

Southern News

July & August 2014



Forthcoming events

Thursday 3rd July	Joint South and East Surprise Major Practice. 7.30pm at Southover Lewes
Saturday 12th July	Treasure hunt and fun striking competition. Details below.
Saturday 19th July	Ringling and Picnic at Twineham. Ringing 3pm – 4pm followed by short business meeting to elect any new members with tea and cake in the church yard. (Toilets will be available in the school)
Monday 28th July	A TRIAL NEW EVENT! 10 bell practice at Southover Lewes (on the simulator). For all those that would like more practice ringing on 10 bells. From rounds and call changes, plain hunt on 9 or more.
Saturday 9th August	“Bluebells and Bells”. Dewby’s mini ring at the Bluebell railway. Details inside.
Saturday 16th August	Joint walk with the Eastern Division. Check website for details or contact sec-east@scacr.org Marion Hollands on 01323 764868
Saturday 20th Sept	Ring/Walk/Picnic/Pub/Ring. Keymer 11am-12noon, Ditchling 2.30pm-3.30pm. Walk and Lunch in between. Contact sec-south@scacr.org for more details.
Saturday 18th Oct	An outing! Yet to be arranged, but hopefully to London. Keep the date!
Saturday 25th Oct	SCACR Social Event Ringing at Steyning, Washington and Pulborough. Fish and Chip supper followed by Shuffle board. Contact Jack Burton 01243 374937 sec-west@scacr.org
Friday 30th Oct & Saturday 1st Nov	Ringling Course. Details inside.

TREASURE HUNT AND FUN STRIKING COMPETITION ALFRISTON 12TH JULY

- Call Change and Change Ringing Competitions
- Judges, 2 Junior members, 1 French Person and 2 Houses.
- 11.00 – 1.00pm. Open Ringing
- 1.30pm – 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)

For more info
Pauline Kennard
pauline.kennard@googlemail.com

or

Linda Perkins
lindaperkins151@aol.com

The striking competition is for individuals to come along and have fun. Teams will be selected randomly out of “the hat”.

[Travel by train or bus](#) and include a walk along the river to pick up the Rambler Bus (known to some as the Beer Bus) - there's lots of information available online. <http://www.cuckmerebuses.org.uk/>

Codgers Programme 2014.

Contact Mike Foster on codgers@scacr.org

Wednesday 2nd July Upper Beeding 11am – 12.15pm and Shoreham 2pm-3.30pm

This month let's try Single Oxford Bob Major at Shoreham and Original Bob Minor at Upper Beeding. For those who may not have tried Original before, as long as you are ok with the bobs in Plain Bob Minor, you should be fine. Just plain hunt until a Bob is called then make the bob if you have just left lead and are in 3rds place else dodge in 56 if you are at the back then continue plain hunting. The Treble is a working bell so you can't use it as a guide. Just to make it exciting you can have up to 3 bobs in succession (every 2 blows) so bells in 56 continue dodging.

Singles are slightly trickier as they are made in 456 place rather than the usual 234 – we'll leave you to work out what happens!

Further suggestions for Minor/Doubles to add to David's Triples/Major collection would be very welcome.

Bluebells and Bells

Saturday 9th August - Sheffield Park Station

The bluebell railway are holding their vintage transport weekend and to celebrate the 1st Anniversary of the opening of the line to East Grinstead, Dewby's mini ring and Chailey ringers will be on Sheffield Park Station.

More details at <http://www.bluebell-railway.co.uk/bluebell/events/2014/festival.html>

SCACR Ringing Course

31stOctober / 1st November 2014

- ❖ Rounds, Call Changes and Kaleidoscope Ringing - Tutor: Elaine Farrow
- ❖ Plain Hunting - Tutor: Graham Hills
- ❖ Beginning Plain Bob Doubles - Tutor: Anne Franklin
- ❖ Ringing Touches of Plain Bob Doubles - Tutor: David Kirkcaldy
- ❖ Ringing Treble Bob Hunting and Methods - Tutor: TBA
- ❖ Becoming a Conductor - Tutor: Stephen Beckingham

For more information and to book a place, contact Anne Franklin - Association Education Officer

education@scacr.org or 01273 813189

Cross the boundaries! Even more events in the North, East and West

See the website for everything happening around the county and go along to any event. You are welcome to attend any SCACR event

Ask secretary@scacr.org for a copy of other divisional newsletters to really be in the know!

Look in the SCACR report for contact details of all officers in every division. Every tower has a copy if you do not have your own, but remember to tick the box on the yellow form next year for your own copy!

A light hearted look at the Central Council Weekend in Maidstone

Day 1

It was with some trepidation that I set off to Headcorn Village Hall for the welcome meeting for new Council members, wondering what I had let myself in for as the SCACR Central Council representative elected by the Southern Division. Relying solely on an aged SatNav which took me down all sorts of narrow, winding lanes in the Kent countryside, I arrived with five minutes to spare for the 12.30pm start. The small hall was packed with people (45 new members and at least as many existing members) but I just managed to spot my fellow newcomer, Stephen Beckingham and slipped into a seat in a corner. Expecting each Committee to give a short presentation of their work, we were very disappointed! It was up to us to work our way around the tables and find out for ourselves. An impossible task in the crowded hall! Equally impossible was getting to the buffet lunch!

I did however; manage to squeeze my way to the Education Committee and the Ringing Trends Committee, both of which held interest for me. No one seemed very keen to describe their work or to want new members on their committees so I retreated outside and sat on a wall in the sunshine for three quarters of an hour chatting to various ringers from all parts of the country and admiring the Orient Express which was in the station next door.

At 2.30pm I attended the Ringing Foundation AGM, which thankfully was in a much more spacious hall. There were some who were expecting an exciting meeting following the recent resignation of Tim Davis as a director and his even more sudden resignation as Company Secretary. There were questions to be asked but the RF Board clearly did not wish to discuss the reasons for Tim's sudden departure. People were also expecting some answers to the questions raised by Steve Coleman's article in the ringing World of 16th May but a cleverly written response was on our seats before the meeting began. (see Ringing World 30th May). The Ringing Foundation is clearly facing serious issues, both with finance and purpose. They are also looking for a Director if you fancy that job!

Day 2

An early start and once again along another set of country lanes (I must get a Satnav that likes main roads) arriving at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel. First problem.....where to park? Every space was filled and I thought I was early! Eventually I was directed to park in the groundsman's area and a long walk back to the hotel in the rain. Oh well, time for a cup of tea.....no such luck, nothing provided. Signed in and seated well before the start of the meeting, Stephen and I were lucky to get a seat together as there were several with handwritten 'reserved' signs. Who would be on the chair next to us? We wondered whether royalty were coming? The great and good of the ringing fraternity were certainly present and we were delighted to find a previous CC president slip into her seat just as the meeting started. It was great to have the company and expert opinions of Jane Wilkinson! ☺ The meeting started promptly and Kate Flavell steered us through the first few items on the agenda in an efficient and speedy manner – so much so we thought we might be off home by lunchtime.

However then we got to the fun bits of the meeting:

- Alan Frost was made a life member having served on the Administrative Committee for 48 years
- Frank Blagrove was congratulated on reaching 55 years membership of the Council
- 6 additional members were elected, including Alan Baldock, most of whom have served in a previous capacity
- The last sentence in Rule 14 was changed
- The wording of Rule 16iii was changed
- The post of Public Relations Officer was created but has yet to be filled.....fancy that one?

Then we got to Motion Dsomething to do with definitions and requirements of non-method blocks.....suddenly things livened up!

- Brian Meads assured us we must be tiring of his voice
- The tellers couldn't organise counting the votes
- Discussion about Top Little Hybrid, Meson Differential Little Hybrid, particle peals, decoupling methods, innovation in peal ringing was all very enthralling
- A vote.....I'm sorry I haven't a clue
- Advice from Stephen duly taken, hands up, hands down, hands, up again..... 91 in favour with 68 against but don't ask me what!! Ask Stephen ☺

Change Ringing for the Future came next. Five seminars hosted by the Central Council found:

- That towers want more local support
- Crossing boundaries is to be encouraged
- Promoting ringing in local areas is the way forward
- There is a gap in finding inspired, energised leaders
- The council is not stuffy and outdated

I was sure I had heard that all before somewhere.....now where was it??

By now it was clear that we would not be going home at lunchtime as there was the Ringing World Ltd AGM and 20 committee reports and elections to get through. I had ordered the buffet lunch and following a speedy exit from the conference hall managed to be near the front of the lunch queue. Good job too, as the hotel had seriously under estimated the amount of food that bellringers can eat. Sorry Jane, the pizza was excellent!

For the next part of the meeting you needed to be an origami expert as the voting papers were all colour coded and in strips of four that needed careful deconstruction to enable you to cast the right vote for the right person at the right time. Luckily 121 people managed to do this to enable Stephen Beckingham to be elected to the Compositions Committee – a good choice I understand as there are no meetings, only email correspondence. David Kirckaldy was elected to the Administrative Committee as well as the Towers and Belfries Committee – good luck David only 47 more years to go to beat the record ☺.

By now the seat was harder, the air stuffier and interest was waning. Six and a half hours is a long time for a meeting. As I walked in the door at 7pm I was greeted by the words “I guess you need a large glass of wine?” Music to my ears! ☺.

Anne Franklin

Just a thought

Because we look at things week by week, we don't see them anymore, especially peal boards. It's only when a visitor comments and the names come alive that we remember

So, a suggestion may be to keep a photographic record of your ringing archive AND when was the last time a photograph was taken of your band?

Should the worst happen and the tower is struck by lightning or there is a fire ... a record will exist of some very special material.

Stella Bianco - SCA Librarian

Codgers Summer Outing, June 4th 2014.

Despite the forecast of torrential rain all day and the damp drive to the mysterious Orient (East Sussex) the sun came out as we reached the first tower, Westham and remained with us for the rest of the day. The instructions from Jenny, the organiser, was to ring Stedman at all the towers to celebrate her Wedding Anniversary. Needless to say she wasn't with us but was enjoying herself in the USA. We dutifully rang Stedman and for good measure attempted Orpheus, (Stedman in whole pulls). Eventually after several attempts it actually came rounds! Westham also supplied us with a welcome coffee before we carried on to the 10 at Bexhill on Sea.

After the obligatory Stedman Caters, Call Changes, Grandsire Caters etc. were attempted, mostly successfully, accompanied by the gently swinging very ornate font cover.

And then to lunch at the Senlac Inn, Battle. Driving up the inn looked a bit unprepossessing but initial impressions can be very deceptive. We had an extremely warm welcome, a room to ourselves with tablecloths on the tables – unheard of in this day and age! We had pre-booked our meals which were extremely large, freshly cooked and served promptly.



Our next stop was the 21cwt eight at Battle. These bells sound excellent but due to the weight require an experienced band to really do them justice. Naturally we rang Stedman Triples for Jenny, but also tried the other method of the day, Single Norwich Major. I'm not convinced that many people went away determined to add Single Norwich to their repertoire!

Finally we arrived at Ashburnham (See photos) The church is adjacent to Ashburnham Place which is a Christian Conference Centre run by the Ashburnham Christian Trust. The bells are a ground floor six and are one of the few where, despite being ground floor, you have to step down to reach the ropes.

The final touches of Stedman were rung along with all the usual methods, but strangely, Orpheus was avoided. A very enjoyable day, thank you Jenny.



As ever, all contributions, news and photographs, or events you'd like to be advertised in Southern News are very welcome. Please forward to the Newsletter Ed, or speak to me at one of the events.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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