

HRGB South West

AGM 2020

Chair's Report

I can hardly believe a whole year has passed since I last stood here giving you my first report. I shouldn't be surprised really because we all know that 'time flies when we're having fun'. My second year of office has been just as busy as the first and I am particularly pleased that we have made the handbell ringing experience available to a large number of young people through various events.

I would like to thank Amanda Jones for making a lot of this possible. She has worked extremely hard to keep a dialogue going with a number of youth initiatives in the region and hopefully some of this will bear fruit in the coming years.

Again, I'm going to keep this brief as I have already reported on all our events in the last two newsletters. I do hope that the events held this year will encourage us all to move on and make the enjoyment of hand bell ringing available to more of our current membership at both the organised regional events and any local events that teams can arrange or get involved in.

One thing you will have noticed this year is the need to record who is attending our events and if any under 18s attend, who their responsible adult is. This is all part of the national initiative to implement Safeguarding into HRGB.

Today you have also given us a contact number. In the event of someone contracting the Coronavirus please can you let our secretary, Ann, know & we can quickly trace all those in contact with you today.

Whilst I am very pleased that we will have one new committee member on board this afternoon, I am again very disappointed that my request for folk to step up to the Belle-plate hasn't moved more people to join the crew.

I am not going to beat around the bush on this – the number of people signing up for the events we run is decreasing and soon some events will not be viable - one in question this year is the Christmas Prelude which we presume has run its course.

The current committee has only a finite amount of energy and number of ideas – if no one else comes forward to help then the region's activities will stagnate. Perhaps this is all many of you want from your handbell ringing life, I don't know.

On an upbeat, our Summer School bookings are looking favourable so if you haven't signed up yet, please consider joining us for what will be a good weekend.

As most of you probably know, I am standing down as Chair today and I would like to thank the committee for all their support and camaraderie over the past two years. I also give my best wishes to the new Chair for a successful term of office.

I am having a year off to travel, when we are allowed to again, and to build up a portfolio of music to take with my Belleplates into some village schools, youth organisations and U3A groups so that the handbell experience goes on and you never know some may like to join a team near you!

Until we meet again, farewell and adieu me hearties.

Trish Carne.