

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

NEWSLETTER 2001



At the Annual General Meeting on October 6th 2001 the following officers were elected for 2001-2002:

Master



Douglas J. Beaumont

Senior Steward



Russell A. Brown

Junior Steward



Fiona Edwards

**Honorary
Secretary**



**Philippa M.
Whittington**

**Honorary
Treasurer**



Heather A. Kippin

**Honorary
Librarian**



Joanne Schofield

**Honorary Assistant
Secretary**



Shirley E. McGill

Officers 2001-2002 Cont.

Trustees

Ian H. Oram
John S. Barnes

Independent Examiners

Christina D. A. Fleckney
Michael H. D. O'Callaghan

Central Council Representatives

John S. Barnes
Ian H. Oram
Stephanie J. Pattenden
Derek E. Sibson

A Message from the Master....

It was a great honour to be asked to be Master of the Society for this my second year. The Society has a formidable reputation, built up over more than 250 years, for producing ringing of a high standard. To take on this role in continuing this tradition is indeed a privilege.

Of course, there are drawbacks. Keeping ahead is always a challenge, and any difficulties which arise have to be kept in proportion. For instance, when a touch of Stedman Cinques fires out at practices, as very occasionally happens, it is easy to think "Oh dear, the Society is going to the dogs, and it's my responsibility". But, we have to realise these things sometimes happen, and just resolve to try harder next time.

In this article, I would like to mention a couple of themes which are raised on occasion at meetings, or after practices.

Firstly, there is the question of what we ring at the Wednesday practice nights in London. There are several factors which dictate how practices have to be run. i) The time for practice is quite limited. In the hour and a half available, there is room for just 7 touches ii) the Society has a policy of welcoming everybody who comes to practices iii) the Society is regarded as a beacon of excellence, and so there are high (and always rising) expectations of what can be achieved at practices. Ensuring that everybody gets a reasonable ring, and that something more advanced is attempted, and that the striking is of a good standard, is a tricky task, for which I am still in training. Whether anything could or should be done to make the task easier is always an open question.

Secondly, there is the theme of how the Society operates outside London. The Society has active groups of members widely distributed, both in Britain and overseas. This was demonstrated particularly during the 250th anniversary year of 1997, but continues with the Society's twice-yearly country days, with Peal Day, and with other locally organised events. Suggestions of further extending and strengthening the Society's activities outside London surface regularly. How this is to be done is not immediately clear, nor whether it can be done with the Society's current structure. However, over time, if there is sufficient will for activities away from London to develop further, ideas are likely to evolve, and initiatives be taken.

I am sure such questions will continue to be discussed within the Society. I hope that members of the Society will feel able to give due consideration to any new ideas and suggestions which arise, and that over the years, as well as acting as a by-word for good ringing, the Society will further develop and enable more members to participate in and benefit from its activities.

I look forward to welcoming you to practices and other events during the forthcoming year.

Doug Beaumont

Forthcoming Events

March 9th	Country Meeting in Canterbury
May 1st	Meeting at St Martin-in-the-Fields
July 13/14th	Country Meeting in North Somerset
September 7th	Anniversary Weekend and Dinner
October 5th	General Meeting and AGM in London
November 16/17th	Peal Weekend

New Members

We welcomed 21 new members who were elected to the Society during the year:

John G. Mitchell
Gabrielle L. Cowcill
Anthony M. Bulteel
Rebecca Sugden
Jennifer R. Sparling
Dorothy Salmon
Clive R. Moon

Julia Lysaght
Judith Hartley
Joanna Dorling
Jennifer Backhouse
Donald Carter
Pauline Smith
Philip J. Simmonds

Mike F. Schulte
Rob Kakuk
Carole Hurst
Robin E. C. Clarke
Nicholas P. Cheeseman
Mark Androlia
Kathryn F. Almy

Loss of Members

The following have died during the year and have been remembered at a meeting :-

Duncan Weaver of Winkleigh, elected in 1993
Susan J. Riley of Peterborough, elected in 1987
Sydney Adams of Ruddington, elected in 1959
James Raithby of Balderton, elected in 1948
Tom Chapman of Marston Bigot, elected in 1952
Geoffrey Parker of Lincoln, elected in 1955
The Revd Neil Sheard of Swansea, elected 1974

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths **Officers' Report 2000-2001**

The Society has had yet another active and successful year. Membership has continued to increase steadily and practices and meetings have been well supported. Attendance at some social events, however, has been disappointing although those who did attend had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Practices and Meetings

50 practices were held in the London area during the year with an average attendance of 23. The highest attendance was 42 at St Sepulchre's in January. Methods rung at practices have been mainly Stedman, Cambridge, Yorkshire, Bristol and Orion with occasional advances to Rigel. Although we have been unable to practice at Shoreditch since the autumn, we have been made welcome at a variety of other towers.

The Northern practices continue to be successful - seven have been held this year with methods ranging from Cambridge and Stedman up to Bristol and Orion. A 12 bell outing was also arranged by Northern members.

Occasional quarter peals, organised by a group in the Midlands, have continued and a regional practice was also held at Hitchin in February.

Visitors are always very welcome at any of the Society's practices.

Five business meetings were planned during the year – the A.G.M. in October and four other General Meetings. As usual the March and July meetings were held as Country Meetings and the other meetings took place in London, although unfortunately the May meeting had to be cancelled due to a tube strike.

In March we visited Henley-on-Thames. We enjoyed ringing at various towers, held the meeting in the Chantry House and ended the day with an evening meal.

Northallerton in July gave several members an excuse for a long weekend, which was most enjoyable. The whole weekend was superbly organised - peals were arranged from Thursday through to Sunday, general ringing was organised at several towers on the Saturday and the meeting was held in Northallerton church. About 100 members and friends enjoyed an excellent evening at the local hospital social club.

The Society is extremely grateful to everyone who helped organise all of these events.

Other Events

The Society's Millennium Dinner was held at The Insurance Institute in the City of London on September 9th. Over 90 members and friends attended and everyone enjoyed a superb meal followed by excellent speeches given by Ron Warford, Stephen Nicholson, Chris Kippin and The Master; all in all it really was a very memorable evening.

Peal weekend took place as usual on the third weekend in November. In total 51 attempts were arranged, of which 36 were successful, with over 200 members taking part in at least one attempt. Our thanks go to all the organisers of all the peals during the weekend.

Not the Dinner Day in February followed the usual format with 5 peals being rung during the day and an excellent curry in the evening.

Peal Ringing

256 peals were rung during the year.

The 100th Anniversary of the first peal of Bristol S. Major on March 22nd saw 16 peals rung for the Society.

A number of members have reached significant milestones during the year :-

Derek Sibson rang his 1000th for the Society, his 2500th as conductor and also rang his 3000th peal!

Ian Campbell and John Loveless both rang their 2500th peals, Simon Davies and Ruth Curtis both rang their 2000th peals and Shirley McGill rang her 1000th peal.

Linda Garton and John Loveless both rang their 500th peal for the Society.

Alan Regin became the first person to ring 100 peals of 23 spliced all the work.

New Members

25 new members were elected to the Society during the year. We welcome them.

Sunday Service Ringing

We are grateful to all members who support the Society's Sunday service ringing.

A number of members are part of the local band at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and ring regularly on Sunday mornings. The Society is also responsible for regular service ringing at Spitalfields and Shoreditch. Sunday service ringing at Shoreditch, however, has currently been suspended due to the work on the Church. Sunday service ringing at Spitalfields has continued once or twice a month when possible.

Towers

Regular Society practices continue to be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields, usually on the first Wednesday of each month.

The work on the Church at Shoreditch continues and had been due to be completed by the summer but unfortunately is now not expected to be finished until the end of 2001.

Last year a Working Party was set up to discuss how we could move forward with improving the acoustics in the ringing chamber and rectifying the problems identified with the frame and fittings. Several companies were invited to inspect and quotations have now been received and these reports are currently being analysed.

The restoration work at Spitalfields Church continues. The bells are rung regularly and the Society again rang as part of the Spitalfields festival.

Though, since it is a Guild Church, there are usually no Sunday services at St Andrew's, Holborn, the Society is from time to time asked to provide ringing for weekday occasions. The clock chimes are now back in action; and the need for sound control is less, now that The Daily Mirror has moved.

Newsletter

This is the second year that the newsletter has been published on the website as well as being sent out to every member.

Contributions to the newsletter are always very welcome. We greatly appreciate the donations we receive towards the cost of the newsletter, though unfortunately the amount received this year only covered approximately 25% of the cost.

Library

This year has seen the implementation of recent decisions concerning the library. At the Spring meeting the members of the Society voted to store the historic peal records and other important documents at the Guildhall Library in the City. Records will continue to be the property of the Society and be kept in suitable conditions, though available for members to inspect or for display at major Society functions.

The original peal book are being scanned onto computer and a copy of the first Peal Book has been produced, which can be available to members, whilst the original will be filed at the Guildhall. Other historic documents will be stored as the scanning is completed.

We are once again grateful for the generous donation of the Ringing World to the Society. Six volumes have been bound this year.

Society Property

We thank the trustees who ensure the Society's property is safely stored at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Ian Fielding, Paul Cammiade, Russell Brown, Linda Garton, Heather Kippin, Philippa Whittington, Gill Sparling

News From Our Towers

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Following the EGM in June, I was appointed as tower captain and Fiona Edwards as vice captain. Attendance has fluctuated throughout the year, but we've usually had at least 12, with ringing varying from call changes, Cambridge and Stedman to Bristol, Orion and Ariel. We have maintained our monthly first Monday and third Sunday practices, which we have usually found to be very worthwhile. We have also had three band peal attempts, two of which were successful - Newgate, Orion and Bristol spliced, and Bristol and Stedman spliced, both at St Martin's.

Our annual outing took place in April, to Newcastle for the day, attended by about 16 of us and the dinner in the crypt went well, with 30 people there.

Oliver Cross

Shoreditch

In September 2001 the church re-opened after the renovation work had been completed. Peal ringers will be glad to hear that the work has meant that three toilets are now available for our use!

During the restoration not many bands had been ringing due to the state of the ringing room; however, peals, practices and visiting bands are now occurring more regularly.

Sunday service ringing had ceased during the closure of the church and during this time the service time at St. Martin-in-the-Fields changed and this has resulted in the fact that the St. Martin's band can no longer cover the Sunday morning service ringing each week. Currently the only service ringing is for special services at the Rector's request.

Members are asked to think of solutions to the problem of the lack of service ringing at Shoreditch.

Fiona Edwards

Clerkenwell

Sunday ringing has continued this year every month on the second Sunday. This has been generally well supported by SRCY members and other London ringers who are available. There have been more weddings than in recent years and so the neighbours are getting used to more frequent ringing. Nevertheless there are regular complaints and so ringing has to be limited.

A full inspection of the bell installation was arranged during the year and some work was done to the tenor clapper. These beautiful Gillett and Johnstone bells still have unusual clapper springs on some of the bells, these were designed to enhance resonance by ensuring that the clapper did not stay in contact with the bell for too long. The springs no longer fulfil their original purpose but anyone who has heard the bells will surely confirm that they are a glorious sound. Everyone is very welcome to join the regular Sunday ringing.

Stephanie Pattenden

Spitalfields

The bells have once again been well used during the year, Service ringing has been undertaken on the 1st and 3rd Sundays with just a few exceptions, although, once again, we are very reliant on ringers travelling across London from St Martin's. The problem has been made more difficult since the St Martin's service time changed from 09.45 to 10.00 making it a short ring for the 10.30 service at Spitalfields. But we are very grateful to those who do make the journey.

The bells were once again rung for both the Summer and Winter Music Festival's which continue to be an important part of the life of Spitalfields.

There have been a good number of peals and the Society has used the bells for practice on a number of occasions during the year and we have been able to welcome numerous visiting groups who have requested the use of the bells.

No major maintenance has been required but as it is now more than 30 years since the bells were installed we will be having a professional inspection of the bells and fittings during 2002.

Alan Regin

Work on the bells at Shoreditch

Over the past 2 years, a number of reports have been commissioned by the Society to look at both the acoustics and the bell frame and fittings at Shoreditch.

Originally, comments had been made that it was difficult to distinguish the bells from each other while all 12 were ringing. It became apparent from initial reports that the fittings could be significantly improved. It was also known that there was a certain amount of frame movement, and the initial reports suggested possible remedies for this.

It was decided at a Society meeting at an early stage to deal with getting any required work on the frame and fittings completed, before tackling the acoustics.

Further opinions from different suppliers were sought, as well as that of an independent expert. Options to replace the frame were considered. The idea of using this opportunity to create a light ten was also considered.

A meeting took place in November 2001 to discuss the issues, and find a way forward. It was decided that the frame should not be replaced, nor the idea of a light ten pursued. The independent expert's advice for the method of anchoring the frame was agreed upon. Specifications have now gone to suppliers asking them to quote. In the next month or so (during January 2002), we should be getting their responses. We should then be able to select which supplier we want to do the work, with a view to starting as soon as possible after that.

We should then be able to experience a real improvement in the handling of the bells, and be in a good position to start work on the acoustics.

Doug Beaumont

Oranges and Lemons

Members may like to know that the Oranges & Lemons project is not quite finished, to date some £9,800 has been paid over to the bell restoration funds of our Society and the College Youths.

A very big thanks once again to David Hilling who has been a great partner in this undertaking. Members wanting a print should know that current stocks are down to below 15, so if you want one, give me a call quickly! 020-8471-7045, and we can arrange delivery.

In the Summer of 2001 it was decided that we would also produce Oranges & Lemons Christmas cards in packs of six, one of each Church on the print, some of you may have got one or more of these sent to you, I got twelve in total, not quite a full set though as 6 of them were Shoreditch! The printing of these cards was again handled by Jeremy Warren who did the original prints and we are again very grateful to him for the wonderful quality of the finished product.

Card sales started at the Northallerton Country Meeting, were followed up by flyers in The Ringing World and have continued well into January, with some 1,750 or so packs being sold. Thanks also are due to those kind members that acted as agents and sold cards to ringers and friends in their areas - thank you!

Those of you that didn't get the chance to buy any, and some of you that did, will be pleased to know that we still have some left and you will find a flyer with this newsletter and I would encourage you to fill in the cut off slip, cut it off, enclose a cheque, (£3.50 per pack), and post it to the address shown, very soon afterwards you will receive your own Christmas cards with fine quality envelopes and save that last minute rush to the shops to buy some next Christmas!

If we can hand deliver cards to you, they are £3.25 per pack.

Hopefully, depending on how many of you respond to this, you should read about the final details of this project in next years SRCY newsletter.

Alan Regin

A very big thank you to Alan who has done so much work to ensure the success of this venture.

Congratulations

65 Years membership

Ronald Suckling - elected 24.10.36

60 Years membership

Freda Belson – elected 13.9.41

Mary Wells – elected 9.9.41

50 Years membership

Mrs. B. C. Castle – elected 21.4.51

Ronald F. Diserens – elected 21.4.51

Gillian Flitton – elected 29.9.51

John H. Gilbert – elected 30.4.51

Eric Hotine – elected 21.4.51

Jacqueline S. King – elected 20.5.51

L.V.C. Knowles – elected 14.6.51

Frank W. Lewis – elected 29.4.51

Peter Newing – elected 17.5.51

Mary Sales – elected 29.9.51

25 Years membership

J.David Adams
Susan Burchall
David N. Collins
Rachel Collins
Ann Davies
Susan A. Faull
Geraldine R. Forster

Hilary Grayling
John E. Hawes
Alison Hill
Christopher H. Jenkins
John F. Jennings
Geoffrey Parting
T.Brian Porter

Christopher C. Roberts
Dorothea M. Robotham
Ian Smith
James F. Smith
Lavinia M. Sullivan

Peal Congratulations

3000th Peal	Derek Sibson
2500th Peal	Ian Campbell John Loveless
2500th Peal as conductor	Derek Sibson
2000th Peal	Ruth Curtis Simon Davies
1000th Peal	Shirley McGill
500th Peal for the Society	Linda Garton John Loveless

Not The Dinner Day 2001

On Saturday 3rd Feb 2001, over 30 members took part in this year's Not The Dinner Day events, consisting of several peals during the day, followed by a curry in the evening. In total, six peals were attempted, of which five were successful.

It is rapidly Not becoming a tradition Not to lose a peal at Poplar on Not The Dinner Day, and this year was Not an exception. However, peals of Rutland S. Major, Bristol S. Maximus, Jupiter S. Major, 8-Spliced S. Major and Glasgow S. Major were scored at Spitalfields, Cripplegate, Limehouse, Shoreditch and Stamford Hill respectively. Well done to all those who took part, and thanks to Paul, Linda and Russell for organising the event.

In the evening, members and spouses met in the Sharaz Indian Restaurant in Brick Lane, for the traditional curry, which in my opinion was even better than last year's dinner – sorry Not The Dinner!

This year's quiz was about ringers' first peals. We were given the place (but Not the county or the country), date, and conductor for each member present, and were invited to work out who's first peal it was. Amazingly, Simon and Jake got them all right - must have been far too easy! What will Linda think of for next year's quiz I wonder?

I'm sure it will be an event Not to be missed, so don't forget to write it in your diary...02-02-2002.

Ian Mills

12 Bell Eliminator Newport, 24/3/01 – A personal view

Why did I weaken ? After months of saying no I finally said yes and was in the team for the 12 bell eliminator (definitely a case of too much apple juice methinks.)

On arriving at Newport with time to spare even after staggering up the hill to the church we were immediately greeted by a mobile phone call in true Reggie Perrins style – Carol was going to be late due to a tree on the track. Luckily mascot Russell was around and gallantly volunteered to fill in if Carol didn't make it. The draw put us to ring second so no time for refreshments. Just as we were preparing to ascend the tower a red face Carol arrived leaving a very, very relieved junior steward.

Once in the ringing chamber I began to get irritated by the giggling and “canned” laughter until it dawned on me – some people were sooo scared and this was there way of releasing nervous energy. It was then that I realised why I'd never agreed to ring before – it didn't mean that much to me. Anyway we rang our practice, exchanged a few comments and rang the test piece before descending the tower and heading for the pub. Here the pleasant part of the day began – sinking a few pints and meeting up with friends old and new.

Before you knew it, the time for the results had arrived so we headed back for the church. As we all know the Cumberlands came a close 3rd.

It was then back to the pub to congratulate the winning band (St Paul's), most of whom hadn't made the pub. After yet more alcohol it was back to the station for the trip home.

All in all a quite enjoyable day out. Would I do it again ? methinks not. Let those who thrive on the nerves of competition enter, leaving me to sweat over a one part of London !

Stephen Wheeler

Country Meetings

We held two Country Meetings during 2001. We are very grateful to the local members who worked so hard to make these meetings so successful.

Country Meeting At Henley-On-Thames.

The Society held a General Meeting at Henley-on-Thames on Saturday 10th March 2001. This occasion provided the usual excuse for peal ringing, and peals were rung of Cambridge Maximus at St Lawrence Reading, London at St Giles Reading, Cholsey at Cholsey, and Bristol at Wokingham All Saints. An attempt for 4-spliced at Hurst was unsuccessful.

In the afternoon there was open ringing at Shiplake and Caversham. Your correspondent however preferred a visit to the Ship Inn to recover from earlier exertions at Wokingham All Saints.

Some 60 members then converged on St Mary's Church, Henley-on-Thames where a variety of touches were rung, followed by a meeting in nearby Chantry House. Taking the chair, the Master reminded those present that the first peal on the bells, Grandsire Triples, had been rung by the Society in 1957, or 1857. The meeting stood to the memory of Sue Riley, elected Donald Carter, and heard reports on the situation at Shoreditch, the Library, and the forthcoming meeting at Northallerton, all in 35 minutes. This left ample time for Any Other Business, an opportunity which, mercifully, even the most prolix of contributors failed to exploit.

Thus, after thanking the hosts for their excellent and efficient arrangements, members emerged from the mediaeval gloom of Chantry House into daylight over an hour ahead of schedule. Further, informal, business, followed by supper, was conducted in the more relaxed surroundings of The Catherine Wheel.

J J Ford

Country Weekend In North Yorkshire

As has become traditional, this year's July country weekend for the Cumberlands started on the Thursday and saw ringers from all over the country converging on Northallerton. With eight peals arranged for the Thursday and nine for the Friday, Alan had had a tough job in sorting everyone out but he achieved it in his usual efficient manner. For the Thursday and Friday evenings Jennie had arranged for a physical extension to The Standard pub in the shape of a marquee in the garden complete with picnic tables and this saw a great deal of use and not a few pints consumed. The Thursday evening was typically rounded off for some with a visit to the local Indian restaurant.

Following the peals on Friday, some of us decided to avoid the expected rush for food at The Standard by looking for an alternative but soon found that the alternatives were fewer than in similar small towns down south so we ended up at the excellent chippie. Having met another Hertfordshire ringer there, we all agreed to visit one of the local practices where we found rather fewer ringers than expected. It seems that most people preferred to eat and socialise in The Standard where we joined them after the practice.

Saturday saw most participants scattering again for peal attempts (only one each today) while others enjoyed the tour of the towers open for general ringing which ended at All Saints Northallerton, just prior to the business meeting in the north aisle of the church. During the meeting, tributes were paid to three members and one non-member who had died since the last meeting and eight new members were elected. It was agreed to use the money collected originally for the proposed library at Shoreditch to pay for any repairs needed to the Society books prior to depositing them in the Guildhall library, and to set a time limit for receiving reports on Shoreditch bells.

The evening social was held in the Recreation Hall of the local hospital just a short walk away (at least on the way there!). The food was excellent and plentiful although we did drink the bar dry of draught beer. Alan had the

remaining Oranges & Lemons prints and lots of Christmas cards based on them to sell – he commented afterwards that he felt rather like Del Trotter selling from the back of his car! The Master, Ian Fielding, announced the peal tally to great amusement as: Thursday: 6 scored out of 8 – Derek Sibson nil; Friday: 8 scored out of 9, Derek 50%; Saturday: all six were scored. In his defence, Derek pointed out that the lost attempts on Thursday had been caused by a miscall at Ormesby by another well-known ringer followed by the 3rd running dry at Bishop Aukland, while the attempt on Friday for Birstwith at Birstwith was not sufficiently like Birstwith and so was stood up!

Thanks go to Alan Regin for sorting out the peal attempts on the Thursday and Friday and to the Master for arranging the Saturday peals. Thanks also to the other officers, who worked hard to make the weekend run so smoothly. We are also indebted to the local ringers who made us so welcome and to the incumbents of all the towers and those who let us in. Special thanks go to Jennie Town who did almost all of the local organisation and to David for arranging the beer for Saturday evening – we are all most grateful for such an enjoyable (extended) weekend. We are already looking forward to next year's event.

Ben Duke

Two Special Anniversary peals

100th Anniversary of the First Peal of Bristol Surprise Major

A large number of peals and quarter peals were rung to mark the anniversary of the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major which was rung on 22nd March 1901 at St Peter's Brighton (article on page 1231 of the RW dated 15/12/00 gives full details of the original peal). A total of 49 peals and 4 Quarter Peals were published in the Ringing World.

The Cumberland Youths celebrated the occasion in style ringing 14 peals around the anniversary date including ten on the actual anniversary date.

Three Society "area" bands gathered, including a "Guildford" band at Shalford, West Country members at Barrow Gurney and members from Norfolk at Gressenhall, thanks to these members for getting things together for this. Other members gathered in Cambridgeshire on 22nd March and rang six peals, three in the morning, and three in the afternoon, most of the ringers gathering in a the local pub in Shepreth for a very enjoyable lunch, before going onto afternoon peals. In addition, 2 Society peals were rung in London on the same evening.

Thanks for all those that took part. I am sure those eight ringers (including a number of Cumberland's) in Brighton all those years ago would have been very pleased that so many people commemorated the anniversary.

Alan Regin

75th Anniversary of the Ladies Peal at St Clement Danes.

Anyone who has rung at St Clement Danes is sure to have noticed a large peal board, roughly behind the ninth. This records the first ladies ten bell peal in 1926 which was a few years after the first ladies peal at the Isle of Dogs. This was a fine achievement and was conducted by Miss Edith Parker, from the ninth. The composition is noted as 5067, by C H Hattersley, but no details are given.

The SRCY ladies have marked this event three times - firstly in 1986, then in 1996 and most recently on the 75th anniversary day itself, 20th January 2001.

This year Alison Caton represented the Ladies Guild for whom the original peal was rung.

On each occasion Stephanie Pattenden called a 5067, by Hattersley.

The bells are not difficult to handle and there were no "physical" challenges as there might have been in 1926, but there were plenty of striking challenges as there are several odd struck bells and the sound in the ringing room is not very even. This year Julia Cater set an excellent rhythm and was well supported by the rest of the band; a fine peal was rung without "event" in 3 hours and 30 minutes. Thanks are due to Michael Sprackling who made the attempt possible – May we come back please in 2026?

Stephanie Pattenden

Peal Board Presentation



Earlier in 2001 a presentation took place of a peal board specially commissioned to record the peal of Stedman Triples composed by Colin Wyld, this was rung for the first time at St Botolph's Aldgate on 16th May 1995.

The composition was the first of Stedman Triples to be produced with Bobs only, a marvellous achievement as it was a problem that many had sought to solve over a very long period.

The peal was ably called by Derek Sibson, no small task in itself as there are 705 bobs in this composition!

Alan Regin is seen here with Steve Jakeman (who was presenting another peal board) with the Rev Brian Lee, Vicar of St Botolph's Aldgate.

Contributions towards the board were made by members of the band and by the Society.

Where are they now?

The Society has lost contact with the following members. Any assistance in updating our records for them would be much appreciated.

William Allsopp
W.S. Bonnet
Joyce Clark
Gerald Frost
Lance S.F. Hewson
Walter J. Lemon
J.Martin Page
David Phillipson
Ian M. Robinson
Brian E. Trill

Colin G. Andrews
Annette Bradbury
Susan P. Cole
Jacqueline Harrison
Alison Hill
M.Janet Mattinson
Anthony G. Parry
Anna M.P. Piechna
James T. Stevens
Valerie Williams

Terence V. Barnard
Cyril Buesden
G.D. Fearnough
Hetty Hawthorne
Susan Houghton
Marguerite McGlue
M. Pearse
Maureen A. Popple
Peter D. Storey
Angela Wright

From the Steepleage Book

The highest attended practice was at St Sepulchre on 17th January 2001 with 40 members present.

The next two highest attended practices were both also at St Sepulchres, each with 29 members present, on 21st March and 16th May 2001.

The two lowest attended practices were both at Spitalfields on 25th October 2000 and 30th May 2001 with 11 and 12 members at each respectively.

Highest non-officer attendance

D. Beaumont	37
F. Edwards	36
J. Schofield	35
S. Wheeler	34

Fiona Edwards

SRCY Northern Practices

The year began with a tour organised by Matthew Durham, when we visited Escrick, Selby, Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield. Unfortunately, some regulars were not able to make it on the day, but thirteen members and ten visitors had a very enjoyable day's ringing. The writer was very impressed, having gone to order the lunches at Selby, to arrive back in the tower to find them ringing 3 leads of Orion with 3 "spares". The Town family once again proved how good they are at driving past Leeds Parish without actually getting into the correct lane (we only did it twice this time!) so I was too late to run the ringing, and was therefore given the short straw of running the last tower when everybody was tired (but we still managed Orion).

In 2001 we have held 7 practices at Stockton (it would have been 8 but – see below) and numbers have varied between 14 and 21. Enthusiasm remains high, even to the extent of making the best of the time we turned up to find a concert in the church and, sadly, had to go to the pub very early !

We have rung Bristol at every practice and Orion at all but one, even the Stedman is improving.

Some of the members from York have been to occasional practices, which has proved a welcome addition, and we were pleased to welcome Heather and Chris Kippin to the practice before the Country Weekend.

In "memorable moments from practices", one particular half course of Bristol stands out. It had five "Chris's" in it (okay, one was a "Kris" but they all sound the same). The miracle was that the instruction "point 8ths now Chris" was acted on by the correct one! We held one practice which was "Orion only", as there is often not enough time to give to it in the general practice. We finished this practice with two half- courses and felt encouraged by it; there is a long way to go though. I am told (although I find it hard to believe) that we were ringing Bristol on another occasion, which I was calling from the tenor, when one of my indistinct instructions was interpreted as "stand" by one of the band, so she did, and even tied up the rope. Then she realised everyone else was still ringing so she pulled off again in the correct place ! As they are so indistinct round the front and I rarely look, I didn't even notice (allegedly). We have even tried a different pub, but, whilst most were happy, the beer did not meet with approval by some, who de-camped to The Sun Inn after a while.

In December it was suggested that we have a social occasion rather than a practice, so we went to Darlington for a short ring at St Cuthberts followed by a meal at an Italian Restaurant. Not many could actually make it on the night, but the 13 who did thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and it was lovely to see Chris and Paul Mills up the tower even though they couldn't make it to the meal.

I would like to thank all those who so faithfully support the practice, and who give me lots of encouragement. The hard work seemed to have paid off when, on SRCY Peal Weekend, we rang a peal of Bristol S Maximus at Stockton where all but one of the band were regular attenders of the practices.

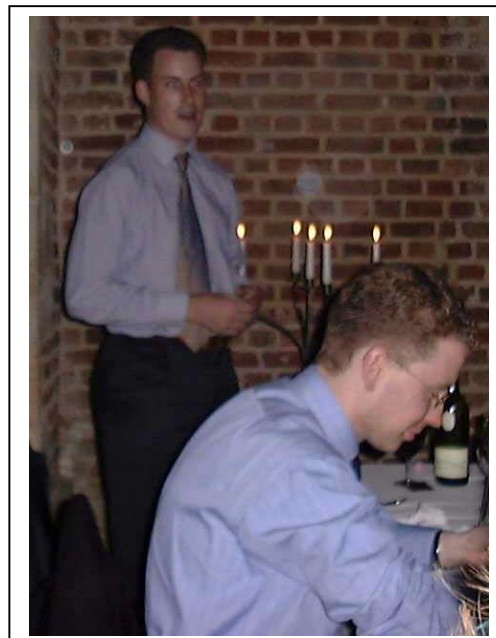
Jennie Town

The Anniversary Dinner

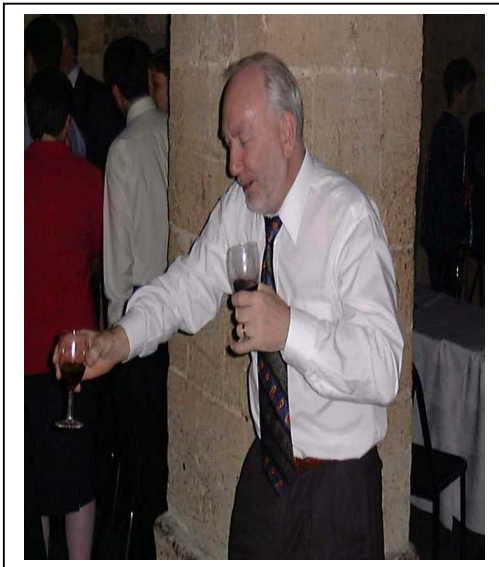
On 8th September 2001, the Society's Anniversary weekend was celebrated in style. After scoring 2 peals in the morning (a third was unsuccessful), 47 members gathered together in the Gallery at St Martin-in-the-Fields for a candlelit dinner. Following pre dinner drinks, we sat down to an excellent meal



A speech by the Master



.....preceded the general conversation and enjoyment we have come to expect from these events.



‘Dodge here’



‘I can ring slower than you’

A good time was had by all. Our thanks go to the organisers for all their hard work and we look forward to enjoying many more events of this nature.

From The Minute Books :

100 years ago

(1901) There appear to have been no minuted meetings in 1901. In October 1902, 2 members “proposed in the tower” in 1901 were elected.

(1902) Minutes in 1902 are only available for the October meeting. At this 5 shillings was voted to pay for Fire Insurance. Members were elected from proposals during 1901 and 1902. Officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

50 years ago

(1951) In January the AGM was held at St Martins.

“Regarding Shoreditch, they had met the vicar and rung there for Sunday service on several occasions and found that the tenor did not go well. Mr Cross had been in communication with the Vicar about this bell and also with Messrs Mears & Stainbank and he hoped it would be put right”

The April meeting was held in Reading, the July meeting in Guildford and the September meeting in Barnet.

(1952)

At the AGM in January it was noted there had been 29 members elected during the year and 9 peals had been rung. Meetings had been held in Reading, Guildford and Barnet and a very successful dinner in October had shown a slight profit. The 3rd Saturday in January was proposed as the fixed date for the AGM and carried. Meetings were arranged for March in Finchley, July in Bray and Chislehurst and Eltham in September. It was agreed that the Trustees should present an annual report and inventory of the books in the library. The trustees were authorised to spend not more than £10 on repairs and rebinding of books in the library.

The meeting entrusted the Master and two Trustees with the task of revising the history of the Society for the new rule book. An Appeal was made to the members present to become Postal subscribers to the Ringing World to improve the finances of the journal.

In April, it was reported that Shoreditch bells were undergoing repair and that the Society had agreed to contribute £22 towards the cost.

A Year in the Life of Our Peal Weekend Organiser.

The first Society Peal Weekend was a Peal Day, on a Saturday in November 1979; instigated by me it took place in London and, if memory serves me correctly, there were four peal attempts. Following some of the early events we had a social evening in a pub. However, after a few years I was asked if peals could be attempted in the provinces – and so, as the years passed, more and more peals have been attempted in more and more areas of the country, as well as in the United States of America and in Australia. Gradually the day expanded to become a weekend and at present attempts take place from Friday through to Tuesday over the third weekend in November. It has given me great satisfaction to witness the steady increase in the number of members who have participated as the number of peal attempts has steadily increased. In 2001 fifty attempts were arranged and we have yet to count the number of participants. For some I know that peal weekend may be the only occasion in the year when they meet to ring for the Society.

From the start I have relied upon a number of stalwart peal organisers to arrange the peal attempts whilst I have remained the resource, with details of members and their telephone numbers available and a list of places where attempts are likely to take place. The choice of methods is left to the organisers but I try to encourage them not to be too ambitious. I like to feel that those who ring infrequently with the Society stand a good chance of scoring a peal. The system works well. I usually receive a number of telephone calls or emails from two to three months prior to the event. The degree of urgency to fill a place in a band increases as the weeks pass to the extent that I try not to leave the house in the evenings of the final week. At that stage an organiser needs information there and then!

Whilst I know that some bands book up a ring of bells a year ahead, I try to start things off with a July mailing to the ninety or so organisers or potential organisers. In some areas one never knows just who will be the organiser, for it is a task which can move around from member to member. This year I have been able to send about three quarters of the letters by email, leaving only about 22 envelopes to be addressed and filled! It is helpful to know of organisational problems in good time so that support can be given to locate a substitute organiser and suggestions made about possible participants.

An August task is to telephone those members who indicated on the Newsletter reply slip that they wish to stand in a peal attempt. They are told which organiser to contact and are invited to contact me if there is a problem.

Usually I complete a second mailing in September so that on AGM day in early October I can state the problems and seek help.

From the beginning of November there is a good deal of chasing up to be done – and I can bet that this will coincide with an increased workload at schools! This November I had to leave the north of the country to its own devices (and I appreciated the good organisation there!) whilst I concentrated on the south.

We lack reserves, and for such a large Saturday undertaking it is important to have reserves. Indeed, from time to time an attempt has to be cancelled or is rung for a local Guild because of a lack of reserves. In many years I have been the only reserve. Any member who is willing to act as a reserve, and who will not be too disappointed if they do not ring, should let me know. Normally I will not commit myself until the Friday evening prior to the ‘Big Saturday’ – and, if I am not ringing I stay at home all Saturday morning in case a band needs help in the afternoon.

About two weeks prior to the weekend I check that the Secretary of the Society has notified organisers of the administrative arrangements and supply a list of the members concerned. We like to send up details to ‘The Ringing World’ in one mailing. Even so, it is sometimes the case that a member with whom we are not in touch sends a peal for publication independently!

During the weekend and in the days immediately following it I collate details of both successful and unsuccessful attempts and liaise closely with the Junior Steward. Peal Weekend always produces a host of changes of address and telephone numbers and I compile a list of these for the Officers. Hopefully the newsletters will then be sent to correct addresses!

A final task is to identify areas where, for one reason or another, a peal attempt has not taken place in the current year so that I can try to ensure that an attempt takes place there the following year.

I would stress to organisers how important it is for me to be fed with up-to-date information, including the names of members who are not available a particular year. This ensures that those of you who contact me for support are given the best possible information.

Lastly I would like to express my thanks to the many organisers for their support and enthusiasm. I have made many friends over the years, some of them telephone friends that I have yet to meet! My thanks to all of you – and lets keep up the good work!

John Barnes

Results of Peal Weekend 2001

50 attempts in total
38 peals scored successfully
10 peals lost
1 peal rung for another society
1 peal cancelled

Many thanks to John Barnes for all his hard work in organising this event.

Peals in Five Countries in a Weekend

Eight (possibly slightly mad) ringers arrived at a rather damp Frodsham early on Friday 30th November for the first peal of a rather special weekend, what had been planned was an attempt to ring peals in 5 "countries" over a three day period.

We were soon into London S Major and the first peal was successful on those fine bells, a quick pub lunch and then over the border to Buckley in Wales where Cardiff S Major was the method for the afternoon, another good peal on another fine ring. Following this peal it was quick dash to Liverpool Airport for an EasyJet flight to Belfast. Collect a couple of hire cars and then a short drive to our accommodation for the next two nights at "Oakview" in Lower Ballinderry, our hostess, Mrs Rosaleen Faloon was there to meet us and show us round her superb farmhouse which was to be our base for the next two nights - this place was definitely a good find!

Following an early breakfast it was off South to Drogheda where Dublin S Major was the method on the fine bells at St Peters Church, following this it was a dash North again to Drumbo, one of my favourite peal ringing towers, where Belfast S Major was rung.

A nice evening of eating and drinking followed, most people looking forward to the most taxing day which was to come.

Following a 5.30 breakfast (thank you Rosaleen!), it was back to Belfast Airport for our return flight to Liverpool, arriving a little early we returned to "our" cars. Heading North now, Haddington being the destination.

We reached Haddington in good time and were welcomed by the local ringers and others, and following a tour of this wonderful Church and an inspection of the bells, Edinburgh S Major was soon underway. On completion of the peal the local ringers, who were out in force, provided us with a wonderful supper and presented us with some super shortbread and a guide to the Church before bidding us farewell for the long drive South.

All in all, a great weekend, with thanks to all of the towers for allowing us to ring, to Derek for calling all of the peals and to Ian and Derek for doing most of the driving, and of course to the band for wanting to do it and making it happen - thanks!

Alan Regin

Cumberlands in Cornwall

Having negotiated the joys of the M25 on a Friday evening, the advance party converged on the Ship Inn at Lerryn just in time for last orders. Ringing commenced the following morning with an enjoyable peal at Landewednack – the most southerly mainland ring, particularly appreciated by the alarming number of anoraks amongst us (where were you Simon?). Camborne at Camborne came to a premature end (we needed Derek in the chair!), enabling us to arrive in good time at our HQ for the week – the palatial Boslandew House in Paul. The more hardy amongst us sampled the indoor swimming pool, as yet unheated until Fleckers found a knob to twiddle!

It was a leisurely start on Sunday with service ringing, lessons in how to speak Northamptonshire me duck and a walk on the coastal path for some. This was followed in the afternoon by a well struck peal at St Buryan, the 37cwt tenor rung in fine style by Jake who seemed to have inadvertently left his handbrake at home! JJ Ford had in the meantime been busy doing wonderful things in the kitchen preparing an enormous Sunday roast, which satisfied even the Hon Sec's renowned appetite (albeit temporarily).

On Monday we were welcomed to Carbis Bay by Roger Sullivan and his dog Fabian who seemed particularly pleased to see Linda! John Pladdys joined us here for Stedman Caters (what else?). In the afternoon the anoraks were given another airing with a peal at Zennor.

Tuesday was a day of mixed fortunes. Hobbsy steered us through a leisurely peal of Bristol at St Gluvias. The lunchtime pub in St Budock was particularly accommodating serving not only excellent beer and shepherd's pie but also did a good line in Lemsips! Suitably dosed we attempted Pitman's 4 at St Budock, which unfortunately came to grief due to a broken rope. Having been entertained to lots of cups of tea and another round of Lemsips at Mike and Elaine Wycherley's, we descended on Truro for the Cathedral practice. A long wait for Stephen on the platform at Truro Station gave Russell, warmly wrapped up in his best anorak, ample opportunity to get very excited about the signal box!

Wednesday took us to the Lizard peninsula where we rang an excellent peal of Double Norwich on the superb octave at St Keverne, enabling Mike Elson to score his first SRCY peal for an unmentionable number of years. Unfortunately his success rate was short lived due to a miscall at St Anthony-in-Meneage in the afternoon. The additional time was, however put to good use in the Blue Anchor at Helston, where the odd pint or several of Spingo was consumed. Not a drop of orange juice in sight!

On Thursday we thoroughly enjoyed our peals on the excellent bells at Phillack and Tuckingmill. Back at the ranch we again managed to do justice to another repast from JJ Banqueting Services, followed by some valiant attempts to ring Stedman Triples on handbells and the now customary midnight swim.

The peal at Towednack on Friday was followed by a rearrangement of the planned schedule, with a change of method and composition for the peal at Gulval, rung in memory of Peter Border. Hobbsy and Stephen listened to the peal from the comfort of the aptly named Coldstreamer Arms, though such were their exertions of the afternoon that they didn't quite make it to Buryan practice in the evening.

Following a breakfast of cold curry for some, we departed from a very wet and windy Cornwall on Saturday, scoring a rather damp peal at Werrington before heading for home. Our thanks to all the local ringers for making us so welcome. We look forward to next year!

From The Peal Books :

250 Years Ago - 1752

06th July	All Saints West Ham	5112 Grandsire Caters	George Partrick
03rd October	St George in the East	5152 Plain Bob Major	George Partrick
17th October	St Leonard Shoreditch	5120 Union Bob Major	George Partrick
29th October	All Saints West Ham	5040 Plain Bob Royal	George Partrick
06th November	St Dunstan in the East	5040 Plain Bob Major	George Partrick

The peal at West Ham on 06th July was the first 10 bell peal rung by the Society and the first of Grandsire Caters rung at West Ham and that rung on 29th October was the first of Royal by the Society.

The bells at St George in the East were a very much heavier ring than those in that tower now, approximately 30cwt. St Dunstan in the East has an interesting history, the Church was badly damaged during World war II; the Church still stands in ruins, the Tower and fine spire are still there but the bells have been removed.

200 Years Ago - 1802

22nd March	St Saviours Southwark	7104 Oxford T. B. Max.	George Gross (jun)
13th September	St Mary's Islington	5040 Imperial Place Major	William Shipway
18th October	St Alphage Greenwich	6120 Oxford T. B. Royal	George Gross (jun)
20th November	St Leonard's Shoreditch	5004 Imperial Place Caters	William Shipway
27th December	St Mary's Islington	6128 Grandsire Major	William Shipway

Three of the five peals this year were longer than normal lengths, the peal at Southwark on 22nd March is commemorated by a very large peal board in the tower, the peal book records the peal thus "Consisting of 7104 changes being the full extent of nine courses and the greatest performance ever done on Twelve Bells which was completed by twelve men only in 5 hours and 30 minutes". James Marlton rang the tenor for this peal. 6 of the band also rang in the peal at Greenwich, Marlton again ringing the tenor. A different tenor ringer at Islington, Richard Jagers on this occasion, with the famous William Shipway conducting.

100 Years Ago - 1902

8th February	All Saints Edmonton	5024 Superlative S. Major	George Williams
15th February	St Mary's Walthamstow	5000 Kent T. B. Royal	Edgar Wightman
1st March	All Saints West Ham	5019 Stedman Caters	John Cheesman
10th March	St Mary's Woodford	5040 Surprise Minor	Willam Keeble
12th April	St Mary's Speldhurst	5040 Grandsire Triples	James Maynard
25th April	St Mary's Speldhurst	5040 Grandsire Triples	George Turley
26th April	St Anne's Highgate	5040 Plain Bob Major	Richard Beven
24th June	St Nicholas Brighton	5079 Stedman Caters	Frank Bennett
7th September	St Mary's Speldhurst	5008 Plain Bob Major	James Maynard
5th October	St Margaret's Warnham	5088 Superlative S. Major	Keith Hart
25th October	St Margaret's Westminster	5000 Kent T.B. Royal	Arthur Jacob
1st November	St Peters Staines	5040 Grandsire Triples	William Fussell
1st November	St Mary's Chiddingstone	5056 Kent T. B. Major	Thomas Card
8th November	St Anne's Highgate	5088 Kent T.B. Major	Charles Martin
15th November	St Stephens Hampstead	5040 Grandsire Triples	Frank Smith

Another interesting collection of towers with 6 of the 15 peals being rung in Kent and Sussex. Among the conductors we find Keith Hart who was to become Tower Captain at St Peters Brighton and was a member of William Pye's touring band later in his ringing career, George Williams who conducted the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major at St Peter's Brighton in 1901 and William Fussell from Slough who called Holts Original (one of his party pieces) at St Peter's Staines.

Alan Regin

Cumberland Youths in the USA

Gatwick Airport was once again the starting point for another USA tour, the whole party meeting in Houston after the long flight across the Atlantic. Houston was to be our base for the first couple of days with ringing scheduled on the fine eight at St Thomas's and an opportunity to ring on the new bells at St Paul's Methodist Church.

With three peals successfully rung at St Thomas over two days we headed to downtown Houston to St Paul's, and what a treat we were in for, a superb Whitechapel 8 and a very enthusiastic band, lots of practice ringing before adjourning to the local pub with the local ringers - a very nice afternoon and evening was enjoyed by all! The ringers have been trained by Richard and David Graves at St Thomas's and are making very good progress.

The next morning saw us travelling via Dallas / Fort Worth International Airport to Little Rock and then by road to Texarkana where the fine bells were soon ringing to the first of four peals scheduled. It was so good to meet our friends here once again, the hospitality in Texarkana was as wonderful as ever, we were all very grateful once more.

The schedule kept us on the move however, the Tuesday morning had us returning by road to Little Rock and then, after a peal at the Cathedral there, flying onto Atlanta, where a practice was scheduled at on the new bells (well, just over a year old) at St Luke's. Here we joined ringers from both St Luke's and Marietta before we adjourned to "Manuel's" for refreshments. Four peals were scheduled here, two at each tower, including a peal of Atlanta Delight Royal, all of these were successful.

We were again on the road on Thursday evening reaching Hendersonville late that day. It was nice to meet our old friend Richard Parsons prior to the ringing at Hendersonville, two fine peals being the result here.

Finally we headed to Charleston with a full program of ringing focusing on the dedication of the new ring at the Cathedral of SS Paul and Luke. On Saturday a practice session was held at the Cathedral while others were ringing a peal at Grace Church, and was followed later in the day with a session on Bob Doubles at Stella Maris where the local ringers are taking great strides forward.

Following service ringing at Stella Maris and St Michael's we attended the Veteran's' Day Service at the Cathedral during which the new bells were dedicated by the Dean of South Carolina, The Very Reverend William McKeachie. The service was wonderful, the Military of Charleston were out in full force, the procession containing many flag bearers representing, Army, Navy and Air Force, the lessons being read by Officers from the Air Force Base and the Navy's Nuclear Power Training base, and the Choir provided by cadets from The Citadel College.

The bells were rung during the service by ringers from Atlanta, Marietta, Charleston along with members of the visiting Cumberland's and later in the afternoon a peal of Charleston Surprise Major was rung.

A further peal at the Cathedral was rung the next day, following a peal at Stella Maris, a new method was chosen and named "Easthorpe" after the place where the back six bells came from.

All too soon it was time for the group to return to England, happy after another successful USA tour.

Once again a very big thank you is due to all of our friends in the United States for the help and hospitality given, it is very much appreciated.

Alan Regin

SRCY PEALS 2000-2001

1.8.00	Shoreditch	5100	Strathmore Alliance Maximus *	D E Sibson
4.8.00	Betchworth	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S Jenner
4.8.00	Esher	5120	London Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
5.8.00	St.Neots	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
12.8.00	Ickleton	5152	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
15.8.00	Shoreditch	5024	Carbon Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler
19.8.00	Spitalfields	5088	Yate Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
19.8.00	Kettering	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	D E Sibson
24.8.00	Trumpington	5024	7-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
26.8.00	Abergavenny	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	R Baldwin
27.8.00	Chepstow	5040	Anglia Surprise Royal +	J P Loveless
28.8.00	Hexham	5040	Bristol Surprise Royal	M J L Durham
28.8.00	Shoreditch	5080	8-Spliced Surprise Royal	J W Belshaw
28.8.00	Horsley	5056	4-Spliced Surprise Major	R Baldwin
28.8.00	Stroud	5122	Bristol Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
28.8.00	Meldreth	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
1.9.00	Shoreditch	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
2.9.00	Weston	5040	19-Spliced Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
2.9.00	Wallington	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J R Turnock
2.9.00	Welwyn	5088	Moulton Surprise Major	D E Sibson
3.9.00	St. Albans (St.Peter)	5002	London No.3 Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
5.9.00	Spitalfields	5056	Isledon Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
9.9.00	St.Martin-in-the-Fields	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	D E Sibson
9.9.00	Amersham	5042	Cambridge Surprise Maximus	I R Fielding
11.9.00	Thriplow	5040	19 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
22.9.00	Gressenhall	5184	7-Spliced Surprise Major	D G Salter
23.9.00	East Crompton	5056	Xenobios Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
24.9.00	Keighley	5088	Isebrook Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
24.9.00	North Lopham	5184	8-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
30.9.00	Essendon	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
30.9.00	Tewin	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
30.9.00	Carshalton	5088	8-Spliced Surprise Major	J W Belshaw
1.10.00	Stow Bardolph	5184	Belfast Surprise Major	S A Rudd
7.10.00	Lewisham	5088	Otley Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler
7.10.00	St.Martin-in-the-Fields	5001	Stedman Cinques	J P Loveless
7.10.00	Ilford	5120	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	D E Sibson
8.10.00	Pirton	5040	Stedman Doubles	L M Garton
14.10.00	Leeds	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	A D Sibson
14.10.00	Warwick	5000	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J W Belshaw
14.10.00	Willingham	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
14.10.00	Oakington	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	S A Wheeler
15.10.00	Escrick	5040	Watford Springs Surprise Maximus +	D E Sibson
21.10.00	Landewednack	5040	14 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
21.10.00	Chicago (Mitchell Tower)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
21.10.00	Chicago (Riverside)	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
22.10.00	St. Buryan	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
22.10.00	Kalamazoo	5088	5-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
22.10.00	Kalamazoo	5088	Atlanta Delight Major *	R Baldwin
23.10.00	Zennor	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	P M Fleckney
25.10.00	St. Keverne	5040	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	S A Wheeler
25.10.00	Toronto	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	D E Sibson
26.10.00	Phillack	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
26.10.00	Tuckingmill	5056	Ealing Surprise Major	J P Loveless
27.10.00	Philadelphia (St.Martin-in-the-Fields)	5088	Willow Grove Surprise Major *	D E Sibson
28.10.00	Werrington	5152	Truro Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler

28.10.00	Philadelphia (St.Martin-in-the-Fields)	5088	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
28.10.00	Philadelphia (St.Martin-in-the-Fields)	5088	4-Spliced Surprise Major	R Baldwin
28.10.00	Philadelphia (St.Mark)	5088	Penn Surprise Major *	D E Sibson
29.10.00	Ambleside	5040	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	P J Waterfield
29.10.00	Philadelphia (St.Mark)	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
2.11.00	Trumpington	5056	9-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
4.11.00	Hitchin	5003	Grandsire Caters	S A Wheeler
6.11.00	Meldreth	5056	6-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
9.11.00	Trumpington	5024	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
11.11.00	Henham	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
11.11.00	Great Easton	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
12.11.00	Trumpington	5056	Somme Surprise Major *	D E Sibson
14.11.00	Lambeth (St.John-the-Evangelist)	5088	Chlorine Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler
17.11.00	Mindinho-le-Tower	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
17.11.00	Meldreth	5024	9-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
17.11.00	Bermondsey	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
17.11.00	Birstwith	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	I R Fielding
18.11.00	Northfield	5000	London No.3 Surprise Royal	S A Wheeler
18.11.00	Redhill	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	J Morgan
18.11.00	Chislehurst (St.Nicholas)	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S Jenner
18.11.00	Frensham	5088	Frensham Delight Major +	D E Sibson
18.11.00	Aldershot	5152	11-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
18.11.00	Eaton Socon	5024	Lincolnshire Surprise Major	J P Loveless
18.11.00	Benington	5056	Superlative Surprise Major	J P Loveless
18.11.00	Ormesby	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	I R Fielding
18.11.00	Northallerton	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	I R Fielding
18.11.00	Hexham	5040	Stedman Triples	M J L Durham
18.11.00	New Romney	5120	Rutland Surprise Major	R A Pearce
18.11.00	Weston super Mare	5056	Rutland Surprise Major	J StJ Beaumont
18.11.00	Petworth	5008	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	J W Belshaw
18.11.00	Newbury	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	D J Beaumont
18.11.00	Buckley	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	J F Oultram
18.11.00	Lower Beeding	5056	Pudsey Surprise Major	A R Baldock
18.11.00	Pott Row (H/B)	5040	Plain Bob Major	S A Rudd
18.11.00	Pluckley	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	R A Pearce
18.11.00	Gressenhall	5056	Cambridge Surprise Major	C M Peckham
18.11.00	Sandridge	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	G A Duke
18.11.00	Lemsford	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	G A Duke
18.11.00	East Dereham	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Rudd
19.11.00	Keele (Woodlands)	5056	Yorkshire Surprise Major	R J Angrave
19.11.00	Terling	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	J L Towler
19.11.00	Bradford	5042	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	A D Sibson
19.11.00	Philadelphia (St.Martin-in-the-Fields)	5024	Rutland Surprise Major	D Trumpler
19.11.00	Bristol (Christ Church)	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J StJ Beaumont
19.11.00	Stockton-on-Tees	5001	Stedman Cinques	I R Fielding
19.11.00	Woodbridge	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
19.11.00	Twickenham	5040	Whitley Surprise Royal *	D E Sibson
21.11.00	Fulbourn	5216	5-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
21.11.00	Trumpington	5088	Alexandrite Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
25.11.00	Horsham	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
25.11.00	Warnham	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
25.11.00	Dorking	5040	Dorking Surprise Royal *	D E Sibson
2.12.00	Hatfield	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
2.12.00	Hitchin	5007	Stedman Caters	J W Belshaw
2.12.00	Pakefield	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
9.12.00	Fulbourn	5088	Dymchurch Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
10.12.00	Greenwich	5040	Superlative No.2 Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
12.12.00	Limehouse	5184	Phosphorus Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler

23.12.00	Bristol (St.Thomas)	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
24.12.00	Kensington (St.Mary Abbots)	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	J W Belshaw
28.12.00	Spratton	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
31.12.00	Trumpington	5024	5-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
1.1.01	Finedon	5024	6-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
4.1.01	Trumpington	5280	9-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
6.1.01	Melbourn	5024	Glasgow Surprise Major	D E Sibson
7.1.01	Ilford	5056	9-Spliced Surprise Major	I R Fielding
7.1.01	Old Coulsdon	5040	6 methods Doubles	S A Wheeler
13.1.01	Fulbourn	5088	Cresswell Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
13.1.01	Trumpington	5088	Brierfield Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
14.1.01	St. Albans (St.Peter)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
20.1.01	Meldreth	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
20.1.01	Orwell	5088	6-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
20.1.01	St.Clement Danes	5067	Stedman Caters	S J Pattenden
20.1.01	Bromley	5184	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
20.1.01	Addington	5040	21 methods Surprise Minor	I R Fielding
21.1.01	Meopham (H/B)	5040	Plain Bob Royal	P H Larter
23.1.01	Shoreditch	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
27.1.01	South Mymms	5040	22 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
27.1.01	Ridge	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	S A Wheeler
27.1.01	Long Buckby	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
3.2.01	Cripplegate	5042	Bristol Surprise Maximus	J P Loveless
3.2.01	Stamford Hill	5152	Glasgow Surprise Major	J P Loveless
3.2.01	Spitalfields	5024	Rutland Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
3.2.01	Shoreditch	5120	8-Spliced Surprise Major	I R Fielding
3.2.01	Limehouse	5088	Jupiter Surprise Major	D E Sibson
6.2.01	Shoreditch	5000	London No.4 Surprise Royal +	D E Sibson
10.2.01	Long Crendon	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
11.2.01	Spitalfields	5040	Stedman Triples	S A Wheeler
13.2.01	Holborn	5184	4-Spliced Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
13.2.01	Spitalfields	5024	London Surprise Major	J W Belshaw
18.2.01	Cheshunt	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
23.2.01	Spitalfields	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
24.2.01	Chesterton	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
24.2.01	Bottisham	5040	26 methods Surprise Minor	S A Wheeler
25.2.01	Chislehurst (Annunciation)	5120	Cornwall Surprise Major	I R Fielding
26.2.01	Shoreditch	5120	8-Spliced Surprise Major	I R Fielding
8.3.01	Spitalfields	5056	Yorkshire Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
10.3.01	Reading (St.Giles)	5056	London Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
10.3.01	Reading (St.Laurence)	5042	Cambridge Surprise Maximus	I R Fielding
10.3.01	Cholsey	5184	Cholsey Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
10.3.01	Wokingham	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
17.3.01	Codicote	5088	Codicote Surprise Major +	J P Loveless
17.3.01	Essendon	5056	London Surprise Major	J P Loveless
17.3.01	Caterham	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
20.3.01	Limehouse	5100	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
22.3.01	Fulbourn	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	R Baldwin
22.3.01	Orwell	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
22.3.01	Histon	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
22.3.01	Fen Ditton	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
22.3.01	Barrow Gurney	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	J StJ Beaumont
22.3.01	Trumpington	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S Jenner
22.3.01	Meldreth	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
22.3.01	Gressenhall	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Rudd
22.3.01	Spitalfields	5120	Bristol Surprise Major	J R Turnock
22.3.01	Shalford	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	J Morgan
22.3.01	Aldgate	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler

23.3.01	Melbourn	5026	Bristol Surprise Major	R Baldwin
23.3.01	Meldreth	5024	6-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
24.3.01	Southampton	5040	Baggrave Hall Surprise Royal +	D E Sibson
31.3.01	Hadlow	5088	London Surprise Major	J P Loveless
31.3.01	Chiddingstone	5088	8-Spliced Surprise Major	J W Belshaw
3.4.01	Sproxtton	5088	Lessness Surprise Major	P F Curtis
7.4.01	Launton	5040	15 methods Surprise Minor	I R Fielding
10.4.01	Shoreditch	5088	Scandium Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
13.4.01	Maidstone (St.Michael & All Angels)	5040	Grandsire Major +	J W Belshaw
16.4.01	Winchester	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	D E Sibson
16.4.01	King's Norton	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	S A Wheeler
16.4.01	Dudley	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	S A Wheeler
19.4.01	Cambridge (R.C.)	5056	8-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
21.4.01	Hythe	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
21.4.01	Staplehurst	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	P F Curtis
24.4.01	Spitalfields	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	R M Hobbs
26.4.01	Bermondsey	5024	Adelaide Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
28.4.01	Beverley (St.Mary)	5040	Beverlea Delight Royal *	R R Horton
28.4.01	Farnham	5040	Zouche Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
4.5.01	Whickham	5088	London Surprise Major	I R Fielding
5.5.01	Rickmansworth	5002	London No.3 Surprise Royal	S A Wheeler
5.5.01	Slough	5080	Clyde Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
6.5.01	Peterborough (St.John)	5088	London Surprise Major	R Baldwin
7.5.01	Beckenham	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	P F Curtis
7.5.01	St.Clement Danes	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
8.5.01	Spitalfields	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
12.5.01	Bromborough	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
19.5.01	Great Stanmore	5152	Ytterbium Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
19.5.01	Pinner	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	J P Loveless
19.5.01	Limehouse	5184	London Surprise Major	P J Flavell
21.5.01	Pott Row (H/B)	5040	3 methods Minor	P J Waterfield
24.5.01	Chiddingstone	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
25.5.01	Streatham	5152	23-Spliced Surprise Major	A Regin
26.5.01	Blackburn	5040	Lincolnshire Surprise Royal	G A Duke
26.5.01	Canterbury	5042	Lincolnshire Surprise Maximus	P F Curtis
26.5.01	Sheldwich	5152	Glasgow Surprise Major	R Baldwin
27.5.01	Fairwarp	5120	London Surprise Major	J P Loveless
28.5.01	Cudham	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	R Baldwin
28.5.01	Brighton (St.Nicholas)	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
31.5.01	Spitalfields	5088	Spitalfields Festival Little Delight Major*	S Jenner
31.5.01	Trumpington	5024	10-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
2.6.01	Great Baddow	5088	Dry Drayton Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
2.6.01	Sawbridgeworth	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
4.6.01	Downham Market (H/B)	5040	4 methods Minor	P J Waterfield
5.6.01	Shoreditch	5040	Tantun Surprise Maximus +	D E Sibson
10.6.01	Reydon (H/B)	5040	Plain Bob Major	S A Rudd
14.6.01	Shoreditch	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
16.6.01	Fairwarp	5056	Ealing Surprise Major	I R Fielding
17.6.01	Luton	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	D E Sibson
23.6.01	Birling	5184	London Surprise Major	J P Loveless
23.6.01	Cliffe	5152	North Mymms Surprise Major	J P Loveless
26.6.01	Holloway	5120	London Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
26.6.01	Spitalfields	5056	Texarkana Delight Major *	D E Sibson
1.7.01	Eardisland	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
7.7.01	St. Neots	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	D E Sibson
7.7.01	Eltham	5056	Dorchester Surprise Major	I R Fielding
12.7.01	Scarborough	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	A D Sibson
12.7.01	Darlington (St.John)	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler

12.7.01	Darlington (St.Cuthbert)	5088	Darlington Surprise Major +	S A Wheeler
12.7.01	Pickering	5056	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
12.7.01	Kirkby Malzeard	5040	7 methods Surprise Minor	J P Loveless
12.7.01	York (St.Wilfrid)	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J W Belshaw
13.7.01	Masham	5040	London No.3 Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
13.7.01	Ripon	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	G A Duke
13.7.01	Northallerton	5040	Yorkshire Surprise Royal	R Baldwin
13.7.01	Marske-by-the-Sea	5088	Newcastle Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
13.7.01	Stranton, Hartlepool	5152	Newcastle Surprise Major	I Butters
13.7.01	Hartlepool (St.Aidan)	5120	8-Spliced Surprise Major	I R Fielding
13.7.01	Sherburn-in-Elmet	5024	4-Spliced Surprise Major	D E Sibson
13.7.01	Skelton-in-Cleveland	5152	Glasgow Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
14.7.01	Leeds	5042	Cambridge Surprise Maximus	R Baldwin
14.7.01	Thirsk	5088	4-Spliced Surprise Major	A D Sibson
14.7.01	Helmsley	5088	Bristol Surprise Major	I R Fielding
14.7.01	Staindrop	5056	Staindrop Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
14.7.01	Sharow	5024	Rutland Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
14.7.01	Whitby	5040	Cambridge Surprise Royal	J P Loveless
15.7.01	York (St.Martin-le-Grand)	5056	London Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
15.7.01	Fulbourn	5088	Fluorspar Surprise Major +	D E Sibson
20.7.01	Barnes	5184	Californium Surprise Major	I R Fielding
21.7.01	Mells	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	D E Sibson
23.7.01	Spitalfields	5040	Double Norwich Court Bob Major	S A Wheeler
24.7.01	Holborn	5024	Bristol Surprise Major	S A Wheeler
28.7.01	Bristol (Christ Church)	5000	Bristol Surprise Royal	I R Fielding
28.7.01	Reading (St.Laurence)	5042	Bristol Surprise Maximus	I R Fielding
30.7.01	Downham Market (H/B)	5040	5 methods Minor	P J Waterfield

* First peal in the method.

+ First peal in the method for the Society.

Peals Analysis

With a total of 256 peals rung between 1/8/00 and 31/7/01, there was a drop of 56 compared with the same period in 99/00 (312). There were however 6 (4) handbell peals in that total. Nevertheless nearly as many towers were used with 187 (190) and the most significant change was at Shoreditch where the temporary closing of the Church for refurbishment meant much less easy access and as a result only 11 (31) peals were scored there (probably nearly as many lockouts!).

Towers: Spitalfields 13, Shoreditch 11, Trumpington 10, Meldreth 6, Fulbourn 5, Limehouse 4, Philadelphia (St.Martin-in-the-Fields) 4, Gressenhall 3, 22 towers with 2, and 150 with just 1.

Geographically peals were widespread, being rung in 38 different counties, 10 in the U.S.A. and 1 in Canada. Most were rung in London, 46, followed by Cambridgeshire, 38, Hertfordshire, 21, Kent, 19, and North Yorkshire, 16.

316 (340) members took part and 155 (132) rang in only one peal.

Ringers: Alan Regin, 84, Simon J. Davies, 78, John P. Loveless, 77, Derek E. Sibson, 74, E. Jane Sibson, 69, Linda M. Garton, 62, Russell A. Brown, 58, Stephen A. Wheeler, 55, Ian G. Campbell, 46, Richard M. Hobbs, 46.

The conducting was shared by 34 (52) people, the leaders being Derek E. Sibson, 68, John P. Loveless, 44, Stephen A. Wheeler, 38, Ian R. Fielding, 27, Roger Baldwin, 11, James W. Belshaw, 10, Alan Regin, 6, Simon A Rudd, 5.

This year 100 (134) different methods or groups of methods (e.g. 4-Spliced) were rung which is a significant drop but probably accounted for by the drop in the peals total overall. There has been a noticeable decline in Maximus mainly due to the relative absence of Shoreditch and a notable absentee from the following list is Bristol Maximus with only 2 (9) peals this year

Methods: Bristol S. Major, 40, 7 Surprise Minor 15, 4-Spliced S. Major 12, London S. Major, 12, London No.3 S. Royal 11, Bristol S. Royal 9, 8-Spliced S. Major 8, Cambridge S. Royal 8, Yorkshire S. Maximus 7, 23-Spliced S. Major 6.

Derek Sibson

The SRCY Website

Richard Hobbs has kindly volunteered to take over from Paul Butler in keeping the SRCY website updated. We thank Paul very much for all his work over the years.

At the moment the site is being redeveloped with a new cleaner look and it is now temporally hosted at <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/rhobbs1/>

As most people seem to use the site to find where the next Practice is, this information is now on the home page with a link to multimap.com so you can easily find the location of the tower.

Richard hopes to develop this site so that it will contain information of all the Cumberland events, a brief history of the Cumberlands and any special achievements by members such as a first peal in a method etc.

However he is reliant on the membership to provide him with information and ideas so please do contact him.

Useful Information

- ◆ Life Membership subscription is £15.00
- ◆ Steepleage is 50p
- ◆ Peal booking Fee is 50p

For successful peals both steepleage and the peal booking fee are payable (i.e. £1 per ringer).

For unsuccessful peals steepleage only is required (i.e. 50p per ringer)

Steepleage, peal booking fees and details of peals including details of compositions and ringers for unsuccessful peals should be sent to the **Junior Steward** :

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And Finally.....

We hope you have found this newsletter interesting - it is our only direct communication with our members and feel it is a vital way of keeping in touch.

Please do let us know what you think and if you have any articles and information that you would like to be included the Secretary will be very pleased to receive them.

The newsletter does however cost a lot to produce (last year the cost was approximately £1350) and we do depend on donations to keep it viable. We are very grateful for the donations that we receive towards the cost of the newsletter but unfortunately the donations received last year only covered approximately 25% of the cost..

At the July Country meeting the cost of the newsletter will be raised as an item on the agenda.