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*Please send any and all reports,  
pictures, notices etc., to  
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Essex Association of Change Ringers

# NEWSLETTER

Southern District

No. 110

October 2009

## NEXT EVENTS:

Call change competition and district meeting at Navestock –  
November 21st, draw at 2.30pm.

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Evening practice at Brentwood – November 26th

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Association training day – November 28th

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Association carol service at Writtle – December 5th

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## Quarter Peal at Brentwood for Rev. Colin Hewitt's Induction

The band rang a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Doubles with 7 6 8 behind.  
Apart from Ray Jones (Conductor) we were all Brentwood ringers.



The band was Jonathan Lee (1), Jennifer Nunn (2), Amanda Hazell-Rayner (3), Chris Bailey (4), Ray Jones (5 and Conductor), Warren Hawkings (6), Frank Southwood (7) and Paul Burke (8). Our thanks to Ray for conducting.

Note that there is a district evening practice at Brentwood on Thursday November 26th. All welcome.

Chris Bailey

## District Surprise Major Practice

There will be a district surprise major practice at South Weald on  
Thursday November 5th, starting at 7:30 pm. Special methods  
Superlative and Bristol.

All welcome

## Great Waking



Tim Baskett is Tower Captain of St. Nicholas, Great Waking. He is also a self-employed qualified craftsman specialising in furniture restoration and has recently designed and made a new portable font for St. Nicholas. Here's a photo of him with the font – we're all very proud of him!

Belated happy 40th birthday Tim for 6th October. Mo Venus

Tim can be reached on greengables262@btinternet.com

## 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

Mid Aug - copy date end July

End October - copy date 15 Oct

Distribution

A newsletter is circulated two weeks before each business meeting. Copies are sent to tower correspondents, preferably by email. Members can request their own copies via email by contacting the editor (Beth Johnson, b.johnson@creative-plus.co.uk).

## An update on Rayleigh

After the 6<sup>th</sup> was taken out of use in March due to bearing failure, things have been progressing to get the bearing replaced. After quotes were obtained, we decided to go with getting all eight bells onto new bearings. We were then informed we needed a faculty to proceed with the work (mainly due to the fact it is seen as a re-hang due to the bells needing to be lifted out of their frames, bearings replaced and then lowered back onto their mounts).

Whitechapel Bell Foundry carried out an initial visit on the 17<sup>th</sup> August to measure up the bearing sizes to order the new parts. Then on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of August they returned and carried out the fitting of the new bearings. During these works one of the gudgeons on the treble was found to be loose, and while on site the treble was lowered onto the frame and the headstock removed. We have been ringing on the back seven bells and we are now awaiting the return of the repaired headstock at the end of October.

Unfortunately in April next year there is major work being carried out at the top of the tower and Rayleigh will be out of action for an unknown period of time. A interesting visit to inspect the tower occurred in May when due to accessibility problems a small remote controlled helicopter with attached camera was drafted in (see below) to take pictures of the tower to assist the architect with his repair plans. The person flying the helicopter with the remote control has carried out filming work on movies including James Bond.



*The tenor bell lifted up awaiting the new bearing to be fitted. Bell to left is treble, right is the 4th.*

After many months arranging the repairs to all the bearings, and then a loose gudgeon on the treble, the bells at Rayleigh are once again all working. Monthly surprise major practices will resume on the first Tuesday of each month.

Simon Smith Tower Captain



## Prittlewell outing

Prittlewell's outing this year was to Suffolk on the August bank holiday Monday, with ringing at Gislingham, Thrandeston, Alburgh, Bungay (shown right) and Saxmundham.



## Call changes Striking Competition - Navestock November 21st 2.30

Don't feel you are up to a striking competition? Come along and try the call changes competition which is designed to encourage less experienced bands. Will any band wrest the trophy from North Ockendon?

1. The competition shall take place at a tower within the District and shall be open to all ringers within the District.

2. The District Master, or a steward appointed by the Master, shall supervise the event. They shall be the only person with the ringers in the ringing room and shall check that the competition rung correctly in accordance with the rules.

3. The District Officers shall appoint one or two judges to assess the quality of the ringing, give comments and announce the results.

4. A trophy shall be presented to the winning team and shall be held in safekeeping until the next competition. The winning team may have this trophy suitably engraved.

5. If necessary, the District Master or their nominee shall give ruling concerning matters not covered by these rules, and any such decision shall be final.

### Teams

6. In order to encourage less experienced bands to enter, towers which came first or second in the district 6-bell method competition may only enter this Call Change competition if the band contains at least three ringers who did not take part in the 6-bell method competition for the current year.

7. Each team shall be allowed no more than one substitute nominated on the day by the District Officers.

8. Towers with insufficient members under Rule 6 and other than the provision in Rule 7 may join with another tower and enter a joint team.

9. A ringer may only ring in one team. If a last minute substitution is required for another team and there are no spare district ringers available then, in this case, a ringer may ring in another team but only in agreement with the District Officers.

### Practice

10. Two minutes of ringing (not judged) shall be allowed after which the bells must be set.

11. Stopping the practice and restarting is allowed (e.g. to adjust ropes or use a box) - the steward will "stop the clock" at such points and will tell the team how much time remains of the two minutes before the team restarts. Ropes may also be adjusted and boxes changed at the end of the practice time.

12. Following the practice (including any final adjustments) the treble ringer should signal to the judges that the team is about to start the competition test piece by turning the treble over (not judged).

### The Test Piece

13. The competition shall be rung on 6-bells with a covering tenor. Bona-fide 5-bell towers may ring without a covering tenor if they wish.

14. Each team must ring for five minutes (including opening and

closing rounds). The Master or steward will announce when five minutes has been rung.

15. The test piece must start and end in rounds and contain the following 'named' changes: 142536 (Tittums) and 135246 (Queens). Any sequence of changes between these changes is allowed. The 'named' changes must be rung a minimum of 4 whole pulls, all other changes can be of any length.

16. All closing rounds will be judged. The duration of the closing rounds is at the discretion of the conductor, but must be a minimum of 1 whole pull. Opening rounds will be judged after the 5th whole-pull, i.e., from the 6th whole-pull onwards.

17. If during the first 60 seconds of the test piece, the ringing deteriorates irretrievably and is terminated by the conductor, then at the discretion of the Master or steward, the band may restart the test piece. The ringing should restart from rounds and consist of a further 5 minutes of ringing as specified in rules 14, 15 and 16. Faults shall be marked on the completed piece of ringing only, the aborted attempt not counting towards the final fault total.

18. At the end of the test piece, a team will not be penalised should any bell not be able to stand but in the event of two teams tying on faults/points then failure to stand the bells will be taken into account to achieve the final order of teams.

## Quarter for Caroline Brown's ordination

South Weald rang a quarter on 27 September of Cambridge Surprise Minor for the ordination of the Rev Caroline Brown on 20 September at Chelmsford Cathedral. Caroline had been licenced lay reader at South Weald and will now be curate at Prittlewell - she is looking forward to meeting the ringers there.

Beth Johnson 1, Vic J C Dale 2, Mark S Robbins 3, Alan G Ball 4, Ian H Jorysz (C) 5, Paul R Trueman 6.

This was also Mark Robbin's first Surprise quarter, and a birthday compliment for Vic Dale.

Beth Johnson

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### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING report by Renée Page Jones OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup> 2009

The meeting at Danbury was a long one with twenty-six items on the agenda. Most items were passed or discussed quite quickly, but others had a long time spent on them.

Each year our AGM is held at the Cathedral and in appreciation of this it was decided to make a donation of £100.

Under correspondence a letter has been received from the Ringing World telling us that the R.W. will be 100 years old on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011. It is hoped to celebrate the event in London on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011 with lots of ringing, tours of Big Ben etc. The next Ringing Road Show will also be on the same day and it was suggested that we try to keep the date clear so we can all take part.

Also Alastair Donaldson, who owns a mini ring, has been approached by the Guide Association who will be celebrating 100 years of Guiding in 2010 to see whether it will be possible to ring on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010 – also maybe with ringing elsewhere.

Vicki Chapman reported that she was disappointed with the support she received for the annual dinner at the County Hotel. Only sixty ringers and nine others attended this year. Father Bob White and Simon Linford were the speakers with extra entertainment by Hilary Donaghue. Those who had attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

After quite a lot of discussion it was decided to still hold an annual dinner as new Life Members of the Association are recognised at this event. Vicki is prepared to organise one for 2010 but will take deposits at the time of booking.

Various reports were given inc. District reports, Report Editors report etc.

The peal secretary explained that peal fees go into the General Fund – it seems to have been assumed that it pays for peals to be published in the annual report. At the moment the peal fee is 25p and has not changed since 1981. However, from January it will be increased to 50 pence. From that time 50% will go into the General Fund and 50% to the B.R.F.

The Education Officer said that a lot of interest has been shown in the Doubles and Minor courses she is organising as part of the Association training day in our District at the end of November, but not so much for Triples and Major.

Stephen Nash, our Child Protection Officer, reported that 101 replies have come through to him regarding C.R.B. checked ringers. As from 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 all under 18's must have a C.R.B. checked tutor if being taught 'face to face' on any three days out of thirty. Chris Mew has written good articles about this in the R.W. He also asked that if anyone has suspicions about anything/anyone in relation to C.R.B., please contact him or Jean Halliday who is the C.R.B. advisor to the Diocese.

He also said that he and Jean will try to get hold of the official restrictions that will be imposed on Adrian Malton when he is released. They will attempt to draw up guidelines with the police, probation service, Essex Association and the C.R.B. checking agency. Nothing to be done until the official restrictions are known.

The Treasurer reported that a legacy has been left to the Association by Bernard Fairhead who died in the Spring. There followed a discussion on whether to raise the personal cover for ringers over 65. In the end Option 1 was carried which is to "Extend the age range for permanent total disablement and temporary total disablement for those aged 65 and over."

Adrian Semken spoke about the costs of attending Central Council meetings ie. transport costs, hotel bills etc. In the Essex Association it has been the custom not to make any claims. He suggested that claims for all or part of the cost should be made even if they are donated back to the Association. It was felt that costs should be recorded, so that ringers who have not attended such a meeting before will know what they might be expected to pay out. Brian Meads suggested that the current representatives give their actual costs for the latest meeting which was held in Worcester, after which it might be possible to come up with practical ideas as to how to deal with expenses.

The following officers were appointed for 2010 –

Chaplain - vacant; Report Editor – Colin Chapman;  
Peal Secretary – Colin Chapman  
Hon. Technical Advisor – Paul Bray;  
Education Officer – Liz Raynor  
Public Relations Officer – vacant  
Essex Ringing Course Convenor – Mary Bone  
Newsletter Editor – Ann Bray  
Child Protection Officer – Stephen Nash  
Web Master – Fred Bone

Grant applications – Feering no longer needs a grant. Walthamstow's application has been deferred until next February. There was an expression of support for South Ockendon's application but more information is required.

A Grant Applications sub committee is to be set up. Any applications will be discussed one month prior to each Exec. Committee meeting. Applications to be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> December for consideration in February and 1<sup>st</sup> August for consideration at the October meeting. Any grant that has not been taken up within two years will be removed from the committee accounts and a new application will need to be made. It will have to include up-dated estimates for the work and up-dated project accounts.

It has been proposed that a review of the rules of the Association is needed. Any changes will have to be approved by the Charities Commission. A working party was set up to create a new set of rules by October 2010 with an interim progress report.

The Association came second in both the Ridgeman and Essex Trophy ten bell striking competitions. The Southern District came first at Chigwell in the Association 8 bell striking competition.

As most of you will know the membership of Adrian C. Malton was suspended in July. We devoted a lot of time to discussing his situation. As a result of this the following statement was issued.

*At the Executive Committee meeting of the Essex Association of Change Ringers on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009, the following resolution was passed:*

*“The Executive Committee wholeheartedly supports the actions taken so far on behalf of the Association and believes that it is appropriate that the suspension of Membership remains in place whilst we ascertain details of Adrian (Malton's) release conditions and continue our dialogue with the Diocesan authorities. The situation will be reviewed as and when Adrian (Malton) is released and looks to re-engage with the Association.”*

The secretary will write to Adrian informing him of this decision.

Under AOB we were reminded that the Association carol service is on 5<sup>th</sup> December at Writtle.

Nominations for life membership need to be submitted by beginning of December.

The AGM is on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tea and afternoon ringing is in the Southern District.

As the first Saturday in January 2011 is January 1<sup>st</sup>, all ADMs to be moved back one week – ie to January 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Southern District.

A member of the North-East District presented a book/diary to the Association with information going back to 1915. Mary Bone recommended that the notices list be kept up to date.

Meeting closed 6.50 pm.

Essex Association of Change Ringers  
Southern District

MINUTES  
Meeting at Canewdon  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**1. & 2. Welcome, Thanks & Sign the Roll**

The Master, John Harpole, welcomed all present and invited everyone to sign the roll book. 44 Southern District members were present including the following visitors who stayed for the meeting - Allen and Maureen Cansdale (Halstead), Brian Meads (Coggeshall), Iris Simpson, Ben and Sam Jones and Ethan Markwood (Canewdon - non members). There were a few visitors who did not stay to the meeting.

The Master thanked the Rev. Tim Clay for taking the service, the organist Martin Adcock, Cathy and Ethan Markwood for taking the collection and for the Canewdon ringers for the tea and the use of the bells.

The service touch was Stedman Caters rung by Peter Sloman, Phil Harrison, Andrew Beech, Gordon Lucas, Geoff Walker, David Rothera, Mike Hallett, John Harpole, Stephen Nash and Brian Meads.

**3. Adopt Standing Orders**

Proposed by Steve Halliwell (Thorpe Bay) and seconded by Peter Sloman (Prittlewell).

**4. Apologies for Absence**

Roger Hobson and Julia Fry (Basildon), Chris and Margaret Bailey (Brentwood), Jackie Carr, Sally-Ann Elkington, Marion Squier, Lynn McEwan (Canewdon), Mo Venus (Leigh-on-Sea), Tim Baskett (Great Wakering), Beth Johnson (South Weald), John Cousins and Rowena Marshall (Bentley Common), and David Sloman (Prittlewell).

**5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held at Downham on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009 were printed in the April 2009 District Newsletter. Additional copies of the Minutes were circulated at the meeting for those who had not seen a copy. There being no amendments the Minutes were signed as a true copy.

## **6. Matters Arising**

The District Striking Competition held at Ingrave was won by Downham with Langdon Hills in second place.

At the Striking Competition Finals, Downham were placed 6<sup>th</sup> but Langdon Hills failed to finish.

In the 8 Bell District Competition our District was placed first. The 8 bell trophy was passed from John Harpole to Stephen Nash.

The District Outing was on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June in Surrey. Over 40 members attended with 15 different towers being represented. A wonderful £80 profit went into the Bell Restoration Fund.

Cathryn Corns (Langdon Hills) reported on the training afternoon held at Prittlewell on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Four students attended concentrating on bell handling.

## **7. Correspondence**

Correspondence had been received, by email to Alison Nash, from Vicki Chapman, Association Secretary, concerning the now vacant posts of Honorary Technical Adviser, Public Relations Officer and Association Newsletter Editor. Copies of the job descriptions were available at the meeting.

Alison also received an email from Liz Rayner, Association Education Officer, concerning the Association Training Day on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November which is being held in our District. The secretary's notes for this is attached to these Minutes.

## **8. Election of New Members**

No new members were elected.

## **9. Child Protection**

The Master informed the meeting about the conviction of Adrian Malton for offences against children. He then went on to report the feedback he had received from various members to the article he had written in the newsletter and other conversations. Several members then spoke on the matter, but no decisions were taken or motions passed.

## **10. Future Events**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September - Quiz Night - North Ockendon are hosting a quiz night, starting at 7pm for 7.30pm. Entry is £6 which includes a ploughmans. Numbers are

needed by Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September so that catering can be arranged.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - Association Dinner.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October - There is an District Afternoon Practice at Stanford-le-Hope on, 3-5pm. All welcome.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October - There is an 8 bell District Practice at Basildon at 7.30pm.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, South Weald are hosting a District Surprise Practice, 7.30-9pm. We will try to organise more of these practices.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November - District Meeting at Navestock included in this is the District Call Change Competition. Please note the 2.30pm start.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Brentwood are hosting an 8 bell District Evening Practice. All welcome.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Writtle are hosting the Association Carol Service. This only happens once every five years so please support this if you can.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - our ADM is to be held at Brentwood. Please note the earlier start time of 2.30pm.

## **11. Any Other Business**

Everyone should now have received their newsletter for August. The next newsletter is due in October. All material needs to be with Beth Johnson by 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Phil Harrison said he would be able to distribute a copy of the Newsletter to South Benfleet as well as Thorpe Bay.

If there is anyone who would like to be in the District Email List please contact either Alison Nash or John Harpole.

Raymond Jones, Shenfield, advised the meeting Shenfield are hoping to have work done on their bells. He said they will request - new wheels, new clappers, pulley blocks, new ball bearings and have the bells quarter turned.

Stephen Nash reported he still needs CRB forms from a few towers in the Southern District. He would like to report to the Committee Meeting in October that all the Southern District details are complete. So if your tower has not already done so, please forward to him completed CRB forms.

The meeting sent their best wishes to David Sloman as he had injured his back and could not ring at the moment.

Service collection - £78.73  
Tea was donated - £184.50  
Raffle - £76

Further ringing was available until 9pm and the meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Signed as a true record ..... (District Master)  
J G Harpole

Dated ..... 200.....

## Association Training Day

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009

The day begins with all students and helpers arriving at Basildon at 9.45am for a 10am start. Tea and Coffee will be supplied and the students will be placed into their respective groups.

The itinerary is to start the first ringing session at 11.15am and finish at 12.45pm. Lunch is by own arrangements and is from 1pm to 2.30pm. After lunch each group will travel to their afternoon towers. This ringing session is from 2.30pm until 4pm.

Group 1 will stay at Basildon to start ringing at 11.15am. After lunch they will then travel to the second session which is at Fobbing.

Group 2 will begin at Downham. After lunch they will ring at Rettendon.

Group 3 will start at Shenfield and after lunch their second session will be at Ingrave.

Alison Nash  
District Secretary