

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS
ST ALBANS DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD AT HARPENDEN ON
SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 1998

Bernard Taylor chaired the meeting

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received from: Sheila Foster, Mike Foster, Shane Saunders, Anne Saunders, and Chris Bradley.

2. Minutes of The Meeting of 17th October 1998

The minutes of the previous quarterly meeting were read and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

4. Election of New Members

Amy Coburn proposed and Bernard Taylor seconded Rebecca Crawford as a full member. Joan Badger proposed and David Badger seconded the transfer of Kerry Harwood from probationer to full member, both seconded by David Badger. Both were unanimously elected.

It was noted that Mrs Joyce Wallis was unanimously elected as a member at the South Mymms meeting of the 21st November having been proposed by Joan Badger and seconded by David Badger.

5. Report on 1/4 Peal Week

John Nicholson reported that this year the response from towers had been much better with 7 quarters being rung and £50 raised for the Debenham Bell Fund. He thanked all those who took part or arranged bands for making it such a success.

6. Report on Learners Outing

Gerald Penney reported that 26 people went on the outing which fortunately was held on the only dry Saturday in November. Everyone enjoyed ringing at the towers and the venue for lunch was excellent. He regretted having to limit the number of people taking part but this was necessary if everyone was to have a reasonable amount of ringing.

7. Report on Ten Pin Bowling Evening

68 people attended the Ten Pin Bowling evening at Garston for what proved to be an extremely enjoyable social event.

Gerald Penney proposed that the £12 profit from the Learners' Outing be donated to the Debenham Bell Fund. Seconded Ben Duke. John Nicholson proposed that the

£1.55 profit from the bowling evening be donated to the Debenham Bell Fund.
Seconded Bernard Taylor. Both proposals were unanimously adopted.

8. Notice from the Trustees of the Debenham Bell Fund.

Charles Pocock reminded members that the Fund's, AGM, will take place during or after the ADM at St Stephens on the 16th January.

9. Nominations for Officers 1998:

	NOMINATED	PROPOSED BY
Ringing Master	Ben Duke	Geoff Dodds
General Committee Rep	Gerald Penney	Amy Coburn
Secretary/Treasurer	John Nicholson	Ben Duke
Deputy General Committee Rep	Ben Duke	Bernard Taylor
Committee Members	Fran Shaw Philippa Munday Mike Foster Geoff Fordham Janet Coates Dave Bailey	Bernard Taylor Bernard Taylor Bernard Taylor Bernard Taylor Bernard Taylor John Nicholson
Hon Auditor	Sheila Edmondson	John Nicholson

10. Report from General Committee Meeting in October

Gerald Penney reported that the Association was solvent and after listing the grants made to date said the County Bell Fund had some £11,000 available for grants. Peal ringing this year was less. Attendance at The Tower Management Course was less than expected and had not attracted the more experienced ringers and potential tower captains. The Kimpton cup would be held on 25th September 1997.

St Albans District will host the Coburn Trophy at St Michael's on the 12th June and the AGM will be at Hitchin on the 24th April.

Gerald also said that the decline in attendance at District Meetings had prompted the Association to ask three questions:

- Why do we have District Meetings?
- What are they intended to produce or deliver?
- How do we know that our meetings deliver what is required?

District Secretaries were being asked to provide comment on these questions at the Next General Committee meeting.

11. District Meeting Format and Attendance

John Nicholson reminded those present that because of the questions raised by the previous item all ringers i.e. members and non members of the association have been asked to complete a questionnaire about the format and need for District Meeting. Bernard Taylor suggested a 50 % return of the forms was the best that could be hoped for and urged members to say on the forms what would make them go not, why they don't go to the meetings

12. Surprise Practices

Ben Duke said the practices at St Peter's continued to have good attendances with royal and major methods being rung. The next one would be on 28th January at 8pm.

13. Any other Business

John Nicholson told members that the next edition of the Newsletter was to be published in February and any articles and *photographs* should be given to the editor by the 23rd January. Date and place of next meeting
The next District Meeting was the ADM on the 16th January and the next Learners' Practice was to be at Lemsford on the 2nd January at 10am.

14. Vote Of Thanks

David Redfearn Proposed a vote of thanks to all the people who had helped make the meeting so pleasant. This included the Rector for the service and use of the bells, the Harpenden ringers and their assistants for the tea, and the Members with out whom it would not have occurred.

The meeting closed at 6:50 and ringing continued until 8:30 p.m.

J. Penning 12-4-99