

# EA CR



## NEWSLETTER

Registered as a Charity  
Reg. No. : 292250

No 17

December, 1993

### TOWER :

There are a variety of reports and articles in this edition which should help to keep you informed as to what is happening within the Association. If you feel strongly about any particular ringing issue or would like to introduce improvements, why not put your case in writing. I can't promise to publish every letter or article but it might be good to have a letters slot.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Association Officers to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

## The Dinner & Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance held at the Rivenhall Resort Hotel, saw a bumper turnout this year. Our guests were our President, The Right Rev'd. John Waine The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, David Thorne (Editor of The Ringing World) and their respective wives, Patricia and Joan. Because of the favourable terms and the quality of the service and food the Committee has agreed to book the Rivenhall Resort again for 1994. It is hoped that any increase in ticket cost can be kept to a minimum. We had to turn away 10 requests for tickets this year, so book early for the 1994 event.

# THE MASTER'S VOICE

Six months into the job with the Striking Competition, the Training Day, the October Committee Meeting and the Annual Dinner and Dance behind me it's 'so-far-so-good'..... I think!

I have greatly enjoyed learning to be Master - a task made very much easier by the 'general state of affairs' inherited from the hard work put in by Paul, Ann, David and Andrew over the past few years and by the support and encouragement given me by so many. Having come from relative obscurity to the position of Master in a single bound, there are many people I don't know and who don't know me. I am gradually working my way round the districts, so do say "hello"!

The Newsletter's copy deadline has forced me to abandon my principle of "keeping Christmas in December" in order to wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas' and a 'Peaceful and enjoyable 1994'.



## The 1993 Annual Report

As we come to the end of 1993 thoughts are turning to the Annual Report. Due to the hard work put in by those involved in its production we benefit from one of the best reports available. Of course the report is only as good as the information contained within it. This information is supplied by the members, so if you know of any changes or corrections that need to be included or excluded please forward them via your District Secretary to either Adrian Malton (The Report Editor) or the Secretary.

# FROM OUR NEW P.R.O.



Hello! I'm Janet Edwards, your new Public Relations Officer. I hope to be visiting all the Districts in the very near future to meet you all and to talk about how we can promote ringing in your area. To this end, I hope you will all attempt to appoint a District P.R.O. at your ADM in January, as it will help me if there is a local contact in each district. There's a lot to be done and I need all the help I can get. Meanwhile, if there's anything you think I can help you with, please don't hesitate to get in touch. My number is 0621 816496.

The Association exhibition boards, posters and other promotional and recruiting material are available for 1994 bookings. There will be a small charge of £5 per booking. This amount will include some leaflet handouts and will help to keep the material up-to-date and renewed. Eventually we hope to replace the display boards.

Do you know of any groups e.g., Young Wives, Guides, Scouts, Over 60's, etc., who would be interested in having a talk on bell-ringing at any of their meetings? If so put them in touch with me and I'll be pleased to help. Again, my number is 0621 816496.



## The Ridgman Trophy

The Association is to host the Ridgman Trophy 10-bell Striking Competition in 1994. Outline planning has begun but it's too early to announce the whole arrangements as they have not yet been finalized. Traditionally the competition has been held on the first Saturday following our AGM and broadly involves the Associations and Guilds of East Anglia. Maurice Downs has for the past few years organised our team but this year he announced that this was to be his last year, *as reported in the August Newsletter*. In his place we welcome Colin Chapman who has agreed to take on this important job.

# Committee Meeting

Among the items on the October agenda were two that require further discussion and your opinion would be welcomed. So please discuss them at your ADM. They are as follows:-

**A Ringing Simulator:** Following the decision taken at the AGM, the Committee discussed whether we should purchase a ringing simulator for the Association, to help with training. If you want to know more about this discussion talk to your District Officers. The outcome is that we have arranged to borrow one from the Central Council from 22nd to 29th January 1994 and install it at Coggeshall. Each district would then book a time slot with Adrian Semken and try it out. You should then be in a position to discuss whether or not you think we should purchase one. The cost ranges from between £600 and £1100 depending on which configuration we purchase and how we want to use it. Your opinions would then be taken into consideration at the Committee Meeting in February 1994. One thing is important - unless you try it and discuss it you won't be able to give an informed opinion.

**An Association Carol Service:** It was suggested that as some districts don't have a Carol Service, we could have one for the whole Association. After some discussion it was agreed that we might try a one-off at Chelmsford Cathedral. Canon Abbey offered to inquire for 1994. The Committee asked Canon Abbey to report back to the next sub-group meeting. Canon Abbey reported that he had contacted the Cathedral Office who had sent a booking form with the scale of charges (which are rather high) and an explanation that the Cathedral was very heavily booked at Christmas time, as you might expect. The sub-group are looking into other possible venues, such as a large parish church. Two questions need consideration:- would there be the support needed to make this a worthwhile exercise, and is there a large parish church that would be willing to accommodate us? Please discuss this at your ADM so that your District Officers can bring your opinions to the February Committee meeting.

## Lost & Found

Have you lost a ladies gold-coloured necklace? It was found in October, after the Annual Dinner & Dance. If so, you could be reunited with it by contacting the Secretary.

# The Essex Ringing Course - 1994

Honywood School, Coggeshall will once again be the base for the Course which is to be held from Thursday 7th. to Saturday 9th. April. The now well established format will be followed with theory and practical sessions for individual groups backed up with general interest lectures and a presentation by a guest speaker. Detailed below are the group options on offer for this course:-

- GROUP A** - A Group for those who can ring Rounds competently and who are ready to take their first steps in call changes etc.
- GROUP B** - A Group for those wishing to plain hunt on 5 and to progress to ringing the treble to Bob Doubles.
- GROUP C** - A Group for those who are ready to ring the treble to Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor.
- GROUP D** - A Group for those wishing to learn Bob Doubles on an "inside" bell.
- GROUP E** - A Group for those wishing to learn Bob Minor "inside".
- GROUP F** - Treble Bob Minor. (a) Treble Bob on the treble  
(b) "inside" to Kent or Oxford
- GROUP G** - Cambridge Surprise: Starting with Minor and progressing to Major with theory on the extension to higher numbers.
- GROUP H** - Tower Management and Teaching Recruits - For those who are, or would like to become involved in teaching beginners and developing them into useful members of a band. The course will deal with the stages from bell control to elementary methods and developing a planned approach, running a tower etc.

**Helpers** are also required to assist at the practical ringing sessions. This is a most vital part of the Course and involves ringing whatever the designated group is working at but does not necessarily involve any instruction or standing with a student. Helpers are welcome at the School and are entitled to attend any of the lectures etc. when their services are not required by their group but they need only attend at the towers if they wish - this means two practical sessions a day of about 1¼ hours each side of the lunch break. Please book the dates and offer to help the next generation of ringers!

Application forms can be obtained from:- A.G.Semken, 117A, Tilkey Road, Coggeshall, Colchester, Essex. CO6 1QN. (SAE please). Offers of help to the same address **please**.

## PAUL CAMMIADE WRITES.....



" please pass on to all the members my thanks for the wonderful presentation made at the end of the meeting on Monday (*AGM day*). It was very much appreciated. The engraved goblets are already on display in my glass cabinet at home and complement a tankard given to me six years ago by the Southern District, also engraved by Mr. Collis. Those who know me well can be assured that the wine and cheque will be put to very good use!"

## The Central Council wants to know.....

The Code of Practice for the Conservation and Repair of Bells and Bellframes was officially launched on 24th November 1993. The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers are keen, in the interest of ringing, to monitor activity under the Code. They would be interested to know, through the Association Secretary, of any difficulty we encounter when seeking to apply the provisions of the Code and of any instances where it appears that the interests of ringing may be jeopardized.

The Council is also following up concerns about Church insurance, *not leaving bells up*, and Health and Safety Legislation. Their working-party would be interested to know, again through the Association Secretary, of any cases of difficulty concerning these two areas.

## Nominations

Rule 8 of our current rules require that nominations for Association Officers - Master, Secretary, Treasurer and 3 Trustees, and any Notices of Motion must be received by the Association Secretary by the 1st February 1994. All current Association Officers are prepared to stand again but this should not stop anyone else putting forward other candidates.

# Around the Districts

## **Northern:**

Two Quarter Peals were rung over the weekend of 20th/21st November, one at Great Yeldham the other at Castle Heddingham. The occasion was the 80th Birthday celebrations for Ernie Brown (Castle Heddingham). At the November meeting 'First Peal Certificates' were presented to Kathryn Bishop (Gosfield), Sue Marriott (Witham), Nicola Meson and Nigel Lusby (Rayne).

## **South-Eastern:**

Pat Saltmarsh 'clocked up' 50 years of ringing this year and to mark the occasion the District presented him with an engraved tankard at their September Meeting. Pat was the only one there to wonder why there was such a large turnout. When he did realize, it was the only time most of us could remember him being at a loss for words. At Tollesbury, Nan Gibson is training, with help, a new team of ringers. Anyone who can help is invited to attend the practice night which is on the third Thursday of each month. At the moment four of their learners are trying to ring Bob Doubles, so a few 'experienced' helpers would be a great help. Another successful District Social held on 4th December raised £130 for the BRA.

## Association Registers

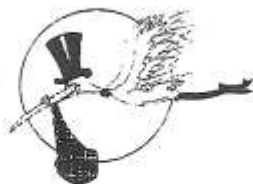
### **Births:**

Congratulations to:-

Helen and John Harpole on the birth of Rachel Louise on 27th October 1993, a Sister for Alice.

also

Julie Burlinson and David on the birth of Alistair James.



### **Marriages:**

Congratulations to:-

Charlotte Gould & Tom Mackle, married on 5th August, 1993.

Jane Bardwell & Nigel Humphries, married on 13th August, 1993.

Lesley Burdock & Paul Neville, married on 2nd October, 1993.



### **Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to:-

Ernie Brown (Castle Heddingham) who celebrated his 80th Birthday on 20th November.



# Calendar Update

## December

4th	Carol Service	South Benfleet	S
10th	District Practice	Stansted Mountfitchet	NW
11th	Carol Service	TBA	NW
11th	Carol Service	St. Osyth	NE

## 1994

### January

8th	Annual District Meeting	Shalford/Bocking	N
8th	Annual District Meeting	Epping	SW
8th	Annual District Meeting	Gt. Totham/Goldhanger	SE
8th	Annual District Meeting	Kirby-le-Soken	NE
15th	Annual District Meeting	Thorpe Bay	S
22nd	Annual District Meeting	Stansted Mountfitchet	NW

### February

5th	COMMITTEE MEETING	Danbury	
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### March

12th	District Meeting	Kelvedon/Coggeshall	N
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*The above information is believed to be correct. Check The Ringing World for details.*



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The next issue of the Essex Association of Change Ringers NEWSLETTER is planned for April 1994. Contributions please to M. A. Bishop, 56, Edinburgh Gardens, Braintree, Essex CM7 6LH ☎ 0376 325281 by 20th March.