

Southern News



The Southern District Newsletter *September and October 2017*

Words from your editor.

Hello again! Please read and enjoy your latest Southern News, covering dates for the next two months and news from the last two months. There are a few very important dates coming up, get them in your diary! I look forward to seeing many of you at the Barn Dance (the SCACR social event for 2017) and on the Southern District Outing. You'll find more details inside.

Have you seen in Soundbow about how well our Young Ringers did in the RWNVC in Birmingham in July? We had an enjoyable day in the city, ringing with young ringers from all across the country, producing some competitive ringing and having a laugh/ice cream in the sun. We got a ring at St. Martin's Church in the Bullring, a chance for us to ring plain hunt on 15. That took 'counting your places' to a whole new level!

Enjoy your ringing, strike well, and I'll see you soon.

Josh



Upcoming Events

www.scacr.org/scacr-calendar

Friday 25th August – Young Ringer's

Outing to Eastbourne. Contact annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk if you or you have a young ringer who'd like to come.

Wednesday 30th August - Progressing in Minor Practice at Alfriston 19:30.

Contact nickcantbells@outlook.com .

Monday 4th September – Surprise Major Practice at Southover 19:30.

nickcantbells@outlook.com

Saturday 23rd September – Southern District Ringing Outing to Guilford. More details inside. Contact will@jamiestaffordbathrooms.co.uk

Saturday 30th September – Handbell Day at Ringmer Primary School,

10:00. More details inside. Contact hamish@wandleys.demon.co.uk .

Saturday 30th September – Barn Dance (Annual Social Event) at

Rawson Hall, Bolney, 18:30. More details inside. Contact publicity@scacr.org for tickets.

Words from Mary – Your district secretary

I can't believe that it's time for another Southern District newsletter but Josh tells me it is so it must be true!

I have still made little headway with my visits to other towers as life seems to get in the way. However I did go to Little Horsted with a friend one evening in July and we were made to feel extremely welcome. We rang a variety of things - rounds and call changes, plain hunt and methods including Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor. The Little Horsted band also ring at Uckfield on alternate weeks but in the winter they only ring at Uckfield because Little Horsted is too cold! Little Horsted is a very beautiful old church. Do go and join them on a Tuesday evening before winter sets in but ring first to check that they will be there.

More Upcoming Events...

Friday 27th/Saturday 28th October – SCACR 2 Day Ringing Course. A great chance to improve your ringing skills. More details on courses inside. Contact annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk.

- Wanting to ring a Quarter Peal?
- Looking for more help at practice night?
- Want advice on moving a band forward?

Contact Mary, your district secretary, or any member of the Southern District Committee. We are here to help!



Last week I looked after my oldest granddaughter for a few days and decided to take her to Bletchley Park which is very close to where I grew up. As we were leaving I asked her if she would mind visiting the church next door as it is where I went as a child and where I got married. We were lucky enough to see their original King James

Bible which had once belonged to the king himself. Apparently when he had used a bible for a few years and he felt it was getting a bit worn he gave it away. St Mary's in Bletchley was lucky enough to receive theirs four hundred years ago. The church has a peal of eight bells but sadly there are no longer enough ringers to ring them regularly. (If any of you would be interested in going and ringing a quarter peal on them let me know!)

On Saturday we had an eight bell practice at Seaford. We were very pleased to have three ringers from other towers visit us, including Alison Everett who had travelled all the way from Bosham!

If I haven't yet visited your practice night I will endeavour to do so in the near future!

Mary Bur

Change Ringing Handbell Day Saturday 30th September 2017

Ringmer Primary School

Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5LL
Half-hourly buses from Lewes (and Brighton)

This event is open to all, especially:

- Handbell groups in Sussex and near by
- Those who enjoy change ringing on handbells but do not have a regular practice
- Those who want to have a go

The day will start at 10.00am and go on until 4.00pm.

There will be a charge of £6 to cover refreshments and lunch.

There will be three focus groups:

- Plain hunting to Plain Bob
- Plain Bob to Treble Bob
- Beyond Treble Bob

If you would like to attend this event please email Hamish McNaughton at hamish@wandleys.demon.co.uk stating which of the focus groups you would like to join and whether you are able to bring handbells.

Wisdom from the South...

I often get asked by ringers why they progress so slowly and/or are stuck at one stage of ringing. After a little questioning and chat I'm told they don't usually or never visit another tower practice night in the week. "Why"? I ask.

Sometimes people are very nervous about taking their 'ropey' skills elsewhere, other times they'd rather just 'stay at home' with their ringing. I understand where you all come from, I really do, however practice night visiting is tried and tested. It works! Take that step, get out an extra evening a week if you can and get some practice. You'll meet some new faces, some new bells and develop some new skills. Tell whoever is running practice what you ring, what you'd like to ring, and you're sorted.

So enjoy your evening in the company of some likeminded ringers. You might find you need the practice as much as they need you at the practice! It all adds up.

Anon.

Thanks to everyone who came to the latest Southern District practice at Seaford! The next monthly practice is in October as the outing is in September.



Heritage Open Days 2017

Heritage Open Days 2017 is 7-10 September this year. Last year many of our towers opened their doors for Open Days over the weekend, in conjunction with the church so if you can do so again it's a great opportunity to show people what we do hidden away in the tower. Here is the link: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/organising/how-to-get-involved>

Let's open the doors of the Southern District towers. Good luck!

Bells as a symbol of Church and community

Leading church insurer Ecclesiastical is launching a campaign to raise awareness of the contribution of churches to the local community, beyond their religious duties alone. The sound of church bells is synonymous with a feeling of community spirit and togetherness, so the



campaign would like to include bell ringing in its plans, to remind the public of the role that churches play in their local area. Churches provide vital community services free of charge such as food banks, mother and toddler groups, shelter services for the homeless, activities for the elderly and simply a place to go if you need a chat and some company.

The campaign coincides appropriately with the 2017 Heritage Open Days, and therefore they are asking that as many of us as possible ring our church bells during the period from 7 – 10 September 2017. Please consider helping them keep the role of churches alive this September, and ring your bells to remind your local community of your church's presence!

To let the public know that church bells will be ringing in unison across the country, Ecclesiastical will be engaging with the media to promote the event and the important message behind it.

Have a look on the Heritage Open Days website to find out more about the wider concept of the open days, including a nice spotlight on bells and ringing: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/news-desk/news/spotlight-barrow-bells>



The Southern District Ringing Outing 2017

Saturday 23rd September

Guilford

This year we will be visiting various towers in and around Guilford. Come along for a good day out, enjoy some new bells and perhaps meet some new ringers too. Ringing for all abilities! Itinerary and more details to be circulated very soon. For more details please contact William Stafford:

will@jamiestaffordbathrooms.co.uk



(Holy Trinity Church, Guilford)

There are no 'Views from Your District' this issue. This is because everyone, including the editor ;-) is on holiday. It will have to be double the views next time!

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Southern District Tower Practice Nights

These are always available at www.scacr.org/towers and in the SCACR handbook. Visiting local practice nights is a great way to improve your ringing and meet new people. You may also be surprised by how many ringers will return the favour and give your home tower a visit too! *The more practice you get, the more your ringing improves...*

Monday: Burgess Hill 7:45, Brighton; St Nicholas (2nd and 4th), St Peter (1st, 3rd and 5th) both 7:45, Chailey 8:00, Maresfield 8:00 (infrequent – please check), Newick 7:00 (*note new day and time*).

Tuesday: Aldrington 7:45, Brighton; Good Shepherd 7:00, Ditching 7:30, Southover (Lewes) 7:30, Little Horsted 7:30 (please check), Seaford 7:30, Shoreham-by-sea 7:45, Uckfield 7:30.

Wednesday: Buxted 8:00 (please check), Henfield 7:45, Keymer 7:30, Ringmer 7:30.

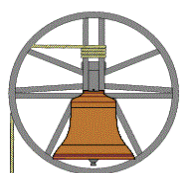
Thursday: Barcombe 7:30 (infrequent – please check), Brighton, St Mark 7:15 (best to check before travel), Hurstpierpoint 7:00, Wivelsfield 8:00.

Friday: Twineham 7:30 (1st, 3rd and 5th).

Keep up to date with the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers

Visit www.scacr.org

- Don't have a 'Soundbow' subscription? Contact Kathy Howard at Soundbow99@gmail.com, 01903 813653. Yearly subscription for post is just £6! Why not make a tower subscription if you don't have one already...
- Find SCACR on Facebook. Search 'SCACR'.
- Find SCACR on Twitter. Use @scacr and @susex bells.
- Contact Alison Everett, your Communications and Events Team leader, at publicity@scacr.org if you want to know more about social media.



The next edition of Southern News is for
November and December 2017

The deadline for write up's, events and relevant material is

28th October

Send it all to news-south@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter.

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