

# Doncaster and District Society of Change Ringers

Established 1921

Minutes of the 88th Annual General Meeting held on 31st January 2009

There were 21 ringers present at St George's Minster and methods rang included Plain Bob Major, Cambridge Major, Stedman Triples and call changes.

The service was taken by the Rev. Canon Christopher Smith, we remembered the life of Fred Jackson, who passed away during the year. The service was followed by the AGM and a delicious tea. Evening Ringing took place at Arksey from 7.15pm to 8.30pm with 15 ringers attending.

The Annual General Meeting was opened at 5.05pm by the President Rev. Canon Christopher Smith with 28 members present.

## 1. Welcome by the President

The President warmly welcomed ringers and expressed pleasure at such a good turnout. Rev Smith said that 2008 had been an important and special year for St George's Church. He thanked the members of the Society for their contribution towards the celebrations of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the re-consecration of the Church, including ringing for services and a celebratory quarter peal of Grandsire Triples rang at St George's in October

## 2. Apologies for absence

David Nichols

Ian Kingston

Westman family

Tim Wheeler

Emma Shiels

## 3. Approval of the minutes for 2008 AGM

Proposed Roger Smith Seconded Annabelle Prebble; All agreed

## 4. Matters arising

Item 7: the committee had not progressed the idea of marking long service to the Society. Both Cyril Toyne and John Laughton (died in 2004) and others had worked hard for the society over many decades and it was important to recognise their service and show appreciation, possibly in the form of an honorary title or a notice board for the ringing chamber. **Action: Committee to discuss & progress**

## 5. Fred Jackson (1929-2008)

Roger Smith spoke about Fred who had sadly died during the year and would be greatly missed. Fred loved good striking and did not suffer fools gladly. He said

that Fred had been a great ringing mentor and had helped him and others advance from Plain Bob Minor to sliced Surprise Major, by taking them around numerous ringing meetings. Roger reminisced about an outing in the 1960's ringing at Bawtry then travelling by Fred's traction engine to ring at Misson. Fred was one of the great characters of ringing in this area.

## **6. Officers' reports**

### **a. Secretary's Report for 2008**

The report was circulated to members present. The Secretary reported that the Society had rung at several towers not visited for some time- Wentworth, Wickersley, Whiston, Darfield & Haxey and that numbers of ringers attending meetings was typically 15-20. Only the meeting at Haxey, North Lincs, was poorly attended. The coach outing to the Chesterfield area in September was very enjoyable and had attracted 32 people. The Society had rung at St George's Church for most of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events. The Secretary thanks George Jopling, the web master, for the many hours spent maintaining and up dating the web site.

The President thanked the secretary for her work. Ted Steele commented that the area around Haxey was worth visiting, and that we should consider a joint meeting with the West Lindsay Association. A discussion took place about the time problems (not 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of month) and the advantages of joint meetings with other groups. **Action: committee to process further**

### **b. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer circulated copies of the 2008 accounts and apologised for not attending many meetings, due to work commitments.

Peter commented the accounts showed a healthy balance and that £43 had been made during the year. Therefore he proposed that subscription rates should stay at £1 or 50p for children and that tower donations should remain at £10. The Secretary stated that when visiting towers on outings, it expected that donations would be probably more than £10, and it was agreed to that this was a matter for discussion by the committee. **Action: committee to discuss tower donations for outings**

## **7. Election of new members**

Mike King- Wath on Dearne

Mark Roberts - Beckingham

Proposed: Roger Smith, Seconded: Harold Johnson

All Agreed. They were welcomed to the society.

## **8. Election of Officers**

### **Ringling Master (3 years)**

The current Ringling Master, Terina Beilby wished to step down and David Nichols was nominated (unfortunately he was unable to attend the AGM due to work commitments.)

Proposed: Marian Thomas; Seconded: Harold Johnson

There were no other nominations, and David Nichols was declared to be our new Ringling Master

### **Assistant Ringling Master/Committee members (1 year)**

Roger Smith agreed to stand again.

Marian Thomas agreed to stand again.

Ian Kingston agreed to stand again

Proposed: Cyril Toyne, Seconded Annabelle Prebble

### **Vice President (1 year)**

The Secretary explained that the election was for one year only, (but normally for 3 years) so that the Treasurer and Vice President's re-elections would both be due in 2010.

Roger Smith agreed to stand again

Proposed: Peter Henderson, Seconded: Jim Hirst

#### **a. Committee members**

Jim Hirst agreed to stand again

Mary Guy agreed to stand again.

Judith Jopling agreed to stand again

In addition, Ted Steele had indicated that he was prepared to serve on the committee

Proposed: Glyn Morgan, Seconded: Peter Henderson

## **9. Programme 2009**

A draft programme was presented to the meeting, the Secretary apologised that most of the monthly meetings had not been confirmed.

### **9.1 Mini Outing to York 28<sup>th</sup> Feb**

A notice advertising the York outing had been distributed to members. The plan was to would ring at 4 Churches within walking distance of the centre of York.

Train times from York to Doncaster were given and the Secretary would arrange for a reduced group train ticket if 10 or more adults were interested.

## 9.2 Coach Outing Sept 2009

The venue was discussed. A trip to the East Coast seemed popular, but the Secretary was concerned about the shortage of 8 bells towers, since Drifffield, Flambrough and Filey all had 6 bells and Scarborough was too far to visit. It was suggested that we ring at Beverley St Mary's Beverley (10 bells) on the way to Bridlington; Norton was another 8 bell option.

## 9.3 Joint meeting with Yorkshire Association- Central Branch 21 Nov

This had been arranged because the Society had planned ring at Barnby Dun the week after the Central Branch meeting, Central Branch were keen to have a joint meeting and it seemed a good idea to amalgamate. This would mean that in November our meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month instead of the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.

## 10. Walker Cup

The President read out the results in reverse order

Bawtry	87.7% -winners
Wath on Dearne	85.5%
Sprotbrough	9.8%
Tickhill	17%

The Walker Cup was presented to Bawtry

## 11. Any other business

11.1. The Secretary brought to the attention of the meeting the copies of the ringing programme for 2009 YACR Central Branch, which had been distributed. She also stated that there would be Sunday Service ringing at St George's Church on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month from 10.00am until 11.00am, all ringers were welcome. She mentioned that a sheet would be circulated for ringers to request special methods that they would like to ring at meetings.

11.2 Derek Wagstaff announced that it was the 900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Mary's Church, Tickhill on New Years Eve 2010. There would be a service at 11.30pm and he asked for volunteers to ring for the service and afterwards to ring in the New Year.

11.3 The treasurer explained that when Judith Jopling was secretary she had spent money buying bowls, beakers, plates, cutlery, tea cloths etc. for use at the AGM (total cost £48.93). She was happy to give these to the Society, the President proposed that Judith be reimbursed for the cost of these items. All agreed.

#### 11.4 Redecorating at ringing chamber St. George's

Christopher Smith thanked those involved in cleaning up the ringing chamber; this was mainly the work of Jim Hirst, assisted by some others. He had stripped out the old plywood cladding to reveal the stone work beneath and also removed the worn old carpet. Jim said that the ringing chamber was now needed a carpet and Rev Smith stated that he may be able to help with this.

Roger Smith thanked the President for the installation of a heater in the ringing chamber.

#### 11.5 Website problems

Judith Jopling said that the Society's website had been hacked several times over the last few months. Every time this happened, the Web Master, George Jopling took preventative measures, but Judith stated anyone using our web site and receiving a warning about any virus, should let the Web Master know.

### **12. Date of Next Annual General Meeting**

Saturday 30 January 2010

### **13. Vote of thanks**

By Ted Steele thanked the President for the use of the bells, which was a privilege not a right, for taking the service and also giving up his time to chair our AGM. In anticipation of the excellent tea to follow, he thanked all those involved with its preparation.

The meeting closed at 5.40pm