

DISTRICT MEETING AT WHEATHAMPSTEAD ON 21st OCTOBER 1972

Ringling commenced at 3.30 and was followed by a Service at 4.30 and tea at 5.00. The meeting started at approximately 5.45 and was chaired by our President, Mr. D. Carpenter.

There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were approved and signed as being a correct record of the previous meetings. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Election of New Members

| | <u>Proposed By</u> | <u>Seconded By</u> |
|---|---|--------------------|
| Miss Fiona Pike as a Full Member | Mr. F. Ellis | Miss S. Apter |
| Miss Jill Reeves as a Full Member | Mrs. J. Dodds | Miss S. Rouse |
| Miss Lucy Thompson from Dunstable, as a Non-Resident Life Member, | Proposed by Mr. S. Chandler. (ratified) | |

These elections were put to the meeting and were carried.

Meetings and Practices

The Secretary stated that the next meeting will be at Harpenden and the Annual District Meeting should be at Hatfield, but this is in doubt.

Mr. R. Hardy reminded the meeting that people should be thinking about nominations for officers for the Harpenden meeting.

Mr. A. Carter, Ringing Master, thanked the people who took part in the special practices during the last month. He went on to say that there have been practices held at the Abbey; a Conductor's Practice at North Mymms and a Surprise Royal Practice which was held at St. Peters, all of which were well attended.

Mr. Carter announced that there will be a Surprise Maximus Practice to be held next Tuesday (24th October) at the Abbey from 7.30 - 9.30.

The President commented that it is a good idea to have these practices, as they give people a chance to become more advanced in their standard of ringing.

Mr. G. Penney said that there were no 'outsiders' at the Abbey, but this had not mattered, as there were enough people present, at the Abbey Special Practices. He also commented that if too many new methods are attempted at any one practice, nobody knows what to learn first.

The President said that he hoped everybody will continue to support these practices.

The Rector of Wheathampstead, the Rev. G. Roe, announced that there is to be a special Confirmation Service at the Abbey on 22nd November, and that all members from the Deanery were invited to the ringing from 7.30 - 8.00. The people who are going to be confirmed at this Service, are all coming from Sandridge, Wheathampstead, Kimpton, Harpenden, Flamstead and Redbourn.

Mr. G. Dodds mentioned that it was also Queen Elizabeth II's silver wedding anniversary on 20th November and thought that some peals and quarter peals should be rung for this occasion.

As the Rector of Wheathampstead had to leave the meeting at this point, Mr. G. Dodds proposed a vote of thanks to him for taking the Service and for allowing us to ring the bells.

Social Activities

Dinner

The Secretary announced that tickets were now available for the Dinner which is to be held on 18th November. The guest speakers are to be Mr. Carpenter and Mr. R. Smith. Names of people attending the Dinner should be notified by 11th November. All names must come in as there will be a seating plan.

Mr. Carter said that anybody who wants to ring a peal should get in touch with him.

Darts

Mr. G. Penney reported that we had beaten the Eastern District by two legs, which made a very exciting match. A profit of 1p was donated to the Royal Airforce Funds.

District Outing

Mr. S. Chandler thanked everybody who went on the District Outing, because he said, it was them who made it a successful day. He also thanked people for getting to the towers promptly so that we were able to keep to the schedule.

The President said that we should thank Mr. S. Chandler for organising such a good event.

Hockey Match

The Secretary announced that the Hockey Match would have to be cancelled, as the Watford District were unable to raise a team.

The President apologised for this on behalf of the Watford District.

He further commented that he was pleased to see that there is quite a lot of social activity going on in the district and that this is a good idea, but reminded the meeting that we must not forget the ringing.

Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at Harpenden on 16th December 1972.

Mrs. A. Coburn said that this is the last time we will see the Rev. Graham, who is going to Aylesbury.

A.O.B.

The Secretary read a letter which she had received from Mr. F. Ellis of Wheathampstead, requesting a grant towards the cost of installing two new bells at Wheathampstead, to make the tower an eight bell tower.

Mr. A. Carter proposed that a grant of £50 be paid to Wheathampstead for this purpose and Mrs. A. Coburn seconded the motion, which was then carried.

Mr. A. Carter congratulated Wheathampstead on raising the money for their two new bells.

Mr. R. Hardy reported that we had had a Special Meeting on 23rd September, to agree on a new set of rules. We now have a new set of rules which will be printed in the next report. We have also agreed to set up a Charitable Bell fund. Also subscriptions are doubled to 50p.

Mr. G. Penney announced that there was to be a General Committee Meeting on the next Saturday, and said that if anyone had anything which they wished to have brought up at this meeting, they should contact Mr. G. Dodds, the Secretary, or himself.

Mrs. A. Coburn mentioned that there is a book called "Ringing in Hertfordshire" for sale.

Mr. G. Dodds thanked Mr. F. Ellis for the organisation of the tower and thanked the people who arranged the tea, commenting that we had not had a better one for quite a while.

Mr. F. Ellis thanked the Organist and the two lesson readers.

There being no other business the meeting closed, and ringing continued until 8.30 - every ability up to spliced surprise being catered for.

Wayne
CHAIRMAN