

The Belfry

Newsletter of the
KCACR
Maidstone District

January 2015

Issue 99

Editorial

One hundred not out! The ambition of every batsman.

In many walks of life the figure 100 has special significance in that it represents a milestone that one strives to achieve - like a hundred peals (or often multiples thereof) and of course that grand old age of 100 years. In our next issue, scheduled for the April Quarterly Meeting, *The Belfry* celebrates its own centenary with the publication of Issue Number 100.

Much water has flowed under the bridge since that day in January 1982 when the first issue appeared in our towers and the fact that it is still going strong today is due largely to the support it has received from you, the members of the Maidstone District. In our centenary issue we hope to look back at some of the key moments in the evolution of our District journal which in its way will provide something of a potted history of the District and its ringers over the last 30 years or so.

Make sure you are on the e-mail circulation list to receive this special issue and all future issues. To join the list simply e-mail the Editor at belfry@kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk It costs nothing and you will receive it the moment it is published.

But for the moment let us look forward, to Easter Monday when it is our District's turn to host the County Annual General Meeting. Your Committee is currently busy making arrangements for this event, which the six Districts take it in turn to organise. The event takes place at Marden and details are in the advertisement below.

Maidstone District does not have a good record when it comes to attending the County AGM, so let us make sure that, as hosts, we are well represented this year. After all it is our Association, we pay our subscription and we should take an interest in how it is being run, and by whom.

Finally, on behalf of the District Committee may I wish ringers everywhere a Happy New Year and good ringing in 2015.

The Editor

County AGM - 6th April 2015

Service at St Michael & All Angels, Marden at 12noon

Lunch at Marden Memorial Hall at 1pm
(Advance booking only)

Annual General Meeting begins at 2.30pm

Towers open on routes to and from Marden

Further details will be available at www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk



District News

Annual District Meeting at Staplehurst

The **Annual District Meeting** was held on Saturday, 11th October at Staplehurst. A report of the ADM and full details of the new Committee are on page 3.

The draft minutes of the ADM are available on the District website. Click on *Documents* and follow the link.

Striking Competitions

After the apathy of the last few years it was most encouraging that the District Striking Competitions, in their new joint format, attracted an entry of nine bands at Otham on Saturday 8th November. A full report is on page 4.

District Carol Service

The District Carol Service took place at Addington on Saturday, 13th December, and proved to be an enjoyable start to the festive season for the 32 ringers, friends and families who attended. Ringing on the four bells before the service ranged from Call Changes to Bristol Minimus and it was pleasing to see several of the local ringers there.



The service itself was led by the vicar of Addington in a nice warm church and was followed by the traditional mince pies and mulled wine (see picture above). Our thanks goes to those responsible for the organisation, the mulled wine, and the facilities in the church. The local band were particularly grateful to have the opportunity to ring with experienced ringers, and the vicar (and many others) loved the group carol *Gaudete*.

Around the Towers

Barming Barming bells are up ringing again. The first time they were rung was half muffled on Remembrance Sunday. Tower Captain David Earl reports that after retuning by Whitechapel the weight of the tenor has reduced from 9-3-7 to 9-0-8. Whitechapel removed just

under 3/4 cwt. of metal. They now go much better and the five is no longer odd struck. The ringers are now decorating the belfry and once finished a new carpet will be laid. They had a vote on the colour of the sallies and the over whelming vote was for crimson [not Charlton red and white David? - Ed]. The previous sallies were blue. Practice night is Friday from 8pm to 9.15pm. Learners meet at 7.45pm and visitors are always welcome.

There will also be an opportunity to sample this newly refurbished six at the District Practice on Saturday 14th February, so put the date in your diary now.

Boughton Monchelsea There has been a change of Tower Contact at Boughton Monchelsea. The new Secretary is Margaret Fitzgerald, 41 Postmill Drive, Maidstone ME15 6FY. Tel: 01622 678819 (please leave message as phone rarely answered). Email address is mafizti@hotmail.co.uk

Hollingbourne Fund raising is continuing towards Hollingbourne's restoration and augmentation project. The latest event was another Barn Dance which, although not as well attended as the previous one in February, because of competing events elsewhere, was still enjoyed by all those who came - and was far more comfortable for dancing. Apologies for the blurred picture (below) - the liveliness of the dancers was far more than the liveliness of your editor's camera phone!



Snodland Sadly ringing at Snodland is currently by arrangement only, as the only remaining member of the band is Sue Brooks, to whom any enquiry about ringing there should be addressed. Her contact details are on the website.

Staplehurst Congratulations to Debbie Brady who called her first Quarter-peal as Conductor at her home tower on Sunday 30th November.

Staplehurst have lost one of their oldest and most loyal ringers with the passing of Derek Wood, whose obituary appears on page 9. However, on the credit side they have welcomed back Iain Mackay after several years' absence when he was unable to ring because of shoulder/back problems.

Staplehurst now have their own website, which can be found at <http://bells.allsaintsstaplehurst.co.uk/> .

Wrotham We are sorry to report that all ringing at Wrotham is currently suspended due to a broken wheel. An update will be posted here when remedial work has been completed.

Annual District Meeting 2014


The Annual District Meeting was held on Saturday, 11th October at Staplehurst. Around 22 people attended and afternoon ringing ranged from Call Changes to Grandsire Caters and Surprise Major. Numbers dropped considerably for the evening ringing, but we were still able to attempt four leads of London Major. At the Business Meeting three new members were elected, District Officers' reports received and the District Calendar for 2015 agreed. Draft minutes of the ADM can be found on the District website at www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk/pdf/admminutes111014.pdf.

There is only one change to the District Committee where Daniel Brady has stepped down as one of the Ringing Masters. His place is taken by Jack Velvick who steps up from being Junior Ringing Master last year to join continuing Ringing Master Richard Barclay. Full details of the new Committee are as follows:

Chairman:	James Sawle	Mobile: 07795 685590	Email: maidstonechairman@kcacr.org.uk
Secretary:	Terry Barnard	Home: 01732 849165	Email: maidstonesecretary@kcacr.org.uk
Treasurer:	Sue Bassett	Home: 01580 891917	Email: maidstonetreasurer@kcacr.org.uk
District Reps:	James Davis Chris Saunders	Mobile: 07714 753810 Home: 01233 663365	Email: maidstonerep@kcacr.org.uk Email: csaunders792@btinternet.com
Ringing Masters:	Richard Barclay Jack Velvick	Mobile: 07746 612543 [to be advised]	Email: rj2.barclay@gmail.com Email: jackvelvick@gmail.com
Publicity Officer:	Roy Barclay	Home: 01580 890247	Email: maidstonepublicity@kcacr.org.uk
Committee Members:	Debbie Brady Barry Evans	Home: 01580 891840 [to be advised]	Email: brady.debbie@gmail.com Email: bazndi5@gmail.com

The new members elected to the Association at the Meeting were **Simon Davies** of Wrotham, and **Robin Hughes** and **Emma Tilston**, both of East Malling. We welcome them to the District and look forward to seeing them at future events.

The next Meeting at which new members may be elected is the District Quarterly at Bearsted on Saturday 11 April. Proposals for membership should be made on a form available from, and returned to, the District Secretary in advance of the Meeting.



Maidstone District 120 Club
www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk/120club

Winning numbers July - September 2014

October 2014	November 2014	December 2014
1st Prize (£20) 87	1st Prize (£20) 113	1st Prize (£40) 123
2nd Prize (£15) 77	2nd Prize (£15) 64	2nd Prize (£30) 24
3rd Prize (£10) 85	3rd Prize (£10) 54	3rd Prize (£20) 54
4th Prize (£5) 53	4th Prize (£5) 75	4th Prize (£5) 113
<i>Drawn at the Annual District Meeting at Staplehurst on 11th October</i>	<i>Drawn at the District Striking Competitions at Otham on 8th November</i>	<i>Drawn at the District Carol service at Addington on 13th December</i>

The 120 Club draw is made monthly from March to December inclusive. Winning numbers appear in "The Belfry" and also on the District website at www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk/120club

Good turnout for District Striking Competitions

After the apathy of the last few years it was most encouraging that the District Striking Competitions, in their new joint format, attracted an entry of nine bands at Otham on Saturday 8th November.

Five bands entered the Call Change section with the winners being Staplehurst with an impressive 94% accuracy. Staplehurst also finished first of the four bands in the Method section with an 85% accuracy rate. The two judges were Rhian Bagshaw (Meopham) and Terry Barnard. Rhian said all the ringing was of sufficient standard to grace Sunday service ringing, and congratulated all the teams for entering. Full results, together with the judges' comments, were as follows:

Call Change Competition

1st	Staplehurst	Rang 1st	94%	<i>Very good ringing with no major mistakes. Faults were generally with uneven changes rather than clipping. Came back to rounds twice.</i>
2nd	Aylesford	Rang 2nd	75%	<i>A bit shaky at the start, but good in the middle with only a few clashes .</i>
3rd	Otham	Rang 5th	72%	<i>Slow and deliberate ringing. But faults picked up with uneven gaps.</i>
4th	Leeds	Rang 4th	71%	<i>Good in parts but some clashes. Some problems with the backchange (54321) Best striking was when treble was leading.</i>
5th	Marden	Rang 3rd	54%	<i>Inconsistent with clipping a lot of the time. Tenor's position was made rather difficult with uneven ringing.</i>

Method Competition

1st	Staplehurst	Rang 1st	85%	<i>Good ringing with slight unevenness and one mistake. Good rhythm.</i>
2nd	Aylesford	Rang 2nd	79%	<i>Generally good. Some very good changes in the middle. A few clips and faults with the leading.</i>
3rd	Leeds	Rang 4th	75%	<i>Good in places. No major mistakes, just odd clipping. But rang over 120 changes before it came round at handstroke.</i>
4th	Marden	Rang 3rd	53%	<i>A couple of major clashes. Team did very well to rescue it and complete the exercise. Well done.</i>



Pictured left are most of the two Staplehurst bands together with the trophies and the judges (three of the Staplehurst band had to leave early so missed the celebrations!).

Following the success of November's joint venture the 2015 Striking Competitions will be following the same format, but earlier in the year on 14th March. The venue is provisionally planned for Ightham but at the time of going to press this was still subject to confirmation. Watch the District website for updates.

It would be great if we could have an even larger entry for the 2015 Competitions, so start getting your bands together (and practising) now. The District Secretary will be sending further details to towers nearer the time.

Personal Milestones

Congratulations to the following for achieving notable landmarks in their ringing career:

1st Quarter-peal as Conductor:	Debbie Brady
600th Peal:	Mike Birkbeck
800th Peal:	David Grimwood
600th Quarter-peal:	Jacqueline Barlow
1st Quarter-peal of Bristol Royal:	Jacqueline Barlow Peter Jasper
1st Quarter-peal of Spliced Minor	Debbie Brady Richard Bourne

Not many achievements again this time - or may be it's just that everyone was too busy leading up to Christmas. If you have reached a major milestone in your ringing career and it's not mentioned here it is probably because your editor doesn't know about it.

Information is gleaned from www.campanophile.co.uk, www.bb.ringingworld.co.uk and kcacr.org.uk, but the only way to be certain that your achievement is included is to e-mail details to thebelfry@kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk. Major milestones only please.

So don't be modest - you've earned the accolade!

The next issue of

The Belfry

is scheduled for publication at the
April Quarterly Meeting

Copy deadline is Saturday 28th March 2015

Articles for publication in the next issue
should be e-mailed to the Editor at
belfry@kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk

*Please limit articles to one side
of A4 if possible*

Forthcoming Events

Christmas is now over and, although you probably haven't noticed it yet, the evenings are already beginning to draw out. Why not make it one of your New Year's resolutions to come to some of the District events coming up in the next few months? Remember that all our ringing events cater for all levels of ringing from Rounds and Call Changes upwards. Most also include two designated methods, one fairly basic and the other slightly more advanced, to give the keen ringer something to aspire to. However, ringing is tailored to suit those present and, provided you can handle a bell reasonably competently, you will be most welcome.

The next event is a **District Practice** at Barming on Saturday 14th February. This is your opportunity to sample this newly refurbished and rehung 9¾cwt six. Ringing will be from 10am to 12noon, and the special methods will be Single Oxford Bob Minor and Surfleet Surprise Minor.

Exactly a month later, on Saturday 14th March, we have the **2015 Combined Striking Contests**. Following the success of the joint Method and Call Change Striking Competitions in November we will be using the same format in 2015 but earlier in the year. The provisional venue is Ightham (6 bells - 7cwt) but this is still subject to confirmation. The bells will be available from 9.30am, the draw will take place at 9.45am with the Call Change competition commencing at 10am, followed by the Method Competition. The existing rules for both competitions still apply and can be found on the District website, but with the addition of the following: *"While the same band of ringers may ring in both Call Change and Method ringing categories and be placed, they will be limited to winning in only one category. In the case they are placed first in both categories they forfeit the shield for the Call Change section, this is then passed to the team in second place."*



This year it is our turn to host the **County AGM** here in the Maidstone District. It will be based at Marden and will be on Easter Monday, 6th April. Information about this is on page 1, and further details will be posted on both the District and County websites nearer the time.

The following Saturday, 11th April, we have the spring **District Quarterly Meeting** at Bearsted. Ringing on the 11cwt six will be from 10am to 12noon with a break of about 30 minutes for the short business meeting. Again, all are welcome, whatever your level of ringing. The special methods will be posted on the District website when known.

It will be well into spring by the time we have a **District 10-bell Practice** at All Saints', Maidstone on Saturday 9th May. Once again this is a morning event from 10am to 12noon, but is still subject to confirmation. Please check the District website nearer the time for more details.

The Apprentice Bellringer: Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs

Learning any new skill involves trials, tribulations and eventually triumphs. Bell ringing is no exception. The previous articles highlighted some of the trials and tribulations (don't let that put you off!) and I hope this article will explain why I keep going back for more. The reason is plain and simple: I relish a challenge and I'm really enjoying this one. It's also a way of being of service to the Church and adds an extra dimension to worship. Each little step along the way gradually becomes second nature, allowing a degree of relaxation and fun to creep in and replace the unknowing fear.



A good technique really is the key to bell ringing. If handled properly, the bell is predictable and catching the sally in the right place for the next stroke is not difficult. However, this is easier said than done! While practice hasn't quite made perfect, it has resulted in a mixture of satisfaction and achievement, and sheer frustration, both and fiddlesticks along the way.

It takes me a while each lesson to settle into ringing. It's as though I have to remove my domestic head and replace it with a bell ringing one before I can get into my stride. Alan is very perceptive and able to recognise this in me even when I cannot. "*Shuffle your feet*" said Alan one lesson. Almost instantly, the handstroke went pear shaped as trying to think of something other than catching the sally sent my brain into overload. "*What is he on about?*" I think to myself. Alan explained that shuffling the feet is supposed to relieve tension by moving the ringer away from a rigid ringing position. It didn't have the desired effect on this occasion but at least its purpose was not a combined ringing and clog dancing session!

Alan's patience is endless. At times he appears to be morphing into a parrot as he repeatedly reminds me of the need for "*a long pull down; hands together on the sally; flick the tail rope down and let the bell go higher*", but he is always encouraging and reassuring that I am making progress. I know I am improving as I begin to recognise my mistakes and think (with some degree of urgency!) about how to put it right. It's more "*waaahey*" than "*aaargh*" and running for cover. The problem with bell ringing is that it is, more often than not, counter-intuitive. This, coupled with inexperience and the application of standard logic, can result in quite a pickle! Putting the problem right, even when correctly identified isn't always straightforward, but that is all part of the challenge (and frustration)!

One of the most frustrating bits for me to learn (so far!) has been how to stop ringing. The initial feeling of *yippee, I'm ringing*, soon turned to *Uh Oh, I have to stop somehow!* This is known as setting or standing the bell and it can be done at handstroke, or backstroke (although it is unusual in the normal course of ringing to stand the bell at backstroke). Alan explains how difficult this is and that the first time would more than likely go disastrously wrong because it does for everybody. Filled with confidence (!), I pull off with a nice long handstroke, let the bell go up and set it first time! Beginner's luck or what?!! The next attempt took about ten minutes – well maybe not quite that long, but a considerable number of pulls nonetheless. Some weeks later, I am still struggling with this aspect of ringing.

Another indicator that I am improving is that Alan has started wandering around the room. "*Hey, where are you off to? Come back here*", I'm thinking. (I still can't talk and ring at the same time and Alan's presence close by is very much my security blanket!). "*Now look at me*" says Alan from across the other side of the room. A simple enough command, but taking my eyes off the rope seemed reckless at the very least and quite possibly suicidal. This was the pre-cursor to ropesight (watching other ropes around the tower and deciding which to follow at every pull). After some erratic ringing to begin with, I settled into rope gazing and was ready to follow another bell.

This was a whole different ball game. From encouraging me to ring slower and let the bell go higher, Alan was now instructing the complete opposite as I tried to keep pace and in time with Barry. Adjusting my ring to keep timing with the No. 3 bell took enormous concentration and I soon became aware of blisters forming on my hands. I must have been gripping that rope for England!

It was with a mix of trepidation and excitement that I stood next to the treble with a circle of five other ringers for the first time. "*Look to. The treble's going and she's gone*". This is the bell ringers' equivalent of "*Ready, Steady, Go*". The adrenaline was flowing; my mind was focused on getting the strokes right and my senses were overloaded with the mesmerising sound of a descending scale of the bells. I felt on cloud nine and was both relieved and disappointed when it was time to stop. It is difficult to put into words how this first ring felt. It was a powerful combination of exhilaration, joy, disbelief, pride (that I had done it) and sincere gratitude to everyone who rang with me and encouraged me along the way.

Claire Morton

Thank you Claire for your trilogy and sharing your experiences with us. Best wishes for your future ringing- Ed

Ian Parker - 25 Years as Tower Captain at Holy Cross Bearsted

Twenty-five years seems a long time to do any job, but having looked through our tower minute book we realised that on 4th December 2014 Ian Parker had completed 25 years as Tower Captain at Bearsted. In this age of busy jobs, family commitments and external change, it is a remarkable achievement.

Statistically he has climbed approximately 120,000 steps up the tower, and rung three peals and scores of quarters on Bearsted's bells since he came to the tower in 1977. He also guided us to be winners of the call-change competition on two occasions. In various ways Ian has been our teacher, leader, guide, mentor and friend. He has cared for the ringers as well as the bells, using, in the words of the Belfry Prayer, "strength, skill and perseverance".

In 25 years we have had three new sets of ropes, a cracked 5th (repaired at Soundweld) and a broken gudgeon pin on the second (cast 1430-ish). Ian planned the repair and restoration of these bells with great thought, diplomacy and care. He enjoyed the experience so much he is now a member of the KCACR restoration "heavy gang", and has been involved in removals and reinstatements at Chatham, Barming and Wrotham.

When not looking after his grandchildren, Ian with his wife Hilary, enjoys helping not only his own ringers, but now those at Otham, with whom we have regular supportive links.

As a token of our thanks and appreciation we presented Ian with the Ringer's Diary for 2015 and the recently published "Scrapbook of Bellringing", which is funny as well as informative.



John Wale

Editor's note: Congratulations Ian on your achievement and I'm sure I speak for the whole District in saying thank you for all the hard work you have put into ringing and indeed continue to do.

If you know anyone who has given long or exceptional service to ringing, please let me know.



Here is the fourth in the series of cartoons by Joy Barnard on The confused Novice Ringer.



I'm confused.....

Then let our

Jargon Buster

Help you!

We all know what a *Sally* is. But what is a *Billy*? Before any bright spark makes the comment: No, it's not Sally's boyfriend! Find the answer to this and some other particularly esoteric ringing terms in the second of our jargon buster series.

Belfrymanship: The bellringing equivalent of gamesmanship, for example blaming your method mistake on the weakest or most timid member of the band. Not to be encouraged if you want to keep any friends and certainly never in a tower where you are a visitor!

Dingler: A pivoted peg on the end of a Hastings stay which engages with the fixed slider.

Hastings Stay: A type of stay with a moving pin (dingler) at its end to engage on alternate sides of a fixed metal slider with stops at the end.

All the work: (commonly abbreviated to **ATW**) - A composition (normally a peal) of several methods spliced so that each bell rings all place bells of each method.

Symmetrical method: The normal type of method, i.e. one whose places are symmetrical from beginning to end of the lead or block, and hence of the course or blue line. Technically this is palindromic symmetry. Methods may also have front to back symmetry.

Asymmetric method: A method whose places are not within a lead or block, and hence its course or blue line are not symmetrical.

Backward hunting: Hunting where even positions are occupied at backstroke on the way up, and handstroke on the way down. Backward hunting on the front means leading wrong.

Campanology: Study of the history, art and science of making and ringing bells.

Campanologist: One who studies campanology, (popularly misused to refer to a ringer!).

Cat's ears: A portion of work with two points upward separated by a whole pull, giving a portion of blue line that looks like cat's ears, e.g. making a single in Stedman Doubles.

Circle of work: The work of a method written out around a circle. All methods are cyclic, so there is no beginning or end. One bell ringing a plain course will of course start at a particular point on the circle and end when it is reached again. It is normal to omit portions of plain hunting from the description, and to use composite names for groups of work in more complex methods, (e.g. 'back work', 'places in 34', ...).

Graveyard bob: Very bad ringing.

And what then is a *Billy*? It is in fact the tufted section of rope, similar to the sally, on the tail end of some bell ropes found in Yorkshire. No longer popular since adjustment is more difficult than with conventional tail ends. It is more commonly known as a *Yorkshire tail end*.

Please note that most of the above definitions are either taken or based on the book "A Dictionary of Campanology" by David W Struckett (published 1985). If there is ringing terminology which you don't understand e-mail belfry@kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk and we will include the answer in the next issue.

Obituaries

Sadly we have to report the passing of several former Maidstone District ringers since our last issue in October.

The death of **Derek Wood** of Staplehurst in the early hours of Thursday 23rd October came as a shock to all those who knew him. Derek had been a loyal and regular member of the Staplehurst band for 36 years until a few years ago when shoulder/back problems prevented him from ringing. We were glad that he continued to join us in the pub every Tuesday after practice and many of us enjoyed his company as recently as two days before his death.

Derek's funeral was held on Tuesday 4th November and at his thanksgiving service mention was made of the part that bell ringing had played in his life. A half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung to his memory by the local band at Staplehurst on Sunday 2nd November.

Fred Asprey of Lenham, a former Maidstone District Secretary, passed away peacefully in his sleep on the night of Tuesday 9th/Wednesday 10th December. He had not rung regularly for a few years due to difficulty in getting up the tower stairs at Lenham.

Fred's funeral was held at Lenham Church on Tuesday 23rd December and the pre-service ringing included some members of COOTS of which Fred had been an active member for some years. Following the funeral a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by some of his many friends in celebration of his life.

Reg Foreman of St Peter in Thanet, Broadstairs, passed away on the morning of Sunday 28th December. He had been unwell for some time. Reg was formerly a member of the Barming band until he moved to East Kent in the 1990s and will still be remembered by some of our more senior ringers. He was also a loyal member of COOTS for many years.

His funeral was due to take place on Tuesday 20th January at 2pm at Margate Crematorium, followed by tea at the Portland Centre next to St Peter's church.



Our sympathies are with the families and friends of Derek, Fred and Reg at this difficult time.

Maidstone District 120 Club



For just £10 you can purchase a share in the 120 Club and have a chance of winning a cash prize of £20, £15, £10 or £5 every month from March to December inclusive (£40, £30, £20 or £5 in June and December).

Shares for 2015 available now from the Promoter: *Mal Williams* on 01622- 861143

For more information please see
www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk/120club

Training News

ITTS in Kent

An **ITTS Module 1** course will be starting at **Headcorn** on **Saturday 28th March 2015**.

The programme for the day at Headcorn includes presentations on modern coaching theory as well as practical sessions in the tower. However, anyone thinking about applying to join the course should be aware that this is only the beginning.

Follow-up group sessions to consolidate the ITTS approach will take place shortly after the day event. The Teacher, guided by their Mentor, can then begin training an absolute beginner up to Level 1 of the Learning the Ropes scheme.

By attending the day course trainee Teachers and their Mentors will be granted access to ITTS on-line resources. These including an on-line multiple-choice quiz that needs to be answered satisfactorily to complete the course.

Applicants should have sufficiently good bell control to inspire confidence in their learners, their mentors, the tower captain (if appropriate), and other members of the learner's band. They should not have handling problems themselves.

Bell Maintenance Workshop

Brian Butcher, Association Bell Restoration Officer, will be presenting a **Bell Maintenance Seminar** and practical workshop on **Saturday 18th April 2015** at St Stephen's, **Lympne**.

A poster and application form for both of these Training Events can be downloaded from the Training pages on the KCACR website or Training group on Facebook.

For further details on Training Events please contact the County Training Officer, Peter Dale on 01304 823217 or e-mail training@kcacr.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 14th February	District Practice at Barming	10am - 12noon
<i>An opportunity to experience this newly refurbished six. All welcome</i>		
Saturday 14th March	Striking Competitions at Ightham (venue tbc)	Draw 9.45am
<i>Combined Call Change and Method Competition. Venue still to be confirmed.</i>		
Easter Monday 6th April	County AGM at Marden	All Day
<i>For details and timings please see page 1</i>		
Saturday 11th April	Quarterly Meeting at Bearsted	10am - 12noon
<i>There will be a break midway through for the Business Meeting.</i>		

More information about District Events can be found on our own website at www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk