

## MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT LEWISHAM

Easter Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2014

*(Subject to adoption by the AGM to be held in the Lewisham District in 2015)*

The meeting was hosted by the Lewisham District. The service was held in the parish church of St Mary's, Lewisham and attended by over 65 members and friends. The Curate Father David Evans led the service and gave a Homily, the lessons were read by Mike Little, the Chairman of the Association and Margaret Funnell, Hon Gen Sec of the Association. Revd. Stanley Evans read out the names of those members who had died since the last AGM. Seven towers were open before the service and 7 towers were open after the meeting. A really excellent lunch was served to approximately 55 people in the St Mary's Centre before the General Meeting commenced at 2.40 p.m.

**1. Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed 75 members and visitors

**2. Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Hugo Tracey (Tunbridge Wells), Eric Roughley (Speldhurst), Roy Barclay, Sallyann Barclay and Richard Barclay (Staplehurst), Hedley Basford (Canterbury Cathedral), Derek Wilkinson (Northfleet), Donald Holden, Alice Holden, Jennifer Holden and Rosemary Holden (Willesborough), Marie Evans (Associate Member St Laurence in Thanet), Tom Barlow and Jacqui Barlow (St Michael & All Angels, Maidstone), Mary Andrews (Bexley), Bob and Lindsay Powell Williams (Dover), Tim Wraight and Diana Wraight (Rainham), Kevin Mitchell (Rochester Cathedral), Simon Friend (Margate), Andrew Corby (Canterbury Cathedral), Barnaby Larter (Ospringe), Dean Jeffries and Sandy Jeffries (Ashford), Mark Chittenden-Pile (Ashford), Cathryn Hills and Philip Hills (St. Dunstan, Canterbury) and Len Huckstep (St Dunstan, Canterbury).

**3. Minutes of the AGM held at Birchington on Easter Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013**

The minutes were taken as read being in the Handbook and displayed on the Web. It was proposed by Revd Stanley Evans and seconded by Peter Sims that they be approved, all agreed and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes.** None

**5. General Secretary's report.** The General Secretary moved the adoption of her report, which was printed in the Handbook on Page 16, this was seconded by MRFS. All agreed.

**6. Treasurer's report.** The Treasurer MRFS advised the accounts were printed in the Handbook but had not been audited. The audited accounts for this year and next year will be printed in the Annual Report next year. He advised there is an excess of £2,000 which he is trying to deduce. He expressed his thanks to Peter Sims, Margaret Funnell and Donald Holden for all their assistance during the year.

He proposed Division of Subscriptions to be 50% each to General Fund and BRF. The following year he stated that Catherine Lewis wished to set up an Education Fund by using the profit from the Ringing World Calendars and he thus suggested that 50% to General Fund and 25% to each of BRF and Education Fund. Proposed by MRFS and seconded by Helen Webb. Before a vote was taken Mr Dale felt that for the current year 50% should go to the General Fund, 25% to the BRF and 25% be held in abeyance until it was decided where it was most needed. He went on to say that if money is transferred into the BRF which is a Charity it cannot be transferred back to General Fund. Mr Butcher advised it was historic to

have a split 50%/50% but it depends on how many towers applied for grants as to how much extra money is required. Caroline Stockmann, the auditor, advised that we should check with the BRF as to how much money is required. Dickon Love said we need to check as to how much money is required to have sufficient funds in the General Fund for the running of the Association. It is always possible to make a loan from the General Fund to the BRF if required. It was agreed that the decision should be delegated to the General Committee for their next Committee Meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> April. Proposed by Dickon Love, Seconded by Helen Webb and all agreed.

**7. Peal Secretary's report.** Dr Phillip Barnes advised his report was published in the Handbook on Pages 87 to 112. He said congratulations were due to Tom Barlow who was only the second person to ring 2000 peals for the Association. 1000 Peals have been rung at All Saints, Maidstone. He advised that Liz Barnes has put all the peals rung for the Association since 1881 on a data base. He proposed adoption of his report seconded by Donald Niblett and the meeting agreed.

**8. Quarter Peal Secretary's report.** Mr Leeves advised his report was printed in the Handbook on Pages 74 – 85. Since publication there had been a further 7 quarters rung so in total 940 had been rung last year. He advised that the quarter peals rung covered the full spectrum of ringing. He moved the adoption of his report this was seconded by MRFS and the meeting agreed.

The Chairman thanked Dr Barnes and Mr Leeves for their reports.

**9. Librarian's report.** Mrs Basford thanked all those who had been in touch with her over the year. She was willing to accept Archive material. She proposed acceptance of her report, seconded by Jo Horton and all agreed.

## **10. Officers' reports**

**Bell Restoration.** Mr Butcher advised his report was published on Page 18 of the Handbook. He proposed adoption of his report. This was seconded by David Cawley and the meeting agreed.

**Webmaster.** Mr Lewis said the Website was on line 24/7 and was his report. He requested more information be sent to him.

**Handbook Editor.** The Chairman thanked Graham for an excellent report and all his hard work. Graham Coker thanked Frank Lewis for proof reading the report. He proposed acceptance of the Handbook this was seconded by Lesley Barclay and the meeting agreed.

**Health & Safety.** Mr. Sims advised his report was published on Page 17 of the Handbook. He had nothing further to report but advised that the church is legally required to carry out a Risk Assessment on the tower which should be done by the PCC and churchwardens. Please try and ensure that they carry out the assessment, there is a template for a risk assessment on the Website. He proposed adoption of his report this was seconded by Tiffany Lynch and the meeting agreed.

**Child Protection.** Mr. Spencer advised his report was published on Page 16 of the Handbook. More procedures are still required in order to carry out the DBS checks. The church is responsible for the tower members but the Association for the Ringing Masters. We still need to be vigilant. He proposed the adoption of his report this was seconded by David Cawley and the meeting agreed.

There were no reports available from the Publicity and Training Officers.

The Chairman thanked all officers for their hard work.

## 11. Rule Changes

Frank Lewis advised that a Committee had been set up in 2010 to discuss the rules. It was felt originally that this was just amendments but it was decided that the rules needed full revision. These had been sent to the General Secretary by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 and sent out to the Districts for discussion and comments at their ADMs. They have now been brought to the AGM for ratification. Mr Lewis proposed acceptance of the rules and this was seconded by MRFS. Dr Barnes said he was not in agreement with Rule 1 in that it is stated that all towers within the area should be classified as 'in union' as not all towers may not require this. In relation to Rule 7 (i) he disagrees with the last sentence as it would appear that if a member did not state the tower they wished to be identified with then they had no voting power. Discussion then ensued. Graham Coker said we should proceed and accept the proposal and make any amendments during the year and bring to the next AGM. Graham Coker then proposed an amendment. Dr Barnes said that if no amendment was made to Rule 1 than he will bring this to the next AGM as long as Rule 15 (v) would not be implemented. Graham Coker proposed and seconded by MRFS an amendment to the Rule Changes Proposition 'For the purposes of the adoption of the New Rules that Rule 15 (v) shall not apply and that amendments be allowed at the 2015 AGM'. A vote was taken on the amendment: the Majority For, None Against, 6 Abstentions, Amendment Agreed. A vote was then taken on acceptance of the Rules as proposed by Frank Lewis: the Majority For, 1 Against and 2 Abstentions. Rules accepted.

## 12. Election of officers. The following officers were elected

	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Mike Little	Margaret Funnell	David Manger
Secretary	Douglas Davis	Margaret Funnell	Florence Hamp
Treasurer	MRFS	Jamie Carmichael	Paul Davis
Peal Secretary	Dr Phillip Barnes	Philip Larter	Clare Larter
Librarian	Hazel Basford	Josephine Horton	Hedley Basford
Handbook Editor	Graham Coker	Mike Little	Margaret Funnell
Quarter Peal Sec	Anthony Leeves	Eric Roughley	Mike Bullett
Bell Rest Officer	Brian Butcher	M J Swan	Nigel Spencer
Webmaster	Frank Lewis	Bobbie Fairclough	Mike Worthington
Training	See below		
Publicity	See below		
Health & Safety	Peter Sims	Sheila Phyll	Tim Munt
Child Protection	Nigel Spencer	Cleo Hart	M J Swan
Extra 3	Peter Sims	Sheila Phyll	Tim Munt
	Rev David Cawley	Mike Little	Margaret Funnell
	Margaret Funnell	Mike Little	Doug Davis

It had been proposed by Dickon Love and seconded by Phillip Barnes that all officers be elected on block as per the printed Agenda. The meeting agreed

A Training and Publicity Officer had not been proposed and seconded before the meeting. It was now proposed as follows: Training: Peter Dale, proposed Helen Webb, seconded Philip Larter. Publicity: Helen Webb, proposed Sue Cameron, seconded Doug Davis. Both were duly appointed.

**13. Appointment of auditor.** Mrs. Stockmann was proposed by Frank Lewis and seconded by Mike Worthington and all agreed.

**14. Certificates for 50 years' membership.** Two members were presented with their certificates by the Chairman Rhian Bagshaw (Meopham) and John Barnes (Chelsfield). Richard Offen, an Honorary Life Member, was due his 50 year Certificate but as he resides in Australia this will be sent to him.

**15. Forthcoming events.**

1. The Inter District 8 Bell competition will now be held at Tonbridge instead of Brenchley. This is on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and the draw will be 9.45 a.m. with the competition commencing at 10.00 a.m.

2. Hazel Basford reminded everyone that it is the Centenary of the First World War this year and the first casualty for the KCACR was Percy Gibbs of Dover in 1914. She suggested we should all check the website for those who may have been members of our own towers and take the appropriate action.

3. David Manger advised that the Central Council Meeting will be held at the Tudor Marriott at Bearsted on the 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2014. He thanked all who have helped with the arrangements and those who have volunteered to assist at the event. There is trip to France to go to the Carillons arranged for the Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April for which there are still seats available at a cost of £70. Please contact Peter Dale if anyone wishes to go. The coach leaves Bearsted at 7.30 a.m. returning at about 9.00 p.m.

4. Angela Clark reminded everyone that there is 'Ringing for England' on St George's Day. 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014. Any ringing should be advised to Libby Alexander, the co-ordinator.

**16. Any other business.**

1. Mrs Lewis advised that so far the profits from the sale of the Ringing World Calendar are £1142.20 and would like this to be used for an Education/Training Fund or for BRF.

2. Ben Legg wishes to encourage people to organise more youth events for the County. Mrs Lewis suggested that we need a County Youth Officer and it was agreed to bring this up at the General Committee Meeting on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014. David Cawley said he would be prepared to present a trophy for competition by the youth.

3. The Association had purchased 'Survey Monkey' for a year and Amanda Lee Riley will be willing, after the Central Council Visit, to show people from the Districts how it works so they could put their own quiz/questionnaire/ learning resource online.

4. Mike Little handed the Treasurer the sum of approximately £320.00 from a quiz held in Canterbury District for the BRF.

**17. Votes of thanks.** Mr Manger thanked Julia Pring, the main organiser from Lewisham tower and catering team, Norma Dixon, Leader of the Catering Team, Roy Brown, Manager of St Mary's Centre, Father David Evans, the Curate who took the service and Chris Stringfellow, Organist and Sue Cameron and the Lewisham District for organising the day and the splendid lunch. Flowers were presented to Julia and Norma.

David Manger then presented a basket of flowers to the Secretary in thanks for her work and dedication over the last 11 years. Margaret thanked everyone for the flowers and wished her successor, Doug Davis, every good wish.

Meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

The raffle then took place and Tea, coffee and biscuits were served.