

## **District Minutes 2004**

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### **Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers Winchester District**

Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2004 at Romsey

Ringling at the Abbey took place before the meeting and a tea, provided by the Abbey ringers was enjoyed by all.

#### **Chairman's Welcome**

Philip Gorrod welcomed members and four particular guests; the Guild Master Barry Fry, the Guild Secretary Steven Castle, Robin Winkworth, and Andrew Pickett. He also said he was pleased to see Dave Goodwin, the retiring District Secretary, at the meeting and hoped that his health continues to improve. Philip expressed thanks to the Abbey ringers for providing the tea and making all the day's arrangements.

#### **Election of new members**

Confirmation of Probationary Members

Kings Somborne

26 Jan 2004, Rachel Rand, Proposed by Sue Spurling and seconded by Anne Taylor

Crawley

27 Jan 2004, Heather Stewart, Proposed by Amanda Bayford and seconded by Felicite Coulson

Wonston

31 Jan 2004, Leonard and Patricia Bouffard, Proposed by Gerry Cornick and seconded by Wally Taylor

Candover Valley

2 Feb 2004, Emma Stevens, Proposed by Jill Parr and seconded by Cressida Wheelwright

Owslebury

9 Feb 2004, Colin and Mark Smith, and Kerrick ??(surname to be advised) Proposed by Gary Brown and seconded by Sarah Macdonald

Twyford

10 Feb 2004, David Abbott Proposed by John Denham and seconded by Jenny Richardson

New Alresford

13 Feb 2004, David Richards Proposed by Theo Johnson and seconded by Wendy Ling

Confirmation of Compounding Members:

24 Nov 2003 Rodney A Yeates of Dietenheim Proposed by Andrew Craddock and seconded by Kelly Salter prior to a peal on handbells in Winchester

New Ringing members:

Broughton

Isobel Broome, proposed by Mike Hayward and seconded by Sally Josling

Candover Valley

Charlotte Bryant, Alison and Louise Ellett, proposed by Jill Parr and seconded by Elizabeth Johnson

Kings Somborne

Darren and Samuel Pearson, proposed by Sue Spurling and seconded by Audrey Thomas

Lockerley

Brenda and John Palk, proposed by Jen Churchill and seconded by Joy Scanlan

New Alresford

Paul M Beresford, proposed by Elizabeth Johnson and seconded by Alec Fry

Owslebury

Laura Wheeler, proposed by Gary Brown and seconded by Sarah Macdonald

All were elected unanimously.

### **Minutes of last Quarterly meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held at Bishopstoke on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2003 having been previously circulated their adoption was proposed by Philip Carter and seconded by John Colliss. This was accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

### **Matters arising from the previous minutes**

District Book Shop: Peter Clarke told the meeting that few books were sold from the bookshop and it was quite expensive to hold stocks of books. He proposed that the bookshop should be wound up and a list of recommended books and how to obtain them should be made available to all towers. He, Peter, would prepare the list and place it on the website. The current stock could be either sold off at bargain prices, or could be given to towers that could make good use of them.

After some discussion the proposal to wind up the bookshop was proposed by Peter Clarke, seconded by Philip Carter, and was accepted by the meeting. Peter Clarke proposed that the Ringing Masters should distribute the books to towers where they saw a need. This was seconded by Philip Carter and was accepted by the meeting. Tony Smith proposed that the money that was currently held by the bookshop should be donated to the BRF. This was seconded by Roy LeMarechal and accepted by the meeting. Services at meetings.

The Chairman told the meeting that the Executive had discussed whether a church service should be held at all District Meetings and had come up with the proposal that there should be a service at the ADM and at the May meeting, but that as summer meeting service is usually poorly attended and the Carol Service is very close to the November meeting there should be no service at these meetings. Philip had received a letter from Elizabeth Johnson reminding everyone that our main purpose in ringing is to call people to church and that we should reflect this in our meetings. She did however suggest that the Executive proposal would be acceptable. Jill Parr expressed a similar view. Colin Cook pointed out that if there was no service the church would not benefit from a collection and suggested that the District should make a donation to any towers that were used for ringing when no service was held. The Chairman said this would be considered when the situation arose. The proposal to have a service at the ADM and May meetings, and no service at the August and November meetings was proposed by Elizabeth Johnson, seconded by Philip Gorrod and was agreed by the meeting.

### **District Funds**

The Chairman reminded members that the cost of meetings (hall hire, organist fees, etc.) should be claimed from District funds. He also said that travelling expenses can be paid to ringers who travel to other towers to provide training or other assistance.

### **Events since the last Meeting**

#### November Education Day

Carrie Eisenhauer reported that both the plain hunt and conducting courses were well attended and appreciated. The conducting course had been cut short by vandals attacking cars at North Stoneham, but the tutors and pupils had managed to convene again at Bishopstoke at a later date to finish the instruction.

#### Striking League:

Andy Townsend reported that both sections of the league were progressing well.

#### Carol Service:

The Chairman reported that this had been a great success thanks to the efforts of the Crawley ringers.

#### Tower Reps meeting:

Philip reported that this had been a useful meeting for those who attended. The main request from the meeting was that District should be proactive in providing experienced volunteers to help less experienced bands. Sue Spurling of Kings Somborne said this was particularly necessary if bands like hers were to progress. Philip suggested that anyone willing to assist at other towers should give their names to the Ringing Masters so that towers could be given possible names to approach.

### **Officers Reports**

#### Chairman

The Chairman's official report had been circulated, but Philip said he would like to add a tribute to Bob and Gail Cater for all the work they had done in the Guild and the District and the Cathedral during their

time here. John Croft asked whether they should be considered for Life Membership of the Guild and was told that this is already on the agenda for the next Guild Executive Meeting.

#### Secretary

The Secretary's report had been circulated. The Chairman said that there was one amendment to be made. The thanks for the Carol Service arrangements should have been addressed to Amanda Bayford rather than to Carrie. Philip Gorrod proposed that the report should be adopted with this amendment. John Croft seconded the motion and the meeting accepted the report.

#### Treasurer

The Treasurer's Report had been circulated. Tony commented that membership was slightly down on the previous year, in line with the Guild as a whole. He thinks this is possibly a fall off of some of the 'Millennium boom' members. £1355-84 was carried forward. The Secretary claimed his expenses, but then donated them to the BRF which was able to claim tax back through Gift Aid. Peter Clarke asked if we would be loaning any of our excess to the BRF where it could earn more interest. Tony said that the Executive had decided that the potential gain from a possible £200 with current low interest rates did not warrant the administrative work required. Adoption of the Treasurers Report and Accounts was proposed by Peter Clarke and seconded by Andy Townsend.

#### Ringling Masters

This report had been circulated. Andy Townsend said that he would like to stress that even when special methods are announced for District Practices, anything from Rounds upwards will be rung and all levels of ringers are welcome.

#### Public Relations

This report had been circulated and there was no discussion.

#### Election of Officers

Office	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Philip Gorrod	Philip Carter	Carrie Eisenhauer
Secretary	Theo Johnson	Philip Carter	Andy Townsend
Treasurer	Tony Smith	Philip Gorrod	Peter Clark
Ringling Masters	Andy Townsend	Maggie Wolverson	Philip Carter
	Edmund Wratten	Philip Gorrod	Colin Cook
Guild Exec Rep	Wendy Ling	Andy Tonwsend	Graham Wright
Public Relations	Maggie Wolverson	Andy Townsend	Carrie Eisenhauer
Independent Examiner	John Colliss	Colin Cook	John Croft

The Chairman thanked the retiring officers, Dave Goodwin, Carrie Eisenhauer, and Mark Wolverson, for their contributions to the District over the last few years.

The position of Social Secretary was discussed by the meeting and it was concluded that one was not needed at the present time.

#### Future Events

A draft list of future events was circulated. This will be distributed to all towers and will be available on the Web when the last few details have been finalised.

Christine McCallion drew attention to the Guild Dinner and asked that members should consider attending what is usually a very enjoyable evening.

The Ringing Masters asked for requests for courses at the Autumn Education Day to be submitted to them so that the education can match the real needs of the District.

Graham Wright said the date for the District Outing will be 29<sup>th</sup> May but the locations are yet to be finalised.

#### Education and Recruitment

Colin Cook told the meeting about a series of workshops that are held annually at the Cathedral for 11 year old children from church schools in the Diocese. He thinks this is an opportunity to educate the young about bell ringing and possibly sow the seeds for future ringers. He has approached the organisers and they are very enthusiastic so Colin is planning a number of workshops which will take place in the mornings of 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004. He will be looking for volunteer helpers from the District.

#### Any Other Business

Centenary Bells CD

Ian McCallion said that he is willing to transfer the Centenary Bells Record onto CD if there is any interest. Various members said that previous attempts to sell Bell CDs through the Cathedral Shop had not met with any success. Barry Fry suggested that the SPCK Bookshop in the Square might be interested in them. There were a few members who showed interest so it was suggested that individual members should contact Ian.

#### Bell Stock Survey

Phil Watts said that the Guild Bell Stock Survey was still active and very much wanted to hear from towers who had not yet submitted a return. He said that the survey forms were available on the Guild Web site so that anyone who had lost their original forms could download new ones. Philip Gorrod asked all towers in the District To cooperate and complete the survey as soon as possible.

#### Guild 200 Club

Steve Carter said Mark Esbester had asked him to publicise the Guild 200 Club which raises funds for the Guild BRF. £1 a month gift-aided provides valuable income for the Fund and members have a chance to win significant prizes twice a year.

#### BRF Collection

Tony Smith announced that the BRF collection had raised £25.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 6.55pm.

## Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers: Winchester District

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held Saturday, 8 May 2004, at Crawley

Prior to the meeting there was open ringing at Crawley and a striking competition was held at Sparsholt with 4 bands entering the minor methods competition and 3 bands entering the open doubles competition. Chris Caryer judged and gave the results at the tea provided before the meeting by the Sparsholt & Crawley bands in Crawley Church rooms.

Following the meeting there was open ringing at Sparsholt until 8pm.

The striking competition results were as follows.

### MinorMethod

	Tower	Rang	Drawn	Faults
1	Bishopstoke	Cambridge	2nd	18
2	Hursley	Cambridge	1st	32
3	Winchester	PlainBob	3rd	34
4	NewAlresford	PlainBob	4th	61

### OpenDoubles

	Tower	Rang	Drawn	Faults
1	Winchester	PlainBob	3 <sup>rd</sup>	44
2	Sparsholt/Crawley	Callchanges	1st	72
3	Lockerley	PlainBob	2nd	76

### Chairman's Welcome

Philip Gorrod welcomed the 38 members to the meeting. He thanked the Rev. John Cranmer, Chris Caryer for their contributions to the day and the Sparsholt & Crawley bands for providing tea.

### Election of New Members

#### Confirmation of Probationary Members

Micheldever: 26 Apr 2004, Suzie Findlay, Simon Martin, Lynne Massey-Chase, proposed by Rosemary Haviland and seconded by Ruth Burrows

#### New Ringing Member

Ropley Barry Symonds, proposed by Jason Clements and seconded by Sue Clements

### Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Romsey on 14 February 2004, having been previously circulated were accepted by the meeting and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

### Matters Arising

none

### Presentation of District Striking League Trophies

Philip Gorrod presented the Division I trophy to Roy LeMarechal, representing the undefeated Bishopstoke Band. He then announced that New Alresford had come second in that division.

Philip then presented the Division II trophy to Jen Churchill, representing the Lower Test Valley (Lockerley & East Tytherley) and announced that Sparsholt had come second in that division.

### Future Events

Philip reminded members of the upcoming district practices at Crawley on 15 June and at North Stoneham on 13 July.

The next quarterly meeting will be at Mottisfont on 7 August.

During this time there was a general discussion about the times of meetings culminating in an informal vote indicating that evening meeting times to facilitate camaraderie would be preferred to morning or afternoon. The District Outing, arranged by Graham Wright, will be 29 May in Oxfordshire, beginning at Great Tew. Interested parties are encouraged to phone Graham for further details. Education Days at the Cathedral for young people organized by Colin Cook, who is looking for a few more volunteers, will be 22-24 June.

**AOB**

Tony Smith: collection for the Bell Restoration Fund raised GBP 18.50

Carrie Eisenhauer: Refectory Day changed to 7 July

Andy Townsend: Quarter Peal Week will be 27 Sept. - 3 Oct. 2004 with a goal of achieving as many 'firsts' as possible.

Education Day: 13 November 2004, no topic chosen as yet.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 6:17pm.

## Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers :Winchester District

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held Saturday, 7 August 2004, at Mottisfont

Prior to the meeting there was open ringing at Mottisfont and we enjoyed a bring-your-own picnic at Spearywell Village Hall where the meeting was held. Following the meeting there was open ringing at Mottisfont until 7pm.

### **Chairman's Welcome**

Philip Gorrod opened the meeting at 5:04pm and welcomed the 19 members to the meeting including W& P Guild Master, Andrew Craddock.

### **Election of New Members**

Confirmation of Probationary Members

New Alresford:

11 June 2004, Christopher P. Beresford Proposed by Elizabeth Johnson and seconded by Paul Beresford

Sparsholt:

14 June 2004, Edward Gledhill, Denise Moody and Angela Weatherall Proposed by John Cleverly and seconded by Janet Beesley

Romsey Abbey

30 June 2004, Ian Culley, Steve Dyke and Kathryn Macgregor Proposed by Martin Daniels and seconded by Andrew Glover

Kings Somborne

5 July 2004, Steve Donlon Proposed by Sue Spurling and seconded by Anne Taylor

Micheldever

2 August 2004, Jilly Pickett-Smith Proposed by Ruth Burrows and Rosemary Haviland

New Ringing Members

Romsey Abbey

Alison Graham-Smith, Ruth Leatherdale and John Williams proposed by Martin Daniels and seconded by Andrew Glover

Bishopstoke

Andrew Smart, Nicholas K. Allsopp, Jane Gilbert proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by Ann LeMarechal

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Sparsholt on 8 May 2004, having been previously circulated, Roy LeMarechal, John Colliss and Elizabeth Johnson mentioned an incorrect date (3 Nov. 2004 which should have been 13 Nov. 2004) which was corrected. Following which the minutes were accepted by the meeting and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

### **Striking League Discussion**

There was an open discussion about the league.

Mike Hayward: What are the rules about ringing for more than one band?

It was agreed that a ringer could ring for more than one band but only for one band in each division. It was also agreed that a non-tower member could be the sixth person in a band and that this was vital to continuing the league.

Joy Scanlan: Could Lower Test Valley form a single team? (Answer yes)

Caroline Fairley: Cheriton not interested; found it difficult to muster a band for away matches. Could she join another band since Cheriton was not in the league? (Answer yes)

Theo Johnson: Ropley not interested for same reason as Cheriton.

Andrew Johnson: Drew Craddock whether Hursley would field a band this year. Drew did not know.

Andrew Johnson: Any tips for keeping competitions from eating up the whole practice?

It was suggested that results could be given in the pub or after ringing down.

### **Future Events**

Philip reminded members of the upcoming district practice at Winchester Cathedral on 25 August.

The Interdistrict 10 Bell Striking Competition will be 4 September at Hursley.

Quarter Peal Week will be 27 Sept. - 2 October. District officers are available to help arranging these and towers are encouraged to contact them for assistance.

The next quarterly meeting will be at 13 November at Twyford. This is also a district education day for which the proposed topics are calling changes (at Bishopstoke) and Stedman Triples (at Twyford).

### **AOB**

Philip Gorrod: Andy Townsend will not be standing for District Ringing Master again at the election in February.

Vote of thanks to Mike Hayward for today's arrangements

New captain at Compton is Margaret (Maggie) Eltham

Maggie Wolverson: Bitterne Park augmenting to 12 for which they need £35,000 (as seen in Private Eye)

Edmund Wratten: Work at Crawley will be starting soon.

Joyce Croft: Micheldever seem to be practising on Monday nights.

Elizabeth Johnson: Vote of thanks to Graham Wright for an excellent district outing.

Theo Johnson: collection for the Bell Restoration Fund (despite a lack of the official box) raised £6.00

In the absence of any other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 5:31pm.

## **Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers: Winchester District**

Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting held Saturday, 13 November 2004, at Twyford

Before the meeting there was an Education session in Stedman Triples held at Twyford and run by Roy LeMarechal.

Tea was provided by the Twyford band.

**Apologies** Tendered before the Meeting:

Mike Hayward, Sally.Josling, Philip & Margaret Carter, David & Margaret Forder, Tony Smith

### **Chairman's Welcome**

Philip Gorrod opened the meeting at 4:40pm and welcomed the 26 members to the meeting, especially Clare Griffiths as it was her first Winchester District meeting, Ed Colliss on break from university and also W& P Guild Master, Andrew Craddock, Guild Secretary Steve Castle.

### **Election of New Members**

#### Confirmation of Probationary Members

Hursley 18 June 2004, Peter Gordon proposed by Peter Hill and seconded by Christine Hill

New Alresford 13 September 2004, Robin McKinley-Dickinson proposed by Theo Johnson and seconded by Elizabeth Johnson

#### Confirmation of Compounding Member

4 September 2004, Roger G.R. Collins of Saffron Walden proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by Malcolm Powell prior to a peal at Chigwell Row.

#### New Ringing Members

King's Somborne

Rachel Rand proposed by Sue Spurling and seconded by Anne Taylor

Winchester College Tony JP Ayres, Charles A.H. Blackman, Ann Cattermole, C. Hugh J. Hill, Alasdair H. McKinnon and Ed J. Moores proposed by Colin Cook and seconded by Theo Johnson

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Mottisfont on 7 August 2004, having been amended to show the election of Jilly Pickett-Smith as a probationary member at Micheldever, the correct names of Nicholas K. Allsopp and Jane Gilbert, elected as full ringing members at Bishopstoke; and the correct date of this meeting (13 November 2004) were circulated prior to this meeting. As John Colliss proposed that they be adopted and Elizabeth Johnson seconded this they were duly accepted by the meeting and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

### **Presentation of Certificates**

There were several certificates for new members and firsts achieved. Stephanie LeMarechal and Caroline Fairley, who were present received theirs and the others were distributed amongst those present to be delivered to the relevant tower or person. During this time as part of the general paperwork theme Philip also produced a card for Derek and Helen Winter Cramp who were married recently. This was passed around to be signed and will be sent to them by the secretary.

#### First Quarter Peal

Stephanie LeMarechal

Laura Wheeler

Susie Smith

Matthew Prince

Michael Longy

Charles Blackham

Alisdair McKinnon

Andrew Smart

#### First Peal

Carrie Eisenhauer

Caroline Fairley

#### Guild Membership

Isobel Broome

Barry Symonds

Andrew Smart

Nicholas Allsop

Jane (Gilbert) Allsop

Darren Pearson

Charlotte Bryant

Alison Elliott

Louise Elliott

Paul Beresford

Samuel Pearson

Brenda Palk

John Palk

John Williams

Laura Wheeler

Alison Graham-Smith

Ruth Leatherdale

### **Future Events**

Philip reminded members of the Carol Service at King's Worthy on (Saturday) 4 December. He also reminded members that there would be district practices at Sparsholt on 6 December and at New Alresford on 14 January and that the Annual District Meeting would be at Winchester Cathedral on 12 February 2005. He further announced that there would be a Tower Representatives Meeting in March 2005.

### **Striking League**

Andy apologised for the delay organising this and said that an e-mail would be circulating to the district with all the relevant information. He then announced that this year's District Striking League will be made up of two divisions. Division I (methods) will include New Alresford, Hursely, Bishopstoke and Romsey. Division II (call changes) will include Winchester (a Cathedral-College mix), Lockerly & Tytherley, King's Somborne.

### **Officers Needed**

Philip urged members to consider and suggest any who might make good officers in the following positions: Ringing Master, Chairman and Public Relations Officer.

### **AOB**

BRF: £15.64

Micheldever: In response to an earlier question from Joyce Croft there was a discussion about the state of ringing at Micheldever. Philip said that that he had phoned Ruth Burrows who had then suggested he phone the vicar but as the incumbent had then changed Philip had not really got any information. Judy Bishop reported that there seemed to be new people working away. Maggie Wolverson added that she had heard that Ron White was taking an interest in their progress and that Helen Cramp had possibly tried to organise a quarter peal there recently and Philip said that he thought she had been successful. Edmund Wratten then said that there seemed to be practices on Mondays and that Brett from Kings's Worthy was also involved. At Philip's request he agreed to look into this and ask what was going on at Micheldever.

Secretary's Note: After the meeting it was established that there had been a quarter peal rung during the District Quarter Peal Week:

Micheldever, Hants. 4 Oct, 1260 Doubles (3m)

Ruth Burrows 1, Sue Clements 2, Helen Winter 3, Jason Clements 4, Ron White (c) 5, Ian Cornick 6.

In memory of Geoffrey Winter, father of 3.

Philip: A vote of thanks to Roy LeMarechal for a successful course on Stedman Doubles and Triples and regret that the Calling Changes course planned for Bishopstoke had no subscribers and as a result was cancelled.

W& P Guild Executive Meeting:: Wendy Ling, district representative, urged interested parties to book early for the Channel Islands Festival as there would be limited spaces. She also reported from the W& P Guild executive meeting earlier today that the Guild is repeating a warning to listed churches needing faculties that they must consult English Heritage and that they should plan to consult EH earlier rather than later. Phil Watt confirmed this.

Andrew Craddock: W& P Guild striking competition will be in the Channel Islands this year captains should start planning their bands and arrangements now. He suggested using the Weymouth ferry.

Roy LeMarechal: there is a coach outing to C.I. concurrent with the W & P Guild AGM.

Steve Castle: suggested the £25 catamaran service which arrives at 1am. He also encouraged all towers to fill in their belfry forms for Stewardship.

In the absence of any further business Philip thanked the Twyford ringers for a really good tea and closed the meeting at 5:12pm.