

---

## Minutes of the Northern District of the TDGR AGM held at Lanteglos Church on March 23rd 2024

### Present

Owen Borlase, Julian Trick, Robert Corney, Liz Gliddon, Esther Jones, Dave Garvie, Jo Barnes, Lester Quance, Ian Self, Robert Wadge, Malcolm Day, Lesley Booker, Derek Orchard, Sandy Nott, Judith Taylor, Veronica, Paul Tucker, Paul, Sue, Hilary Kenny and Barry from Poundstock & Sue Shadrick and others. Apologies to those missed or who's names are incomplete.

### Apologies

Ruth Reeves

The minutes from the meeting held on Saturday March 11th 2023 had been circulated beforehand and were approved. There were no matters arising.

### Election of officers.

- (a) Chairman- Julian Trick -Proposed by Rob Corney and seconded by Liz Gliddon
- (b) Ringing Master - Robert Corney -Proposed by Jo Barnes and seconded by Esther Jones.
- (c) Treasurer - Liz Gliddon - Proposed by Esther Jones and seconded by Rob Corney.
- (d) Secretary - Sue Shadrick - Proposed by Rob Corney and seconded by Dave Garvie
- (e) Auditor - Melanie Dymond
- (f) Standing Committee representatives. (2) Julian Trick and Vacancy  
Proposed by Robert Corney and seconded by Liz Gliddon

### Officers report A) Chairman Julian Trick's report.

Firstly I am honoured to be elected to stand as chairman for the Northern District. My primary goal this year is to foster a deeper connection within our ringing community by visiting towers across the Northern District during their practice nights and events. I am pleased to announce that we have welcomed eight new members to our district this year: Polly Jenkin, Cate Haggis, Philippa Donald, David Goodman, Sue Hunt, Bryony Davies, Bob Metters, and Mike Coombes. I would like to personally welcome all these new ringers to our community.

In January of this year, Owen Borlase and Sue McClaughry organised a bell maintenance course, which attracted a significant number of participants eager to learn the basics of bell maintenance. I urge anyone to take the opportunity to attend these courses when they are announced and would like to thank Owen for allowing these valuable courses to run. Additionally, Simon McNair, the Church warden of Lesnewth, approached us regarding servicing the bells. At current the bells are in an unringable state but thanks to the collaborative efforts of Owen, John Taylor & Co., and others, the bells will soon be ringing again after a new set of ropes and a day's worth of dedicated work. We plan to celebrate this achievement with an open day at Lesnewth church, inviting all ringers to enjoy a cream tea and ring the restored bells.

During February, Poundstock hosted a recruitment and retention course led by Jo Tomlinson and Owen Borlase. The event was met with enthusiasm, offering valuable insights for all attendees. I extend my gratitude to Owen, Sue, and Jo for their commitment to traveling to the Northern District to conduct these courses.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to Lanteglos for allowing us to use their church for our gathering today. I would like to extend this thanks by inviting all towers to join us and experience the joy of ringing these beautiful bells at Lanteglos during your practice nights, please do contact me to organise.

Thank you all for attending.

---

## **B) Ringing Master Robert Corney report.**

2023 saw some encouraging signs for the future of ringing in our part of the diocese. Our Improver's Practises were well attended from Launcells and Poundstock in the north of the district to St Tudy, Lanteglos and Tintagel in the south. As always, our thanks go to all who provide hospitality at our venues and to those who'd traveled some distance to back up our own experienced ringers.

Some of the ringers in our branch have been going further afield to broaden their experience. In the border between Devon and Cornwall, the Tamar Valley Guild monthly practises have been drawing large numbers, and some of our ringers have rung at the open practice nights at Truro and Exeter. Both cathedrals are very welcoming and will ring whatever you are capable of.

The coronation provided an incentive to Ring for the King and it was good to hear of recruits who had committed themselves to be able to ring in May. The day was celebrated across our branch, though, as in so many areas, towers were rung at times that suited them, rather than the 'official' time. It is likely that the same will happen in June when the 80th anniversary of D-Day will be marked.

Marhamchurch hosted the Guild Carol Service in December with three new ringers receiving their guild membership certificates. It's good to hear that they are boosting Sunday Service ringing in our district.

Finally, I must mention our most recent Improvers session last month, the first time we'd gone to an eight bell tower. Altarnun had asked us to come and I felt that while the home band profited by having the extra ringers to provide a solid base for them, 6 bell ringers had a good opportunity to ring on higher numbers of bells.

On a personal level. I've been Ringing Master of this district for almost 10 years and I'd like to give 12 months notice of retiring from the post. I'm 6 months older than our King and I feel it's time to hand it over to someone younger.

## **C) Treasurer Liz Gliddon**

We hope that you have seen the published accounts on the TRDGR website or from your Tower contacts. Mrs Melanie Dymond kindly Audited them again this year and we send her our thanks. There are copies of the accounts here today for any member who has missed them.

The Northern District received £49.50 from the TDGR this represents 50p per £5 membership fee. Cash at Bank on 31 st January 2024 £731.97

### **Improvers Practices**

Again, this year we supported towers hosting Improvers Practices with a donation of £10. We hope that more towers will come forward to enjoy these friendly supported sessions. Total donations given were £70

### **Art Booklets**

The Art Training Log Books have been welcomed by Towers that have new ringers. There are 6 left, please contact me after the meeting. Total cost of these was £80 and no charge was made for them.

### **Polo Shirts**

There are 4 Northern District polo shirts left at the bargain price of £5.50. 2 small and 2 large.

### **Administration of District Accounts**

The standing committee TDGR sent the districts a proposal to centralize administration of accounts. All Northern District Tower contacts were emailed

the options offered and asked to comment. There were mixed reactions, but it was evident that for now we would like to continue as we are. Andrew Smith, the TDGR Treasurer, was advised of the decision and asked to represent this at the next Standing Committee meeting. All emails pertaining to this are here today.

**Safeguarding report** It has been encouraging to hear from the safeguarding team in the diocese that several tower captains have completed their Basic, Foundation AND Leadership safeguarding training. Well done if you are one of those. If not, please complete the online Basic and Foundation - which anyone and everyone

---

can do - and book yourselves onto the Leadership course. It helps embed a culture where we all feel safe and abuse can be spotted and dealt with in an appropriate and timely fashion as well as being required of all tower captains in our diocese. Unfortunately we aren't in a perfect world, so safeguarding IS everyone's business and we all need to be aware of what to look out for and how to react.

4. **Guild and District events** Carol Service at St Columb Major December 7th.  
April Improvers 13th April at Bridgerule - another 8 bell tower.  
**Northern District AGM 2025** will be held on 15th March at St Tudy.
5. **Election of New Members** Lorna Curtis was proposed by Esther Jones and seconded by Rob Corney. New ringers welcomed were Lyn Morely, Susie Bailey and Linda Summerhill.
6. **AOB** Update from the TDGR - It is suggested that each tower has a ringer on the PCC of their church. This is to keep informed of decisions that may affect the ringers. The TDGR has been made aware of a church in Devon where the PCC decided to sell the bells although they were being regularly rung. The ringers didn't find out until it was a fait accompli.

Health and Safety- there is a new officer who can assist with Risk Assessments for towers, guild events and outings. He can support making safety plans to liaise with emergency services in case of fire or evacuation.

Yearbook - Owen made a plea for a willing volunteer to assemble the year book. The format is already in place and it should be a straightforward task.

Practice Nights - Rob C. suggested that towers rotate different people to run their practice nights to show different preferences.