

EA CR

NEWSLETTER

No. 15

April, 1993

TOWER:

This is my last NEWSLETTER as Secretary of the Association. I have very much enjoyed my 10 years in office and I shall certainly miss not being at "the sharp end" any more! I have made many friends throughout the Association and have greatly enjoyed visiting the different districts whenever I could. Even Committee Meetings I have never found tedious! After all there are only 2 meetings a year and they rarely last longer than 3 hours with a break for tea - which I don't think is very much when one considers the amount of business we need to get through to keep the Association running! I wish my successor good luck and I thank you all for your friendship and support over the years. AFC

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Essex Association will be held on Monday May 3rd at Chelmsford Cathedral. The Cathedral bells will be available from 9.15 until 9.45 a.m. when an invited band will ring a service touch. The service will start at 10.00 with the Boreham choir joining us once again. The Right Reverend Michael Vickers, Bishop of Colchester will be giving the address. As I have not had time to find an alternative venue and as the Cathedral hall is already booked for someone else, the meeting will be held in the Cathedral at about 11.00 following the service. Coffee will be served in the Age Concern Hall (behind the Cathedral) from about 9.15 and lunch will be served at 1.00 p.m. Ringing in the afternoon is in the N.W. district with tea at Hatfield Heath. Tickets for lunch (£4) and tea (£1.50) are available from the Secretary, 1 Took Drive, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford CM3 5RJ (tel: 0245 324461). Please send cheque with order and an SAE unless you want to collect the tickets on the day. Tickets must be ordered by Thursday 29th April.

Afternoon ringing arrangements are as follows:

2.30 - 3.30	High Ongar, St Mary (6 - 11-1-0)	O/S ref 565037
3.00 - 4.00	Fyfield, St Nicholas (6 - 6-3-9)	572068
3.30 - 4.30	Moreton, SMV (6 9-3-17)	537071
4.00 - 5.00	Bobbingworth, St Germain (6 13-0-3)	534055
4.30 - 5.30	Harlow Common, St Mary Magd (8 12-0-9)	473085
5.00 - 6.00	Hatfield Heath, Holy Trinity (6 4-1-21)	522149
5.00 - 6.30	TEA at Hatfield Heath	
5.45 - 6.45	Hatfield Broad Oak, SMV (6 - 16-0-0)	546166
6.15 - 7.15	Great Hallingbury, St Giles (5 - 10-2-25)	511196
6.45 - 8.00	Bishop's Stortford (tbc) (10 - 16-3-15)	

AGM Nominations

There have been two nominations for Master and one for Secretary. The other existing officers were nominated en bloc:

Master:

Mrs. Mary Bone proposed by Steve Woolmer, seconded by Fred Bone.
David Sparling proposed by Adrian Semken, seconded by Maurice Downs.

Secretary:

Michael Bishop proposed by David Childs, seconded by Hilda Snowden.

The election of a new Master for the Association is an important matter and I hope members will attend the AGM in good numbers to cast their vote.

Life Members

There have been three people nominated as Life Members this year. Brief details of candidate are given below and the election will take place at the AGM.

Mike Hallett (Southern District)

Proposed by Paul Cammiade, seconded by Roger Dorking.
Mike has been active in the district since 1958 when he moved to Rayleigh. He has held the posts of Committee Rep (twice) and Secretary in the old South West District, and Master of the new Southern District. He regularly attends practices at Prittlewell and Downham as well as running his own tower at Rettendon.

Alf Honeywood (North-Eastern District)

Proposed by Urban Wildney, seconded by Frank Lufkin

Alf has been a ringer at Mistley for many years and has always had an active tower with plenty of learners. His first peal as conductor included both his father's and son's first peals. He regularly supports local towers and is an active supporter of the district and of the Association.

Margaret Ta'Bois (South-Western District)

Proposed by Dennis Ellisdon, seconded by Geoff Walker

Margaret and her late husband Noel, learned to ring at Chigwell in 1972. Since then they became regular ringers at many of the local towers firstly to learn themselves but then to help learners. She has also helped at a number of ringing courses and local training days.

Great Ringing Day

The 370th Great Ringing Day at Saffron Walden will take place on Saturday 26th June 1993.

Early in the 17th century, a noted mercer of Saffron Walden, Thomas Turner, became lost in Audley End Forest. He attributed his escape from possible robbers or wild animals to hearing the bells of Saffron Walden, which guided him to home and safety. In his will he left a modest (nowadays very modest!) sum to be paid to the ringers and clergy to hold a day of ringing and preach a sermon commemorating his deliverance, on the anniversary of his death.

This year the event will commence with a short service at 4.00 pm, followed by general ringing to about 6.30 pm, possibly going on to another local tower afterwards. Everybody is welcome, regardless of experience; ringing will be everything from Doubles to Maximus, rounds to... well, whatever people want. Please see *The Ringing World* for more details nearer the time, or contact The Ringing Master, Hugh Maddams, on Saffron Walden (0799) 525084.

Dinner

The annual dinner and dance will be held on Saturday 10th October at the Rivenhall Resort Hotel, Rivenhall End, Witham. Other venues were looked at but costs of most of these would have been too high. The price of tickets is yet to be calculated but hopefully there will only be a small increase over last year. The speakers will be David Thorne, Editor of *The Ringing World* and the Right Reverend John Waine, Bishop of Chelmsford. The maximum number of people the banqueting suite can accommodate is 120 so let's try and sell ALL the tickets this year. More details in the next NEWSLETTER.

ADM Changes

The following changes to district officers took place at the ADMs in January.

NW	-	Angus Dodds	Deputy Master
		Mary Bone	Committee Representative
NE	-	Paul Bray	Master
		Chris Lamb	Deputy Master
		Sue Beale	Committee Representative
S	-	Penny Sloman	Secretary
SW	-	No deputy master at the moment	

It was also very pleasing that some districts were able to appoint specific people to be the contact for bell maintenance, education and training or public relations within their district. These are as follows:

NW	-	Fred Bone	Education & Training (0279) 726159
		Gerald Pearson	Maintenance (0279) 730526
NE	-	Dickie Furminger	Education & Training (0206) 271638
S	-	Gordon Lucas	Education & Training (0702) 545941
SE	-	Colin Chapman	Education & Training (0245) 358040
		Phil Stephens	Maintenance (0245) 421022
		Janet Edwards	Public Relations (0621) 816496

In the Northern District members felt that these topics were adequately covered by their district officers - it might help spread the load a little if there were other people as the contact point. In the South-Western District the district officers run a comprehensive training programme for learners.

So if you need help on any of these topics, please contact the appropriate person within your district, or, if none named, your district officers or Association Officer responsible for the particular topic.

"Sell" Ringing

You never know when wearing an Essex Course sweatshirt or talking to someone about bellringing might gain a new recruit. At one session of my French evening class I talked about bellringing and one evening some weeks later one of the other students told me that a friend of hers had always wanted to have a go at ringing, and could I give her some information. I gave her the names of correspondents at two or three towers in the area along with the leaflets "Tower Bell Ringing for YOU" and "20 Questions and 19 Answers" and her friend is now learning to ring and thoroughly enjoying every minute of it.

So make sure there are a few leaflets on your church bookstall (not in your ringing chamber) with details of the local contact, and an up-to-date notice in the porch or on the church noticeboard. Visitors to the church might pick up a leaflet and then approach their local tower. If you need some leaflets, please contact your district secretary or myself. I hope some churches have mounted small displays about bellringing. As the flower festival season approaches, make sure there is something about bellringing on display in the church.

Webb Ivory

Jane Bardwell will be getting married in August and moving to Surrey so will be unable to continue selling Webb Ivory goods. Thank you Jane for the hard work you have put into this and the money you have raised with raffles as well as Webb Ivory. Hilary Brown with the help of Maureen Cansdale has offered to take it on in the Southern District and hopefully can be persuaded to process orders for the whole Association. It might be helpful though if there was a contact in each district, through whom orders could be channelled and, more importantly, the goods distributed. If you are able to help perhaps you could contact Hilary Brown (0702) 335178. Don't forget to let Hilary have petrol coupons as these can be exchanged for raffle prizes.

Sub-committee

Two further meetings of the sub-committee have been held since the last NEWSLETTER and various topics are still being progressed.

1. **LINKS WITH THE CLERGY:** It is hoped to hold a half-day seminar for the clergy in the autumn - further details will be published in due course. In the longer term lectures on the Barking Programme are planned.

2. **TALKS:** Maurice Downs did get one or two phone calls from people prepared to help build up talk/lecture modules. If there are any others interested please give Maurice a ring to find out more (0376 330412).

3. **NEW MEMBERS PACK:** This is now coming together very well and it is hoped to print it shortly after the AGM. The idea is that it will be available free to new members but existing members could purchase a copy for a small sum.

4. **RECRUITMENT LEAFLET:** This is still being finalised but should be available later this year.

5. **ASSOCIATION BADGE:** A scanned image of the Association badge is being worked on so that there is a standard one which can be used throughout the Association on notices, district newsletters etc. This will be available shortly.

P.R.O.

It was decided at the Committee Meeting not to re-appoint Simon Poyser as Public Relations Officer and so we are seeking a replacement. The post involves promoting ringing to the general public and the clergy. This can be achieved by: staging or advising on small or large-scale exhibitions and holding stocks of exhibition material; keeping newspapers advised of bellringing activities (perhaps better dealt with on a district basis); promoting special ringing events on local radio or possibly TV. The job of PRO could be greatly eased if each district were able to find someone willing to deal with public relations on a local basis. If there is anyone who would like to know more, or if you know someone whom you think would make a good PRO, please do not hesitate to phone myself, or the new Association Secretary or Master to talk it over.

Although Simon is no longer PRO, our thanks are extended to him for the work he has put into the post over the past few years.

Around the Districts

The **South-Eastern District** had a successful training day in March. The morning session was at Little Baddow and the afternoon at Sandon - Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Doubles were the methods covered. 16 learners attended the sessions and were aided by 8 helpers. The district PRO was able to get details of this and the Training Course into local papers - well done.

The **North-Western** and **South-Western** districts held a successful joint 12-bell practice at Waltham Abbey in March. There was a good turn out from both districts as well as a fair sprinkling of visitors and all tastes were catered for.

The **South-Western** district had another successful training day at Chigwell in March. The **Southern District** arranged a "How to teach learners" day at Leigh, run by Adrian Semken, and prompted by the Leigh ringers who realised that with the departure of John and Helen Harpole there was no-one to teach learners! It turned out to be a valuable day, not only from the point of view of teaching learners, but also learning about their own handling styles.

STOP PRESS.... Julie Burlinson resigned as secretary of the South-Western district on 3rd April. This post has now been filled by Keith Gardiner (Loughton). His address is Pink Cottage, Curtis Mill Green, Stapleford Tawney, RM4 1RT (tel: 0708 688576).

Association Registers

Charlotte Gould (Wethersfield and more recently Gibraltar!) and Tom Mackle announced their engagement on Sunday 4th April. They are to be married at Wethersfield in August.

Leslie Burdock and Paul Neville of Great Parndon announced their engagement and their wedding is in October.

Jane Bardwell (Prittlewell) and Nigel Humphries announced their engagement and are to be married at Downham in August.

John Hall and Annette Seccombe (SW but living at Steeple Bumpstead) were married on 5th February.

Sid and Christine Miller (Manuden) recently celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

Congratulations to Stan Clark (Fyfield) on his 90th birthday in January. Two peals were rung in the district to celebrate.

Calendar Update

The following dates are additional to those shown in the back of the 1992 Association report.

May

8	Leigh-on-Sea - Striking Competition	S
14	District Practice - Stansted (Spec method: Pudsey)	NW
15	District Outing - Kent	SW
15	District Practice - St Peter's, Colchester	NE
18	District Practice - Havering	SW
	District Practice - Hatfield Broad Oak	NW
26	Learners Practice - Littlebury	NW
29	District Practice - Kelvedon	N
	Joint Bishop's Stortford & NW - Sawbridgeworth	

June

11	District Practice - Stansted (Spec method: Cornwall)	NW
15	District Practice - Ilford	SW
16	District Practice - Thaxted	NW
18	District Practice - Grays	S
	District Dinner	N
19	Car rally	SW
25	Learners Practice - Matching	NW
29	District Practice - Saffron Walden	NW

Jul

6	District Practice - Boreham	SE
9	District Practice - Stansted (Spec method: Belgrave)	NW
14	District Practice - Thaxted	NW
20	District Practice - Walthamstow St Mary	SW
23	Learners Practice - Manuden	NW
24	Treasure Hunt & Barbecue	N
31	Joint Bishop's Stortford & NW - Sawbridgeworth	

The next NEWSLETTER is planned for August 1993. Please send any contributions to Ann Chapman, 1 Took Drive, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford CM3 5RJ (tel: 324461) by 15th July 1993.