

Northern News



The Northern District Newsletter - April 2018

Dates for Your Diary

April

Monday 16 th	9/10 Bell Methods Practice (Simulator)	Warnham	19:30 - 21:00
Monday 23 rd	General 10 Bell Practice - rounds up	Horsham	19:30 - 21:00

May

Monday 7 th	No Practice - Bank Holiday		
Wednesday 2 nd	Codgers - check website calendar for details		
Saturday 12 th	Ringling, BBQ, Games, Social & AGM	Ditchling/Westmeston	from 10:00
Monday 14 th	8 Bell Methods Practice	Balcombe	19:30 - 21:00
Saturday 19 th	Outing by bike (or car) down the Downs Link		all day
Monday 21 st	9/10 Bell Methods Practice (Simulator)	Warnham	19:30 - 21:00
Monday 28 th	No Practice - Bank Holiday		

June

Monday 4 th	Advanced Minor, incl. Cambridge	Ardingly	19:30 - 21:00
Wednesday 6 th	Codgers - check website calendar for details (proposed outing to Kent)		
Saturday 2 nd	Northern District Quiz (details TBC)		from 19:00
Monday 11 th	8 Bell Methods Practice	Rusper	19:30 - 21:00
Monday 18 th	9/10 Bell Methods Practice (Simulator)	Warnham	19:30 - 21:00
Monday 25 th	General 10/12 Bell Practice - rounds up	East Grinstead	19:30 - 21:00

The programme is subject to change depending on availability of towers etc - keep an eye on the website calendar: www.scacr.org/calendar If you have any requests, please get in touch:

sec-north@scacr.org

Monday Evening Practices - Summary

First Monday: A six-bell practice, either an elementary practice (once every three months) or an "advanced" Minor practice (twice every three months). "Advanced" does not necessarily mean Surprise but would at least be based on methods which develop ringing towards Surprise.

Second Monday: An eight-bell methods practice including (but not necessarily restricted to) Surprise Major. These will be intended for those wishing to develop their method ringing.

Third Monday: A continuation of the more advanced ten-bell methods practice held on the simulator at Warnham, excellently run by Jeremy Alford. Come along to practise methods (including plain hunting/treble bob hunting on the treble) on 9 and 10 bells. There will also be a suggested method to look up, for those who wish give it a go.

Fourth Monday: A continuation of the current General 10/12-bell practices at Horsham, Warnham and East Grinstead. Ringing is rounds onwards - all welcome!

Mondays in August and Fifth Monday: Quarter peals, by request. If you want help to ring a quarter peal, this is your opportunity - let us know! practice-north@scacr.org

Upcoming Events

Mini-outing by Bike (or Car) Down the Downs Link - Saturday 19th June

Everyone is welcome on this inter-district event! Taking in towers from the Northern and Southern Districts, join us for a day of gentle bike riding and relaxed ringing at towers close to the Downs Link. Outline programme: ringing with tea/coffee and cake at Slinfold in the morning, ringing at Henfield with pub lunch (or picnic), then ringing at Upper Beeding and Steyning in the afternoon, with a break for afternoon tea/coffee and cake.



The cycle route is very flat, almost completely traffic free, and will be led at a gentle pace (10 mph). Ringing will be rounds onwards - all welcome! Join us for the whole route or just part of it (there are several places along the route to park). Full details to be announced soon; keep an eye on the website calendar and emails with more details! www.scacr.org/calendar

SCACR Fun Day and Annual General Meeting - Saturday 12th May

The Southern District Team would like to welcome you to a day for all SCACR ringers, at Ditchling and neighbouring Westmeston, at the foot of the South Downs.

The day's activities include open ringing in the morning and a service. This is followed by a social afternoon and AGM at Westmeston Village Hall, including a Barbecue in the sun (hopefully!). Sausages or burgers (vegetarian included) in rolls with assorted salads. Bring your own drinks! Names for BBQ to Mary Burr: sec-south@scacr.org.

SCACR AGM Day 2018

Saturday 12th 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



There will also be Hand Bell Ringing sessions and a mini picture related quiz / treasure hunt to keep you busy.

South of England Show 7-9 June - Volunteers Needed!

SCACR members are invited to take part in the South of England show (7,8 & 9 June at Ardingly). We're looking for volunteers to help with the mini-ring ([Dewbys Bells](#)) and to engage with members of the public. **Volunteers get free Show passes**. We'd love to have as many people as possible take part. Please let us know if you could help out from either 9-1 or 1-5, with the rest of the day to enjoy the Show.

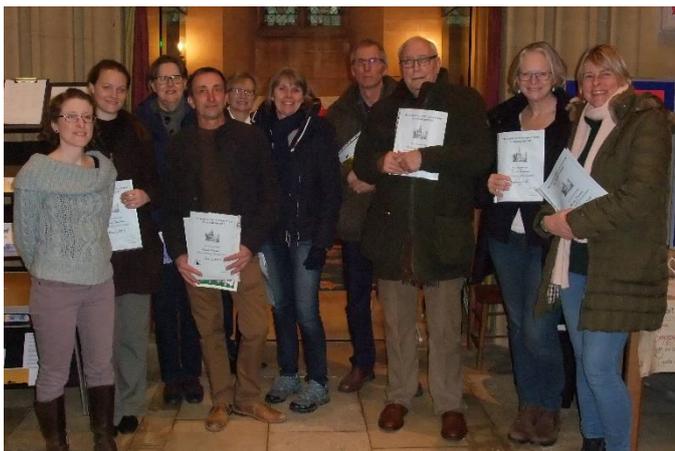
Please email publicity@scacr.org or Marisa Hayes marisa@happymouflon.com. We have started publicising our collaboration on social media @chichesterDio and @seas_org - use hashtags #southofenglandshow or #bellringing.



District News

New Members Event - Saturday 3rd March at Danehill

Lucy Rackham reports: The New Members Event held at Danehill was a great way to meet some other ringers in the District and find out more about other ringing opportunities in the area. To see so many others who are learning to ring was also really encouraging for me. I was even involved in some hand bell ringing which was something new that I've never tried before! A great afternoon of cake, company and conversation (with some bell ringing to top it off)! "I hope that there will be more opportunities to ring there now that I have met them".



Top right: Lucy has a go at handbells, with Chris, Andrew, Jeremy and Neil. Bottom left: new members receive their membership certificates. Bottom right: Richard enjoyed seeing the bells.

"Foundation Fun and Games" - Saturday 7th April at Bolney

Some of the Northern District's newest members got together with friendly and experienced helpers at Bolney for a morning of fun and games to improve bell handling, striking and understanding of places. Many thanks to Elaine Farrow for leading this event, and to Sandra Alford, Susie Bowen and Richard Pendlebury for putting their ART training into practice to help the learners, and to all the other helpers and cake-bakers for making it so successful!



Top right: Elaine in charge! Bottom from left: Susie and Sharon; Kathy with the cakes; Susie explains a game; Val, Alister, Stephen and Chris take part in the call changes game.

"My First Peal" by Michael Shaw Age 12 (at the time in February)

I have been going to ringing chambers ever since I can remember, and had my first go at ringing when I was about seven but it didn't really grab me until much later. I was really keen to ring a quarter for my aunt Fliss in November 2016 as she was suffering from cancer and I really wanted to raise some money to help scientists research a cure. I had never rung for so long before, but I was very determined to succeed, and we did. About a year later I really started to get the ringing bug, and rang my first quarter on the treble. Afterwards I thought to myself 'I could ring a peal of that' (but of course I didn't really know how difficult that might be!) A few days after this quarter of doubles I rang a quarter of minor on the treble, and at that point I really started thinking I wanted to try a peal before I was 13 (in March). I spoke to my dad and he spoke to Stephen, and between us we came up with a plan.



My dad asked me where I wanted to attempt the peal, and I said 'Fairwarp of course!' (my home tower). Dad said that we could find a lighter tower with a shorter peal time, but I wanted to ring at Fairwarp as they were bells I knew very well. He asked what I wanted to ring - inside or treble (he said I probably shouldn't ring the tenor - and I agreed!) and whether to ring triples or major. I decided on Bob Triples on the treble. A short time after that we rang a quarter of triples with me on the treble and that seemed to be fine. The date we chose was in February half term - and it also happened to be my dad's birthday.

When it came to the day I was excited and nervous at the same time as I hadn't rung anywhere near as long as this before. My dad made sure I ate and drank sensibly in the morning and that I was wearing comfortable clothes so I could concentrate on ringing. We took the clock off the wall so I didn't get distracted by looking at the time every five minutes and then we started! I didn't really know what I felt like to begin with but at least I felt comfortable. Although I couldn't see the time I could tell when it was something o'clock because the clock made a whirring noise which gave me a timestamp for how far through we were.

About an hour and a half through I started feeling some pains in my fingers from holding the rope so long, and my arms were beginning to ache a bit but I was still very determined to get the peal so I did my best to ignore them. About three quarters of the way through my arms were aching more, so when I was hunting down to the front I felt I had to let the bell fall down so I didn't have to use my muscles so much! Around that time Stephen gave me some advice and encouragement as we were nearly there which helped my striking. At this point my knees were aching as well from having stood still for so long. I shifted my weight on to one leg and stretched the other one a bit - even standing on one leg at times.

As it got nearer to the end I knew we could do it and later Stephen said 'This Is All' and 'Stand' and we had done it! I can remember having a massive smile on my face, and feeling tired and pleased that we had got it and rather relieved it was over all at the same time. Apparently I couldn't really speak afterwards!! Everyone said well done, we wrote our names in the peal book, and then we went to the pub.

In this article I would like to thank everyone involved in the peal as I couldn't have done it without them believing it would be possible. People have asked me whether I would ring another one or if once is enough, and my answer is 'yes' I would like to ring another one, and hopefully I can ring inside next time.

Congratulations to Andrew Alford for his First Peal - Ringing Inside...

If you have the surname Alford and live near Warnham then you have to have a go at bellringing - if you don't like it, you can give up but at least give it a go. Back in 2009 this is what Andrew did and he hasn't looked back since. At the age of 18, he has proved himself to be a valuable member of the Warnham band and of the Sussex Young Ringers, having competed in many of the Youth Competitions and being a member of the winning team a couple of times.



On February 18th, he completed another milestone by successfully ringing his first peal. He had a local band supporting him (including his father and uncle) and competently accomplished ringing three hours' worth of 4-Spliced Surprise Major (Cambridge, Yorkshire, Rutland and Lincolnshire). I am pleased to say that he was heard to say afterwards in the pub that he looked forward to ringing more (he had downed a pint by then). Congratulations Andrew: 1st peal at 1st attempt!

...While Helen Goldstraw Racks Up her 250th Quarter Peal

On the day of the Queen and Prince Philip's 70th wedding anniversary (20th Nov), Helen rang her 250th Quarter Peal. Bring it on.

All Quiet on the Library Front - Saturday 10th March, Horsham

Horsham ringers joined 10 other local societies at Horsham library on Saturday 10th March as part of a Local Societies Fair. The plan was for local people to come along and meet us and for us to try and recruit new ringers. This was in the context of the national 'Ringing Remembers' campaign to recruit 1,400 ringers lost in the First World War (see below for more details). It was a useful exercise for us to put on a small display and make our existence known to local people and other organisations. Various names were taken, and we will be holding an open evening combined with our normal Tuesday evening practice.



Design Your Own Logo - Warnham Did



Ann Lloyd tells the story: Early in 2017 the band at Warnham held a competition to design a logo for the Guild of St Margaret's Ringers. This logo would then be used on clothing. There were several entries and Judith Alford's design was chosen. We felt that it was a very simple yet effective way of displaying our tower. The obvious bell is protected by two symbolic antlers, representing the famous Warnham Deer Park. The central window is taken from the pew sheet logo and represents our integral part of the life at St Margaret's.

We sourced an excellent local supplier who could provide a very wide variety of clothing with a good choice of colours. By Christmas the team was dressed and ready for action. No longer do members of the band have to raise their arms into the air before going to ring, asking 'Can you see my tummy with this?'

Tales of the Tenor Clapper

When the muffles were being fitted at Horsham recently we discovered that tenor clapper was loose even though it had been tightened in the past few weeks. The problem was a loose nut on the inside of the bell and if this had not been noticed the clapper would have come adrift and caused considerable damage. We are very grateful to Ed Woodward, Simon Alford and son Andrew for helping remove the clapper and re-fix (weld) the nut under the constant supervision of Ian Smith. The photo (right) shows the nut inside the bell.



No Ringing at Lindfield

Ringing at Lindfield has been suspended due to building works in the church. Ringing is not likely to recommence before November 2018 - the tower's web page will be updated when ringing recommences: www.scacr.org/towers/districts/north/85-lindfield-all-saints

Association News

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!



Wedding Fees

Our own Stella Bianco reports: In February Stella conducted a mini-survey of wedding fees based on 20 towers in the Northern and Western Districts. The results varied a lot:

- 🔔 Only five of the 20 towers ring before *and* after
- 🔔 Fees range between £80 and £240 - the average being £135
- 🔔 Payment per ringer varies between £10 - £20 (the cathedral is higher)
- 🔔 The average per ringer is £15
- 🔔 Most towers retain an amount for the tower fund and some PCCs take an amount
- 🔔 Eight bell towers try and recruit 8 ringers, but charge the same for six
- 🔔 Some towers contribute petrol money to non-resident ringers
- 🔔 Some towers in other places have different rates for "After only" and "Before & After"
- 🔔 Some towers charge less to encourage wedding bells
- 🔔 Cowfold - 6 bells Before and After £110 (£20 to tower fund and £15 per rope)

Putting Big Phone Signal Stuff on Church Towers

Josh (Burgess Hill) updates us: 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 who 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 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.

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

Pat Aylward, the Association Safeguarding Officer asks us whether we have completed the Diocese of Chichester online safeguarding training yet? Everyone involved with the church, in any way, should be aware of safeguarding and child protection issues.

Tower Captains and anyone involved with the training or transporting of young people must complete the C1 and C2 training every 3 years. You can book yourself onto Diocese of Chichester training courses, or your parish Safeguarding Officer can arrange it for you. And **for everyone else there is the CO online training**, which takes about an hour to complete. Here's what to do...

- Go to <https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org> and click on 'training event'
- On the left side of the page you will find "E learning", which is what you need. At the bottom of the page is the safeguarding portal, which will take you to the online courses.
- At this stage you will need to create a new account. The course is one hour long. You are able to stop and start, and go back over bits.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Currently, there is a lot of media coverage about historic abuse by church members, and particularly the response by the Diocese of Chichester to allegations that were made. Always, always believe what a young person may tell you and report what has been said to your parish Safeguarding Officer, to me, to the police. Keeping children safe is the responsibility of us all.

Changes to the Association Facebook Group

You may have heard about the updated Data Protection Act (now known as GDPR) that comes into effect in May. Various Association officers have been working really hard to make sure the Association is ready for this change in the law.



As part of this, we have responsibility for our social media presence and in particular the Facebook Group. The SCACR now has an **official Facebook Page**, which is our "shop window" for interacting with the general public, the wider ringing community, and our members - search in Facebook for "Sussex Bellringers - SCACR" or go to <https://www.facebook.com/SussexBellringers/>

The **Facebook Group** (to join, search for "SCACR group" or go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scacr/>) is for SCACR members to post notices and stories, have discussions, provide feedback, make requests etc., relevant to change ringing in Sussex. The Facebook Group is now a "**Closed**" group, meaning that **only current SCACR members can see or contribute to posts in the group** (previously anyone who was a friend of any other member of the group may have been able to see posts about you). The Association's updated Facebook Group policy can be found here: https://www.scacr.org/documents/membership/SCACR_Facebook_Group_Policy.pdf



There are several different categories of SCACR membership available, including **Ringling Member, Associate (i.e. non-ringing) Member, and Non-Resident Member** (for those who don't live in Sussex but used to, or who visit regularly). More details in the SCACR rules: https://www.scacr.org/documents/association-rules/SCACR_Rules_May_2017.pdf If you have any questions or want to become an Associate or Non-Resident Member, please contact secretary@scacr.org.

Ringling Remembers

November 2017 saw the launch of a national 'Ringling Remembers' initiative to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War One. The Ringling Remembers campaign aims to **recruit at least 1400 new recruits to ringing in time for them to be trained and join Remembrance Day ringing on 11 November 2018**, 100 years since Armistice Day. In Sussex, 53 bellringers are known to have paid the ultimate sacrifice during the 1914-18 war; you can read Alan Seymour's article about them below.



Bands are encouraged to open towers and promote bellringing locally as part of the recruitment drive. Lots of helpful information and resources (including posters and leaflets to download and print) are available on the CCCBR web pages <https://a100.cccbr.org.uk/?rf=32>, and on the SCACR webpage about the campaign: <https://www.scacr.org/learning-training/ringing-remembers> **Remember, if you have any new learners who started after October 2017, please register them as new recruits for the campaign here: <https://a100.cccbr.org.uk/register/?rf=32>**

'Ringling Remembers' is promoted by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Central Council of Church Bellringers, in collaboration with the Big Ideas Company who are publicising the campaign.

2018 Great War Centenary - Commemorative Ringling

Alan Seymour, Burgess Hill reports: Thank you from Alan Regin and myself, to all the tower bands and ringers who rung to commemorate the centenary of deaths of the 15 known SCACR/Sussex ringers who died while on service in His Majesty's Forces in 1917. Thanks to Marisa Hayes and to all those involved in organising the 'Remembering Sussex Bell-ringers - Songs of Praise Service' held in April 2017 at St Swithun's, East Grinstead; thanks also to those who attended.

In 1918, 11 known SCACR/Sussex Bell-ringers from 9 towers lost their lives:

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

Find out more at: https://www.scacr.org/documents/rolls/Roll_of_Honour.pdf

Full details for all District and Association events are at www.scacr.org/calendar

Contributions for the next Northern News by Friday 13th July to news-north@scacr.org