



Northern District Annual District Meeting

Held Saturday 20 January 2024

Venue: St Mary's Beddington

Note of the Meeting & Financial Report

1. Welcome & Thank you

The District Master Pam Donovan started the meeting promptly at 5pm. Pam welcomed the attendees and thanked Beddington for the excellent tea and use of their lovely bells.

2. Apologies for absence

Pam noted that a number of apologies had been received. There was a sheet for any further apologies. There were also signing in sheets to record those present. See Annex 3 for those present and Annex 4 for apologies.

3. Remembering members that have passed

A minutes silence was held for those members that had passed over the year. The following names were particularly remembered: Michael Chilcott; Barbara Hicks; Michael Morton; Cherry Steward and Gordon Gibb

4. Welcome of New Members

A list of new members was read out. There was a round of applause from the floor to celebrate. See Annex 5 for the list of new and returning members.

5. Minutes of the ADM of 21 January 2023

There were no comments received prior to the meeting and none raised during the meeting. The minutes were accepted without comment.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the meeting.

7. Correspondence

The Secretary confirmed that no correspondence had been received.

Officers reports – Items 8-13; can be found in Annex 2

8. Northern District Master's Report

The District Master's report had been made available prior to the meeting. The District Master highlighted a number of successes for the District. The ring for the King initiative brought in a number of new people; there was now a new band at Roehampton; Tooting Graveney ringing after a break of 30 years; a learners outing; the Northern District Tower Showcase with over 50 ringers involved – thanks to Alan for the Facebook coverage. There were no questions for Pam.

9. Treasurer's Report – Northern District Finances

The Treasurer's report had been made available prior to the meeting. Final accounts were not yet available. The District Master said that this very unsatisfactory situation has occurred for the last few years because there is insufficient time from the year end for all the necessary information to be gathered. The banks are slow in supplying year-end statements including the interest earned on deposits, and it takes time to process membership and donations made via Membermojo. The Master proposed that since District members have the right to approve the accounts she was willing to call an Extraordinary District Meeting once the accounts were available. Another option was for this meeting to delegate acceptance of the accounts to the District Committee when they become available. The Treasurer, David Whitehead proposed that the District committee should be empowered to accept or reject the accounts. Seconded Paul Flavell. The proposal was accepted with a significant majority of those present on a show of hands; on a further show of hands there were no objections to the proposal.

The accounts are now available and can be found in Annex 1.

It was further noted that the District accounts would still be subject to the Auditor's report.

The Master told the meeting that she was having discussions with the Association General Secretary about how to prevent this situation occurring again next year. One option might be to hold the ADM in February rather than January to allow more time for the accounts to be prepared. Sheila Cheesman noted that the Southern District had moved their ADM to February to address this problem. Paul Flavell noted that as now income was through Member MoJo work was ongoing to move District accounts to a single Association Account.

10. Belfry Repair Fund Report

The report had been made available prior to the meeting. The District Master noted that there was currently a Northern District vacancy on the Belfry Repair Fund committee. There were no questions. A request was made that the report note that Dan Dawson-Taylor was a Beddington Ringer.

11. Training Committee Report

As the Association currently has no Training Officer Paul Flavell presented the report. Fraser Storie then spoke about the training needs survey he sent around This has now closed and had a response from

64 members. This will help in producing training initiatives to meet the needs of Association members. Paul thanked Fraser for his work.

12. Communication Report

Jackie Harrison had sent apologies today. Any questions or comments on the report should be sent to her directly.

13. Peal Report

As the report missed the first upload of the officer reports to the website it was read in full. There were no questions. Noted that the Peal Weekend will be in February. District members interested in ringing a peal please contact Noel Gibbin

14. Bookstall report

Lawrence introduced the bookstall which was open during the tea and after the ADM. Attendees were invited to view and purchase.

15. Forthcoming Events for 2024

Pam gave an overview of the events planned for the coming year. All events will be placed on the Association calendar and will generally be held on the morning of the 3rd Saturday of each month and will be general ringing.

- February Mitcham
- March Putney
- April South Croydon
- May 11th Association AGM @ Godstone
- May 18 District Outing North London (all day)
- June Learners Outing (rounds & call changes only)
- July TBD
- August Kingston (Evening all comers 12 bell practice)

It is hoped to arrange some targeted advanced practices. It was noted that the District is still short of ringers.

Fraser Storie reminded organisers of events that events notices on calendar can be edited and there was no need to put up a new notice when details of an event were amended. Also that any member can put an event onto the calendar.

16. Election of Northern District officers and committee members

a. Master

Paul Flavell as Association Master took the Chair for the election of the District Master. Paul thanked Pam Donovan for all her work during the previous year. As there had been no further nominations since the Nomination Meeting in November on a show of hands Pam was duly re-elected.

Pam Donovan retook the chair.

b. Secretary

As there had been no further nominations since the Nomination Meeting in November on a show of hands Richard Harris was duly re-elected.

16 (continued)

c. **Treasurer/Assistant Secretary**

David Whitehead had expressed a desire to hand-over to someone else. There had been no nomination at the Nomination Meeting and no further nominations since the Nomination Meeting in November; in accordance with the Association rules where there are no nominations 28 days prior to the ADM nominations were called for at the ADM – there were no nominations. David agreed to continue for a further year. He was appointed on a show of hands.

d. **Committee Members (3)**

At the Nomination Meeting in November John Coatsworth, Jackie Harrison and Wendy Archibald were nominated for the three Committee Posts. There have been no further nominations made up to the 28 days prior to the ADM cut-off. On the basis of a show of hands all three were elected.

17. **Nominations for Association General Officers**

The following nominations were made:

a. **Master** Paul Flavell

Proposed Pam Donovan; Seconded Loretto Puckey

b. **Secretary** Ann Beirne

Proposed Paul Flavell;
Seconded Jeremy Cheesman

c. **Assistant Secretary** Jenna Birley

Proposed Paul Flavell; Seconded Ann Beirne

Thanks were given to Kate Flavell who was standing down.

d. **BRF Secretary and Treasurer** Malcolm McAlister

Proposed Fraser Storie; Seconded Richard Fitch

e. **Training Officer** – There were no nominations.

f. **Youth Officer** Caroline Prescott

Proposed Paul Flavell; Seconded Fraser Storie

g. **Communications Officer** Jackie Harrison

Proposed Pam Donovan;
Seconded Wendy Archibald

h. **Independent Examiner** Janet Edwards

Proposed Paul Flavell; Seconded Kate Flavell

18. Date and venue of next year's ADM

To be confirmed. The date will be either 18 January 2025 but to allow for the financial report to be finalised may be put back to the 15 February 2025.

19. Numbers Club draw

Unlike previous years where the draw was during the meeting the draw was held prior to the ADM with the two monthly prizes of £25 being won by ticket number 115 and ticket number 43.

20. AOB – No items were raised

21. Close of meeting – The meeting closed at 17:57

For the Minutes of the 2023 ADM see the Surrey Association Website

www.surreybellringers.org.uk

ANNEX 1

Financial Report Northern District Surrey Association

Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers Northern District Income and Expenditure Account For the year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Subscriptions: Previous year	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Current year	£888.00	£918.00	£1,116.00
	£888.00	£918.00	£1,116.00
Subtract Levy (Previous year)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Subtract Levy (Current year)	£532.80	£550.80	£669.60
Net subscriptions	£355.20	£367.20	£446.40
Donation	£440.00	£7.00	£0.00
Interest received	£96.90	£21.36	£0.25
Total Income	<u>£892.10</u>	<u>£395.56</u>	<u>£446.65</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Postage	£0.00	£20.52	£0.00
Stationery	£0.00	£10.98	
Cost of District Meetings	£10.00	£41.50	£0.00
Total Expenditure	<u>£10.00</u>	<u>£73.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>£882.10</u>	<u>£322.56</u>	<u>£446.65</u>

BALANCE SHEET @ 31st December 2023

<u>ASSETS</u>			
Deposit at COIF	£2,307.85	£2,210.95	£2,189.59
Cash in hand and at ND bank account 00524280	£4,617.52	£4,265.32	£4,083.92
Levy due from Surrey Association	£790.20	£357.20	£249.40
Total Assets	<u>£7,715.57</u>	<u>£6,833.47</u>	<u>£6,522.91</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
Amounts received in advance	£0.00	£0.00	£12.00
Levy due to General Fund	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Accrued expenses	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Liabilities	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£12.00</u>
Net Assets	<u>£7,715.57</u>	<u>£6,833.47</u>	<u>£6,510.91</u>
<u>Represented by</u>			
Accumulated Fund Balance at 1st January	£6,833.47	£6,510.91	£6,064.26
Surplus for the year	£882.10	£322.56	£446.65
Fund at 31st December 2023	<u>£7,715.57</u>	<u>£6,833.47</u>	<u>£6,510.91</u>



Northern District

Officer Reports for Annual District Meeting

20 January 2024

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Last Updated 15 January 2024

Northern District Master's report

Annual District Meeting January 2024

2023 has been a successful year for the Northern District. I am delighted to welcome 25 new or returning members! Across the District we had good recruitment through the Ring for the King initiative and other publicity around the time of the Coronation. Many (but not all) towers recruited new starters and several towers welcomed returning ringers, who are making a huge contribution to their bands. A completely new band was recruited and is now ringing the new bells at Roehampton. Tooting Graveney has three new recruits and has resumed service ringing once a month after many years of silence. However, not all of our towers have been lucky and some are still very short of ringers and rely on visitors to support service ringing and practices.

During the year the Northern District has continued to run four regular practices every month. The Saturday open practices move to a different tower each month and feature general ringing for whoever comes. There has been a very welcome increase in the number of less-experienced ringers attending during the year. If you are a new ringer, or a not-so-new ringer who likes call changes, plain hunt and basic methods, please do come along. Of course experienced and advanced ringers are also very welcome and this year we have rung method at every Saturday practice, rounding the year off in December with a course of Rutland Surprise major. The 8's Great! practices continue to be popular with six-bell ringers wanting to move up to eight-bell method ringing. These practices concentrate on plain hunt on 7 and plain courses and touches of Grandsire triples. The surprise major and the open 10/12 bell practices have been well attended and I would like to thank Shirley McGill and Fraser Storie for their hard work running these.

A new event this year was the Learners' Outing in June. This mini-outing was for novice ringers wanting to practice rounds or rounds and call changes. We visited East Molesey in the morning and Thames Ditton in the afternoon. It was a very enjoyable day. We will be repeating this event on Saturday 15th June 2024, visiting two towers in the Twickenham area. If you are a novice ringer, or have novice ringers in your band, put this date in your calendar now!

The year concluded with the Northern District Christmas Tower Showcase. All the District towers were invited to send in a short audio recording of their ringing, along with a photo and caption. 22 towers sent a contribution, and these were compiled by Alan Cooke into an Advent calendar on the Association Facebook page, with a different tower featured each day from 1st December. This was a fantastic record of the achievements of our towers. If you missed it do go to the Facebook page or Instagram and enjoy the entries. I'd like to thank everyone who participated (more than 150 ringers at a conservative estimate!) and I'd particularly like to thank Alan for his hard work and creative input.

Finally, I'd like to thank all members of the Northern District, the Southern District and neighbouring associations who have supported our events this year. I'd particularly like to thank the District committee members and Paul Flavell, our Association Master, for their support, as well as all the tower correspondents who made bookings and the people who came to let us into the towers.

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and successful year's ringing in 2024.

Pam Donovan
Northern District Ringing Master

8th January 2024

Northern District Finance Report

Treasurers Report January 2024

Treasurers Report

Current balance in bank as at 1/1/24 - £4617:52

Membership as at 1/1/24 total 255 members of which 62 are life members.

MemberMojo and Subscriptions

Since the introduction of MemberMojo all subscriptions and donations are paid into a central account alongside other payments. Until the amounts can be reconciled I am unable to compile a balance sheet for 2023.

Almost all ND members now have individual records on MemberMojo associated with their given email addresses.

Can all paying members please make sure 2024 subscriptions are paid via MemberMojo as soon as possible.

Also a gentle reminder for ALL members to login to their MM accounts and ensure all the information is up to date.

David Whitehead

Treasurer and Asst Secretary

BELFRY REPAIR FUND ANNUAL REPORT

This was the first year in many in which a truly substantial grant was made from the fund, this being for the exciting installation of eight bells at Holy Trinity, Roehampton. After a commendably brief period of deliberation, the new bells were cast early in the year and installation followed in late summer, enthusiastically supported by quite a broad team of ringer volunteers.

As a result, the value of the fund stands at £14.0k at the end of 2023, compared with £21.5k at the start of the year. Receipts were boosted by a generous bequest from the late Dan Dawson-Taylor. Unfortunately, another early-November meteorological inundation meant that Brockham Bonfire had a reduced need for our services, thus decreasing our revenue from that quarter (while allowing several would-be volunteers a much drier bonfire night). Gift-aided donations were down slightly, but the Numbers Club yielded almost as much as it had in the peak year of 2022.

Donations were received during the year from the towers of St John's, Caterham and St Mary, Wimbledon; and from the PCCs of Beddington, Oxted and St John's, Egham. Our donors with regular standing orders made their usual much-valued contribution. Clothing purchases were made on behalf of five ringers this year, thanks to Kate Wills.

The committee, comprising Malcolm McAlister, Gail Terry, Russell King (who resigned during the year), Kate Wills, Noel Gibbin, Sid Bensberg and Paul Flavell, have continued their discussions of projects and awards as well as the running of the Numbers Club and the compilation of clothing orders.

Malcolm McAlister

Training Report.

Training report for ND ADM 20 January 2024

We had some very satisfactory training events in 2023 including the following:

Listening Skills	Oxted
Touches of Grandsire Doubles	Streatham
Foundation skills	Nutfield
Steeple keeping	Oxted
Plain Hunt on 5 and 6	Colliers Wood
Working with Simulators	Oxted
Surprise Minor	Esher
Tower Leadership	Barnes
Up and down	Caterham St John

All the courses were fully subscribed with students and we are grateful to all the helpers who gave their time to enable the students to ring with experienced ringers.

The main focus for 2024 is to move ringers, including the new Ring For The King recruits, to the next level, i.e. from RCC to PH, PH to PB, PB to Grandsire and so on. We have carried out a survey to ensure we focus on the right level of courses. There will be popular courses including ringing up and down, steeple keeping, Surprise Minor, Stedman Doubles and conducting. The full program will be published on the website but the first events are confirmed as follows:

3 February	Stedman Doubles	Thames Ditton
2 March	Up and Down in peal	Caterham St John
6 April	Steeple keeping	Oxted
4 May	Plain Hunting	Roehampton

These events will be publicised on email with links to the training page for students to apply for courses.

P J Flavell

9/1/24

Communication Report

Communications Officer's Report

We are delighted to welcome So-Shan Au from Kingston to the communications team managing our recently launched Instagram account: surreybellringers.

The year end reel of photos which had been published throughout the year in the Association newsletter highlighted the variety of contributions from many towers. At the end of the year, the Instagram account which was launched at the beginning of December already had 155 followers.

Pam has already mentioned the Christmas showcase initiative which was a huge success with 22 Northern District Towers participating. Many of the posts were viewed widely across the association and beyond and the Facebook reach increased by 143% during December. I hope this will encourage members to continue to share their stories and photos with the communication team so that we can publish them on Facebook, Instagram and in the newsletter.

Another highlight for the Northern District was the Roehampton special edition newsletter in which Madeleine Neave pulled together a wonderful report to celebrate the culmination of everyone's hard work with choice anecdotes, commemorative photos and lists of those who supported the project in many ways.

Communications team:

Chris Baldwin	Webmaster
Alan Cooke	Facebook guy
So-Shan Au	Instagram
Jackie Harrison	Newsletter editor & Association Communications Officer

Peal Report

Surrey Association Peals 2023

A total of 7 peals were rung for the Surrey Association during 2023, a year of firsts! First peals, first in method, first of surprise, first on 12, first of minor.

A variety of towers were used: Kingston (2), Carshalton, West Hill, Little Horsted, St Katharine Cree and Merstham.

Congratulations to Fraser Storie who scored his first peal (Cinques) and then went on to first of Surprise Maximus before ringing first peals on 6 and 8.

Edward Gormley rang his first peal at St Katharine Cree – Plain Bob minor – well done.

Oliver Hughes rang his first of surprise major at West hill.

And congratulations to Thomas Ashwin-Siejkowski, one of our 'Surrey Strikers' who rang his first peal at Twickenham.

Peals were especially rung for the Coronation of King Charles 111

Shirley McGill

Annex 3

Surrey Association Northern District Annual District Meeting Saturday 20 January 2024 Attendance Record

Name	Tower
Caroline Prescott	Battersea
Roshan Jathanna	Kingstone
Richard Fitch	Beddington
Linda Wood	Beddington
Stephen Goody	Beddington
Loretto Puckey	Unattached
Sandra Gates	Beddington
Malcolm McAlister	Mortlake
Dudley Tipler	Merton
Richard Reger	Richmond
Wendy Archibald	Barnes
Sheila Cheesman	Benhillton
Jeremy Cheesman	Benhillton
John Coatsworth	Wimbledon
Paula Greenwood	Putney
Alan Cooke	Caterham
Rosemary Lilley	Carshalton
Arthur White	Carshalton
Michael Rogerson	Cheam
Paul Flavell	Kingston
Kate Flavell	Kingston
Michael Bangham	Kingston
Fraser Storie	Croydon Minster
Dawn Symes	Addington
Edwina Morris	Addington
David Hodge	Croydon Minster

Surrey Association

Northern District Annual District Meeting

Saturday 20 January 2024

Attendance Record

Simon Beirne	Caterham
Ann Beirne	Merstham
Hilary Bannes	Croydon
David Whitehead	Addington
Pam Donovan	Mitcham
Richard Harris	Battersea

Annex 4

**Surrey Association
Northern District
Annual General Meeting
Saturday 20 January 2024
Apologies**

Name	Name
Deborah & Tony Bishop	Robert Cooles
Jo Drew	Jackie Harrison
Megan John	Kevin Mitchell
Mike Shelley	Dan Smith
Charlotte Kirwan	

ANNEX 5

New Members and Returners

Ann Leakey	Addington
Edwina Morris	Addington
Ruth Symes	Addington
George Taylor	Addington
Nicole Constantopoulos	Barnes
Anthony Rands	Barnes
Colette Schrier	Barnes
Annette McKiernan	Carshalton
Lucy Brice	Cheam
Alan Cathcart	East Molesey
Mary Gledhill	Kingston
Charlotte Mafi	Kingston
Philippa Piggott	Kingston
Elizabeth Mogg	Merton Park
Dudley Tipler	Merton Park
Madeleine Neave	Putney
Jennifer Carter	Richmond
Alison Jackson	Richmond
Steve Johnson	Rotherhithe
Heather de Mello	Tooting Graveney
Megan John	Tooting Graveney
Lois Clifton	Walworth
Kristen Frederickson	Walworth
Max Roberts	Walworth
Edward Gormley	Unattached