

## CCCBR 2018 Rep's report

The Central Council met this year at Lancaster University. Four of your reps attended. The main business discussed was how the council should organise itself, and a new set of rules have been adopted. In future years, the council meeting will move from May to September, so the next meeting will be in September 2019 in London.

Those are the very bare bones of what happened and where. But to give a little more meat:

- Although we weren't actually hosting the meeting (the Council had decided it wanted to do that itself, and had lighted on Lancaster University as a convenient location), the meeting wouldn't have been the success it was without the hard work of a lot of LACR members. Ernie de Legh-Runciman and Chris Fletcher worked hard to move mountains and make Lancaster a great place to be - and many other members helped them, whether in advance, on the day at the university or at towers throughout the area. Huge thanks are due to them all.
- When we agreed that the meeting could come to our area, we had two clear expectations - that there would be opportunities for LACR ringers to benefit, and that there would be no cost to the LACR. Finance-wise, our demands were met: we have not had to fund anything for this year's meeting. The programme of seminars, and CC members spreading out to help with ringing around Lancaster on the Sunday morning, also met the need for the Central Council meeting to be helpful to the locals.
- In terms of what happened at the meeting, the important news is that the Central Council has changed the way it works. For us as customers of the Council, there's no great change: if we want anything from our global body, the first place to look is still the Central Council website - and if that doesn't give you what you need, then asking one of your Council representatives should be a good way to get hold of the right person. For us as people who might be able to help with ringing's global work, the two roles of council representative (holding the volunteers who do the work to account) and council volunteer have been separated. If you have skills that ringing globally can use, then there's no longer any expectation that you need to be a council representative to offer them. Again, please look at the council website or talk to one of our reps to find out how you can get involved.
- One other thing that is changing is how the rules for methods, peals and so on are written. Nothing has changed this year - but a consultation is in progress. Details can be found through [https://cccbbr.github.io/method\\_ringing\\_framework/consultation.html](https://cccbbr.github.io/method_ringing_framework/consultation.html). Tim Barnes (who is leading this work for the Central Council) has commented 'We recognise this is a niche area of interest and there's no expectation
  - that large numbers of ringers will take part -- reviewing the framework and
  - providing feedback will take time.'

But I would say that while my understanding is that quite a lot of what Tim is looking at really is quite specialist, there are at least a couple of points which I think are entirely suitable for those of us who are non-specialists to have a view on:

- what is the minimum length of a peal? Consistency argues for a minimum peal length of 5000 changes on all numbers of bells, while history argues for a minimum of 5040 (i.e. 7!) on seven or fewer working bells.
- are we happy to include the 'identity change' (I think that is the term) where \*no\* bells change position between two rows? My feeling is that this rather goes to the heart of what we do as \*change\* ringers.

Giles Blundell

For: Beth Ingham

Chris Fletcher

Ernie de Legh-Runciman