

DISTRICT MEETING AT THE ABBEY ON SATURDAY 20th OCTOBER 1990

A quarter peal of 8 spliced was rung on the back 8 during the afternoon. This had been called by Mrs S. Patterson as G. Penney had fallen ill at the last minute. Handbells were rung in the crypt following this and the Abbey band then served a splendid tea. The ensuing business meeting was chaired by S Saunders.

Apologies for Absence were received from G. Penney, G. Dodds, R. Spadburg and Mrs A. Saunders.

The Minutes of the previous District Meeting were read and signed as correct.

#### Matters Arising

Hertfordshire had won the Essex Trophy and St Michael and Harpenden had come first and second respectively in the Kimpton Cup.

Mrs M A Coburn reported that Harpenden Bells had been dedicated on 4th October and the ringers were very pleased with them.

J. J. Ford stated that the bells had been installed at Essendon and they were now ringing them. The Thanksgiving Service would be held on 25th November at 6 pm and all were welcome.

Both towers would be very pleased to see anyone who wished to come and ring on their bells.

#### Election of New Members.

The following members were elected or ratified

Miss D. Nicholson of Hatfield from probationary to full membership proposed Mrs E Drummond-Jones  
Seconded Miss C. Nicholson

Rosalind J. Regan elected as a NRM prior to a peal attempt at Telesworth, proposed  
J. Hague seconded Miss J. Robotham

Linda J Banks elected as a NRM prior to a peal at Kingsbury Works, proposed Mrs. S Patterson  
seconded G. Penney.

Discussion of T. Groom's letter regarding Fund Raising for Association Bell Restoration Fund.

- Mrs E Drummond-Tyler stated that the purpose of this item was to get the District's views on how best to raise funds for the Association Bell Restoration Fund so that C Pocock could put these forward at the County Committee meeting which was to be held on the next Saturday. Although ~~there~~ few members present, the following suggestions were made
- i) The District were not in favour of abandoning their own District Fund although they would consider voting some of it to the Association Fund when the District Fund was above a certain limit
  - ii) Subscriptions should be raised so that a certain amount could go straight to the Fund. Mrs M A Coburn said that bellringing was very cheap compared to other pastimes
  - iii) The Abbey band suggested that a raffle be held at each District Meeting. Such a raffle had been held during this meeting.
  - iv) Towers be asked to give a donation, perhaps equal to a wedding fee each year.

#### Format for 1991 meetings

Mrs E Drummond-Tyler stated that this would be a discussion item at the December meeting. However she wished to bring the Committee's recommendations to the meetings notice so they could consider them before December. They were as follows:

The format should be kept the same as this year. However the ringing only meetings were considered to be too long at 2 hrs and they should be shortened to 1½ hrs ringing, with the evening ringing timed to be from 7 to 8-30 pm. More helpers would be welcomed at the learners' Practices. The meeting was informed that Mr S. Patterson would not be standing for re-election as Ringing Master.

#### District Barn Dance.

The meeting was reminded that this event was to be held on 26th November at Essendon Village Hall. Committee members would be selling tickets until 10th November at which point Mrs E Drummond-Tyler would be the sole seller so as to coordinate numbers. Tickets were limited to 100, and would be

sold on a first come first served basis. They cost £4-50. Volunteers to help prepare food and/or help on the day were asked for.

### Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next full District Meeting would be on Dec 15th at Harpenden with rings from 3-30 to 5pm followed by Carol Service, tea and nomination meeting, then evening rings from 6-30 to 8pm. The November meeting would be at North Hymms on 17th November with rings from 3-30 to 5-30pm. The November Learner's Practice was at Welwyn on 3rd November from 10 till noon.

### Any Other Business

Mrs J Penney stated that at their recent meeting at Aldbury, the Western District had expressed a keen interest in holding a joint venture with the St Albans District, consisting perhaps of afternoon rings, tea and a social evening. The committee agreed to discuss this.

Mrs M A Coburn said that she was very sorry that G. Penney was unwell and unable to attend the District Meeting at his own house and hoped that he would be better soon.

Mrs E Drummond-Tyler reported that A. E. Ewer, a life member, had died.

C. Pocock proposed a vote of thanks to the Abbey for preparing tea and providing us with the use of their hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was declared closed. Evening rings took place on the 12th inst from 6-30 to 8-30pm.

J Penney  
15.12.90