

AGM of the Change Ringing Society on Friday 25th January 2013

The meeting was opened at 19:06 with the Rev Alison Joyce in the chair.

Members present: Alison Joyce, Francesca Cinderey, Alistair Cherry, Laura Davies, Louis Suggett, Matthew Hardy, Andrew Piggin, Iestyn Stead, Emily Tamhne, Michael Woolley, Catherine Shelley.

Apologies from: Ruth Sanderson, Donna Pullan, Rebecca Taylor, Will Bosworth

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Andrew and seconded by Louis.

Matters arising:

- State of the Ringing World collection – Fran confirmed that the collection had been transferred from the University library to Edgbaston clock chamber by Mark Eccleston.
- Peal board – Alison confirmed she would try to find a suitable time for the peal board to be dedicated (possibly after evening ringing). Fran commented that the problem with the peal board was someone with the tools and expertise to put it up. Michael enquired about the need for a faculty and Alison stated that it could be done without one.
- Danger sign on the belfry door – Alison showed the meeting the sign that she had made and on approval of the meeting is going to laminate it for the belfry door.

Treasurer's report:

In Alex's absence Fran reported on the financial situation of the society.

The church fund currently has £1092.32 raised from ringing the bells for weddings. The guild fund has £836.18 but has outgoing payments still to be made on the dinner totaling £662.55.

Master's report:

Fran read her Master's report which is attached at the end of the minutes.

Election of Officers:-

Committee Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Ringing Master	Alistair	Michael	Andrew
Deputy Master	Laura	Emily	Iestyn
Treasurer	Alex	Fran	Emily
Secretary	Andrew	Fran	Matt
Steeple Keeper	Iestyn	Fran	Andrew
Social Secretary	Laura	Alistair	Emily
Central Council Representative	Michael	Louis	Alistair
Life Members' Secretary	Emily	Laura	Matt
Web Master	Iestyn	Michael	Andrew

May Day Tour:

Iestyn has agreed to organise the May Day tour to Lichfield on 7th June. Proposed by Louis and seconded by Laura

Camping Trip:

Laura agreed to organise the camping trip; proposed by Emily and seconded by Alistair. She would aim to organise it in Wales for August with an exact date to be confirmed.

Any other business:

St Martin's Guild Standing committee:

Fran reported that the St Martin's Guild wished to co-opt the Ringing Master of BUSCR onto their standing committee to strengthen the ties between the society and the guild. Alistair agreed to attend the standing committee meetings.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 19.39.

BUSCR Ringing Masters Report 2013

BUSCR started the year with an enjoyable annual dinner held at the Edgbaston Palace Hotel.

March saw what we thought was impossible happen at Edgbaston. All of the missing stays were replaced and for the first time since March 2012 all of the bells had uncracked stays. Unfortunately we have discovered that the stay on the third is cracked so I can't end my time as ringing master handing over a tower with all of the stays intact!

Also in March we were visited by two students from the TAB newspaper. They wrote an article about us that of course feature images from the Mars Bar advert and of the Hunchback of Notre Dame and ultimately didn't bring us any new ringers but it was still an interesting experience!

In April BUSCR sent a representative to the St Martin's Guild Carlsberg day. They wanted to radically shake up their training programme and so the Birmingham School of Bell Ringing was founded in September 2013. The society has benefitted greatly from the school by helping to train new ringers more quickly and also as they have provided ITTS courses for existing ringers.

Following a couple of terms of working hard and taking exams the society held two tours over two weekends in June. The May Day tour organised by Emily visited towers in the Banbury area and everyone enjoyed being able to have a lie in and lunch outside in the sunshine as well as the ringing.

The following weekend, for the camping trip, BUSCR visited the Forest of Dean. We started off at Edgbaston with Andrew ringing his first quarter peal inside before heading south. The group stayed in two holiday cottages visiting towers in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and for some their first tower in Wales. Sunday lunchtime also included time to play crazy golf before returning to Edgbaston for evening ringing.

After the summer break we returned to Edgbaston to find that although all the stays were intact the sixth was without a clapper. Luckily thanks to Alan, Jane and a present of a nut from Taylors we were able to have all of the bells ringing for the first practice of term. We had a stall at the societies fair with thanks to Ruth, Andrew, Pippa, Alex and Iestyn for manning the stall. We had a good number of people sign up and were delighted to have 19 attend the first practice of term. To welcome all of the new students Andrew organised a tour that visited St Chad's, St Paul's and Harborne. The society has benefited greatly from all of the new students that have arrived in Birmingham both from those who are experienced ringers and those who are learning. Wednesday practices have all been well attended and included ringing from rounds to spliced surprise major. 8 spliced has been a regular feature of practices and Glasgow was rung once!

The St Martin's Guild extended their quarter peal week to a quarter peal month as part of the Rod Pipe Commemoration. BUSCR did not play such a large part this year as half of the month was before the start of term but a quarter was rung at Edgbaston and many members contributed to other quarter peals around the Guild.

I wrote in my report last year about how important Sunday service ringing was and I'm glad that most weeks we have been ringing for at least one service. Thank you again to all those who continually support Sunday ringing and I hope this can continue for the rest of the year. Throughout the year 20 quarter peals have been rung for the society and also this year 2 peals.

