

MINUTES OF THE ST ALBANS DISTRICT BUSINESS MEETING

HELD AT RADLETT ON THE 19TH APRIL 1997

Chair: Sheila Edmondson, President

Present: Mike Foster, Gerald Penney, Shane Saunders

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Rosemary Duke, Mrs Foster and Vic Frost.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF

The Minutes were read and approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. NEW MEMBERS

Jane Forcey was proposed by Mike Foster and seconded Alan Jeffs and was duly elected.

5. QUIZ NIGHT

Sheila Edmondson said she thought that everybody had found the event very enjoyable. Ben Duke reported to the members that the event had been enjoyed by every one and made special thanks to Fran Shaw for looking after the food and to Mike Foster for looking after the raffle. He also thanked Judith and Barry Mack for providing the questions and marking the papers. Everybody agreed it had been a very enjoyable evening and a well attended event.

A profit had been made on the tickets of £220 and the raffle contributed £93. The money was to be put in a deposit account until October when a decision would be made as to where it should be donated. Sheila Edmondson thanked Ben and Rosemary Duke on behalf of the members for all their hard work in co-ordinating the event and Mike Foster thanked all those who had kindly donated prizes for the raffle. He had been surprised to find such a large number of prizes on the table and thought some had been sneaked in while his back was turned!

Shane Saunders suggested that for any future event in the St Peters Hall the Committee should consider the use a microphone as it had been difficult for those at the back to hear all the questions.

6. DISTRICT OPEN DAY

Ben Duke said that approximately 50 people had passed through St Peters throughout the day and 17 names and address had been collected of those interested in learning to ring. Some of these had already visited the Abbey and St Peters in the past week. The Abbey had five people wanting to learn to ring and St Peters had already had three of the number who wanted to ring in the Tower last Monday.

John Nicholson said there had been an encouraging response at Hatfield. Eight people wanted to learn to ring, six living in Welwyn Garden City and two in Hatfield. In addition they had had several visitors from further afield in this country and abroad because they were visiting Hatfield House.

The Committee were proposing that the people from the St Albans area who wanted to learn to ring should be sent to the various Towers which they had indicated were nearest to them in order to learn to handle a bell and those in the Hatfield and Welwyn area were likely to be given some form of training course at a selected Tower.

6(a) **Inter District Training Day**

Gerald Penny described the three courses which would be available at a cost of £1 per person on the 21st June in the Western District. They were teaching the teachers at Kings Langley, striking and handling at Tring, rounds and call changes at Little Gaddesdon. The courses would be longer than last year - lasting from 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. GP also said he would be helping at Little Gaddesdon. He had several of the application forms available for those who wanted them to take them back to their Tower for further distribution.

Shane Saunders said he hoped that the for the teachers course account would be taken of the response to the survey for those Towers who said they wanted more training of trainers. Gerald Penney said that if they did not get enough response from the forms then they would refer to the survey to find further members for the course.

7. **WOOLFORD CUP**

Mike ^{Fisher} reported that so far he had received one entry. The draw was to take place at 5.50 p.m. and the ringing to start at 6.00 p.m. on the 17th May at Lemsford. Sheila Edmondson asked that members requested their Towers put entry forms in to ensure a sufficient response to the event.

8. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Sheila Edmondson drew the members attention to the advertisement in the Ringing World for Saturday, 26th April and reminded them that names for tea should be given to 01923 773735 by Tuesday, 22nd April at the latest. She also announced the intention at the meeting to raise the peal fee from 20p to 25p per member.

She also drew the members attention to the fact that nominations for the post of Assistant Secretary were still required as no names had been put forward. Shane Saunders said it would help if he knew who was to be the Assistant Secretary before the meeting but this was not essential.

Both he and Sheila Edmondson explained that the Assistant Secretary's job was not really so much concerned with secretarial duties as the important role of co-ordinating training and education activities.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Sheila Edmondson thanked the meeting for her nomination as President and ^{hoped} ~~believed~~ she had managed to serve the Association well. Whilst not having striven to beat any records during her year of office she had attended a total of 45 meetings spread across the six Districts, including the AGM and two County Association Committee Meetings, the Kimpton Cup and Coburn Trophy, travelling about 1,500 miles in the process. He

John Nicholson said that the deadline for articles for the next newsletter was the 1st May and Gerald Penney requested that the notices about the training day on the 21st June be included. Sheila Edmondson said that the District was to be congratulated that its Newsletter had achieved a commendation in the Ringing World Competition although, of course, we all thought it ought to have won.

Gerald Penney proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for conducting the service and the use of the bells and to John Beardwell for providing the tea.

The members also thanked JB for donating the cost of the tea to the ^{Debenham} ~~Deben~~ Bell Fund. *ps*

9. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Business Meeting was to be held at Kimpton on the 19th July 1997 at 3.30 p.m. and the next Ordinary Meeting was the Woolford Cup at Lemsford on the 17th May.

The Business Meeting concluded at 6.55 p.m. and ringing continued until 8.30 p.m.

Andrew Alldis
19/7/97.