



HRGB Scottish Newsletter

2020 Issue 2 – September 2020

Chat from the Chair

It was a huge disappointment to have to cancel the Spring Rally and Annual General Meeting due to be held at Bankfoot on Saturday 21 March.

Because of the circumstances surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee decided that a virtual AGM would be an appropriate way to conduct the Association's business.

In response to the questions which were circulated to you on 18 March, I can confirm that:

1. There were no matters arising from the minutes of 2019 AGM;
2. Following a note from Elaine Duffus (Silver City Chimes) it has been agreed that the treasurer will issue receipts for monies sent to the Region for Rally registrations and music. There were no other questions about any of the Officer's reports;
3. There were no reasons why the 2019 Accounts shouldn't be adopted;
4. There were no reasons why the current committee members shouldn't remain in post until the 2021 AGM.

Unfortunately, the Scottish Schools Ring was also postponed.

Following guidance from HRGB, the "real world" Autumn Rally due to be held on Saturday 10 October in Tullynessle Hall, Alford has been cancelled. Many thanks are extended to Cushnie Handbell Ringers for offering to host the event. However, Malcolm has put a considerable amount of time and effort into constructing an alternative online Autumn Rally which will be held via Zoom on that date. Please find details in this newsletter. I encourage you all to join us in what should be a fun-filled afternoon!

The UK National Rally due to be held in Scotland in April 2021 has been postponed to April 2023.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Best wishes.



HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
SCOTTISH REGIONAL ASSOCIATION



2020 Autumn Rally

You are warmly invited to the HRGB Scottish Regional Association online Autumn Rally which will be held via Zoom on **Saturday 10th October 2020** from 2-4pm.

This event offers time to experience a range of different activities. All you need is your computer/ tablet/smart phone. No ringing equipment is necessary.

The aim is to try to encapsulate the essence of what ringers taking part might hope to get out of an event: enjoying the company of others from around the country and working on musical activities together.

There will be time for chat, 'air ringing' techniques, quiz, virtual massed ringing with a 'bio-break' in the middle!

There will be no charge for this event.

To sign up for this event, please contact Laura Buist by email (laura.buist@btinternet.com) or by post (16 Priorwood Gardens, Academy Park, Glasgow, G13 1GD) **by Saturday 19th September 2020**.

Access details will then be sent to you nearer the time.

We look forward to your company!

Editor's note: If you've never attended a Zoom meeting and feel daunted at the thought of trying, please don't be put off! You'll see from the pictures in this edition that many of us have been having fun learning how to use Zoom – it's easy to join in and, with Malcolm in charge, the "virtual" rally is sure to be lots of fun! See you there! Ed.

Jordanhill Parish Church Handbell Ringers

After our Christmas break we started back ringing with what we thought would be a very full session of ringing. Sadly due to Covid-19 this was not to be. We did however manage to fulfil a few engagements before lockdown happened. One of our afternoon engagements was for the Guild at Cathcart Old Parish Church where we were able to meet up with their former ringers including Jean Routledge who had served on the Scottish Regional Committee. Lynda and Ruth spent an evening teaching Brownies how to ring chimes and the Brownies really enjoyed the session. We also managed to squeeze in an evening at Faifley Church Guild the week before lockdown and they were so delighted that we agreed to go.

We were naturally disappointed that so many events have had to be cancelled including our annual charity event with the Jordanhill Community Choir. We are however continuing to 'chat' virtually with a weekly Zoom meeting (see jolly picture below!).

We all look forward to starting back ringing when this is permitted and hope that all our ringing friends stay safe and well.

Ruth Cantlay



Jordanhill Ringers at their weekly Zoom meet-up

News from Dunblane 2020

This has been a very different session for all of us in the handbell family. We have had to adapt to meeting in other ways. Here in Dunblane we have been having a weekly meetup online. It was a

learning curve for most of us, but with Malcolm's encouragement we managed to get most of our team members taking part. It is good for team morale to be able to chat together and catch up with the week's news but it is not all chat. We have a short fun quiz, usually bell related and craft making challenges, then some music making. Obviously not the same as the "real thing" but we do get some work done as well.

Malcolm wrote a piece of music with Narration and we rehearsed this with instruments which were available in the house, so a really imaginative collection to accompany the readings. This was recorded individually then put together and was fun to listen to the complete piece which included brass, woodwind, strings and percussion.

During the summer "holidays" we continued meeting up online and our chairman Peter organised for one of us to give a short presentation to add a bit of interest so we had talks on an Author by Peter, Bell Foundries by Miriam, Michaelmas day with Veronica, Origami by Irene and Celtic Art with Lysbeth and finally Judith organised a Cheese and Wine online. It did help keep us together as well as having fun.

Now we have each ringer with their Handbell allocation at home and we have started our Autumn rehearsals, still online. We are indebted to Malcolm for the amount of time and energy he gives to keeping this all up and running.

During the Thursday nights "Clap for Carers" I did some 4 in hand ringing and my neighbours came out to clap and the neighbour across the road kept everyone in time with the bell ringing by standing conducting. I live on a main road so quite a number of people walked past and sometimes stopped and listened as well as standing clapping with us. It became quite a social occasion and added a bit of fun for a short time.

Thanks are due to Malcolm for the work he puts in to keep us together and his patience in getting us all through the technical challenges. It will be great when we get back to normal rehearsals, rallies and meetings but at the moment it is more important that we all try to stay safe. I look forward to our next meeting which no doubt will be online

Lysbeth Wilson



Lysbeth, centre-screen, at the Scottish Regional Committee's Zoom meeting on 2nd May 2020

Important Dates for your Diary:

Sat 10th October 2020

“Virtual” Autumn Rally, 2-4pm in the comfort of your own home, with time for a cup of tea in the middle, and FREE to join. Please email laura.buist@btinternet.com as soon as possible to express your interest and she’ll send you the Zoom meeting details and instructions about how to sign in nearer the time. See you there!

December 25th 2020

Wherever you are this Christmas, and whatever you’ll be doing to celebrate, don’t raise a glass until you’ve sent me your article for the next newsletter. 😊
Please email katrinathurso@aol.com or post to 26 Grove Lane, Thurso, KW14 8AE with all your news and pictures. Thanks!

April 2023!

The Scottish Region is looking forward to hosting the UK National Rally 2023