

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AT ST. KTHELDBEDA'S, HATFIELD ON

SATURDAY JANUARY 19th 1985

Ringing took place on the 10 bells of Hatfield from 3-30 to 5pm, with 30 ringers present. This was followed by Evensong and then tea in the Church Hall. The Association President, Mrs M. A. Coburn, took the chair for the Annual District Meeting.

Apologies for Absence were received from Mrs S. Paterson, A. Paterson, S. Saunders, Miss T. Crowder, Miss N. Pownall, Mrs T. Brown, R. Brown and F. Jacklin.

Loss of Members by Death. The meeting stood in memory of Albert Steers, who although not currently a member, had rung out Walsley for many years and who had died the previous Wednesday.

The Minutes of the last Annual District Meeting were read and signed as correct. There were no matters arising.

### Election of New Members

The following new members were elected as Full Members :-

Sarah Burdon-Cooper from Radlett, proposed J. Beardwell, seconded Miss J. Johnson

Julian Beardwell from Radlett, proposed J. Beardwell, seconded by Miss J. Johnson

Garry Humphreys from Radlett, proposed J. Beardwell, seconded by Miss J. Johnson

Katie Norm from Harpenden, proposed C. Pocock, seconded by Mrs M. A. Coburn.

J. Beardwell mentioned that all the new members from Radlett had rung in  $\frac{1}{4}$  peals.

### Secretary's Report for 1984.

The Secretary read his report for 1984. G. Penney proposed and T. Lock seconded that the report be accepted and this was carried. Mrs M. A. Coburn said that it had been a successful year and thanked all who had helped make it so.

## Statement of Accounts for 1984.

The secretary reported that although the accounts were prepared, she still had to submit them to the Auditor for approval. The various accounts were then presented to the meeting.

C. Pocock proposed and J. Beardwell seconded that the Association account be accepted, subject to Audit. This was carried.

D. Carter proposed and S. Marshall seconded that the Voluntary Bell Fund account be accepted, subject to Audit. This was carried.

J. Beardwell proposed and Mrs E. Pocock seconded that the District Account be accepted, subject to Audit. This was carried.

## Election of Officers

Ringling Master. Mrs S. Patterson was proposed by Mrs J. Carter and seconded by C. Pocock. There being no other nominations, she was duly elected.

G. Penney proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs S. Patterson for her efforts during the past year. The role of District Ringling Master was a very difficult one and she had ~~to~~ made a very good job of it.

District Secretary. Mrs E. J. Drummond-Tyler was proposed by G. Dodds and seconded by T. Lock. There being no other nominations, she was

duly elected. Mrs M. A. Coburn proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs E. J. Drummond-Tyler for her efforts throughout the year.

Association Committee Representative. Miss J. Johnson was proposed by J. J. Ford and seconded by D. Carter. There being no other nomination, she was duly elected.

Deputy Association Committee Representative. Mrs S. Patterson was proposed by J. J. Ford and seconded by T. Lock. There being no other nomination, she was duly elected.

~~Sub~~ Committee Members. S. Saunders, Mrs S. Edmondson and D. Carter were proposed by G. Penney and seconded by G. Dodds. There being no other nominations, they were duly elected.

Voluntary Bell Fund Trustees. Mrs M. A. Coburn and C. Pocock were proposed by Miss M. A. Castle and seconded by J. Beardwell. There being no other nominations, they were duly elected. Both trustees said that they were very happy to consider requests and hoped that some would be forthcoming in 1985.

Real Book writer, D. N. Drummond-Tyler was proposed by J. J. Ford and seconded by Mrs A. Saunders. There being no other nominations, he was duly elected. Mrs M. A. Coburn thanked D. N. Drummond-Tyler for his efforts during the year.

Hon Auditor, Mrs S. Edmondson was proposed by T. Lock and seconded by C. Pocock. There being no other nominations, she was duly elected. Mrs M. A. Coburn thanked her for her work during the past year.

### Activities and Events in 1985

The secretary reported that the Kington ringers had proposed that the time spent at District Meetings on ringing and the business meeting be shortened as many ringers worked during the week and could ill afford the 6 hrs. They also felt that it was unnecessary to hold a service as most ringers attended Church on Sundays if they were interested. She added that the District Committee had discussed the matter at their committee meeting earlier that day and wished to propose that District meetings should be kept in their present format for the coming year, that attendances be monitored at both the afternoon and evening ringing and that the situation be reviewed next year. Miss J. Johnson stated that there had been 30 ringers during the afternoon's ringing. J. Beardwell said that the clergy appreciated holding the ringers' services and would be upset if they were discontinued. For his part, it was the business meeting that bothered him. Mrs M. A. Coburn said that it would be a pity to stop holding services. She added that the District had held an experiment of having bi-monthly business meetings a few years ago and this had been very unpopular. G. Renney said that very often new practices and procedures were dictated to the District by a few individuals who appeared only at Annual District Meetings and did not have to suffer the consequences. Mrs S. Edmondson also agreed that it would be a pity to discontinue the services. C. Pocock said that he appreciated the sentiments behind the Kington ringers statement, he himself found it difficult to attend many meetings, but he would be sorry to see the format changed. G. Dadds suggested that the non-ringing time could be reduced by shortening the length of the business meeting. The general consensus

was that District Meetings should remain as they were. The District Secretary ran through the proposed venues for the forthcoming year's meetings. She had not arranged a town for the Woolford Cup as she thought that the District might like to propose one. C. Pocock then proposed that the Woolford Cup be held at Radlett, with the back six of Harpenden being an alternative choice if Radlett was not available. J. Beardwell offered to investigate the availability of Radlett.

Other activities for 1985 included the outing to the Loughborough Bell Foundry on March 30th, which would be by coach, and a social at Essendon Village Hall on October 26th.

#### Date and Place of next Annual District Meeting

Miss J. Johnson invited the District to St Peter's on Saturday January 18th 1986, and this was accepted.

#### Date and Place of next District Meeting

The next District Meeting would be held at St Michael's on Saturday February 16th with afternoon singing from 3 to 4-30 pm, followed by a service, tea and business meeting. Evening singing would also be at St Michael's from 6 to 7-30 pm.

The next District 10 bell practice would be at Hatfield on Thursday January 24th at 7-45 pm.

#### Any other Business

Mrs J. Carter hoped that the committee would organise an additional outing to the one to Loughborough.

G. Penney said that the District Committee thought that it would be a good idea if all new members could attend the meeting at which they were proposed. In this way both they and the District could get to know each other.

J. J. Ford asked the meeting whether it wished the bells of Essendon to be available for evening singing. It was decided that they were not required. Mrs R. J. Drummond-Tyle proposed a vote of thanks to J. J. Ford for offering the bells.

G. Dodds proposed a vote of thanks to the rector of Hatfield for conducting the service and for the use of the bells, to J. Carter for playing the organ and to the ringers of Hatfield for preparing the tea. The meeting sent its best wishes to the rector's wife for a speedy recovery.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed.

*S. J. [Signature]* 18-1-86