

Meeting of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers  
Management Committee  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October at Stowupland Church Hall, 2pm



## 1) Welcome

- a) The Chairman opened the meeting at 14:06 and welcomed the committee.
- b) Members present:
  - I. **Officers:** Chairman Rowan Wilson (RW), Treasurer Stephen Cheek (SC), Ringing Master Tom Scase (TS), Chairman of the BAC Winston Girling (WS).
  - II. **NW District;** Neal Dodge (ND) Jed Flatters (JF)
  - III. **NE District;** Phillip Gorrod (PG), Jonathan Stevens (JS), Mike Cowling (MC)
  - IV. **SE District;** Mary Garner (MG), Jonathan Williamson (JW), Mark Ogden (MO)
  - V. The SW district was unrepresented

## 2) Apologies

- a) Apologies were received from Gordon Slack, Sally & Alan Munnings, Carl Melville, David Steed, David Smith, Pam Ebsworth, Maureen Gardiner, and Michelle Rolph

## 3) Absent friends

- a) The meeting stood and remembered Gill Waterson.

## 4) Minutes of the previous meeting

- a) The minutes from the meeting on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018 had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- b) Amendments proposed:
  - I. Under section 8 'Applications for grants and grants outstanding' the value of money repaid to Beccles for the sound proofing was £1,136.80 not £1,137.80 as stated.
  - II. Spelling of 'Vestey' correct in section 7)v) Young Ringers' Report
  - III. Ralph Earey's name to be removed from the list of attendees as he was not present.
- c) With the listed amendments being made, MG proposed they were signed as a true record of the meeting, JW seconded the proposal. The committee unanimously agreed.

## 5) Matters arising from the previous minutes

- a) No matters had arisen from the previous minutes

## 6) Correspondence

- a) Correspondence had been received from Richard Chatham of Market Weston regarding support for a heritage lottery fund application for a village project entitled 'The Sights and Sounds of Market Weston.'
  - I. ND has written a letter of support on behalf of Guild, this is mentioned in ND's PRO report. Other Guild members also gave Richard advice on writing lottery fund applications which was most gratefully received.
  - II. ND commented that Richard said out of all the groups he had contacted the Guild had been the most helpful and that we should be proud of that.
  - III. RW reported that the church is now considering a project to restore the bells at Market Weston.
- b) Discussions were had around correspondence with the Suffolk Community Foundation.
  - I. WG understood that Maureen Gardiner was dealing with them regarding the Stowmarket restoration however it was unclear if any communication had been made with them on the Guild matters as a whole.
  - II. **Action-** RW will forward all communications with the Suffolk Community Foundation to ND who will take it forward due to his connections with the foundation gained through the High Sheriff's award.
- c) JW had received a request from the Spill Festival of Performance to ring for one of their events; 'Pyre Parade' on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.
  - I. The event involves a procession of an effigy through Ipswich from the Waterfront to Christchurch Park where it is to be burned.
  - II. Ipswich St Mary le Tower were reluctant to allow their bells to be rung for this so ringing will be arranged at Ipswich St Lawrence.

## 7) Officers' Reports

- a) RW emphasised the importance of getting the officers' reports distributed before the meeting.
- b) **Treasurer's Report (SC)**
  - I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. SC stated that one bond has been cashed to provide some liquid assets to pay upcoming grants hence the rise in the balance held in the current account.
  - III. Subscription payments are down around £1,000 compared to last year, SC is unsure why. The meeting discussed possible reasons but had no definite answer, MG as membership secretary was also unaware of the reason.
  - IV. The accounts for 2017 showed an incorrect total for grants approved and grants allocated. There were 4 grants missing. The correct figures are contained in SC Treasurer's report. This leaves just circa £17,000 in unallocated funds, so SC advocates caution in approving future grants.

- V. SC asked for some planning and advance notice on when unpaid grants are due so he can have the necessary liquid funds available as bonds will have to be cashed. The meeting agreed that this is a relatively simple issue to solve as just 4 major grants have been awarded and the expected grant dates can be forecasted.
  - VI. SC has proposed a donations framework to provide some guidance on what funds donations are put towards. This is contained in his report. The GMC concurred with SC's proposal. JW proposed this and MO seconded, the meeting unanimously agreed.
  - VII. SC has proposed a set of guidelines on expenses, which is contained in his report. PG said this had been agreed in the past when he was Chairman. The meeting reaffirmed the guidelines proposed.
  - VIII. SC doesn't feel he should keep all the Guild's old accounting reports at his house, and would like them moved to the Guild library.
    - (1) PG questioned whether we have to keep them; SC replied that Larking Gowen, the Guild's examiners, has said the records need to be kept forever.
      - (a) **Action-** PG will check the length of time the Guild is required to hold financial records for.
    - (2) JF stated that the Guild library, housed in the Norman Tower, has adequate room for the accounting records and that they can be moved there.
      - (a) **Action-** JF, SC, and RW to organise the transfer of the Guild's accounting records to the library.
  - IX. SC has noticed that our Guild's objectives are listed differently in the charity commission's records, our constitution, and in the trustee's report, this needs to be corrected.
    - (1) **Action-** SC will contact the Charity Commission to add in the missing objective to ensure it aligns with our constitution.
  - X. PG asked what the status is with the Independent Examiner. SC said that Larking Gowen have insisted on being paid and that he has explored other accountants and they are much more expensive than the £500 rate offered by Larking Gowen. However SC is trying to contact an independent examiner who specialises in charities and lives in Suffolk, Andrew Fisk, and Andrew used to be a member of the Guild.
    - (1) **Action-** GMC members to provide contact details of anyone they know who would be cheaper than Larking Gowen to SC.
- c) **Ringing Master's Report (TS)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. RW noted that the Ridgman trophy will be held in Bury in 2019, so we must ensure that the June GMC does not clash with the competition.
- d) **Recruitment & Training Report (TS)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. PG gave an update on the donation made by the Golden Bottle Trust, the charitable arm of C. Hoare & Co Bank. The money will be spent on a simulator, one in each district and a small amount has already been spent on books.
  - III. JF made the point that we should spend the money, as we can get more grants if we can prove we have projects to spend it on. ND agreed, saying that this donation has come from a private bank who gives millions of pounds a year to charities.
- e) **BAC Report (WG)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. PG remarked that out of the list of towers proposed for restoration only one, Eye, has any ringers. So it's likely that after a couple of years the bells will only be rung on the odd occasion by non-local ringers.
    - (1) A debate ensued about how the Guild can ensure new ringers accompany new and restored installations.
    - (2) The meeting concluded that the GMC should consider how ringers will be trained & retained as part grant applications. **Action-** R & T along with TS will discuss how we can do this.
- f) **Young Ringers' Report (MO)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. **Action-** GMC members to let MO know about any young ringers that could attend the next event.
  - III. **Action-** RW asked GMC members to read the latest minutes of the R & T committee, as they discussed Young Ringers at length. The minutes can be found on the website.
- g) **Public Relations Officer's Report (ND)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
  - II. JS commented that the report was a very hopeful and positive piece of writing and thanked ND.
- h) **Webmaster's Report**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
- i) **Membership Secretary and Safeguarding Report (MG)**
- I. *This report is attached to these minutes.*
- i) PG proposed to accept the officers' reports and JW seconded. The meeting unanimously agreed.

## 8) Applications for grants and grants outstanding

### a) Hintlesham

- I. There is a total of £1500 work and £750 has been completed mainly by Neville Whittell including resleeving of bearings. The parish has requested the Guild provides a grant of £750 for the remainder of the work. This had been discussed and rejected at the last meeting because the details of the circumstances were very vague.
- II. JS & MG commented that this is similar to Little Glemham, as the bells are rung for wedding a lot because of the presence of Hintlesham hall next door. So the church shouldn't be in a position where all of the work has to be funded by the Guild.
- III. It was established that a proper grant application has not been made so it should be presented at the next GMC in Feb with the full details and confirmation that the PCC accepts the full terms and conditions of our grants.

### b) Combs

- I. A grant application was due to be made but the form was sent to the Guild secretary who has been away.
- II. The total value of expected work is £104k which involves installing a ~14 cwt complete Warner eight from the Keltek trust in a 10 bell frame with two donated treble bells. The four existing bells will be retained as clock chimes.
- III. JF remarked that we shouldn't financially support the work required to augment rings to ten & twelve as this was a luxury rather than a necessity.
- IV. The application will be presented at the next GMC.

## 9) Ratification of Non Resident Life Members

### a) There were eleven NRLMs to ratify:

- I. Alistair Cherry, Stephen Aldridge, Jackie Roberts, James White, Nicholas Haggett, Ellis Thomas, Edward Manley, William Stungo, Janet Menhinick, Anne Anthony, & Michael Royalton-Kisch

### b) The committee unanimously ratified these members.

## 10) Central Council Meeting 2022

### a) ND has explored some options and University of Suffolk in Ipswich seems a likely venue.

### b) **Action-** MC will coordinate the photos for the 2022 Ringing World calendar along with Mike Whitby over the next year.

## 11) AGM 2019

### a) JW gave an update on the preparation for the AGM which will be hosted by the SE district at St Matthews Ipswich.

### b) There will be open towers in Ipswich from 12, finishing at St Matthews, with a service, tea, then the meeting.

### c) The car park of St Matthew's Primary School will be available and Ipswich operates a park & ride service that people will be able to use.

### d) MG commented that certain members will need to park close by as they are unable to use public transport or park at a remote car park.

### e) MG has contacted her safeguarding contact, Dave Butcher, and a training session will be organised for morning most likely at the St Nicholas Centre.

## 12) Guild Magazine *(This is attached to these minutes)*

### a) JS via Carl Melville had circulated the original proposal used to start the Guild Magazine back in 2009.

### b) MO suggested that we have articles on ringing produced and distributed to parishes include in parish and benefice magazines

### c) PG said that when the first issue was produced there was a lot of enthusiasm throughout the guild for magazine and it was produced by a team of three people.

### d) JW said that an enthusiastic team of people is required to restart the magazine that may not come from the GMC by may come from the AGM.

### e) RW said this will be put to the AGM with advance notice that a team is required to restart magazine.

## 13) Any Other Business

### a) Both the roles of Guild Secretary and Public Relations Officer will become vacant at the next AGM

#### I. ND said that he was happy write the minutes for the GMC

#### II. The meeting discussed potential candidates for the roles.

#### III. **Action-** The meeting is to seek out potential people for the upcoming vacant roles.

### b) RW would like role descriptions produced for each of the Guild positions.

#### I. ND said that the Essex association has a full set of job descriptions.

### c) Guild Events for 2019

#### I. The Guild Striking contest will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May at Polstead and Lavenham hosted by the SW district

#### II. The SW is also due to hold the Guild social so it was proposed that NE district take it on for 2019, the meeting agreed.

#### III. ND will invite the Guild patron, George Vestey to the Guild striking contest.

### d) For the Guild clothing, SC will bring some slightly amended Guild logos to the next GMC that will work on different coloured clothes.

- e) Ringing for Peace Armistice 100:  
Preparation continuing at pace with the aim of getting all ringable towers covered during the day. There were some concerns about coverage in the South West.
- f) PG has been made aware of a website, Small Charities Support, which provides template policies for charities that would be very useful for the Guild. It will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
- g) SC asked if we had a list of which tower falls in which deanery. The meeting stated that we no longer have deaneries but some districts still choose to elect members as deanery reps.
- h) WS told the meeting that the affiliation scheme has brought in around £1,000 to date but he no longer wishes to continue to administer the scheme and asked for someone to take it on. ND suggested the WG ask members of the BAC and that it be added to the list of 'vacancies' for the AGM.
- i) **The date of next meeting is Saturday 9th February 2019 at 2pm.**
- j) *The meeting closed at 16:16*

### Action Log

Item No.	Action	Action Holder
6.b.II	Forward all communications with the Suffolk Community Foundation to ND	RW
7.b.VIII.1	To check how long the Guild has to keep its financial records for	PG
7.b.VIII.2	Move the Guild's accounting records older than 10 years to the Guild Library	SC/RW/JF
7.b.IX	Contact the Charity Commission to ensure their listed objectives for the Guild are correct	SC
7.b.X	Provide contact details of anyone they know who would be cheaper than Larking Gowen as independent examiner to SC.	All GMC members
7.e.II.2	Discuss how to ensure ringers are trained and retained for installations that are given grants	RW,TS and R & T committee
7.f.II	Contact MO with the names of Young Ringers who can attend the next Young Ringers' event	All GMC members
7.f.I	Read the latest R & T Committee minutes which are on the website	All GMC members
10.b	Coordinate the photos for the 2022 Ringing World calendar along with Mike Whitby over the next year	MC
13.a.II	Seek out potential people for the upcoming vacant roles of PRO & secretary	All GMC
13.d	Bring amended Guild logo that works on Guild clothing to the next GMC	SC

## Treasurer's Report for GMC meeting 20<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### 1. Financial Summary (as at 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018)

The total Guild funds currently stand at £73625.88, made up as below:

<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>Representing</b>	
Principality CAF 12month	26714.22	General Fund	6083.96
bond CCLA/CBF General a/c	18273.91	Restoration Fund	17337.23
CCLA/CBF St.Peter's a/c	2004.89	Restoration Grants Allocated	39150.00
Barclays Current Account	26632.86	Library Fund	301.22
	<b>Total</b>	Handbell Fund	780.00
	<b>73625.88</b>	The Golden Bottle Fund	4858.00
		Jubilee Fund	2065.00
		The Pipe Family Trust Fund	1045.58
		St. Peter's Sudbury Fund	2004.89
		<b>Total</b>	<b>73625.88</b>

Notes:

- i) £950 has been raised so far for the Affiliation Scheme (£1595 last year)
- ii) Just £142 has been spent from the Golden Bottle Fund, on ART expenses and stationery.
- iii) Subscriptions for 2018 thus far total £6481, compared with the 2017 total of £7425. District treasurers are now chasing late payers.
- iv) Since the last meeting, and having researched previous Minutes, I have further updated the Grants Approved and Paid analysis. I believe that this is now a full and accurate reflection of the situation. (See Item 2 - Grants Approved and Paid)
- v) In order to have liquid funds available to meet our liabilities in respect of Grants already approved I have had to encash one of our Principality CAF Bonds which matured in October (£21.6k). I will need early advice regarding any new grants approved (only £17.3k is currently in the BRF), as if necessary I will need to encash our remaining bond (£26.7k) when it matures in December. If I do not take the opportunity then, this money will be locked up until December 2019.

## 2. Grants Approved and Paid

	Approved £	Approval Date	Grants Paid £	Grants unpaid £	Date Paid	
Ipswich St Margarets	12000	18/06/2016	12000		15/04/18	
Ipswich, St Clement	500	22/10/2017	250	250	16/08/18	Part Paid
Boxford	300	18/02/2017	300		22/06/18	
Brandeston	1000	22/10/2017	1000		20/02/18	
Bacton	200	22/10/2017	200		21/06/18	
Little Cornard	10000	17/06/2017		10000		
Cretingham	4000	17/06/2017	4000		03/06/18	
Offton	1250	17/06/2017	1250		06/06/18	
Stowmarket	11000	17/02/2018		11000		
Laxfield	12000	17/02/2018		12000		
Fornham St Martin	5600	17/02/2018		5600		
Gt Barton	300	17/02/2018		300		
Notes: Total	289300		19000	39150		

The £39,150 amount for unpaid grants is fully accounted for in Item 1 (Financial Summary). It should be noted that there is currently only £17.3k available for further grants, and I therefore advocate caution in making too many further commitments. If however there is a likelihood that further grants will be made I need advice by the end of November 2018, so that if necessary I can release funds currently locked up in Principality bonds.

## 3. Independent Examiners & Accounting procedures

Following advice earlier this year from our appointed Independent Examiners (Larking Gowen) that they wish to start charging the Guild for their auditing services, I have had extensive dialogue with them (both written and verbal) in the hope that some sort of transitional arrangement might be agreed. However, after many years of giving a free service they are now resolute in their intent to introduce an annual charge of £450 + VAT. Despite the fact that we have already appointed them for 2018, they have indicated that if we can find another party who is prepared to carry out the work on a *pro bono* basis, they will offer full co-operation in any transitional procedures. As a matter of interest, our status as a registered UK Charity with a gross income of less than £25000 does not require that we are assessed by an independent examiner, unless our constitution specifically requires it. However, I would not recommend removing the element of independent examination, especially as we are involved with HMRC in respect of Gift Aid tax reclamation.

Over recent years our accounts in the Annual Report have not included a verification statement from our independent examiners (no doubt owing to timing difficulties). Given that District Treasurers are required to submit accounts by 15<sup>th</sup> January, it is my intention to get the full Guild accounts audited by the end of February so that they can be published in the Report with an accompanying independent examiner's statement.

#### 4. Donations

I am concerned about the rather random nature of where donations to the Guild are initially allocated. There are several categories of donations as I see it:

- i) donations given by members in lieu of subscriptions, which are traditionally put into the BRF (sometimes they are not specifically identified and are lumped in with subscriptions, which means that 50% ends up in the BRF automatically). I cannot find any specific directive about these donations. However, I have randomly polled some donors, and whilst in most cases they are quite happy with the arrangement I have also encountered requests for the donation to go into General funds. My point here is that perhaps we shouldn't assume that everyone has the same wishes.
- ii) donations given by members in addition to their subscription.
- iii) donations received from non-members – individuals or organisations
- iv) donations from towers/PCCs, which normally go into the St Edmunds Clapper fund within the BRF.

Bearing in mind that the GMC always has the ability to move funds from General to BRF if deemed appropriate, I propose that we lay down a simple set of guidelines as follows:

- a) donations from towers/PCCs, which are eligible for the St Edmunds Clapper competition, should go into the BRF
- b) all other donations should initially go into the General Fund unless the donor specifies otherwise.

#### 5. Expenses

When expenses are legitimately claimed we do not appear to have a standardised mileage rate when private cars are used for travel. This year to date I have seen claims ranging from 15p to 17p per mile. These are certainly not excessive, and the HMRC 'approved' rate is 45p per mile before there is any element of 'profit'. I propose that we formally set a maximum rate of 20p per mile.

#### 6. Storage of old Accounts

Storage of old accounts paper records takes up a lot of space, but as a registered charity we need to keep them for all time! Whilst the Treasurer clearly needs access to a reasonable number of years back in case of query, I do not think that a domestic environment is the correct place for storing the historic data. Would it be possible for accounts paperwork older than ten years to be integrated into the Guild library?

#### 7. Charity Commission

As a Trustee, I observe that the declared principal objectives, as stated in our Annual Trustees' Report, lists an objective which is not recorded in the official Charity Commission's information:

The Charity Commission's entry is:

*(1) TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE THE PRACTICE OF BELL-RINGING. (2) TO RECRUIT, TRAIN AND ENCOURAGE BELLRINGERS IN THE PRACTICE OF THEIR ART. (3) TO CULTIVATE THE ART OF SCIENTIFIC CHANGE RINGING. (SEE CONSTITUTION FOR FURTHER DETAILS).*

our Annual Trustees' Report gives an extra item (in red)

*The purpose of the Charity is to promote and encourage the practice of bellringing within the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich; to recruit, train and encourage bellringers in the practice of their art; to cultivate the art of scientific change ringing; and to promote and advise on the preservation of bells in an efficient*

*condition.* I therefore propose that the Charity Commission record is amended so that they match up.

Stephen Cheek Treasurer  
11<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## **Recruitment and Training – 20 October 2018**

Since the last GMC, we have held two R&T committee meetings, the minutes for the July 2018 meeting should now be on the Guild Website.

At the October meeting, we:-

- Heard updates from the District Ringing Masters
- Discussed feedback from ART courses and related activities, and how we should observe progress of those who attended.
- Discussed the Young Ringers' events and whether we should continue to pursue these given the last couple of events have been postponed due to lack of support. Mark is looking to arrange an event on 20 or 21 December and would appreciate an early indication of which date would suit.
- Discussed the recent Gather event and future opportunities this presents in the future
- Possibilities of engaging with clergy through the Diocesan office
- The Golden Bottle Trust grant – a draft report which is being written, in relation to how we are utilising the grant
- How the ringing on 11 November 2018 should provide an opportunity for promoting ringing in Suffolk

Minutes will be published on the Guild website in due course.

Tom Scase, 08 October 2018

## **Ringing Master's Report – 20 October 2018**

Since the last GMC, The Suffolk Guild rang at the Ridgman Trophy, held in St Albans. We came fourth and left with a feeling we have much more potential.

I recently attended the Gather 2018 event at Bury St Edmund Cathedral, where the Vestey Mini Ring was present. A worthwhile event to attend and a good audience to present ringing to, we were slightly constrained as we could not collect individual contact details etc., so following up directly with those who showed interest is not possible.

Following the success of the Suffolk Guild Peal week in 2018, I am keen to run this again in 2019 during the February half term week. Look out for further details in due course.

The South West District has invited the Guild hold the 2019 striking competitions at Polstead and Lavenham. I am conscious the last time the South West District hosted, the eight bell was at Lavenham, however, as arrangements have already begun, we will stick with Lavenham. I am seriously considering a set method for the eight bell competition – I appreciate any comments on this.

As the ADM season approaches, unfortunately I will not be able to attend either the NW or SW meetings, due to prior commitments. I intend to attend the other two.

Finally, I look forward to most towers (with ringable bells) ringing on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November, and encourage everyone to help out where possible.

Tom Scase, 08 October 2018



## Report of the Public Relations Officer for the 2018 October GMC Meeting

### **Suffolk Day, 21st June**

- 26 towers rang including 10 quarters and 1 peal
- Theberton quarter featured on ITV Anglia news, the only piece to be shown on Suffolk Day
- Diocese engaged in the event by getting Bishop Mike and Bishop Martin to chime the bells at Ipswich St Nicholas
- Included in several newspaper articles too.

### **High Sheriff's Garden Party**

I attended George Vestey the High Sheriff's Garden Party on behalf of the Guild on 31st August. Where I met and discussed ringing with people representing various Suffolk institutions including the new dean of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, the churches conservation trust, public officials, as well as the George Vestey. George is keen to attend more Guild events after his successful visit to our Guild Striking Contest in May.

Everyone I spoke was very supportive and aware of the Ringing Remembers campaign which just proves how successful it has been in raising awareness and appreciation for ringing.

### **Ringing Remembers**

We have around 26 people registered in Suffolk and have now passed the 1,400 target nationally. I've been passing on the details to the locals contact as they are sent to me from the main campaign. I feel this has been very worthwhile campaign for ringing.

Commemorative pin badges will be sent out shortly, but there is still time to register new ringers.

### **Ringing for Peace Armistice 100**

Over 110 towers now confirmed with me, but there are still some gaps particularly in the South West. Thank you to Jonathan Williamson and the North East district team who have done a lot of organising in their area.

Please let me know what towers you are ringing at, I'd rather be told twice than not at all!

As we move into the final weeks leading up to the 11th I'll be pushing the publicity out to local media.

Again the diocese has been very helpful with communications and publicity through their e-newsletter.

### **Support for Market Weston HLF application**

I also wrote a letter of support for a Heritage Lottery grant application for Market Weston. The person who got in touch said that out of all the groups he has been contact with the Guild has been the most helpful. Unfortunately the project does not involve restoration of the bells but the support we have provided go a long well in promoting ringing.

### **Lt Cornard**

There has been a lot of publicity around the Little Cornard restoration so the team there should be congratulated on the work that has been done particularly John Taylor for the technical lead he has taken on the project.

### **Central Council**

As a result of the Central Council transformation the public relations committee has been replaced by the communications and marketing workgroup. I am one of the new members of the workgroup and help run the social media presence for the council.

*As stated previously I will be standing down from the PRO role in April after three years. A successor is yet to be found, please keep this in mind.*

### **Neal Dodge**

## **Report by Technical Advisor for GMC & BAC October, 2018.**

In June members of the BAC assisted Nicholson's for 2 days replacing the single bell at Nettlestead The Guild chain hoist was used here..

Tech. Advisor attended at Harkestead in July to report on the installation and check and tighten bells.

In September Tech. Advisor attended at Hoxne and has reported on this long neglected installation (front 5 of an original 6)

At Stowmarket we now have permission to tune the listed Miles Graye tenor which will mean that the proposed 10 can now be tuned to the circa 1450 fourth to produce a much better result.

In September the Great Barton clappers were removed to Taylors for re-bushing and other work. Four of the clappers are Taylor's modern design but there are two older pattern ones which may require re-forming, plus a new headstock bolt on the fifth.

Also in September Tech. Advisor attended at Wyverstone so that the bells (3) could be rung for a wedding. This installation requires some work to be done so that they can continue to be rung in full circles for short periods.

Cotton have applied for and received a part 'B' permission for work to get the back 6 bells ringing again. The BAC will now carry out repairs to a defective support beam, have the metal rope guides galvanised to prevent rusting (a serious problem in the open ringing chamber), fit new ropes and generally overhaul this time expired installation so that they can be rung again.

There may be additional work reported at the BAC on 5<sup>th</sup> October which should be mentioned.

Grants already agreed and money available to pay are: Stowmarket, Little Cornard, St. Clements, Ipswich, Laxfield, Fornham St. Martin and Great Barton. St. Clements and Great Barton are small grants.

Towers which are working towards large scale restoration and may well ask for grant aid at any stage are: Combs, Hitcham, Hoxne, Thorndon, Badwell Ash., Eye and Great Glemham.

I draw your attention to our Objects, detailed on page 80 of the current report, of which paragraphs 5 and 6 clearly set out our objectives as far as supporting restoration are concerned.

Winston S. Girling  
Suffolk Guild Technical Advisor.

## **Young Ringers Oct 2018 (Mark Ogden)**

I organised two Summer young ringers outings but unfortunately I was not able to get sufficient people for either of the two dates I tried, although the total interested would have been sufficient, had there not been diary conflicts.

I will try to organise another outing in December, either 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> when the schools have broken up. This time I am trying to get a heads up on the best date for those interested. With the recent influx of young ringers in Ipswich (SMLT and St Margaret's) and Felixstowe hopefully there will be enough

## **Membership Secretary's Report to GMC 20<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

There have been 4 application forms received for membership since the June meeting, making a total of 20 new members so far in 2018.

The GDPR communications that were sent to all Tower Correspondents, including some non members, provided the required permission and some amendments. Appropriate changes have been made to the website and I will update the contacts list, passed to me by the Report Editor, for the next Guild Report.

## **Safeguarding Report to GMC 20<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

There is nothing to report.

**Mary Garner**

**11<sup>th</sup> October**

## **2018 Webmaster's Report for the GMC Meeting on 20/10/2018**

'Security'

The site is now 'secure', i.e. the address bar in a browser is no longer headed *Not secure*.

Maps

Originally the site used Google maps, configured by me. This service was free. When Google started charging, the maps disappeared (but no one seems to have noticed). I have replaced them by linking to the Google maps on the Dove pages. The Google maps on the Dove pages have the advantage of showing all the surrounding towers.

Updating changes to Tower Correspondents etc

Tower pages have been updated as necessary, mostly highlighted by the Membership Secretary's GDPR campaign.

Guild emails

I have sent out 24 emails since the last meeting, which include four *What's On*.

Richy's Blog

I continue to update Richy's Blog on a daily basis. Richy started his blog in October 2007.

**11/10/2018 Chris Garner**

## **Guild Newsletter.**

Should be a useful tool for uniting the guild. With articles aimed at interesting the beginner, amusing the more experienced and impressing the Bishop.  
Should reflect the vigorous and enthusiastic organisation that the Guild is.

## **How?**

A number of correspondents who are invited to contribute a specific article to a specific brief. A team, chaired initially by guild chairman, to prepare the plan for the years newsletters in advance. This team also responsible for making sure articles are sourced and who edit and share them within the group prior to Editor putting Newsletter together.

Sponsorship towards costs.

## **Contents.**

- The Voice of our Chairman
- Belfry Prayer; new one each edition, written by Suffolk priests.
- Around the districts.
- Notes from our Hong Kong correspondent.
- Restorations 1. Stories 2. How to. 3 Funding.
- Conducting. 1. Touches. 2 How to.
- How and why of doing a legacy.
- Maintenance notes. 1 Seasonal work. 2 recent work done. 3 Replace a stay.
- Personality pieces. e.g. "a day in the life of..."
- Peals. Summary of recent peals and special ringing.
- Quarter peal news.
- Ringing Skills. Coaching, handling, listening hints, Stedman. Learning Methods. Method structure.
- Other societies.
- History. Anecdotes, Towers, Bands. Outings.
- Promotion. Training days, Sweat shirts, Meetings, events.
- Recipes.
- Pictures people and places
- Handbells.
- Mini-ring news.
- Obituaries.
- Hot news, but only a little as that should be website type material.
- Unsolicited material. E.g. letters, brief articles of ringing interest.
- Relevant cartoons
- Adverts.
- Re-name? e.g. "Headstock and Gudgeon" "Suffolk Guild of Ringers Journal"
- Glossary.

## **Distribution.**

Swift, so time sensitive material is not out of date.

Deanery reps see towers and maintain contact by delivering Newsletter.

Worth increasing the circulation to include incumbents and local press.

Should go to each member except those who opt out?