

Southern News



The Southern District Newsletter

November and December 2017

Words from your editor.

The year seems to be drawing slowly to a close, but what a busy few months it has been. There have been plenty of summer outings (some feature in this newsletter), a handbell day, barn dance and ringing course all right here in your district. That's only the shortlist; I just have to scroll through Bell Board to see peals and quarter peals happening on your doorstep and as I catch up with our ringers, I am always amazed how busy a Southern District ringer can be!

As I approach the end of my first year as your newsletter editor and as a Southern District team (committee) member, I remember that I am always glad to have an activity like ringing available for me any weekday evening or weekend. As I approach the daunting prospect of exam season, I can rely on the people, and the art we share to keep me going.

Pin this latest issue on your tower notice board! (To my horror I once saw an out

of date issue on a notice board.) See you sometime soon no doubt.

Josh

Upcoming Events

www.scacr.org/scacr-calendar

Friday 27th and 28th October - SCACR 2-Day Ringing Course.

Saturday 18th November – Joint East/South Ringing Outing. More details to follow from Marion Hollands.

Saturday 25TH November –

Southern District Practice on the simulator at Hurstpierpoint

10:00am. Tea and Cake in the church all morning. Ringing will be rounds onwards.



Saturday 9th December – Young Ringers Practice. Christmas themed ringing at Southover.

Words from Mary - Your district secretary

I am writing this at the end of my first day as a student on one of the SCACR ringing courses and am feeling exhausted, excited and encouraged! Driving home I thought about all the other students who probably, like me, were feeling somewhat petrified at 9.30 this morning and hope that they have also had a good day where they have made good progress. We are very lucky to have so many talented and experienced ringers who freely give up their time to act as tutors and helpers to help us learn.

I have been doing a lot of learning recently! A couple of weeks ago we had the first Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) course in Sussex and ten of us went to Southover to learn how to help beginners handle a bell. The course was very intensive, we all got a lot from it and we hope to provide a training day for people who would like to start bellringing in

the near future.

I have been slightly more successful with my challenge recently and visited Burgess Hill

and Southover in Lewes in the last



Burgess Hill Practice Night

month. I thoroughly enjoyed both visits and am looking forward to meeting more of you before the end of the year.

Mary Burr



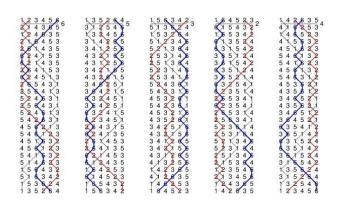


The Southern District Ringing Outing to Guildford

On Saturday 23rd September, a group of ringers from across the Southern District descended on Guildford for a day of ringing, socialising and drinking. We started just before 11am at Stoke Next Guildford. Jonathan organised plenty of six bell ringing. We ended up tackling the so called 'Cambridge twin': Primrose. "Hunt through the lead end, that's it!" Still left many of us puzzled...







Primrose Surprise Minor

Lunch was next, a pub grab for some, a shopping trip for others!

We then ventured into the busy centre of Guildford to ring on the large six at St. Mary's. Josh was given command here and gave everyone a challenge on these heavy going bells. There was of course plenty of

Stedman Focus this time round!

Next we went onwards to the light ring of bells at Bramley. Here, Marisa took the baton and organised a packed session on the bells. However, due to the bells being on their way out for repair, there was little to no sound proofing, so we had no excuses for bad striking!



Bramley



Rachel, Josh, Pat, Helen and Jo.

Our final destination was the 1958 Mears ring of eight at Wonersh. Now these were a treat! Mr Organiser, William, took charge here. We started with Plain Hunt, Grandsire, Little Bob, and a final touch of 4 Spliced Major. We could also enjoy the views on the accessible church roof! A head for heights for some.

Finishing on a high we parted our separate ways back to our home of the Southern District. Many thanks to William (superlative) Stafford for a brilliant day out!

Here is to next year. Will we see you there?



Standing L-R: Stuart, Rob, Jo, Josh, Helen, William, Paul, Marisa and Jonathan.

Sitting L-R: Anne, Mary, Rachel and Pat.

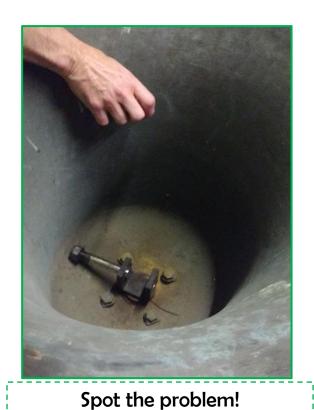
- Wanting to ring a Quarter Peal?
- Looking for more help at practice night?
- Want advice on moving a band forward?

Contact Mary, your district secretary, or any member of the Southern District Committee.

We are here to help!



Molly Smith, Keymer Ringer aged 15, can now see her home tower from her brand new French classroom at Downlands School in Hassocks!



Not every quarter peal goes to plan. (Location not revealed)



Practice night with a view at Hurstpierpoint. Thanks to John Norris.

Book early for a seat! Keymer are off on a ringing outing.

On a drizzly morning on the 7th October, around 20 ringers gathered at the church hall of St Cosmas and St Damian, Keymer. We were fortunate enough to have Adrian in our ranks who kindly provided and drove a minibus, saving many of us the drive and allowing the Murray Mints to be shared out amongst us all. The turnout was excellent, with ringers from five (if not more) local towers in attendance and a strong showing from the Sussex young ringers. At our peak we had 22 eager participants of all levels of skill and experience.

Our first stop was St Margaret's, West Hoathly, an 11 cwt 6. Some of us had to wait down-stairs as we couldn't all fit in the ringing chamber at once, but that did give us a chance to listen outside in the churchyard (thankfully the rain had stopped at this point). Special mention must go to Alex, one of the young ringers, for an excellent course of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

After this we had a short trip to Turners Hill, St Leonard's church. Here we had an interesting challenge due to a very long draught, however there were guides to help. When we arrived, the flower arrangers were out in force so we were welcomed with the sights and smells of the harvest festival decorations.

Next up was an eagerly anticipated tower. Requested by Molly and led by William (another 2 of the young ringers) we arrived at St Swithun's, East Grinstead. The first ring of 12 in Sussex and a chance for myself, and Molly, to grab the heaviest bell that we've rung (28-0-6). This was a first for many of us and hopefully our rounds, call changes and plain hunting was pleasant for the locals. This left us ready for lunch, which we enjoyed at The Anchor Inn, Hartfield. At this point some of us were extremely grateful to Adrian for driving, as the local beer was very well received.

Refreshed and refuelled, we moved on to Holy Trinity, Colemans Hatch. In my opinion these were the nicest bells of the day and some of the best ringing of



Molly (aged 15) ringing the East Grinstead tenor.

the day was rung here, including an excellently struck touch of Grandsire Triples.

We rounded off the day with the 6 at All Saints, Danehill. Ringing ranged from Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles to the infrequently rung Grandsire Minor.

All that remains is to thank Frances for organising a wonderful day which we all got a lot out of. Additional thanks (once again) to our ringing minibus driver, Adrian Carter.

James Stubbing



The Keymer band at Danehill: (L-R) Michael, Sandra, Millie, Jacky, James, Diana, Ann, David, Frances, Molly, Josh, Josephine, Simon, Liz, Heather, Alex, Suzy and Rob. Missing from the photograph are William, Janice and Adrian.

Wisdom from the South...

I find it difficult when leading practice night to squeeze a variety of methods into an hour and a half. I may well try focusing on one method a month, while keeping up all the basic and regularly rung methods we have at our tower. Weekly repetition of a method makes a greater chance of success than having a quick go one week and not coming back to it for a long time. Once you've mastered it with the power of repetition, it should stick much better and for longer.

Southern District Ringers in action!

 Saturday 30th September. SCACR Handbell Day at Ringmer and Annual Social Event, Barn Dance at Bolney.





Paul and Helen Wells working from Bob Minor to Kent Treble Bob Major.



Jonathan and John guiding Helen through Bob Minor. (With Ian and Michael watching on)

Can you spot Tom and Jo from Twineham? "Spin your partner!"





The Young Ringers.

Clockwise: Josh, Millie, Josephine, William (product placement: National 12 Bell Final pint glass), Molly, Alex, Harry, Rachel and Mahala.

The superb kitchen team from Keymer! (And a few friends)

Stella, Diana, Alison, Frances and Jacky.



 Saturday 9th September. Congratulations Team Sussex who came first in the 10 bell Essex Trophy Striking competition held in Hertford, ringing Superlative S

Royal.

Special congratulations to Caroline House from Brighton (front row, fourth from left) who was part of the winning band.



 Saturday 14th October. The first 'Association of Ringing Teachers' (ART) course in Sussex, held at Southover, Lewes.





Richard and Debbie in training.

Debbie and Gillian Hughes (ART Tutour)

• Saturday 2nd September. Burgess Hill ringers enjoy their first ringing outing in three years spending the day in and around Hastings. The ball is rolling once more...



(L-R) Harry, Josh, Daniel, David, Colin, Jo, Millie, Janice, James, Alan, Sarah, Molly, William and Alex.

In Remembrance

Ken Jones, former member of Ringmer Tower and father of Marisa Hayes has died aged 86.

A service of thanksgiving will take place at St Mary's Church in Ringmer on Monday 6 November at 11am. Ringers are invited to join us from 10.30am or after the Service.

Family flowers only; donations if desired to St Peter & St James Hospice c/o Grace Ind. Funeral Directors, Springett Avenue, Ringmer.

We are sorry to report the recent death of Rosemary Brown of Hurstpierpoint. Rosemary, widow of Stan, one of the legendary 'Brown Twins', had been a member of the Hurstpierpoint band for almost sixty years.

All are welcome to the Service of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity Hurstpierpoint at 3.15 p.m. on Monday 6th November. General Ringing beforehand from 2.45. Those attending the service are asked not to wear black.



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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. *Practice makes perfect!*

Monday: Burgess Hill 7:45, Brighton; St Nicholas (2nd and 4th), St Peter (1st, 3rd and 5th) both 7:45, 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 @susex 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 January and February 2018

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

17th December

Send it all to news-south@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter.

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