



**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024**

Saturday 18th May 2024 @ 2pm

Venue - St Andrew's Hall Stoke Poges, Rogers Lane, SL2 4LN.

**AGENDA & PAPERS**

1. Obituaries.
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Request to take items of Any Other Business other than previously circulated.
4. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023 Broadwell Oxfordshire.
5. Matters Arising.
6. Correspondence.
7. ODG 2023 Accounts. (see paper)
8. Report of the General Committee. (see paper)
9. Report of the Safeguarding Officer. (see paper)
10. Donations:
  - a) Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund
  - b) The Ringing World
  - c) Association of Ringing Teachers
11. Election of Officers. (Existing holders shown in brackets- marked \* if not wanting re-election).
  - a) Master (Catherine Lane)
  - b) Deputy Master (Chris Mundy)
  - c) Honorary General Secretary (Karen Pile)
  - d) Honorary General Treasurer (Stuart Gibson)
  - f) Assistant Treasurer (Katherine Stonham)
  - g) Meetings Secretary (Vacancy – new post)
  - h) Honorary Librarian (Doug Beaumont)
  - i) Report Editor (Heather Browning)
  - j) Peal Secretary (Ken Davenport)
  - k) Newsletter Editor (Rob Needham\*)
  - l) Public Relations Officer (currently left vacant)
  - m) Membership Secretary (John Payne \*)
  - n) Safeguarding Officer (June Wells)
  - o) Website Manager (Andrew Goldthorpe)
  - p) Assistant Website Manager (Vacancy)
  - q) Server Manager (Richard Stanworth)
  - r) Assistant Server manager (Vacancy)
  - s) Guild Stewards (5) (Tony Crabtree, Peter Robson, Colin Lee, Patricia Newton, Stephen Rossiter)
  - t) Elected General Committee Members (6) (Mike Hopkins Till, Jenny Page) 6 are permitted so + 4 further members can be elected
  - u) Independent Assessor (Alison Mignanelli)
  - v) Trustees (Kenneth Darvill, Robert Newton, Graham Clifton)
12. Distinguished Membership Awards. Nigel Harrison Chipping Norton Branch.
13. Ratification of Non-resident Ringing Members.
14. To raise awareness & discuss the following items:
  1. Rule Change (under rule 5) – Addition of Junior member category (see paper)

2. General Committee Meetings – Proposal to change to 1 Autumn meeting per year  
(see paper)
15. ODG IT membership system project (Membermojo) progress update.
16. Presentation of striking competition certificates.
17. Any Other Business (as agreed at the beginning of the meeting).



## **MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

*Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> 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:

- a) To the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund, a donation of £2000.
- b) To The Ringing World a donation of £750.
- c) 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:

- a) To the Oxford Diocesan Bell Fund, a donation of £2000; Seconded Steve Rossiter (1 against)
- b) To The Ringing World a donation of £750; Seconded Richard Loyd (3 against)
- c) 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 \*)**

Office	Nomination	Proposer	Secunder	Result
<b>Master</b>	Catherine Lane	Joyce Vernon	Andrew Goldthorpe	Elected
<b>Deputy Master</b>	* Chris Mundy	Catherine Lane		Elected
<b>Hon Gen Secretary</b>	Karen Pile	Catherine Lane		Elected
<b>Hon Gen Treasurer</b>	Stuart Gibson	Catherine Lane		Elected
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	* Katherine Stonham	Stuart Gibson	Craig Robertson	Elected
<b>The following were Elected en bloc Proposed by Philip Dobson Secoded by Rob Needham</b>				
<b>Hon Librarian</b>	Doug Beaumont			
<b>Report Editor</b>	Heather Browning			
<b>Odd Bob Editor</b>	Rob Needham			
<b>Peal Secretary</b>	Ken Davenport			
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	John Payne			
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	June Wells			
<b>Website Manager</b>	Andrew Goldthorpe			
<b>Server Manager</b>	Richard Stanworth			
<b>Independent Assessor</b>	Alison Mignanelli			
Office	Nomination	Proposer	Secunder	Result
<b>Stewards</b>	Patricia Newton	Tim Pett	Colin Lee	Elected
	Tony Crabtree			
	Colin Lee		Tim Pett	Elected
	*Peter Robson	Bobbie May	Colin Lee	Elected
	*Steve Rossiter	Patricia Newton		
<b>Elected General Committee Members</b>	Jenny Page Mike Hopkins Till Others remain vacant	Catherine Lane		Elected

<b>Guild Trustees</b>	Ken Darvill Robert Newton	Catherine Lane		Elected
	*Graham Clifton	Catherine Lane		Elected

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

1<sup>st</sup> place: All Saints Faringdon

2<sup>nd</sup> place: St Nicholas' Newbury

Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Shenley & Loughton and Reading St Mary

Eight Bell Competition

1<sup>st</sup> place: East Berks & South Bucks Branch

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Reading St Mary

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Banbury Branch.

Ten Bell Competition

1<sup>st</sup> place: East Berks & South Bucks Branch

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Vale of White Horse

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Attendees

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWER</u>
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



<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWER</u>
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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TOWER</u>
Amanda Jefferies	Longcot
Lindsey Powell	Oxford
Catherine Lane	Master
Tony Crabtree	Shrivenham
Stuart Gibson	Chilton