



Contacts:

Master

John Harpole (Basildon)
17 Tiplers Bridge
Ramsden Heath Billericay
Essex CM11 1JE
Tel: 01268 711687
email
stripedgerbil@tiscali.co.uk

Deputy Master:

Phil Harrison (Thorpe Bay)
01702 711193

Secretary/Treasurer

Julia Jones (Downham)
10 Teignmouth Drive
Rayleigh Essex, SS6 9PF
email
julia.coggins@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 07880 735659

Committee Rep.

Cathryn Corns (Prittlewell)
32 Coburg Lane
Langdon Hills Basildon
Essex, SS16 6TH
cathryncorns@googlemail.com
Tel. H 01268 413553
M 07768 124683

*Please send any and all reports,
pictures, notices etc to
Beth Johnson at
b.johnson@creative-plus.co.uk,
tel 01277 205102 or post to
67 London Road Brentwood
CM14 4NN.*

Essex Association of Change Ringers

NEWSLETTER

Southern District

No. 103

June 2008

NEXT EVENTS:

June 21st - District Outing

July 30th - Evening Practice Basildon

see events listing at end of newsletter

District Outing to Bedfordshire on June 21st

All district members and friends are welcome to join us on our annual district outing. Please see attached poster for details of the towers. This year we are visiting Bedfordshire on Saturday June 21st, starting at Toddington just off junction 12 of the M1. Please make your own arrangements for lunch. Either bring a picnic or visit one of the many pubs or cafés in Dunstable.

Due to problems getting towers for the afternoon, two of the towers are still to be confirmed.

Please let John, Julia or Phil know by Thursday June 19th if you are planning to join us. They will then be able to confirm the final tower list.

Sad news from Canewdon.

Brian Meldon writes: Our bell project leader for the past 20 years and village historian Ken Smith passed away this morning [31st May] after suffering a bad stroke about two weeks ago. We are all deeply shocked by this loss. It was Ken that had been overseeing the entire project and did all the negotiating with English Heritage, the Chelmsford Diocese, the architect, the Canewdon PCC and the relatives of the late John Mitchell who left the money for the bells. You may also recall it was Ken that wrote the first article that was published in the October 2007 Newsletter.

Please see next page for the latest information about the Canewdon installation.

Dedication at Romford

The dedication service at Romford will take place on Sunday 22nd June. The bells will be available from 4pm. Choral Evensong will be at 6.30pm during which the bells will be dedicated. There may be an opportunity to ring again after the service. If you would like to attend, please contact Jimmy Prior on 07951 622794 or email jimprior@btinternet.com

Update on the Canewdon bell project:

All the paperwork is in place and we now have our faculty.

The first of the new bells, the no.2 bell, was cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry at 5:30pm on Friday 25th April, with five Canewdon ringers present to see it happen. It is 217 years since the last Canewdon bell was cast at the same place!

The moulds for the next bells to be cast, the 4th and 5th are already complete and the ten new headstocks have also been made. Work at the Church will begin on 8th May.

We now have fifteen from our small village who regularly attending bell practice at Prittlewell on Wednesdays and another one or two are expected to re-join us in June.

PS The three old bells that are cracked were successfully lowered down the tower on the 8th May and taken away to be welded. Several of the Canewdon bell ringers were in attendance.



Association AGM – 5th May 2008

The 129th AGM of the Association was held at Chelmsford Cathedral. The day started with ringing on the 12 bells, and was followed by a service at which the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford gave a very inspiring address. Four district members, Jose and Bernard Sadler, Hilary Donoghue and Ron Brown acted as “sidesmen” for the service, and we have received a letter from the Association secretary thanking them for their help.

After the service, the meeting was held with the master, Stephen Nash, in the chair. After the normal preliminaries, the minutes of the previous AGM were confirmed, and the accounts and annual report for 2007 were both received and adopted. Next on the agenda were the two motions that were being presented at the meeting: the first was to change our membership rules so that ringing members will no longer be free from subscription once they reach the age of 65, and the second was a tidying up after a small change of responsibilities between the Association secretary and treasurer. Both motions were passed.

Next up was the election of Honary Officers. After a vote Brian Meads from Coggeshall was elected as our new Association master, Vicki Chapman from Chelmsford was elected unopposed as secretary, Andrew Brewster from Writtle was re-elected as treasurer, Mary Bone, Colin Chapman and Bernard Fairhead were elected as property trustees, and Michael Green and Richard Dunhill (formerly of Langdon Hills) were elected as Independent Examiners.

The meeting then elected Yvonne Towler from Inworth as a life member of the Association in recognition of the many years of service she has done as a member of the Inworth band and as an officer of the South-East district.

The meeting concluded with presentations to the outgoing officers. Firstly John Tipping (formerly of Rochford) and Wendy Godden were thanked for being the Association’s auditors and independent examiners for 35 and 34 years respectively. The Bishop of Chelmsford then presented engraved glasswear to Stephen Nash and Mary Bone in recognition of being our master and secretary for the last 10 years.

The day concluded with ringing in the Northern district.

Memories of Jessie Kippin, who died Aged 99 on April 16th.2008

Jessie moved to Essex in 1998 to live near her daughter, Hilary after the death of her husband, Charles. She had planned to ‘hang up her rope’, but the local ringers thought otherwise and Peter Fleckney was sent to pick her up and take her to Downham Practice. Jessie was quite pleased to be collected by this ‘young man’ and went with Roger and Ann Dorking to practices, outings and meetings for some years, returning with raffle prizes and cakes left over from the teas. She also went on Hornchurch outings with Chris Pain, an old friend dating back to Southampton days. When she was 90 the Downham ringers held their annual belfry dinner on her birthday in her honour. Roger Dorking has put together some highlights from this time.

“I first had the pleasure of meeting Jessie in her later years when she moved to Billericay to be near her daughter, Hilary. Jessie was in her 89th year when she came to Downham and joined us at our six bell tower. She was still ringing London and Stedman, her favourites, and was very helpful with our less able ringers.

She was living in a warden controlled flat and I used to pick her up and safely take her home after practice, meetings and outings. One night sitting in the pub after practice I told a story with a double meaning. When I had finished, Jessie, who sat next to me, asked if I would repeat it. Thinking I had better change it a bit the second time but when I had finished, she turned to me and said, “You didn’t say that the first time!” with a broad grin on her face.

Jessie liked a Whisky Mac when we went to the pub. One night I encouraged her to have another one which she enjoyed. As we left the pub with Jessie on my arm she said “Do you know Roger, I feel quite Squiffy”.

We went on an outing to Maidstone and we left the ringing early to get to the pub for lunch as it was quite a walk. We had ordered our food before the others arrived, by which time we had finished and Jessie had ordered a pudding. Well it was a long time coming, and when it did arrive Jessie said to the young waitress, “Do you know I have developed a second hunger.” Sadly the comment was wasted on the waitress.

She was a lovely lady who had a great sense of humour and a wonderful turn of phrase. I have some great memories of her and she will be sorely missed by everyone.”

Josie and Bernard Sadler were equally welcoming to both Charles and Jessie, when they came to Essex, inviting them back for coffee after Sunday service ringing at Prittlewell. They first met Jessie and Charles at Winchester Cathedral on their way home from a ringing weekend and Jessie had invited them back to tea before they returned to Essex. The lemon cake recipe that Jessie gave to Josie became known in Prittlewell as ‘Kippin’ cake.

District Striking Competition

The district striking competition was held at North Ockendon on a wet Saturday May 17th. Many thanks to Vicki and Colin Chapman from Chelmsford Cathedral for judging the competition, and to the North Ockendon ringers for a splendid tea. Also thanks to Phil Harrison for once again being Master of Ceremonies.

Thanks to the 6 teams who entered the competition, and the results were:

1st	Downham	126 faults	rang 3rd
2nd	Prittlewell	144 faults	rang 1st
3rd	South Weald	149 faults	rang 2nd
4th	North Ockendon	153 faults	rang 4th
5th	Brentwood area	205 faults	rang 5th
6th	All sorts	138 faults	rang 6th (disqualified)

So Downham and Prittlewell will be representing the district at the Association finals at Henham on July 5th.

The 6 teams were, in bell order (treble to tenor), left to right:



Downham: Ann Dorking, Hilary Donoghue, Roger Dorking, Paul Cammiade, Nigel Taylor, Julia Jones



Prittlewell: Judy Rolf, Penny Sloman, Peter Sloman, Steve Halliwell, David Sloman, Cathryn Corns



South Weald: Vic Dale,
Maria Jorysz,
Beth Johnson,
Ian Jorysz, Paul Trueman,
Fiona Chapman



North Ockendon:
Clare Beech,
Alison Nash,
Alex Barnes,
Matthew Scott,
Andrew Beech,
Brian Beech



Brentwood area:
Holly Mifsud,
Ron Brown,
Renee Page-Jones,
Ray Jones,
Chris Bailey,
Robin Page-Jones



All sorts:
Hilary Spooner,
Rowena Marshall,
Vic Dale,
John Harpole,
Steve Nash,
Michael Warren



The Essex Association of Change Ringers
SOUTHERN DISTRICT
2008 Diary of Events



DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Saturday 21 June	DISTRICT OUTING	Bedfordshire	from 10:30 am
Saturday 5 July	<i>Association Striking Competition FINALS</i>	Henham / Hatfield Broad Oak	
Wednesday 30 July	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 20 September	DISTRICT MEETING	Basildon (8)	3:30 pm
Saturday 27 September	QUIZ NIGHT	North Ockendon	7:00 for 7:30 pm
Saturday 4 October	<i>Association Annual Dinner</i>	County Hotel, Chelmsford	
Saturday 11 October	<i>Association Executive Committee Meeting</i>	Danbury	2:30 pm
Saturday 18 October	District Training Day / District Afternoon Practice	(TBA)	(tba)
Wednesday 29 October	District Evening Practice	Basildon (8)	7:30 pm
Saturday 15 November	DISTRICT MEETING Preceded by Call Change Competition	Rettendon (6)	2:30 pm (note earlier start)
Saturday 13 December	District Carol Service	Bentley Common (6)	3:30 pm

2009

Saturday 17 January	ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING	Prittlewell (10)	3:30 pm
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PLEASE NOTE:

JAN / MARCH / SEPT - District Meeting arrangements (*times for Tea, Meeting & Evening Ringing are approximate*):
3:30pm: Afternoon Ringing, 4:30pm: Service, 5:00pm: Tea, 6:15pm: Meeting, 7:00pm: Evening Ringing

NOVEMBER - District Meeting arrangements (*times for Tea, Meeting & Evening Ringing are approximate*):
2:30pm: Competition Ringing, 4:30pm: Service, 5:00pm: Tea, 6:15pm: Meeting, 7:00pm: Evening Ringing

DECEMBER - District Carol Service arrangements:
3:30pm: Afternoon Ringing, 4:30pm: Service, 5:30pm: Seasonal Refreshments

Any changes to the programme will be announced at district meetings
or via the district newsletter.



SOUTHERN DISTRICT OUTING TO BEDFORDSHIRE

Saturday 21st June 2008

Tower ringing times are:

10:30 am	Toddington	(8)
11:30 am	Stanbridge	(6)
2:00 pm	Dunstable	(8)
3:15 pm	Tottenhoe*	(8)
4:15 pm	Eaton Bray*	(6)
5:15 pm	Studham	(6)

* - to be confirmed

Cost is £5 per person to cover tower donations, etc - remainder to BRF.

Please let John, Julia or Phil know that you are coming, preferably by Thursday 19th June. Phone numbers / email addresses can be found at the back of the annual report or on the district newsletter.

All ringers in the district are welcome, so please support this event as it promises to be a most enjoyable day.

Please display this poster on your tower notice board and we look forward to seeing you.