



## KCACR ROCHESTER DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2006  
Chalk

### MINUTES

The meeting at Chalk, which was held in the church, was preceded by the district 6-bell striking competition and tea. It was attended by 19 ringers & friends representing 9 towers within the district.

1. All were welcomed to the meeting by Sue Symons, who chaired the meeting. Florence Hamp took the minutes.
2. Apologies were received from Sonya & Derek Gowdy and Neil Jones.
3. The striking competition was judged by Alex Britton & Rachel Backhouse from the Lewisham district. They made the following comments about the ringing: -
  - There was a tendency for the back bells not to get into the change easily.
  - Team 1 rang Grandsire Doubles. They took time to settle and there was a crunch from which they found it difficult to recover. There was some unevenness but also some nice ringing.
  - Team 2 rang Norwich Surprise Minor. There were not enough open handstroke leads. It was nice ringing to listen to but need to work at dodges.
  - Team 3 rang Grandsire Doubles. Good speed but lots of little inconsistencies, which improved as time went on. Alex described this effort as "a nice piece of wedding ringing".
  - The results were: -
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> with 76 faults: Team 1 (Meopham)
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> with 53 faults: Team 3 (Hoo/High Halstow)
    - 1<sup>st</sup> with 36 ½ faults: Team 2 (Tunstall)
4. Minutes of the last meeting were circulated, read and accepted as correct.
5. There were no matters arising.
6. Election of new members: -
  - Brian Lawson (Newington) - Proposed by Gareth Lawson, seconded by Steve Haynes
  - David Irwin (Halling) - Proposed by Steve Haynes, seconded by Gareth Lawson
  - David Smith (Rochester Cathedral) - Proposed by Neil Jones, seconded by Roger PocockAll were elected members of the association.
7. District rep's report – Florence talked about the county committee meeting, which was held at Leeds on 25<sup>th</sup> February: -
  - Guidelines for the giving of bell restoration grants are now on the KCACR website.
  - Rules document to be held by the secretary, published in the handbook, and put on website to ensure they are as up to date as possible.

- Rochester district brought up the possibility of collecting subscriptions by direct debit or standing order. It is up to each district how they collect subscriptions. Maidstone district send a letter in December or January, a reminder in April and if no response after reminder the member's name is deleted.
- The chairman's chain of office is full. A new one is being investigated and the old one will then be sent to the librarian.

District rep's report from AGM held at Benenden on 17<sup>th</sup> April: -

- There was a suggestion that the maximum bell restoration grant be raised from £4,000 to £6,000, unless funds fall below £50,000. The general committee will discuss this.
  - No Handbook editor has been appointed (no names were put forward).
  - David Manger was elected as Chairman.
  - A motion to increase the peal fees was defeated. There was a discussion about having an association peal book. This was decided against as electronic records would supersede it.
  - Forthcoming events: -
    - 9<sup>th</sup> September - Essex Trophy at St Bartholomew, Haslemere
    - 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Kent county 6-bell striking contest in the Rochester district
    - 9<sup>th</sup> April 2007 - AGM in the Canterbury district.
8. The Ringing masters' report was given by Gareth Lawson & Steve Haynes.
- The district outing will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> May to Brighton and the surrounding area by coach (which has a toilet!). Pick up points will be Sittingbourne railway station and Meopham (also possibly Hempstead if required).
  - The turn out at the first two meetings/practices of the year had been very good, but very disappointing at Chatham in March with only 9 people present.
9. Sales and marketing - Sue Symons reported that the shop is now on the website, with clothing available too. Emails should be sent to Sue to place an order. A print-off will be available at the next meeting for those without internet access. Sales too were good.
10. There was no correspondence.
11. Forthcoming Events - District outing on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May and next district practice at Gravesend on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 10.00am-12.00pm.
12. Any Other Business: -
- Steve Haynes suggested that Rochester District meetings be changed to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. Some of the other districts also meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday (as Rochester district) and changing to the 4<sup>th</sup> might encourage ringers from other districts to visit. To be discussed further at the ADM.
  - East Peckham needs ringers. Details on KCACR website or from Gareth Lawson.

A vote of thanks was given to Michael Wilkinson and Chalk for hosting the striking competition at short notice as they were unaware of the meeting until the previous evening. The judges were also thanked, as was Florence Hamp for providing tea. Ringing continued until 7.00pm under the direction of Steve.