



## Essex Association of Change Ringers

[www.eacr.org.uk](http://www.eacr.org.uk)

Registered Charity No 292250

### NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



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# MARCH-APRIL 2021



## Annual District Meeting – Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The ADM took place virtually via Zoom on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021, attended by 35 ringers and friends. Andrew Kelso, Association Master, undertook the election of District Officers and the following were appointed:

District Master – Mike Slowe  
Deputy District Master – Trevor Haynes  
District Secretary – Sue Evans  
District Treasurer – Fred Bone

The following District Officers were also appointed:

Maintenance Officer – Bill Griffith-Jones, supported by Mike Slowe and Ian Jolley  
Education Officer – Ian Kerwin  
Social Committee Representative – Ian Kerwin  
Bell Restoration Grants Committee Representative – Fred Bone

So – a warm welcome from, and a brief introduction to, your District Officers:

### **Mike Slowe – District Master**

‘At the ADM in January Ian Kerwin stepped down as District Master after four years at the helm. As Deputy Master, I was asked if I would accept a nomination to become District Master and was duly elected at the meeting. I would like to thank Ian for his hard work and enthusiasm during his tenure.

I have been in the Essex Association for 15 years and have been ringing for around 30. I am at present Tower Captain at Great Parndon in Harlow so I will have met most of the ringers in the District.

2020 was a difficult year for us all and 2021 hasn’t started too well but hopefully we can think about some form of normality in the near future. Under normal circumstances I would be visiting you all personally but that is not possible at the moment so I would like to welcome the new members to the Association and as soon as it is possible I will get round to meeting you all at your towers.

In the meantime, have a look at the information in the newsletter that will hopefully help you mentally and physically to return to ringing.’

### **Trevor Haynes – Deputy District Master**

‘I started to learn to ring in the summer of 2017, with the aim of helping out at the Sunday services at Thaxted Parish Church. Thoughts of taking up other new interests at the time soon evaporated as I found ringing thoroughly absorbing. In addition to the Thaxted weekly practice and the various Saturday afternoon sessions at Willingale, I soon became a regular attendee at the Radwinter, Saffron Walden [Wednesday PM] and Henham practices.

As well as ringing, my other time-consuming hobby is walking, having been a Ramblers Association Walk Leader for around 35 years. Once we are allowed out, I am looking forward to supporting the organising of District activities, including the annual striking competitions, District meetings, social activities such as a proposed District ramble, hopefully a District ringing tour and the annual Carol Service.’



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### Sue Evans

'I began ringing in my later years in 2012 at Willingale, my home tower; I currently ring regularly at Willingale and Henham and attend other tower practices and training courses as time allows. Aside from my other main hobbies – gardening, tap dancing, amateur dramatics – bell ringing has become a very important and focal part of my life and little did I know at that time that I would, a few years later, take on the role of District Secretary. I was elected to this role in 2017 and have very much enjoyed this time; I look forward to continuing this role during the coming year and in the meantime remain optimistic for an early return to ringing.'

### Fred Bone

'I started to ring when I went to university. I joined the Association soon after moving to the Sawbridgeworth area following a job move to Harlow and now ring at Sawbridgeworth, where I am also tower correspondent/tower secretary.

I'm now in my fourth year as District Treasurer; previously I have done two spells as District Master and before that Deputy District Master. I am the Association's Webmaster and Newsletter Editor and one of the five representatives to the Central Council.

Over the years I have been heavily involved in helping people learn to ring. I have been a tutor on over 50 3-day and 4-day ringing courses and a helper on many more."



### **District Trustee**

Also at the ADM, Fred Bone was elected District Trustee; this role will take effect if the rule change motion is agreed at the AGM on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021.



### **District Activities**

- Apart from the Ringingroom activities, don't forget that for the foreseeable future the District has a WhatsApp group and monthly Wednesday lunchtime themed Zoom meetings, as a way of keeping in contact, so if you would like to join in either or both of these please do let me know.
- The first District Zoom/RingingRoom practice took place on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February and was attended by 12 ringers. It went really well with a mixed spectrum of experience and with a good range of methods being rung. The next practice will take place on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and if you would like to take part, please let me know, identifying the methods you would like to practice whilst also supporting other ringers.
- Dependent upon Covid restrictions prevailing at the time, a provisional date of Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021 has been set aside for a District Ramble. If you would like to join in please do let me know, also if you have any suggestions of location/mileage. There's bound to be a pub involved somewhere along the line!
- The District Officers are looking at arranging other activities across the District so watch out for further information in due course.



### **Essex Virtual Ringing Course 5-17<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Applications are now being taken for this year's virtual course; booking information can be found on <https://www.eacr.org.uk> Other planned activities will include talks, a bell ringers question time and a quiz and bookings for these will be circulated nearer the time.



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### 2021 Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2021 were due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and should be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 - £8 for adult ringing members and £4 for juniors [aged less than 18 years on 1<sup>st</sup> January] and friends. Given the current restrictions, it would be helpful if one tower representative could collect and submit subscriptions by cheque and posted to either your District Treasurer [Fred Bone] or Association Treasurer [Andrew Brewster] identifying the names of the members covered [addresses in the Annual Report].. Alternatively, BACS payments can be made to EACR Account No.22177035 Sort code 60-05-13 – please ensure if paying by this method that confirmation emails are sent to both District Treasurer [Fred.bone@dial.pipex.com](mailto:Fred.bone@dial.pipex.com) and Association Treasurer [treasurer@eacr.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@eacr.org.uk) so that subscriptions can be correctly and efficiently recorded.



### EasyFundRaising

During these difficult times, your friends and family will be doing their shopping online so encourage them to do it all via #easyfundraising so the Essex Association doesn't miss out on any donations. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 4,300 retailers including John Lewis and Partners, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S and more. Help get 2021 off to a great start for the Association by signing up FREE on [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/essexassociationofchangeringers/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=refsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/essexassociationofchangeringers/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox)



### Ringling and RingingRoom by Trevor Haynes

Having taken up ringing at Thaxted in the summer of 2017, I had been making slow but steady progress. In the spring of 2020, I was looking forward to attending the Essex Ringing Course, having been accepted for the Advanced Plain Hunt training. Unfortunately, the start of the pandemic brought a sudden halt to all ringing activities, or so I thought! The introduction of the RingingRoom online platform offered an opportunity to continue advancing my ringing, at least on the theory side.

At first I found it incredibly difficult, much like the real thing. Early attempts had mixed results but at least it was helping some of us to obtain some sort of ringing fix. Fortunately, Liz and Bill Griffith-Jones came to the rescue. From Plain Hunt, we have moved onwards through Bob Doubles, Reverse Canterbury, Grandsire, St Simons, St Martins, Bob Minor, Treble Bob Hunt, Little Bob Minor, Forward Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor and Double Oxford Bob Minor.

A further benefit has been the social side, keeping in touch with ringing friends locally as well as meeting ringers from towers across the UK and beyond.

I am under no illusions that when we return to the tower, I am in for a fairly big step backwards. However, I believe RingingRoom is a fabulous training resource and will be used to help speed up progress for many future recruits.

**Trevor Haynes, Thaxted**

**Deputy District Master**

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<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Fred Bone</b>	<b>01279 726159</b>	<a href="mailto:Fred.bone@dial.pipex.com">Fred.bone@dial.pipex.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Sue Evans</b>	<b>01277 896601</b>	<a href="mailto:Sue.evans.nwsecretary@gmail.com">Sue.evans.nwsecretary@gmail.com</a>