

Southern News



The Southern District Newsletter *July and August 2018*

Words from your editor

It was great to see many southern district ringers at the SCACR AGM in May. We enjoyed an excellent day of ringing in tower and hand, eating, socialising and AGM'ing'. Our thanks must go to Mary Burr, your district secretary, and David Cragg, from Ditchling, for their organising. The Burgers and Hotdogs were particularly tasty!

Our June Saturday practice at Hurstpierpoint was a good productive morning. It was nice to see Alex and Harry ringing their first blows of Stedman Caters and Jo Worsley ringing her first plain hunt on 9. Both Susannah Bowen and I also benefited from some surprise major practice, with lots more on offer for many other ringers too. Although I enjoyed running the ringing, it was a shame not to see more learners. If you are reading this and would like to improve your ringing, these practices are a perfect opportunity. It would be lovely to see you at our next practice at Seaford on Saturday 21st July.

Good luck to the Sussex Young Ringers who are competing at the Ringing World National Youth Contest in London on 7th July. They will be up

1

Southern News – July and August 2018

Upcoming Events

www.scacr.org/news-events/calendar

Thursday 4th July – Bob Doubles evening at Alfriston. 19:30 – 21:00.

Friday 6th July – 8 Bell basic practice at Arundel. 19:30 – 21:00.

Saturday 7th July – Ringing World National Youth Contest in London.

Saturday 7th July – 6 Bell novice practice at Washington. 9:30 – 12:00 Phone Christine Butterfield to reserve your place - 01903-872623

Saturday 7th July – Mini-ringing with coffee and cake at 'The Bell Meadow Peal' in Warnham. 10:00 – 12:00

Saturday 14th July – Walk and ring in the western district. West Grinstead to Shipley. Contact Christine Butterfield: ed-west@scacr.org

Saturday 21st July – Southern District 8 Bell Ringing Morning at Seaford. 10:00 – 12:00. Contact Mary Burr: sec-south@scacr.org

Saturday 28th July – Surprise Minor practice morning at Walberton. 10:15 – 12:00. Contact Moya Hills: sec-west@scacr.org

Friday 3rd August – 8 bell basic practice at Arundel. 19:30 – 21:00.

Saturday 4th August – 6 Bell Novice Practice at Washington. 9:30 – 12:00.

against teams from all across the country. We should of course be very proud of our young ringers, ringing in the team or not, and the enthusiasm they have for ringing. They are always welcoming all young ringers from across Sussex, so keep an eye out for the next practices lined up after the summer holidays!

I would like to pass on my best wishes from your district secretary Mary Burr, who is currently on holiday. Mary repeats my positive words about the AGM and thanks all those who came along and enjoyed the day. Mary looks forward to seeing you at the next southern district practice at Seaford and wishes you well in your ringing.

Enjoy the sun!

Josh Hutchinson



Saturday 18th August – Doubles Training Afternoon at Wivelsfield

(tbc) 14:00 – 16:00. An afternoon for those wishing to master Bob Doubles, perfect their Grandsire, or move onto some new interesting doubles methods whilst boosting their confidence. If this may be for you, contact Josh Hutchinson: news-south@scacr.org, 07845754713.

Looking ahead...

Saturday 13th October – Association Handbell Day at Hurstpierpoint Prep School. Please contact Hamish McNaughton: hamish@wandleys.demon.co.uk

October 2018 – SCACR Beginners Outing. A day for those new to ringing to try some new bells in Sussex. Ringing level from rounds up to Plain Bob/Grandsire level. More details to follow. Contact Josh Hutchinson if interested: news-south@scacr.org, 07845754713.

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!

The SCACR AGM Day at Ditchling and Westmeston

On Saturday 12th May, ringers from across Sussex descended on the Southern District for our annual general meeting. It was a brilliant day organised by the Southern District Team.

The day started with ringing on the 6 bells at Keymer along with catching up with ringers whom we hadn't seen for some time. We then swiftly moved onto Ditchling to ring on its anti-clockwise ring of 8 bells. Ringing here included plain hunt, Grandsire Triples, Cambridge Major and Plain Bob Major – which was our last touch



Keymer

before the ringer's service in the church.

The ringer's service was conducted by the curate at St Margaret's Ditchling, but was sadly not very well attended. However, those who did attend sang well, said prayers, and gave thanks together for our art of ringing.

We then moved onto Westmeston, a small village 5 minutes down the road on the



Ringing at Ditchling. Seen standing up L-R are Rachel, Josh, Pauline Kennard and Marisa Hayes.

foot of the South Downs (also home to Raymond Briggs - author of The Snowman'... One of the AGM quiz answers). In the village hall we enjoyed handbell ringing, hotdogs, burgers salads, tea, coffee, beer and cake. I can safely say that no one left hungry!



Happy Ringers! Clockwise from Left: Jonathan Franklin, Ian Hastilow, Luca Greenslade, Marisa Hayes and Angie Hastilow.



After partaking in the AGM day quiz and eating even more cake, we settled down for the meeting. We heard the SCACR Finance report, by Sue Gadd, notes on the new SCACR privacy policy and GDPR regulations. We thanked our outgoing Master, Graham Hills, and

(acting) General Secretary, Sandra Alford. Their work has meant our association has thrived and continues to play an active part in ringing in Sussex. We are also very lucky that since the AGM, a new Master and General Secretary have stepped forward to take on the roles, but are working with the Trustees at this time of change in our association. (More on page 5)

After the meeting drew to a close, we all departed our separate ways ready to ring the bells of Sussex, and recruit more to do so, over the next year.



Rachel and Josh presenting Graham his thank you present and flowers for Moya (Graham's wife).

The superb kitchen team! L-R: David Cragg, Steph Pendelbury, Frances Gilbert and Mary Burr.

The Southern District Ringing Outing 2018

Saturday 15th September

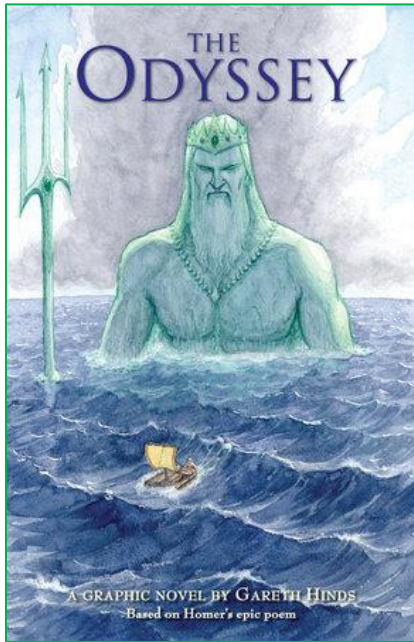
Eastbourne

This year we will be doing a fun walking outing around the seaside town of Eastbourne. Come along for a good day out, enjoy some new bells and perhaps meet some new ringers too. Ringing for all abilities! Itinerary and more details to be circulated soon. For more details please contact William Stafford: will@jamiestaffordbathrooms.co.uk.



(Eastbourne skyline with St. Saviours Church)

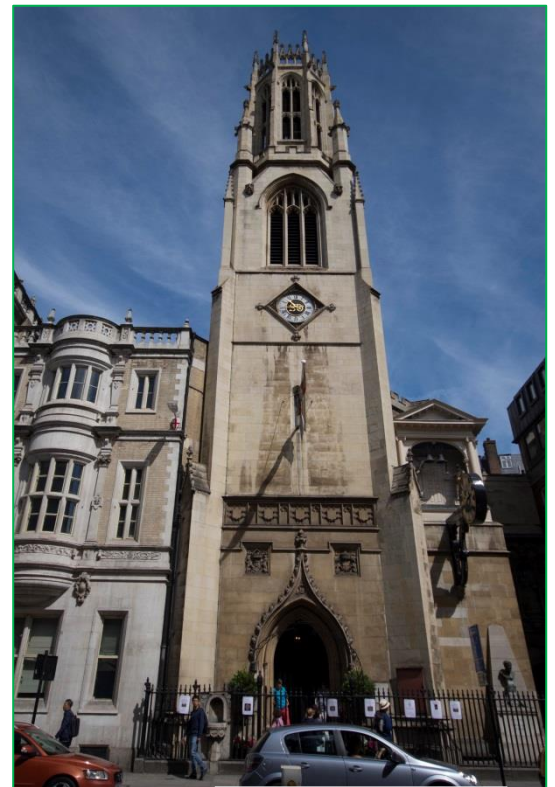
Hurstpierpoint Ringers go on an Odyssey to London



As dawn appeared, fresh and rosy fingered on 23rd June, the much excited ringers of Hurstpierpoint left their beds and conducted themselves to Hassocks train station to await a much anticipated day. The 8:36 train was seemingly blessed by the gods and was not one minute late; the gods had been smiling upon them that day. The blessed ringers found seats at a pace that could rival Zeus' lightning bolt and they quickly reclined into the weary seats. The hour passed with raucous laughter such as one would expect at a fine dinner held by a rich man where the wine would flow and the food would be plentiful. After the pleasant journey the ringers

found themselves within a city of concrete with skyscrapers at every available point, the miles of glass glittering like the water of the Thames next to it. A short walk greeted the companions as they made their way to the first tower of the day, St Dunstan-in-the-west on Fleet Street, there they were greeted by the organiser of the bells William Stafford who led the group up to the chamber in which waited ringers who had gotten earlier trains from other far off lands such as Kent or Leicester.

As the ringers pulled off the air was filled with the pealing of bells with William the strong of voice calling some changes, the mesmerising motion of the sallys rising and falling reminded me of old pistons on the side of trains, just without the smoke. The chamber was as crowded as a farmer's field at harvest time with over thirty people huddled into corners and any alcove that could be found, some elected to wait downstairs and be called up to ring.



St. Dunstan in the West



Ringling at St. Vedast

After forty-five minutes and much strong ringing the noble ringers left the tower with me following in the steps of more experienced ringers, as I had no idea where I was, to St Vedast where there were 6 glorious bells for us to experience. Included in the ringing was grandsire doubles, London surprise Minor, and little and plain and little bob spliced which despite being on the treble required all of the concentration that I possessed. The god-fearing ringers continued on their path to St. Lawrence Jewry, as they struck inland away from that gleaming body of water and much conversation was continued to be had. Joshua Hutchinson of the long legs and other tall members of the group were greeted with the challenge of a three-foot door and were bent double in order to get to the staircase

which provided much amusement for the fellow ringers. When up in the chamber the strongest of the ringers were charged with operating the tenor which required two members of the crew to get up. When all was ready there was striking of the highest quality and methods including Grandsire and Stedman. As we were informed by the commanding tower captain John Norris that it was time for lunch I felt blessed by the gods as did many of my fellow young ringers. A small group of 6 or 7 of us decided there was only one place to go for lunch, Cross Keys Wetherspoons. The high vaulted ceilings and central bar spoke of luxury as great as Olympus and there we rejoiced and discussed the day so far. After our wallets had been lightened and our stomachs filled we again split into two groups, one taking the tube and the other walking and a race to rival the first



St. Lawrence Jewry

place. With much determination and a few doses of my Asthma inhaler the walkers arrived first at St. James Garlickhythe, home of the Royal Jubilee Bells. Throughout the ring-



St. James Garlickhythe

wearer ringers descended the tower and made their way to the restaurant for dinner where conversation flowed like the nearby Thames and a good meal was had by all. I'm afraid I cannot recount many of the events of the train home as I drifted in and out of a deep slumber, but an excellent time was had by all that day.

Josephine Leggett (Photographs by Paul Wells)

ing at the tower the striking was excellent and often much improvement for the less confident ringers.

The road to St Magnus the Martyr seemed long as I had a fear in my stomach of ringing 12 bells and when we got to the spiralling staircase and I saw the height my fears were worsened. As the first bells pulled off the tower shook as though Poseidon was exacting his revenge upon Odysseus and my knees quaked as I clasped the chair. However, as the ringing continued I became less fearful and eventually was able to ring although I stuck to the middle bells as they shook the least. The ringing here included Grandsire Cinques and called changes. The bells were stood at backstroke and the now



New Master and General Secretary for SCACR

We are delighted to announce that two Sussex ringers have come forward to take on the roles of Association Master and General Secretary!

The Trustees have appointed Rob Lane (from Findon) as Acting Master, and Hamish McNaughton (from Chichester) as Acting General Secretary. Both appointments are effective from now until the next AGM in May 2019. Nominations/elections to the vacant positions will then take place in the usual way.

The Trustees are very pleased to welcome Rob and Hamish into these key roles and we, together with other officers, will continue to support each other in ensuring the successful management of the Association.



Dewby's bells - a hit at the South of England Show!



Bells played a central part at the South of England Show in Ardingly this year. Alison Everett, our Communication & Events team leader (pictured, centre) and Marisa Hayes led the organisation of the SCACR presence at the show.

The Dewbys mini-ring was constantly in use throughout the three days of the show, enjoyed by all ages. Hundreds of people visited the Sanctuary space as well as many schools, including St Margaret's, Rottingdean, taking part in toasting marshmallows on the log fire.



Rachel giving a visitor a lesson on ringing while Charley and Michael are busy perfecting their mini-ring skills.

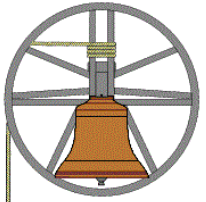
Sussex Young Ringers News

It wasn't so long ago that a team of 8 Sussex Young Ringers were being crowned champions of the south east at the South East Youth Striking Contest at Warnham. Well now they face the next challenge... The Ringing World National Youth Striking Contest!



Sussex will be up against teams from across the country on Saturday 7th July in London. This year, the competition is being hosted by Southwark Cathedral's band of ringers. Keep an eye out on www.scacr.org or the SCACR Facebook page and group to see how we do on the day. There will be lots of pictures and a write up in the next edition of Southern News.





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!

Monday: Burgess Hill 7:45, Brighton; St Nicholas 7:45, (***There is no ringing at Brighton St Peter until September 2018. 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.

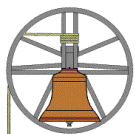
Friday: Twineham 7:30 (1st, 3rd and 5th).

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'. We have an official page and members group.
- 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 **September and October 2018**

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

26th August

Send it all to news-south@scacr.org

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter.

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