

Minutes of the Annual Northern District Meeting held at Coggeshall on Saturday 7th January 2023

Present: Simon Ward (District Master), Bradley Hill (Deputy District Master), Tim Peckham (District Secretary), Vicki Elliott (District Treasurer), Sharon Lacey (EACR General Secretary), Brian Meads, Pamela Ayling, John Elliott, Nicholas Elliott, Nick Holland, Sarah Holland, Alfie Holland, James Green, Maurice Downs, Kath Downs, David Newton, Peter Smith, Andrew Taylor, Cherry Threadgold, Roy Threadgold, Sam Pitt, Kate Lackenby, Donna McWaters, Bethany Gilfillan, Janet Edwards and Heather Semken.

The District Master chaired the meeting which started at 6.00pm

1. Welcome

The District Master thanked the Revd Melanie Shillito for leading the service. He then welcomed Sharon Lacey (EACR General Secretary) and the attendees.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Andrew Brewster, Tim Forsey, David Learmonth, Marian Wood, Peter Wood, Vicky Le Fèvre, Emily Thompson, Isobel Thompson, Terry Earle, Wendy Earle, Sue Sherrington, and Carol Taylor

3. Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes of the Annual District Meeting held on 8th January 2022 had been circulated in advance. The spelling of the name of Alan Syder was corrected. There were no other comments or corrections to the minutes. They were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting, proposed : Kath Downs, seconded : Roy Threadgold.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Officers Reports

The Master read his report which highlighted aspects of ringing in the Northern District in 2022.

The Secretary's report had been circulated in advance. The number of quarter peals rung in the district was corrected and reference to the accounts was considered to superfluous and deleted. The corrected report was accepted as suitable for publication in the EACR Annual Report.

The Treasurer's report and statement of accounts had been circulated in part in advance (See missing attachment below).

There were no questions arising from the reports.

5. Election of new Members

- a. **Samantha Pitt** (Coggeshall), Ringing member, (proposed: Janet Edwards, seconded: Andrew Taylor)
- b. **Donna McWaters** (Coggeshall), Ringing member, (proposed: Brian Meads, seconded: Andrew Taylor)
- c. **Kate Lackenby** (Coggeshall), Ringing member, (proposed: Brian Meads, seconded: Andrew Taylor)
- d. **Bethany Gilfillan** (Coggeshall), Junior Ringing member, (proposed: Janet Edwards, seconded: Andrew Taylor)
- e. **John Newman** (Witham), Ringing member, (proposed: Peter Chapman, seconded: John Elliott)
- f. **Catherine Miller** (Witham), Ringing member, (proposed: Peter Chapman, seconded: John Elliott)
- g. **Monica Cook** (Bocking), Associate member, (proposed: Alan May, seconded: Linda May)
- h. **Alfie Holland** (Great Bardfield), Junior Ringing member, (proposed: Nick Holland, seconded: Sarah Holland)
- i. **Adrian Gurnett** (Shalford), Ringing member, proposed: (Tim Peckham, seconded: Pamela Ayling)
- j. **Alexander Gurnett** (Shalford), Junior Ringing member, (proposed: Tim Peckham, seconded: Pamela Ayling)

6. Announcement of Life Members (50-year-rule)

Laurence Carter (Gosfield), **Derek Woodroffe** (Coggeshall), and **Terry Earle** (Stisted) were congratulated by the district on their achievement.

7. Election of officers

Sharon Lacey (Association Secretary) took the chair for the election of the Master.

The following were all elected unopposed:

- a. Master Simon Ward (proposed : Bradley Hill, seconded : Tim Peckham)
- b. Deputy Master Bradley Hill (proposed : Peter Smith, seconded : James Green)
- c. Secretary Tim Peckham (proposed : Roy Threadgold, seconded : Pamala Ayling)
- d. Treasurer Vicki Elliott (proposed : Emily Thompson, seconded : Janet Edwards)
- e. District Trustee Simon Ward (proposed: Bradley Hill, seconded: Tim Peckham)

Appointed officers:

- a. Education Roy Threadgold
- b. Public Relations Bradley Hill
- c. Grants Applications Vicky LeFèvre
- d. Social Committee (vacant)
- e. Technical Officer John Elliott
- f. Website co-ordinator Ian Cresshull

8. Nomination of Association Officers

Sharon Lacey mentioned that Vicki Chapman (Communications Officer) was stepping down. Nominations had been requested for Master, General Secretary, Treasurer, three Property Trustees, Technical Adviser, Education Officer, and Communications Officer.

There were no nominations from the Northern District.

9. Reports from Supporting Officers

- a. Education: Roy Threadgold mentioned that the Gt Yeldham training day was not well attended but that there had been a good session at Toppesfield for Original. He advertised the training morning of Grandsire Triples at Halstead on Saturday 4th March 2023 from 10am – 12 noon. He reminded the meeting that funding is available for training. If needed the R&T subcommittee meet frequently to consider applications. There was a plan to set up training centres acting as hubs for ten sectors in the region. He talked about having contacts in schools and possible student contacts in local Universities. He encouraged members to join the 1st Pealers Club and contact Yvonne Towler on jytowler@btinternet.com. There are also some good new online resources for training notes available through the Association website.
- b. Technical Officer: John Elliott talked about manufacturing stays. He mentioned that if bells etc are not inspected regularly costly damage can occur. He is willing to help check bells etc. He notes that if bells are “kept up”, this can put strain on the stays. For safety, he stated that you should inspect your tower’s bells in pairs. Loose bolts on the head stock can be particularly dangerous. Inspect four times a year.
- c. Public Relations: Bradley Hill is the Quarter Peal organiser. He mentioned that ninety-seven “QP’s” were rung in the district in 2022. This was boosted by his challenge to ring a QP in every tower of the district.

10. District Calendar for 2023

The proposed calendar for 2023 had been circulated before the meeting.

Peter Smith encouraged members to attend the Advanced Practice at Braintree on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 7.30-9.00pm. He suggested that the practice should be advertised to all members of the Association.

Kath Downs advocated that the Advanced Practice should include a “Method for the Month”.

The Chairman highly recommended the Essex Ringing Course which is being held from 13th-15th April. Applications to the course organiser Anne Bray by 17th February.

11. Association Spending Strategy for bequests

Sharon Lacey (EACR General Secretary) recommended that the Association bequest spending strategy should be circulated to the Northern District so that comments can be made before the Association management meeting on 4/2/23 (Action: Tim Peckham).

12. Membership Secretary/Database

Simon Ward stated that the online membership database had started. New members will be emailed. Cash payment for subscriptions will still be able to be made.

13. Any Other Business

Roy Threadgold suggested that a list of the Northern District practice nights should be compiled (Action: Tim Peckham).

Peter Smith thanked the District Officers for their work throughout the year.

Janet Edwards informed the meeting about the funeral of Tom Roast (brother of Joe Roast a former Danbury ringer) to be held at St Peter Mancroft, Norwich on 10th January with his burial at Danbury churchyard on 11th January.

There was talk of the training provided by the Association Ringing Teachers (ART). More ringing teachers are required. They are encouraged to enrol on the courses provided by ART.

The Chairman thanked Janet Edwards and her helpers for the excellent catering and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.51pm.

Signed ..  ..

Dated .. 6/1/24 ..

ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

Northern District

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

<u>2021</u>		<u>2022</u>
	INCOME	
	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
360	Ringling members - Adult @ £8 -40 {2021-45}	320
4	Ringling members - Junior @ £4 - 1 {2021- 1}	4
0	Non-resident members - @ £8 - 0 {2021 - 0}	0
0	Associate members - @ £4 - 1 {2021- 0}	4
16	Arrears for previous year - Adult @£8 -1/ Junior @£4 - 0 {2021 - 2 Adult}	8
0	Advances for next year - Adult @£8/ Junior @£4 -0 {2021-0}	0
380.00		336.00
	<u>Sales</u>	
1.50	Badges @ £1.50 - 0	0
	<u>Bell Restoration Account / Recruitment & Training</u>	
61.50	Donations 78	
0	N District Quiz Evening and Raffle November 2022 55	
0	Surplus from ND Summer Outing	
0	ADM Teas and Raffle 2021 n/a by Zoom	
0	District Meetings - Service collections/ Teas etc	
61.50		133.00
443.00	Total Income	469.00
	EXPENDITURE	
0	Postage/Stationery	0.00
0	Striking comp gift to judges	0.00
443.00	TRANSFERRED TO ASSOCIATION TREASURER	469.00