

Southern News

July to August 2013



What is being a Sussex County Association Change Ringer all about?

The Association committee have been busy holding discussion meetings around the county to help develop a vision for the future of SCACR.

The Sussex County Association of Change Ringers was founded on 24 January 1885. Today it has over 1300 members from more than 100 church towers right across the county. The aims, which have changed little since those early days, are to promote and support bell ringing in Sussex. The eight SCACR discussion groups are nearly finished. The results of the discussions will be collated and fed back to the association members in due course.

The meeting I attended in June was an interesting discussion covering subjects such as reviewing the rule book, making the association more relevant to members, improving the communication between the individuals, the tower and the association.

Does anyone read the newsletters, e-mails, or website?

Do the new ringers understand about the association they join and do all the towers recruit members to the association from their new ringers?

Do tower captains encourage new members to visit other towers?

These and more questions have been discussed at each meeting and a vision for the future should be the result in due course.

During our meeting it was mentioned that there is a SCACR Pocket Guide

A 16 page A6 booklet, given to new members when elected to the Association, which contains useful general information about the Association. Pages includes the Aims, a "Who's Who", Potted History, Practice Nights, Map of Sussex and several pages of blank and squared pages for the new member to make their own notes. Did you get a copy when you joined the association? If not then ask your tower captain for a copy.

For more information go to the website, <http://www.scacr.org>

A new Master for SCACR Saturday 11th May 2013

Billingshurst was the venue for this year's AGM. Some good ringing was enjoyed on the easy-going eight, ably led by Graham Hills, Ringing Master of the Western Division. The Reverend Brian Pritchard led the church service and spoke of expectations.... and then it was off to a superb tea laid on by the Billingshurst band. Expectations were duly met!

The AGM got into full swing with David Kirkcaldy in the chair. Reports were adopted, Officers elected and two ballots taken. The first to elect the SCACR's Fifth Representative on Central Council (2014-2016) and Alan Baldock was narrowly beaten by David Kirkcaldy. The second ballot was to elect John Norris of Hurstpierpoint as an Honorary Life Member. This was motion was carried by a majority.

At the end of the formal meeting, David Kirkcaldy handed the Master's Chain of Office to Christine Baldock. John Norris proposed a vote of thanks to David for his commitment to the association during the last three years. Minutes of this year's AGM held at Billingshurst are now available at www.scacr.org/downloads or request a copy from the General Secretary on 01273 812790.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday July 11th & Thursday 8th

August Beginners Practice Barcombe

Informal, friendly practice for everyone who wants to improve their rounds and call changes, plain hunt, doubles and Grandsire doubles. Contact Marisa for more information. secretary@scacr.org

Saturday July 13th & Saturday

August 10th LEARNING WITH ADRIAL

Adrial holds regular education mornings to help you progress to Plain Hunt or Bob/Gandsire doubles or anything else you request. Sessions are held at various different towers. Bring a mug for tea or coffee! Please let Adrial know if you are coming. ed-south@scacr.org.

Saturday July 20th

4pm Barcombe ringing followed by skittles and two course cold buffet supper at The Royal Oak. Names for buffet (£9.50 per head) to sec-south@scacr.org

Thursday 25th July

SCACR Young Ringers Take 9 Event

Walking Ringing Outing

9.30am meet in car park at Holy Cross Uckfield

Walk to Maresfield (1½ miles) Ringing and cakes

10.30am to 11.15am (TBC)

Walk to Fairwarp (2 miles) Ringing 12.15 to 1pm

Picnic Lunch (bring your own)

Walk to Buxted (3 miles)

Ringing at Buxted 3pm to 3.45pm

Walk to Uckfield (1½ miles)

Ringing and cake 4.30pm to 5.15pm

As usual please let either Anne or Sandra know if you would like to come.

Public transport is possible: 29 Bus from Lewes but lifts can be arranged. [Anne Franklin](mailto:Anne.Franklin@scacr.org) 01273

813189 [Sandra Alford](mailto:Sandra.Alford@scacr.org) 01403 251240

Wednesday 21st August

Wickham Whatsits

Another Young Ringers event at the Wickham Ring.

Provisional programme:-

10.30 a.m.: Rounds and Call Changes

Picnic lunch (indoors if wet), Drinks available but bring your own food,

Afternoon:

Plain hunting and simple Doubles (for those ready).

Treasure hunt, Handbell ringing, rope making.

Finish: 3.30 (ish)

To book, half day or all day, or for further details, contact John Norris, email jrn@orpheusmail.co.uk or Tel. 01273 843718

Saturday August 17th Joint walk and ring with the East

Ringing at Hartfield. Walk to start about 2pm followed by ringing at Withyham 3pm

September 21st

Ringing at the Good Shepherd

October 19th Outing

Proposed Southern Division Outing - October 19th

09:30 – 10:15 NEW ROMNEY, St Nicholas (8)

10:35 – 11:20 NEW CHURCH, Ss Peter & Paul (6)

11:50 – 12:35 HYTHE, St Leonard (10)

LUNCH

14:00 – 14:45 FOLKESTONE, Ss Mary & Eanswythe (8)

15:05 – 15:50 CHERITON, St Martin (8)

16:15 – 17:00 LYMPNE, St Stephen (6)

November 1st and 2nd

The next full Association training event will be the 2 day course to be held on the 1st and 2nd of November - watch this space! Meanwhile, keep in touch with your local Division and the Association Education Officer to benefit from any local opportunities.

November 16th Newick Meeting and ringing TBC

December 21st Ringing at Ringmer mulled wine and mince pies

The Church of the Good Shepherd needs some Help!

The Good Shepherd band, having lost most of its more experienced ringers to job moves and university, they have recruited some new ringers who are now nearly ready to learn Plain Hunt. The other members of the band would like to keep one jump ahead and start ringing Plain Bob Minimus/Doubles and Grandsire Doubles. But they don't have anyone with experience to teach or ring with them. Is there anyone, any couple, any group who would be able to commit for an hour on a Tuesday evening once or twice a month to help us move on? We practice early – 6 to 7.30pm or 6.30 to 8pm on the first Tuesday of the month. If you think you can help, please contact Pat Hunter – 01273 555954, or email pandrhunter@gmail.com

South of England Show - 6th, 7th & 8th June 2013

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to everyone involved in the SCACR presence at the South of England Show. Dewby's Bells provided endless entertainment over the three days, we collected details of 50 potential recruits and provided smiles and laughs for hundreds of visitors, including Show President, Penelope Keith. None of this would have been possible without the support of Alan & Mary Collings and Christine & Alan Baldock who attended all day every day and the team of volunteers who took part.

The Association had a fantastic three days as part of the Church Tent - all thanks to the volunteers who agreed to take part - and we collected contact details for 50 people interested in finding out more locally.

For those interested in finding out more and perhaps having a go at ringing church bells - two follow up mornings have been arranged on Saturday 29 June at Shipley and Southover (Lewes) towers. If you would like to know more, contact [Marisa Hayes](#) .



Friday May 10th 2013 Walk & Ring on the South Downs Way

On Friday 10th May a group of five ringers from St Leonards in Seaford and two from Staffordshire made their way to Winchester to walk the South Downs Way. Just before 4.00pm we nervously made our way up the 100 steps and along the precipitous edge of the nave roof to the ringing chamber where Jonathan Franklin from Ringmer was on hand to organise us. He did such a good job that although eight out of twelve of us had never rung on 12 bells before we could be very proud of our performance. It felt like such a privilege to have had that opportunity and what a way to start our walk!

The weather was fine and Winchester was looking incredibly beautiful in the sun as we set off for our first hill. Warily we arrived in Meonstoke in time for a hot bath before ringing at West Meon followed by dinner and a glass of wine and so the pattern of our days was set. Each day we would walk between 12 and 15 miles before ringing at a nearby church in the evening before dinner.

Our journey was really special, as was the opportunity to ring at so many churches and meet the people who ring in them; Christine at Washington who thoughtfully made us a cup of tea and unlocked the toilet for us, the lady at Meonstoke who thanked us for chiming their two bells on Sunday morning so expertly, the people who were rightly so proud of their towers and the ones who warned us that it might not be the best ring! The welcome was always warm and helped to keep us going.

We quickly developed a real sense of companionship and camaraderie which will stay with us and be a lasting legacy of our journey. Our last day was a fitting end to the walk. Several ringers from Seaford, Eastbourne and Ringmer joined us at Southease for the walk to Alfriston where we had a pub lunch before ringing at the church. We ended the journey at All Saints church in Eastbourne for our final ring.

In all we walked a hundred miles and rang at a cathedral and thirteen churches, eleven with peals of six or eight bells and two where we chimed the two bells. We all made new friends and had a holiday that we will remember for ever.



The Master, Christine Baldock, joined the Seaford Ringers on Monday 13th May

They started this leg at Queen Elizabeth Country Park at 10 a.m. and arrived at Cocking around 4.30 p.m. The weather was kind and made for a very pleasant 13 mile walk. They were entertained by a Chinook helicopter which made a number of circles around them whilst they were having an afternoon snack. Each day ended with a ring at a nearby tower and Monday's was Midhurst where they were made very welcome by the local ringers who joined them in rounds, call changes and Stedman Doubles.

Tuesday, unfortunately the weather forecast was accurate and it rained most of the day. They heard skylarks and cuckoos and a sheep in distress and three of the group were able to release it. Although the weather was inclement it did not detract from the lovely colours of the trees, bluebells, orchids, primroses and anemones. By lunch time the Master's knee had decided that it had had enough. A taxi was ordered and took her to Amberley, the end of the section for that day. They went ringing at the delightful anti-clockwise five at Amberley.

Saturday 15th June 2013

The 6 bell striking competition was held at Keymer this year and was supported by only three towers in the division. Nevertheless a good time was had by all. There were 3 call change teams (two being novice bands) and three method bands. After a rather unfortunate incident during the practice piece of the second team to ring (a broken stay) we had a bit of a break while the stay was repaired. Some people made good use of the time and went to the pub and quizzed the judge on his marking tactics!

Ringling was resumed and soon all the teams retired to an excellent tea provided by the Keymer ringers. The results were as follows.

Call changes

1st - Southover 81% (Call Change Trophy)

2nd - Seaford Novice band 73% (Novice Trophy)

3rd - Southover Novice band 64%

Method

1st - Ringmer 94% (Method Trophy)

2nd - Southover 1 87%

3rd - Southover 2 82%

Thanks to Keymer for hosting the competition and for providing a lovely tea. Next year hopefully towers will put the date in the diary early so that more teams can enter. Striking competitions really are great fun and can benefit ringers of all abilities.

LOST & FOUND

LOST A Message from St Nicholas Arundel

Hi Fellow SCACR members,

Bad news again for us at St Nicholas Arundel, due to work on the church tower there will no further ringing at Arundel for about 20weeks from 9th June 2013.

I'm hoping that the next repairs may be to the bells themselves, but I'm not pinning too much on that one yet. I will keep you up-dated on the progress.

Regards

Teresa Kendall Tower Capt.

Found

A large dark grey waterproof hooded coat (male?) was left at Billingshurst tower ... somebody might be wondering where they've left it! Please contact Kathy Fitzpatrick to reclaim. Email

billingshurst@scacr.org

Funding for Training Equipment



NEW FUNDING allocated to support the installation of training equipment in Sussex.

At the March General Committee Meeting, the Trustees agreed that a sum of £8000 be allocated towards helping towers in Sussex to install their own simulator and training equipment such as dumb-bells.

The money comes from a legacy left to the Association by Bryan Burrough (who learnt to ring at Itchingfield in the 1950s and latterly rang at St Leonards) who died in 2006. It was his wish that his legacy be used for the advancement of ringing in Sussex and it is hoped that by offering some financial support, a wide mix of towers in all corners of the county might consider installing additional equipment.

An application form is now available from the website (see downloads) or by contacting your local committee. We are fortunate to have a number of experts among our membership and if you require further advice, do please contact a member of your local committee who will put you in touch with a suitable helper.

Marisa Hayes. General Secretary.

SCACR Mobile Exhibition

Having a Tower Open Day, Church Fete, Flower Festival or other local function where you could promote the art of bell-ringing? Why not borrow the Association Exhibition?

Available for you to collect free of charge. You do not need a big car to transport it around as it all comes apart.

DON'T DELAY, BOOK IT TODAY! Please contact Val Atkins Valatkins@scacr.org

What do you know about Safeguarding?

If you feel like clicking on another page at this point to find something more interesting to read, please just bear with me for a few minutes – I'll try not to be too boring!

- Have you seen the latest information and current forms?
- Is anyone in your tower CRB checked?
- Who takes responsibility for children and young people?

If the answer to any of these questions is either “no”, or “don't know”, maybe you should read on.....

In September, I sent by post to all Tower Contacts, the latest guidelines and forms, and asked that they should be put in a prominent position in your ringing room.

I was concerned recently to hear that at least one tower hadn't thought it necessary to even bother taking it to the belfry, as there were no children amongst their ringers.

But what if there are? And what if a child turns up unexpectedly one practice night asking to learn to ring? Do you know what to do?

It's not solely the responsibility of the Tower Captain to care appropriately for children – each of us has a responsibility.

We must be seen to be taking this responsibility seriously, by adhering to the expectations of your Association, the Central Council, The Diocese, your Parish - and of course – me!

When you next go to the belfry, have a look for these documents. If you can't find them, you can get copies from the SCACR website in [Downloads](#) or by contacting me at safeguarding@scacr.org

Thanks for taking the time to read this; I'd be happy to receive any feed-back.

Sue Elrick, SCACR Safeguarding Office.

Which church?



I had no entries for this competition, so I am keeping the bottle of wine! The answer was St Mary du Haura

USEFUL CONTACTS

Ringling Master Anne Franklin 01273 813189 anne.fr@nklin.myzen.co.uk
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FINALLY

When is a loo not a loo?

Answer

When it is in Africa, does your church twin with another church which has an interesting loo, then let the editor know on megheyworth@gmail.com

