

Minutes of Horfield Bell Ringers AGM

Monday, 17th January 2011

Present: Jeanne (Chair), Joan, Bernie, Philip, Ella, David, Katy, Alice, Roy and Cary. Minutes taken by Katy.

There were no matters arising.

Membership

Jeanne welcomed everyone to the AGM, especially Roy who has returned to our tower and has been a huge support of the last few months.

It was hoped that Roger, our webmaster, would be returning to ringing later this year.

Jeanne checked and updated our current membership details list and this was going to be forwarded to Roger.

New ringers/learners this year:

Curtis

Chloe and Maddie

Robert

Bell Maintenance

Philip checked the bells in November and generally all the bells are in good order. Philip reported that ropes 2 and 4 were beginning to fray and may well need replacing; Jeanne said that funds were available. It was discussed whether to replace all the ropes and to keep the current ones as spares. It was suggested that we ought to get advice from other towers in how to go forward in this matter. We also need to check the floor in the clock chamber.

Last Oct, Cary went on a bell maintenance course. Cary found the course very useful and he and Bernie would regularly inspect the bells and ropes. It was suggested that the bells should be checked beginning of April.

Weddings

We rang for eleven weddings last year. We were especially grateful for support from Alan Pidgeon.

We currently have four weddings arranged for this year.

Branch Practice

It was felt that we should support branch practice; they are held on the last Friday every month and the next practice would be Fri 28th Jan. at Westbury-on-Trym (7:00-9:00pm).

Horfield Tower Open Day

It was suggested that we linked into other open local events, e.g 'open Henleaze' or 'Friends of Horfield common.' Jeanne to find out.

Training/Ringing Days

On whole we have been a fairly active band, we sent students and helpers to both training days in Tewkesbury (March) and Wotton-under-Edge (Oct.). We also had a ringing day with was organised by the Southville ringers, which was well supported.

Striking Competition

We didn't provide a ringing band last year for this competition but we aim to support this event this year.

Quarter Peal

We still haven't managed to ring a quarter peal.

Philip suggested that our approach should be to firstly do extended ringing (20 mins - 600 changes), then to have one student with a strong band and then finally a 'local' band to achieve our goal.

Xmas Meal

It was felt that we should have a Summer meal/outing this year instead. Ella to arrange.

Finance

Currently the balance is £407.41, which is a slight increase from last year.

Officers (2011)

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| Tower captain | Katy (with support from Ella and David) |
| Deputy tower captain | David and Ella |
| Secretary/Treasurer/Trainer | Jeanne |
| Maintenance Steeple keeper | Cary and Bernie |
| Webmaster | Roger |

Katy has been CRB checked, to assist with training.

I special "thank-you" to Philip who was officially stepping down from position as tower captain, to pursue his own ringing.

We were all grateful for his support, patience and advice over the last 6-7 years.

Practice Night

Our current structure to practice nights will continue this year, 6:30 to 7:30 pm learners, 7:30 to 8:30 pm simple methods and 8:30 to 9:00pm complex methods.

It was agreed that Monday night for our practice night should continue.

Subs

Jeanne reminded everyone that subs were due: £10 members, £5 concessions and £2.50 juniors.

AOB

Katy asked whether the two stools in the ringing chamber could be made stronger, Jeanne was to have a look.

Ella has a spare whiteboard, which she was willing to donate to the tower.

A "Thank-you" to Cary for cleaning the ringing chamber!

Future Dates/Events

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| Spring Training 12111 March, Cirencester. | Katy to arrange |
| Summer Outing 11th June | Ella to arrange |
| Open tower/local event | Jeanne to enquire |