



Look To!

SCACR Eastern Division Newsletter November 2017

Welcome to your Autumn 2017 Edition of Look To!

Thank you, to everyone who has submitted articles for inclusion in this edition. We have had some excellent contributions. Remember we are always delighted to receive articles for inclusion in Look To! We love hearing about your ringing and sharing your news. So, whether you have just started learning to ring bells or you can count places in your sleep, please tell us about your ringing experiences. Photos are most welcome too. We aim to publish 4 editions of Look To! Each year. Articles can be emailed to the Look To! Editor, news-east@scacr.org. Please submit articles in Word Docx format if possible.

Proposed Practice Dates

5th December joint practice at Christ Church, Eastbourne
(Please note there will be no practice at St Mary's Eastbourne that night.)

Also, please check the SCACR Facebook page for details of forthcoming Minor practices.

Saturday 27th January 2018

Ringling at All Saints, Iden 11am-12midday
St Mary the Virgin, Rye 2-3pm
The church is in the middle of Rye and there are plenty of places to find some lunch or a snack.

SCACR Eastern District Programme for 2018 - 2019

Below are some dates for your diaries. Further details will follow

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| March 17 th | Southover TBC |
| April 17 th | Quiz at Hailsham Community Hall – (time to start recruiting your teams!) |
| May 5 th to 8 th | Outing to Norfolk |
| June 23 rd | Walk |
| July 28 th | Bodiam and Northiam TBC |
| August | No meeting |
| September 22 nd | Ashburnham TBC |
| October 20 th | Venue TBC |
| November 24 th | Chelmsford area |
| December | No meeting |
| January 26 th 2019 | St Saviours TBC |
| February 23 rd 2019 | TBC |

Annual District Meeting (ADM) Saturday 24th February.

As usual this will take place in February. This year it is being hosted by St. Clements, Hastings.
The Timetable for the Afternoon will be as follows

St. Clements, Hastings.

24th February 2018

2.30p.m. Ringing

4.00p.m. Service

4.30p.m. Tea

5.30 p.m. ADM

Names for teas to Rosemary Smith 01424718736. hastingsas@scacr.org by 21st February 2018

SCACR Quiz 2018

Our annual quiz will be held on [Tuesday 17 April 2018](#) 7.00 p.m. for 7.30p.m.

Details will be sent out nearer the time.

2018 Eastern District Outing

Our ringing tour next year will be from Saturday 5th May to Tuesday 8th May. We are planning to ring in Norfolk. Arrangements will be: Please make your own travel and accommodations arrangement. You are welcome to come for a day or stay the whole time. Ringing will be from rounds and up so please feel free to come along.

Trinity Church, Broadway at Wall Street in the Financial District of Lower Manhattan, New York City

12 Tower Bells: 23-3-17, Taylors, cast in 2006, donated by Dr Martin C Faulkes

In 1697 Trinity Church was granted a charter by King William III of England and the first service was held there a year later.

The present church building is the third on the site – consecrated in 1846 and a registered National Historic Landmark. The first church was lost in New York's Great Fire of 1776 and the second was demolished in 1839 after a heavy snowfall revealed structural problems.

In 2006 Trinity Church installed the only set of 12 change-ringing bells in the United States, a gift from British businessman and philanthropist Dr Martin C Faulkes.

In April, this year 2017 I was staying in New York with my brother who lives there and the Trinity Church ringing practice was high on my 'to do' list.

It took about ten minutes for us to cross by river taxi from Brooklyn to Wall Street and as we walked past the Trump building and the Stock Exchange the church was up ahead, large enough but dwarfed on all sides by the iconic New York skyline.

I approached the uniformed security guard at the church entrance and no sooner had I said the words 'bellringer' and 'hoping to join the practice' than a friendly voice called out in welcome and we were escorted up the circular stone staircase and then a steep ladder to reach the ringing room – 90 steps in all.

It all looked surprisingly familiar with copies of Ringing World on the table and mats on the floor from Taylors. I was soon invited to join in rounds and call changes on 12 bells. One of their ringers stood behind me until she was satisfied that I had the striking absolutely correct – I found this really helpful.

I sat out for a while as the practice continued with some Stedman Caters amongst other things. I enjoyed my second ring rather more as I was not so nervous!

My brother is not a ringer but we were both made very welcome. The bells had a thrilling sound with a tenor weight of 23-3-17. I am pleased we made it up there – and signed the visitors' book!

Lessons learned: don't be afraid and always give visitors a great welcome!

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.



SCACR Eastern Division Outing 18th November 2017

On a slightly grey overcast and drizzly day we set out on our outing to the Kent/ Surry/ Sussex borders for a day of ringing.

Starting at Limpsfield Chart St Andrew, a ring of 6 bells at 10.5 cwt, we immediately had to scale the outside ladder which was a challenge to some of us in the group, in fact it proved to be a day of interesting access to towers.

This was followed by Oxted St Mary a ring of 6 bells tenor 12 cwt. In the hall, next door, was a church fete and coffee and cake were available for those who were needing refreshment.

Midday saw us at Limpsfield St Peter, 6 Bells at 14.3 cwt. This tower involved another climb up a ladder, managed well by most of the group.

Having rung at the first 3 towers we then dispersed for lunch, some going to Westerham, others to Tatsfield to public hostelryes and the remainder scattered around various coffee houses etc.

Westerham St Mary was the first tower following lunch and this was a ground floor ring of 8 at 23cwt. By this time the weather was distinctly wet and miserable, but we were a happy band of people entertained in our chosen hobby, we chose this location to have our group photograph.

Brasted St Martin was the next tower, 8 bells at 9 cwt, and hung anticlockwise, which had some people (me)looking in the wrong direction, this was a lovely warm tower which we all enjoyed it had interesting sayings on the walls and jigsaws on the pews to keep us amused.

Our final tower of the day was Hever, 6 Bells at 9cwt, and once again this involved a ladder to access the ringing chamber. By the time we finished at 6 pm it was well and truly dark as is the case in November and the lights decorating the trees in the castle next door looked very festive.

It was good to meet with ringers from other districts and a tower grabber from out of area, it was a very pleasant day all round, I would like to express my thanks to Marion for arranging the towers.

Hazel Mottram



Eastbourne and District Change Ringers logo sewn onto a garment of your choice

To Eastbourne and District Ringers (and anyone else who would like one)

Christ Church, Eastbourne has a bell restoration fund. It benefits by a fiver every time Hazel Mottram embroiders the new, highly acclaimed Eastbourne and District Change Ringers logo onto a garment of your choice.

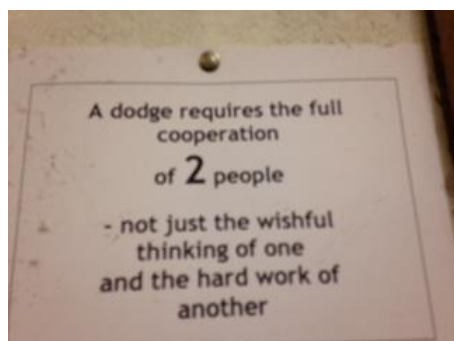


It works like this: You purchase or unearth your item of choice, e.g. t shirt, polo shirt, sweat shirt etc. and give it to Hazel at Christ Church with £5.

Please wash it first to allow for any shrinkage as otherwise it could distort the embroidery later. The embroidery colour will complement the base garment colour. Any queries to [Hazel](#) please.

Now wear your Sussex Martlets with pride! How simple and worthwhile is that?

A useful tip for change ringers seen in a tower recently



Ypres

11.11.2017

Having been taught by my mother in law Stella Shell to ring, possibly the only condition for asking to marry her daughter! I have been able to enjoy many ringing outings as a result of learning this formidable art. It is whilst waiting to ring I have taken to looking around the churches we have called into, and more often than not studying the war memorial boards, most often from the first world war, which I would describe as a sobering experience.

Last year I decide to make a point of going to Ypres to the Mennen Gate for the service of remembrance on the 11/11/2017, I booked up with a local coach travel firm Lyn's Coaches of Eastbourne, paying the princely sum of £40.00 for a day trip to include a visit to Ypres, selected grave sites, trenches and the Last post ceremony at the Mennen Gate.

It was whilst waiting for the date to come around that I became aware a new ring was to be installed in the Anglican Church of St Georges in Ypres. Making contact with the tower captain Elizabeth Millward, I was advised the bells had been installed and ringing would be available on the 11/11 at 10.00 to 10.45 hrs, and in the afternoon if I could make it.

On the appointed day, I managed to wake half an hour before my alarm at 3.30 in the morning on the 11/11, get dressed for what looked like an extremely wet day and catch the coach at 4a.m. Stopping for a few pick ups along the way we continued to Ashford to collect our drivers for the day. Having picked them up they informed us that the wheels on the train were not going round and round, more specifically on our Euro tunnel train and others that were found to have cracks in the wheels and to be suffering from metal fatigue, and were now withdrawn from service for the next 2 days. Typical, we were then told we were to be booked on to a ferry which would get us into Ypres possibly an hour or more later than was planned. Hopes were dashed for any ringing

Still we carried on, amazingly making up good time to arrive at 10.30 am in Ypres, just around the corner from St Georges. Needless to say, I pushed everyone out the way on the coach in a manner that mother in law would have been proud of, and legged it round to the tower just in time to climb the stair case and arrive as folk were about to ring down. Alan Regin who I had been in contact with, summed up the situation and called for a plain course of Grandsire and straight into ringing down. I took hold and off we went, however it became quickly obvious to me I was in the company of Ninja Greats of the ringing world, and it was a little daunting, but true to fashion with a smile here and a nod there I was very graciously helped through. (No honest, there wasn't a grimace or tut anywhere to be heard) The bells had been rung after the dedication service on 22nd October 2017 but this weekend was the first time they had been rung for any other services.

Alan then explained the work that had been undertaken to establish the ring, which are light and beautifully balanced. The chamber was lined with oak panelling and a memorial to William Henry Johnson V.C., the only bell ringer known to have won the Victoria Cross.

As we left the tower we were met by some poor bellringing soul who had also been on the coach, at the back, and had been less successful in getting off, and had to make do with watching me ring on a cctv camera! Suppressing a growing sense of glee from somewhere? I commiserated with them and went off for tea and biscuit's.

The rest of the day was taken up with tours around the many grave sites in the locale. Which sadly I cannot really go into detail here, however on reflection the opportunity to ring at this time, and on these bells was a humbling experience which will always stay with me.

I would like to express my thanks to Elizabeth Millward and Alan Regin, for being so generous and helpful towards me. Alan has said there is still a little more work to be done on the bells and then they will publish opportunities, and times of ringing at St Georges in the Ringing World.

Check out St Georges web site on line.

(I am aware that the mother in law will be looking down from heaven and be scratchy that I have a tower she has not bagged:)

Tony Mottram

How do I progress.

We are often asked how can I get on and learn new methods. The best way to progress in Ringing is to go and visit other towers, join in the Saturday meetings in all the districts, outings or any of the other midweek practices that are arranged. Not only would you help your Ringing but you would also make new friends. Speak to anyone on the committee if you would like to see any other practices happening in the district.

Message from Stella

I enjoyed meeting and ringing with five students from Hellingly, Salehurst and Ticehurst on the Kaleidoscope Group Course and hope the experience has stood them in good stead.

Ringling for Peace - Armistice 100. Over the recent Remembrance weekend suggestions have been made about commemorating 11 November 2018. See The Ringing World 10 November 2018 page 1103 or <https://cccbr.org.uk/2017/11/11/ringing-for-peace-armistice100-in-2018-what-you-need-to-know/>
Stella Bianco, CC Rep

Advance Notice.

Stella only agreed to take on the role of Central Council Rep for a year in order to give our District members time to think about it. The appointment would be for a 2-year period, to complete the triennium that Stella started last year. (each rep only sits for 3 years, but obviously can be re-elected for another 3 years if wishing to do so).

We are also looking for nominations for our Eastern District Committee and nominations for the General Committee, including one for Association Master, as Graham Hill's 3-year term of office will be up at the AGM in May.

Please think about the above and what you could do to help the district run smoothly.

Membership

Next month we will all be starting to receive our membership forms for 2018, don't forget we have a new membership Secretary, so the forms will need to be returned to

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West Sussex
RH16 1HW
Email for any queries membership@scacr.org

Members of the Committee.

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|-----------------------|--|
| Secretary | Marion Hollands sec-east@scacr.org |
| Saturday Meetings | Frances Bradford. francesbradford@scacr.org Mary Hallett. mary.hallett@scacr.org |
| Ringling Co-ordinator | Nick Cant. nickcantbells@outlook.com |
| Look To Editor. | Nick Rees news-east@scacr.org |
| BRF | Pip Pawley. brf-east@scacr.org |
| Committee member | Peter Bradford. francesbradford@scacr.org |

Eastern District Secretary's Report for 2017.

Our ADM was held at Hailsham this year, I had said I would stand down but when no-one came forward to take on the role of secretary I have carried on, but Frances and Mary have taken on the role of arranging the Saturday meetings and I will arrange the outings, also being contact for the report. There is now a county membership secretary so any membership queries now go to him.

We had a 12-bell practice at Benenden arranged by Alastair MacFadyen, it was a good afternoon and a worthwhile practice as the members generally do not ring on 12 Bells.

The quiz held at the community hall in Hailsham was well supported with the questions provided by the ringers of Heathfield, the winners were St Mary's Eastbourne. The profit from the quiz and raffle were donated to the BRF fund.

Our main outing this year was to York, in the middle of May. We stayed five nights also enjoying time looking around York, with plenty of ringling at 18 towers

For our walk, we met at Northiam, walked to Beckley, where we rung, some of us had a picnic in the church grounds and some went off to the pub. After lunch, we walked across to Peasmarsch, where after ringling some carried on walking to Rye and some walked back to Northiam.

A few eastern members went on the strike back Express from Hastings to Bath for an enjoyable day and we had the opportunity to ring at three towers during our time there.

A practice meeting was held at Wadhurst, then ringers went on to Ticehurst, with a lovely tea provided.

We had a day outing to Limpsfield Chart, Oxted, Limpsfield, Westerham, Brasted and Hever, this was supported by all districts.

Our surprise Minor and Major practices were held most months, although we could do with more support at these events. These practice evenings were usually joint with the Southern District.

I would like to thank all those on the committee who have helped me this year, the ringers who attend our events, the incumbents who allow us to ring in the churches and anyone else who has helped me.

Message from the Master:

I mentioned in my last Master's Mutterings for Soundbow and the website, about the forthcoming Annual District Meetings in February next year, but I would like to clarify how important these meetings are.

It is at these 4 District meetings that people are asked to join their relevant committee to help run that District. It has now been some time since any of the Districts had a Ringing Master, to help run the ringing at any practices that may be arranged. I know a couple of the Districts have indicated to me that they hope to elect a Ringing Master and thereby lighten the secretary's work load.

At the same ADM, there will be nominations for posts on the General Committee. I for one will be stepping down as Master at the AGM in May, because I will have completed my 3 years in office by then. The role of Association Master is to "chair" the various meetings, and try to keep order (a gavel comes with the job), get around to as many different events and practices as possible, and to keep up good communication with the Secretary. You don't have to be the best ringer out there, just keen, and have a desire to see OUR Association succeed.

There are several posts that must be filled in February. As well as myself, David Kirkcaldy is stepping down as BRF secretary, and Stella Bianco will be stepping down as the Eastern District Central Council Rep. Stella only took this on last year and said at the time that she would help out the East for one year only.

So, please don't all sit there and say "I/we don't do that", or "I/we don't go to that". If you want your individual District and the Association to continue we all need to all pull together, and think about what role within the Association that you may be able to take on, with the aim of helping everyone.

Graham Hills
Association Master

The deadline for the next edition of Look To is 28th February 2018