



KCACR ROCHESTER DISTRICT

# NOTICEBOARD

[www.rochesterdistrict.org.uk](http://www.rochesterdistrict.org.uk)

[groups.yahoo.com/group/rochester\\_district](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rochester_district)

JANUARY 06

**DISTRICT WEBSITE** - In November the district launched a brand new website, which was designed by Gareth Lawson. This website (not to be confused with the Yahoo! Group website) is an 'information' tool for ringers with internet access. It is updated with district news and includes information about towers, ringing times, maps/directions, diary of events, contact details for district officers and links to other useful bell ringing websites. The district shop is now live on the site, with details of everything available to buy. You can browse this at your own leisure and order any items directly from the site. Please take a look and visit often. It is important this site is kept up-to-date and displays correct information. Therefore, Gareth would like to be informed of any tower news and advised if any information currently published on the site needs amending or adding to; also if you experience technical problems or have ideas for improving the site please get in touch with Gareth.

**YAHOO! GROUP** – This is another website but it's more of a 'communication' tool. We use this very powerful medium to send messages (via email) about forthcoming ringing and events to all those registered, and we would like to see all other ringers using it too! Its main advantage is the message facility, which enables you to send a message to one individual member or to all members. An example would be to post a message to everyone advising that your tower practice won't be going ahead this week because of a service in the church, or to ask for extra ringers at a forthcoming wedding. The group can also be used as a forum for discussion. For example, you might need advice on a particular subject. Simply post a message to all and you might just get the answer you need! It's completely free and you will need to register with for a log-in name and password. Alternatively, subscribe to the email list and receive the messages, so you are kept up-to-date with what's going on in the district. See full details on the district website ([www.rochesterdistrict.org.uk](http://www.rochesterdistrict.org.uk)) and follow the link to the Yahoo! Group.

**THE DISTRICT SHOP** is now open again for business following the theft of the stock last year. You can view all items for sale at district events. Better still... if you have internet access the shop is now live on the district website, where you can 'browse and buy' at your own leisure. Contact Sue Symons with any sales enquiries on 07990 513603.

**COUNTY 8-BELL** – Following the district's win last year Steve Haynes has chosen the band for this years competition, to be held at East Farleigh on Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**DOING THE ROUNDS** – Since Gareth Lawson was elected District Ringing Master (DRM) alongside Steve Haynes they have been visiting tower practices with the district to introduce themselves, meet other ringers and establish a bridge of communication between the towers, their ringers and the district. So far they have been to Bobbing, Bredgar, Cuxton, Frindsbury, Halling, Hoo St Werburgh, Meopham, Rochester Cathedral, Sittingbourne, Tunstall & Wouldham, and they are grateful to everyone for making them welcome. The DRMs will continue to visit the remaining practices over the next few months.

Steve and Gareth have also been finding out why there has recently been a poor turn out at district ringing events (which take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month). It has become clear that many ringers were not aware of some events – despite being listed in the handbook. Family and other commitments also prevented attendance at district practices, as did concerns about their own standard of ringing 'not being good enough'. The DRMs wish to express that everyone is welcome; It does not matter whether you can ring only rounds or surprise methods. District practices are a good opportunity to ring on different bells with other ringers. Those in the early stages of learning will benefit from the opportunity to ring/learn something new. And the more 'experienced' ringers should get to ring methods they don't often get to ring!

The DRMs have also arranged a special training session for one particular tower at their request. Steve and Gareth will be happy to assist your local band if you feel you have reached the point of no further progress. Please don't be afraid to contact Steve Haynes on 07736 052868.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS (all welcome)**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Morning ringing, Frindsbury

- 10.00am – 12.00pm

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Evening ringing, Chatham

- 6.00pm – 8.00pm

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Apr** – KCACR County AGM, Benenden

**Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr** – Quarterly Meeting & District Striking Competition, Chalk (*tbc*)

- 3.30pm Draw, Competition & Tea
- 5.30pm Meeting & Results
- 6.30pm Open Ringing

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> May** – District Outing (*date tbc*)