

SALIENT POINTS FROM KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON 25th November 2023

- DRAFT GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES NOVEMBER 2023 – Six pages are available to read in full at <https://kcacr.org.uk/association/resources/> together with the adopted minutes for previous meetings.
- KCACR MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS are due for renewal on 1st January each year. Every current member with an email address registered with KCACR should have received details of how to renew their subscription online. Please check your spam folder if not, otherwise full details are found at [Membership – Kent County Association of Change Ringers \(kcacr.org.uk\)](#). Any queries concerning your membership should be directed to Doug Davis by email or phone: membership@kcacr.org.uk 07732 368270.
- SUCCESSION & BUSINESS RECOVERY PLAN – Work is being undertaken to digitise KCACR historical records. Meanwhile the archive is being held in secure storage and protocols for access to it are being prepared.
- SAFEGUARDING AUDIT – A questionnaire has been circulated to incumbents/parish safeguarding officers about the safeguarding training that has been undertaken by ringers in their towers. It is hoped that ringers will reply accurately to the questions raised by the Diocesan Safeguarding Teams and any feedback received will be considered at the February General Committee Meeting.
- BRF GRANT APPLICATION – Margate had requested funds towards the cleaning out of years of bird infestation in the tower to enable ringing to resume. Due to the low numbers on the electoral role, concern was raised over the long-term future of the church. A proposal of £2,000 (50% of the cost) is to be considered by the BRF Trustees once assurances on the long-term viability of the church and bells is received. An application for the refurbishment of an Ellacombe chiming frame at St. Peter's Southborough is anticipated.
- CENTRAL COUNCIL AND RINGING 2030 PROJECT – CCCBR has employed a marketing company Yellowyoyo to look into the branding of ringing nationally, to encourage greater public interest in ringing and in a way that all towers can easily engage with. Recent articles in the Ringing World, CCCBR Website at [Ringing 2030 – CCCBR](#) and Simon Lindford's presentation at the CCCBR AGM on <https://youtu.be/DPLjCZ6VgEc?si=HCl3cgWPCDa1FH1M> give useful insight into this work.
- ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS AND AGM 2024 – Sitting in meetings is not what most ringers want to be doing but someone has to! Many Districts continue to run with officer vacancies and the General Committee is no different. This puts a disproportionate burden on those who do volunteer to take on a role (or several roles) to underpin ringing activities. The General Secretary will be completing six years in post at the AGM 2024 and will be standing down after having given a year's notice. The current Chairman is looking to stand down in 2025 and others may also be looking for a welcome change. To find out more about any officer role, just ask the relevant officer or follow the District outputs and read the General Committee Minutes at [Resources – Kent County Association of Change Ringers \(kcacr.org.uk\)](#)
- CHORAL EVENSONG – Attendance at this year's event at Rochester Cathedral was down on the previous year but nonetheless enjoyable. Suggestions that this be turned into more of a social event are being explored and may be held at Canterbury Cathedral in the future.
- TRAINING AND LEARNING HUBS – Requests for more and regular Bell Maintenance and Rope Splicing Courses have been received. Brian Butcher, Bell Restoration Officer has agreed to set up some courses. Contact him via [KCACR Officers – Kent County Association of Change Ringers](#). Learning Hubs for ART M1 trained Teachers, Mentors and their learners are being set up for the first quarter of 2024. Details on the Training Page at [Association Training – Kent County Association of Change Ringers \(kcacr.org.uk\)](#) Contact the General Secretary, Sue Bassett, for details, queries or offer your tower to host some hubs.
- KCACR RULES – Always a contentious issue at any AGM, a thorough "root and branch" review is currently being undertaken. In accordance with the current rules it will be circulated via Districts for feedback and comment then made ready for formal notification to District ADMs 2024 then ratification at the AGM 2025. Those who wish to engage should make their views known at an early stage rather than waiting to be heard at the AGM 2025.