
*Essex Association Dinner
Saturday 3rd October 2015*

The Association's 61st Annual Dinner will be held in the Crystal Room at the County Hotel, Chelmsford on Saturday 3rd October at 6.45 for 7.30pm. Join us in the pleasant surroundings for an enjoyable evening of good food and good company in the presence of Patrick Wills from Surrey and the Ven Annette Cooper, Archdeacon of Colchester and a Vice-President of the Essex Association.

Patrick is the immediate Past Master of the Surrey Association and is known to many members as Patrick, and his partner Kate Desbottes, have attended the Essex Ringing Course for several years.

The charge for the evening will be £35 per person. Dress will be Black Tie or Lounge Suit. Download the booking form from the website <http://eacr.org.uk/dinner2015>, select your menu choices, add your name and send your completed form, SAE and payment (payable to 'EACR') to Andrew Brewster at the address below. The last date for ordering is 20th September 2015. Alternatively secure your place now by paying a deposit of £17pp and pay the balance by 20th September.

There is discounted accommodation available in the hotel if anyone wishes to stay. Please book accommodation directly with the County Hotel (01245 455700) and inform them that you are attending the Essex Dinner, to secure the special rate

There is also a bar, which sells real ale, and there are car parking spaces at the

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Menu

Starters

*Grilled mackerel Fillet, shaved Fennel & orange salad, Aioli [v]
Melon, green apple sorbet, ginger syrup
Warm salad of smoked duck, roasted hazelnuts, fine beans,
slow roast tomatoes*

Main Course

*Marinated fillet of salmon, stir fried vegetables
Minted lamb casserole, sautéed potatoes, rich red wine gravy
Wild mushroom and tarragon tortellini, watercress cream,
parmesan [v]*

Dessert

*Red wine poached pear, pear sorbet [gf] [df]
Seasonal fresh fruit crumble, under an oatmeal crust, real
custard
Steamed treacle sponge pudding, caramel sauce, clotted
cream ice-cream*

*Coffee and Petit Fours to follow
Special diets can be arranged on request*

hotel or nearby, or you can use the train! We will be seated on tables of 6, 8 or 10, so do think about making up a table from your Tower.

Let's make it a great success. Please come along and support it!

Andrew Brewster
16 The Priory
Writtle
CM1 3JE
01245 421166

Your District Representatives on the Social Committee are:
N - Kelly Thompson / S - Hilary Donoghue / SE - Wendy Godden
Vacancies remain in the NE, NW and SW Districts

Ridgman Trophy

The Ridgman Trophy 10 bell striking competition took place on Saturday 6th June at Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. The principal judge was David House and the test piece was half a course of Cambridge Royal. With beer having been donated by local brewery Elgoods, it made for a pleasant afternoon sitting in the, albeit slightly chilly at times, sunshine. The results were declared as follows:

1	85%	Ely Diocesan Association
2	78%	Suffolk Guild
3	76%	Bedfordshire Association
4	65%	Essex County Association
5	58%	Peterborough Diocesan Guild
6	54%	Cambridge University Guild
7=	50%	Hertford County Association
7=	50%	Lincoln Diocesan Guild

Representing Essex were: Stephen Nash, Vicki Chapman, Anne Bray, David Rothera, Ian Culham, Andrew Kelso, Paul Bray, Nigel Taylor, Colin Chapman and Brian Meads.

Next years competition will be hosted by Hertfordshire on 4th June 2016 and the test piece will be Erin Caters.

Life Membership

Any nominations for life membership must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary by 1 December (rule 10.4) and should include details of the candidate's Association activities.

Guidelines were agreed by the Committee in February 1986 as follows: "... To honour a member for work undertaken throughout the district and promotion of work throughout the Association." Further advice on the criteria is available from the Association Master or Secretary or from your district officers.

Vicki Chapman
Gen Sec

Annual General Meeting

The AGM took place on Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2015 and as usual the Cathedral bells were available for general ringing prior to the service before the invited band rang the service touch. Refreshments were served during general ringing and between the service and meeting by members of the North Western District.

The service was conducted by the new Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral, the Very Revd Nicholas Henshall; lessons read by the Master and Revd Ian Jorysz, our Chaplain. The address was given by The Right Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester. We were joined by the Springfield Church Choir under their Master, Richard Nott and the organist was William Warns.

The meeting followed the usual formalities; adopting the Statement of Accounts; adopting the 2014 Annual Report and to elect Honorary Officers. The post of Public Relations Officer remained unfilled. We had the opportunity to elect a new representative for the Central Council to complete the current triennium and Paul Cammiade was duly elected.

The Secretary and one of the Independent Examiners gave notice that they did not intend to stand for re-election in 2016.

In accordance with the Rule 8.2 (c) those who have been Ringing Members for at least 50 years are entitled to become Life Members. The following members were presented with Life Membership certificates where they were present, others will be distributed via Districts:

James Laken, Brian Lord, Steve Halliwell and Brian Patmore.

The early bird booking system for the Annual Dinner was in play again this year. Details of the event will be posted on the website and sent out with this newsletter.

The Master read out a statement following a discussion amongst the Principal Officers and District Masters regarding the future of recruitment and training in Essex.

After the Master had announced that the 8 Bell Striking Competition Touch would be a 252 Erin Triples with both the 6 and 8 bell competitions taking place at Barking on 4th July.

The Technical Advisor announced that a new Minor Works grant application process had been developed and that the guidance and application form would be available on the website with further communications being sent out to towers.

After the meeting, towers in the South Eastern District were open for ringing in the afternoon, with tea at Writtle.

Finally, the Master presented our Chaplain, Revd Ian Jorysz with a card and gift vouchers on behalf of the Association as he leaves us to take up a post as Assistant to the Bishop of Manchester.

I would like to thank everyone involved in the day's arrangements particularly Colin Chapman for running the ringing before the service, Revd Ian Jorysz, members of the Southern and Northern Districts.

Vicki Chapman
Gen Sec

Thank you from Ian Jorysz - Chaplain

To all in the EACR

Thank you very much for your card and generous gift of garden vouchers upon ceasing to be chaplain. We look forward to using them in getting our new garden in order here in Manchester - with weather which has so far been dry!

We are settling in well here, but have yet to settle upon a tower to make our home; as I am not attached to a particular parish myself, it is a new experience finding a Sunday base (although I shall have many Sunday commitments elsewhere).

I count it to have been a privilege, as well as a pleaser, to serve the EACR in a small way as chaplain. I wish you well in the years to come and will continue to follow your news with interest, if from afar.

With every good wish, and thanks again

Ian Jorysz

Association Training Day 2015

This year's training day is on Saturday 28th November 2015, 9.45am to approx. 4:30pm and is based in the Southern District commencing at St Margaret, Downham.

The groups on offer are:

- 1 Trebling to Treble Bob
- 2 Conducting
- 3 Stedman Doubles and Triples

To apply for a place, download an application form from www.eacr.org.uk training page or send an SAE for an application form to: Richard Wilson, EACR Education Officer, 57 Wilshire Avenue, Springfield, Chelmsford, CM2 6QW. Forms will be available from both sources from 31st August 2015 onwards. There will be 6 places on each course; first come, first served. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2015.

*There will be a charge of £7 which must be paid **in advance**, cheques to be made payable to EACR. We operate this system because in previous years there have been people who have applied and then failed to attend without notice or reason, thus wasting valuable training spaces others could have used. No e-mail applications will be accepted.*

Helpers are also required for this day; please contact Richard on 01245 358765 or 07587140804 or e-mail: education@eacr.org.uk if you are able to help.

Grants for Minor Works

A new scheme was announced at the EACR AGM in May to offer help for work not covered by grants from the Bell Restoration Account.

The Essex Association award grants to bell restoration projects. Under the present system, grant applications are made in advance of works being carried out and are paid after the granting of a faculty and satisfactory completion of the works. The guidelines describe Category 1 as being for new installations and Category 2 for "Essential repairs to existing installations, especially where they are liable to fall into an unringable state". However, the guidelines also state "Routine maintenance will not normally be considered."

There is however a constant need for maintenance in our District towers and we suspect much of this is either overlooked or deferred for lack of finance. Many churches in Essex, particularly those in rural areas and in large benefices, are in general not well endowed and funds for such works are very limited. Absence of regular maintenance at local level, whether from lack of knowledge or someone able to carry out such work, is the cause of many problems. Belfry maintenance is a priority - without bells there can be no ringing and if bells are difficult to ring there will be fewer ringers able and willing to ring them.

Christina Brewster – who sits on the Grants Sub-committee – proposed a grant aid scheme for minor works, such as replacement pulleys and minor repairs. Her proposal was to try to provide a simple and relatively rapid means of procuring a small grant towards remedial works where it is envisaged that a faculty would not be required. At the February 2015 Management Committee meeting, members agreed to a scheme to assist minor works where urgent work was required to keep church bells going and funds were not available locally for such works. It was agreed that the Grants Sub-committee would have the authority to approve applications for grants for minor works, without waiting for approval from the twice yearly Management Committee, although such grants would be ratified at the next Management Committee meeting.

Grant applications for minor works will be considered by the Grants Sub-committee as soon as practicable upon receipt and as a matter of urgency. The maximum grant likely to be offered for minor works will be £250. Grant aid is not provided for bell-ropes with either grant aid scheme.

Guidelines on applications and the application form are now on the website <http://eacr.org.uk/docs/admin/minor-works-assistance-guidelines.pdf> and the Grants Protocol can be found at <http://eacr.org.uk/docs/admin/minor-works-assistance-protocol.pdf>. A copy of the guidelines has been sent to all towers, via the District Secretaries, for display on tower noticeboards.

Grants Sub-committee

North Weald - tower correspondent

The tower contact at North Weald is now

Fr James Rodley, The Vicarage, 3 Oaklands Drive, Harlow CM17 9BE
tel. 01279 451065

Magna Carta ringing at Wethersfield

A quarter peal was rung at Wethersfield on Sunday 14th June:

1260 Middlesex Bob Triples

- 1 Alexandra Mackle
- 2 Charlotte Mackle
- 3 Cherry Threadgold
- 4 Angela Pannell
- 5 Peter G Smith
- 6 William Pannell
- 7 Ian Hamilton
- 8 Roy Threadgold (C)

Commemorating the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta.

First in method for all.

On Monday 15th the top two classes of Wethersfield Primary School came to the church and together chimed the Treble 800 times. Four of the children have been learning to ring for some months now and we're hoping to get them ringing rounds for their Leavers' Service in July.



Magna Carta ringing at Hornchurch

On Sunday 14th June 2015, more than 20 ringers from St Andrew's, Hornchurch and Holy Cross, South Ockendon took part in the Grand Ringing Day to celebrate the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta.

We started with call Changes on 6, 8 and 10 which allowed as many people as possible to take part. One of our new recruits, Jeanette Street, kindly organised tea which was followed by a long quarter peal of 2015 changes to celebrate our 800 years of freedom.

Clive Stephenson

Hornchurch, Essex, St Andrew

Sunday, 14 June 2015 in 1 hour 21 mins (18-0-0 in Eb)

2015 Plain Bob Caters: 1 Nicholas M Allen, 2 James Laken, 3 Leonie J Hughes, 4 Jillian Laken, 5 Gavin S Carpenter, 6 John W Stephenson, 7 Paul J Bloomfield, 8 Christopher C M Pain, 9 Clive J Stephenson (C), 10 Philip H Denton. Rung to mark the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta. Longest length - 3. 250th quarter - 10.



*L to R: Gavin Carpenter, Philip Denton, Leonie McCaughren, Chris Pain, Paul Bloomfield, Jim Laken, Clive Stephenson, John Stephenson and Jillian Laken.
(Nick Allen took the photo.)*

That's a First!

Quarter peals:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1st: Brian Sayer; Sue Evans; Rachel Parsons; Amanda Beggs; Susan V Gilder; Isobel Brooks; Amy Brindle (aged 12); Nick Champness (aged 12); Robert Carrington; Luke Knott; Samuel Beech (aged 12) | 1st Plain Bob Major: Ros C Skipper |
| 1st inside: Sue Butler; Scott Kerwin; Al Sacco; John Latham; Charlotte Parsons; Dion Laycock; James Pimblett; Emma Pinnock | 1st Treble Bob: Andy Henderson; Linda Ranby |
| 1st as cover: Connor Harmer; Tracey Taylor | 1st Surprise: Steven Turner |
| 1st Minor: Alwyn Brock; Dion Laycock; Des Thorne; Sheena Bigland; Ian Kerwin | 1st Cambridge inside: Val Calvert |
| 1st Minor inside: Sarah Chin-a-Loy | 1st Cambridge Minor: Elaine J Woolward |
| 1st Triples: Sarah Chin-a-Loy; Steven Turner | 1st as conductor: David Knott; Will Worth |
| 1st Triples inside: Andy Henderson; Elizabeth Coates | 1st Major as conductor: George J Vant |
| 1st Major: Julia Ibbotson | 1st on 12 as conductor: Jane Walters |
| 1st on 8: Raymond G Jones; Michael Mead; Jo Elliott | 1st Plain Bob Doubles as conductor: Simon Ward |
| 1st Maximus: Matthew Bayley | 1st Surprise as conductor: Mike Slowe |
| 1st on 12: Vicki Crispin; Susan John; Margaret French; Perry French; Heather McNaughton; David Knott; Mike Slowe; Ian Kerwin | 1st Cambridge S Minor as conductor: Lydia Roberts |
| 1st Grandsire: Paul Wiggins | 100th: Neal T Dodge |
| 1st Grandsire Doubles: John Smith | 150th: Chris Bailey |
| 1st Grandsire Triples: Ros Skipper | 200th: Christine Drake |
| 1st Grandsire Cinques: Timothy Stanford | 250th: Philip Denton |
| 1st Stedman Triples: Matt Bayley | 400th: Margaret French |
| 1st Plain Bob Minor inside: Angela Blakeway | 1200th: Stephen Nash; John Harpole |
| | 500th as conductor: Stephen Nash |
| | 200th on tower bells: George M Salter |
| | 150th together: Richard Wilson & Philip Saunders |
| | 200th together: Vicky LeFèvre & Ian Cresshull |
| | 300th together: Cathryn Corns & Andrew Martin |
| | 550th together: Cathryn Corns & David Belcham |
| | 600th together: Gordon Lucas & Cathryn Corns |

Peals:

1st: Ros Skipper	100th on tower bells: Philip Erith
1st in hand: George Vant	25th together: Andrew Brewster & Alan Mayle
1st inside: Nicholas Allen	50th together: Christina Brewster & David Hengeli
1st on 10: Andrew Brewster	100th together: James Towler & David Hengeli
1st Major inside: George Vant	
1st Surprise: Stuart Hawes	
300th: Colin Salter	

Information to end of February. Apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.

Striking competition results

The Association striking competition finals were held on a ridiculously hot 4th July, hosted by the South Western District, with both competitions held at Barking, alongside the local festival, so competition was also against the drums, music and events taking place on the green. The judges for both competitions were Ben Kipling and Paul Caruana both of St Martin in the Fields.

Eleven teams entered the 6-bell competition. The results were:

1st – Kirby le Soken - 93%, 2nd Chelmsford - 92%, 3rd Writtle - 91%, 4th Sawbridgeworth - 90%, 5th Coggeshall - 89%, 6th West Ham - 87%, 7th Langdon Hills - 86%, 8th Prittlewell - 85%, 9th Mistley - 84%, 10th Radwinter - 73%. Unfortunately Hornchurch did not complete their test piece.

After an excellent tea and the 6-bell results the inter-district 8-bell competition was held. The test piece was 252 Erin Triples. The North Eastern District won the trophy with 87%, 2nd South Eastern - 86%, 3rd South Western - 83%, 4th Southern - 80%, 5th Northern - 78%. Unfortunately the North Western district did not complete the test piece.

Thank you to the South West district officers and friends for making all the arrangements and for a wonderful tea.

Vicki Chapman
General Secretary

Peal for New Royal Princess

Hornchurch bells have been rung for many Royal occasions over the years.

When 2nd May was arranged as the date to ring a peal for the Royal Birth, we thought that we were going to be too early but when we assembled just before 10.00am, we knew that the Duchess of Cambridge was already in labour.

When we finished the peal 3 hours and 8 minutes later, we were delighted to discover that the new Royal Princess had arrived at 8.34am and that we had probably been the first church in the country to celebrate this event with bells!

Congratulations go to our treble ringer, Ros Skipper, who rang her first peal at the first attempt and to Nick Allen who rang his first peal on an 'inside' (more difficult) bell.

Non Association

Hornchurch, Essex

St Andrew

Saturday, 2 May 2015 in 3h8 (18–0–0 in Eb)

5056 Plain Bob Major

Composed by J R Pritchard

1 Ros C Skipper

2 Lionel S Woods

3 Christopher C M Pain

4 Philip H Denton

5 John A Hall

6 Christopher J Cooper

7 Nicholas M Allen

8 Clive J Stephenson (C)

Rung to celebrate the birth of HRH Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana on this day, a daughter to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

First peal - 1. First inside - 7.

Practice Diary

Aug	12	Learners Practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	7:45
	14	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	15	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	22	District 10-bell Practice	Coggeshall	NE	7:15
	29	Beyond Bob Minor	Wethersfield	N	7:30
Sep	5	10/12-bell Practice	Saffron Walden	NW	10:30
	5	District Learners Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	11	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	17	District Surprise Practice	South Weald	S	7:30
	17	District Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
	19	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	25	Learners Practice	Ashdon	NW	7:45
	26	Beyond Bob Minor	Wethersfield	N	7:00
	30	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
Oct	3	10/12-bell Practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	11:00
	3	District Learners Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	9	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	16	District Practice	Pleshey	SE	7:45
	17	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	17	District Afternoon Practice	South Benfleet	S	3:00
	23	District Practice	Willingale	NW	7:45
	24	Evening Practice — 10-bell	Braintree	N	7:30
	24	District 10-bell Practice	Tollesbury	NE	7:15
	28	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
	31	Beyond Bob Minor	Wethersfield	N	7:00
Nov	7	District Learners Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	13	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	14	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	19	District Surprise Practice	South Weald	S	7:30
	19	District Practice	Little Baddow	SE	7:45
	25	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
	27	Learners Practice	Littlebury	NW	7:45
	28	Beyond Bob Minor	Felsted	N	7:00
Dec	5	District Learners Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	8	District Practice	Sandon	SE	7:45
	11	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45

Tower Open Days: insurance advice

Recent queries from some Associations / towers organising open days has prompted a series of discussions between the CCCBR Tower Stewardship Committee and Ecclesiastical Insurance Group. The aim has been to arrive at some commonsense advice regarding insurance and Health & Safety considerations. The outcome of these discussions is an advice note that is now jointly endorsed by Ecclesiastical and CCCBR. As the vast majority of UK churches are insured through Ecclesiastical, we feel it is worthwhile to publish this advice through the "Societies" mailing list maintained by CCCBR – the text of the advice can be found at <http://www.ecclesiastical.com/ChurchMatters/Images/bell-ringing-guidance.pdf>

Christopher O'Mahony
Vice President, Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

From the Registers

Birth: Daniel, to John and Emma Taylor

60th birthday: Penny Browne

70th birthday: Jo Elliott; Sue Page; David Sloman

75th birthday: Ray Rogers; Ray Jones

85th birthday: Tom Monk

Wedding: Annabel Bunting & Christopher Wood, of Inworth

Silver wedding anniversary: Alison and Steve Nash, of Langdon Hills; Julie and Stephen John, of Hornchurch

Ruby wedding anniversary: Pat and Ian Davidson, of Shenfield; Mary and Fred Bone, of Sawbridgeworth

Golden wedding anniversary: Eileen and Noel Drew, of Hornchurch

Deaths: We regret to report the deaths of John Armstrong, life Vice-President, of Dagenham; Michael Warren, formerly of Little Horkesley; Philip Chalk, formerly of Stansted Mountfitchet, Maldon (All Saints) and Leytonstone.

Ringing for VE Day

Bell ringers from St Andrew's, Hornchurch and Holy Cross, South Ockendon joined forces to support the National Campaign to ring for the 70th Anniversary of VE Day on 9th May 2015. The ringing took place at Hornchurch and included rounds on 10 and call changes on 8. The event was well supported with 18 ringers from both churches taking part. Congratulations to all involved especially those ringing for a special event for the first time.



The ringers from Hornchurch and South Ockendon who rang for VE Day

The following day, a quarter peal was successfully completed to mark the weekend of celebrations:

Hornchurch, Essex

St Andrew

Sunday, 10 May 2015 (18–0–0 in Eb)

1296 Plain Bob Caters

1 Paul J Bloomfield, 2 John W Stephenson, 3 Elaine J Woolward,

4 Leonie J McCaughren, 5 Gavin S Carpenter, 6 Nicholas M Allen,

7 Neil P Booth, 8 Ewan Bhamrah-Harley, 9 Clive J Stephenson

(C), 10 Philip H Denton

Rung to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of VE Day

Dates for your Diary

Aug	1	Summer Event		N	
	8	Walkabout and Ring (tbc)	Ipswich	NE	
Sep		Quarter peal month		NE	
	5	District Meeting	(tba)	N	4:00
	5	District Meeting	Southminster	SE	3:00
	12	Essex Trophy competition	Guildford DG		
	12-13	Essex Country Show	Billericay		
	19	District Meeting	Fobbing	S	3:00
	26	Quiz Night	South Weald	S	
	26	District Training Day	(tba)	SE	
Oct	3	Association Annual Dinner	Chelmsford		
	10	Association Committee Meeting	Danbury		
	17	District Autumn Meeting	Little Bromley	NE	2:00
	24	District Meeting & Call-Change Competition	Henham	NW	4:00
Nov		Quarter peal month		N	
	7	Quiz Night	Terling	SE	
	14	Quiz Evening	Thorrington	NE	7:30
	21	Call Change Competition & District Meeting	Downham	S	2:30
	28	Association Training Day		S	
Jan	9	Annual District Meeting	Felsted	N	3:00
	9	Annual District Meeting	Little Baddow	SE	3:00
	16	Annual District Meeting	Bures	NE	3:00
	16	Annual District Meeting	(tba)	SW	
	23	Annual District Meeting	North Ockendon	S	3:00
	30	Annual District Meeting	(tba)	NW	3:30

The next edition of *Rounds & About* is planned for December 2015. Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to newsletter@eacr.org.uk or by post to Fred Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9DB by **1 November**