

KCACR Rochester District  
Quarterly Meeting  
St. Dunstan, Frinsted  
Saturday 21 July 2007

Minutes of Meeting (Unadopted)

The Meeting was opened by the Chairman, Alan Driver, welcoming the visitors and also thanking those members of Rochester District for attending.

**Apologies for Absence:** Tim Ford (Bredgar), Steve Haynes and Sue Symons (Tunstall) and Graham and Nicola Cottle (Hoo St. Werburgh).

**Minutes of Previous Meetings:** The Minutes for the last two meetings, the Call change competition at Cuxton and the Quarterly Meeting at St. Margaret's Rochester were taken as read. There being no amendments it was proposed by Gareth Lawson and seconded by Nigel Haig that they were approved and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** None

**New Members:** None

**District Reps' Report:** Florence Hamp gave the report of the last County Committee Meeting, copy attached.

**Ringling Masters' Report:** Gareth Lawson thanked all those who attended the District Outing to Guildford and said he felt it had been a great success. He did feel that perhaps the number of ringers who wish to attend next year should be limited as it had been difficult to ensure all had a ring at each tower. It was felt by the meeting that this may cause problems and the suggestion was that 8 bell towers would be preferable to 6 bell towers to cater for the numbers. £150 was raised for the BRF. Gareth asked for suggestions for the venue for next year. Nigel Haig thanked Gareth for organizing the outing.

**Forthcoming Events:** Next meeting will be evening ringling at Queenborough (to be confirmed) on 18<sup>th</sup> August. Quiz Night for November also to be confirmed.

**Any Other Business:** Alan Driver handed out copies of the proposed new belfry prayer which is to be used as alternative to the current belfry prayer. After discussion Roger Pocock proposed and Malcolm Major seconded that the existing prayer should remain. After a show of hands the meeting agreed.

Gareth Lawson asked that any information that would be of interest to other ringers should be sent to him for the Website. In relation to change of tower details these should be first of all forwarded to Graham Cottle who would advise Gareth so the website could be updated.

Chris Trafford said the mini-ring is now available to be used for weddings, summer fairs and other functions, his details for contact are under the Bobbing in the Handbook.

**Vote of thanks:** Peter Hartley thanked all the District Officials for all their hard work, Canon John Smith for the use of the bells, Barry Roberts and the Frinsted ringers for their hospitality, the Ladies for tea and Malcolm Major for organizing the meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.30 p.m. Ringling then ensued on the Mini-Ring and afterwards in the tower.

District Reps report from county committee meeting 5<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Brenda Barton, from the Lewisham district, is going to sit on the Olympic Pilot Committee, where ringing for the Olympics will be discussed. There have already been discussions about installation of a new ring, but this was not agreed.

Walter Dobbie's model bell had been offered by Sheila Dobbie to the Dover ringing centre, but Mr Dale felt it should be owned by the Association. Other options were discussed but for the time being it will be kept at Dover.

The Ringing trends committee of the central council wish to carry out a census of all towers. In due course a questionnaire will be sent round.

There was a discussion about how to lessen the errors in the handbook. Although this year's had been proof read, the corrections had not appeared in the final edition.

The chairman has received a letter from Rev Stanley Evans saying that the Archbishop of Canterbury would like to attend a county function in the future.

Training. Mr Hardy feels he is still on a learning curve. He has not received many e mails about what people want or need, some of the training events have been poorly subscribed, and he has had no feedback about those that did happen. He would also like feedback from the districts about training at a local level. There is a training poster downloadable from the county website, and Mr Lewis would welcome write ups and photos from training events to put on the website.

Bell Restoration. The Keltek trust possibly has a ring of six bells available for Stone. Mr Butcher enquired whether the project at Northfleet was still progressing, and the Rochester district rep. said this should be kept open. [I have today, 20/07/07, spoken to Derek Wilkinson, and he confirms that the project is still ongoing, but has been slowed up by the vicar leaving, and the fact that they are in an interregnum. With Derek's permission I have sent an E mail to Brian Butcher and the county secretary, to keep them informed.]

St Mary's Chatham. Mr Wraight handed out his report on the bells which had already been sent to the AGM. He said the fittings are deteriorating, he is concerned by the lack of use, and would like the Association's backing to put the bells on the transfer list. This was approved, but also has to be approved by the Diocese which may take some time.

Striking competitions.

Essex trophy will be held at Bletchingly on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2007. The chairman wanted to ensure we enter this year, and the Canterbury district have offered to organize this.

County six bell will be held at Chevening on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2007 draw at 3.45 ringing to commence at 4 pm.

Forthcoming events. Gaining ropesight Training Day at Lyminge 10am to 4pm [organized by the Dover ringing centre]

The cost of handbooks for non members has been raised to £4-00 to cover postage.