

## EACR – Northern District

### MINUTES of the Annual District Meeting held at Kelvedon on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Present: Ian Hamilton (IH) Master  
Jonathan Thompson (JT) Deputy Master  
Vicky LeFèvre (VLeF) Treasurer  
Annemarie Adams (AA) Secretary

Members Present: 36

#### 1 Apologies

Apologies were received from A Brewster, Q Brown, K Champness, P Cresshull, D Hammond, D Hill, B Hill, P Kelly, A May, L May, B Meads, L Ould, R Ould, V Turner, and W Turner.

#### 2(a) Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were accepted as an accurate record.

Proposed: P Smith

Seconded: D Learmonth

#### 2(b) Matters Arising

All actions had been completed.

#### 3 Report of October Management Meeting

IH asked Vicki Chapman to clarify the issue regarding how members' names should appear in the Annual Report. Members could now choose how their names appear in the Report. To date no-one in the District had indicated that they would like their entry changed. In future, new members' entries would be taken from the information provided on their Application Forms.

IH reminded the meeting that the Association would pay the entry fee for those taking part in the National Youth Competition. Further funding was available for those bands wishing to take part provided a detailed budget was submitted prior to the Management Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February. R Threadgold said that he was not entering a band from the District this year.

#### 4 Officers' Reports

The Master's, Secretary's and Advance Practice reports had been circulated and no issues were raised.

VLeF presented the accounts and informed the meeting that there were currently 141 members paying subscriptions. She pointed out that 17 members had been lost last year but this was counter-balanced by the District having gained 18 new members.

#### 5 Nominations for Membership

##### *New Ringing Members*

Lisa Hogg – Ridgewell  
Sally Ann James – Stisted  
Kelly Thompson – Bocking  
Claude Wallis – Felsted (Junior)

##### Proposed

C Threadgold  
T Earle  
J Thompson  
D Learmonth

##### Seconded

R Threadgold  
W Earle  
D Learmonth  
V LeFèvre

##### *Re-joining Members*

Andrew Dickinson – Coggeshall  
Julia Ibbotson – Coggeshall  
Jonathan Thompson – Bocking

##### Proposed

J Edwards  
J Edwards  
I Hamilton

##### Seconded

B Meads  
H Semken  
A Adams

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### *Friend*

Philip Cornwell – Great Yeldham                      R Threadgold                      C Threadgold

All the above were unanimously elected.

## 6 Election of District Officers for 2013

Nominations had been received for the positions of Deputy Master and Treasurer. The meeting was asked for nominations for the positions of Master and Secretary. The following members were then unanimously elected.

		<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
Master	Ian Hamilton	M Downs	D Learmonth
Deputy Master	Jonathan Thompson	M Downs	P Wood
Treasurer	Vicky LeFèvre	D Carpenter	K Champness
Secretary	Annemarie Adams	M Downs	D Learmonth

IH welcomed Jonathan to the Committee and thanked the other members for standing again.

The contacts for Education, Child Protection, PR and Grants Applications remained Roy Threadgold, Valerie Darkins, Vicki Elliott and VLeF respectively.

IH mentioned that A Brewster was still looking for a representative from Northern District to join the Social Committee.

## 7 Nominations for Association Officers and Life Members

IH invited V Chapman to up-date the meeting on the nominations for the Association posts. B Meads was standing down as Master and there were two nominations already provided. V Chapman said that there were one or two positions for which nominations were still required by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2014.

## 8 Achievements

The list of quarter peals and peals had been circulated. IH thanked M Downs for organising the quarter peals that had been rung at the cathedral. He invited M Downs to give an up-date on these activities. He reported that a lot of work was being done on ringing triples and caters and those whom he felt were capable of ringing on ten bells were being approached. Within the District, there was a band able to ring Grandsire Cinques. Two quarters of Grandsire Caters had also been rung. However, the Stedman Caters had not been so successful. Further practices would be held to work on all these methods and to include Erin Caters in due course.

T Earle was congratulated on ringing his six hundredth peal for the Association.

IH encouraged everyone to continue ringing more quarter peals.

## 9 Education

R Threadgold is organising a six-week course on bell handling for beginners during February and March and offered Wethersfield as the venue, using the simulator. He thought this could be helpful for those who had attended the ITTS course but it would not be restricted only to those teachers. He hoped that several of the experienced teachers would take part and asked that they contact him. He envisaged no more than two students for each teacher. R Threadgold said that he had two candidates from Wethersfield and asked people to let him know of any other ringers who would benefit from this help.

### **Action: Tower Captains**

R Threadgold also mentioned the Young Ringers Party on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January at Coggeshall and anyone interested in this was asked to contact him. Drinks would be provided but the youngsters needed to bring some food that they could share.

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IH said that the Beyond Bob Minor (BBM) practices were open to everyone wanting to expand their minor ringing; the Advance practices covered triples, major and caters methods. He hoped that the BBM practice could be used to develop more quarter peals in the 'social ringing' repertoire, and was open to suggestions for further methods to be included.

A training session would be held again this year on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at Finchingfield concentrating on triples methods.

Hilary Donaghue was looking for helpers for the Essex Course on 10-12<sup>th</sup> April. Members who were interested in doing so were asked to contact AA for Hilary's e-mail address.

Northern District would be the host for the Association Training day in November and would be able to select the areas of ringing to be covered by the groups.

### 10 2014 Calendar

IH mentioned that the Tour de France would be coming through Finchingfield, Wethersfield, Shalford, Rayne and Felsted and it would be an occasion to mark with ringing. However, D Learmonth pointed out that this could prove difficult during the race as the route would be closed to all other traffic from 7.30-17.00 on that day.

The summer BBQ had been attracting fewer members in the last couple of years and a different event had been suggested for this year, namely a ringing ramble taking in Belchamp St Paul, Clare, Cavendish and Pentlow. More details would be available later in the year with times for the ringing to enable those not wishing to walk between the towers to join in. In order to raise funds for the Bell Restoration Fund, those taking part in the ramble would be looking for sponsorship.

The District would be the host for the afternoon ringing following the AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014 and help would be required with the catering for the tea at Sible Hedingham. Those able to help were asked to contact AA.

**Action: All members**

### 11 Any Other Business

V Chapman said that the Ridgman Trophy was being held at Coggeshall on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and she was looking for neighbouring towers that could be open for ringing on that afternoon. J Edwards would also need help with the catering for this event.

T Earle mentioned the anniversary of the outbreak of World War I on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014. Towers may have plans to ring in connection with local ringers who lost their lives in the conflict. It was agreed that this topic would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Action: AA**

M Downs mentioned that 2014 was the centenary of the inauguration of the Chelmsford diocese and hoped that this event would be marked by peals and quarter peals throughout the year.

A total of £55.00 had been donated to the Bell Restoration Fund.

IH then thanked all those involved in organising the meeting, both from the church perspective and the catering.

The meeting was then declared closed and further ringing took place at Kelvedon.