

# SCACR Northern District Annual Meeting: Minutes

5 pm, Saturday 2nd February 2019, The Barn, Horsham

*In attendance:* Rob Lane (SCACR Acting Master; Chair), Steph Pendlebury (Northern District Secretary), Richard Pendlebury (committee member), Tom White, Stephen Pocock, Ian Smith, Ian Oram, Margaret Oram, Rosemary Gregory (committee member), Alison Everett, Sue Gadd, Mike Cattell, Val Burgess, Keith Burgess, Simon Alford, Judith Alford, Ian Wiltshire, Stella Bianco, Kathy Howard, David Kirkcaldy, Nick Smith, Janet Cullen, Mark Cullen, Elaine Farrow (committee member), Hamish McNaughton, Annie Symes, Brenda Jones, Edward Woodward, Isabel Woodward, Rachel Webbe, Chris Small, Anne Ekins, Guy Ekins.

## 1. Apologies for absence

Sandra Alford (committee member), Jeremy Alford, Jenny Dobson, Neil Dobson.

## 2. Deaths of members

The attendees stood in remembrance of: Basil Pink (April 2018, Warnham), Martin Donner (June 2018, Hartfield), Hugh Baddeley (June 2018, Rudgwick), Roger James (September 2018, West Hoathly), and Tony Graham (December 2018, Crawley).

## 3. Minutes of Northern District Business Meeting (Saturday 3rd November 2018, Lower Beeding) and matters arising

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

## 4. Welcoming of New Members

We are delighted to report that over 30 new members have joined in the Northern District since the last ADM. Janet and Mark Cullen, Annie Symes, Nick Smith and Chris Small were presented with their certificates during the meeting (Denise Herrington had been presented with her certificate during the ringing earlier). The Ringing Remembers campaign was extremely successful, with over 150 new recruits registered in Sussex, and over 3000 in total.

## 5. Secretary's Report

The following report was accepted:

"2018 was another busy year for the Northern District, and we were delighted to see so many new recruits as part of the Ringing Remembers campaign – at least 24!

"As usual, I'd like to thank the District committee for all their help over the past year: Sandra Alford, Elaine Farrow (who has taken on organising the Monday evening practices), Rosie Gregory, and Richard Pendlebury (also Association webmaster). Many thanks also to Jeremy Alford for organising the outing, and to Neil Dobson for organising the Monday night practices for many years! The North has a newsletter every two months, alternating between a full *Northern News* (6 pages packed with news, photos, events, and information; thanks to everyone who has contributed!) and a 1-2 page *What's On* summary of upcoming events. Thanks to Katherine Potter for doing such an excellent job with the newsletters.

"We've held a Saturday Gathering every month (although July's turn-out was comically low!), either ringing with a social element (e.g. mulled wine and mince pies), or short training courses. The new members' events were very well attended, and the Intro to Plain Hunt course was so popular that Elaine organised more sessions. Thanks to all the people who made cakes and sandwiches, helped on courses and generally got involved!

"Elaine has evolved the Monday evening practice programme. The first Monday in the month will be a six-bell practice and the second Monday an eight-bell practice, varying between elementary, improvers and advanced. Jeremy Alford continues to run the 10-bell methods practice on the third Monday. There is increasing desire from across the Association for more 12 bell practices; as the only 12 bell tower is in the Northern District, we have made the 4th Monday practice of every month a 12 Bell Practice. Some of these will have a specified entry level to give the ambitious folk from all the Districts a chance to practise their 12-bell method ringing. Some however will still be rounds upward, so keep your eye on the Facebook page, the website or contact us to check which are suitable for you. Fifth Mondays will be a general practice, mainly on 9 or 10 bells, at Horsham.

“We’ll continue with the popular Saturday events in 2019, with additional focussed practices and short courses. We aim to make ringing as inclusive and supportive as possible – hopefully the programme has something for everyone! As ever, if you have any requests for training courses, or suggestions for other things we could do, please do get in touch. **The Association is for you, the members, so please do let the committee know if you have any requests!**”

## 6. BRF Report

Rob and Steph thanked Simon Alford for his efforts over the previous year. Simon presented the following report, which was accepted:

### *“Turner’s Hill*

Jo Barnes, Tower Captain at TH, had sought advice regarding a broken stay. John MacKenzie, the non-ringing husband of ringer Sara, was currently fulfilling the ‘Steeple Keeper’ role. I met with him in March to make a brief visual inspection and discuss potential problems. Main recommendation was to arrange to have the bell chamber floor cleaned; it presented a potential fire hazard. In all other aspects, including the new treble stay, the installation appeared to be in reasonable working order.

### *“East Grinstead*

Nicholson Engineering made a maintenance inspection and reported on it in the spring, following which Ian Wiltshire discussed with me some of the recommendations contained therein. Edward Woodward and I visited in December to have a closer look. Edward made a temporary repair to the tenor floor pulley which was about to fall out of the pulley box. Other details were noted and several points discussed. I have produced a list of recommendations for Ian going forward, most of which can be undertaken by utilising local skills and knowledge. Again, the installation appears to be fair order.”

## 7. Election/Appointment of Northern District Officers

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
Secretary	Steph Pendlebury	Simon Alford	Tom White
Ringling Master	Elaine Farrow	Val Burgess	Margaret Oram
District Committee Members	Sandra Alford Rosie Gregory Richard Pendlebury	Stella Bianco	Anne Ekins
Bell restoration/maintenance (“BRF”) contact	Simon Alford	Richard Pendlebury	Elaine Farrow
2 District Committee Members to sit on General Committee	Steph Pendlebury Richard Pendlebury	Rosie Gregory	Stella Bianco
CCCBR Rep (North)	Steph Pendlebury	Elaine Farrow	Stella Bianco

Association Team representatives will be appointed after the ADM.

## 8. Nominations for Association Officers

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Master	Rob Lane
General Secretary	Hamish McNaughton
Treasurer	Sue Gadd
Safeguarding Officer	Sue Child
Trustee	<i>No nomination</i>
BRF Secretary	Graham Hills
5 <sup>th</sup> CCCBR Rep	<i>No nomination</i>

## 9. AOB

### 9.1 Association of Ringing Teachers Course – Stella Bianco

Stella informed the meeting that there will be an ART Module 2F (Rounds to Plain Hunting) course (for teachers) at Billingshurst on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

### 9.2 Armistice Day Ringing Records – Stella Bianco

Stella requested that any towers that rang for the centenary of the World War 1 Armistice on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 but did *not* submit any performances to BellBoard to please let her know. Stella is collating a record of all SCACR Armistice 100 performances.

### 9.3 Wedding Ringing Fees – Elaine Farrow

Elaine asked what fees towers are currently charging for wedding ringing (before and after, or just after the ceremony). It was noted that John Norris has recently surveyed wedding fees in Sussex. Mike Cattell noted that there has been a very significant decrease in the number of weddings recently (e.g. a reduction of 80% at Horsham), and suggested that we might consider having church/ringing stalls at wedding fairs.

*Rob and Steph closed the meeting by thanking Rebecca for taking the service, Benedict for playing the organ, Val and Keith Burgess for providing the refreshments, and everyone for attending the meeting.*