

Look To!



The Eastern District Newsletter September 2022

Words from your editor

Roll up, roll up for the latest edition of everyone's favourite SCACR Eastern District Newsletter. Enjoy reports of outings at Crowhurst and Salehurst, information on the Hooe restoration, some tips for learning Stedman and much more.

I'm also excited to introduce a new feature – a serial story, which I hope will keep readers coming back to the newsletter!

As I write, the Association Memorial Weekend is about to get underway. Look out for details in the next edition, which will be published in December.

STOP PRESS – I have just received a word of the death of Queen Elizabeth II, so the publication of this edition will be a little delayed. Many towers in the District will ring for this occasion and I would welcome reports of such ringing.

Samuel Canning

Look To Editor

Words from Marion – Your District Secretary

I Hope you have all enjoyed the summer weather.

Some of us will have rung for memorial weekend, it was good to see towers participating in this event noting it was open to include ringing from rounds and above.

In this edition of the newsletter there is information about the programme for

the rest of the year and specific details about next month's outing. Could I ask all tower correspondents to print these and display them in their tower. I have had several calls recently asking about events which the members stated they were unaware of. Please do read your 'Look To' or look at the SCACR website to avoid missing anything.

Ahead of the ADM next February in the next few months could you think about coming onto the committee to bring some new ideas for the Eastern District. It doesn't matter how long you have been ringing as long as you have an interest in ringing. The committee will be looking at arranging a programme for next year in a few months, if you have any ideas, please let us know or would you or do you know someone that would like to plan and sort the programme for the year March 2023 to February 2024.

Marion Hollands



ASSOCIATION CLOTHING



It is now possible to order Association clothing and other items direct from a supplier rather than going through a third party. There is an extensive range of clothing available (many different styles/colours/sizes) and also other items, such as headwear, ties, bags. To make your selection please visit wearyourlogo.co.uk where you can order on-line or having visited the site you can contact the company to order by emailing sales@wearyourlogo.co.uk or by phone 01903 766228. When ordering on-line please insert SCACR in the notes section when you 'check out' to identify your choice of logo. You do not need to set up an account to place an order but if you choose to do so, the logo will then be saved to your account for future orders.

There are delivery costs involved so it might be a good idea to get an order together with other members of your tower/Association or you can collect from the company at 91a South Street, Lancing BN15 8AP (see opening hours on their website). VAT is added to orders.

So get ordering to spoil yourself and advertise your passion for ringing at the same time.

Any queries please contact Sue Gotham via clothing@scacr.org

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

September 24th – Walk between Chiddingly and Hellingly starting at 10am

October 29th – Day outing to the Bracknell area (see below for details)

November 26th – Ringing in the Rye area

January 28th – Ringing meeting to be confirmed

Bracknell Outing - £8 per person

Time	Tower	Bells	Postcode	Notes
9.45-10.30	Twyford	8, 12-0-10	RG10 9NE	Car Park, Toilets
11.00-11.45	Waltham St Lawrence	6, 12-0-0	RG10 0JJ	Street Parking
12.15-13.00	Binfield	6, 9-0-2	RG42 5NS	Car Park to the east, Toilets
14.30-15.15	Warfield	10, 13-2-27	RG42 6EE	Car Park opposite, Toilets
15.45-16.30	Easthampstead	8, 6-0-12	RG12 7ER	Car Park to the east, Toilets

Lunch – Various pubs and cafes

- [Plough & Harrow Forest Road Warfield, Bracknell RG42 6AE](#)
- Victoria Arms [Terrace Road North Bracknell, Binfield RG42 5JA](#)
- West End Farm Café, West End Farm Stables, W End Ln, Warfield, RG42 5RH
- Robyn's Nest Café, Moss End Garden Centre, Maidenhead Road, Bracknell RG42 6EJ
- The Foxes' Den Cafe, [Benetfeld Road, Binfield RG42 4EW](#)

Tea and cake will be available after ringing at Easthampstead in the church annexe.

News in Brief

On June 21st a quarter peal of St Clement's Minor was rung at Battle to mark Prince William's birthday.

At the same tower on June 28th Alan Pink marked his retirement by conducting a quarter of Retirement D Major.

Congratulations to John Canning for ringing his first quarter on eight bells at Hailsham on August 3rd.

Two new methods have been recently named at the Forewood Ring – Reverse Finchampstead Major on August 14th and Margaret Surprise Major on August 21st.

Goodbye to Hailsham's Vicar

On the 31st of August, Rev David Bourne took his last service at St Mary's Hailsham, following 38 years as a vicar including the last 17 here. Prior to the service, the local band, assisted by Stephen Beckingham who conducted the quarter, rung 1260 Grandsire Triples. All of us at Hailsham are grateful to David for his many years of service – and for keeping the tower AGM as short as possible!

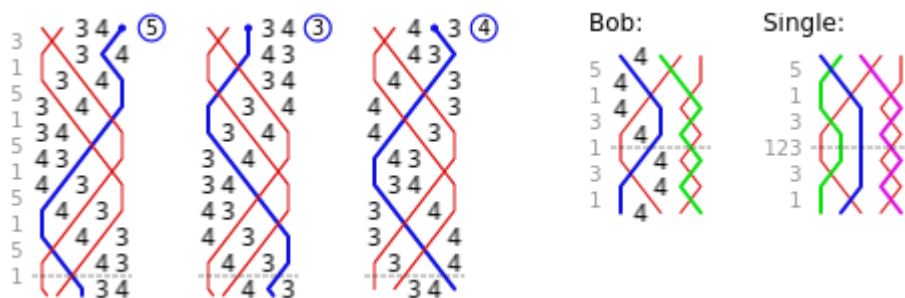


The band in ringing order from left to right: Elizabeth Munday 1, Sandra Titherly 2, Louise Tallo 3, Hilary Smith 4, Christine Baldock 5, Samuel Canning 6, Stephen Beckingham (C) 7, John Canning 8

Steppingstones to Stedman

Stedman is a challenging and musical method which has stood the test of time. But learning it can be hard, because it is quite different from anything else regularly rung. The object of this article is to suggest some methods and exercises that will help you to build up to it.

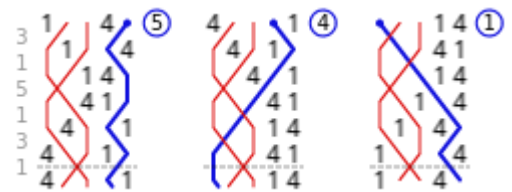
Grandsire Doubles



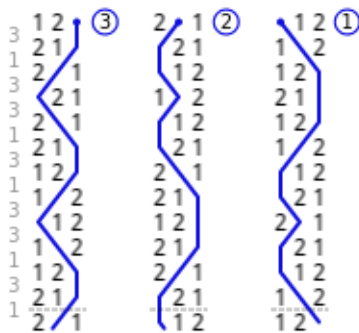
If you're thinking of tackling Stedman, you've probably rung Grandsire, but if not, it's worth your time. It introduces 'wrong' dodges – dodges with a step back at handstroke rather than backstroke as in Bob Doubles. The calls also introduce double-dodging in 4-5, a distinctive feature of Stedman.

Cloister Doubles

Ringing the treble to Cloister will allow you to practise the Stedman backwork – double dodge 4-5, lie, double dodge 4-5 down – with plain hunting in between, which is known as ‘quick frontwork.’ As there are two bells plain hunting, you don’t need too many experienced ringers. You can also use it to practise Stedman singles without needing to worry about how to go onto the front.

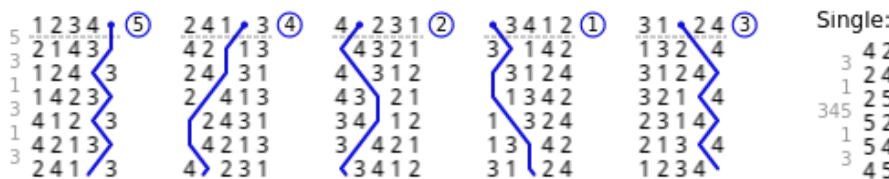


Stedman Singles



Now you’ve mastered the backwork, the frontwork is next. (Moving your bell around on three can be rather challenging, so I recommend ringing it with three covering bells.) This is effectively the same as ringing Stedman Doubles without the backwork.

Try Also – Erin Doubles



Erin is a relative of Stedman which might be worth ringing first. The backwork is the same but the frontwork is shorter and there is only one type of frontwork. It will also allow more practice at wrong hunting and some of those pesky singles.

Credit to the Blueline method printer for the diagrams.

Crowhurst meeting

Following the success of last year’s meeting at the Forewood Ring, situated in the picturesque village of Crowhurst. 34 ringers attended the event, coming from as and enjoyed the fine weather. These 22lb bells were designed by Alan Collings and cast at the Harling foundry at Hastings. They were perfect for an

afternoon of relaxed ringing from rounds to Stedman Triples and Yorkshire Surprise Major.

However, we could all agree that the tea was just as much of a highlight as the ringing. The Pinks served up a luscious meal of sandwiches, sausage rolls, biscuits, cake and more. These provided a great opportunity to chat to ringing friends old and new.



Next, Christine Baldock presented fifty-year membership certificates to long-serving members of the Association. Those present congratulated them for many years of dedication to ringing in this district and across Sussex.

We would all like to thank the Pinks for their hospitality and look forward to the next time we meet there.



Above: The recipients are presented with their certificates by Christine Baldock.

Hooe Bells Are Back!

Thanks to a generous bequest from Alan Collings, the five bells at St Oswald's Hooe have been restored and hung in a strengthened frame with rather lower rope guides. The bells were taken out by Matthew Higby and Co last November and now, about nine months later, after one or two logistical delays, have been returned to the tower and are fully operational. The bells go well except for some stretchiness in the new ropes, which we hope will sort itself out before too long. But the most exciting improvement is in the tuning. Using a revolutionary new technique involving taking metal off the outside of the bell

at the soundbow as well as off the inside, a superb result has been achieved. To my ears they are still recognisably the same bells, but they are now in harmony with themselves and with each other.

Alan Pink



An Afternoon in Salehurst

On the 23rd of July, a ringing meeting was held at St-Mary-the-Virgin, Salehurst. This event was fairly well attended, and a good number of ringers attended allowing for ringing from Rounds and Call Changes to Plain Bob Major and Stedman Triples on this glorious ring of eight.

Recipe: Apple and Blackberry Flapjacks

Ingredients

225g Unsalted Butter
110g Light Muscovado Sugar
75g Golden Syrup
350g Porridge Oats
3tsp Ground Cinnamon
250g Apples
200g Blackberries.
40g walnuts (optional)



Method

- Preheat the oven to 180C / 160 Fan.
 - Line an 8-inch shallow square cake tin with baking parchment and grease.
 - Add butter muscovado sugar and golden syrup into a non-stick saucepan and heat gently until melted.
 - Remove from the heat and stir in the oats salt and cinnamon.
 - Add the apple and blackberries to the mixture and walnuts if wanted mixing well.
 - Spoon into the tin press down firmly with a pallet knife and smooth.
 - Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for 30 to 45 minutes until golden brown.
 - Remove from the oven leave to call in the tin for a while.
 - Cut into small squares. Can be kept for a few days in a tin.
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BELLS OF SUSSEX

Crawley ringer Kye Leaver is working on a database featuring all of Sussex's bells – data on weights, diameters, and inscriptions with sound recordings and photographs. This is a fast-growing resource and can be found here:

<https://thebellsofsussex.weebly.com/>

SERIAL

[The Island – Part 1](#)



Stefan tucked into his cornflakes dejectedly. He knew that congregation of the church where he was tower captain had been dwindling for some years now, and his suspicions had recently been confirmed.

Stefan's wife Bianca entered the room. "I know that look," she said sternly. "What's going on?"

Stefan sighed. "I've just got an email from the vicar. Starting in March, services will be held here only once a month. He feels that since most of the congregation have either passed on or moved away, there's no need for any more than that."

Bianca nodded solemnly. She was on the PCC and had been aware of this for some time.

"What am I supposed to do now?" Stefan moaned. "I've been the tower captain here for twenty-seven years, building up the band as best as I can. But how will I keep everyone together now? Will we even be able to keep practising?"

There was silence for a moment. Bianca considered how best to answer her husband's questions.

"Has there been any post this morning?" Stefan asked, forcing a smile.

"Just the one letter," she replied, grateful for the change of subject. "I don't recognise the handwriting. Or the postmark. And this envelope is quite unusual. It seems to be made of homemade paper."

Stefan frowned. "That *is* odd." He took the letter from his wife, broke the seal and removed the letter, handwritten on similar paper. Bianca watched her husband's brow furrow.

"Well, it's from someone named 'Mr. X,'" he remarked. "That's not suspicious at all."

"What does this 'Mr. X' want?" she enquired.

Stefan read on, and what he saw shook him to his core...

What's in the letter? Why is Stefan so shocked? Will he ever finish his cornflakes? Find out the answer to at least two of those questions in the next instalment of The Island!

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

Visit www.scacr.org

Don't yet have a subscription to Soundbow, the Association Newsletter? Contact Kathy Howard at Soundbow99@gmail.com or by telephone at 01903 813653. Yearly postal subscription for four fat issues is only £7! Why not set up a tower subscription if you haven't already?

Find the 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](https://twitter.com/scacr_bells) and [@sussexbells](https://twitter.com/sussexbells).

Contact Vicky Chase, your Communication and Events Team Leader, at publicity@scacr.org if you want to know more about publicity or social media.



The next edition of Look To! will be December 2022.

The deadline for write ups, events and relevant material is the end of November.

Send it all to news-east@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed

