

KCACR Rochester District  
Annual District Meeting  
Rochester Cathedral  
Saturday 20 October 2007

Minutes of Meeting  
(Unadopted)

The event was attended by approximately 30 people. Ringing commenced at 14:30. Ringers then attended Choral Evensong. Tea and the meeting were held in the Crypt.

The Chairman, Alan Driver welcomed all those attending.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Nicola Cottle, Arthur Vidgeon, Tim and Diana Wraight, Peter Hartley, the Chalk band, Bryan Boughton, Kris Thomsett and Derek and Sonya Gowdy.

Minutes of Meeting at Frinsted

Copies of the meeting held at Frinsted on 21 July were circulated. Graham Cottle commented that the date as printed was incorrect, but that it had been noticed on the copy inserted in the minute book. Alan Driver testified to this. It was proposed by Margaret Funnell and seconded by Gareth Lawson that they be signed as a true copy.

Matters Arising

There were none

New Members

Kris Thomsett of Kings School Rochester and Rochester Cathedral, proposed by Neil Jones and seconded by Anita Perryman. Alan Driver welcomed Kris to the Association.

Officers' Reports

*Chairman*

Alan Driver thanked the other officers and the County officers for their efforts over the past year. He thanked all ringers for their commitment to service ringing and practice nights and in particular those who travel around to other towers in the district supporting other bands. He would encourage all to get out and about and to keep the art of change ringing alive and well in our society.

*Secretary*

As attached (Appendix A)

*Treasurer*

Derek Gowdy was not able to be at the meeting and sent in an interim report of the accounts, as attached in Appendix B. Alan Driver invited comments and they would be fed back to Derek Gowdy. Steven Haynes asked why the profit of the raffle of £400 as reported in the Secretary's report did not appear to be reflected in this report. The question would be fed back to Derek Gowdy.

*Ringing Masters*

Gareth Lawson and Steven Haynes commented that the Outing to Guildford had been a great success. They emphasised that all ringers are welcome to all events regardless of their ability.

*District Reps' Report*

As attached (Appendix C)

Rhian Bagshaw asked why the District did not enter the 6 bell competition. Tunstall, the winners had been unable to raise a band and no request was made to another band to enter a team in their place. It was also noted from the meeting that some bands may not be aware of this particular competition rule which allows another band to take part. Graham Cottle asked the District Representatives to request that if handbook returns are required early for an early Easter, then they should be sent out as soon as possible to enable this to happen.

*Web Master's Report*

Gareth reported that the fees to the hosting company had recently been paid. It was felt that the web site does have a place within the District. However, material for it is still desperately needed.

*Sales Rep's Report*

Susan Symons reported that she had been unable to get to many events in the past year. She had fulfilled a few emailed orders from the web site.

#### Election of Officers

*Chairman:* Alan Driver proposed by Rhian Bagshaw, seconded by Steven Haynes.

*Secretary:* Graham Cottle proposed by Anita Perryman, seconded by Derek Wilkinson.

*Treasurer:* Derek Gowdy proposed by Rhian Bagshaw, seconded by Gareth Lawson.

*Ringing Masters:* Gareth Lawson and Steven Haynes, proposed by Graham Cottle, seconded by Alan Driver.

*District Representatives:* Florence Hamp and Margaret Funnell, proposed by Derek Wilkinson, seconded by Steven Haynes.

*Sales Rep:* Alan Driver and Anita Perryman, proposed by Susan Symons, seconded by Margaret Funnell.

*Committee Members:* Susan Symons, proposed by Ben Kipling, seconded by Margaret Funnell.

#### Planning 2007 – 2008

Quarter Peal Week: 10 – 18 November 2007. Any band requiring help can contact Gareth Lawson or Steven Haynes.

Quiz Night: 17 November. This has been cancelled.

Carol Service: 15 December 2007 at Sittingbourne.

Quarterly Meeting: 19 January 2008 at Northfleet.

Morning Ringing: 16 February 2008 at Upchurch.

Evening Ringing: 15 March 2008 at Gravesend (tbc).

County 8 Bell Competition: 28 June 2008 in the Tonbridge District. Method and location to be confirmed.

Rhian Bagshaw proposed and Florence Hamp seconded that the Striking and Call Change Competitions be moved to April. The motion was carried.

Further District events will be arranged by the committee and advised on the website, at meetings and in the Handbook.

#### Child Protection

The KCACR Child Protection advisor, Nigel Spencer spoke at length regarding child protection issues and how they affect us as bellringers.

The book "Protecting God's Children" issued by the Council of Bishops refers to bellringers as "Voluntary Helpers" and does not distinguish them from Sunday School leaders and helpers and glower arrangers. It suggests that all such people are CRB checked. Some clergy take this literally and insist that all are CRB checked.

The CCCBR suggests that local bands discuss with the PCC and just have a few people checked. KCACR agrees with this approach. From Nigel's initial survey, excluding the Rochester District approximately 80% have adopted this policy. A quick poll of the members present at the meeting showed that 2 towers have had to have all their members CRB checked, 5 have just done a few and 1 has made an alternative local arrangement with their PCC which requires that any children in the tower must be accompanied by their parents at all times.

#### Any Other Business

Neil Jones mentioned the 10 Bell practises at Rochester Cathedral. These will normally be on the 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday of a month. The next two are to be on 22<sup>nd</sup> November (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in this case) and 31 January 2008.

#### Vote of Thanks

Rhian Bagshaw thanked the Dean and Chapter of Rochester Cathedral for allowing us to use the Bells and for the special welcome in the Choral Evensong. Rhian thanked Neil Jones and the Cathedral band for their organisation and the tea.

The meeting closed at 18:00 and ringing continued until 20:00

## Appendix A - Secretary's Report

This year has had a mixed bag of fortunes.

The Carol Service at Tunstall was reasonably well attended. The Raffle raised £400. The meeting at Cliffe to ring on the recently rehung bells was very well attended.

The meeting at St Margaret's Rochester, a tower which had also recently become available was attended by 12 members. We were outnumbered by new members from St Margaret's and other visitors who had attended to grab the tower.

The District Outing was well attended. Gareth will speak more about that.

The meeting at Frinsted was reasonably well attended.

The Striking Competitions became farcical. Only one team entered the Striking Competition and we made up numbers by them entering a second band and with a scratch band. Congratulations to Tunstall for making the effort. The Call Change Competition went in a similar way, with no declared entries. We made up some scratch bands, one of which was predominantly made up of members from Halling. They were declared the winners.

Appendix B – Treasurer’s Report

KCACR – ROCHESTER DISTRICT

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007(to 1<sup>st</sup> October)

Income	2007	2006	Expenditure	2007	2006
Subs	1528	1413	Admin (Raffle)		188
Donations	250	365	Admin	16	84
Raffle		1003	Exces	1762	2701
Other		192			
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	1778	2973		1778	2973
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Bank Receipts (Subs)	1440
Bank Receipts (BRF)	250
Cash Receipts (Subs)	88
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	1778
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BRF Donations	2007	2006
Hoo	100	100
Eastchurch	30	20
Rainham	120	120
Upchurch		100
High Halstow		25
Raffle		815
Other (quiz night etc)		192
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	250	1372
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## Appendix C – District Rep's Report

### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT OCTOBER 2007

The Association Committee Meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and matters discussed included the following:

If any spare Handbooks need to be disposed of these should be sent to Peter Sims who will arrange for them to be given to Darren Harden for shredding. It is felt that these should not be just put in the general recycling due to the material being of a personal nature and in view of the Data Protection Act.

The Ringing Trends Questionnaire was to be sent out to the district Secretaries for them to arrange for the Towers to complete and return to the General Secretary.

(So far 102 reports have been returned in all, Rochester District only having sent back 9)

The Training Day set for 27<sup>th</sup> October has been brought forward by one week to 20<sup>th</sup> October.

Mr. Dale is still deciding about the Display Boards and hopes to place an order shortly with a firm in East Grinstead.

The Association enquired with regard to the mini ring owned by Chris Trafford and Florence has agreed to speak to him as to whether it can be made available for County events etc.

Walter Dobbie's model bell is to be displayed at Canterbury Cathedral.

Radio Kent will be pleased to publicize any local events.

Frank Lewis requires material for the website and if possible with pictures. He still requires tower contacts to confirm their names and email addresses can be publicized on the KCACR site.

Mr. Butcher said all towers should be extra security conscious as Bells and Lead are valuable items and open to being stolen.

The clapper for Borstal is now ready to be replaced. Contact needs to be made with the incumbent to arrange for payment, cost £230.58.

The Association took part in the Essex Trophy and came 5<sup>th</sup>, Canterbury Cathedral band representing the County.

The Inter District 6 Bell Striking competition took place at Chevening on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Tonbridge being the winners. Rochester District did not enter.

The 8 Bell competition will now be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> June instead of the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, venue to be advised but will be in the Tonbridge District. Hopefully we will enter a band.

There is a 10 Bell challenge issued by Ashford to Lewisham District and the suggested date was the 27<sup>th</sup> October. It was agreed that other Districts could participate if they wished.

Easter is early next year so reports need to be to the Handbook Editor earlier than normal to ensure the Handbook is ready for the AGM.