

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS

Registered Charity No 1037400

ST ALBANS DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD AT ST PETER ST ALBANS
ON SATURDAY 17TH JULY 1999

Geoff Dodds chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received from: Fran Shaw Philippa Munday Janet Coates Dianne Crowder Gerald Penney Janet Penney Dave Bailey Sarah Taylor Jill Clark.

2. Minutes of The Meeting of 17th April 1999

B Mack proposed that the minutes of the previous quarterly meeting were read and signed as a true record. Seconded Ben Duke and carried unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of New Members

Alex Pymm of North Mymms was proposed as a ^(NON RESIDENT WIFE) full member by Jack Southam and seconded by Eric Edmondson.

Amy Coburn proposed Edric Broom as a ^{NON RESIDENT LIA} full member seconded by Sheila Edmondson.

The following from St Peter's were proposed by Ben Duke as probationary members and seconded by Chris Bradley.

Mary Braithwaite; Mark Braithwaite; Kathleen Broome; Helen Byrne; John Byrne; Peter Cullens; Alison Evans; Neil Evans; Melanie Fenning; Rose Goss; Bill Little; Stephen Simpson; Michael Vaughan; Joe Vaughan; Catherine Patrick.

All the above were unanimously elected.

5. Quiz Night

John Nicholson reported that the Quiz Night had been a very enjoyable event and thanked Dave Bailey and Claire Nicholson for organising it. He also thanked Fran and King Shaw for collecting the ticket money and organising the food, Sheila and Mike Foster for running the raffle and Rosemary Duke for providing the tea and coffee. The members expressed their appreciation of the efforts of all those involved in making it such a pleasant social occasion.

The raffle had made £104 and the surplus on the tickets was £326. After deducting cost of hiring the hall, £30, £375 had been transferred to the District's deposit account and will be available to support the Barn Dance planned for November should this be necessary.

Northern District Joint Social

This was a successful and enjoyable evening at Knebworth. There was ringing at the church followed by a barbecue at Fort Knebworth. Whilst waiting for the food to be cooked a rounders match between the two districts was started. The match was concluded after the meal with the St Albans District being declared the winners at 9pm. They had exceeded the Northern District's score and the grass was becoming slippery making sharp manoeuvres dangerous. The Members thank the Northern District for organising the event

6. Woolford Cup

This was held on 15th May at St Pauls Walden and the Results were as follows.

Place	Band	Rang	Faults
1st	St Peter	5th	20
2nd	Kimpton	1st	24
3rd	Harpenden	4th	28
4th	The Abbey	2nd	31
5th	St Pauls Walden	3rd	53
6th	Hatfield	6th	60

The Judges were Roger Bailey from the Middlesex Association and David Gambling from the Western District.

The judges thought the standard was good but it was a pity good bands ring doubles in competitions because they had a better chance of winning. Only one of the six bands rang minor.

Kimpton rang first and had a good rhythm and their ringing improved towards the end. The Abbey rang fewer rounds had a good rhythm but had some clipping caused by the odd struckness of the bells. St Pauls Walden only took fifty seconds of practice time whilst the Harpenden doubles were not as rhythmical as Kimpton's but technically not much worse. St Peters had a measured rhythm and wide leading. Hatfield were the only band brave enough to ring minor. Their tenor was in the right place but was let down by the rest of the band. St Peter's and Kimpton will represent the District in the Kimton Cup on the 25th of September.

Geoff Dodds said that whilst talking to the St Pauls Walden Band he had discovered that they had learnt grandsire by using boards with the method on them but had found Stedman difficult to master.

The members expressed their appreciation of a local band taking part.

Coburn Trophy

This year it was the St. Albans District's turn to host the Coburn Trophy. The eight bell inter-district striking competition was held at St Michael St Albans on the 12th June.

Five teams entered the Eastern District and the Bishops Stortford Districts were not represented. The test piece was St Clements Major and St Albans won the trophy for the third year in a row.

The judges, Ruth Foreman and Stephanie Regan, thought the Western District (David Gambling's band) rang slowest, whilst the Northern District had a better beat which was nice.

Results

Place	District	Rang	Faults
1st	St Albans	4th	51
2nd	Northern	2nd	60
3rd	Watford	5th	66
4th	Western (David Gambling)	1st	70
5th	Western (Brian Watson)	3rd	88

The Western District (Brian Watson's band) were faster had a better beat but also had a severe method error for several leads.

The St Albans District was slower than the previous team but the speed was felt to be right. The Watford District had erratic striking but improved as they rang the method. The members congratulated the band on their splendid effort. Ben Duke commented that it was disappointing that only five teams had entered and that the standard of ringing was possibly not as high as previous years. He also said that Districts should be actively encouraged to enter two teams next year

7. Forthcoming Ringing Delights

The Members were reminded that there would be a surprise practice on Thursday 22nd July and the next Learners' Practice would be on August 7th at South Mymms

8. District Newsletter

The next issue was due in September and articles for publication were most urgently required.

9. AOB

Nina Bradley asked about her membership certificate

Geoff Dodds described Amy and Les Coburn's golden wedding celebrations, which included a service tea and quarter peal.

The District Secretary announced that Ben Duke and Gerald Penney wished to step down from the District Committee at the end of the year. Consequently nominations for Committee members and Ringing Master would need to be carefully considered by the members for the Harpenden Meeting.

Ben Duke reminded members to support the surprise practices, as the numbers had been too few to ring special methods.

The North Mymms Learners' practice on 3rd July had been very well attended.


10. Date and place of next meeting

The next District meeting would be an evening meeting at Monken Hadley on 21st August.

11. Vote Of Thanks

Geoff Dodds proposed vote of thanks, which the members unanimously endorsed, to the two curates for the service, and to Chris Bradley and the St Peters' Ringers for the use of the bells and the tea.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm and ringing continued until 8.30pm.


Chairman
16.10.99