

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 15th March 1972 at 5pm in Committee Room 3, the Students Union

The meeting was opened at 5.05pm. by the master, Mr. J.S. Hopwood. Eleven members were present. Apologies for absence were received from Canon Norburn, Mr. R.A. Bradley and Mr. P. Webb. At 5.09pm. Mr. G. Topping arrived. The minutes of the last A.G.M. were read by the secretary, Mr. P.W. Dickinson, and signed by the master after they had been accepted by the meeting. The matter of linking with the Northern University Association was raised by Miss L. Powell. It had been decided not to become affiliated.

At 5.17 pm the treasurer, Miss L. Wild, arrived.

Master's Report

The master mentioned that the society seemed to be recovering from the decline of the last two or three years. As at the end of the last year, quarter peals had been attempted on as many Sunday evenings as possible and with the help of some ex-university society members, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ peals and 2 peals had been rung during the year. The standard of striking had been good and, on some occasions, very high. There had been quite a number of 'firsts' in these attempts, too.

The years membership went up with a lot of very keen freshers who were learning fast, and a few had already learnt surprise major.

The master was pleased that some of our past members who live in Birmingham came to help the society out at times and he hoped they would continue to do so. The extra help of just one or two more experienced ringers raises the standard of learning and ringing a great deal.

Sunday evening attendance for service ringing had not been very high, especially as so many people lived near the church. Often, people would only come when a $\frac{1}{4}$ peal had been arranged for them. If people came to the practice regularly, they should make a little more effect to ring for Sunday service to show their appreciation.

The master hoped the ringing and social side of the exercise in the society would continue to improve over the coming year.

Treasurer's Report

Miss L. Wild reported that during the year there had been donations of £2 from a lady. The Union had given the society a grant of £10. The present situation was £23-88 in the Current Account and £11-45 in the Deposit Account. The dinner had made a profit of 35p. and subscriptions had brought in 50p more than last year. The treasurer finished by saying that the bank had sent no statements during the year.

Matters Arising

It was suggested that there should be a subsidy of £5 from the accounts towards petrol expenditure on the outing the following weekend. This was proposed by Miss L. Wild and seconded by Miss G. Barter, and the motion was carried. The need for a new container for the handbells, a small suitcase or holdall, was raised. The master asked if anyone had an old bag at home! The proposition was left until next term to see if anyone could produce one. It was decided that a claim could be made from the Union next year towards a ringing tour, which would cost in the region of £120.

Election of Officers

Canon Greville Norburn was proposed as President by Mr. P.W. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. J.S. Hopwood. There being no other nominations he was elected unopposed.

Miss J.S. Stoy was proposed as Ringing Master by Mr. P.W. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. J.S. Hopwood. She was elected unopposed. Miss Stoy then took over the chair from Mr. Hopwood and thanked the retiring master for his work.

There were two nominations for secretary: Mr J.S. Hopwood proposed Miss M. Roach and seconded by Miss. J.S. Stoy; and Miss L. Powell proposed by Mr. S.C. Walters and seconded by Miss L. Wild. Both nominees went outside and Miss Powell was elected with a show of hands.

Mr. C.A. Greatrex was nominated as treasurer by Mr. S.C. Walters and seconded by Miss L. Wild. He was elected unopposed.

Any Other Business

Matters about the coming outing were discussed. Transport was arranged and it was planned to pick passengers up from Digbeth at 9am.

The new secretary was informed that names should be given to the Diary promptly, in time for publishing. The closing date for this was near. The dinner date for this year would be the first Saturday in December, as usual i.e. December 2nd 1972.

A ringing tour next year was discussed. Mr. J.S. Hopwood proposed this should be during the Easter of 1973, possibly on the canals. Miss Stoy was advised to book up before Christmas for this.

It was felt that a record of Peals rung by the Society should be kept. Research over those rung since 1948, when the Society was formed, could be done at St. Martins, going through copies of the Ringing World. Mr. J.S. Hopwood volunteered to organise this.

The traditional round of drinks by the new master were proposed by Mr. J.S. Hopwood and seconded by Mr. P.W. Dickinson. The motion was carried.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed by Miss Stoy at 5-58 pm.

Signed
Louise G. Powell (sec)
Louise G. Powell (acting master)

Typed up by James Mundy, July 2023.