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## **Minutes of the Northern District of the TDGR AGM held at St Tudy Church on March 15th 2025**

### **Present**

Owen Borlase, Julian Trick, Robert Corney, Liz Gliddon, Esther Jones, Hayley Young, Dave Garvie, Eileen Partington, Ian Self, Paul Tucker, Hilary Kenny, Brian Marshall, Ernie Hicks, Jack Waddington, Neil Clements, Sean Shaw, Paul Brook, Lorna Curtis, Sue Burrows, Heather Baker, Gemma Marchant, Emma Deans, Sue Burrow.

### **Apologies**

Jo Barnes, Lester Quance, Lesley Booker, Veronica Francis, Wendy Couch, Sue Shadrick.

The minutes from the meeting held on Saturday March 23rd 2024 had been circulated beforehand and were approved. There were no matters arising.

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

I can't believe how quickly this year has gone! Unfortunately, it didn't start as we had hoped. As you all know, our dear friend Ruth fell ill and sadly lost her battle with cancer in March. On the 12th of April 2024, we held a celebration of her life at Lanteglos Church. What a wonderful send-off we gave her, with some excellent ringing—I'm sure she would have been proud of it.

This year, we welcomed seven new members to the Northern District: Heather Baker, Catherine, Arthur, Emma, Diane, Gotham Pickett, and Gemma Marchant. A very warm welcome to all of you!

Back in October 2022, Ernie Hicks and Suzanne Harper began raising funds to restore the bells at North Tamerton. With the help of Sue McClaughry and the parish, they successfully achieved their goal. By the 13th of October 2024, the bells were ready to be re-hung, and just a few days later, they were ringing once again. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ernie, Suzanne, and everyone involved in making this possible. To mark this achievement, the Improvers' Practice will be held at North Tamerton on Saturday, the 12th of April. We invite you all to come along and have a ring.

I would like to encourage all members, new and experienced, to take part in district events. Whether you are looking to improve your ringing or support others, your involvement is invaluable.

As you all know, Robert has now completed his final year as Ringing Master. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Robert for all his hard work and dedication to the Northern District. We truly appreciate everything he has done, and we wish him all the best for the future.

I'd also like to extend my thanks to the district committee and all those who help organise events, practices, and meetings. Your hard work keeps the district running smoothly.

I would also like to take a moment to thank St Tudy Church for hosting our AGM and for their warm hospitality—it is greatly appreciated.

Members of the Northern District have been invited to ring at Truro Cathedral on Monday 1st May from 7.30 until 9.00pm.

Looking ahead, I hope we can continue to grow as a district, supporting each other and encouraging new ringers to join us. Bell ringing is not just about tradition, but also about community, teamwork, and the joy of making music together. Let's make the coming year one of progress, learning, and enjoyment for all.

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

We've enjoyed a good year, with impressive numbers attending the Improvers' Sessions. St Endellion was a particularly successful venue that we'd not visited for some time, thanks to Julian for arranging this. The sun shone and the nearby garden centre was handy if people wanted to stay on after the practise. We had the opportunity to ring in several other local towers that were new to the group. Again, our chairman had enlisted the support of Owen Borlase to get Lesnewth back in action, and he organised a very successful open day to celebrate this, in a church with very close personal ties to Julian and his family. The dynamic duo also teamed up to inspect the bells at Marhamchurch and sorted out several minor problems that the home band had neglected. They also recommended that, in the instance of no steeplekeeper being in place, that Taylors could offer an annual inspection, subject to approval of PCCs.

We rang for special events during the year, several towers commemorated the anniversary of D Day and this year will mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day, another opportunity to ring for our local communities. It was good to see so many attending the life of Ruth Reeves at Lanteglos in July, an uplifting occasion for a remarkable person.

As I look back on my period as Ringing Master of this district Ruth, and her late husband Andrew played a large part in my years in this role. It was their proposal that I take on the position from that devoted servant of ringing Henry Trewin. In former days district meetings were held twice a year with Spring and Autumn Festivals. The last Festival I attended was at St Mabyn and suffice to say the highlight was the service led by Richard Dorrington. There was a very poor turnout, and the standard of ringing was very low. Andrew and Ruth put forward the idea of Improvers' Sessions at our next AGM in Stratton, and it has grown into something that our members look forward to attending, to get help in improving their striking, plain hunting and beyond. The social aspect is as important with the exchange of ideas in an informal setting.

There are several things to look forward to, as Julian reported, North Tamerton bells have recently been renovated and we've been invited there for our next Improvers' Session. Invitations also come from our friends at Bridgerule to join an open day on 22nd March from 10.00am to 4pm, and the Cathedral has open practices at intervals during the year in which all abilities are catered for. Now that the daylight hours are lengthening and the A30 works around Truro have been sorted it's well worth experiencing the ring of 12.

I'd like to thank our new chairman who has done so much in his first year, and our other officers who do the admin and at times have to chase up responses to their queries. Above all I must thank you all for coming to our sessions, whether new or old timers. Our chairman's final sentences sum it all up....

### **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.

Cash at Bank £626.72 - main expenditure has been polo shirts and Improvers Practice, at £10 per tower.

18 towers have returned TDGR membership forms.

Lloyds are changing our account to a Community Account with a cost of £4.25 per month maintenance fee and additional charges for some services. - comments from the floor were that some had found No Fee accounts with Nat West and others. Liz will explore the alternatives.

### **Election of officers.**

- (a) Chairman- Julian Trick -Proposed by Liz Gliddon and seconded by Sue Burrow
- (b) Ringing Master - No volunteers - Robert Corney will temporarily hold the post -Proposed by Liz Gliddon and seconded by Julian Trick.
- (c) Treasurer /Secretary - Liz Gliddon & Sue Shadrick - Proposed by Julian Trick and seconded by Esther Jones.
- (d) Auditor - Melanie Dymond - Proposed by Liz Gliddon and seconded by Esther Jones.
- (e) Standing Committee representatives. (2) Julian Trick and Vacancy

### **Safeguarding report**

Hayley gave a run down on requirements but individual PCCs are in charge. Andy Earle can advise. Basic and Foundation is needed for volunteers. It is all available online and can be completed as a group.

### **Guild and District events**

Several towers put themselves forward for Improvers Practice. Next is April 12th at North Tamerton from 10.00am until 12.00 noon.

Truro Cathedral ringing for Northern District 1st May 7.30pm until 9.00pm.

**Northern District AGM 2025** will be held on 21st March at Altarnun TBC.

### **AOB**

Ian Self would like pictures and information for An Clough to [i.self@cornishchurches.com](mailto:i.self@cornishchurches.com)

Julian and Owen Borlase (Guild President) presented five new member certificates and Dave Garvie was thanked for his seventy years of ringing.