



# NEWSLETTER

No. 87

April 2005

## DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT LEIGH-ON-SEA ON SATURDAY 19th MARCH 2005

Thanks very much to the Leigh ringers for hosting the meeting, for the use of the bells and for the splendid tea. Thanks also to Fr. Ken Havey for kindly taking the Service and to Roger Folley for giving the Sermon and playing the organ.

The Master opened the meeting by asking all present to stand in silence in memory of Joan Matson, a member from South Benfleet who died recently.

The Committee Rep gave a report of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Danbury on 5th February 2005:

The committee are still looking for a **Hon Tech Adviser** to take over from David Sloman. The job consists of checking on work when finished for which we have given a grant and responding to requests for inspections and advice. If anyone is interested, please contact Mary Bone or Steve Nash.

Appointment of **Association Officers** - vacancies are to be announced at the AGM in May, nominations must be received for the committee's consideration at the October committee meeting. Job descriptions of all the posts are to be entered on the website. Andrew Taylor, the Association Treasurer has announced his desire to retire in 2006 - he will have completed 14 years in the post.

The secretary confirmed **AGM** arrangements for May 2nd - general ringing at the Cathedral at 9.15 (please enter quietly as there will be a service in progress), service touch at 10.15, service at 10.30 and meeting at about 11.30. There are no nominations for life membership or LVP and no motions for consideration so should be a short meeting. Afternoon ringing and tea in the NW district.

**Peals** for 2004: 138 peals were rung last year at 104 different Essex towers. Terling was top of the list with 8, Downham second with 5. There were an amazing 40 first pealers, with 3 first as conductors. Anniversary peals were rung at 104 out of 167 Essex towers. Over 700 **quarter peals** were rung in 2004 - 162 especially for the anniversary during March. Thanks were given to all district organisers of the anniversary peals and quarters.

The **Ringling Roadshow** being held on September 10<sup>th</sup> at Newbury (<http://www.ringingroadshow2005.org.uk/>). This year is the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar - there are efforts to arrange ringing in places with naval traditions. It's also 60 years since the end of WWII - 8th May is VE day, 15th Aug is VJ day. The government have announced there will be a national commemoration day in the middle of these two dates.

There were almost 200 members at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary **carol service**, so it's been decided to hold a joint Association one every 5 years. The **Handbook** has now been published and is available for £5. Any errors or oversights or updates please notify to Alistair Donaldson as the info is being maintained. If any towers who didn't supply details feel moved to do so, please contact Alistair.

**Child protection:** Stephen Nash is going to back to the Bishop to request some action as although he has approved the Central Council guidelines, PCCs have not yet received an official letter stating this. Copies of the letters to and from the Bishop have been given to District Secretaries to circulate around the districts (they were attached to the last District Newsletter). Stephen has offered to take on the position of Association Child Protection officer (a separate job, not part of the Master's tasks) so any comments or queries to Steve.

**Website:** Mike Bishop wants to give up as Webmaster and is passing over the baton to Colin & Vicki. Any info to [webmaster@eacr.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@eacr.org.uk)

This year's **Open Day** on August Bank Holiday is in the NE District.

A copy of the revised programme was circulated and members were reminded of the changes (the September District Meeting at Prittlewell, a District Practice at Fobbing and the earlier 3pm start for the November District Meeting at Ingrave. The District Quiz Night will be held at North Ockendon on October 29<sup>th</sup> (tickets £5 each, to include a ploughman's supper, available at the September meeting).

The proposed amendments to the Call Change Competition Rules had been circulated with the Newsletter and the Master asked for any comments. There was some discussion about the definition of an 'experienced ringer' but it was felt that the rules allowed for the matter to be dealt with by the Master or his representative using their discretion.

The Master encouraged towers to enter a band into the District Striking Competition to be held at Rettendon.

The Secretary reminded members that Subscriptions were now due and that Gift Aid would be appreciated.

The Service Collection raised £50.00, profit from Teas, donated by the Leigh-on-Sea Ringers, was £77.00 and profit from the raffle was £47.70.



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](mailto:mo.venus@bbc.co.uk) or [movns@aol.com](mailto:movns@aol.com)

Newsletters for 2005 will be published during the first weeks of

July, October and the second week of December.