

LOOK TO!



SCACR Eastern Division Newsletter May to July 2014

Included in this newsletter are details of the following

Practice dates

Progressing in minor (plain and treble bob/ surprise methods)

May 28 Chiddingly - surprise practice including Cambridge, Norwich & London if possible

June 25 Laughton - plain methods Single Court and Single Oxford, also treble bob/ surprise if required

July 23 location tbc

Aug 27 location tbc

Surprise major

June 2 Christ Church, Eastbourne

July 3 Southern div, location tba

August 7 Eastern div, location tba

Our joint practices (Triples/ major) are now

June 3 St Mary's, Eastbourne

July 1 Christ Church, Eastbourne

August 5 St Mary's, Eastbourne

CONTACT Nick Cant for details or check the website

Saturday Meetings

Saturday June 28 Hailsham Practice Meeting

3.00 p.m. Ringing, 4.30 Service followed by tea and further ringing

Names for tea to Elizabeth Munday email rogmund@talktalk.net or phone 01323 841127

Saturday August 16th

After last year's successful 'walk between two towers' Jennie Dearie is to organise another walk again this year. Details to follow but please put the date in your diary now.

Mid-week Practices at Westham

for rounds plain hunting and any doubles methods

Wednesday 11th June

Wednesday 25th June

Wednesday 9th July

Wednesday 23rd July

Westham Quiz night July 12th - Westham Village Hall

Teams of 8 people max. ploughmans supper £6. per person 7pm for 7.30start. bring own drinks. we provide tea and coffee with the meal. and a raffle.

Tickets available from meg contact meg@gracecottage.me.uk or phone 01323 761019

And....

On Saturday 12 July, everyone is invited to a NEW Treasure Hunt and Striking Competition at Alfriston. The striking competition is for individuals to come along and have fun. Teams will be selected randomly out of "the hat".

- Call Change and Change Ringing Competitions
- Judges, 2 Junior members, 1 French Person and 2 Houses.
- 11.00 – 1.00pm Open Ringing
- 1.30 Deadline for Striking Competition Entries
- 2.00- 5.00pm Striking Competition (allocated time slots)
- Treasure Hunt – running throughout the day
- Bell Meadow Mini Ring (Weather Permitting)
- All day Refreshments including Ploughman's Lunch
- Handbell Ringing
- Ringing Exhibition
- National Trust Clergy House open (normal charges apply)

Come along and have a fun day. Further information available from lindaperkins151@aol.com or Pauline Kennard Pauline.kennard@googlemail.com

Follow up to the AGM and..

A NEW event for SCACR & Coach to the Ringing Roadshow

From Marisa Hayes

Do please share this information with your fellow ringers:

- 1) follow up to the AGM and proposed rule changes
- 2) evening seminar for anyone interested in recruitment and training
- 3) possibility of a coach trip to the Ringing Roadshow....

1) A quick summary of the AGM appears on the [website](#): and a full set of minutes will be published shortly.

The Motion agreed at AGM on Saturday was as follows: THIS MEETING ACCEPTS IN PRINCIPLE AND WITH GRATITUDE THE NEW DRAFT RULES AND ASKS THE OFFICERS TO BRING A FINAL VERSION BACK TO THE NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETING (NOT NECESSARILY THE AGM).

Christine and I have taken the positive mood of the meeting as a sign to move quickly and a new group has been formed to work through the anomalies and to examine the impact of the new

rules with a view to circulating a revised document for consideration. Precise timings are yet to be agreed but it is hoped that the group will meet in June after a healthy exchange of emails.

The group consists of the following volunteers: Jane Wilkinson (Westbourne), Mark Dawkins (Rotherfield), Sam Tyler (Brighton) and Rachel Edwards (West Hoathly).

You are invited to send any further contributions to the generic email address vision@scacr.org which will then reach all of these representatives. **Please ensure comments are received by 31 May.**

2) **Friday 20 June** will see a new event for the Association aimed at anyone interested in the recruitment and retention of ringers. It is an exchange of ideas and information - more information below.

3) **the Ringing Roadshow takes place at Newbury on Saturday 6 September** and it looks to be an interesting day. A coach to the show (taking in some towers en route) will cost somewhere between £18-25 per person. Admission is £10 in advance / £12 on the day. If there is sufficient interest from members now, SCACR will go ahead and book a coach. Please email nickcant@scacr.org to register your interest before 31 May.

A new event for the Association

SEMINAR/DISCUSSION MEETING for anyone who has responsibility for, or an interest in, organising ringing.

We especially hope that **Tower Captains** will come along but anyone interested is welcome.

This will take place **on FRIDAY 20TH JUNE 7pm to 9pm** at **Hurstpierpoint Village Centre**.

There will be presentations on the following topics followed by questions and answers:

- Top tips for running a successful ringing practice
- Teaching techniques and resources
- Recruitment and retention of ringers
- Tower maintenance and ensuring a safe environment
- Communicating with your Vicar and PCC. Please let me know if you would like to attend, or want further information so that enough refreshments can be provided (wine, juice, nibbles) Anne Franklin 01273 813189 education@scacr.org

News from Chiddingly

We are delighted to welcome David Cameron and Edward back to Chiddingly; both of these fine ringers have been absent for a few years but are now ringing with us again. Their contribution to our Thursday night's practice and Sunday ringing has swelled our numbers and given us renewed enthusiasm.

Tim Waterman, our Tower Captain has recovered from his bout of pneumonia and his knee is very much improved. This means that he is back keeping his motley band of aspiring ringers in good order, as only Tim knows how.

March Ringing Meeting at St. Clements Hastings

It has been some time since the Eastern Division visited St. Clements in Hastings. Since the last time a lot of work has been undertaken in the church and to the ringing chamber. A new ringing floor at a first floor level replaces the former ground floor ring. The open plan situation of the ringing floor was quite unique. A good number of ringers attended included some visitors from Kent. A wide variety of methods were run. The local ringers provided a sumptuous tea. With a bright sunny day what a good way to spend an afternoon. If you have not rung yet on the bells since the changes please look out for the next time they are available.

For those that missed the tea please see the delicious scone recipe that was served for tea.

Bell Ringers Scones

Ingredients

225g/8oz self-raising flour, 1 tsp baking powder, pinch salt, 25g/1oz caster sugar, 50g/2oz unsalted butter, slightly softened, 150ml/¼ pint milk, 1 egg, beaten, or plain flour, for brushing or dusting.

Method

- . Pre-heat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7.
- . Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. Stir in the sugar, add the butter and rub into the flour, to form a breadcrumb consistency.
- . Add the milk, a little at a time, working to a smooth dough.
- . Roll out the dough on a lightly floured work surface until 2cm/¾in thick. Using a 5cm/2in pastry cutter, cut the dough,
- . Roll the mixture out, divide it into 8 & then shape with hands to give the rustic look. Once shaped the Scones can be brushed beaten egg for a shiny glaze or dusted with flour for. Matt finish.
- . Place the scones on a greased baking tray and bake in the pre-heated oven for 10-12 minutes until golden-brown.

Quiz Night

The traditional Holy Week quiz and supper returned this year to the Community Hall in Hailsham. Fifteen teams from all over the Division took part. The question masters this year came from St. Mary Eastbourne with a wide and varied range of questions to test the ringers general knowledge. In the event it was a fairly close run outcome with top teams just a few points apart. The overall winners was a team from All Saints in Eastbourne. The Winners walked away with prizes of Easter eggs.

Johns fish bar in the high street provided the food part way through the evening during which the teams reviewed the 'supper round' with cryptic clues to identify high street shops both past and present.

Ringers generously contributed to the raffle which raised £170.00 towards the restoration work at both Warbleton and Westham.

Thank you to all those who helped on the night to make this almost successful evening

Exeter Ringing outing May 2014 from Michael Cotgrove

After a frantically busy week in Lewes, which very nicely included joining the Seaford ringers for their annual dinner on Tuesday night, we headed West to a rented cottage about 10 miles outside Exeter. It was a lovely cottage, and, being exhausted, we decided to miss the first tower at Cadbury, which would have meant a slow cross-country drive for us.

Instead we joined the local band in Dunsford, just a mile away, for their practise night. If my memory is correct, they are members of the Devonshire ringers, rather than the Devon Guild. This means that change ringing is the order of the day, with no hand-stroke gap, and the bells slightly lowered. This is very different to our style, but the biggest shock is that they coil the tail end of the rope round the left wrist. Apparently if they do not make this coil they are terrified of losing their rope, and the right hand never leaves the rope as the sally rises; one just lets the rope slide through the fingers! The tail end of the rope only has a very short length doubled back. Striking was typically very good and the lower very even. We were given a very warm welcome, and thoroughly enjoyed this introduction to Devon-style change ringing.

Saturday morning was a time to meet all the ringers for the weekend. It always feels a bit like the first day back at school; who has come back again, will there be any new faces? This year there was one new (and young) face, Alan Collings' granddaughter Madeleine (joined later by her parents), while the rest were old friends. Before setting off on the trip I updated Marion's tower list to include the number and weights of all the bells; my overall feeling was that were lots of bells, and heavy ones at that. To start the trip rolling we had a 12 bell tower in Crediton. These bells went well and so plain hunt on 12 was not a struggle. At Crediton I had an interesting discussion about the two types of ringing. Crediton, when it was an 8 bell tower, was all for call changes. When augmented from 8 to 10, and then to 12, the pressure for method-ringing increased. I also discovered that my old tower captain from South Wales (Peter Bennett) and his brother-in-law, were largely instrumental in this change. There are clearly two ringing 'factions' in the county, but they are largely friendly, with plenty of cross over.

The drive through the beautiful Devon country side took us to a 6 (Shobrooke) followed by a 15cwt 10 (Thorverton) before lunch. Once refreshed, we enjoyed the 8 at Silverton, hidden behind an organ undergoing major reconstruction. The following 20cwt 8 at Bradninch were too much for me to handle,

and others found them difficult, so I escaped after struggling with a plain course of Grandsire Triples. The final tower of the day was a very satisfying 10cwt 10 (Cullompton) that sounded very deep, but went well. Sunday morning ringing was due to start at 9.20am in Tiverton, which was approximately 45 minutes drive from our holiday cottage. The following tower was in Exeter, and so we decided to be a bit lazy and skip the first tower of the day. However, even at 11.30am we encountered major traffic problems in Exeter, trying to get to St Thomas, south of the river Exe. Some ringers arrived late for this tower, as one driver had left his car lights on overnight, and having given the hotel reception the wrong car number (his wife's) they could not advise him of the lights on situation – hence a flat battery and a request for the AA! The next tower was rather interesting; St Petroc's is one of several small, mediaeval, red sandstone churches in the City, sitting right on the main Exeter High Street. Part of the church is now given over to a ringing centre, with 5cwt 6, set in one corner at ground level. Ringing there was not easy, as all the ropes were very long.

The highlight of the day, and probably of the weekend too, was our visit to Exeter Cathedral. With 14 bells (12 plus 2 semi-tones) this is the heaviest ring in the world, helped in no small way by the second heaviest tenor, at 72cwt. Access to the chamber involved over 120 steps, followed by a long walk across the area between the nave vaulting and the roof. It took three people to raise the tenor, and it is common for two people to turn the tenor in. We started by ringing rounds – at a slow pace; a typical peal time runs over 4 hours. I rang on the 10cwt 6, not being very used to heavy bells: this was quite enough for me. Braver mortals were allowed to try the tenor. Sheila struggled to pull off the 4, and needed help! A course of Cambridge Royal was rung with the help of some of the local band. Due to parking in a time limited area, we had to leave before the end of this session, but this did give us a chance to hear the bells from outside – again a very splendid sound, still audible from a reasonable distance in the High Street.

A plug for the Chiddingly Community Shop & Cafe.

Many ringers will be familiar with Chiddingly's fine ring of 8 bells; several will have rung quarter peals and full peals there. The close by 6 Bells public house is a popular watering hole. What you may not know so well is the recently opened Chiddingly Community Shop. It is located in the yard of Farley Farmhouse at Muddles Green - if you are coming to Chiddingly, turn left off the A22 at Golden Cross, immediately after the BP garage and proceed to the T junction; instead of turning left to Chiddingly, turn right. the Community Shop and Cafe is 100 yards or so on the right. You can enjoy home cakes and pies, freshly made sandwiches, and toasted paninis, very good coffee or a pot of tea. An impressive selection of groceries and local produce is also on sale. It is run by volunteers, so visitors always receive a warm and friendly welcome. The shop is very popular with Walkers and Cyclists. It is open 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday and 09:00 to 12:30 on Saturdays. It is closed on Sundays.

Look To Autumn edition...

The next edition of Look To! will be published on September 11th. We would be very grateful to receive articles that you think would be of interest to the local ringing community. Please email anything that you think would be relevant including tower practice dates, outings, articles etc. They should be emailed to nickrees@operamail.com - thank you.