



**Minutes of the North East District Quarterly Meeting held at  
Metfield Village Hall, Metfield, Suffolk at 16.50 hours on Saturday, 10th June 2023  
following the conclusion of the North East District Striking Competition held earlier that day**

**1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Dave Goldstone, Chair of the North East District (**DG**), welcomed 26 members to the meeting and 6 non-Guild member ringers who had taken part in or supported those in the striking competition held earlier. He also welcomed the two judges of the day's striking competition, Amanda Richmond (**AMR**) and Jonathan Williamson (**JW**), both from the South East District.

Apologies for absence were received from Tom Brady, Sal Jenkinson, Hugh Spink, Peggy Meredith, Michael and Sharon Peters and Keith Dennis.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the North East District Quarterly Meeting held on 11th March 2023 at Laxfield**

The minutes of the last North East District Quarterly Meeting held on 11th March 2023 at Laxfield (a copy of which had been circulated with the agenda) were approved with no amendments or additions proposed.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the North East District Quarterly Meeting held on 11th March 2023 at Laxfield.

**4. Election of new members to the Suffolk Guild**

No proposals for the election of new members to the Suffolk Guild were received at the meeting.

**5. Review of North East District ringing for the Coronation**

Philip Gorrod, North East District Ringing Master (**PJG**) reported that the District had performed really well in ringing for the Coronation with many local bands ringing in their home towers on the day of the Coronation itself. In addition, all of the 24 Quarter Peals rung for and within the District during the Guild's Quarter Peal fortnight either side of the date of the Coronation were successful, with 40 District members taking part.

**6. Recruitment and Training**

Sue Child (**SC**) updated the meeting on the progress of the Sole Bay Ringing Hub initiative. She began by thanking all those who had visited the Hub to date, in particular those who had contributed their

time as tutors. She reported that there was lots of enthusiasm for the project from both teachers and learners alike. An average of 6 to 7 learners had attended each session and 11 new learners had been secured through the Hub. The learners were progressing after rope time at their home towers, with one now ringing rounds and call changes. SC explained that the Hub was hard work, but she considered it to be a worthwhile initiative. She was currently considering whether to have a summer break for the Hub, re-starting in Autumn, and, once the first group of learners were ringing at their home towers, explained there may be a re-thinking of the Hub's approach. SC encouraged all tower captains to bring their learners along to the Hub as well as any existing ringers who would like to learn how to teach or assist in teaching. She counselled that each learner attending the Hub still had to put the hours in ringing at their home tower. SC concluded by expressing her hope that a Module 1 ART course will be held in the District at some point.

DG commented on the value to be gained through learning to ring with others and the benefits offered by the Hub in providing access to expert teachers along with the opportunity to socialise with both other learners and teachers over coffee and cake. He invited members (and any others attending the Hub) to email him with their feedback on the Hub's activities.

PJG added that he thought the Hub was working really well and provided a good environment in which to learn (along with excellent cake).

## **7. Forthcoming events**

DG invited Kate Gill, District Secretary, (**KG**) to provide details of forthcoming events in the District.

KG advised these were as follows:

- a) Saturday, 28th July - "Ringing Games Afternoon" at Rumburgh. This is intended to be a fun event, teaching bell handling with bell movement exercises and will be ideal for those who wish to practise dodging, standing their bell at both handstroke and backstroke and those who wish to improve their striking. Places are limited and will need to be booked in advance. If the event is a success, another may be held in due course.
- b) Saturday, 12th August - Ringing at Barsham with picnic and District Quarterly Meeting. Barsham has benefitted from recent work on the part of the BAC. The picnic is likely to be provided rather than on a "bring and share" basis and so will need to be booked in advance. There will be a short Quarterly Meeting mainly to deal with the election of new members. After the meeting there will be an opportunity to walk to the Geldeston Locks where food can be ordered, if required.
- c) Friday, 1st September to Sunday, 3rd September - CCCBR visit to Ipswich and surrounds. There will be no District events in September given the CCCBR visit to Ipswich that month and the associated ringing and social activities.
- d) Saturday, 11th November - District ADM. The original plan to hold the ADM at Rendham has had to change due to problems with the church building. Alternative venues are under consideration and suggestions were invited.

## **8. Any other business**

No other business was raised by those in attendance and so the formal business of the meeting was concluded and the judges were invited to announce the results of the day's striking competition.

## **Results of the North East District Striking Competition held on 10 June 2023 commencing at 3.30pm**

PJG introduced the judges, AMR and JW and invited them to announce the results.

AMR explained that she and JW had divided the competition into two parts: 1) call change competition and 2) method competition.

### **Call Change Competition**

AMR announced the results of the call change competition to be as follows while also offering constructive comments on each band's performance:

<b>Team No.</b>	<b>Team Name</b>	<b>Faults</b>	<b>Position</b>
1	Beccles	71	2nd
4	Metfield	122	3rd
5	Aldeburgh	67	1st

### **Method Competition**

JW announced the results of the method competition to be as follows while also offering constructive comments on the respective performances:

<b>Team No.</b>	<b>Team Name</b>	<b>Faults</b>	<b>Position</b>
2	Halesworth	34	1st
3	Southwold	84	2nd

AMR concluded the judges' comments by offering some feedback on the bells.

PJG thanked the judges and asked that they present the trophies to the winning bands.

AMR presented Richard Rapor, tower captain of Aldeburgh, with the Call Change Trophy and Aldeburgh were congratulated on their win.

PJG announced that the Patricia Bailey Shield Trophy was being replaced by a new trophy this year as there was no more space on the Shield to record the name of the winning band. After a brief discussion as to where the Shield should be held permanently, it was agreed by the meeting that the band who had won the trophy on the most occasions (Halesworth) should retain it as there was precedent with the Beccles band having retained the previous retired trophy on this basis.

PJG then introduced the new trophy to the meeting which had been commissioned by the Committee and made by Andy Owen, an associate member of the Guild. PJG explained that the Committee had decided to name the new trophy after someone who had contributed so much to ringing in the District, namely Trevor Hughes.

JW presented PJG, tower captain of Halesworth, with the Trevor Hughes Trophy and Halesworth were congratulated on their win.

PJG announced the winners of the Harry Archer Memorial Trophy for the “most improved band” were Metfield. He presented the trophy to Chris Osborne, a member of the Metfield band, and Metfield were congratulated on their win.

DG closed the meeting by thanking Metfield for their hospitality and also thanking the competition judges, AMR and JW, for carrying out such a difficult task and also providing entertaining and helpful feedback on all teams’ performances. KG was thanked for organising the meeting and ringing tea.

The meeting closed at 18:00 hours.

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**Chair**