

CHANGE RINGING FOR THE FUTURE

REPORT ON BREAKOUT GROUPS INTERNATIONAL/NON-ENGLISH REGION

A. What's working well in your areas?

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coming together, despite long distances ▪ Good, effective communication with all members eg Facebook, but communication channels are fragmented ▪ Strong sense of community despite long distances ▪ Local maintenance (necessarily)
Training and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New technology – telecoms, simulators, online resources etc ▪ School strong impact (Verona), advanced level of musical training required ▪ ITTS effective – active in NAGCR and ANZAB (10% of ANZAB members have attended ITTS courses)
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ANZAB and NAGCR growing ▪ Effective at engaging the public with something novel ▪ Strategic plan based on 2012 survey (ANZAB) ▪ Examples of robust leadership rotation (NAGCR)

B. What we are working on in our areas

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Even in these modern times people some don't want to travel far ▪ Some traditional and geographical territorial society boundaries
Recruitment & training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recruitment – symptom not cause. Need to engage-recruit-train-retain-develop ▪ Confidence and skill in teaching ▪ Investment in people, not just infrastructure
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welsh/Scottish/Irish/S African evidence of decline ▪ Need to develop and maintain maintenance skills locally ▪ Need to maintain and develop effective leadership

C. What cross-boundary initiatives are happening?

Working together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exchange of NAGCR and ANZAB newsletters. Lines of communication are open
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepared to support development of ringing at regional towers e.g. by visits or by subsidising ringers to attend central event
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of our organisations are trans-national (ANZAB, NAGCR); SAG is South Africa only and has limited interaction with other African towers. • Four Welsh Associations were represented – some interaction but commonly across border into England.

D. What are the cross-boundary opportunities in your region?

General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Common challenges would be useful to explore together ▪ Sharing ideas would be helpful ▪ NAGCR, ANZAB and SAG see obvious commonality, but the same challenges of disparate towers and the need for long distance support is clearly apparent in Ireland, Scotland, Wales. ▪ Some lessons to be learned from the Veronese emphasis on training and schools, but the style of ringing is very different. Is there a fit? ▪ Share and promote experiences into England (in particular) of use of telecommunications, simulator environments, training and travel culture
Recruitment & training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sharing of education options (eg specialist courses) ▪ Good recruitment opportunities at universities (noted: Australian university culture unusual – very common to stay in home city) ▪ Noted a push from some external comments of the need to emphasise in training and development of people rather than infrastructure. ▪ Understand and share why ANZAB and NAGCR are growing. What is working and what lessons can be learned?

ISSUES FOR CENTRAL COUNCIL

- Website is in urgent need of redevelopment.
- Concept of leadership training and promotion of good practice is endorsed
- Recognise that bottom-up support is needed, not a solution imposed from above
- Learn from the international experience. We are about 4% of the ringing community but 15-20% of the economic activity in ringing
- In particular, development of support at distance, recognising opportunities available through Internet technologies.
- Asymmetry: Central Council has much to learn from the international experience. However what the non-English Associations get back is quite different – one solution does not fit all. Eg. Stewardship Committee – principles are useful but details don't apply directly under Australian vs New Zealand vs USA vs Canada (etc) regulations.
- Peal ringing is in decline – is this an effective proxy for the state of ringing?

NOTE: Welsh societies felt more connected to societies in England, all others identified as national membership-based associations; Police Guild joined the group recognising non-territorial nature