

Minutes of the ADM held at St Michael Swanmore on Feb 20 2016

1 Welcome and thanks. The Chairman thanked the Rev Graham Morris and the Rev Jane Isaac for the use of St Michael's church and bells, the Rev Jane Isaac for taking the service, Mary Tester for playing the organ and John Stock and the team of Ryde ringers for providing the tea.

2 Remembering past members. The Chairman asked us to stand to remember the lives of David Yates from Arreton and Roy Howard from Freshwater.

2 a) We congratulated June Mitchell on having celebrated 60 years as a Cumberland Youth. She and family members rang a peal at West Tarring, the tower where she learnt to ring and the Cumberland Youths rang another at Hean.

3 Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes, having been circulated in advance, were proposed by Paul Miller, seconded by Alan Beaton and agreed by a show of hands.

4 Matters arising. There were no matters arising.

5 New Members. Michael Wells, Whitwell, Full; Kay Wells, Whitwell, Full; Jan Taylor, Whitwell, Full; Rob Claxton-Ingham, Whitwell, Full; Jane Johnson, Brading, Full; Sam Reed Brading, Probationer; Joe Lashmar, Godshill, Full; Yvonne Knapp, Godshill, Probationer; Sandra Gaskin, Newchurch, Probationer; Margaret Bright, Newchurch, Probationer; Bob Bright, Newchurch Probationer; Helen Dear, Ryde, Full; Anne Deegan, Ryde, Full. These were proposed by June Mitchell and seconded by Margaret Downer and agreed by a show of hands.

6 Reports.

Ringling Master's report: Jenny Brudenell maintains that she doesn't 'do' reports! Nonetheless she said it had been a good year and she had enjoyed organising practices and that the numbers at district practices and events had been good. She said she was willing to carry on if that was what members wanted.

Secretary's report (for inclusion in the Guild Annual Report):

Secretary's Report to be sent to the Annual Report of the W&P Guild

At our ADM in February 2015 we elected a new Ringing Master, Jenny Brudenell and a new deputy, Margaret Downer. Kieran Downer and Lexi Skeldon were elected Publicity Officers. Other officers remained the same. We also elected eleven new full members, many of them juniors.

We have had our usual striking competitions: the new Don Exell 8-bell in April was won by the joint Ryde/Godshill team with 5 teams entering; the Lester Bailey Call Change competition in June at Newchurch was won by Ryde with 6 teams entering; and the Fred Green change ringing competition was at Brighstone in October, and won by Brighstone 'Lacey' with 6 teams entering. These occasions are enjoyed by all and the spirit of friendly rivalry is accompanied by tea and lovely cakes.

We celebrated the 800th Anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta with LiberTeas and ringing at St Georges Arreton, and we instituted 'Jenny's Funday' with ringing at 3 towers and lots of cakes in between. Under the guidance of Kieran Downer a team of young ringers took part in the Ringing World's Under 18s competition in Oxford.

Six peals were rung during the year: Freshwater for Kieran's 21st birthday; Carisbrooke; Newchurch, wishing Charlotte Dollery good luck on her way to University; Chale, half muffled for Remembrance and for Viv Nobbs 40th anniversary of the first peal; and Whitwell in celebration of the life of Simon Lipscombe. Congratulations to two first-pealers – Charlotte Dollery and Darren Westmore.

The loss of two members, David Yates from Arreton and Roy Howard from Freshwater, was commemorated in quarter peals in Arreton and Ryde. The Golden wedding of Christine and Gerry Faulkner was celebrated with quarter peals in Chale and Arreton. June Mitchell celebrated 60 years as a Cumberland youth by ringing a peal with friends and family at West Tarring where she was taught to ring.

District practices have taken place regularly including: ring on 10-bells, 'have a go at something new', minor methods from plain hunt and Single Oxford and St Clements. A number of people had the opportunity of visiting Big Ben during the summer and thoroughly enjoyed this wonderful experience.

We had a very successful Christmas party hosted by Ryde ringers, with a fancy waistcoat competition, quiz, and magic show, enjoyed by all.

Peal and Quarter peal recorder's report: Again for Island towers the amount of quarter peals being scored goes on unabated with a total of 63 being rung in 2015, compared with 65 in 2014, with six peals being achieved by Island ringing

bands, an increase of two on 2014. And all that without young Mr Downer ringing 14 quarter peals in one day!

The six peals rung during the year were at Freshwater, Carisbrooke, Newchurch Chale, Whitwell and Shorwell.

A breakdown analysis by tower is here for you to have a look at but Brading surpassed expectations with 19 quarter peals during the year. I have also made an analysis of the last five years to give an idea of how ringing of peals and quarter peals continues to vary over years depending on our enthusiasm and copies of these are in the books for you to view.

Again this year well done to all of you that achieved your first ever peal or quarter peal. I have to say this included ringers across a great age range, mid-70s being the upper limit for one ringer to achieve their first ever quarter peal, which just goes to prove anyone can do it! Let's hope we see you all continue with that enthusiasm and carry on enjoying and enhancing your ringing skills, in particular the younger members amongst us.

Once again, this year I would publicly like to thank the Conductors and organisers of peals and quarter peal events for giving us the chance to continue our enjoyment of ringing and achieve our own personal 'firsts'. I know it seems like an uphill struggle at times but we do really appreciate your dedication and patience in helping us improve our own ringing and achieve the goals we aspire to.

Having been on this mammoth project for two years, and having trawled through many thousands of pages of documents I am beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, and hopefully during this coming year I shall be able to start printing off the records in earnest and have a more complete volume of our achievements for you all to view at next years' meeting.

Records continue to be found with the first quarter peal record being in 1908 and first mention of other ringing in 1777. Once finished I think most of you might find the volumes of records quite interesting to browse through.

If any of you know of any personal records of ringing lurking in attics or cupboards, particularly from old family members who kept records of their achievements and who are no longer with us, that would be helpful to me to have a look at if at all possible.

When viewing the current collection of records, if you see or find any obvious mistakes or omissions, then please let me know. In time I am hoping all the files will be available in one format or another for anyone to view. And once that is achieved it will be easy for the next incumbent of this post to keep the records up to date as our achievements get ever more bold!

Executive Committee member's report: Ros Martin gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the new Guild website: wpbells.org. The IW District is well represented on it thanks to the work of John Stock, Steve Noyes, Kieran Downer and Lexi Skeldon. Members are encouraged to send in items of interest to keep it up to date – meetings peals, events etc preferably as 'word documents' or texts (not pdf).

Districts are encouraged to send 2 members on the ITTS course organised by the Education Committee in the spring in the Basingstoke area (tbc). The cost of £30 each to be funded by W&P Guild: this to be repeated annually as part of W&P investing in people. Up to £500 is available to each district for a local training project – District sec to apply to General Sec by 28th Feb.

1st to 15th March 2016 is 'Firsts Fortnight', to encourage and record on Guild website 1st quarter peals, 1st touch, 1st service ring, 1st visit to another tower etc.

June 2016 – W&P Peal Festival.

April 2nd competition for young ringers in S/E region organised by Guildford Guild – it is hoped to enter W&P team. Salisbury Guild are also organising a ringing/social event open to all – details later.

Ringing World Calendar 2016 now available from Ringing World at £8, featuring towers in W&P Guild including Brading and Carisbrooke.

On Thursday 21 April Queen Elizabeth will be 90. We are encouraged to ring for this occasion. Royal celebrations include a Patrons lunch with the main celebration over the weekend 10-12 June.

May 27/28 2016 the Central Council will be visiting the Portsmouth District for their AGM. This includes a visit to the IOW.

May 21 Inter Tower 6 and 8 bell competitions to be held in the Basingstoke district in the morning.

July 2, 2016 – 8-bell Inter-district contest at New Arlesford in the morning plus several 6-bell towers open for ringing. Lunch break, service, AGM, tea and cake. There is a possibility for a social event in the evening if districts think this is a good idea and will attend – your views please.

Towers are encourage to take part in 'Heritage Open Days', 8-11 Sept 2-16. This include 'Ride and Stride' events. More details: www.heritageopendays.org.uk/getinvolved/register-with-us.

A 'Welcome Pack' for new ringers is being assembled to include 'Discovering Bellringing' booklet, masters message and local contact information – more details later.

Treasurer's report. The accounts were distributed. Their acceptance was proposed by Alan Beaton and seconded by Jenny Brudenell and passed by a show of hands. Jill thanked the officers for their reports and their work done on our behalf during the year. The accounts are attached.

7 Election of officers

The Master took the chair. Jill Taylor, being willing to stand again as Chairman, was proposed by Mary Tester, seconded by Paul Miller and elected by a show of hands.

Jill resumed the Chair. Jenny Brudenell, being willing to stand again as Ringing Master, was proposed by Paul Miller, seconded by Alan Beaton and elected by a show of hands. Margaret Downer, being willing to stand as Deputy Ringing Master, was proposed by Jan Hookey, seconded by Maureen Kelly and elected by a show of hands. Mary Tester, being willing to stand again as Secretary, was proposed by Jill Taylor, seconded by Jenny Brudenell and elected by a show of hands. Judith Goodhind, being willing to stand again as Treasurer, was proposed by Toni Keele, seconded by Jan Hookey and elected by a show of hands. Margaret Downer was nominated as Executive Committee member by Kieran Downer, seconded by June Mitchell and elected by a show of hands. There were no nominations for Publicity Officer. Steve Noyes, being willing to stand again as Independent Examiner, was proposed by Judith Goodhind, seconded by Toni Keele and elected by a show of hands. John Stock, being willing to stand again as Peal and Quarter Peal recorder, was proposed by Paul Miller and seconded by Mary Tester.

8 SE Region youth competition will be at Epsom on April 2, 2016. The Channel Island and Isle of Wight districts are combining to send a team. The joint team are booked to have a practice on the Channel Islands and another on the mainland. Fares and expenses for the trip will cost about £4300. Viv Nobbs has booked and paid for all the travel so that there is no doubt that the team will be able to practice and compete. Fund-raising must now take place. The Secretary was asked to write to the Guild for a contribution of £400. This was proposed by Jill Taylor and seconded by John Stock. Paul Miller proposed that £500 be made available from the District. This was seconded by Barry Downer and passed by a show of hands. Judith proposed that the savings account be closed and the money withdrawn but Christine Hill suggested it might be useful in the future to retain a small amount in the account as it is quite difficult to open a new one. Judith said that £21.24 would be left if £500 were withdrawn.

9 'Firsts Fortnight', a Guild event, is 1-15 March 2016 See www.wpbells/firsts-fortnight

10 Notes from Christine Hill, Vice Master. Christine said she had enjoyed her day, and liked ringing on St Michael's 3 bells. Much of what she wanted to say had been covered by Executive Committee member. Christine wanted to draw attention to the website, to find out what the Guild is doing, that it is very user friendly. She hoped that more teams would enter the Guild striking competitions, and that many would come to the AGM. She said that 250 members of the Central Council would be coming to the W&P Guild for their annual meeting and helpers would be very gratefully received. Two towers on the Island, Shanklin and Ryde, would be open on Sat 28th May and help with manning them would be welcome.

11 Birmingham Ringing School. Steve Noyes said that the BRS would be on the Island from July 29 to August 5th. They would use Brighstone as a base, and were staying at Northcourt in Shorwell. They would welcome local helpers and anyone who would like to join them to ring a quarter peal. An opportunity to meet Claire McArdle would be at the District practice at Shorwell on March 5th (6 to 7.30) and at the Crown Inn afterwards.

12 Reimbursing Margaret Downer for the coach trip to Big Ben. Due to problems filling the coach Margaret was short by £290 and Mary Tester proposed that the District should pay for the shortfall. This was seconded by Jill Taylor and passed by a show of hands.

13 The dates in the Agenda were discussed. Jenny suggests that all towers could ring 90 changes to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on April 21st. Jenny would decide what could be rung and the secretary would inform the towers. It was decided to scrap 'Ringers Sunday' on the 23rd April, as it was not a Sunday and was too close to the Queen's birthday. The half yearly meeting at Shanklin should be deleted at the moment. This meeting will be reorganised later. Christmas Party. Paul Miller offered the Niton village hall as a venue. This will be confirmed in due course. Isle of Wight Challenge trophy. This is thought to have been in the possession of David Yates who has sadly died. The secretary will investigate.

Outing on Sept 24th. Margaret Downer proposed a trip to London City churches. This was approved by a show of hands

14 AOB Steve Noyes showed the Fred Green trophy which is running out of space to put new winners' names in. He proposed that the past winners names be located on the back so that the front could have the names of the latest winners. Alan Beaton seconded this and it was passed by a show of hands.

15 The Raffle made £59. Paul Miller proposed that it should all go to the young ringers fund. This was seconded by Judith Goodhind and it was passed by a show of hands. It was further proposed that the raffles during the year should all go to the fund. The meeting closed 7.30pm.

Minutes for the Half yearly meeting held at Godshill on 10 Sept, 2016 at 6pm

1 Welcome and thanks.

The Chairman welcomed the member present and thanked the Rev Ryder for taking the service, Mary Tester for playing the organ and Mike Marlow and the Godshill team for providing the tea.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes, which had been circulated previously, were accepted by a show of hands.

3 Matters arising

(i) Jill Taylor, Chairman, said that Jane Johnson had volunteered to become Publicity Officer which was gratefully accepted by the District Officers and so we should ratify this at the meeting. She proposed that Jane should be elected Publicity Officer and this was seconded by Maureen Kelly and accepted by a show of hands.

(ii) Steve Noyes reported on the Birmingham ringing school's visit to the Island, staying at Northcourt and using Brighstone bells as a base. It had been a successful visit, with 15 quarter peals scored, 33 teaching sessions, visiting many of the Island towers ending with a dinner at Northcourt. Steve was applauded for his part in their successful visit.

(iii) The Chairman also mentioned other ringing matters – the all-Island ringing for the Queen's birthday, the visit by the Central Council members, who rang at Ryde and Brading, the Ringing World youth contest in which an Island team competed. She also mentioned that no Island teams were able to ring in the 6 and 8-bell inter-tower competition nor in the Inter-District 8-bell, but hoped that next year might be more successful.

4 Election of new members

The following were proposed as members by John Stock and seconded by Jan Hookey and accepted by a show of hands: Emily Mills, Brighstone, Junior Full; Fleur-Marie Haynes, Brighstone, Junior, Full, Mark Mills, Brighstone, Adult, Full; Nancy Rimmer, Brighstone, Adult, Full; Julia Squibb, Carisbrooke, Adult, Full; Kevin Downer, Carisbrooke, Adult, Full; Keira May Louise Downer, Carisbrooke, Junior Full; Maximus Aureilius Archimides Downer, Carisbrooke, Junior, Full, Christopher Pickett, Arreton, Probationer; Bob Bright, Newchurch, Adult Full; Phoebe Allen, Swanmore, Probationer; Aidan Joy, Swanmore, Probationer; Keira Joy, Swanmore, Probationer; Liz Manning, Brading, Probationer; Marilyn Gage, Brading, Probationer; Jane Reed Brading, Probationer; Geoffrey Wilkins, Brading, Adult, Full; Debbie Dawson, Ryde, Probationer; Wilma Jackson, Whitwell, Probationer, Probationer. The following were elected as members after a peal: Jennifer Hancock (Full), Christopher Jenkins (Full) and David Hacker (Senior).

5 Badges and Certificates

As the only two new members present to receive these, Kay Wells and Jan Taylor (both Whitwell) were presented with a badge and Annual Review. Certificates and badges to be delivered to absent members as soon as possible.

6 Ringing Master's notes

Jenny reminded the members that the London outing had been cancelled due to unavailability of towers. Kieran Downer was thanked for his efforts. Jenny suggested an outing on the mainland within easy reach for the autumn, but there was little enthusiasm for this. She said she would be

organising the District practices soon.

7 Treasurer's notes

Money in deposit account after transferring £500 to current account =	£ 21.28
Money in current account as on 01.09.16	£2001.32
Money owed to Viv after cheque clears + raffle takings at this meeting	£ 959
Leaves in current account	£1042.32
To be paid to the Guild at the moment:	
BRF £236.00	
Guild £524.65 =	
£760.65	

So balance = £281.67

8 Fred Green Striking competition

This will be held at Arreton and the draw will take place at 2pm on October 16 2016

9 Christmas Party

This will be held on Dec 10th at Niton village hall, tbc. There were no firm ideas about what form the party should take and suggestions would be welcomed. Jill Taylor agreed to contact Paul and Catherine Miller to confirm that the party would go ahead.

10 The Annual District Meeting will be held at Shanklin on Feb 18th 2017.

11 Any other business

- (i) The Chairman congratulated Brighstone on being given an ART award.
- (ii) The District Officers Forum is to be held on Sept 24 and the Chairman asked if there was anyone who would like to attend on behalf of the Island. No one was available and it was noted that Viv Nobbs would be there to represent the Island.
- (iii) Isle of Wight day is on Saturday 24th Sept and 'Songs of Praise' associated with this is to be on Sunday 25th Sept. The High Sheriff has asked if it would be possible for all the bells of the Island to ring out on IOW day. The Archdeacon has also contacted Viv to see if ringing at as many Island towers as possible could take place. Jenny has suggested a District ringing afternoon on the 24th which might be a focus for all-island-ringing. The secretary said she would send a message to each tower to encourage participation.
- (iv) The Guild report is under discussion. It is an expensive item and may not be appreciated by members. The Guild is asking for any comments, criticisms or suggestions. Barry Downer said 'do we need one copy per person?' John Stock said 'one per tower would be enough, now everyone can see it on the internet'. It was remarked that better proofreading would be welcomed.
- (v) Members were reminded to look at and contribute to the website Wpbells.org.
- (vi) A reminder was given to send details of any commemorative WW1 ringing to Rachel Anderson at ww1bells@aol.com.

12 The Raffle made £38.