

**Minutes of the Annual District Meeting
at Newport
on 21 Feb 2015**

1 Welcome and thanks

The Chairman, Jill Taylor, welcomed the members attending the meeting and expressed her thanks to the Rev'd Kevin Arkell for taking the service, to Mary Tester for playing the organ and to Mary Blake, Richard Knight and Darren Westmore for providing an excellent tea and preparing for the meeting.

2 Remembering past members.

The Chairman asked for a minutes silence to remember Stephen Haynes, a Ryde ringer, Freda Stevens, a faithful supporter of ringers in Freshwater and Aubrey Eveleigh, a ringing friend to many.

3 Minutes of the last meeting

June Mitchell (Brading) pointed out a spelling error: change Sheldon to Skeldon in two places. Acceptance of the Minutes, having been distributed and read in advance of the meeting, was proposed by Alan Beaton (Newchurch) seconded by Peter Taylor and agreed by a show of hands. They were then signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5 Election of new members

The following were elected: Beryl Young (Arreton) Full; Jerry Willis (Brighstone) Full; Megan Willis (Brighstone) Full, junior; Alice Matthews (Brighstone) Full, junior; Cerys Brammall (Brighstone) Full, junior; Bailey Gulliver (Brighstone) Full, junior, re-election; Bridget Nicholson (Ryde) Full; Darren Westmore (Carisbrooke) Full; Rosie Morrison (Shorwell) Full, junior; Thomas Lambert (Shorwell) Full, junior; Richard Morrison (Shorwell) Probationer; David Langford (Freshwater) Full; Chris Johnson (Brading) Associate member; Kate Nye, Compounding Member; Cerise Moody (Brading) Full.

6 There were no badges or certificates to present

7 Reports

i) Ringling Master's report

Before the outgoing Ringling Master spoke, Jill Taylor thanked him for his service to the District over many years. The meeting supported this in the usual way.

The Ringling Master, Barry Downer, said that he had enjoyed his time as Ringling Master and thanked those who had helped him in his task, especially Jenny Brudenell; that he had not been well some of the time and was stepping down because he could not give the job his full commitment. Nonetheless it had been a good year, with Striking competitions going ahead, the Youth team competing and District Practices being held and new members being trained.

ii) The Secretary's Report (for inclusion in the Guild Annual Report) as follows: Secretary's Report for inclusion in the Guild Annual Report 2014/15

At our Annual District Meeting at Brading there were no changes to the Officers but we were able to fill a vacancy, as John Stock was elected Peal and Quarter peal recorder. It was also the day of the first 8-bell striking competition that the Island has held. The trophy, a beautiful glass piece, was presented to us by the family of the late Don Exell. Five

teams entered and the winner was Ryde. The judges were Christine and Peter Hill.

We have also held our two 6-bell striking competitions; the Lester Bailey Call Changes was held in June at Godshill in which nine teams entered. It was judged by Graham Nobbs and was won by Brading. The Fred Green Change Ringing competition was held at Niton in September in which five teams entered. This was judged by Steve Noyes and was also won by Brading.

We are sad to report the death of Stephen Haynes, who came to live on the Island and got to know all the towers, such an enthusiast he was. The deaths of Freda Stevens, a great supporter of ringing, and Aubrey Eveleigh, a good friend to Island ringers, have also been reported.

In October we had a 'Ringing Festival' inspired by the 'Have your Say' meeting on the mainland and masterminded by Viv Nobbs. There was ringing in the morning including a peal at Ryde of Bristol Surprise Major and six quarter peals during the day. Presentations in the afternoon including Steve Noyes telling us about their success with Primary school ringers in Brighstone.

Kieran Downer set up a record ring with friends from Southampton in May – they took on all 14 towers on the Island in one day. A major feat, willingly aided by family and friends helping with transport and preparation. This is a world first and we are very proud of them. The Vectis Youths went to Worcester to compete in the Ringing World young ringers competition. They have now been ringing together for three years and are growing in confidence and competence. A quarter peal was rung at Ryde in honour of the oldest woman in the UK. Gladys Hermiston Hooper is 112 years old and she lives in Ryde. In Whitwell a peal of seven doubles methods was rung for the 90th birthday of Alfred Downer entirely by his family.

In September a number of us went to the Ringing Road Show in Newbury and had a good day out. The talks and concerts were much enjoyed by all and we had fun trying to master the mini-rings.

The IOW Challenge cup was again competed for; this time Brading Ringers challenged the other towers at a game of Crazy Golf at Shanklin seafront. It was a disappointing turnout with only Godshill in opposition, but they had a good time and Brading was the winner.

Our Christmas party was organised by the Brading team with younger members especially in mind. It was reported to be a very good evening indeed.

iii) Peal and Quarter peal recorder

iv) Executive Committee Representative's report: 15/11/2014

The Guild Bell Restoration Fund is giving grants to Northington & Monks Sherbourne this year, with new applications for grants approved for Basingstoke & Houghton.

The Central Council are coming to our guild in 2016 with their Annual Meeting & Dinner being held in Portsmouth. W&P Guild may need some help with local events. To celebrate this event the Ringing World Calendar for 2016 features towers in our Guild. Towers throughout the Guild area have been photographed then from these photos towers were chosen to feature each month. St. Marys, Brading & St. Marys, Carisbrooke have been chosen to represent the Isle of Wight. Tower secretaries will be contacted to supply written detail about the church & bells.

The Executive of the Guild requests that our Isle of Wight District consider, then suggest, ways that the

Guild could help the District by investment in the continued learning of its ringing members.

The Guild proposes to organise a database of every Guild member with the aim of better communication to all members. This will comply with all the usual data protection requirements.

The Isle of Wight Seminar held at Ryde in October together with the Ringing Festival of peal & quarter peals was felt to have been a very good event. Thanks to everyone concerned.

No dates yet for striking competitions - 6 & 8 bell & inter-district

Young Ringers competition – details coming shortly

Dates in 2015:-

9th May is the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Jersey & Guernsey. Please support the Channel Islands in celebrating this event.

Sun. 14th June is the 800th Anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta - a Big Ringing Day nationally

Sat. 4th July Guild A.G.M. at Curdridge.

v) Treasurer's Report

The Accounts are attached to the Minutes. Notes from the Treasurer are as follows: 'I have tried to avoid the situation of last year's accounts where cheques written in 2013 didn't clear. Hence the reason that there are two lots of Guild, Bell Restoration Fund and Society for Preservation of IOW Church Bells payments showing. The result: on page 2, No liabilities showing except no admin payments showing so it should be taken into account that this year will probably be higher than normal.

The important figure is shown on page 5, that excess of income over expenditure for 2014 was in fact only £164.94 (with no admin charges).' The Treasurer thanked Steve Noyes for his work as Independent Auditor.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Alan Beaton and seconded by Toni Keele and passed by a show of hands.

8 Election of Officers

The Master took the Chair for the election of the Chairman.

Chairman: Jill Taylor (Ryde) was proposed by Alan Beaton (Newchurch) seconded by Maureen Kelly (Ryde). There were no other nominations and Jill was elected by a show of hands.

Ringing Master: Jenny Brudenell (Brighstone) was proposed by Jill Taylor (Ryde), seconded by John Stock (Ryde) and elected, there being no other nominations, by a show of hands.

Deputy Ringing Master: Margaret Downer (Brading) was proposed by Jill Taylor (Ryde) and seconded by Jo Davies and, there being no other nominations, was elected by a show of hands.

Secretary: Mary Tester (Shorwell) was proposed by Cal Challoner and seconded by Joan Parry and, there being no other nominations, was elected by a show of hands.

Treasurer: Judith Goodhind was proposed by Maureen Kelly (Ryde) and seconded by Jenny Brudenell (Brighstone) and, there being no other nominations, was elected by a show of hands.

Executive Committee Representative: Barry Downer (Brading) was proposed by Jill Taylor (Ryde) and seconded by John Stock and, there being no other nominations, was elected by a show of hands.

Publicity Officer: On the resignation of Viv Nobbs as Publicity. Lexi Skeldon (Brading) was proposed by Jenny Brudenell (Brighstone) and seconded by John Stock (Ryde) and elected by a show of hands.

Kieran Downer (Brading) was proposed as joint Publicity Officer by Viv Nobbs (Ryde) and seconded by Lexi Skeldon (Brading) and elected by a show of hands.

Peal and quarter peal Recorder: John Stock was proposed by Roy Tillcock and seconded by Jenny Brudenell (Brighstone) and elected by a show of hands.

9 Events for the year

Attached to the Minutes is a diary of events and dates.

NBi The bus outing planned for April 11th has had to be cancelled but Jenny will change her Funday

date (July 18th) for April 11th.

Nbii At the recent Officers' meeting it was decided that we should go back to meetings twice a year and arrange more ringing days without meetings. Please note the revised timetable for Meetings.

10 News from the Guild – The Master and Andy Ingram (Chairman of the Guild Education Committee). Viv spoke of the importance of Sunday ringing but said that it was also important to help ringers to achieve their potential and to look for ways to encourage their progress. She was hoping to have a paintball afternoon on July 29th. Andy Ingram agreed there should be more ringing, less talking. He said that there were courses on the mainland which might be helpful, also a library of training material. He said that if there were initiatives for recruiting it was important to have the backup to start teaching in place. The current thinking was that daily short lessons for two or three weeks was a good way to get quick results.

11 Any other business

- i) Barry Downer (Brading) reminded everyone of the Society for the Preservation of Isle of Wight Church Bells and encouraged them to join or rejoin.
- ii) Margaret said that they had not received posters from the Guild. The Secretary said she would look into this.
- iii) Steve Noyes (Brighstone) said that Brighstone had changed their time of practice to early Friday night (6 to 7.30pm).
- iv) Margaret Downer (Brading) reminded everyone about the Chale Show, where the ringers man the gates and are given a substantial donation to the SPIWCB. She called for volunteers.

12 The raffle made £51 and the meeting ended at 7.06pm.

Dates for 2015/16

March 7	Guild Executive meeting 10.15, St Barnabas Southampton
April 11	Jenny's Funday (Arreton, Newchurch and Godshill tbc)
April 18	6 and 8 bell Guild inter tower competitions (at St Barnabas and St Mary's Southampton)
April 23	*St George's day – Ringing for England – an opportunity for all towers.
April 25	8-bell striking competition (The Don Exell trophy) at Carisbrooke
May 2	**300 th anniversary of the first ever recorded peal - a chance to ring a peal or a quarter peal.
May 9	70 th anniversary of the liberation of Jersey and Guernsey in WW2. To celebrate with them we are holding the Lester Bailey (call changes) competition at Newchurch (tbc).
June 14 (Sunday)	Ringing and tea for Magna Carta (LiberTeas at 3pm throughout the country) at Arreton.
June 15 (Monday)	The 800 th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta – a chance to ring a quarter peal.
July 4	Guild 8-bell inter-District competition at Shedfield Guild AGM is at Curdridge.
July 11	Ringing World Under 18s competition in Oxford (not too far for supporters to go).
July 18	? possibly an outing
July 29	Paintballing with Viv (tbc)
Sept 9	The Queen becomes the longest reigning British Monarch. A chance to celebrate her accession to the throne.
Sept 12	***Half-yearly meeting at Freshwater
Sept 26	Guild 10-bell inter-District competition (tbc)
Oct 17	Fred Green (change ringing) 6-bell competition at Brighstone
Nov 15	Ringers' Sunday at Brading (tbc)
Dec 12	Christmas Party at Ryde plus quiz with a bring and share supper.
Feb 20, 2016	ADM

*St George's Day. This is a nationwide opportunity for ringing if your tower wishes to remember the patron saint of England.

**300th anniversary of the first ever recorded peal. The Central Council is hoping to get 300 new pealers worldwide!

***Please note the new format, holding the Meeting first at 2pm, followed by ringing, Service and tea.

Minutes of the Half Yearly meeting at Whitwell Village Hall on September 12th, 2015 at 2pm

1 Welcome and thanks. The Chairman Jill Taylor (Ryde) welcomed the members and thanked, in advance, the Rev Nigel Porter for taking the service, Mary Tester (Shorwell) for playing the organ and Sue Day, Toni Keele (Whitwell) and their team for providing the tea.

1a Having received a notification of the death of a member, the Chairman asked us to stand for a minute's silence in memory of Bernard Tillyard of Whitwell.

2 Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes, having been circulated in advance, were accepted by a show of hands, after two comments: 7(v) the accounts not being attached to the circulated copies, and in 11(ii) 'Margaret' should be replaced by 'Margaret Downer'.

3 Matters arising. There were no matters arising

4 Election of new members: Kay Wells (Whitwell) probationer, Jan Taylor (Whitwell) probationer, Jane Johnson (Brading) Probationer, Libby Johnson (Brading) Probationer, Lennon Johnson (Brading) probationer. Proposed by Sue Day and seconded by June Mitchell.

5 Presentation of certificates and badges to new members: No new members were present but certificates and badges will be given to the following: Beryl Young (Arreton), Jerry Willis (Brighstone), Megan Willis (Brighstone), Alice Matthews (Brighstone), Cerys Brammall (Brighstone), Bridget Nicholson (Ryde), Darren Westmore (Carisbrooke), Rosie Morrison (Shorwell), Thomas Lambert (Shorwell), David Langford (Freshwater), Cerise Moody (Brading).

6 Ringling Master's Notes: Jenny Brudenell (Ringling Master) said it had been a busy summer with a number of activities including the Magna Carta ringling, the Funday, the AGM and Inter District 8-bell and all the practice the young people had put in for the RW Striking competition. She said there would now be regular monthly practices and would publicise the details as soon as possible. It was suggested that the further in advance they could be planned the better people would have a chance of coming to them.

7 Treasurer's notes: Judith Goodhind (Treasurer) said there was nothing much to report except that 2 towers had not yet paid.

8 Secretary's notes: Mary Tester (Secretary) said that she felt communications were not as good as they should be, partly because of incomplete contact details for many of the ringers, and partly because posters were ignored and Tower Captains didn't always encourage their ringers to come to meetings. Viv Nobbs (the Master) said that the Guild was working on a data base of members. Judith said that it would be very useful to have more and up to date email addresses. It was suggested that new members (and others) might fill in a form with contact details for reference.

9 Christmas party Dec 12 2015. John Stock (Ryde) who is organising the party, has suggested that there might be 2 or 3 towers open on the way to the party. He was looking at a catered supper, quiz and some entertainment at a possible £10 a head. Mary Tester (Shorwell) asked whether there would be a special price for children so that we could encourage them to come. Further details will be given.

10 Fred Green Change ringling on Oct 17, 2015 at Brighstone. Jenny Brudenell (Ringling Master)

said that David Forder had agreed to judge. The draw would be at 2pm and teas and judging would take place in the Wilberforce Hall.

11 Ringers Sunday Nov 15th at Brading. June Mitchell (Brading) said that until the time of the Evensong was settled the timings of the day were uncertain. The Secretary said she would consult the Rev D Dennis.

12 Any other business:

i) John Stock (Ryde) said that the car park in Brading was no longer free due to decisions made by the local council. There is free parking in Coach Lane, the bungalow area where June lives, or in Key Lane.

ii) Viv Nobbs (the Master) asked if there had been any first peelers so far except for Charlotte Dollery. The Secretary was asked to send her a card of congratulation from the District. She mentioned the following dates: 26 September at Bishopstoke,
3 October, the District Officers' Forum and
21 November- the Executive Committee meeting

iii) The next ADM will be on Feb 20 at Ryde. And a date for the next District Officers Meeting would be Friday 23 October at Brighstone after their practice at 7.30pm

The meeting ended at 3pm. The Raffle, taken later in the day, made £36.