

**Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers  
Winchester District**

**Minutes of the Annual District Meeting held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Romsey**

Ringling on the recently restored Abbey bells took place including a service touch of Cambridge Surprise Major for Evensong, followed by tea. Following the meeting there was open ringing until 8:30pm.

**Chairman's Welcome**

The meeting was open promptly at 6:00 by Andrew Craddock, who explained that in the absence of the District Chairman, Richard Thompson who was out of the country he had been requested to take the chair, also in the absence of Theo Johnson who was in hospital recovering from surgery John Palk had been requested to take the minutes

Agreement to these temporary arrangements was put to the meeting.

Andrew Craddock's chairmanship was proposed by Roy LeMarechal, seconded by Mike Heywood John Palk as minute secretary was proposed by Carrie Eisenhauer, seconded by Roy LeMarechal This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman expressed the gratitude of the ringers to the Curate, Rev. Tim Harling and to the organist for the service and the Romsey band for a delicious tea. He then welcomed guests, Margaret Chapman of Marston Bigot, Charlotte Colliss from Swanmore, the Guild Master, David Strong, his wife Anne and some 35 members.

**Apologies for Absence**

Received from Richard Thompson and Theo Johnson. Apologies were sent to Theo by Tony & Tessa Smith and John & Joyce Croft and forwarded to the Minute Secretary on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February and are included for the record.

**Election of New Members**

Confirmation of Probationary Members

North Stoneham	8th January 2008	Simon Duquenoy	Proposed by Martin Kelly and seconded by Alison Martin
	30th January 2008	Diana Burns	Proposed by Martin Kelly and seconded by Gerard Catt
Romsey Abbey		Sophie Edmonds	Proposed by Caroline Daniels and seconded by John Hetherington
King's Somborne	9th February 2008	John Stammers	Proposed by Sue Spurling and seconded by Brian Orange

New Ringing Members

Romsey Abbey	Cheryll Rolls. Proposed by Martin Daniels, seconded by Andrew Glover		
Kings Somborne	Alistair Reynolds. Proposed by Sue Spurling, seconded by Brian Orange		
New Alresford	Mary Corfield. Proposed by Elizabeth Johnson, seconded by Rex Corfield		
Bishopstoke	Joy Matthews. Proposed by Roy LeMarechal, seconded by Clare J Griffiths		
Winchester Cathedral	Kate Shaw and Sue Wolters. Proposed by John P Colliss and seconded by Carrie Eisenhauer		
North Stoneham	Nick White and Laura Harvey. Proposed by Alison Martin and seconded by Martin Kelly		

All were elected unanimously.

### Compounding Members

29th December 2007 Joanna Hoare of Barrow Upon Humber  
Proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by John P Colliss prior to a peal at Barrow Upon Humber

5th February 2008 E Lesley Barclay of Horton Kirby  
Proposed by Roy LeMarechal and seconded by John P Collis prior to a peal at Bishopstoke

All were confirmed unanimously.

### **Minutes of last Quarterly meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held at Crawley on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were previously circulated. Subject to the correction of the spelling of the name of a Probationary member at North Stoneham, Johanna Deguenay to read Johanna Duquenoy they were accepted as a true record by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

### **Matters arising from the previous minutes and from the previous ADM at Hursley**

There were none

### **Presentation of Certificates**

A First Quarter Peal certificate was presented to Mark Warner of Lockerley, in whose absence the certificate was collected by Ken Warner

### **Events since the last Meeting**

#### November Education Day

Jen Churchill reported that the beyond Bob Minor course had been a great success with many helpers making for a very enjoyable day. She thanked the helpers and the course leader, Christine Hill. She urged tower captains to encourage ringers to sign up for courses which would benefit them.

#### Striking League

The striking league had not been held this year. With changes in tower membership it might be possible for next year.

#### Carol Service

The service was poorly attended, possibly due to the appalling weather on the night not helped by the late publicity.

### **Officers' Reports**

#### Chairman

The Chairman's report had been circulated.

#### Secretary

The Secretary's report had been circulated.

#### Treasurer

The Treasurer's Report had been circulated.

#### Ringling Masters

The Ringling Masters' report had been circulated.

#### Public Relations

John Palk gave an oral report in which echoed Tom Hink's comments of last year. No information had been received from any tower of matters to publicise. A couple of items on ringing had been submitted to and published in 'Open Door', the Romsey parish magazine. Lockerley and Romsey towers were participating in the Romsey Festival this July.

The Chairman thanked all the current officers for their efforts during the past year.

The acceptance of the reports was proposed by Elizabeth Johnson, seconded by Phil Watts and carried unanimously.

## Election of Officers

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Second</u>
Chairman	Peter Hill	Jen Churchill	Rosemary Oakeshott
Secretary	Charlotte Meader	Jonathan Hetherington	Ken Warner
Treasurer	Clare Griffiths	Peter Hill	Andrew Craddock
Ringling Masters	Jen Churchill	Ken Warner	Elizabeth Johnson
	Christine Hill	Jonathan Hetherington	Roy LeMarechal
Guild Exec Rep	Wendy Ling	Elizabeth Johnson	Peter Hill
Public Relations	John Palk	Rosemary Oakeshott	Phil Watts
Accounts Examiner	John Colliss	Roy LeMarechal	Carrie Eisenhauer

Although as in previous years only one person was nominated per office, all were elected unanimously.

Upon the election of Peter Hill as Chairman, Andrew Craddock offered him the chair, this Peter declined as the meeting had agreed the Andrew's chairmanship of the meeting

## Future Events

District Calendar and Directory

The pocket-sized calendar of District and some other events and the District Directory were available for collect after the meeting..

The Guild AGM

This would be on 5<sup>th</sup> July at Hursley

Guild 6 and 8 bell striking competition

To be held at the Alresfords 17<sup>th</sup> May

November Education Day

To be held on 8<sup>th</sup> November at Lockerley and East Tytherley, followed by the Quarterly District Meeting with tea at the Village hall

District Outing

As the organisation last year had been so successful it was hoped that Ken Warner would agree to the organisation of this years. To this Ken agreed but he sought views on preferences for the area to be visited.

District Practices

Jen urged the home band and indeed others to attend these practices

District Carol Service

At Hursley (date to be confirmed)

## Any Other Business

A vote of thanks was proposed to Andrew Craddock and John Palk

Clare Griffiths: The BRF collection raised £27.

Graham Wright The forms for the Bell Frame Survey had been simplified and were available on the web site. The District had shown a poor record of completing the survey. He urged that an effort should be made during the year to complete the survey in all towers. If required he would assist as time permitted

Andrew Craddock A letter had been received from the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire expressing her gratitude to all the ringers who took part in the ringing to welcome home the troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. This would be displayed in the ringing chamber at the Cathedral.

Jen Churchill Expressed thanks and gratitude to Edmond Wratten for his years as Ringing Master, visiting towers and bringing on so many young ringers

Phil Watts The Parish of Avington had received a faculty for the installation of a new 6 bell frame

Sue Craddock: Guild Dinner 17<sup>th</sup> May at the Alton House Hotel, Alton. Tickets £24 This would coincide with the District 6 and 8 bells striking competition at the Alresfords. There would be open ringing at Selborne and Alton All Saints and Graham Wright's mini ring at the hotel

Edmund Wratten: There had been a number of changes in the organisation of the united benefices in the north of the District. He suggested that the Officers in-conjunction with those of the Andover District should consider if a report on possible rearrangement of the district boundaries should be made.

Carrie Eisenhauer: Cathedral Open Evening, Tuesday 12 February, 6pm. A good opportunity to visit the Cathedral for free and see it candle-lit and without all the usual chairs. Other attractions included a mini-ring & tower tours. For more information pick up a leaflet from her or visit the Guild website.

In the absence of any other business Andrew Craddock closed the meeting at 6:42pm.