

**Note of the Northern District Annual District Meeting
held as an on line Zoom meeting
on Saturday 16 January 2021**

AND

**Of the Northern District Extraordinary Meeting
held as a Zoom meeting
immediately prior to the
Surrey Association Annual General Meeting
Held on 8 May 2021**

Explanatory Note

During the District ADM there was no volunteer for the post of Master for the Northern District. However a volunteer stepped forward and it was decided that a District EDM should be held immediately prior to the Association AGM to formally appoint the volunteer to ensure transparency and to allow for any others to step forward.

As the EDM lasted for 4 minutes the note of the EDM is attached to the note of the District ADM as Annex 3

The Surrey Association
Note of the Northern District Annual District Meeting
held as an on line Zoom meeting
on Saturday 16 January 2021

The meeting commenced at 17:40 with the Association Master (Noel Gibbin) welcoming the attendees (31 Association Members)

Apologies for absence: Received from Tony and Deborah Bishop, Jane Marsters, Mike Shelley and Shirly McGill

Note of the Northern District ADM held 18 January 2020 at Holy Trinity Wandsworth; These had been circulated prior to the meeting and have been available on the Association website for eleven months. No queries or comments had been received. From the floor raised spelling of "Treasure's Report" should read Treasurer's report" on page 1. Jeremy Cheesman also raised the spelling of his surname which should have been spelt "Cheesman" and not "Cheeseman" this appeared in several places. Kate Flavell proposed they be accepted as a true record; seconded by Paul Flavell.

Correspondence: There was no correspondance.

Northern District Masters Report: There being no Master Paul Flavell has produced and presented a report. See Annex 1 for a copy of this report.

Treasurer's Report: A full report will be placed on the Association website. But the financial situation was summarised as there being 310 current members. Over the year there had been 25 New Members and 42 members ceased their membership. In answer to a question from the floor 42 was abnormally high.

BRF: Malcolm McAllister provided a brief update. Due to the current situation payments had fallen to zero. The fund stands at £21,000. The Numbers club continues to provide a good source of income. But donations are still welcomed. The Chair noted the recent rehangng work undertaken in Croydon.

Training: The Association Training Officer Ian Griffiths to report. Chair asked for thoughts on the future of the Training Day. It is unlikely that the training day will continue. It was noted that the Southern District was doing a lot of focused training which is proving very effective. This approach will require a body of regular helpers but will overcome the big training day problem that students practice something on the day but don't get a chance to practice again until the next training day. There was a question as to whether there should be a vote on holding training day. The Chair stated the issue had been considered by the General Committee of the Association who were considering how to get the best results – numbers attending training day have been falling and it is increasingly difficult to get helpers.

General view is that people need to be flexible in achieving their learning objectives

and shop around to find a tower or towers that help them achieve that.

Communication Report: Chris Baldwin reported that the Facebook page was doing very well and proving very popular. The Yahoo groups service that had been used for communicating with members has now closed. The Association is now bringing in a New Membership Management System – Member MOJO that will provide much stronger communication with the membership.

Peal Report: Shirley McGill has provided a written report – See annex 2.

Bookstall: The Chair reported that it had been a very quiet year. The Chair noted that consideration needed to be given as to how it should operate in the future as most sales were during Training Days.

Membership Management System – Member MOJO: Martin Crick made a presentation on this new system. He covered the provision of guidance to assist members signing in; he covered how those members that had no internet access could be registered; concerns were raised with the communications groups called “CHAT” - it was explained members can opt out of those groups but all groups would be moderated; this had also been done for the Yahoo groups but it was rare that intervention was required.

Emphasis that Junior Members would be on their own secured group.

Future Events: Due to the current situation nothing is currently planned.

Welcome To New Members: Over the year there have been a number of new members; these include:

Clem Richards,(Colliers Wood); Maggi Chick, (Merton Park);

Willy Burgess, (Egham) and Beverley Blanning, (Barnes)

Election of Northern District Officers and Committee Members: No new nominations had been received since the Nomination Meeting; There has still been no Nomination for District Master. There being no other nominations the Northern District Committee was elected as follows:

Master	Vacant
Secretary	Richard Harris
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer	David Whitehead
Committee Members	Paul Flavell
	Russell King
	Wendy Archibald

Nominations for Association General Officers:

Association Master	Noel Gibbin	proposed by Kate Flavell
Secretary	Ann Beirne	proposed by Paul Flavell
Assistant Secretary	Kate Flavell	proposed by Ann Beirne
Training Officer	Ian Griffiths	proposed by Martin Crick
BRF	Malcolm McAllister	proposed by Jeremy Cheesman
Communications	No proposal	
Independent Examiner	The Association are to confirm whether the current examiner is prepared to continue	

Next ADM: 15th January 2022 – Venue to be Confirmed.

The Numbers Club draw was made: Two prizes of £25 Russell King announced the draw result.

- No. 167 Susan Otto
- No. 172 Trisha Hawkins

AOB

The Association Master, Noel Gibbin, took the opportunity to congratulate Malcolm and Wendy on taking up handbells. The Chair noted that there had been 10 people on the Ringing Room sessions held before this ADM

There being no other business the meeting closed at 19:16 with 27 participants still on line.

Annex 1

Surrey Association Northern District Report for 2020

The 2020 ND ADM was held at West Hill on January 18th. The meeting was attended by some 50+ ringers and the West Hill ringers laid on a marvellous hot chilli con carne tea for everybody.

We were unable to elect a Master at this meeting, but a small committee comprising Russell King, Richard Harris, David Whitehead, Wendy Archibald and Paul Flavell were elected. We are grateful to everybody for their on-going contribution to the Northern District in these strange times. David Whitehead ran a well-attended district practice at Beddington in February aimed at giving learners the opportunity to ring changes on 9 and 10 bells.

8 bell practices were held at Carshalton and 12 bell practices held at South Croydon in January and February. The ND committee last met in person on 13 February.

Thereafter all ringing activities were curtailed by the Covid lockdown in March. A few towers rang socially distanced bells between the lockdowns in August and September but ringing as we know it ceased in March.

Some ND towers have started 'Ringing Room' practices and have regular Zoom calls. Ringing Room has definitely helped learners progress, and some learners are ringing changes they had not yet achieved in the tower. This has the benefit of keeping the learners interested and bands together and communicating.

2020 was a strange year for all of us and extremely damaging for bellringing and some ringers may not feel able to return when we can. It is not possible to ring or train new learners whilst social distancing is in place, and at the time of writing, we have no idea when ringing or training could recommence.

The GC are working on a recovery plan and will utilise work by the Central Council and ART to roll out a recruitment and training plan when it is possible to do so. ART are running online courses on Ringing Room, Handbells, Recruitment and Training, Leadership in Ringing, and the Association will make use of these as well. This will be communicated to the Association in due course.

P J Flavell

1 January 2021

Surrey Association Peal report 2020

There were 4 peals rung for the Surrey Association in this extraordinary year. All were in February and all in the Northern District.

3 of the peals were rung for the Peal Weekend (the 3rd weekend in February). 4 ringers rang their first peal (namely Loretto Puckey, Linda Aldroish, Russell King and George Hart). Melanie Powell also rang her first peal the weekend before at Colliers Wood – in all, a very good clutch of first peelers – it is hoped that when ringing commences, more will follow.

Phill Ridley conducted his first peal at West Hill.

It was a good start to the year and who knows where these early successes would have led? Looking forward to some enthusiasm in 2021!

**The Northern District Extraordinary Meeting
held as a Zoom meeting
held immediately prior to the
Surrey Association Annual General Meeting
Held on 8 May 2021**

Note of the Meeting

1. The EDM was held as the first part of the zoom meeting for the Association AGM. The meeting opened at 17:10 with Noel Gibbin in the chair.
2. The only item on this EDM agenda was the election of Master.
3. Pam Donovan had volunteered proposed by Sheila Cheesman and Seconded by Sue Bailey.
4. As there were no objections and no other proposals Pam was duly declared appointed.
5. There being no other business the EDM closed at 17:14