

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT PERRY HILL

Easter Monday 24TH March 2008

(Subject to adoption by the AGM to be held in the Maidstone District in 2009)

The Meeting was hosted by the Lewisham District. The Service was held in the Parish Church of St. George, Christchurch, St. Paul, Perry Hill, London and attended by over 60 members and friends. The Curate, Father Robert Stanier, took the Service, and preached the sermon Jacqueline Barlow led the responses and Karol Leeves led the prayers. Mr. David Manger, Chairman of the Association, and Mrs. Margaret Funnell, General Secretary of the Association, read the lessons. 7 Towers were open before the Service and the Trafford Mini-ring had been set up in the lobby of the Church, due to the snow blizzard, rather than outside in the car park so ringing could take place before the service and after the Meeting and 7 Towers were open after the Meeting.

An excellent lunch was served to over 50 people in the hall at the rear of the church before the Meeting that commenced at 2.40 p.m.

1. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed 72 members and visitors. The Chairman invited Karol Leeves to open the Meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from *Ian Oram (Honorary Life Member), Diana and Timothy Wraight (Rainham), Ian and Phil Young (Sandwich), Arthur Vidgeon and Brian Trill (Hoo St. Werburgh), Derek Wilkinson (Northfleet), Richard and Karen Edwards (Tenterden), Rev. Stanley Evans (Vice President) and Marie Evans, Hugo Tracey (Tunbridge Wells), Richard Bourne (Frittenden), Brenda Davies (Lydd), Roy and Richard Barclay (Staplehurst), Mike Godfrey (Folkestone), Terry Barton, Pat Barton, Fred Scoones, Steve Haynes and Sue Symons (Tunstall), Graham Heath and Mike Birkbeck (All Saints, Maidstone), Nigel Spencer (Hythe), Esther Corriera (Dartford), Doris Colgate (Sevenoaks), Malwyn Williams (Otham) and Hedley Basford and Mike Little (Birchington).*

.3. Minutes of the AGM held at Thanington on Easter Monday, 9th April 2007

The minutes were taken as read having been printed in the Handbook. The Chairman signed them a true record.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes. There were no matters arising.

5. General Secretary's Report.

The General Secretary moved the adoption of her report, which is printed in the Handbook. Motion carried. The Secretary thanked everyone who had assisted her in the last 7 weeks and especially Frank Lewis for printing the Agenda. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Funnell for all her hard work over the year.

6. Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer, Cathryn Hills thanked the Districts for getting their reports in on time and Frank Lewis for checking them. She moved the adoption of her report that was printed in the Handbook. The motion was carried by the meeting. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Hills for her hard work.

7. Peal Secretary's Report

Dr. Barnes moved the adoption of his report as in the Handbook save that all peals should be approved before being rung. The report was accepted by the Meeting and the Chairman thanked him for his work over the year.

8. Quarter Peal Secretary's Report

Mr. Leeves moved the adoption of his report which was printed in the Handbook. He said that since going to press there had been a further 9 quarters rung. The report was accepted by the meeting and the Chairman thanked Mr. Leeves for the report and added the statistics shown on the web site were excellent.

9. Librarian's Report

Mrs. Basford thanked everyone for all the material and books she had received over the year. Any information and articles are welcome. The Chairman thanked her for her work over the year.

10. Child Protection Officer's Report

Mr. Spencer was unable to attend the meeting but his report was in the Handbook.

11. Handbook Editor's Report

The Handbook spoke for itself. Mr. Huxley drew everyone's attention to Page 4 and requested that everyone follow the instructions given in relation to the format and timing for the reports. He advised that he had added a possible Service format for meetings which may assist District Secretaries. He thanked Mr. Lewis for proof reading the report. The Chairman thanked him for an excellent Handbook.

12. Officers Reports

Bell Restoration The report is printed in the Handbook. Mr. Butcher added that Farningham bells were now back in situ. Herne was still waiting for a decision as to whether they can proceed. The Chairman enquired as to the progress with Ivychurch. Mr. Butcher said that the 6th bell is now available but if Ivychurch did not proceed the bell, given by the Davies family, will be placed somewhere else. He proposed the adoption of his report which was carried by the Meeting. The Chairman thanked Mr. Butcher and his whole committee for their work.

Publicity Mr. Dale said that the new Display Boards, a banner type, will be available by the latest July in readiness for the Dartford Festival. Three artefacts had been given to the Association by Sheila Dobbie. The Model Bell made by Walter Dobbie was at present housed at Canterbury Cathedral; the Dobbie Ringing Machine at present at Dover but possible may be permanently loaned to Loughborough Foundry; and the Jubi Peal is now at Ulcombe. He proposed the adoption of his report which was agreed by the meeting. The Chairman thanked him for his work over the year.

Training No report had been received.

Webmaster Mr. Lewis advised there had been over 65,000 hits approximately 47 hits per day. He requires any information on events together with photographs. He thanked all those who have contributed over the past year. The Chairman thanked Mr. Lewis and said the web site goes from strength to strength.

13. Election of Officers. The following officers were elected, all having agreed to stand:

	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman:	David Manger	Thos. M. Barlow	Frank Lewis
Secretary:	Margaret Funnell	Susan Bassett	Florence Hamp
Treasurer:	Patricia Phipps	Pamela Manger	Karen Lebon
Peal Secretary:	Dr Phillip Barnes	Philip Larter	John Keeler
Librarian:	Hazel Basford	Jo Horton	Florence Hamp
Handbook Editor:	Craig Huxley	Philip Elderton	Frank Lewis
Quarter Peal Sec.	Anthony Leeves	Frank Lewis	Catherine Lewis
Training Officer:			
Bell Rest Officer:	Brian Butcher	Mark Chittenden-Pile	Christine Butcher
Publicity Officer:	Peter Dale	Thos Barlow	Cathryn Hills
Web Master	Frank Lewis	Mike Worthington	Jane Nielson
Extra 3	Eric Roughley	Frank Lewis	Catherine Lewis
	Philip Elderton	Craig Huxley	Susan Record

The Chairman advised that he will be standing down next year. The Chairman thanked Cathryn Hills for all her work over the last 12 years and a general show of hands from all members was given by way of appreciation. Mrs. Hills said thank you for her father, Mr. Andrews who had given assistance over the last 12 years.

Mr. Huxley thanked Peter Dale and the Cinque Ports Ringing Centre at Dover for all the hard work in training for the eastern end of the Association. Mr. Dale asked if the Association might like to acquire a say in the running of the centre. The Chairman said we need to find a Training Officer for the Association and asked the Districts to discuss this at their next meetings and report back to the April General Committee Meeting. Mrs. Basford enquired as to whether a Ringing Centre could be set up in the Western part of the Association. Mr. Roughley advised that many of the Districts ran their own Training events and asked if there was a need for a further centre.

14. Election of Auditor Mrs. Hills advised that the current auditor will not audit computerised accounts. The Chairman suggested that the appointment be taken to the General Committee Meeting for discussion and the meeting agreed. The Secretary is to write to Mr. Garrod thanking him for his services.

15. Certificates for 50 years' Membership. There were 3 members who had reached their 50 years' membership in 2007, Ian Oram (Honorary Life Member), Patricia Barton (Tunstall) and Ann Jenner (Hadlow). Unfortunately none of the recipients were able to be present and their certificates will be presented at District events.

16. Forthcoming Events. Notice was given of the following:

- 26th April General Committee Meeting at Leeds
- 28th June 8 Bell Striking Competition at Westerham
- 19/20th July Dartford Festival with Charmborough ring
- 23rd Aug. General Committee Meeting at Leeds
- 13th Sept. Essex Trophy at Brighton (details to be confirmed)
- 27th Sept. 6 Bell Competition at Aldington
- 22nd Nov. General Committee Meeting at Leeds
- 29th Nov 10 Bell Challenge at Beckenham (Venue to be confirmed)
- 13th April Annual General Meeting at Aylesford, Maidstone District

17. Any Other Business.

Judith Rogers gave details of the Ringing Roadshow being held at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire on 5/6th September. She had tickets for sale which are £6 in advance and £8 on the gate. She requested that we ensure a Poster is put up in all towers and that leaflets be available. They are expecting over 4000 ringers from all over the world to attend. Tonbridge District is having a coach at a cost of £20 per person including entry fee. If anyone is interested then please send names to Bobbie Fairclough by end of April.

Mr. Roughley enquired as to whether the outgoing treasurer felt that subscriptions should be increased for next year. Mrs. Hills said she felt they could remain the same and Mr. Roughley seconded this.

Mr. Butcher advised that the Handbook was incorrect in that his son's name should be under marriages and not anniversaries.

Mr. Dale enquired as to the new Chairman's Chain of Office. The Chairman advised that this has been ordered and will be available shortly, hopefully in time for the next General Committee Meeting. He showed a picture of the new Chain and said that the General Committee had decided not to have bars for the names of the Chairman as these appear in the Handbook.

18. Votes of Thanks The Chairman thanked Father John Ackland for the use of the Church, Father Robert Stanier for taking the service and Graham Long for playing the organ and for organising the day. He thanked Trevor Pike and Margaret Exley for the catering arrangements, and Rupert Cheeseman and the Lewisham District for the general organisation of the day. Thanks were also extended to Chris Trafford for the use of the mini-ring. He finally thanked all incumbents of the Lewisham District for the use of the bells during the day.

Meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.