

Society of Cambridge Youths EGM

Monday 6th November 2023 in GSM Ringing Chamber

MINUTES

1. Welcome

The meeting started at 9:05pm and was chaired by the Master, David Richards.

Members present:

Catriona Agg, Jonathan Agg, Alison Brooke, Patrick Brooke (Secretary), Greg Chu, Philip Hensman, Barry Johnson, Jonathan Nash, Michael O'Callaghan, Elizabeth Orme, Phillip Orme (Treasurer), Cecilia Pipe, David Pipe, David Richards (Master), Christine Seaman, Luke Smith (Belfry Maintenance Officer), George Unsworth, Jadd Virji.

Apologies for absence:

Claire Barlow, Jutta Brueck (Vicar), Gareth Davies, Frank King, Lynne Hughes, Melissa Nash, Akiko Saito, Jonathan Shanklin, John Sherwood, Michael Williams.

2. Update on Plans for SCY 300th Year

The meeting began with a brief update of the plans for the 300th anniversary of the Society. A paper outlining the background to the proposals had been circulated with the agenda and thanks were expressed to George Unsworth, Gareth Davies, Lesley Boyle and Phil and Liz Orme for their work in bringing the preparations to this stage.

For the Anniversary weekend (21st-22nd September 2024), the main events are:

- Celebration Dinner at Trinity College. The venue has been booked for the Saturday evening. A volunteer is required to take over the arrangements for this.
- Walking History Tours. Gareth will resurrect the tours he provided at the 12-bell final in 2018. The tour is titled "in 10 peal boards and a chamber pot".
- Ringing Demonstration. It is hoped that Frank will provide a reprise of his ringing demonstration.
- GSM Service. There will be a special service in GSM to mark the anniversary with ringing included as part of the service.
- Quiz. Richard Smith has prepared a quiz to provide entertainment during the weekend.
- Peals and Quarter Peals will be organised over the weekend.

- Outreach. Gareth has collected a list of towers with links to the Society and prepared invitations to those involved at those towers inviting them to participate.

Other events to mark the anniversary.

- Peals. Special peals will be arranged across the whole period, starting roughly in March 2024 and running through to November 5th 2025, the anniversary of the first Society Peal in 1725. A Ladies Peal is being organised in March 2024 and a long length on April 1st 2024. Society members are encouraged to organise peals during this period and to request slots. There should be plenty available.
- Book. Gareth has written an in-depth history of the Society covering its 300 years under the working title "Foolish Youths and Substantial Rewards". The Ringing World have agreed to fund the printing and selling of the book, taking on all the risk in return for all proceeds. Our only contribution will be to support any research costs by Gareth (for example obtaining rights to photographs). This is a timely opportunity to properly record and publish our legacy during our 300th year.
- Cambridge Folk Festival. We have been in discussion with the Cambridge Folk Festival to allow the Society to have a pitch at the festival with the Charmborough Ring, similar to what the Cambridge University Guild successfully do at the Freshers' Fair.
- Souvenir Glasses. It is proposed that we commission 500 x Souvenir Beer Glasses with a 300th SCY Anniversary/GSM motif. These would be similar to those we successfully sold at the 2018 12 Bell competition. Any glasses not sold during the year would be donated to the church shop for sale there.

These are the main events that need organisation. There will be other smaller events organised and some minor further funding may be required from a future meeting. There is an immediate need for an overall organiser. George Unsworth proposed that Liz Orme take on this role, which Liz indicated she would accept. This was approved with acclamation. Liz will organise volunteers for all the events and requested help with this from Society members.

3. Proposals for funding.

- To allocate £500 on research costs for SCY History Book. Proposed: Phil Orme - Seconded: George Unsworth
- To allocate up to £1100 on Cambridge Folk Festival attendance. Proposed: George Unsworth - Seconded: Phil Orme
 - The total cost is projected to be £1020 but we are proposing up to £1100 be allocated (including £80 contingency). Note, there is strong possibility of ~£600 of funding from the council thus reducing our actual cost to ~£500. This will cover the cost of hiring the Charmborough ring

and transport to the site. The plan is to have it there for the whole festival. This may also include the Higby training bell and space for handbell ringing. 10 volunteers a day will be required (includes a free meal). Sleeping overnight will not be necessary since the site has security. Dates are 25th to 28th July. We have confirmation that we can have pitch, but do not yet have final confirmation of festival costs. If we approve, George will book the Charmborough ring tomorrow.

- To allocate up to £850 on Souvenir Beer Glasses. Proposed: Dave Richards - Seconded: Phil Orme
 - This proposal is similar to what was done for the 12-bell in 2018. The plan is to have the glasses available for the whole period. Other branded items may be considered going forward, but they do not involve a cost risk. These other things may be discussed at the AGM. Subsequent to the meeting, the church has indicated that they are very happy for the shop to receive any glasses we do not sell.

All 3 proposals were approved without objection.

4. Further discussion

An estimate of the likely cost of dinner tickets was requested. The figure of £68 was mentioned as an estimate. The church has sent a grant application to Trinity on our behalf to help fund the dinner, but as yet no reply has been received. The cost will take into account inviting 2 guests. There were requests for concession tickets and flexibility for ordering different number of courses and no-wine options. A general question was asked whether the Society might consider subsidising the dinner. This could be discussed at a future EGM. The Treasurer asked for opinions on this. An opinion was expressed that this would not be an appropriate use of Society funds in the way that the other proposals are.

The meeting was informed that the Church Operations Manager has asked whether we would like to consider holding an exhibition in Michaelhouse to mark the anniversary. This met with general approval.

5. Ratification of new member

Lynne P Hughes (Ringing Centre Manager) was elected a member at an ordinary meeting of the Society on 10th August 2023. The meeting approved the ratification of her membership, Proposed: Dave Richards - Seconded Barry Johnson.

The meeting finished at 9:38pm.