



Essex Association of Change Ringers

# NEWSLETTER

Southern District

No. 107

end February 2009

## Contacts:

### MASTER

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### DEPUTY MASTER:

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### SECRETARY/

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### TREASURER

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### EDUCATION OFFICER

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*Please send any and all reports,  
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Beth Johnson at  
b.johnson@creative-plus.co.uk,  
Tel: 01277 205102 or post to  
67 London Road Brentwood  
CM14 4NN*

### NEXT EVENTS:

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#### **Saturday 21 March DISTRICT MEETING Downham (6) at 3.30pm**

Ringling followed by service, tea, meeting and further ringing

*Downham is on Castledon Road, off the A129, there is a car park next  
to the church post code: CM11 1LG*

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Evening practice for April: Wednesday 29th at Basildon 7.30pm

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## Canewdon Bells Ring Out!

The new ring of bells have now been hung and were tried out for the first time on Thursday February 19th. The bells were rung for an hour by the Canewdon ringers, staff of Whitechapel bell foundry and district members, and all agreed that they sounded lovely and very easy to ring. More next issue!



Congratulations...

...to Sheena Booth from Rayleigh who celebrated her 50th birthday at the end of January

....and to Rowena Marshall of Bentley Common on her 60th.

### **District Outing**

This year's Southern District outing will be on Saturday, June 20th, so book the date in your diaries now! The Master is open to suggestions for the venue; if no alternate suggestions are made it will be to East Sussex.

## NEWSLETTERS

The Southern District newsletters will be published in 2009 as follows:

Beginning of January

End February - copy date 15 Feb

End April - copy date 15 April

End August - copy date 15 Aug

End October - copy date 15 Oct

Distribution

The aim is to get the newsletter produced at least 2 weeks before each business meeting. Each tower will be sent at least one copy, preferably by email, with additional copies sent to district officers. Members can request their own copies via email by contacting the editor (Beth Johnson, b.johnson@creative-plus.co.uk) and towers without an email contact will have their copy posted to them.

## FROM THE MASTER:

It was great to see so many members at our Annual District Meeting at Prittlewell on January 17th. Thank you for re-electing me as your master, and I would once again like to thank Julia Jones for all her work as district secretary / treasurer over the last year, along with our other officers. As I'm sure you're all aware by now, Phil Harrison and Cathryn Corns now have different roles in the district as treasurer and education officer respectively. Renée Page-Jones and Alison Nash are now deputy master and secretary treasurer - thank you to you both for volunteering.

I was very pleased with the ringing before and after the meeting at Prittlewell. Everything we rang was on all 10 bells, and included call changes, Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Cambridge Royal. It was great to hear comments like: "That was the first time I've rung on 10", "I've never rung caters before" and "It's years since I've last rung that".

The district practice at Basildon at the end of January was also very enjoyable, and attended by a good number of people. Again everyone seemed to enjoy the ringing, and many had the opportunity to ring something they don't normally ring.

So, please, support your district events during 2009; they give us all the chance to ring with different people, to practice different things and to ring on the many, different peals of bells we have in the district. If you would like something else included in the district programme, then let one of your officers know.

## Barbara Fisher, Bentley Common retires



Earlier this year Barbara Fisher from St Paul's Bentley Common bellringers, announced that she was standing down as secretary of the tower after 40 years.

Unfortunately Barbara's health over recent years has meant that she has been unable to ring for some time now. Her ready smile and sense of humour has been sorely missed at both Bentley Common and Navestock towers where she had been a regular Sunday service and practice night ringer for many more years than I can remember!

She has been the secretary of Bentley ringers for an astonishing 40 years dealing with tower correspondence, organising teas for meetings and a thousand and one other things, all in her usual efficient way. To mark her retirement and to say a big thank you for all her work on behalf of all of us, the band met for a lunch in late August organised at a local restaurant, where she was presented with a bell mounted on an engraved plaque. It has since been installed in her bungalow where it has pride of place in her hallway.



from John Cousins

## BASILDON

The 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Basildon Bell Tower will be marked by a quarter peal attempt on Sunday 15th March at 1.30pm. The actual day of the anniversary is March 12th but our planning permission only allows us to attempt a quarter on a Sunday or Bank Holiday.

Spectators are welcome, light refreshments will be provided for the band and any other ringers who come to spectate. The band making the attempt are drawn from those in the District who have helped with the development of the Tower and subsequently the Basildon Band.

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### St. Thomas of Canterbury Brentwood

#### SERVICE OF RE-DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH BELLS

By The Right Reverend  
Dr. Laurie Green,  
Bishop of Bradwell

Sunday 15th March 2009  
at 4.00pm

Followed by light refreshments

(Ringing from 3.00pm)

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#### Wedding fees

Just for interest, we have started to compile a list of wedding fees in the district – if you're interested in contributing, please let Beth know what you charge:

Basildon: £100

South Weald (ring before and after): £65

## About your new District Secretary

I am Alison Nash and I ring at St. Mary Magdalene, North Ockendon. I was taught to ring at North Ockendon at the age of ten by Dr Colin Wright of Hornchurch, a great teacher. I can still remember how he taught me to slap my hands onto my thighs at every back stroke so that I knew exactly where the sally would be.

After the handling stage, the North Ockendon Ringers were fortunate to have Ron Brown of Bentley Common to take things further. He came to our practice night every week, to help the band as we had all started ringing more or less at the same time. He helped us to progress to Plain Bob Doubles, and soon after, I called my first quarter peal.

The heaviest bell I have rung was Ditchheat, Somerset, tenor (24 cwt) to a quarter peal. I have rung 588 quarter peals, and conducted 81 of them. Unfortunately due to back problems I can no longer ring quarter peals.

I was 20 years old when I met Stephen, although I can't remember it! He says he saw me at a Brentwood afternoon practice, but was too shy to speak to me. He didn't know my name but from that practice he went to every practice night in the area until he found me - at a North Ockendon practice.

We became engaged after 6 months (although he asked me to marry him after only 3 months) and were married at North Ockendon on 30th June 1990. We will have been married for 19 years this June. Doesn't time fly!

Amy came along 10½ years later. But when I was 32 weeks pregnant with Isabelle my GP thought I had an ear infection but after other symptoms appeared, they quickly realised it wasn't. I had Meningitis. I was in hospital for nearly 3 weeks, back home for 1 month, then back in hospital to have Isabelle. She is now a healthy 21 months old.

Now enough about me back to the District. I hope I can do the job as District Secretary as well as our previous secretaries have. I will certainly do my best.

If you need to contact me, and please feel free to do so, my details are:

Address: 2 Woodview, Langdon Hills, Essex SS16 6TZ

Telephone: 01268 490061 email: [alison1nash@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alison1nash@yahoo.co.uk) (I check my messages nearly every day).



*Alison, centre in red tunic (if you've got a colour printer!) on a North Ockendon outing*

## Introducing Your Deputy Master

Hello, my name is Renée Page-Jones and I ring at All Saints, Hutton.

I am married to Robin and we have one son, Michael, and two very young grandchildren.

I started learning to ring in 1960 on the eight at St Marys, Cottingham, East Yorkshire (very similar to Brentwood). We were a “young”, newly formed band and it was here that I rang my first peal of Grandsire Triples which was the first peal on the bells by an all-local band.

At the end of 1966 Robin’s work took us to Scotland, then in 1971 we moved to Hutton and joined the band at All Saints. In 1972 I was elected tower captain and apart from one year in the eighties I have held the post ever since.

I have rung fourteen peals, almost six hundred quarter peals and have rung at just under four hundred different towers.

Apart from Hutton, I also ring quite a lot at Ingrave, Shenfield and Brentwood. For the past eighteen months or more, I have been very involved in the teaching of the new band which Ron Brown is setting up at Ingrave and at the moment I am helping to teach some new recruits at Brentwood to handle a bell.

As well as ringing, I enjoy various handicrafts and am a member of a patchwork & quilting group. I also belong to the WI.

Thank you for electing me and I look forward to seeing you at the various events which have been arranged for the coming year.



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## Rayleigh Ringer’s Daughter gets Married

Rayleigh ringer Spencer Croucher’s daughter Rachel got married to Stephen Smith on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February at Rayleigh. The service was conducted by Spencer’s son with a very large congregation present filling up the church. This happy event was celebrated by seven Rayleigh regulars and the District Master ringing in the bride, and a visiting band, including four WAG’s members, arranged by Jim Laken that rang a quarter peal after the wedding. A further quarter peal was rung for the evening service and dedicated to the wedding earlier in the day.



Bride and Father of the Bride: Rachel Croucher and Spencer Croucher

**1250 Yorkshire Surprise Major:** 1 Jim Laken, 2 John Stephenson, 3 Jillian Laken, 4 John Warboys, 5 David Sloman, 6 John Harpole, 7 Nigel Taylor, 8 Clive Stephenson (C)

**1296 Cambridge Surprise Minor:** 1 Gordon Lucas, 2 Cathryn Corns, 3 Jillian Laken, 4 Jim Laken, 5 Simon Smith, 6 John Harpole (C)



In group photo : Penny Drayson, Lawrence Beal, Tony Lowe, John Harpole, Mark Buckley, Simon Smith, Sheena Booth, Doug Bowles.

## **Highlights from the Executive Committee Meeting** **Held at Danbury on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

Prittlewell have launched an appeal to install a completely new ring of ten in a new frame; the existing bells are becoming increasingly difficult to ring especially as the bells are used a lot for the Ringing School. It was agreed that a grant of £13,000 be given to them, partly from the BRF and partly from the Tovell bequest. It is hoped that this will be sufficient to pay for one of the new bells and to have it appropriately inscribed. It was also agreed that Terling should receive £750 towards their restoration project.

Letters of thanks were received from Theydon Garnon and Brentwood who have recently received grants of £12,500 and £12,000 respectively. A wish was expressed that those who receive funding from the Tovell bequest will put up a plaque or certificate in their belfry acknowledging the same.

Mention was made of plans to install a light 8 at South Ockendon RC church. Many of you will know the priest, Father Phillip Denton.

John, our ringing master, is going to be a tutor on the Essex ringing course for the first time. The guest speaker will be George Pipe. Brian Meads, the organizer for the course this year has said he will not be running it next year and is hoping someone else will come forward to do this job.

The 130<sup>th</sup> A.G.M. is to be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> in the Cathedral preceded by ringing from 9.15a.m.-10.15a.m., followed by a service touch. The Archdeacon of Colchester is to preach. Tea will be at Terling.

The Association dinner will be held at the County Hotel Chelmsford on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, cost about £30.

Plans are being made for the Association training day on 28<sup>th</sup> November to be held in the Southern district.

The child protection officer, Steve Nash, reminded everyone that when applying for CRB clearance, enter Chelmsford Diocese as your employer and you will then be covered for all towers in Essex, not just your home one. Diocesan policy is that you are re-checked every three years. New legislation will come in on October 12<sup>th</sup> 2009 with regard to the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act.

Renée Paige-Jones

### **A 26.2 mile 'Blue Line' for Little Havens**

As you read this, I will more than likely be treading the Leigh on Sea to Shoebury seafront path training for the Flora London marathon on April 26<sup>th</sup>. By race day us 'fun runners' may have clocked up around 450 miles! And boy, is it cold this year!

I am more than happy though, I am raising very needed funds for a great cause. Please help me do my part in raising money for Little Havens Hospice, based in Thundersley. They do amazing work offering both end of life care to children from Essex and NE London, and respite care to give parents and carers a break, and all is met by charity donations.

Please click on this link <http://www.littlehavens.org.uk/default.asp?id=892&ver=1> to donate direct to my hospice page.

The London Marathon Managers advise runners to 'follow the blue line painted on the road between Greenwich and The Mall' as it is the shortest route.....(now let me see...following a 'blue line' for around four hours....now, where have I done that before?!)

Many thanks for your help. If you would prefer, please email me on [trevor\\_church@sky.com](mailto:trevor_church@sky.com) with your name, address and amount pledged, and I will add you to the paper form in the more traditional way. Either way is good.

Trevor Church, Leigh on Sea.

## FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER

I had been in two minds about offering myself as Education Officer as I still feel very much the novice ringer among so many experts in the District, but then I thought that as a ringer of only 5 years experience I can remember only too well what it's like to be a learner – the struggle of trying to plain hunt, painfully acquiring ropesight and the agonies of trying to ring bob doubles 'inside'.

As I see it my role is to work with anyone who wants to develop their ringing skills at whatever level they want, be it mastering bell control to ring call changes well, learning to plain hunt or consolidating a skill, such as learning to ring a method 'inside'. BUT there's no point in me organising a tower and a band of helpers if no-one turns up because I've chosen the wrong topic! So, I need YOU to tell ME what you want to do. Please send me an e-mail (or even a note) telling me what you want to do at a training session. Maybe there are 2 or 3 of you at one tower who want to master bob minor, or a ringer in a plain bob tower who wants to learn Grandsire, or you want to try ringing on 8. Maybe you're a bit nervous about coming to a practice in a strange tower with people that you don't know – if so, don't be frightened! We've all felt like that at some time or another and we've all been learners at some point – and we're quite nice people really when you get to know us!

Just to get you thinking – is there anyone out there who might be interested in practices which focus on any of the these:

- I'm trying to plain hunt but my bell control lets me down..... I wish I could have a really solid session trying to overcome the problems with my handling.....
- I can sort of plain hunt, but just as I really get the hang of it on practice night it's time for someone else to have a go. I'd like to have a really good long go at it and get it cracked once and for all.....
- I've rung some courses of bob doubles inside and I can manage a plain course but as soon as someone calls 'bob' I fall to pieces.....
- I can hunt quite well on 5 but ringing on 6 (or 7 ..... or 8) confuses me and I'd like to practise a bit more.....
- I'd like to know how to ring down in peal, but we don't do it in my tower.

If any of those appeal, let me know!

Learning to ringing isn't easy and I felt that I'd never get the hang of it, but the ropesight will come and you will master plain bob – and once you've mastered one thing the next is just a tiny bit easier!

Cathryn Corns

cathryncorns@googlemail.com

## Minutes of the SOUTHERN ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING at Prittlewell Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009

### **Welcome**

The Master welcomed all present and invited everyone to stand in silence to remember those members who had departed since the last meeting (Peter Adams of Navestock and Denis Thompson, formerly of Downham). Everyone was invited to sign the Roll Book and 74 were present including visitors Brian Meads, Andrew Brewster, Peter Eves, Jen & David Field.

The Master thanked Rev. Shaun Conlon for taking the service, the organist Mark Terry and the Prittlewell ringers for the use of the bells and an excellent tea. The service touch band of Cathryn Corns, Phil Harrison, Hilary Donoghue, John Harpole, Hannah Kidger, Gordon Lucas, Mike Hallett, David Sloman, Brian Meads and Peter Sloman rang Grandsire Caters.

### **Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Laurence Beale, Hilary Davis, Sheila Booth, John Cousins, Julia Fry and David Belcham.

### **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Held at Rettendon on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008, these had been circulated in the January Newsletter. There were no amendments and were signed by the Master as a true record.

### **Matters Arising**

The Master commented on the district carol service, which had been held at Bentley Common and attended by 40 members.

Members were also reminded about the new range of Association clothing, details and order forms are available via the EACR website.

### **Correspondence**

*Notices for Motion at the AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2009*

No Notices for Motion at the AGM at Chelmsford Cathedral on 4<sup>th</sup> May had been received and Members were reminded that any Motions must be sponsored by at least two Members and received by the Secretary by 1<sup>st</sup> February.

*Nominations for Life Membership*

One nomination had been received for G Noel Orman proposed by Anne Bray and seconded by Gill Sparling. The proposal was read to the meeting with a vote to be taken at the February Executive Committee Meeting. There were no comments.

*Nominations for Association Honorary Officers*

No nominations for the posts had been received but should be with the Secretary prior to 1<sup>st</sup> February. The posts are Master, Secretary, Treasurer, Property Trustees(3), and Independent Examiners(2). Brian Meade confirmed that he will be willing to stand as Master again.

### **Election of new members**

The following new ringing Members were unanimously elected:

Simeon Bayton (Stanford le Hope) proposed by Alan Gisby and seconded by Catherine Gisby  
Jennifer Dark (Prittlewell) proposed by David Sloman and seconded by Peter Sloman  
Peter Nicol (Canewdon) proposed by Peter Hawes and seconded by Brian Meldon  
Jackie Henderson (Thorpe Bay) proposed by Phil Harrison and seconded by Judith Rolf  
Michael Brech (Thorpe Bay) proposed by Phil Harrison and seconded by Judith Rolf  
Paul Wiggins (Shenfield) proposed by Ray Jones and seconded by Renée Page-Jones  
Diana Smith (Prittlewell) proposed by Peter Sloman and seconded by David Sloman  
Joan Marshall (Canewdon) proposed by Brian Meldon and seconded by Peter Hawes  
Louise Hawes (Canewdon) proposed by Brian Meldon and seconded by Peter Hawes

There were no nominations for Friends of the Association.

The following non resident Membership was ratified:

Malcolm Penney proposed by John Harpole and seconded by Adrian Malton

### **Master's Report**

John Harpole presented the following report:

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT MASTER'S REPORT FOR 2008**

My first year as District Master has been very enjoyable, and I hope none of you regret electing me as your master at last year's ADM.

We have followed the same programme of events as in earlier years. Julia will report on more of this, but I will pick out a few key events.

- at our March meeting at Great Wakering a peal board was dedicated in memory of David Church. Many of you will remember David, who was tower captain at Wakering for many years
- Steve Hunter, our education officer, had to retire early in the year after seriously injuring his shoulder while ringing up Rayleigh tenor one Sunday morning
- we started quarterly district practices at Basildon on the last Wednesday of every 3rd month. Attendance was variable, but I think it worthwhile to continue with these
- our district outing to Bedfordshire was very poorly attended. It seemed as though everyone had alternate commitments on the chosen date
- the Prittlewell teaching centre won the Founder's Prize for teaching achievement in 2007. This is a marvellous achievement by all those involved in the teaching centre, which has been running since 1990
- Brentwood bells have been re-hung and tuned, and I think all of us who have rung there will confirm that they are a vast improvement
- and, another very enjoyable quiz night was organised by the North Ockendon ringers

Our fund raising activities continue to generate a good income for the Association's bell restoration account. Although not quite as much as in 2007, we still managed to raise over £1400 which will no doubt again be one of the highest amount of any district.

Needless to say I have made comparisons with my first term in office in the early 1990s. One of the biggest things I have noticed is how little ringing we now do as a district. For example, the ringing at our quarterly meetings has not been particularly well supported, especially after the meetings. So I was particularly disappointed that we had so few on the district outing. It was to encourage more ringing that we started the quarterly evening practices at Basildon, as well as to help the local band. We intend to make these a monthly event in 2009, shared with other towers.

Looking ahead to 2009, we have the exciting prospect of a brand new ring of 10 in the district as the

Canewdon project reaches its conclusion. However, I believe that the most important task we have is to make a full contribution to Brian Meads' Future of Ringing in Essex initiative, which Hilary Donoghue is leading in our district. The first stage is to survey the current situation and to get views on how we can increase our numbers; some have already been approached and I hope you will all contribute to this. We currently have 25 rings of bells in our district, many of which have had considerable sums of money spent on them in recent years. It would be a great pity if they were to fall silent due to lack of ringers.

It only remains for me to thank my fellow officers for all their help and advice in 2008; to Phil for his support as deputy master, to Julia for all her hard work as secretary treasurer, and to Cathryn for her minute taking at Association committee meetings. And we must not forget Beth who does such a great job producing our district newsletters. Also to all of you for supporting the various events during 2008. So I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year, and I hope that you will all enjoy your ringing in 2009.

### **Secretary / Treasurer's Report**

A copy of the District Income and Expenditure details had been distributed (copy in Minutes Book) and Julia Jones gave the following report:

#### **SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008**

Our ADM was held at Leigh on Sea with 76 members and visitors in attendance. Further business meetings were held at Great Wakering, Basildon and Rettendon where average attendance was 43 compared with an average of 30 in 2007.

The May six bell striking competition was held at North Ockendon and first and second places went to Downham and Prittlewell respectively. Both bands competed in the Association finals at Henham in July where Prittlewell came second, close behind the Chelmsford Cathedral winners and Downham came fifth out of eleven entries. A District band competed in the eight bell striking competition on the same day at Hatfield Broad Oak, but unfortunately was not able to repeat their success of the previous year. In November the District Call Change Competition was held at Rettendon. Five teams competed and North Ockendon were victorious once again, followed by Downham and Basildon. The year closed with a Carol/Advent Service at Bentley Common.

During the year we elected 20 full and two junior new ringing members, 8 of whom are from the new band of Canewdon ringers. During the year the following members and friends sadly died:

- Ken Smith, bell project leader of Canewdon
- Mrs. Jessie Kippin (Downham), a much admired and widely known ringer
- Rita Michell, formerly of Rayleigh
- Peter Adams (Navestock)
- Denis Thompson, formerly of Downham

The first District Practice was held in February at Ingrave but the April training day was unfortunately cancelled because of the unavoidable sudden retirement of our education officer. In June there was a District outing to Bedfordshire which was only attended by 10 ringers. In September, North Ockendon again hosted the Quiz Night and raised a total of £141.05 for the Bell Restoration Fund. The District Practice at Rayleigh in October was preceded by a training morning at Basildon which concentrated on ringing on eight bells and Grandsire Triples.

The District Officers would like to thank all who hosted events in 2008 and as I shall not stand for re-election in 2009, all who gave their support.

*Julia V M Jones*

### **Education Officer's Report**

There was no report because of the retirement of the Education Officer early in the year. This had also resulted in the cancellation of the Training Day. The Master reported that the next practice at Basildon will be on 28<sup>th</sup> February and thereafter on the last Practice Night in the month, alternating with Brentwood. The District outing might be to East Sussex rather than Kent.

### **Diary of forthcoming events**

A copy of the events programme for 2009 was distributed at the meeting and will appear in the District newsletter. North Ockendon confirmed that they will be willing to host the Quiz Night once again and this will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Election of District Officers**

Brian Meads took the Chair while nominations for District Master were taken. John Harpole was proposed by Chris Bailey, seconded by Julia Jones and unanimously re-elected. Renée Page-Jones was proposed as Deputy Master by Andrew Beech and seconded by Chris Bailey and unanimously elected.

There followed a discussion on whether the Secretary/ Treasurer position should be split and covered by two people to divide the workload. Phil Harrison proposed that the post should be split seconded by Peter Sloman. The Motion was carried by a majority vote.

Alison Nash was proposed for the post of Secretary by Stephen Nash and seconded by Cathryn Corns.

Phil Harrison was proposed as Treasurer by Peter Sloman and seconded by Julia Jones.

Cathryn Corns was proposed by Alison Nash as District Education Officer and seconded by Peter Knight.

All were unanimously elected.

**Any other business**

- Beth Johnson will remain as Newsletter Editor. The deadline for the next edition is 15<sup>th</sup> February.
- The Master reminded everyone that applications for the Essex Ringing Course should be made by 13<sup>th</sup> February.
- Brian Meads spoke on his paper Looking to the Future and discussed how this would proceed. Hilary Donoghue is to contact each tower and interview tower members. Wade Vandenburg suggested that the Association should approach the BBC to encourage children to take up bell ringing and it was also suggested that tower captains should visit schools.
- Chris Bailey proposed a vote of thanks to Cathryn Corns for her work during the past year as Committee Representative.
- The re-dedication of Brentwood bells will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> March and practice nights are Thursday.
- The provisional date for installation of the bells at Canewdon by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry is 16<sup>th</sup> February.
- Simeon Bateman announced that Stanford-le-Hope will now practice Thursday evenings but visitors should telephone to check first.
- Peter Sloman said that the St Mary's Prittlewell Bell Fund for new bells and frame had already raised £63,000 but £150,000 is needed.
- Stephen Nash reminded District officers that he still needs his Child Protection forms returned.

**Finally:**

The service collection amounted to £122.80

The profit from tea was £169

The raffle profit was £124

Further ringing was available until 8.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.



2 Woodview  
Langdon Hills  
Essex  
SS16 6TZ  
Tel 01268 490061

Dear Tower Captain,

**RE: CHILD PROTECTION**

stevejnash@yahoo.co.uk

I have managed to get some clarification from the Diocese regarding CRB checks for ringers. The current Diocesan Policy states that all ringers have to get CRB clearance, this as we know is not really workable and I have finally managed to obtain a letter from our Diocesan Child Protection Adviser, this letter has been added to our Association website and states that tower captains and at least one other be CRB cleared, additionally all tutors should be CRB checked as well. The CRB disclosures should be renewed every three years.

You may or may not be aware of the forthcoming impact of The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, this legislation will come into effect on 12 October 2009. There has been a recent article in "The Ringing World" (2008 Page 962) which has provided some clarification on those areas of ringing that will fall within the Act and the extent to which ringers may have to be registered with the Independent Safeguarding Authority. This registration will be along the same lines as the required CRB clearance as at present.

It has been suggested that a list be compiled of all current CRB cleared ringers as a preparation for the new legislation. Can I therefore request that you fill in the form below for all of your ringers that are CRB cleared ? If you do not have anyone cleared, please could you reply stating this as well.

Thank you,

Steve Nash  
**Child Protection Officer**

Full Name	CRB Disclosure Number	Date of Issue	Tower(s)	Tower Captain
<i>For example :- Stephen James Nash</i>	<i>001189648822</i>	<i>28 February 2008</i>	<i>Langdon Hills &amp; Fobbing</i>	<i>No No</i>

Continue on a separate sheet if required. Please can you return this form to me at the address above.



# The Essex Association of Change Ringers

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT

### 2009 Diary of Events



DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Saturday 17 January	ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING	Prittlewell (10)	3:30 pm
Wednesday 28 January	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 7 February	<i>Association Executive Committee Meeting</i>	Danbury	2:30 pm
Saturday 21 February	District Afternoon Practice	Orsett (6)	3:00-5:00 pm
Thursday 26 February	District Evening Practice	Brentwood (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 21 March	DISTRICT MEETING	Downham (6)	3:30 pm
Thursday 16 April	<i>Association - Essex Ringing Course</i>	Coggeshall	16,17,18 April
	<b>DISTRICT TRAINING DAY</b>	(TBA)	(tba)
Wednesday 29 April	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Monday 4 May	<i>Association AGM - Chelmsford</i>		From 9.30am
Saturday 16 May	<b>STRIKING COMPETITION</b>	Ingrave (6)	5:00 pm
Thursday 28 May	District Evening Practice	Brentwood (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 20 June	<b>DISTRICT OUTING</b>	tbd	
Saturday 4 July	<i>Association Striking Competition FINALS</i>	NW	
Wednesday 29 July	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Thursday 27 August	District Evening Practice	Brentwood (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 19 September	DISTRICT MEETING	Canewdon (10)	3:30 pm
Saturday 26 September	<b>QUIZ NIGHT</b>	North Ockendon	7:00 for 7:30 pm
Saturday 3 October	<i>Association Annual Dinner</i>	County Hotel, Chelmsford	
Saturday 10 October	<i>Association Executive Committee Meeting</i>	Danbury	2:30 pm
Saturday 17 October	District Training Day / District Afternoon Practice	Stanford le Hope	
Wednesday 28 October	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 21 November	DISTRICT MEETING Preceded by Call Change Competition	Navestock (6)	2:30 pm (note earlier start)
Thursday 26 November	District Evening Practice	Brentwood (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 28 November	<i>Association Training Day</i>		
Saturday 5 December	<i>Association Carol Service</i>	Writtle	

#### 2010

Saturday 16 January	ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING	Brentwood (8)	3:30 pm
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#### PLEASE NOTE:

**JAN / MARCH / SEPT** - 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

**NOVEMBER** - District Meeting arrangements (*times for Tea, Meeting & Evening Ringing are approximate*):  
2:30pm: Competition Ringing, 4:30pm: Service, 5:00pm: Tea, 6:15pm: Meeting, 7:00pm: Evening Ringing

**MAY** - District Striking Competition arrangements:  
5:00pm: Draw & Competition Ringing, followed by Tea, Brief Meeting, Results

Any changes to the programme will be announced at district meetings  
or via the district newsletter.