

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

*Saturday 20th May 2023 in The Molyneaux Barn, adjacent to St Peter & St Paul's Church, Broadwell.*

The meeting was chaired by Guild Master Catherine Lane. It started at 14:00.

The meeting was attended by 73 Guild members.

The Master opened the meeting with a prayer.

**1. Obituaries** Willie Haynes, Judith (known as Judy) Woodruff, Ann Hoyle Linda Hoare Diana Cooke, Dave Hossack, Anne Agg, Hugh Neil, Audrey Birt, Frank Blagrove, Victor Mitchell, Berice Large, Jean Hazard, Charlotte Everett, Jeremy Green, Mr Brian Gray, Dr John Metcalfe, Dr Doreen Stoneham, Hilary Gatward.

**2. Apologies for Absence** – all apologies are noted in the attendance book.

**3. Request to take items of Any Other Business** – none advised.

**4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** of 21st May 2022 Goring-on-Thames had been circulated, no matters arising. The Minutes were approved and signed.

**5. Matters arising -** none.

**6. Correspondence**

No official correspondence received.

The Master has proposed that the letter confirming the transfer of the F.E. Robinson Silver Bowl into the ownership of the Guild should be retained in the library. Doug Beaumont agreed.

**7. Accounts**

The accounts were circulated prior to the meeting. The Treasurer, Stuart Gibson provided additional explanation. i) Income has decreased, at first from a decline in membership numbers. ii) Expenditure has increased year on year, in some part due to additional expenses such as covering the cost of the location of the Young Ringers’ striking competitions.

The Treasurer proposed the adoption of the accounts, seconded by Susan Read and carried.

The Treasurer noted the probability of an increase in subscriptions at the November General Committee Meeting. The funds in the ODG accounts are at a lower level than is appropriate in the Treasurer’s view. The meeting discussed raising subscriptions and taking soundings from the branches.

*Action:* SFG will contact the Branch Treasurers to understand financial support needs from the Guild to the Branch.

Comment was received from the floor with regards to registering the Guild as a charity. *Action:* The Treasurer informed the members that he will be looking into the benefits from Gift Aid and any disadvantages; he will report back at the Autumn General Committee Meeting.

**8. Report of the General Committee** circulated prior to the meeting. The report was noted, and no comments were raised.

**9. Report of the Safeguarding Officer** circulated prior to meeting - no comments were raised.

**10. Donations**

At the last General Committee meeting there were three recommendations to come forward to this meeting:

1. To the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund, a donation of £2000.
2. To The Ringing World a donation of £750.
3. To ART a donation of £750.

Discussion took place regarding all three donations.

* Explanation was provided to clarify the constitution and organisation of the Bell Fund.
* A written summary was received from the Ringing World thanking the Guild for their ongoing support and the aims of the RW as a journal of bellringing record and a charity seeking to raise the next generation of ringers.
* There was a rounded debate regarding the donation to ART.

Discussion enabled compromise and the Treasurer proposals below were accepted by members:

1. To the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund, a donation of £2000; Seconded Steve Rossiter (1 against)
2. To The Ringing World a donation of £750; Seconded Richard Loyd (3 against)
3. To ART a donation of £500. Seconded Rob Needham (6 against)

*Action:* That a letter is sent to ART requesting further information about ART subscriptions.

**11. Election of Officers. (Officers new to post marked by \*)**

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| **Office** | **Nomination** | **Proposer** | **Seconder** | **Result** |
| **Master** | Catherine Lane | Joyce Vernon | Andrew Goldthorpe | Elected |
| **Deputy Master** | \* Chris Mundy | Catherine Lane |  | Elected |
| **Hon Gen Secretary** | Karen Pile | Catherine Lane |  | Elected |
| **Hon Gen Treasurer** | Stuart Gibson | Catherine Lane |  | Elected |
| **Assistant Treasurer** | \* Katherine Stonham | Stuart Gibson | Craig Robertson | Elected |
| **The following were Elected en bloc** **Proposed by Philip Dobson Seconded by Rob Needham** |
| **Hon Librarian****Report Editor****Odd Bob Editor****Peal Secretary****Membership Secretary****Safeguarding Officer****Website Manager****Server Manager****Independent Assessor** | Doug BeaumontHeather BrowningRob NeedhamKen DavenportJohn PayneJune WellsAndrew GoldthorpeRichard StanworthAlison Mignanelli |
| **Office**  | **Nomination** | **Proposer** | **Seconder** | **Result** |
| **Stewards** | Patricia NewtonTony CrabtreeColin Lee  \*Peter Robson\*Steve Rossiter | Tim PettBobbie MayPatricia Newton | Colin LeeTim PettColin Lee | ElectedElectedElected |
| **Elected General Committee Members** | Jenny PageMike Hopkins Till Others remain vacant | Catherine Lane |  | Elected |
| **Guild Trustees** | Ken DarvillRobert Newton\*Graham Clifton | Catherine LaneCatherine Lane |  | ElectedElected |

Barry Cowper stood down as Trustee and the Master thanked him for many years of outstanding commitment to the Guild.

Ruth Groves was also thanked for her long service as Guild Steward.

The Hon Treasurer asked that the minutes noted that the newly appointed Deputy Treasurer (Katherine Stonham) will be second signatory for the guild accounts.

**12. Distinguished Membership Awards**. The Master, Deputy Master and General Secretary recommended that the nomination of Distinguished Membership to Michael Nimmo - North Bucks, John Tchighianoff - South Oxon and Andrew Haseldine - Central Bucks be ratified by this meeting.

**13. Ratification of Non-resident Ringing Members**. The meeting approved the ratification of Ian D Bucknell, Harry Baulcombe, Estella J Haynes, Ines Picchioni - Proposed by Stuart Gibson Seconded by Cheryl Watson. Edward Walker of Radley, Nicola Franks of East Ilsley and Isaac O’Shea of Abingdon were noted as transferring from Resident Members to Non-Resident Members.

**14. Presentation of striking competition certificates.**

Six Bell Competition

1st place: All Saints Faringdon

2nd place: St Nicholas’ Newbury

Joint 3rd place: Shenley & Loughton and Reading St Mary

Eight Bell Competition

1st place: East Berks & South Bucks Branch

2nd place: Reading St Mary

3rd place: Banbury Branch.

Ten Bell Competition

1st place: East Berks & South Bucks Branch

2nd place: Vale of White Horse

3rd place: Reading Branch.

**15. Any Other Business** - none advised.

The Master thanked Tony Crabtree for seven years of significant contribution to the Guild in his role as Deputy Master presenting him with a token of appreciation.

A formal thank you was given to Paul and Annabel Molyneaux.

The Master thanked Paul and Annabel for hosting the competition at their home and for all their support; Tony Crabtree included his gratitude for the service arrangements and presented them with a gift. Annabel spoke eloquently about her father’s wish to see the bells rehung and the pleasure that had been derived from the new ring and the honour of being able to host the events.

Tony Crabtree thanked the Witney and Woodstock Branch, and Andrew Goldthorpe especially, for their organisation and hospitality.

The meeting closed at 15.07 and was followed by ringing before and after the evening service in St. Peter’s and St. Paul’s Church.

Annual General Meeting – Broadwell 20th May 2023 – Attendees

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| NAME | TOWER |
| Rob Needham | Sonning |
| Pauline Needham | Sonning |
| Alan Griffin | Bloxham |
| Colin Lee | Adderbury |
| Cheryl Watson | Faringdon |
| David Wright | Shrivenham |
| Alan Marchbank | Gt Linford |
| Doug Hird | Newport Pagnell |
| Graham Bartholomew | Gt Linford |
| Joe Norton | Wantage |
| Becky Vardy | Coleshill |
| Becky Fawcett | Shenley |
| Edward Fawcett | Shenley |
| Simon J O Head | Woughton on the Green |
| Richard Stanworth | Padbury |
| Richard Peters | Wantage |
| Andy Bernett | Wantage |
| Jenny Bennett | Wantage |
| Richard Loyd | Blewbury |
| Gillian Loyd | Blewbury |
| Jenny Lewis  | Shipton under Wychwood |
| Vicki Fielden | Bodicote |
| Sue McCoraig | Bodicote |
| Teresa Carter | Islip |
| David Barrington | Oxford St Aldates |
| Geraint Jones | Oxford St Giles |
| Katherine Grant | Islip |
| John Davidge | Chalfont St Giles |
| Angela Darvill | Wendover |
| Ken Darvill | Wendover |
| Matthew R Johnson  | Amersham |
| Mary Carroll | Iffley |
| NAME | TOWER |
| Kathryn Allen | Long Crendon |
| Zoe Lee | Adderbury |
| Janie Brown | Cowley |
| June Saint | Reading |
| Stephen Rossiter | Reading |
| Doug Beaumont | Caversham |
| Philip Dobson | Unattached |
| Robert H Newton | High Wycombe & Aston Rowant |
| Patricia M Newton | High Wycombe |
| Amy Herlihy | Drayton St Leonard |
| Cristina Galatanau | Quainton |
| Japhiah Slaney | Marsh Baldon |
| Kit Margey | Longcot |
| Hedley French | Childrey/Sparsholt |
| Andrew Goldthorpe | Witney |
| Richard Law | South Leigh |
| Alison T Merryweather-Clarke | North Leigh |
| Robert Partridge | Shiplake |
| June Wells | Reading |
| John Wells | Reading |
| Peter Robson | Shinfield |
| Bobbie May | Shinfield |
| Tim Pett | Abingdon |
| Craig Robertson | Oxford |
| Sara Jones | St Giles Oxford |
| Peter Spain | Oxford |
| John Galloway | Amersham |
| Graham Clifton | Steeple Aston |
| David Endacott | Wantage |
| Elizabeth Mullett | Iffley |
| Susan Read | Abingdon |
| John Pusey | St Giles Oxford |
| Lindsey Barker | Reading |
| Joyce Vernon  | Reading |
| NAME | TOWER |
| Amanda Jefferies | Longcot |
| Lindsey Powell | Oxford |
| Catherine Lane  | Master |
| Tony Crabtree | Shrivenham |
| Stuart Gibson | Chilton |
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