



ANNUAL REPORT AND NEWSLETTER OF THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS JULY 2017



As the last Newsletter went to press, the Society's band had just taken part in the final of the National Twelve Bell Contest at Aston, and had had to hand back the trophy, won at Norwich, back to Birmingham. Just recently, the 2017 contest took place at Southwark Cathedral, where, notwithstanding the recent re-hanging project, all teams faced considerable challenges in delivering high-quality test pieces. Our placing of second (behind Birmingham again) was a slight disappointment, though we shared the view of all present that the Southwark Cathedral band had done a wonderful hosting job in the wake of the terrorist attack just two weeks earlier.

The next major event in the Society's calendar was the annual country meeting which took place over the

weekend of 16 July. For this, we visited the city of Cambridge, where the Master, Tessa Simpson, had been a student and a leading member of the Cambridge University Guild of Change Ringers. The two days before the meeting were devoted to peal attempts, with eleven attempts arranged and all scored. These were on 8, 10 and 12 tower bells, with a cheeky handbell peal of minor thrown in. This was in two methods – Annable's London and Cambridge – and was arranged to commemorate the journey made on foot by Benjamin Annable in 1727 from St Bride's, Fleet Street to Great St Mary's Cambridge, where he conducted the Society's first 'out of town' peal.

Open ringing took place at Great St Mary's (with an early morning start to suit the university's graduation schedule), Trumpington and St Andrew the Great,

with a convivial period in the beer garden at the Castle Inn at lunchtime. A short business meeting in the Yusuf Hamied theatre at Christ's College preceded an excellent dinner in the Great Hall at Christ's, followed by civilised conversation (and a little handbell ringing) in the genteel surroundings of the Buttery Bar and First Court.

A little later in the year, the action shifted to Oxford, which hosted the Master's Challenge. Seven teams battled through four tasks, some of them having already battled past Great Western Railway, which cancelled all trains from Paddington to Oxford on the morning of the event. The morning tasks took bands to Magdalen College (200 changes of Royal, with extra points for complexity of the method), and Christ Church Cathedral (two courses of Stedman Cinques, with extra points for musicality of the touch). The afternoon's entertainment was at Lincoln College (a course of Surprise Major, with extra points for ringing an unringed method handed out at short notice) and St Thomas's (half a course of Cambridge Royal, with the band drawing for bells immediately before the touch, and points deducted for each person fixed on a bell before the draw). The whole day was most enjoyable, full of people pretending that they weren't taking it too seriously, but nevertheless fighting to the death. The overall winner was a team ringing under a Birmingham banner, with the odd conscript from Bishopstoke signed up to strengthen the squad.

Peal weekend took place on the third weekend of September. Some thirty peals were successfully completed across England, Wales and the USA, with our American members ringing two ten-bell peals at Atlanta.

The 379th Anniversary Dinner took place at the Grange St Paul's Hotel on 5 November. This was our second visit to The Grange, and it is proving to be an ideal venue, lying as it does in the shadow of St Paul's Cathedral. The dinner is the last major event in the Master's year, and Tessa Simpson presided with charm, well supported by family and friends from Guildford, who filled two tables. The (then) Rector of Cornhill, Bishop Stephen Platten, responded to the Master's toast to The Church, and Philip Earis proposed the toast to The Society, in an elegant speech which had been carefully vetted by his wife. The handbell touch was rung by the Berkshire band, organised by Graham Firman.

At the subsequent business meeting, Rob Lee was elected as Master, with Henry Coggill as Senior Steward and Leigh Simpson joining the top table as Junior Steward. Phil Rogers stood down as Treasurer

after ten years, and was succeeded by Graham Firman.

Tuesday practices form the heart of the Society's regular activities, and these have continued to provide opportunities for good ringing and fellowship. Though there is a focus on the advanced repertoire, Bristol and Stedman are rung at almost all practices, and members not able to attend regularly are warmly welcomed. On the second Tuesday of each month, meeting night, a second practice is usually arranged – in part to relieve pressure on the ordinary practice, and in part to allow a focus on a particular objective (not always 'posh' ringing).

The Society takes direct responsibility for ringing at five towers in the City of London (Cornhill, Cripplegate, Jewry, St Magnus and St Sepulchre). We elect a tower secretary and a steeplekeeper for each of these, and owe a considerable debt of gratitude to them for keeping things running smoothly. We are also fortunate in being able to practice regularly and frequently at St Mary-le-Bow and at St Paul's Cathedral, and we look forward to getting back to regular practices at Southwark Cathedral now that the restoration project has been completed. The Society has agreed to make a donation of £18,000 to the Southwark project, and has also agreed to commit £30,000 to the major restoration currently being planned at St Paul's Cathedral.

After a quiet first half of 2016, we elected 17 new members in the second half of the year, and a further 10 so far in 2017. The emphasis has been on youth, with both Ewan Hull and Henry Pipe gaining election shortly after their respective 14th birthdays.

Great care is taken at meetings to remember members lost through death. Tributes in recent weeks and months have been paid to a number of long-serving and distinguished members of the Society and the wider ringing community, including Brian Threlfall, David Beacham, Mick Hobbs, Philip Gray, Eric Sutton and John Gipson.

The current year is unfolding well under the leadership of Rob Lee, and we look forward to continuing success and good fellowship. The 380th Anniversary Dinner will take place on Saturday 4 November at The Grange St Paul's Hotel, and bookings are now open. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

David House
ASCY Secretary

MASTER'S MESSAGE 2017

How does it feel to be appointed Master of the College Youths? If I may, I'd like to compare it to an experience a couple of years ago while I was on holiday in Japan. I found myself strapped to a roller coaster about to launch me to 107 mph in under 2 seconds, and the awesome sight of Mount Fuji opposite was of little distraction as I found myself filled with fascination and fear as to what the journey would be like.

Much like being on that roller coaster, I am finding the experience is going by in such a blur it is hard to take it in. Although, I'm pleased to report, with less screaming.

It is the duty of every Master to build on what has been achieved previously – 'evolution, not revolution' – and I hope that by the end of my year as Master I will have achieved this. The core of the Society's activities is of course the Tuesday night practices in the City. We continue to ring Stedman and Bristol every week and I have aimed to include at least one touch of spliced from the repertoire each week, occasionally adding the treble into the mix to introduce variety and different music. We have also dipped our toes into the uncharted waters of cyclic Cinques, sometimes without getting bitten.

But I am a firm believer that it is not what you ring, it is how you ring it. To achieve a high quality of ringing each week while balancing the aspirations of members is not an easy conflict to manage, as any Master will testify, and I'd like to thank all members for their effort in achieving this quality of ringing over the year so far.

The Society comfortably qualified for the final of the National 12 Bell Contest in coming second in the eliminator at Sheffield in March. Unfortunately we could only match this result in the final at Southwark, narrowly losing out to a highly accomplished piece by Birmingham on these challenging bells. Although to come so close is disappointing, we can take heart in finishing ahead of the chasing pack as the standard required becomes ever higher.

Although, unlike some Masters, I have not set myself a target of organising lots of Society peals during the year, there have been a couple of exceptions. Over the early May bank holiday, 30 members took part in a successful peal weekend in West Yorkshire. All the peals were scored – we worked hard and played hard. At the other extreme, I am very proud to be able to report the achievement of a Society band last month in establishing a new record - 20,064 Spliced Surprise Maximus in 38 methods atw at the Tulloch Ringing Centre. In a couple of months' time the Society will hold its annual Peal Weekend over the weekend of 16th September and if you would like to take part in this, or need help completing a band, please do contact the Senior Steward.

The Country Meeting in Lincoln is fast approaching and I look forward to welcoming many of you there for what promises to be a good weekend of quality ringing and socialising. This will be prefixed by the 2 week UK17 tour which will include many towers based around Reading, Towcester and York.

It is always a pleasure to welcome visitors to a Tuesday practice or any other Society event. Thank you to all of you who have supported these over the year and in doing so making my job as Master such an enjoyable time, despite the workload!

ROB LEE

PEAL RINGING IN 2015/6

In the year from 10 November 2015 to 8 November 2016 (Tessa Simpson's year as Master), there were 220 Society peals. This was slightly fewer than the previous year, with a drop in handbell peals accounting for much of the difference. 376 members took part in these peals.

Notwithstanding the Society's well-deserved reputation for pushing forward technical boundaries, it is notable that almost half of the peals rung were in three methods – Stedman, Bristol and Cambridge – with Stedman Cinques topping the list with 20 peals. Philip Rogers was our leading peal ringer, and also joint leading conductor on tower bells.

In the London area, the four towers most visited for peals were Garlickhythe, Cornhill, St Dunstan-in-the-West and St Magnus the Martyr. All these fairly recent installations, three of them arising from the considerable energy of Dickon Love. It was no surprise, at the rededication of the eight at St Stephen's Rochester Row, to hear the Bishop of London telling the gathering that he could barely imagine a bell restoration project without Dickon Love's involvement.

The Society's peal ringing, though, spreads well beyond London. Roy LeMarechal has been a highly successful organiser and conductor, both in and around Hampshire and on the road. Devon, Wiltshire and Herefordshire members have been very active. Our members in Washington DC now have another excellent eight across the Potomac at the Virginia Theological Seminary, as well as the ten at Washington National Cathedral, and the eight at Frederick, and all were pealed in the course of the year.

Gwen Rogers has continued to arrange regular peals on the afternoon of CY meeting days, drawing on the growing population of the gracefully retired (surely there must be a kinder name than 'Old Fogeys'), and taking her band off for a week of peal ringing in the summer.

John Pladdys' peal week accounted for eleven peals of Stedman (three in a day when going at full speed, all conducted by JP).

Paul Mounsey has continued arranging handbell peals at Cornhill Vestry, and nine were successful in the year. Aldenham School has also become the base for a talented band organised by Sam Austin.

Among the individual performances of note during the year were the following:

5030 Stedman Cinques at St Sepulchre on 5 December

On the 30th anniversary of the first peal on the twelve, after the restoration project led by the Society, with seven of the original band taking part.

5152 23 Spliced Surprise Major at Yardley on 17 January

First performance of a new one-part composition by Mark Davies (the 'Mythic Beasts'), including 22 new methods, conducted by Simon Linford.

5016 6 Spliced Maximus at St Magnus on 12 March

The 11-part Pipe Classic composition on a cyclic plan, rung strictly silent and non-conducted.

5008 24 Spliced Major at Garlickhythe on 13 March

First performance of a composition by Don Morrison in which every lead for each bell is different, including the hunt works (so 24 different treble works, along with seven inside leads for each bell in each method).

10080 Spliced Treble Dodging Minor at St Paul's Birmingham on 2 July

84 methods, all the work, jointly conducted, in five hours.

The Society's Peal Recorder, Richard Allton, maintains full details of peals rung, including compositions, and these records are available to all on the Society's web site. The Society also maintains its tradition of hand written illuminated peal books. The peal fees collected (£1.50 per ringer) are used specifically to fund the cost of peal writing. Peal books are on display at the Anniversary Dinner each year.

THE MASTER'S WEDDING



Following the example set by his predecessor, our Master for 2016/7, Rob Lee, celebrated his marriage during his year of office. He married Lizzy Stokoe, a member of a large and well-known ringing family, on 11 March at Market Deeping. Lizzy is currently a member of the other society. There was a strong Society presence to support the Master and his bride, including the Immediate Past Master and her husband (now the Society's Junior Steward), Tessa and Leigh Simpson. David Maynard, a past Master, was best man. Ever one to issue challenges, even when his mind should be on other things, Rob required seven members to learn and ring a cheeky little Cyclic Triples principle as a post-service touch, 182 changes of Rob and Lizzy's Wedding Triples.

The tradition of Masters marrying during their year of office looks set to be broken next year, since our current Senior Steward is already happily married.

BELL RESTORATION PROJECTS

The Society's Bell Restoration Fund is able to make grants to towers in which the Society has 'a major interest'. Currently, it is committed to supporting two major projects at London cathedrals.

The project to rehang and re-tune the bells at Southwark, with some re-casting, has been offered a grant of £18,000 towards the total cost of £200,000. This will be paid once formal completion has been agreed. This final stage seems to be taking some time, while experts debate the reason for the difficult 'go' of some of the back bells, which was evident at the National Twelve Bell Contest Final.

At St Paul's Cathedral, the first major refurbishment since the bells were installed in 1878 is scheduled to get under way next year at a cost of £360,000. The Society has promised to allocate £30,000 towards this cost.

The fund is also used to fund more modest projects, including replacement bearings at Cripplegate and ropes for those of our regular towers which require them from time to time. The two large projects now agreed will reduce our balance to a very modest level, and we shall therefore be working on plans to replenish it.

NEW MEMBERS

The following were elected and welcomed as new Members in the year to November 2016:

Ewan G A Hull of Cawood
Jack R Bendrey of Wallasey
Carrie L Hyde of Helsby
Claire E Reading of Milton Keynes
Nathan C Cox of Leeds
Anna E Sherwood of Reading
Simon W Edwards of Swindon
David L Parfrey of Corston
John M Brook of Walkington

Cindy Maude of Leeds
Eleanor H Maude of Lincoln
Brett C Masters of Towcester
Celia J K Wood of Towcester
Lucy A Warren of Bristol
David H Ralls of St Austell
Stephen Bowley of Pershore
Harriet J M A Armitage of Ashted

OBITUARY

We paid tribute to the following Members at Society Business Meetings in the year to November 2016:

John E Chilcott, Hereford, elected 1947
Brian D Threlfall, Cheltenham, elected 1949
Alec Cairns, Cheadle, elected 1951
William J Southam, North Mymms, elected 1951
David G Yeo, Long Ashton, elected 1952
John R Ketteringham, Lincoln, elected 1953
Frederick W Ellis, Wheathampstead, elected 1959
Anthony E Clayton, Nottingham, elected 1961
Dennis E Pepper, Meldreth, elected 1962
David A Burt, Littledean, elected 1963
Brian Horrell, Budleigh Salterton, elected 1965
Edward G Mould, Northolt, elected 1968

David Beacham, Worcester, elected 1973
James W Yates, South Lopham, elected 1978
Michael W Lowndes, Newport Pagnell, elected 1980
Andrew D Barnsdale, Haslemere, elected 1981
John E Camp, Great Billing, elected 1984
John J Cummins, Murwillumbah, elected 1985
Ian Tilling, Washington, elected 1991
David F Wicks, Bath, elected 1993
S Parkman Shaw, Boston, USA, elected 1994
Richard D Blagrove, Shrewsbury, elected 2005
John M Brook, Walkington, elected 2016

MILESTONES

We congratulate the following members who celebrated 50 years' membership during 2016:

J Alan Ainsworth
Peter G Brown
David L Cawley
John C Davidge
Anthony M Faulkner
Keith H Fleming
Eric N Harrison

Richard A Hunt
Martyn J Marriott
David F Moore
Jonathan S N Porter
Anthony D Sansom
Frederick Shallcross
Michael J Uphill

The members who celebrated 60 years membership during 2016 were:

Robert J Chapman
R James Cook
John N Diserens
Terry Earle
E Martin Fielden
Robin G Leale

James H Lilley
John M B Long
Donald L Mills
Geoffrey S Mills
Michael P Moreton
Ronald K Russ

Denis N Layton celebrated 70 years membership.



Ewan Hull, the first member to be elected in 2016, joined by his proposer Becky Sugden (far right), his seconder David Pipe, and the Master, Tessa Simpson.

MEMBERSHIP PROPOSALS AND ELECTIONS

The election of new members is taken very seriously by the Society, and is often the most substantial item at a business meeting. We want to attract ringers who share our commitment to excellence, and who are already – or likely to be – leaders in the ringing community. We rely on existing members to seek out candidates who fit that criterion. Because our primary focus is on practical ringing ability (rather than long and loyal service, for example), proposals usually set out in some detail the candidate's ringing achievements to date (peals and quarter peals, range of methods rung, offices held). Evidence that candidates are held in high regard by their peers is especially important. Although we do not want to be relentlessly elitist, we are keen to elect new members who value high standards and will enhance the Society's reputation.

The Society's regular ringing in London is strongly oriented towards ringing on twelve bells, and most new members elected within the London area are comfortable with Stedman Cinques and Bristol Maximus. There is no expectation, though, that all new members will be experienced on higher numbers. They should be proficient in the repertoire available in their local area, and playing their role in the advancement of change ringing.

Candidates can be proposed and seconded in person by two existing members at any business meeting (prior notice to the Secretary is appreciated), or by letter or e-mail to the Secretary. Elections are considered at the next or a subsequent meeting, giving members at least four weeks to contemplate proposals.

NEW TREASURER



Graham Firman, elected Treasurer in November 2016

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2016

The accounts for 2016 show that income to the General Fund, at £5996, was almost £1000 lower than in 2015. We elected slightly fewer new members during the year, and income from peal booking fees was also down. Weekly steeplage was only 75% of the figure for the previous year, reflecting a reduction in the number of members attending Tuesday practices. The costs of printing and posting the Newsletter rose from £942 to £1022, but donations towards the cost fell from £920 to £889, meaning that the Newsletter cost a net £143.

The lower levels of activity led to some reduced costs, with a result that the General Fund showed a surplus of £585 at the year end. The fund for writing up peals stood at £8900 (with 699 peals still to be written up), and a bequest from Stan and Winifred Mason of £8065 remains unspent pending a decision on a suitable use of this funding.

At the November election meeting, Philip Rogers stood down as Treasurer, having served the Society in this role for ten years (and previously as Master and Secretary).

Graham Firman was elected to succeed him. Graham learned to ring at St Peter's in Thanet, Kent, at the age of 11. He joined the University of London Society in 1969, becoming its Master two years later. In his days as a student, he was taught to ring handbells by Roger Bailey and Robin Churchill.

A College Youth since 1970, Graham was elected Master in 1983/4. He rang in the first 15 National Twelve Bell Contests as a member of the ASCY band, and then took 15 years off, returning more recently to ring for High Wycombe. He has rung over 1800 peals, of which nearly half have been on handbells. He retired as tower captain at St Michael's, Bray last year after 34 years (far too long, he says!).

Graham retired from his job in the telecoms industry three years ago, and has now discovered the delights of daytime peal ringing.

The Society is grateful to Phil Rogers for handing over the accounts in good shape, and for ensuring a smooth transition.

Income to the Bell Restoration Fund totaled £7848, a little less than the previous year's £8266. Grants of £7400 were paid (to Cripplegate, Cornhill and St Stephen Rochester Row), meaning that there was little change in the accumulated balance of the fund, which stood at around £50,000.

As noted elsewhere in this Newsletter, there are commitments now promised against this balance – to Southwark Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral and St Giles Cripplegate – and there may be further demands on the fund over the coming year. The main income sources for the fund are annual steeplage payments (members attending practices and meetings regularly, who choose to pay an annual sum instead of weekly steeplage), and donations from peal bands and visiting bands at Cornhill and Cripplegate.

FORMER SOCIETY MEETING PLACES

Chris Ridley, our former librarian, has undertaken research on meeting places used by the Society from the late 18th century to the present day. This is an extract from a longer article, which is to be posted on the Society's web site.

Rose & Crown, Paternoster Row

The Society appears to have kept the King's Head, Southwark, as their HQ from the middle of the nineteenth century until 1892 after which they moved back to the City of London. The new venue was the Rose & Crown in London House Yard, just off Paternoster Row near to St Paul's. Here they were charged 1s 6d (7½p) rent each time they used a meeting room.

Goose and Gridiron, St Paul's Churchyard

At the same time, the Society met socially at the Goose & Gridiron, close to St Paul's Churchyard, where they kept a set of hand bells. Prior to the Great Fire of 1666 this pub was called the Mitre. The name of the pub subsequently change to the Lyre but by 1717 it was called the Goose & Gridiron. It was rebuilt in 1786 and demolished in 1895. The latter name was a corruption, or parody, on the arms of the "Swan and Lyre," a musical society which also met at the ale-house. The building was constructed with five floors, including the basement, and the rooms were relatively small.



*The Goose and Gridiron Tavern, at London, in 1717
The Grand Sledge of England was Organized in this Building*

The pub sign showing a swan standing on a crown supported by the gridiron has survived and is held in store at the Museum of London. The print from 1717 shows the small compact building.

This hostelry was also where the first Masonic Grand (i.e. Lodge of London and Westminster) was established on 24 June 1717 following a combined meeting of four local area Lodges. The engraved lists of Lodges published in 1723 identified each lodge with a copper engraved illustration of the tavern or coffee house sign where they met. Famous artists who were commissioned to produce these engravings including John Pine, Emanuel Bowen and Benjamin Cole, who themselves were all Freemasons. It might be speculated that such contacts may have

influenced the production of the early Society Annual Dinner tickets produced initially by Thomas Kitchin and then by Francesco Bartolozzi.

The Society's peal book records performances at the location, with the peal illustrated demonstrating the fine calligraphy adopted in the peal books.

Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane

In September 1897 the Society moved from the Rose & Crown to the Coffee Pot at 26 Warwick Lane, London EC4 where it continued to hold fortnightly business meetings.

The Daily Herald (27 February 1933) carries an interesting article about a visit to a Society meeting which captures the atmosphere of the Coffee Pot. It reads:

In an upper room ... the Society transacts its business every fortnight.

I was challenged at the door by a steward who, noting a new face, pounced on me with the question – are you a member?

There were men of every type, age, trade and profession. It was a democracy of tintinnabulation.

Unlike many other ancient organisations, the College Youths have no use for honorary members. They have retained the original purity of their intentions. You cannot buy your way into the ancient company: you must be prepared to take off your coat in a belfry and prove to the Master and his associates that you can ring at least 1260 changes.

And the moment arrived when a new College Youth, who had passed this drastic test, came to be admitted to membership. He had been carefully excluded from the proceedings, but now the steward flung open the door and called him in. Tankards and glasses were put down, for bell-ringers do not conduct their business sadly, and the faces were turned to the door. In walked a middle aged man. He shook hands with the Master, who welcomed him into the ranks of the College Youths, expressing the hope that he would do nothing to disgrace the ancient and honourable fellowship of bell-ringers, whose motto is 'let us live in unity'.

Suddenly the meeting was closed, the candles were snuffed, the regalia was packed away in baize-lined boxes, and the Master said: "Now, let's have a touch on the hand-bells!" While he, with several other College Youths, sat round in a circle, each man grasping two hand-bells, the stewards came in bearing the final trays of beer.

Pipes were lit, and we settled down to enjoy a remarkable performance.



A photograph of the Coffee Pot from the 1930s.

A meeting of the Society had been held there on 21 December 1940, but on the night of Sunday 29 December an incendiary attack led to the Coffee Pot being completely destroyed along with the records of the Society which had been held there as was the long standing custom. It was fortunate though that just prior to the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939 that the Society's Peal Books, Name Books and plate were placed in the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral for safety. At a meeting held on 4 January 1941, held in the buffet at Holborn Viaduct Station, the Treasurer, Albert A Hughes, reported that *'on the day after the raid he went to the City and found the Coffee Pot no longer there. He wanted to see what the position was with regard to the Society's property'*. He was unable to do anything that day but the brewers promised to do their best to salvage everything that was possible. Unfortunately the hand bells and many valuable documents, particularly the older Minute Books had been destroyed. A few scorched documents were retrieved and are held today in the Society's Library, although their condition is fragile. Many books, some of which date back to the 18th century, were subsequently presented by members of Society to replace items which had been lost. These donations formed an early collection of books which subsequently created the Society's Library found today – the Library as such being established formerly in 1962.

Subsequent years

Initially in the early months of 1941 the Society continued to meet at Herbert Langdon's Office in Farringdon Avenue, and thereafter at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry until March 1954. The Society HQ then moved to The Ship, Talbot Court off Gracechurch Street, where the meetings tended to be held at four weekly intervals on Saturdays, before moving to the Rising Sun, Carter Lane in 1957. Since then the Society HQ has been based at the Lord Raglan, St Martin-le-Grand (from 1969), Magpie & Stump, Old Bailey (from 1974), The George, Old Bailey (from 1981) until this venue was demolished for re-development. It then returned to the Rising Sun, Carter Lane (from 1988 after holding a few transitional meetings during the year at both the Sir Christopher Wren, St Paul's Pavement – since re-developed as Paternoster Square – and the Golden Fleece in Wheat Street, London EC4). In 1994 the Society HQ moved from the Rising Sun to the Old Dr Butler's Head, Mason Avenue, before settling at its current location at the Counting House, Cornhill in 2001. In recent years the meeting has been held monthly on the second Tuesday of the month.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE 2017

The practice schedule as currently arranged is set out below. Changes to this are posted on the Society's website and notified to members via the e-mail group. Business meetings take place after the practice on the second Tuesday of each month. The normal venue for Business Meetings is The Counting House, 50 Cornhill, London EC3.

June 6	Cornhill
June 13	Bow (Special practice: St Magnus)
June 20	St Paul's Cathedral
June 27	Reading (7pm)
July 4	Cornhill
July 11	Bow (Special practice: St Sepulchre)
July 18	St Paul's Cathedral
July 25	Southwark
Aug 1	St Sepulchre
Aug 8	St Magnus (Special Practice: St Paul's)
Aug 15	Cornhill
Aug 22	Bow
Aug 39	Southwark
Sept 5	St Paul's Cathedral
Sept 12	Cornhill (Special practice: Bow)
Sept 19	St Magnus
Sep 26	Cripplegate
Oct 3	St Magnus
Oct 10	Bow (Special practice: Cornhill)
Oct 17	St Sepulchre
Oct 24	Southwark
Oct 31	Bow
Nov 7	St Paul's Cathedral
Nov 14	Cornhill (Special practice: St Magnus)
Nov 21	Bow
Nov 28	Cripplegate
Dec 5	St Paul's
Dec 12	Bow (Special practice tbc)
Dec 19	St Magnus
Dec 27	No practice

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS 2016/7

Master	Robert W Lee
Secretary	David E House
Treasurer	Graham G Firman
Senior Steward	Henry D Coghill
Junior Steward	Leigh D G Simpson
Librarian	Dickon R Love
Trustees	Paul N Mounsey Robert C Kippin
Peal Recorder	Richard I Allton
Webmaster	Martin J Cansdale

TOWER SECRETARIES

St Giles Cripplegate: Gwen Rogers, 193 Lennard Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1QN. Tel 020 8778 6308
E-mail: gbm.rogers@ntlworld.com

St Lawrence Jewry: Jillian Galloway
E-mail: jewry@ascy.org.uk

St Magnus the Martyr: Dickon Love, 10 Wharton Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 3LF. Tel 020 8466 1953
E-mail: dickon@ascy.org.uk

St Sepulchre: James J Watkins
Tel: 07920 853967
E-mail: jwonlineuk@gmail.com

St Michael's Cornhill: Tony Kench, 75 Little Britain Apt 51, London EC1A 7BT. Tel 020 7796 2656
E-mail: tony.kench@btinternet.com

ASCY ON THE WEB

The Society's Web Site is at www.ascy.org.uk. The Web Site contains regular updates on Society activities, pictures of Society events, contact details for Members, Society peals and much more information.

PEAL FEES

Peal fees (£1.50 per rope) and details should be forwarded to the Treasurer within 2 months. Advance notice of peal attempts is given at Society Meetings if advised in time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please send to the Secretary, David E House, at 28 Waldegrave Road, Brighton, BN1 6GE (tel: 01273-507077; e-mail: secretary@ascy.org.uk). Items for the web site should be e-mailed to Martin Cansdale (webmaster@ascy.org.uk).

SOCIETY E-MAIL NEWS SERVICE

The Society maintains an e-mail news service, which is free to members. Subscription is via the web site or by sending an e-mail request to the Secretary or Webmaster. Members are encouraged to subscribe to the e-group and to provide their e-mail address for inclusion on the (hopefully spam-proof) web site list.

NEWSLETTER FINANCE

This Newsletter depends heavily on financial support from members. Postal charges continue to increase and the total cost of printing and distributing this Newsletter will exceed £1000. We are most grateful to those members whose donations almost covered this cost last year. Over 600 members have now elected to receive the newsletter by e-mail, rather than by a paper copy, which has led to a saving in postage costs. However, postal charges continue to rise, so we still need more of you to sign up. Of course, we accept that it will not suit all members and hard copies will continue to be available for those who want them.