



Essex Ringing Course 2025

We are pleased to announce that the 34th Essex Ringing Course will be held on 10th to 12th April 2025 and will be based at The Rickstones Academy Witham.

Tickets are priced at £65 per person, which includes an Eventbrite booking fee. The junior fee for all young ringers from an Essex tower aged under 18 on 10th April 2025 or junior members of the Essex Association is £30. Tutor groups on offer are:

- Bell-handling basics.
- Moving on to rounds & call changes improving foundation skills
- Introduction to Hunting
- Advanced Hunting
- Plain Bob Doubles inside
- Plain Bob Minor inside
- Grandsire (Doubles / Triples)
- Moving on from Plain Bob
- Treble Bob Minor
- Elementary Calling touches
- Moving on to minor surprise methods

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There will also be a 1 day course available in steeple keeping. We will be running this on **Wednesday 9th April, the day before the 3 day course starts**, which will give tutors and helpers the opportunity to attend this popular 1 day session. An additional day will be run on Saturday 11th April if enough people apply.

There will be an additional programme of seminars and practical sessions on a wide variety of ringing topics. Helpers are also required for each group – information on applying to be a helper will be available in the course brochure. We are keen to create opportunities for people to develop teaching skills. If you have recently completed an ART teaching course and would be interested in finding out about shadowing a teacher on the course please contact Sarah Knights for further information (email to essexcourse@eacr.org.uk). The course brochure and application information will be available on the EACR website at www.eacr.org.uk/course. Applications will open on 2 January 2025, and should be made online if possible.

If you do not have internet access, application information is available by sending a stamped self-addressed C5 envelope to Mrs Sarah Knights, Corvette, Bacons Lane, Chappel, CO6 2EB. **Closing date for applications Friday 23 January 2025.**

More About Rounds & Beyond

Annual Subscriptions for 2025

£12 for adult members and £6 for junior and associate members

Subscriptions to the Association are due on 1st January 2025. At the Management Committee meeting on 5 October, it was overwhelmingly agreed to increase subscriptions to £12 in 2025, although I had personally proposed subscriptions be increased to £10. It was further agreed to increase subscriptions to £15 in 2026, again against my personal proposal. These will be the first increases in membership subscriptions since 2007.

Membership of the Essex Association of Change Ringers provides the following benefits:

- Membership of a community of bellringers across Essex who support and arrange ringing activities, outings and social events
- Access to training events and opportunities to develop ringing abilities
- 25% of subscriptions automatically go to our Recruitment and Training Fund. Recruitment and training are key activities for the future of ringing in Essex.
- Public Liability and Personal Accident insurance cover when ringing or attending Association and District events
- Your membership subscription help support Young Ringers' activities, Education events, bell maintenance and restoration and your representation at the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers
- Access to the Association library of books, pamphlets and journals about bells and bellringing
- Online resources including the Association website and email facilities for Association officers
- Access to branded clothing which may be purchased
- Receive news updates from the Association by e-mail
- Every tower receives a copy of the newsletter '*Rounds and About*' three times a year
- An annual Report (online and printed by request)
- Ring peals for the Association
- Vote at the AGM

Subscriptions are still one of the primary sources of Association revenue and it is very important for members to pay their subscription promptly. If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aiding your subscription (forms can be downloaded from the Association website).

Subscriptions can be paid as follows:

- Via Membermojo once you receive the automatically generated renewal email (preferred method of payment)

- By bank transfer (Essex Association of Change Ringers, NatWest Bank, Sort Code: 60-05-13, Account Number: 22177035)
- Via your District Treasurer

Important – when paying by Bank Transfer please ensure the payment reference includes your tower and surname. Please also remember to inform the Membership Secretary (membership@eacr.org.uk), your District Treasurer (add district letter(s) e.g. N or SE etc to the email address (xx-district-treasurer@eacr.org.uk)) and the Association Treasurer (treasurer@eacr.org.uk) as appropriate when payment has been made.

Meanwhile, it would be appreciated if those members who pay a subscription and have yet to pay for 2024 would either pay via Membermojo, arrange a bank transfer or send their subscription to their District Treasurer before the end of December.

All subscriptions should be paid by 30th April 2025. Members not paying by this date shall not participate in or vote at meetings (e.g. District meetings or the AGM) or ring peals for the Association until the subscription is paid.

Those members whose annual subscriptions are not paid by 31st December 2024 shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Association and their names shall not be published in the 2024 Annual Report.

Lapsed members may be readmitted to membership without election in the year following non-payment (i.e. 2025) if payment of the arrears and the current year's subscription are received by 30th April 2025. However, after this date lapsed members shall be re-elected in accordance with normal procedures.

Completion of the current Membership Form is mandatory and no elections should take place without a completed form which must be submitted to the District Secretary before the start of a District meeting. The form can be downloaded from the EACR website.

If you have any queries about membership or subscriptions then please let me know.

Please pay your subscriptions promptly and before 30 April 2025 – it greatly helps the finances and the running of the Association.

Andrew Brewster
Association Treasurer (treasurer@eacr.org.uk)

Love in every Peal

Bellringers Celebrate their own Wedding

The sound of bells ringing joyfully over the Essex countryside made the wedding of Lorraine and Martin truly unique. Both are ringers at All Saints Church, Hutton, where their love for bellringing came full circle as fellow ringers gathered to celebrate their special day. Lorraine was 'rung in' to the sound of bells as she made her way across the fields from her home. The church has a ground floor ring which enabled the band to fully participate in the wedding ceremony.



L—R: Lesley Clarke, Sylvia Martin, Beth Johnson, Lorraine and Martin Axon, Jackie Channa, Peter Martin.
Photo: Beth Johnson

Practice Diary

Dec	5	8/10 bell practice	Bishop's Stortford	NW	7:30
	11	10/12 bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	7:30
	13	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
		Doubles & Minor practice	Great Bromley	NE	7:30
	17	Advanced 6 bell practice	Matching	NW	7:30
	21	Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	27	Surprise Minor practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	7:30
Jan	4	District practice	Halstead	N	10:00
		8 bell practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	10:00
	9	10/12 bell practice	Bishop's Stortford	NW	7:30
		10/12 bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	7:30
	10	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
		Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	21	Advanced 6 bell practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	7:30
24	Surprise Minor practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	7:30	
Feb	1	8 bell practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	10:00
	6	10/12 bell practice	Bishop's Stortford	NW	7:30
	12	10/12 bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	7:30
	14	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	15	Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	18	Advanced 6 bell practice	Henham	NW	7:30
	28	Surprise Minor practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	7:30
Mar	1	8 bell practice	<i>tbc</i>	NW	10:00
	6	10/12 bell practice	Bishop's Stortford	NW	7:30
	12	10/12 bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	7:30
	14	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	15	Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
Apr	11	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	15	Advanced 6 bell practice	Henham	NW	7:30
	19	Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30

Recruitment and Training (R&T) Fund

The Association has a fund which is administered by the Recruitment and Training Subcommittee. It currently stands at around £10,000 but about half that sum is already promised to various projects, leaving some £5,400 available to the members.

What is the fund used for?

Examples of grant applications range from installing a simulator to aid training and especially to allow silent practices, through supporting training courses to providing resources for recruitment events.

The first grant in 2024 was to the Southern District to hire a hall for a calling touches course – the hall being a better option than trying to teach theory in a ringing room. In February we considered an application from Ardleigh for support in developing their teaching resources alongside the significant work on the bells which was being assisted by the Bell Maintenance and Restoration Fund (BMRF). Ardleigh have been promised £4,000 from our fund, for when the installation takes place in early 2025.

In April we made a small grant to Sandon. They already had a simulator but it needed upgrading so the Association could use the tower for the Essex Course. Mike Worboys (tower captain) says: “Moving from using six batteries in the belfry for our Simbell transmitters to mains power, controlled from one switch in the ringing room, has transformed the use of our simulator. No more charging issues and no more running up and down the stairs to turn the batteries on and off between teaching sessions, or over lunch for training days!”

We also granted funds to Epping to extend their simulator, “We obtained a grant of around £150 to assist with expanding the bell simulator across six of the bells in our tower. This will enable us to offer enhanced training for both new learners and those wishing to progress as we will no longer be restricted to our usual practice night times,” says Ian Apps.

Funds for Recruitment

In May we agreed to allocate £700 to pay for a presence at the Essex University Freshers Fair – booking the space, a donation for a dumbbell and printing hand-outs. (This fair took place in early October run by Anne Bray and Matthew Brown.) In July we agreed to pay £200 to White Roding to partially pay for hiring a mini-ring to advertise the launch of their programme of bell restoration.

Latest approvals

We have just agreed to fund a ‘mobile kit’ of simulator bits and bobs which Simon Mann will hold. Simon goes to towers to troubleshoot their simulators and can now make repairs on the spot rather than having to diagnose, order parts and return to fit them. He’ll use his mobile kit and the tower will replenish it. We also paid for new IT hardware for the Prittlewell Ringing School when their long-serving computer and accompanying

gear finally gave up the ghost, and the committee has approved a grant to Great Tey for their rope guide, some of which will come from the Bequests Fund.

Could the R&T fund help your tower?

We are keen to encourage towers to draw on the fund so they can improve their teaching or just the efficiency of their tower. Certain criteria need to be met, such as ensuring there is local engagement through fundraising or evidence of regular teaching, and grant applications need to be supported by tower and church personnel. We also like to see that grants will benefit local area ringers, not just those at one particular tower. This could be the start of a cluster of teaching towers, for example. The fund is topped up each year with 25% of the subscriptions received from members, but if we consider a large grant that could not be satisfied from the R&T fund, then we can recommend that some payment is made from the significant Bequests fund.

The R&T sub-committee can act in a timely manner as we are able to approve up to £250 at our regular meetings (we meet every six weeks); applications for larger amounts will go to the Association Management Meeting and then to Trustees, so applications need to be received by 1st August (for discussion in October) or 1st December (for discussion in February). All information is on the EACR website under 'About the Association>Grant application' or contact your Education Officer on education@eacr.org.uk.

Are you interested in installing a simulator, or do you have one that you feel should be upgraded? Talk to our Simulator Workgroup who can help you: Sarah Scannell (07789 990942, sarahscannell1@gmail.com) is the lead, and Simon Mann is a mine of information (07506 859565, simon.mann1@btinternet.com).

SE District Project: Reviving Ringing in Maldon

We've had an ambition within our District for a while to revive ringing in Maldon – and recently, under the leadership of Mike Worboys, our District Master, that ambition is well underway to becoming a reality.

At our District meeting in June 2024, Mike made a call for volunteers for a Task and Finish (T&F) Group to plan for and deliver various activities, one of which was this particular project in Maldon. Three of us jumped at the chance to be involved – Sarah Scannell, our District Training Officer, Tracey Southgate (a former EACR Comms Officer), and me, current EACR Comms Officer.

There are two churches in Maldon with rings of bells – All Saints, in the High Street, and St Mary's by the Quay. Neither tower currently has a regular band but existing ringers at both towers, Dennis Johnson from All Saints, and Kim and Gerry Gibbs from St Mary's are keen to see that change.

The 4 members of the T&F Group all attended the Recruitment and Retention workshop held by the EACR in the summer, and we came away from that with very helpful suggestions and resources to inform our plans (*see below).

We decided to hold a Tower Open Day on 19 October at All Saints as the ground floor ringing room was easily accessible for interested visitors to both see ringers in action and to be able to offer assisted backstrokes under the guidance of experienced teachers. We prepared a poster and an accompanying article giving information on the Open Day for circulation via a range of communication channels through the church communities and directly to local youth and adult groups, and the Maldon Facebook page. Careful arrangements were put in place for the day, including clear identification of the various roles we would be asking our SE District volunteers to undertake on the day, and detailed these on a rota. We also completed a risk assessment which was very useful in guiding our plans.



Our banner outside All Saints

The Open Day

The day dawned – not the sunny autumnal day we had perhaps envisaged, but we were undaunted by the heavy rain showers! The EACR 'learn to ring' banner had been outside

the church for two weeks, and we added our district pull-up banners to it on the day – these all looked very striking and helped us to catch the attention of passers-by, and this was evidently helped by the regular short periods of ringing.



Nick, one of our willing volunteers, encouraging passers-by to find out more about ringing



Janice, Sarah and Dennis with our colourful and informative display

A huge number of ringers from our District took part in the day, from talking to people on the High Street, welcoming visitors into the church, telling them about ringing and using a small model bell for illustration, responding to questions prompted by watching our volunteers ring, and providing an opportunity for many individuals to hold the end of a bell rope and ring assisted backstrokes. In total, we had over 30 volunteers from 14 towers, and had nearly 60 individuals sign up for more information on ringing including a few lapsed ringers, which was way beyond even our most optimistic expectations!



All set for the first ring of the day at All Saints – in the unique triangular tower



We were delighted to welcome the Mayor Andrew Lay, and Deputy Mayor John Driver of Maldon who were keen to help us succeed with the project.

And what next?

Part of our offer was to visit St Mary's for a more extended introductory session to ringing which included a visit to the belfry to see a bell rung up and down, and some more hands-on experience – testing to see if a bell was up or down, a hand-ring exercise and chiming, plus a demonstration of rounds and call changes. 16 joined us for this visit on Saturday 26 October, and we have 7 signed up for a repeat session on 2 November. Dates for initial lessons have been sent out to these groups and teaching is now underway; we are very grateful to those from our District who are providing their time and expertise to teach all these individuals.

We're looking forward to seeing what we can achieve in Maldon and using that learning to continue promoting and developing ringing in our District.

Watch this space ...!

Caroline Watts
Communications representative for the SE District,
and for the Association

**Materials from the workshop can be seen on our website, via the Recruitment and Training EACR resources 'links' webpage: www.eacr.org.uk/education/links.html. Search for 'recruiting new ringers'*

Annual Report

Do you still need a printed Annual Report each year?

Since we launched our new membership system in 2023, Members have had been able to download a pdf version of the Annual Report for their use. When we launched the system we opted-in all members to receive a printed copy as the default as that was the norm at that time. Members can opt-out of a printed copy and we know that around 200 members have already decided that they only need a pdf copy.

We often still see a number of printed copies on the table in many towers that we visit so there seems to be an opportunity to further reduce the print run. Though we would need to reduce this by hundreds of copies to save significant cost, any reduction will save paper and waste.

So, if you do not want a printed copy then please either update your record in Membermojo, or email me at reped@eacr.org.uk and I can arrange to get your record updated for you. If any tower has all its members opted-out then we would still supply one printed copy for that tower.

Colin Chapman
Report Editor

Central Council focus

The impact of potential church closures on ringing access

The last formal event of this year's Central Council weekend was a Ringing 2030 update hosted by Tina Stoecklin (the current President of the Council), Simon Linford (former President) and Alison Hodge (outgoing Lead for the Stewardship & Management Workgroup). Ringing 2030 is a major project, launched by the Council in 2022, to create a sustainable future for change ringing and which considers: what we need ringing to be like in 2030, what we need to change in order to get there, and making sure we effect that change.

The session included a "deep dive" into the risk of losing access to rings of bells due to the potential closure of Church of England buildings. Attendance was standing room only, which indicates the level of interest being taken in the subject.

Simon and Alison's research shows that we are at risk of losing access to 10-15% of churches with rings of bells in the next 10 years. The Lincoln Diocese was presented as a case study, having an area with a significant number of churches at risk of closure. Of their 624 church buildings, 178 have towers with five or more ringable bells. 17 of these fall into the category of "Festival Churches", which could close for regular worship.

The following checklist can be used to identify churches at risk:

- Congregation/attendance below 25
- Unaffordable repair costs
- Multi parish benefice
- Multi church parish
- Low level of heritage listing (Grade 2, or no listing)
- Poor/deprived area
- Lack of PCC members and other volunteers

The recent closure of the 16-cwt ring of 8 at St Mary, Aberavon highlights how rapidly church closures can and do occur – in this case, with only three months' notice - despite the tower being a favoured venue for local association events and having an active band. Access to the bells is currently restricted as decisions regarding the church's future unfold. This situation raises a pressing question: how many rings in Essex might encounter similar risks?

To better understand the potential impact of church closures on ringing in Essex, we will be connecting with district contacts in the coming months. Gathering this information will help us identify where our greatest challenges lie.

Martin Jones

If you are interested in learning more about the Central Council and its work, please contact your Central Council representatives by email at cceps@eacr.org.uk.

White Roding

The project to restore the bells at St Martins White Roding has been running for over two years. An initial report by Nicholsons in July 2022 following a visit in June 2022 set the scene for what would be required to restore the tower to ring again. The report found that the existing 5 bells are

<i>Bell</i>	<i>diameter</i>	<i>weight</i>	<i>note</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>founder</i>
Tenor	39 ½"	11 cwt	G	1614	Robert Oldfield, Hertford
Fourth	36"	8 cwt	A	1614	Robert Oldfield, Hertford
Third	32"	6 ½ cwt	B	1664	John Hodson, London
Second	30"	5 cwt	C	1664	John Hodson, London
Treble	29 ½"	5 ¼ cwt	D	1665	John Hodson, London

The bells have never been tuned as a peal and the second is badly damaged with three of its canons broken off. The bellframe is of considerable interest, being of unusual design and of considerable age. Although it has been heavily altered and reconstructed in places, most recently in 1722 as noted by a dated inscription on one of its frameheads, at its core is a medieval structure. Dating old timber bellframes is very difficult; the estimate is c.1430.

The plan is to augment with a 6th bell (treble) and have them refurbished and tuned as a peal, which will then be rehung below the existing chamber in a new steel frame.

The project has had the faculty approved for the bell tower, however we are now applying for an amendment faculty to remove some pews and move them to the new ringing level and move the font to improve the community space which will also make it easier to get the bells in and out, once approved we will then proceed onto fund raising. The target date for physical work to start is December 2025/January 2026 and to be able to ring in Easter of that year.

Mark Maskell

NW 8-bell competition

NW District Bartram 8 Bell Trophy Call Change Striking Competition

It was suggested by Bryany Bartram some time ago [in the pub after ringing, I'm led to believe!] that it would be a good idea to hold a District 8 bell striking competition and with much enthusiasm from fellow companions, the idea took hold. It was decided that the main objectives of the competition would be to inspire less experienced ringers to ring on a higher number of bells, to encourage improved striking and to develop a greater number of 8 bell ringers within the District. The rules were agreed, a venue established, and a judge appointed, and we were delighted when 10 bands confirmed their participation.

The draw for this new competition took place at 9.30am on Saturday, 26th October 2024 at Harlow Common, and was judged by Andrew Kelso, Association Master. The ringing got underway and ringers and visitors tucked into the refreshments whilst waiting their turn. Eventually all the bands had completed their ringing and Andrew very soon appeared with his conclusions. Andrew was very supportive of this competition and explained how he had decided to assess the bands. The feedback was extremely helpful and encouraging; the results were as follows:

Place	Band	Score
1st	Old Harlow	A
Joint 2nd	Bishop's Stortford Stays	A-
	Waltham Abbey	A-
3rd	Willingale	B+

These were the only placed bands; the remaining bands taking part were:

Ashdon
 Bishop's Stortford Sliders
 Nazeing
 Thaxted
 Great Parndon
 Bobbingworth & Moreton [BAMBIS]

The entire morning was very well organised and thanks go to:

- Harlow Common for hosting the competition;
- Steve Ashley for officiating in the tower;
- Andrew Kelso for judging the competition and providing such positive feedback;
- Kevin Nicholas, who made the trophy and the medals given to every ringer;
- Everyone who provided the cakes and savouries and for helping to make the tea and coffee and for washing up.



The most important thanks go to all the ringers who took part. The enthusiasm shown by the bands for this competition was very evident, with several comments about "next time ...". Altogether a very enjoyable day!

That's a First!

Quarter peals:

- 1st quarter at 1st attempt: Samantha Pitt, Wendy L Dykes, James R Dunhill, John Barber, James Frostick, George W Wright, Lucy Taylor, Richard Shorrocks, Joe Ahuja, Nicki Ashworth, Vincent L Bent
- 1st quarter: Benji Bowman, Doug Lockwood, Holly Pearsons-King, Evelyn Atter
- 1st on Treble: Benji Bowman
- 1st inside: Brian Meldon, Gemma Crouchman
- 1st Plain Bob Doubles: Adam Brett, Benjamin Quigley
- 1st St Simon's Doubles: Pete Bowman
- 1st Minor at 1st attempt: Lauren B Porthouse
- 1st Minor: James P Riley, Carys E Hayward, Megan Ellis
- 1st St Clement's College Bob Minor: Matthew Brown, Simon Mann, Sarah Knights
- 1st Kent Treble Bob Minor: Matthew Brown, Sarah Knights
- 1st Triples: Victoria Richards
- 1st Grandsire Triples: Sandra Murphy
- 1st Stedman: Martin C Jones, Ivan D Culham
- 1st on 8 at 1st attempt: Sandra Murphy
- 1st on 8: Sarah H Robbins, Sarah Scannell, Peter E A Dykes, Gavin P Edwards
- 1st on 8 away from cover: James P Riley
- 1st Treble Bob Major: Michelle A Stephenson
- 1st Surprise: Elle G Buttery
- 1st London Surprise Major: Vicki L Chapman
- 1st on 10: Wendy Godden, Josie E Rapley Mende, Timothy Needham
- 1st Grandsire Caters: Courtney Mandell
- 1st Stedman Caters: Josie Rapley Mende, Sarah Robbins
- 1st Royal: Michelle A Stephenson, Sarah H Robbins, Kye L Leaver
- 1st Royal inside: Clara M Waller, Courtney J A Mandell
- 1st Plain Bob Royal: Elle G Buttery
- 1st Maximus on treble: Peter Smith
- 1st Plain Bob Maximus: Jane Walters, Nick Hughes, Daniel R B Gregory, David Knott
- 1st Spliced: Oliver Clinton, Benjamin Quigley, Theo A Johnson
- 25th quarter: Ethan J Musham
- 25th together: John Harpole & William M Beech
- 50th together: Ellis Whitehouse & Bradley Hill; Andrew Beech & Steve Halliwell, Trevor E Church & Clive J Stephenson
- 1st as Conductor: Emily Brooks, Courtney Mandell, Kieran Kerwin, Jo Lerpiniere
- 1st Doubles as Conductor: Ryan J Faulkner-Hatt
- 1st Stedman as Conductor: Hal J Meakin
- 1st Surprise as Conductor: Adam Sloman
- 1st on 8 as Conductor: Neil M Pasmore
- 1st Surprise Major as Conductor: Lucas J Owen
- 1st Grandsire Caters as Conductor: Simon Ward
- 1st Stedman Caters as Conductor: John Harpole
- 1st Royal as Conductor: Lucas J Owen

1st spliced as Conductor: Anthony J Bloomfield
450th as Conductor: Philip Saunders
450th quarter: Hazel S Steed
475th quarter: Vicki Chapman
775th quarter: Philip Saunders

Peals:

1st peal: D Shân Stewart, David A Buckley
1st Doubles: Julia V Taylor
1st Minor: Theo A Johnson
1st Superlative Surprise Major: Theo A Johnson, Neil M Pasmore
1st Lincolnshire Surprise Major: Neil M Pasmore
650th for the Association: Alan P Mayle
700th peal: Colin F Chapman
2600th on tower bells: James L Towler
1st as Conductor: Debbie Hill
350th as Conductor for the Association: Alan P Mayle
50th together: Colin F Chapman & David M Hengeli
100th together: Christina D A Brewster & Colin F Chapman
150th together: Yvonne A Towler & David M Hengeli
200th together: Brian G Meads & Alan P Mayle
300th together: Yvonne A Towler & Colin F Chapman
400th together: Paul A Cammiade & James L Towler

1st London Surprise Major in hand: Janice Cherry

Information to end of October. Apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.

Young Ringers events in 2025

Sunday 26th January - Practice
Sunday 23rd February – Practice
Saturday 22nd March – Half Day mini-outing and evening social
Saturday 12th April – SE England Youth Striking Contest SEECON in Berkshire
Sunday 27th April – Practice
Sunday 25th May – Practice
Sunday **22nd** June – Ringing World National Youth Contest (RWNYC) Practice
Sunday **29th** June (pm) – RWNYC mini-outing
Saturday 5th July – RWNYC in Birmingham
Sunday 20th July – Practice
Saturday 27th September – Day Outing
Sunday 26th October – Practice
Sunday 30th November – Practice

Dates for your Diary

Dec	7	Association Carol Service	St Osyth		2:30
	10	District Social	Loughton	SW	7:30
Jan	4	Annual District Meeting	Great Totham	SE	3:00
		Annual District Meeting	Shalford	N	3:30
	11	Annual District Meeting	Great Tey	NE	
		Annual District Meeting		SW	
	18	Annual District Meeting	Leigh-on-Sea	S	3:00
	25	Annual District Meeting	Saffron Walden	NW	
	30	Trustees Meeting	(Zoom)		7:30
Feb	1	Management Committee	Danbury		2:30
	22	Trustees Meeting	Danbury		2:30
Apr	10-12	Essex Ringing Course			

From the Registers

75th birthday: Mary Bone

80th birthday: Wendy Godden, Dinah Wood, Jean Pavely,

90th birthday: John Warboys

100th birthday: Ron Brown

Wedding: Lorraine & Martin Axon, Hutton

Golden wedding anniversary: Jillian and Colin Wright; Andrew & Catherine Hood

55th wedding anniversary: Wendy & Richard Godden

Diamond wedding anniversary:

Platinum wedding anniversary: Frank & Molly Warboys

Deaths: We regret to report the deaths of Ron Brown, of Bentley Common; Evelyn Reeve, of Wormingford; Brian Holden, of Great Baddow; and Peter Wood, of Great Bardfield.

The next edition of *Rounds & About* is planned for April 2025. Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to newsletter@eacr.org.uk or by post to Fred Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9DB by **1 March 2025**.