

SallyForth

Western District Newsletter

July/August 2023



Diary of Events

Remember to check the Events Listing on SCACR website in case of last minute changes

July

Saturday 1 st	Beginners & Improvers Practice (link) If you wish to attend, contact Christine beforehand on 01903 872623	Washington	9.30am - 12.00
Friday 7 th	General Ringing 8 bell practice (link)	Arundel	7.30pm - 9.00pm
Saturday 8 th	Ring Walk Ring (Link) Come for one or both. See page 9 for details. Names to David on david.kirky@gmail.com	Upper Beeding & Steyning	10.00am – 3.30pm
Saturday 8 th	Sussex Young Ringers competing at the Ringing World National Youth Competition, York		
Friday 21 st	Beginners' 8 bell practice (link)	Arundel	7.30pm - 9.00pm
Saturday 22 nd	Surprise Minor Practice (link)	Walberton	10.15am - 12.00
Friday 28 th	Young Ringers Outing (link) Keep the date and contact Marisa if interested; 07796145464 or marisa@happymouflon.com		
Saturday 29 th	Croydon Tramline Outing (link) – 4 towers in the Croydon area accessible on public transport See page 9 for more information. Names to David on david.kirky@gmail.com		
Saturday 29 th	Novice 10 bell practice (link)	TBA	

August

Friday 4 th	General Ringing 8 bell practice (link)	Arundel	7.30pm - 9.00pm
Saturday 5 th	Beginners & Improvers Practice (link) If you wish to attend, contact Christine beforehand on 01903 872623	Washington	9.30am - 12.00
Saturday 12 th	No District practice this month – a lot of people on holiday		
Friday 18 th	No Beginners' 8 bell practice at Arundel this month – there is other event at the church		
Saturday 26 th	Surprise Minor Practice (link)	Walberton	10.15am - 12.00

You can find out about nation-wide ringing events by looking at www.cccbr.org.uk/things-to-ring-for

Many thanks to everyone who sent in items for the newsletter. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Janice's Jottings

I do hope you are all well and enjoying the glorious weather. Such a change from when I wrote my last 'Jottings'.

To begin on a sad note, the loss of Hamish McNaughton in March has had quite an impact on all of us and he is and continues to be greatly missed. His family, kindly and bravely invited us all to attend his funeral at St Mary's, Walberton. As expected, due to his popularity, all the seats in the church were occupied. There was also ringing for everyone and with the service, a great tribute was paid to Hamish. His work for the association has been tireless and we were very fortunate that he lived in the 'West' who had the benefit of him 'on our doorstep'. A lovely tribute has also been made to him in the Spring edition of Soundbow.

By the time you read this – there will have been plenty of ringing for 'Ring for the King'. Many towers took part in a number of ways throughout the day and subsequently. For those towers who recruited learners as part of the 'Ring for the King' campaign – they hopefully took part but more importantly, will remain part of the ringing band! Thank you to all those involved and especially to those teaching and supporting those recruits.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place at Goring in May which was well attended. There was also some great ringing at the towers of Tarring, Heene and Goring and of course, always close to ringer's hearts, a delicious tea provided by Moya and all her helpers! Thank you to Rik Clay, David Kirkcaldy and Graham Hills who ran the ringing.

The Joint event with the south at Southover was very much enjoyed along with the 'new members' event held at Storrington. Read all about it in this edition of Sally Forth! The intention is to hold more of these as it was very well received.

The planned 'Striking Competition' at Funtington for June unfortunately did not happen for a number of reasons with the main one being the lack of interest!!! The plan is to re-schedule for later in the year or even early in 2024 to give teams more time to prepare!! A general practice took place instead which was well attended – read all about that too in this edition of Sally Forth.

Coming up in July is the 'Ring, Walk and Ring' from Upper Beeding to Steyning. Please feel free to take part as much or as little as you like! There are some lovely cafes etc in Steyning for lunch!! There is also an 'outing' being arranged in Croydon on the last Saturday in July using public transport to get from tower to tower. A ringing, fish and chip supper then quiz is scheduled for October! See the website for the latest event information for the events! (there will not be an event in August due to holidays!)

As always - Thank you to all those who help in many ways – you know who you are and it is very much appreciated!

Happy Ringing!! And Very Best Wishes

Janice Crawford

sec-west@scacr.org



Welcome to our New Members

Felpham

Celia Curtis

Heene

Matthre Bartle

Janet MacPherson

Graffham

Howard Pescott

Steyning

Christine Young (erroneously welcomed at Washington in March - apologies!)

HAMISH M^CNAUGHTON 26 April 1949 – 20 March 2023



The team for the Cbeebies 2016 programme, Discovering the Great Fire of London. Chichester ringers “fired” the cathedral bells to simulate the warning call to the citizens of London



With Dolly (the Triumph Dolomite) summer 2022



Chichester Ringing Remembers recruits become members of the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers, August 2019



Quarter Peal at Pagham, September 2019



Handbells at the South of England Show, June 2019



Presenting a Bell Handling Certificate at Aldingbourne in 2018

HAMISH M^CNAUGHTON 26 April 1949 – 20 March 2023



Remembrance Ringing Chichester Cathedral 2018

Hamish's funeral was held at Walberton on 26th April. Ringers from almost everywhere gathered to ring. The Spring edition of Soundbow contains a résumé of his life which, as you can imagine, makes for very interesting reading. (Contact Kathy Howard on soundbow99@gmail.com if you haven't got this edition.)



FUN at FUNTINGTON 10th June

*“How often is the case,
I thus pay men a debt
For having left a place
And still do not forget
To pay them some sweet share
For having once been there.”*

R.Frost

This June social event was meant to be a striking competition but limited response changed the nature of our gathering to an informal afternoon with tea and raffle. The 25 or so ringers who came along had the chance for a relaxed time in the pretty surroundings of St Marys Church at Funtington.

The weather was hot, hot, hot with no rain for about 4 weeks. We were glad of the cool church interior, easy bells with a ground floor ringing chamber and that the dry weather had kept

the “presence” of the adjacent pig farms within manageable restraints!

We were spoiled for choice having not only the Association Master, Gareth Higgs, but also David Kirkcaldy, the District Ringing Master, who organised the bells and the afternoon’s events.

Starting with rounds and changes, we soon moved on to Hunting, Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Cambridge and London, so there was something for all abilities. The tenor at 5-3-21 was easy to manage and the Whitechapel Foundry had done a fine job in 2007 in a major overhaul of bells and frame. It was good to see some new faces as well as old friends, meeting again for the first time since the Covid shut down. Janice organised the raffle and the ladies of Funtington laid on a fine spread of sandwiches, nibbles and cake washed down with tea and coffee. Well done to you all, such super cakes!! .



I am always impressed how a gathering of like-minded people can enjoy such a generous facility. No sponsorship, advertising, sales trickery or hidden contracts. No virtual reality, digital screens, 5 second attention span or social media. The afternoon gave us a hands-on experience of musical exercise in a delightful setting, a church with a history leading back to the 12th century, 6 honest bells and a tea to follow. What more could you need!

David thanked everyone for coming along and for all of those who had helped make the day such a success. He announced the next event which will be a “walk and ring” which sounds fun and Janice set the raffle draw going. All of us scrambled expectantly to watch our numbers and the dwindling display of prizes. It raised over £46.00 for the bell restoration fund so well done to you all!

Ringling continued after tea but for me and Gabriel it was back on the bike to cycle off home with a nice bottle of ruffled Passerina in my back-pack. Looking forward to the next event and lots of thanks again to David and to all at Funtington for their efforts to make another happy visit.

David Hall

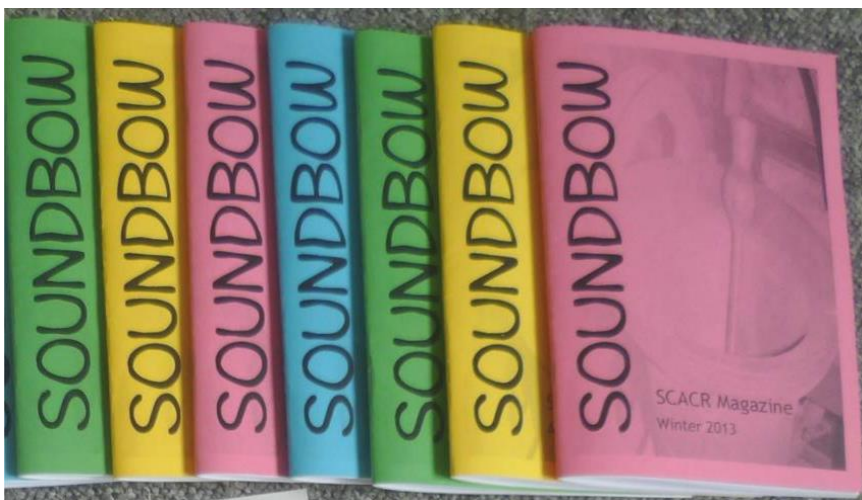
Fifty Towers in Fifty Days

You may recall from the last edition of Sally Forth of my challenge to ring at 50 different towers in 50 days to mark my 'Special Birthday' – no prizes for guessing which number! I am delighted to say that I have achieved it but would not have done so without the support, cooperation and generosity of the towers and ringers and organisers involved and send a huge THANK YOU to everyone!



There have been radio and TV interviews and cakes and even an outing arranged for me to mark the finale where we rang at 5 towers with Yapton being the 50th Tower. I was very pleased to present a cheque to the value of £1,750.00 to Graham Hills, at the Annual General Meeting held in May.

Vicky Chase



SOUNDBOW

Single copies are £1.20 or make life easier and take out a subscription for just **£8 per year**.

This will guarantee four editions of Soundbow delivered straight to your door as soon as they are printed. No more waiting for someone to come along with some for sale - they may never come and then you have missed out!

Soundbow reports on Association events, contains ringing themed articles and gives an insight into what is happening right across the county. Hopefully something of interest for everyone to enjoy!

To take out a subscription contact Kathy Howard at soundbow99@gmail.com, or phone 01903 813653. There is also an application form on the SCACR website for you to download.

St Paul's, Papanui, Christchurch, New Zealand



While planning a trip to New Zealand, I planned to ring at one of the towers.

Looking at Doves and "Australia and New Zealand Bellringers" website I discovered the St Paul's at Papanui, Christchurch have a band and being quite close to my accommodation I contacted the tower captain to ask if I could join them for practice. The answer was surprisingly familiar, "Let me know once you have arrived, we are a bit short of ringers, we may cancel".

St Paul's built with 5 bells 1880, in 1969 a treble was added making a ring of 6. In 1983 two more trebles were added now making this an 8 bell tower. (Dove's id 10077).

The additional bells have created a strange configuration up in the bell chamber.

The 2,3 and 7 are on a frame above the Treble, 4,5, 6 and 8. The 7 hangs above the 8, the two bells appear to challenge each other. The installer of the top frame didn't consider the effect of the swing of the weighty 7, so as you stand the 7, the frame judders and this is felt down the rope and sally to the ringer very disconcerting.

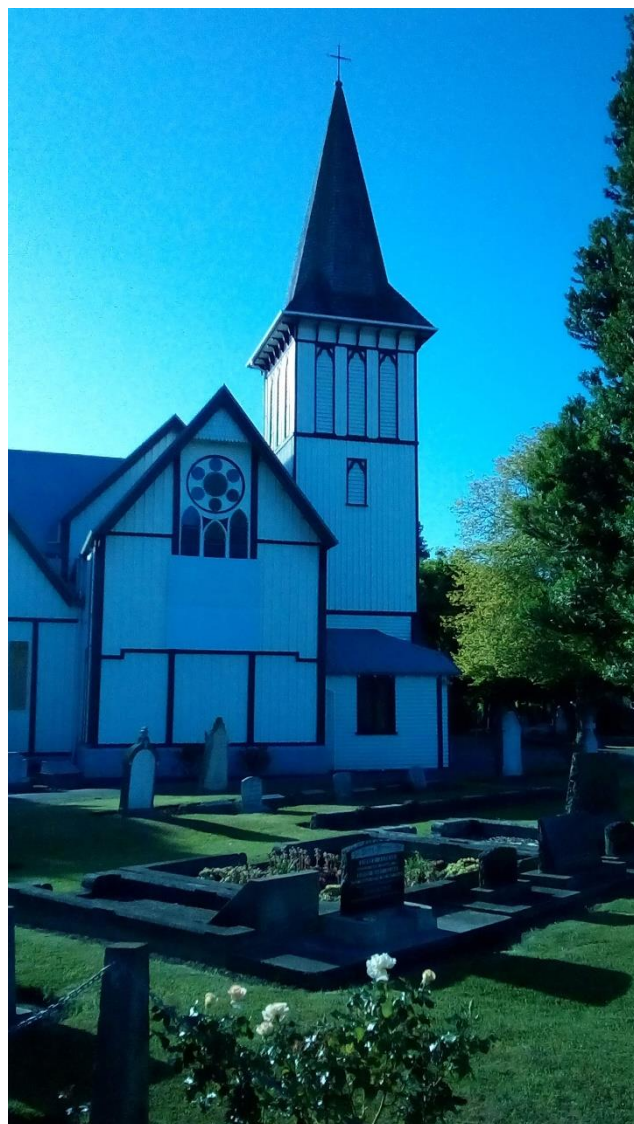
In fact, the whole tower wobbles regardless of the number of bells ringing. There are steel supports and cross bars on every side and they wobble too. The walls and floor are carpeted in quality carpet so it is probably a bit chilly in winter. The ringing chamber is on the first floor accessed by a carpeted staircase through a floor hatch, not unlike Amberley, my home tower.

So on practice night I was welcomed with open arms as the band don't often reach a full 8. The band members could be a band from home, welcoming, happy to advise and give guidance where needed.

I was asked if I would like to ring for Sunday service, "oh yes" and another practice night before moving on with my holiday plans.

I would like to thank Robbie Richards, his wife and St Paul's band for making me so welcome, so if you are passing on your travels I'm sure they would love to have another English Visitor.

June Somerville



Storrington Beginners Event 15th April

Organising gatherings for SCACR can get so complex. Christine Butterfield gives so much of her time to encourage new ringers and with Janice they decided on an afternoon meeting at Storrington on Saturday 15th April. It was believed that the usual morning session at Storrington with simulator, had been cancelled so there should have been plenty of helpers and students.

Unfortunately, the morning session was still on and the Goring Tower had chosen that particular day for their popular outing to the Meon valley (organised 12 months ago!) and drawing most of the usual helpers.

However there was a good turn-out of 15 of us who battled our way past the hordes of walkers gathered in the church porch, to make use of these lovely bells. A ground floor ring and adjacent kitchenette all helped to relax our ringers and we were soon into rounds and call changes with plain courses of Bob Doubles to liven things up.



It was great to see our Association Master, Gareth Higgs, arrive with Audrey his wife and the official silver chain of office to add dignity to the occasion. Alison came along with her dog who slumped down by the font and rather bored, went to sleep until the cake arrived (the dog - not Alison)

After a couple of hours, it was time for the raffle and to sample the cakes. (Well done! again Chris who had done her homework in the kitchen and to Sarah for her biscuits). The draw for the prizes went ahead and raised a useful contribution to the Bell Restoration Fund.

Those of us who ring regularly tend to forget how daunting it can be for beginners. Some students need one to one tuition and to try new bells to gain confidence. With the drive to recruit even more important today than before, we really need these sessions for the future of bell-ringing and not just for the Coronation which has gained us some publicity.

It is not an easy activity, as many who have come along to learn for the big event next month have found but requires commitment and a welcoming environment. Each visit should be an enjoyable evening out and a chance to meet new friends to compete with Netflix!. Well done therefore to Christine, Janice the helpers and also to the students for giving their time so generously and let's hope that this event can be a regular gathering.

David Hall

Ring Walk Ring!

Saturday 8th July 2023

10.00 – 11.00am Ringing at St Peter's, Upper Beeding

The adjacent hall will be open to use the facilities. A few parking spaces by the church otherwise a little further away in a residential area

11.00 – 2.30pm Walk and Lunch

Walk northwards along Adur valley & back round to Steyning – takes about 2 hours at a leisurely rate, fairly level but some stony paths.

There is a shorter route – about 30mins – if you would like more time in Steyning where there is a selection of pubs, cafes and shops providing lunch or bring a picnic to eat where you will.

2.30 – 3.30pm Ringing at St Andrew & St Cuthman, Steyning

3.37pm Route 2 bus leaves Steyning for Upper Beeding

Or walk back using the 30 minute route

Come for the day or just the morning or afternoon. Please let David know your intentions: 07785 718294, david.kirky@gmail.com

CROYDON TRAMLINE OUTING

Saturday 29th July 2023

Once you have got yourself to South Croydon railway station there is full onward travel information in a document attached to the entry in the SCACR calendar of events ([Link](#))

10.40 – 11.30 St Peter's Church, South Croydon. CR0 1EZ (12, 30.0.20)

12.30 – 13.10 St Mary's Merton Park. SW19 3HJ. (6, 7.0.26)

13.45 – 14.15 LUNCH perhaps at Wandle Park, Collier's Wood, SW19 2BL
if you have a picnic but please make arrangements that suit you

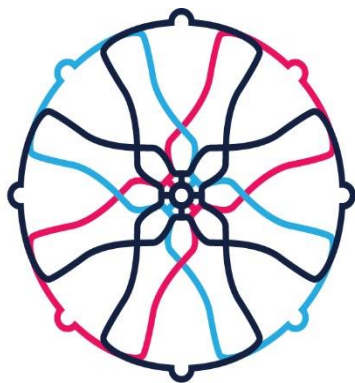
14.30 – 15.10 Christ Church, Colliers Wood, SW19 2NY. (6, 6.0.19)

15.40 – 16.30 St. John the Divine, Merton SW19 2JY. (10, 11.3.27)

Everyone is welcome to join in the whole event or just one or two towers if preferred.

Please let David Kirkcaldy know your intentions - we don't want to lose anyone!
07785 718294 01903 813653 david.kirky@gmail.com

*For those who are fortunate to hold a 'bus pass' – please note that these are **not** valid on the tram*



THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH
BELL RINGERS

CCCBR UPDATE

June 2023

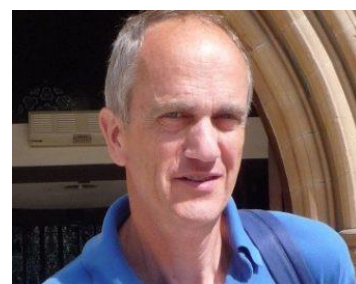
There are a number of projects being worked on at the present time, these mainly concern Ringing 2030, which is looking at what ringing might generally be like in seven years' time - what is on offer at the moment; what is working, what isn't working and what is missing. At a national level how can we support local Associations in their work? One suggestion is developing regional networks for a number of subjects.

Part of the work is to have a critical look at ringing from the outside and hopefully this will lead to a sustainable future for ringing in years to come. The 'Ring for the King' initiative was successful in attracting many new recruits but by its very nature there was a need for them to be trained in a short time frame; in some places this proved to be a struggle due to the lack of those competent and confident in training basic bell handling. What we need is a steady stream of those wishing to learn to ring, however, burn out of those teaching needs to be borne in mind.

Our annual meeting weekend is now less than three months away, this year it will be based in Ipswich and although there is no roadshow element this year it still means I have a lot of extra work in co-ordinating and overseeing all the arrangements. Fortunately we have a strong team from Suffolk and personally after having carried out this role in the past few years many parts are now easier to deal with.

One extra point this year is that there will be a proposal to change one particular rule of the Central Council; the one dealing with how many representatives each Association is entitled to elect. At the present time the Sussex County Association has over 1000 members and therefore we fall in the banding that allows us to have five representatives. If the rule change is carried then this number would be reduced to three.

In the past elected representatives were the only people who could get involved in the work of the Central Council, that changed six years ago to allow anyone to get involved so do we need quite so many elected representatives? In some Associations it has proved difficult to find people willing to fill the role, in others people get elected but then take no part other than turn up to the annual weekend each year. Some representatives do not even report back information to their local district or Association. Other Associations hold vacancies because of the financial burden of sending their full allocation of representatives.



David Kirkcaldy
Deputy President, CCCBR.
and our Central Council Rep!



The right top to go ringing in!

We have everything – t-shirts, hoodies, rugby tops and more! All are embroidered on left chest with the iconic Sussex bell logo.

Go to SCACR website, choose Resources then Clothing where you will find everything you need to choose your garment and place an order. Any queries - ask Sue Gotham via clothing@scacr.org.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONTACTS

Secretary	Janice Crawford		sec-west@scacr.org
Ringling Master	David Kirkcaldy		
Central Council Rep	David Kirkcaldy		
Education Contact	Christine Butterfield	01903 872623	ed-west@scacr.org
West BRF Rep	Rik Clay		brf@scacr.org
Newsletter Editor	Mandy Rodgers	01243 574074	news-west@scacr.org
Committee Members	Vicky Chase		
	Sue Gadd		
	Moya Hills		

WESTERN DISTRICT PRACTICE NIGHTS

You'll always be welcome on practice nights at other towers in the division, but it might be an idea to check before you get there!

Monday: Aldingbourne, Amberley (7.30pm), Arundel (now every Monday) & Lyminster (practice temporarily suspended), Northchapel, Pagham, Pulborough, Slindon, Stedham, Westbourne, West Tarring & Yapton

Tuesday: Aldwick, Findon (2nd & 4th), Fittleworth, Funtington, Goring-by-Sea, Graffham, South Harting, Washington

Wednesday: Billingshurst, Chichester, Felpham, Heene, Kirdford (7.45pm), Shipley, Stoughton, Thakeham, Tillington (7.45pm - 1st only), Wisborough Green (7.30pm)

Thursday: Angmering (2nd, 4th & 5th), Bosham, Easebourne (1st & 3rd), Findon (1st & 3rd), Midhurst (2nd & 4th), Milland, Petworth, Steyning & Walberton

Friday: Rogate & Storrington Upper Beeding (2nd & 4th)

Other Towers: Fernhurst (3), Lodsworth & Trotton (4)

NB: You are advised to check with the tower first before making a visit

Regular District Practices

Please check the SCACR Calendar (see link below)

Ways to keep in touch with what the Sussex Association of Change Ringers is doing

Take a look at the SCACR calendar at www.scacr.org/calendar

Subscribe to Soundbow. SCACR quarterly magazine. £1 each if purchased at a District/Association event or £7pa for a postal subscription. Contact Soundbow Editor Kathy Howard 01903 813653

You can register and keep in touch via Facebook – just search for SCACR

If you use Twitter then look for @scacr and @sussexbells

If you need to know more about social media please email Vicky Chase, our Communications and Events Team leader, at publicity@scacr.org

Membership - changes to your details

View and update your own record in the membership database using the following link:

<https://membermojo.co.uk/sussexbellringers/yourmembership> or write to The Membership Secretary at 14 Howard Road, Horsham, RH13 6AB. You can contact the membership secretary with any queries using membership@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who sent in items for the newsletter. Your input is greatly appreciated.

*Please send your contributions for the next edition of **SallyForth** to news-west@scacr.org*

by 15th October 2023