

Ely Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers

Cambridge district

Minutes of the annual district meeting held on Zoom

5:00PM on Saturday, 9th January 2021

With approximately 40 members on Zoom

Chair: Stephen Burr

1. Remembrance of those who have died in the last year

The members present kept a minute's silence in memory of the following members of the Cambridge district who died during the last year:

Prof David Newland (Duxford tower)

John Reed (Ely)

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following members: Andrew Downs and Angus Campbell

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Copies of the minutes of the last meeting were circulated to the membership by email. No corrections were made to the minutes. The minutes were approved nem con and will be signed as a true record by the chair.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last ADM.

5. Long service certificates

The following members were congratulated on their long service:

25 years membership of EDA: Ian Griffiths (Fen Ditton) and Anand Pillai (Stapleford)

50 Years membership of EDA: Alan Winter (Unattached)

Congratulation Certificates were awarded to Dave Richards and Peter Hinton.

For Dave Richards this award was in recognition of his personal commitment in arranging presentations for the membership during Covid 19, for setting up presentations on Zoom and posting these on the YouTube channel.

For Peter Hinton, who is stepping down from the committee, this award was in recognition of his roles at CDA over many years, including as ringing master, web master and his excellence in supporting novice bell-ringers and the contribution he has made.

Both were given a certificate, donation and a stained-glass panel designed, created and delivered by Shirley (and Jon) Warbrick.

6. Reports

Reports were circulated in advance of the ADM by email. A brief verbal summary of each report was made by the relevant officer.

- President's report gave thanks to the membership for contributing, working as a group and finding ways to develop as a community despite the constraints of Covid 19.
- Treasurer's report had three parts:
 1. Cambridge District (CD) fund shows a small profit on the year due to donations from the ADM last year.
 2. An inventory of the Bookstall contents has been made, to be put on the website. There is a slight deficit due to stock being re-ordered. The stock value is around £300. Thanks were given to Anand Pillai for continuing to run the bookstall.
 3. CD Membership number is 269. There is an error as it is recorded as 203 which will be corrected. There are 207 ordinary members, 19 junior members, 2 who are also members of another district and 41 life members. This gives a total of 269 members. The accounts will be audited by Nicholas Small. The date on the report will be corrected.

The treasurer's report was accepted without questions from the membership.

- Education Officer's report. The aim for 2020 was to use Ringing World pathways project with ART to allow members to identify and fulfil their individual ringing achievements. This aim was deferred due to Covid 19 restrictions on ringing, but much has transitioned to online platforms. Thanks were given to Jonathan and Catriona Agg for Ringing Room sessions. Also to Greg Pearce for Q&A sessions on Saturday mornings from April to September 2020. Tom Ridgman asked whether the copyright for presentations is owned by EDA and whether permission can be given for posting of content on the ART website. The CDA supports the use of content from webinars and sharing of content to ART. There were no objections from the membership for this position. Tom Ridgman asked for help to edit the presentation content which was offered by Dave Richards. Webinars are planned to continue to Easter 21. Suggestions for new ideas and themes from the membership should be made by email to education@cambridgeringing.info

There were no comments from the membership on any of these reports which were accepted nem con.

7. Election of officers

Nominations were requested for the offices on the committee. Four current post-holders and committee members have planned to stand down: Posy Marriage (secretary), Peter Hinton (webmaster), Greg Pearce (Committee member) and Jenny Goodwin (Committee member). All other officers are prepared to continue in their roles in the absence of other nominations.

President: a nomination was received for Stephen Burr, proposed by Phil Gorman and seconded by Mervyn Brown. There were no other nominations and Stephen was elected nem con.

Secretary: a nomination was received for Catriona Agg, proposed by Stephen Burr and seconded by Shirley Warbrick. There were no other nominations and Catriona was duly elected nem con.

Treasurer: a nomination was received for Shirley Warbrick, proposed by Ian Hamilton and seconded by Greg Pearce. There were no other nominations and Shirley was elected nem con.

Education officer: a nomination was received for Dave Richards, proposed by JoAnne Rutter and seconded by Catriona Agg. There were no other nominations and Dave was elected nem con.

Ringing master: a nomination was received for Jonathan Agg, proposed by Richard Pargeter and seconded by Paul Newman. There were no other nominations and Jonathan was elected nem con.

Web master: a nomination was received for Jon Warbrick, proposed by Stephen Burr and seconded by Jenny Goodwin. There were no other nominations and Jon was elected as webmaster nem con.

Practice night support officer: a nomination was received for Geoff Perryman, proposed by Ian Hamilton and seconded by Jon Warbrick. There were no other nominations and Geoff was re-elected in absentia.

Safeguarding officer: a nomination was received for Shirley Warbrick, proposed by Richard Pargeter and seconded by Greg Pearce. There were no other nominations and Shirley was elected nem con.

District bell adviser: nomination was received for Ian Hamilton, proposed by Rebecca Glazier and seconded by Tom Ridgman. There were no other nominations and Ian was elected nem con.

Diocesan Committee representatives are requested to include the president and the secretary for 2 meetings per year. Contact details should be forwarded to JoAnne Rutter.

Nomination for new committee members: Nominations were made for Ian Hamilton and Louisa Egan by AnnMarie Adams and seconded by Richard Pargeter. Ian and Louisa were elected as committee members nem con.

The president proposed a vote of thanks to those stepping down, to those continuing and to those moving into new roles and for giving their time and effort. The membership thanked the committee with a round of applause.

8. Election of new members

Tower: Thriplow

Martin and Alyce Merry.

Tower captain, Rebecca Glazier, from Thriplow nominated two new members who have moved to Thriplow from Somerset where they have been ringers. Election was made by a show of hands from the membership. The Chair gave a big welcome to these new members.

9. St Clements bell tower

An update report is attached from Barry Johnson, outlining the project for a lightweight ring of 6 new bells at St Clements in the centre of Cambridge as a teaching centre. This aims to be accessible to the public as well as a resource for District and Diocese and as a general introduction to ringing. Barry delivered a webinar about the project which is available as a link on YouTube.

Each bell can be sponsored in the name of a specific person. The treble has been proposed for sponsorship in the name of Felicity Webster, who is remembered by many as a ringer and secretary to the CDA, at the request of her family. Anyone who wants to make a contribution to the fund is requested to send an email to the fundraising address in the report.

10. Programme for 2021

There are limited plans for the programme for 2021 until it is known when ringing may re-start in towers. The webinar series will continue on Thursday evenings on a fortnightly basis up to Easter. Please let Dave Richards know any suggestions for this.

Monthly Ringing Room sessions will continue on the second Saturday of each month, organised by Jonathan and Catriona Agg. Jonathan asked for people to contact him if quarter or full peals are requested.

A virtual outing using Google maps and videos of ringing from individual towers may be developed.

Social events in 2020 have included two quizzes and one game of Bingo. Sam Gorman suggested a murder mystery online.

11. Recruitment and training subcommittee (RATS)

Dee Smith endorsed thanks to the CDA for continuing to provide webinars and Q&A sessions. The youth team events, for those age up to 18 years of age, have been cancelled. A representative from each district is asked to collate opportunities for young ringers and practice sessions, on a monthly basis, through Ringing Room and Zoom. Rebecca Glazier is the representative for CDA.

When practical ringing restarts, tower bands are likely to be depleted and lack confidence. Checking of bells at individual towers will be necessary. ART and central council aim to provide a survival and recovery group for rebuilding confidence and co-ordinating help in handling bells, including a Diocesan training day. The Streatham REC will be available as a venue within this. While Ely cathedral does not have ring-able bells there is a "fine set of 12 on Ringing Room". Dee also expressed her thanks and good luck to CDA for 2021.

12. Association Business

Nicholas Small reported from the General Committee Meeting that subscriptions for 2021 should be waived. This needs to be ratified by the AGM. If members wish to make a voluntary contribution to the RAT fund or Bell Restoration fund this would be very welcome. A form to allow gift aiding is available on the website. BACS payment can be made using BRF_GAD as the reference to use if gift aiding the contribution. Alternatively, cheques can be sent to Nicholas Small.

JoAnne Rutter announced that the EDA committee meeting is likely to be in May. Three positions are needed: General secretary, safe-guarding officer and public relations officer. Nominations for these posts are encouraged.

Shirley Warbrick reminded officers that Janet Garnett is due to compile the annual report and needs district reports and membership lists to be forwarded to Janet.

Sue Marsden (Peal secretary) asked people who want to have peals organised on Ringing Room to contact her or Jonathan Agg.

13. Any other business

Martin Kitson made a vote of thanks to members for attending this ADM meeting in his role as Chair of the Association. He read a poem by Haskins which he felt was appropriate to the situation we find ourselves in and encouraged members to keep in good heart over the next few months.

14. Vote of thanks

As there was no church hall for tea, thanks were proposed to Zoom and Dave Richards for facilitating the meeting and to all attendees.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 18.33.