



Llandaff & Monmouth Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers

**123rd Annual General Meeting
held on Saturday 23rd April 2016**

Minutes of the 123rd Annual General Meeting, St Augustine's Church Hall, Whitehall Parade, Rumney.

The tea and business meeting were held in the church hall. The attendance register indicated that 50 members were present. The meeting commenced at 17.32 hrs.

The Chairman, Mr John Vesey, welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded the assembly that Rumney was the tower that had scored the first ladies' peal for the Association back in the sixties. He also remembered with affection the late Jack Pryor of this tower, a staunch supporter of the Association. Mr Peter Bennett noted the excellent tea provided by the ladies and gentlemen of the tower at Rumney which was resoundingly supported by the members present.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Andrew Giles, Marie Carson, Nick Jones, Tim and Chris Taylor, Yvonne, Rebecca and Andrew John, Bryn and Jessica Kipling and Pat Moore.

2. Remembrance of Members lost through death.

The Secretary read the list of past and recent members who had passed away since the last meeting. Two obituaries have been presented in the 2015 Annual Report and are for Guy Ingram (1948-2015: Llantwit Major) and Mary Wilkinson (Caerleon), and also remembered was Susan Jablonski from Aberdare who had died recently and whose obituary will appear in next year's report. The meeting stood for a minutes silence in remembrance.

3. Minutes of the 122nd AGM had been circulated in advance to all towers and posted on the Association's website, and so were taken as read. Bob Hardy proposed their acceptance, and in the absence of comments from members present, were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. Matters arising.

i Rule 13(b) pertaining to how notification of the AGM is made had been considered by the Association Management Committee (AMC) in the light of more modern forms of communication that were not in existence when the rule was written. A proposal was made by John Vesey to change the wording including reference to email distribution and posting on the website. Following a vigorous discussion, which included several proposals to further modify the the wording, it was proposed by John Baldwin that the rule change be referred back to the AMC for reformulation, this proposal being seconded by David Llewellyn and accepted by the meeting.

ii Mr Steve Coleman donated trophy cup in memory of William Thomas Petty. The Secretary had attempted by several routes to contact Mr Coleman to discuss possible alternative uses for the cup as the original proposal for an Association 8-bell striking competition had been considered impracticable. Despite the best efforts of the General Secretary contact had proved impossible and without further recourse this item was considered closed.

5. Officers' reports

i The Master thanked all officers for their contributions during the year and proposed a vote of thanks to the General Secretary who had come to the end of his tenure. He referred to his written report in the

recently published Annual Report and made particular reference to how to become a better ringer: seeking to ring with expert ringers, attending the Association's 6, 8 and 12 bell practices.

- ii. The General Secretary also referred to his written report in the Annual Report making particular reference to the Recruitment and Training Fund which to date remains largely unexploited. He encouraged members to make applications for relevant projects through the AMC. Finally he thanked all those who had given much help and advice during the past six years in office.
- iii. The Treasurer's report had been published in the Annual Report, and copies were made available at the meeting. There was a surplus of £408.20 in the general fund. The Bell Restoration Fund was now in excess of £61K, with no grants received or made in 2015 and a grant of £1K made to Abergavenny this far into 2016 with no outstanding applications. Fund raising continued with £2.1K received through the 200Club in 2015. The Treasurer pleaded for the correct reference to the BRF on donation cheques: "The Trustees of the L&MDACBR".

Acceptance of the written reports was proposed by Pip Penney, seconded by Jenny Mole, Matthew Turner and Sam Bolingbroke and carried by the members present.

6. Election of Officers

Master - Fred Jackson was prepared to stand again. Proposed by Mary Hardy, seconded by Richard Hall and carried by the meeting.

Chairman – John Vesey was prepared to stand again. Proposed by Bob Hardy, seconded by Ann Jones and carried by the meeting.

General Secretary – Harriet Moncrief was proposed by David Moore. Harriet has strong past connections with the area- her father had been Tower Captain at Penmark, and she had been a ringer at Penmark, Porthkerry and Llancarfan. Her business background would provide useful experience for the role of General Secretary. The proposal was seconded by David Llewellyn and carried by the meeting.

Treasurer – Phil Hopkins was prepared to stand again. Proposed by John Vesey. seconded by Neil Jones and carried by the meeting

PRO – no nominations received. Jenny Mole suggested that a request for a suitable volunteer be distributed with the re-wording for Rule 13(b) once this is sent to members.

BRF Trustees – Barry Hayman and David Moore are prepared to stand again. Proposed by John Baldwin, seconded by David Llewellyn and carried by the meeting.

Central Council Reps - Pip Penney and Jonathan Lewis. Proposed by John Vesey, seconded by Bob Hardy and carried by the meeting. No nominations have been received for the third representative.

Independent Examiners - Jennet Mundy is prepared to stand again. Proposed by Anne Rowe, seconded by Richard Rowe. Paul Rogers has decided to stand down and was thanked for his past services. David Slater was proposed by Neil Jones and seconded by Peter Bennett and the appointments were carried by the meeting.

7. Central Council Business

Pip Penney gave the report. She commented on the Central Council Meeting which had been held in Hull in May 2015 prior to which the document "Change Ringing for the Future" had been released by the Admin Committee. Key recommendations had included a new website design to attract prospective learners, a new survey toolkit developed by the Ringing Trends Committee, the development of Leadership Training Modules to encourage local tower leadership, a proposed New Learner Initiative and a partnership with the Association of Ringing Teachers. Since then progress had been made on some of those recommendations, however, the Ringing Trends Committee survey had created a storm of criticism which had resulted in the resignation of the chairman of that Committee and its apparent collapse.

The Central Council had also made a request that all Associations and Guilds establish an education fund, our Association having already done so. Pip also mentioned that more recently there had been proposals to consider a significant reorganisation of the CCCBR including streamlining its committee

structure. The Chairman thanked Pip for her report.

8. Recognition of Long Service

Certificates recognising more than 25 years membership of the Association were presented to those eligible members present and identified for distribution to those eligible members not in attendance. All recipients were congratulated for their long membership and service to the Association and Church.

9. Association Events

- i Quiz Night will be at Penarth – Friday 14th October 2016.
- ii. AGM will be Saturday 22nd April 2017 in the Llandaff Branch. Pat Moore is negotiating to hold this at Llandaff Cathedral.
- iii. Pitman Trophy – a proposal has been made by Tim Taylor not to continue with the weekday evening format. Discussions at the AMC recognised the difficulties this presented for some but participation had improved using a weekday rather than a Saturday. John Vesey proposed that the current weekday evening format pertain and this was seconded by Bob Hardy and carried by the meeting. To be held early June date tba.

10. Any other business

- i Nominations for new members of the Association were received from Llandaff Cathedral (Dorothy Morgan) and from Radyr (Bob Williams, Lauren Thomas and Kristy Greenow) and were duly accepted.
- ii David Llewellyn (Librarian) had brought surplus past Annual Reports for anyone present wishing to add to their collection.
- iii Bob Hardy had made available the Peal Records for inspection.
- iv David Moore had made available the Association Record Book for inspection.
- v The current month's draw for the 200 Club then took place.

The meeting closed at 18.50 hrs.