

1943

The first meeting of the year was held at St. Michaels St. Albans on March 20th.

During the afternoon handbells were rung in the church from about 3.30 P.M. until 4.30 when a short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev M.W. Shewell. Hymn singing was unaccompanied, but was none the less hearty for that. In his short address, the Vicar welcomed the Association to St Michaels, this being the first visit they had made there since he came, and also hoped that the ban would soon be lifted so that on future visits the tower bells could be rung.

A very enjoyable tea followed at the 'Old Times Cafe' to which a total of 16 sat down, including the Vicar who was able to tell us of his experiences with ringers at his last parish, 'Farringdon', and elsewhere.

After tea handbell ringing was resumed in the church until about 7.30 P.M., interrupted only for the business meeting which was soon disposed of under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Jennings. The minutes of the last ordinary meeting held at Hatfield were read and

confirmed. It was decided to leave the arrangements for the next meeting to the secretary, but it was provisionally agreed that this should be at St. Albans on July 17th on which date there would also be a General Committee meeting. Members were reminded that the Annual Meeting was fixed for May 1st in St. Albans. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing us the use of the church and for his welcome was proposed by Mr. A. Day and seconded by Mr. C. Maine.

Although the attendance was fair considering the present difficulties of transport and the many calls on everyone's time, it was disappointing that only 6 district members were present.

W. Ayre.
24/7/43.