



East Midlands Region

WINTER

2021

**We Wish You
a Happy
and Peaceful
Christmas**

Newsletter

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGIONAL OFFICERS

Website: www.HRGB-EM.com



HRGB-EM

Chair Michael Johnson (*NEC rep*)

Tel. 01933 460647

e-mail: mike78rpm@btinternet.com

Secretary Jane Heald

Tel. 01400 272445

e-mail: janeheald@hotmail.co.uk,

jane.heald@hrgb.org.uk

Treasurer Marie Allen

Tel. 001933 353915.

e-mail: m.allen857@btinternet.com

Committee Members

Brian Buttery (*Editor of Newsletter*)

67 Belton Avenue, Grantham, Lincs. NG31 9JF

Tel. 07714 704702

e-mail: brian.buttery@btinternet.com

Gill Crowe

e-mail: Gill.crowe@yahoo.co.uk

Samuel Davies

e-mail: Samueljd79@gmail.com

Judy Gees (*NEC rep*) (*Safeguarding Officer*)

Tel: Mobile 07969 768001

email: hsocello1@gmail.com

John Heald

Tel. 01400 272445

e-mail: jhealdorganist@mypostoffice.co.uk

Nicola Wright

Co-opted Member

Tel: 07931 217042

e-mail: nicnac2451@gmail.co



Editor

Brian Buttery. Tel: 01476578152
Email: brian.buttery@btinternet.com



We celebrate Christmas 2021 with mixed feelings:

- ◆ Thankful that the pandemic which has dominated our lives for nearly two years is hopefully coming to an end.
- ◆ That we can now meet to ring and enjoy our art.
- ◆ Mindful of those who have been affected by the virus - both individually and those bereaved.

We look forward to 2022 when I hope to meet with you at our forthcoming rallies and events.

In the meantime—have a Merry Christmas and we look forward to a Peaceful and Contented New Year!



Brian Buttery
Editor

Contents of Newsletter:

Chair's Notespage 4

Diary Dates.....page 10

From the Archives..back cover

NEC Notes:

 12th July 2021.....page 12

 2nd October '21....page 16

Obituary

 Bill Butler.....page 19

Secretary's Report.....page 8

Virtual Rally Report...page 6



Notes from The Chair

Mike Johnson



Well, here we are again – another year almost gone (at the time of writing) and not much happening still on the handbells front. Over the last few months, the East Midlands region (our region!) has held some virtual rallies on “Zoom” that were quite entertaining and they all attracted some visitors from overseas. We had Tim Waugh, Susan Nelson, Michael Glasgow and Larry and Carla Sue from America, Damien Lim from Singapore and Kevin Ko from Hong Kong. We were treated to brilliant video clips of some of their work. When you consider the time differences between those countries, it was amazing that we could all get together for such an event. Many people that attended those events sent in their compliments and said that they looked forward to the next one. Watch this space – there may well be another virtual rally in the spring of 2022.



World Time Zones

As I’m sure you know, we have not been able to organise a “Face to Face” handbell ringing event since the start of the Covid pandemic (March 2019 – as if you need reminding?) but really hope to organise a “Get back to ringing” event early in 2022. This will be free to attend for HRGB members so please do try to be there. (There will be a small charge for non HRGB members, who will also be welcome) It would be really good to see people perhaps new to events such as this, along with the regular faces. You will be able to come with members of your team or on your own – there is always a space for individual ringers to join in with the massed ringing that is normally part of a rally. Some teams have duplicate bells that can be used by individual attendees and

some teams actually need help on the day to ring their team pieces.

We are hopeful that we will be able to hold some “ordinary” rallies in the coming year (hopefully 2 in addition to the “Get back to Ringing event” mentioned above) and as always we are on the lookout for volunteer teams to host one. If you know of a suitable venue – village/community hall or School hall for instance that could be used, please let any Region committee member have details so that we can follow it up. In theory that is all you need to do! The committee would make all the other arrangements. However, if you are able or want to be a bit more involved, acting as a point of contact between the committee and the proposed venue, maybe providing some refreshments and/or lunch would be very much appreciated.

I am sorry that some teams have lost members during the last couple of years due to the pandemic or for other reasons and I hope that when things get back to whatever normality is in the coming months, you will be able to get new members. None of us are getting any younger and we really must try to encourage the younger generation to be involved with practical music making. I know that many (most?) young people have oodles of other things to occupy themselves nowadays, but maybe you know one or two that would enjoy the uniqueness and diversity of making a noise (music?) with those metallic percussion instruments. This region has gained two new junior teams during the last few months and I would congratulate and thank Judy Gees and Nicola Wright for their work in setting up those teams. Hopefully we will see some of their members at our future events.



As I've said before, the HRGB National Membership database is up and running and it is important that members have their details entered correctly, including – most importantly – a valid email address. This is so that any communications that are sent out from either HRGB or the Region can be disseminated by email using the mass emailing system, rather than the sender having to enter email addresses individually or sending the communication by post. I do appreciate that some people are reluctant to have their details lodged on computer systems but the HRGB system has been tried and tested and it is as secure as it can be. Use of this system makes huge reduction in the workload for the Membership Secretary and others when wanting to pass on information of events etc. Out of interest, when I last checked, only 30% of East Midlands region members have a valid email address on the database.



HRGB continue to organise national seminars (or webinars as some people call them). Currently these are approximately monthly events and cover a variety of subjects – recent topics include “Working with young Ringers”, “Arranging Music”, “Phrasing of Music” and some massed virtual ringing sessions. Details of these events are circulated to members using the mass email system on the membership database, so you may not be aware of upcoming events if your email address is not registered. These events use the Zoom software. You can access Zoom using a smart phone, tablet, laptop or PC. You can get access with a non-smart phone etc but you will only get the audio.

Many of our members are looking forward to the next National Rally that will be held in Sheffield in April 2022. (postponed from 2019) There may still be some spaces if you are interested. Details and booking form for that and the 8th UK Bronze event in October 2022 were included

Sheffield 2022

with the latest edition of Reverberations. The East Midlands region are hosting a one-day National Rally in 2024 and we are looking for help in organising the event, both before and at the event. Let me know if you can help. Also, we would welcome ideas for workshops and other attractions that could be included in the rally. If you would be able to volunteer to run a workshop, we would be forever in your debt, so please let either me or Jane Heald (Region Secretary) know.

Mention of the Secretary there reminds me that HRGB is looking for a new National Secretary to take over from Christine Reid at the 2022 AGM.



Tim Willetts Christine Reid

If you might be interested let me know or contact her yourself for information on what the role involves. There are other posts available now as mentioned by the National Chair, Tim Willetts, in the recent editions of Reverberations. Again, if you might be interested in one of those positions let me know and I will point you in the right direction. Tim Willetts will also be giving up his Chairship (if that is actually a word?) at the AGM in 2023, so again if you might be interested in taking on the role of National Chair, let me know and I will try to help you make up your mind!

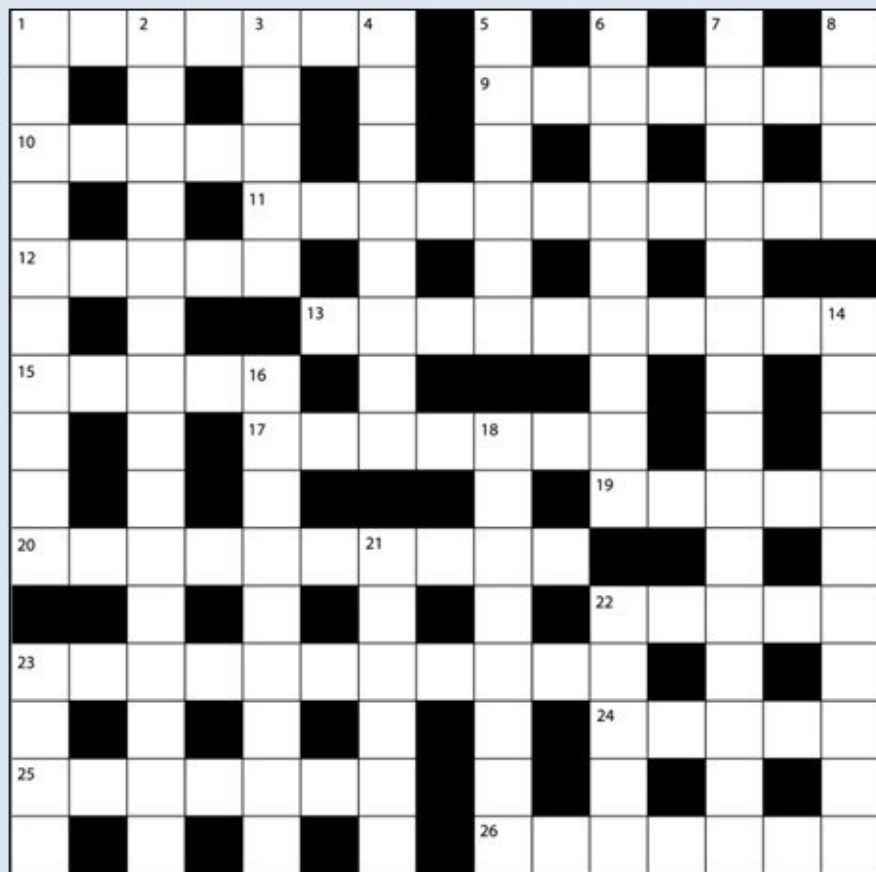
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brian Buttery on the Golden Anniversary of his membership of the Grantham Town Handbell Ringers (Formerly St. Wulframs Handbell Ringers). Brian has also played a very active part in the East Midlands region for many years as a National Executive Committee member, Region Chair and more recently as Newsletter Editor. Thank you Brian.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our region members for hanging in there while the world sorts out it's problems and hope that 2022 will arrive with a much brighter outlook than 2021 did. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Mike Johnson Chair HRGB East Midlands



Christmas Crossword



**Solution to Crossword in the
Spring 2022 edition.**





Crossword Clues



Across

- 1 Ka-Ching-your data has gone (7)
- 9 Native of middle east state (7)
- 10 City in Russia (5)
- 11 Top 10 carol (6,5)
- 12 Keeps you hot (5)
- 13 Beginning of an inhospitable carol (2,3,5)
- 14 Pointless man, always playing games (5)
- 17 Hormone of the pancreas (7)
- 19 Not sure if its North or South (5)
- 20 Certainly Ebenezer (10)
- 22 Ruth's sister (5)
- 24 The Pope's Bull (5)
- 25 Whales for instance (7)
- 26 Traps an austere Ancient Greek (7)

Down

- 1 Intellectual or rarefied in taste (10)
- 2 Succeeds to Advert edition (9,6)
- 3 Sláinte if its this type (5)
- 4 Festoon of flowers (8)
- 5 Fred - usually up a chimney (6)
- 6 Meadow Lane is on the left side (5,4)
- 7 Consider carefully (5,5,5)
- 8 Welcome at Birthdays as well as Christmas (4)
- 14 Was once part of USSR (10)
- 16 The longest in the world (4,5)
- 18 single - an attraction (8)
- 21 Difficulty with spears when you can't get hold of them (6)
- 22 The End (5)
- 23 Birthday. Angel, carrot - this one may be more seasonal (4)

How you make others feel says
a lot about who you are.



Leave them with a smile,
a hug, and a kind thought.

East Midlands Rally



Saturday 17th July 2021

The Second Virtual Rally of the East Midlands Region proved more successful than the first.

Our host, the chair of EM, Mike Johnson pressed the buttons and got us under way by welcoming members and visitors. Especially those from abroad, Larry and Carla Sue, Susan T Nelson from the USA and Damien Lim from Singapore., Each in turn introduced themselves to the rest of the members.

See list on right.:



Introductions made we enjoyed two videos: The Northern Bell Orchestra's "Requiem" with cello and flute and The Hong Kong Youth Handbell Ensemble with the hilarious "Typewriter" by Leroy Anderson.

First of two Quizzes: Did you know that the liberty bell weighs 2,080 lbs?

- Hong Kong:**
- United States of America**
 - Michigan
 - New Jersey
- Cambridge**
 - Meldreth
- Essex**
 - Chelmsford
- Lincolnshire**
 - Caythorpe
 - Grantham
- Leicester**
 - Ashby de la Zouch
- Northumberland**
- Nottinghamshire**
 - Farnsfield
- Northamptonshire**
 - Stanwick
- Yorkshire**
 - Ecclesfield
- Representatives from:**
 - Chobham
 - Sound in Brass
 - N.B.O.

Lots of "Air Ringing with "Celebrate with Gladness", "C Jam Mood" and "Siyahamba".

A wonderful selection of handbell ringing including The Bohemian Rhapsody with the Raleigh Ringers; "Whiter Shade of Pale" by the Campanili Ringers. were much enjoyed.

The whole afternoon raved by and was much enjoyed by the members and friends from around the world that joined us.

We finished with Damien Lim providing a video of an International Collaboration - 33 members world wide - ringing, "Let there be Peace

on Earth" and a Trumpet Fanfare by the St. Vincent's Handbell Ringers from Caythorpe. Two fitting items to conclude this memorable Rally by Zoom.



"Let there be Peace on Earth"

BB

Observations of Virtual Rally by Judy Gees

We have just had our second virtual rally hosted by Mike Johnson and the East Midlands Region. Two quizzes, lots of videos, and some wonderful massed ringing on kids' bells, spoons and of course real bells and chimes, where available.

We had a very powerful emotional moment when Damien played international collaboration, Peace on Earth. This was played on bells and chimes by thirty three ringers from around the world.

There was not a dry eye.

Thank you everyone for a lovely afternoon of fun and friendship. in the house!

JG



Stanwick Handbells

Earlier this year, in July, I was contacted by the secretary of the Wellingborough Singers, a well-known choir in

Northamptonshire, asking if the Stanwick Handbell Ringers would be able to help with their concert planned to take place on the 14th November – Remembrance Sunday. We would be required to ring the bells towards the end of a composition by Dan Forrest (an American Composer) with the title "In Paradisum". As a group, we had done this on two previous occasions – with the Northampton Bach Choir in 2012 and the Huntingdonshire Philharmonic in 2018. This new invitation would mean that the performance would be our first outing since March 2019 and would be a fairly high profile occasion as more than 200 audience members (paying £10 each for tickets) were anticipated for the Remembrance Sunday concert.

The group agreed that we would like to do it, subject to any new restrictions being imposed due to Covid 19 in the meantime although the pandemic was still very much in existence, most of the formal restrictions had been lifted by that time.

We already had the sheet music for the piece, so we were able to get going on it fairly quickly, but we needed some extra bells to be able to ring the octave above as suggested as an option by the composer. Thank you to Grantham Town HR for allowing us to borrow the additional bells.

As the weeks passed, we were provided with more information regarding timings and details of how and where we were to do our bit, with a final agreement that we would initially ring at the back of the Church behind the audience and at a given point we would then process along the aisle and round the choir and

orchestra and disappear into the vestry behind the audience while still randomly ringing the bells – using the composers words "gradually fading away in the distance"

Finally, the day arrived and we donned our uniforms and poppies and set up our ringing position in the Church ready for a short rehearsal. I think at this point the Choir's Musical Director was more confident than we were that we would do a good job.



The choir is led by Lee Dunleavy, a noted composer, choir master and Musical Director who works with 4 choirs in our area and his works have been performed in almost all of the major cathedrals and churches in England. His a-cappella arrangement of the National Anthem was commissioned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and first performed there in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

"Our" concert was an hour long with the first piece "Requiem for the Living" another composition by Dan Forrest of 45 minutes duration. This was a very powerful piece comprising five movements of varying dynamics, with a 10 piece orchestra and the Church organ providing the supporting music. Our piece, of about 15 minutes duration was the second and final piece on the programme, in which we were only required to ring in the final 10 bars of the 190 bar total, with the extra random ringing as we processed through the Church. After reaching the vestry, we about faced and went back to stand in front of the choir and were met with what felt like a solid wall of applause.

As we were packing up our equipment, several audience

members commented that we sounded magical (?) and that we added a very atmospheric finale to the moving piece of music.

We were pleased with what we had done and are now looking forward to getting back to some of our more normal performances in the new year.

The photo's attached show us during the rehearsal and at the end standing in front of the choir taking the applause.

Mike Johnson
Musical Director
Stanwick Handbell Ringers

Stanwick Hand Bell Ringers





HRGB Webinars are scheduled for:

Saturday 4th December, 2021 3.00 pm—5.00 pm
Musical Phrasing



Saturday 12th March 2022
Conducting Expectations
To Be Confirmed



UK  **bronze**



Holiday Inn Hotel, Sutton, Surrey,

Wednesday 26th October to Saturday 29th October 2022

Come and spend four days with

Fred Gramann

Come and expect to push the
musical boundaries



This is an International Event for advanced ringers who understand and can demonstrate a broad range of handbell techniques and ringing skills.

An opportunity to play challenging music on a large number of hand bells with long rehearsal sessions and a final concert.

Contact Keith Rowland for further information and application forms.

email: ukbronze@acorncottage.org.uk

telephone: 01252-409438 or 07912-352634

postal address: 50 Star Lane, Ash, Hampshire, GU12 6RH



Secretary's Report



**Regional Secretary:
Jane Heald**

Here we are nearly at the end of another year – and what a strange year it has been! At the beginning of the year no in-person ringing was possible but Zoom has served us very well, some teams having made use of this for regular chats and “air ringing” sessions. When restrictions were lifted a little, some teams were able to meet in small numbers in people’s gardens. Indeed, one team who met in their Musical Director’s garden, which is directly opposite the village pub, created great interest from drinkers in the pub beer garden.



The “virtual” rallies organised by the region have been very popular with ringers from other regions and overseas. Our third virtual rally was held on 17th October and once again proved popular – sadly, not so much from members of our

own region, but with members joining from other regions and, once again, overseas.

The East Midlands Region Team, who had been “air ringing” via Zoom, returned to normal rehearsals in

September with a Risk Assessment in place. However, members were depleted and the group are now ringing 3 octaves, therefore looking for new or returning members to enable 5 octave ringing again.

A few teams, sadly, have not been able to start ringing again for various reasons, reducing yet again the number of active teams in our region. Those who have returned to ringing are busily rehearsing their Christmas repertoire.

I hope for a better year for teams in 2022 and send Christmas greetings to you all.

Jane Heald

Lindley Parish Church Handbell Ringers 1907





Diary Dates

**DATES
FOR YOUR
DIARY**

2022

23rd January	Regional Team Rehearsal at Grantham
29th January	NEC Meeting
6th February	Virtual Rally - details to be circulated
27th February	Regional Team Rehearsal at Grantham
12th March	Ashby de la Zouch - 'Back to Ringing'
26th March	NEC Meeting
27th March	Regional Team Rehearsal at Grantham
8th-10th April	National Rally Sheffield (NE)
May	Rally and AGM - date to be confirmed
25th June	NEC Meeting
2nd-6th August	20th International Symposium Nashville USA
1st October	NEC Meeting
26th-29th October	UK Bronze

2023

14th-16th April	National Rally and AGM Stirling
-----------------	---------------------------------

2024

6th April	National Rally and AGM = Kettering
-----------	------------------------------------



20th International Symposium
Music City USA, Nashville, Tennessee
See above

Welcome to Yorkshire

The North East Region invites you to the
2022 National Rally from 8 – 10 April
at the Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield.



ADVANCE NOTICE

EAST MIDLANDS ONE DAY



NATIONAL RALLY

SATURDAY 6TH APRIL 2024

Kettering Conference Centre





Notes of the NEC meeting held on Saturday 3rd July 21

The following are précised notes of the meeting. If a member wishes to see the full version please contact the editor.

2. Chair's opening remarks. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said the intention is to have a shorter meeting than usual!

3. Minutes of last meeting.

With amendments, the minutes were agreed and accepted.

4. Matters Arising

Item 9 Regional Representatives roles— Some Regional Reps are not aware that they are trustees of HRGB. The elected officers have agreed that a specific brief induction is needed for new trustees. This could be done at a meeting on Zoom.

SW region said that they are having trouble getting regional reps and it is likely that informing them that they will be trustees of HRGB will make this task more difficult

5. Starting to Ring Again

A regional roundup was reported by NEC members:

EM - going forward, committee meetings will continue on Zoom. 2 teams using Zoom regularly. Held regional rally on 6th June which included international attendees. Virtual rally planned for 17th July. Continue to publish a full colour newsletter.

Members were asked to feedback the appreciation of the whole NEC for everything that individuals, teams and committees are doing to keep handbell ringing going. A great deal of creativity is evident in the ways that members have responded constructively to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic.

6. Future Events

i. Regional Events

2022 National Rally - Sheffield Information will be in the Autumn edition of Reverberations.

2023 National Rally, Stirling - encouraged by number of volunteers offering help.

2024 National Rally, Kettering - date has been confirmed with the venue.

ii. Virtual Events

Three events have been held since the last NEC:
17th April Aidan Fozard on Techniques with 90 attendees.

15th May Malcolm Wilson on Capturing Young People's Imagination with 60 attendees.

19th June Virtual Massed Ringing with 120 attendees.

Members are invited to both make suggestions for possible future sessions and offers to lead a presentation would be welcome. One suggestion was a discussion forum on how to select music which will interest experienced ringers when your team has reduced in size.

iii. International Events

20th International Symposium, Nashville, USA - Massed Ringing Music - the judges had selected Robin Benton's Celebration for Bells.

22nd International Symposium, 2026 UK - the sub-committee has identified 5 preferred venues - Newcastle Gateshead Quays, ICC Wales, EXCEL London, Manchester Central and SECC Glasgow. Negotiations are in progress

7. Money Matters

Review & Approval of 2020 Accounts - previously circulated. The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

Any region with concerns about their finances were encouraged to get in touch with Anthony.

Review of 2021 to date - The current financial position of HRGB is quite strong, but there may still be an impact as the COVID-19 pandemic continues

Anthony was thanked for all his work on our finances.

8. Membership

Membership has increased by 195 since our last meeting. There are 3 new teams - 2 of which are youth teams in EM region. Membership Secretary has been looking at producing a protocol for death notifications and made some suggestions to this meeting.

9. Membership Renewals Software

A test version of the online renewal facility has been received and tested. For the most part it is acceptable and easy to use. Indications are that the new facility will be usable for 2021/2 renewals.

10. Social Media

Thanks were expressed to Malcolm Wilson and Amanda Jones for keeping our social media channels full.

11. Archives

Alan has obtained agreement from the Trustees of Norbury HR, to produce a commercial CD from the tapes that are in the Archive made of the team in 1975. Once Covid restrictions relax, he will get back in touch with Huddersfield University archives. English Brass Bands have put their archives there.

Amanda Jones has transferred 30 videos to DVD for the archives. She is now looking for someone to transfer from DVD to digital so the footage is preserved for posterity and editable should we wish to use them.

12. WHMF

Minster Minis (New EM region junior team) have a set of bells on loan. Otherwise there is little activity.

13. Reverberations

Back copies have been scanned up to 1986.

14. Sales

Things are very quiet. Receiving about one order per week.

15. Website

The website has been used successfully to book the various webinars being run and this is encouraging members to visit the website, often for the first time. It was pointed out that some browsers eg Firefox do not support the HRGB website. Some issues identified with the security certificate - now reissued. It is best to use www.handbells.org.uk

Action: All

16. Handbells in Education

There had been no recent activity.

17. Policy on conditions for attending Ringing Events

Tim presented a paper outlining possible ways forward. It was agreed that our current Covid sub-committee of Keith Meader, Laura Buist, Gay Cooper and Mike Johnson - would give some thought to a policy once the governments' guidelines are announced. In the meantime, our current interim policy remains in place.

18. Matters arising from the AGM

There were none.

19. Gender Equality

EM Region committee tabled a proposal that the HRGB rules be revised to remove all gender specific references in advance of any other rule changes that may or may not be approved in the future. This was agreed.

It is hoped that an AGM will be sufficient to make these changes rather than a referral to the Charities Commission.

20. New National Officers

Members were asked for names of individuals who could take on these roles.

21. Safeguarding

Tim has contacted Michelle Robbins, a safeguarding trainer, who is happy to train relevant people.

EM Region proposed that standard approved forms to be added to the HRGB website safeguarding pages for use by regions and individual teams as required. It was agreed that this would be the form developed by the NE Region. Christine Lazenby offered to ask Andrew Ford to add the HRGB logo to the form in place of the NE Region logo..

22. Charity Governance Code

The next section of the Code we need to reflect on deals with Board Effectiveness and will be for discussion at the September meeting.

23. Charity Commission News

Nothing to report.

24. A.O.B.

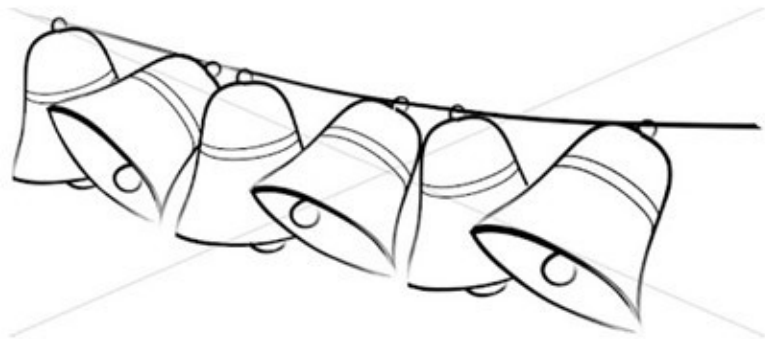
Zoom - EM Region intend to keep using Zoom. HRGB paid 50% of the costs last year and they asked if this would happen again going forward. It was agreed to have a discussion on Zoom licences at the September meeting.

Anthony and Laura were thanked for being our Zoom hosts.

26. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 2nd October 2021 on Zoom at 11am.

Future dates: 29th January 2022 ; 26th March 2022; 25th June 2022
1st October 2022



**Notes from the HRGB NEC Meeting
Saturday 2nd October 2021. Held on Zoom .**



**The following are précised notes of the meeting.
If a member wishes to see the full version please
contact the editor.**

Chair's Welcome :

Tim Willetts (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting and was informed that there were three apologies for absence. All members were thanked for their efforts and input to maintain HRGB and handbell ringing during the pandemic.

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Zoom licence fees for the forthcoming year. It was agreed that HRGB would issue a 50% refund of the licence fee for this year.

Region Reports:

EM region stated that the Region committee continue to meet on Zoom. The "Get Back to Ringing" event has been deferred until the new year when, it is hoped, more ringers might be encouraged to attend. The Region team have recently started rehearsal sessions again. The third virtual rally will be held (on zoom) on 17th October. All welcome – it is hoped that there will again be some international attendees.

Other Regions also reported

Future Events:

National Rally 2022. The paperwork for the event is being resurrected and checked/amended as necessary with 2 teams working on the arrangements. Some new bookings have been received as a result of the article in Reverberations.

A very long discussion followed regarding the ongoing implications of the Covid pandemic and how they might impact on the feasibility of the event.

Webinars: The original suggestion for November will now be held on 4th December and the subject will be Musical Phrasing and the January 2022 date has been moved to February and the subject will be Massed ringing.

International Symposia: No further information was presented for the 20th Symposium in Nashville (August 22) A brief update was given for the 22nd Symposium to be hosted in UK Glasgow is the preferred venue at this stage,

Strategic Matters:

Ringing Again Despite Covid: There was an extended discussion regarding the

submitted guidelines for organisers of events while the pandemic is still prevalent. Many of the comments suggested that the proposed guidelines were overly restrictive in view of the current advice/guidance being provided by the Government. It was eventually agreed that a policy statement is required, with the final wording to be agreed before appearing on the HRGB Website. It was subsequently agreed that the 2022 National Rally organisation could proceed under that agreement.

Refunds: A proposal was tabled by SE region suggesting that if a member was unable to attend a previously booked event and was not able to attend due to testing positive for covid and/or displaying the symptoms, then to organisers of the event should look kindly on a request for a refund of fees paid. This was agreed.

Business Matters:

Gender Neutral Rules: It was agreed at the previous meeting that the Chair of EM region would look at amending the standing HRGB rules with the remit to remove all gender specific references. The revised draft rules were tabled and with one slight amendment were accepted for tabling at the next HRGB AGM.

Consent Forms: The forms for Parent/guardian consent (as previously discussed) are now available on the HRGB Website.

Managing the work of the New National Officers:

How Their Work might be managed: The Chair requested that this item be deferred until the next meeting.

Charity Governance Code – Board Effectiveness: Deferred to the next meeting.

New Trustee Induction: It was agreed that an induction package will be produced and offered to potential new trustees. Dates to be agreed

Categories of Membership:

Student Membership: Discussion regarding the definition(s) for student/young person membership in conjunction with a paper tabled by John Willis. His proposals were all agreed:

HRGB should not charge any young people in full time education for membership.

A new category of **Student Membership** should be introduced for those who have left school but are still in full time education at College or University.

The membership rate for Student Membership to be set at zero

The term **Junior Membership** should continue to apply to young people still at school.

Team Membership paper submitted by Brian Buttery. The paper was discussed at some length but was not considered to be practical now as the NEC has previously agreed that only single memberships would be available. Also, the suggested fee for a 2-member team would be more expensive than two individual members. It was also agreed that the suggested Associate member fee would be more expensive than a single full member fee. The Chair agreed to speak to Mr

Buttery to thank him for his input and continued support for the organisation.

Charity Commission News: None

Money Matters:

2020 Accounts: submitted to Charity Commission

2021 Accounts: Nothing to report

Proposal for a Letter of Intention between HRGB and HRGB Promotions Ltd: It was stated that this is necessary to clarify the separation of the two entities. Agreed.

Membership:

Update: The Membership Secretary informed the meeting that membership number are slowly increasing. The issue of many members not having an email address registered on the database was discussed, as members are missing out on mass emailings. Members to be reminded that the mass emailings are not frequent and are only used when information needs to be circulated to members. The benefits of using this system are speed and no cost for postage etc.

Protocol for notification of Death: The proposed protocol was tabled and agreed.

Membership Database: It was reported that the database is operating as expected

Social Media: Nothing new to report.

Archives: It was agreed that the HRGB archives will be lodged with Heritage Quays at Huddersfield University. It was further agreed that HRGB Officers will decide which documents will form part of the archive.

William Hartley Memorial Fund: A loan request has been made to allow a group to buy some handbells. A 5 Octave set of bells has been bequeathed to HRGB for use by the Senlac Bells whilst they are in existence.

Reverberations: All old copies have now been digitised.

Sales: Nothing to report

Website: Nothing to report.

Safeguarding Training: One session has taken place, with a second to follow on 9th October.

Handbells in Education: Nothing to report.

Matters arising from last meeting: None

Correspondence: None

Diary Dates: updated on the website and in Reverberations as available.

A.O.B: None

Date of Next Meeting: 29th January 2022

Obituary

William (Bill) Butler

Bill, who has been part of HRGB for a very long time, has died.



An Honorary life member of the south east region and musical director of Barfield Handbell Ringers (158/SE) in Berkshire for over 50 years.

He was the author of "Musical Handbells" - a comprehensive history of bells and their founders.

He was equally known in tower bell ringing circles.

He was awarded Life Membership of HRGB in 2010 for his services to handbell ringing.

May He Rest in Peace.



JOHN TAYLOR & CO THE LOUGHBOROUGH BELL FOUNDRY

BELFOUNDERS BELL HANGERS

CARILLON BUILDERS

Tower Bells Chimes Handbells Bell
ropes

See our website www.taylorbells.co.uk for specifications and the latest information



The Bellfoundry, Freehold Street, Loughborough

Leicestershire, LE11 1AR, England

Tel: 01509 242241. Fax: 01509 263305

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Weldon Hand Bell Ringers
Dick Webster Conducting



Sandra Winter
Ruskington Rally
2013



Disclaimer

Views expressed in the articles in this magazine are not necessarily the views of the editor or committee.