

# Exeter University Change-Ringing Society (EUCRS) / Exeter Colleges Guild (ECG)



## Minutes for the Annual General Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014



9pm: Meeting open.

1.
  - a. **Those Present:** Martin Gentile (MG) (Chair), James Bennett (JB), Alice Leetham (AL), Nathan Evans (NE), Evan Jones (EJ), Teifi Walters (TW), Julia James (JJ), Andrew Browne (AB)
  - b. **Apologies for absence:** Peter Richards, Ruth Mottershead and Alice Holden (AH), Caroline Selley, Pete Boobier (PB)
2. **Matters arising from previous minutes**
  - a. AB reports that 'one per learner' books are in the process of being ordered
3. **Master's report**
  - a. Bristol, Plymouth and Exeter joint outing to Exmouth
  - b. Two ECG weddings (Martin & Vicky, James & Joanna)
  - c. Two ECG engagements (Rob & Lucy, Nicky & Colin)
  - d. 6-bell method striking competition entered (just)! Get more interested for next year
  - e. 11 quarters rung in the past year, including surprise major, first of surprise royal for society as well as Stedman triples for the first time in ten years.
  - f. 1 peal rung, with (probably) the most methods for society (12m).
  - g. Halloween party – though poorly attended.
  - h. Christmas dinner was a success - Chaucer's recommended for next year.
  - i. Annual dinner was a success, and wine on the table was a first.
  - j. Quarter peal day/trip to the Tom Cobley was deemed fun.
  - k. A few curry nights held over the past year.
  - l. Pancake party was held.
  - m. A trip out to a surprise major practice in the Taunton branch was done – these are held twice monthly. Deemed a success. If you can ring surprise major and would like to come on future trips, please contact Martin.
  - n. 6-bell novice striking competition at Zeal Monochorum was entered and came 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the round-ringing. 4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the called changes. Well done!
  - o. Bristol outing due in the summer – Bristol's turn to organise.
  - p. Staycation mooted – next committee to organise.
4. **Treasurer's report**
  - a. Opening balance: £380.96
  - b. £66.00 in membership fees collected
  - c. Closing balance of £446.96
5. **Subscription fees**
  - a. A vote was held to maintain the current subscription fees for the EUCRS at £7.50 per annum. This was passed unanimously.
6. **Proposed constitutional amendments**

- a. MG: Current written constitution (last amended 1990) is ambiguous as to whether it is for the ECG or the EUCRS. General Secretary (Matt Hilling) and President (David Atkins) of the ECG also agree that it needs amending (correspondence to MG by e-mail).
- b. MG: Ambiguity on status of honorary/full/associate members and their rights to vote
- c. MG: Additionally ambiguity as to what constitutes a general meeting of the ECG
- d. JB raised a need to liaise with the Guild of Devonshire Ringers (GDR)
- e. MG: Currently, 10% of full ECG members may oust a committee members and 25% may call a general meeting for the ECG.
- f. A consensus was held that associate and honorary members should be included under the umbrella of full ECG members to make a more inclusive guild
- g. Action: next EUCRS/ECG committee to draft a new constitution, liase with David Atkins (president), the GDR and alumni members. This could then be voted on at the next ECG annual dinner.

#### **7. Election of honorary members of the ECG**

- a. As per section 3(ii)A of the constitution of the ECG (1990), honorary membership of the ECG may be conferred upon any person as a token of esteem.
- b. MG proposes Rob Neal and Lucy Davis to become honorary members, since they have been ringing with us for the past six years. NE seconds the motion.
- c. A vote was held and Rob Neal and Lucy Davis were elected honorary members of the ECG unanimously.

#### **8. Election of committee members of the EUCRS**

- a. Post of stock & quarter peal officer was abolished and responsibilities of keeping QP and peal records in the book and on website absorbed into other roles, the details of which will be the responsibility of the new committee. This post has been replaced with an open post, which will allow greater flexibility in terms of organising the annual dinner.
- b. For the first time in a long time, a contested election was held for the position of EUCRS president (ECG ringing master). MG reads out manifesto from AH.
- c. NE gives speech.
- d. A vote was held in accordance with Students' Guild rules. Three votes were via e-mail. JB counted the votes.
- e. The votes were as follows:
  - i. NE elected president, with 9 votes for and 1 vote for AH,
  - ii. AL was elected vice president (unanimous),
  - iii. AB was elected secretary (unanimous),
  - iv. EJ was elected treasurer (unanimous),
  - v. JJ was elected publicity officer (unanimous),
  - vi. AH was elected open member (unanimous).
- f. It was made clear that these roles would be assumed on the first day of the Easter vacation.
- g. MG: Handover forms will be circulated.

#### **9. Election of officers of the ECG**

- a. PB passes on a message via MG that he is happy to continue as ECG steeple keeper.
- b. All other posts of the ECG were filled from the committee of the EUCRS into their corresponding roles, with the president and vice president of the EUCRS becoming the ringing master and deputy ringing master respectively.
- c. MG proposes that these roles are to be assumed forthwith: NE affirms that he would be happy to assume the position of ringing master with immediate effect.

#### **10. AOB**

- a. AL: A new gnome mascot is necessary. Action: new committee.
- b. NE proposes a vote of thanks to the old committee, seconded by AB.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.