at Margaretting and through him I met John and June Snell who lived at the Rectory immediately next to the church, both being call-change ringers there. Thus I rang pretty regularly there as a visitor, sometimes at, seemingly, any hour of the day or night.

In 1961 the Central Council were discussing whether or not to accept peals of minimus, so, just to throw in our pennorth (*sic*), we rang a quarter of Grandsire Doubles at Margaretting which, later on, was described as a "curious syncopated affair at Margaretting". A little harsh really. I rang the 'treble' which was a cardboard tube about salty length held in my right hand and hidden behind me for backstroke. The quarter wasn't syncopated at all. I rang my treble up tight to everyone and anyone ringing over me rang up tight too.

About 1961 our Ingrave team struck up a friendship with the then Southend & District Guild particularly with the ringers at Prittlewell. I can remember when George started to ring. I think he was 50 years old and dead keen in spite of being somewhat stony like me. He was a good old boy and I always enjoyed his company.

One last thought. The four old bells are called Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. What name will be chosen for the new bell? I'd suggest 'George' - officially dedicated to Saint George and unofficially dedicated to George Eve.

I hope the project is successful.

PS. I have some tape recordings of Margaretting bells, recorded in 1961."

There have also been several letters in the Ringing World about the "quarter peal".

Firstly, in the 11th August edition, William Willans wrote in to query whether the first quarter of doubles after augmentation would be the first on the bells. The Ringing World of 14th July 1961, page 481, published the following:-

**Margaretting, Essex.** On June 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles. Norma Jeffrey 2, Sylvia A Hayward 3, P Bedford (cond) 4, F J Wood 5. Assisted by Donald A Bedford hunting an imaginary treble with arm movements only.

In the 8th September edition there was a letter from Tony Nunn and in the Ringing World of 6th October a letter from Donald where he explains in more detail how and why the "quarter peal" was rung.

Andrew Taylor




## VJ DAY - UPDATE

Great news! One of the ringers who contacted me after my appeal to 'Come Back to Ringing' was made a member of the South Eastern District at the November meeting. That's what I call a result.

Janet Edwards.

---



---

## Association Registers

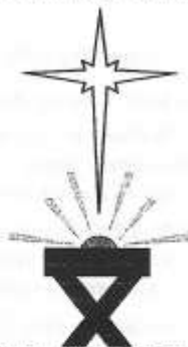
**In Memoriam:-** It is with sadness that we report the death of Paul Wiseman, Danbury; Geoff Blake, Life Vice-President, non-resident; Stan Leech, Life Member, Great Holland and Jack Nichols, aged 101, author of Bells thro' the Ages.

**Births:-** Matthew and Sarah Brown, a girl, Laura Elizabeth; Tom and Charlotte Mackle (nee Gould, late of Wethersfield), a girl, Eleanor Catriona.

**Weddings:-** Congratulations to Colin and Judith Newman (nee Blackburn), 23rd September.

**Golden Wedding Anniversaries:-** Congratulations to Fred and Mabel Bonniface, Black Notley and Mr. & Mrs. Bill Aley, Life Member, Nazeing.

**Birthdays:-** Congratulations to Harry Millatt, Colchester, St. Peter, who celebrated his 80th on 14th October; Paul Cammiade, 40th on 3rd September.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR

---

The next issue of the Essex Association of Change Ringers NEWSLETTER is planned for April 1996.  
Contributions please to M.A. Bishop, 56, Edinburgh Gardens, Braintree, Essex CM7 9LH ☎ 01376 325281  
by 18th March.