

Essex Association Annual Dinner

Tickets are now available for the Association's 65th Annual Dinner on Saturday 19th October at 6.45 for 7.30pm. 2019 sees a return to Benton Hall Golf & Country Club (Wickham Hill, Witham, Essex CM8 3LH). Join us for an enjoyable evening of good food and good company in the presence of Alan Regin MBE, Steward of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers Rolls of Honour and the Revd Paul Watkin, Chaplain to the Association. Our guests also include our new Life Vice Presidents, Mary Bone and Yvonne Towler, who will be presented with their LVP certificates

The menu is overleaf.

The charge for the evening will be £34 per person. Dress will be Black Tie or Lounge Suit. Download the booking form from the [website](#), select your menu choices, add your name and send your completed form, SAE and payment (payable to 'EACR') to Andrew Brewster at the address below. The last date for ordering is 30th September 2019. Alternatively secure your place now by paying a deposit of £15pp and pay the balance by 30th September.

There is also a bar, which will be selling real ale, and there are plenty of car parking spaces. We will be seated on tables of 8 or 10, so do think about making up a table from your Tower.

Let's make it a great success. Please come along and support it!

Andrew Brewster
16 The Priory
Writtle
Essex CM1 3JE
01245 421166

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Menu

Starters

Spiced sweet potato soup [v, gf]

Smoked chicken and papaya salad served with sesame & ginger dressing

Pork apple and calvados pate served with English chutney

Main Course

Roasted Topside of beef, dauphinoise potato, roasted carrots, braised red cabbage & tender stem broccoli served with a red wine jus

Roast cod loin with cauliflower purée, wilted spinach & potato gratin served with lemon hollandaise [gf]

Mediterranean vegetable & mozzarella wellington served with fondant potato, asparagus & pesto sauce [v]

All served with seasonal vegetables

Dessert

White chocolate and raspberry roulade [gf]

Sticky Toffee Pudding

Mango and Passion fruit bavrois

Tea, Coffee and Chocolate Mints

Special diets can be arranged on request. All starters, mains and sweets can be gluten free – please specify when ordering

The 2019 London Mini-Roadshow

Goldsmiths College, London SE14 6NW

FOR ALL RINGERS - SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 9.30AM TO 4.30PM

opportunity to ring for service at one or more of 15 City and nearby churches

Talks from experts, stands including rope making, model 3D bells and more, 4 training bells and 3 mini rings. Something for everyone, whatever your ability covering every aspect of bellringing from science & technology, Volunteering & Leadership, bells & engineering, history & heritage and recruitment & promotion.

Two of our own will be giving talks: Vicki Chapman on the success and legacy of the Ringing Remembers campaign and Emily Ashton on the social media toolkit, all you need to know to use social media effectively.

The poster accompanying this newsletter has details on how to register and links to the outline programme.

Association AGM

The Essex Association's 140th AGM was held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Monday 6th May 2019. The events began with open ringing starting at 9:30. A service took place preceded the Service led by Canon Alison Kennedy and the Choir from St. Leonard's Church, Lexden. The Archdeacon of Harlow, the Ven. Vanessa Herrick gave The Address and the Prayers were led by Revd. Paul Watkin, the Association's Chaplain. After refreshments, organised by the South-Eastern District, Dr Andrew Kelso, the Association Master chaired the AGM in the Cathedral. The Roll was signed by 113 members from 44 towers. The minutes of last year's meeting were accepted as a true record and the meeting adopted both the Accounts and the Annual Report *nem. con.* Colin Chapman proposed and John Tipping seconded a motion to change the Rules to allow the election of just one Independent Examiner if it was not possible to find two people willing to stand. This was passed by a majority vote with only one person voting against. Mrs Sharon Lacey was elected as Association Secretary replacing David Sparling who had been acting in an interim capacity. All the other current officers were willing to stand and were returned accordingly; George Thoday was formally elected as our second Independent Examiner having been appointed by the Management Committee in October 2018.

Nominations for Life Membership had been proposed for Clive Stephenson of Hornchurch and Brian Clayden of Bradwell-on-Sea and both of these were elected with the unanimous support of the meeting. Fred Goodwin (Chigwell Row), David Rothera (Chelmsford Cathedral) and John Sparling (Kirby-le-Soken) were made Life Members in accordance with rule 8.2c having been Association Members for 50 years.



Clive Stephenson



Brian Clayden

Nominations for Life Vice President had been proposed for Yvonne Towler of Inworth and Mary Bone of Sawbridgeworth in recognition of their many years of service at both Association and District level. Both were unanimously supported by the meeting.



Yvonne Towler



Mary Bone

Andrew Brewster as Chair of the Social Committee gave details of the Annual Dinner to be held on Saturday 19th October at Benton Hall Golf Club. He reported that Early Bird tickets would be available until the end of the day.

Vicki Chapman spoke about the Management Committee’s initiative to add 9 new names of EACR Members recently revealed to have died as a result of WW1 who were unknown when the original Memorial in Chelmsford Cathedral was erected in 1920. These names were discovered after extensive research conducted by Alan Regin, MBE in his role as Steward of the Rolls of Honour for the Central Council of Church Bellringers. Vicki is chairing the Management sub-group looking into this. Initial responses from the Cathedral Dean and Chapter have been very encouraging but the process is long and involved. The target completion is in 2020 which will be the 100th anniversary of the original memorial being installed.

Colin Chapman presented the Management Committee’s initial ideas to reduce the number of Charity Trustees from the current potential 56 Trustees (including the new LVPs elected at the 2019 AGM) to a more manageable total of 12 – 14 people made up of appropriate Association Officers and District representation. A small sub-group has been set up to investigate options and report back to the October 2019 Management Committee Meeting. Details will then be circulated to all Districts

for comment before a formal proposal to change the Rules is presented to the AGM in 2020.

The striking competition finals would be hosted by the Southern District and held on 13 July at Eastwood (6 bell) and Rochford (8 bell). The test piece for the 8 bell is a plain course of Alderney Surprise Major.

Steve Nash invited feedback on the Essex Course from anybody who had been involved as part of his review for the Management Committee.

The Master thanked David Sparling for his work as Interim Secretary and presented him with a retirement gift. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the Cathedral authorities for allowing us the use of the Cathedral; the Cathedral ringers for allowing us to ring before the service; Colin Chapman for running the morning ringing and calling the Service Touch; Canon Alison Kennedy for leading the Service, Ven. Vanessa Herrick, Archdeacon of Harlow for the Address; Revd. Paul Watkin, Association Chaplain for leading the Prayers; The Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral for the use of the Cathedral; the Cathedral Verger, Alastair Dean; the Choir of St. Leonard's Church, Lexden, their Director, Sarah Blake and organist Simon Eavery; members of the South-Eastern District for providing refreshments and sidespersons, and the North-Eastern District for afternoon ringing and tea.



David Sparling

The afternoon's ringing was in the North Eastern District with an excellent tea provided at Tendring.

David Sparling

Dates for your Diary

Aug	10	District Outing		NW	
Sep	7	District Meeting	Burnham-on-Crouch	SE	10:00
		Evening Meeting	Great Bardfield	N	5:30
	14	District Meeting, Call-Change Competition & Barbecue	Shrub End	NE	2:00
	21	District Training Day	(tba)	SE	9:00
		District Meeting	South Benfleet	S	3:00
	28	Young Ringers Outing	(tba)		9:00
		Call Change Competition & District Meeting	Walthamstow St Mary	SW	10:00
Oct	1	District Quarter Peal Month	N		
	5	District Meeting & Call-Change Competition	Sawbridgeworth	NW	9:30
		Association Committee Meeting			2:30
	19	Association Annual Dinner			
Nov	16	Call Change Competition & District Meeting	Leigh-on-Sea	S	2:30
		Social Evening	(tba)	SE	7:00
	23	Association Training Day			
	30	District Master's Social & Fundraising Event	(tbc)	N	7:00
Dec	7	Association Carol Service	Coggeshall		3:00

A Vicki-y quarter peal

To mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria on 24th May, the Essex Vicki/Vickys (those that we know about) got together to ring a quarter peal. It also coincided with one of the bands birthdays so after successfully scoring the quarter, cake and prosecco was the order of the evening and we raised a toast to Her Late Majesty and hope that she was suitably amused. Following the upload to Bellboard, we became one of the top "What's hot.." liked entries and were mentioned in *The Ringing World*.

Felsted, Essex, Holy Cross
Friday, 24 May 2019 in 44m (12–0–20)

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Vicki Crispin
- 2 Vicky De-Vries
- 3 Vicki Chapman
- 4 Vicki Elliott
- 5 Vicky LeFèvre (C)
- 6 Vicki Hipwell

Rung to mark the 200th anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth by a band of Vickis/Vickys.

We hope she would have been amused.

Birthday compliment to the treble.



Band in order left to right

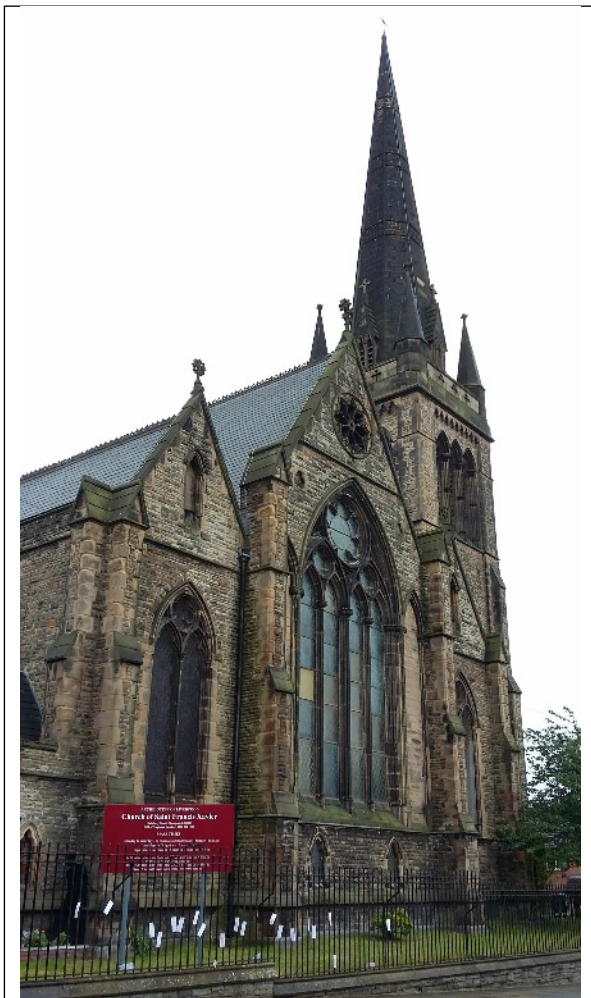
Practice Diary

Aug	14	10-bell practice	Coggeshall	N	7:30
	16	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	17	Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
Sep	7	District Learners' Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	11	10-bell practice	Coggeshall	N	7:30
	18	District Surprise Practice	Basildon	S	7:30
		District Practice	Broomfield	SE	7:45
	20	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	21	10/12-bell practice	Waltham Abbey	NW	10:30
		Advanced Practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	25	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
27	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45	
Oct	5	District Practice & Training	Great Yeldham	N	10:00
	9	10-bell practice	Coggeshall	N	7:30
	15	District Practice	Sandon	SE	7:45
	18	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	19	District 8-bell Practice	Ardleigh	NE	2:30
		District Afternoon Practice	Canewdon	S	3:00
		Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	25	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
	27	Young Ringers' Practice	(tba)		4:30
30	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45	
Nov	2	District Learners' Practice	South Ockendon	S	10:00
	13	10-bell practice	Coggeshall	N	7:30
		District Surprise Practice	Fobbing	S	7:30
	15	Surprise Major practice	Felsted	N/NW	2:00
	16	District 12-bell Practice	Ipswich	NE	2:30
		Advanced practice	Braintree	N	7:30
	21	District Practice	Terling	SE	7:45
	22	District Practice	Stansted	NW	7:45
24	Young Ringers' Practice	(tba)		4:30	
27	Surprise Practice	Terling	SE	7:45	
Dec	11	10-bell Practice	Coggeshall	N	7:30

Essex Young Eagles at Liverpool for the 2019 RWNYC

The Ringing World National Youth Contest took place in Liverpool on Saturday 6 July. This was the 9th year of the contest and the Association was once again

represented by the Essex Young Eagles, organised by Christina Brewster, Youth Coordinator.



This year there were no heats and all teams rang at the one tower one after the other so the judges had an 8-hour session (assisted for the first time by HawkEar)! At 9.15am the EYE band and reserves, parents and team leaders arrived at St Francis Xavier ("SFX") (8 bells, 16-1-16 in E) from their respective overnight accommodation ready for the big moment at 10am. Following six minutes of practice, the band rang 160 changes of Rounds and Call changes as their test piece. EYE rang fourth out of the 24 teams from all over the country and were placed a very creditable 7th overall and an excellent 3rd out of 18 ringing call changes. The band were:

Photo: Andrew Beech 'SFX, the competition tower'

1. Lucas Bent – aged 13 from Walthamstow St Mary in the SW District
2. Emily Brooks – aged 13 from Shenfield in the S District
3. Freja Steinke – aged 16 from Danbury in the SE District
4. Will Beech – aged 15 from North Ockendon in the S District
5. Josh Ashley – aged 15 from Epping in the SW District
6. Ethan Musham – aged 18 from Hornchurch in the SW District
7. Sam Beech – aged 17 from North Ockendon in the S District
8. Oliver Lee – aged 18 from Harlow Common in the NW District



Photo: Andrew Beech 'The band post ringing – smiles all round!'

The reserves were Theo Johnson – aged 15 from Prittlewell, Sarah Robbins – aged 11 from Shenfield and Emily Willson – aged 14 from Brentwood, all from the Southern District, who were primed and ready to ring if necessary. It is really wonderful that the Essex Young Eagles have been able to enter a band every year of the contest so far and that numbers in the squad have grown making team selection much more difficult.

The feedback given to our team by the judges was as follows:

"The called changes were done really accurately and there were very few bits of 'bad' striking such as clashes. A good standard of reasonably accurate ringing. The 2nd was struck particularly well in Queens"

Things to work on:

"If you had 'let it flow' more, i.e. maybe gone a little quicker and had more confidence to enjoy it more, it could have sparkled more."

Encouraging and positive feedback to take forward to next year!

We had a great day with all our plans coming together without a hitch. The local organisers of the RWNYC in Liverpool did brilliantly. We also took the opportunity to ring at all the open towers with the whole group ringing at Bootle, Walton on the Hill, Tuebrook, Mossley Hill (Penny Lane) and Garston on foot, buses, a train and by car. All ending up with some good fun on the mini ring in the grounds of the picturesque 42cwt 12 at Our Lady & St Nicholas, Pier Head before our dedicated 5pm slot run by Christina, her former 'home' tower.



Photo: Steve Ashley 'Walton on the Hill'

Two of the group were not able to go on to Liverpool Cathedral in the evening but the rest of us did. Ringing at the Cathedral in the evening was frantic and exhilarating but it was fantastic to see so many young ringers with great big frowns of concentration when ringing there and equally big grins on their faces once they had done it! There was generous applause from the audience after each piece of ringing. All our band rang in rounds on the heaviest ringable 12 bells in



Liverpool Cathedral
Photo: Theo Johnson

the world and Sarah and Emily W both strapped the 82cwt tenor!

Thank you to all the youngsters who are impeccable ambassadors for the Essex Association and also to all the parents and supporters without whom none of this would have been possible. Thanks to all the incumbents and ringers who opened up for us where we had our dedicated practices – Thorpe Bay, Rayleigh, Gt Baddow, Gt Bardfield, Toppesfield and Halstead. Finally, a big thank you to Andrew Brewster for acting

as row counter and also Andrew Beech, Yvonne Towler and Steve Nash for their support and additional coaching at various practices. We had a fabulous weekend and we thank the Essex Association for the financial support.

Here are comments from some of the EYE team members:

“I really enjoyed the whole experience, especially visiting new towers and ringing at a 12 bell tower, which I don't get to do often. And we managed to spot the football stadium, which my dad was pleased about! (Christina: I hope that was Goodison Park!) The whole atmosphere of the day was amazing and I would definitely like to attend next year. (Emily Brooks)

As this was my first experience of a RWNYC, it was great to see how friendly all the other teams were and although I was a reserve, I felt like I was fully part of the team. I enjoyed the excitement of rushing from church to church and spotting them in the distance along with ringing in a variety of different churches. My most favourite part though was getting to ring at the cathedral at the end of the day and the size of the ringing chamber left me speechless! Look forward to next year..... (Theo Johnson)

Hello. My name is Sarah Robbins and I am here to tell you about my first ever big competition in Liverpool:

On Saturday 6th July 2019, the big competition that our band had prepared for took place. At about 8:50 my family and I arrived at St Francis Xavier, the

competition tower. I was really nervous even though I was a reserve. After about 20 minutes it was time to go up to the tower. Once we were up in the bell chamber we were quickly rushed to sit down or grab the bell as there was no time to wait. The band were allowed to practise so they would know if they needed a box or even put a knot in the rope. Finally, it was time to ring. I thought our ringing was great and I was so pleased with Essex Young Eagles – our band name. When we went back down to the church we were congratulated and took many photos. Straight after the photos, we were quickly rushed to the nearest bus stop to catch the bus to Bootle. This was where our first outing church was. When we arrived, we were put into two groups because our group was big, and the ringing chamber was quite small. After a long time of ringing we were finally allowed up the tower. I was on the 2 or treble and we rung a few call changes. I liked it but the only downside of it was that they were very light, and the sallies were too low even though I'm a child. At about 10:45 we arrived at our next church, Walton-on-the-hill, the church was big, and the ringing chamber looked really cool because the front of it was glass. I was really excited for it until I realised it was a long draught. I'm scared of long draughts. But I eventually got to the end of the call changes. During the day we went to Tuebrook, Mossley Hill and Garston. I liked them because they were easy going. After a long walk we arrived at Pier Head. I



Photo: Andrew Beech 'The Essex Young Eagles outside Pier Head with their medals'

was nervous because I was told that everyone would hear what we were ringing. It was a long climb up and when we got to the bell chamber, I was amazed how big it was. I got to ring rounds and call changes. I found it hard to stand it every time, but I managed. Finally, it was time to find out the results of our hard work. My hands were very sweaty because I was sooo nervous. The numbers kept going up and our name was not called but then it was called up – we came 7th, it's my lucky number and we were all joking that it should have been 1. It was time to walk and ring at the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. It was a very long climb up to the ringing chamber, about 500 steps. Since the bells were too heavy, I was allowed to become the strapper for the tenor. It's officially called the heaviest change ringing bell in the world. I really loved ringing it. (Sarah Robbins)

All of the young ringers rang really well, resulting in a position much better than any of us thought we would achieve. It was better being all at one tower with no heats as it makes it a fair competition (Sam and Will Beech)

Essex Young Ringers practices cater for all levels of ringing for those under the age of 26. We usually practice once a month and the next practices are Sunday 27 October and Sunday 24 November with an all day outing on Saturday 28 September. Keep an eye on the EACR website or Facebook for further details. If you are under 19 at 31 August 2020 you could also be part of the RWNYS on 4 July 2020!

Christina Brewster, Youth Coordinator
Email: essexyoungringers@eacr.org.uk

Website: <http://eacr.org.uk/eyr/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/youngsessexringers/

*That's a First!***Quarter peals:**

1st quarter at 1st attempt: Vanessa Ellams; Sylvia A Crick, Carolyn Corben
 1st quarter: Chris Sandy; Janice Snell; Joshua Cooper; Simon Ward; Denise Kerwin;
 Kieran Ward; Peter R Harvey; Katherine E Marshall; David M Baker
 1st on treble: Sarah Scannell; Ian Patch; Lucas Bent
 1st away from cover: Phil Kelly
 1st inside: Emily Brooks
 1st multi-method: Barbara Wilson; Sarah Scannell
 1st Grandsire Doubles: David Thorpe; Kieran A L Kerwin; Scott Kerwin; Gemma
 Crouchman; Sue Evans; Clare Gebel; John M Church
 1st St Martin's Bob Doubles: David Buckley; Lin Ould
 1st Minor: John Latham; Emily Brooks; Tony Eaton
 1st Plain Bob Minor: Sue Evans
 1st spliced: Patrick Draper
 1st on 8: Alison E Looser; Oliver J Clinton
 1st Triples inside: David French
 1st Grandsire Triples: John M Church
 1st Major: Guy Wells
 1st Major inside: David Buckley
 1st Double Norwich: John Cousins; Andrew Beech
 1st Superlative Surprise: Ros C Skipper
 1st on 10: Samuel Beech
 1st Caters: David Knott
 75th quarter: Vicki Elliott
 100th quarter: Mark Button; David Buckley
 200th quarter: Alwyn Brock
 225th quarter: Clare Beech
 500th quarter: Margaret French
 1400th quarter: Stephen J Nash
 2100th quarter: Ian Cresshull
 1st as Conductor: Samuel Beech
 1st Grandsire as Conductor: Angela Blackburn
 1st Surprise as Conductor: Richard Jones
 25th as Conductor: Janice Spalding
 1100th as Conductor: Dennis Ellisdon

Information to end of June. Apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.

25th together: James Laken & Andrew Beech; William Beech & Clare Beech

50th together: Samuel Beech & Andrew Beech

400th together: Cathryn Corns & Stephen Nash

800th together: Patricia Cresshull & Liz Griffith-Jones

1st Treble Bob Royal in hand: Andrew R C Kelso; Gillian M Sparling

1st in hand as Conductor: Andrew R C Kelso

Peals:

1st peal: Sue Evans

125th peal: Andrew P Brewster; Vicki L Chapman

2000th peal: Paul A Cammiade

250th for the Association: Ian J Culham

1750th for the Association: James L Towler

100th together: Jon Waters & James L Towler

300th together: James L Towler & Colin F Chapman

1st in hand: Ian J Culham

Association Training Day

This year's training day is on Saturday 23rd November 2019, 9.30am to approx. 4.30pm and is based in the North West District.

There will be three groups on offer from the Association which will be for Plain Hunting and Plain Bob Doubles. To apply for a place, download an application form from www.eacr.org.uk training page or send an SAE for an application form to: Richard Wilson, EACR Education Officer, 57 Wilshire Avenue, Springfield, Chelmsford, CM2 6QW.

Forms will be available from both sources from 31st August 2019 onwards.

There will be 6 places in each group; first come, first served. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2019.

*There will be a charge of £10 for the above which must be paid **in advance**, cheques to be made payable to EACR. We operate this system because in previous years there have been people who have applied and then failed to attend without notice or reason, thus wasting valuable training spaces others could have used. No e-mail applications will be accepted.*

We are also looking to arrange courses run by the Association of Ringing Teachers, which would be Module 1 Teaching Bell Handling and Module 2 Foundation Skills and Change Ringing. Details of these would be available from the Association of Ringing Teachers website, a link for which is available on the EACR training webpage. These courses would run for slightly longer than the above times.

Helpers are also required for this day; please contact Richard on 01245 358765 or 07587140804 or e-mail: education@eacr.org.uk if you are able to help.

Striking Competition 2019

This year the Association striking competition finals were held on Saturday 13th July. The Southern District hosted the event and the judges for both the 6-bell and 8-bell competitions were Tom Lawrance and Elizabeth LeMoine.

The 6 bell competition was held at St Laurence & All Saints at Eastwood, the church is located at the alongside the runway at Southend airport which made for some great plane spotting and interesting ringing. Ten teams entered with representation from every district, there was some very good ringing despite a rather odd struck tenor. The results were:

1. Chelmsford Cathedral, 76%;
2. Kirby-le-Soken, 73%;
3. Coggeshall, 72%;
4. Writtle, 71%;
5. Prittlewell and Bishops Stortford 64%;
7. West Ham, 63%;
8. Shenfield, 62%;
9. Mistley, 59%;
10. Willingale, 53%.

The judges gave their views and comments after an epic bell-ringers' tea in Eastwood Church hall, with thanks to Beth Johnson for organising the event and the Tower captain Peter Knight for manning the tower.



After tea the judges and those competing in the inter-district 8 bell competition retired to St Andrew's Church, Rochford for the 8 bell draw. This year's test piece was Alderney Surprise Major, the judges rang the bells and noted that the bells were very light and therefore hard to ring. Despite this the five teams rang well, the results were:

1. South-East, 73%
2. Southern, 72%
3. South-West, 65%
4. North-Eastern, 63%
5. North-West, 59%

From the Registers

21st birthday: Daniel Howell

50th birthday: Bryan Morrissey; Jenny Bennett; Martin Jones

70th birthday: Jane Walters

Deaths: We regret to report the deaths of Nick Tovey, of Sandon; Tony Parry, formerly of Saffron Walden; Ron Payne, of Wivenhoe; Paul Bloomfield, of Dagenham; David Cobb, formerly of Layer-de-la-Haye and Shrub End; Terry Horton, of Harwich.

2020 AGM: date change

Next year's Early May Bank Holiday has been moved to Friday 8 May to be part of the "VE Day 75" commemoration.

This date is not suitable for our AGM which will therefore take place on

Monday 25 May.

The next edition of *Rounds & About* is planned for December 2019. Please send contributions and suggestions for articles to newsletter@eacr.org.uk or by post to Fred Bone, 11 Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9DB by **1 November 2019**.