

Western District AGM Minutes 23 April 2022, Draft

The meeting opened at 4pm on 23 April 2022.

We had over 40 attendees, representing at least 18 towers at this meeting. Those present from the district were: Janeve Bainbridge, Mandy Basher, Steve Clothier, Tony Dixon, Rob Harvey, Jane and Neil Hitchens, Jo Hodding, Judith Holden, Carolyn Howell, Christine Iles, Dorcas Jelliss, Mary Jones, Tina Morgan, Sam Nankervis, Miranda Penhaligon, Margaret & Stan Pryor, Dilys Rowe, Ian Self, Phil Simpson, Doreen & Roger Sullivan, John Swan, Philippa Vaizey, Christine & Bob Woods and Michael Wycherley. Those from outside the district were Claire Below, Michael Day, Bryony Dorrington, Robert Perry, Andy Smith and Archie, Hayley & Jonathan Young.

Apologies were received from John Ansty, Eric Bannister, Christiana Hancox & Chris Davie, Terry Lane, Jane Mann, Tim Parker, Trina & Phil Peters, Christine Northeast, Marion Smith, Debbie & Martin Spittle and Claire Sweetman.

The meeting began with Bob Woods (Chairman) welcoming everyone to the meeting. The minutes of the 2020/2021 Zoom AGM were read out in summary and duly adopted (proposed Sam Nankervis, seconded Tony Dixon. There were no 'Matters Arising'.

Chairman's Report – Bob Woods reviewed the reduced membership numbers across the district (227 in 2020 to 199 in 2022; a 12% decline) and emphasised that recruitment must be high on all tower agendas. He mentioned the various training courses available during 2021 to help ringers learn/renew their bellringing training skills and urged towers to re-contact ringers who had stopped ringing over the past few years. If every tower could recruit just one ringer, this would get the numbers back up to where they were in 2020. He reviewed results of the training hub at Wendron and thanked all those trainers and ringers who helped make this a success.

Treasurer's Report - Andy Smith, Treasurer of the TDGR reviewed the WD Finances (as Chris Davie, Treasurer of the WD, was attending a ringing course). See report on TDGR website Western District. As no questions raised, it was proposed to adopt these by Sam Nankervis and this was seconded by Neil Hitchens. All voted in favour.

Ringing Masters Report – Sam Nankervis, like the Chairman above, stated that recruitment was all important, and suggested that each tower should write a short piece for their local newsletters, perhaps mentioning the need for ringers at the upcoming Queens Jubilee. He mentioned the upcoming Guild AGM at Bodmin, with many associated events going on and also the 125yr anniversary of TDGR on 8th October, again with lots of events being planned for this.

Deanery Steward Reports –

Penwith – Mary Jones re-iterated that many towers are only just starting to ring again after covid and that many bands have less ringers than before the pandemic. She mentioned that some towers actively involved in teaching, have recruited well. Mary reviewed the Ringing Rambles that took place in 2021 and those planned for this year. Mary re-stated that she is very happy to help with recruitment or teaching at any of the Penwith towers.

Carnmarth - Christine Iles stepped down from this post at the 2021 AGM but as the vacancy was not filled, has continued to visit and keep in contact with these towers.

Kerrier - Stan Pryor suggested neighbouring towers should combine for practice either on their respective practice nights or a monthly practice that would alternate between the towers. This may help bands unable to field full bands for service ringing or practice night ringing.

The Chairman thanked both Christine Iles and Stan Pryor for their work as Deanery Stewards.

Standing Committee Members. Michael Wycherley confirmed an item from last year's WD AGM where the ability to use TDGR funds to underwrite any shortfall on the WD Dinner was approved. He mentioned two new proposals going to the Guild AGM in May, firstly that the post of President may continue beyond the current 3 year term and secondly the new post of Youth Liaison Officer. He mentioned that the Guild AGM date is now fixed as the third Saturday in May and that this may impact the date of the WD AGM (due to the time span allowed for the District to bring its proposals forward to the Guild)– but not until 2024. He noted the following Guild posts need filling: Handbook Editor, Education Officer, PRO and Health & Safety Advisor.

Christine Iles mentioned the upcoming Jubilee celebrations, Recruitment initiative with TDGR taking the Bradoc mini-ring to the Royal Cornwall Show (volunteers needed) and the 125yr anniversary of the founding of TDGR in October.

Westerner Report – Miranda reported editions had gone out quarterly and that this is now a free publication, sent out via e-mail to all tower contacts for them to forward on to their bands.

Election of Officers

Only two Officer positions are currently vacant, that of Deanery Steward for both Carnmarth and Kerrier. There were no candidates coming forward for the position of Deanery Steward Carnmarth, but one, Tony Dixon of Helston tower, willing to take this position for the Kerrier District.

Officer positions were each individually reviewed and voted on according to the table below:

Position	Candidate	Proposer	Secunder	In favour	Elected
Chariman	Bob Woods	Doreen Sullivan	Sam Nankervis	Yes	Yes
Secretary	Miranda Penhaligon	Neil Hitchens	Sam Nankervis	Yes	Yes
Treasurer	Chris Davie	Sam Nankervis	Christine Iles	Yes	Yes
Independent Examiner of Accounts	Mike Cockeram	Sam Nankervis	Michael Wycherley	Yes	Yes
Ringing Master	Sam Nankervis	Neil Hitchens	Mandy Basher	Yes	Yes
Deanery Stewards					
Penwith	Mary Jones	Stephen Clothier	Sam Nankervis	Yes	Yes
Carnmarth	Vacant	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kerrier	Tony Dixon	Bob Woods	Sam Nankervis	Yes	Yes
Standing	Christine Iles	Ian Self	Miranda	Yes	Yes

Committee			Penhaligon		
Reps	Michael Wycherley	Ian Self	Doreen Sullivan	Yes	Yes

Autumn Festival – will be at Perranarworthal, Saturday 03rd September 2022.

Spring Festival (2023) - will be at Tuckingmill, on Saturday 15th April.

Annual Western District Dinner – Venue to be confirmed. Date TBC, but probably Saturday 19th November.

TDGR Membership - The following table lists proposed new TDGR members, their towers and voting results.

Candidate	Tower	Proposer	Seconder	In favour	Elected
Tony Dixon	Helston	Miranda Penhaligon	Mandy Basher	Yes	Yes
Hayley Orchard	Wendron	Roger Nott	Tony Dixon	Yes	Yes
Cloe Moon	Wendron	Miranda Penhaligon	Roger Nott	Yes	Yes
Claire Thompson	Wendron	Sam Nankervis	Christine Iles	Yes	Yes
Jan Barrett	Wendron	Sam Nankervis	Mandy Basher	Yes	Yes
Christine Woods	Wendron	Mandy Basher	Ian Self	Yes	Yes
Valerie Wyatt	St Keverne	Helen McCabe	Miranda Penhaligon	Yes	Yes
Paul Biggs	St Keverne	Helen McCabe	Miranda Penhaligon	Yes	Yes
Katie Smith	St Keverne	Helen McCabe	Miranda Penhaligon	Yes	Yes
Karen Richards	St Keverne	Helen McCabe	Miranda Penhaligon	Yes	Yes
Christine Robertson	St Keverne	Helen McCabe	Miranda Penhaligon	Yes	Yes

Any Other Business:

Long Service Awards were awarded to:

Helston : Stan Pryor, 60 years
 Simon Roach, 40 years

Tuckingmill: Jim Hoskin 60 years
 Anita Hoskin 30 years
 John Ansty 30 years

Life Membership of TDGR – the ringers below are to be put forward at the Guild AGM for consideration for Life Membership:

Michael Smaldon – Phillack

Hedley Stevens – Landewednack

Roger Sullivan – Carbis Bay

Neil Hitchens – Gulval

Jane Hitchens – Gulval

Michael Wycherley – Redruth

Stan Pryor – Helston

Margaret Pryor - Helston

The meeting closed at 5:25 pm.