

General Meeting
Saturday 11th May 2024
Held at St Mary's Moseley
Following the Guild Challenge Day

Officers present

Eleanor Linford (Guild Master), Kirsty Gifford (Public Relations Officer), Mark Eccleston (Archivist and Webmaster), Rachel Mitchell (Ringing Master), Trish Everett (Safeguarding Officer)

24 members were present including the above officers.

Minutes

	Action
<p>1. Welcome and apologies Eleanor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Malcolm Paulson (Treasurer) and Sand Cooper (Secretary)</p>	
<p>2.1 Ringing Master's Update – Rachel Thomas Rachel advised she would give a short report in part due to only being in post since January. She highlighted the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus at St Alphege, Solihull on Henry Johnson dinner day in February which was a huge achievement for the guild. It was the first peal on 12 by an all female band for The Guild, hoped it wouldn't remain the only one. The dinner was another huge success- she thanked those that were involved in organising it and thanked those buying all the beer!</p> <p>Rachel thanked Steve Horton for agreeing to take over the running of the midweek Moseley practices after Phil Ramsbottom took a step back earlier this year. She said it was also great news to hear that the practices at St Giles, Sheldon are now back up and running after work on the clappers was completed.</p> <p>It had been a pleasure to see improvement in lots of ringers at the monthly higher numbers practices. They are lively and well attended and she would encourage anyone wanting to dip their toe into 10 and 12 bell ringing to go along.</p> <p>Rachel is aware that there has been no replacement of the workshops that Phil Ramsbottom used to run. She would like to get something going again in the near future and invited members that have something they'd like to work on improving to let her know.</p> <p>She thanked all those attending the Challenge Day which absolutely wouldn't be what it is without all their support.</p>	

<p>2.2 Finance Update - Malcolm Paulson</p> <p>The current balances on the Guild’s bank accounts were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell Restoration Funds: £34,896.17 • General Funds: £8,505.05 <p>This does not include any balances in the 100 club account or Henry Johnson Dinner account.</p> <p>The insurance for the handbells has been renewed in the last month (£38). The deposit has also been paid for the 2025 HJD. £178.32 was paid out of the BRF to Kingsbury, towards the cost of refurbishing their clappers.</p> <p>We currently have 254 members of the Guild for 2024.</p>	
<p>2.3 Safeguarding Update – Trish Everett</p> <p>The Church of England is currently reviewing safeguarding training. The requirements are that all bell ringers should undertake the basic safeguarding training, which is on line.</p> <p>The link to the C of E portal is https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/</p> <p>The guide to using the portal is https://www.cofebirmingham.com/content/pages/documents/guide-to-using-the-training-portal-and-creating-a-profile-edited-june-2023.pdf</p>	
<p>3. Election of Members</p> <p>Full Members elected</p> <p>Louis Guy-Lyon Lucas Williams John Eaton Ioan Normington</p> <p>Associate Members elected</p> <p>Emma Thomas</p>	
<p>4. Future Events</p> <p>12 May - Bell Sunday</p> <p>Members were asked to let the Guild know what is going on- Andrew Brown is keen to have contributions for the newsletter.</p> <p>6 June - Bells and Beacons for D-Day</p> <p>The CCCBR is encouraging all towers to ring for peace at 6.30pm</p> <p>29 June - Walking Tour</p> <p>Mike Dodson will firm the numbers and Sand Cooper will coordinate car shares.</p> <p>15 September - Online General Meeting</p> <p>Details to follow nearer the event</p> <p>12 October - Guild outing to Wellingborough and Shrewsbury</p> <p>Details to follow nearer the event</p> <p>11 January 2025 - AGM</p> <p>Venue to be confirmed</p>	

<p>22 February 2025 Henry Johnson Dinner Details to follow nearer the event.</p> <p>Third Wednesday - Special Practices at Sheldon</p> <p>Third Thursday - Mid Week ringing at Moseley</p> <p>4th Wednesday - Higher Numbers at Solihull</p> <p>1st Saturday - Surprise Major at Edgbaston</p>	
<p>5. Residential Ringing Course Bursaries Course bursaries for students and helpers. Everyone who has applied so far has a bursary. Eleanor thanked all who had applied.</p>	
<p>6. Guild Yearbook - Mark Eccleston Copies were made available for towers. The yearbook is available on the website as a PDF for all members.</p>	
<p>Eleanor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed</p>	