

EACR



SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Registered Charity No. 292250

NEWSLETTER

No. 85

December 2004

District meeting & call change competition held at Eastwood on Saturday 20th November 2004

Thanks very much to Peter Knight and the Eastwood ringers for hosting the meeting.

The Committee Rep gave a report of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Danbury on 9th October 2004:

Striking Competitions: Ridgeman Trophy - Essex 3rd of 5; Essex Trophy (held at Hornchurch) – the Association came 2nd out of 7, the winners were Guildford. Middlesex have agreed to host next year at Isleworth.

Annual Dinner 2004: 115 attended. A provisional booking for 1 October 2005 has already been made. Mary Bone is looking for an entertaining speaker.

Child Protection: Steve Nash and others had had a meeting with the Bishop of Chelmsford to discuss the CCCBR and House of Bishops Policies. Appears that the Diocese is not right up to date on the issue and the Bishop appeared to be looking for the Association to undertake much of the procedural work rather than his office. It appears that he is prepared to adopt the CCCBR policy procedures which need to be implemented in all towers. Checking will need to be done by the Diocese and there is a need for liaison between us and them. All PCCs need to be advised that CCCBR procedures are OK and ALL tower captains plus trainers need to have CRB check (free for volunteers). The Association needs to appoint a Child Protection Officer for which a job spec. is to be drawn up. Meanwhile Mary Bone is to write to all Districts seeking specific details about how Child Protection procedures are currently being followed. Watch this space.

Bell Restoration Projects: St Osyth will be dedicated on 9 January 2005.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer proposes keeping the Subscription levels the same next year; The Association has received a bequest of £33,601 from the late Mrs. Phyllis Tovell in memory of her son, David, a previous Association Treasurer. This is held in a separate account and criteria have to be agreed for grants from the fund.

Property Trustees' Report: The Demo Bell now needs a lot of work done on it as it can not currently be used in its

present state. It was agreed that it was now more of a liability than a benefit. It was therefore decided that the Demo Bell should be disposed in as financially beneficial a way as possible. However, there is a small model bell available for loan when giving talks about ringing.

Education: Essex Ringing Course 2005 (21-23 April: Note that this is not the usual weekend after Easter as Essex schools are moving to the new five-term year this year.) Urgent help needed to organise the Friday social event and also someone needed to act as a roving Maintenance person for the course.

The Ringing World Roadshow next year will be on 10th September 2005 and will be held at Newbury Race Course.

Peals: so far 87 recorded in the County (with 13 new first pealers)

Quarter Peals: 525 recorded so far (big increase due to March QP month.) (with 35 new first quarter pealers)

PRO Report: The PRO reported that there had been a lot of press/local radio coverage of ringing events - including a piece about Bowers Gifford taking part in the (district) Open Day in August that appeared in papers in the Basildon area.

The 125 Anniversary Sub-Committee report: 163 Quarter Peals had been rung for the anniversary (in 117 towers);

Steve Nash had given a talk at the Chelmsford Festival; The Central Council meeting had been v. successful; so too was the Writtle lunch and bell dedication; the Open Day in our District was said to be excellent (who are we to disagree); The update of 'Change Ringing in Essex' is well underway and is hoped to be ready by middle of next year; the Handbook is nearly ready and orders can be placed before Christmas (see Vicki Chapman); the Carol Service will be at Dunmow on 11 December.

Association Appointed Officers: All have expressed their willingness to stand again. Steve Nash thought that the appointment procedure should be improved in future years.

Any Other Business: A DVD of the augmentation of the Writtle bells (£12.50 each) is available from Writtle; next year's AGM will again be at Chelmsford on 2 May and tea will be in the NW District; the 2005 Striking Comp. finals will be in the N District; the 2005 Open Day will be in the NE District.

Other points of interest from the district meeting:

The following new Ringing Members were elected:

Jessica Mead – Junior Member (Rochford)

Miss Louisa Koutas (Leigh-on-sea)

Mrs. Janice Johnson (Leigh-on-sea)

The following new Friend was elected:

Donald Smith (Leigh-on-sea)



District Programme for 2005: The programme had been circulated and the meeting agreed that we should change the frequency of the District Meetings. Attendance over the last few years had been on the decline and it was felt that by combining the September and November meetings into one, to be held in October and to be preceded by a Call Change Competition, it might attract more members. Additionally, the annual Striking Competition in May is usually followed by a brief business meeting. It had been decided to discontinue the evening practices for next year.

A District Training Day is to be held on 9 April. It's intended to hold it as a 'consolidation day' covering topics requested by the attendees. Details to follow.

Andrew proposed that the 2005 District Outing might go to North Kent or Sussex. Alternatively, it could go to Suffolk and incorporate a visit to a brewery although some members felt that the brewery visit could be another separate event.

(Post meeting note: the afternoon practice on 17 September will be held at Prittlewell and the October District Meeting and Call Change Competition will be held at Ingrave).

Child Protection Policy: Andrew advised the meeting that the Association Officers had met with the Bishop of Chelmsford to discuss the CCCBR policy and its implementation in lieu of the House of Bishops Policy for Child Protection. As a result, the Association had asked for feedback to specific questions in time for the February Executive Committee Meeting. Some members took exception to being asked/expected to have CRB checks at all. They had been teaching/ tower captains for a long time and parents of young children had trusted them with their offspring and they now felt that that trust was being called into question. Others recognised the sad times in which we now find ourselves where such procedures are considered a necessary evil and that they provided as much protection for the adult as the child.

Mrs Newman, a member from Eastwood and the Parish Child Protection Officer, said that she had received the CCCBR letter through the PCC who had empowered her to decide which policy to adopt. She decided that the CCCBR policy was quite sufficient under the circumstances. She pointed out that she believed that the CRB checks needed to be undertaken annually and that they are 'function' specific, i.e. if you have one because you are a school teacher you will another if you teach bellringing or are a tower captain.

There was some discussion as what constitutes 'teaching' in the context of the policy and guidance would be appreciated.

Some other members were members of their PCCs and whilst they were pleased to hear that the Association Officers had met with the Bishop of Chelmsford and that a verbal understanding had been reached, they wanted to know if the Bishop's office would be writing to parishes to let them know formally that the CCCBR policy should be adopted. They were sure that PCCs needed the formal notification rather than 'hearsay' from the bellringers.

The Secretary undertook to raise these points with Mary Bone

Any other business: Andrew reported that successful peals had been rung at Downham, Bentley Common, North Ockendon, Eastwood, Great Wakering and Navestock. Proposed attempts are to be made at Shenfield, South Weald, Grays and Ingrave.

Basildon Practices are now on Thursday evenings between 7.30 and 9.00pm.

Gordon Lucas advised the meeting that because of health difficulties, he would not be standing as District Education Officer at the next ADM. All present acknowledged Gordon's great contribution over the years.

Finally, Andrew Brewster and Christina Fleckney, who had kindly acted as Judges to the earlier Call Change Competition, announced the results :

Rochford	(rang 2nd)	59	fault marks.
Brentwood Area	(rang 1st)	39	" "
North Ockendon	(rang 3rd)	38.5	" "
Downham & Friends	(rang 4th)	37.5	" "



North Ockendon took the Certificate as the Downham band had too many non-tower ringers.

Andrew thanked the Vicar, Rev. Nigel Ransom, for conducting the Service, David Duncombe for playing the organ and the Eastwood ringers for the use of the bells and for providing the tea. The Service Collection raised £45.73, the profit from the Raffle at this meeting was £38.00, the profit from Teas (generously donated by the ringers) was £75.00.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.



A 'Thank You' Message from Grays...

St Peter & St Paul's church in Grays currently have no resident local band of ringers and over the summer they had 14 wedding couples that had expressed a wish to have bells at their wedding services. As North Ockendon is their closest neighbour I volunteered to help them out by trying to organise bands for each of these weddings. Now as many Tower Captains know, trying to find ringers willing to ring for weddings at their own tower is bad enough, but to find ringers willing and available to ring at another tower whilst still supporting their own weddings is even harder! However, I am pleased to say that we did manage to get bands together for 12 of those weddings, and Eileen Webb, the tower correspondent at Grays, wrote a letter to me recently expressing her thanks for helping them out, and has asked me to convey her thanks to all those ringers who gave up their Saturdays to go and ring there - you know who you are!

I personally would also like to add my thanks to all those ringers who agreed to ring, and I hope I didn't make too much of a nuisance of myself with the numerous phone calls that I made. It was certainly a weight off my mind when I finally got a complete band together for each of the weddings. Thank you all.

Andrew Beech



125th Anniversary Peal at NORTH OCKENDON

Congratulations on a successful peal attempt at North Ockendon on 16th October - special congratulations to David Burton (of North Ockendon) and Chris Bailey (of Brentwood) for ringing their first ever peal.

Essex Association

North Ockendon, Essex,

St. Mary Magdalene

Sat Oct 16 2004 2h38 (9¾)

5040 Doubles

(10m: 6 ext Plain Bob; 4 exts each St Martin's B, St Simon's B, Eynesbury B, St Osmund B, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure PI, Winchendon PI, St Nicholas B; 5 ext Huntley PI; 3 ext St Remigius B)

- 1 David J Burton
- 2 Andrew Beech (C)
- 3 Matthew D Scott
- 4 Paul A Cammiade
- 5 Stephen J Nash
- 6 Chris Bailey

First peal: 1 and 6

First peal inside: 3

First peal as Conductor.

An EACR 125th anniversary peal.



from left to right in reverse ringing order:-
Chris Bailey (Tenor), Stephen Nash (5th), Paul Cammiade (4th), Matthew Scott (3rd),
Andrew Beech (2nd), David Burton (Treble).



125th Anniversary Peal at EASTWOOD (by present and past District Masters).

Essex Association

Eastwood, Essex,
St. Laurence & All Saints
Sun Nov 14 2004 2h35 (9)

5040 Surprise Minor

(7m: London, Beverley, Surfleet, Bourne, Ipswich, Cambridge, Norwich)

- 1 Roger H. Dorking (1992-1996)
- 2 Andrew R. Martin (1999-2002)
- 3 Andrew Beech (2002-present)
- 4 John G. Harpole (1988-1992)
- 5 Paul A. Cammiade (C) (1984-1988)
- 6 Stephen J Nash (1996-1999)

Rung by present and past masters of the Southern District
for the 125th anniversary of the Essex Association of Change Ringers.
First of Surprise: 2



left to right in ringing order:-
Roger Dorking (Treble), Andy Martin (2nd), Andrew Beech (3rd),
John Harpole (4th), Paul Cammiade (5th), Stephen Nash (Tenor).



The following was reported in The Metro newspaper (a free London commuters' paper) on Tuesday November 23rd:

"It took 17 hours of non-stop action, lots of energy drinks – and incontinence pads – for a group of bell ringers to break a British record for the longest peal. David Pipe, 36 Andrew Tibbetts, 23, and Philip Earis, 22, struck more than 300,000 separate bongs and made 50,400 sequence changes in an attic in Coventry. The trio, who each struck two handbells 50 times a minute, had to sip sports drinks to keep up energy levels and forfeit toilet breaks. Mr Pipe said; 'It was something I have wanted to do all my life. Physically it was hard, but mentally it was tougher. One can't afford to let one's concentration slip, even for a second as this could result in failure.' The previous record of 40,320 sequences changes was set in 1963. The team is now considering a 24-hour ring."

Ringling has resumed at Hutton. However, the re-wiring still has to be done so if anyone is thinking of coming to a practice night please confirm with Renee Page-Jones (01277 218531).

Renee would like to thank the Rector and Tower Captain of Shenfield for allowing the Hutton ringers to use their bells throughout the summer.

Congratulations! 

*to Holly
Mifsud who
rang her first
quarter peal of
Bob Doubles at
St Mary's
Shenfield on
24th October.*

Message from the Secretary:

A plea for next year's subs
(unchanged from this year).

Chris is more than happy to have advance payment so as to make the ADM a little less frantic!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

**Peter Knight (Tower Correspondent, Eastwood) has moved –
His new address is:**

33 Homestead Gardens, Hadleigh, Essex. SS7 2AB. Tel: 01702 551906



The Essex Association of Change Ringers



SOUTHERN DISTRICT 2005 *Diary of Events*

2005

Saturday 22 January	ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING	Rayleigh (8)	3:30 pm
Saturday 19 February	District Afternoon Practice (6-bell)	Downham (6)	3.00-5.00 pm
Saturday 19 March	DISTRICT MEETING	Leigh-on-sea (8)	3.30 pm
Saturday 9 April	'Consolidation' Training Day	tbc	

District Meeting arrangements (*times for Tea, Meeting & Evening Ringing are approximate*):

3:30pm: Afternoon Ringing, 4:30pm: Service, 5:00pm: Tea, 6:15pm: Meeting, 7:00pm: Evening Ringing

Do you have any news for your newsletter?
 Rung any special quarter peals, any birthdays or anniversaries to be mentioned?
 Going on a ringing outing – send in a report with a photo!
 Having any fundraising events that need advertising?
 Know any (clean) bellringing jokes?

Send your contributions for this newsletter to Mo Venus (address in Annual Report),
 hand to me or a District Officer at any ringing event,
 or e-mail me at mo.venus@bbc.co.uk or movns@aol.com
 The final newsletter for 2004 will be published during the
 second week of December.



MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

