

Southern News



The Southern District Newsletter *February 2019*

Words from your editor

The great thing about ringing is that we all do different things away from the ringing chamber, but when we come together in our variety of ages we are all working to ring out the best we can. Simple as that!

The future of ringing is always changing. One minute ringing is on the verge of becoming history, the next it is looking boldly into the future at its ever changing climate and demographic. I believe in the latter!

Ringing in Sussex is bright, especially now after an influx of new ringers during the 'Ringing Remembers' campaign. But how can we ensure this success leads on into the future? I think working together and taking every opportunity in ringing is the way forward. So why not start by coming along to a district event on a third Saturday or visit another tower's practice night? When we ring together across Sussex, more and more people benefit.

Do come along the Southern District Meeting Event on February 16th. You can collect your membership certificate if you're new to SCACR, as well as have a ring and enjoy lots of cake.

Happy Ringing,

Josh

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Southern News – February 2019

Upcoming Events – Open to all!

www.scacr.org/news-events/calendar

Wednesday 30th January – Minor Practice at Alfriston (East). 19:30 – 21:00 Methods: Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob. Plain hunting opportunities too.

Wednesday 6th February – Bob Doubles Training at Alfriston (East) 19:00 – 21:00.

Saturday 16th February – Ringing, Tea and our Annual District Meeting at Burgess Hill.

Are you a new member of SCACR? Come along and say hello!
More details inside.

Wednesday 27th February – Minor Practice at Alfriston. 19:30 – 21:00.

Monday 25th February – All Districts 12 Bell Methods Practice at East Grinstead. 19:30 – 21:00

Saturday 2nd March - Ringing Remembers – Welcome and Thank you! At Henfield. Contact Steph: sec-north@scacr.org.

Saturday 2nd March – Young Ringers Practice! 14:00 – 16:00. Cake, Fun and Ringing! Location TBC
Contact Anne: annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday 16th March – Southern District Event - Surprise Major Mini Outing Contact Josh: sec-south@scacr.org. More details inside.



More Upcoming Events...

Saturday 23rd March – Joint South and East Event - Surprise Major and Lunch at Chiddingly

10:00 -12:00. Surprise Major Practice from 10am followed by lunch at the Six Bells Pub. Ringing will be from Cambridge Major Upwards. Do come along! Contact Mary: sec-south@scacr.org

Monday 25th March – All Districts 12 Bell Methods Practice at East Grinstead. 19:30 – 21:00

Saturday 30th March – Young Ringers Practice! 14:00 – 16:00. Cake, Fun and Ringing! Location TBC. Contact

Anne: annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk

Words from Mary – Your district secretary

I hope you have all been enjoying your ringing over Christmas and New Year!

The Southern District got off to a good start with the annual quiz, held at Hurstpierpoint attracting nearly 100 quizzers! Due to problems of supply we decided to abandon the usual fish and chips in favour of baked potatoes. I'm not sure that I will want to be looking at one any time soon after cooking so many, but plenty of people seemed to enjoy the change!

We have had some good ringing events too, and more are planned for the next few months. Keymer hosted a successful doubles improvers session before Christmas and we have the ADM in Burgess Hill coming up on 16th February and a Surprise Major mini-outing planned for the 16th March.

We will hope to see you all soon.

Mary Burr



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

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!

Sussex Young Ringers News

Cake, Fun and Ringing! If you're a young ringer, or know one, do come along to one of our next Young Ringers Practices! You can expect a good laugh, lots of cake, lots of ringing and a chance to ring with lots of young ringers. At our latest practice we rang Call Changes, Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Triples, Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise Major.



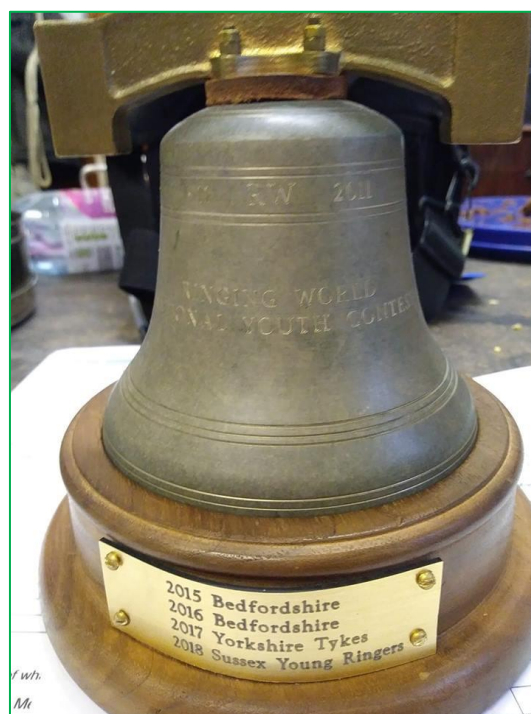
Our next Practices are on **Saturday 2nd and 30th March**, and we'd love you to come along.

Locations are to be decided soon so email Anne Franklin if you'd like to come: annefranklin@hotmail.co.uk

Sussex Young Ringers at Burgess Hill. November 2018



The National Youth Contest trophy is engraved! Sussex is on there for ever.



We are also busy practising for the upcoming South East Youth Striking Contest to be held in Kent in April and the 2019 RWNYC to be held in Liverpool in July!

Sussex Young Ringers featured on the BBC's Blue Peter programme on Thursday 10th January 2019 (17.30, CBBC channel). Filming took place during the Ringing World National Youth Contest in July, which the Sussex team won. Presenter Lindsey Russell was also filmed having a "learn the ropes" session the week before, with the SCACR and KCACR (Kent) youth striking competition teams. The programme may contain a few surprises...!

The programme airs a few times in the week and is available in iPlayer until 9th February. Do encourage everyone you know to watch it! This is great publicity for ringing, and we hope it will inspire new young (and old!) ringers.

Here's the link to the feature on Blue Peter which was recorded and put on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2fT8M7NHeY&fbclid=IwAR0Zg7xjMtLtGcSUiwSrRNLxf-UeAfhSxeXEQG-MoSws4hNhlpFOclj2KQd0>

'It was a lot more challenging than I thought it would be, but a lot more FUN - you can do it too, give it a try!



Michael, Lindsey (the presenter), Rachel and Mahala.

See you at our next practice!



The Southern District Annual District Meeting 2019

Saturday 16th February at Burgess Hill – All are welcome

New SCACR Members – Come along, meet other SCACR members, collect your membership certificates and have a go on the Burgess Hill bells!

- **13:00 – 14:00: *Have a Ring!*** Ringing on the easy going 8 at Burgess Hill will be led by Richard Neal. Learners are welcome and encouraged to have a ring! Please do come for ringing if you're experienced, this means we can also ring more advanced methods too.
- **14:00 – 14:30: *Light Lunch.*** Sandwiches, Nibbles, Tea, Coffee and Cakes in the Church hall.
- **14:30 – 15:10: *Meeting.*** Welcoming new members and giving out their certificates. Electing committee members for the year ahead and a chance to suggest ideas for the upcoming monthly district events.



*Agenda and Minutes of last year's ADM will be emailed out before the day. We are always looking for **new committee members** for the Southern District team – if you enjoy your ringing and want to help plan events for southern district ringers then we need you! Small commitment of time – what we always need is ideas and enthusiasm!*

Contact **Mary Burr**: sec-south@scacr.org if you have any questions or require more information.



Contact **Josh Hutchinson**: news-south@scacr.org if you're coming so we bake enough cake!

Southern District March Event – Surprise Major Mini Outing.

Saturday 16th March 2019

The Southern District event for March is a local two tower outing for Surprise Major Ringers on Saturday 16th March. We will have 2 hours at each tower with an optional pub lunch between.

Contact Josh: sec-south@scacr.org if you'd like to come.

- The day is being led by **Jonathan Franklin** and methods rung will be 'Project Pickled Egg' Methods. (The 'starter 7' in this group can be seen below.)
- The day will be for anyone wishing to ring surprise major, whether starting out on Cambridge, moving onto Yorkshire, or well into the depths of this area. Experienced S Major ringers will be most welcome, as this means less experienced ringers can be given a good practice on S Major; furthermore, the more advanced S Major methods can be rung.



Two local towers and a lunch venue are currently being sorted. Please do, therefore, email Josh (sec-south@scacr.org) if you'd like to come, then final arrangements can be sent to you.

Full details will also be publicised soon via email and the SCACR website calendar.

The 'core 7' methods:

Cambridge	traditional starting point, well known, logical extension from Cambridge Minor
Yorkshire	same above work and lead end order, well known, not too different below
Cornwall	8ths place method and new lead end order, musical, easy to ring and conduct
Superlative	classic, double method, introduces turning round not at front or back and the technique of counting five pull dodges
Bristol	more difficult, but learnable in bite-sized chunks, introduces a wrong place method and new blue line features, much loved classic
Lessness	popular Uxbridge above work, familiar features below, musical plain course, new lead end order
London	wrong hunting below and above the treble, changing direction in spliced, much more challenging

What's been on in the Southern District?

SCACR Quarter Peal Challenge week/10 day – Towers across Sussex organised Quarter Peals to help their ringers improve, get 'firsts' or to mark special occasions. Here are some Southern District Quarter Peals... <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/event.php?id=8950>

Sussex County Association

Brighton, East Sussex

St Nicholas

Sunday, 16 September 2018 in 48m (18-0-20 in E)

1251 Stedman Caters

Composed by D E House

- 1 Paul J Wells
- 2 Caroline C House
- 3 Gavin D Bennett
- 4 Hugh F Pettifer
- 5 Alison J Lucas
- 6 William G Wilson
- 7 Adrial R Walton
- 8 Steve Lucas
- 9 David E House (C)
- 10 Robert J Lane

Arranged and rung to mark the 50th anniversary of Bill Wilson's ordination to the priesthood (Manchester Cathedral, 22 September 1968).

This performance is linked to the event [Sussex County Association – Quarter Peal Challenge week/10 days](#).

Sussex County Association

Ringmer, East Sussex

St Mary the Virgin

Sunday, 16 September 2018 (13-3-0 in F)

1260 Grandsire Doubles

- 1 Chris Shaw
- 2 Anne Franklin
- 3 William Townsend
- 4 Michael Shaw
- 5 Jonathan Franklin (C)
- 6 Ed Wheeler

First Grandsire "inside": 3, 4

For Evensong

£3.00

This performance is linked to the event [Sussex County Association – Quarter Peal Challenge week/10 days](#).

Sussex County Association

Haywards Heath, West Sussex

Bellflowermews

Saturday, 8 September 2018 in 29m (3lb 5oz)

1260 Plain Bob Doubles

- 1 David Cragg
- 2 Joshua Hutchinson (C)
- 3 Josephine Leggett
- 4 Molly Smith
- 5 Simon Everest
- 6 Ollie Watson

First quarter peal on the bells in their new home.

Rung for Haywards Heath Town Day.

This performance is linked to the event [Sussex County Association – Quarter Peal Challenge week/10 days](#) [[Unlink](#)].

Sussex County Association

Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex

The Wickham Ring

Wednesday, 26 September 2018 in 37m

1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor

- 1 Josephine Leggett
- 2 Molly Smith
- 3 Joshua Hutchinson
- 4 Frances Gilbert
- 5 John Norris
- 6 William Stafford (C)

First of Minor and Surprise: 1.

First of Surprise inside: 2.

150th Quarter Peal: 6.

Circles the Tower: 3.

£3.00

Southern District September Event - Outing to Eastbourne. Saturday 15th September.

The Sun was shining on the sunshine coast! Thanks to everyone who came along for an enjoyable day out ringing the bells of Eastbourne. We went to the 8 at St Mary's, the 10 at St Saviours, had a top lunch in the pub and the finished the day off on the 8 at Christ Church.

It was great to see so many new learners coming out and ringing, as well as familiar faces.



The Rabble at St Mary's



Walking through
Sunny Eastbourne



St Saviours

- 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!

Southern District October Event – Progressing in Triples Practice at Shoreham By Sea.

We rang Grandsire and Middlesex Bob Triples, getting better each time. There was also time for some doubles practice for our ringers from Uckfield! Well done all! (Low turnout though – If you're experienced, we need your support for our learners in the Southern District!)



Ringing Down after a good practice at Shoreham



Jonathan, Janice and Chris enjoying post-practice lunch!



Southern District November Event – Progressing in Doubles Morning at Keymer.

November was an event for those wishing to improve their skills with doubles methods, inside and on the treble. Ringers from Keymer, Uckfield, Seaford, Ditchling, Burgess Hill and Cuckfield were present.

We started by working on rope-sight, and counting places rather than bell numbers. This involved looking for which bell is pulling before you and counting places with listening skills.



We then moved onto simple doubles methods. For some this was their first time ringing plain bob on an inside bell.

We focused on a few tricks such as where you pass the treble, which bells you course, and the key skill of using your ears if you can't always see where you're going!



The southern district team have more doubles practices planned for 2019, so keep an eye out.

Southern District January Event – Quiz with Jacket Potato supper. Saturday 19th January.

90 ringers and friends/family signed up to battle it out to become Southern District Quiz champions for 2019. Ringing at Hurstpierpoint was followed by Jacket Potato and salads in the Village centre – a big thanks to Mary Burr for organising all the catering.

The quiz soon commenced led by brilliant quiz masters Steve and Alison Lucas. It was a packed room of competition to say the least! Well done to Henfield on emerging victorious!



Mary and Debbie

Quiz in action



Alison and Steve heading the quiz



Team
Hurstpierpoint



REMEMBERING AN OUTING *by Diana Webley Ward*

On a bright and sunny Saturday in October, a mini bus full of bell ringers left from the Keymer Church Hall lay-by, seen off by Father Alex and Bluebell, the puppy. The group comprised our own Tower ringers and specially invited guests, who had helped us throughout the year at practice nights and quarter peals.

Our first destination was St Mary's Church, Billingshurst, where there is a peal of eight peals said to be one of the best in Sussex. The bells, set in the thirteenth century tower, were nice to ring and we all also enjoyed looking round this attractive church being prepared for the Harvest Festival by many willing volunteers. We were shown an impressive brass memorial on the floor in the nave, beneath stunning wagon wheel candelabra, brought recently, from the Ukraine. We saw our first silhouettes, sitting in the pews, of former members of the congregation, who had died in the World Wars. A chilling, ghostly remembrance.

From there, we drove to Wisborough Green and the church of St Peter ad Vincula. This strange name means 'St Peter in chains'. This church was a 'hive' of activity, as the Bishop was visiting the following day to bless the new building works – a porch, two small meeting rooms at the back of nave, a redesigned organ loft and toilets underneath. The bell ropes had been replaced and they were very stiff and difficult to ring. After a couple of rings, we looked round the twelfth century church, with its well-preserved medieval wall paintings. There is a stunning tapestry sewn by members of the village, showing aspects of village life. The very first stitch was set by a man who had taken to tapestry as a prisoner of war. Again there were silhouettes of former members of the congregation, sitting in their former places in the pews and bearing a personalised name badge. A sad reminder of the 'Friends Battalions', where groups of men/boys enlisted simultaneously from the same village and were in the same battalion. If this battalion was destroyed on the battlefield, then this whole village community was devastated.

A pleasant stroll across the village green, picking up enormous shiny conkers on the way (spiders in Hassocks – Beware!), brought us to The Cricketers Arms and a delicious lunch, with beverages to quench our thirst. The young ringers commanded a noisy end of the long table, with Dylan entertaining them playing a game on his mobile.

We got back on the bus for the short trip to Kirkford, a very pretty village of timbered houses. The Grade One listed church of St John the Baptist was built in 1100 as part of a priory. The Ringers Gallery was up a steep spiral staircase and the six heavy bells had long ropes (drops) making them difficult to ring. The Tower had been added in the fifteenth century and the vaulted ceiling, with carved corbels of animal and human heads was very impressive so close up! We talked to the Church Warden about their silhouettes (6) and he said they could only represent the fallen, as twenty-six men had died from the village in the Great War and if they labelled all these places, there would not be room for the current congregation to be seated!

We moved on to the Knights Templars Church of St Mary the Virgin in Shipley, next door to the windmill made famous as a residence by Hilaire Belloc and later featured in the 'Jonathan Creek' series on TV. This church is one of the first built by the Templars, using a 'wattle and daub' Saxon church already on the site. They used military architecture and the church is 'defensive' in character, with a castle-like tower. Climbing the tower was challenging, as the spiral staircase was narrow and the steps of different depths, with a

very tight right-angled passage into the ringing chamber. Here low stays were holding the tower upright and we had to creep under them to get to the bells! Having negotiated all these hazards, the room was large and the six bells very pleasant to ring. It is a popular tower for groups of expert ringers from London to visit and ring peals (3hours continuously!). Back in the church we admired the Harvest decorations and the plaques on the pews from Royal visits, including the Queen, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, who had attended a wedding in 1952 and the Norwegian Royal family. Out in the churchyard, a flock of sheep were keeping the grass under control, especially on the Commonwealth War Graves.

Our final stop was Steyning Parish Church, dedicated to St Andrew and St Cuthman. The latter founded the first church in Steyning in 700 AD, when Sussex was being converted to Christianity. Legend says that St Cuthman came from somewhere in the west, bringing with him his disabled mother on a wooden litter, which he supported by a rope round his shoulders. When the rope broke, he stopped and built his church in Steyning. It is a large twelfth century church with the oldest entrance door in Sussex. It has been letting people into the church for about 850 years! The South Aisle is impressive with huge Norman carved columns and suitable as a church of the Abbey of Fecamp, France. The first record of bells in Steyning is in 1086, when William the Conqueror ordered the monks to toll the bells for burials and wakes. Bells have always been rung for great national events, although you cannot always rely on the bells to get the news right. It is recorded in the Church papers that in 1871 the tenor bell was tolled for an hour and three-quarters for the death of the Prince of Wales, who had been very ill. He recovered, lived until 1910, nearly another 40 years and eventually became King Edward V11! The entrance to the Tower is a 'Hobbit' door down a flight of steps outside the church. Once through the door, it is necessary to squeeze sideways to the left and up the narrowest spiral staircase, lit by fairy lights. The ringing was good, but brief to allow plenty of time for all of the group to negotiate a safe descent. Once more in the churchyard, there was a visit to the Commonwealth War Graves.

Back on the bus, we all agreed it had been a very interesting day, not only from the challenge of ringing different bells in interesting locations, but also visiting village churches preparing to honour their fallen comrades. Thank you to Frances, our Tower Captain, for organising visits to such stimulating towers and churches. We will remember them.

Some of the group outside the 'Hobbit' entrance door to Steyning Tower at the Parish Church.



Association of Ringing Teachers Course – Teaching from Rounds to Plain Hunt



“Book now! ... for the ART Module 2F Rounds to Plain Hunting All Day Course to be held at Billingshurst on Saturday 16 March 2019 at 9.30 am.

The tutor will be Roger Booth of The Docklands Ringing Centre fame. Cost £20 per head, bring DIY lunch, other refreshments provided.

Online booking link: <https://smartringer.org/m2fdc/26828/>



How did the Southern District Mark Remembrance Sunday?



31 New ringers were recruited in the Southern District through the national Ringing Remembers campaign. As a whole, Sussex was one of the highest recruiting areas in the country, recruiting 155 new ringers – it is understood that the vast majority have carried on ringing beyond November 11th.

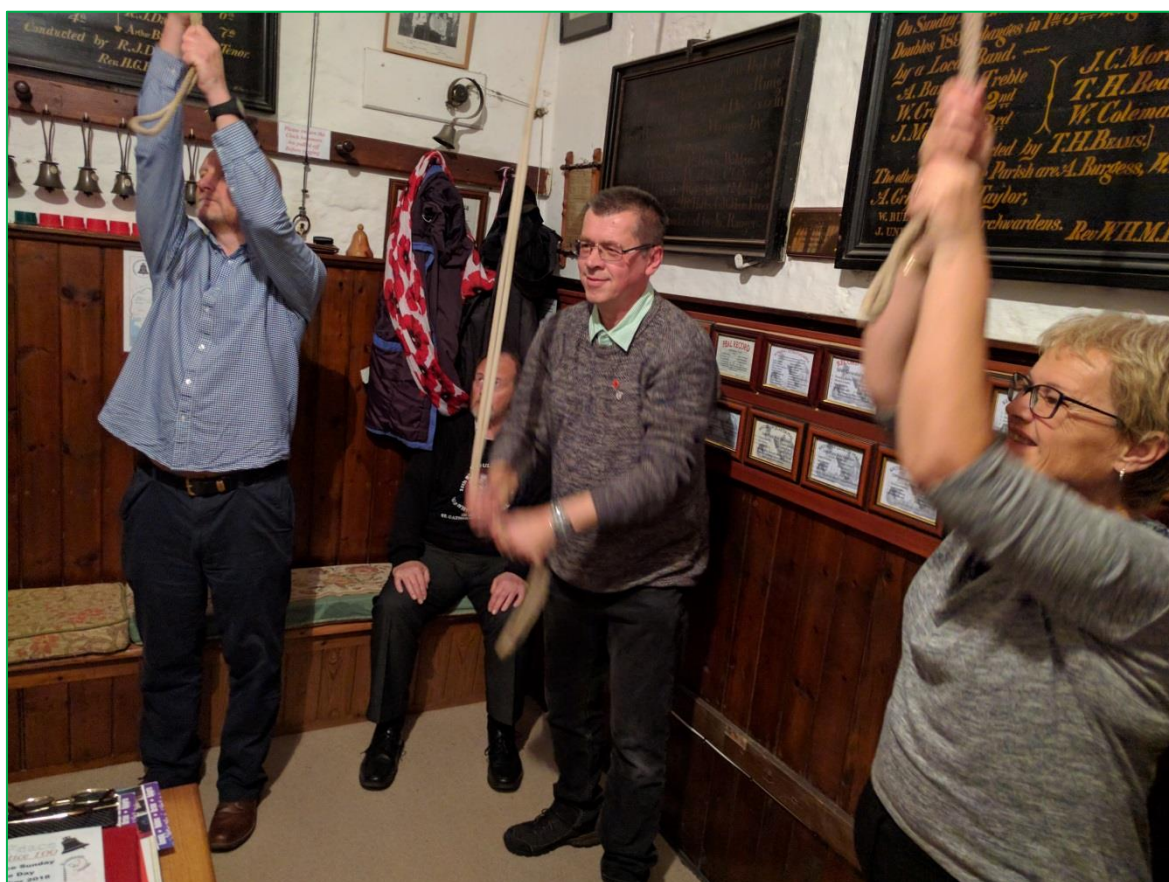
PTO

Seaford – “19 of our ringers took part in our celebrations spread over the 4 occasions we rang on Armistice Day, including our new ringers”



Stuart, Rita and Patrick.

Peter, Owen and Debbie (Tower Captain)



Keymer – Ringing for ‘Battle’s Over’ in the evening with their Ringing Remembers Recruit, Michelle.

Sandra, Jacky, Molly, Frances, Michelle and Diana.



Brighton –
“The ringers at
St Nicholas
Brighton after
ringing at
12:30 for
Ringing
Remembers.
We also rang
at 19:05 too”



Aldrington – “Our enhanced band and the Brighton & Hove Mayor and her chaplain after the evening service.



Burgess Hill – “We rang half muffled for morning service, then a full peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by Sussex Ringers after the civic service of remembrance. We finished off the day by ringing for the lighting of the town beacon in the park across the road with hundreds in attendance hearing our ringing. We have gained two new recruits, mother and daughter, through Ringing Remembers. They started late so weren't quite ready for Remembrance Sunday.”



Wendy, Marion, Sarah, Claire, Alan, Ian, Janice, Josh (Tower Captain), James, Doug, Colin and Chris.

Sussex County Association

Burgess Hill, Sussex

St John the Evangelist

Sunday, 11 November 2018 in 2h 55 (14-2-26 in F#)

5040 Grandsire Triples

Composed by Joseph J Parker (12-part, 6 obs)

1 P Jonathan Franklin

2 Rachel L Mahoney

3 Joshua Hutchinson

4 Anne E Franklin

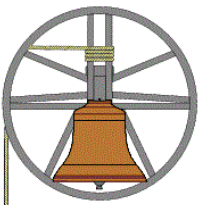
5 Jonathan M Spencer

6 Robert J Lane

7 Alan R Baldock (C)

8 Paul J Wells

Half-muffled, by a representative band of the Association, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice.



Southern District Committee Contact Details

- **Mary Burr** (*District Secretary*)
01323 325914 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 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! *Perhaps it's time you got back into going to practice nights...*

Monday: Burgess Hill 7:45, Brighton; St Nicholas 7:45, **(There is currently no ringing at Brighton St Peter. 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 (infrequent – please check), Brighton, St Mark 7:15 (best to check before travel), Hurstpierpoint 7:00, Wivelsfield 8:00.

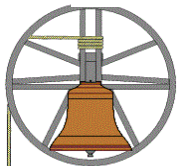
Friday: Twineham 7:30 (1st, 3rd and 5th).

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 @sussex 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 **March and April 2019**

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

Sunday 24th February

Send it all to news-south@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter.

Southern News – February 2019