

THE 133rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT Westmeston Village Hall ON SATURDAY 12TH MAY 2018

AGM day commenced with ringing at St Cosmos and St Damian (Keymer) and St Margarets (Ditchling), followed by a church service. An excellent BBQ lunch, served by the local ringers with thanks given to Mary Burr and the team that assisted, was then enjoyed by over 30 members before the meeting which was attended by 50 members.

The Association Master, Graham Hills, took the Chair and asked members to stand in memory of those ringers who had died since the last AGM: Peter Kidson (Washington), Rosemary Brown (Hurstpierpoint), Ken Jones (formerly Ringmer), Robin Green (formerly Henfield), Anne Daughtry (Walberton), Reg Thompson (Kirdford), Ken Knight (Aldingbourne), Mavis Clack (formerly Eastbourne), Roy Tappenden (Burwash), Rob Tiffin (Seaford), Thelma Hayes (formerly Uckfield and Hailsham), Barbara Salmons (Westbourne), David Threlfall (Battle), Michael (Mike) Etherington (Pulborough) and Basil Pink (Warnham), Myrtle Watts (wife of Roger Watts, Thakeham Tower Captain and who was fundamental in the huge fund raising project for Thakeham tower).

1. **Apologies for absence were received from:** Simon and Judith Alford, Stella Bianco, Peter and Frances Bradford, Val Burgess, Nick Cant, Clare Cullen, Angela Dawes, Brian and Amanda Grindall, Marion and David Hollands, Simon King, Hamish McNaughton, Hazel and Tony Mottram, John Norris, Colin and Linda Pritchard, Paul Robinson, Caroline Taylor, Sandra Titherly, Tom White, Rachel Edwards, Sue Elrick, Elaine Farrow, Matthew Jones, Kevin and Erica Pritchard, Jim Lilley, Roy and Rosemary Cox, Pip and Jenny Pawley, Frances Gilbert, William Stafford, Jane Wilkinson.
2. **The Minutes of the 132nd AGM** had been circulated. They were approved by the meeting and signed as a correct record.
3. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Reports for 2017:** The reports have been available to view on the website and in the Annual Report ahead of the meeting. These reports include the following:

a) Master	b) Communications & Events	d) Training & Recruitment
d) Safeguarding	e) Library	f) District Secretaries
g) Peal Report	h) Central Council Report	

There were no objections to having the reports taken as read.
5. **Presentation of Accounts for 2017:** Sue Gadd presented the 2017 accounts, the signed accounts had been published and are in the handbook; the official accounts were available at the meeting and available for inspection. A summary was distributed at the AGM (which was used at General Committee) and a summary given as follows:

- **General Accounts** - Overall the financial position at the end of 2017 was very healthy with £83,602 in the bank (which includes the value of the fixed assets). This is divided between 3 funds (2 of which were restricted and one of which is unrestricted). Unrestricted funds are used for “running” costs whilst money in the restricted accounts can only be removed for the specific purpose of that account.

It should be noted that the library is shown as £0 in the table; this is due to the fact that it had an income (rather than a debit). Any bank interest is prorated between the 3 accounts proportional to the amount of money in each account.
- **Insurance** - There are 6 insurance policies in total, the supplier is selected according to suitability for the SCACR specific requirements, this year there was a focus on reviewing the

“commercial combined” and “public liability” policies. This has included ensuring that the wording of the policy is appropriate to the SCACR practices and not more general wording.

- **Gift Aid** - Following discussions with HMRC, Sue Gadd had managed to get rebate of 2014, 2015 and 2016 gift aid contributions (2013 rebate had already been received). There are 2 elements of gift-aid which are potentially still outstanding for rebates, these are subscriptions and small donations (these will only apply from 2016) and applications will be made in the coming year.

a) **Appointment of Independent Examiner:** Alan Baldock proposed and Moya Hills seconded re-appoint Knill James.

6. The Sussex Churches Bell Restoration Fund:

Report and Accounts for 2017:

The Report had been distributed with the other Association Reports. It was noted that whilst 2017 was a quiet year regarding spend from the fund, £20,450 has already been requested for 2018.

District Representatives: Phillip Pawley (East), Nick Cullen (South), Simon Alford (North), Roger Watts (West).

7. Election of Officers:

Master:	No nominations	Treasurer:	Sue Gadd
BRF Secretary:	Graham Hills	Safeguarding Officer:	Pat Aylward
Trustee:	Margaret Sherwood	General Secretary:	No nominations

Central Council Representatives 2017 -2019:

South:	Rob Lane	North:	Steph Pendlebury
East	Alison Everett	West:	David Kirkcaldy
5 th Representative	Graham Hills		

8. New GDPR rules (General Data Protection Regulations)

Richard Pendlebury gave a brief overview of GDPR, its intentions and what the working group (Sandra Alford, Sue Gadd, Richard Pendlebury and Jonathan Spencer) had done over the past year. GDPR is all about modernising Data Protection and bringing it up to date. SCACR have updated the Data Protection policy and replaced it with a Privacy policy. This explains what information we will keep and what we will be using it for. It was noted that personal data will not be shared externally (nor have SCACR EVER shared personal information in the past). Data held by SCACR is in a number of places including Membership, peals etc. there is a full list detailing what information is held on which system. Going forwards, we will **not** be publishing people’s names without their specific consent – this includes newsletters and Soundbow (and other printed publications) and internet (including the SCACR website). A scheme is currently being worked on to gain consent during membership renewal, until this scheme is finalised, as an interim measure, there may be a number of consents being requested.

A number of generic questions were asked which Richard kindly answered.

Thanks were given to the working group for their hard work.

9. Forthcoming Events in 2017:

Marisa Hayes updated on the South of England show (7-9 June), there are a number of tickets still available and so anyone willing to help should contact Marisa or Alison

There is also cycle outing which will be held on 19th May – ringing will be rounds onwards (there will be cake and pub lunch).

10. Any Other Business:

- **Certificates** – 50 years membership to Sue Spencer and to Patricia Wake
- **Certificate for honorary life members** – David Kirkcaldy & Jonathan Franklin
- **Young Ringers – Congratulations to the Young Ringers who recently won the South East Youth Competition at Warnham, and who had come 3rd in last years RWNYS held at Birmingham.**
- **Essex Trophy Competition** – congratulations to the Sussex team, organised by Jeremy Alford, who won last year's Essex Trophy competition held at Hertford
- **Future of Association** – A meeting will be organised (attendance should include the trustees and Treasurer) to determine the governance of SCACR in the future as there have been no nominations for Master or General Secretary.
- **Masters Chain** – There now being no Master, Graham handed over the Masters Chain of Office to Trustee, Val Atkins, for safe keeping.

11. Vote of Thanks

- Organising 133rd AGM – to Mary Burr, Francis Gilbert, David Cragg and Josh Hutchinson,
- Accounts – to Sue Gadd on the work that she has done on all of her hard work producing the accounts and in particular the work on gift aid.
- Trustee – to Peter Wilkinson for his hard work as a trustee
- BRF – to David Kirkcaldy for his work with the BRF.

A HUGE vote of thanks was given to Graham for all of his hard work in chairing the association over the last 3 years.

in particular for his attendance and support at so many ringing events to support SCACR and to Moya for her support of Graham.

The meeting closed at 15:00 pm.