



Essex Association of Change Ringers

NEWSLETTER

Southern District

No. 95

December 2006



Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

from the District Officers - Andrew, Chris, Phil and Lyn

CHRISTMAS MISCELLANY CONCERT AT ST THOMAS' BRENTWOOD

This event is organised in aid of the Bell Restoration Fund. It is on Sat. 16 Dec at 7.30 at the Church. The programme has a Christmas theme with handbell ringers, some songs from SongCycle (male quartet), the Girls Choir and other musical items. The ticket price is £5 which also includes mince pies and mulled wine (or nonalcoholic alternative). Do come and support Chris Bailey (contact for tickets: 01277 226614) and the Brentwood Ringers.

Regarding Brentwood Bells. We are currently in discussion with English Heritage about whether the existing frame can be strengthened or if a new bell frame is necessary. Following the outcome of the consultation we will be submitting a petition of Faculty. The Fund is now over the half way mark and we will be making approaches to various charitable bodies for grants in the New Year. You may recall that our opening fund raiser earlier this year was a Teddy Bear Parachuting event. By popular demand will be holding it again on 7 July 2007, so get those Teddy Bears training as soon as you can! Our target is to have the refurbished bell installation complete by the end of 2007 which will be 120 years after their original dedication.

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

The ADM is at Rochford (8 bells) on Saturday 20 January, 2007, starting at 3.30pm as follows:

- 3:30pm Afternoon Ringing (an invited district band will ring for the service touch at approx 4:20pm)
- 4:30pm Service
- 5:00pm Tea
- 6:15pm Annual District Meeting

Timings for tea and start of meeting are approximate only.

Evening ringing after meeting, time permitting, if people want to.

Andrew, Chris and Phil are willing to stand for re-election but that should not deter anyone else from expressing a willingness to stand for a district officer's post.

New subscription rates will apply as from 1 January 2007

Ringling Members £8

Junior Ringling Members £4

Friends £4

Paid Life Members £160

Members over 65 years old will continue to be excused subscriptions

BUT a donation will always be very gratefully accepted.

We are endeavouring to establish an email address book so every tower in the district can be reached by email. This will be helpful for general information, and some PC literate towers may be happy to receive the newsletter by email, saving postage time, and postage money! Please send your email address to Beth Johnson at the email contact below.

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 Beth Johnson, by phone 01277 205102, or by email to b.johnson@creative-plus.co.uk, or post to 67 London Road, Brentwood, CM14 4NN.

CALL CHANGE STRIKING COMPETITION, NOVEMBER 18TH AT DOWNHAM

Teams are in result order and the ringers of each team are shown in the order they rang the bells, so Treble to Tenor - left to right...



1st. SOUTH WEALD
Vic Dale, Paul Truman, Maria Jorysz, Alan Ball,
Ian Jorysz, Richard Pearson



2nd. NORTH OCKENDON Andrew Beech, Matthew Scott,
Alex Barnes, Michael Warren, David Burton, Brian Beech



3rd. HUTTON AREA Holly Mifsud, Georgina Dearing, Ron Brown,
Renee Page-Jones, Raymond Jones, Robin Page-Jones



4th. DOWNHAM DONGERS Hilary Donoghue, Gareth Bayard,
Barbara Leigh, Cynthia Costelloe, Roger Dorking, Roger Jamieson



5th. DOWNHAM DINGERS Ann Dorking, Marilyn Tucker, Jean
Mugridge, Paul Cammiade, William Wennell, Chris Tucker



6th. SCRATCH BAND Julia Jones (Downham), Beth Johnson (South
Weald), Margaret Bailey (Brentwood), Wade Vandenburg (Basildon),
Roger Hobson (Basildon), Chris Bailey (Brentwood)

**Minutes of Southern District - District Meeting at Downham
Saturday, 18th November, 2006**

Call Change Competition. Prior to the meeting, the Master thanked Martin Jones (Harwich) and Bryan Morrissey (Mistley) for acting as Judges to the competition. The results were as follows:

1 st	South Weald	95% accuracy	(rang 4 th)
2 nd	North Ockendon	92%	“ (“ 3 rd)
3 rd	Hutton Area	88%	“ (“ 5 th)
4 th	Downham Dongers	87%	“ (“ 2 nd)
5 th	Downham Dingers	75%	“ (“ 1 st)
6 th	Scratch	48%	“ (“ 6 th)

Congratulations to South Weald on their victory and thanks to everyone who supported the event. Andrew said that it was very encouraging and a good effort by all that six teams had taken part. He also praised those for whom this was their first attempt at entering a striking competition.

The Photo Caption Competition. The photograph of five ladies in the ringing room at Ticehurst that had appeared in the October Newsletter had attracted 10 entries. The winning entry as selected by the Striking Competition Judges was Chris Bailey with the caption “*It seemed that only Phyllis was confident that that she could remember how to ring Stedman Doubles*”. A full list of the entries will be printed in the next Newsletter.

The Meeting then followed with the Master Welcoming the 28 members present. In addition, the Master thanked the Rector, Stephen Robertson for taking the Service, Robert Petheram (from N.Ockendon) for playing the organ and the Downham ringers for the use of the bells and for providing a great tea. He also thanked the service touch band. (*Paul Cammiade, Hilary Donoghue, Maria Jorysz, Beth Johnson, Vic Dale, Ian Jorysz*).

Apologies for Absence were received from Ann Banton, Christine Allman, Jennifer Derby, David Timmins, Jessica Mead, Ann and Brian Beech (who had to leave early), Hilary and Lauren Spooner, Ann Botting and Lyn Benson.

Minutes of previous meeting, the DM, held at South Benfleet on 16th September 2006 were read and approved and signed by the Master as a true record.

Matters Arising.

- The Quiz Night at Basildon was enjoyed by four teams and raised £101 profit for the Bell Restoration Fund. The Quiz was won jointly by the ‘Hutton’ team and the ‘Downham+extras’ team.

Correspondence. None.

Executive Committee Report Lyn Benson had submitted a written report of the October meeting which was read out by Phil Harrison, (copy attached to these Minutes). Details will also be included in the next Newsletter. One significant point was that Subscription rates as from 1st January 2007 will be increased – Ringing Members £8, Juniors £4, Friends £4, Paid Life Members £160, Paid Life Friends £80. Members over 65 will continue to enjoy free membership.

Election of New Members. Richard Pearson (South Weald) was proposed for membership by Beth Johnson, Seconded by Maria Jorysz. He was unanimously elected.

District Programme for 2007. A copy of the programme had been circulated and all venues had been confirmed. Thanks were extended to those towers hosting events. Points to note:

- 1 The District Practice in February will be at Ingatestone.
- 2 The Training Day on 21 April might be split to give a bell handling ‘clinic’ in the morning and method ringing in the afternoon. Details to follow.
- 3 The Outing will be to either Kent or Suffolk but other suggestions are welcomed.
- 4 The Association 8-bell striking competition would **not** now be at Grays, as listed, due to possible works going on in the church. Instead it would be at South Weald.

EACR Discussion Paper – The future and where are we going?

The paper had been circulated with the February Newsletter and had been discussed at the District Meeting in September. The Officers have been asked to submit the Districts views by the end of the year and the summary of our discussion as reproduced in the October Newsletter will form the basis of our reply. Members were asked to let Officers have any additional comments or write direct to the Association if appropriate. It appears

that the authors of the paper were disappointed in the apparent lack of feedback to date. It was apparent from those present at the meeting that the October Newsletter, which had been issued late, had not reached all towers, especially those in the Southend area.

Any Other Business.

The Master raised the following:

- o District Newsletter. Beth Johnson of South Weald has kindly agreed to take over as editor as from the next edition to whom copy should now be sent. It is hoped to have the Newsletter available for distribution at the District Advent/Carol Service at Eastwood on 9th December.
- o In future, the Minutes of all District Meetings will be reproduced in full in the issue of the Newsletter following the meeting and will no longer be read out at meetings.
- o Please let Beth know of any ringing in support of The Children's Society Peal Appeal so that it can be reported in the Newsletter.
- o The Association Training Day is to be held at Great Bentley on 25th November. The course is full but helpers may be needed – contact Adrian Malton direct. Several members reported that they had experienced difficulties in contacting Adrian recently.
- o Any nominations for Life Membership must be submitted in writing to the Association Secretary by 1st December.

Steve Nash (Langdon Hills) suggested that the District Newsletter could be posted on the Southern District page of the Association website. He also encouraged towers to use the page to promote their own events.

John Harpole (Basildon) queried if the Newsletter might also be distributed via email. It was noted that not all tower correspondents (nor many members) actually had computers and that it had been difficult in the past to get hold of email addresses. However, Beth Johnson suggested that she would consider all options for better distribution of the Newsletter.

Roger Hobson (Basildon) reported that Barbara Stringer is no longer a member of Basildon tower having just moved to Derbyshire.

The Secretary reminded the meeting that:

- Copies of the new Recruitment brochure are available after the meeting.
- Subscriptions for 2007 could be paid in advance. Please consider signing the Gift Aid Declaration to increase income tax recovery for the Association.

Chris Bailey (Brentwood) announced that there is to be a *Christmas Miscellany Concert* at St. Thomas' Brentwood at 7.30pm on Saturday 16th December. It will feature the Upminster Handbell Ringers, the St. Thomas' Girls Choir and other musical groups. Tickets cost £5 and include mulled wine and mince pies. All proceeds to the St. Thomas' Bell Restoration Appeal Fund

Finally.

- The Service Collection raised £49.41 (and 1 Swiss franc.!).
- The profit from Teas, kindly donated by the Downham Ringers, was £32.00
- The profit from the raffle was £43.05. All prizes were donated by members from Downham.
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There being no other business the meeting was closed at 6.50pm.

Signed as a true record: (Master)

Date:

Contact details:

Master	Andrew Beech (North Ockendon)	01708 440939	email: andrewbeeceh@supanet.com
Secretary	Chris Bailey (Brentwood)	01277 226614	email: cmb@pway.wanadoo.co.uk
Deputy Master	Phil Harrison (Thorpe Bay)	01702 711193	

CAPTION COMPETITION

Thank you all for your entries to the caption competition. To remind you, here is the picture, featuring, left to right, Rowena Marshall, Jean Dunne, Phyllis Andrews, Margaret Bailey and Susan McKay, taken on the District Outing in June at Ticehurst, East Sussex.



The winning entry, from Chris Bailey of Brentwood, was:

It seemed that only Phyllis was confident that she could remember how to ring Stedman Doubles.

Other answers:

'Looking for guidance ?' (Georgina Dearing - Hutton)

'I have a dream' (Robin Page-Jones - Hutton)

'I was always told, never look up'
(Renee Page-Jones - Hutton)

'That's not what I meant by the up dodge'
(Simon Higgins - Hutton)

Oh no, not Bob Doubles again! (Margaret Bailey, Brentwood)

Somehow Phyllis failed to notice the giraffe in the ringing room. (Chris Bailey - Brentwood)

Oh crikey ! you don't think they've started for a peal do you ? (Rowena Marshall - Bentley Common)

We told her not to hold on to the woolly thing.
(Ron Brown - Bentley Common)

I hope it's one of ours ! (Vic Dale - South Weald)

FOUR QUARTER PEALS IN A DAY

Raymond Jones arranged a quarter peal day for Thursday 19th October. Seven of us, from different towers, rang in the course of the day. Six of us met up at the first tower which was Thorrington – a very easy ring of six. Then we had the pleasure of ringing on the newly restored ring at St Osyth. By now we were all feeling hungry so it was off to Thorpe Le Soken and the Bell Inn where Alan and his wife joined us and we all enjoyed our meals there. We then rang our third quarter peal there and our final tower was Great Bromley, quite a heavy ring which went well and sounded good. As you can see we stayed with the basic methods but they were all well rung and it was a pleasure to be part of the team. Many thanks to Raymond for arranging the day.

Renee Page-Jones

Thorrington 1260 Grandsire Doubles.

Treble	Tony Eaton	Tillingham
2nd	Wendy Hooper	Burnham on Crouch
3rd	Renee Page-Jones	Hutton
4th	Bryan Shedel	Ingatestone
5th	Raymond Jones(C)	Shenfield
Tenor	Roger Butt	Hornchurch

Thorpe le Soken 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Treble	Wendy Hooper
2nd	Tony Eaton
3rd	Renee Page-Jones
4th	Roger Butt
5th	Raymond Jones(C)
Tenor	Alan Pye Southminster

St Osyth 1320 Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob

Treble	Tony Eaton
2nd	Wendy Hooper
3rd	Renee Page-Jones
4th	Roger Butt
5th	Raymond Jones(C)
Tenor	Bryan Shedel

Great Bromley 1260 Plain Bob Doubles

Treble	Renee Page-Jones
2nd	Wendy Hooper
3rd	Roger Butt
4th	Bryan Shedel
5th	Raymond Jones(C)
Tenor	Alan Pye