

**THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS
ST ALBANS DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING
AT HATFIELD ON SATURDAY 17th JANUARY 1998**

It was the members wish that The Associations Secretary, Shane Saunders should chair the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Christine Wright, Geoff Fordham, Andrew Aldrick (President), Liz Pocock, Geoff Benyon and David Badger.

2. Remembrance of Members who have died

A Minutes silence was observed for Michael D Ling.

3. Minutes of the previous Annual District Meeting

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous ADM held at St Peter St Albans in January 1997. Amy Coburn proposed and Ben Duke seconded that they should be signed as a correct record. These were signed as a true record of the meeting by Shane Saunders.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

5. Election of New Members

The following were proposed by Mike Foster and seconded by Geoff Dodds:

From Lemsford, Oliver Titmus as a probationary member and from Sandridge, Christine A Harris; Kevin Horan and Vivienne Nutton as full members.

Geoff Dodds proposed and Mike Foster seconded Peter Mattock from Kings Walden as a full member.

Jack Southam proposed and Chris Bradley Seconded John A Gubbins and Jack Partington from north Mymms as full members.

All were unanimously elected and welcomed as members by Shane Saunders.

S Saunders proposed and J Nicholson seconded the transfer of Ray Lewis, Hatfield from probationary to full member. The transfer was duly approved by the members.

6. Secretary's Report

J Nicholson gave his report which was adopted by the members on a proposal from J Ford, seconded by Amy Coburn.

7. **Adoption of Audited Accounts**

Sheila Edmondson briefly explained the Subscriptions Account and G Duke proposed and C Pocock seconded its adoption, which was carried unanimously. Similarly the District General Fund account was adopted on a proposal from G Penney and seconded by G Duke after a concise explanation by Sheila. The members thanked Sheila for her work on the production of the accounts.

8. **Election of Officers**

		Proposed by	Seconded by
Ringling Master	G A Duke	C Pocock	K Newman
General Committee Rep	G Penney	G Dodds	S Huckle
Secretary/Treasurer	J Nicholson	G Penney	Christine Carter
Deputy General Committee Rep	G A Duke	G Penney	Fran Shaw
Committee Members	Fran Shaw	Rosemary Duke	G A Duke
	Philippa Munday	G Penney	Joan Badger
	M Foster	G A Duke	J Freeman
	G Fordham	G Dodds	M Foster
	Joan Badger	Janet Coates	Fran Shaw
	Janet Coates	Joan Badger	G Penney
Honorary Auditor	Sheila Edmondson	J Nicholson	C Pocock
County Bell Fund Trustee	J Nicholson	G A Duke	Amy Coburn

9. **There followed a short adjournment to allow a meeting of The Debenham Bell Fund to take place.**

10. **Meetings for 1998**

The Secretary drew members' attention to those meetings that were still provisional for the coming year and said they should be confirmed shortly.

11. **Social Events for 1998**

The members expressed a wish for a quiz evening to be held in the spring. There were more members in favour of a bowling evening in the autumn than a barn dance this year and the District Committee would bear this in mind when organising events.

G Penney suggested that the District should repeat the recruiting drive it held last year with more and different towers being open as although the drive had produced many recruits the numbers retained were continuing to fall for various reasons. S Saunders commented that recruit retention was a problem and a major factor was the commitment of those wanting to learn to ring. He quoted

Elstree as an example where the twelve ringers who were directed there from the St Albans District's Open Day were still ringing.

12. Any Other Business

G Duke said that he intended to alternate The Monthly Surprise practices between St Peter's and St Michael's.

The Secretary drew the members' attention to the funds available in the deposit account due to the success of the social events. It was proposed by Sheila Foster and seconded by G Duke that the District donate £150 to the Debenham Bell Fund and £150 to the County Bell Fund.

J Nicholson asked the members for ideas as to improve the format of the Quarter Peal Week.

Gerald Penney said the Western District rang so many quarters for their quarter peal week because they specifically asked each tower in the District to ring one. Attendance at District Meetings was discussed.

Philippa Munday asked how many attended Western District meetings. S Saunders said there had been six at a ten bell tower. Shane Saunders and Amy Coburn stressed that learners were welcome at District Meetings. Nina Bradley suggested a return to providing tea at all meetings. It was thought that demands on members time did not make this viable.

G Penney outlined how strongly the learners supported events arranged specifically for them.

J Southam suggested a meeting per tower.


Joan Badger suggested concentrating on one method at a meeting, The District Committee would consider these points when planning meetings.

S Saunders reminded members of the Guidelines for Child Protection that had been circulated to all towers. He also recommended members to attend the Tower Management Course run by the County on 20/21st June especially for Hertfordshire Ringers.

13. Votes of Thanks

John Ford proposed a vote of thanks to the Hatfield Ringers for the tea and the Rector for the service, which the members wholeheartedly endorsed.

The meeting closed at 7.45


16/1/99