

Minutes of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers AGM held at Boxford Saturday 14th April 2012

1. The Chairman Philip Gorrod opened the meeting by welcoming the 70 members present and thanked Richard Gates and the ringers in the SW District for organising the day, and Jonathan Stevens for arranging the afternoon speakers John Harrison and Roger Booth, Apologies from 60 members were recorded separately.
2. The meeting stood in silence in memory of David Allsopp from Ipswich, Keith Bainbridge from Cowlinge, Elsie Braybrook of Polstead, Judith Frost from Haughley, Dennis Lord from Nayland, Jim Nunn from Framlingham, Tom Parke of Earl Stonham, Bernard Pollard of Walsham le Willows and Susan Schurr from Pettistree. There were also a number of NRLMs who had passed away, and Pat Bailey (LHM).
3. Election of new members
The following were elected as members of the Guild

Name	Tower	Proposed	Seconded
Harry Garrod	Bardwell	Ruth Suggett	Jan Tomlinson
Christopher Shepard	Bardwell	Ruth Suggett	Jan Tomlinson
Peter Barron	Mildenhall	Ruth Suggett	Mary Dunbavin
Jill Hales	Eye	St John Perry	Chris Davies
Moira Jordan	Eye	St John Perry	Chris Davies
James Juby	Debenham	John Taylor	Tom Scase
Aaron Whittleton	Cowlinge	Richard Knight	Christine Knight

4. Minutes of the 2011 AGM had been printed in the Annual Report. Their acceptance was proposed by John Girt and seconded by Peter Harper.
5. Officers Reports
All reports were accepted by the meeting without amendment:
Ringing Master Jed Flatters presented the Master's report as published.
Acceptance proposed by Maurice Rose seconded by Alan Munnings
Secretary Mandy Shedden had nothing to add to the report as published.
Acceptance proposed by Craig Gradidge, sec. Derek Rose
Treasurer's Report Gordon Slack said that the Examiner's report had been received and was now on website. Insurance for handbells had been arranged with Mayola Music and the premium would appear in the 2012 accounts. Although a small loss in the general fund is expected it would not be necessary to raise the subscriptions. He thanked the District Secretaries and Treasurers for the efficient collection of Guild subscriptions.
Acceptance proposed by Peter Harper, sec. Brian Hale.
Technical Advisor/Belfry Advisory Committee Chairman Jonathan Stevens said that Bruce Wakefield had resigned and been replaced by Nathan Coleman and Chris Davies.
Acceptance proposed by Suzanne Stevens, sec. Maggie Ross
Public Relations Officer Richard Munnings presented his report as published
Acceptance proposed by Veronica Downing, sec. Diana Pipe
Report Editor Ruth Suggett added her thanks to Brian Whiting, David Salter and Alex Tatlow for their contribution in compiling peal and quarter peal compositions.
Acceptance proposed by Alan Stanley, sec Alex Tatlow

Magazine Editor Alan Stanley thanked all contributors, advertisers and distributors.

Acceptance proposed by Ruth Suggett, sec Peter Harper

Librarian Abby Antrobus said that the Record Office were halfway through cataloguing the material.

Acceptance proposed by Alex Tatlow, sec Robert Scase

Peal secretary Christine Knights reiterated her thanks to David Salter, Brian Whiting and Ruth Suggett.

Acceptance proposed by Richard Munnings, sec Maggie Ross

Handbell/Mini Ring Trustee Brian Whiting said that the handbells are underused at the moment but remain in good order. The mini ring has had a canopy added and is booked out for 17 events already this year.

Acceptance proposed by Maggie Ross, sec Alex Tatlow

Webmasters Report Acceptance proposed by Robert Scase, sec. Jennifer Scase

6. **Trustees Report** The Chairman asked for the report to be accepted as printed on Page 3 Bryony Davies proposed Alan Stanley seconded a motion to that effect which was carried.

7. **Central Council Report** The reports from the CCC meeting had been posted on the website. 4 representatives attended the CC meetings. No questions were raised.

8. Subscriptions and Peal Fees. The GMC proposed that these remain unchanged from last year. The fees for 2012/3 are therefore

Ringing Member	£ 15.00	Associate member	£ 7.00
Ringing Member 65-74	£ 10.00	Non Resident Life Member	£ 7.00
Members 75 and over	Free		
Ringing member in full time education	£ 7.00	Peal Fee	£ 1.00

9. Election of Officers. The following were elected unopposed by the meeting.

	Elected	Proposed	Seconded
1. Chairman	Philip Gorrod	Jason Busby	Jed Flatters
2. Ringing Master	Jed Flatters	Alex Tatlow	Gordon Slack
3. Secretary	Mandy Shedden	Mary Garner	Philip Gorrod
4. Treasurer	Gordon Slack	David Steed	Lesley Steed
5. Technical Adviser	Jonathan Stevens	Mary Garner	Philip Moyse
6. Chairman of the BAC	Jonathan Stevens	Mary Garner	Philip Moyse
7. Public Relations Officer	Richard Munnings	Maggie Ross	Michelle Williams
8. Librarian	Abby Antrobus	Stephen Cheek	Michelle Williams
9. Report Editor	Ruth Suggett	Michelle Williams	Stephen Cheek

10 Webmaster	Chris Garner	Mary Garner	Michelle Williams
11 Magazine Editor	Alan Stanley	Chris Garner	Michelle Williams
12 Peal Secretary	Christine Knight	Stephen Cheek	Chris Garner
13 Handbell Trustee	Brian Whiting	Chris Garner	Philip Moyse
14 Mini-Ring Trustee	Brian Whiting	Chris Garner	Philip Moyse

10. Election of trustees:

The current trustees Philip Gorrod, Gordon Slack and Amanda Shedden were returned unopposed.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Larking Gowen were re-appointed unanimously Prop. Gordon Slack and Sec. Philip Gorrod

12. ITTS

Jed Flatters introduced the Integrated Teacher Training Scheme to the meeting, details of which had been obtained at the Wellesbourne Conference in November last year. Pip Penney and Graham Nabb have been using this successfully and JF has set up a session at the Norman Tower taking a trainee teacher and a pupil from each of the four Districts. When they have successfully completed the whole course the trainees will then become accredited teachers. There was some concern from the meeting that people who had been teaching in their own towers for many years would now not be considered qualified to teach if they did not do the scheme even though they were very experienced and had taught many who had gone on to become successful ringers. The question of insurance for non-accredited teachers was also a worry. JF assured the meeting that no-one would be excluded from the scheme. A proposal from the chair that the Guild supports the Master in the adoption of the ITTS was carried overwhelmingly.

13. Mini Ring on Tour

The mini ring is booked to go to the Suffolk Show again following on from the success of last year and also Henham Steam Rally. The Chairman asked the meeting to consider volunteering to help with the mini ring at the Suffolk Show in return for reduced entry price. It is also being used by neighbouring associations which is good publicity for the Guild.

14. Deanery basis of representation

The Chairman explained that two deaneries in NE District had merged and other towers had changed benefices across District boundaries. The GMC had set up a committee with a representative from each District to consider how the constitution should be amended in the light of these changes and whether any changes in the existing makeup of the Districts were desirable. He asked members to give their views to their District representative so that any changes could be effected at next year's AGM.

15. Guild Social Events.

The NW District hosted the Guild Social on Saturday 30th July. Numbers were depleted due to the wedding of Jason and Sarah Busby, but a sizeable number enjoyed a historic quiz based on Bury St Edmunds Town Centre before moving on to a barbecue at Great Welnetham Village Hall. Jed Flatters ran a bar and it was an enjoyable evening. It is the turn of the SE District to host the Guild social this year and tickets will be available for a barn dance at Sproughton Tithe Barn on Saturday 15th September. Next Year the Guild will be celebrating 90 years of existence with the 5 yearly Guild dinner.

16. National Youth Striking Competition

Alex Tatlow is organising practices for a group of young ringers from around the Guild to take part in the first National Young Ringers Striking Competition to be held in Birmingham at St Pauls on 30th June. The Chairman encouraged everyone to support our young people as this is quite an undertaking for the band all of whom have to be under the age of 19.

17. Guild Clothing

Stephen Cheek is able to supply a variety of Guild Clothing with the Logo embroidered on it. The choice is wide e.g. T-shirts, fleeces, sweatshirts and polo shirts. Items can be ordered individually as there is not a minimum order required. A link to his website and his details can be found on the Guild Website. The aim is not for this to be a profit making venture but as a means of advertising the Guild.

18. Matters arising from 2011 AGM George Pipe apologised for the fact that the History of the Guild book had not yet been published due to illness but he was able to show members a prototype cover which was very impressive.

19. Errata- Ruth Darton recorded as Ruth Dalton

SW District Chairman telephone number is 01359 408247 not as printed

20. St Edmund's Clapper competition

Four bands competed for this but again the trophy was won by Offton who had raised £300 for the BRF.

21. Date and venue for 2013 AGM NE District

Maggie Ross invited members to Stradbroke on Saturday, 6th April 2013.

22. Any Other Business

- a) The Chairman highlighted the forthcoming Guild Striking Competitions on Saturday 21st of May. The Miston Shield and Lester Brett Trophy competitions will be held at Blythburgh and the Rose Trophy at Leiston.
- b) Chris Davies asked members to give written support to the augmentation project at Redgrave.