

Look To!



The Eastern District Newsletter

March 2022

Words from your editor

Happy New Year everyone (although it won't be that new by the time you read this). I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and we eagerly look forward to seeing plenty of ringers at the upcoming year's events.

Unfortunately, we must also report the sad passing of Alan Baldock after a brief illness. Alan was an integral member of the ringing community in both this District and beyond and our thoughts go out to Christine and her family.

Performances in memory of Alan can be found here - [Ringing World](#)

[BellBoard](#)

Samuel Canning

Look To Editor

Words from Marion – Your District Secretary

I hope most of you are able to get back ringing now and remembering all that you have learnt pre-covid.

We held our ADM at Heathfield this year, having been on Zoom last year. It was good to be able to meet up face to face and we had about thirty-eight people attend. £54.00 was raised on the raffle which has been donated to the BRF. Some of Tim Waterman's ringing books (formerly tower captain of Chiddingly) were sold and the money raised from today's sales will also go to BRF. There are still more books available, some of which are now out of print; if interested please see list attached at the end of this newsletter and contact Sheila.

The committee are looking at getting a programme together for this year and would like some suggestions from you as members. At the moment, we have a ringing meeting planned at the Forewood mini ring in Crowhurst on June 25th,

the ideas so far are a mini outing to the Bracknell area, a mini outing in our district, a walk and ring and a fish and chip quiz towards the end of the year. There are still vacancies on the committee please consider if you are able to come along and help us. Any other ideas would be welcome; please contact a committee member with your ideas.


Let's hope we can get back ringing this year and start meeting up with other members again.

Marion Hollands

SUSSEX CLOTHING IS BACK

Loose polo shirts, fitted t-shirts, hoodies, rugby tops, fleeces – all embroidered with the Sussex logo.

Many colours, styles and sizes (including children) to suit all.



Please visit the Clothing page (can be found under Resources) on the SCACR website for full details and order form. Orders will be placed on the last day of every month, delivery time is approx. 4 weeks from the order being placed with the supplier.

Any questions, please get in touch with Sandra Alford at clothing@scacr.org

FEEDBACK SO FAR

I am really pleased with my rugby shirt – it is a great length for ringing!

I love my polo shirt, it's a really nice fit and colour.

Fleece and rugby shirt are lovely and fit very well, thank you!

I shall wear my t-shirt with pride!

Good price, good quality and good fit – thank you.

Love curling up in my hoodie!

Upcoming Events – Check the website at <https://www.scacr.org/news-events/calendar> for the latest info

May 14th – Association AGM at East Grinstead

June 25th – Ringing at the Forewood Ring, Crowhurst

October 22nd – Day outing to the Bracknell area

Introduce some 'variation' to your practice night

There are hundreds of doubles methods, but most bands will only be able to ring a handful. One way to spice up a practice night is by ringing variations. A

variation of a method uses the same base method, but different calls. Let's look at an example: April Day.

April Day is Plain Bob Doubles with a Grandsire single. You could rote learn what to do at a call – if I was about to do x, I do y and do z next time – but this is not very effective. Calls in doubles variations usually affect changes other than the lead end, so ringing by place bells won't help either. Instead, learn what to do based on where you pass the treble. Here is a handy table for April Day.

Where you pass the treble	Plain Bob Plain	Grandsire Single
1-2	Make seconds over the treble	Make seconds over the treble (i.e., unaffected)
2-3	Dodge 3-4 up	Four blows in thirds, back to lead
3-4	Four blows in fifths	Double-dodge 4-5 up
4-5	Dodge 3-4 down	Double-dodge 4-5 down

You can learn this for other variations too! Some other popular variations include Southrepps (Reverse Canterbury with a Plain Bob bob), Kennington (Plain Bob with a Reverse Canterbury Bob), Old (Plain Bob with an Old single) and Clifford's Pleasure (Reverse Canterbury with a Grandsire single).

When it comes to conducting variations, calling 3 calls 4 leads apart generally produces a 120 provided one bell is unaffected by the call. However, since calls affect changes either side of the lead end, you usually need to finish with a plain lead.

A comprehensive list of variations can be found here: [Doubles Search \(varlib.org\)](http://varlib.org)

Anniversary Peal at Salehurst

Early last year while we weren't ringing due to Covid restrictions, I was looking through our peal book when I saw an entry for the first peal rung at Salehurst. On the 26th of December 1771 the Leeds Youths of Kent rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major on the newly-installed bells in 3 hours 13 minutes. Boxing

Day would be the 250th anniversary of this peal. I therefore hatched a plan to ring a peal in the same method on Boxing Day.

The fact that I had never rung Oxford didn't seem important - I had plenty of time to learn the method. With Alan Pink on board as conductor I quickly got a band of six ringers to attempt the peal. All I needed was another two ringers and a bit of practice. What could possibly go wrong?

As summer went on, I began to see that things weren't quite so simple as that. Covid was continuing to keep people away from towers and opportunities to practice Oxford were few and far between.

In August we rang a practice Quarter of Oxford Treble Bob Minor at Salehurst. This was encouraging but I still had not rung the Major version and I was still two ringers short of a Major band.

I was also starting to find out how difficult it is to get people to ring a peal on Boxing Day - most people seemed to have other things to do for some reason. I would complete the band and then lose one as Christmas plans took them to another part of the Country or lack of transport meant they couldn't get to Salehurst.

Alan Baldock agreed to ring in the peal despite being in hospital at the time. It was reassuring to have such an experienced ringer in the band. Then, shockingly, the news came in that Alan had died.

I managed to arrange a practice Quarter of Major in December. However, the lack of practice that we'd had meant that it didn't go well, and the decision was taken to ring Plain Bob Triples instead - a method we all knew well. All seemed set for Boxing Day. However, fate hadn't finished with me yet.

Two late drop-outs due to Covid meant it looked for a time like we would be ringing Bob Doubles, but I managed to get a Triples band together at the last minute. With Rod driving down from Watford, me picking up Chris from Hythe and Colin, who doesn't ring peals, stepping in on the Tenor, we had a band!

The peal in the end was rung well in two hours 56 minutes and well received by the locals. They had been informed of what we were going to do, and many came out to listen in the late afternoon sunshine. Three Salehurst ringers were in the band, so it was a good tribute to those worthy ringers of Leeds.

My thanks to all the band for making this possible and our thoughts go out to Christine at this difficult time.

Finally, a theoretical question. If I'm still around in 2071, would I ring in a 300th anniversary peal? Yes, but only if someone else organises it.

The peal report can be found here: [Ringing World BellBoard](#)



Above: The band, clockwise from front right.

Crowhurst First

Wednesday the 22nd of December saw the first peal rung on the Forewood Ring bells in their current location, being 5040 Doubles in 6 methods. The peal was conducted by Alan Pink and rung *in memoriam* Alan Baldock. The composition was specially chosen to replicate the conductor's first peal, at East Hoathly in 1972, which Alan Baldock called.

The Bellboard link can be found here - [Ringing World BellBoard](#)

Easter Egg Cookies



Ingredients

- 125 g Unsalted Butter/Stork
- 100 g Light Brown Soft Sugar
- 75 g White Granulated Sugar
- 1 Large/Medium Egg
- 1 tsp Vanilla (optional!)
- 300 g Plain Flour
- 1 + 1/2 tsp Baking Powder
- 1/2 tsp Bicarbonate of Soda
- 1/2 tsp Sea Salt
- 100 g Dairy milk (chopped finely) (or chocolate chips)
- 200 g Mini Eggs (chopped)
- 50 g Mini Eggs (whole)

Instructions.

- Add the unsalted butter, light brown soft sugar and white granulated sugar to a bowl and beat until creamy.

- Add in the egg and beat again. If using vanilla, add it in now.
 - Add in the plain flour, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, and salt and beat until a cookie dough is formed.
 - Add in the chopped dairy milk and chopped mini eggs and mix in until they are distributed well in the cookie dough.
 - Weigh the cookies out into eight cookie dough balls - they're about 115g each.
 - Once they're rolled into balls, add the whole mini eggs into the cookie dough balls and put the cookie dough in the freezer for at least 30 minutes, or in the fridge for an hour or so!
 - Whilst the cookie dough is chilling, preheat your oven to 180C Fan, or 200C regular! If your oven runs hot, go for 160C-170c.
 - Take the cookies out of the freezer/fridge and put onto lined baking trays. I put four cookies per tray!
 - Bake the cookies in the oven for 12-14 minutes. I don't personally flatten the cookies, as they flatten enough during baking - however, if you like flat cookies, flatten them a bit before baking.
 - Once baked, leave them to cool on the tray for at least 30 minutes, as they will continue to bake whilst cooling.
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Muffles

If anyone needs any muffles made for their bells Waldron would like to recommend Ian Harris who has done a good job making some more for them at a reasonable price. His phone number is 07881 935400 for more information.

ADM Report

The 2022 Eastern District Annual District Meeting took place on the 26th of February at All Saints Heathfield. Ringing started at 2:30 and included Rounds, Bob Triples, Grandsire, Stedman and Yorkshire Surprise. The meeting saw discussions about potential future meetings throughout the year. Mark Dawkins stepped down as District Ringing Master and we thank him for his services. This and other roles are vacant and please do get in touch if you would like to help to fill them.

Congratulations to the following members who were elected to the association:

Ewhurst Green – Linda Stevens

Hailsham – Donato Tallo

Blacklands – Peter Edgesmith

Willingdon – Tony Richardson

Northiam - Eric Boshell

Waldron – Laura Strong, Jessica Tompsett and Joanne Trussler

Westham – Stephen Pilfold and Gary Askew

Christ Church, Eastbourne – Janet Fenning

The new committee is as follows. We still have vacancies if anyone can help please contact a committee member.

Ringing master - vacant

Secretary - Marion Hollands

Programme organiser - vacant

"Look To" editor - Samuel Canning

Education officer - vacant

BRF Rep - Pip Pawley

CC Rep - Pip Pawley

Committee Members - Nick Cant and Frances Bradford



Above left: Association Master Rob Lane at the meeting.

Above Right: Hailsham's Donato Tallo is elected to the Association.

Keep up to date with the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers

Visit **www.scacr.org**

- Don't have a 'Soundbow' subscription? Contact Kathy Howard at Soundbow99@gmail.com, 01903 813653. Yearly postal subscription for four fat issues is still only £6! Why not set up a tower subscription if you don't have one already...
- Find SCACR on Facebook - search for 'SCACR' – the Association has a page and our members have a secure closed group for their posts about ringing in Sussex.
- Find SCACR on Twitter. Use @scacr_bells and @sussexbells
- Contact Alison Everett, your Communications and Events Team leader, at publicity@scacr.org if you want to know more about publicity or social media
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Books

Contact Sheila after the 13th of March at **01273 475968** if you're interested.

Bliss & Sharpe	Mary Bliss & Frederick Sharpe	Church Bells of Gloucestershire	Alan Sutton	1986	£25.00
Butler	William		Phillimore	2000	£10.00

		Musical Handbells: A Comprehensive History of Bells and their Founders			
Camp	John	Bell Ringing: Chimes-Carillons-Handbells: The World of the Bell and the Ringer	David & Charles	1974	£3.00
Daniel-Tyssen	Amherst	The Church Bells of Sussex with the inscriptions of all the bells in the County <i>[1st Ed. Now reprinted 2009 £30.00]</i>	G P Bacon Lewes	1864	£15.00
Deane	Jonathan H B	Minor Curiosities	privately printed	1993	£2.00
Elphick	George P	Sussex Bells & Belfries	Phillimore	1970	£10.00
Elphick	George	The Craft of the Bellfounder	Phillimore	1988	£15.00
Frost	Alan J (editor)	Towers and Bells: A Handbook	CCCBR	1995	
Heath	Sidney	Our Homeland Churches and how to study them	The Homeland Association	1907	£5.00
Ingram	Tom	Bells in England	Frederick Muller	1954	£3.00
Johnston	Ron	Bell-ringing: The English Art of Change-ringing	Viking	1986	£5.00

Morris	Ernest	Tintinnabula: small bells	Robert Hale	1959	£7.50
Nichols	J R	Bells Thro' the Ages	Chapman & Hall	1928	£10.00
Robinson	Rev F E	Among the Bells [autobiography]	[privately published]	1909	£20.00
Sanderson	J General Editor	Change Ringing: The History of an English Art	Central Council of Church Bell Ringers	1987	£2.50
Sharpe	Frederick	The Church bells of Berkshire: their inscriptions and founders 2 nd edition	Kingsmead Reprints	1970	£15.00
Sharpe	Frederick	The Church Bells of Herefordshire 5 vols	privately printed	1966-1975	£10.00
Shipway	William	The Campanologia or Universal Instructor in the Art of Ringing <i>[In poor condition]</i>	Shipway Reprint 1886	[original edition 1816]	£15.00
Society of London Scholars	[J D & C M]	Campanologia Improved: or The Art of Ringing Made Easy [facsimile of the original edition. London: Bettesworth & Hitch 1733]	Groome	1983	£10.00
Troyte	Charles A W	Change Ringing: 4 th edition	Wells Gardner, Darton & Co	1875	£5.00

Walters	H B	The Arts of the Church: Church Bells	Mowbray	1908	£5.00
Walters	H B	Church Bells: pages from the past	London SPCK	1937	£2.00



The next edition of Look To! is for June 2022.

The deadline for write ups, events and relevant material is

Send it all to news-east@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed

