

# GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Held at Kilmington on Saturday 15th June 2013*

- A13/1 Lester Yeo (President) opened the meeting with a welcome to the 66 members. He thanked Steve Coleman for his informative and entertaining talk about raising and lowering bells. He ascertained that the meeting was quorate and gave an opening prayer.
- A13/2 Apologies for absence were received from: Donna Baker, Kate Jennings, Sheila Williams, Phil and Jane Dunn, John Cook, George Mudge, Clare Stagg, Harry Andrews (all South West), Roger King, Mary Mack, Neville Wright, Mike Burrow, Ian Baker, Margaret Elms, Sue Sturdy, John Langabeer, Janet Coles, Neil Deem (all Aylesbeare), Mo & Derek Hawkins, David Hird, Michael Brady, Michael Cannon, Susan Illing, Mandy Plumridge (all Exeter), Nigel Birt, Fiona Rock-Evans, John Martin, Martin Mansley (all Mid), Bruce Hicks (North/North West), Brenda Coley, Derek Ballard (both East).
- A13/3 Losses by death since the last AGM: Howard Egglestone (Crediton), John Quick (VP), David Huntingford (Cotleigh) and Brian Gardner (Shute). Members stood in silence for a moment to remember them.
- A13/4 Minutes of the 2012 meeting were signed as a correct record once the words "one off" had been removed from point A12/15 (p: Les Boyce, s: Ian Smith).
- A13/5 Matters arising from the Minutes: from the AGM minutes the following points were raised:  
A12/19: The issue of subs for undergraduates was not discussed at the committee meeting. However as they had been held at £6, they were not burdened.
- A13/6 Election of new members: Keith Matthews (unattached) and Alison Phelps-Loman (Honiton) (p: Lisa Clarke, s: Trevor Hitchcock), and Annie Wills (Thorverton) (p: Lynette Costello, s: Margot Le Vesconte).
- A13/7 Officers' reports: these were received as printed in the annual report. Thanks were given to John Foster for producing the report, to branch officers for their work in gathering the material and to all those who advertised in the report. However there appeared to be several factual inconsistencies within the report and it was suggested that in future that the annual report should be proof read before it is published. Unfortunately the report from the Central Council representatives had been omitted.
- A13/8 Adoption of accounts: The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Lynne Hughes, seconded by Mike Hatchett and carried nem con. Sue Sawyer was thanked for her work in preparing the accounts. It was agreed that £1,500 should be donated to the DCBRF (p: Sue Sawyer, s: Don Roberts), that £250 be given to the Ringing Foundation (p: Lynne Hughes, s: Mike Hatchett), and that the subscriptions for 2013 should continue to stand at £6 per member.
- A13/9 Election of Officers:  
The following were elected
- a) President: Lester Yeo (p: Wendy Campbell, s: Ian Campbell)
  - b) Master 2013/14: Leslie Boyce (p: Dermot Elworthy, s: Lynne Hughes). Ian Campbell then presented Leslie with the Master's badge.
  - c) Master Elect 2014/15: Anne Bailey (p: Sue Tucker, s: Lisa Clarke)
  - d) Vice President: Mike Hatchett (p: Leslie Boyce, s: Sheila Scofield)
  - e) Secretary: Clare Griffiths (p: Peter Bill, s: Amy Gill). Margot Le Vesconte was given thanks for her work during the past year and presented with some flowers.
  - f) Treasurer: Sue Sawyer (p: Sue Sparling, s: Graham Tucker)
  - g) Librarian: Leslie Boyce (p: Anne Bailey, s: Jeff Bailey)
  - h) Bells and Belfries Advisors: Ian Smith (p: David Hird, s: Michael Mears) and Ian Campbell (p: Bob Lunnon, s: Wendy Gill)
  - i) Report Secretary: John Foster (p: Martin Mansley, s: Michael Mears). This was subject to his willingness to continue.
  - j) Publicity Officer: Daisy Atkin (p: Rob Neal s: Amy Gill)
  - k) Ringing Round Devon Editor: Ian Campbell (p: Amy Gill, s: Andy Stevens)
  - l) Peal Secretary: Michael Mears (p: Peter Bill, s: Bob Lunnon)
  - m) Quarter Peal Secretary: Tim Bayton (p: Gareth Gill, s: Philip Stevens)
  - n) Education Officer: Lynne Hughes (p: Bob Lunnon, s: Sheila Scofield). Lynne confirmed that she will not be standing for re-election next year.
  - o) Safeguarding Officer: Robert Brown is currently acting as an unofficial advisor on safeguarding issues, until such time as new legislation is put in place.
- A13/10 Election of DCBRF Trustees: Mary Mears (p: Philip Stevens, s: Graham Tucker), Ian Campbell (p: Joanna Lunnon, s: Christine Clarke) and Ian Smith (p: David Hird, s: Michael Mears).

- A13/11 Election of Central Council reps for 2014 – 2017: The Guild as it has over 451 members is allowed four Central Council representatives. It was felt after a discussion that the Guild should not reduce its representation on the Council, especially as three of the reps were on various Committees. Ian Smith had decided not to stand for reelection.  
Leslie Boyce (p Lesley Tucker, s: Richard Johnson), James Clarke (p: Lesley Tucker, s: Rachel Taylor) Lynne Hughes (p; John Martin, s: Phil Ridley) and Fergus Stracey (p: Roger Compton, s: Richard Shere) were duly elected.
- A13/12 Election of Devon Ringers' Council Reps for 2014 – 2017: Lester Yeo (p: Joanne Lunnon, s: Christine Clarke), Ian Avery (p: James Grant, s: Lesley Tucker), Don Roberts (p: Philip Stevens, s: Lesley Tucker), Lynette Costello (p: Lynne Hughes, s: Sheila Scofield). These were duly elected nem com. Tim King was nominated (p: Philip Stevens, s: Ian Avery) to be invited to continue on the council.  
Thanks were given to Martin Mansley for his major involvement with the Devon Ringers Council.
- A13/13 Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts: Ruth Rockey (p: Lester Yeo, s: Jeff Bailey)
- A13/14 Motion – The Guild of Devonshire Ringers appoint a Young Ringers Co-ordinator each year to organise ringing and social events for Young Ringers – (p: Lynne Hughes, s: Leslie Boyce). This motion was carried nem com. Lester Yeo will approach Amy Gill after the meeting to invite her to take on this appointment.
- A13/15 Review of expenses for Central Council representatives: These are reviewed annually and it was agreed that all reasonable expenses would be met.
- A13/16 Report from the Central Council meeting at Guildford: Lynne Hughes presented a report on behalf of the Guild representatives:  
Five motions were put, all of which were carried. In summary the changes are: The subscription per rep will rise from £25 to £30 to cover the cost of running the Central Council. The Ringing Trends committee can now also look at trends in society as a whole. The Compositions committee have a change of wording to encourage new ideas in composition. A re-wording for the Ringing Centres committee broadens the definition of ringing centres and allows more flexibility, supporting young ringers' groups and getting more people teaching (in fact there was some discussion here on whether this committee might merge with the Education one in the future.). Lastly a change, not to the decisions over which peals are 'compliant', but to allow any such performance to be published in the Ringing World if the editor sees fit, which until now he has sometimes done anyway!
- A13/17 Hosting a Central Council meeting – A letter had been received from Mary Bone, Secretary of the Central Council asking if the Guild would consider hosting the meeting in future. The Guild had last hosted the meeting in 1974. It is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Guild in 2024 which may be a suitable date. Ian Smith then gave a summary of the requirements for hosting the event.  
It should cost the Guild nothing to host the event as the meeting costs are funded by Central Council and all other functions are self funding. An organising Committee would need to be set up 5 years before the event to oversee everything. The Council require 5 years notice of intention to hold meeting. The Guild can make an offer at this stage but would need to make it substantive in 2019.  
Joan Clarke suggested that the Devon Association may also like to be involved.  
Lester Yeo said that the Council provides a set of guidelines to help the organisation.  
The proposal was to make an offer to Central Council to host a meeting in 2024 and to invite the Devon Association to share in hosting and organising the event (p: Tim Bayton, s: Mike Hatchett).  
Joan Clarke in her position as Association assistant secretary would ensure it was considered at the Association committee meeting in September and Lester Yeo would make it an agenda item at the Ringers Council meeting in July.
- A13/18 Guild AGM format and date: This year's festival had been well attended and many of the apologies were due to weddings which cannot be avoided at any time of the year.
- A13/19 Guild of Devonshire Ringers Website: Matthew Hilling had purchased a new domain and the new web site was in the process of being built. It will list events and there will be more opportunity for people to edit details on the site. The new domain name is devonringers.org.uk. As there is the option for up to 20 email addresses, all guild officers will be able to use Guild email addresses rather than their own personal ones.
- A13/20 Fund raising and quarter peal week: to be held from Friday 25th October to Sunday 3th November inclusive, with Tim Bayton collating the information for publication in *The Ringing World*. Leslie Boyce will be encouraging this and it would be nice to achieve a good number of firsts across the Guild.
- A13/21 Striking competitions: to be held on Saturday 19th October in the Aylesbeare Branch: 8-bell at Withycombe Raleigh, 6-bell at Lymptstone, novice 6-bell at Clyst St George. The methods for the 8-bell competition will be a choice of Grandsire or Double Grandsire Triples. For the 8 bell the touches of 224 changes are on the Guild website. Following a vote it was agreed to use the back eight at Withycombe for the 8 bell. Also it was confirmed that the test piece should be 120 changes for the novice competition and 180 to 240 for the 6 bell.

A13/22 2014 Festival and Annual General Meeting: to be held on Saturday 21st June in the North East Devon Branch, with a proposal to use Tiverton as a base. It is the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Guild and a suggestion is to ring 140 bells to quarter peals on the way to Tiverton. A lot of people would be needed to keep the date free to succeed in the endeavour. There will be a barbecue, a range of activities in the evening, and a photograph to mark the anniversary.

A13/23 Any other business:

- (a) Thanks to Anne Bailey and her team regarding the arrangements for today. It was a very successful event.
- (b) Clare Griffiths gave her contact details – address 28 Lower Street, Chagford TQ13 8AZ and her email address would be secretary@devonringers.org.uk

The meeting closed at approximately 3.50 pm.

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Lester Yeo (President)

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(Date)

**GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

*Held at Kilmington on Saturday 15 June 2013*

The President, Lester Yeo, opened the meeting that followed the Annual General Meeting of the Guild. It was agreed that all business should be deferred to the next meeting of the General Committee on Saturday 18th January 2014 (p: Tim Bayton, s: Ian Campbell). Meeting closed at 3.55pm.

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Lester Yeo (President)

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Date