

Maidstone District

The Kent County Association of Change Ringers

Maidstone District

Chairman: Elizabeth Barnes

Secretary: Simon Davies

www.kcacr-maidstone-district.org.uk

AGENDA

For the **Annual District Meeting** to be held on **Saturday 14th October 2017** at **Leeds** at **5.30pm**.

Apologies for absence:

2017/ADM01 Minutes and any matters arising from previous meeting: -

- a) 2017/QMC 8th July 2017, Barming

2017/ADM02 Election of new members: -

Please introduce the new member at the meeting if possible and complete a Membership Nomination Form available from the County website www.kcacr.org.uk or on the day.

2017/ADM03 KCACR Updates - Ringing Reforms

2017/ADM04 Election of officers: -

- 1.) District Chairman. (Master)
- 2.) District Secretary.
- 3.) 2x Ringing Masters (Ast Master)
- 4.) District Treasurer/Membership Secretary.
- 5.) Youth Secretary
- 6.) Communications Officer
- 7.) 120 Club, Books, Merchandise.

2017/ADM05 District office Reports: - At End of Report

1. Chairman's Report
2. District Ringing Master Report
3. Publicity Officers Report
4. Treasurer & Membership Report.
5. Secretary Report
6. District Reps Report

2017/ADM06 Forthcoming Events in the next Quarter: -

- 1.) District Practice – 11th November 2017, Hunton.
- 2.) District Carol Service – 9th December 2017, Addington.
- 3.) District Quarterly meeting – 13th January 2017, Linton.

2017/ADM07 Proposed Calendar for 2017/18

Apr 14 DQM Lenham
May 12 DP Birling
Jun 9 DP Otham
Jul 14 DQM West Malling
Aug 18 Social Event
Sep 8 DP Boughton Monchelsea
Oct 13 ADM Staplehurst
Nov 10 DP Bearsted
Dec 8 DCS Thurnham (Carol Service)
Jan 12 DQM Harrietsham
Feb 9 DP Nettlestead
Mar 9 S&CCC: East Malling

2017/ADM08 Any other business.

2017/ADM09 Vote of thanks

Simon Davies
District Secretary
14th October 2017

Chairman's Report

Chairman's remarks 2016-17

The District has had a busy and productive year. Our meetings and practices have been well attended and there is generally a friendly and mutually supportive feel to the district. Terry has described the ringing activities in his ringing master's report and Simon some of the social activities in his secretary's report. I should like to express particular thanks to the two of them for their hard work on behalf of the District during the past year – and also to the other members of the committee.

One in particular needs mention this year – Roy Barclay, who has been the District Publicity Officer for more years than anyone can remember. He has announced that he is standing down this year and I hope that everyone will join me in thanking him for his long and loyal service to the District.

As we look forward I hope that all District members will find something within our programme that fits their needs. If not, then please let the District officers know so we can try to arrange what you would like.

Liz Barnes

Ringling Masters' Report for 2017 ADM

Once again over the last 12 months we've seen encouraging attendances at all the district events. Attendance levels have ranged from 21 at both Wateringbury and St Michael's Maidstone, up to 46 at Barming in July. This is very healthy compared to some of the other Districts within the Association. Of necessity a lot of the ringing at these events has been rounds and call changes to cater for our less experienced ringers. But we have also rung more advanced methods, up to surprise major and even Grandsire and Stedman Caters at our 10-bell practice on the glorious Taylor ring at All Saints Maidstone.

As with last year we purposely did not set any special methods as this has allowed each practice to cater better to those in attendance. It also meant that there was more time to devote to individual requests when any were forthcoming.

The District ringing competition at East Farleigh on 11 March was well attended with 4 teams for the call change competition and 5 for the method competition. A very close fought contest saw Aylesford win the call change shield and Staplehurst just pip Aylesford for the method competition. The Staplehurst call change band also won the shield for the band having the most ringers never to have previously rung in a striking competition.

The County 8-bell competition was held on 24 June at Shoreham in the Tonbridge District, at which the Maidstone District band came a very creditable second with 67%, just behind the winners, Lewisham District with 72%. Maidstone District hosted the County 6-bell competition at East Malling on 23 September. with Staplehurst representing the District. After some excellent ringing from all the entrants they were placed fifth. We are very grateful to the ringers from East Malling for their excellent hospitality.

It is very pleasing that ringers have found district events to be both fun and useful occasions to meet other ringers, and gain the confidence to visit other towers. This is a function district events perform very well, and I hope this continues. I would always encourage any ringer, new or well-established, to visit other towers and other districts. Building up experience in this way greatly helps the development of individuals and of ringing in general.

During the year 22 new members have joined the Association including a number of junior members. This bodes well for the future of the District and we extend a warm welcome to them all.

I have certainly enjoyed my first year as your Ringing Master and I hope district practices continue to be a positive and fun experience for everyone.

Terry Barnard

Publicity Officer's Report

Ringling has received a great deal of media publicity this year, but unfortunately for the wrong reasons. We are all very much aware of what happened at York Minster just before Christmas and I will not go into the rights and wrongs of the situation. Suffice it to say that we should use what we have learned from this sad episode to ensure that we all maintain a close relationship with the clergy and PCCs of the churches in which we are privileged to ring.

In our own District *The Belfry*, for 35 years one of the main channels of communication with towers, has not appeared at all during the past 18 months. At a recent District Committee Meeting it was felt that *The Belfry* had outlived its usefulness and that social media, internet and the web were now a far more effective way of disseminating information and receiving feedback. It was therefore decided that no further issues would be published. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped in its production over so many years and particularly to the many who have contributed articles.

The District website continues to be updated regularly and, along with the newly revamped KCACR and Central Council websites, forms a publicity scenario which is more all-embracing than we have ever known before.

Finally, as most of you will know, I am not standing for re-election this year. Having been on the District Committee for 40 years, during which time I have filled the roles of Ringing Master, District Rep and for the last 35 years Publicity Officer, I feel that the time is now right for me to take a back seat and hand over to someone new with fresh ideas and energy to push things forward in the years to come. Thank you all for the support you have given me over the years.

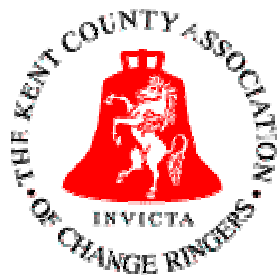
Roy Barclay

Publicity Officer

4th October 2017

Treasurer & Membership Report

KCACR MAIDSTONE DISTRICT



TREASURER'S INTERIM REPORT TO

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

14TH OCTOBER 2017

Set out below are the Accounts for the period

1st January 2017 to 30th September 2017 (projected to the year-end).

The End of Year Report for 2017 will be published at the January 2018 Quarterly Meeting.

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Administration	0.00	Subscriptions	1,634.50
120 Club stationery & postage	00.00	Donations to BRF	715.00
120 Club Annual Licence	20.00	Training Fund (Note 1)	142.60
Fund Raising–120 Club (Note 2)	590.00	Fund Raising – 120 Club	1,300.00
Total Expenditure	610.00	Total Income	3,792.10
		SURPLUS	3,182.10
<u>Due to County</u>		<u>Funds in Hand</u>	
Brought fwd at 01.01.17	163.75	District Bank Account	76.67
Surplus at 01.10.2017	3,182.10	County Administration Float	87.08
Subscriptions to County	-1,634.50		
To County Training Fund	-142.60		
To County BRF (Note 3)	-1,405.00		
Total	163.75		163.75

Spliced Fund Donations**Subscriptions Detail**

<i>Bearsted</i>	<i>187.00</i>			
<i>Boxley</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>2016 late Subscription</i>		<i>20.00</i>
<i>East Farleigh</i>	<i>40.00</i>			
<i>East Malling</i>	<i>50.00</i>	<i>Adult</i>	<i>113</i>	<i>1,125.00</i>
<i>Hunton</i>	<i>80.00</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>427.50</i>
<i>Ightham</i>	<i>40.00</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>50.00</i>
<i>Marden</i>	<i>80.00</i>	<i>New Life Member</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.00</i>
<i>Staplehurst</i>	<i>45.00</i>	<i>Life Members</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>0.00</i>
<i>Wateringbury</i>	<i>50.00</i>	<i>25+ year members</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>0.00</i>
<i>Yalding</i>	<i>30.00</i>	<i>Associate</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>12.00</i>
	<i>702.00</i>	Total members 2017	<i>266</i>	<i>1,614.50</i>

Notes:

- (1) Training Fund – The Training Fund is intended to give financial support to members of the Association (individuals, towers or Districts) for expenditure related to training costs (see County Website for details). Since April 2017 members' donations at meetings have been paid to the Training Fund.
- (2) 120 Club - This sum represents the projected expenditure if/when all the 120 Club prize cheques are presented. Uncashed cheques after the year end will be treated as donations to the KCACR BRF.
- (3) Belfry Repair Fund - Donations for the part-year January-September 2017 as follows:

Spliced Fund (Wedding Fees) Donations	702.00
Donations (Yalding & E. Malling meetings)	13.00
120 Club (projected net profit)	690.00
	1405.00

Sue Bassett, Honorary Treasurer

1st October 2017

Honorary Treasurer's Report to Maidstone Annual District Meeting - October 2017

The financial year runs January to December annually. The Interim Report overleaf has taken into account income and expenditure to 30th September 2017 with a projected sum for 120 Club prize expenditure, not including administration, postage or stationery costs (yet to be advised).

As Honorary Treasurer for the past 4 years, I am happy to continue in this role if the meeting so wishes. In particular, I would like to thank all towers that have been able to make their subscriptions and donations to the District Bank Account via the internet. Provided they also send me an email to give full details about the payment, it makes my job so much easier, particularly as NatWest is closing so many branches.

Looking at some simple statistics for the Maidstone District over the past 5-years, it becomes clear that our membership profile (and potential income to KCACR) is changing. Whilst most of us are aware of this through our own tower attendance, it may be of interest to note that Adult and Junior membership numbers have remained fairly static, but overall membership numbers are increasing slightly. This is due to members reaching Senior status and many of these also have 25+ years' membership, so no longer pay a subscription. In 2017 the Senior membership is well above the average of the past 5-years and this has a financial impact for Subscription Income to KCACR. However, this can be offset against the generous donations received from towers in respect of the Spliced Fund, but this income too has been variable. Some churches remain popular for weddings but others have suffered competition from alternative venues, which impacts directly on the amounts able to be donated.

The 120 Club continues to be a popular and positive income generator. I would like to thank Mal Williams for being such an excellent organiser and promoter of this lottery. He has been running the club since its inception and more than deserves special thanks for all his hard work to raise funds for the KCACR Belfry Repair Fund.

Sue Bassett

District Secretary's report for 2017 District ADM.

District events throughout the year have been well received and very well attended. Terry addresses this in his report.

The 2016 Carol Service was held at West Peckham – Thank you to Liz Barnes, Barry Evans for co-ordinating that – also thanks to all at the church.

The District BBQ was hosted by Liz and Phil Barnes. We were very well looked after by our hosts with a great selection of snacks, pizza, salad and ice cream. Additionally the beer brewed and supplied by Chris Bassett went down very well. It was also nice to see a good selection of wines and non alcoholic beverages.

There was ringing on the 12 bells ring from rounds and call changes to methods . There was also half tone bell ringing with Pachelbel, Aura Lee and Waltzing Matilda - rather nice too see so many people taking part and enjoying this. Finally all 8 handbells were rung - and sounded marvellous.

The event was planned as a non profit making event - but as with these things - it turned out it did well making approx £100 which will go to the ringing training fund.

A very big thank you to Liz and Phil for hosting and organising a perfect summer event - also a big thanks to all those that helped and attended.

For 2017/18 once again we have a full programme of events planned.

Finally – a huge thanks to Emma Tilston for general support and excellent minute taking.

Simon Davies
Maidstone District Secretary

3 October 2016

District Rep's Report 2017.

1. From 2018 there will be only one Handbook per Tower, members who wish to have a copy can download it online or alternatively it can be ordered when details of next years handbook are requested in December by the Secretary .
2. This is the second year of ringers who are paid up members of the KCACR being issued with a membership card , anyone who has not received one should see the Treasurer .
3. The County and the District have been upgraded and well worth visiting for for future events In the year –i.e –the district Carol service in December .
4. The County now has a Youth Officer to encourage and help with the progress of younger Ringers , look out for events that have been organised around the County in the future .
5. The idea of having a mobile ring of bells which available to all districts is slowly moving to Completion ,a trailer to carry the bells has been ordered and should be finished by the end of the Month , anyone wanting to use would have to collect it and tow it to there chosen venue , anybody who knows of a vacant Barn or garage where it can be stored contact the General Secretary .
6. The Augmentation project at Broomfield has finally after some three years been completed , the problems encountered when raising the bells has been overcome by installing new clappers , we are awaiting to install rope guides to help with the long draft .
7. Safeguarding – Tower captains may have already been approached by there PCC or secretary as the position of the Canterbury Diocese is that they have decided every ringer is required is to be trained in a entry level of a Safeguarding course .

I am not standing for re-election but the position of District Representative has also taken on the looking after the district bookstall and sales book for KCACR clothing , to make a central contact in the district when orders are dispatched .

Chris Saunders