

# LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

## JOB DESCRIPTION: CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

**Responsible to:** The Association Management Committee and to the membership as a whole.

**Appointed by:** Election at the Association Annual General Meeting triennially.  
(There are 3 representatives at any one time)

**Tenure:** 3 years with no restriction on re-appointment.

### Detailed Duties:

1. To represent the Association at the Annual General Meeting (Spring Bank Holiday).
2. To organise a report to the Annual General Meeting of the Association from the 3 representatives.

General Information re person specification:

**AGE** Apart from the need for the Representatives to have had some experience of life generally, there is no upper or lower age barrier as being appropriate.

**ABILITIES** Many ringing societies send very able ringers to the Council, and many do not. The general view is that actual ability is not significant, but it is good to have a range of abilities. Sometimes a very esoteric matter is being discussed, when it becomes a challenge for the speakers to explain themselves to their listeners. However, much discussion concerns mundane, yet important subjects.

**EXPERIENCE** The wider the experience the better. Most Council officers seem to have had experience as tower, branch or society officers. It also seems useful for Representatives to have lived (and rung) in more than one area of the country. This widens and increases their experience.

**AVAILABILITY** The annual meeting now takes place on the Late Spring Bank Holiday. There is no penalty for non attendance, but as attendance at this meeting is the *raison d'etre* for the Representatives, an inability to attend the majority of meetings would seem to be an adequate reason for not choosing an otherwise ideal person. Most Representatives do not serve on Committees, and unless a good deal of "politicking" was carried out, it would be pointless sending someone with special knowledge or interests, as they may not be elected to the appropriate Committee. Indeed, the Council has a mechanism for electing Honorary Members for their special knowledge if it so chooses. On the evening before the annual Council meeting, there is a social occasion, usually a dinner; on the morning of the meeting there is a Corporate Communion service, and there is a lot of ringing too. These events may be avoided if desired.

**COSTS** The costs incurred by Representatives attending Council meetings are met by the Association. In practice, successive Treasurers of the Association have met the minimum costs incurred in attending the Council business meeting - usually travel costs, and (when appropriate) an overnight stay before the meeting. Costs of social functions and other nights away are not usually met. Some Representatives (ours and others) make a week's holiday of the event, which minimises the cost.

**GENERALLY** The Central Council has been called the "bell ringers' parliament" and to a degree this is an accurate analogy, apart from the party membership aspect. In that those present represent their constituents, and are widely different in their knowledge, background, age and personality yet still determine matters in which they are not expert, it is very accurate.