

## **Minutes of the ADM, Feb 15, 2020 at Ryde All Saints**

### **1 Welcome and Thanks**

Jill Taylor, Chairman, welcomed the members (43 in number) and thanked the Rev Barry Downer for taking the service and Ian Hookey for playing the organ.

John Stock added to the welcome by saying that the new vicar of All Saints, Rev Samantha Martell, was very disappointed to have missed taking the service, but she had been committed to a course before she came to Ryde. She hopes to meet us soon and sends best wishes.

**2 Loss of members during the year.** We remembered Peter Smith, Norah Morey, Ian Cole, Mike Collett, Myrtle Weir and Jack Luscombe during a minute's silence. Peter Smith's family wished to thank the ringers for their support at his funeral service and felt Peter had had a very good send off.

### **3 The Minutes of the last meeting (Brading, half-yearly, 20.7.19).**

i) Steve Noyes said that Myrtle Weir, whose death was reported, was a ringer at Carisbrooke, not Brighstone. This was duly amended.

ii) It was brought to the attention of the Chairman and Secretary that items at the Half Yearly meeting in July 2019 had been incorrectly recorded, including there had been omissions. The Officers had received a full explanation from Viv Nobbs before the meeting in an email dated 10th February 2020. A copy of the email was presented to the Secretary by Viv to assist the meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed that the following be included as a post-meeting note:

“Viv said she had been disappointed and surprised to hear that there had been ‘controversy’ reported; actually what had taken place in advance of the ADM was that she had suggested to two District Officers that:

- the (2019) A.D.M. gave members an opportunity to discuss how they'd like to fund training in the District in the future. (Historically District training has been provided at no cost; every member could then attend training courses without necessarily having to consider their own financial situation first.)

- the District Officers and all members were again reminded of the Guild's Training and Development Fund. (This fund was available to groups and individual members, especially to those aged under 25 but not exclusively so, and was intended to be used for the provision of training, those attending courses and more. See the Guild's website for full details.)

Viv acknowledged that training materials were often needed, she felt they would be helpful and that individual tutors should not be expected to bear the cost. She wanted to ensure that District Officers and members were all aware that local training courses could likely be supported financially by the Guild by applying to its Training and Development Fund. Viv had details of the Training and Development Fund and how to apply for it available for the meeting.’

Mary offered to circulate a note to towers reminding ringers of the benefits to us of the Training and Development Fund.

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by John Stock and seconded by Kieran Downer and agreed by a show of hands.

### **4 Matters arising**

i) Jill Taylor said that Sunday Ringing at Arreton had now been established once a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

ii) Steve Noyes said that the Centenary date of the Isle of Wight District was 27.12.1920.

The Minutes were signed as a true record by Jill Taylor.

### **5 Election of new members,** proposed by Lexi Skeldon and seconded by Viv Nobbs

Angela Hutchins, Whitwell, Probationer; Penny Lindsay, Whitwell, Full; Tony Lawley, Ryde, Probationer; Celia Wells, Newchurch, Probationer; Rick Shaw, Newchurch, Probationer; Sharon Roberts, Newchurch, Probationer; Judith Frye, Dunblane Cathedral, Compounding; Michelle McHugh, Brading, Full.

### **6 Presentation of Certificates and Badges**

Jane Johnstone, Carisbrooke; Angela Evans, Ryde; Billie Thornton, Shanklin; Gerry Thornton, Shanklin; Michael Wadey, Newchurch. (Martin Hough to receive his at a later date).

### **7a Guild Master's Report**

In the absence of Pete Jordan, due to the dangerous weather condition in the Solent, Viv relayed his message as Guild Master. He was very sorry to miss our meeting and sent his apologies. He said that the Island was doing well with numbers of ringers, and a good turn out for meetings and practices, and thanked the officers for their efforts. Supporting each other, teaching, helping and encouraging was all voluntary, so thanks to everyone who helps. The Guild Action Plan includes a project to photograph all historic Peal Boards which are in the towers. It is hoped to complete this record in a year. Another project is to get recordings of our bells. This is not happening yet but let Viv or Alan Yalden know if you are interested. Pete is hoping to come to the Island to ring soon.

### **7b Ringing Masters' report**

Barry Downer spoke on behalf of the joint ringing masters. He said that there was a lot of support in the District, and they were feeling their way to finding out what was needed. They had had less District practices but the 12 bell and 10 bell general practices had been very popular. The Striking competitions had gone well and were popular and he thanked the judges, Paul Miller, George Vant and Julian Hemper. The icing on the cake had been result of the Inter District Striking competition with the Island winning 1<sup>st</sup> place and 4<sup>th</sup> place. The District also had successful 8-bell practices, started by Kieran Downer and now taken on by Steve Noyes. Steve said that anyone who can ring minor methods would be welcome at the 8-bell practices. Barry said that some 6-bell towers were in need of support.

### **7c Peal and Quarter Peal recorder**

All records are now up to date as to 31 December, 2019 and printed for you to view. I apologise to the meeting for the lack of a report last year but my own health prevented that happening but the records for 2018 are also available to view for those of you interested.

2019 saw 14 peals being rung across the Island with 9 peals being rung which included Island members, the remaining 5 were rung entirely by the visiting group from the Trent Valley Association so are not included in our records.

With quarter peals, 77 were rung throughout the year, 59 being rung by Island members and the remainder by visiting bands, of which we entertained quite a few over the course of the year.

I note that visitors ring some strange methods, Grasshoppers' Green Herbarian Band Delight Minor and No Bananas Surprise being amongst them!

Our saddest recording is of the passing in December of Freshwater's tower captain, President and life member of this District and a stalwart of Island ringing, Peter Smith. Brighstone rang to celebrate his life toward the end of that month. A peal has been rung at the beginning of January in his honour and I feel sure there will be further tributes which will be recorded during this year.

I'm happy to report that apart from Whitwell all towers last year were able to record a quarter peal with Island ringers being involved. I've done the usual thing of making a breakdown by tower which is also now available for you to view.

Both Brighstone and Shanklin topped the 'league' with 13 quarter peals each. Brading did its stuff with 9. For someone who has been ringing a relatively short time and has to contend with several health issues, the feat of Kay Wells ringing her first quarter peal ever at Shanklin and then going on to ring another 3 at Niton, Arreton and Godshill, on the same day defied belief so, as has been previously said, a big congratulation to her.

I also note there are quite a few firsts being achieved in quarter peals being rung. Well done all of you for expanding your grasp on ringing. It is also good to see that our average of quarter peals continues at a steady pace and it should be noted that all Island records now top 3900! You lot really do like to keep me busy!

### **7d Secretary's report (for including in the Annual Guild Report)**

#### **IOW District Secretary's report for 2019**

In 2019 we held our Annual District Meeting at Newport Parish Rooms. We elected 5 new members. We elected Barry Downer and Kieran Downer as joint Ringing Masters. All the other officers were willing to stand again and were re-elected.

We have had our three striking competitions during the year. The Don Exell (8-bell) is first in April and Brighstone hosted the event. It was judged by Paul Miller and the winner was Brighstone. In May we had the Lester Bailey (6-bell) call change competition at Godshill and eight teams entered. The judge was George Vant and the winner was Brading. The third striking competition was held in October and was at Arreton, the Fred Green (6-bell) change ringing competition. This was judged by Julian Hemper. 9 teams entered and the winner was a joint team of Carisbrooke/Ryde.

The two Cathedral services at Portsmouth and Winchester in May were the final events of the W&P WWI Centenary Commemoration Project. Three of our ringers, Rachel Anderson, Viv Nobbs and John Stock, had served for several years on the working committee. Many Island ringers attended the services.

We also had the pleasure of hosting the Guild AGM in June. This was a very successful day, starting with the Inter District Striking competition, held at Brighstone, with four teams entering: Basingstoke, Alton and Petersfield and IOW 1 and 2. The Judge was Peter Niblett and it is good to report that IOW 2 were the convincing winners! Lunch, meeting and tea for the AGM followed at Freshwater Village Hall and All Saints Church.

We have had Training Days and District practices during the year, and twice yearly meetings, all of which are well attended and much appreciated.

A talk was given at Shorwell about ringing and its history to the Oddfellows Friendly Society. Viv Nobbs and Paul Miller gave the presentation and offered a taster session to members of the group who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We were saddened by the loss of our President, Peter Smith, who had been Tower Captain at Freshwater for many years. A peal was rung in his memory at Godshill and a quarter peal at Brighstone.

Other ringing included Ryde's peal for their Patronal Festival and the 150th Anniversary of the laying of the Church's Foundation Stone. Shanklin rang a peal to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of their church and two quarters were rung to welcome our new Archdeacon, Canon Peter Leonard. Newchurch celebrated Val and Alan's Golden Wedding with a quarter peal. Ryde attempted a quarter for their new incumbent, the Rev Samantha Martell and Brading rang to celebrate ringer Robyn's new baby, Autumn. A quarter was rung at Shorwell for Bruce Lockhart's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was formerly tower captain at Shorwell and his son Simon was able to ring in the quarter. In June Chale opens its tower to visitors to get a good view of the Round the Island yacht race. They don't ring the bells on this occasion but the view is magnificent!

A jolly Christmas party was enjoyed in January, so much more relaxed after the rush of Christmas, and silly games and a tricky quiz were fun for everyone. Thank you Shanklin for hosting and providing a such a nice tea.

### **7e Treasurer's Report**

The total money collected this year was £1284.50. From this, payments to the value of £1121.46 were made, leaving a closing balance of £1554.75, consisting of £1533.45 in the main account and £21.30 in the interest account.

Last year's Guild payments of £545.65 and £246.00 to the Bell Restoration Fund, have been made and cleared at the bank February 4<sup>th</sup> meaning the actual value of the fund for the beginning of this year was £763.10 (see page 2). This means that the funds have increased by £233.89 over the year.

The total of the monies collected from raffles over the last year £64.00 and this was paid to the Society for the Preservation of Isle of Wight Church Bells.

The information on page 3 gives you the breakdown of membership payments last year and the way the monies to the Guild were calculated.

As always, the last couple of pages are just for interest to give some comparison with previous years. These pages do not form part of the accounts that are submitted to the Guild.

The Treasurer took the opportunity to thank Steve Noyes for checking over these accounts this year. The Treasurer's report was proposed by Maureen Kelly and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Noyes and accepted by a show of hands.

## **8 Elections of Officers**

Viv Nobbs took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chairman. There being no new nominations Jill Taylor was proposed by Mary Tester and seconded by Richard Knight and accepted by a show of hands. Back in the Chair Jill Taylor asked if there were nominations for any other posts and asked if the current officers were willing to stand again. All the officers were willing to stand again and were elected nem com. The post of Publicity Officer remains vacant and it was suggested that the Secretary should explain what the role entails in order to try to interest someone in doing it.

## **9 Choosing a new President**

Jill Taylor said that in the past we had usually asked the Archdeacon of the IOW to be our President so she was proposing that we should write to the new Archdeacon the Ven Peter Leonard to ask if he might be willing. This was proposed by Jill Taylor and seconded by Viv Nobbs and agreed by a show of hands.

## **10 Youth team to go to York**

The Ringing World youth event is on July 4<sup>th</sup> and as it is York it is quite an expensive and difficult journey for them. They will need 2 nights away, mini bus hire, ferry costs and food. The result of the Raffle after the meeting was £90, donated immediately to the Young Ringers, and the Ryde tea makers said that they would give their tea money to the Young Ringers, too.

## **11 Dates for the year**

Sat Jan 18	District practice on raising and lowering
Sat Feb 1	Follow-up
Sat Feb 15	ADM
Sat March 7	Plain Hunt doubles
Sat Mar 28	Plain Hunt doubles and to a method
Say April 18	Don Exell 8-bell
Sat May 23	Lester Bailey Call Changes
Sat June 6	Tower Maintenance (Newport)
Sat June 6	Tower Maintenance (Shanklin)
Sat June 13	Guild AGM and Inter-district 8-bell competition
Sat July 4	RW Youth competition
Sat July 25	Half yearly meeting
Sat Sept 19	IOW day
Sat Oct 3	Fred Green change ringing
Sat Feb 20, 2021	ADM

## **12 As mentioned in 10 the raffle money went to the Youth team.**

Judith was asked whether we had enough to make a donation. After some negotiations a sum of £250 was decided on to give to the Young ringers. This was proposed by Kay Wells and seconded by John Stock.

## **13 Any other business**

- i) Viv Nobbs said it was hoped that all bells would ring out for Peace on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 75 years after VE-day.
- ii) It was suggested that the question of how to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IOW District should be on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- iii) The consensus was in favour of keeping the new timing for meetings, with meeting following the Service and tea following the meeting.
- iv) It was requested that an email should be sent to towers explaining what the duties of a publicity officer would involve.