

## **Oxford City Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers**

**Half Yearly meeting held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at**

### **St Andrew's Headington**

Paul Lucas, the Vice Chairman chaired the meeting as Simon Edwards was unable to attend. Paul thanked his fellow Headington ringers for hosting the meeting and Striking Competition and putting on a wonderful tea. He also congratulated Katie Lane on her new role as Guild Master.

**Apologies:** Simon Edwards, Mary Bayliss, Simon King, Susan King,

**Minutes of the AGM:** These were accepted.

**Ringing Master's report:** Andrew Freer said there had been varying attendances at practices, but it had been very encouraging to see so many new Branch members attending. He would like people to get in touch with requests if there are particular things people would like to ring. He also asked that more people try and support Branch Practices - they are a great opportunity to practice things you might not get a chance to ring in your own tower and to meet other branch members.

**Presentation of Certificates:** Certificates were presented to members elected at the AGM in November 2017 by Katie Lane.

#### **Election of New Members:**

Chris Duckham – North Hinksey - proposed Douglas Wilkes, seconded Hugh Deam

Mona Setje-Eilers and David Jackson – St Giles – proposed by John Pusey, seconded Andrew Freer

John Rollason and Adam Diesel – Headington – proposed by Clare Fairbairn, seconded Wendy Austin

All of the above were elected to the branch.

**Safeguarding:** Katie Lane reported on progress with the new Safeguarding rules. The issue which caused most concern was the presence of a Children's Officer whenever a young ringer was present. Katie has met with Diocesan Officers and this has been resolved so long as at all practices where young people are present, a person is appointed to take this role. This person should be different from the person running the practice and preferably DBS checked. Although most discussion has been about young people, it was noted that safeguarding also applies to vulnerable adults.

**Conference Feedback:** Rosie Cretney reported back on the “How To Talk About Ringing” Event which she attended. It was run by Mark Regan of Worcester Cathedral, and gave lots of useful information on how to promote ringing, in the media, and in recruitment. The main ideas were to focus on positive things – ringing as music/making the tower inviting/avoiding jargon. Rosie is happy to discuss further if anyone would like more information.

**AOB:**

Andrew Freer reminded everyone there is an outing planned around the Old North Berks area on 30<sup>th</sup> June, with 6, 8, and 10 bell towers included.

Lindsay Powell asked that we note a vote of thanks to Andy Dunn who continues to provide us with a great service updating the website. This was agreed.

Peter Bayliss asked that the issue of Insurance cover was clarified. Katie Lane said that members are covered by the Guild, learners do not have insurance in their own right until they become members, but are covered by their teacher’s insurance. Peter asked about occasional/visiting ringers. Katie said it was their own responsibility to make arrangements for themselves.

Andrew Freer reminded everyone about the Ringing Remembers initiative, with the hope that all towers would be ringing on 11 November.

Safeguarding Training: Katie Lane said there is a session booked at Kidlington on 15<sup>th</sup> September, and there will be more going forward. The Dioceses has said this is now mandatory for all Tower Captains and people undertaking training. Some towers do not have young ringers, but they may have at some time and they also may have vulnerable adults.

The meeting closed at 4.20pm.