

EACR



THE
ESSEX
ASSOCIATION
OF
CHANGE RINGERS

NEWSLETTER

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No 22

August, 1995

The Dinner & Dance

The Jarvis Rivenhall Hotel, *which is the Rivenhall Resort Hotel under new ownership*, will again be the venue for this annual event. As usual it will be held on the 2nd Saturday in **October**, which this year is the **14th**. Our guest speakers will be The Rev'd. Lawrence Pizzey, Chairman of the Suffolk Guild and Mrs. Jane Wilkinson, Vice-President of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and Honorary Secretary to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. The ticket price has been maintained at £19, for the second year running. Just how much longer the price can be kept under £20 remains to be seen, but you may be interested to know that it has only risen by £1 since 1990. The hotel have promised to provide more beer this year, they didn't believe we would consume a whole barrel in an evening let alone before the main course!! The menu is:- Thick Country Vegetable Soup, Sauted Breast of Chicken served with Orange Sauce and a selection of Vegetables, followed by Walnut Fudge Cake with Coffee and Mints to finish. A vegetarian main course alternative is available and for those on a gluten-free diet special arrangements can be made, please let me know when ordering your tickets. A cash wine table will be available and, of course, a table to hold the raffle prizes. If you could possibly donate a prize please bring one along on the night. There is a ceiling of 120 tickets and a system of first come first served will operate. Support for this event has been very good over the last two or more years which does make organising it much more satisfying, so mark the date in your diary and send for your ticket right away. They are available now from the Secretary (address at the end of this Newsletter); please include names, including first name, and money with your order plus a SAE. All orders on or before 30th September (Association Training Day!) please.

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Frank Lufkin - This Is Your Life

"A remarkable fact has reached my ears, Frank's been a rep for 50 years"

On Sunday 4th June, eighty ringing friends of Frank Lufkin descended on Kirby-le-Soken Church Hall for a luncheon to celebrate Frank's 50th year as a Central Council Representative. Included in this number were Albert North (the only other surviving member of his and Frank's first peal), David Thorne, Jean Sanderson (C.C. Librarian) and Pip Sadler, former ringer at Prittlewell and now living in Sussex. Sue Beale undertook to organise the catering with assistance from her family and local ringers who prepared starter, turkey and desserts, and volunteers from all over Essex prepared potato salad, rice salad, quiches, coleslaw and so on (many thanks to all of them). We had a three course meal followed by coffee and mints and the Sue Beale Catering Corps were a model of efficiency in serving, clearing away and washing up! A very big thank you to all of them and also to Josie Sadler for providing the flower arrangements.

Four of the Masters past and present, which included Frank, rang a plain course of Grandsire Triples on handbells which was followed by a "This Is Your Life" style resume of Frank's life - and what a life it has been. He rang his first peal in 1929 and his 1000th in 1975 - several of these had been long-lengths including 12,740 Plain Bob Royal, 18,000 Minor and 22,440 Plain Bob Major - but he also conducted peals for 110 first peelers.

Apart from being a Central Council rep for fifty years and serving on three committees, he was also Association Peals Secretary from 1954-66 and Master from 1967-75. He was the instigator of two striking competitions for which he gave trophies, the first was the six-bell which started in 1961 and the second was the Essex Trophy inter-Association ten-bell competition which started in the centenary year 1979. He has now stood down as a Central Council representative but was given the honour of being made a Life Member at the Salisbury meeting - he certainly deserves it.

Frank was presented with a book which contained cards from ringing friends who were unable to be with him, and had been signed by all those present on the day as well as many who could not come. There was also a display of photographs spanning the 84 years of Frank's life.

David Sparling then presented Frank with an engraved glass fruit bowl depicting the churches of Prittlewell (where he learnt to ring) and Kirby-le-Soken. Frank replied in his usual fashion and told us the readings he had made at the Central Council party on our behalf, told us a couple of tales and also made the point that the greatest achievement is service to God and to the Church.

Finally the cake was cut and there was time for exchanges of memories and reminiscences between old friends before wending our way home after a very successful and enjoyable day.

Ann Chapman.



ASSOCIATION TRAINING DAY 1995

Saturday September 30th

This event will be based at Kirby-le-Soken church hall which is located beside the access drive to Saint Michael's Church, Kirby-le-Soken. The cost will be £2.00 and the proposed programme for the day (subject to confirmation) is as follows:-

0930	Assemble at the Church Hall - coffee will be available.
1000 - 1100	Theory sessions in Groups.
1130 - 1245	Practical Ringing in Groups.
1245 - 1400	Lunch - Make your own arrangements.
1400 - 1430	Theory - "Revision and Reinforcement".
1430 - 1530	Practical Ringing in Groups.
1600 - 1700	Practical Ringing in Groups.

Early application is recommended but please note that it may not be possible to run all the Groups - which Groups actually take place will depend on the demand. The areas likely to be covered are:-

Rounds and call changes with an emphasis on bell handling and striking.
Ringing the treble to Doubles and Minor.
Plain Bob Doubles 'inside'.
Kent Treble Bob Minor.
Plain Bob Major.
Double Norwich Court Bob Major - for this a knowledge of Double Court Minor is desirable.

Further information and application forms are available from:-

Adrian Semken,
117a Tilkey Road,
Coggeshall,
Colchester,
Essex
CO6 1QN

Telephone:- 01376 561183

NOTE - If you require an application form Please send a stamped addressed envelope.

HELPERS ARE ALSO REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT - If you are able to come along please volunteer!



THE AGM

Could it have been a record? This years AGM was completed in just under 45 minutes. Not that the brevity of the meeting detracted from its importance. Amongst the important items were the election of Peter Childs as a Life Member of the Association for his work within the South-Eastern District and the tower at Boreham and the election of our representatives to the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CC). They are as follows:- Fred Bone, Sawbridgeworth; Dr. John Armstrong, Dagenham; David Sparling, Kirby-le-Soken; Adrian Semken, Coggeshall. Elections to the CC are held every three years, this term of office starts in 1996. Other points raised were: the ringing simulator, to be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting in October; ringing for VJ Day, August 20th; Bell Sunday, June 16th 1996; the possibility of a book of prayers for use in the belfry. Another reason for the reduced time was that we didn't have any rule changes, not even for the Charity Commissioners (*give it time*)!! Lunch was prepared and served by the Northern District and afternoon tea and ringing was arranged by the South-Eastern District. Our thanks must go to both these districts and to Chelmsford Age Concern for the use of their facilities.

In 1996 we return to our usual day for the AGM, namely the May-Day Bank Holiday Monday, which is May 6th.



Appeal for Ringers For VJ Day

Following an appeal on both radio and the local newspaper for lapsed ringers to help out on August 20th for VJ Day ringing, I was contacted by a total of fifteen people who were interested in finding out more.

Three names were given to Paul Bray, two of whom were not ringers but who thought they might like to learn, the other was a mature gentleman who had rung before. One gentleman had rung regularly between the ages of 12 and 18, then he joined the Navy and hadn't rung since - he is now over fifty. He is now living in Harlow so his name was passed to Jeni Dodds.

I had a call from Chris Stirland who used to ring in the Bath area and who now lives in Hatfield Peverel. I met him a month or so later on the Terling/Little Baddow outing and found him firmly established at both towers. Two ringers, one from Chelmsford and one from Writtle turned up to a refresher practice session and both proved that they would be a valuable help to the towers they hope to ring at.

Six other people have been allocated to towers for the VJ Day ringing but, unfortunately, are unable to make a regular commitment at the moment. Of these, it was surprising to find two more ringers in Tiptree. We'll soon have to build our own tower especially as one of them is a very capable ringer who has already helped us out at Inworth and had been capable of ringing spliced Surprise Major. A little clue - she came from the South Western District!!

Janet Edwards



Around the Districts

NORTHERN: Held a district dinner at the Sun Inn, Feering on 23rd June where everyone had an enjoyable evening with good food, good beer and good company. The Quarter Peal Week started on July 16th, with a barbecue at Belchamp Otten rectory, and continued right through the week with many of the quarter peals containing firsts of one kind or another.

SOUTH-EASTERN: Held it's Quarter Peal Week from 16th-25th June. There were 15 quarters rung with 3 lost during the week.

Congratulations on first quarters go to Marion Barrett and Mike Gibson of Tollesbury, Marion Brewster of Writtle.

Firsts included: Vicki Patmore (Cambridge Surprise Minor)
Katherine Randall (Plain Bob Minor and Triples)
Laura Chittenden (Plain Bob Major)
John Mardon (Plain Bob Doubles - 1st on Treble)

Congratulations also to Peter Hinton for his 500th quarter. Other notable footnotes included a 50th Birthday compliment to Tricia Stephens, Writtle and two quarters rung to celebrate the marriage of Mick and Janet Edwards' son, Kevin, to Mandy Tomlinson on 17th June.

The week finished with a barbecue at the home of Pat and Beryl Saltmarsh which raised over £100 for the Bell Restoration Account. Thanks must be given to Pat and Beryl for allowing their garden to be used yet again.



A BOOK OF PRAYERS FOR RINGERS

A suggestion was made at the AGM that we should compile a book of prayers for ringers to use in the belfry. The book would contain prayers suitable for the many different occasions that we ring for. Canon Anthony Abbey and Janet Edwards have agreed that this is something they could co-ordinate in conjunction with the work they are doing in preparation for Bell Sunday, 1996. If anyone has any material which they would like to contribute both Canon Abbey and Janet would be please to receive it. Please contact:

Janet Edwards, 24, Perry Road, Tiptree, CO5 0UB

or

Canon Anthony Abbey, The Rectory, Church Lane, Doddinghurst CM15 0MJ



STRIKING COMPETITIONS

The Annual Striking Competition Finals were held in the North-Western District. 12 teams entered for the 6-bell and all 6 districts entered teams for the 8-bell. The judges were, for the six-bell, Paul Cammiade with Ian and Sue Blows and for the eight-bell, Wally Hunt and Jean Sanderson, both from the Cambridge District of the Ely Diocesan Association.

SIX-BELL.

The six-bell was held at Hempstead (12-03-08) where the results were as follows:-
1st. Dagenham (29 faults); 2nd. North Ockendon (30 faults); 3rd. Kirby-le-Soken (36 faults); 4th. Danbury; 5th. Barkingside; 6th. Prittlewell; 7th. Coggeshall; 8th. Little Waltham; 9th. Great Bromley; 10th. Sawbridgeworth; 11th. Gosfield/Great Yeldham; 12th. Saffron Walden.

EIGHT-BELL. (*Test piece 252 Stedman Triples*)

The eight-bell was held at Ashdon (15-01-25) and the results were as follows:-
1st. Southern District (51 faults); 2nd. South-Western District (60 faults); 3rd. South-Eastern District (63 faults); 4th. North-Western District (65 faults); 5th. Northern District (69 faults) and 6th. North-Eastern District (disqualified, fired out).

Congratulations to the winners of both events and to all those teams who got through their district's competition in order to enter the finals. Thanks also to those members of the North-Western District who organised the event and supplied the tea at Ashdon.

The Ridgman Trophy. (Ten-bell Trophy)

The competition was hosted by the Suffolk Guild on Saturday May 6th at Stonham Aspal. Unfortunately only three teams had entered but they were ably judged by Stephen Pettman. The results were as follows:-

1st place	The Suffolk Guild.
2nd place	EACR.
3rd place	The Cambridge University Guild.

Our thanks must be given to Colin Chapman for once again organising our band. □

A CHANGE IN OUR CC REPS.

Apart from Frank deciding not to stand again for election as our representatives to the Central Council, one other of our reps also stood down this year. Having served for 25 years on the CC David Sloman, who is also our technical adviser, did not seek election. Although his innings only lasted half that of Franks 50 years, 25 years still adds up to a splendid service. The CC reps term of office is three years and as you will see from the report about the AGM we now have two new representatives, who join Fred Bone and John Armstrong. □

Association Registers

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we report the death of Paul Wiseman, Danbury, who died on 9th June.

Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations to Pauline and Harry Millatt who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on 23rd July.

Birthdays

Congratulations to Tricia Stephens and Sue Page who celebrated their ??th Birthdays in June. *To save their blushes I have omitted their age, but the Romans had a letter for it - L.*



Annual Report Update

THE HONARY GENERAL SECRETARY:

Would you believe it, the day following the Annual Report going to print the people who hold all the power at the Royal Mail changed my post code. It used to be CM7 6LH, now it's CM7 9LH.



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Frank and Edna Lufkin have asked that their thanks be given to the members for the celebration lunch and for the engraved rose bowl, presented to Frank on 4th June. The occasion was to mark Frank's 50 years of being continuously elected to the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. Frank has now stood down as our CC rep. A report of the lunch will be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.



Life Members

Don't forget that details of any nominations for life membership must be with the Association Secretary by 1st December in order that they can be circulated to the districts in time for their ADMs.



Calendar Update

September

2nd	Meeting	Fryerning	SE
8th	District Practice	Stansted Mountfitchet	NW
9th	Meeting	Witham	N
2nd	Call Change Competition and Barbecue	Loughton	SW
16th	Meeting	Great Wakering	S
16th	Essex Trophy 10-bell Striking Competition (Leeds, Kent)		
30th	EACR Training Day	Kirby-le-Soken	

October

13th	District Practice	Stansted Mountfitchet	NW
14th	Association Dinner & Dance	(Jarvis Rivenhall Hotel)	
21st	Meeting	Loughton	SW
21st	10-bell Practice	Bocking	N
25th	District Practice	Danbury	SE
28th	Training & Meeting	Roydon/Waltham Abbey	NW

November

10th	District Practice	Stansted Mountfitchet	NW
11th	Call Change Competition & Meeting	Springfield/Boreham	SE
11th	Evening Ringing	Walthamstow, St. Saviour	SW
18th	Meeting	Castle Hedingham/Sible Hedingham	N
18th	Meeting	TBA	S
25th	District Training Day	TBA	SE

December

2nd	Social	Terling	SE
9th	Social	Chigwell Row	SW
9th	Carol Service	Henham	NW
9th	Carol Service	TBA	NE
9th	Carol Service	Gosfield	N
14th	District Practice	Tolleshunt D'Arcy	SE

The next issue of the Essex Association of Change Ringers NEWSLETTER is planned for December, 1995.
Contributions please to M. A. Bishop, 56, Edinburgh Gardens, Braintree, Essex CM7 9LH ☎ 01376 325281
by 12th November please.