

# Southern News



## *The Southern District Newsletter* *March and April 2018*

### **Words from your editor**

Greetings. Here is your latest instalment of Southern News!

Things are getting a little busier in the Southern District. We have had several months of third Saturday practices that have been a success, and we are planning more. These events are for you to gain more ringing experience, and enjoy our art even more.

We have also gained some new committee members who will be helping with creating more ringing opportunities in your district and more. Read on!

If I had one thing to ask of you this issue, it would be to look at that lovely blue box to your right. We are underway organising a day for all SCACR ringers across the county, in May. Come along to the AGM day; I'd love to meet you! I'm particularly looking forward to the BBQ in the sun (hopefully!). It's much more than just a meeting.

Best Wishes, *Josh*

### SCACR AGM Day 2018

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at **Ditchling** and **Westmeston**.

*Open Towers, Service, Social Afternoon, BBQ, Handbells, Treasure Hunt, Tea and Meeting!*

Morning Ringing at Keymer and Ditchling from 10am,  
Service at 11:30.

Social Afternoon at Westmeston Village Hall from 12:15pm

**AGM at 14:00**



### Upcoming Events

[www.scacr.org/news-events/calendar](http://www.scacr.org/news-events/calendar)

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Codgers: Fletching and Newick.** Contact Mike:  
[codgers@scacr.org](mailto:codgers@scacr.org)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Ringing Up and Down Morning for learners at Shipley.**  
Contact Graham: [gr.hills@yahoo.com](mailto:gr.hills@yahoo.com)

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Southern District/Eastern District 10 Bell Practice at Southover (Lewes) 15:00.** Come along! Contact Mary: [sec-south@scacr.org](mailto:sec-south@scacr.org)

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Sussex Young ringers practice at Fairwarp 14:00 – 16:00.** With lots of cake! Contact Anne: [annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk)

## Words from Mary – Your district secretary

The Southern District has had a very busy and successful start to 2018.

January saw the always popular quiz with fish and chips at Southover in Lewes. We had ten bell ringing in the afternoon organised by William, followed by fish and chips and the quiz organised by Debbie Evans in Southover school hall. The Southover ringers were excellent hosts, we had the right number of fish and chips so no-one went hungry and the raffle made £125 for the bell restoration fund. Well done to the winners: Ringmer!

In February twelve of us were again students at Southover for the the second ART course. This time the course was organised by Matthew Jones from the Eastern District and was another example of successful Eastern/Southern District joint working. This time the focus was on moving learners on once they can handle the bell and included strategies to developing accurate striking as well as building up skills for method ringing.

In March we held our Annual District Meeting in the beautiful setting of Barcombe Church. Though there were not huge numbers in attendance we had some very enjoyable and varied ringing beforehand, ably led by Anne Franklin and a good tea in the Conker Room looking out at the amazing

2

Southern News – March and April 2018

## More Upcoming Events...

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Sussex Young

**Ringers Outing.** All young ringers welcome! A fun day out... with plenty of cake. Pulborough 10am to 11am, Petworth 11.30am to 12.30pm, Wisborough Green 2pm to 3pm and Billingshurst 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Help with transport can be arranged. Please contact Anne: [annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk)

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April – SCACR Handbell Day at Hurstpierpoint Prep School.

Full details on SCACR website. Contact Hamish: [hamish@wandleys.demon.co.uk](mailto:hamish@wandleys.demon.co.uk)

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April – SE Youth Striking Competition at Warnham.

### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Southern District Ringing and Social Morning with Bacon Sandwiches at Burgess

Hill – (tbc) More details to follow!

### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April - ART Course Module 1 - Teaching Bell handling at Billingshurst.

Go to: <https://smartringer.org/programme/artm1/> to enrol.



The winning team with their carb overload.

views before the business of the day led by Graham Hills. Though Jonathan Franklin has stepped down from the committee (and I will miss his sound advice) I am delighted that we can welcome Rob Lane and Richard Neal who are interested in developing the ringing in the District.

Sandra Alford has organised new ringing clothing for SCACR including polo shirts, sweatshirts, fleeces and hoodies. They are attractive comfortable and good value. Please look on the website for details or contact Sandra Alford.

Please let us know if we can do anything to help in any way.

*Mary Burr*

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## New members to the Southern District Committee

### *Rob Lane*



Hi, I'm Rob! Looking back, I now realise just how long ago it was since I started to ring, 24 years ago in the winter of 1993. I was 12 years old and growing up in Seaford – my mum had seen a notice in the church magazine asking for new ringers and sent me up the spiral staircase! Under the tuition of Steve Lucas, Andrew Thompsett, and Linda Perkins I mastered the art of handling a bell and began to progress onto call changes and method ringing.

I was elected a member of the association in 1994 and in the spring of 1995 was able to go on the Hereford Ringing

Course, this was through a grant from the Reg Johnson Memorial Fund – David Beacham helped me progress onto Grandsire Doubles.

In the summer of 1995 I rang the treble to a quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles, my first – I was chuffed. The ringers of Seaford presented me with a copy of Steve Coleman's book, *The Bellinger's Bedside Companion*, with details of my first quarter peal written in calligraphy inside the front cover. I've still got that book, it encouraged me on no end.



Finding my way in the world life got in the way and ringing was somewhat sporadic between 1999 and 2006. By now I was living in Worthing and started to ring regularly at West Tarring, Heene, and occasionally Goring on a practice night. It was while ringing at West Tarring that Ian Hastilow badgered me into ringing my first peal, Cambridge Minor, at West Tarring – the church where I was christened some 26 years earlier!

A move to Southwick saw me join the ringers at Shoreham-by-Sea and under the encouragement of Stephen Ward my repertoire of Surprise Major developed. Fast forward to the present day I'm now living in Findon, but commute to Tonbridge for work. These days I'm 'unattached' but have a strong allegiance to the Southern District and visit Brighton on a practice night, as well as supporting the association at its organised practices and events.

It was a real honour to be elected to the position of Central Council Rep for the Southern District in 2017. My first meeting was up in Edinburgh for what proved to be watershed moment in the Central Council's history – a vote for change, to help align itself into a body fit to support ringing in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This year will see a push to pass the reforms that have been worked on over the past year, and the disbandment of the old council. I am currently involved with the new Stewardship and Management group, at the moment we're finding our feet and looking at what the terms of reference will be – there is the potential for great work to be done.

- **Want 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!**

I am excited to be joining the Southern District committee and look forward to a busy year, as you're probably aware it's our turn to host the AGM in May, it's going to so much more than just a meeting! I'm also keen to try and help us push on with the special practices, particularly for those who are looking to advance their ringing. At a grassroots level we're starting to do very well – especially with the ART courses being run to help those who want to teach new learners. This year sees a big push for recruitment of new ringers, as ringing remembers those who lost their lives in World War 1. Your help, and support is invaluable, and if you would like to see a practice or event organised please get in touch, we'll be more than happy to help.

## *Richard Neal*



My name is Richard and I ring at Southover in Lewes.

I started to ring in 1973 shortly after I started secondary school when a boy on the school bus called Paul was bullying me and would not let me off the bus unless I agreed to go to bell ringing at Ripe. The late Jim Beckingham taught me to ring at Ripe.

Ripe ringing was not very advanced. Most of the ringing was rounds and call changes. Method ringing was accomplished with numbered cards placed on the ground. I decided one practice that I would also like to join in with the more

advanced ringing. I found it hard to look at the card and carry on ringing. I learnt off by heart all the numbers on the card. I later discovered that I had learnt the numbers for ringing the treble to Grandsire Doubles. I rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles in 1978. I thought this was a great achievement at the time.

I got a moped when I was 16. I had heard that other methods were rung at Chiddingly. In particular they rang a method called Plain Bob Doubles. I went to Chiddingly and did quite a lot of ringing with Tim Waterman and also met a Bill Merritt and Tim Russell from Ringmer. I started to ring at Ringmer as well as Chiddingly and Ripe.

In 1982 a young Penny Clark started ringing at Ripe. We spent a lot of time out ringing. Penny Clark went to London to train as a physiotherapist. I would go and join her for Sunday ringing at Camberwell and Southwark Cathedral. Penny and I got married in 1986 we moved to Lewes and joined the Southover band of ringers.

The ringing of surprise methods was something that was beyond the capabilities of most of the ringers I rang with at this time. For many years I thought that surprise ringing was something that I would never be able to accomplish. However, this did change over time and in September 1986 Jonathan Franklin called a quarter peal of Cambridge Major at Ringmer. I had joined that exclusive group of surprise ringers.

During the 1990s I joined the Southern Division committee. At that time the Division was putting on a range of practices and I became the Education officer. I enjoyed this time and at one point at some of the practices we were learning London and Bristol Royal. During this period of time I joined the Society of Royal

Cumberland Youths. I have often wondered how this happened given that I am quite an unreliable ringer

During the early part of the century my focus was teaching and ringing with my children Tom and Lorna. Both are now adult and have continued to ring. Tom rings at Brighton. Lorna met her fiancé Ben Wigmore ringing with the Southampton University Guild. They ring at Billingshurst.

I have achieved most of my bell ringing ambitions. The one ambition that I still have is probably unattainable. This is to call a peal and in particular a peal of Stedman Caters.

I am pleased that I have been elected to the Southern District Committee. I wish to help Mary and the other committee members with the running of the Southern District. Initially I hope to visit, perhaps with Mary, some of the nearby practices and try and find out what people want from the Southern District.

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## SUSSEX CLOTHING IS BACK

Loose polo shirts, fitted t-shirts, hoodies, rugby tops, fleeces – all embroidered with the Sussex logo.

Many colours, styles and sizes (including children) to suit all.



Please visit the Clothing page (can be found under Resources) on the SCACR website for full details and order form. Orders will be placed on the last day of every month, delivery time is approx. 4 weeks from the order being placed with the supplier.

Any questions, please get in touch with Sandra Alford at [clothing@scacr.org](mailto:clothing@scacr.org)

### FEEDBACK SO FAR

I am really pleased with my rugby shirt – it is a great length for ringing!

I love my polo shirt, it's a really nice fit and colour.

Fleece and rugby shirt are lovely and fit very well, thank you!

I shall wear my t-shirt with pride!

Good price, good quality and good fit – thank you.

Love curling up in my hoodie!





*Rob, Sandra, Josh and Graham show off their new SCACR attire!*

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## The Southern District Quiz – A Great Success

Thanks to everyone who came along to the Southern District Quiz on 20<sup>th</sup> January. We had over 30 people ringing at Southover and over 70 people in the hall eating fish and chips and answering a topical and exciting quiz, led by Debbie Evans. Congratulations to the winning team from Ringmer!

Ringling on the 10 at Southover.



Announcing the winners!



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## Sussex Young Ringers News

We have recently enjoyed practices with plenty of cake at Southover, Burgess Hill and Hurstpierpoint. The South East Youth Striking Competition is coming up fast on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April too. This year it is being held by Sussex, at Warnham. We are excited for an enjoyable day in the company of young ringers from all across the south!



Some Sussex Young Ringers at Burgess Hill

If you are, or know a young ringer, who would like to get involved, come to our next Practice at **Fairwarp on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** or our **Day Outing on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April**.

Contact Anne Franklin: [annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk) .



Some Sussex Young Ringers at Hurstpierpoint



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## 2018 - Great War Centenary – Commemorative Ringing

Thank you from Alan Regin and myself, to all the Tower Bands and Ringers who during 2017 arranged and rung to Commemorate the Great War Centenary deaths of the 15 known SCACR / Sussex Ringers who died while on service in His Majesty Forces in 1917.

Also further to the **'Remembering Sussex Bell-ringers - Songs of Praise Service'** held in April 2017 at St. Swithuns, East Grinstead; a special thank you to Marisa Hayes, and to all those involved in arranging and carrying out this service. Thank you also to those who attended.

**1918 would see 11 known SCACR / Sussex Bell-ringers from 9 towers lose their lives. They were in date order:**

DATE	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	TOWER
21/03/1918	GROOMBRIDGE	Arthur	MAYFIELD
22/03/1918	ATTWATER	Ernest	CUCKFIELD
27/03/1918	COOTE	Frank	WEST GRINSTEAD
27/04/1918	MOORE	George Walter	LEWES
01/05/1918	BURGESS	George	WESTHAM
30/05/1918	MINCHIN	Frank Hopkins	HENFIELD
01/06/1918	EDWARDS	Edwin Harold	SALEHURST
08/08/1918	BAUGH	William George	MAYFIELD
21/09/1918	TURRELL	Lawrence	WEST GRINSTEAD
16/10/1918	HOLLMAN	William Harold	PULBOROUGH
02/11/1918	JENNER	Harold	HEATHFIELD

You will find the basic Military/Commemorative details on each of the above names on the SCACR website at:

[https://www.scacr.org/documents/rolls/Roll\\_of\\_Honour.pdf](https://www.scacr.org/documents/rolls/Roll_of_Honour.pdf)

*Alan Seymour*

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**Wisdom from the South...** “I was very hesitant about all the encouragement last year to attend the AGM. I had recently joined the association and was a little stunned no one from my tower was planning to go. I was worried who would be ringing beforehand and if my skills would not be good enough – I was wrong! I was helped out by everyone and got to try out some new things I don’t get at my home tower. The meeting was interesting and I realised how interesting a ringing association is, and no one was trying to drag me into a role – that was a worry too... I just want to ring. I met some new friendly ringers; I didn’t realise how social the day could be... My advice is: take the plunge and go!” **Anon.**

## The ‘Hurstpierpoint Branch’ of Sussex Young Ringers Recently featured in ‘Hurst Life’ Magazine.

### Young bell ringers

By Josephine Leggett and Josh Hutchinson  
Have you heard the bells ringing at Holy Trinity Church? Ever wondered who is behind the ‘ringing of the changes’? Holy Trinity has an enthusiastic and vibrant team of bell-ringers who ring the eight bells in the tower every week. We have ringers from ages 12 - 80. You may be surprised to see how many young people or ‘young ringers’ descend on the tower on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings. Here is an insight into the life of young ringers at Hurst...

There are about ten young ringers in our group, our youngest is Jonathan (12) and our oldest is William (17). We regularly ring together with the rest of the Hurstpierpoint band, but sometimes our ventures take us elsewhere...

**How did we get into ringing and why do we ring?**  
Before we started ringing few of us knew each other at all. William started ringing when Hurstpierpoint tower captain John Norris and past tower captain Sue Elrick visited St Lawrence school to talk about bell-ringing and invite pupils to learn to ring and take part in the three minutes of national ringing to mark the opening of the 2012 Olympic Games. William decided that he wanted to have a go and started bell-ringing lessons at Holy Trinity. He’s been a dedicated member of the band ever since.

Some young ringers come from around the local area to ring at Holy Trinity on a Thursday too. Molly (15) learnt to ring at St Cosmos and St Damian Church in Keymer but regularly goes to practice night in Hurst. This is one of the joys of ringing – in the words of young ringer Josh (16), who learnt to ring at St John the Evangelist Church in Burgess Hill: “You can ring in so many places; ringing takes you everywhere.”

We all ring for many reasons. Ringing is certainly a team ‘sport’. It takes time to learn the different ringing patterns or ‘methods’ and you really have to focus to produce good ringing or ‘well struck changes’. Josephine (15), who learnt to ring at St Margaret’s Church in Ditchling, said: “I really enjoy the complexity of methods and mental and physical challenge of ringing the bells well.”

**Where it all happens**  
At 7pm on a Thursday, ringers young and old meet to practice our ringing at Holy Trinity. Some nights there can be up to 20 ringers from Hurstpierpoint and the surrounding area. John Norris organises and runs the ringing. We ring some simple ‘methods’ and some more complicated ones as well. You will often find someone trying a new ‘method’ for the first time. Hurst is famous for its ‘cake break’ at half time, this gives a chance for the young ringers to catch up with each other and other ringers. Alex (15) says: “I really enjoy the social aspect and the people I meet through ringing.”



#### Where has ringing taken them?

Rachel (16), another Hurstpierpoint young ringer, conducted the Sussex Youth Team at the ringing World National Youth Contest in Birmingham last year. Josh and William were also in this team. We competed against teams from all over the country and came third overall. We often go on ringing outings together, visiting places like Portsmouth, London and Oxford. Rachel and Josh recently travelled to Bristol after being offered the opportunity to ring on the Grand Ring of 12 at St Mary Redcliffe. Rachel said: “The places ringing takes you is extraordinary, but it all started for me in Hurstpierpoint.”

Recently we have started ringing quarter peals together. A quarter peal is 1,260 changes rung without a break and usually takes around 45 minutes (but we like to ‘get them round’ in 40!). They are great fun and require focus (one of our number, who shall be nameless, often has to be reminded to ‘dodge’, which is a change of a bell’s ‘coursing’ position, in a method). A whole band of young ringers ringing a quarter peal isn’t that common, and our performances don’t go unnoticed across Sussex.

If you are interested in finding out more about ringing or having a go yourself do contact John Norris at [jn@orpheusmail.co.uk](mailto:jn@orpheusmail.co.uk) or see the website: [www.hurstpierpointbells.org.uk](http://www.hurstpierpointbells.org.uk)



*You can read a larger version here:*

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54e2575ee4b066ba03085fac/t/5a9674d99140b7bd3c237822/1519809776314/HL36-Hurst-Life-magazine-March-web.pdf>

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## Telecoms Equipment Guidance

Following the announcement by the Church of England that they have signed an accord with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), setting out how churches and other church properties could host new digital infrastructure, the CCCBR Towers & Belfries Committee have prepared some guidance on this to assist any ringers that may have to deal with telecoms equipment being installed in their tower.



This is available on the CCCBR Towers & Belfries Committee page and can also be downloaded directly here: <https://cccbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/TELECOMMUNICATIONS-EQUIPMENT.pdf>

*If you are being approached by telecoms companies at your tower, or your church PCC has been looking into it; do take into consideration that workmen/women will require access to the tower at any moment in time. Also the equipment listed in the CC document does take up considerable space.*

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## Ringling Remembers – Armistice 100 Campaign

*To commemorate the 1400 bell ringers who died in the First World War, the Central*



*Council of Church Bell Ringers, together with the Big Ideas Company, and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, have launched a new campaign to recruit 1400 new bell ringers. This is a call out to all of us and an opportunity for everyone, a chance to make this wonderful ancient tradition open to all.*

Here is the Ringling Remembers website: [Ringling Remembers – Armistice 100](https://a100.cccbr.org.uk/) (Just click – It's a hyperlink). A common trend appearing in Sussex to help recruit for Ringling Remembers is Open Days. But a great way to start is by displaying the official poster (<https://a100.cccbr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/A4%20poster.pdf>) in churches, community centres, halls, town/village notice boards and local Facebook pages. On the website there are resources that can be used while making a poster specific to your tower if you're recruiting to mark 'Armistice 100' in November.

**[Go to the SCACR Ringling Remembers page to see tips and help for recruitment!](#)**



# RINGING REMEMBERS



1,400 bell ringers died during the First World War.

Honour their memory by becoming one of 1,400 new bell ringers this year and be part of a nationwide moment by ringing on the centenary of the Armistice on 11 November 2018.

Find out how to take part by emailing [bells@big-ideas.org](mailto:bells@big-ideas.org).

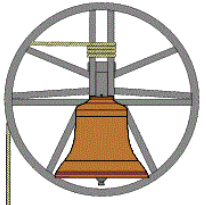


[www.big-ideas.org](http://www.big-ideas.org) | [#ringingremembers](https://twitter.com/ringingremembers)

**BIG  
IDEAS**

  
Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

  
BELL RINGERS



## Southern District Committee Contact Details

- **Mary Burr** (*District Secretary*)  
01323 325914      [sec-south@scacr.org](mailto:sec-south@scacr.org)
- **Joshua Hutchinson**      news-south@scacr.org
- **Debbie Evans**      evansent4u@hotmail.co.uk
- **William Stafford**      will@jamiestaffordbathrooms.co.uk
- **Rob Lane**      rob@rjlane.co.uk
- **Richard Neal**      rcgpjneal@talktalk.net
- **Nick Cullen**      brf-south@scacr.org

### Southern District Tower Practice Nights

These are always available at [www.scacr.org/towers](http://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!

**Monday:** Burgess Hill 7:45, Brighton; St Nicholas 7:45, *(There is no ringing at Brighton St Peter until September 2018. All practices are being held at Brighton; St Nicholas, instead)*, Chailey 8:00, Maresfield 8:00 (infrequent – please check), Newick 7:00.

**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.

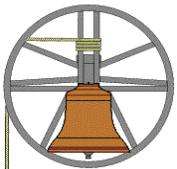
**Thursday:** Barcombe 7:30 ( ), Brighton, St Mark 7:15 (best to check before travel), Hurstpierpoint 7:00, Wivelsfield 8:00.

**Friday:** Twineham 7:30 (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>).

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

Visit [www.scacr.org](http://www.scacr.org)

- Don't have a 'Soundbow' subscription? Contact Kathy Howard at [Soundbow99@gmail.com](mailto: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 @sussex bells.
- Contact Alison Everett, your Communications and Events Team leader, at [publicity@scacr.org](mailto:publicity@scacr.org) if you want to know more about social media.



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The next edition of Southern News is for **May and June 2018**.

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

***Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April***

**Send it all to [news-south@scacr.org](mailto:news-south@scacr.org)**

*Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter.*

**Southern News – March and April 2018**