

The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

For information on the Guild, see the Guild website: <http://odg.org.uk/>

Publications from the Guild:

Odd Bob – Printed May and November. now available on Guild website under Publications
Next Issue May 2025

Latest at [ODD BOB - Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers \(odg.org.uk\)](http://odg.org.uk/)

Annual Report – next issue available March 2025

Subscriptions 2025 – Same as last year, £10 per ringer for 2024. (£7 to Guild and £3 to Branch). A Branch can also request additional voluntary subs.

MEMBERMOJO Database

[Link to MemberMojo page](#)

This is going live this year, 2025. All members are asked to access their accounts, click on **Review** and update any information such as preferred communication, and also **RENEW for the current year ie 2025**. There are instructions on the website how to do that. No money is being taken on the website. Subs are being collected in the usual way this year. Instructions for Existing and New members taken from the MEMBERMOJO page is attached.

Learning & Development Workgroup

Radley Course March 29th 2025, closing date for applications, 21/02/2025

Safeguarding

Latest guidance is on the website, and you should have received a communication from MEMBERMOJO.

Amendments stated at last Gen Comm meeting,

- Main change, DBS checking only has to be completed for Tower Captains when there are young people in the band. Please do not make this a reason for refusing to allow young ringers to join the band, we need to encourage every one of them.
- Clarification of definition of a vulnerable person: DBS is required only if there is involvement with personal care, finances or travel arrangements. It no longer applies for ringers on the basis of age alone.
- Tower Captains, who want to renew their enhanced DBS check may find that the PCC tells them it is no longer required. This could be as a result of increasing costs. However, Tower Captains may renew their DBS check through an alternative provider e.g. ART, who are able to process it at no cost

Towers and Belfries Sub-Committee Report

It is important that all towers have some form of emergency lighting.

Ash for Stays – there is increasing evidence that it's hard to find proper air-dried ash from healthy (not ash-dieback) trees. If you are replacing a stay, make sure you go to a reputable supplier

Report of Finance and General Purposes Sub-committee

They are seeking members for the Public Relations Working Group.

Proposed changes to Guild management structure

The Guild is considering streamlining the Guild management structure. Currently, this is done by members of the General Committee who are elected Guild Officers, plus the Secretary and Guild Representative of the Branches (about 50 members). The General Committee meets twice a year. The reports and minutes of the meetings can be viewed on the ODG website at:

[General Committee Meetings - Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers \(odg.org.uk\)](https://www.odg.org.uk)

Or look under Publications/General-committee-meetings/

A proposal has been put forward to replace this structure with an Executive Committee consisting of elected Guild Officers who will be responsible for the management and running of the Guild, and setting future strategic direction

The General Committee would cease to exist but there would instead be a Governance and Scrutiny Committee consisting of approximately 20 members whose role is to scrutinise the work of the Executive and hold them to account. The membership of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee is expected to be: one spokesperson for each branch (15) and Ringing Vice Presidents

It is envisaged there will be in the region of six Governance and Scrutiny Committee meetings a year of which one will be a formal meeting in person.

Detailed papers referring to this can be found at

[General Committee Meetings - Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers \(odg.org.uk\)](https://www.odg.org.uk)

Detailed papers describing the proposal are under the meeting of November 2024 and also the discussion points in the Minutes for that meeting.

In practical terms for the Branches, the role of Guild Representative would disappear. Each Branch would be asked to provide a spokesperson for the Governance and Scrutiny Committee

As can be seen in the minutes for the November 2024 General Committee meeting, discussion is ongoing.

MEMBERMOJO EXISTING MEMBERS

1. All existing members of the ODG are asked to review and edit, if necessary, their personal details.
2. Please click on the red "Member Login and Home Page" bell image on the MEMBERMOJO page and enter your email address.
 - a. You will receive a link in an email which allows you access to your record.
3. If you do not receive an email from Membermojo, please contact the membership secretary (membership@odg.org.uk) to verify your email address.
4. Please select the **Review Actions** button at the top of the page. Then click on **Renew**.
5. Review and amend your details, ensuring that you tick all appropriate boxes, including communication preferences, then tick to accept the terms and click **Next**.
6. Click on **Checkout**.
7. Then click on **Pay with Via Tower / Branch** to complete your membership renewal. (note: **NO** money is being taken online by MEMBERMOJO this year. Subs are being collected by Tower Captains as usual).
 - a. Your membership renewal for 2025 will be **'pending'** until the Guild Treasurer receives the payment from your Branch.
8. If you administer records for other members, click the Review Actions button again. You will need to action Renew for each member.

MEMBERMOJO NEW MEMBERS

- If you are a new member, you must have already been elected at a Branch meeting.
- Please click on the orange "Join Us/Renew" button on the right-hand side and complete the application form, ensuring that you tick all appropriate boxes, including communication preferences, then tick to accept the terms and click Next.
- On the next page click Send for Approval.
 - Your request for membership will be marked as pending until approved by the Membership Secretary.
 - Once accepted, and payment received via your branch, you will receive a confirmation email.