

SCACR Northern District Business Meeting: Minutes

17.00, Saturday 3rd November 2018, Holy Trinity Lower Beeding church room

In attendance: Steph Pendlebury (District Secretary; Chair), Jono Harris, Susie Bowen, Heather Jordan, Mike Cattell, Adrian Foulser, Margaret Oram, Ian Oram, Alison Everett, Rosemary Gregory (committee member), Ian Wiltshire, Elaine Farrow (committee member), Val Burgess, Simon Alford, Judith Alford, Audrey Higgs, Gareth Higgs, Richard Pendlebury (committee member).

1. Apologies for absence

Sandra Alford, Jeremy Alford, Neil Dobson and Jenny Dobson.

2. Welcoming of new members

Adrian Foulser (Rusper) was welcomed to the Association.

3. Deaths of members

Those present stood to remember Martin Donner (Hartfield), Hugh Baddeley (Rudgwick), Roger James (West Hoathly), and also the bell ringers lost in World War 1. *Post-meeting note: Basil Pink (formerly Warnham) has also passed away.*

4. Minutes of Northern District ADM (Saturday 3rd February 2018, Ardingly) and matters arising:

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. Steph apologised that the minutes had not been circulated in advance; minutes are usually circulated with the next newsletter after the meeting, and uploaded to the SCACR website.

4.1 Matters Arising

Neil Dobson has recently handed over the organisation of the Monday evening practices and quarter peals to Elaine Farrow. Elaine was thanked for taking this on. Elaine gave a brief overview of her plans going forwards.

- Quarter peals: 5th Mondays of the month and Mondays in August have traditionally been offered for QPs, but very few requests are received. In August, Elaine plans to book a 6 bell and an 8 bell tower in advance, and ask particular people if they would like a QP to consolidate a method.
- Practices: the Warnham methods practice (3rd Mondays) is very popular – many thanks to Jeremy Alford for arranging and running this practice. The elementary and triples/major practices will also continue, with a mix of “elementary”, “improvers”, “general” and “advanced”. General 10-bell practices will now be on 5th Mondays.
- New monthly 12-bell practices: there is increasing pressure from members for more 12 bell practices; currently only once every 3 months, which is not frequent enough to be useful. Elaine suggested using every 4th Monday in the month for a 12 bell practice (rather than alternating between Horsham/Warnham/East Grinstead); this practice would be for the whole Association, and would provide an introduction to 12 bell ringing as well as some time for the “experts” to practise! To be successful, the 12 bell practices will need support from established 12 bell ringers across the Association. After a short discussion, it was agreed to trial this plan for 6 months from January. It was noted that the General 10 Bell Monday practices will be lost, therefore some more Saturday events should be held at Warnham and Horsham.

5. Northern District 2019 Saturday Events Programme

The following outline programme was agreed:

- 5th January**, 10.00-12.00: **Ringing with brunch** (bacon sarnies & veggie option) – Coleman’s Hatch (TBC)
- 2nd February: ADM and Quiz** – Horsham; 15:30-16:30 ringing, 16:30-16:50 short service, 17.00-18.00 refreshments and meeting, 18:00-20:30 (approx.) quiz and supper (possibly fish & chips)
- 2nd March**, 15.00-17.00: **New Members’ Event**
- 6th April**, 14.30-16.30: **Bring Your Youngsters – Ringing with Easter Egg Hunt**
- 4th May: Training Course/Focused Practice**
- 1st June: Outing** *thanks to Jeremy Alford for agreeing to organise*
- 6th July: Training Course/Focused Practice**
- 3rd August**, 12.00-14.00: **Ringing with Lunch** – youngsters welcome!
- 7th September: Stoolball match**
- 5th October: Young Ringers’ Outing**
- 2nd November**, 15.00-17.30: **Ringing with Coffee, Cake and Meeting**
- 7th December**, 15.30-17.30: **Ringing with mulled wine/juice & mince pies** – Balcombe

Steph Pendlebury noted that the programme has to take into account school holidays (Easter, summer half term, summer break), bank holiday weekends, and the National Youth Striking Contest (6th July).

Val Burgess suggested holding the ADM service in the Chapel in the Barn – Val will organise this. Val suggests having the ringers’ hymn and some prayers, rather than a full service.

Susie Bowen pointed out that there may not be many youngsters around in August.

However, there isn’t another Saturday available in the programme that this could be moved to.

Jeremy Alford has suggested that **the first e.g. 60 minutes of ringing at the Saturday events could be used for training**. Richard Pendlebury and Elaine Farrow suggested that helpers and learners should be invited in advance, to ensure enough people are present at the beginning of the session. It was agreed that this is a good idea and to trial it in 2019 (ringing times may have to be extended slightly to accommodate this).

There will be a **training course on Regular Bell Maintenance** – many thanks to Simon Alford for agreeing to run this. Possible dates are 7th September, 5th October or 19th October; the date will be confirmed in due course.

Steph requested suggestions/requests for training courses or focused practices. “Listening” and “Kaleidoscope” were both suggested in the meeting. Please do send any other suggestions to sec-north@scacr.org.

6. AOB: Ringing Remembers update

Alison Everett (Communications & Events Team Leader) gave a brief update on the Ringing Remembers campaign, which aimed to recruit 1400 new ringers to ring for the centenary of the Armistice, on 11th November 2018. In total, over 2000 new recruits (who can at least ring in rounds) have registered. There have been 149 applications received in Sussex (57 Sussex ringers died in WW1).

Steph closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, and thanking Rosie and Val for bringing cake.