

The minutes of the annual general meeting held on Wednesday 16th March 1978 in St Monica's Hall, Edgbaston Parish Church

The meeting was opened promptly at 7.30 p.m. by Miss Susan Redmond. There were 12 members present and 2 observers, 2 others arrived a few minutes later. No apologies for absence were received.

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting were read by Miss Anne Barter, approved by the meeting and signed by the master, Miss Susan Redmond.

Matters Arising

It was questioned as to whether the frame had been painted yet. Mr S.H. Stanford had been doing work in this area and that the job was nearly finished.

Miss Susan Redmond, master, commented that she thought that next year's committee should look into matters concerning the organisation of an inter-university striking competition.

Master's Report

Miss Susan Redmond reported an average increase of from 13 to 17 members at Wednesday practice through the year. Of eight people who had shown interest at the Fresher's Fair, six remained and were making good progress. She suggested that the Sunday afternoon tied practice had helped.

A lot of people seemed to have experienced difficulty in arriving in time for the 6.30 p.m. practice. The object of moving the practice forward had been defeated since people did not utilise the extra socialising time but left earlier instead.

All irregular events such as peal and camping weekends had been enjoyable, as was the Dinner Day.

The Society had been hosts to the spring N.U.A. meeting back in February.

Many quarter peals had been scored and had been most instructive.

Miss Susan Redmond summed up by stating that she had enjoyed her year as "boss" and expressed her thanks to the committee and indeed to all members.

Treasurer's Report

Miss Christine Hayes reported that a large proportion of our income came from steeplage. Part of a large guild grant was used for the restoration of the society handbells.

Halfway through the year it had been decided to redirect quarter peal contributions from the Ringing World into the society funds.

Miss Christine Hayes also reported a healthy increase in assets from £63.83 to £75.32 through the year.

Election of Officers

Proposals for the positions of Master, Secretary and Treasurer were received before the meeting, the proposition for the position of Vice-Master being made during the meeting.

Master:- Miss Christine Hayes.

Vice-Master:- Mr D. Dearnley.

Secretary:- Mr R. Middleton.

Treasurer:- Mr J. Gamble.

It was agreed to invite the Rev. E. Coombes to continue as President of the Society; proposed by Miss Amanda Lees and seconded by Miss Caroline Pearson.

Associate members

Miss Elenor Pugh:- proposed by Miss Caroline Pearson, and seconded by Miss Susan Redmond, elected un-opposed.

Any Other Business

- I. Mr Andrew Storer asked who was welcome for ringing on Sunday mornings. An explanation was given. It was suggested that the Society should chime from 10 to 10.30 on Sunday mornings. A number of people volunteered their services and Miss Susan Redmond proposed a demonstration should be given after the meeting.
- II. The peal weekend was fixed for 9th-11th June. A proposal for the camping weekend to be held in Wiltshire on the weekend of 16th-18th June was received from Miss Susan Redmond. The motion was carried with 3 abstentions.
- III. Miss Christine Hayes stated that the society was in a good financial position and suggested the purchase of some books to form a library. Mr S. Stanford suggested to look and see what books are available. Miss Amanda Lees asked how much was to be spent. It was decided to leave the matter to the committee.
- IV. Concerning re-imburement of rail fares to participants in the Leeds N.U.A. trip, Mr S. Stanford suggested that the money should be donated to the Society. Others present did not agree and the issue was left to be decided by each individual concerned.
- V. Mention was made of the restoration work completed on the society handbells by Mr Don Clark of Newport, Gwent. The handbells were bought at the time of Mr Roderick Pipe's involvement in the society for £64 from some place in the Cotswolds. The set originally contained twelve bells but a thirteenth bell was re-tuned with a chisel by Mr Paul Webb and added to provide a light eight. (A file actually P.W. Webb. 9/10/80)
- VI. The master's cup was to be awarded each year to a member of the society for "Whatever the master thinks appropriate". The cup was made by a pupil at a community school with which Mr J. Illingworth worked.
- VII. Miss Caroline Pearson stated that 6.30p.m. was too early to get to practice, Miss Amanda Lees agreed. A motion to revert to a 7-9 p.m. practice was proposed by Mr D. Dearnly, seconded by Mr R. Middleton and carried by the meeting.
It was decided that Sunday afternoon tied practices were to continue as before.
- VIII. Mr S. Stanford gave the current situation regarding the work of painting the frame. The third was left to be top coated. During the last year Mr S. Stanford had done the work on his own and he stated he would do some more in the coming year. Miss Christine Hayes thanked Mr S. Stanford for his work and stated that the society would aim to complete the work.
- IX. Thanks were expressed to Miss Susan Redmond, Miss Caroline Pearson, Miss Anne Barter and Miss Christine Hayes for their work on the committee over the last year.
- X. It was agreed the master would buy drinks for the freshers next autumn.

The meeting closed at 8.28 p.m.

Signed
Robin P.D. Middleton (Hon Sec)
C. A. Hayes

Typed up by James Mundy, July 2023.