

HANDBELL RINGERS  
OF GREAT BRITAIN



# ***South East Region***

# ***Newsletter***

*December 2021*  
*Issue 123*



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Larry & Carla Sue

## EDITORS NOTES



Welcome to the latest edition of the South East Region Newsletter, in which you will find:-

Sad notice from Barfield Handbell Ringers

Article from Lammas Ringers.

Bishops Bells ring out for Advent

Accounts and Minutes of the AGM held in October

Some gardening hints for December

A few chuckles!

And proposed diary for 2021/2022

This edition is quite 'business like', with the goings on of the AGM,

This will be the last 'Gardening Hints', as I am hoping for a 'more normal' Newsletter in 2022!

It is hoped that over Christmas more teams will be ringing at their usual venues, and so more articles will appear!

The deadline for the next Newsletter is **24th January 2022**

Wishing everyone a Very Happy Christmas, and if possible a lot of ringing!

*Valerie* v.j.boon@ntlworld.com

### **Honoured Members of the South East Region**

*Cliff Blundell*

*Keith Rowland*

*Angela Blundell*

*Wendy Rowland*

*Pauline Dover*

*Michael Wilkinson*

*Bridget Smith*

*Derek Wilkinson*

*Jeanne Turner*

Dear Ringers,

Thank you to those that have sent in articles for this issue (and photos) - it is lovely to hear that some teams are managing to have Christmas Concerts and social events.

Some teams will go to any length to be able to perform - I have just received this photo from Bishop's Bells who went to entertain the residents of a local nursing home. Despite the unusual attire and being behind a screen, they were much appreciated, and the residents had a good singalong with the carols.



At the end of October we held our postponed AGM - the minutes from this are included in the newsletter - it was good to be able to meet in person and talk about how we might get back to ringing as a region. If you look at the diary, you will see that we are also starting to tentatively plan for some small-scale events next year. We also have a provisional date for a Handbell Festival Service at Guildford Cathedral.

If you or your team would like to host a few local teams for a 'Back to Ringing' event, then please do contact myself or Sandra.

The first event in the diary for next year will be our 2022 AGM. If you are interested in joining our committee and helping to get the region back ringing again, please do complete a nomination form - or contact one of the current committee for a chat about what is involved. It would be great to have some new ringers on the committee. You will also notice that we are looking to have a mini massed ringing event following on from the AGM - if you are interested, please do follow the instructions on the form!

If you are taking part in any events over Christmas, please do send us a short write up and a photo or two - I'm sure everyone enjoys reading what other teams are up to.

It just remains for me to wish you all a Happy Christmas and, hopefully, a new year filled with ringing!

Yours, *Helen*

[HELENLSECKER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HELENLSECKER@GMAIL.COM)

## **BARFIELD HANDBELL RINGERS**

We are very sad to report the death of Bill Butler who founded Barfield Handbell Ringers in 1965 and was their musical director for 50 years. He was also an honorary life member of HRGB. A full obituary will be included in the next newsletter.

Our spring concert on the afternoon of Saturday 19 March 2022 at St Mary's Church, Thatcham will be dedicated to Bill's memory and we will be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to join us on that occasion. There will be more details in the next newsletter.

*Dianne Rogers*

## **Christmas Is Coming . . .**

It has been a joy to return to ringing handbells for the members of the Lammas Ringers. At the beginning of the season we had no events booked, but it has been well worthwhile rehearsing our Christmas music as we have been invited to ring carols at the Ramster Pop-Up Market being held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December at Chiddingfold, Surrey. Our sessions are scheduled for the morning of Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December to brighten the atmosphere while visitors browse the market stalls and choose their Christmas tree.

It will be a busy day for a couple of us, as Godalming Choral Society have their Christmas Concert in the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> December. We are asked to reprise the handbell part in "Welcome All Wonders", A Christmas Cantata by Richard Shephard, something we did in an earlier concert, before the pandemic struck.

The conductor of the Milford & District U3A Singing for Fun group had warned some time ago that he wanted handbells in their Christmas concert. So . . . we will be playing the tinkly descant accompaniment in a version of "Ding, Dong, Merrily on High" on 14<sup>th</sup> December at St. John's Church in Milford.

It is lovely to have something to aim for at Christmas and, although we cannot rehearse on 9<sup>th</sup> December due to a school's carol service in the parish church (we ring in the adjoining Octagon), we look forward to getting together for a scrumptious Christmas dinner at a small local restaurant.

Happy Christmas to our fellow ringers and we look forward to seeing some of you again when more events hopefully happen in 2022.

## BISHOP'S BELLS RING OUT FOR ADVENT

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November, the four-octave team “Bishop’s Bells” rang for the Advent Service at St Peter’s Church in Bishop’s Waltham, Hampshire. This was their first public performance in two years!



In early November, Michael Coker (director of music at St Peter’s) had invited Bishop’s Bells to be part of the service, as he was keen to develop a collaborative working partnership between St Peters Church and “Bishop’s Bells” handbell team.

With just three weeks to rehearse, the ringers – under the directorship of June Goble – rallied forth and prepared two pieces: “Carol of the Bells”, arranged by Sandra Winter and “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (which includes an inset section of ‘O Little town of Bethlehem’), arranged by Susan Geschke.

The event began with the tower bell ringers welcoming the congregation with rounds and call changes on all 8 bells, some of which are medieval; the earliest bell dates from 1597!

The Church Choir gave a wonderful rendition of Handel’s “And The Glory Of The Lord” and of Vaughan Williams’ “This Is The Truth Sent From Above”.

Bishop’s Bells performance was received with enthusiastic applause. There were two new ringers who were especially deserving of this, as it was their first ever time playing to a public audience ..... well done, Emily and Lynne!

What a wonderful start to the Christmas ringing season. Only five more engagements to go! We look forward to hearing Bishop’s Bells playing Cynthia Dobrinski’s arrangement of “O Holy Night” accompanied by Sue Butler on flute.

*Geoff and Mandy Peck*



**HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN S E REGION**  
**Reg. Charity numbers 298945 (England) & SC038918 (Scotland)**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 2.30pm at All Saints' Hall Sanderstead Surrey

**1. Chair's Welcome and Remarks**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their patience and the delay to the start of the meeting following her plumbing emergency. The Chair read and proposed Motion 1

'That notwithstanding paragraph 7 of the HRGB South East Region constitution which provides that no more than fifteen months shall elapse between one Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the next, this meeting acknowledges the unusual circumstances that have caused this AGM to be delayed beyond this time limit, and accordingly confirms that the subsequent business following on the agenda be approved as the proper business of the HRGB South East Region AGM'. Proposed H Secker seconded S Winter. Agreed *nem. con.*

**2. Chair's Report**

The Chair read her report (copy appended to the minutes) highlighting that since the last AGM we have had to learn to do things differently with many more things now being done 'electronically' with the committee communicating by email, phone and when necessary meeting by Zoom. It has been good to hear of the gradual return to weekly ringing albeit with mitigations such as ventilation, masks, spacing of ringers and testing being commonplace. Thanks were expressed to Valerie Boon for keeping the newsletter going during this time and keeping members informed and entertained. Sadly during this time we have lost a number of members, not all to Covid, including Honorary Life Members Alan Collings and Bill Butler and well known members Angela Blundell, Maureen McAndrew and Mary Hews. We have also lost some teams and others are operating with reduced numbers. There are vacancies for county representatives for Sussex and Hampshire, if anyone is interested in either please contact the Chair or Secretary for more information. It is pleasing that ringing is returning and if anyone would be interested in organising a small gathering of local teams, please contact the Chair or Secretary. Acceptance of the report Proposed Sue Quarendon seconded Martin Winter agreed *nem. con.*

**3. Apologies for absence**

Received from Shirley Aston, David Brown, Carol Campbell, Alan Cooper, Gay Cooper, Jill Glennerster, Joan Hodson, Kathryn Hughes, Alison Mansfield, Paula Quiney, Jacky Tickner, John Tipping and Michael Wilkinson.

12 members were in attendance.

**4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2020**

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Keith Rowland seconded by Libby Eldrige and agreed *nem. con.* The minutes were signed by the Chair

## **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were none.

## **6. Secretary's Report**

The Hon Secretary's report was read (copy appended to the minutes). It highlighted the lack of activities due the pandemic with just Ring Something Simple the week before lockdown1 in March 2020 and The Bishops Bells invitation event in September 2021. The Secretary raised the issue of the need for up to date and wherever possible electronic contact information so that the committee can keep in touch with members.

A proposal to receive the report was made by Barbara Saunders and seconded by Brenda Davies and agreed *nem. con.*

## **7. Financial Report and Presentation of Accounts**

The meeting received the accounts 2019-20. The Treasurer spoke to the accounts identifying the key elements. A vote of thanks to John Boon for his work in all financial matters was Proposed Rosie Jex seconded Alan Sharps and passed *nem con.*

## **8. Elections**

Motion 2 'Due to the unusual circumstances caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, the existing Officers and Committee members continue their existing terms until the HRGB SE AGM 2022' Proposed Helen Secker seconded Sandra Winter and agreed *nem con* :

Chair: Helen Secker

Committee members:

Vice Chair: Alan Cooper

Valerie Boon, Gay Cooper, Libby Eldridge

Secretary: Sandra Winter

Jill Glennerster, Sue Quarendon Keith Rowland,

Treasurer: John Boon

Alan Sharps, Martin Winter

## **9. Any Other Business**

(i) The report from the NEC representatives was read (copy attached to the minutes) highlighting matters from the two National AGMs held by Zoom including the healthy state of HRGB finances, developments and improvements made to the HRGB website. The intention to stand down of the National Secretary in 2022 and the Chair in 2023 also the creation of new national roles to support the future development of HRGB. Martin Winter questioned the need for a National AGM report at the regional AGM as there is now a gap of eleven months between the meetings and the minutes have already been published in Reverberations. The matter was referred back to the committee for consideration.

(ii) John Boon highlighted the significant saving made by distributing the newsletter electronically and that this provided funds to support ringing in other ways. Helen had not received any negative feedback since switching to this method of distribution but emphasised the need for up to date contact information.

The meeting closed at 3.31 p.m.

**HANDBELL RINGERS of GREAT BRITAIN SE Reion**  
**Registered Charity Nos. 298945 (England) and SC038918 (Scotland)**

**Balance Sheet for year ended 31/12/2020**

	2020	2019
	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	£	£
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>		
<b><u>Tangible Assets</u></b>		
Bells estimated realisable value	2,000.00	2,000.00
The Exeter Handbells donated by Hamilton Ringers 2014	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>
The Milton Keynes Bells	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b><u>11,500.00</u></b>	<b><u>11,500.00</u></b>
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Closing Stock	859.70	928.00
Prepayments	84.50	400.15
Debtors		
Deposit Account (COIF)	9,754.29	9,728.73
Bank	3,976.17	2,610.26
Cash	143.83	307.88
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b><u>14,818.49</u></b>	<b><u>13,975.02</u></b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>		
Accruals	-	-
Other Creditors		-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b><u>14,818.49</u></b>	<b><u>13,975.02</u></b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>26,318.49</u></b>	<b><u>25,475.02</u></b>
<b>Financed by:</b>		
Unrestricted General Funds	25,892.73	25,049.26
Designated Fund: Ring from Scratch	425.76	425.76
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	<b><u>26,318.49</u></b>	<b><u>25,475.02</u></b>

These Accounts have been prepared by John Boon  
These Accounts have been approved by Helen Secker and Sandra Winter  
These Accounts have been examined by Alastair Michie.

**Registered Charity Nos. 298945 (England) and SC038918 (Scotland)**

**Statement of Financial Affairs for year ended 31/12/2020**

	<b>2020</b>			<b>2019</b>	
	<b>Unrest Gen. Funds £</b>	<b>Desig Bells to go £</b>	<b>Desig. Ring from Scratch £</b>	<b>Total £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Incoming resources from generated funds					
<b>Voluntary Income</b>					
Regional Rebate	1,689.00			1,689.00	1,830.00
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>					
Rallies	1,019.00			1,019.00	2,181.50
Guildford Festival 2019					1,068.00
Guildford 2020	718.00			718.00	
Advertising					30.00
Ring from Scratch (Desig.)					
<b>Investment Income</b>					
Bank Interest	25.56			25.56	55.07
<b>Incoming resources from charit. activ.</b>					
Sales income	249.45			249.45	419.63
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b><u>3,701.01</u></b>			<b><u>3,701.01</u></b>	<b><u>5,584.20</u></b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>					
<b>Fundraising trading</b>					
Cost of goods sold	313.83			313.83	274.24
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Rallies	1,194.91			1,194.91	2,038.26
Guildford Festival 2018					250.00
Guildford Festival 2019					608.00
Guildford Festival 2020	718.00			718.00	
Ring from Scratch (desig.)	-			-	-
Newsletter Postage	111.80			111.80	581.37
Photocopy	209.40			209.40	1,228.50
Stationery					
Depreciation	-			-	-
Other costs					
Postage	67.20			67.20	32.16
Insurance	91.40			91.40	91.40
Sundry	121.00			121.00	257.00
Computer/ Web expenses	30.00			30.00	181.64
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b><u>2,857.54</u></b>			<b><u>2,857.54</u></b>	<b><u>5,542.57</u></b>
<b>Net incoming Resources</b>	843.47			843.47	41.63
<b>Transfers</b>					
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	843.47			843.47	41.63
<b>Total Funds Brought forward</b>	25,049.26		425.76	25,475.02	25,433.39
<b>Total Funds Carried forward</b>	<b><u>25,892.73</u></b>		<b><u>425.76</u></b>	<b><u>26,318.49</u></b>	<b><u>25,475.02</u></b>

## **GARDENING HINTS FOR DECEMBER.**

Tulip bulbs should be planted by the end of the month.

October sown Sweet peas should be pinched out after the second or third pair of leaves have formed.

There is still time to cut perennials which have finished flowering but be careful to leave Hardy Fuchsias, Peonies and Hydrangeas as they will benefit from the stems being left to protect the plant through the winter.

Bare root Roses can still be planted if the soil is not water logged, collect the fallen leaves of Roses which have been attacked by Black Spot and dispose of them to prevent the disease from spreading.

Lightly trim Heathers which have finished flowering to encourage bushy growth.

If you are growing bulbs indoors the pots should be turned frequently to ensure even growth.

Poinsettias, which are now available in many different colours are popular at this time of the year, they prefer a warm, light position away from draughts. Like all houseplants they are easily killed by over watering

Regularly water indoor Azaleas with rainwater to prevent the dense root ball from drying out. Reduce the watering of Houseplants, as Winter light levels begin to fall they should be placed in a bright place, do not leave them overnight in the cold between closed curtains and the window, particularly on frosty nights.

Clear the vegetable plot of plant debris left over from summer produce, then lightly dig the ground over to open it up so that any bugs and diseases are killed by the winter frost. .

Most deciduous trees and shrubs can now be cut back but leave all types of flowering Cherry until they are in full leaf again, Magnolias should not be pruned until the Summer.

Continue to remove fallen leaves from the lawn and on mild days the grass can be mown with the mower blades set on a high cut..Keep off of the grass when it is frosty or very wet.

### **CHUCKLE CORNER - Little Known Facts**

There are only two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

$111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321.$

Bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers were all invented by women.

Elephants are the only animals that cannot jump. Probably just as well!

A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.

Honey is the only food that does not spoil.

## CHUCKLE CORNER - Little Known Facts (cont.)

In the last 4000 years no new animals have been domesticated.

When hung on a clothes line out of doors, black underwear dries faster than the white ones.

An ant always falls over on its right side when intoxicated.

Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months two rats can have a million descendants.

Wearing headphones for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times.

## HRGB SOUTH EAST REGION DIARY 2021-2022

February	26	AGM and Mini Massed Ring - Sanderstead <i>expression of interest details in this issue</i>
May	8	SERBO Concert, Harlequin Theatre, Redhill - cancelled
	14	Invitation Rally - Fordingbridge
	21	East Kent Rally - Headcorn
June	11	Handbell Festival Service, Guildford Cathedral TBC

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the  
HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN SOUTH EAST REGION  
will be held on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022**  
at All Saints' Church Hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead, Surrey CR2 9AB

If you are intending to come, please let the Secretary know.

Sandra Winter, email [sandra@hrgb.org.uk](mailto:sandra@hrgb.org.uk)  
or telephone 020 8657 1344. Thank you!

Website: [www.hrgbse.org.uk](http://www.hrgbse.org.uk)

Facebook : [www.facebook.com/HrgbSe](http://www.facebook.com/HrgbSe)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/HRGBSE](http://www.twitter.com/HRGBSE)

HRGB Registered Charity numbers 298945 (England) and SCO38918 (Scotland).

## SE REGION COMMITTEE AND JOB HOLDERS 2019/20

<b>CHAIR</b> , Youth Rep, & Sales Table Manager	Helen Secker	020 8295 3017
<b>VICE CHAIR</b> , NEC Rep & Oxon & Bucks Rep	Alan Cooper	07964 615428
<b>SECRETARY</b> & Honorary Life Member	Sandra Winter	020 8657 1344
<b>TREASURER</b>	John Boon	01483 874123
MEMBER & Newsletter Editor	Valerie Boon	01483 874123
MEMBER & NEC Rep	Gay Cooper	07964 615428
MEMBER & Kent Rep	Sue Quarendon	01622 891864
MEMBER & Honorary Life Member	Keith Rowland	01252 409438
MEMBER	Jill Glennerster	07821 131303
MEMBER	Libby Eldridge	01883 622808
MEMBER	Martin Winter	020 8657 1344
MEMBER & Surrey Rep	Alan Sharps	01784 244665
Webmaster	Grant O'Sullivan	
Berks Representative	Meg Hostler	01189 731569
London Representative	Di Ashton	020 8981 0261
Music Resource Advisor	Kathryn Hughes	020 8462 9419
Honorary Life Members	George Francis John Tipping Alan Collings	Bill Butler Philip Bedford



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