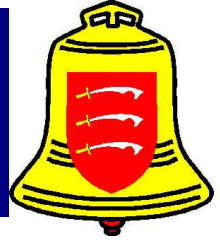


# Rounds & About

(Charity Number 292250)



## Special points of interest:

- President retires
- Dinner Challenge
- Ringing World Roadshow
- The Story of Layer de la Haye

## 124th Annual General Meeting

The Association's 124th Annual General Meeting will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on May Day Bank Holiday Monday, 5 May. The arrangements are as follows:

General ringing	9.15 to 10.15am	Afternoon ringing details and tea tickets (£2.50) are available from the Secretary: Mrs Mary Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9DB (by 1 May).
Service touch	10.15am	
Annual Service	10.30am	
AGM	11.35am	
Afternoon ringing	South-East District	Please enclose a SAE.
Tea at Danbury		

The general ringing is for everyone, so if you haven't rung at the Cathedral before do come along. Please arrive in good time so as many as possible can have a ring. Entrance is by the West or South Doors - quietly as a service will just be finishing. The address at the Service will be given by Canon David Atkins (Maldon All Saints, formerly Downham), a Life Friend of the Association.

The AGM will begin as soon as the Cathedral has been re-arranged after the service. The full Agenda and last year's Minutes are printed in the 2002 Annual Report. Two rule changes have been proposed: to re-establish the category of Associate Member and reword rule 6 (iv) and, secondly, to change rule 5 to reflect recent administrative changes at the Cathedral and in the Diocese. There are two proposals for election as Life Vice-President of the Association (John Armstrong and Colin Chapman); Sue Page has been proposed as a Life Member. The full text of the Rules, as amended at the 2002 AGM, is available on the website, and in the 2002 Annual Report.

All welcome! We look forward to seeing you at the Cathedral and enjoying fine weather and good company in the afternoon.  
Mary Bone

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## Danbury Diary



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*There is still a vacancy for Education Officer so do contact Steve Nash if you might be interested in this.*

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The February Committee meeting began on a sad note as we remembered Hilda Snowden, Life Vice-President, who died in December.

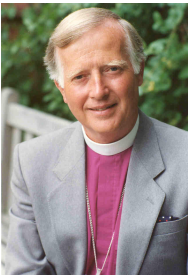
After the Master had welcomed the new officers from each district it was down to work: the main business is to prepare for the Annual General Meeting. The Accounts and Trustees' Report are circulated in advance so that there is time to digest all the information before the vote, which accepted these reports and forwarded them to the AGM. Only the current Association officers have been nominated for election. Nominations as Life Vice-President - the highest honour bestowed by the Association - are made from the Committee; two proposals will be put to the AGM. Please see the separate Newsletter item on

the AGM for further information on the arrangements and the Agenda.

Members approved a change to the introduction to the Child Protection Guidelines and then, in the second part of the meeting, discussed reports from the sub-committees and committee officers. Four bell restoration grants were voted - to Inworth (augmentation to 6); Harwich and Sawbridgeworth (tower repairs); and Great Parndon (work on the tenor headstock and the clappers).

Iris Lewis is now in position as the Public Relations Officer. There is still a vacancy for Education Officer so do contact Steve Nash if you might be interested in this.

Mary Bone



The Right Reverend  
John Perry

## Bishop of Chelmsford

As you are probably aware, the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Reverend John Perry retires in June 2003. As Bishop of Chelmsford, John was invited to be the Association's President when he took office in 1996. As a mark of gratitude for his support over the past 7 years,

the Association would like to present a retirement gift at the AGM in May. If you would like to contribute, send your donation now to the Association Treasurer, Andrew Taylor.

## Dinner Challenge

This year's Annual Dinner will be held at the County Hotel, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, on Saturday 4 October, thus returning to a very central venue. The evening will follow the well-established format, with speeches and entertainment after the meal. There will of course be a bar!

The Dinner is great fun - just ask those who came to last year's and look at the photos! It's a chance to get your party clothes out - black ties and fancy waistcoats for some - but the atmosphere is informal. There are round tables (for 7 or 8) so it's very easy to chat with friends during the meal. Why not get a group together from your tower, or join with a nearby tower to make up a table?

We do need at least 75 advance reservations (with deposits) so that the Dinner

can go ahead and be a really enjoyable and successful evening for everybody. Deposits will only be refunded if the dinner has to be cancelled through lack of support.

Reserve your tickets **now** by sending a deposit of £15 per person (cheques payable to the Essex Association of Change Ringers) and names for the seating plan to reach me (Mrs Mary Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9DB) by the AGM on 5 May. Do make sure that you include your phone number or email address as well. The final ticket price is expected to be approx £25 a head. A booking form will also be available on the website.

Mary Bone



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*Don't delay,  
book yours  
today!*

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## Focus on Your Local

I'd like to introduce a new regular slot in the Newsletter but it will need your help. You will be able to read an article on the bells at Layer de la Haye and learn that they have a booklet available which tells the Layer story. If you have an

interesting story to tell about your bells, church or local ringers past and present, send it in to me at the address at the back of this Newsletter.



Focus on your bells,  
church or ringers!

### Ringling World Roadshow



Ringling World Roadshow

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*There is only one thing you cannot do: you simply cannot miss the Ringling Roadshow!*

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Mighty Oak Brewing Co.

Ringling Roadshow 2003 is being held at the Lincolnshire Showground, 4 miles north of Lincoln City centre, on Saturday 26 July 2003 from 10:30am until 5:00pm. It will be a marvellous happy day out for ringers and their families. There will be lots of fun and all sorts of information to discover. Catering is being supplied by people used to dealing with large numbers of people at that location. It is a day out organised by ringers, for ringers. Absolutely everything to do with bells will be there.

You can relax in the beer tent, listen to bells on fairground organs, enjoy the beautiful sound of two carillons (one from home and one from Holland), and have a go at change or tune ringing on handbells. You can listen to top quality handbell music, talk to the bellfounders, bell engineers and bellhangers, buy and order bellropes and handbells, and

buy your loved one some bell jewellery. You can find help on sound control, discuss with the Zipper Society how one goes about ringing after heart surgery, or learn about carillons and chimes in the British Isles. You can buy books of all sorts, and have a go on a mini ring. You can buy CDs, and a whole range of bellringing software. You can purchase knitware, order peal boards, and have a go at a frog race! There will be craft stalls to visit for those not so interested in ringing, but who wish to spend some money!

You can talk to Central Council Committees, people dedicated to serving the needs of the exercise. You can browse many association stands, and discuss projects with English Heritage. You can go to any of six very varied seminars, and enjoy a ring at a tower or two on the way home, as well as on mini rings during the day.

### Name that Beer!

Don't forget, you have until 1st August 2003 to enter our competition to name the 125th anniversary beer. Our friends at Mighty Oak Brewing Co have agreed to develop a beer, all we have to do is come up with a name for it. Send your entries (you can have as many

goes as you like) to Vicki Chapman, 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, CM2 9PF, or email them to [vicki@cvevrc.co.uk](mailto:vicki@cvevrc.co.uk). The prize is a polypin (approx. 36 pints) of the special beer, but if you're under 18 a suitable alternative will be awarded.

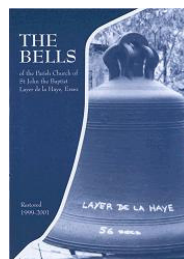
## Layer de la Haye

In 1969, when Canon James Allen was the incumbent, an inspection of the bells was carried out by Whitechapel Bell Foundry and an estimate supplied for rehanging the bells. No further action was taken at the time. When writing a history of the church Canon Allen noted "...the bells have been chimed only by means of ropes which reach to the floor of the tower. Is it a pious hope that one may once again hear these bells properly rung?"

In 1999 the bells were removed into storage and major structural work commenced to accommodate the new bell frame and ringing chamber. Originally it was hoped the work could be completed in time to ring in the new millennium. That was not to be. The bells and new frame were delivered to Layer de la Haye in December 2000 and installation of the frame began on the 28th of that month. The rehanging of the bells on all new fittings was carried out during January 2001, with the bells being rung for the first time on Friday 26th January 2001 by a team of experienced EACR ringers. On Monday 5th February the parish's own team of ringers, who had been practising in other towers since 1997, were able to enjoy the first practice in their own tower.

We have recently published a booklet (cover shown on right) about the history of the Layer de la Haye Bells and their recent restoration. Attractively produced with several photographs it is priced only £2-50 (p & p extra). All profits go towards the upkeep of the bells so get your copy now.

Ringing practice is normally on Monday evenings at 7-30pm. New ringers are very welcome, as are visiting ringers. Tower Captain: Mr John Keeble. You can email our tower at [layer\\_de\\_la\\_haye@ne-eacr.org.uk](mailto:layer_de_la_haye@ne-eacr.org.uk)



Available at  
£2.50 plus p&p

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*The bells  
were rung  
for the first  
time on 28th  
January  
2001*

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## North Western District Open Day

Come and enjoy a full day's ringing and help raise funds for Bell Restoration. Currently we anticipate 40 towers will be open on Monday 26th May 2003, starting with Waltham Abbey at 9am and following a circular route to finish up with North Weald at 7.15pm. A complete itinerary will be on the EACR website and in the Ringing World in early May.



## 125th Anniversary—2004

We now have a full diary of events for the 125th Anniversary of the Association in 2004. Make a note of them now!

**January - December**—Peals for the Anniversary;

**1st - 31st March** - Quarter Peal Month;

**Thurs 15th - Sat 17th April**—Essex Ringing Course;

**Monday 3rd May**—Annual General Meeting at Chelmsford Cathedral;

**Sunday 6th June**—Anniversary Lunch and Service at Writtle;

**Saturday 3rd July**—Association Striking Competition Finals;

**Monday 30th August**—Tower Open Day in the Southern District;

**Saturday 11th September**—Essex Trophy 10 Bell Striking Competition at Hornchurch;

**Saturday 25th September**—Barn Dance at Layer Village Hall;

**Saturday 2nd October**—Annual Dinner at The County Hotel, Chelmsford;

**Saturday 14th December**—Carol Service - Great Dunmow

### Restoration Project

After deliberation, it has been decided that the 2004 restoration project would be Leigh on Sea.

The total fund stands at £24,264 of the target £40,000. When they have raised the next £3,000, they will automatically receive a further £5,000 in funding from a charitable trust that has close links with the Parish Church.

With responses awaited from Southend Borough Council, Leigh Rotary Club and an interested individual, they may achieve the next milestone even quicker, but are fundraising hard with events every month over the summer.

To complete their project they will need the following assistance:

- Removal and transportation of tenor bell to Whitechapel;
- Labour for lifting of trapdoors & assistance with installing lifting tackle;
- Assistance for the bellhanger;
- Steel ring beam sections X4 to be stripped of rust and properly treated under existing frame;
- Repainting of existing fittings;
- Industrial vacuum cleaner to clean belfry;
- Assistance/advice with more effective sound control, durable, adjustable and non-hazardous to fire;
- Advice on reducing noise level in the ringing room.

They are contacting the Church's building contractor regarding the cutting of holes in the tower for the new ring beams.

If you are able to assist with any of these please get in touch with Vicki Chapman at the address at the end of the Newsletter.

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*Book the dates  
in your diary  
now!*

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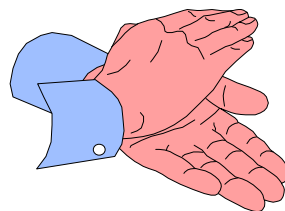
## That's a First!

Congratulations to the following ringers who have rung their first Quarter Peal recently:

Nick Ingham (20/10), Frances Mason (19/12), Roger Carey-Smith (23/12), Marguarite Robinson (30/12), Paul Howe-Brown (12/01);

and Firsts as Conductor:

Charles Crookes (25/07), Jenny Askew (08/08), Sandra Pereira (09/08), Ian Hamilton (21/11), John Pereira (19/12), David Thurlow (21/12), Rachel Wetherfield (05/01).



Congratulations!

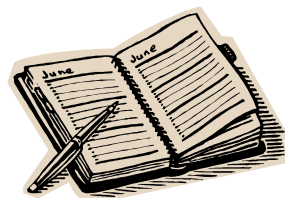
## Association Register

**Births:** Congratulations to Clive and Ann Bryant (Barking) on the arrival of Hannah on 21 January.

**Birthdays:** Eric Cross (Loughton) celebrated his 80th birthday on 14 January, Neville Unwin (Waltham Abbey) was 60 in January, Richard Dunhill (Braintree) recently celebrated his 30th, Cyril Southgate (Goldhanger) was 75 recently, Stuart Gilbert (Gt Dunmow) celebrated his 60th and Bob Harrington (Gt Dunmow) celebrated his 65th.

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Mike and Barbara Hollis celebrated their 30th Wedding anniversary on 17 February and remember all their ringing friends who in one way or another helped to make their wedding day so enjoyable.

**Deaths:** We regret to report the deaths of Michael Dunne (Hutton) and John Foulds (Epping Upland). Hilda Snowden, Life Vice President (Gosfield), died on 18th December and a full obituary appears in the 2002 Annual Report.



**Don't forget the EACR Website at [www.eacr.org.uk](http://www.eacr.org.uk)**

## Dates for your Diary



<b>April</b>	5	District Ringing Outing	North-Eastern
	12	District Striking Competition - Ingatestone	South-Eastern
	12	District Meeting – Loughton	South-Western
	24-26	Essex Ringing Course - Coggeshall	
<b>May</b>	5	A.G.M. - CHELMSFORD & South-Eastern District	
	10	District 10-bell practice – Tollesbury (tbc)	Northern
	10	District 10-bell practice – Sudbury	North-Eastern
	17	District 10/12-bell practice – Waltham Abbey	North-Western
	17	District Striking Competition – Orsett	Southern
<b>June</b>	7	District Meeting & Rounders - Tollesbury	South-Eastern
	7	District Striking Competition – Stebbing	Northern
	7	District Striking Competition – Bobbingworth	North-Western
	14	District Striking Competition – Layer-de-la-Haye	North-Eastern
	14	District Striking Competition – Dagenham (tbc)	South-Western
	21	District Ringing Outing	Southern
	28	District Treasure Hunt & Barbecue	North-Eastern
	28	District Barbecue - Wethersfield	Northern
	29	District Barbecue - Terling	South-Eastern
<b>July</b>	5	ASSOCIATION STRIKING COMPETITION FINALS - South-Western	
	12	District Meeting - Hornchurch (tbc)	South-Western

The Northeast District now have an active website at:

<http://www.ne-eacr.org.uk>

The next edition of Rounds & About is planned for August 2003. Please send contributions to Vicki Chapman, 20 Mews Court, Chelmsford, CM2 9PF, Tel: 01245 358040 or email: [vicki@cvevc.co.uk](mailto:vicki@cvevc.co.uk) by 1st July 2003