

Minutes of Birmingham University Society of Change Ringers
Annual General Meeting
Friday 30th January 2004

Meeting opened by Rev Coombes at 7.00pm. in Edgbaston Old Church.

1. Apologies

Naomi
Laura Banance
Richard Pendlebury

2. Members Present

Rev Coombes
Matthew Franklin.
Mike Strong
Claire Hoyland
Tim Palmer
Guy Darvill
Mark Ecclstone
Dave Matthews
Matthew Hardy
Sam Austin
Becky Sugden
Kevin McManus

7.02 pm Andy Clarke
 Sarah Crabtree
 Simon Webb
 Edwin Carter

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

Simon Felton read out the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting: They were then accepted and signed by Rev Coombes as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report

Jo Harper explained the finances of the society. There was approximately £600 in the current account after the dinner with £100 grant. As we had spent £50 of the grant last year we only got £265 this year. The dinner has made a profit.

Simon Felton explained that future expenses must be spent in the guild wherever possible as the guild financial situation had led them to require societies wherever possible to buy items in the guild of students. The £600 money is safe from the guild in the current account.

Dave Matthews explained that we would need money for stays. Jo Harper suggested this could come from the grant account.

Richard Pendlebury had not received money for the we domain. Rev Coombes also said that we would need money for 50th anniversary peil boards. Jo Harper suggested that we should highlight the 50th anniversary in the grant application. Claire Hoyland questioned whose responsibility the grant application should be. It was agreed to be a responsibility of the treasurer. Rev Coombes suggested that the Treasurer, Secretary, Master and Steeplekeeper should be consulted on what to write but it should be the job of the treasurer to return the form.

Rev Coombes highlighted the tower would need a wrench which would cost £25. There is a five working day period in getting a cheque from the guild of students so it would be difficult to get money without invoice or receipt. Rev Coombes also reminded the committee that it is important for all transactions handling money to be transparent.

5. Master's Report (Claire Hoyland)

The society has come on significantly in the last year and is now much stronger in terms of numbers and in terms of what we are able to ring. At the end of the last academic year we lost only one regular member of our band and at the beginning of this year we were lucky in getting lots of freshers, all of whom show a good general standard of ringing. Practises have been more varied and we have been able to ring more advanced methods as well as being able to ring more basic things to help weaker members of the band progress.

Service ringing has been good. We have rung every Sunday morning during term time and have usually attempted a 4 in the evenings.

3 peals have been rung for the society this year which is very pleasing as peal ringing has declined in recent years. There have also been over 40 4 srung for the society this year including some on hand bells. It is also pleasing to note that there have been 11 different current member conductors for the quarters this year.

We have been on 4 tours this year including a mayday tour to Buckinghamshire organised by Guy, a freshers tour to Northampton organised by WUBRS, a summer camping trip to Banbury which I organised and the tour associated with the NUA in Liverpool. All of which were very well attended and very enjoyable. We have also had a

number of social events during the year including trips to the cinema and the bowling alley and we had a BBQ in the summer.

We have support the st-Martin's guild where possible going along to local practises and helping at the guild trading day and many of us have been able to take advantage of area practises and guild practises throughout the year. It was also good that so many of us were able to go to the Henry Johnson dinner. We entered a band in both the 6 bell and the 8 bell striking contests in which we were placed 2 and 1" respectively. In the NUA striking contest we were placed 2nd and 3rd which goes to show the depth of ringers we have.

My thanks go to my committee for any support they have given to me over the last year. I would like to specially thank Simon Felton for all of his excellent work as secretary for the last 2 years and Richard Pendlebury for his hard work as both life member secretary and as web master. Finally I would like to thank Rev Coombes for his support and wish the next master every success,

5. Minutes of EGM

The minutes of the 27th November 2002 EGM and the 30th April 2003 Extraordinary General Meeting were approved and accepted as correct.

6. Election of Officers

Position	Nomination
President	Rev Coombes
Master	Sarah Crabtree
Deputy Master	Sam Austin
Secretary	Andrew Clarke
Social Secretary	Katie Lucas
Treasurer	Matthew Franklin
Steeplekeeper	David Matthews
Life Member	Becky Sugden
Webmaster	Richard Pendlebury

All positions were elected unopposed.

6. 50th Annual Dinner Arrangements

Claire Hoyland suggested that one person should organize the 50th dinner. Rev Coombes reminded the committee of the need to sort out a date and location. No-one volunteered so Edwin Carter suggested making it a committee decision. Rev Coombes suggested that the Master come back in one month to finalise a date for the dinner. Becky Sugden

reminded people of other dinners and people who might influence the timing of the dinner. The fourth Saturday in January would be a more likely date for the dinner.

7. Vicar Retirement

Claire Hoyland said it was of interest to Buscr to know when the vicar would retire. Rev Coombes responded that he would announce the date at the parish Annual General Meeting in April. A peal of past masters would take place.

8. Summer Camping Trip

Simon Felton said it was normal to pick a date for the summer camping trip at the AGM. Tim Palmer volunteered with a date agreed for the 9-11 July 2004.

9. AOB

- Claire Hoyland raised the issue of making associate members for ringing peals. Simon Felton responded that the constitution will be changing and that would give the opportunity to sort out all membership clauses.
- Life Members. Claire Hoyland raised the prospect of organizing things that allow lifemembers to be included. Guy Darvill was compiling an accurate list. Becky Sugden suggested a yahoo internet account to allow life members to talk and share pictures.
- Student Group Training Session-23 February 2004. Claire suggested that the new committee goes to this session. The Treasurer training was compulsory but would be useful for another signatory to attend.
- Mike Strong raised applying again to the student awards to raise our profile.
- Transport. Claire Hoyland raised the problem that we are dependent upon people to drive around. She suggested it may be worth considering sending someone to minibus training. Matt Hardy interested alongside Claire to go to minibus training.
- Ringing World. The issue of archiving this was raised alongside seeing current issues. Edwin Carter got them from Richard Wilson. Tim Palmer said he also had copies. Jo Harper was unhappy that money was being spent on old copies if we were to order missing copies.
The subscription finished in June, the question was raised do we need the Ringing World which cost £50 per year. In response to this issue and the lost issues it was agreed that people would see which copies they had.
- Tim Palmer raised the problem of people ringing peals and membership. The constitution would be amended to resolve this issue at an EGM on Wednesday 18th. Claire Hoyland sent her apologies in advance to this.
- Simon Felton noted that since there new committee members we need to update the signatories for the guild. These were agreed to be:
Sarah Crabtree
Andy Clarke
Matt Franklin

The meeting was closed by Reverend Coombes at 7.42 p.m.