



Essex Association of Change Ringers

www.eacr.org.uk

Registered Charity No 292250

NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



MAY-JUNE-JULY 2021



Virtual NW District Meeting – Saturday, 29th May 2021

The Virtual District meeting will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday, 29th May 2021, followed by a ringing session for those who would like to join in. The agenda and supporting documentation will be circulated separately and the Zoom and RingingRoom details will be sent out nearer the 29th. We look forward to virtually seeing as many District ringers as possible.



Striking Competition Finals - Saturday, 3rd July 2021

The 3rd July 2021 has provisionally been set aside for some kind of 6 and 8 bell Striking Competitions at Moreton and Harlow Common respectively. Details are currently in the process of being finalised [dependent on government restrictions] so look out for forthcoming information.



NW District Meeting and Call Change Competition – Saturday, 9th October 2021

The District meeting will commence at Matching at 9.30am on Saturday, 9th October 2021, followed by the Call Change Competition. Assuming by then ringing will have returned fairly much as before, hopefully there will be a good number of bands taking part.



Return to Ringing

The [Central Council has issued new guidance](#) setting out its recommendations for ringing, including belfry checks, as lockdown eases. The next threshold will be on the 17th May 2021 when meeting outdoors will again be permitted [provided the Government's key tests are met]. The key points of the guidance are:

- ❖ Rule of six applies indoors;
- ❖ Hands-Space-Face rules;
- ❖ Lateral Flow Tests;
- ❖ Personal risk;
- ❖ Restricted ringing time/tower ventilation.

There is a [more detailed explanation of the guidance](#) on the Central Council website together with notes on [personal risk of infection](#). These should be discussed with tower members/incumbent prior to ringing to enable a safe as possible return.

It may be that whilst some towers will return to ringing, they may be short of ringers and pleased to receive pre-arranged visitors, including for Sunday Service ringing. If towers have any feedback on how they plan to progress, please keep me informed.



Recruitment and Training Grants

A set of criteria has now been agreed for applications to be made for grants from the Association Recruitment and Training Fund. This is a new initiative to encourage the development and preservation of bell ringing in Essex. Districts, towers and individuals are invited to apply for grants to facilitate and enable training and ringers' skill advancement. The grants criteria and application form can be found on the EACR website [Recruitment and Training Fund - Essex Association of Change Ringers \(eacr.org.uk\)](#) – please contact Beth Johnson, Education Officer on education@eacr.org.uk in the first instance about making applications.



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Virtual Essex Ringing Course 5th-16th April 2021

The Virtual Essex Ringing Course took place in early April. The practical sessions took place during the weekend of the 10th and 11th April, with introductory sessions between tutor, helpers and students during the preceding week. As well as the courses, several other activities were on offer, culminating in a well-attended and lively Mega Quiz on the 16th April, with Question Master, John Harpole, and won by Andrew and Christina Brewster.



HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

Half-muffled tolling on the 10th and 17th April took place across the District in memory of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. If ringing took place on both these occasions at towers who have not recorded their ringing to Bellboard, please let me have details and I will add.



Association Training Day – 27th November 2021 all day

An early date for your diaries!



District Activities

- The District Zoom/RingingRoom practices are going really well, with a wide variety of methods being rung. However, with the District meeting taking place on the 29th May 2021, it has been decided to cancel this month's practice.
- The District Ramble provisionally arranged for Saturday, 8th May 2021 clearly was unable to go ahead. However, with the roadmap changes from 17th May and less restricted for meeting outdoors, Trevor Haynes would be happy to lead a ramble for up to 30 people on Saturday, 12th June. If, though, more than 30 people would like to be part of this ramble, it would need to wait until after 21st June, assuming, of course, that the roadmap stays on track. In essence, therefore, it would be very helpful if you could indicate your interest for the ramble on 12th June whilst if the interest is overwhelming, being prepared for a change of date.



CCCBR 2021 Westley Award for Church Bell Maintenance

Whilst very little activity has taken place in belfries this year, it is very important to ensure that when ringing recommences, towers and bells are in good condition. The Stewardship and Management Workgroup of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers is launching the 3rd award to people who are newly involved in belfry maintenance and improvement, developing their own skills and helping others develop their own skills. The winner will receive £100 and a certificate. Full details and an application form can be found at: <https://cccb.org.uk/about/workgroups/stewardship-and-management/westley-award-2021/> and the closing date for nominations is noon on Sunday, 30th May 2021.



EACR PDF Annual Report 2020

The hard-copy Annual Reports have been circulated across the District. However, a PDF version is now also available [with some edits to the tower correspondents due to restricted permissions]. If you would like a PDF version, as well as or instead of the printed version, please let me know.



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Association Dinner – Saturday, 9th October 2021

The Association Dinner will be held at Benton Hall Golf and Country Club, Witham on Saturday, 9th October 2021. Look out for menu details and early bird ticket price on the EACR website.



EasyFundRaising

If your friends and family are doing their shopping online, 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 by signing up FREE on https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/essexassociationofchangeringers/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox

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