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## *Essex Association Dinner Saturday 13 October 2018*

A limited number of tickets are available on a first come first served basis for the Association's 64th Annual Dinner which will be held at Little Channels, Pratts Farm Lane West, Little Waltham, Chelmsford CM3 3PR on Saturday 13th October at 6.45 for 7.30pm. Join us for an enjoyable evening of good food and good company in the presence of Colin Parker, former member of the *Ringing World* Board and organiser of the National Youth Contest for the first three years. Colin rings at Tendring. The other speaker is one of our Vice-Presidents, the Revd Canon Vanessa Herrick the Archdeacon of Harlow.

The charge for the evening will be £33 per person. Dress will be Black Tie or Lounge Suit. Download the booking form from the website <http://eacr.org.uk/events/annual-dinner-2018.html>, 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 23rd September 2018. Alternatively secure your place now by paying a deposit of £15pp and pay the balance by 23rd September.

There is also a bar, which will be selling real ale, and there

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## *Menu*

### **Starters**

Homemade Carrot and Coriander Soup  
Ham Hock Terrine Served with Piccalilli and Sliced Crusty Baguette  
Mediterranean Vegetables Served on a Ciabatta with a Balsamic Glaze

### **Main Course**

Roast Leg of Lamb with a Redcurrant Sauce and Roast Potatoes  
Salmon and Basil wrapped in Filo Pastry with New Potatoes  
Root Vegetable Stew with Herb Dumplings [v]  
All served with seasonal vegetables

### **Dessert**

Homemade Treacle Tart served with Ice Cream  
Triple Chocolate Cheesecake with an Oreo Base  
Lemon Meringue Pie served with Raspberry Sorbet

Tea, Coffee and Chocolate Mints

Special diets can be arranged on request. All starters, mains and sweets  
can be gluten free – please specify when ordering

are plenty of car parking spaces. 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 Priors  
Writtle  
Essex CM1 3JE  
01245 421166

Your District Representatives on the Social Committee are:

N – Vicki Elliott / NE – George Vant / NW – Ian Kerwin / S – Hilary Donoghue /  
SE – Wendy Godden / SW – Liz Rayner

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## *A Taylor Tale*

Every three months I organise local ringers to ring at an un-rung neighbouring tower. On the 10th January we were due to ring "Single Oxford Bob Triples" but I had problems getting a band of seven. On the day of the ring another two ringers dropped out, and though I managed cover for one, I turned up at the car park with only six ringers.

I felt I had failed, and all would be disappointed. As we walked towards the church, a fellow ringer spoke briefly to a man, who then dived into the chip shop.

"Who was that" I enquired.

"Andrew!" came the reply

"Who's Andrew" said I

"You know!, Andrew from Loughborough, working in the area, heard about the ring and has come to help".

All my troubles had gone, Andrew put everybody right, we completed all the Triples we knew and had time to spare.

"Why don't we ring some major" said Andrew,

I snapped back "Cos we only have seven ringers"

Andrew then explained that he could ring major on two bells, one in his right hand and one in his left.

Heaven, absolute magic!

Driving home that evening I felt like a dog with two Taylor's.

Ringing Tone

## *General Secretary*

I regret to inform you that Tracey Southgate is unable to continue as General Secretary of the Essex Association of Change Ringers. The EACR Executive Committee has made an interim appointment, and David Sparling will act as Interim General Secretary until the Association Annual General Meeting on 6th May 2019.

Andrew Kelso  
Master

## Ringling Remembers Group

*Our experience on the Ringing Remembers Group on the Essex Ringing Course - April 2018 - from a husband and wife from Broomfield*

On arriving at the course, despite feeling like imposter bellringers due to our lack of prowess and experience, we were warmly welcomed as a valued addition to the course and the wider bellringing community.

We were a group of 6 new ringers, ourselves from Broomfield plus others from Gt Baddow, Gt Totham, Goldhanger and Suffolk. The organiser had kindly assigned our group to a tower in Coggeshall for all our practical sessions which was just 5 minutes walk from the school base for the course – this meant plenty of time for pub lunches, enabling us to fit in pudding, thanks to Vicki for the excellent choice of pubs!

At the start of the course we were reassured by Stephen Nash, our lead tutor, that “nothing would be our fault” ie any clangers (pardon the pun) would be down to our tutors – wait until we try that one out on our tower captains back home! Simon who looks after the bells at St Peter’s ad Vincula in Coggeshall also assured us he had some spare stays!



*Students back row l-r: Mandy (Gt Baddow), Carol (Broomfield), Andrew (Broomfield), Cliff (Gt Totham), Michelle (Goldhanger) and Stephen (Isleham)*

*Tutors front row l-r: David Hengeli, Steve Nash and John Hall (missing Stephen Wood)*

Day One began with a morning session on practising separate backstrokes, handstrokes and then joining both together - having had varying degrees of success in “joining it all together” on practice nights in Broomfield, it was great to have more rope time to refine our techniques and to understand what goes wrong and why. With calm and patient tutoring we all grew in confidence and our Baddow member in particular, who had

only attended one practice night before, made stellar progress. At the end of the day four of us joined the “First steps in listening skills” lecture and found we could identify such things as “Bell no.3 being too late on the handstroke” – despite the fact that we wouldn’t know what to do about it!

At the start of Day Two we had a go at “Rope Splicing (the long splice)”. Then it was off to the tower to practice how to speed up or slow down at handstroke and at backstroke; and counting the number of times you could consecutively set / stand the bell at handstroke / backstroke – that got a little competitive between husband and wife!

In the afternoon we had a go at ringing in rounds. Over pulling was a common problem but we were assured that is quite usual to begin with. Also there were moments of panic/anxiety when all the fundamentals suddenly deserted us when we were trying to follow another bell – a lack of spare brain capacity we think! Fortunately we were ringing on bells with tied clappers so we couldn't upset the neighbours; with the sound simulator switched on in the tower it wasn't always melodious, however our tutors were endlessly patient and calm which enabled us all still to have fun. Not everyone could make the social that evening but by all accounts it was well attended and everyone had a great time with quizzes and silly games.

Day Three and, after trying our hands at rope short splicing, our first practical session of the day was spent learning how to ring a bell down – handy for safety reasons. We then proceeded with more practice ringing in rounds and we all improved our ability to adjust when we inevitably got out of place in the round. It was sometimes a case of right pace, wrong order (and yes Les Dawson was mentioned) and sometimes neither the right pace nor the right order. This necessitated lots of coaching: to “pull all the way down on both strokes”; get “hands close together on the sally”; and “hold it up”. Those phrases will still be ringing in our ears, but likewise there was lots of encouragement when we got something right and we all grew in confidence. Despite there being a way to go yet, we finished the course with a sense of achievement and found bellringing less scary, more interesting, and above all enjoyable.

Our thanks go to Vicki Chapman for organising the group and providing advice in moments of panic! Plus to Stephen Nash, John Hall, David Hengeli, and Stephen Wood for their generosity in giving up their time, sharing their wealth of experience, their endless patience and for making it such fun. Having said farewell to our ringing course family, we all look forward to taking part in Ringing Remembers on 11 November 2018 and into the future ... watch this space! So, to anyone who is wondering whether to get involved, do, you won't regret it.

## *Situations Vacant*

What happens on the management committee? It draws together the work happening in the districts. Members are trustees, acting in the interests of the charity.

### **Myths**

1. *It's a big commitment.* FALSE – some jobs require more than others, but most only require a few hours a month
2. *You have to be a good ringer.* FALSE – ringing ability has nothing to do with it. You need to be enthusiastic and believe in ringing
3. *You have to have lived in Essex for a long time.* FALSE – In fact, “new blood” is often useful

How can I help?

Current vacancies

- Ringing Course Organiser
- Association Secretary
- Chaplain

Details on these roles can be found here:

<https://eacr.org.uk/about/rules/jobdesc.html>

Or contact me via email [master@eacr.org.uk](mailto:master@eacr.org.uk)

Andrew Kelso

## *Change of Management at the Cathedral!*

After some 38 years at Tower Captain at Chelmsford Cathedral David Rothera stood down this March. David started ringing at the Cathedral in 1969 after moving into the area, then became tower captain in 1979.

The Cathedral ringers and friends presented David with an engraved beer tankard and some cash as token of gratitude for his long service. Colin Chapman is now Tower Captain and David continues to support the band as Deputy.



Pictured with David is The Vice Dean, the Revd Canon Ivor Moody, long time friend of the Cathedral ringers.

Vicki Chapman

## *Practice Diary*

Aug	4	District Training Session	Halstead	N	10:00
	13	District Practice	Leyton	SW	7:30
	17	Surprise Practice	Felsted	NW	1:30
	24	Stansted Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
Sep	1	District Learners' Practice	S Ockendon	S	10:00
		10/12 bell Practice	Saffron Walden	NW	10:30
		District 10-bell practice	Coggeshall	NE	7:30
	5	District Practice	Little Waltham	SE	7:45
	15	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	20	District Surprise Practice	S Weald	S	7:30
	21	Surprise Practice	Felsted	NW	1:30
	26	District Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
28	Stansted Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45	
Oct	16	District Practice	Boreham	SE	7:45
	19	Surprise Practice	Felsted	NW	1:30
	20	District Afternoon Practice	Brentwood	S	3:00
		Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	26	Stansted Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	28	Young Ringers Practice	(tba)		4:30
31	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45	
Nov	3	District Learners' Practice	S Ockendon	S	10:00
	10	Half Muffled Practice	Barking	SW	6:30
	15	District Surprise Practice	Stanford-le-Hope	S	7:30
		District Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
	16	Surprise Practice	Felsted	NW	1:30
	17	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	23	Stansted Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	24	District 12-bell practice	Ipswich	NE	
	25	Young Ringers Practice	(tba)		4:30
28	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45	
Dec	1	10/12-bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	10:00
	13	District Practice	Little Baddow	SE	7:45
Jan	5	District Learners' Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	19	Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30

## *RAF Centenary ringing*

### **Bell ringing for the 100th anniversary of the RAF at St Clement Danes**

#### *Connection of St Clement Danes to the RAF*

St Clement Danes Church in The Strand was almost destroyed by German bombs during the London Blitz on 10th May 1941. The outer walls, tower and steeple survived the bombing but the interior was gutted by fire and the 10 bells fell to the ground. Subsequently they were put into storage and recast after the war. Following an appeal for funds from the Royal Air Force, the church was completely restored and re-opened in 1958 to become the Central Church of the Royal Air Force.

#### *Connection to Hornchurch Bell Ringers*

With the restoration of the bells in 1958 came the need for visiting bell ringers to ring for Sunday services. Under the leadership of Frank Gant, Hornchurch started to provide bell ringers for Sunday service ringing once a month, a tradition that has continued from 1958 to this day. It was therefore fitting that the Hornchurch bell ringers organised the ringing before and after the service on 1st April 2018 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the RAF. Coincidentally, this was also the 60th Anniversary of the restoration of the church in 1958.

A quarter peal was rung at 10.00am before the service and a full Peal at 12.00pm, after the service:

Westminster, Greater London

St Clement Danes

Sunday, 1 April 2018

1260 Plain Bob Royal:

1 Paul J Bloomfield

2 John W Stephenson

3 Ros C Skipper

4 Simon J O Head

5 Colin Friend

6 Jonathan C Mills

7 James Laken

8 William J Stungo

9 Andrew P Barham

10 Clive J Stephenson (C)

Westminster, Greater London

St Clement Danes

Sunday, 1 April 2018 in 3h 6mins

5021 Grandsire Caters

Composed by A Colin Banton

1 Christopher Ridley

2 Christopher J Cooper

3 Mary Bone

4 Jillian Laken

5 David Holdridge

6 William J Stungo

7 Alan Regin

8 Fred Bone

9 Clive J Stephenson (C)

10 Edward J W Manley



Both rung to Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Formation of the Royal Air Force. Also to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the restoration of St Clement Danes Church, funded by the RAF.

The photos show the ringers who took part:



*Quarter Peal: L to R: Back Row: Jim Laken, Simon Head, Jonathan Mills, Colin Friend & John Stephenson.  
Front Row: Clive Stephenson, Will Stungo, Ros Skipper, Paul Bloomfield & Andrew Barham.*



*Peal: R to L (in order of ringing; front row continuing clockwise to back row) Chris Ridley, Chris Cooper, Mary Bone, Jillian Laken, David Holdridge, Will Stungo, Alan Regin, Fred Bone, Clive Stephenson & John Manley.*

## *Ringing World National Youth Contest*

The Essex Young Eagles took part in the eighth Ringing World National Youth Contest, which this year was held in London on Saturday 7 July, where 22 teams from all over the country took part on what was one of the hottest days this summer.

The band members, reserves and supporters met at 9.30am at St Olave's Parish Hall in Mark Lane, opposite Fenchurch Street Station to register. EYE were drawn to ring on the bells at St Olave's Hart Street (11-3-23), one of three towers hosting heats that morning, the others being Cubbitt Town and St George in the East hosting eight and seven teams respectively. Here the team leaders collected packs for their teams containing wristbands for team members, team leaders/responsible adults, programmes for the team and wristbands for all other adults/supporters so they could gain access to St Mary le Bow for the results. EYE were drawn to ring first of the seven bands in this heat which also included last year's winners so again a very tough draw!

The band produced by far their best overall ringing in their test piece of 160 rows of call changes and were very pleased with their achievement finishing third in their heat and joint seventh out of the 22 teams, having been given a B+ grade, even though they did not qualify for the final at St James, Garlickhythe. In the eight years of the competition this is only the second occasion that we have received this high a grade. With three new members in the team plus a different conductor this was an extremely admirable performance. Seven different towers were represented by those that rang in the heat.

They all enjoyed a great day out with further ringing at five churches: the 12's at Cornhill (32-1-6), Southwark Cathedral (48-3-1) and St Mary le Bow (41-2-21), the 8 at St Botolph's Aldgate (25-0-7) and the 10 at Limehouse (12-3-25). However, two supporters and one of the reserves took time out to watch England beat Sweden in Ye Olde Watling close to St Mary le Bow! Some of the band also met the Blue Peter team and Lindsey Russell, one of the presenters, at Cornhill where they had been filming some of the open ringing before we arrived.

In preparing for this contest my thanks go to the incumbents for the use of their bells and those who opened up the towers where we held dedicated practices: Maldon All Saints, Stanford-le-Hope, Fobbing, Basildon and Writtle and to all the parents and supporters who assisted along the way.

Next year's contest is being held for the first time in Liverpool on Saturday 6 July. If anyone is interested in joining Essex Young Ringers, we practice every month and have



*The Eagles band with their medals, from left to right were: Josh (SE), Lucas (SW), Ollie (NW), Freja (SE), Emily (S and Reserve), Emily (S), Ethan (SW and Reserve), Will (S), Morgan (SE and Reserve), Courtney (SE) and Sam (S and Conductor). Lizzie (S and reserve) was unfortunately ill on the day.*

two outings a year. Please do get in touch or come along to a practice – the next event will be a day outing on Saturday 29 September.

Christina Brewster  
Youth Co-ordinator

Email: [essexyoungringers@eacr.org.uk](mailto:essexyoungringers@eacr.org.uk)

Website: <http://eacr.org.uk/eyr/>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/youngsessexringers/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/youngsessexringers/)

## *Striking Competitions*

This year the Association striking competition finals were held on 14th July. The South East District hosted and the judges for both competitions were Phil Barnes and David Grimwood from Kent County Association

The 6 bell competition was held at Great Totham. As the judges noted – these are not



easy to strike well. Ten teams entered and there was some good ringing. The results are:

1. Chelmsford, 37 faults;
2. Kirby-le-Soken, 51 faults;
3. Writtle, 60 faults;
4. Kelvedon and Felsted, 78 faults;
5. Coggeshall, 83 faults;
6. Downham, 85 faults;
7. Saffron Walden, 90 faults;
7. West Ham, 90 faults;
9. Hornchurch, 92 faults;
10. Willingale, 180 faults.

The judges gave their views and comments after an epic bell-ringers' tea in Goldhanger that could have fed another 60 people.

Special commendation goes to Willingale – their first time at a Final and actually only the second time they fully completed their test piece. It's fantastic to see different towers coming through the District competitions.



After tea the judges and those competing in the inter-district 8 bell competition retired to Goldhanger church for the 8 bell draw. This year's test piece was Lincolnshire Surprise Major, a method with 5 dodges in lead which can expose poor leading and striking, especially when it involves the tenors dodging with the trebles. 5 teams took part:

1. South-Eastern, 42 faults
2. North-Western, 60 faults
3. Southern, 61 faults
4. North-Eastern, 62 faults
5. Northern, 104 faults

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## 2017 Ringing Course

*by Courtney Mandell*

The Essex ringing course is an amazing opportunity for ringers of all ages to learn new methods and improve their pre-existing skills. The students are placed in an encouraging atmosphere with a motivational band to help further their ringing abilities. Whether that is something as early as bell handling or something more complex like learning a surprise method.

This year was my 4th year on the ringing course. I had a very motivational tutor who throughout the three days encouraged me to further my ringing and push myself to try new methods that I'd never even heard of. Each day we had new locations to ring at, all in the stunning countryside, which was then accompanied by a good old-fashioned pub lunch. Over the three days I feel like I improved a great deal and made good use of the extra-curricular activities that were on offer over the duration of the course. I took part in a couple of the hand bell sessions, this gave me an opportunity to learn something new and get to know people I hadn't yet spoken to in-between the main sessions with my group. I thoroughly enjoyed this year's ringing course and would highly recommend it to any ringer no matter how much experience you have. You're never too old to learn something new.

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### *From the Registers*

60<sup>th</sup> birthday: David Sparling, Mark Button.

70<sup>th</sup> birthday: Cathryn Corns, Vicki Crispin.

80<sup>th</sup> birthday: Peter Smith, Dick Prime.

85<sup>th</sup> birthday: Ernie Andrews.

Wedding: Esther Pilgrim and Christian Brown; Colin Parker and Jill Galloway.

30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary: Helen & John Harpole.

40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary: Rev Patrick J & Rhona I H McEune.

50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary: Liz and George Hull; John and Sue Williams; Peter and Pat Chapman.

Deaths: We regret to report the deaths of Joan Peacock, of Hornchurch; Don Mills, of Bures; Andrew Britter, of Springfield; Margaret Bailey, of Brentwood; and Sue Evans, of Thorpe Bay.

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*SE District Ringing Festival*  
*including Quarter-peal Day (with a difference)*  
*20 April - 6 May 2018*

Seven successful quarter-peals were rung for the SE District Ringing Festival, four of them during a SE District's first - a Quarter-Peal Day (with a difference) on 28 April. Thank you to everyone who took part in the ringing, especially the Firsts' ringers, who are essential to the future of the Association. Commiserations to the ringers of the failed quarter-peal at Little Waltham on 28 April.

**Boreham**

Josh Ashley rang his first quarter-peal of 1260 Plain Bob Doubles at Sandon on 28 April

**Goldhanger**

Alexander Horwood, aged 8, rang independently for the first time on 29 April

Andrew Kelso rang his first quarter of Royal in hand on 2 May

Lizzie Lawrence rang her first plain hunt

Vicki Hipwell rang her first plain hunt on the five

Clare Gebel rang her first 120 of Plain Bob Doubles as conductor

Clare Gebel rang her first quarter peal away from Goldhanger and for the first time, two quarter-peals in a day on 28 April.

**Great Baddow**

First ringing in rounds Sandra Murphy 4 May.

First ringing in rounds Joanne Law 4 May.

Brian Woods rang for his first Sunday service for 50 years on 6 May.

**Ingatestone**

Bryan Shedel rang the three to his first plain course of Reverse Canterbury minimus on 2 May.

**Little Baddow**

Michael Auker has rung for his first wedding and also rang the treble to Bastow Little Bob Doubles with great accuracy.

Michael rang the tenor at Writtle (31½cwt) for the first time and also made his first attempt at calling changes. He called the bells into Queens very competently.

**Sandon**

Richard Cecil rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples at Great Baddow on 4 May.

**Springfield**

First quarter inside of 1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles, Richard Wilson, David Quinnear and Daniel Howell on 6 May.

**Terling**

On 3 May, Helen Hughes trebled to Major for the first time, and Peter Rothera rang his first course of Plain Bob Major.

**Writtle**

Courtney Mandell rang her first quarter of Major with 1280 Plain Bob Major on 29 April.

**Quarter-peal Day (with a difference)**

**Danbury.** 28 April 2018. 1264 Plain Bob Major

1 Wendy Godden, 2 Richard Wilson, 3 Cecile Cross, 4 Vicki Chapman, 5 Stuart Hodges, 6 Philip Saunders, 7 David Hengeli, 8 Colin Chapman (C)

**Sandon.** 28 April 2018. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Christina Brewster, 2 Janice Spalding, 3 Clare Gebel, 4 Richard Cecil, 5 Andrew Brewster (C), 6 Josh Ashley

First quarter: 6. First away from Goldhanger: 3

**Sandon.** 28 April 2018. 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

1 Christina Brewster, 2 Clare Gebel, 3 Jo Elliott, 4 Daniel Howell, 5 Andrew Brewster (C), 6 Ken Elliott

**Springfield.** 28 April 2018. 1260 Plain Bob Minor

1 Hazel Steed, 2 Vicki Chapman, 3 Wendy Godden, 4 Stuart Hodges, 5 John Steed, 6 Phil Saunders (C)

**Ringing Festival**

**Writtle.** 29 April 2018. 1280 Plain Bob Major

1 Fred Bone, 2 Mary Bone, 3 Steve Nash, 4 Courtney Mandell, 5 Vicki Chapman, 6 Colin Chapman, 7 Christina Brewster, 8 Andrew Brewster (C)

For SE District Ringing Festival. 1st Major: 4. 50th together: 6 and 8

**Maldon, All Saints.** 2 May 2018. 1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major

1 Vicki Crispin, 2 Carol Brown, 3 Janice Spalding, 4 Ann Woolley, 5 Cecile Cross, 6 Vicki Chapman, 7 Hazel Steed, 8 Christina Brewster (C)

For SE District Ringing Festival. With the band's best wishes to Yvonne Towler and Sue Page

**Springfield.** 6 May 2018. 1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles

1 Steve Ashley, 2 Richard Wilson, 3 David Quinnear, 4 Daniel Howell, 5 Philip Saunders (C), 6 Michael Turner

First whole quarter peal in method inside 2, 3 and 4

Rung for EACR SE District Festival of Firsts

*Thank you*

To all members of EACR

Thank you so much for the wonderful gifts you gave me at the AGM on Monday 7th May at the cathedral. It was a lovely surprise and much appreciated. I wish the new Association Officers and those continuing in their posts a successful year and may the EACR continue to encourage the art of ringing for many years to come.

Best wishes to you all. Rhona McEune

## Association AGM



*Andrew Kelso, Master*

The Essex Association's 139th AGM was held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Monday 7th May. Open ringing beforehand began at 9.30am. A service touch preceded sung Matins led by the Dean and the Choir of Springfield. The Archdeacon of Barking, the Ven Dr John Perambulath addressed the congregation. The Association's acting chaplain, Rhona McEune, led the prayers.

After a pause for refreshments, organised by the Northern District, the Master of the Association brought the meeting to attendance at 12.04pm. 104 members from 42 towers were present. The minutes of last year's meeting were adopted, as were the Accounts and Annual Report.

One Motion was proposed: to re-designate the Education Fund and transfer the capital and income into a new Recruitment and Training Fund. This was carried.

Election of officers: The current Master (John Harpole) and General Secretary (Rhona McEune) stood down – their efforts whilst in tenure have been greatly appreciated; Dr Andrew Kelso and Ms Tracey Southgate were returned respectively. All other current officers were willing to stand and were returned accordingly.

Pat Chapman (Witham), Sue Spurgeon (Danbury), and Margaret Manser (Wanstead) were made Life Members in accordance with rule 8.2c.

Various District Officer changes have occurred this year: full details are under the relevant Districts' webpages on the EACR website.

A Brewster spoke for the Social Committee and confirmed the details for the Annual Dinner. These are on the EACR website.

The Striking Competition Finals will be held at Great Totham and Goldhanger on 14th July. The test piece for the 8-bell inter-district competition will be Lincolnshire Surprise Major.

Under AOB Vicki Chapman spoke on Ringing Remembers, reminding towers to register their learners and mentioning the availability of publicity material.



Mary Bone, outgoing Ringing Course Convenor, thanked learners and volunteers on the Essex Ringing Course this year and advised that next year's course would be held between 11th-13th April 2018. As the intensive training course proved so successful she also urged towers to think about this approach going forward and to ask for help if assistance is needed to achieve this.

The Master rose to give votes of thanks to the Cathedral Authorities; the Springfield Choir and their Director of Music, William Warns; the organist Michael Frith; Rhona McEune for prayers and organising; the Northern District for refreshments; and the South West District for ringing and tea later in the day. He also thanked the Principal Officers for their support over the last 12 months.

Following closure of the meeting at 1.02pm there were presentations to the past Master and General Secretary. The afternoon's ringing was at various towers within the South Western District.

Emily Ashton  
Public Relations Officer

## *Independent Examination*

As a charity, the Essex Association of Change Ringers needs to have their accounts examined by someone competent outside the trustees to ensure that we have complied with the Charities Act. This is an independent examination.

The Independent Examiner is an elected position but is not a member of the Management Committee. Two Independent Examiners are elected to examine the Association's Accounts. Some accounting or bookkeeping experience would therefore be useful.

It is not an onerous task but requires time from mid-January to review the accounts with a deadline to report to the February Management committee. Additionally, the independent examiners may be required to act as tellers at a contested election at the AGM in May.

Please consider taking on this important role. Or if you know of a spouse, partner or friend who could assist. You can discuss what is required with either Neil Avis or myself. We can both be contacted via the annual report.

Andrew Brewster  
Association Treasurer  
[treasurer@eacr.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@eacr.org.uk)

## *That's a First!*

### **Quarter peals:**

1<sup>st</sup> quarter: Kevin C S Gregory, David Thorpe, Emily L Willson (aged 13), Emily A Brooks (aged 12), Josh Ashley, Oliver Lee, Michael Auker, Isabelle Reader, Lucas Bent  
 1<sup>st</sup> for 30 years: Ian Jolley  
 1<sup>st</sup> for 40 years: James Green  
 1<sup>st</sup> as cover: Vicky De-Vries  
 1<sup>st</sup> Minor: Gail Farrow, Vicki Hipwell, Clare Gebel, Susan V Gilder  
 1<sup>st</sup> Minor inside: Kate Jolley  
 1<sup>st</sup> Grandsire Doubles: David French, Kate Jolley  
 1<sup>st</sup> Grandsire inside: William Beech  
 1<sup>st</sup> April Day Doubles: Ellie Gray, Bradley Hill  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reverse Canterbury Doubles: Richard Wilson, David Quinnear, Daniel Howell  
 1<sup>st</sup> St Clement's Minor: Richard Paxford  
 1<sup>st</sup> Plain Bob Minor: David Buckley  
 1<sup>st</sup> Treble Bob: William Beech  
 1<sup>st</sup> Kent TB Minor: Charlotte Parsons  
 1<sup>st</sup> on 8: Oliver Lee  
 1<sup>st</sup> inside on 8: Alwyn Brock  
 1<sup>st</sup> Triples: Wendy Olley, Gareth Davies, Ellie Gray, Ellis Whitehouse, Jonathan Lee  
 1<sup>st</sup> Triples inside: Alan Moody  
 1<sup>st</sup> Stedman: Vicki Crispin  
 1<sup>st</sup> Little Bob Major: Leonie J McCaughren  
 1<sup>st</sup> Kent TB Major: Andrew R C Kelso, Richard Paxford  
 1<sup>st</sup> Spliced Surprise: Ros C Skipper  
 1<sup>st</sup> Royal: Mike Slowe  
 1<sup>st</sup> Stedman Cinques: June Mackay  
 25<sup>th</sup> quarter: Daniel Howell  
 50<sup>th</sup> quarter: Di Arnold, Vicki Elliott  
 75<sup>th</sup> quarter: John M Church  
 100<sup>th</sup> quarter: Richard Godden  
 1300<sup>th</sup> quarter: John Harpole  
 1700<sup>th</sup> quarter: Patricia Cresshull  
 1<sup>st</sup> as Conductor: Peter G Smith  
 1<sup>st</sup> April Day as Conductor: Roger Carey-Smith  
 1<sup>st</sup> Minor as Conductor: Mark Robbins  
 1<sup>st</sup> Triples as Conductor: Bradley Hill  
 25<sup>th</sup> as Conductor: Roger Carey-Smith

*Information to end of June. Apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.*

500<sup>th</sup> as Conductor: Ian Cresshull  
25<sup>th</sup> together: Samuel Beech & Andrew Beech  
50<sup>th</sup> together: Colin Chapman & Andrew Brewster, Andy Champ & Andrew Brewster  
75<sup>th</sup> together: David Quinnear & Philip Saunders  
1600<sup>th</sup> together: Patricia Cresshull & Ian Cresshull

***Peals:***

1<sup>st</sup> peal: Jon Wallis  
1<sup>st</sup> Kent TB Royal: Jillian Laken, Anthony J Bloomfield  
400<sup>th</sup> peal: Jon Waters  
550<sup>th</sup> for the Association: Alan P Mayle  
600<sup>th</sup> of Minor: Alan P Mayle  
700<sup>th</sup> as Conductor: Alan P Mayle  
1400<sup>th</sup> together: James L Towler & Yvonne A Towler

## *Association Training Day*

This year's training day is on Saturday 24th November 2018, 9.30am to approx. 4.30pm and is based in the Southern District. Initial meeting tower to be Ingrave (CM13 3RR)

The groups on offer are:

- 1. Plain Hunt / Plain Bob Doubles.
- 2. Raising and Lowering a single bell and in peal.
- 3. Plain Bob Triples and Major.

To apply for a place, download an application form from [www.eacr.org.uk](http://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 2018 onwards.

There will be 6 places on each course; first come, first served. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2018.

*There will be a charge of £10 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](mailto:education@eacr.org.uk) if you are able to help.

## *Dates for your Diary*

Aug	12	Summer social and handbells	Wethersfield	N	
Sep	1	District Meeting	Bradwell	SE	3:00
		Evening meeting	Stisted	N	5:30
	8	<b>Essex Trophy 10-bell competition</b>	Horsham		
	15	District Meeting	North Ockendon	S	3:00
		District Meeting, Call-Change competition and barbecue	Great Bromley	NE	4:00
	29	Young Ringers Outing	(tba)		
		District Car Outing	Suffolk	NE	
Oct		Quarter Peal Month		NE	
	6	District Meeting & Call Change competition	Great Parndon	NW	9:30
		<b>Association Committee Meeting</b>	Danbury		2:30
	13	Call Change competition and meeting	Loughton	SW	10:00
		<b>Association Annual Dinner</b>	Little Waltham		6:45
Nov		Quarter Peal Month		N	
	17	Call Change Competition & District Meeting	Eastwood	S	2:30
		Social Evening	(tba)	SE	7:00
		District Quiz Night	Thorrington	NE	7:30
	24	<b>Association Training Day</b>		<b>S</b>	
Dec	8	Carol Service	Langham	NE	2:00
		Carol Service	Sandon	SE	3:00
		Carol Service	(tba)	N	3:15
		Carol Service	Hutton	S	3:30
		Carol Service	Hatfield Heath	NW	4:00
Jan	5	Annual District Meeting	Terling	SE	1:45
		Annual District Meeting	Great Dunmow	N	3:00
	12	Annual District Meeting	Colchester, St Peter	NE	3:00
		Annual District Meeting	(tba)	SW	
	19	Annual District Meeting	Prittlewell	S	2:00
	26	Annual District Meeting	Waltham Abbey	NW	

The next edition of *Rounds & About* is planned for December 2018. Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to [newsletter@eacr.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@eacr.org.uk) or by post to Fred Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9DB by **1 November 2018**.