



NEWSLETTER

No. 86

February 2005

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT RAYLEIGH ON SATURDAY 22 JANUARY 2005

The Master, Andrew Beech, reviewed the main events of 2004 including the successful Open Day event and congratulated those ringers whom had achieved first Peals or Quarter Peals as well as those who had achieved other personal milestones. He thanked the Officers and Members for their support.

The Secretary/Treasurer, Chris Bailey, thanked those towers which had hosted District events and in particular for the support for the Open day in August 2004. A copy of the District Income and Expenditure details was circulated.

The Education Officer, Gordon Lucas, reported that no courses had been run during the year mainly because nobody had asked for one. Gordon reiterated that he would not be standing for re-election this year. The Master thanked Gordon for all of his contributions as Education Officer over the years and the meeting showed its thanks with a round of applause.

Election of District Officers for 2005:

All of the current Officers confirmed their willingness to stand and were re-elected unopposed.

Master: Andrew Beech ☎ 01708 440939

Deputy Master: Phil Harrison ☎ 01702 711193

Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Bailey ☎ 01277 226614

Committee Rep.: Mo Venus ☎ 01702 293193

The post of Education Officer remains vacant due to lack of anyone willing to stand for election.

The following new Members were elected:

Ringing Members.

From Basildon: Alice Harpole (Junior member), Barbara Stringer, Ronald Whitt, Kathryn Martin, Roger Hobson, Julia Fry and Brian Fry.

From Langdon Hills: Charlie Martin (Junior member) and Harry Martin (Junior Member)

From Rayleigh: Douglas Bowles

From North Ockendon: Alex Barnes (Junior member)

Friends.

From Brentwood: Rev. Canon Bob White

Non-Resident.

(Ratification following a Belfry election at South Weald prior to a Peal attempt)

From Ashstead: Richard Trueman

The 2005 District programme was circulated and is attached to this newsletter.

A District Training (Consolidation) Day is planned for 9 April. If anyone wants to concentrate on a particular topic/method they should let Andrew know. The day is hoped to be finalised by the March meeting. The Master asked for members to express their preference for the District Outing in June, either North Kent or Sussex.

As no Evening practices are planned for this year, the Master asked if any tower would like to have help or a special practice then they should contact him.

Child Protection Policy

The Secretary had written to Mary Bone with the feedback from the November meeting. Steve Nash agreed to provide a copy of correspondence between the Association and the Bishop's Office regarding adoption of the CCCBR policy. Mary Bone (Association Secretary) said she had passed our comments onto the CCCBR.

The Master thanked the Rev. Brian Ash for taking the Service, Gavin Brown for playing the organ and the Rayleigh Ringers and friends for the use of the bells and for providing a splendid tea. The Service Collection raised £56.54, profit from Teas and 'Doggy' bags, donated by the Rayleigh Ringers, was £66.00 and profit from the raffle was £69.17.



We are sorry to report of the death of Joan Matson from South Benfleet.



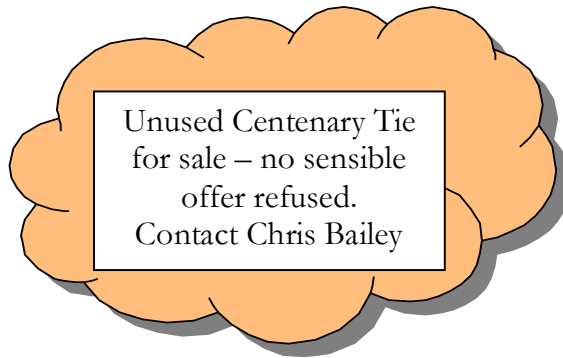
ANNUAL SUBS NOW DUE

£6 per ringing member under 65
£3 for a Junior ringing member
£3 for Friends of the Association
Members over 65 are exempt
from the Annual subscription
(but a donation is always most acceptable!!)

Any member in arrears at 31 December 2004 should pay their subs. asap otherwise insurance cover will lapse after 27 July 2005.

GIFT AID

Please consider paying your subs. through GIFT AID (Only if you are a taxpayer). It costs you nothing and the Association can claim 28p in the £ from the Inland Revenue. Some members still have the old Covenants in place which apply only to the subs paid whereas Gift Aid applies to all monies you may donate to the Association. The Covenants also expire when the donor reaches the age of 65. Chris



District Call Change Competition 2005 at Ingrave

The teams that entered last year's competition will remember that the rules were simplified on the day as it had been pointed out that some had felt they were too complicated, in particular the rules stating which changes should be rung (rule 15). Therefore, I would like to have some sort of discussion on these rules at the next district meeting in March at Leigh-on-Sea.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the original drafted rules with some suggested alterations - please bring these with you to the meeting (there will be additional copies available). This competition is open to every member and tower in the district so your input is important.

Andrew Beech

Consolidation Training Day

**Saturday 9th April
2005**

If you would like to concentrate on a particular topic or method to consolidate your knowledge on it please contact Andrew on 01708 440939.

Preliminary thoughts are that this event will be a two-hour session mid afternoon like the afternoon practices, and is for consolidation rather than learning something new.

Helpers will be needed as well so if you will be available to help please also contact Andrew.

So, if you want to consolidate – let us know.

The deadline for securing your place on this event is Wednesday 16th March.