

# Southern District IACR AGM

## 11am, 7 November 2020 via Zoom

### *Attendees:*

Rev. Cliff Jeffers, Michael Pomeroy, Julia Lysaght, Andrew White, Kieron Brislane, Ian McCutcheon, Eddie Gabriel, Jean Jeffrey, Ian McCullagh, Linda Deane, Marja van Maanen, Margaret Hennessy, Guy St. Leger, Niamh Hickey, Gerry O'Shea, Sarah Mulhall, Carmel Foynes.

### *Minutes as per Agenda:*

- Attendees were welcomed by Cliff Jeffers who gave the opening prayer.
- Those who passed away during the year were remembered: Ian McCullagh remembered David Ryan, RIP, who was synonymous with bell ringing in Kilkenny for many years and who had the distinction of ringing with eight family members on one occasion. He will be greatly missed.  
Kenneth Brislane from St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, was remembered by his cousin of Kieron Brislane, was also a long term member and who also had the distinction of ringing with seven family members on the occasion of Kieron sister's wedding.  
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.
- 3/4. Apologies were given by Maia Paulus who has resigned as Southern District secretary.
5. Julia Lysaght proposed that the current officers continue in office and this was seconded by Mike Pomeroy. With regard to Southern District Supplementalists, one of the two vacant positions was take by Eddie Gabriel, Doneraile with the other position still to be filled.  
Kieron Brislane offered to take up the position of Southern District secretary and this was proposed and seconded by Ian McCullagh and Julia Lysaght respectively.

**Chairperson -** Cliff Jeffers

**Secretary –** Kieron Brislane

**Treasurer -** Ivan McCutcheon

**Ringing Master -** Niamh Hickey

**Webmaster -** Bill Applebe

**Southern District Representatives:** Diana Pitcher, Sarah Mulhall, Oliver Roberts.

**Southern District Supplementalists:** Eddie Gabriel and 2 vacant positions.

**Southern District Representative Central Council of Bell Ringers -** Mike Pomeroy

The District Reports were approved: Secretary's report proposed by Mike Pomeroy and seconded by Kieron Brislane; Ringing Master report proposed by Carmel Foynes, seconded by Gerry O'Shea.

Treasurers Report was given by Ian McCutcheon. Julia Lysaght asked if all subs were up to date and it was stated that Bandon and Doneraile are still to be paid. Once this is done all subs will be sent to the IACR. No members are now in Rosscarbery and the online banking process is still to be completed.

Ivan thanked Maia Paulus for her work as Southern District secretary and a formal letter will be sent to reflect this. Mike Pomeroy proposed the Treasurers report be adopted and it was seconded by Kieron Brislane.

6. Regarding Bell Inspections, enquiries will be made if Martin Hough could do the entire island of Ireland. An interval of three years is usual for Inspections and Andrew White proposed that the Inspections be done during the Spring/Summer of 2021 if Martin Hough is available and conditions allow. Cliff Jeffers will contact Martin to confirm.

7. The Child Protection Policy has been developed by Cliff Jeffers and Mike Pomeroy. It is very difficult to consolidate the various aspects of such a policy but the Eastern District policy was largely adopted. It was suggested that each Tower take responsibility for Child Protection and that trained people who are Garda vetted accompany minors from their own tower

to any ringing events or meetings. Contract tracing to be put in place and parents to be asked to give written permission to attend all events. Templates to be available in all Towers. Gerry O'Shea proposed that the comprehensive documents to hand be adopted immediately and that this 'living document' be reviewed annually. This proposal was seconded by Niamh Hickey.

An ongoing discussion at higher level regarding training and jurisdiction was mooted and the IACR to be asked to create a new role of Child Protection Officer at district and executive levels and look at the overall structure of the policy, training and reporting, etc. This was proposed by Mike Pomeroy and seconded by Ivan McCutcheon.

Ian McCutcheon asked that the 8-digit Charity No. be added to the IACR letterhead for future reference as it currently only shows the Revenue number.

8.1 Kieron Brislane proposed that the Executive Council be returned en bloc and this was seconded by Guy St. Leger. Passed unanimously.

<b>Office</b>	<b>Present Holder</b>	<b>Eligible for Re-Election</b>	<b>Year of Election</b>
<b>President</b>	Julia Lysaght	Yes	2019
<b>Ringling Master</b>	Mike Pomeroy	Yes	2017
<b>Gen Secretary</b>	Peter McBride	Yes	2016
<b>Gen Treasurer</b>	Andrew White	Yes	2018
<b>Librarian</b>	June Kelly	Yes	2015

8.2 Mike Pomeroy congratulated Dunmanway on winning the Shield Cup for attendance and commended Waterford for also increasing their attendance. His amendment to streamline the attendance record to 15-minute ringing and the 48 best weeks of the year was adopted. Proposed by Kieron Brislane and seconded by Niamh Hickey. Passed unanimously. Regarding the situation this year, the IACR is to be asked to suspended details for 2020.

8.3 The amendment by Mike Pomeroy that officers fill their positions from January 1<sup>st</sup> each year was proposed by Carmel Foyne and seconded by Guy St. Leger.

Julia Lysaght suggested that this rule be adopted for District Officers also.

Ian McCutcheon asked if there was a completed Rules of Association and Andrew White stated it was on the IACR website.

8.4 Regarding Rule 11 and the role of Librarian, it was suggested that the role be extended to six years or longer. It was stated that as the Library is in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, that it made sense that someone from Dublin take the position. Julia Lysaght stated that at the 2018 Executive meeting that this wording was to be confirmed. However, Kieron Brislane reminded us that post holders had been in roles too long previously and that a turnover of personnel was better for the IACR in the long term. Niamh Hickey suggested an Assistant Librarian. After further discussion the proposal was voted down, proposed by Kieron Brislane and seconded by Carmel Foyne. Passed by majority, with one voting against.

9. A general discussion took place and Mike Pomeroy suggested more investment to update the Library and to look at making better use of it. Andrew White was not sure how much of this had been done and perhaps this could be investigated at Executive level.

During 2020, Kilkenny had done some ringing with chimes and Limerick had rung 4-5 bells at Level 3 on Sundays.

Kieron Brislane informed those present that an online website was available - [ringingroom.com](http://ringingroom.com) – and this was used by Limerick members on Monday nights.

The proposed date for the Cherry Cup in Bandon tower was pencilled in for 11 April, 2021 and the Southern District committee meeting pencilled in for 6 February, 2021 at 11.00 a.m on Zoom.

Regarding IACR membership, Mike Pomeroy suggested Membership certificates be issued and thanked Cliff Jeffers for organising the Zoom meeting.

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